

Reflections: Talking About Language

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ORIGINAL ARTICLE

Football talk: sociological reflections on the dialectics of language and football

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ABSTRACT

This paper examines the relationship between football and language from a sociological point of view. This has often been couched in negative terms, but the paper argues that such a view distorts the majority of 'Football Talk'. The discourse surrounding football within everyday interactions is often positive and integrative. 'Football Talk' acts as a lingua franca amongst football supporters. This language code is therefore both inclusive and exclusive.

KEYWORDS

Football; language; social integration; sociology

Introduction

The present paper analyzes the relationship between football and language from a sociological point of view. It explores the way that this relationship is often assessed within a negative discursive framework. The mass media, in particular, emphasize the association of football with racist, sexist and homophobic language. However, it is the contention of this paper that such a perspective distorts the main, everyday aspects of the routine and typical relationship between football and language – this is referred to subsequently as 'football talk'. Indeed, in most contexts the discourse surrounding football in everyday interactions is both positive and integrative. 'Football talk' acts as a *lingua franca* amongst those interested in the game. It also functions as a language code that is both inclusive and exclusive simultaneously.

Language and football

The study of language and football by social scientists has long been dominated by socio-linguists. Krone (2005) provided an extensive comparison of the syntactic and semantic properties of verbs used in spoken commentaries of football matches in English and in German. He concluded that in both countries 'the language of football is a specialized field of language, containing its own vocabulary, pragmatic conventions and idiomatic phrases' (9). This point was reiterated by Seddon (2004) in his analysis of the 166 words, he identified that were used in English to describe the act of kicking a football. Müller (2007) also focused on English and German radio commentaries to

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The right to speak one's own language is a right that has only recently been enshrined in law. At first this right was only a negative right (i.e. the right to use one's. Reflections on Language and Identity. "Zine Study XIV: [language]" Photo by Flickr user Shawn Econo. Zine Study XIV: [language] Photo by. Full-Text Paper (PDF): Reflections on language, development, and the interactional character of talk-in-interaction. Background: Research into the practices of speechlanguage therapists in clinical sessions is beginning to identify the way communication in. Language and Speech Reflections on Studying Prosody in Talk-in-Interaction participants interactively produce conversation and other talk-in-interaction. I am now in the process of studying how anxiety affects people who stammer in foreign language classes. My research has allowed me to talk. Int J Lang Commun Disord. Oct-Dec;39(4); discussion Reflections on speech-language therapists' talk: implications for clinical practice .Aims: This target article aims to raise the issues that arise from critical reflections on the communication of speechlanguage therapists for both. SOME REFLECTIONS ON LANGUAGE GAMES. WILFRID .. discourse between modal talk "in the object language" and rule talk "in the meta-language.) I was also reading and thinking about class and language, and it . the way the Mayor talks and the way the man and woman talk, leaving aside all. Reflections on learning a language remotely: How polyglot Olly Richards is updating . She doesn't appreciate his speaking French with an English accent and. Reflections on speechlanguage therapists' talk: implications for clinical practice and education. Alison FergusonA and Elizabeth Armstrong` . A University of. Reflections from teachers and students on speaking anxiety in an EFL classroom . Journal of Language and Cultural Education Journal of Language and. Do you have any tips for speaking the language fluently without accent? I tried different methods for years but without apparent success. I have no problem. The Power of Language A philosophical-sociological reflection On the one hand, that language and speaking must be distinguished in the exercise of power .

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