THE REASONS OF USING CODE MIXING IN SERMON
SECTIONS BY PREACHERS IN BETHANY SALATIGA
CHURCH

THESIS
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment
of the Requirements for the Degree of
Sarjana Pendidikan

Lidya Ratnasari
112012025
ENGLISH LANGUAGE EDUCATION PROGRAM
FACULTY OF LANGUAGE AND ARTS
UNIVERSITAS KRISTEN SATYA WACANA
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THE REASONS OF USING CODE MIXING IN SERMON SECTIONS BY PREACHERS IN BETHANY SALATIGA CHURCH

Lidya Ratnasari

ABSTRACT

Many public speaker including preachers in Indonesia use other languages beside Indonesian. They tend to use English, local language, or other foreign languages. However, most of them use English and mix Indonesian. This study investigates the reasons of using code mixing in sermon section by preachers. Data were collected from Bethany Salatiga church in Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia through recording sermon process and interview two preachers to collect their reasons. To choose the participants, there is one criteria that those two preachers should do code mixing during sermon section. The data were analyzed using qualitative method. From the data, it can be conclude that both of preachers used code mixing in sermon section. The result of the interviews there are five reasons by preachers why they do code mixing during sermon section. Those are (1) English as global language or it can be said that using English is usual, (2) Spontaneously spoken (there is no proper word to speak), (3) Make Interesting, (4) Profession, and (5) Environment.

Key words: reasons code mixing, preachers

A. INTRODUCTION

Nowadays many public speakers in Indonesia use other languages beside Indonesian. As a multilingual country, it is possible to use other
languages. They tend to use English, local language, or other foreign languages. However, most of them use English and mix with Indonesian. In this study, the public speakers here are preachers who use English words in sermon section in Indonesia. Some people argue that use English in sermon section sounds interesting. Sumarsih (2014) argued that code switching and code-mixing have become an interesting phenomenon to study in particular of language usage in society because it is part of development process and use multiple languages (bilingual) or a mixture of (multi-lingual).

On the other hand, there are factors, which force the speakers to use code mixing. According to Crystal (1987) cited in Offiong & Okong (2013) code switching and code mixing tends to occur when the speaker is upset, tired, or distracted in some manner, and when an individual wishes to express solidarity. Another reason, code switching and code-mixing occur in the community for two reasons: first, the speakers can merely communicate with the target language, and second, the diverse communication objectives (Gysels, 1992; cited in Duran, 1994). In previous study, Widatiningsih (2005) in her study found that there are five reasons why English Department students do code mixing. There are the participant, change of the topic, setting, lack of vocabulary and purpose.

There are some previous studies which are related with this study. The first one is about the use of code-choice among the young Papuans in Universitas Kristen Satya Wacana in Salatiga written by Koibur, E (2003). In this study discuss about how Papuans mix between Indonesian and Papuan
itself in two terms between formal and informal. There are also some language aspects that they mix and switch, such as: dialect and vernacular. Second is about the code switching and code mixing used by the teacher of English at SMP Kristen 2 Salatiga, written by Henrawan, Y (2006). In his study it discusses about the use of code mixing and switching for teaching instruction and classroom management, explanation and justification, communicating meaning, giving direction, giving information and repeating students’ response verbatim. Furthermore there are some previous studies that discuss about reasons of using code mixing. On the other hand the reasons why preachers do code mixing are rarely, so that I use this topic to my study. In this study, I want to know the reasons why preachers use code mixing in their sermon sections. Therefore, I address this research question: what are the preachers’ reasons toward code mixing of English words in sermon section?

As a preacher, he or she knows that not all of audience can understand what the preachers mean. In other hand, some preachers use code mixing automatically and make the condition of sermon section more conducive. Therefore, the aim of this study is to find out the reasons why the preachers use code mixing. I also hope that the result of the study will help preachers to realize why code mixing occurs in sermon section and the reasons behind that. I hope that this study may be useful for preachers in church to be more confident about using code mixing after knowing the reasons.
B. LITERATURE REVIEW

Definition of Code mixing

There are two types of code; such as code switching and code mixing. Bokamba (1989), as cited in Ayeomoni (2006) defines code-switching is the mixing of words, phrases and sentences from two distinct grammatical (sub) systems across sentence boundaries within the same speech event and code-mixing is the embedding of various linguistic units such as affixes (bound morphemes), words (unbound morphemes), phrases and clauses from a cooperative activity where the participants, in order to infer what is intended, must reconcile what they hear with what they understand.

Gumperz (1982) as cited in Hendrawan (2006) state that code mixing indicates to smaller units, commonly words or idiomatic expression which are borrowed from one language inserted into the sentence of another. Furthermore, people mix the code it relies on the meaningful combination of the words according to the internal rules of two distinct grammatical systems.

Wardaugh (2006), in his book “An Introduction to Sociolinguistics” states that, code mixing occurs when the speakers use two languages together to the extent that they change from one language to the other in the course of a single utterance (p 132). Code mixing often occurs within one sentence, one element is spoken in language A and the rest in language B. In addition, Nababan (1993:32) said that code mixing is found mainly in informal interactions. In formal situation, the speaker tends to mix it because there is no exact idiom in that language, so it is necessary to use words or idioms.
from other language. Thus are what the definition of code mixing, in this study I would like to talk more about code mixing.

**Reasons of the Use of Code Mixing**

Grosjean (1982) as cited in Kim (2006) suggests some reasons for code-switching, for example: some bilinguals mix two languages when they cannot find proper words or expressions or when there is no appropriate translation for the language being used. Also, the interlocutors, situations, messages, attitudes, and emotions generate code-mixing. In addition, according to Grosjean (1982), code-switching can also be used for many other reasons, such as quoting what someone has said (and thereby emphasizing one’s group identity), specifying the addressee (switching to the usual language of a particular person in a group will show that one is addressing that person), qualifying that has been said, or talking about past events.

On the basis of a number of factors such as with whom (participants: their backgrounds and relationships), about what (topic, content), and when and where a speech act occurs, bilinguals make their language choice (Bhatia & Ritchie, 2004). Sumasih and Masitowarni (2014) also suggest some reason of code switching and code mixing. First, speaker use code switching and code mixing because of the situation and do not know the meaning of the target language. Second, it is for more interesting conversation. Third, speaker wants to be sociable, easy to understand or understood the other person. Next is using two languages at home and the last reason is because of
the profession. Those reasons give us clear explanation that there are some reasons why people do code mixing. People use code mixing as the expression of a communicative strategy.

**Review of Previous Study**

A study about the use code mixing by a pastor in sermon sections was conducted by Chen 2013 in a local Chinese church in Western United States. In his study, he collected data by recoding conversations and discussions through the “participant observation”. He observed and recorded more than four hours of Bible discussions among Chinese Christians. During the same period he observed Sunday services in a local Chinese church. Many cases of code-switching were identified; however, it was very difficult to identify relationships between code-switching and social factors like gender, education, dialect background, etc.

His paper consists of two parts: video analysis and interview. The first part is video analysis. The site of this study is G Chinese Christian church (a pseudonym), located a major city in the Western United States. He investigated code-switching in the sermons alongside code switching in the Sunday school discussions, with the sermon representing a more formal and serious context and the Sunday school discussions being more casual and relaxed. He focused on only one G church pastor in Sunday service and Pastor Y is a Sunday school teacher at the same church. The second part of this study is an in-depth thirty-two-minute-long telephone interview with Pastor Y. In his finding, the reason of code switching by the pastor is
because the habit of use English in daily life. For the reason of teacher of Sunday school is that he/she more relax if use English in teaching. English is daily communication for Chinese people in that place, so it is easy for the Pastor Y to use English in teaching.

C. THE STUDY

Context of the study

This research was conducted in Bethany church in Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia. The reason why I choose Bethany church Salatiga as the setting is because the often use English in sermon section. I took the data in Sunday Service and Holy Revolution Centre service. Sunday service is held on every Sunday in the morning and evening. In Holy Revolution Center, is held on Wednesday evening at 06.00pm. Holy Revolution Center has same liturgy/program with Sunday Service.

Participants

In order to conduct this qualitative research, I interviewed two preachers in Bethani church in Salatiga. There is one main criterion for selecting the participants. The participant should do code mixing during sermon section. As far as I know from the observation before, the preachers in this church often mixes codes.
Data Collection Procedure

Before I collected the data, as stated in the previous sentence, I did some observations by joining the sermon. After that, I recorded the sermon section three times for every preacher. There are three times in Sunday service and in Holy Revolution Center with two preachers. In my interview process, I used Indonesian in the questions because I would to anticipate if there are some participants who do not know what I want to ask if I use English. I also want to avoid misunderstanding during interviews. Besides, I think that the participants felt more comfortable in answering the questions if I use Indonesian. I also assumed that using Indonesian will ensure that my data would be rich. In the interview process I used an audio recording and I transcribed it. Since the interview was originally conducted in Indonesian, I also translated those words into English.

Data Analysis Procedure

After transcribe the data, another thing is grouping some reasons that are going to be discuss further. The purpose of grouping the data is that help the researcher easier to analyze deeper. Beside that I can see two perspectives from both participants about using code mixing in their sermon section.

D. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

After listening to the recorded sermon and conducting the interview, I found that participants do code mixing with Indonesia-English. There are
five reasons why participants use English during the sermon sections, such as:

A. **English as global language or global term**

The first reason is about English as the global language or global term, so that many people are easy to understand. Participant 1 and 2 argued that in this era many people use English in every part of daily life. People use English in game, internet or in their environment; so that the participant 1 and 2 believe that many people will understand when they use some English words during the sermon section. According to a British Council’s prediction, about two billion people, *i.e.* almost one third of the whole world’s population, will have acquired some knowledge of English in 2015 (Svartvik and Leech 2006: 228), as cited in Claudia 2010. Participant 1 used words *problem solver* and *trouble maker* to mix with Indonesian language with English. He believed that those words are global term and familiar for audiences.

Excerpt 1

It was familiar word of English and those expressions are global term. (Participant 1)

In this part, Participant 1 talked about Jesus as the problem solver, but what will we do as His disciple, will us being a *problem solver* or *trouble maker*? In this case, participant 1 used the words during the sermon with topic “Jesus Apprentice” at the minute of 72
Excerpt 2

Keberadaan Yesus selalu membawa solusi, pertanyaanya apakah kita membawa solusi, apakah kita problem solver atau trouble maker?. (Participant2)

Participant 2 also agree with participant 1’s believe as Participant 2 said:

Excerpt 3

I think this is the global term and many people will understand. (Participant 2)

Participant 2 also used some code mixing during sermons at the minute at 18.49.

Excerpt 4

Menurut ilmu psikologi katanya anak itu punya umur golden age, umur berapa golden age?. (Participant 2)

In this part, the participant talked about how parents give support to their children ability/skill and the best age to support children’s ability is in golden age. Therefore, from those excerpts it can be concluded that those two participants agree that English as global term. That is why they often mix code between Indonesia & English in their sermon.

That reason is connected with the theory from David Crystal, 1997 as cited Pan & Block (2011) who said that same time in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s, the perspective of “English as a global language” might have been an ambiguous notion, from those 1980s onwards it turned into omnipresent, heading authors, make strong statement such as “English is the global language”. Moreover, I agree with participants’ reason because I can find
many English terms easily. English can be found in computer program, manual book to operate electronic, tourist attraction, and so on. Therefore, it is no doubt when they say that English as Global term.

B. Spontaneously Spoken (There is no proper word to speak)

The second reason why preachers used code mixing in sermon section is no proper word to speak. During the sermon section when the participant had no other words choice in Indonesian, they spontaneously spoke in English word. In this part, talked about parent’s who usually underestimated children’s ability because there are still young. Participant 2 used word “meng-underestimate” because there is no other proper word to use and it was spontaneously spoken. As he said:

Excerpt 1

It was spontaneously spoken; I just say it and I cannot find other proper word. (Participant 2)

Participant 2 used a word during the sermon section with topic Children as heritage of generation at the minute of 21 which he said:

Excerpt 2

Jangan gitu, itu yang membua kita salah kaprah, meng-underestimate kemampuan anak-anak kita. (Participant 2)
According to the reason above, participant 2 believe that why he use mix code because spontaneously spoken. Participant 2 could not find proper word then he used that word. Moreover, participant often do code mixing because that reason.

This reason is connected with Grosjean (1982) who suggest that some bilinguals mix two languages when they cannot find proper words or expressions or when there is no appropriate translation for the language being used. In this case, sometimes people have no idea to say a word because there is no proper word to speak. Sometimes people use other languages to use substitute a word that the speaker want to say.

C. Make Interesting

In this third reason, participant 1 believed that using English in sermon section can make audience more interested with the preachers’ sermon. He explained that using English is more interesting rather than when he use Indonesian all the time during the sermon section. As participant 1 mention:

Excerpt 1

I think this is also my strategy to make my sermon way more interesting and it will be better rather than I use Indonesian all the time. I learned there are some strategies to make a sermon more interesting, using foreign language is one of them. (Participant 1)

By his explanation during the interview, participant 1 believed that doing code mixing can make the sermon section more interesting. Participant was
graduated as master of divinity. He said that one of way to make sermon section more interesting is doing code mixing, as he mentioned:

Excerpt 2

When I was in my study, I learned about some strategies how to make sermon section more interesting. I remembered that using other languages besides Indonesian makes the sermon process more interesting. (Participant 1)

Participant 1 mention that he code mix other languages besides Indonesian which means that he use local language and some foreign languages. However, at the time the researcher recorded the sermons participant 1 only mixed codes between Indonesia and English.

This argument is supported by Sumasih and Masitowarni (2014) who argued that the use of code switching and mixing make the conversation more interesting. In my opinion, I agree with the participant’s reason. After participant use English words, some audiences seems interested and be more attention with in sermon section.

D. Profession

In fourth reason, participants 1 have other reason why he use code mixing and the reason is because his profession. Here, besides being a preacher, participant 1 also being an interpreter. He is being an interpreter when there is a foreigner preachers who did a sermon in Bethany Salatiga church. As he said:
Excerpt 1

Sometimes I am being an interpreter when there is a foreigner who did a sermon in Bethany Salatiga church. Moreover, I was using full English in sermon section in English Sunday service but only several times. (Participant 1)

Therefore, participant 1 mixes code between Indonesian & English, because he also uses English in some special sermons. Besides that, participant 1 also becomes an interpreter whenever there are foreigner did a sermon in the church. It can be said that, the use of English is professional demands.

E. Environment

For the last reason, participant 1 and 2 explained that the reason of the use English words in sermon section because of the environment. Here, environment is talked about congregations Bethany Salatiga church and their family. Bethany Salatiga church is located at downtown, which means that the most of congregations is urban people. The location is not far from one of famous university in Salatiga and many college students come to that church. During the interview, participant 2 mentioned that one of reason why he used some English words because the most congregations are urban people and students. Participant 2 believe that, most of them are understand, especially for student who most of them know English well, as he said:

Excerpt 1

I use English because most of congregations are urban people and students of university. I
think most of them know about English, because this is global language. I also believe that student will understand with English word because they are a student and their knowledge of English is good. (Participant 2)

Participant 1 also believed that the reason why he used English word because of the most congregations is urban people and students. He argued that urban people are mostly knows English rather than villager. When the participant 1 do sermon section in village who the most audience is villager, he reduce in using English word because he worried if the audiences did not understand. Participant 1 feel freely when use some English words in Bethany Salatiga church especially when the audiences are students, as the participant 1 said:

Excerpt 2

For me, congregation is one of my reasons why I use English words during sermon section. I use English words often in Bethany Salatiga church because the most of congregations is urban people and students. I believe that they know English well, especially for students. However, I try to not use some English words if I do sermon in village and the most audiences are villager. (Participant 1)

Based on their reason, congregation also has important influence for participants to mix code Indonesia & English. It would be difficult for participants to do code mixing Indonesia & English in villages where the most audiences are villager.
On the other hand, the other environment is their family. Participant 1 mentioned that in his daily life, he used English often with his wife and children, as he said:

Excerpt 3

My wife was graduated from English Department and she is very fluent in speaking English. My son also study in bilingual school which use English often at school and he often uses English at home also. (Participant 1)

Participant 2 agree with participant’s 1 reason which argued that he often use English with his family at home, as he mention:

Excerpt 4

My son was graduated from English Department and he is very good to speak English. He often uses English to communicate with me. He frequently corrects my English because he knows English so well. My wife also good to speak English and sometimes we use English at home. (Participant 2)

Therefore, based on those excerpts both of participants 1 and 2 have the same reason that family also has influence to them in doing code mixing during sermon section. So, when they often practice their English with their family, they often practice to speak English too. It means that, they will automatically speak English even only some words.

To support the reason above (Bhatia & Ritchie, 2004) argued that on the basis of a number of factors such as with whom (participants: their
backgrounds and relationships), about what (topic, content), and when and where a speech act occurs, bilinguals make their language choice. Moreover, Sumasih and Masitowarni (2014) also argued the reason why people do code switching and code mixing because they often use English at home and because their profession. In that case, urban people and Student is good target for the participant to use code mixing in sermon section. Furthermore, Student is more comprehend when preachers use English words in sermon section because they are very familiar with English terms.

E. CONCLUSION

This study was conducted to find out what reasons explained by preachers why they do code mixing during sermon section. Data in this study is derived from the interview that has been done in in sermon section with two preachers in Bethany Salatiga church in Salatiga, Central Java, Indonesia. The finding indicates that there are five reasons why preachers do code mixing in sermon section there are (1) English as global language/global term, (2) Spontaneously spoken (there is no proper word to speak), (3) Make Interesting, (4) Profession, (5) Environment. Based on the five reasons, code mixing was used consistently during sermon section.

The first reason both of participant 1 and 2 have same reason that English as global language/global term. People use English in game, internet or in their environment; therefore, the participant 1 and 2 believe that many
people will understand when they use some English words during the sermon section. In second reason was stated by participant 2 as his reason is that there is no other proper word to use and it was spontaneously spoken. This argument is connected with Grosjean (1982) who suggest that some bilinguals mix two languages when they cannot find proper words or expressions or when there is no appropriate translation for the language being used.

In third reason, participant 1 argued that why he do code mixing is because to make interesting. This argument is supported by Sumasih and Masitowarni (2014) who argued that the use of code switching make the conversation more interesting. Moreover, in fourth reason is about profession. Here, besides being a preacher, participant 1 also being a translator. He is being a translator when there is a foreigner preachers who did a sermon in Bethany Salatiga church. For the last reason, both participant 1 and 2 have same reason and their reason is because environment. Here, environment is talked about congregations Bethany Salatiga church and their family. This statement is supported by (Bhatia & Ritchie, 2004) argued that on the basis of a number of factors such as with whom (participants: their backgrounds and relationships), about what (topic, content), and when and where a speech act occurs, bilinguals make their language choice.

The implication of this study is to make teachers realize that the use of code mixing and switching is important even in their teaching and learning process. Finally, considering the limitation of time, context, and number of
participants, this study could be developed on more than one church with large number of participant to know various preachers’ reasons toward code mixing.
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REFERENCES


APPENDIX

Interview Questions

- Male ( )
- Female ( )

- How long have you been being a preacher?
- What kinds of difficulties that you have faced in using foreign/local language?
- Do you often use English in daily life?
- During on sermon section, have you ever used some English words?
- What kinds of difficulties that you have faced in using English word during sermon section?
- Does using some English words help you during sermon sections?
- What are your reasons why do you use English words in sermon section?