

## SWEAR WORDS IN

### GITLOST'S TWITTER ACCOUNT: KINDS AND FUNCTION

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#### **Abstract**

Language and social interaction are in accordance with the existing norms in society. By paying attention to these norms, we are expected to also pay attention to the choice of words that will be used in communication. In informal situations, swearing words are often used to respond to conversations on many social networks. One of them is Twitter. The phenomenon of using swearing words is found on the Twitter account called @gitlost or Developers Swearing. The research attempts to identify and describe the type and function of swear words used in that account. In collecting data, swear words were collected by observing all tweets according to a predetermined time span, then classified to find out the types of swear words and the function of swear words used based on the theory of Ronald Wardhaugh and Lars-Gubbar Andersson and Richard Hirsch. The results of this study indicate that swear words are used to express feelings. Swear words are not only used to express anger but also happiness. This research shows that swear words are used based on their functions as expletive, abusive, humoristic, and chronic.

**Keywords:** swear words, twitter, kind, function

#### **INTRODUCTION**

Human interaction as a social creature causes humans to have a role as members of society. Thus, each individual must behave and act accordingly with his position, so that his existence can be accepted and acknowledged. Human roles as members of society will relate to one another and need one another. That need can lead to a process of social interaction. In social interaction, humans need a tool to be able to communicate, such as body language or sign language. Social interaction is a dynamic social relationship involving relationships between individual and individual, group and group, and between individual and group of people.

In conveying ideas or interacting, humans must always pay attention to the situation and conditions in which we are. For this reason, before interacting, we must pay attention to the norm conditions that apply in a particular society. With regard to norms, hopefully we can pay attention to choice of words that will be used. There are certain words that do not violate norms in society that can lead to misperceptions if used in society.

The language and social interaction are in accordance with the existing norms in society. Therefore, there will be communication between individual and individual and groups with groups. Communication is an important part that cannot be separated from human life as a social creature. Communication is the process of transmitting information and common understanding from one person to another (Lunenburg, 2010, p.1). Therefore, before communicating, we must pay attention to the conditions and norms that exist in the society. By paying attention to these norms, it is expected that we can also pay attention to the choice of words that will be used in communication.

In informal situations, some people use swearing words to respond to their conversations. In fact, some people use these words for several purposes. For example, they use swearing words to express their emotions or it could be just a joke. Swearing is vulgar language or offensive language. Swearing can refer to bad language, dirty language, curse and oath which are part of the lexicon of language in general in society considered very rude or offensive. This can be any kind of swearing shown by contempt from someone to someone which is shown with strong emotions.

In this modern era, there are many social networks that facilitate a person to communicate with other people easily, one of them is Twitter. Twitter is a social network founded in March 2006 by Jack Dorsey, Noah Glass, Biz Stone, and Evan Williams. A graduate of New York University, Jack Dorsey, expressed his opinion and ideas about the use of short message services that can be used as a means of small group communication. On the Twitter website, users without an account can only read the tweet. Meanwhile, users who have a social media account can tweet through the website interface, cell phone, and SMS (short message).

@gitlost or Developers Swearing is an account on Twitter whose tweet contains swearing. The account has been joined on Twitter since March 2013. It can be seen that most of the tweets contain swearing. It is interesting to analyze and identify the kind of swear words and the functions of using swear words. The purpose of this research is to find out the kinds of swear words and the functions of swear words used by the Twitter user in @gitlost account using theory from Ronald Wardhaugh from their book entitled An Introduction to Sociolinguistics and Lars-Gubbar Andersson and Richard Hirsch from their book entitled Perspectives on Swearing.

Some researchers had done the related research before. The first previous research about swear words was conducted by Winda Rahayu (2014) from UIN “Sunan Ampel” Surabaya. In her research, she analyzed the kinds of swear words and the purposes of swear words used in The Grey movie. She focused on the characters because they often use swear words and there are many swear words uttered or produced by the characters. She analyzed this movie by using sociolinguistic of swear words theory. The second previous research was conducted by Regita

Sunarya Putri (2018) from STBA LIA, Yogyakarta. She focused on the functions of swearing spoken by gamers found in YouTube Gaming Videos. She uses gamers because the stereotypes of swearing towards gamers which mention swear words carry negative attitude.

Based on those studies above, all researches were focused on the kinds, purpose and function of the use of swearing words. However, unlike these two researches, the emphasis of this study is the data source. All researches have different types of data sources, the first previous research uses movie as the data source; the second research uses a YouTube video channel; and this study used the tweet on twitter account.

## **Theoretical Review**

### **1. Sociolinguistics**

The sociolinguistics discusses the social functions of language and the ways it is used to convey social meaning. All of the topics provide a lot of information about the language works, as well as about the social relationships in a community, and the way people signal aspects of their social identity through their language (Holmes, 1992, p.1). Sociolinguistics is the study that is concerned with the interaction of language and setting. It is the study that is concerned with investigating the relationship between language and society with the goal of a better understanding of the structure of language and of how languages function in communication (Wardhaugh, 2006, p.12).

Sociolinguistics is the study about language that is related to society that the language related with the use of the languages spoken by society in the habit. According to Holmes (1992: 1), sociolinguistics is the study that has relationship with language and society in the world. Sociolinguistics also discusses how a language is used, so that we can understand its function properly and correctly

### **2. Swearing**

Swear words are inappropriate words to say to the interlocutor. Usually these words are used to express anger or to insult other people. Swearing is the linguistic forms to express a range of emotions, including anger, frustration, fear, happiness, etc. Swearing is being excluded from standard variety and official use. Despite the wide usage, swearing is meant not to be used in formal (Jay, 2000, p.13). According to Cambridge, swearing is rude or offensive language that someone uses, especially when they are angry. Based on some experts' opinion about profanity, the researcher assumes that it can be said as bad language, dirty, swear, curse, and cuss language. In society, profanity is reputed so impolite to express with each other.

### 3. Context

To understand the literal and emotional nature, we must look at sentences or utterances, not individual words. The context can occur to determine a person's understanding and reaction. The speaker makes some decisions about what is acceptable or unacceptable in a given context after evaluating the listener and the particular social and physical environment.

Malinowski emphasizes that language is understood in relation to the context of situation and the broader context of culture in which it was used. Malinowski's Phatic Communion concept is referring to primitive language of Trobriand islanders that the meaning of words depends on their context. The point of Malinowski's context of situation lies in the fact that speech, consisting of technical terms referring directly to environment, varies and changes based on behaviors that is closely related to social relationship (Malinowski in Widdowson 2007, p.93 and in Indrawati, 2009, p.24).

### 4. Kinds of Swearing

According to Wardhaugh in Prayuda (2019, p.3) there are seven kinds of swear words:

1. **Mother in law** is referred to promiscuous woman. This term is addressed to women who are described as mischievous women who always changes couples and also women who often interfere with other couples. This term also has relation with a woman who has sex outside of marriage, especially if she is used to doing this to get wages. Mother in law often used in a derogatory sense to refer to someone whose behavior is improper. This could include shamelessness or lack of restraint, lack of hospitality, lack of loyalty, and indiscriminate or excessive violence. The examples are “**slut**”, “**son of a bitch**”, “**mother fucker**”, and “**bitch**”.
2. **Animal** is described as a creation of gods that do not have a brain to think. This term is related to animal and animal behavior. Usually, people use this type of swear words to express their annoyed. Only certain traits of the animal have similarities with humans or conditions that are subject to abuse. In addition, not all animals can be used for means of cursing in the use of language. In the use of swear words of animals sometimes it has become a common phrase even though it sounds rude. However, there is also the use of swear words in this category that have exceeded the limits of reasonableness and usually these expressions arise due to feelings of anger or resentment that have peaked against others. The examples of animal types of swear words are “**dog**” and “**bullshit**”.
3. **Sex** is a term referring to sexual activities. This type of swear word is related to the biological activities that contain about sex. Sex is a term that refers to the act of sexual intercourse but is also commonly used as an intensifier or to denote disdain. While, its origins is obscure. This word has always been considered vulgar when it first comes to be used to describe (often in an

extremely angry, hostile or belligerent manner). The examples of this type of swear words are **“fuck”, “suck”, and “blow job”**.

4. **Death** is the type of swear word that refers to something that makes people afraid because this type of swear word is related to the permanent end of life from the world. The word death is a word that is considered something frightening. This word is also used as a sign of disappointment or submission to something. The person who listens to this word will feel the word as a frightening curse. The example of this types are **“hell”, and “damn”**.
5. **Bodily function** refers to sexual organ of human. If one person swears another person with this type, he or she thinks that the person is extremely stupid, irritating, and ridiculous and has behaved in a stupid way. Usually, people use this type of swear words such as **“cunt”, “rooster”, “ass”, “cock”, and “asshole”**.
6. **Excretion** is a term referring to human's excretion. Excretion is an action to waste useful substance from the blood, tissues, or organs. The examples of excretions of human are urine, feces, or sweat. In this type of swear word people usually use swear word such as **“shit” and “piss”**.
7. **Religious matter** is a type of swear word that has relation with something religious or God. In using swear word, something religious usually used in the communication to express their feeling. If people use this type of swear word, usually they use to emphasize their anger to other and not care about them. Someone who uses these words carelessly brings a curse because they believe that the name has a supernatural power. In this type, people usually use swear words that contain god terms, such as **“gosh!”, “dolly!”, “goddamn” and “hollyshit”**.

## 5. Function of Swearing

Andersson and Hirsch proposed the theory of swearing words based on the functions. Andersson and Hirsch divided the functions of swear words into two functions there are primary function and secondary function. Primary function consists of expletive and abusive. Then, secondary function consists of humoristic, euphemistic, and habitual (Andersson and Hirsch, 1985, p.53-56). The categorization of the swear words into these functions really depends on the contexts which the swear words occur. Andersson and Hirsch classified two functions about swearing as below.

### 5.1 Primary functions

#### a. Expletive

Expletive is an expression in which the speaker gives expression to his emotions and attitudes in the form of an exclamation. An expletive is basically reactive and not directed towards something or someone. For example, **“Hell!” or “Rats!”** as an expression of disappointment.

#### b. Abusive

Abusive in which the speaker abuses, offends or defames something or someone. For example, “**You bastard!**”, “**Shithead!**”.

## 5.2 Secondary functions

The definition of the situation is also important for cases of humoristic, euphemistic, or habitual swearing.

### a. Humoristic

In humoristic, swearing the actual Content-Function category is interpreted to its opposite. For instance, the Socio-biological Abusive “You-son-of-bitch” in the right circumstances with the proper definition of the situation can be taken as an expression of admiration or endearment.

### b. Euphemistic

In euphemistic, swearing the ‘definition of the situation’ is such that words that normally do not fit into the Content-Function categories are taken to do so. These words often bear some phonetic or semantic resemblance to the words that are typical for the Content-Function category. They may be near homonyms – “Fudge” instead of “**Fuck**” or figurative paraphrases – “**Get bumped!**” instead of “**Get Fucked!**”.

### c. Habitual

In habitual, swearing knowledge of the participants in the situation about each other's speech habits can alter the interpretation of the words that would normally fall under a Content-Function category. If a person habitually puts “**fuck**” or “**fucking**” into almost every utterance then anyone who knows this has tendency to ignore these expressions when assigning the utterances a Speech Act interpretation.

## METHOD

The type of research is qualitative approach. The aims of this research are to collect and analyze non-numeric data (tweet, posted) to understand the concept, opinion, and experience called qualitative research. Lexy J. Moleong suggests that “qualitative is research that aims to understand about phenomena what is experienced by research subjects such as behavior, perceptions, motivation, action and others, holistically, presented descriptively in the form of words and language in a specific natural context” (Moleong, 2005, p.6). In this way, data in the form of descriptions of tweets in social interaction are in accordance with what is directly observed on Twitter.

## Data collection

This research uses tweets in a Twitter account post named @gitlost or Developers Swearing as the data source for this research, and dictionary or book containing the meaning of swearing words are used as secondary data. There are 40 words found by the researcher in the @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account. In the collecting the data, there were some steps as follows:

1. Searching and connecting to account twitter of @gitlost or Developers Swearing.
2. Reading the @gitlost or Developers Swearing account's tweets which use the swear words on his twitter wall.
3. Finding the swear words in these tweets.
4. Taking note and saving data on the computer.

After the data is collected properly, the data is classified based on the theory of swear words by Ronald Wardhaugh, Lars-Gubbar Andersson, and Richard Hirsch, and also based on the dictionary and book of swearing to recognize the meaning of swear word posted by @gitlost or Developers Swearing.

## Data analysis

In analyzing the collected data, this research uses some steps as following:

1. Reading and understanding one by one the tweets containing swear words in @gitlost or Developers Swearing twitter account to find out the emotions of his tweet.
2. Recognizing the meaning of swear word that posted by @gitlost or Developers Swearing by using dictionary and theory of swearing.
3. Explaining the classification and the functions of the swear words that has been posted by @gitlost or Developers Swearing based on the theory.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Results

This table shows that the numbers counting the kinds of swear words found in the post of the account. The formula is the total of words each term divided by 40 which is the total number of swear words found in @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account then multiplied by 100. With that formula we can get the percentage of each kind of swear words.

Table 1  
Category and swear word

Categories of Swearing Words	Swear Words	Number	%
Mother in Law	Slit	-	12.5%
	Son of Bitch	-	
	Motherfucker	2	
Animal	Bitch	3	5%
	Bullshit	2	
	Dog	-	
Sex	Fuck	12	37.5%
	Suck	3	
	Blowjob	-	
Death	Damn	6	15%
	Hell	-	
	Cunt	-	
Bodily Function	Rooster	-	10%
	Ass	3	
	Cock	-	
Excretion	Asshole	1	10%
	Shit	4	
	Piss	-	
Religious Matter	Gosh	-	10%
	Holy shit	2	
	Dolly	-	
	Goddamn	2	
Total		40	100%

From the table above, the swear words that are often used in that account are in the category of Sex terms with 37.5%, and the second highest percentage is Death with 15%, third is Mother in Law 12.5%, then Bodily function, Excretion, Religious Matter are same 10%, and the last is Animal 5%.

## Discussion

### 1. Kinds of Swearing

The research found seven kinds of swearing used in [@gitlost](#) or [Developers Swearing](#) Twitter account. These kinds can be seen in the following:



## 1.1 Mother in Law

In this type, the swearing can be found in two types of swear words, they are: **“bitch”** and **“motherfucker”**. The discussion as follows:

(1) Tweet 1: hello **b\*tches**imbo\$\$ im cool.

In the tweet, swear word **“b\*tches”** refers to **“bitch”** as a group of women. As stated by Partridge in his book entitled “A Dictionary of Slang and Unconventional English”, the meaning of the word **“bitch”** is a lewd woman (Partridge, 1984, p.84). In the tweet, it appears that the user intends to seduce these women because he feels that he is the boss and he is cool.

(2) Tweet 2: ...field is enforced. I think john zimmerman should be our **b\*tch** for every time we've had to rewrite this crap, and every lie he told that...

In the statement above, the user of the @gitlost or Developers Swearing account felt emotional and he said and referred to someone named John Zimmerman that he wrote a crap or lie. The meaning of the swear word **“bitch”** itself in the tweet refers to a man who made him do something. This is accordance with Munier's statement, namely “a whiny woman or man; a person who is whipped into doing whatever his or her partner tells him or her to do” (Munier, 2010, p.48)

(3) Tweet 3: God **motherf\*ckin** damnn

The swear word used in the above statement which is included in this term is **“motherfuckin”**. The swear word shows that he is emotional or upset. As for the meaning of the swear word **“motherfuckin”** itself in the Cambridge means as “an extremely offensive word used to emphasize something, especially when you are angry”. So, the situation is described as in the tweet.

(4) Tweet 4: With withdraw relay error payment fee not found \* cracked this **motherf\*cker** like an egg took me long time but nevertheless \* cleaned...

In the statement above, the user uses swear words **“motherfucker”**. This word refers to the payment error, so he was annoyed about it. The word here means that a very offensive name for someone or something he hates or someone or something that has made him angry.

## 1.2 Animal

In kind, this research found swear words in animal term which is **“bullshit”**. Not all animals can be used for means of cursing in the use of language (Wardhaugh, 2006). The discussion as follows:

(1) Tweet 1: New **bullsh\*t** comes

In the statement above, the user of the account uses the swear word “**bullshit**” but does not indicate to whom or is invalid. The meaning of the swear word “**bullshit**” used here is nonsense.

(2) Tweet 2: Use FG3 Some stupid **bullsh\*t** about annotation processing that I'm too stupid to understand

The word “**bullsh\*t**” refers to bullshit and it is used by him as a form of anger or annoying. In this case, he used the swear word to cursing processing annotations, because he was annoyed with processing annotations that he really did not understand.

### 1.3 Sex

The word as the example of this term is “**fuck**” and “**suck**”. In @gitlost or Developers Swearing account the words “**fuck**” are not used as the real meaning. According to Munier (2010, p.158) “**Fuck**” is arguably the most versatile and functional obscenity in the English language. So, there are many meanings to interpret the word “**fuck**”. The word “**fuck**” is the base word, and this word has many forms. As described by Munier in his book there are many forms of the word “**fuck**”, such as “**fuck up**”, “**fucking**”, “**fuck off**” and “**fuck over**”. For this term, the example of swear words that has been found are “**fuck, fucked, fuck up, fucking, fuck off, and suck**”. The discussion as follows:

(1) Tweet 1 :**F\*ck** you errors go die

From the statement above, he uses swear words “**fuck**” and his purpose to post the tweet is to make the errors go away. The meaning “**fuck**” here is a statement which makes him protest to something, so that it makes an error.

(2) Tweet 2: Attempting resize i'm**f\*cking** horrible at this

From this statement, he tries to change a size but is not explained what it is and he says that he is bad at it. The word “**fucking**” here indicates that he wants to emphasize that he/she is too bad at doing the resizing thing.

(3) Tweet 3: Committing the dumbass **f\*cking** database that **f\*cked** everything up

The swear word “**f\*cked**” refers to **fucked** which indicates to emphasize the problem of a database and this messed everything up.

(4) Tweet 4: Added custom prefix for Magical's server He is a **f\*cking** child.

The @gitlost or Developers Swearing user of the account used swear words “**fucking**” to swear at a boy who had angered him for adding a special prefix to his Magical server that he

thought was important. Therefore, he was annoyed and cursed using the word **“fucking”** to emphasize his annoyance at the child.

(5) Tweet 5: Yet again, we **f\*ck off** with typings

From the statement above, the user of the @gitlost or Developers Swearing account uses the swear word **“fuck off”** to emphasize that he/she is disappointed or angry with typing, thus making him go away.

(6) Tweet 6: fix **f\*ck up** in DUMP protocol (ARGH, I'm an idiot!)

In the statement above, the user of @gitlost or Developers Swearing account expresses his frustration using the swear word **“fuck up”**. Swear word **“fuck up”** here means a mess that occurs in the DUMP protocol.

(7) Tweet 7: derp: Introduce Lawnchair 11 - An Android 11 Quickstep Launcher that does not **s\*ck**.

In this statement above, swear word that has been used is **“suck”**. The swear words is used to refer to Lawnchair 11 which is a good android system. The meaning of **“suck”** is bad or not good. However, in this case, the user uses this word to emphasize that this system is good, as in the tweet above on the word “doesn't **s\*ck**”.

(8) Tweet 8: ...the reply as it gets it, so it knows exactly how many bytes to **s\*ck** in. Maybe someday. Also add a bit more spewage. STILL TODO: \* Add...

In the statement above, the user uses swear words **“suck”**. This word in Cambridge means pull in liquid or air through your mouth without using your teeth or to move the tongue and muscles of the mouth around something inside your mouth, but in this case the meaning is different. In this tweet, the user used the word to refer to the bytes of data on the computer that had to be inhaled.

(9) Tweet 9: The keyboard actually **f\*cking** works

The tweet above shows that he expresses his emotions by saying "fucking works". Here, it seems that the word indicates that the keyboard can really work well.

## 1.4 Death

The examples of death term are **“damn”** and **“hell”**, but in this case the writer only found the swear word **“damn”**. Sometimes this word is not used as a real meaning. The discussion as follows:

(1) Tweet 1: ...\* For now it's just a core plugin named `sixref` (as in siguza'sxref) \* Yes. it's a very bad name, but it works, and its **d\*mn** fast.

In the statement above, the swear word used is “**damn**”. Usually, the swear word is used to show anger, but in this case it is very different. He uses those swear words to strongly criticize something and that something is a core plug-in called `sixref`. He criticized that the name of the core plug-in is very bad, but on the other side the name is successful and so fast to access.

(2) Tweet 2: Oh, **d\*mn** it! I did it.

In this statement, the word “**damn**” used in the statement shows that he is disappointed with what he has done.

(3) Tweet 3: Trying to get this **d\*mn** CI workflow

In this case, the user of the account used the word “**damn**” to get a CI workflow which was so hard he tried. Therefore, he uses the word “**damn**” to emphasize the CI workflow.

(4) Tweet 4: Struggle with **d\*mn** icons

The word “**damn**” is used by users of the @gitlost or Developers Swearing account to refer to the icon. He seemed annoyed by the icon, so he had to struggle.

(5) Tweet 5: FINALLY fixed the **d\*mn** thing

The wear word used in the tweet is “**damn**”. The word “**damn**” refers to something and indicates resentment about that thing, but in the end it was fixed.

## 1.5 Excretion

For this term, the examples are “**shit**” and “**piss**” words. Those words are not used as the real meaning. Those words are related to human excretory. According to Hughes, (2006, p.373,460) the words “**piss**” and “**shit**” are a general feature in swearing that terms for excretion come to be used to express insult, annoyance, and contempt. The writer just found word “**shit**” or “**shitty**” in this tweet that has been posted. The discussion as follows:

(1) Tweet 1: Make this **sh\*t** properly work Paper removed their public ci server a while ago and this script was broken, I just set my server to auto...

The word “**shit**” used by @gitlost or Developers Swearing account is related to make the work paper and the meaning is like a control. In the tweet, the expression of the @gitlost or Developers Swearing account looks angry at the CI server because the script is broken.

(2) Tweet 2: ...calling it twice leads to multiple vibrations and the result is a **sh\*tty**feedback. This solves that and we now use EFFECT\_POP instead of...

In the tweet above, the swear word used is **“shitty”**. The word refers to poor feedback and switching to EFFECT\_TOP, thus showing an unpleasant expression.

### 1.6 Bodily function

The of body function term found are **“asshole”**, **“ass”**, **“tits”**, **“cunt”**, **“rooster”**, and **“cock”**. The writer found word **“asshole or assholery”** and **“ass”** in this tweet that has been posted. The discussion as follows:

(1) Tweet 1: Now pulling data as sorted by top, and sorting on all 5 types of **assholery**

In the tweet above, the user uses swear words **“assholery”**. In this case, the swear words as a noun and means that the words refers to the behavior of **“asshole”**.

(2) Tweet 2: ...vanilla Doom, I came to realize how much of a pain in the **ass** they can be since weapon switching is so slow. Fixes: - Reworked player...

In the tweet above, swear word **“ass”** refers to vanilla Doom. The word **“ass”** means annoying because there the user feels annoyed with those who are very slow in changing weapons.

(3) Tweet 3: Idek why I ever thought I needed to do the stupid **ass** shit I was doing. s doing

This tweet shows that he once thought that he needs to do what he thinks does not make sense. He uses swear word **“ass”** to emphasize something that does not make sense, so the meaning of the word **“ass”** in the tweet is stupid. So, he once thought that he needed to do something stupid, but he was doing it.

### 1.7 Religious matter

In this section, the writer found swears word in Religious matters term. The example of this term is **“goddamn”** and **“holy shit”**. The discussion is as follows:

(1) Tweet 1: **goddamn** i did gold marathon

The swear word **“goddamn”** above shows that he feels emotional and the word emphasizes his anger.

(2) Tweet 2: Fixed the **goddamn** thing

In the statement, he indicated that he wanted to fix things that were not good. There, he uses swear word **“goddamn”** referring to things that need to be fixed.

(3) Tweet 3: **Holy sh\*t** dude...I successfully created a timed replacement of the header text with letteringjs style separation of individual letters...

In the tweet above, it shows that he used the swear word “**holy shit**”. The word “**holy shit**” has two meanings, namely “**God's poop**” and an expression yelled at something bad or surprising. In this context, the word refers to the second meaning, because in the tweet he was surprised that he successfully created a timed replacement of the header text with lettering style separation of individual letters.

## 2. Function of Swearing

There are two functions of swearing words. As described in chapter two, there are primary functions, such as expletive and abusive. And then, secondary functions there are humoristic, euphemistic, and habitual. The writer will describe what the functions of swearing words that use in @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account. Andersson and Hirsch (1985, p.53-56) say that there are several functions behind the use of swear words by someone. These functions are as follows:

### 2.1 Expletive

According to Andersson and Hirsch (1985, p.53) expletive is in which the speaker gives expression to his emotions and attitudes in the form of an exclamation. An expletive is basically reactive and not directed towards something or someone. The following is a tweet contains swear words posted by @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account user to express his emotions:

Tweet : Use FG3 some stupid **bullshit** about annotation processing that I'm too stupid to understand

From the tweet above, he uses word “**bullshit**”. And then, the function of the words falls into category of **expletives** because they try to understand the process of FG3 that is difficult for him to understand. Thus, it raises an expression of disappointment.

### 2.2 Abusive

Abusive is in which the speaker abuses, offends or defames something or someone. Abusive is also type of swearing, includes name calling or other cursing expressions that are offensive and cursing insult. The following is a tweet that contains swear words that are deliberately posted by the @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account to express their emotional feelings based on the abusive function:

Tweet : **F\*ck you** and your persistence system



The word “**fuck you**” is classified as an abusive swear word because it has a negative meaning used to curse someone. The word “**fuck you**” there is used intentionally by user of the account to the persistence system owner. In the tweet, it shows that what he went through annoyed him and cursed the owner of the system by using the word “**fuck you**”.

### 2.3 Humoristic

Humoristic, means the use of cursing that aims to joke. The following is a tweet that contains swear words used by @gitlost or Developers Swearing in his Twitter account to joke around or as material for humor:

Tweet: removed that large **ass** excel file

The swear words “**ass**” actually can be used in every situation when angry or happy. In this case, it shows that he uses swear words “**ass**” without feeling annoyed with anyone or anything, but used as material for joke. In this tweet, the word “**ass**” emphasizes the very large excel file. Indirectly, he used the word to say that the excel file was as big as a butt.

### 2.4 Habitual

Habitual, means the use of curses that have become a habit. Based on the research on the @gitlost or Developers Swearing account, there are three words that are often posted by the account, so the words can be categorized into habitual functions. The following are tweets that contain swear words that are used by users of the account in their posts based on function habitual:

1. Tweet 1: **F\*ck** it, YOLO!
2. Tweet 2: **F\*ck**you errors go die
3. Tweet 3: **F\*ck** you

The word “**fuck**” is used by the @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account to complete his sentence when he is angry and upset. This shows that the user habits of the account in use swear words. He always uses the word “**fuck**” in the near future. Thus, the tweets are categorized into habitual functions.

## CONCLUSION

Conclusions from this research can be formulated based on research question. After analyzing the data, the writer makes a final conclusion for explain about swear words. There are seven types of swear words found in @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account. They are: Mother in law term (motherfucker, bitch, bitches), Animal term (bullshit), Sex term (fuck, fucking, fuck off, fuck up and suck), Death (damn), Bodily function (ass, asshole), Excretion (shit), and Religious matter (hollyshit and goddamn).

The swear words that are often used in that account are in the category of Sex terms with 37.5%, and the second highest percentage is Death with 15%, third is Mother in Law 12.5%, then Bodily function, Excretion, Religious Matter are same 10%, and the last is Animal 5%.

Furthermore, there are five functions of swearing words that the account used to swear, such as expletive, abusive, euphemistic, humoristic, and habitual. For euphemistic the writer did not find at gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account. Based on the analysis of the use of swear words in @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account, the writer concludes that swear words are not only used in angry situation, but also in several situations, conditions and contexts. It was used to insult someone, to order, to greet, to praise, to express a statement, regret or even be used to explain something. Swear words can also be used to express disappointment or happiness. In line with that, Jay stated that the function of swearing is similar with the function of horn in someone's car. Therefore, it can be used to express someone's emotion or feeling, for instance anger, frustration, joy, and also surprise (Jdetay, 2019, p: 155). In the use of swear words, there are conscious or intentional to say certain purposes. In the account @gitlost or Developers Swearing Twitter account it shows that the use of swear words in every tweet. In this account, users use swear words to express the user feelings based on the context of the tweet. However, there are also some words that are only used as jokes, habits, and greetings.

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**Source Data:**

Gitlost. Twitter. September 2020. <https://twitter.com/gitlost>.