

The Use of Love Language in Interpersonal Relationships

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the role of love in interpersonal relationships between partners, friends, and in the work environment, between superiors and subordinates, which seeks to strengthening interpersonal relationships. The technique used in this study is a qualitative approach, with the field observation method and in-depth interviews with several couples/respondents as the sample. Data analysis in this study is to observe verbal and non-verbal interactions between twenty respondents/resource persons, including couples, superiors, subordinates, and friends, during the in-depth interview session. It can be seen that the results show that the use of informal, rich lexical language and non-verbal signals plays an important role in strengthening emotional bonds and increasing understanding between individuals. The results of the conversation data interview show that there are many differences between respondents and between one partner and another, depending on whether or not they have established a relationship. The findings show that the expression of love, both verbal and non-verbal, contributes significantly to satisfaction in their relationship. This study can also identify the five main love languages expressed by respondents, namely in the form of affirmation words, quality time, receiving gifts, service actions, and physical touch..

Keywords: communication; interpersonal relations; language; love

INTRODUCTION

Of course, we already know that humans are social creatures that require the environment/other people as a means for their social life. Humans will never be able to live alone in the world, therefore, humans certainly need others and will always try to interact socially by establishing social relations with others to achieve their needs. In today's modern era, the importance of communication in interpersonal relationships cannot be underestimated/trivial. Because the true concept of love will be relevant in fostering understanding and closeness between individuals, both in romantic, family, and friendship relationships. In our daily lives, of course, we have people who are close to us. Whether it's with friends, friends, lovers, or people we just met. This closeness of closeness is called an interpersonal relationship. This interpersonal relationship can create the attitudes and behavior of certain individuals that are

different from a person. Some are mutually beneficial, or vice versa actually harm one party. In this study, the author will first explain what is meant by interpersonal relationships, and what theories explain interpersonal relationships, as well as what factors affect the relationship, include what are the causes of the end of an interpersonal relationship. Interpersonal relationships play an important role in human social life. Language is one of the main tools used to build and maintain relationships. With the explanation submitted above, this research aims to explore more deeply how the language used by individuals in the context of their friendship. Interpersonal relationships play an important role in human social life. Language is the main tool used to build and maintain relationships. This study aims to explore more deeply how language is used by individuals in the context of their friendship (Wexley).

The language of love is a form of individual attitude to express his love and love for other individuals. The language of love is very important to be recognized and understood because it is one of the keys to success in building relationships, Syamsiyah (Priani & Bantam, 2022). The concept of love language or love language is widely used and has become a trend on social media in various circles, especially the teenage generation/generation Z. Generation Z itself is a generation close to social media, so with this trend, many Generation Z find out to share their experiences in expressing their love through love language. Generation Z uses Love Language to express and realize their love for loved ones in the hope of creating quality relationships, especially romantic relationships with their partners. Exact expressions and expressions of love for couples can increase the love and quality of personal relationships in Generation Z. When a couple can express love language/language of love that is appropriate for the couple, it will improve the quality of their relationships to minimize the existence of misunderstandings in communicating their respective desires. And if the language of love is successfully given to a partner, individuals tend to feel loved, which will have an impact on the continuity of their relationship. This means that couples can communicate well to maintain their romantic personal relationships. Interpersonal relationships are conditions where we communicate with others; here, we not only convey what we want to convey but also determine the level of interpersonal relationships. Therefore, this interpersonal relationship is very closely related to "communication". In addition to the communication needed, one basis for building interpersonal relationships is an interest in others.

In the book Weiten (2011: 527), it has been explained that interpersonal attraction (interpersonal attraction) is a positive feeling toward others. This is what underlies our dealings with others. We are in a friendship, romantic relationship, etc., based on this feeling. Effective communication is characterized by a good interpersonal relationship. Secondary communication failures occur if the contents of our message are understood, but the relationship between the communicators becomes damaged. Anita Taylor said that effective interpersonal communication includes many elements, but the interpersonal relationship is perhaps the most important. To grow and improve interpersonal relationships, we need to improve the quality of communication. Good communication between humans is the key to establishing a good relationship between individuals as well. This is because the communication that has been put forward by Beretson and Stainer is related to the delivery of information, emotional ideas, and expertise through symbols in the form of words, numbers, pictures, or others (Sari, et al., 2023). Not only aim to establish good relations between humans, but communication is also used as a means to express love or affection for couples, friends, or family commonly known today as love language or language of love. The language of love is an expression or expression of the manifestation of individual love for other individuals. A person or individual tends to feel loved if he can communicate his love well according to each individual. The form of Love Language itself according to Chapman is divided into five namely Physical Touch, Act of Service, Quality

Time, Word of Affirmation, and Receiving a Gift (Chapman, 2010). Love Language is a form of individual attitude to express affection and love for other individuals. The language of love is very important to be recognized and understood because it is one of the keys to success in building relationships, Syamsiyah (Priani & Bantam, 2022).

Some communication theories show that the choice of words (diction), sound intonation, and non-verbal cues have a significant impact on interpersonal understanding (Brown & Levinson, 1987; Goffman, 1959). Previous research has shown that informal language is more commonly used among close friends compared to formal situations. (Efendi et al., 2021). Exact expressions and expressions of love for couples can increase the love and quality of personal relationships in Generation Z. When a couple can express the right love language in the couple, it will improve the quality of their relationships to minimize the existence of misunderstandings in communicating their desires. And if Love Language is successfully given to a partner, individuals tend to feel loved which will have an impact on the sustainability of their relationship. This means that couples can communicate well to maintain their romantic personal relationships. The self-expansion model (Aron, 1997) states that humans have the motivation to develop themselves, and close relationships play an important role in this process, namely through the merging of resources, views, and identity of others into themselves.

Interpersonal communication (interpersonal communication is communication between individuals (Littlejohn, 1999). The special form of interpersonal communication is dyadic communication that involves only two people face to face, which allows each participant to capture the reactions of others directly, both verbal and nonverbal, such as husband and wife, two colleagues, two close friends, a teacher with a student, and so on. Steward L. Tubbs and Sylvia Moss (in Deddy Mulyana, 2005) said the characteristics of dyadic communication are: Communication participants are at close distances; Communication participants send and receive messages simultaneously and spontaneously, both verbally and nonverbally. Interpersonal communication has the very potential to carry out instrumental functions as a tool to influence or persuade others, because we can use the five tools of our senses, to enhance the persuasion of the message we communicate to our communicant. As the most complete and perfect communication, interpersonal communication plays a very important role at any time, as long as humans still have feelings and emotions. This communication makes humans feel more familiar/close to each other, in contrast to communication through mass media such as newspapers, television, or even through the most sophisticated technology. Jalaludin Rakhmat (1994) believes that interpersonal communication is influenced by perception.

Based on previous research, several studies have discussed the analysis of the language of love in interpersonal relationships, one of which is an article entitled "The Role of Language Love in Improving Romantic Relations in Young Couples" which makes the difference in this study uses qualitative descriptive methods to explore the role of the language of love based on Gary Chapman's theory. The focus is on young couples who have been married, with the results showing that love language such as physical touch (physical touch) and quality time (spending time together) has an important role in maintaining relationships remaining romantic while the research I do does not focus on couples alone, but more common, for example to parents, friends and friends, between superiors and subordinates. In addition, there is previous research that discusses the relationship between the language of love and satisfaction of relationships in young adults, this research is focused on testing the relationship between the language of love and satisfaction of relationships in individuals aged 19-30 years. The result shows that the higher the use of the language of love, the higher the level of relationship satisfaction. The Quality Time dimension has the highest correlation with relationship satisfaction. From these previous

studies, the authors are motivated to examine the use of the language of love in interpersonal relationships even wider as compared with previous studies

(Johnson) Explain that in-depth emotional intimacy can be achieved through open and attentive communication in the couple's relationship. Another is with Gary Chapman who introduced the concept of love/love language contained in his book, *Five Love Languages*. Chapman introduced the concept of communication in various types of relationships, called the language of love by dividing them into five types of love. This is motivated by his findings that five main things can make someone feel loved (Chapman), for the Five Love Languages or the five languages of love referred to by Chapman as follows: (1) Physical touch or physical touch, which is the language of love, is expressed by receiving or giving physical touch to provide affection and security. Examples such as liking hugging and holding hands with other individuals, especially when he feels that he is being loved and safe, when doing so; (2) Act of service or service treatment or help, which is the language of love, by providing assistance to the person he loves and receiving assistance or services from the person he loves. So, in this case, individuals like the treatment that he is being served or assisted, for example, as a door opened, were opened to do his duties, make food, and perform other activities; (3) Quality time, or quality time, is the language of love that is expressed by sharing quality and valuable time with couples, such as by spending time together and giving full attention together; (4). Word of affirmation or affirmation, which is the language of love that is done by giving words of support, praise, and other positive words that are full of affection to those who are loved and so that they feel loved when receiving praise or support of support from loved ones. For example, when someone likes when his partner gives the word "I love you," and when someone likes when his family gives support that he has done: and (5) Receiving gifts or getting a gift is a language of love that is done by giving gifts to loved ones, or a feeling of being loved for having received a gift from others. It should be understood that in this case, gifts are not necessarily in the form of money and large or expensive, but people with this language of love prefer gifts that are thought in depth. In addition to the five languages conveyed by Chapman, which is no less important, (DeVito, *The Interpersonal Communications Book*) opinion in his book emphasizes that interpersonal communication is a dynamic process and is influenced by various factors, such as culture, perception, emotions, and technology. He also highlighted the importance of effective communication skills in daily life, both in personal and professional relationships.

METHOD

This study uses qualitative research methods or types. Qualitative research has a focus on the understanding and process of interpretation of specific phenomena (Yang & Miller, 2008). Qualitative research is used to explore and search for meaning in an event or social phenomenon that is a reality (Creswell, *Research design pendekatan kualitatif, kuantitatif dan mixed (ed.3)*). This study uses a descriptive approach that aims to describe or describe the phenomena or events to be examined in a narrative based on the results of the research obtained. Data in this study was taken based on the results of field surveys interviews, or interviews. Interviews in the study are used to gather information and data from one or more individuals as resource persons (Thiel). In this study, a direct interview with several couples was conducted with a discussion of the use of love or love language in building Persona, respondents, and employees of a company. A total of 12 informants in this study were selected/randomly, namely adults and adolescents with a range of birth from 1980 to 2012. In this study, which also collects anonymous data, the aim is to maintain the privacy and identity of the informant. Furthermore, the results of the

interview with respondents were presented in the form of narration and described to continue at the stage of conclusion by the author.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The influence of the language of love on interpersonal relationships is how couples use their love language to help improve communication and emotional closeness. The opinion (Tannen, 1990) states that women and men often have different goals in conversations, and they assess each other's behavior based on different standards. That way, the use of the language of love can help individuals feel valued and loved, while incompatibility in the use of the language of love can cause misunderstandings and conflicts. Unlike the opinion of Tannen, (Goffman) does not specifically discuss the language of love, the concept of "front stage" and "backstage" can be applied in understanding how couples show their love in public versus personally. There are several cases that researchers found during field observations and interviews with respondents. The following is some data that has been obtained in the field related to the use of love in interpersonal relationships. These data are distinguished according to the level of closeness, such as the use of the language of love with a partner, with parents, with superiors, with subordinates, and with friends. Analysis of data on the use of love in interpersonal relationships can include various aspects, such as the effect of communication, satisfaction in a relationship, as well as the way a person expresses their love. Based on research that has been carried out, the results show that understanding of the use of this language of love can increase harmony and satisfaction in relationships with partners, friends, parents, superiors, or subordinates.

Here are some of the data that have been successfully obtained in the field about the data about the use of the language of love with a partner (husband or lovers and biological children);

1. Affirmation word

Data 1:

Situation; The couple (husband) says positive things to his wife, along with a fragment of his conversation:

Husband: Honey, Papa is proud, yesterday Mama became an impressive speaker at the National Seminar, surely your campus is proud to have a lecturer like you "

Wife: Thank you Papa dear, all of this because of the encouragement and prayer from Papa too

Data 2:

Husband: "Thank you for accompanying the accompaniment until now, hopefully, your love and love never change until death separates"

Wife: You're both papa, I believe we can pass our marriage test even more difficult. As long as we stay together.

From the data above, the words of the affirmation contained in such a fragment of conversation can strengthen the bond of the AL between couples and make them/couples feel more connected to each other.

The following is another example of a fragment of the conversation and two friends who show the language of love in interpersonal relationships, especially through affirmation words and quality time;

Data 3;

Situation; a friend of Grateful

Friend A: Hi, I just want to say thank you, for all the entertainment that you have done when I'm sad, you know how to make me cheerful again

Friend B: You're welcome, we should be able to understand each other, right we friends

Friend A: Yes, right, when happy and sad we have to share with each other so that the problem goes quickly. To celebrate let's go we sing a song while drinking pretty?

Friend B: Wow Come on, how about this afternoon, so I'll pick you up later

Data analysis:

Based on data from the fragment of the conversation above, it shows that in interpersonal relationships there are affirmation words (affirmation), found in the phrase "You know how to make me cheerful" and in other data there is a fragment of the phrase "dear, dad proud" from these words the other person will feel loved and valued. Next to data 3

From all data analysis in the form of these affirmation words, it can be concluded that in the relationship, the respondent has a different language of love. Data 1 tends to show affection through serving actions, while data 2 places more value on the quality time spent together. This shows the importance of communication and mutual understanding of the language of each love to build a harmonious relationship. Furthermore, in data 3 a friend expresses his gratitude and appreciation to his friend. This is an example of the language of love in the form of affirmation words, where positive expressions can strengthen emotional bonds.

2. Quality time

Data 1:

Situation: A lover planned to spend time together

Boyfriend (male): Let's watch Say? After that we have coffee, there is a new cafe you know near here

Couple (female): wow, good ideas, come on. I just thought of the same thing to visit the new cafe. We are one heart!

Data 2:

Girlfriend (female): Darl tomorrow's walk, there is a good place to be green and the air is cool the air cool

Couple (male): okay too, as well as we try the camera on this new cellphone, hopefully, the results of the picture are good according to expectations

Examples of other data fragments of conversations with friends who show quality time

Data analysis:

From the data in the form of a fragment of the conversation that reads "Darl tomorrow, let's go?" Couples or friends who prioritize quality time will feel more loved when they can talk at length, vacation together, or just sit together without technological interruption or work. Whereas in the next fragment of the conversation "Let's watch Say?" It implies that couples or friends feel loved when they spend quality time with their partners, without distraction or distraction. The focus of full attention on the couple is important.

3. Receive gifts

Data 1:

Situation; A couple (wife) brought her husband's favorite coffee to his office

Couple (wife): Assalamualaikum dear, surprise, coincidentally today there is the opening of a new coffee shop, here I deliberately brought the favorite coffee of Papa

Husband: Wow Thank you dear, so coincidentally today my job is a lot, and need coffee. You are very understanding

Data analysis:

Every person/partner has a unique way of expressing love. For those who have the language of love to receive gifts, a small gift can mean deeper than just a physical object. One example is simple to bring a partner his favorite cup of coffee. For recipients with this love language, a cup of coffee is not just a drink, but a symbol of attention, care, and small business which means big. Small gifts like this can strengthen relationships, showing that couples understand the needs and happiness of each other.

4. Service action

Data 1:

Situation; help each other between friends

Lana (Friend 1): Hello *mbeb*, how are you? It looks like this week you're not as cheerful as usual

Vira (Friend 2): Yes, there are many tasks, next week must present handicrafts that have been made. What's the stress of his handicrafts to do for?

Lana: Alright, let me help think about what handicrafts are interesting and simple. Later I will also help find ingredients for the presentation. Keep it up.

Vira: Thank you, Lan, you are my best friend!

Data 2:

Situation: Employees ask for help from superiors

Employee: Father, I am experiencing difficulties in preparing the end-of-the-month report, can you make time to discuss this?

Boss: Oh, of course, I can, I have time this afternoon, please bring the report we discussed which one does not understand so that the report can be completed immediately.

Employee. Well sir, thank you in advance

The achievements data above reflects how superiors and employees can respect each other and support each other so that they can create a positive and productive work environment. The use of love in the workplace can vary and can be in the form of appreciation, support, and open communication with fellow employees and superiors

Data analysis:

In the fragment of the data conversation 1 above which reads "Later I also help find materials for the presentation. Keep it up". Contains the meaning of implicit that this friend/interlocutor feels loved when a partner or friend does something for them, such as helping

with school work, helping with homework, office work problems, cooking, or doing things that ease their burden

5. Physical touch

Data 1:

Situation; hugs and kisses from mothers to their children when going to the swimming competition

Mother: My daughter loves Anzalta later when the race has to focus and mobilize all the younger siblings, remember what the coach has taught his movements well. Mama prayed for Zalta's sister, hopefully, it will be given smoothness and convenience in the race, *Amiin* (while giving hugs and kisses on the forehead)

Anzalta: yes mom, the younger sibling will be excited, thank you for your prayers. I love you

Analysis Data:

Fragments of conversation sentences between mother and child, have indicated emotional/intimate relationships because the conversation above is supported by physical touch like a mother who kisses the forehead of the child

6. The word affirmation in friendship

Data 1:

Situation: Two friends gave each other's support and strength with one another

Muti: *Haii mbeb*, thank you for listening to all my complaints, and my sadness, at least the feelings and burdens in my heart have been reduced, and now I feel better

Nay: Alhamdulillah, happy to hear it, indeed at such times we must mastermind and support each other. I believe you can go through the problems that exist. Don't hesitate to tell stories

Muti: Thank you, that is very meaningful. Fortunately, I have friends like you, who always know how to make me feel better

Data 2;

Situation: Acknowledgments to the superiors

Employee: *Assalamualaikum*, good morning Mr. Manager I respect, before we start today's meeting. Let me and the team say thank you for all the support that you gave to our team, thanks to the support of our father, we can achieve the target

Superiors: yes together, I appreciate your hard work as a team, without the contribution of this team, of course, the achievement of the company would not have been realized

Employee: Thank you, sir, for always giving us direction and motivation to our achievements so that we can achieve this achievement.

Data analysis:

The informants/respondents had previously understood the concept of love they learned from various sources such as the internet (social media & e-books) and through mouth-to-mouth. The informant pair 1 and other couples have a different language of love from each partner. Based on the data above, the use of sincere and specific gratitude can have a big impact.

Speeches like this can make superiors feel valued by their employees because they appreciate verbal recognition of their hard work and contribution.

7. Quality time with family

Data 1:

Situation; Father takes time to walk/exercise with his child

Father: Sis, this afternoon we play Badminton Yu?

Lana: come on, but I want to surf learning a motorbike first. After that, I want to play Badminton

Papa: I may just get ready from now sis, so that when it launches the motorbike a long time, then can rest first before we play Badminton.

Lana: Ok, ready Papa, thank you!

From a fragment of the conversation between parents and children to make agreements and negotiations that run smoothly, and are supported by opinions (B. S. Djamarah). In one of the articles good parenting must be supported by effective communication. Both of these elements are interrelated in forming a positive family image and a good child's personality.

Data 2:

Situation; support and suggestions from superiors to subordinates

Employee: We ask for willingness and advice from mothers regarding several things about the project we are running

Supervisor: of course and don't hesitate, I am happy to be able to provide input advice, hopefully, what I suggest is useful, for more details, we will schedule this afternoon's meeting.

Employee: Good mother, thank you very much, I appreciate the time that you have spent with us. This makes us more confident in carrying out this task

Data analysis:

We can conclude based on a fragment of the conversation between superiors and employees the use or thank you to superiors can be done in various ways, and using the language of love in accordance with the preferences of superiors can strengthen positive professional relationships. As an employee, shows gratitude not only through words, but also through concrete actions, attention, and appreciation for the guidance and support given by superiors. All of this will help create a more harmonious and mutually supportive work environment.

8. Physical touch in a romantic relationship

Data 1:

Situation: couple (husband) who provide support through touch

Husband: Wow, there is something different from Mama's hair more beautiful (while stroking your hair)

WIFE: Yes, I have a haircut after my haircut. good or not?

Husband: good, mama looks fresher and beautiful, the model is suitable for Mama

Wife: Alhamdulillah, if Papa likes Mama's new hairstyle. Mama is happy (hugging)

Data analysis:

In a fragment of the conversation above the couple who prioritizes the use of this love language will feel closer/intimate through physical touches, for example hugging, kissing, or just holding hands. In a relationship, a couple may feel confident and more loved when they are hugged or held by their couples, even in a simple situation even though physical touch is a way to express love, as well as to feel the closeness, and emotional safety of a person.

Examples of the data above show how the role of love can be expressed in an interpersonal relationship. Each form of expression of love will have a positive impact so that it can strengthen emotional relationships between individuals, partners, friends, superiors, subordinates, and others. Submission of love language can not only be done in words, but can be with action, rewards, or attention. This is closely related to the view of (Markman, 2010) which emphasizes that the way couples handle conflict is an important indicator of the success of long-term marriage. Therefore, learning to debate fairly and communicate effectively is an important skill for lasting and loving relationships.

Here are other data of love in the form of physical touch with friends;

Data 2:

Situation: encounter with friends

Deby: Hey ECII (while patting ECI's shoulder), have you been waiting for a long time?

Eci: Heyy Deb, finally came too, not yet ten minutes, it's been a long time since we just met again (while kissing the left and right cheeks)

Deby: Yes, I miss you know, chatting with *ngalor ngidul* and the *bodor* jokes

Eci: I also miss (holding hands), today we have to have quality time as much as possible

Deby: Certainly. (laughing together while hugging)

Of all the data that has been collected, the author makes conclusions about the effect of the use of the language of love on interpersonal relationships, we can learn how couples, parents, superiors subordinates, or vice versa, and friends can help improve communication and emotional closeness. So great the effect of using this language of love also affects a person's mental health. Agree with (Miller, 2005) who in his journal explains that love communication is a complex process, that involves the exchange of messages that express affection, intimacy, commitment, and passion. For the example;

Words of Affirmation:

- I appreciate everything you do for me
- You inspire me every day

Acts of Service:

- Making their favorite meal as a surprise
- Taking care of an errand they've been putting off.

In addition, other observations of previous studies where the study found a positive correlation between the fulfillment of the language of love a marriage happiness. In this study, basically, the language of love that is suitable will be able to make individuals feel valued and loved, while incompatibility in the use of the language of love is also not uncommon to cause misunderstandings and can trigger conflict. In the Romance of the Language of Love that the writer succeeds in concluding the impact is to build comfort and emotional connection with one another can be seen from several fragments of the conversation of a married couple who use affirmation words to support each other tend to feel more emotionally connected, even the opposite who do not understand and practice the language of love with one another. Agree with (Kansa and Sugiarti) the opinion that understanding and applying the language of love in accordance with the preferences of the couple can improve the quality of relationships.

By expressing love in the most valued ways by couples, individuals can strengthen emotional bonds and increase satisfaction in romantic relationships. Overall, this research emphasizes the importance of awareness of the language of love in building and maintaining a satisfying romantic relationship in young adults. Another example of the data analysis above is regarding the use of love with professionals such as superiors or friends/friends in a context like this Language. Language plays a role in increasing cooperation and mutual understanding between one another. After researching, the author can identify and apply the language of love in interpersonal relationships aims to improve better relationships with others as well as about the best way to express love. Effective communication training can be the first step to creating a more harmonious relationship.

CONCLUSION

Conclusions Based on the results of this study show that the use of relaxed and rich language in the context of friendship not only serves to convey information but also strengthens emotional closeness. Informal language allows individuals to feel more comfortable with each other when communicating, thereby increasing connectivity between friends and others. Understanding the language of love for yourself also with a partner is very important for intimacy and satisfaction in a relationship. Because when someone feels loved in their language of love, they tend to feel connected, valued, and safe in the relationship.

Other factors such as trust, respect, commitment, and effective communication also play an important role. In addition, non-verbal cues contribute to the clarity of communication and help avoid misunderstanding. This research underlines the importance of language analysis in understanding the dynamics of interpersonal relationships. In other words, the concept of using the language of love will offer a useful framework for understanding how people receive and express affection. By realizing and appreciating the language of each love, couples can improve communication, deepen intimacy, and strengthen their relationships.

By exploring the way close friends communicate, we can better understand the role of language in building intimacy and mutual understanding. Identifying the use of the language of love in an interpersonal relationship is very important to maintain harmony and avoid misunderstandings. Couples/friends/superiors/people involved who understand the language of each other's love, can more easily express their feelings and feel more valued. Recommendations for further research include exploration of other contexts such as family relations or coworkers.

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