A STUDY OF CODE SWITCHING
BY THE SU'S FAMILY IN SURABAYA

A THESIS
In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
the Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in
English Language Teaching

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ABSTRACT


Key Words: Ethnicity, Intimacy, and Fluency.

Through this study, the writer tried to break open the truth which performed the main factors which mostly influenced the members of the Su’s family to switch their code while communicating among their groups. To reach her aim, four related theories are used to guide the writer’s scientific discoveries, among others are: sociolinguistics, bilingualism, code switching and peranakan speech.

Firstly, the writer selected four female adults who came from Chinese families. Then she collected the data by recording the conversations they made and noted them in her diary. Then, she analyzed the data by identifying the languages which are used by subjects under the study, the subjects, age, the speaker’s background knowledge, background of the family, first language, status, distance, topic, setting, and the purpose of the interaction.

From the analyses, at last the writer found out the influence of the surroundings makes them mostly use Chinese and Indonesian in their daily communications. Indonesian is one of the languages which is often used in their surroundings. They mostly start the conversation by using Indonesian then switch into Chinese. There are five main reasons which underlie the subjects under the study to switch the code, those are: (1) the speakers are more fluent in Chinese since that Chinese is mostly being used in the family communities and the surroundings (the Su’s family vernacular language), (2) The speakers would like
to give emphasis to their common ethnicity, (3) the setting is informal, (4) the topics are ordinary, and (5) the relationship between speakers is quite close.

Since the informants of this study are selected from the writer's relatives who live in Surabaya and use Chinese, Indonesian and Javanese in their daily communications, and there are still many other Chinese ethnics, hokkian, gek, kongfu, etc in Surabaya, the result of this study may not represent all Chinese families in Surabaya. Therefore, it is suggested that the other researchers who deal with code switching may include the wider scope.