

**THE ANALYSIS OF EUPHEMISM EXPRESSION
IN JOE BIDEN’S SPEECH “STATEMENT
ON TERROR ATTACK IN AFGHANISTAN”**

THESIS

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK IBRAHIM
MALANG
2022**

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THESIS

Presented to

Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang
in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Sarjana Sastra (S.S.).

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MALANG
2022**

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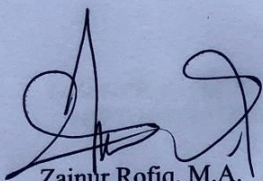
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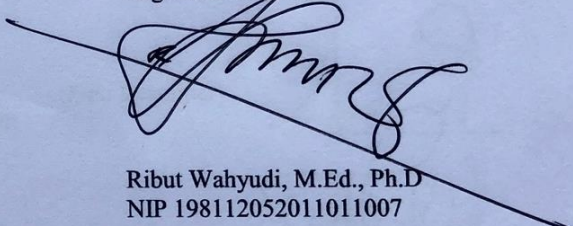
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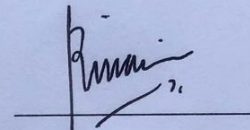
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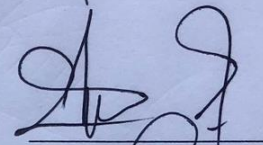
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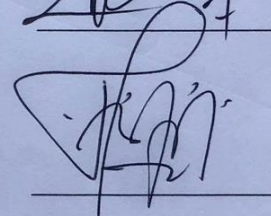
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MOTTO

*“Euphemisms persist because lying is an indispensable part of
making life tolerable.”*

— Bergen Evans

DEDICATION

I specially dedicate this thesis to my beloved father and mother, Bajuri and Khusnul Hotimah, my brother and sister, Salman Alfarisi and Habibah el Hanifah, and my grandfather and grandmother, Irsyad and Rumaidah.

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Praise to Allah swt., the God who has given me health, pleasure, guidance and fortune, so I can complete my thesis entitled *The Analysis of Euphemism Expression in Joe Biden's Speech "Statement on Terror Attack in Afghanistan"*. Secondly, Sholawat and salam, may Allah always pour out to the Prophet Muhammad SAW, who led us from the age of *jahiliyyah* to the religion of Islam. May we all get his intercession until the Day of Judgment.

I can finish this thesis with the help of the people who always support me. I am grateful to my thesis advisor Mr. Zainur Rofiq who has guided, provided advice and corrected errors in my thesis. Secondly, I do not forget to thank the Dean of Faculty of Humanities, Head of Department of English Literature, and all lecturers who have taught me the materials during my study in the English Literature Department.

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ABSTRACT

Mustofa, M. Ali. (2022). *The Analysis of Euphemism Expression in Joe Biden Speech "Statement on Terror Attack in Afghanistan"*. Undergraduate Thesis.
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Keywords: Euphemism, Social Function, Features of Political Euphemism

A narrator has prepared a speech before delivering it to the audience. He makes sure his speech is effective in making a point smoothness sentences to replace unpleasant ones. This research investigates speech texts with a special focus on the use of euphemism which plays a role in giving a subtle impression to the listener to avoid unpleasant responses. It aims to study the types, functions and features of political euphemisms in Biden's speech. It employs Allan and Buridge's (1991) theory to examine the types of euphemisms and Zhao and Dong's (2010) to investigate the functions and features of political euphemisms. Using a descriptive qualitative approach, the results show that there are ten types of euphemism expressions, including Metaphor, Flippancy, Circumlocution, Acronym, One for One Substitution, Part for Whole Euphemism, Hyperbole, Understatement, Jargon and Collocation. Furthermore, there are three social functions of euphemism including providing information, providing sympathy, hiding taboo sentences and providing information, providing sympathy, hiding taboo sentences and providing direction to the community. Finally, this research reveals some euphemism features, including neutralizing sentences, disguising a purpose and replacing popular vocabulary.

مستخلص البحث

مصطفى، مح

هدعلي (٢٠٢٢) تحوير النكتيش انيطف ف خطاب ج تاذ "تأخه ايج"

البيات ف أفعاستا " انج اجالك، فس ألدب الجبضي. ميج انكي ال ساج. جايك الالا ابل انشا
ال سال ح احزن ح ال. انشف : ص سسيق اناجستش

انباخ الساسج : انكيش انيطف ، انطفح الجناج ، ال انكيش الساس انيطف

أخذ اشاي خطاتا فتو نسي بيحوس. أ تأمد ه أ خطاط فكاه ف نضح قطح. ما أ غائنا ا أستخدم جو
أله نحر وحو انجو عش اساسج. شج ز ا انج ف أظص انال ان تستخدم تجاس انباخ إخفاء احقق. تسي ز
السنشايج انكيش انيطف ازاي بكة دسا ف إكطاء أطناع ديق بيسع نتجة الستجاتاخ عش اساسج. نذف ز اندساسج ابي فحض
أع أظائف أظائف انكيش انيطف اساسج ف خطاب تاذ. تستخدم ز اندساسج أظشع أ ال أستخدم
(١٩٩١) فحض أاع انكيش انيطف أشا دغ ٠١٠٢) بيقف ف أظائف أظائف انكيش انيطف اساسج. أزر
انكيش انيطف ه خطاب تاذ أ مت ماح أظشع انج تستخدم انكيش انيطف. أظشع انكيش انيطف ه خطاب تاذ أ
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أظائف انكيش انيطف نا ف ربل انكيش انيطف ، أظشع انكيش انيطف ، أظشع انكيش انيطف
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ABSTRAK

Mustofa, M. Ali. (2022). *Analisa Ekspresi Eufemisme dalam Pidato Joe Biden “Pernyataan tentang Serangan Teror di Afghanistan”* Skripsi. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. Dosen Pembimbing: Zainur Rofiq M.A.

Kata Kunci: Eufemisme, Fungsi Sosial, Fitur-fitur Eufemisme Politik

Seorang narator telah mempersiapkan pidato sebelum menyampaikannya kepada audiens. Dia memastikan pidatonya efektif dalam menyampaikan maksud. Dia juga sering menggunakan kalimat yang diperhalus untuk menggantikan kalimat yang tidak menyenangkan. Penelitian ini meneliti tentang teks pidato yang menggunakan penghalusan kata untuk menyembunyikan kebenaran. Strategi ini disebut eufemisme yang berperan dalam memberikan kesan halus kepada pendengar untuk menghindari tanggapan yang tidak menyenangkan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk meneliti jenis, fungsi, dan fitur eufemisme politik dalam pidato Biden. Penelitian ini menggunakan teori Allan dan Buridge (1991) untuk meneliti jenis-jenis eufemisme dan Zhao dan Dong (2010) untuk menyelidiki fungsi dan fitur eufemisme politik. Peneliti mengambil data dari pidato Biden yang mengandung eufemisme dan metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat sepuluh jenis ekspresi eufemisme, diantaranya metafora, flipansi, sirkumlokusi, akronim, substitusi satu untuk satu, bagian untuk eufemisme utuh, hiperbola, pernyataan meremehkan, jargon dan kolokasi. Selanjutnya, dalam pidato ini terdapat tiga fungsi sosial eufemisme diantaranya memberikan informasi, memberikan simpati, menyembunyikan kalimat tabu dan memberikan informasi, memberikan simpati, menyembunyikan kalimat tabu dan memberikan arahan kepada masyarakat. Peneliti juga menemukan fitur-fitur eufemisme diantaranya menetralsir kalimat, menyamakan suatu tujuan dan mengganti kosakata populer.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher explains the background of the study, research question, significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

A. Background of the Study

People need to pay attention to the words or phrases used to make them more refined in expressing an idea. This formation requires a selection to reduce harsh words considered rude and unpleasant. Allan and Burrige (1991) define euphemism as used as an alternative to a dis-preferred expression, to avoid possible loss of face: either one's face or, through offending, that of the audience, or some third parties. An indirect word or phrase that people often use to refer to something embarrassing or unpleasant, sometimes to make it seem more acceptable than it really is (Oxford, 2005).

Euphemism is an expression to replace disrespectful expressions. It changes the meaning which leads to the refinement or politeness of the words (Yesi, et al., 2018). Euphemisms aim to give a better impression in communication by choosing pleasant words that can attract someone's enthusiasm to read and understand the message given (Heryana, 2019). People choose desirable words to convey their ideas without threatening interlocutors' faces or listeners, especially words that can be taboo and any inappropriate or harsh words which can trigger conflict (Fitriani, et. al., 2019). Although the meaning conveyed is immoral, the impression received by the listener might be optimistic. For

example, when people inform us that someone has died, they can use passed away. This word is better than the word "die."

Speech is one of the means of communicating to the public to convey one's ideas. Speeches are generally made by influential people in a group, such as a president. A presidential speech was made to convey information that needs to be conveyed to the people in a government. To achieve a goal, speech requires human language skills to reflect reality. Speech can contain a recording of linguistic events delivered directly by the speaker in front of the general public (Ramanda, et. al., 2017).

Politics is generally related to the government of the state. The term refers to how the state is governed and how the government makes rules and laws. Politics is about making agreements that humans make to live orderly in groups such as tribes, cities, or countries. As mentioned above, the country leader needs a strategy for delivering his speech. The strategy aims to minimize feelings of being offended by certain parties. One must avoid taboos or disrespect for the other parties, even as a manifestation of arguments, transitions, or changes in meaning in their utterances (Simamora, 2012). Therefore, the use of euphemisms in the political field, such as speeches of political leaders, is one of the effective strategies to change words into polite ones.

Euphemisms are often used in the political field, especially in conveying taboo information. Chilton (2015) states that secrecy, culture-based association, and sacred work go hand in hand. Verbal roles affect even sensitive sentences and have flexibility in various situations. Social and political institutions facilitate

institutional or individual agents in forming a discourse as a social and political force. Depending on the risk, they can choose between positive and negative faces (Goffman, 1967) when stating, commanding, threatening, or proposing something. There are situations where the negative face of FTA is more pronounced, for example, when pressure or state security is threatened. A president can simply explain the situation by disguising taboos using euphemistic strategies. They as a society can exploit their leader's speech by studying the context of the situation. This study examines the form of euphemism in the president's speech in the context of the state's efforts to protect its citizens.

Euphemism strategy has features that the researcher is interested in investigating further in Biden's speech. Researcher presumed several euphemistic expressions used by the president to neutralize his speech. As an example in Biden's speech except –*They were part of the bravest, most capable, and the most selfless military on the face of the Earth*||. President Joe Biden established a complete trust in the American people not to be aggressive in enemy attacks. Thus, Biden's military withdrawal policy is not because American troops have lost but because other factors require them to leave Afghanistan. This is reinforced by Biden's sentence using the hyperbole phrase "*...the bravest, most capable, and the most selfless military on the face of the Earth*".

The repatriation of American troops from Afghanistan is an action that Biden needs to protect the American people. This mission got a reaction from several American figures. Douglas Lute, former United States Ambassador to NATO, said that America should not be in the middle of the Afghanistan war. On

the other hand, several congress members disagree with the withdrawal from Afghanistan, but many are towards this policy to protect the safety of the people in Afghanistan. Jeanne Shaheen said she urges the Biden government to do everything to evacuate Afghan allies and deal with bureaucratic problems later. Therefore, Biden should be able to evacuate American troops and Afghan citizens immediately and stop a war that should not last too long.

The previous study done by Winarta, et al. (2021) examined euphemisms in Joko Widodo's speech. This speech was delivered by President Jokowi at the annual session and commemoration of Indonesia's independence. This study uses the theoretical framework of Allan and Burrige (1991) and is combined with the views of Sutarman (2013). The results of the research showed that there are 25 types of euphemisms in Joko Widodo's speech.

Previous researchers have studied euphemisms in various data sources, They are summarized as follows; researchers who examined speeches are Winarta (2021), Purba, et al. (2017), Kadoor (2021), Kafi and Degaf (2020), and Selian (2019). Reseachers examined on debates are Ardhan and Syukri (2018), Putra and Wijana (2020), and Wahyuningsih (2020). Researchers who examined news are Ridwan, et al. (2019) and Serli, et al. (2018).

Several previous studies examined the type and function of euphemisms. Researcher has not found previous researchers who examined political features of euphemisms which became a gap for the researcher to study euphemisms further. The features of political euphemism are examined to find differences in characteristics between political euphemisms and ordinary euphemism.

This research examines the types, functions, and features of political Euphemism in speeches by Joe Biden at the White House. Data were analyzed using a critical Euphemism and Dysphemism Language Used as Shield and Weapon (Allan & Burrige, 1991) and Features and social function of Political Euphemism (Zhao & Dong, 2010). Those theories were chosen because they systematically classify the forms of political euphemism. Researcher assumed that Biden's speech contains the types, functions, and Features of Political Euphemism. Based on the data source, this statement is a speech in which the speaker needs to change the words that can be tolerated because Biden planed to withdraw his troops from Afghanistan. Allan and Burrige (1991) stated that euphemisms in language help politicians to keep their self-esteem and respect in public by maintaining a positive face. Euphemisms create reasons for social actions and lead people to better understand them with respect (Purba, et al., 2017). The last assumption is that Biden's speech uses euphemisms to neutralize his speech without impressing pressure on him to complete the repatriation of troops as soon as possible.

The researcher is interested in examining euphemisms in Joe Biden's political speech based on the gaps found. This research still needs to be conducted because humans need to consider politeness in language in order to show our true identity as ethical, educated, and cultured human beings who are recognized as good human beings. Thus, the research at least becomes a parameter of one's politeness and can be applied in daily life.

B. Research Question

Based on the background of the study above, the researcher would like to answer the research question, which are:

1. What are the types of political euphemism found in Joe Biden's speech
–Statement on Terror Attacks in Afghanistan?
2. What are the functions of political euphemism found in Joe Biden's speech
–Statement on Terror Attacks in Afghanistan?
3. How are the features of political euphemisms used in Joe Biden's speech
–Statement on Terror Attacks in Afghanistan?

C. Significance of the Study

This research gives information for readers about euphemisms that are useful in delivering political speeches. It can increase the reader's knowledge about using euphemisms in daily conversation. This research could also be a reference for further researcher who are interested in examining euphemisms.

D. Scope and Limitation

The scope of this research is a pragmatic study. It focuses only on one speech delivered by Joe Biden, "Statement on Terror Attack in Afghanistan". The researcher limits this study only examine types , functions and features of political euphemism founded in the speech.

E. Definition of Key Term

The following key terms are terminology to explain the terms used in this study:

1. Euphemism: a figure of speech used to replace harsh or taboo words so that communication becomes more polite.
2. Presidential Speech: a discourse about politics that is expressed to discuss someone's policies in government and is also included in political campaigns or undertaking political activism.
3. Enduring Freedom: the official name used by the US government for the global war on terrorism in response to the September 11 attacks with air strikes targeting Al-Qaida and the Taliban in Afghanistan.

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This section explains the theoretical concepts in exploring the euphemisms in the presidential speech of Joe Biden. This research focuses on two theories in exploring type, function and features of political euphemism. It also explains about the essential tools used in analyzing Joe Biden's speech.

A. Euphemism

Euphemisms are utterances used to replace or refine words or sentences to make them more polite. In some situations, this strategy is used to reduce negative feedback from listeners. Allan and Burridge (1991) define euphemism as the use of terms to replace inappropriate expressions to avoid the possibility of losing face to the person spoken to or a third party (listener).

In communicating, someone thinks about conveying polite sentences so that his speech does not cause conflict. Sutarman (2013) defines euphemisms as expressions in the form of words or phrases that are considered more subtle, polite, and safe to replace other expressions considered impolite or believed to bring harm (Setiawaty & Wahyudi, 2018). Therefore, euphemisms can disguise a reality that is considered harmful.

Euphemisms are words or phrases that replace taboo words to avoid unpleasant topics Fromkin (1997). The phrase or sentence is about sex, parts of the human body, the natural function of the human body, and religion. The expressions used in replacing these phrases cover unpleasant or taboo responses

because they are sensitive. Meanwhile, according to Wardhaugh (1986), euphemisms are words that help someone neutralize a conversation about unpleasant things to talk about, such as death, unemployment, and crime (Supit, et. al., 2019).

Euphemisms change negative expressions into positive ones to make them better for the listeners. However, this strategy can also cause problems and become an obnoxious expression. Instead of using polite language to be accepted by the listener, there are other meanings that the listener or reader may not understand. Euphemistic language is the eternal enemy of everyone who needs clarity (Peters, 2017). Euphemisms replace negative expressions as if there was absolutely no hidden purpose, whereas listeners sometimes judge these expressions to have good meaning.

B. Euphemism in Politics

A leader wants to govern the community well and maintain his reputation, this can be reflected in how he interacts with his community. Language has many roles in communication and is a means of accomplishing various interests. Thus, speakers can produce a speech to gain sympathy from listeners. Euphemism is one of the bridges used by politicians to achieve their goals by softening sentences. Political elites and bureaucracy use it to convey the interests of power. In practice, political leaders seek to hide the truth and distract the public. Using such expressions, they seek to control people's view of the world and the transmission of information (Zhao & Dong, 2010).

C. Type of Euphemism

Euphemisms are divided into 16 types (Burridge, 1991):

1. Figurative Expressions

This euphemism is in the form of a figure of speech such as parable, irony, personification, and others. Like the example in Barack Obama's speech, "I know that summer is -- especially a day as pretty as today, it is tempting to be outside." Pretty and tempting are forms of personification, which are usually adjectives for a person (woman), but in this sentence, they become noun adjectives "day".

2. Metaphor

The use of Metaphor to describe things clearly by comparing something with things with the same characteristics. For example, –We will keep up this drumbeat of those designations against corrupt billionaires in the days ahead. The word *drumbeat* has the meaning of severe sanctions given to the perpetrators.

3. Flippancy

Flippancy is to express something with meaning beyond the statement. For example, –Then came air raids, followed by tanks and troops rolling in. The underlined phrase replaces the word of the large number of troops that have been deployed on the battlefield.

4. Remodeling

This type remodels existing expressions, and re-modelling can occur in words, phrases, or others. Like the word "Bitch" replaced "Beach" to disguise the harsh words.

5. Circumlocutions

Circumlocution is the use of several words that are longer and indirect. For example, –And in the three months before I took office, our economy was faltering, creating just 50,000 jobs a month. We are now averaging 700,000 new jobs a month in the past three months|. In this sentence, the speaker indirectly states his success in providing jobs for civilians.

6. Clipping

The cut of a word becomes shorter than the original word. For example "planes" is a clipping of *airplanes*.

7. Acronym

The acronym is a term that is a combination of letters, syllables, or other pieces written or spoken into one word. For example –This will enable NATO's high-readiness forces to deploy and—when and where they're needed to protect our NATO Allies on the eastern boundaries of Europe.| NATO is an acronym for The North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

8. Abbreviations

This euphemism is a word that is converted into several letters. For example, in the phrase "Mr. President, you did not mention SWIFT in your sanctions that you announced."where the word "Mr" is an abbreviation of the word "Mister|.

9. Omission

This form omits some expressions, such as some letters in a word. This strategy applies to someone who has the same background. For example, the speaker writes F, and the reader knows that the letter means the word "fuck".

10. One for one substitution

One word that is more subtle meaning to change the harsh sentence. For example, "military operation" or "disarm" was used by President Bush to neutralize the word "military attack".

11. General for specific

General words that become specific words. Another definition of a general word that has a specific meaning(only part of it) For example, Indonesia won 31 gold medals at the 2018 Sea Games. The word "Indonesia" is used to represent (several Indonesian athletes) who won gold medals in the Asian Games 2018.

12. Part for whole euphemism

An expression of a part to replace the whole thing. For example, The White House Refers to the American administration.

13. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a form of exaggerated expression. As in the sentence, –And our ally, Israel, can defend itself with overwhelming force, as well as the unshakable support of the United States of America.‖ The underlined word indicates the strength of a country that is invincible to any country.

14. Understatement

This euphemism is an expression of humility and modesty. This expression replaces the harsh word with other definitions by reducing the negative meaning. For example, the word deflation replace with de-escalation, which has the same meaning as "decrease".

15. Jargon

This euphemism uses words that technically have the same meaning but different forms. For example, the word *mechanic* in automotive terms is used in the realm of games to replace the word skill placement on a hero.

16. Collocation

This form uses expressions commonly used every day or is familiar in refining speech. For example, "Guys" to express a particular person.

D. Function of Euphemism

Social function of political euphemism has three function (Zhao & Dong, 2010):

1. Speech Act Theory and Social Functions of Political Euphemism

Political leaders use euphemisms to convey information to the public. Allan and Burridge (2006) state that using euphemisms in political language could be a solution for politicians to keep their self-image by maintaining a positive face (Purba, et al., 2017). Over time, language has experienced many variations in its meaning. A sentence that is considered good may not necessarily be accepted elsewhere because of differences in social norms. politicians are careful in constructing the language of their speech as in their public speech, which aims to

maintain support, influence people's thinking, attract potential voters, and so on (Ardhan & Syukri, 2018). A discourse deals with ideology as the basis for ideological effects such as military, capitalist, sexist, racist, etc. As a listener, one needs to know what language is as a system formed from syntactic rules, a group of lexical items, and semantics (Chilton, 2015). Therefore, an abstract idea of these components is universal and value-free.

2. Political Euphemism's Disguising and Deceptive Function

Political euphemisms hide intentions or deceive listeners to avoid opposing faces. Political euphemism is a tool for political leaders to hide disgraceful remarks to avoid public accusations (Zhao & Dong, 2010). Information from high-ranking officials is not always conveyed directly, and it can be deliberately hidden by using neutral terms and does not cause a wrong response from the people. Euphemisms in politics are essential to secure expression in dealing with unpleasant subjects, criticizing opponents, and giving an excellent impression to the audience (Ardhan & Syukri, 2018). In a sense, using taboos and euphemisms is a legitimate practice because it appeals to entrenched forms of verbal behavior (Chilton, 2015).

3. Political Euphemism's Persuasive Function

This strategy is used to lead people thinking to trust the speaker more. Political leaders create a belief mixed with the figure of speech or other forms, such as hyperbole, to attract the hearts of listeners. Political euphemism is similar to political propaganda, aiming to persuade and influence the public (Zhao &

Dong, 2010). Political leaders create a knowledge of the world for the society which contains truth for their interests. Persuasive sentences are not always in the form of literal sentences but also in the form of figures of speech to produce an indefinite set of a new sentence. The ability in linguistics allows humans to free themselves from assembling sentences according to their context and needs. According to Brown and Levinson (1978), euphemism is an obvious part of verbal avoidance strategies designed to preserve negative face - that is the hearer's want to be left undisturbed (Chilton, 2015).

E. Features of Political Euphemism

Features of political euphemism have three typical features (Zhao & Dong, 2010):

1. Greater Degree of Deviation from its Signified

Political euphemisms tend to avoid words that deviate significantly from the meaning expressed by the previous signifier. A signifier is not replaced with a similar meaning, but it is replaced with a meaning opposite to its literal meaning (Zhao & Dong, 2010). Therefore, in political euphemisms, language change does not always use words with equal meaning but can use the opposite of the signifier.

2. More Vague Meanings

Euphemisms play an essential role in revealing the connotations of political discourse by replacing direct sentences with vague implications and sentences (Zhao & Dong, 2010). The sentence is usually to hide the purpose of an utterance and cover the negative impact of an event. Political euphemisms replace specific meanings with general ones, replace hyponym with superordinate and

replace derogatory meanings with a neutral expression or even praise (Zhao & Dong, 2010).

3. *Strong Characteristic of Times*

Euphemism has changed as a form of socio-cultural development. Political euphemisms constantly change according to global changes. As an example of an American country that is influential in international politics, its dynamic domestic politics and economy use euphemisms to lead readers' opinions. For example, in Zhao and Dong (2010), America says "recession" with the word "Downsize".

F. Speech

Speech is an activity to express ideas conveyed through words to the public. The speaker prepares a speech before delivering it to the audience in which words or sentences must be standardized. In addition, speech can characterize a person's personality from his language, so speakers need to consider the sentence of their speech.

An orator delivers his speech with several purposes. First, the purpose of speech is to provide information to other people or provide an understanding of the phenomena that are happening, which is called informative. Second, the speech is argumentative to convince the listeners of his ideas. Third, speech is used by the orator to create a happy atmosphere for the listener or is recreational. Fourth, the purpose of speech is used to influence the listener to take any action or be persuasive.

Related to the purpose of the speech above, an orator needs to understand the characteristics of speech. According to Sitoresmi (2021), speech

characteristics are clear goals, containing truth or facts, and the language used can be understood by listeners, uses effective language, uses exciting words or sentences, and uses intonation, articulation, and precise volume. These characteristics are used so that listeners better understand the spoken message of the orator.

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

In this section, the researcher presents the method used in this research

A. Research Design

This research was conducted by using descriptive qualitative research design. The researcher used qualitative methods to gain in-depth understanding, examine a theory, and describe the findings in the speech. The descriptive qualitative is used to describe the types and functions of political euphemism in the speech of the President of the United States of America, Joe Biden. This research uses the theoretical framework of Allan and Burrige (1991) and Zhao and Dong (2010).

B. Research Instrument

Research instruments are tools needed or used to collect data. In this research, the data collection instrument is the researcher himself because the data can be obtained from observation by the researcher himself. The researcher identified and analyzed euphemisms in speeches based on relevant theory.

C. Data and Data Source

The data source was taken from one of Biden's speech, "Statement on Terror Attacks in Afghanistan," which lasted 28 minutes and 19 seconds. Video and speech transcripts are accessed via the link <https://millercenter.org/the-presidency/presidential-speeches/august-26-2021-statement-terror-attacks-afghanistan>. The researcher takes the speech since it has important information

discussing Americans and Taliban and he observed how the narrator used the euphemism strategy. The euphemism data were in the form of words, phrases, and sentences that contain euphemism expression.

D. Data Collection

The researcher collected data in several steps. First, he read one Biden's speeches entitled Statement on Terror Attacks in Afghanistan in Miller Center website. Second, he identified the data using Allan and Burrige (1991)'s theory to find the words, phrases, or sentences which contain euphemism.

E. Data Analysis

After finding the type of euphemism, the researcher analyzed it. First, he classified the types into ten euphemism. Second, he determined the social function of political euphemism using Zhao and Dong (2010)'s theory. Third, he investigated features of political euphemism and analyzed them using Zhao and Dong (2010)'s theory. Finally, he concluded the result of the analysis.

CHAPTER IV

FINDING AND DISCUSSION

This section presents the findings and discussions to answer the research questions in Chapter I. These findings are from Biden's August 26, 2021, talking about the troop withdrawal mission from Afghanistan.

A. Type, Function and Features of Political Euphemism

The researcher found ten types of euphemism expressions: Metaphor, Flippancy, Circumlocution, Acronym, One for One Substitution, Part for Whole Euphemism, Hyperbole, Understatement, Jargon and Collocation. Biden used several functions of euphemism expressions in his speech, there are: showing respect, showing sympathy, hiding taboo sentences and insinuating the opponent. The dominant euphemism Biden was used is to hide or conceal sentences that are considered taboo. Features of political euphemisms used by Biden to neutralize his speech, disguise an intention and create a better understanding for the audience. The full explanation is below, along with examples of the data.

1. Metaphor

A metaphor is a figure of speech that is used to equate something with something else. It is a linguistic style intended to express a message imaginatively. This figurative is used to express a message with emphasizing the impression to be conveyed.

Datum 1

We have some senses, like many of you do, what the families of these brave heroes are feeling today. You get this feeling like you're being sucked into **a black hole in the middle of your chest**; there's no way out. My heart aches for you (Biden, 2021).

In the sentence above, there is a form of metaphor in which Biden expressed his feelings about leaving the U.S. military on the battlefield. The dangerous situation in Afghanistan can unsettle the families of American soldiers. therefore, Biden tries to give his sympathy with figurative language.

Biden used this expression to disguise his sad expression and appreciate the services of American troops. The word "*black hole*" likens something gloomy that they are facing, and "*in the middle of your chest*" shows the location of the sadness they experience. Biden announced the number of troops he managed to save. In the same speech, Biden said that 7000 of the 11,000 personnel who had returned to America. This news made the family a little bit nervous about the condition of their members.

An American military sacrifice was borne by not only them but also their families, they were willing to release one of them to fight in Afghanistan. This euphemism has a vague characteristic in expressing the willingness of others to be more polite to the listener.

Datum 2

The fact is that we're in a situation—we inherited a situation, particularly since, as we all know, that the Afghan military collapsed 11 days before—in 11 days—that it is in the interest of, as Mackenzie said, in the interest of the Taliban that, in fact, ISIS-K does not **metastasize** beyond what it is, number one. And number two, it's in their interest that we are able to leave on time, on target (Biden, 2021).

The expression is a metaphorical form of *metastasize* as an example of a disease that spreads throughout the body. In the health sector, metastasize is the spread of cancer that has moved to other places. While in this context, metastasize is the term for spreading ISIS to various regions.

The function of the above euphemism is to disguise a negative thing by using similar imagery. Biden uses the word –metastasizell to replace sentences that can worry listeners. The context of this sentence is about ISIS' ferocity in doing unnecessary things. ISIS attacks have caused many victims, and their presence must be watched. The speech fragments said that they were not spreading more expansive than they were, and the Americans could complete the troop withdrawal on time.

The word *metastasize* in Biden's speech explains the spread of ISIS that must be watched for, primarily their extreme actions. The word indirectly has a euphemistic feature, namely metastases, meaning cancer that spreads throughout the patient's body, which in this context is used to neutralize the word ISIS spread. In addition, this word becomes a new vocabulary for spreading criminal acts that endanger everyone.

2. Flippancy

Flippancy is a type of euphemism that uses expressions outside of statements. This type is used by Biden to soften his sentences when expressing the intent he is disguising.

Datum 3

But I know this: **We have a continuing obligation, a sacred obligation to all of you—the families of those heroes.** That obligation is not temporary; it lasts forever (Biden, 2021).

The sentence above is a type of flippancy that Biden used to express a mission being carried out. Biden was responsible for events that put his citizens at risk, and he would protect them as long as he was America's leader. However, he kept secret the missions planned for American possession.

The function of the expression above is an invitation to save the president's responsibility in protecting its citizens. Biden said he would preserve his troops relentlessly. He added that his obligations were not temporary. Meanwhile, Americans should trust that the government will take full responsibility for protecting the lives of its citizens.

The above expression is one of the expressions that use today's language where Biden uses "A sacred obligation" to show the mission of his troops. The withdrawal of the American forces is an essential policy for reducing the death toll in Afghanistan.

Datum 4

As a consequence of that, the major things we've asked them—moving back the perimeter; **give me more space between the wall** ; stopping vehicles from coming through, et cetera; searching people coming through—it is not what you'd call a tightly commanded, regimented operation like the U.S. is—the military is—but they're acting in their interest—their interest (Biden, 2021).

In this context, Biden uses flippancy to imply his request to the enemy to give him a chance to get out of Afghanistan. He asked ISIS-K to provide space for American troops to return to their country.

The function of the euphemism in this sentence is to disguise a request to the interlocutor. The short evacuation mission became an obstacle in the transportation of people going to America. Biden continues to strive to complete the mission ahead of his own set time while his administration is in talks with the military about the possibility of extending it to continue the safe evacuation of US citizens and Afghan allies. As a result, access around Kabul airport has been expanded.

Biden's expression shows that characteristic euphemisms can replace taboo words even in urgent situations. The limited space for American troops was one of the factors that required the withdrawal of more time. Biden later revealed that he needed more space to complete the mission on time.

3. Circumlocutions

Circumlocution is a euphemism that uses several sentences to soften an expression. It expresses something in a wordy way. Biden used it to describe the deteriorating situation in Afghanistan.

Datum 5

They don't have the capacity to do it. They very much are trying to figure out whether or not they can maintain what is **the portion of an economy that has become not robust**, but fundamentally different than it had been (Biden, 2021).

In that sentence, Biden used circumlocution to convey the Taliban's economic when Afghanistan experienced economic decline due to factors such as corruption.

The function of this expression is to disguise a taboo subject in which Afghanistan is experiencing an economic crisis. The word robust in this context refers to an organization's financial system. Years of violence, instability, and corruption have crippled the Afghan economy. Biden said it became not robust because he replaced economic inflation in Afghanistan. The people of Afghanistan depend solely on humanitarian aid to deal with hunger and health problems.

Biden uses euphemisms in the sentence above to disguise his sentence that people think that Afghanistan's economy is getting worse. The Taliban refuses humanitarian aid from other countries, leaving civilians starved and malnourished. The phrase become not robust is an alternative to disguise taboo words to describe the condition of Afghan civilians.

4. Acronym

An acronym is a term created from the first letters of the words that make up a word. This type is used to make a name simpler and easier to pronounce. Biden uses an acronym to refer to a group that Americans need to be aware of.

Datum 6

Over the past few weeks—I know you're—many of you are probably tired of hearing me say it—we've been made aware by our intelligence community that **the ISIS-K** —an arch-enemy of the Taliban; people who were freed when both those prisons were opened—has been planning a complex set of attacks on the United States personnel and others (Biden, 2021).

The word ISIS-K is an acronym for Islamic State-Khorasan. this group is affiliated with ISIS in Afghanistan and Pakistan. They have taken several extreme

actions, including attacking women's schools and maternity centers and shooting dead pregnant women.

The function of the abbreviation ISIS-K is to indicate a more specific group. ISIS-K is a group based in the eastern province of Nangarhar. Biden uses this abbreviation to hope that the public will better understand which group is responsible for the chaos in Afghanistan. In addition, America is one of the countries that are sensitive to matters based on Islam, so this abbreviation avoids taboo words for Americans.

The form of the acronym ISIS-K is often discussed when attacking extremist groups in Afghanistan repeatedly. Terrorism has spread throughout the world under various names. This abbreviation has become one of the groups that need to be watched out for that emerged since 1999 and persists to this day.

5. One for one substitution

One for one substitution is an expression that is used to replace another expression. Biden uses this word substitution not to intimidate ISIS or America's enemies.

Datum 7

And with regard to finding, tracking down the ISIS leaders who ordered this, we have some reason to believe we know who they are—not certain—and we will find ways of our choosing, **without large military operations, to get them** (Biden, 2021).

The sentence Biden without large military operations is used in the context of the president's actions in dealing with the existence of ISIS. This expression is

a one for one substitution where the phrase *large military operation* replaces the word warfare.

Biden replaced the phrase warfare with military operations to neutralize the sentence and maintain a positive view of the listener. The people who have made noise will continue to be searched wherever they are. However, Biden will not use the full strength of the American military in this mission because he does not want the death toll of his troops to increase. A military operation is a military action planned to resolve a country's situation, whether carried out in combat or non-combat. These words are commonly used and generally accepted despite their actual operational purpose.

Military operations are state military actions in response to evolving actions. This action is a military attack to defeat a country or so on. the signifier "Military operations" is one of the plans that America can do in defeating ISIS-K.

6. Part for whole euphemism

A figure of speech known as *pars pro toto* uses a part of an idea to convey the entire idea. *Pars pro toto* is used to make the reader or listener feel connected to the message being delivered by the brevity and simplicity of one aspect of it. Biden used this expression to ask the American people to honor the heroes who died in the war.

Datum 8

Each one of these women and men of our armed forces are the heirs of that tradition of sacrifice of volunteering to go into harm's way, to risk everything—not for glory, not for profit, but to defend what we love and the people we love. And I ask that you join me now in **a moment of silence** for all those in uniform

and out uniform—military and civilian, who have given the last full measure of devotion (Biden, 2021).

The sentence above is a form of Part for whole euphemism. Biden asked for a moment of silence for those who died during the war in Afghanistan. The purpose is to remember their sacrifice for the country.

The function of the euphemism in this sentence is that Biden invites the public to remain silent and pray for Americans who have died. According to the Costs of War Project, the war killed 176,000 people in the war in Afghanistan (2001–2021). Those consist of 46,319 civilians, 69,095 military and police and at least 52,893 opposition fighters. The number of soldiers who died brings grief to the family and the country. Biden respects those who have given their dedication despite their lives as genes.

The use of euphemisms in this context expresses deep condolences for the deaths of ordinary people and the military. Biden did not ask listeners to pray but to remain silent and remember their services as heroes.

7. Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a figurative word using an exaggerated language style. It can influence the listener and can give a certain effect. Biden used it to influence the views of the American people to think positively.

Datum 9

They were part of **the bravest, most capable, and the most selfless military** on the face of the Earth. And they were part of, simply, what I call the –backbone of America. They're the spine of America, the best the country has to offer (Biden, 2021).

The sentence above contains hyperbole representing the American military's absolute power. The president said that America's military is the strongest on earth. They are called the backbone of America and live ready to serve in the defense sector.

The function of the euphemism of the sentence is to create a positive view of the listener. America's strength is solid and willingness to sacrifice their lives for state ownership. On the other hand, America was ranked first in the world's strongest military in 2021. Biden encourages a confident American trust not to be afraid in the face of Taliban attacks.

The sentence above is the president's praise for US soldiers who serve their country. Biden's speech conveyed this praise to the public to show America's military power in the eyes of the world. Thus, it implies that the American military is vital to the country. He decided to withdraw his troops from Afghanistan to avoid increasing casualties and spend expensive funds.

Datum 10

We have **over-the-horizon capability** to keep them from going after us. Ladies and gentlemen, it was time to end a 20-year war. Thank you co much (Biden, 2021).

Biden concluded his conversation using hyperbole to show strength in protecting his country's integrity. The word over the horizon ability represents America's power in the military field, which is more than knowledge from other countries.

The expression function provides a positive view of America's strong defense capacity. The American military has sophisticated buildings and can reach

targets even far away. Biden said it was "over the horizon ability" to deliver a technology that American experts were developing. Counter terrorism experts and former US defense officials insist that the technology is still difficult to operate.

This expression is also a result of the impact of advanced human-made technological advances. This technological progress created the term above the horizon of capability, a characteristic of political euphemisms as a marker of language development according to the period in which the language is used.

8. Understatement

Understatement or litotes is an expression of saying something humbly and gently. Biden uses this expression in anticipation because anything can happen without them realizing it.

Datum 11

What we say we're going to do and the context in which we say we're going to do it, that we do it—**unless something exceptional changes** (Biden, 2021).

Biden used an understatement to soften his expression of the sudden change in America's plans. He said that America would carry out according to the plan, but that would change depending on the conditions in Afghanistan.

The function of the understatement expression in the sentence above is to disguise America's impromptu strategy. America had devised various plans for the troop withdrawal mission, but they couldn't predict it would work. Biden wisely said, "unless something exceptional changes" indirectly, they were ready to make other plans. Missions are unpredictable due to additional lists of Americans, allied citizens, green card holders, and SIVs. Meanwhile, Biden has estimated complete

the withdrawal mission on August 31. White House spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Biden had requested a contingency plan to complete the troop evacuation mission to withdraw troops by August 31.

Biden's expression above shows that euphemisms are used to avoid physical phenomena that considerably deviate from the previous meaning. America and the Taliban have agreed on a deadline for troop withdrawals. On the other hand, the list of people to be evacuated continues to grow. As such, Biden said all missions would be exactly as set out, and they would continue to look for the best solution.

9. Jargon

Jargon is a specialized vocabulary that is understood within a group and may have the same form technically but different meanings. Biden used this expression to show that they were optimistic about the withdrawal mission.

Datum 12

Here is what you need to know: These ISIS terrorists will not win. We will rescue the Americans who are there. We will get out our Afghan allies out, and our mission will go on. **America will not be intimidated** (Biden, 2021).

Biden insisted that America would not be intimidated by the Last sentence. He is optimistic about his steps to save his troops and tribal citizens. The American government dares to take cruel decisions if the Taliban get in their way.

The jargon symbolizes America's determination to deal with threats and dangers during troop withdrawal missions. Biden made it clear that his country would not lose to terrorists. This sentence indirectly represents their readiness to

fight terrorists. Biden threatened the Taliban severely, who attacked their mission and quickly responded and crushed them when needed. In this sentence, Biden said the phrase would not be intimidated to refine the sentence so that it had a broad meaning.

The phrase not to be intimidated can be directed against two sides, the Americans and the Taliban. The word means information on American strength if addressed to the public and becomes a bluff to the Taliban, who interferes with the evacuation process. The role of euphemisms in neutralizing sentences works very well in stressful situations. In addition to reducing the euphemistic taboo sentence, it also gives a positive impression to certain parties.

Datum 13

The lives we lost today were lives given in **the service of liberty, the service of security**, in the service of others, in the service of America (Biden, 2021).

Biden gave two nicknames *the service of liberty* and *the service of security* to the American military for the withdrawal and evacuation missions. Those names differ from the beginning of the American attack mission against the Taliban in 2001. The United States attacked the Taliban to bring the leader of Al Qaeda to justice and take responsibility for the September 11, 2001 attacks.

The function of the two jargons above is to disguise the replacement of the American mission. After 20 years of war in Afghanistan, America decided to withdraw troops and evacuate US capabilities that were once part of the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission (RSM) or Operation Freedom's Sentinel (OFS). The second major operational action was Operation Allies Refuge (OAR). The US

Army evacuated Afghan citizens who had met the requirements for Special Immigrant Visas (SIV). Therefore, the function of the euphemism of the two jargon is used to indicate the evacuation mission of Americans and Afghans who have helped America enduring freedom. America no longer attacks but focuses on saving valuable things such as the military, war equipment and others.

America's purpose for carrying out attacks in Afghanistan has changed. Their initial mission was an attack on the Taliban forces has now become the rescue of American troops in Afghanistan. Biden gave the nickname "Freedom Service" to the military or volunteers who saved Americans and Afghans from the evil of the Taliban. This nickname indicates America is no longer attacking and, at the same time ending Enduring Freedom.

10. Collocation

Collocation is an expression commonly used in everyday conversation. Biden uses these expressions to make it easier for Americans to understand a topic of conversation.

Datum 14

And after that, we're going to be in a circumstance where there are—will be, I believe, numerous opportunities to continue to provide access for additional persons to get out of Afghanistan, either through means that we provide and/or are provided through cooperation with the Taliban. **They're not good guys , the Taliban** (Biden, 2021). I'm not suggesting that at all. But they have a keen interest.

This type of euphemism is collocation, a word used in daily conversation. A presidential speech is a speech the president delivers at a formal event. In this sentence, Biden uses the informal expression –guys to denote one of the groups.

The sentence above has the function of neutralizing a taboo expression. Biden refers to a dangerous group with two euphemisms. First, Biden said, –they are not good guys, " implying that the Taliban are bad people. Second, the word –guys refer to some people, and Biden adds the Taliban to define *guys* who are people in an official organization as the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan.

The background of the word *guys* was *the name of* Guy Fawkes, the name of a person who failed to kill King James 1 in 1605 in England. In this context, *guy* is the name of a statue of Fawkes that is burned on November 5th every year. The word spread to America, and its negative connotations have largely faded. Then, people have used it as a greeting even though the word has a negative context in English.

B. Discussion

In this session, the researcher discusses the results of analyzing the euphemisms in the speech of Joe Biden.

1. Types of Political Euphemism

Based on Allan and Burrige (1991)'s theories types of euphemisms in this speech classified euphemisms into ten types, namely Metaphor, Flippancy, Circumlocution, Acronym, One for One Substitution, Part for Whole Euphemism, Hyperbole, Understatement, Jargon and Collocation. The researcher concluded that euphemisms are flexible depending on the context in which they are used. Therefore, context affects the dominant frequency of euphemisms on a topic. Biden has used these types to replace or disguise the content of his speech to make a positive impression on the audience. During the withdrawal of troops, the

United States got several difficulties, including limited pick-up times. This situation was due to the growing list of people being evacuated. Some of the dominant types of euphemisms include metaphor, flippancy, hyperbole and jargon.

Metaphors and hyperbole are used to give sympathy and represent American power. They can influence the public's view of the American administration's success in the troop withdrawal mission in Afghanistan. Meanwhile, flippancy and jargon show the American government's determination to protect its people. They state that it is not only an obligation but also a responsibility. Euphemisms play a role in neutralizing the words and sentences in Biden's speech. On the other hand, he threatens the Taliban, who interfere with the troop withdrawal process. He described USA Military Strength with some indirect sentences as a form of threat to the enemy. Circumlocution aims to explain the Taliban's deteriorating economy due to several factors such as corruption so that it is not mocking. Biden used an acronym to mention a group they should be aware of. One for one substitution is used by Biden to change a word that is too intimidating to be neutral. Part for whole euphemism is used by Biden to ask people to honor the heroes who have died in Afghanistan. The troop withdrawal mission takes a lot of time so Biden admits that they will get unexpected events that they need to anticipate, Biden says that using understatement. Lastly, Biden uses collocation to clarify a group that is considered bad, namely, the Taliban.

Kadoor (2021) has examined euphemisms in Donald Trump's political speeches using Allan and Burrige's theory. The results of this study are the same

as Kadoor (2021), where both presidents used euphemisms to unite the community. They also have a solid determination to protect the country, and they call the American military *heroes* a representation of the sincere service of the troops. The context of Trump and Biden's speeches are relatively the same, so they use the same pattern of euphemisms in creating a public belief.

2. Social Function of Political Euphemism

The social function of political euphemism is divided into three functions namely Speech Act Theory and Social Functions, Political Euphemism's Disguising and Deceptive, Political Euphemism's Persuasive Function (Zhao & Dong, 2010). The researcher has investigated the function of using euphemisms in Biden's speech. According to Zhao and Dong (2010), there are three social functions of euphemism, and Biden used all of them. First, Biden used euphemisms to urge Americans to calmly think positively about the situation of American troops in Afghanistan. He also instructed them to mourn the death of brave heroes during the war. Second, Biden uses euphemisms to disguise some sentences to make them more subtle and less intimidating. Biden did not make his threats to the Taliban direct, but he warned them by declaring that American troops were ready to attack if necessary. Third, Biden uses euphemisms to describe the situation with the latest vocabulary. This expression aims to make people understand the meaning of his speech.

This study has similarities and differences with previous study. Selian (2019) has examined the function of euphemism in several speeches of Mahathir Muhammad. She has used the classification of communicative euphemism

function of Neaman and Silver (1983), Allan and Burrige (1991), and Bakhtiar (2012). This research has differences in the classification of euphemism functions but it has the same role with Selian (2019)'s study The function of euphemism in the current study is dominated by Political Euphemism's Disguising and Deceptive while in the previous study Hiding Truth function. This equation is due to the purpose of using euphemisms to replace sentences that are inappropriate to convey so that they seem neutral to the listener.

3. Features of Political Euphemism

The researcher has found the features of political euphemism used by Biden in his speech. According to Zhao and Dong (2010), the features of political euphemism features divided into three, namely greater degree of deviation from its signified, more vague meanings and strong characteristics of times. These features indicate that Biden used euphemisms to neutralize or soften his sentences. The dominant features are Greater Degree of Deviation from its Signified and More Vague Meanings. Biden used them to disguise his sentences or turn them into indirect sentences. When US government found out effective strategies to withdraw their troops from Afghanistan, Biden gave a speech to provide information and appeal to Americans to stay calm and believe they would succeed. On the other hand, he also gave several threatening utterances aimed at the Taliban if they interfered during the withdrawal mission.

CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, the researcher provides conclusions from the results of studying euphemisms in Joe Biden's speech and suggests further research on euphemisms. This conclusion is obtained from answering research questions based on the appropriate theory. Meanwhile, the researcher gives suggestions from the researcher's limitations when studying euphemisms in the speech.

A. Conclusion

The results of the research show that Biden used euphemisms in his presidential speech at The White House. Political euphemism acts as a linguistic tool, especially disguising taboo meanings in the field of government. Therefore, this sentence refinement could convince listeners of the elect ability of the president they have chosen. Euphemisms have various types and discursive functions in which one kind of euphemism has the potential to have more than one function based on the context of its use.

The results of the investigation of euphemism types show that there are ten types of euphemisms, including metaphor, flippancy, circumlocution, acronym, one for one substitution, part for whole euphemism, hyperbole, understatement, jargon and collocation. He used indirect speech several times to avoid negative impressions, especially for the American public. The euphemism strategy replaced the taboo sentence in the precarious situation between America and the

Taliban. Biden also used a euphemism strategy to show that America is always ready to attack the Taliban if it is necessary to protect the safety of refugees.

Biden used several social functions of political euphemisms, including conveying information, showing respect, showing sympathy, hiding taboo sentences and insinuating the opponent. The dominant euphemism Biden uses is to hide or conceal sentences that are considered taboo. Biden several times used indirect sentences to avoid negative responses from listeners.

It can be concluded that the use of euphemisms in Biden's speech is mostly used to disguise and neutralize the speaker's expression. The President delivered this speech to all American citizens to inform the situation and conditions of refugees in Afghanistan. The President also used Euphemisms to give a strong impression to the enemy by describing the strength of the American state.

B. Suggestion

The research has several shortcomings, which can be improved by further research. The researcher provides suggestions for future researchers with the same research topic based on the research results. This research investigated only one political speech so that future researchers can study several speeches on the same issue. Multiple data sources make easier for researchers to find euphemisms because this strategy requires accuracy in investigating the existence of euphemisms.

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CURRICULUM VITAE



Muchamad Ali Mustofa was born in Lumajang on November 08, 1999. He graduated from MAN 1 Kota Malang in 2018. After graduating from high school, he continued his education at UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang. He studied in the English Literature Study Program at the Faculty of Humanities. In campus, he participated in Nahdhatul Ulama student activities. He also practices business with his parents and helps them.

APPENDIXES

APPENDIX 1

DATA CLASSIFICATION OF EUPHEMISM EXPRESSION

NO	Sentence	Type	Function	Feature
1	You get this feeling like you're being sucked into a black hole in the middle of your chest ; there's no way out.	Metaphor	To disguise an sympathy expression	Vague meaning
2	As Mackenzie said, in the interest of the Taliban that, in fact, ISIS-K does not metastasize beyond what it is, number one.	Metaphor	Disguising negative thing	Vague meaning
3	But I know this: We have a continuing obligation, a sacred obligation to all of you—the families of those heroes. That obligation is not temporary; it lasts forever	Flippancy	Persuading the audience	Easy to understand
4	As a consequence of that, the major things we've asked them—moving back the perimeter; give me more space between the wall	Flippancy	To disguise a request to the interlocutor.	Replacing taboo word
5	They very much are trying to figure out whether or not they can maintain what is the portion of an economy that has become not robust , but fundamentally different than it	Circumlocution	To disguise a taboo word	vague meaning

	had been			
6	we've been made aware by our intelligence community that the ISIS-K —an arch-enemy of the Taliban	Acronym	To indicate a more specific group	Easy to understand
7	we will find ways of our choosing, without large military operations, to get them	One for one substitution	To replaced the taboo phrase	Vague meaning
8	And I ask that you join me now in a moment of silence for all those in uniform and out uniform—military and civilian	Part for whole euphemism	To persuade the audinces	Make an impact
9	They were part of the bravest, most capable, and the most selfless military on the face of the Earth	Hyperbole	To create a positive view	Make an impact
10	We have over-the-horizon capability to keep them from going after us. Ladies and gentlemen, it was time to end a 20-year war.	Hyperbole	To create a positive view	Make an impact
11	What we say we're going to do and the context in which we say we're going to do it, that we do it— unless something exceptional changes.	Understatement	To disguise America's impromptu strategy	Vague meaning
12	America will not be intimidated.	Jargon	To reduce taboo sentences	Vague meaning

13	The lives we lost today were lives given in the service of liberty, the service of security , in the service of others, in the service of America	Jargon	To disguise the replacement of the American mission.	Vague meaning
14	They're not good guys , the Taliban.	Collocation	To neutralize a taboo expression	Easy to understand

APPENDIX 2

TRANSCRIPT OF JOE BIDEN'S SPEECH

Speech Title: Statement on terror attack in Afghanistan.

THE PRESIDENT: Been a tough day. This evening in Kabul, as you all know, terrorists attacked—that we've been talking about and worried about, that the intelligence community has assessed has [was] undertaken—an attack—by a group known as ISIS-K—took the lives of American service members standing guard at the airport, and wounded several others seriously. They also wounded a number of civilians, and civilians were killed as well.

I've been engaged all day and in constant contact with the military commanders here in Washington, the Pentagon, as well as in Afghanistan and Doha. And my commanders here in Washington and in the field have been on this with great detail, and you've had a chance to speak to some, so far.

The situation on the ground is still evolving, and I'm constantly being updated.

These American service members who gave their lives—it's an overused word, but it's totally appropriate—they were heroes. Heroes who have been engaged in a dangerous, selfless mission to save the lives of others.

They were part of an airlift, an evacuation effort unlike any seen in history, with more than 100,000 American citizens, American partners, Afghans who helped us, and others taken to safety in the last 11 days. Just in the last 12 hours or so, another 7,000 have gotten out.

They were part of **the bravest, most capable, and the most selfless military** on the face of the Earth. And they were part of, simply, what I call the –backbone of America.¶ They're the spine of America, the best the country has to offer.

Jill and I—our hearts ache, like I'm sure all of you do as well, for all those Afghan families who have lost loved ones, including small children, or been wounded in this vicious attack. And we're outraged as well as heartbroken.

Being the father of an Army major who served for a year in Iraq and, before that, was in Kosovo as a U.S. attorney for the better part of six months in the middle of a war—when he came home after a year in Iraq, he was diagnosed, like many, many coming home, with an aggressive and lethal cancer of the brain—who we lost.

We have some sense, like many of you do, what the families of these brave heroes are feeling today. You get this feeling like you're being sucked into **a black hole in the middle of your chest**; there's no way out. My heart aches for you.

But I know this: **We have a continuing obligation, a sacred obligation to all of you—the families of those heroes.** That obligation is not temporary; it lasts forever.

The lives we lost today were lives given in **the service of liberty, the service of security**, in the service of others, in the service of America.

Like their fellow brothers and sisters in arms who died defending our vision and our values in the struggle against terrorism of—the fallen this day, they're part of a great and noble company of American heroes.

To those who carried out this attack, as well as anyone who wishes America harm, know this: We will not forgive. We will not forget. We will hunt you down and make you pay. I will defend our interests and our people with every measure at my command.

Over the past few weeks—I know you're—many of you are probably tired of hearing me say it—we've been made aware by our intelligence community that the **ISIS-K**—an arch-enemy of the Taliban; people who were freed when both those prisons were opened—has been planning a complex set of attacks on the United States personnel and others.

This is why, from the outset, I've repeatedly said this mission was extraordinarily dangerous and why I have been so determined to limit the duration of this mission.

And as General McKenzie said, this is why our mission was designed—this is the way it was designed to operate: operate under severe stress and attack. We've known that from the beginning.

And as I've been in constant contact with our senior military leaders—and I mean constant, around the clock—and our commanders on the ground and throughout the day, they made it clear that we can and we must complete this mission, and we will. And that's what I've ordered them to do.

We will not be deterred by terrorists. We will not let them stop our mission. We will continue the evacuation.

I've also ordered my commanders to develop operational plans to strike ISIS-K assets, leadership, and facilities. We will respond with force and precision at our time, at the place we choose, and the moment of our choosing.

Here is what you need to know: These ISIS terrorists will not win. We will rescue the Americans who are there. We will get our Afghan allies out, and our mission will go on.

America will not be intimidated.

I have the utmost confidence in our brave service members who continue to execute this mission with courage and honor to save lives and get Americans, our partners, our Afghan allies out of Afghanistan.

Every day when I talk to our commanders, I ask them what they need—what more do they need, if anything, to get the job done. As they will tell you, I granted every request.

I reiterated to them again today, on three occasions, that they should take the maximum steps necessary to protect our forces on the ground in Kabul.

And I also want to thank the Secretary of Defense and the military leadership at the Pentagon, and all the commanders in the field. There has been complete unanimity from every commander on the objectives of this mission and the best way to achieve those objectives.

Those who have served through the ages have drawn inspiration from the Book of Isaiah, when the Lord says, –Whom shall I send...who shall go for us?‖ And the

American military has been answering for a long time: –Here am I, Lord. Send me. |
–Here I am. Send me. |

Each one of these women and men of our armed forces are the heirs of that tradition of sacrifice of volunteering to go into harm’s way, to risk everything—not for glory, not for profit, but to defend what we love and the people we love.

And I ask that you join me now in **a moment of silence** for all those in uniform and out uniform—military and civilian, who have given the last full measure of devotion.

(A moment of silence is taken.)

Thank you. May God bless you all. And may God protect those troops and all those standing watch for America. We have so much to do. It’s within our capacity to do it. We just have to remain steadfast. Steadfast.

We will complete our mission. And we will continue, after our troops have withdrawn, to find means by which we defined any American who wishes to get out of Afghanistan. We will find them and we will get them out.

Ladies and gentlemen, they gave me a list here. The first person I was instructed to call on was Kelly O’Donnell of NBC.

Q Mr. President, you have said leaving Afghanistan is in the national interest of the United States. After today’s attack, do you believe you will authorize additional forces to respond to that attack inside Afghanistan? And are you—are you prepared to add additional forces to protect those Americans who remain on the ground carrying out the evacuation operation?

THE PRESIDENT: I’ve instructed the military, whatever they need—if they need additional force—I will grant it. But the military—from the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, the Joint Chiefs, the commanders in the field—have all contacted me one way or another, usually by letter, saying they subscribe to the mission as designed to get as many people out as we can within the timeframe that is allotted. That is the best way, they believe, to get as many Americans out as possible, and others.

And with regard to finding, tracking down the ISIS leaders who ordered this, we have some reason to believe we know who they are—not certain—and we will find ways of our choosing, **without large military operations, to get them.**

Q: Inside Afghanistan, Mr. President?

THE PRESIDENT: Wherever they are.

Trevor from Reuters.

Q: Thank you, Mr. President. There has been some criticism, even from people in your party, about the dependence on the Taliban to secure the perimeter of the airport. Do you feel like there was a mistake made in that regard?

THE PRESIDENT: No, I don't. Look, I think General McKenzie handled this question very well. The fact is that we're in a situation—we inherited a situation, particularly since, as we all know, that the Afghan military collapsed 11 days before—in 11 days—that it is in the interest of, as Mackenzie said, in the interest of the Taliban that, in fact, ISIS-K does not metastasize beyond what it is, number one. And number two, it's in their interest that we are able to leave on time, on target.

As a consequence of that, the major things we've asked them—moving back the perimeter; **give me more space between the wall**; stopping vehicles from coming through, et cetera; searching people coming through—it is not what you'd call a tightly commanded, regimented operation like the U.S. is—the military is—but they're acting in their interest—their interest.

And so, by and large—and I've asked this same question to military on the ground, whether or not it's a useful exercise. No one trusts them; we're just counting on their self-interest to continue to generate their activities. And it's in their self-interest that we leave when we said and that we get as many people out as we can.

And like I said, even in the midst of everything that happened today, over 7,000 people have gotten out; over 5,000 Americans overall.

So, it's not a matter of trust, it's a matter of mutual self-interest. And—but there is no

evidence thus far that I've been given, as a consequence by any of our commanders in the field, that there has been collusion between the Taliban and ISIS in carrying out what happened today both in front of the hotel and what is expected to continue for—beyond today.

Aamer, Associated Press.

Q: Thank you, Mr. President. You have spoken again powerfully about your own son and the weight of these decisions. With that in mind—and also what you've said: that the longer we stay, the more likelihood that there would be a major attack—how do you weigh staying even one more day, considering what's happened?

THE PRESIDENT: Because I think what America says matters. What we say we're going to do and the context in which we say we're going to do it, that we do it—**unless something exceptional changes.**

There are additional American citizens, there are additional green card holders, there are additional personnel of our allies, there are additional SIV card holders, there are additional Afghans that have helped us, and there are additional groups of individuals that have contacted us from women's groups, to NGOs, and others, who have expressly indicated they want to get out and have gathered in certain circumstances in groups, on buses and other means, that still presents the opportunity for the next several days, between now and the 31st, to be able to get them out.

And our military—and, I believe, to the extent that we can do that knowing the threat, knowing that we may very well have another attack—the military has concluded that's what we should do. I think they're right. I think they're correct.

And after that, we're going to be in a circumstance where there are—will be, I believe, numerous opportunities to continue to provide access for additional persons to get out of Afghanistan, either through means that we provide and/or are provided through cooperation with the Taliban. **They're not good guys, the Taliban.** I'm not suggesting that at all. But they have a keen interest. As many of you have been reporting, they very much would like to figure out how to keep the airport open. They don't have the capacity to do it. They very much are trying to figure out

whether or not they can maintain what is **the portion of an economy that has become not robust**, but fundamentally different than it had been.

And so there's a lot of reasons why they have reached out not just to us, but to others, as to why it would be continued in their interest to get more of the personnel we want to get out. We can locate them.

Now, there's not many left that we can assess that are—want to come out. There's some Americans we've identified—we've contacted the vast majority of them, if not all of them—who don't want to leave because they have sig—they're dual nationals, they have extended families, et cetera. And there's others who are looking for the time. So, that's why we continue.

I'll take a few more questions, and—but, you, sir.

Q: Thank you, Mr. President.

THE PRESIDENT: I didn't pick you, but that's okay. (Laughs.)

Q: I wanted to ask you—you say that —what America says matters. What do you say to the Afghans who helped troops, who may not be able to get out by August 31st? What —

THE PRESIDENT: I say —

Q: What do you say to them?

THE PRESIDENT:—we're going to continue to try to get you out. It matters.

Look, I know of no conflict, as a student of history—no conflict where, when a war was ending, one side was able to guarantee that everyone that wanted to be extracted from that country would get out.

And think about it, folks. I think it's important for—I know the American people get this in their gut. There are, I would argue, millions of Afghani citizens who are not Taliban; who did not actively cooperate with us as SIVs; who, if given a chance, they'd be onboard a plane tomorrow. It sounds ridiculous, but the vast majority of people in communities like that want to come to America, given a choice.

So, getting every single person out is—can't be guaranteed to anybody because there's a determination, all who wants to get out as well.

At any rate, it's a process.

I was really pointing to you, but—you, sir.

Q: Thank you, Mr. President. There are reports that U.S. officials provided the Taliban with names of Americans and Afghan officials to evacuate. Were you aware of that? Did that happen?

And then, sir, did you personally reject a recommendation to hold, or to recapture Bagram Air Force Base?

THE PRESIDENT: Here's what I've done on the—ask this—I'll answer the last question, first.

On the tactical questions of how to conduct an evacuation or a war, I gather up all the major military personnel that are in Afghanistan—the commanders, as well as the Pentagon. And I ask for their best military judgment: what would be the most efficient way to accomplish the mission.

They concluded—the military—that Bagram was not much value added, that it was much wiser to focus on Kabul. And so, I followed that recommendation.

With regard to—there are certain circumstances where we've gotten information—and quite frankly, sometimes from some of you—saying, –You know of such and such a group of people who are trying to get out and they're on a bus, they're moving...—from other people—and this is their location.‖

And there have been occasions when our military has contacted their military counterparts in the Taliban and said, –This...—for example, –This bus is coming through with X number of people on it, made up of the following group of people. We want you to let that bus or that group through.‖

So, yes, there have been occasions like that.

And to the best of my knowledge, in those cases, the bulk of that has occurred—they've been let through. But I can't tell you with any certitude that there's actually been a list of names. I don't—there may have been, but I know of no circumstance. It doesn't mean it's not—it didn't exist, that, —Here's the names of 12 people; they're coming. Let them through. It could very well have happened.

I'll take one more question.

Q: Mr. President, can I —

Q: Mr. President, right here. Mr. President —

THE PRESIDENT: Whoa. Wait, wait, wait. Let me take the one question from the most interesting guy that I know in the press.

Q: Thank you, Mr. President. Is that—is there—thank you.

THE PRESIDENT: That's you. (Laughter.)

Q: Mr. President, there had not been a U.S. service member killed in combat in Afghanistan since February of 2020. You set a deadline. You pulled troops out. You sent troops back in. And now 12 Marines are dead. You said the buck stops with you. Do you bear any responsibility for the way that things have unfolded in the last two weeks?

THE PRESIDENT: I bear responsibility for, fundamentally, all that's happened of late.

But here's the deal: You know—I wish you'd one day say these things—you know as well as I do that the former President made a deal with the Taliban that he would get all American forces out of Afghanistan by May 1.

In return, the commitment was made—and that was a year before—in return, he was given a commitment that the Taliban would continue to attack others, but would not attack any American forces.

Remember that? I'm being serious.

Q: Mr. President —

THE PRESIDENT: No, I—I'm asking you a question. Be a—because before I —

Q: Donald Trump is not the President right now.

THE PRESIDENT: No, no—now wait a minute. I'm asking you a question. Is that—
is that accurate, to the best of your knowledge?

Q: I know what you're talking about. But, Mr. President, respectfully—

THE PRESIDENT: What?

Q:—since—I don't think that the issue that—do you think that people have an issue
with pulling out of Afghanistan, or just the way that things have happened?

THE PRESIDENT: I think they have an issue that people are likely to get hurt—
some, as we've seen, have gotten killed—and that it is messy.

The reason why—whether my friend will acknowledge it and was—reported it—the
reason why there were no attacks on Americans, as you said, from the date until I
came into office, was because the commitment was made by President Trump: —I
will be out by May 1st. In the meantime, you agree not to attack any Americans.¶
That was the deal. That's why no American was attacked.

Q: And you said that you still—a few days ago, you said you squarely stand by your
decision to pull out.

THE PRESIDENT: Yes, I do. Because look at it this way, folks—and I'm going to—
I have another meeting, for real. But imagine where we'd be if I had indicated, on
May the 1st, I was not going to renegotiate an evacuation date; we were going to stay
there.

I'd have only one alternative: Pour thousands of more troops back into Afghanistan
to fight a war that we had already won, relative—is why the reason we went in the
first place.

I have never been of the view that we should be sacrificing American lives to try to

establish a democratic government in Afghanistan—a country that has never once in its entire history been a united country, and is made up—and I don't mean this in a derogatory—made up of different tribes who have never, ever, ever gotten along with one another.

And so, as I said before—and this is the last comment I'll make, but we'll have more chance to talk about this, unfortunately, beyond, because we're not out yet—if Osama bin Laden, as well as al Qaeda, had chosen to launch an attack—when they left Saudi Arabia—out of Yemen, would we have ever gone to Afghanistan? Even though the Taliban completely controlled Afghanistan at the time, would we have ever gone?

I know it's not fair to ask you questions. It's rhetorical. But raise your hand if you think we should have gone and given up thousands of lives and tens of thousands of wounded.

Our interest in going was to prevent al Qaeda from reemerging—first to get bin Laden, wipe out al Qaeda in Afghanistan, and prevent that from happening again.

As I've said 100 times: Terrorism has **metastasized** around the world; we have greater threats coming out of other countries a heck of a lot closer to the United States.

We don't have military encampments there; we don't keep people there. We have **over-the-horizon capability** to keep them from going after us.

Ladies and gentlemen, it was time to end a 20-year war.

Thank you so much.