

**THE POLITENESS STRATEGIES IN REFUSING  
INVITATIONS EMPLOYED BY INDONESIAN MEN  
AND WOMEN**

**A THESIS**

**As Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements  
for the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in  
English Language Teaching Faculty**



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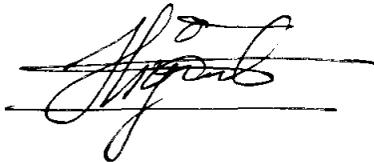
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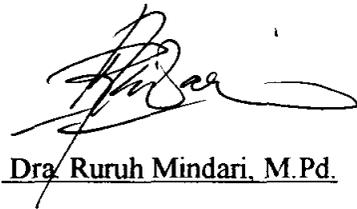
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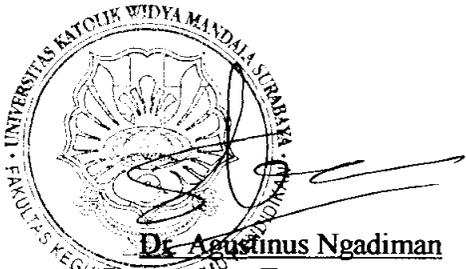


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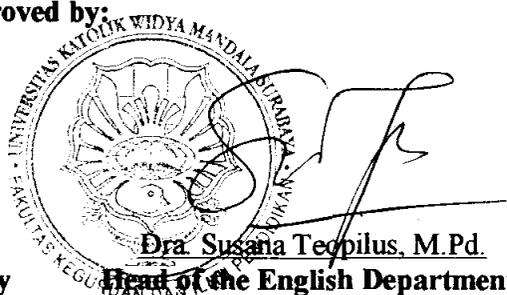


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The writer

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## ABSTRACT

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**Key words:** language, gender, politeness.

Language is a means for people to communicate to each other. In their communication, people express their ideas and needs and try to create a good relationship with others. To maintain their relationships, they tend to be polite. People use politeness in various ways. One of the factors that vary the way people use politeness is gender. Many sociolinguists say that women are more polite than men (Brown and Levinson, 1987). Based on this statement, this study is directed to find out answers to the research questions: (1) Are there any differences on the politeness strategies in refusing invitations employed by Indonesian men and women? and (2) Why are the strategies in refusing invitations employed by Indonesian men and women different to each other?

To answer the research questions, the writer employed a qualitative research. The respondents of this study are ten Indonesian men and ten Indonesian women. All of them are the writer's schoolmates. The writer used a questionnaire as the instrument to collect the data and the writer herself as the creative instrument in analysing the data. The writer analysed the data by using positive politeness strategies and negative politeness strategies as the parameters. After that, she put the results of the analysis into tables.

Based on the results of the analysis, the writer found out that Indonesian men and women use the same politeness strategies in refusing invitations. Those strategies are positive politeness strategy 4, 6, 10, 13, and negative politeness strategy 6. However, they use those strategies in different frequency. Indonesian women used positive politeness strategy 4, 10, and 13 more often than Indonesian men did. On the other hand, Indonesian men used positive politeness strategy 6 and negative politeness strategy 6 more often than Indonesian women did. The writer also found out that there are two reasons why Indonesian men and women use those politeness strategies in refusing invitations; they are: (1) the attitude of tolerance and (2) the social distance between the speaker and the hearer.

At last, the writer hopes that this study can give contribution to the teaching of Sociolinguistics where the lectures should teach their students to use politeness strategies appropriately.