



# **A STUDY OF LANGUAGE AND GENDER IN #MUTERKELLY HASHTAG ON TWITTER**

**A THESIS**

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for  
Strata-1 Degree Majoring Linguistics in English Department  
Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University

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## **PRONOUNCEMENT**

The researcher honestly confirms that she writes this thesis by herself and without taking any results from other researchers in S-1, S-2, and S-3 and in diploma degree of any university. In addition, the researcher verifies that she does not quote any material from other publication or someone's work except for the references mentioned.

Semarang, October 2019

Usi Julastri Anhar.

## MOTTO AND DEDICATION

*“Let’s teach our daughters to worry less about fitting into glass slippers and more about shattering glass ceilings”*

**- Melissa Marchonna –**

*“...but motivational quotes won’t do the work for you”*

**- Usi –**

*This thesis is dedicated  
to my beloved family  
and to everyone who helped me accomplish this thesis.*

**APPROVAL**

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## ABSTRACT

The goal of this study is to determine the characteristics of linguistic features in the language of male and female in social media communication. The data used in the study is based on Lakoff's ten female speech characteristics. The writer uses purposive sampling with non-participant observation method in order to collect the data. Aside from Lakoff's theory, this study also uses additional theory about masculinity language and women's language from the perspective of liberal feminism subcultural theorist to support the main theory. The data are from the tweets containing #MuteRKelly hashtag collected from twitter and it is collected by using purposive sampling technique. The result of the study shows that gender identity cannot be identified in a consistent way, so that Lakoff's theory can no longer support female speech characteristics as there are evidences that male often use these features as well. Even though the result shows that females dominated most of the features, but there is no such big data differences compare to males. This study finds that the purpose of using #MuteRKelly in twitter is interchangeably between both genders, whether to show support or against the movement. The difference can only be seen in the use of lexical hedges and emphatic stress, where female tend to be more negative than male. The study reveals that gender study is constructed in a flexible way rather than characterized some groups as 'male' or 'female'. There are differences but some sort of communication standards might no longer capable for describing the overall reality.

**Keywords:** sociolinguistics, language and gender, women's language features, Computer-Mediated Discourse, twitter

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher briefly represented the research background, research questions and purpose of the study as well. The researcher also demonstrated five previous studies to help the readers figure out the novelty of the research. Finally, writing outline was presented in order to show the framework of thesis.

#### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Today, it is very easy to interact with people through Internet. As internet is now spread worldwide, we can easily find some information and also find the right discussion place to communicate according to our interest. Anyone can say anything they want to persuade and influence people. This easy way on how to find your interest can play a role not only our perception of the world but also the relationships among the users of Internet on a global scale. The easiest way to get connected to people is by joining some social networks, such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, etc.

This study focuses on the use of Twitter by the users by looking at the tendency of language use on it. Twitter is a platform created in 2006 that is used for a quick communication that allows people to share texts, images, videos, or animations.

Users can access Twitter through its website interface or application software through their phone. When people shared post, it is called a tweet, and it can only have 280 characters per tweet.

More specifically, this study focuses on how male and female use #MuteRKellyin Twitter. A hashtag uses symbol # to filter through content in order to collect information into a specific subject for different purposes. By using hashtag, people could actually creating trends on social media for a particular topic. The researcher highlights the opportunity to investigate Twitter's impact on sexual abuse issues. #MuteRKelly is an activist movement that centers to shut R. Kelly's career down and led to a discussion about girls and black women's rights in particular. As R. Kelly, a 52-year-old R&B singer known for his hits "I Believe I can Fly", has faced allegations for his 25-year sexual abuses scandal, #MuteRKelly movement has been a trending topic in social media, particularly Twitter. The focus became centered not on the awareness of sexual abuses against women but on justifying men against social critique. When we search for the hashtag, some tweets could be intimate, and sometimes uncomfortable to read. The tweets caught somewhere between narrative, warning, confession, critique, etc.

This study restrict to written languages for it does not have the auditory features as spoken text do. However, in this situation hashtag acts like paralanguage – something that you already use in daily life. It's the non-verbal cues that come with speech and help us express meaning and tone – shoulder shrugs, intonation, facial

expressions (TINT, January 08, 2015). In the study titled “Twitter Language Use Reflects Psychological Differences between Democrats and Republicans”, Karolina Sylwester and Matthew Purver, proving that Twitter behaviour offers valid reflections to offline behaviour. Some linguists have confirmed that male and female are different when using language; it can be seen in the use of vocabulary, in voice and tone, in syntactic structure, and style.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

Relying on the background of study, this study focuses to fill the research questions mentioned below:

1. What kind of differences on how females and males react to #MuteRKelly?
2. What are the differences in goals between females and males using #MuteRKelly in their tweets?

## **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

The main goal of this study is to find out whether females and males use language differently or not. It seeks to achieve the following specific objectives:

1. To identify the differences on how females and males reacts to #MuteRKelly?
2. To reveal the differences in goals between females and males using #MuteRKelly in their tweets.

## 1.4 Previous Studies

There are so many cases and topic have been studied to examine how men and women behave on online communication from some kind of perspectives, but not many of them focus on gender language differences on Twitter. In order to give the research gap for my thesis, I try to bring up the #MuteRKelly movement which went viral lately and see how this campaign could reflect gender roles.

The first study, entitled *Gender and Instagram Hashtags: A Study of #Malaysianfood* conducted by Ye Zhang and others (2016), showed that females prefer to use hashtag that expose their emotional feeling. Females also tend to use positive hashtags more than males do. It confirms the statement that females are more emotional in online communication while males are more task-oriented online (Jeanine et al., 2014). Hargittai (2008) also stated that male is better in showing anger and regret online when facing a disadvantage situation, while females more consider about politeness and tend to avoid unhappy situation.

Niina Nevala (2015), investigates the present phenomenon of gendered communication in Facebook to see how it changes during the past decades or years. It was found that the current communication styles are flexible and changeable, and there also seems to build options when it comes to communication of women and men. Some differences have found but a set of communication standards might no longer be the most effective way for describing what was happened in reality.

Some linguists had studied not only use social media for conducting study, but also in real life communication. Ishrat Akhter (2014), for example, studied the language use differences between male and female students in Dhaka City. The result showed that the youth are committing differences in a large scope; the differences can be seen mostly in vocabulary use, voice and tone, syntactic structure and language style.

A current study from Laura Poranen (2018), has found out that females and males gossiped differently. It showed that males felt more unnatural to share personal matters (58%) than female respondents did (44%). Females also agreed more powerfully (35%) with the gain of respect than males did (32%).

Peter Wikström (2014), on an article entitled *#srynotfunny: Communicative Functions of Hashtags on Twitter*, examines several communicative functions found in hashtags on Twitter using a linguistic pragmatic perspective. The result showed that Twitter users are using hashtag as a multifunctional linguistic device for maintaining information, playing games, and conveying meaning in interaction.

## **1.5 Writing Outline**

Chapter I is Introduction, which contains the background of the research, research questions, the purpose of the research, previous studies to show the research gap and writing outline.

Chapter II, is review of the literature, contains the review of related literature that the researcher applies in conducting research, such as Sociolinguistics and Gender.

Chapter III, which is research method, elaborates types of research generally. It also where the data is taken from, how the data is analyzed, how the research is conducted.

Chapter IV is data analysis. In this chapter, the findings about the concept of gender and language are demonstrated based on Sociolinguistics theory.

Chapter V will be the conclusion, presents the result of the study and some suggestion concerning on the research.



## CHAPTER 2

### REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE

In conducting this research, the researcher looked over some books related to language and gender. The researcher applied theory of language and gender, women's language supported by Lakoff's hypothesis, from the perspectives of liberal feminism, subcultural theorist, language and masculinity, and the theory of twitter and hashtag.

#### 2.1 Language and Gender

Just as language shapes how we see and think about the world around, and how we react differently to the view in that world, it can also impact our gender and identity (Coates, 1996; Omoniyi and White, 2006) and vice versa. Collins Dictionary suggests that gender is the condition of being male or female that deals with the social and cultural roles that are expected to be appropriate for men and women. Gender is fundamentally different from sex; Anthony Giddens (1989: 158) describes sex as "biological or anatomical differences between men and women," while gender "relate to the psychological, social and cultural differences between males and females".

Gender exists as a specific category of language; gender brings us to understand more about people and life. Although the separation in language between men and women has been talked for years, most of the literature on the subject

focuses on two main theories. The first one is the 'dominance approach' (Lakoff 1975; Fishman 1983), which considers that the dominance of male and subordination female is the effect of difference in language between men and women. From this perspective, women were treated as minority group. On the other hand, 'difference approach' (supported by Coates 1986; Tannen 1990), claim that men and women belong to different subcultures and that any linguistic differences can be related to cultural differences.

As language contributes in create one's identity and gender, it makes sense to believe that when people's view of masculinity and femininity exchange for another, the way they use language will change as well. As a result of switching gender understanding, my hypothesis is that the language of men and women is becoming more homogenous.

## **2.2 Female Language Features Based on Lakoff's Hypothesis (1975)**

In our modern society, it will to be likely that women are equal to men. In fact, the harsh reality stratifies us that women are not given an equal opportunity even for discussions. Research on the diversity of the language of men and women has revealed the characteristics of differences in the use of language between men and women. Among them, there is the difference in communicative ability that is standard feature of language usage.

Lakoff's hypothesis about women's speech was characterised by linguistic features explained in the following:

### **2.2.1 Lexical Hedges or Fillers**

Hedging is described as the occasional use of such as well, you see, sorta/sort of, like, you know, kinda/kind of, like, I guess, I think, and it seems like. Holmes (1992:317) claimed that several researchers believed that women used hedges three times more frequent than men do, while in others there were no differences between both gender.

Lakoff (cited in Holmes, 1992:316) explained that women use hedging devices to show uncertainty, and they use intensifying devices to convince their addressee to pay attention to them seriously.

### **2.2.2 Tag Questions**

The tag question is a syntactic device made by Lakoff that may indicate uncertainty (Holmes, 1992:318). There is no syntactic concept in English that only women can use tag question and men cannot, but there is at least one conception that a woman considers to use it in more conversational situations than a man. This is the rule of tag question formation (Lakoff, 1973:53).

A tag question is usually used when the speaker is giving an argument, but lacks full confidence in the fact of the argument. For instance if she says:

- “Is Tom here?”

Woman might not be surprised if her respondent answer ‘no’, but if she says:

- “Tom is here, isn’t he?”

Instead of waiting for positive answer, she wants only approval feedback from the addressee. She still want a response from her addressee, as she do with a yes-no question; but she has enough knowledge to predict that response.

### **2.2.3 Rising Intonation on Declaratives**

Intonations cannot be found in online conversation, but this feature is not necessarily gone in online conversation. The usage of a question mark after declarative sentence can be indicated as the expression of declarative sentence with interrogative intonations.

Lakoff (1973:56) said that such feature indicates that women’s speech sounds much politer compare to men’s. The idea of politeness maybe regarded to: letting a decision open; not forcing the idea, or views, or claims, on anyone else.

### **2.2.4 ‘Empty’ Adjectives**

The usage of ‘empty’ adjectives such as cute, charming, sweet, lovely, and divine in women’s speech is not just for fun. They will be judged for certain personalities and attitudes based on their choice of words. “Words classified to

women's language evoke that concepts to which they are applied are not relevant to the real world of (male) influence and power" (Lakoff 1975: 52).

A group of adjectives may indicate glorification for something. Some of adjectives are neutral and can be used either by men or women, but another pair of them seem to be considerably limited to women's speech. This kind of adjectives called 'empty' adjectives, which means instead of give specific information they only point out emotional information.

Lakoff assumes that (cited in Cameron, 1990:226-227) if a man uses women's adjectives, he will damage his reputation. Meanwhile, a woman may use the neutral words as much as she wants; the use of 'women's words' is without any risks.

### **2.2.5 Precise Colour Terms**

Lakoff (cited in Wardhaugh, 2006:318), suggests that women use colour words like violet, magenta, mauve, beige, aquamarine, peach, and lavender. However, most men do not use these kinds of word. A relatively large extent discrimination of colour is relevant for women, but not for men. Men will feel that using precise colour terms is not important, irrelevant to the real world.

Women are not anticipated to make decisions on important situations. Deciding whether to name a colour 'violet' or 'magenta' consider as breaking non-crucial decision. This lexical distinction shows a social bias in the position of women.

If we wish to change this impression, we should give women the floor to participate in the real decisions of life (Lakoff, cited in Cameron, 1990:224).

### **2.2.6 Intensifiers**

Intensifiers such: so, just, very, and quiet, seem more characteristic of women's language than of men's, though it is found particularly in the speech of male academics, such as:

- a) I feel so terrified!
- b) That movie made me so bored!

Men are more likely using this construction when the sentence is unemotional or with particular reference to the speaker himself:

- a) That sunset is so beautiful!
- b) Fred is so dumb!

### **2.2.7 'Hypercorrect' Grammar**

Lakoff (cited in Holmes, 1992:314), claimed that hypercorrect grammar is showing the consistency use of standard verb forms. Lakoff said that the use of hypercorrect grammar aims to avoid the terms considered given to crudity or indecent, such as 'ain't', and the use of precise pronunciation, such as sounding the final 'g' in words such as 'going' instead of the more effortless form like 'goin'.

### 2.2.8 'Superpolite' Forms

A request perhaps has the same sense as a polite command that suggests something to be done as a favour to the speaker. An explicit instruction (as in an imperative) shows the (often-impolite) evidence of the speaker's superior position to the addressee, dealing with the right to insist on the expected response, whereas with a request the decision on the face of it is on the addressee's hand. Well, the consequence is not that the addressee is in danger if he/she does not stick to the order, simply that he/she will be grateful if he/she does. After all, the decision is left up to the addressee, and hence a suggestion will sound politer than an order.

The following phrases are kind of superpolite forms also:

- Would you please...
- I'd really appreciate it if...
- Would you mind...
- ...if you don't mind...

### 2.2.9 Avoidance of Strong Swear Words

Lakoff (1973:50) argue that the speech of women and of men in the use of particles that grammarians often describe as 'meaningless'. There may be no significance for them, but they are far from meaningless: they define the social context of an utterance, indicate the relationship the speaker feels between himself and his addressee, between himself and what he is discuss about. Consider to the following sentences:

- a) Oh dear, you've broke the tea-potagain.
- b) Shit, you've broke the tea-potagain.

The first sentence would be predicted as part of 'women's language', the second as 'men's language. Women normally use softer forms such as 'Oh, Dear!' or 'Darn!', whereas men use stronger patterns such as 'Shit!' or 'Dammit!'.

### **2.2.10 Emphatic Stress**

Women are more likely to use words which are used to emphasize the utterance or to modify the meaning of an utterance. For example:

- It was a brilliant performance

The emphatic stress marked in the word 'brilliant'; this word can be used to tone up the meaning of the claim.

## **2.3 Language and Masculinity**

The study of men's use of language hit a turning point in 1997 with the publication of Johnson and Meinhof's edited volume, *Language and Masculinity*. In these and other studies of men's discourse, Tannen (1990) identified a rule that men tend to discursively take up roles of expertise or authority. Coates (1997a), based on an extensive corpus of women's and men's friendly talk, found that men usually take up the role of the expert, whereas women have difficulty to take this role.



Kotthoff (1997) finds that men are tend to act on expert positions in the public setting. She explains the discursive negotiation of expert status in television discussions on Austrian TV by comparing the actual expert status of the guests (“extrinsic rank”) and the status they interactionally achieve (“intrinsic rank”).

Tannen (1990) for examining the focus of lecturing in men’s conversational strategies, Kotthoff suggest that high-ranking men always got a high intrinsic status through the use of lecturing, characterized by interruption of turn-taking, assertions of debatable claims in a straightforward manner, and a lack of subjectivizers (e.g. I think) (1997: 165).

#### **2.4 Computer-Mediated Discourse and Gender**

One of the recent areas in sociolinguistic research is computer-mediated communication (CMC) that deal with both private and public communication via digital media such as emails, texting, social network sites and discussion forums (Androutopoulos 2014: 75.). While computer-mediated discourse analysis (CMDA), is a specialization within the broader interdisciplinary study of CMC marked by its focus on language and language use and by its use of methods of discourse analysis to address that focus (Herring, 2004).

At the beginning of gender studies in the field of CMC, which also took place in the 1980’s together with the huge expansion of the World Wide Web, it was proposed that new technologies, such as the internet, can give more neutralized

and more democratic medium for communication as CMC interactions lack the social status cues (such as appearance, accent, race) that are usually delivered in face-to-face interactions (Herring 1993). Many scholars claimed that this social division from its usual context in CMC could give the opportunity also for more proportional gender interactions (Herring 1993).

Even so, Yates (1997: 289) identified that although the realities of disparities based around gender and computing are real and should be paid more attention to; CMC technologies also offer the possibility of creating gender identities which can escape from those standard forms of 'real life'. Still, as it has been noted before, CMC is just as real as 'real life' (cf. Jones 2004), which can lead to CMC technologies leaving a setting that can influence and change how gender norms are perceived, online as well as offline.

Basically, there are two minor concepts that relate to the language typical to male vs. female style of communication online, namely *flaming* and *netiquette*. The term *flaming* deals with an act of using derogative, improper or inappropriate language to express strong or negative opinion or to offend someone on the internet (Herring 1996a: 149). Often, men are said to flame more than women and the reason for this, according to Herring (1996a), might state on different communication ethics, e.g. men and women have different ideas on what constitutes appropriate behaviour online and flaming seems to be more compatible with male ethical ideas (ibid.). Furthermore, Herring (1996a:150) found that flaming may also associate with

different value systems in terms of communication: women are said to value consideration for the wants and needs of others, whereas men are said to value freedom from censorship, open expression and competitive debate in seek of knowledge. Furthermore, the researcher will pay attention on top of that to whether *netiquette* appears in the data or not, which is a form of written or often even unwritten rules of network etiquette, hence netiquette, which is often available on many public sites (Herring 1996a: 151). In her studies in the 1990's, Herring discovered that the *netiquette* of many of those discussion lists that she was studying was often compatible with male values and male adversarial style consistent with the behaviour that was reported discouraging by many women (cf. Herring 1996a).

## **2.5 Twitter and Hashtag**

Twitter is social media platform used by millions of people daily and growing. Since its launch in March 2006, twitter has 321 million active monthly users (Statista, 2018). In 2017, 53% of Twitter users were male, while 47% of the users were women (Statista, 2017).

Hashtag in particular, prefixed by a # symbol with a keyword, has become a unique way to help users associate Twitter messages with specific contexts to show the freedom of expression. Interestingly, the same keyword and hashtag topics are competing despite their representations and could end up as 'Trends'. (Hsia-Ching, 2010). Twitter (2019) claimed that 'Trends' offer a unique way to get closer

to what the users care about. It was tailored for the users based on the location and who they follow.

Picture1 Snapshot of the Twitter Trending Topics (3/11/2019)



As a unique communication model, hashtag could give a floor for people to propagate ideas and to promote specific topics and people (Caleffi, 2015). Low cost and increasingly accessible social media sites have provided minority groups a platform to empower themselves collectively and build community through the use of new linguistic tools such as hashtags (Cheng, 2017).

## **CHAPTER 3**

### **RESEARCH METHOD**

This chapter deals with the research method, which demonstrates type of the research, explains the data, and presents the method to collect and analyse the data.

#### **3.1 Type of Research**

In order to give a systematic, precise, and accurate data, the researcher uses qualitative approach in this research. Besides using the qualitative research type, this research also uses a descriptive method, which is a method of research that describes the objects purely derived from the data in the course of the study. The descriptive method is implemented because the data analysis is presented descriptively.

#### **3.2 Data, Population, Sample, and Sampling Technique**

The conducted observations in this study are reliant on a dataset derived from Twitter. Therefore the data used were categorised as primary data as the writer collects the data directly from the research object. The tweets are retrieved from 120 public accounts of active people; 60 female users and 60 male users. The tweets were annotated as male and female according to the gender of the account's owner. The researcher collected a sample from users whose gender could be identified; the gender was determined by the name, profile picture of the account's owner, and

sometimes the gender could be identified by looking at the bio (eg. Wife; A mother of a furry kid; Just a normal guy who had ups and downs in his life, but I have an amazing woman and I couldn't be luckier). The researcher exclude users who do not mention their real names on bio, and users who have unusual names; we deal with different users from different ethnic background among the world, somehow the names sound unfamiliar and we have no clues whether they are male or female. The data can fulfil the objective of the study by avoid these kinds of users.

The population of the research were from utterances produced by users using English with #MuteRKelly hashtag on their tweets, the non-English tweets and retweets are filtered out. The study sample includes 120 utterances found in the tweets with #MuteRKelly, collected on May up until June 2019. After the researcher found good number of data, then the selected tweets will be analysed.

By applying purposive sampling technique, the researcher chooses the data that has gender characteristics.

**Table 1 Sample of Analysis**

No.	Users	Gender	Tweets
1.	scott robertson @ScottBeatles	Male	Steve Avery is locked up and R Kelly is free ..... Da Fuck ☐ #MuteRKelly
2.	Inami Brown @BrownInami	Female	I cried, I had goosebumps, & I was sick to my stomach watching Surviving R Kelly. Pied piper the Pedophile #MuteRKelly

The above tweets are the example used as the data and analysed by the researcher in order to differentiate gender characteristic in online conversation. The example data has gender characteristic in it. We can see how both users (male and female) use different expression of emotions in the sentence.

### **3.3 Method of Collecting Data**

According to Sudaryanto (1993, pp. 131-134), there are four methods can be applied when collecting data; participant observation, non-participant observation, note taking, and recording method. In this research, non-participant observation method was applied in order to gather the relevant tweets from twitter. After that, the researcher screen-captured the original tweets to finally transcribe the texts, and listing the data that presents the population manually, so we can see differences in male and female language characteristic online communication environment. The researcher used purposive sampling which is observing only tweets containing #MuteRKelly posted by users whose gender can be identified as male or female.

### **3.4 Method of Analysing Data**

Language is a representation system, because in language someone could use signs and symbols to represent the concept, idea, and feelings towards others. Since the data used in this study should be written in English, the tweets chosen should be written in English whether it's the first or second language of the account users. In

this study, the researcher focuses on differentiating the gender based on the speech characteristics.

The data were analysed using descriptive qualitative method. The sample of this study will be analysed by comparing the tweets expressed by different gender in how they use #MuteRKelly hashtag in twitter. The researcher tries to identify and analyse what kind of sign that is shown by participants in the tweets that can determine the characteristic of gender in using #MuteRKelly as a movement on social media to fight sexual abuse. The steps taken by the researcher to analyse the data as follow:

1. Collecting the data in the form of tweets from Twitter.
2. Classifying the data based on Lakoff's theory which have been taken.
3. Analysing the data and checking the word to see the form of female and male's language in the #MuteRKelly hashtag on Twitter, and the differences images between female and male based on the vocabulary used.
4. Drawing the conclusion based on the result of the analysis.



## CHAPTER 4

### DATA ANALYSIS

This chapter will give readers the analysis of the data gathered during the observation by applying the theory mentioned in the previous chapter.

#### 4.1 Findings

As a social media that provide reply feature, the researcher should take a look at the whole context of tweets, whether the tweets are standing alone, or connected to the previous or following tweets. The time of tweets could be an indicator too in studying language, since Twitter provided the time and date of the tweet, the researcher can analyse whether the context of each replied-tweets happened at the same moment or not. In online conversation, writers could not always receive immediate feedback from their readers, except in computer-based communication. Therefore they cannot rely on context to clarify things so there is more need to avoid being vague and shadowy in explain things than in speech, except in written communication between people who know one another well.

It becomes more challenging since this study conducted in written language that non-linguistic communication features are not provided, such as facial expressions, the pauses, gestures, symbols, and paralinguistic elements, which are essential for communication (Vicars, 2001).

Gesture is a body or limb movement that you use to convey a thought or emotion (Websters, 2001), while paralanguage is the nonphonemic form of speech that used by people to adjust the meanings or their verbal language. Speaking faster, using a lower tone of voice, raising the pitch of your voice at the end of a sentence, are all form of paralanguage (American Heritage, 2000).Paralanguage can be a vocal speed, vocal loudness, pitch, tone, "tsk, tsk,"clicking the tongue, "sighing", Laughing, and sobbing.

In spoken language, much of the meaning is depend by the context, Unlikely as written language,where more meanings are givendirectly by the text. The types of words used in all of the conversation are all spoken-written language. We could see some inappropriate words since the twitter users in this study are used informal form, which is similar to spoken conversation. They used simple sentences that may include slang, figures of speech, and words are likely to be simplified using contractions (for example, I'm, doesn't, can't, it's) and abbreviations (e.g. TV).The users can use punctuations marks (eg, commas, quotation marks, or exclamation marks), colours,capitalization (using capital, or upper-case, letters.), add-ons (eg. stickers, emoji, and emoticons)and other graphical effects in their tweets.

#### a. Capitalization

According to Vocabulary.com (2019), capitalization means using capital, or upper-case, letters.Using capital letters at the beginning of a sentence and capitalizing all the letters in a word for emphasis are both the representative of capitalization.

## b. Punctuations Marks

Punctuations marks are marks that you add to a text to show the divisions between different parts of it: Periods, commas, semicolons, question marks, apostrophes, and parentheses are all punctuation marks.(Cambridge Dictionary)

## c. Add-ons

According to Meriam Webster dictionary, add-ons refer to something added on: such as emoticons. At the beginning of the popularization of email and IM, newbies were warned that online messages could be easily misunderstood. Since we are not talking face-to-face with our interlocutor, we need to give additional information to explain our personal manners, body stance, or vocal intonation can help. Emoticons can fill the gap in conversation such as facial expressions (e.g. grinning), gestures (e.g. victory hand), objects (e.g. car) and even actions (e.g. singing), which can be expressed with animated stickers. That is why there are so many kinds of add-ons used by people since the add-ons can actually reflect the current emotion of the online users. Emojis are the fastest growing language in the world with 92% of people using emoji (Spike, 2019). Though it feels like there are zillions emojis are predicted in online conversation, the official total in The Unicode Consortium was recognized 2,823 emojis in 2018.

## 4.2 The Analysis of Speech Characteristic

In order to answer the research question, the researcher analysed the 60 of female tweets and 60 of male tweets. In addition the researcher analysed the characteristics of women's language features on the #MuteRKelly tweets based on Lakoff's (1975) theory. Based on the data gathering and data analysis, the researcher identified that there are 5 of 10 features found on #SurvivingRKelly tweets. Evidence from each language feature will also be presented to give a better explanation.

The result of the data analysis shows that there are 5 language features found in #MuteRKelly hashtag on Twitter. Those language features are categorized into 5 types presented in the table below:

**Table 2 language features characteristics found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

No.	Language Features	Examples	
		Male	Female
1.	Lexical hedges or filler	I guess, I think, I thought, you know	I guess, Well, I think, I would, I thought, maybe
2.	Intensifiers	really, so	very, too, really, so
3.	'Superpolite' Forms	would be great if.., thank you so much, please.., I refuse to..	I respect.., thank you, best way to kill a mood.
4.	Avoidance of Strong Swear Words	wtf, pervert, scumbag, poisoning MILLIONS, sht, sick, fuck, pos, BULLSHIT, damnnnnn, idiot, abuser, Boo Boo da fool, thot, b***h!	sick, fucking, motherfucker, bitches, abhorrent, blind, monster, shit, twisted, evil, disgusting, manipulator, worthless, wtf, POS, creepy, guilty, smfh
5.	Capitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>MILLIONS</li> <li>IGNORANCE OF THE</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DO YOUR RESEARCH YALL ARE ONE SIDED</li> </ul>

		<p>LAW DOES NOT #ABSOLVE YOU OF THE LAW! #PRESIDENTTRUMP, #HOMELANDSECURIT Y, #FBI, #CIAMETOO #TIMESUP #MUTERKELLY #THANKS DOMESTIC TERRORIST FIGHTING FOR THEIR MF'ing LIVES</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FIGHTING FOR THEIR</li> <li>• HE HAD THE #AUDACITY TO RECORD &amp; SING "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" FOR HIS DAUGHTER HE HASN'T TAKEN CARE OF (PUBLIC FRONT) WHILE CHASING #MINORS</li> <li>• FINALLY</li> <li>• ANYONE</li> </ul>	<p>MAKE IT MAKE SENSE BY GETTING FROM BOTH SIDES A MAN CAN'T PAY CHILD SUPPORT IF HE CAN'T WORK</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• STILL</li> <li>• WOOOOOOTTT</li> <li>• racking up and up</li> <li>• A MINOR</li> <li>• OUT</li> <li>• YOUR ABUSERS TRAUMA DOES NOT JUSTIFY THEM ABUSING YOU</li> <li>• POS</li> <li>• MUTE</li> </ul>
	Punctuation marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• board?!</li> <li>• abuser!</li> <li>• else!</li> <li>• alone!</li> <li>• prison!</li> <li>• #muterkelly!</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• powerful!</li> <li>• Chicago!</li> <li>• video!???</li> <li>• memo?!</li> <li>• “women’s rights”</li> <li>• shit up!</li> <li>• Oh!</li> <li>• women!</li> <li>• “I deserved it, i shouldn’t have gone there”</li> <li>• crimes!</li> </ul>
	Emojis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *sad emoji*</li> <li>• *nauseated face emoji*</li> <li>• *thumb up emoji*</li> <li>• *face with tears of joy emoji**winking face emoticon**face blowing a kiss emoji*</li> <li>• *clown face emoji*</li> <li>• *astonished face emoji*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• *exclamation question mark emoticon* *woman facepalming emoticon*</li> <li>• *woman facepalming emoticon*</li> <li>• *person shrugging emoticon*</li> <li>• *loudly crying face emoticon*</li> </ul>

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*crossed fingers emoji*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>*face with tears of joy emoji*</li> <li>*prohibited emoji*</li> <li>* middle finger emoji*</li> <li>* pile of poo emoticon*</li> <li>*woman facepalming emoticon*</li> <li>*speaking head emoticon**hundred points emoticon*</li> <li>*expressionless face emoticon*</li> <li>*pile of poo emoticon*</li> <li>*pile of poo emoticon*</li> <li>*raising hands emoticon*</li> <li>*pouting face emoticon*</li> <li>*flushed face emoticon*</li> </ul>
	Repetition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>going!!!</li> <li>sick ..</li> <li>streets !!!</li> <li>doing...</li> <li>him...</li> <li>pub ...</li> <li>why...</li> <li>because...</li> <li>man....</li> <li>damnnnnn!!</li> <li>night....</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>police ??</li> <li>Worrrrrst</li> <li>also....</li> <li>Up And Up</li> <li>court ...</li> <li>County..</li> <li>sleep..</li> <li>loving....</li> <li>fly??</li> <li>Yesssss</li> <li>hahahahaha</li> <li>decade...</li> <li>again..</li> <li>silenced...</li> <li>#MuteRKelly..</li> </ul>

**Table 3 language features' percentages in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

No.	Language Features	Number of Features		Percentages	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1.	Lexical hedges or filler	4 features	7 features	0.03%	0.05%
2.	Intensifiers	5 features	8 features	0.04%	0.06%
3.	'Superpolite' Forms	3 features	4 features	0.02%	0.03%
4.	Strong Swear Words	14features	16 features	0.11%	0.13%
5.	Emphatic Stress	29 features	48 features	0.24%	0.4%

The absent features are tag questions, rising intonations, empty adjectives, precise colour terms, and hypercorrect grammar. It was influenced by the topic of discussion and the users' confidence.

### 4.3 Discussion

Before jump into the analysis of the speech characteristic, we better take a look at the general condition of the twitter users and the tweets based on the data found by the researcher. It should be noted note that onetweet could consist more than one utterance or sentence captured in one screen. The researcher put a clear line to separate one tweet to another with separation between tweets produced by female and male on the data.

#### 4.3.1 Lexical Hedges or Fillers

Lakoff (1975) states that lexical hedges or fillers are used to weaken the strength of what a speaker is saying. Lexical hedges found were I guess, well, I think, I would, I thought, maybe, you know. As we can see from the data, females used more hedges compared to males. (see page 29)

**Table 4 lexical hedges found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

Type of hedges	Male	Female
I guess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>@siriusxmvolume</li> <li>#debatable</li> <li>@LoriMajewski</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>I guess</u> @SIRIUSXM Fly Channel didn't get the memo?! #MuteRKelly (Data 23.f)</li> </ul>

	@TheNotoriousNIK <u>I guess</u> the muting isn't working #muteRKelly @OffMuteRKelly (Data 26.m)	
Well		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing David Eason to R.Kelly hahahahaha <u>well</u> so does that mean guilty to both. (Data 44.f)</li> </ul>
I think	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I think</u> @DiscourserES (Documentarian) could use your help in exposing women of color victimized by #SexTrafficking ☐☐ (Data 28.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who gives a MF about #JimDeRogatis obsession ass <u>I think</u> he is secretly in love with Kellz what man would stalked another man like he does and #MuteRKelly they ain't(Data 36.f)</li> </ul>
I would		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go support him and <u>I would</u> do that privately because you are as sick as he is. (Data 1.f)</li> </ul>
I thought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Here <u>I thought</u>justice might FINALLY be served!☐ #MuteRKelly (Data 49.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I thoughty</u>'all care about black women !! (Data 12.f)</li> </ul>
Maybe		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Maybeit</u> will help stop your predatory lifestyle #muterkelly (Data 19.f)</li> </ul>
You know	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, <u>you know</u>, a pedophile. Thank you so much. (Data 41.m)</li> </ul>	

There are 11 hedges from 120tweets produced by the twitter users during the observation. Among the 11 hedges, 7 hedges produced by females while 4 of them is



produced by the opposite gender. The difference between males and females can be seen in each type of hedges above. As the examples shows:

Data 28.m:

I think @DiscourserES (Documentarian) could use your help in exposing women of color victimized by #SexTrafficking \*thumb up emoji\*

Data 36.f:

Who gives a MF about #JimDeRogatis obsession ass I think he is secretly in love with Kellz what man would stalked another man like he does and \*middle finger emojis\* #MuteRKelly they ain't \*pile of poo emojis\*

Data 28.m and data 36.f represent both genders respectively. The male in the data 28.m used a shorter sentence than female in data 36.f, they both use hedges with the same subject *I*. Both data are reactions, but female tends to be softer than male in her tweet. It is interesting that she prefers to use hashtag (#) before JimDeRogatis's name rather than to mention JimDeRogatis' account directly to show her anger. It doesn't seem that she wants to provoke JimDeRogatis and sees her tweet right away; the use of hashtag means that the one who used it wants to find other users who have the same thought as her, so that she can propagate her idea and able to build a floor for those who want to give their arguments about Jim DeRogatis as well. The researcher would like to say that she is not a part of #MuteRKelly movement ally so that she hates on JimDeRogatis so much.

On the contrary, the male in data 28.m showed his support towards #MuteRKelly movement, his tweet was a reply to @LegisEmpress (Kenyette Tisha Barnes), an account of #MuteRKelly founder, he thinks that the owner of @DiscourserES's account might use Barnes help in exposing women of color

victimized by #SexTrafficking as Barnes acts as an activist of women's right. The use of *I think* is a way of saying that the argument is unreliable, approximate, and that it may not be exactly correct. The same reason could be applied to the use of *I thought, I guess, and maybe*.

Different from other hedges, the use of hedges *you know* shows that the user is being assertive, a male user uses *you know* in his tweet:

Data 41.m:

Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile. Thank you so much.

The use of *you know* indicates that the participant knows the idea, that people who read his tweet not only will accept his argument, but also presupposed (have relevant background knowledge, experience, and attitudes) it. He might assume that the reader agrees that R. Kelly is a paedophile. In other words, it is used as a signal of participant's certainty and confidence. It proves Lakoff's claim that male tends to be more confident than female in their speech since there is no use of *you know* found in females tweets that shows the lack of confidence of female. Instead, a female user uses *well* in her tweet:

Data 44.f:

Comparing David Eason to R. Kelly hahahahaha well so does that mean guilty to both.

The use of particle *well* in data 44.f reflects user's insecurity about the condition around her. The particle like *well* can be categorized as lexical hedges or fillers because it is used to hedge the speaker's sentence. Hedging is one of

characteristics of women's language as a sign of a lack of confidence that reflects women's insecurity about the society around them (Lakoff, 1975). So, when she said David Eason and R.Kelly are guilty, there is still uncertainty of what she is saying.

The fillers were represented as 'meaningless particles' as assigns to the same concept as 'pause fillers' such as [uh], [uhm], and [aaa]. Fillers act as a sign of doubts, the reason why we tend to use these kinds of pauses is when we are not sure of what we are saying. As Professor Michael Handford, a professor of applied linguistics and English language at Cardiff University suggest that "If you don't know what you're talking about, if someone asks you a difficult question, then while you're scratching your head for an answer you are probably going to be using more of them,". Consider that this study used written language as the data, there are no fillers found in this study as the users got more time to think about what to write, they shouldn't be worried too if there are any interruptions from the listener. "You might have had a bit of an interruption in planning what you are going to say next and you need a moment to plan," Josef Fruehwald (2017), a lecturer in linguistics and English Language at the University of Edinburgh argue. "Rather than just do so in silence, you signal to the person you are talking to that you are going to say something."

Based on the data above, it seems that the expectation of women to be soft is still essential since they used more proper and effective hedges compared to males (see page 34). This can be seen from the data that female use hedges more often than

male. There might be a reason that females using more hedges compared to male if we identify with to the theory used in the study.

The use of hedges often related to social status, age, and gender. A recent study published in *The Journal of Language and Social Psychology*, edited by Howard Giles (2017), explains that conscientious people are generally more thoughtful and aware of themselves and their surroundings. When having conversations with listeners, conscientious people use discourse markers, such as *I mean* and *you know*, to imply their desire to share or rephrase opinions to recipients (Jacobs, 2017). Basically, women are seen as good figures when it comes to an attitude in our society, most females try to save their image or face as affirmative as they can to other people. This means that using hedges constantly in order to soften the effect of their utterance may satisfy their needs. On the other hand, when we talk about hedges, the differences between females and males in online conversation are not as much as in real-life conversation.

#### **4.3.2 Tag Questions**

There is no tag questions found from the whole #MuteRKelly tweets during the observation. The lack of tag questions may indicate the fact that some of the users use English as the second language in their tweets. Therefore, it seems normal that there is so few of data regarding tag questions found during the observation time. If the observation time is extended, there might be a chance to find more tag questions in the other amount of tweets.

### **4.3.3 Rising Intonation on Declaratives**

When a question mark used after declarative sentence is considered as the expression of declarative sentence with interrogative intonations that indicates hesitancy and the desire for confirmation from the other. Since this study conducted in written language, we cannot hear any rising intonation produced by the users as we can find in verbal communication. Instead of using this feature, we can use question mark as a sign of rising intonation in online conversation. While in this study the researcher cannot find any question mark that shows that the user is trying to prove the accuracy of any information.

### **4.3.4 'Empty' Adjectives**

Somehow empty adjective is hard to describe because it is abstract and closely associated with emotions and feelings. Basically, empty adjective indicates that the one who used it tries to become as friendly as possible. There is no 'empty' adjective found in the data as the #MuteRKelly hashtag is used to propagate R. Kelly for being the abuser. It is not surprising that there is an absence of 'empty' adjective in the use of #MuteRKelly hashtag.

### **4.3.5 Precise Colour Term**

Precise colour term did not used by the users in this study. The R Kelly sexual abuse case has nothing to do with any kind of colour, so that the researcher assumed that the user did not use this feature because there was no related topic that urges them to use particular colour words in their tweets.

#### 4.3.6 Intensifiers

Table 5 intensifiers found in #MuteRKelly hashtag

Intensifiers	Male	Female
Very		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He is <u>very</u> angry ask him how he feels about #MuteRKelly (Data 59.f)</li> </ul>
Too		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He should be in jail for a long time ago and stay there <u>too</u>,not just pay his way out. (Data 56.f)</li> </ul>
Really	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This man is <u>really</u> disturbing me he should have a pre trial detention order and stay in jail at least for all the length of the trials #SurvivingRKelly #muteRKelly(Data 12.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any promoters and venues might <u>really</u> want to reconcile if hosting a sexual predator is "good business". (Data 21.f)</li> </ul>
So	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>So</u> much i didnt know. (Data 46.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>So</u> proud of his survivors coming forward! (Data 50.f)</li> </ul>

The use of intensifiers indicates both referential meaning (degrees of certainty) and affective meaning (politeness). Intensifiers have been considered as “boosters” (Quirk et al., 1985) “strengtheners” (Brown & Levinson, 1987) and “up-graders” (House & Kasper, 1981). Researchers have also classified intensifiers as politeness device (Shinanoff, 1977; Brown and Levinson, 1987).

In this research, the researcher found that intensifiers appeared 20 times in #MuteRKelly, which are very, too, really, so, and just. 12 of them are produced by female, while 8 of them are produced by male users.

The researcher provided the example used by female user:

Data 50.f:

#MuteRKelly I am a survivor of a child molestation, a week long gang rape (tied to a bed at gun point) & raped by a co-worker. I finally prosecuted him. So proud of his survivors coming forward! You are brave & strong women! I believe you!

In the sentence ‘*So proud* of his survivors coming forward!’, the user illustrates how hard it feels to be a survivor that she can imagine how brave and strong R.Kelly’s survivors are in fighting against him. She shows how proud she is towards the survivors so that she uses intensifier ‘so’. This intensifier usually used by the speaker to persuade the listener so that the listener pays attention to her/him more seriously and to emphasize the meaning of the words at the same time.

Intensifier used by females more often than men do. In this case, the user uses ‘so’ to underline the meaning of the adjective that she puts after it, which is ‘proud’. She uses intensifier to increase the power of the sentence, because she thinks that people would not pay much attention in her tweet, as the example below shows:

Data 21.f:

Any promoters and venues might really want to reconcile if hosting a sexual predator is "good business".

A user used 'really' in data 21.f to make a strong statement so that the reader will take it seriously, she used the adverb really to strengthen her argument about what the promoters and venues should do to keep the music industry 'clean' from R Kelly's music. It will be different if she didn't put 'really' before the word 'want', the statement would sound weak and people wouldn't pay much attention to her argument. So that Lakoff said that intensifier could describe how less confident a woman is.

#### **4.3.7 'Hypercorrect' Grammar**

Mindell stated that, "You are hypercorrect when, instead of comfortably speaking the language, you err by going beyond what's needed. As a result, you overpronounce words and make grammatical errors because they sound "fancy"" (Mindell 42f.). The author assumes someone who used hypercorrect is in a lack of control concerning their language.

The researcher cannot find any hypercorrect grammar use in the data, it is very normal since the data is derived from twitter where spoken-written communication took place. Therefore, it is easy for the researcher to spot errors in the entire tweets during the observation time. Moreover, the users selected in this study come from different countries, we can say that most of them use English as a second language, which is understandable to spot grammatical errors during the observation, such as standard grammatical errors; simplified words; abbreviated words; and informal words or slang. As can be seen from the data below:



**Table 6 grammar-related error found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

	Male	Female
Grammatical error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile. (Data 14.m)</li> <li>• <u>its</u> why he was able to post bail. Scammers move money via shell games. #MuteRKelly (Data 40.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He went to Rkelly's studio many time in Chicago (Data 38.m)</li> </ul>
Simplification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Y'all</u> women are full of it (Data 10.m)</li> <li>• ... instead this guy is arguing <u>w/any&amp;</u> everybody else! (Data 48.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If that didn't set off some red flags then <u>y'all</u> are blind! #MuteRKelly (Data 30.f)</li> <li>• I also have 2 say, god is great and all loving....#muterkelly (Data 33.f)</li> </ul>
Abbreviation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their writing books to tell their truth <u>wtf</u> is your problem... (Data 2.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>wtf</u> girl shame on you!!!!(Data 44.f)</li> </ul>
Informal words/slang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Nah</u> he peed on a young girl and got away with it now he gets what he gets!Karma is a <u>b***h!</u> (Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>WOOOOOOTT</u> thank you @LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you (Data 13.f)</li> </ul>

#### 4.3.8 'Superpolite' Forms

Lakoff (1973) emphasized that superpolite forms is one of language feature which is related to the avoidance of swear words and extensive use of euphemism. Moreover, superpolite forms can be indicated by using indirect speech and using more particles in the sentence request (Lakoff as cited in Holmes, 2013).

**Table 7 'superpilte' forms found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

Male	Female
------	--------

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Would be great if</u>you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile.<u>Thank you so much.</u> #muteRkelly (Data 41.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>thank you</u>@LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you #blackwomenradicals #muteRkelly (Data 13.f)</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Please RT</u> if you think Peloton should #muteRkelly and remove those from their library. (Data 55.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A listener just requested an R Kelly song on @Radio702, I was curious how this was going to go down and @NonnBotha refused to play it - asking the listener to request another. <u>Thank you</u>□□ May our politics not be for that moment when they are headlining #MuteRKelly #SoulfulSundays (Data 53.f)</li> </ul>

In the data 41.m, the user shows how he hates R.Kelly's music that he wants someone to ask his/her bosses to remove all R. Kelly's music from the service. In this case, he uses the phrase "would be great if..." to make it sounds polite.

Different from male cases, instead of using "thanks", in the data 13.f and 53.f, female users tend to use "thank you" to show their politeness.

According to the table above, females use more politeness compared to males. Having a certain level of dignity in society, females tend to be instinctive to stick with rules, go along way with what should be done and cut what should not be done. Compared to males, they have less strict behaviour when it comes to rules and norm. Consequently, males tend to bend the rules and make informal conversation circumstances. This is also what make males be more easy-going compared to females whichmake them enjoy using short and friendly words in order to express politeness.

There are no significant sign that show which gender is more dominant to one another. Although both males and females have tendency to express a certain form of politeness, they applied politeness in their tweets is much the same. Based on the entire data, we can see that the form of politeness used by both gender is not too different.

#### 4.3.9 Avoidance of Strong Swear Words

**Table 8 swear words found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

Male	Female
• <u>wtf</u> is your problem (Data 2.m)	• How <u>sick</u> are these people. (Data 1.f)
• Get that same energy together and ride agst the <u>sht</u> their doing... <u>PoisoningMILLIONS!!!</u> (Data 14.m)	• That <u>motherfucker</u> he's the worrrrrst y'all #muterkelly (Data 15.f)
• I just <u>sick</u> to my stomach when I hear R. Kelly now (Data 18.m)	• I'm so <u>disgusted</u> . (Data 22.f)
• R. Kelly will go to prison. <a href="https://youtu.be/AK59z6QNVtk">https://youtu.be/AK59z6QNVtk</a> via @YouTube@rkelly #muterkelly # <u>fuckrkelly</u> (Data 21.m)	• but they calling women's <u>bitchies</u> ? (Data 24.f)
• <u>Sick fuck</u> .(Data 33.m)	• If that didn't set off some red flags then y'all are <u>blind</u> ! #MuteRKelly (Data 30.f)
• <u>damnnnnn</u> !! (Data 46.m)	• The backlash from women is <u>fucking</u> brutal. (Data 34.f)
• Any <u>idiot</u> that paid, deserved to get screwed for supporting this <u>abuser</u> ! (Data 47.m)	• you cant make this <u>shit</u> up! Hes one <u>sick</u> , <u>twisted</u> , <u>evil</u> , <u>disgusting</u> person. (Data 35.f)
• <u>Boo Boo da fool</u> .(Data 48.m)	• he is a <u>manipulator</u> (Data 41.f)
• Some ol <u>thot</u> (Data 49.m)	• <u>wtf</u> girl shame on you!!!! (Data 44.f)
• R. Kelly is a <u>sick</u> person. (Data 57.m)	• He is a <u>worthlessPOS</u> (Data 49.f)
• Karma is a <u>b***h</u> ! (Data 59.m)	• He is <u>screepyandguilty</u> as well. (Data 56.f)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Best way to kill a mood. <u>#fuckRKelly</u>(Data 58.f)</li> </ul>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This illiterate <u>fuck</u>. <u>Smfh</u> (Data 60.f)</li> </ul>

**Table 9 avoidance of strong swear words found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

Male	Female
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Karma is a <u>b***h!</u> (Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>wtf</u> girl shame on you!!!! (Data 44.f)</li> <li>• This illiterate fuck. <u>Smfh</u> (Data 60.f)</li> </ul>

Ljung (2011), suggests that swearing is not only related to offensive language but when it comes to linguistic constructions, it can also have particular types of language. The truth is, a group of people can use swear words or slang to complement each other, as long as they have a certain level of relationship. Though in the context of this study, swear words are used to emphasize the utterances as a way to mocking at someone or something. There is no avoiding swear words found in this study but swear words. It is normal that we found so many swear words in the data since the R.Kelly's sexual abuse case was very controversial and most of the users are tweeting against what he did to the survivors.

The researcher found that 30 data are classified into swearing utterances. 16 of them are produced by females, and the rest of them are produced by males. With a slightly different percentages of data, we still can see that those female users swearing more often than males, which doesn't go along with Lakoff's theory that says women are more likely to avoid using swear words because they will be considered

as unladylike. To compare the use of swear words between male and female, the researcher provides some examples of evidence:

Data 15.f :

That motherfucker he's the worrrrrrst y'all #muterkelly

Data 15.f. shows how a female user hating on at R Kelly by using a taboo word such *motherfucker*. This word can actually show multiple meanings depending on the context of the sentence. As Coumbe (2010) stated, the fuck word means to have sex with somebody. Moreover, according to Urban Dictionary, motherfucker means a slang that in general derived from a form of "yo momma jokes" but actually dating back to the 1300s when it was regarded as the highest sin to sleep with one's own mother (Even above murder). Also is used perpetually to convey someone is a moron, a trife, a back stabber, and some kinds of other totally unassociated meanings (Andrew, 2002). In the context of the use of #MuteRKelly hashtag, *motherfucker* is used as an expression of user's madness and disappointment because of what R Kelly has done to the survivors. However, some swearing avoidance might be found in female tweets:

Data 44.f:

wtf girl shame on you!!!!

Data 60.f:

This illiterate fuck. Smfh

As can be seen in the data above, there are swearing abbreviations such *wtf* and *smfh*. WTF usually stands for what the fuck, but it can also mean why, who, when,

where, or even whatever the fuck, while SMFH is the abbreviation for shaking my fucking head, that can be interpreted as a statement of a disbelief or disagree. This way of abbreviating swearwords allows people to use a form of language they might not feel so comfortable with were it spelled out, or in contexts where the explicit forms may be too risqué. These alternative uses are less immediately intelligible but usually obvious enough in context, which is very common in social media.

Data 59.m

Karma is a b\*\*\*h!

A male user used a censor pattern (\*\*\*) as a signal of strong swearing avoidance to show her anger towards R Kelly. In the data 59.m, instead of using the full word, he used *b\*\*\*h* to softening the impact of the whole sentence. Even though people will automatically know what he means, but it shows the tendency that he tries to avoid using strong swear word.

Interestingly, male users tend to use swear words in one complete sentence, it can be seen from data 33.m, 46.m, and 48.m:

Data 33.m:

Sick fuck.

Data 46.m:

damnnnnn!!

Data 48.m:

Boo Boo da fool.

This reflects that males are tend to use swear words in a more straight way, unlike females that put some phrases after or before put any particular swear word, as the example below shows:

Data 35.f:

you cant make this shit up! Hes one sick, twisted, evil, disgusting person.

Data 44.f:

wtf girl shame on you!!!!

Data 58.f:

Best way to kill a mood. #fuckRKelly

The data 58.f shows that the user is really angry towards R.Kelly, but she wrote the swear words in lower-case letter, this data proved that there is no relationship between using capital letters with showing anger. Swearing behaviour can be related to social situation. When someone is taking part of a certain social environment, he or she will rarely talk differently with the member of that social community. Swearing, as an emotive language, demonstrates the speaker's emotions and attitudes.

#### 4.3.10 Emphatic Stress

**Table 10 emphatic stress found in #MuteRKelly hashtag**

Emphatic Stress	Male	Female
Capitalization	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poisoning MILLIONS!!! (Data 14.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WOOOOOOTT thank you @LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you #blackwomenradicals #muteRkelly (Data 13.f)</li> </ul>

Punctuation marks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has he got Johnnie Cochrane on <u>board?! (Data 46.m)</u></li> <li>• Any idiot that paid, deserved to get screwed for supporting this <u>abuser! (Data 47.m)</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Omfg how did I miss your <u>video!?!?(Data 19.f)</u></li> <li>• hosting a sexual predator is "<u>good business". (Data 21.f)</u></li> </ul>
Emoticon and Emoji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After watching Surviving R Kelly documentary i got so pissed off badly <u>*sad emoticon* (Data 13.m)</u></li> <li>• I just sick to my stomach when I hear R. Kelly now <u>*nauseated face emoticon* (Data 18.m)</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #Rkelly is STILL not in jail <u>*exclamation question mark emoticon* *woman facepalming emoticon* (Data 6.f)</u></li> <li>• <u>* middle finger emoticon* #MuteRKelly they ain't * pile of poo emoticon*(Data 36.f)</u></li> </ul>
Repetition	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kelly is <u>sick ..</u> that guy deserves to be in jail.. we cant have monsters in our <u>streets !!!(Data 13.m)</u></li> <li>• <u>damnnnnn!! (Data 46.m)</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We are all watching the countless charges that keep <u>racking up and up. (Data 19.f)</u></li> <li>• god is great and all <u>loving.... (Data 33.f)</u></li> <li>• <u>Yesssss You Don't Need Bad Vibe People On That Show. The R.Kelly Supporters Gone Ahahahaha (Data 39.f)</u></li> </ul>

Among all the data, there are 4 types of emphatic stress used in the tweets during the observation time. They are punctuation marks, capitalization, emoticons and emojis, and repetition. There are 77 sentences produced containing elements of emphatic stress in total.

As we can see, the 14 data of emphatic stress are capitalized words or sentences. 6 of them are produced by males while the rest of them are produced by females. We can also find 17 tweets that use punctuation marks as an emphasis. 6 of them are produced by males and 11 of them produced by females.



Even though we cannot see the raised intonation as emphatic stress in spoken language shown, in stressing the opinion in written text, the users may use capital letter, repeat, or typing with longer letter to give more emphasize or strengthen of those words. In this study, emphatic stress in women tweets was found in the form of capital letters; longer letters; and the repetition of words, and exclamation mark, while men use capital letters, and exclamation mark to emphasize their opinion. Let's take a look at these examples below:

Data 14.m:

Poisoning MILLIONS!!!

Data 13.f:

WOOOOOOTT thank you @LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you #blackwomenradicals #muteRkelly

In the data 14.m, a male user used this feature to strengthen the word in his argument about R Kelly, he could say R Kelly is poisoning but he prefers to add *MILLIONS* along with three exclamation marks as if he has shouted at that time to ensure that people could receive the actual feeling he has towards R Kelly. He used a short sentence but straight to the point.

Different from the male user, the female user used a long complex sentence in her tweet. She used this feature in the word *WOOOOOOTT* that indicate the excitement and thankfulness to @LegisEmpress for giving her sight about black women. By looking at the context this word can be interpreted as another form of *wow*.

Among all the data categorized as capitalization, we can assume that the purpose of the usage of it can be distinguished into two. First, is to represent enthusiasm towards something, and the second one is to be high-sounding or show high intonation, in common with screaming in real life communication.

The second category is punctuation marks. Exclamation marks are used 17 times out of 14 punctuation marks, 3 of them are quotation mark. Females used punctuation marks almost two times more than males, 11 of them used by females while the 6 are used by males. Exclamation marks used for emphasis and to make sentences/phrases/words more dramatic. It expresses more emotion. It can make someone seem more passionate, excited, upset, or angry. Let's take a look at this example:

Data 47.m:

Any idiot that paid, deserved to get screwed for supporting this abuser!

Data 21.f:

..hosting a sexual predator is "good business".

The male user in data 47.m, used exclamation mark after the word 'abuser', to make him seem more angry, and to citing the 'abuser' word that he really strongly believe that R. Kelly is really an abuser. This case is the same as the quotation mark used in data 21.f, the female user used quotation mark to highlight that the phrase "good business" indicate irony, that what she really means is the opposite meaning of "good business".

The third is emojis, there are 21emojis' occurrences during the observation. The expressions revealed in the tweets are wide-ranging from unhappy, crying, astonished, to laughing. Females produced emoticons and emojis In 14occurrences, while males produced them in 7 occasions.

Data 6.f :

#Rkelly is STILL not in jail \*exclamation question mark emoji\* \*woman facepalming emoji\*

The 'exclamation question mark emoji' and 'woman facepalming emoji' that a female user put in data 6.f can be translated as confused reaction. She emphasized that she desn't have any idea about why is R.Kelly still not in jail after all the mess he has made.

Picture2 emoji used by male as reaction to the photo



Dependent on the picture above, we can found that there are three emojis used in one tweet. It refers to the data 45.m, the user use #MuteRKelly in his tweet as a respondto the previous tweets. It seems that the first user are making joke about an light switchhe could play to make a remix, then the second user compare the music that it produced with R. Kelly's music so that he put #MuteRKelly hashtag in his replied-tweet and putface with tears of joy emoji along with winking face and face blowing a kiss emoji to show that it funny for them to throw such joke.

By the two examples above, we know that #MuteRKelly hashtag is not only used for those who are concerned about the issue, but also used for joking around by twitter users.

We can also found repetition in #MuteRKelly hashtag, which isrepresents in the form of repeated alphabet, punctuation, or similar words.Punctuation can be used to communicatevarious expressions. Based on the data, stop marks and question marks are included repetitively in between sentences and at the end or beginning of a sentence. Stop marks can be used to create a space or time; it can also be seen as a thinking sign, a sign of confusion, or even to draw out words. The double question marks may indicatethat the user shows a sign of curiosity, it can also mean that the user is looking for an agreementvery strongly. The repetitive alphabet seems to function as an aggravation and giving an emphasis on excitement inthe communication. The use of multiplesimilar words expressed on the data above indicates that it functions as an overstatement.

Data 39.f

Yesssss You Don't Need Bad Vibe People On That Show. The R.Kelly Supporters Gone Ahahahaha

On the data 39.f, we can see repetition on the “haha” or laughing words, we can assume that what happened to R. Kelly makes her laughing hard in real life to a great degree. According to the data above, it seems that females tend to have a better sense of humour because they produce more laughing words compared to males.

The data found also shows that emphatic stress does not always occur in adjective form as Lakoff examples of emphatic stress. As can be seen from the data, emphatic stress can be found in noun form (eg. *millions*), verb form (eg. *woooooottt*), phrasal verb form (eg. *racking up and up*), and adverb form (eg. *out*). It depends on the intentions of the producer of language which word should be stressed to boost in her/his statements. Also, the researcher believes that both genders used emphatic stress as a way to grab readers' attention to what he/she really cares about in R Kelly case.

## CHAPTER 5

### CONCLUSION

The researcher was applying Lakoff's theory of woman language features to determine gender characteristics in online communication such as Twitter. Based on findings and discussion in the previous chapter, there were five types of women's language features found in the #MuteRKelly hashtag on Twitter. The features namely hedges, intensifiers, 'superpolite' forms, strong swear words, and emphatic stress. While the absent features are tag questions, rising intonation on declaratives, 'empty' adjectives, precise colour terms, and 'hypercorrect' grammar. It is influenced by the topic of discussion.

Interestingly, Lakoff's theory of female language features almost entirely evident in this study, since 4 out of 5 features were dominated by female Twitter users, even with the small size of differences. The only feature to use against Lakoff's theory is the avoidance of swear words, where female users were dominated with 16 swear words features, and males 14 features. This result shows the contradiction with Lakoff's theory that said that "women tend to use softer words such as *dear*, or *goodness* rather than rough words such as *shit*, *damn*, and so on".

Emphatic stress feature came out as the most employed female language feature found in the #MuteRKelly hashtag. The researcher found 77 features or 0.43% out

of 176 features were found. In the second place, the researcher found 34 errors in grammar feature made by the users. As what researcher has seen on emphatic stress, the same reason was applied to this feature; grammatical errors occur oftentimes in social media platform such Twitter. The third one is swear words, 30 swear words were found during the observation, and as the researcher mentioned previously, most of them are produced by females. The use of such amount of swear words indicates offensive language as they raise anger toward R. Kelly for what he did to the survivors. Then followed by the other features in sequence: intensifiers (13 features), hedges (11 features), and 'superpolite' forms (7 features).

The findings from the analysis provide evidence of significant linguistic differences between female and male language in using lexical hedges and fillers and emphatic stress which showed that female stood against the movement, while on the contrary, male was supporting it. Although many of the linguistic features between male and female still exist, some other features are starting to weaken as they do not show clear bias, which will keep the debate open to further studies and theories. Both males and females use this hashtag interchangeably, whether to support or against the #MuteRKelly movement.

To the researcher, culture is an important indicator in allowing women and men to express themselves. It is important to note that the results of this study may not be suitable with other males and females in other topics of discussions and of other platforms as them who used #MuteRKelly hashtag on. It must be noted that there are

no exact answers when it comes to gender differences in communication. In spite of these limiting conditions, the findings in this research provide us the knowledge to know more about the variations in the linguistic features of males and females in social media. Besides, the awareness of the differences in language and gender will help men and women to understand each other in a better way and improve the effectiveness of communication across genders. Effective communication happens when we perceive the gender differences in linguistic features of males and females and understand the importance of respecting one another.



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## APPENDICES

\*m stands for male, and f stands for female

\*\* The long underline separate tweet with different user

**1.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Akhlaq Hanif @Akhlaq1386

11 hours ago

I've seen @lifetimetv's #SurvivingRKelly 6hr documentary (horrific abuse told by survivors) and I only hope his second legal timeline doesn't last for six years as his first trial did. #MuteRKelly #metoo2.

**2.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Jasonhodes @Vegaslover94

13 hours ago

Replying to @KellzisKiiing @Latonya32913102 and 5 others

Their writing books to tell their truth wtf is your problem you constantly are bashing victims more importantly black victims #muterkelly a woman can write a book if she wants or go to a public speaking event to speak on abuse why don't you be more sympathetic towards victims

**3.m.**

---

Dustin Ronald @MrDustyRose

15 hours ago

Replying to @BMORE0831 @puddz26 and 5 others

#muterkelly because he assaults, rapes, and pisses all over children.

**4.m.**

---

ricky simone @rickysimone

May 19

ricky simone Retweeted MTV

Keep #muteRkelly going!!!

Vote for #SurvivingRKelly #MTVAwards

<http://vote.mtv.com>

**5.m.**

---

perez @ThePerezHilton

May 12

R. Kelly's poor children - literally!! <https://perezhilton.com/r-kelly-college-tuition-money-drama/> ... #MuterKelly #SurvivingRKelly #BanRKelly #Chicago

**6.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Speakmymind @Speakmymind2018

May 9@MeToo @muterkelly @johnd200

Are you R. Kelly haters keeping up with this? You all still going to church and not boycotting?

**7.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Jeremy Bradley @FPcheapskate

May 9

#RKelly gets a second chance at court appearance. #Lawyers say he was confused cuz he can't read. The latest in the #MuteRKelly movement at [entertainmenttrapup.com](http://entertainmenttrapup.com)

**8.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Neal Carter@nealcarter

May 9

Neal Carter Retweeted Chicago Sun-Times

Good. #MuteRKelly

**9.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Nathan.McLean86 @nawaha86

May 8

#muteRKelly since when does being illiterate equal being a pervert and scumbag

**10.m.** 

---

Fred Tate@ftate2

May 8

Ayesha curry done had me pull the rkelly music back out , #metoo and #muterkelly jus went out the window. Y'all women are full of it

**11.m.** 

---

Heru Fresh @DestinDiarra

May 8

Replying to @KellzisKiiing @tradeinmylife4U and 6 others

I wouldn't be surprised if it later comes out that Sony or someone connected to Sony paid for #MuteRKelly to stage those protesters outside their headquarters, then later on the inside, so it'd make it seem like them dropping Kellz was from the efforts of #MuteRKelly.

**12.m.** 

---

Riccardo @R\_Money90

May 8

Riccardo Retweeted CBS Chicago

This man is really disturbing me he should have a pre trial detention order and stay in jail at least for all the length of the trials #SurvivingRKelly #muteRKelly

**13.m.** 

---

Wedu Makomo @MakomoTitus

May 7

After watching Surviving R Kelly documentary i got so pissed off badly ☐☐ R Kelly is sick .. that guy deserves to be in jail.. we cant have monsters in our streets !!! #MuteRKelly #muteRkelly #muteRkelly

**14.m.** 

---

Russ Rothstein @ramnupe

May 4

I wish you #MuteRKelly , #SurvivingRkelly protesting MFs would show up at #Monsanto , the #FDA & related organizations & businesses & chant about THAT sht. Get that same energy together and ride agst the sht their doing... Poisoning MILLIONS!!!

**15.m.** 

---

Travis Warner @traviswarner

May 4

@RoyalCaribbean lagoon pool at coco cay should not be playing R Kelly on their playlist.

#muteRkelly

**16.m.** 

---

Ses سن سا @SesuGualEri

May 4

Ses سن سا Retweeted TMZ

Back to #MuteRKelly #TimesUpSes سن سا added,  
TMZ

**17.m.** 

---

matt walsh @mouth\_walsh

May 4

Pianist said 'I am morally opposed to playing this song but someone tipped me \$20' and then started playing ignition. Gross. #muterkelly

**18.m.** 

---

Delanzo M. Dedmon @delanzo77

May 3

I just sick to my stomach when I hear R. Kelly now ☐☐☐ #muteRkelly

**19.m.** 

---

J.Solo @JJustITA

May 2

I know we're in a #MuteRKelly era but what about artists who featured him...  
This is a bop!

**20.m.** 

---

Abel Papi Mokoena @2Iconic

May 2

Replying to @JackDevero

Tell him/her that there is a movement to #muterkelly and if found playing Robert Kelly's songs, fine

**21.m.** 

---

Zatwoine @Zatwoine

May 1

R. Kelly will go to prison. <https://youtu.be/AK59z6QNVTk> via @YouTube

@rkelly #muterkelly #fuckrkelly

I love the hate.

**22.m.** 

---

Brian Shields @MrPug94

May 1

Taraji P. Henson faces backlash after comparing #MuteRKelly movement to Harvey Weinstein | Fox News

**23.m.** 

---

Thee Hip Hop Historian #   ADOS@Watson3172

Apr 30

Replying to @SuiteLadyOro

I love and support your #muterkelly I wish #ADOS was afforded the same support from black descendants of slaves and not vilified like we some pos group of black people.

**24.m.** 

---

clint @clilint

Apr 29

why am i still seeing people use the #MuteRKelly tag like didnt we collectively decide that we're publicly castrating him already

**25.m.** 

---

Your Boy O @YourBoy\_O

Apr 29

Lmao in this London pub ... what comes on "Step in the name of Love" lmao i hope this is not for me #MuteRKelly

**26.m.** 

---

Tony @tonyd4576

Apr 29

@siriusxmvolume #debatable @LoriMajewski @TheNotoriousNIK I guess the muting isn't working #muteRKelly @OffMuteRKelly

**27.m.** 

---

ScreamLOX @Scream\_LOX

Apr 26

Replying to @TMZ

Weird here is a video exposing her entire #RKelly #MeToo narrative as fabricated & false by @lifetimetv the #MuteRKelly is deploying plenty of deception to make black men the face of #MeToo predators.



**28.m.** 

---

firemanjohn628 @firemanjohn628

Replying to @LegisEmpress

I think @DiscourserES (Documentarian) could use your help in exposing women of color victimized by #SexTrafficking ☐☐

@OffMuteRKelly #MuteRKelly

**29.m.** 

---

scott beamer ☐ @Scott\_Beamer

Apr 24

R. Kelly fails to show up in court, loses lawsuit alleging underage sex abuse

#MuteRKelly

#SurvivingRKelly

**30.m.** 

---

Daniel Omokha @dannynomokha

Apr 22

Lately I've been cringing at the sound of any R.Kelly song. It may be time for me to #muteRkelly

**31.m.** 

---

Travis Stephens @TStephens34

Apr 22

Replying to @GayleKing @oprahmagazine @Oprah

#IGNORANCE OF THE LAW DOES NOT #ABSOLVE YOU OF THE  
LAW!

#PRESIDENTTRUMP, #HOMELANDSECURITY, #FBI, #CIA, investigate  
#METOO #TIMESUP #MUTERKELLY #SurvivingRKelly #LifeTime and  
everyone who runs these along with #MichaelAvenatti (already handled  
#THANKS) they are DOMESTIC TERRORIST

**32.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Brian @brian\_b2372

Apr 20

#MuteRKelly and 'Space Jam' becomes a perfect movie for 4/20

**33.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Chris ☞ @chriswhiting\_

Apr 20

Why's the DJ playing R Kelly? Sick fuck. ☐ #MuteRKelly

**34.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Quisquiliae Viri Sunt @chipgoines

Apr 18

With only \$625 in his name, @rkelly and his wallet are FIGHTING FOR  
THEIR MF'ing LIVES!!! #MuteRKelly

**35.m.** \_\_\_\_\_

Mario Latilleon @latilleon

Apr 16

Replying to @stout\_87

I don't agree with that. There was no #MuteRKelly. People watched the child porn tape like entertainment. His sales were hurt, but they were still big. DA had to get him on child porn cuz the immediate fam wouldn't press charges for child rape against him. Folks worked with him.

**36.m.** 

---

Caviar Nolastname @caviar\_diva

Apr 16

Court documents reveal R. Kelly has only \$625 to his name  
[https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/court-documents-reveal-r-kelly-221235620.html?soc\\_src=community&soc\\_trk=tw](https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/court-documents-reveal-r-kelly-221235620.html?soc_src=community&soc_trk=tw) ... HE HAD THE #AUDACITY TO RECORD & SING "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" FOR HIS DAUGHTER HE HASN'T TAKEN CARE OF (PUBLIC FRONT) WHILE CHASING #MINORS #MuteRKelly #Chicago

**37.m.** 

---

Erick Drake Pearson @Pearson1969

Apr 15

Replying to @holagatito1453 @Le\_YoungGawd

R Kelly suffers also by losing income with the loss of performances and MuteRkelly stopped online sales of his music. Weinstein and all the others still earn off their past contributions to the entertainment industry.

**38.m.** 

---

Jawn Murray @JawnMurray

Apr 15

More money trouble for R. Kelly. His bank accounts seized, overdrawing one and leaving \$625 in another one. Details why... <https://theblast.com/r-kelly-bank-account-negative/> ... #RKelly #SurvivingRKelly #MuteRKelly

**39.m.** 

---

Omarious Fann. @iAmOmarious

Apr 15

SEEDS...

Often times, the trauma of our past harvest into the dichotomy of our future. Take R. Kelly for explain, molested by his family as a youth (Seed) 30 years later #MuteRKelly because... [https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=2934805343197990&id=100000056603583](https://www.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=2934805343197990&id=100000056603583) ...

**40.m.** 

---

Neal Carter @nealcarter

Apr 14

Neal Carter Retweeted Tia A. Ewing

He moved his money to other accounts, its why he was able to post bail. Scammers move money via shell games. #MuteRKelly

**41.m.** 

---

Amir Talai @AmirTalai

Apr 12

@AllymissLove @hmc\_nyc not sure if you realize but a couple of your old Peloton workouts feature R. Kelly music. Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile.

Thank you so much.

#muteRkelly

**42.m.** 

---

sidney eric atkins @atkins0121

Apr 12

Replying to @antionettearms4

Bottom-line this #MuteRKelly BULLSHIT is getting out of hand that's that man's god-given right to earn a living the way I see it you don't like or Kelly don't listen to it but don't deprive everybody else of his entertainment

**43.m.** 

---

Matt Wilson @EIPgraphics

Apr 12

Matt Wilson Retweeted Countz Lifestyle

he self-serving life structure collapses without integrity built into the foundation. Once the cracks start showing, the tumble becomes inevitable.

#muteRkelly

**44.m.** 

---

Christopher Hall @cbhall1992

Apr 11

Christopher Hall Retweeted Christopher Hall

So I finished it tonight and man....lets just say I can't tweet my real thoughts.

#MuteRkelly

**45.m.** 

---

Alex Holland @AlexHolland12

Apr 10

Replying to @sammib\_legend83

#muteRkelly and #sammib\_legend83...different reasons, to be fair ☐☐☐

**46.m.** 

---

Adam Boobyer @sarky\_dad

Apr 8

Just finished watching #SurvivingRKelly - damnnnnn!! So much i didnt know.

He can do whatever he wants and he gets cleared every time. Has he got

Johnnie Cochrane on board?! Great catalog of music, talented artist, lowlife

human being #muteRkelly

**47.m.** 

---

☐☐Alex Perez @ap421

Apr 8

Replying to @ABC7Chicago

Any idiot that paid, deserved to get screwed for supporting this abuser!

#MuteRkelly

**48.m.** 

---

J. Smooth @jsmooth07

Apr 8

Boo Boo da fool. ☐ #MuteRKelly "R. Kelly charged fans \$100 and performed for 28 seconds after asking media to go easy on him [https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/r-kelly-charged-fans-100-performed-28-seconds-asking-media-go-easy-201345343.html?.tsrc=fauxdal ...](https://www.yahoo.com/entertainment/r-kelly-charged-fans-100-performed-28-seconds-asking-media-go-easy-201345343.html?.tsrc=fauxdal...)"

**49.m.** 

---

John Welshimer @welshdiggidy

Apr 7

I started following @MichaelAvenatti hoping to enjoy the destruction of @rkelly, instead this guy is arguing w/any & everybody else! Some ol that vs Trump, a bunch of people in your messy divorce, beefing with @Nike. Here I thought justice might FINALLY be served!#MuteRKelly

**50.m.** 

---

Claymore K @ClaymoreKwaram1

Apr 6

Replying to @iamsaintbrown @rkelly

He is restricted to the state of Illinois. His story about going to Dubai was denied by the government of Dubai.He can't perform at concerts or stadiums. #muteRkelly has been successful. Dude going to a club bruh

**51.m.** 

---

Steve Barrett @Svengelska89

Apr 6

Urge people who see this tweet to watch the #SurvivingRKelly documentary.

The evidence. The cases. The victims. Harrowing.

#muteRkelly

**52.m.** 

---

CONRANK @Conrank

Apr 4

Finished the R Kelly doc last night.... man I'm shook. ☐ #muterkelly

#survivingrkelly

**53.m.** 

---

Mathias Ssemanda @MathiasSsemanda

Apr 4

#MuteRKelly? I can't imagine where some of us could be if not songs like "I

Believe" We fall and rise, We shamble through storms and make it because of

his lyrics. There is power to a song and this power is beyond the artiste himself.

Hate Kelly but leave his music alone!

**54.m.** 

---

James Fanning @bigjimfanning

Apr 1



#MuteRKelly I keep seeing Rapist Kelly's defenders justify his actions by saying that the authorities don't pursue charges against Weinstein in the same way. Last time I checked, HW was facing life in prison! Evil is evil, period.

HW & RK are both = evil

#HW&RK\_RotNJail4Life

**55.m.** 

---

Amir Talai @AmirTalai

Apr 1

R. Kelly songs are currently used in 60 @onepeloton workouts. Please RT if you think Peloton should #muteRkelly and remove those from their library.

**56.m.** 

---

C-Rod @crod1906

Apr 1

Replying to @DLHughleyRadio

Nah he peed on a young girl and got away with it now he gets what he gets!

#muterkelly!

**57.m.** 

---

Todd Luther @DrTLuther

Mar 31

R. Kelly is a sick person. There's no possible way all those girls are lying.

@RCARecords #muteRkelly

**58.m.** 

---

Frankie D @TheRealFrankieD

Mar 28

If you didn't #MuteElvis, don't #MuteRKelly

**59.m.** 

---

Hi, I'm Paul! @hi\_impaul12

Mar 28

I refuse to support ANYONE who doesn't respect women, superstar or not.

That makes a person garbage in my eyes. If proven guilty you deserve to rot in prison. I pray that @rkelly gets what is coming to him. Karma is a b\*\*\*h!

#MuteRKelly #RKelly #rkellyinterview

**60.m.** 

---

Tati Mokoena @TatiMokoena2

Mar 25

I hope everybody who followed #SurvivingRKelly is still switched on...The hype is gone now and things are getting really interesting ☐☐

#MichaelAvantii

#MuteRKelly

#Metoo

#SABC

#rkelly

1.f. 

---

Alew430 @Alew430

6 hours ago

People harassing people because they like #rkelly are sick. I guess you like pedophiles. Go support him and I would do that privately because you are as sick as he is. But you leave these victims. How sick are these people. #karma #MuteRKelly #heartheirvoice

2.f. 

---

Melanie Taylor@MTaylorTMD

12 hours ago

Nicole Denson of #MuteRKelly Detroit spoke to the importance of intersectionality in the pro-choice movement, commenting on the lack of black protesters in the crowd. @OffMuteRKelly

3.f. 

---

@iammzj@brooklynspeach

15 hours ago

Phases is LIVE with the Twins <https://youtu.be/ssG7qC35aKA> via @YouTube. #MeToo #muteRkelly DO YOUR RESEARCH YALL ARE ONE SIDED MAKE IT MAKE SENSE BY GETTING FROM BOTH SIDES .

#unmuterkelly, A MAN CAN'T PAY CHILD SUPPORT IF HE CAN'T WORK !

4.f.

---

Kenyette Tisha Barnes @LegisEmpress

18 hours ago

Abortion access is needed for those who are leaving sexually abusive relationships. Often the access to abortion is what allowed survivors autonomy and freedom from abuse. #MuteRKelly stands behind those black and WOC led agencies fighting for survivors!

5.f.

---

Laurie Nafus@laurielynn9880

May 19

I have no respect for R Kelly anymore!!! #muteRKelly

6.f.

---

Kat ☾ @JustCallMeKat\_\_

May 19

#Rkelly is STILL not in jail!?! ☐☐☐♀☐☐☐♀☐ #MuteRKelly

7.f.

---

nina-marie ☐ @\_Neeeen\_

May 19

Drunk me still knows what's up. #muteRkelly

**8.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Binnsy29 @Binnsy29

May 19

You're killing my Sunday 90s tunes vibe @AmazonMusicUK. Why have you STILL got R Kelly in most of your 90s playlists? ☐♀☐ #muteRkelly

**9.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Katie Woodson @katie\_Woodson

May 19

R. Kelly Multiple Federal Indictments Expected to Be Filed Soon. #muterkelly

**10.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Diana @dianasdailydo

May 18

Women are everything and powerful!

#MeToo = women

#muteRkelly = women

#SayHerName = women

#controlawomensbody = men

**11.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Gill @GillianChiyedza

May 18

I respect the whole tweeter trend #MuteRKelly I don't mind it but for this person he needs a #ShutRKellyDownFully because he needs to know and

understand that what he did was wrong and it needs to get through his fucking skull he's completely out of his sickening mind

**12.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Dollaone @DOLLAONE

May 17

Where are the feminist groups when black women killed by police ??

@TaranaBurke @dreamhampton #MeToo #TimesUp I thought y'all care about black women !! #muteRkelly crowd y'all quiet ☐☐♂☐ #BlackLivesMatter

**13.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Deqa Jama @TheDeqa

May 17

I got a first for my dissertation on #RKelly and the historic societal dismissal of black women as victims that he exemplifies WOOOOOOTTT thank you

@LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you #blackwomenradicals #muteRkelly

**14.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

JD @johnd200

May 15

Replying to @vjdiggins @gjeffries22 @rkelly

Be moral not immoral #MuteRKelly

**15.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

High Quality Cassee™ @MissCassee

May 15

Age is just a number. RKelly taught us all that. That motherfucker he's the worrrrrrst y'all #muterkelly

**16.f.** 

---

Jocelynprince @jocelynprince

May 14

Black Girls, Sexual Violence, and the #MuteRKelly Campaign | Victory Gardens Theater. Hey Chicago! Don't forget to RSVP and come out on Thursday.  @OffMuteRKelly    #muteRkelly @MuteRKellyChi    
<https://victorygardens.org/event/black-girls-sexual-violence-town-hall/> ...

**17.f.** 

---

βΛΔVK ΗΡΡΠΗ€ - 3☞ @KushKryptonite

May 14

how's your #MuteRKelly going? Mine, not so well

**18.f.** 

---

Rita Spencer @Rene5810

May 14

And also....when is this R Kelly trial gonna jump off.

How quickly we forget.

#MuteRKelly

**19.f.** 

---

ResisterValentine @baxteevalentine

May 13

Replying to @rkelly

Omfg how did I miss your video!!?? Wow...you want the media play nice with you? We are all watching the countless charges that keep racking up and up. This must finally be hitting your wallet hard. Good. Maybe it will help stop your predatory lifestyle #muterkelly

**20.f.** 

---

Deethediva @deethediva

May 13

Replying to @BMORE0831

I was in court ... she is saying just what her mother told her to say

In all fairness @rkelly wasn't receiving the school tuition bill to pay it so he was under the impression she stopped going to school & her mother was part of the muterkelly witch hunt to stop his money

**21.f.** 

---

Kenyette Tisha Barnes @LegisEmpress

May 13

We're still here. Any promoters and venues might really want to reconcile if hosting a sexual predator is "good business".

Stay focused. #MuteRKelly



22.f. 

---

Rebel Eclectic @RebelEclectic

May 13

R. Kelly's defense team includes Nicole Becker, the ex-head of Macomb County Prosecutor's sex crime unit.

I live in Macomb County.. I'm so disgusted.

#MuteRKelly

23.f. 

---

ChicaGO @Neti\_Pothead

May 13

I guess @SIRIUSXM Fly Channel didn't get the memo?! #MuteRKelly

24.f. 

---

Caylaa Darling ❤️👍 @KellzisKiiing

May 12

They for "women's rights" but they calling women's bitches? "While Quoting @rkelly Lyrics" 👍 like I said #muteRkelly is a joke!

25.f. 

---

Monica Kaisi-Festus @princesstav

May 12

In theory #MuteRKelly sounds good. Not when you listen to #TrappedInTheCloset #Hooked #LordHaveMercy #Maiwe it's really time to sleep..

**26.f.** 

---

Sarah Morgan @TheBuzzOnHR

May 12

Me trying to figure out why @SiriusXMFLY is still playing RKelly music on their station? #muteRkelly

**27.f.** 

---

Sarah Morgan @TheBuzzOnHR

May 12

Me trying to figure out why @SiriusXMFLY is still playing RKelly music on their station? #muteRkelly

**28.f.** 

---

Margo @margees93

May 11

Watching Surviving R Kelly on @lifetimetv . Words can not describe how abhorrent he is and the trauma he has inflicted on (mostly young) women. #MuteRKelly #TimesUp

**29.f.** 

---

butterflyeyes4u1 @harleygirl4u1

May 11

Just watched the documentary of R.Kelly ☐ we need this guy stopped and  
break the silence .#SurvivingRKelly #muterkelly #BlackLivesMatter  
#protectorofanimals #BreaktheSilence19 #justice #stoprkellymusic #metoo

**30.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Tiffany Sanchez @tiffysanchez90

May 11

Watching this #SurvivingRKelly the aftermath just gets me mad all over again!  
The man was married to Aaliyah, A MINOR. If that didn't set off some red  
flags then y'all are blind! #MuteRKelly

**31.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Alejandra @lostn\_middle\_us

May 10

I was working last night and playing a 90s playlist on @spotify and Aaliyah  
came on, but it was featuring R. Kelly. Grabbed the phone, changed the song.  
Love Aaliyah, but sadly i can't support that monster. #muteRkelly  
#hidinginplansight

**32.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Katherine Jarvie @KathyGallen

May 10

Catching up on #muterkelly

**33.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

ivanna davis @ivannanana24

May 9

I also have 2 say, god is great and all loving....#muterkelly

**34.f.**

---

Stone cold criminal. @ranrray

May 9

Replying to @Lexialex

Have you been following #MuteRKelly ? The backlash from women is fucking brutal.

**35.f.**

---

Jessica Rodriguez @kyootjessie

May 9

I finally brought myself to watch the #SurvivingRkelly series and man, you cant make this shit up! Hes one sick, twisted, evil, disgusting person. I'm speechless and believe it all. #MuteRkelly

**36.f.**

---

Sonya Kellz @SonyaKellz

May 8

Replying to @chihumanities @JimDeRogatis and 4 others

Who gives a MF about #JimDeRogatis obsession ass I think he is secertly in love with Kellz what man would stalked another man like he does and □□□□ #MuteRKelly they ain't □□

**37.f.**

---

Jestine Duffy @claimingtaken

May 8

So @SIRIUSXM #siriusxmfly wants to know what's fly?? How about taking all r.kelly songs OUT of rotation. Step up and #muterkelly

**38.f.**

---

Jenisisnewyork @jenisisnewyork

May 8

He went to Rkelly's studio many time in Chicago, unfortunately loves him so much. Ask him how old was his new girl when he met her? I told him but she's just a child and you're a grandpa with 4 kids #MuteRkelly

**39.f.**

---

Shelby @Shelby09412304

May 8

Shelby Retweeted E! News

Yesssss you don't need bad vibe people on that show. The R.Kelly supporters gone ahahahaha #muteRkelly #DavidEasonKillsAnimals

**40.f.**

---

Beauty x Brains@PrissyJoia

May 7

So yeah, I was sexually assaulted today at a gas station. Period. #metoo #timesup #muterkelly #Ibelieveher

41.f.

---

trina ewing @trinadanette25

May 7

I couldn't even get through the whole video he is a manipulator ☐☐♀☐

#muteRke

42.f.

---

Joyfulnoyz @joyfulnoyz

May 7

R. Kelly appears in court for brief sex abuse hearing #SurvivingRKelly

#MuteRKelly #SexualPredators #BreaktheCycle #ProtectOurChildren

43.f.

---

Jess @jessicabari

May 7

@pandoramusic @PandoraSupport why do you guys still include #rkelly in your streaming selections? #MuteRKelly

44.f.

---

Shelby @Shelby09412304

May 7

Comparing David Eason to R.Kelly hahahahaha well so does that mean guilty to both. I can't believe that came out of @PBandJenelley\_1 mouth wtf girl shame on you!!!! David's turning you into a robot.... #MuteRKelly

#TeenMom2 #DavidEasonDogKiller

45.f.

---

Samaris @Samb4Anything

May 7

Replying to @rkelly12ever @AttorneyGriggs @OffMuteRKelly

Let us forget he married an under age girl. Oh! Let us bot forget the worldwide video of him and a underage girl.. yeah!!..let's keep ignoring that for another decade... #MuteRkelly #AllpedophilesBehindBars #Nomore #NotAnotherDecade

46.f.

---

Kat ☺ @JustCallMeKat\_\_

May 6

Let me say this again.. YOUR ABUSERS TRAUMA DOES NOT JUSTIFY THEM ABUSING YOU!!☐☐☐☐ #stopabuse #abusetalk #MuteRKelly #narcissisticabuse #psychologicalabuse #manipulation #sexualabuse #emotionalabuse #brainwashing #gaslighting #stopenabling

47.f.

---

Monique Howard @MoniqueWOAR

May 5

Monique Howard Retweeted Lifetime

If you or someone that you know is triggered by watching #SurvivingRKelly:The Impact, or from reading comments on your feed, please

call @WOARphila 24-hour hotline 215 985 3333 #MuteRKelly  
#webelievesurvivors

**48.f.** 

---

Dr Tyffani M Dent @DrTyffaniMDent

May 5

interesting that some still want the voices of black girl survivors to remain silenced...just so they can have a song to step to ☐

#MuteRKelly #survivingrkelly

**49.f.** 

---

MJLadner @MelissaJLadner

May 5

#MuteRKelly.. This POS ☐R. Kelly needs to be off the streets and put away!

He does not deserve the right/privilege to breathe free air! He is a worthless

POS☐. MUTE all R. Kelly music, forever! I cannot stand to hear his music, I

MUTE him by changing channels!

**50.f.** 

---

Nicole Massie-Ophaug@Nikk0110

May 5

#MuteRKelly I am a survivor of a child molestation, a week long gang rape (tied to a bed at gun point) & raped by a co-worker. I finally prosecuted him. So

proud of his survivors coming forward! You are brave & strong women! I

believe you!



**51.f.** 

---

Paola Carrasco @PaolaC2780

May 5

Replying to @TheCandaceSmith @OffMuteRKelly and 2 others

That is how it is. We try and blame our selves or pretend that didn't happen. Or like me "I deserved it, i shouldn't have gone there". Admitting it and talking about it will make things better #Metoo #MuteRKelly

**52.f.** 

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daysha springer @SpringerDaysha

May 5

Kudos to @lifetimetv keep pushing the story making sure no one forgets and justice is served #MuteRKelly #blackgirlsmatter

**53.f.** 

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Kat\_Kano @Kano\_Serurubele

May 5

A listener just requested an R Kelly song on @Radio702, I was curious how this was going to go down and @NonnBotha refused to play it - asking the listener to request another. Thank you☐☐ May our politics not be for that moment when they are headlining #MuteRKelly #SoulfulSundays

**54.f.** 

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Nicole @lovenic03

May 4

Nicole Retweeted Countz Lifestyle

They 100% should go after his whole camp. They are fully involved in R Kelly's crimes! #muterkelly

**55.f.** 

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Myà @MissMya34

May 4

Myà Retweeted Kenya ♀□

Yes everybody walking around with #MuteRkelly and accusing him is lying and want money.

**56.f.** 

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Cathrine Wengard @CWengard

May 4

Replying to @ThePerezHilton

This man is unfortunately like a cat with 9 lives.I totally agree.He should be in jail for a long time ago and stay there too,not just pay his way out.He is creepy and guilty as well.

It's a miracle he hasn't done some «hard time» a long time ago□ #MuteRKelly  
#BanRKelly

**57.f.** 

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Ra©hèl ★ @ImRachelSchmidt

May 4

Replying to @thekaptainkevo

I was stuck in a locked, closed restaurant with RKelly, his girl, and his bodyguard for an hour while he yelled at his girl ☐ #muterkelly

**58.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Shawntai Brown @sb\_diZtinction

May 3

Wanted to Bob my head but then the r kelly track came on. Best way to kill a mood. #fuckRKelly #muterkelly

**59.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Jenisisnewyork @jenisisnewyork

May 3

He is very angry ask him how he feels about #MuteRKelly

**60.f.** \_\_\_\_\_

Chelsea @chelsthinks

May 2

This illiterate fuck. Smfh. #muteRkelly

## TABLE OF DATA

Lexical Hedges	Tweets/Sentences	
	Male	Female
I guess	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• @siriusxmvolume #debatable @LoriMajewski @TheNotoriousNIK <u>I guess</u> the muting isn't working #muteRKelly @OffMuteRKelly (Data 26.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I guess</u> you like pedophiles. (Data 1.f)</li> <li>• <u>I guess</u> @SIRIUSXM Fly Channel didn't get the memo?! #MuteRKelly (Data 23.f)</li> </ul>
Well		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comparing David Eason to R.Kelly hahahahaha <u>well</u> so does that mean guilty to both. (Data 44.f)</li> </ul>
I think	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I think</u> @DiscourserES (Documentarian) could use your help in exposing women of color victimized by #SexTrafficking ☐☐ (Data 28.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who gives a MF about #JimDeRogatis obsession ass <u>I think</u> he is secertly in love with Kellz what man would stalked another man like he does and ☐☐☐☐ #MuteRKelly they ain't ☐☐(Data 36.f)</li> </ul>
I would		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Go support him <u>and I would</u> do that privately because you are as sick as he is. (Data 1.f)</li> </ul>
I thought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Here <u>I thought</u> justice might FINALLY be served!☐ #MuteRKelly (Data 49.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I thought</u> y'all care about black women !! (Data 12.f)</li> </ul>
Maybe		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Maybeit</u> will help stop your predatory lifestyle #muterkelly (Data 19.f)</li> </ul>
You know	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, <u>you know</u>, a pedophile. Thank you so much. (Data 41.m)</li> </ul>	

Types of Intensifiers	Tweets/Sentences	
	Male	Female
Very		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He is <u>very</u> angry ask him how</li> </ul>

		he feels about #MuteRKelly (Data 59.f)
Too		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He should be in jail for a long time ago and stay there <u>too</u>,not just pay his way out. (Data 56.f)</li> </ul>
Really	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This man is <u>really</u> disturbing me he should have a pre trial detention order and stay in jail at least for all the length of the trials #SurvivingRKelly #muteRKelly(Data 12.m)</li> <li>• I hope everybody who followed #SurvivingRKelly is still switched on...The hype is gone now and things are getting <u>really</u> interesting □□#MichaelAvantii (Data 60.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any promoters and venues might <u>really</u> want to reconcile if hosting a sexual predator is "good business". (Data 21.f)</li> <li>• In theory #MuteRKelly sounds good. Not when you listen to #TrappedInTheCloset #Hooked #LordHaveMercy #Maiwe it's <u>really</u> time to sleep.. (Data 25.f)</li> </ul>
So	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After watching Surviving R Kelly documentary i got <u>so</u> pissed off badly □□ R Kelly is sick .. (Data 13.m)</li> <li>• Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile. Thank you <u>so</u> much. #muteRkelly (Data 41.m)</li> <li>• <u>So</u> much i didnt know. (Data 46.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• how's your #MuteRKelly going? Mine, not <u>so</u> well (Data 17.f)</li> <li>• I live in Macomb County.. I'm <u>so</u> disgusted. (Data 22.f)</li> <li>• He went to Rkelly's studio many time in Chicago, unfortunately loves him <u>so</u> much. (Data 38.f)</li> <li>• <u>So</u> proud of his survivors coming forward! (Data 50.f)</li> </ul>

Notion on Grammar	Tweets/Sentences	
	Male	Female
Grammatical error	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• (<u>It</u>)Would be great if you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile. (Data 14.m)</li> <li>• why am i still seeing people use the #MuteRKelly tag like <u>didnt</u> we collectively decide that we're publicly castrating him already (Data 24.m)</li> <li>• <u>its</u> why he was able to post bail.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• They for "women's rights" but they calling women's bitches? (Data 24.f)</li> <li>• I finally brought myself to watch the #SurvivingRkelly series and man, you <u>cant</u> make this shit up! (Data 35.f)</li> <li>• <u>Hes</u> one sick, twisted, evil, disgusting person. (Data 35.f)</li> </ul>

	<p>Scammers move money via shell games. #MuteRKelly (Data 40.m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>lets</u> just say I can't tweet my real thoughts. (Data 44.m)</li> <li>• So much i <u>didnt</u> know (Data 46.m)</li> <li>• R. Kelly songs are currently used in 60 @onepeloton workouts. Please RT if you think Peloton should #muteRkelly and <u>remove</u> those from their library. (Data 55.m)</li> <li>• That makes a person <u>garbage</u> in my eyes. (Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• He went to Rkelly's studio many <u>time</u> in Chicago (Data 38.f)</li> </ul>
Simplification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #RKelly gets a second chance at court appearance. #Lawyers say he was confused <u>cuz</u> he can't read. (Data 7.m)</li> <li>• <u>Y'all</u> women are full of it (Data 10.m)</li> <li>• DA had to get him on child porn <u>cuz</u> the immediate fam wouldn't press charges for child rape against him. (Data 35.m)</li> <li>• ... instead this guy is arguing <u>w/any</u>&amp; everybody else! (Data 48.m)</li> <li>• Some <u>ol</u> thot vs Trump, a bunch of people in your messy divorce, beefing with @Nike. (Data 49.m)</li> <li>• Finished the R Kelly <u>doc</u> last night (Data 52.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The man was married to Aaliyah, A <u>MINOR</u>. (Data 30.f)</li> <li>• If that didn't set off some red flags then <u>y'all</u> are blind! #MuteRKelly (Data 30.f)</li> <li>• I also have <u>2</u> say, god is great and all loving....#muterkelly (Data 33.f)</li> <li>• You are brave <u>&amp;</u> strong women! I believe you! (Data 50.f)</li> </ul>
Abbreviation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Their writing books to tell their truth <u>wtf</u> is your problem... (Data 2.m)</li> <li>• <u>Lmao</u> in this London pub ... what comes on "Step in the name of Love" <u>lmao</u> i hope this is not for me #MuteRkelly (Data 25.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Omg</u> how did I miss your video!!?? (Data 19.f)</li> <li>• <u>wtf</u> girl shame on you!!!! (Data 44.f)</li> </ul>
Informal words/slang	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This is a <u>bop</u>! (Data 19.m)</li> <li>• Bottom-line this #MuteRKelly <u>BULLSHIT</u>.. (Data 42.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>WOOOOOOTT</u> thank you @LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ...is getting <u>out of hand</u>... (Data 42)</li> <li>• <u>Boo Boo da fool</u> (Data 48.m)</li> <li>• Some ol <u>thot</u> vs Trump, a bunch of people in your messy divorce, (Data beefing with @Nike. (Data 49.m)</li> <li>• <u>Nah</u> he peed on a young girl and got away with it now he gets what he gets!Karma is a <u>b***h!</u> (Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<p>from you (Data 13.f)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Who gives a MF about #JimDeRogatis obsession <u>ass</u>(Data 36.f)</li> </ul>
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'Superpolite' Forms	Tweets/Sentences	
	Male	Female
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Would be great if</u>you'd ask your bosses to remove those from the service, since he's, you know, a pedophile.<u>Thank you so much.</u> #muteRkelly (Data 41.m)</li> <li>• <u>Please</u>RT if you think Peloton should #muteRkelly and remove those from their library. (Data 55.m)</li> <li>• <u>I refuse to</u> support ANYONE who doesn't respect women (Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>I respect the whole tweeter trend #MuteRKelly I don't mind it but</u> for this person he needs a #ShutRKellyDownFully because he needs to know and understand that what he did was wrong and it needs to get through his fucking skull he's completely out of his sickening mind (Data11.f)</li> <li>• <u>thank you</u> @LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you #blackwomenradicals #muteRkelly (Data 13.f)</li> <li>• A listener just requested an R Kelly song on @Radio702, I was curious how this was going to go down and @NonnBotha refused to play it - asking the listener to request another. <u>Thank you</u>May our politics not be for that moment when they are headlining #MuteRKelly #SoulfulSundays (Data 53.f)</li> <li>• <u>Best way to kill a mood.</u> (Data 58.f)</li> </ul>

Strong Swear Words	Tweets/Sentences	
	Male	Female
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>wtf</u> is your problem (Data 2.m)</li> <li>• #muteRKelly since when does being illiterate equal being a <u>pervert and scumbag</u>(Data 9.m)</li> <li>• Get that same energy together and ride agst the <u>sht</u> their doing... <u>Poisoning MILLIONS!!!</u> (Data 14.m)</li> <li>• I just <u>sick</u> to my stomach when I hear R. Kelly now (Data 18.m)</li> <li>• R. Kelly will go to prison. <a href="https://youtu.be/AK59z6QNVTk">https://youtu.be/AK59z6QNVTk</a> via @YouTube@rkelly #muterkelly #fuckrkelly(Data 21.m)</li> <li>• not vilified like we some <u>pos</u> group of black people. (Data 23.m)</li> <li>• <u>Sick fuck.</u>(Data 33.m)</li> <li>• Bottom-line this #MuteRKelly <u>BULLSHIT</u> is getting out of hand (Data 42.m)</li> <li>• <u>damnnnnn!!</u> (Data 46.m)</li> <li>• Any <u>idiot</u> that paid, deserved to get screwed for supporting this <u>abuser!</u> (Data 47.m)</li> <li>• <u>Boo Boo da fool.</u>(Data 48.m)</li> <li>• Some ol <u>thot</u>(Data 49.m)</li> <li>• R. Kelly is a <u>sick</u> person. (Data 57.m)</li> <li>• Karma is a <u>b***h!</u> (Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How <u>sick</u> are these people. (Data 1.f)</li> <li>• it needs to get through his <u>fucking</u> skull (Data11) he's completely out of his <u>sickening</u> mind (Data 11.f)</li> <li>• That <u>motherfucker</u> he's the worrrrrst y'all #muterkelly (Data 15.f)</li> <li>• I'm so <u>disgusted.</u> (Data 22.f)</li> <li>• but they calling women's <u>bitchies?</u> (Data 24.f)</li> <li>• Words can not describe how <u>abhorrent</u> he is (Data 28.f)</li> <li>• If that didn't set off some red flags then y'all are <u>blind!</u> #MuteRKelly (Data 30.f)</li> <li>• i can't support that <u>monster.</u> (Data 31.f)</li> <li>• The backlash from women is <u>fucking</u> brutal. (Data 34.f)</li> <li>• you cant make this <u>shit</u> up! Hes one <u>sick, twisted, evil, disgusting</u> person. (Data 35.f)</li> <li>• he is a <u>manipulator</u>(Data 41.f)</li> <li>• <u>wtf</u> girl shame on you!!!! (Data 44.f)</li> <li>• He is <u>aworthlessPOS</u> (Data 49.f)</li> <li>• He is <u>iscreepy and guilty</u>as well. (Data 56.f)</li> <li>• Best way to kill a mood. #fuckRKelly(Data 58.f)</li> <li>• This illiterate <u>fuck. Smfh</u>(Data 60.f)</li> </ul>

Emphatic Stress	Tweets/Sentences	
	Male	Female



<p>Capitalization</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Poisoning MILLIONS!!! (Data 14.m)</li> <li>• #IGNORANCE OF THE LAW DOES NOT #ABSOLVE YOU OF THE LAW! #PRESIDENTTRUMP, #HOMELANDSECURITY, #FBI, #CIA, investigate #METOO #TIMESUP #MUTERKELLY #SurvivingRKelly #LifeTime and everyone who runs these along with #MichaelAvenatti (already handled #THANKS) they are DOMESTIC TERRORIST (Data 31.m)</li> <li>• With only \$625 in his name, @rkelly and his wallet are FIGHTING FOR THEIR MF'ing LIVES!!! #MuteRKelly (Data 3.m)</li> <li>• HE HAD THE #AUDACITY TO RECORD &amp; SING "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" FOR HIS DAUGHTER HE HASN'T TAKEN CARE OF (PUBLIC FRONT) WHILE CHASING #MINORS #MuteRKelly #Chicago (Data 36.m)</li> <li>• Here I thought justice might FINALLY be served! (Data 50.m)</li> <li>• I refuse to support <u>ANYONE</u> who doesn't respect women, superstar or not.(Data 59.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phases is LIVE with the Twins <a href="https://youtu.be/ssG7qC35aKA">https://youtu.be/ssG7qC35aKA</a> via @YouTube. #MeToo #muteRkelly DO YOUR RESEARCH YALL ARE ONE SIDED MAKE IT MAKE SENSE BY GETTING FROM BOTH SIDES . #unmuterkelly, A MAN CAN'T PAY CHILD SUPPORT IF HE CAN'T WORK (Data 3.f)</li> <li>• #Rkelly is STILLnot in jail(Data 6.f)</li> <li>• Why have you STILL got R Kelly in most of your 90s playlists? (Data 8.f)</li> <li>• WOOOOOOTT thank you @LegisEmpress for allowing me to lean on you and learn from you #blackwomenradicals #muteRkelly (Data 13.f)</li> <li>• Watching this #SurvivingRKelly the aftermath just gets me mad all over <u>again!</u>The man was married to Aaliyah, A MINOR.If that didn't set off some red flags then y'all are blind! #MuteRKelly (Data 30.f)</li> <li>• How about taking all r.kelly songs OUT of rotation. (Data 37.f)</li> <li>• YOUR ABUSERS TRAUMA DOES NOT JUSTIFY THEM ABUSING YOU!! (Data 46.f)</li> <li>• This POS □ R. Kelly needs to be off the streets and put away! He does not deserve the right/privilege to breathe free air! He is a worthless POS□. MUTE all R. Kelly music, forever! I cannot stand to hear his music, I MUTE him by changing channels! (Data 49.f)</li> </ul>
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<p>Punctuation marks</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Has he got Johnnie Cochrane on <u>board</u>?! (Data 46.m)</li> <li>• Any idiot that paid, deserved to get screwed for supporting this <u>abuser</u>! (Data 47.m)</li> <li>• everybody <u>else</u>! (Data 49.m)</li> <li>• Hate Kelly but leave his music <u>alone</u>! (Data 53.m)</li> <li>• HW was facing life in <u>prison</u>! (Data 54.m)</li> <li>• Nah he peed on a young girl and got away with it now he gets what he <u>gets!</u><u>#muterkelly!</u> (Data 56.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Women are everything and <u>powerful</u>! (Data 10.f)</li> <li>• Hey <u>Chicago</u>! (Data 16.f)</li> <li>• Omfg how did I miss your <u>video</u>!?!?(Data 19.f)</li> <li>• hosting a sexual predator is "good business". (Data 21.f)</li> <li>• I guess @SIRIUSXM Fly Channel didn't get the <u>memo</u>?! (Data 23.f)</li> <li>• They for "women's rights" but they calling women's bitches? "While Quoting @rkelly Lyrics" like I said #muteRkelly is a joke! (Data 24.f)</li> <li>• you cant make this <u>shit up</u>! (Data 35.f)</li> <li>• <u>Oh</u>!(Data 45.f)</li> <li>• So proud of his survivors coming <u>forward</u>! You are brave &amp; strong women! I believe <u>you</u>! (Data 50.f)</li> <li>• Or like me "I deserved it, i shouldn't have gone there". (Data 51.f)</li> <li>• They are fully involved in R Kelly's <u>crimes</u>! (Data 54.f)</li> </ul>
<p>Emojis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• After watching Surviving R Kelly documentary i got so pissed off badly <u>*sad emoji*</u> (Data 13.m)</li> <li>• I just sick to my stomach when I hear R. Kelly now<u>*nauseated face emoji*</u> (Data 18.m)</li> <li>• I think @DiscourserES (Documentarian) could use your help in exposing women of color victimized by #SexTrafficking <u>*thumb up emoji*</u> (Data 28.m)</li> <li>• #muteRkelly and #sammib_legend83...different reasons, to be fair <u>*face with tears of joy emoji*</u><u>*winking</u></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• #Rkelly is STILL not in jail <u>*exclamation question mark emoticon*</u> <u>*woman facepalming emoticon*</u> (Data 6.f)</li> <li>• Why have you STILL got R Kelly in most of your 90s playlists? <u>*woman facepalming emoticon*</u> (Data 8.f)</li> <li>• #muteRkelly crowd y'all quiet <u>*person shrugging emoticon*</u> #BlackLivesMatter (Data 12.m)</li> <li>• how's your #MuteRKelly going? Mine, not so well <u>*loudly crying face emoticon*</u> (Data 17.m)</li> <li>• They for "women's rights" but they calling women's bitches?</li> </ul>

	<p><u>face emoticon</u>**<u>face blowing a kiss emoji</u>* (Data 45.m)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Boo Boo da fool. <u>*clown face emoji*</u> (Data 48.m)</li> <li>• man I'm shook. <u>*astonished face emoji*</u> (Data 52.m)</li> <li>• things are getting really interesting <u>*crossed fingers emoji*</u> (Data 60.m)</li> </ul>	<p>“While Quoting @rkelly Lyrics” <u>*face with tears of joy emoji*</u> (Data 24.f)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Just watched the documentary of R.Kelly <u>*prohibited emoji*</u> we need this guy stopped and break the silence (Data 29.f)</li> <li>• <u>* middle finger emoji*</u> #MuteRKelly they ain't <u>* pile of poo emoticon*</u>(Data 36.f)</li> <li>• I couldn't even get through the whole video he is a manipulator <u>*woman facepalming emoticon*</u> #muteRkelly (Data 41.f)</li> <li>• YOUR ABUSERS TRAUMA DOES NOT JUSTIFY THEM ABUSING YOU!!<u>*speaking head emoticon**hundred points emoticon*</u> (Data 46.f)</li> <li>• interesting that some still want the voices of black girl survivors to remain silenced...just so they can have a song to step to <u>*expressionless face emoticon*</u> (Data 48.f)</li> <li>• This POS <u>*pile of poo emoticon*</u> R. Kelly needs to be off the streets and put away! He does not deserve the right/privilege to breathe free air! He is a worthless POS <u>*pile of poo emoticon*</u>. (Data 49.f)</li> <li>• Thank you <u>*raising hands emoticon*</u> May our politics not be for that moment when they are headlining #MuteRKelly #SoulfulSundays (Data 52.f)</li> <li>• It's a miracle he hasn't done some «hard time» a long time ago<u>*pouting face emoticon*</u> (Data 56.f)</li> <li>• he yelled at his girl <u>*flushed face emoticon*</u> (Data 57.f)</li> </ul>
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<p>Repetition</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Keep #muteRkelly <u>going!!!</u> (Data 4.m)</li> <li>• Kelly is <u>sick ..</u> that guy deserves to be in jail.. we cant have monsters in our <u>streets !!!</u> (Data 13.m)</li> <li>• Get that same energy together and ride agst the sht their <u>doing...</u> (Data 14.m)</li> <li>• but what about artists who featured <u>him...</u> (Data 19.m)</li> <li>• Lmao in this London <u>pub ...</u> (Data 25.m)</li> <li>• Details <u>why...</u> (Data 38.m)</li> <li>• #MuteRKelly <u>because...</u> (Data 39.m)</li> <li>• So I finished it tonight and <u>man....</u> (Data 44.m)</li> <li>• <u>damnnnnn!!</u> (Data 46.m)</li> <li>• Finished the R Kelly doc last <u>night....</u> (Data 52.m)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• black women killed by <u>police ??</u>@TaranaBurke @dreamhampton #MeToo #TimesUp I thought y'all care about black <u>women !!</u> (Data 12.f)</li> <li>• ...He's The <u>Worrrrrrst</u> Y'all #Muterkelly (Data 15.f)</li> <li>• And <u>also....</u> (data 18.f)</li> <li>• We Are All Watching The Countless Charges That Keep Racking <u>Up And Up.</u> (Data 19.F)</li> <li>• I was in <u>court ...</u> (Data 20.f)</li> <li>• I live in Macomb <u>County..</u> (Data 22.f)</li> <li>• it's really time <u>to sleep..</u> (Data 25.f)</li> <li>• god is great and all <u>loving....</u> (Data 33.f)</li> <li>• So @SIRIUSXM #siriusxmfly wants to know what's <u>fly??</u> (Data 37.f)</li> <li>• <u>Yesssss</u> You Don't Need Bad Vibe People On That Show. The R.Kelly Supporters Gone <u>Ahahahaha</u> (Data 39.f)</li> <li>• Comparing David Eason to R.Kelly <u>hahahahaha</u> well so does that mean guilty to both. I can't believe that came out of @PBandJenelley_1 mouth wtf girl shame on <u>you!!!!</u> David's turning you into a <u>robot....</u>(Data 44.f)</li> <li>• <u>yeah!!</u>let's keep ignoring that for another <u>decade...</u> (Data 45.f)</li> <li>• Let me say this <u>again..</u> (Data 46.f)</li> <li>• interesting that some still want the voices of black girl survivors to remain <u>silenced...</u> (Data 48.f)</li> <li>• #<u>MuteRKelly..</u> (Data 49.f)</li> </ul>
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