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## A Sociolinguistic Study of Sexual and Animal Swear Words in English and Arabic Movies(1980s-2000s)

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### Abstract

This study investigates the sociolinguistic aspects of sexual and animal terms in English and Arabic movies produced between the 1980s and 2000s. The problem of the study is the lack of comparative studies that examine swear words from a diachronic sociolinguistic perspective. The main research questions are to what extent do gender, gender targets, and education level influence the use of swear words in movies, and which gender is the most frequently targeted in both languages. The study aims at identifying the historical development of sexual and animal swear words that are used in English and Arabic, and specifying the influence of gender and the level of education on the type of swear words. It is hypothesized that swear words are more used by females than males in most English movies, while this ratio differs in some modern Arabic movies and the speaker's education influence the type, frequency, and function of swear words used

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in languages and movies. A mixed methods approach, combining qualitative and quantitative analysis, is employed to compare the frequency, targets, and education. The findings reveal that English movies exhibit a higher frequency and diversity of swear words than Arabic movies, attributed to differences in cultural and religious censorship. The research underscores the influence of social factors such as education, and gender on the use of taboo language in cinematic discourse.

**Keywords:** Sociolinguistics, Swear words, movies, gender, cinematic discourse

## دراسة لغوية اجتماعية للكلمات البذيئة الجنسية والحيوانية في الأفلام

### الانكليزية والعربية (1980s-2000s)

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#### المستخلص

تبحث هذه الدراسة في الجوانب الاجتماعية اللغوية للمصطلحات الجنسية والحيوانية في الأفلام الإنكليزية والعربية المنتجة بين 1980 القرن الماضي وعقد 2000. تكمن مشكلة الدراسة في نقص الدراسات المقارنة التي تبحث في الكلمات البذيئة من منظور اجتماعي لغوي تاريخي. الأسئلة البحثية الرئيسية هي إلى أي مدى يؤثر الجنس والعمر ومستوى التعليم على استخدام الكلمات البذيئة في الأفلام، وأي جنس هو الأكثر استهدافاً في كلتا اللغتين. تهدف الدراسة إلى تحديد التطور التاريخي للكلمات الجنسية والحيوانية المستخدمة في اللغتين الإنكليزية والعربية، وتحديد تأثير الجنس والجنس المستهدف ومستوى التعليم على نوع الكلمات البذيئة. من الفرضيات أن الكلمات البذيئة يستخدمها الاناث أكثر من الذكور في معظم الأفلام الإنكليزية، بينما تختلف هذه النسبة في بعض الأفلام العربية الحديثة وأن تعليم المتحدث يؤثر على نوع وتكرار ووظيفة الكلمات البذيئة المستخدمة في اللغات والأفلام. يتم استخدام نهج مختلط الأساليب، يجمع بين التحليل النوعي والكمي، لمقارنة التردد والأهداف والتعليم. تكشف النتائج أن الأفلام الإنكليزية تُظهر تكراراً وتنوعاً أعلى للكلمات البذيئة من الأفلام العربية، ويعزى ذلك إلى الاختلافات في الرقابة الثقافية والدينية. وتُبرز الدراسة تأثير العوامل الاجتماعية، كالتعليم والجنس، على استخدام اللغة المحرمة في الخطاب السينمائي.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** علم اللغة الاجتماعي، الكلمات البذيئة، الأفلام، الجنس، الخطاب السينمائي

## **1. Introduction**

Swear words represent a complex linguistic phenomenon reflecting cultural norms and emotional expression from a diachronic sociolinguistic perspective. These terms are utilised in cinematographic situations not only as tools for emotional expression but also to illustrate character identification, assess language and social changes across time, and communicate power relations. Despite the fact that swear words are becoming more and more common in contemporary film, particularly in English and Arabic films, diachronic sociolinguistic studies comparing the evolution of swear words in these two languages are still lacking.

The majority of earlier research has focused on swearing in Arabic or English alone, typically ignoring the cross-cultural aspect or historical shifts over time.

## **2. Theoretical Background**

### **2.1 Swear Words**

Fägersten (2012:3) states that swearing is the use of words that can be offensive, improper, unwanted, or unsuitable in a social situation. It can be used to express strong feelings or attitudes, such as "Damn it!".

According to Storch and Nassenstein (2020:4), swearing can be triggered by feelings of being out of control or of wanting to do something to someone. It is contextually based and regulated. It is not associated with violence or the pathological side of language.

Swearing has a rich history that dates back to the Tudor and Stuart periods, when it is mainly a religious issue. Swearing is illegal in England from 1603 to 1820, and anyone who does so faced penalties or perhaps time in the stocks (Cornick, 2011). There was no indication of "bad language" in Latin or Ancient Greek, yet speakers of Latin and Ancient Greek employ "dirty words" in these languages (Ljung, 2011:50). The prevalence of scatological or sexual profanities during the Victorian era cause profanities to become obsolete and polite euphemisms to replace them (Orland,2023). Throughout the Victorian era, there is a return of prudishness about language and strict social standards.

Swearing is first documented in Egypt in the eleventh century, when the word "donkey" is the most often used formulaic curse (Ljung as cited in Raouf, 2021:6). The word "swearing" in the 16th and 17th centuries actually signifies a whole different thing than it does today because it is connected to taking an oath. However, simply taking an oath is considered to be speaking profanity. Even though it would have been illegal in the seventeenth century, careless

cursing is different from obscene language, which is far more in line with what is often believed to be current swearing.

Mohr (2013:210) and Lipscomb (2022), the 18th century witnesses a shift in the use of phrases, with the most important adjective being bloody, which shocked and infuriated society. The term is often associated with ancient oaths, but this urban legend is now proven false. English swearing changes dramatically in the 19th century, with FUCK being more common and DAMN becoming less common. This resulted in a greater variety of speech features (McEnery, 2006:52).

## **2.2 Taboo Language**

Allan (2018:1) states that taboo refers to activities that are prohibited for specific individuals, often women, at a specific time and in a specific context. Humans express emotions and create identities through language. Taboo language is often used to achieve these goals (Ningjue: 2010:7). Sex, excrement, and Christian faith are the most severe taboos in the English-speaking world (Trudgill,2000:19). Many people find it offensive when English taboo words are used to discuss topics like faeces, sex organs, or having sex, regardless of the speaker's attitude (Ljung:2011:3).

Verbal taboos also apply to other aspects of social and domestic life, such as the Zuñi of New Mexico and some religions, such as Islam, Judaism, and Brahmanism, which restrict direct mention of God's name. Consequently, there is a greater sense of faith in the sacred power of words in these communities, some Arabs would lower their heads or drop to the ground while cursing to avoid being struck directly.

## **2.3 Swearing Words in Sociolinguistic Context**

Sociolinguists study how language and society are related (Holmes, 2013:1). They look at how language contributes to social meaning and try to understand why we speak differently depending on the context. By studying how people use language in various social circumstances, one can learn a great deal about language use, community links, and how people express and create elements of their social identities. Swearing is influenced by pragmatic elements that determine whether it takes place in public or private contexts, including the content of the conversation, the speaker-listener connection, the social-physical setting, jurisdiction, and formality (Jay and Janschewitz, 2008:267-272).

## **2.4 Cultural Values and Swear Words**

Yule (2006:266) defines culture as "socially acquired knowledge." Our opinions about swearing in everyday situations are influenced by cultural factors like humour, speaker power, gender differences, taboo topics, and language choice (Jay, 1999: 158). The usage of profanity is influenced by a variety of

factors, including taboo, word magic, sexuality, religion, cultural views, disgust, and legal constraints. Because of cultural ideas and perspectives on life, the speaker has little control over which words are forbidden (Jay, 1999: 158).

In contrast to liberal European nations, Arab societies, especially those influenced by Islam, display moderate levels of profanity (Montage 2010, as cited in Hamdan and Al-Haj Eid, 2021, 42). Since insults and contempt are rigorously prohibited, this conservative character stigmatises people and calls into question their moral and religious sensibilities as well as their honesty.

## **2.5 Gender and Swearing Words**

Meyerhoff (2006:202) argues that gender is a cultural distinction between men and women, interpreted as sex, and that language is essential for communication, particularly in terms of foul language. For Jay & Janschewitz (2008:274), gender significantly influences cursing behaviour, with people using profanity more frequently in groups with the same gender. Both sexes are more likely to curse in same-sex contexts, with men using profanity more frequently than women. Same-sex listeners are also more likely to use foul language for genitalia and other sexual acts than parents or listeners of the opposite sex. McEnery (2006:29) explains that genders have distinct linguistic acts, with standardisation influenced by the listener's situation and gender. Non-standard language is used in conversations, with women preferring milder language.

## **2.6 Swear Words in Movies**

Sapolsky and Kaye (2020: 2), states that audiovisual media influences language attitudes and usage, leading to the use of forbidden language in motion pictures. This has led to a shift in the linguistic community's perception of swear words, as they are now allowed in television, movies, and music. This has decreased the offensiveness of taboo language and influenced its usage in specific situations.

A Parents Television Council study finds that the number of taboo words in entertainment programming increased by 69% during prime time, while beeped or hushed "f-words" increased by 2400%. This trend is influenced by sitcoms and other shows with a higher frequency of banned language. Since the 1980s, the usage of profanity in movies has grown, with the Canadian comedy *Swearnet: The Movie* having the most "fuck" references (ibid).

Almost all Arab countries require film and television projects to pass a series of censorship panels. Needless to add, screenwriters should not cross any political, religious, or sexual boundaries. For instance, it is inappropriate to criticize Islam, Christianity, and Judaism in Egypt. Inappropriate language

should not be used in conversations, and sex should not be portrayed on television (Shafik, 1998 cited in Darwish and Abu Ain, 2020:87).

## 2.7 Swearing in Arabic

Al-Sab, according to Qalaji (quoted in Al-Qutmi, 2023:41), is an ugly speech that isn't slanderous. Ibn Taymiyyah described it as "speech intended to demean and belittle, which is understood as insult (sabb) in people's minds, regardless of their beliefs, such as cursing, vilification, and the like." Ibn Mandor (cited in Al-Qutmi, 2023:42) defines al-shatm as speech that is offensive or unattractive and excludes slander. It can be used in place of Sabb. The phrase "Shatama fulanan irda fulan" denotes that he had insulted someone's dignity by making derogatory comments about their parents or ancestors. Al-Manawi said, "Shatm is verbal abuse, describing others with traits that imply deficiency and contempt" (Dorar).

The majority of Arabic societies are influenced by Islamic ideas. One of the most important rules is to avoid harming other people by keeping our conversations civil and devoid of offensive material. Abuse and vices are completely incompatible with Islamic values. In actuality, some of the lofty objectives of Islam and one of its greatest beauties are character development, behaviour correction, soul cleansing, and the cultivation of noble qualities. The importance of religion in limiting and prohibiting the use of profanity will be covered in this section. The Holy Quran's Surah Al-Ahzab provides more information on these concepts.

{وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ بَغَيْرِ مَا كَتَبْنَا لَهُمْ فَعَدَا حَتْمًا مِّمَّا أَنزَلْنَا وَإِنَّمَا

{مُيَبِّئًا

(الاحزاب:58)

[Those who abuse believing men and women for something they did not commit , they will bear the burden of slander and flagrant sin] (Al – Ahzāb:58) (Ali,1955:617)

Injuring believers is a grave transgression in and of itself, but Allah considers it to be an even greater sin. For this reason, He said: " وَالَّذِينَ يُؤْذُونَ الْمُؤْمِنِينَ وَالْمُؤْمِنَاتِ بَغَيْرِ مَا كَتَبْنَا لَهُمْ فَعَدَا حَتْمًا مِّمَّا أَنزَلْنَا " that is, without any wrongdoing or guilt on their part that would justify such harm "فَعَدَا حَتْمًا مِّمَّا أَنزَلْنَا" denoting: they carry on their backs an outrageous and blatant lie," وَإِنَّمَا مُيَبِّئًا " since they have passed against others and flouted the holiness of what Allah has instructed being respected (Al –Saadi ,2002:671).

A number of Hadiths can be quoted, one of them;

{سباب المسلم فسوق و قتاله كفر} (Sahih Al-Bukhari,20:48)

{Abusing a Muslim is Fusuq ( an evil doing) and killing him is Kufer ( disbelief)  
}

The word "sibāb" indicates insult and profanity. Al-Ḥarbī claims that sibāb is far more severe than sabb and involves disparaging and degrading someone by making both truthful and false things about them (Islamweb,2007). This hadith, according to the Prophet (ibid), is clear proof that it is prohibited to disparage a fellow Muslim without a good reason. That person is a "fāsiq" (a wicked offender), according to scholars.

### **3 Methodology**

This section explains the methods used in this study to choose the data, corpus, models, analytical instructions, and procedures.

#### **3.1 Source of Data**

The current study relies on the analysis of two specific categories of swear words, 'sexual swear words and body organs swear words,' in English and Arabic movies that were produced in the period between 1980 and 2000. Data collection is a primary step in sociolinguistic analysis, specifically when dealing with sensitive language such as swear words. For this study, six movies are selected as the primary source of data: three English movies which are The Breakfast Club (1985), The Big Lebowski (1999), and The Hateful Eight (2015), and three Arabic movies are التخشبية (1984) Al-Takhsheba/Temporary Jail, عبود على الحدود Aboud 'ala el-hodood/Aboud on the Border (1999), and Heen Maysara/When Things Settle (2007). The reason for selecting movies from this period depends on the remarkable shift in cinematic language that occurred through these decades that are marked by increasing openness in Western movies and shifting boundaries of censorship in Arab cinema.

#### **3.2 Method of Analysis**

This study uses both qualitative and quantitative methods to analyse the frequency of profanity in selected films. Quantitative research involves collecting numerical data and statistical analysis to identify frequent profanity words and cultural differences within the same civilisation. Qualitative analysis examines the motivation behind foul language use, analysing textual data to understand its sociolinguistic consequences in different historical eras (Heigman and Croker, 2009:4-5).

The study provides a general linguistic view of swear words in movies, examining their usage in relation to historical, social, and cultural processes to avoid subjective biases.

### **3.2 The Adopted Model**

This study used two distinct sub-models: Ljung (2011) has presented a number of swear word types together with information on their definition, classification, and structure. McEnery (2006) has provided clarification on other types of profanity and the gender to which they are directed. The main model in this study is Ljung (2011) because of its useful approach to fully characterising profanity.

### **3.3 Procedures of Data Analysis**

The following steps are followed in analyzing the selected data:

1. Every sexual and animal terms in the chosen English and Arabic films from the 1980s to the 2000s will be recognized and noted using the model.
2. Starting a qualitative and quantitative examination of every swear word in Arabic and English to examine its function, type (verb, noun, adjective, noun phrase, sentence, or adverb), and structure (simple, compound, complex, and phrase).
3. Details about the speaker, including their age, gender, degree of education, and the audience they spoke to, were examined.
4. Analyzing the outcomes that show a comparison of the information from Arabic and English-language films across several decades.

### **3.4 Qualitative Analysis**

Below is a qualitative analysis of data:

#### **3.4.1 Sexist-based terms in the 1980s English movies**

##### **❖ Sexy**

It is a complex word that take a position of an adjective. Denotatively, means 'sexually attractive'; here, it is used as mock to irritate. This word falls under an insult function; a boy with a medium degree of learning who is seventeen years old, it is directed to a male.

##### **❖ Fucking parents**

"**Fucking parents**" has an expletive meaning. A seventeen-year-old boy who has a medium level of education uses it, and it is addressed to a male. It is a

noun phrase. Here, it refers to the receiver's parents, it is used to express 'contempt' or 'scorn'.

❖ **Naked**

"Naked" is a complex word, functions as an expletive. It is stated by a boy who is seventeen years old and has an intermediate level of schooling; it was addressed to a woman, and it was used as an adjective. Originally, it means not wearing clothes.

❖ **Nymphomaniac**

It is a simple word formed as a noun. It is functioning as name-calling; it is employed by a female who was sixteen years old and had a medium level of education. This word was aimed at herself, 'nymphomaniac' refers to a woman with uncontrollable sexual desire.

❖ **Nailed**

From a morphological perspective, it is a complex word positioning as a verb. Literally, nail means to join something by using a nail; connotatively, it means to have sex with someone; it functions as an expletive. Here, it was uttered by a sixteen-year-old female who has a medium level of education. It is directed to herself.

❖ **Rape**

It is a simple word that has a noun place with an expletive function; here, it is declared by a sixteen-year-old girl and has a medium level of education. This word was addressed to a herself. It indicates a criminal sexual, but here it is used as irony.

❖ **Slut**

Morphologically, it is a simple word; it is filling in the place of a noun that functions as name-calling. It is spoken by a sixteen-year-old girl and has a medium level of education. It is addressed to another woman. It indicates a woman who has a sexual experience.

❖ **Bitch**

Structurally speaking, it is a simple word with a noun position that has a name-calling function. It is stated by a man who is fifty years old and has only a primary stage of teaching. It is addressed to a woman. Here, it is used just for silence and to degrade that woman.

**Table (1) Sexist-based terms in the 1980s English movies**

Word	Structure	form	function	speaker's Age	speaker's s	education	directed to
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					Gender		
Sexy	Complex	Adjective	Insult	17	Male	Medium	Male
Fucking parents	Phrase	Noun phrase	Expletive	17	Male	Medium	Male
Naked	Complex	Adjective	Name calling	17	Male	Medium	Female
Nympho maniac	Simple	Noun	Name calling	16	Female	Medium	female
Nailed	Complex	Verb	Expletive	16	Female	Medium	female
Rape	Simple	Noun	Expletive	16	Female	Medium	Female
Slut	Simple	Noun	Name calling	16	Female	Medium	Female
Bitch	Simple	Noun	Name calling	50	Male	Basic	Female

### 3.4.2 Sexist-based terms in the 1990s English movies

#### ❖ Bitch

From a morphological perspective, it is a simple word with a noun position that has a name-calling function. It was said by forty-seven years old man and has a high stage of a teaching. It is addressed to a woman. This word is a strong offensive, usually used as a gendered insult.

#### ❖ Sex

Structurally speaking, it is a simple word that fills in the slot of a noun; it has an expletive purpose. It is uttered by an educated woman whose age is thirty-seven years old, to be addressed to a man. This term is connotatively used to refer to sexual coitus. It refers to a romantic intimacy.

#### ❖ Coitus

It has a noun position, structured as a simple word. The word **coitus** indicates a sexual copulation, it is often used in medical or biological contexts. It was used by a thirty-seven years old woman that has a high level of education. It is directed to a man to be functions as an expletive.

#### ❖ Fornicator

"**Fornicator**" is considered as a simple word that occupies the place of a noun; it functions as an insult to offend a woman. It is used by a thirty-seven

years old female whose level of learning is high; is expressed to denote a woman as sexually manipulated.

❖ **Whore**

It is a simple word that filling in the position of a noun. Functionally, it has an insult task. A forty-seven years old man is stated it which insult a woman, has a high degree of education. This word is a synonym for 'slut' or 'prostitute'. It is a harsh offensive expression, usually used to shame a woman for real sexual activity.

❖ **Strumpet**

It is a simple word which takes the role of a noun. Functionally, it does an insult job. It is used by a highly educated man who is forty-seven years old to insult a woman. Generally, this expression is used to refer to a woman who is promiscuous or a prostitute, and it is equivalent to 'whore' or 'slut'.

❖ **Slut**

it is a simple word, and it takes the part of a noun. It functions as an insult. It is used by a learnt forty-seven years old man to abuse a woman; This word is a highly insulting term directed at a woman to shame her reputation and sexuality.

**Table (2) Sexist-based terms in the 1990s English movies**

Word	Structure	form	Function	speaker's Age	speaker's Gender	education	directed to
bitch	Simple	Noun	Name-calling	47	Male	High	Female
Sex	Simple	Noun	Expletive	37	Female	High	Male
coitus	Simple	Noun	Expletive	37	Female	High	Male
fornicator	Simple	Noun	Insult	37	Female	High	Female
Whore	Simple	Noun	Insult	47	Male	High	female
Strumpet	Simple	Noun	Insults	47	Male	High	female
slut	Simple	Noun	Insults	47	Male	High	Female

**3.4.3 Sexist-based terms in the 2000s English movies**

❖ **Bitch**

"**Bitch**" is considered as a simple word placed as a noun; it does a name-calling task. An old man who was fifty years old and had only a basic level of education uttered it to abuse a woman.

❖ **Strip**

Structurally, it is a simple word; it has an expletive meaning. It is stated by a forty-year-old male whose education is primary; it is used to target a man as a verb. This verb connotatively indicated a threatening order to force a person to remove his clothes completely to show control and humiliation.

❖ **Naked**

"Naked" is a complex word. Swear functions categorization places this word under expletive. It is stated by a man who is forty years old and has a basic level of schooling; it is addressed to a man, and it is used as an adjective. It is often used to show insult or humiliation; it denotes someone who is fully exposed.

❖ **Suck**

Morphologically, it is a simple word that is positioning a verb. It is stated by a forty years old man who has a basic education; in terms of function, it functions as an expletive and is directed to a man. It is used in a sexual meaning to an oral sex.

**Table (3) Sexist-based terms in the 2000s English movies**

word	Structure	Form	Function	speaker's Age	speaker's Gender	Education	directed to
Bitch	Simple	Noun	Name calling	50	Male	Basic	Female
Strip	Simple	Verb	Expletive	40	Male	Basic	Male
naked	Complex	Adjective	Expletive	40	Male	Basic	Male
Suck	Simple	Verb	Expletive	40	Male	Basic	Male

**3.4.4 Sexist-based Terms in the 1980s Arabic Movies**

❖ **موزة / mozza/ (hot girl)**

Structurally, it is a simple word forming a noun and functioning as name-calling. It is directed to a woman by a twenty-seven-years-old man with a primary class of learning. It is a slang term that is used by men to describe an attractive girl.

❖ **مزبزة / muzabziba / (flashy girl)**

It is a simple word and formed as a noun, here, functions as insulting. It is stated by a group of men to be directed a woman. These men are in a little stage of learning, and their ages are likely twenty-seven. It is used to describe a woman as she is always looking for a sexual relationship.

❖ **بتاع سئات /bita' Siat/ (womanizer)**

It is a compound word that formed as a noun, with a sexual insult, this word functions to be addressed to a man. A thirty-two-year-old adult female uttered with a high rank of learning. It refers to a man who is described as a womanizer, chases women, or flirts a lot. It is equivalent to 'ladies' man'.

❖ **دعارة / di'ara/ (prostitution)**

It is formed as a simple word used as a noun, and functioning as an expletive. It is a synonym for prostitution, sexual corruption, or whoring. It is often used to attack a person's morality, particularly women. A young man who is twenty-eight years old with a good degree of learning says it.

❖ **عاشرتها/ asheartaha / (fuck her)**

Morphologically, it is a sentence used as a verbal one. It functions as a sexual insult; a man who is twenty-nine years old with a high rank in teaching employed it. It is directed to a man; connotatively, it means that someone has sex with her or has an intimate relationship with her, and it is a synonym for slept with her.

❖ **فاجرة / fajra / (whore)**

It is a simple word that fills in the position of a noun. Functionally, it is a sexual insult; a forty-one-year-old man with a high level of education used it to insult his wife. This term denotatively means a whore woman. Connotatively, it used to attack a girl's sexual morality. It is considered as shaming in Arabic culture.

**Table (4) Sexist-based terms in the 1980s Arabic movies**

Word	Structure	Form	Function	Speaker's Age	Speaker's Gender	Education	Directed To
مُرة	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	27	Male	Basic	Female
مزبزة	Simple	noun	Insult	27	Male	Basic	Female
بتاع سئات	Compound	Noun	Expletive	32	Female	High	Male
دعارة	Simple	Noun	Expletive	28	Male	High	Female
عاشرتها	Sentence	Verbal	Insult	29	Male	High	Male
فاجرة	Simple	Noun	Insult	41	Male	High	Female

**3.4.5 Sexist-based terms in the 2000s Arabic movies**

❖ **مُزّة/mozza / (hot girl)**

Morphologically speaking, it is a simple word placing as a noun functioning as name-calling; it is addressed to a woman by a seventeen-year-old man with a basic class of learning. It is a slang term that is used by men for a sexy or attractive girl.

❖ **مزبزه /mazbaza/ (flashy girl)**

The word "مزبزه" has a simple structure and, here, functions as insulting. It is employed by a woman to be addressed to a woman. Her age is forty-six. It is formed as a noun. It is a slang term; it is used to describe a woman as she is always looking for a sexual relationship.

❖ **نجس / najis / (filthy one)**

Its form is a simple word that fills in the adjective position. This term which functions as an insult, and It is stated by a twenty-five-year-old female who has a basic degree in learning; it is addressed to a man. It is a strong offensive that describes someone who is sexually unclean.

**Table (5) Sexist-based terms in the 2000s Arabic movies**

Word	Structure	Form	Function	Speaker's' Age	Speaker's' Gender	Education	Directed to
مُزّة	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	17	male	Basic	female
مزبزه	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	46	Female	Basic	Female
نجس	Simple	Adjective	Insult	25	Female	Basic	Male

**3.4.6 Animal-based terms in the 1980s English movies**

❖ **Bull**

"**Bull**" is a simple word in terms of structure, it is usually formed as a noun. One forty-year-old man and has a high degree of education makes use of expression. It was addressed to a teenage boy. It is usually formed as a noun. Connotatively, it is used to represent the person authority, or aggression.

❖ **Pig**

Structurally, it is a simple word. According to the categorization of swear functions, this word falls under insults. Female is direct to by a sixteen-year-old girl with an intermediate level of schooling. Usually, this term is formed as a noun.

❖ **Chicken shit**

Morphologically, it is a compound word; it functions as a name calling and insult with the animal based term, it was used by a teenage boy who is seventeen years old with a medium level of education, directed to another teenage boy at the same age. Here, it is an adjective. It is a slang offensive word that is used to refer to a cowardly boy, and here, it means the place that is full of weakly people.

**Table(6) Animal-based terms in the 1980s English movies**

Word	Structure	form	Function	Speaker's Age	Speaker's Gender	education	directed to
Bull	Simple	Noun	Name calling	40	Male	High	Male
Pig	Simple	Noun	Insult	16	Female	Medium	female
Chicken shit	Compound	Adjective	Name calling and insult	17	Male	Medium	Male

### 3.4.7 Animal-based terms in the 2000s English movies

#### ❖ Monkey uncle

It is a compound word with a noun position. It is addressed to a male to function as a ritual insult; it is used by a fifty-year-old man, has a basic degree of learning. It is an expression used to express surprise, meaning 'that cannot happen'.

#### ❖ Pig

Structurally, it is a simple word which fills in the place of a noun, and has an expletive function. It is directed to a male by a forty-year-old man with a basic level of schooling. It is used to refer someone who is disgusting or despicable.

**Table (7) Animal-based terms in 2000s English movies**

Word	Structure	Form	Function	Speaker's Age	speaker's Gender	education	directed to
Monkey uncle	Compound	Noun	Name-calling	50	Male	Basic	male
Pig	Simple	Noun	Expletive	40	Male	Basic	male

### 3.4.8 Animal – based terms in the 1980s Arabic movies

❖ **خروف / kharof / (lamb)**

The word خروف is considered a simple word, here, it is used as a noun, with a name-calling function. It is used by a fifty-eight-year-old man with a medium grade of learning to insult a man. It is a common swear word with connotations of 'naive' and 'easily manipulated'.

❖ **بهيم / bahem / (beast)**

It is a simple word which occupies the position of a noun It is an animal insult that is directed to a man. It was used by a twenty-nine-year-old man with a high stage in learning. It is applied to describe a person who is very stupid, low-witted or lacking intelligence.

**Table (8) Animal-based terms in 1980s Arabic movies**

Word	Structure	Form	function	Speaker's Age	Speaker's Gender	education	Directed to
خروف	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	58	Male	Medium	Male
بهيم	Simple	Noun	Insult	29	Male	High	Male

**3.4.9 Animal-based terms in the 1990s Arabic movies**

❖ **كلب / kalab / (dog)**

It is constructed as a simple word that fills in the slot of a noun, that functions name-calling to abuse a man. It is spoken by a man who is twenty-one years old and has an introductory level of knowledge. It is used to denote a person who is disloyal and defiled.

❖ **حيوان / hayawan / (animal)**

It is a simple word used as a noun. It is expressed by an old man who is fifty-four years old and has a high level of teaching; it is functioning as name-calling to offend a boy. Connotatively used when someone does a wrong act.

❖ **حمار / ħimar / (donkey)**

Morphologically, it is a simple word that formed as a noun; it has a name-calling function by a boy whose age is twenty-one years old and has a primary education. It is addressed to a man who does not understand what other people say and do.

**Table (9) Animal-based terms in 1990s Arabic movies**

Word	Structure	form	Function	Speaker's Age	Speaker's Gender	Education	Directed to
كلب	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	21	Male	Basic	Male
حيوان	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	54	Male	High	Male
حمار	Simple	Noun	Name Calling	21	Male	Basic	Male

### 3.4.10 Animal-based terms in the 2000s Arabic movies

#### ❖ ستن كلب / sitten kalb/ (sixty dogs)

It is a phrase formed as a noun phrase. It has an insult function; it is stated by an adult lady who is twenty-five years old with a basic degree in learning. It is addressed to a man. This term is used to express strong insult that is comparing someone to vicious animals. It is equivalent to the meaning of worse than a dog.

#### ❖ بهيمة / baheema / (beast)

The word beast is an animal insult that takes up the noun position; it is a simple word, and it is directed to a woman. This term was used by a twenty-nine-year-old man studied with a basic learning stage level. Denotatively, it means 'animal', specifically 'livestock'. It is often used to denote someone who is stupid or brainless.

Table (10) Animal-based terms in 2000s Arabic movies

Word	Structure	form	Function	Speaker's Age	Speaker's Gender	Education	Directed to
ستين كلب	Phrase	Noun phrase	Insult	25	female	Basic	Male
بهيمة	Simple	Noun	Insult	29	Male	Basic	Male

### 3.5 Quantitative Analysis

Table (11) below shows the total frequency of the gender of the speaker in English and Arabic movies.

Table (11) Total frequency of gender of the speaker in English and Arabic movies

Speaker's gender	English Data		Arabic Data		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage

Male	16	66.66%	12	75%	28	70%
Female	8	33.33%	4	25%	12	30%
Total	24	60%	16	40%	40	100%

Table (12) shows the level of Education of the speaker in English and Arabic movies.

**Table (12) Total frequency of the level of education of the speaker in English and Arabic movies**

The Education levels of the speaker	English Data		Arabic Data		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Basic	7	29.16%	9	56.25	16	40%
Medium	9	37.5%	1	6.25%	10	25%
High	8	33.33%	6	37.5%	14	35%
Total	24	60%	16	40%	40	100%

Table (13) below indicates the gender targets of swear words in English and Arabic movies.

**Table(13)Total frequency of gender targets in English and Arabic movies**

The gender targets of swear words	English Data		Arabic Data		Total	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Male	11	45.83%	10	62.5%	21	52.5%
Female	13	54.16%	6	37.5%	19	47.5%
Both	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%

genders						
Total	24	60%	16	40%	40	100%

#### **4. Results and Discussion**

1. Sexual and animal terms are more frequently used in English movies(60%) than in Arabic ones(40%), this is because of variances in censor and cultural norms.
2. Male genders are the most users of swear words in English at (66.66) and Arabic movies accounting (75%), this reflecting gendered patterns of speech in these section.
3. Characters with a basic level of education tend to use swear words in Arabic movies at (56.25%), compared to (29.16%) to English movies.
4. Swear terms were more directed to women in English movies (54.16%), whereas in Arabic were more directed to men at (62.5%). This indicates cultural differences in the portrayal of women as targets of insults between both cultures.

#### **5. Conclusions**

This study has come up with the following conclusions:

1. The outcomes emphasis that male gender is more dominant in the use of swear words in most English movies. In Arabic there was clear remarkable development during the 2000s. The percentage of female characters using swear words has increased.
2. The education of the speakers play an important role in the distribution and use of swear words. On the English side, educated speakers are more used to swear words. On the other hand, most swear words were used by less educated.

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### *Appendix A*

This table shows the top 10 words used in each English movies, categorized based on their frequency

No	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
1 <sup>st</sup>	Fuck	Fuck	Fuck	Nigger
2 <sup>nd</sup>	Shit	Shit	Shit	Bastards
3 <sup>rd</sup>	Goddamn	Goddamn	Ass	Damn
4 <sup>th</sup>	Bastards	Asshole	Bums	Goddamn
5 <sup>th</sup>	Drunk	Idiot	Goddamn	Black major
6 <sup>th</sup>	Asshole	Dork	Asshole	Ass
7 <sup>th</sup>	Damn	Piss	Peed	Fuck
8 <sup>th</sup>	Blow job	Bitch	Dick	Son of a Bitch

9 <sup>th</sup>	Ass	Fool	Sex	Bitch
10 <sup>th</sup>	Stupid	Chicken	Johnson	Whore

### *Appendix B*

The table indicates the top 10 words used in each English movies, categorized based on their frequency

No	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s
1 <sup>st</sup>	قليبين الادب/ill-mannered	كذاب/ liar	ابو التصاق/ you adhesion one	ابن الكلب/ son of a dog
2 <sup>nd</sup>	حرامي/ thief	منحرفين/ deviants	حيوان/ animal	حشيشة/weed
3 <sup>rd</sup>	اختشي يا بنت/ have some shame, girl	حقير/ despicable	يخرب بيتك/ Allah may destroy your house	اولاد الكلب/ Son of dogs
4 <sup>th</sup>	سكران/ Drunk	مشؤومة/ badly ominous	سافل/ bastards	ياروح امك/ oh, soul of your mother
5 <sup>th</sup>	خدامة/ maid	بايز/ messed up	اخرس / shut up	مزبذبة/ flashy girl
6 <sup>th</sup>	اخرس/ shut up	مسهتهرة/ reckless woman	غبية/ stupid	معفن/ rotten
7 <sup>th</sup>	اولاد الكلب/ Son of dogs	مغفل/ fool	معفن/ rotten	حمار/ donkey
8 <sup>th</sup>	شكراني/	قليبين ادب/ill	واطيئة/ filthy	نجس/ filthy

	aggressive	mannered	bastard	one
9 <sup>th</sup>	لسانك طويل/ you are very mouthy	الله يلعنك/ Allah curse you	اولاد الكلب/ Son of dogs	كلب / dog
10 <sup>th</sup>	ستين داهية/ Sixty disasters	مجرمين/ criminals	حشرية/ nosy woman	واطي/ bastard