# SARCASM ANALYSIS AS SATIRICAL STATEMENTS IN CHRIS ROCK'S STAND-UP COMEDY

## **THESIS**

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IBRAHIM MALANG
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# SARCASM ANALYSIS AS SATIRICAL STATEMENTS IN CHRIS ROCK'S STAND-UP COMEDY

## **THESIS**

## Presented to:

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In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for the degree of Sarjana Sastra (S. S)

By: Nadia Widya Admadja NIM 210302110105



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2025

## STATEMENT OF AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled "Sarcasm Analysis As A Satirical Statements In Chris Rock's Stand-Up Comedy" is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those cited as references and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is any objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

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## **MOTTO**

"Cukup Allah menjadi penolong kami, dan Allah adalah sebaik-baik pelindung."

(QS. Ali Imran: 173)

Ketika segala daya terasa terbatas, ketenangan dan kekuatan sejati datang dari keyakinan kepada Allah SWT.

## **DEDICATION**

"I fully dedicated this thesis to two great in my life, my parents, Muhammad Abdul Ghofur and Anita Widya Carolina, whose unconditional love, unwavering support, and endless prayers have guided me throughout every step of my journey. I also dedicated this work to my dear siblings, Aditya Widya Admadja and Syarah Faliza Widyasari, whose presence and encouragement have been a constant source of strength and motivation. May this work stand as a modest expression of my deepest gratitude and love.

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Sholawat and greetings are always poured out to the great Prophet Muhammad SAW, who has brought humanity from the dark ages to the bright light of science, as well as being an example in all aspects of life.

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the author in joy and sorrow.

The author realizes that this thesis is still far from perfection. Therefore,

constructive criticism and suggestions are highly expected for future

improvements.

Finally, the author hopes that this thesis can provide benefits and

contributions to the development of science, especially in linguistic studies.

Malang, 14 May 20255

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## **ABSTRACT**

Admadja, Nadia Widya 2025 Sarcasm Analysis As A Satirical Statements In Chris Rock's Stand-Up Comedy. Undergraduate Thesis. Department of English Literature, Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, Advisor Abdul Aziz, M.Ed., Ph.D.

Key words: Pragmatics, Sarcasm, Satire, Stand-up Comedy, Chris Rock.

This study explores the use of sarcasm as a satirical tool in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy. The research aims to identify the types of sarcasm employes and reveal the functions of those sarcastic utterances. Using a qualitative approach, the data were taken from seven short videos of Chris Rock's performances on TikTok, focusing on sarcastic lines containing social criticism. The analysis is based on Elizabeth Camp's theory of sarcasm types, namely: propositional, lexical, like-prefixed, and illocutionary. The analysis is also based on Keraf's theory of sarcasm functions. The findings reveal fifteen sarcastic utterances, with illocutionary sarcasm being the most frequently used type. Each type of sarcasm corresponds to various functions such as rejection, conveying comparison, expressing opinion, conveying criticism, expressing question, conveying information, and prohibition, reflecting Chris Rock's strategy in addressing social issues through humor. The study highlights that sarcasm in stand-up comedy is not merely for entertainment but serves as an effective vehicle for social commentary. Sarcastic utterances often provoke laughter while simultaneously challenging societal norms, making them both humorous and reflective. This research contributes to linguistic studies by demonstrating how sarcastic expressions in comedy can function as critical and educational tools. Furthermore, it offers novelty by using content from a contemporary digital platform TikTok and analyzing the pragmatic relationship between sarcasm types and their function.

#### **ABSTRAK**

Admadja, Nadia Widya 2025 Analisis Sarkasme Sebagai Pernyataan Satir Dalam Stand-Up Comedy Chris Rock. Skripsi. Jurusan Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Adab dan Humaniora, Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang, Pembimbing Abdul Aziz, M.Ed.

Kata Kunci: Pragmatik, Sarkasme, Satire, Stand-up Comedy, Chris Rock.

Penelitian ini mengeksplorasi penggunaan sarkasme sebagai alat satir dalam komedi stand-up Chris Rock. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi jenis-jenis sarkasme yang digunakan dan mengungkapkan fungsi dari ujaran sarkastik tersebut. Dengan menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif, data diambil dari tujuh video pendek penampilan Chris Rock di TikTok, dengan fokus pada kalimatkalimat sarkasme yang mengandung kritik sosial. Analisis didasarkan pada teori Elizabeth Camp tentang jenis-jenis sarkasme, yaitu: proposisional, leksikal, like-prefixed, dan ilokusi. Analisis juga didasarkan pada teori fungsi sarkasme dari Keraf. Temuan ini mengungkapkan lima belas ujaran sarkasme, dengan sarkasme ilokusi sebagai jenis yang paling sering digunakan. Setiap jenis sarkasme berhubungan dengan berbagai fungsi seperti penolakan, menyampaikan perbandingan, menyampaikan pendapat, menyampaikan kritik, menyampaikan pertanyaan, menyampaikan informasi, dan larangan, yang mencerminkan strategi Chris Rock dalam mengatasi masalah sosial melalui humor. Penelitian ini menyoroti bahwa sarkasme dalam stand-up comedy tidak hanya sebagai hiburan, tetapi juga berfungsi sebagai sarana yang efektif untuk komentar sosial. Ucapan sarkastik sering kali memancing tawa sekaligus menantang norma-norma masyarakat, menjadikannya lucu dan reflektif. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada studi linguistik dengan menunjukkan bagaimana ekspresi sarkastik dalam komedi dapat berfungsi sebagai alat kritis dan edukatif. Selain itu, penelitian ini juga menawarkan hal baru dengan menggunakan konten dari platform digital kontemporer TikTok dan menganalisis hubungan pragmatis antara jenis-jenis sarkasme dan fungsinya.

## خلاصة

أدمادجا، نادية وديا 2025 تحليل السخرية كبيان ساخر في كوميديا كريس روك في ستاند أب كوميدي. الأطروحة. قسم الأدب الإنجليزي، كلية الآداب .والعلوم الإنسانية، جامعة مولانا مالك إبراهيم الإسلامية الحكومية مالانج، المشرف عبد العزيز، ماجستير في الأدب

الكلمات المفتاحية: البراغماتية، السخرية، السخرية، السخرية، كوميديا الموقف، كريس روك.

يستكشف هذا البحث استخدام السخرية كأداة ساخرة في كوميديا كريس روك الكوميدية الساخرة. ويهدف هذا البحث إلى تحديد أنواع السخرية المستخدمة والكشف عن وظيفة الألفاظ الساخرة. وباستخدام منهج نوعي، تم أخذ البيانات من ثمانية مقاطع فيديو قصيرة لعروض كريس روك على تطبيق تيك توك، مع التركيز على الجمل الساخرة التي تحتوي على نقد اجتماعي. ويستند التحليل إلى نظرية إليزابيث كامب لأنواع السخرية وهي الاقتراحية، والمعجمية، والمعجمية المتشابحة، والتهكمية. ويستند التحليل أيضًا إلى نظرية كيراف لوظيفة السخرية. وتكشف النتائج عن ستة عشر لفظًا من ألفاظ السخرية، حيث كانت السخرية ، المسائية هي النوع الأكثر استخدامًا. يتوافق كل نوع من أنواع السخرية مع وظائف مختلفة مثل الإنكار، ونقل المقارنة، ونقل الرأي، ونقل النقد، ونقل السؤال ونقل السؤال السخرية في معالجة القضايا الاجتماعية من خلال الفكاهة. يسلط هذا البحث الضوء على أن السخرية في الكوميديا الارتجالية ليست مجرد تسلية فحسب، بل هي أداة فعالة للتعليق الاجتماعي. وغالبًا ما تثير الملاحظات الساخرة الضحك وتتحدى في الوقت نفسه المعايير المجتمعية، بما يعملها فكاهية ومعبرة في آن واحد. ويساهم هذا البحث في الدراسات اللغوية من خلال إظهار كيف يمكن أن تكون التعابير الساخرة في الكوميديا بمثابة أدوات نقدية وتقيفية. وبالإضافة إلى ذلك، يقدم هذا البحث أيضًا جديدًا من خلال استخدام محتوى من منصة تيك توك الرقمية المعاصرة وتحليل العلاقة البراغماتية بين أنواع السخرية ووظائفها.

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## **CHAPTER 1**

## INTRODUCTION

## A. Background of the Study

In the growing modern era, entertainment plays an important role in people's lives as a means to entertain themselves while providing a new perspective on various social issues (Jaya & Zahara, 2022). One form of entertainment that is currently popular among the public is stand-up comedy. More than just ordinary entertainment, stand-up comedy is a medium that can voice social, political, and cultural criticism effectively and fearlessly (Wijayanti, 2022). This phenomenon can be seen from the response of people who often use stand-up comedy to share happiness, overcome stress, and reduce the burden of life by laughing together (Hakim & Anjani, 2022).

Christopher Julius Rock is an American actor and comedian. He often performs stand-up comedy at several important events in the United States. He began his foray into comedy in 1984 at Catch New York City, after which he launched his career and channeled his talents through a movie called *I'm gonna git you sucka* and *the TV series Miami Vice* (Carroll, 2020). From there, it was recognized and noticed by many important people, so he was often given a stage to perform stand-up comedy on a regular stage and in a movie. Until finally, he often received various awards.

In order to fully understand the use of sarcasm in Chris Rock's

stand-up comedy, it is essential to consider his personal background and life experiences, as these elements greatly shape his comedic style and social perspectives. Chris Rock is an African-American comedian who often draws upon his lived experiences with racism, class inequality, family, and relationships. His identity, upbringing in Brooklyn, and rise to fame as a Black entertainer in a predominantly white industry have deeply influenced the themes he explores through humor. Thus, analyzing his sarcastic utterances without acknowledging his sociocultural background would risk overlooking the deeper meaning and intention behind his satire.

Many people like Chris Rock's stand-up comedy because they feel related to real life. In addition, the stand-up comedy material presented refers to things that many comics avoid, such as race, politics, and celebrities (Rullyanti & Nurdianto, 2019). With this, there are various kinds of stand-up comedy based on the comics that they perform.

In stand-up comedy, performance styles can vary from lighthearted jokes, sarcasm, and character impersonations to comedic roasts or insults (Abrahams, 2020). Chris Rock, one of the comedians known for his social criticism, often uses sarcasm and satire as the main tools in delivering deeper messages. The sarcasm and irony in Chris Rock's shows reflect the social realities faced by his audience, making his comedic material relevant to everyday life. This makes many viewers

feel connected to Rock's stand-up comedy, as the topics he covers resonate with their life experiences and become a critical reflection of the social realities experienced (Islami, 2022). Although Rock often uses language that is classified as taboo, the audience does not feel offended but rather entertained. Thus, stand-up comedy shows its potential as an entertaining medium and a means to deliver social criticism that is educative and relevant to audiences from all walks of life.

Stand-up comedy, which has an appeal in the entertainment world, can attract audiences from various circles to watch the show (Wijayanti, 2022). Each comedian has a characteristic and unique delivery style, affecting how the audience receives the comedy material. The distinctive features of each comedian's delivery, such as the sarcasm and irony used by Chris Rock, provide their color in conveying messages and social criticism. Chris Rock often uses sarcasm and wordplay to convey humor with implied meaning, requiring the audience to understand the social context that is usually close to his life experience. The sarcasm presented in his shows also serves as a tool for the audience to interpret the message entertainingly without feeling offended. This shows how Rock's comedy can reach a broader audience in the United States and other countries, such as Indonesia, where he often appears on television screens. While some of his jokes may not always be relevant to international audiences, his unique style still captures attention and creates cross-cultural connections that enrich his audience's

experience.

The concept of sarcasm within the scope of pragmatics and semantics does not yet have a standardized definition (Camp, 2011). However, sarcasm is often associated with pragmatics because it requires a specific context to convey the intent hidden behind a sarcastic statement (Hadi & Anssari, 2021). Sarcasm is a form of sharp satire that can provoke an emotional reaction from the audience, while satire is a more subtle and implicit expression of humor that aims to laugh at and criticize human weaknesses (Keraf, 2010). The use of sarcasm that tends to be sharp and straightforward in his performances characterizes Rock, where he can bring issues often avoided by society into the public forum. Despite his abrasive delivery style, the audience received his sarcasm well, as they took it as a joke. This shows that sarcasm in comedy has a complex function: entertaining and criticizing, which ultimately enriches the audience's experience in enjoying comedy as a medium of social reflection (Onan & Tocoglu, 2020). There are some theories that can explain about sarcasm, but the researcher have found the best fit theory for this study that explained below.

Based on some theories, Elizabeth Camp (in Wardani, 2019) theory is relevant to this research. This theory can explain the different types of sarcasm often used in stand-up comedy, especially in delivering social criticism. There are four types of sarcasm according to this theory, namely: Propositional Sarcasm, Lexical Sarcasm, Like-Prefixed

Sarcasm, and Illocutionary Sarcasm. In addition, researchers also use Keraf's theory (in Wardani, 2019) to reveal the functions of sarcasm utterances realized as social criticism in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy. Thus, the use of sarcasm in stand-up comedy not only provides entertainment but also shows the relevance of everyday life which can be seen from the function of sarcastic utterances used by Chris Rock so that the audience can accept it (Islami, 2022).

Several previous studies on satire and sarcasm have been conducted. For example, Fitri & Amir (2020) explored the role of sarcasm in Deddy Cobuzier's vlog in his video entitled "There are Indonesian Humans Who Have No Brains". The method used in this research is qualitative and the theory used is civility theory which includes six maxims of politeness, such as: Tact Maxim, Generosity Maxim, Approbation Maxim, Modesty Maxim, Agreement Maxim, and Sympathy Maxim. The results of this study show that there are 18 utterances that can be called sarcasm, 10 utterances that contain the maxim of praise, 8 utterances that violate the principle of politeness maxims, 11 utterances that threaten positive face, and there are 8 utterances that contain negative face threats.

Lubis & Bahri's research (2023) also analyzed the use of sarcasm used in the Indonesian TV show Pesbukers without going through the translator process in each dialogue. The method used in this research is qualitative and the theory used is Elisabeth Camp's theory (2012),

focusing on four main types of sarcasm, such as: Propositional Sarcasm, Lexical Sarcasm, Like-Prefixed Sarcasm, and Illocutionary Sarcasm. The results obtained from this study are 31 utterances containing sarcasm, 12 propositional sarcasm, 10 lexical sarcasm, 5 illocutionary sarcasm, and 4 sarcasm using the prefix like.

Research conducted by Fadilah & Wijayanto (2024) discusses the use of types of sarcasm expressions used by netizens in social media, especially in the comments column on Sam Smith's Instagram post. The method used in this research is qualitative, while the theory used is Camp's theory (2011) which discusses four types of sarcasm and Attardo's theory (2001) which is used to reveal the purpose of using sarcasm. The results obtained from this study are 128 sarcasm expressions, 49.22% Lexical Sarcasm, 32.82% Illocutionary Sarcasm, 15.62% Propositional Sarcasm, and 2.34% Like-Prefix Sarcasm. While the results of the purpose of using sarcasm are showing sophistication so that the comment writer looks smart and has the ability to play words creatively, the second purpose is sarcasm as an evaluation, which is a tool of politeness, persuasive communication, and retraction.

Several previous studies have been conducted on stand-up comedy. Research conducted by Kawalec (2020) examines stand-up comedy from a Western cultural perspective and compares it with comedic expressions in non-Western societies, such as indigenous tribes in North and South America. The method used in this research is a comparative

cultural approach and the theory used is Aristotle's theory. The results show that stand-up comedy, which is an early comedy genre, has a significant function in moral improvement.

Research conducted by Miller (2020) explores how comedy outside the traditional West understands popularity. The method used in this research is qualitative and the theories used are Social Identity theory and Globalization theory. The results of this study reveal that the popularity of stand-up comedy in India illustrates a growing social identity. In addition, comedy is also a platform to openly express social anxieties and aspirations as comedians use humor to navigate and challenge existing social norms.

Another study by (Zhang & Zhou, 2023) revealed how stand-up comedy can spread feminism in China. The theories used in this study are feminism theory and humor theory. Then the results showed that stand-up comedy is one of the most important tools in China to spread feminism, although many people still have patriarchal traits and their minds still have stereotypes about gender. The research conducted by analyzed the role of stand-up comedy in people's lives, and the results showed that stand-up comedy is a tool to fight against the restraints of society and a space for comics to express their opinions in public.

Therefore, this study provides extensive information on how sarcasm is used in different contexts. Although several studies discuss sarcasm in several contexts, there is a lack of exploration of sarcasm in stand-up

comedy in satirical statements. In particular, stand-up comedy performed by American comedian Chris Rock addresses topics that comics avoid, such as politics, celebrities, and others that comedy from a cultural point of view, both local and global, without focusing on how sarcasm can be accepted by the audience by paying attention to the function of each sarcasm utterance.

Through this study, I offer a new research in understanding sarcasm in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy in revealing how sarcasm is a satirical tool that still needs to be explored in the linguistic sphere. By using Elizabeth Camp's sarcasm type theory and Keraf's sarcasm function theory, I can explain how Chris Rock's sarcastic language in delivering social criticism can be relevant to his audience. Thus, this research contributes to understanding the types of sarcasm sentences in stand-up comedy and provides knowledge about the functions of sarcasm as social criticism used by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy. This study offers a novel contribution by combining those two theories to reveal the pragmatic intentions and social commentary embedded in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy, a genre where sarcasm functions not only as humor but also as a sharp reflection of social realities. This study applies a contextual pragmatic analysis to spontaneous, performative speech delivered in live stand-up settings, using real world performances extracted from TikTok as data.

This study aims to find out more about the types of sarcasm used by

Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy in the form of satirical statements and the functions of sarcasm realized as social criticism. The theory used in this research is the theory of sarcasm by Elizabeth Camp, which aims to reveal the types of sarcasm used to make an interesting comedy. In addition, the researcher also uses Keraf's theory which is used to reveal the function of sarcasm utterances. Although there are several tricks and tips for a comedian to successfully deliver his comedy lines, there are also several types of sarcasm. In addition, the second objective of this research is to explore how each of Chris Rock's sarcastic utterances functions. Through comedy, social criticism and sensitive social phenomena can be easily conveyed. Since people will take it as a joke, the audience will always laugh when they see it rather than discussing it according to the situation. So, the two objectives in this study are very important to the researcher because they are related to what he wants to reveal about the object of research.

## **B.** Research Question

Based on the background described above, researchers will use two research questions. These are written below:

- 1. What types of sarcasm are employed by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy?
- 2. What are the functions of sarcasm realized as social criticism in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy?

## C. Significance of the Study

This research is expected to make a significant contribution to the development of linguistic studies, especially on sarcasm and satire in stand-up comedy. Practically, this research can add insight into sarcasm as a tool of social criticism in stand-up comedy seen based on its function. The results of this study are expected to help understand various types of sarcasm and add new insights into how sarcasm utterances can be accepted based on their function. In addition, this research is also expected to be one of the references for researchers and students who will study sarcasm through further studies in various media.

## D. Scope and Limitation

This research focuses on the pragmatic analysis of sarcasm as a satirical statement in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy. This study aims to identify the types of sarcasm used by Chris Rock and then reveal how the function of sarcasm is reflected in the types of sarcasm analyzed. In analyzing the data, the researcher refers to Elizabeth Camp and Keraf's theories that explain sarcasm and satire and their relevance in conveying social criticism through comedy.

There are three limitations of this study, namely first, the data analyzed are transcripts of several videos of Chris Rock's stand-up comedy performances on TikTok that convey social criticism. Second, this research does not reveal other humor used by Chris Rock, such as impersonation. Third, this research is also limited due to the lack of

engagement analysis on how audiences receive sarcasm in stand-up comedy.

## E. Definition of the Key Terms

In this study, the researcher uses several key terms related to the topic discussed:

- Sarcasm is a saying where the speaker's intended meaning contradicts the original intention, sometimes used to mock.
   However, in this study, sarcasm is used as one of the tools to convey social criticism in stand-up comedy by Chris Rock.
- Satirical Statement is a criticism that uses humor or satire to highlight societal flaws. In the context of this research, Chris Rock's sarcasm is used to reveal a form of satirical statements on social norms.
- 3. **Chris Rock** is one of the comedians from America. He is not only a comedian but also an actor. In this study, Chris Rock is one of the important roles because he is the main role.
- 4. **Stand-up comedy** is a performance in front of an audience that delivers jokes live. This research analyzes Chris Rock's stand-up comedy, focusing on sarcasm as social criticism.
- 5. Social Criticism is a form of expression that aims to correct, voice, or highlight social conditions that are considered unfair, inhumane, or incompatible with moral and human values.

## **CHAPTER II**

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

This chapter discusses the review of related literature, which includes several theories, such as pragmatics, sarcasm, types of sarcasm, and satire.

## A. Pragmatics

The word "Pragmatics" comes from the concept of Pragmatica created by Charles Moris in 1938 while he was developing the material taught by Charles R. Peirce about semiotics, which is a science that studies signs. There are three main branches of semiotics, namely semantics, which studies the meaning of the sign itself, syntactics, which studies the relationship between signs in a structure, and pragmatics, which focuses more on the use of language in a particular context. Pragmatics is the study of the use of language in concrete communication and how the meaning of linguistic expressions is formed in specific situations. The word Pragmatica was introduced by German philosopher Immanuel Kant, while in Latin, Pragmaticus means good at trading. In Greek, Pragmaticos comes from the words Pragma which means action and Prasein which means doing. Thus, pragmatics enables an understanding of the properties of language in the context of honest communication (Dosen et al.,)

Charles Morris described pragmatism as the study of the relationship between signs and their users. In the current context of communication, the term "interpreter" is changed to "message" and "language user", which is easier to understand with modern language. Nevertheless, many developments in pragmatics have been discussed by writers, one of which is presented by Mey (1994) in his book Rahardi (2018). According to Mey, pragmatics is a science that studies language with a focus on its users, which shows attention to aspects of language users in communication. The definition presented by Mey is very different from the more classic definition of pragmatics, which emphasizes the "results; activity of language users," namely how language structures are produced through the use of language by speakers in accordance with existing grammatical rules. In this perspective, pragmatics focuses more on the process and influence of language use in specific communication situations.

Pragmatics is one of the branches of linguistics that is increasingly recognized and studied. This is due to the realization of linguists that understanding language is not enough through analyzing word structure or grammar; it also requires an understanding of how language is used in real communication. Leech, a linguist, defines pragmatics as the study of meaning related to communication situations (speech situations). This definition emphasizes that meaning depends not only on the words spoken but also on the context in which the utterance occurs. As such, pragmatics highlights the important role that context plays in shaping the meaning of an utterance, allowing for more effective and profound communication (Leech, 2016).

It can be concluded from the opinions of experts that in essence, pragmatics is the study of how language can be used in the context of communication to convey meaning and action, either through speech or social conventions that govern such communication. In pragmatics, meaning is understood based on linguistic form alone and depends on the context of the situation, the relationship between speaker and listener, and the intention behind the utterance. Unlike linguistics, which studies language's internal structure, such as phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics, pragmatics examines how language is used dynamically to achieve communicative goals in social interaction. In addition, pragmatics also includes understanding how unwritten rules, such as cultural norms and politeness, influence language use in various communication situations. As such, pragmatics offers greater insight into the role of language in building social relationships and solving the various needs of human interaction.

#### B. Sarcasm

Sarcasm is a harsher form of speech than irony and cynicism. It is also a reference that contains bitterness and bitter reproach. Sarcasm can be ironic or not, but sarcasm will always hurt someone. Due to the choice of words used, it is not pleasant to hear, let alone accepted by others. The word Sarcasm comes from the Greek word Sarkasmos or Sarkazo. The meaning of Sarkazo is something that is delivered and can cause the deepest hurt. Furthermore, sarcasm comes from the verb Sakasein, which means "to tear flesh like a dog" or "to speak with bitterness" (Keraf, 2009).

In the Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI), the definition of sarcasm is using scathing words to hurt others, ranging from subtle mockery to harsh mockery. The sarcasm language style is intended to satirize, offend, and even corner someone. So, it can be concluded that sarcasm is a sarcastic language style in which the delivery is direct and sharp, which can hurt someone's heart. Although not everyone is easily hurt, the language style is intended that way. According to Tarigan, sarcasm is language or word choice that contains ridicule or even scathing satire that can hurt others (Tarigan, 2013). In line with Tarigan's opinion, sarcasm is a language whose meaning contains elements of blasphemy and can also hurt listeners who cannot accept the language.

## 1. Types of Sarcasm

Sarcasm is a style of language that takes various forms and is often used to convey sharp sarcasm or criticism in an indirect yet effective way. Sarcasm is often combined with humor, irony, or even insults to add to its appeal and power in conveying a message. In addition, sarcasm can also be used to create a specific emotional effect, whether to humiliate, emphasize, or entertain. There are four types of sarcasm, according to Elizabeth Camp (2011), which are unique in terms of their purpose and delivery, as explained below:

## a. Propositional Sarcasm

This type of sarcasm is in the form of propositions, the most prominent type. This type of sarcasm directly leads to the intent and purpose of the speakers

in order to satirize. However, the speakers' statements and intentions are the opposite. With its meaning, what the speaker conveys has the opposite meaning.

**Example**: "Wow, our government is amazing, it has succeeded in making its people more independent because they have to find their own solutions."

The statement seems like a compliment to the government, but the real meaning is a sharp satire. In this context, the speaker is not really appreciating the government, but rather insinuating a lack of action, leaving the people to deal with the problem on their own. The example above is an example of propositional sarcasm, because what is said seems like a positive sentence, but the actual meaning is the opposite, namely sharp criticism of the government.

#### b. Lexical Sarcasm

This type of lexical sarcasm is closer to semantic theory. It focuses more on the specific words used. Usually, the words used have a negative meaning, but when spoken the word sounds like a positive meaning. So, the word choice in this type of lexical sarcasm is direct and clear, with the word having two meanings or contradicting reality. Lexical sarcasm often contains extreme statements and is more transparent, such as using positive words with negative connotations.

**Example:** "Wow, you are a genius for forgetting about the meeting again."

In this example, "genius" is a positive term usually used to praise someone for their exceptional intelligence. However, it is used sarcastically here to mock the person who forgot about the meeting, implying that the speaker criticizes the person for their lack of attention or responsibility instead of praising them. This is an example of lexical sarcasm, where the positive word "genius" is used ironically

to convey an adverse judgment.

#### c. Prefix Sarcasm

This type of sarcasm uses the word "like" at the beginning of the statement, which combines a sarcastic statement with a declarative sentence (ordinary statement). This type of sarcasm is easier to understand and less confusing for the listener. Although the word choice sounds positive and neutral, "like" makes it clear that the statement is sarcastic or critical without confusing the listener. Prefix sarcasm is similar to propositional sarcasm, but prefix sarcasm only combines a sarcasm statement with a declarative sentence. Meanwhile, prepositional sarcasm means the opposite of what is said.

**Example**: "It seems like the most original outfit I have ever seen. It is innovative."

In this example, the speaker sarcastically mocks someone's outfit by saying, "That is the most original outfit," which, at first glance, seems like a compliment. However, adding "truly innovative" reinforces the sarcasm, implying that the outfit is not original. The word "like" at the beginning adds a sarcastic tone, making the criticism less direct but clear.

## d. Illocutionary Sarcasm

Illocutionary sarcasm contains a general implicature, which means that the meaning implied in an utterance can be understood by the listener even though it is not directly expressed. This type of sarcasm can be used in various communication contexts with a specific scope, such as to express sympathy or give sarcastic compliments. In other words, illocutionary sarcasm works not only with literal

words, but also involves how the utterance conveys opposite or contradictory meanings, depending on the context and the speaker's intent.

**Example :** "Oh, another team meeting? Because we have not had enough of those meetings."

In this example, the speaker sarcastically comments on too many team meetings. While the statement shows interest or acceptance, the tone and context suggest otherwise. The sarcasm criticizes the frequency of meetings, implying they are unproductive or unnecessary. This type of illocutionary sarcasm combines expressing "enthusiasm" with an underlying satirical criticism, thus triggering a reaction from the listener.

#### 2. Function of Sarcasm

According to Keraf (in Wardani, 2019), there are ten function of sarcasm, namely (1) as rejection, (2) as conveying prohibition, (3) as conveying information, (4) as affirmative, (5) as conveying opinion, (6) as conveying order, (7) as submitting question, (8) as conveying equality, (9) as conveying comparison, (10) as convey greeting.

## a. Sarcasm Function as Rejection

The first function of sarcasm is used for rejection. It is usually used when rejecting something that is not to our liking or something we don't like. Sarcasm is often used when someone doesn't want to directly reject by saying no, but still wants to show their disagreement clearly.

Example : "Oh, of course I want to work overtime again, after all, who needs to live?"

(This sentence is a refusal to work overtime. She is indirectly saying that working overtime makes life unbalanced.)

### b. Sarcasm Function as Conveying Prohibition

This sarcasm function is used when prohibiting or asking someone not to do something but the way of delivery is indirectly by sarcasm.

Example : "You keep updating your status even though your assignments are piling up. Social media first, work later, you're the boss."

(The above sentence insinuates someone who is busy playing social media and updating statuses even though they have a lot of unfinished work.)

## c. Sarcasm Function as Conveying Information

This function is used when providing information, but delivered in the form of sarcasm to emphasize the negative side of the information.

Example : "Look, he's already late for the 10<sup>th</sup> time this month."

(The sentence above is an informational sentence but the meaning is sarcastic.)

#### d. Sarcasm Function as Affirmative

This function is used to emphasize something with a sarcastic style of speech to make it sound more striking.

Example : "You are the most diligent, so diligent in making reason."

(A sarcastic phrase that emphasizes that the person likes to make a reason.)

## e. Sarcasm Function as Conveying of Opinion

This function is used to express a personal opinion or view, but in a sarcastic style to show disagreement or criticism.

Example : "I think he's fit to be a leader, a leader of lies."

(An opinion that directly implies disagreement.

## f. Sarcasm Function as Conveying Order

The sarcasm function is used to give directions or orders indirectly, but the style of speech is sarcastic.

Example : "Please, try working once in a while. It's not just your paycheck."

(Ordering someone to start working, but the way it is said is with sarcasm.)

## g. Sarcasm Function as Submitting Question

This function is used when asking a rhetorical or sarcastic question, not to actually be answered.

Example : "Do you think I have all day to wait for you who can't be on time?"

(A sarcastic question that admonishes punctuality and doesn't need to be answered.)

## h. Sarcasm Function as Conveying Equality

The sarcasm function is used to express a similarity between two things, but in a sarcastic manner.

Example : "You and laziness are a perfect match, inseparable."

(Equating someone with laziness, and said with sarcasm.)

## i. Sarcasm Function as Conveying Comparison

This function is used to compare two things with the intention of sharply satirizing one of them.

Example : "You work like a robot, but even a robot can be more efficient than you."

(A sarcastic comparison of poor performance.)

## j. Sarcasm Function as Convey Greeting

This function of sarcasm is used when addressing that literally sounds friendly but is actually sarcastic.

Example : "Wow, the king has finally come. We little people have been waiting for a long time."

(A sarcastic greeting because someone arrived very late.)

## C. Satire

Satire in Keraf's book (2010) is interpreted as a description that must be interpreted and has a different meaning from the original meaning. The word satire originated from satura, a tray full of various fruits. Satire is an expression of humor usually found in a stand-up comedy. The form of satire is not always ironic because satire usually contains a criticism of human weaknesses. However, not only that, satire is usually also used to express criticism or other things in the form of humor. Since satire is usually found in a stand up comedy, the audience rarely feels offended, instead it becomes a joke or joke.

## **CHAPTER III**

## RESEARCH METHOD

## A. Research Design

This research uses a qualitative approach to analyze the use of sarcasm as a satirical statement in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy. A qualitative method was chosen because this research focuses on describing and understanding linguistic phenomena, such as sarcasm, which can not be fully captured through numerical or statistical analysis. Sarcasm often involves nuanced meanings, implicit intentions, and contextual cues that require interpretation rather than measurement. This aligns directly with the research goals of identifying not just the forms of sarcasm, but also the functions and implied social criticism behind them. From the explanation above, the qualitative approach is the best fit for this study.

#### **B.** Research Instrument

Human as the instrument. The main key in this research is the researcher herself. As a research instrument, the researcher acts as a data collector, analyzer, and interpreter. The analysis was conducted by recording, classifying, and evaluating sarcastic utterances in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy. In addition, the researcher used a data analysis worksheet as a tool to categorize data based on sarcasm types, namely: propositional, lexical, prefix, and illocutionary and function of sarcasm, namely: as rejection, as conveying prohibition, as conveying information, as affirmative, as conveying of opinion, as conveying order, as submitting question, as conveying equality, as conveying comparison, as convey greeting.

#### C. Data Source

The data of this study are in the form of sarcastic utterances spoken by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy performances. The utterances were collected from a series of short stand-up comedy videos available on TikTok. These videos were selected based on their thematic relevance to the research focus, which is the use of sarcasm as a form of satirical social criticism. All videos were collected from digital platforms, spesifically the TikTok account @Chrisrock, which regularly posts excerpts of Chria Rock's performances. The researcher ensured that the videos featured original content from Chris Rock, and not parodies or commentary by other creators. The data collection was conducted during the period of Januari to July 2024, and only videos that clearly presented Chris Rock's direct performance were considered.

#### **D.** Data Collection

Data collection was conducted through four main stages. First, researcher viewed 16 videos of stand-up comedy performances by Chris Rock on his personal TikTok account with the username @Chrisrock. Second, researcher downloaded videos that contained social criticism and bad words. Social criticism can include criticism of expectations in a relationship, criticism of parenting patterns, criticism of the role of parents, and criticism of the comparison of modern life with traditional life. The number of videos containing some of these social criticism totaled 7 videos. Third, researcher transcribed the 7 videos that have been downloaded, the transcribe automatically because the video displayed directly has a transcribe. Fourth, researcher analyzed each data in the table based on the type and function of

the data.

# E. Data Analysis

Data analysis in this study was conducted using a qualitative method with a pragmatic approach. The analysis follows a structures process based on Elizabeth Camp of sarcasm types and Keraf of sarcasm functions. The analysis aimed to reveal how sarcastic utterances in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy reflect satirical social criticism. Practically, the stages of analysis were carried out as follows: First, the researcher identified sarcastic utterances from the transcripts of Chris Rock's stand-up videos. Second, each utterances was analyzed using the DIE technique: Display, to present the original sarcastic line taken from the transcript. Interpretan, to describe the utterance in context and determine its type of sarcasm according to Camp theory. This includes examining whether the sarcasm is propositional, lexical, like-prefixed, or illocutionary sarcasm. Evaluating, to interpret the deeper meaning behind the utterance and determine its function and how it reflects a social criticism according to Keraf theory.

# **CHAPTER IV**

# FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter presents the results and discussion of the research conducted. The results of the data analysis are based on video transcripts of stand up comedy performances by Chris Rock uploaded in a personal TikTok account with the username @Chrisrock and have been analyzed using Elizabeth Camp and Keraf theory. The analysis is carried out to answer the research question in this study, and the discussion is to discuss the results of the data analysis.

# A. Findings

In this section, researcher analyze some data taken from videos on the TikTok platform containing stand-up comedy performances by Chris Rock. There are 7 videos of Chris Rock's stand-up comedy taken and some sarcasm utterances will be analyzed based on Elizabeth Camp's theory which includes Propositional Sarcasm, Lexical Sarcasm, Like-Prefixed Sarcasm, and Illocutionary Sarcasm, and how the functions of sarcasm are realized in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy.

In today's modern entertainment world, especially in performing arts such as stand-up comedy, language plays an important role in the audience's perception of the social issues raised. Not only as a tool of humor, the language used by comedians like Chris Rock is also a tool to convey social criticism but also to entertain. This research uses Elizabeth Camp's theory, as there are four types of sarcasm: Propositional Sarcasm, Lexical Sarcasm, Like-prefix Sarcasm, and Illocutionary Sarcasm. By analyzing the utterances in each type, the researcher can

identify that the sarcasm used by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy not only functions as humor, but criticism and also a tool to convey some social issues.

#### Datum 1

"I've actually thought about going somewhere. I talked to a lawyer, I look at a place, and I realize I'm going to go through the same shit with the next girl. So why not just stay here and be miserable with you?"

The statement from datum 1 above belongs to the illocutionary sarcasm type, which is a type of sarcasm that relies not only on literal words, but also on implicit meanings captured through context. When viewed literally, Chris Rock appears to be making a decision to stay with his partner in an unhappy relationship. However, the statement "So why not just stay here and be miserable with you?" is not a serious statement. The sentence is said by Chris Rock to imply a sharp satire of the relationship in which it is already bad, where he means that there will be no difference between the current partner and the next partner, so he chooses to stay in familiar suffering, which is the suffering that in every relationship will be the same case.

Based on the sentence in datum 1 above, the sentence is also included in the sarcasm function as rejection. Chris Rock uses this sarcasm to reject the hope of a happier or more romantic relationship in the future. With this sentence, he sarcastically conveys a relationship that constantly brings suffering, whether with a current partner or a new partner. Because for him, in every relationship, the problems will always be the same. The statement above indirectly rejects the idea that a new relationship will bring change. In a sarcastic style, he chooses to stay

with his current partner because he feels that all relationship will be the same even though they are with different people.

This sentence contains social criticism of the romanticization of long term relationship that are often full of painful compromises. In a comedic context, this line not only provokes laughter but also opens up a space for reflection on why people stay in unhealthy relationships. Chris Rock portrays despair wrapped in a joke, making this sarcasm a form of humor that simultaneously satirizes the emotional reality of adult couples who are too tired to expect more.

## Datum 2

"When you got one kid, you're down in the sand because one kid is horrible, have a bunch of kids or have none at all"

The utterance in datum 2 above is a form of propositional sarcasm, because the statement expressed has a meaning that contradicts the original meaning. Chris rock does not really believe that having one child is something "horrible" or that someone should have many children or none at all. He is simply conveying the kind of burden one would feel if they had one child. As in the phrase "one kid is horrible" is not an insult to children, but as a form of satire on social expectations and exhausting childcare. Because as we know, many people think that if you have one child, you have to really focus on taking care of it. While the phrase "have a bunch of kids or have none at all" is not an actual suggestion, it's just a satirical phrase that highlights the difficulties of being a parent.

The propositional sarcasm in the above utterance functions as a means of social criticism of modern parenting. Chris rock says "one kid is horrible" and then

suggests "have a bunch of kids or have none at all" because he is flicking at society's point of view when it comes to being a parent, if you have too few kids then you will be bothered because you are too focused on taking care of the kids, if you have too many kids you will feel overwhelmed because you are too busy. Behind this joke is a satire of society's unrealistic expectations of the role of parents. Furthermore, the sentence "you're down in the sand" is a hyperbole to strengthen the sarcasm effect. The sentence illustrates that if someone has one child then he must really take care of his child. Then in the sentence "have a bunch of kids or have none at all" is not the actual advice given by Chris Rock, it's just used as a joke. Although the words thrown by Chris Rock sounded rude, strangely enough, the audience did not take offense and even laughed. It could be that there are some people who relate to what Chris Rock said that "When you got one kid, you're down in the sand because one kid is horrible" and then continued with advice jokes like the phrase "have a bunch of kids or have none at all."

The sentence above is included in the sarcasm function as conveying comparison, because Chris Rock compares indirectly between families with one child and families with many children to criticize the pressure parents feel in raising their children. In the sentence "you're down in the sand" describes a situation where parents have to drown in endless responsibilities, while in the sentence "have a bunch of kids or have none at all" is a form of hyperbole to emphasize the absurdity of modern parenting.

# Datum 3

"No matter what you do, your woman is mad at you"

The utterance sentence in datum 3 is a type of propositional sarcasm, because the meaning of the sentence is clearly a serious statement, but the actual meaning reveals a sharp satire in relationship dynamics. Chris Rock isn't really saying that women are always angry for no reason. Instead, he uses this statement to point out the double standards and also the uncertainty of a woman in a relationship. Meanwhile, the phrase "*No matter what you do*" also shows a difference in the meaning of what is said and what is actually appropriate in the relationship.

The data statement above functions as a social criticism of romantic relationship expectations. Chris rock uses this sentence to reveal the illogicality of gender relations standards, where men often feel that whatever they do will still look wrong in the eyes of their partners. Then the phrase "no matter what you do" also reinforces the sarcasm, by building a picture that all efforts, whether hard work, attention or other good attitudes to the partner must end with dissatisfaction by the partner. This is called emotional injustice which is often not realized in a relationship. That women are often called selfish rather than men. Men are required to be successful, independent, and romantic at the same time. In this case it can be said that in a relationship there must be conflicting expectations between male expectations and female expectations. Here Chris Rock through his sarcasm, he wants to show that the reality of relationships does not only fulfill one goal, but is full of conflicting emotional demands.

This statement in datum 3 above is a sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as expressing opinion, because here Chris Rock expresses a criticism of the relationship dynamics that he considers unfair. Here, he expresses his opinion

that there are inconsistent expectations in a relationship, especially how women are described as always dissatisfied or emotional. Lierally, the statement above implies that the man will always be blamed, even though he has tried to do all the right things. Through this sarcasm function, Chris Rock can convey his opinion using sarcasm. If heard literally, the sentence seems like a neutral statement. Whereas the actual meaning is a harsh satire against the emotional expectations that men feel are unfair. Here Chris Rock expresses his personal views on emotionally dissatisfied relationships through sarcasm, which opnes up a discussion about unbalanced gender expectations in relationships.

#### Datum 4

"If you make more money than her, they will say 'Fuck you! I want to make decisions too! You ain't my fucking daddy."

"If she makes more money than you, she will say "You broke motherfucker, I need to be taken care of!"

The utterance in datum 4 above is included in the illocutionary sarcasm type, because Chris Rock conveys the meaning of the sentence not directly, but is conveyed through sharp satire. He did not actually quote someone's real opinion, but rather to satirize the power dynamics in a relationship. This sentence mimics the reaction of women who protest if their relationship is dominated by men and if women have higher economic conditions than men. In the sentence above, it is a form of criticism carried out by women, if a man has higher economic condition he will feel that his relationship is more dominated by men. But also the women whose economic condition is higher, she also still demands traditional treatment by

considering that her male partner still has to provide for her.

The example sentence above belongs to the sarcasm function as conveying comparison, because it compares two opposite social conditions, namely whem men make more money they will be considered dominating, but whe women make more, men are still required to be the provider. Through this satirical language, she shows how this dynamic creates confusion between who is "entitled" to lead in the relationship. She is not really defending either party, but satirizing the absurd expectation that financial contribution should go hand in hand with complete control over a partner. It is a reflection on modern relationships that are increasingly complex and filled with competing expectations between men and women.

## Datum 5

"Two kids are easier than one, when you got two you're just an usher."

The utterance in datum 6 is a form of Lexical Sarcasm, because the meaning of the word used does not correspond to reality or is used non-literally, so that when spoken it creates a sarcastic effect. In his stand-up this time with the theme of parenting struggles, Chris Rock discusses the role of parents in parenting. He said that "two kids are easier than one" and likened parents who have two children to ushers or directional officers who function only as directions. Meanwhile, if he only has one child, he will be troubled because he has to really focus on that one child.

A more in-depth explanation of the data above, precisely in the utterance "Two kids are easier than one when you got two, you're just an usher" is a sentence that belongs to the type of lexical sarcasm which not only contains humor but also implies social criticism and the conflict of being a parent. The word usher in the

sentence is not only a funny word choice, but also serves as a sign of how the role of parents is often ignored or underestimated by children. Here Chris Rock conveys that when having two children then they can play together or can entertain each other, so that parents are not too focused on looking after children but the role of parents will still feel heavy, it's just that the responsibility changes what if the child is one with two children. If you only have one child then the parents have to focus on looking after the child and will only have a little time to have fun for themselves. Instead if the child is still small, then he really has to focus on looking after the child and must not be caught off guard if he does not want bad things to happen to his child. As we know that small children have a lot of behavior, so the meaning of Chris Rock's statement is like that. This instance of illocutionary sarcasm thus exemplifies second research question, as it functions to compare having a number of children.

The sentence above is included in a sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as conveying comparison, because the sentence indirectly equates the role of parents with the word *usher*. Literally, the sentence above implies that if parents with two children will be less directly involved because they can interact on their own. Here the role of parents is equated with the word *usher* who only directs without actually being directly involved. In a general context, the above statement means that the more children, the greater the responsibility. However, Chris Rock flips this social expectation to highlight the reality of parenting in a sarcastic fashion. This comparison implies that having two children does not necessarily make the responsibilities heavier, as the role of parents tends to become passive,

only directing without really getting involved. So Chris Rock uses the sarcasm above to equate the role parents with the word *usher*.

#### Datum 6

"A man is only loved under the condition that he provides something."

The utterance in datum 6 above is included in the illocutionary sarcasm type, because Chris Rock does not state his sarcasm explicitly, but through delivery that looks like a general fact but actually holds a sharp satire. The sentence above does sound like a rational statement, but it is actually a form of criticism of unfair social standards towards men. That a man is only loved when he provides something, if the man does not provide something then he will not be loved and will be considered useless. The sentence is an insinuation that the love men will receive is often conditional, depending on the extent to which they can provide something especially in the form of material or the role as the main provider in a relationship.

The statements above represents the function of sarcasm as expressing opinion, because Chris Rock expresses his personal views on the inequality of love relationships based on economic conditions. He not only criticizes women who demand men to always give, but also highlights the societal system that has formed the expectation that men should always be the financial backbone of a relationship. This sentence contains a social critique of unequal gender and economic relations. It shows how love for men is often determined by how much they contribute financially, rather than by their personality, affection, or emotional presence. In a world full of capitalistic demands, a man's feelings become irrelevant if he is unable to "give" something concrete.

#### Datum 7

"A broke man is like a broke hand. Can't do nothing with it."

The speech sentence in datum 8 is a form of Lexical Sarcasm, because there are certain words which if heard literally have negative connotations and are also conveyed together with insults. There are examples of word choice used by Chris rock, namely "broke" and "broke hand". Lexical sarcasm occurs when there is a word choice that has an ironic or negative meaning. For example, the word "broke" is said twice to reveal the uselessness of a poor man. Literally, Chris Rock is saying that a man will be considered based on his finances, if he has no money, then his existence will not be considered.

The deeper explanation of the above statement is that it is a sharp critique of materialistic social standards. Chris Rock highlights that in modern society, a man's worth is largely dependent on his financial ability. By comparing a poor man with a broken hand to "can't do nothing with it", there is a mockery of how harshly the world treats men based on their wealth, as if a man's worth is measured by how much he is financially useful. Nowadays, it's obvious that if a man has nothing, he's not considered, and if he needs help, it's rare that anyone will come to his aid. Indeed, there is a lot of pressure on a man in this era. Therefore, many men are struggling to stabilize their finances just to be appreciated by their fellow humans. Through this sarcasm, Chris Rock not only makes a joke in his sentence, but also makes the audience realize that this materialistic social standard is very unfair to men.

The sentence in datum 8 above belongs to sarcasm as conveying comparison,

because it equates two things that are clearly different and unequal, namely humans and limbs. The sentence is then packaged into a sarcasm sentence that shows social criticism. Literally, this statement conveys that if a man is considered or seen based on his financial situation. The choice of words used, which compares *man* with *hand*, creates the impression that a poor man will not be considered by society.

In this sarcasm, Chris Rock is flicking at the cruel social expectation that in modern society, a man's value is often seen by how much money he has. Men who don't have money are considered worthless and not even worthy of a partner. Like equating the word *broke man* with *broke hand* in his sentence, making it a sarcasm sentence. By using sarcasm, Chris Rock expresses criticism of a society that is too materialistic and does not give room for appreciation of other aspects of a person.

## Datum 8

"She is still going on complaining, acting all dumb like she don't know nothing."

The utterance sentence in datum 9 is a type of like-prefixed sarcasm, because it uses the word like at the beginning of the sarcastic phrase "she don't know nothing" to insinuate that she pretends not to know. Chris Rock said the phrase because he was satirizing Meghan Markle in an interview who said that she didn't know anything about racism in the British Royal family, but Chris Rock didn't believe it. The line "like she don't know nothing" is said by Chris Rock in a naive or stupid style of speech, which is used to mock or satirize Meghan Markle who is pretending.

The sarcasm above was used by Chris Rock to satirize Meghan Markle. She pretends not to know about racism in the British Royal family even though she is

one of the Royal families that has a history of colonialism and racism, she should know about it. After Chris Rock stated that "She is still going on complaining," then he continued with "acting all dumb," and reinforced with the sarcastic phrase "like she don't know nothing." The use of like at the beginning was used by Chris Rock to create a strong sarcastic effect to Meghan for her pretense.

The sentence in datum 9 is a sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as conveying criticism, because Chris Rock here conveys a criticism or a strong warning against manipulative attitudes that are considered annoying. He not only disagrees with the person's behavior, but also actively insinuates that pretense is something annoying and deserves to be criticized openly. In a more in-depth explanation, Chris Rock uses sarcasm to deliver social and emotional criticism falsehood, especially in the public sphere or media. By using sarcasm, Chris Rock invites the audience to laugh along and also makes the audience realize the absurdity of the pretense being discussed. The effect of humor does not diminish the sharpness of his criticism, but rather reinforces the message that such manipulative actions are not worthy of emulation.

## Datum 9

"What does he do that can help you out? Can this fucking facilitate a dream or not?"

The utterance sentence in datum 10 is a form of Illocutionary Sarcasm, because the choice of words used by Chris Rock if heard literally looks like a serious statement, but the real intention is a satire. He doesn't really want to know

if the man's job can facilitate women, but rather criticizes the mentality in a relationship that is too based on material things. The addition of the word "fucking" emphasizes that the real intention is not a question, but to satirize the reality of relationships that are full of material interests.

The two sentences above serve as a social critique of gender expectations in modern relationships. Chris Rock argues that women are often judged or seen based on their appearance, while men are judged based on how well they can fulfill or provide for women. The line "can this fucking facilitate a dream or not?" shows dissatisfaction with these materialistic standards. In his speech, Chris Rock not only entertains the audience, but opens the audience's eyes that there are many requirements for love in the view of modern society, especially towards men whose self-worth is judged based on the extent to which they can be a means of achieving others, especially their partners.

The sentence in datum 10 above is included in a sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as expressing question, which is using questions not to get information, but as a means of satire or social criticism. The questions are rhetorical, which do not need to be answered because the answer is already known by the speaker and the audience. A more in-depth explanation is that in the datum there are two questions that do not require answers, but the questions are only as satire. In this context, Chris Rock alluded to his personal assessment that the man he alluded to had no role or was unfavorable. He summarizes the sentence into a sarcasm sentence, so that criticism does not sound sharp in a literal way, so it is used as a rhetorical question. This makes the sarcasm sentence included in the

function of sarcasm as expressing question. This speech is a form of deep social criticism of the dominance of capitalistic thinking in personal life. In a relationship that should be built on mutual understanding and love, it has now shifted to a use value oriented relationship. The phrase "facilitating a dream" is no longer about moral support, but about whether a partner can provide money, facilities, or social access for success. A man who can not meet these standards will be deemed unworthy of love. Chris Rock uses harsh language like "fucking" to emphasize his frustration with this phenomenon. Through his sarcasm, he makes the audience realize that love is often based on economic conditions.

#### Datum 10

"My father used to leave for work at 6.30 in the morning and come home at 8.30 night. During the day, he and my mother had no contact at all, that's what a fucking relationship used to be."

The utterance sentence in the datum above is a form of illocutionary sarcasm, because Chris Rock's statement literally sounds like he is describing the relationship pattern of his parents who do not communicate all day, but in fact he is being sarcastic. Chris Rock's utterance above is used to criticize conservative views on old-fashioned relationships. It is called old-fashioned because the person who is the topic of conversation is parents. Where the lack of communication and emotional involvement among parents is considered normal. Chris Rock begins with the narrative "My father used to leave for work at 6.30 in the morning and come home at 8.30 at night", then continues with the fact "he and my mother had no contact at all". The two sentences above are very strong with the reality of a cold and

emotionally disconnected relationship. Whereas in the sentence "that's what a fucking relationship used to be", Chris Rock seems to be giving a statement of appreciation, when the real purpose is to mock the old standards in marriage relationships. The addition of the word fucking provides a very strong emotional emphasis, making it clear that the sentence is both cynical and critical.

The sentence in datum 11 above is a sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as conveying comparison, because it compares past relationships with the present. In the sentence, Chris Rock seems to be criticizing the way of thinking of relationship in the past, which is more solid and true, even though it lacks communication and emotional warmth. Literally, the statement is talking about the routine of married couples in the past, who lived without having to have intense relationships. As in the last sentence, which tries to illustrate that such a relationship is a "true" relationship.

To elaborate, sentence "that's what a fucking relationship used to be" is not an expression of admiration, but rather a cynical allusion to past relationships that were considered rigid, cold, and devoid of emotional warmth. The reality is that many couples of the past survived with such communication and they considered it ideal. In stark contrast to today's relationships, where communication must be intense. Chris Rock uses the line "that's what a fucking relationship used to be" at the end as an affirmation that makes a comparison between past and present relationships. The sentence is a form of social criticism dekivered through sarcasm, Chris Rock dismantles the standards of past relationships that are considered ideal and resilient. He highlights that old fashioned parental relationships do last a long

time, but not all of them are based on mutual love and lack of communication. Through this sarcasm, he conveys that a healthy relationship should not only be measured by how long it lasts, but also by how deep the emotional connection is.

## Datum 11

"The kids could've died and he wouldn't have found that shit out till he got home."

The statement in datum 11 above is a form of illocutionary sarcasm, because Chris Rock literally describes an extreme situation in an exaggerated way, where a father who is so uninvolved in parenting that he does not even know if his child dies. However, the real meaning is not in the literal words, but in the sarcasm towards past parenting patterns, especially father figures who are emotionally and physically absent. The sarcasm is not intended to actually state that a father would let his child die without his knowledge, but rather to satirize the absence of fathers in their children's lives. The words "he wouldn't have found that shit out till he got home" are used as reinforcement of how uncaring or how distant the emotional involvement of a father who is only considered to be in charge of earning a living and not knowing anything that happened at home.

Functionally, this statement falls under conveying information, but in a sarcastic form. Chris Rock conveys hyperbolic "information" as a way of pointing out a social fact, namely that in the past many fathers were not emotionally involved in the upbringing or lives of their children. He highlights traditional family relationships that rigidly divide tasks by gender, as fathers work outside the home, mothers take care of the home and children. But the result of this division of roles is a loss of emotional closeness between father and child. The social criticism in

this sarcasm is directed at past parenting models that only emphasized economic roles and intimacy in raising children. Chris Rock says that the role of a father is not only financial, but also physical and emotional closeness to the child. Through this satire, Chris Rock is flicking modern parents, especially the role of a father towards a child.

#### Datum 12

"Stop telling your kids that they are special! Nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!"

The speech sentence in the datum above is a form of Illocutionary sarcasm, because Chris Rock is satirizing parents who spoil their children too much. In a sense, he criticizes parents for not providing a way of parenting that forms false expectations of the real world that their children are special. The line "nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!" is not used to joke, but to shock and sharply criticize. The sentence above is a sharp criticism of modern parenting patterns that spoil children too much with praise, which may cause them to grow up unprepared to face the real world. As we know, if a child is too spoiled, it will be difficult for them to survive for themselves as an adult. The quote "Stop telling your kids that they are special!" shows resistance to the common narrative that every child should be convinced that they are individually exceptional, without considering the social reality they will face outside the home. While the line "Nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!" is a slap in the face and full of emotion, the aim is to realize that the outside world will not treat a child as special as the parents do. Harsh words are used to emphasize that

pampering and privileging a child is detrimental to his or her adult life.

The utterance in datum 13 above is a sarcastic utterance that is included in the sarcasm as a rejection function, because it rejects the parenting ideology that is considered unrealistic and jeopardizes children's mental readiness when facing the real world later. The sentence is a form of criticism of parents for excessive parenting, where parents often emphasize to children that they are special. Literally, the sentence above conveys two things, namely a prohibition and a warning. In the first sentence, "Stop telling your kids that they are special!" is a form of invitation to parents to stop spoiling their children. Then in the second sentence, "Nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!" as a sentence reinforcing the previous statement by stating that the reality outside the home is not as beautiful as parents often describe it to children.

A more in-depth explanation of the above utterance shows that Chris Rock does not just make jokes, but uses sarcastic language to convey social criticism about parenting that instills an excessive sense of privilege in children from an early age. In the sentence "Nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!" vulgarly emphasizes that the outside world will not give the special treatment that parents give. The use of sharp diction is Chris Rock's way of emphasizing his disagreement with parenting that creates false expectations. In this context, sarcasm functions as an educational tool to make the audience realize that the outside world is not as beautiful as it is portrayed in the family. Therefore, the function of sarcasm as rejection in this utterance is not only to voice rejection of social expectations, but also to make the audience aware of the reality that often

does not match.

The sentence in datum 13 above is included in the sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as conveying prohibition, because the sentence is a prohibition or warning conveyed in a sharp and emotional way. Instead of saying it nicely, Chris Rock says it with harsh and explosive sentences to give a shock effect and emotional pressure on the audience. A more in-depth explanation of the datum is that Chris Rock told parents not to give special treatment to their children. Because the outside world is not as special as the treatment of parents to their children. Chris Rock is more sorry for the children and is afraid if they don't survive with their lives out there. He summarized the sentence into sarcasm. Not only to make people laugh, but he also wants to wake up parents' awareness of the mistakes in raising their children with privileges. So the sentence above can be included in the sarcasm as prohibition function.

# Datum 13

"She didn't know? It's the royal family! They're the original racists! They invented colonialism!"

The utterance in datum 14 is a form of illocutionary sarcasm, because Chris Rock is questioning what Meghan Markle said in an interview where she said that she did not know racism in a Kingdom even though she was a member of the family. Chris Rock didn't believe what Meghan said, so he said the sentence to mock and also satirize her ignorance. In the sentence "She didn't know?" is not an ordinary question, but an insinuation to Meghan who should understand the context of History in the British Empire. Then continued with the sentence "They're the

original racists! They invented colonialism!" is a sarcastic sentence spoken to insinuate that the ignorance spoken by Meghan is impossible.

In Chris Rock's line, he delivered a sharp criticism of Meghan's pretense. By calling the Royal family "the original racists" and then adding "They invented colonialism!", Chris Rock insinuates that the roots of colonialism and racism come from the institution itself. This sentence is included in illocutionary sarcasm because what is said (informative statement) is not the real intention, the real intention is to mock Meghan for her deliberate stupidity or pretense. The use of sarcasm in the context of this conversation functions as social criticism but is directly directed at the perpetrator. Chris rock delivers a criticism or message in a sharp but entertaining way, he makes his sarcasm not only a joke but also reflective and provocative. Functionally, this utterance reflects conveying information through sarcasm. Chris Rock wants to convey the social and historical fact that the British Royal family has a long history of colonialism and racism. However, the information is not conveyed seriously, but through sharp humor that exposes pretense or willful ignorance.

# Datum 14

"They're the OG's of racism. They're the Sugarhill Gang of racism."

The speech sentence above is a form of lexical sarcasm, because there is a selection of words or phrases that literally appear positive, but the actual meaning is satirical. The word OG usually means respect or recognition of someone who is legendary or a pioneer in a field. Likewise, the word Sugarhill Gang is a symbol of nostalgia and a pioneer in hip-hop music. In this context, the positive label is

directed at racism, creating the effect of sarcasm. In more depth, the sentence above conveys social criticism of a group or system that has been perpetuating racism for a very long time, as if they are "icons" in this field. The use of the words OG and Sugarhill Gang ironically equates the perpetrators of racism with legendary figures, not to praise, but to show how embedded racism is in society. The quote "They're the OG's of racism" connotes that racism has been going on for a long time and the actors are also old actors. While the phrase "The Sugarhill Gang of racism" implies that they are not only longtime perpetrators, but also have a symbolic role in starting something bad.

The sentence in datum 15 above is a sarcasm sentence with the function of sarcasm as conveying information, which is conveying facts or information but by satirizing and mocking sharply. Here, Chris Rock tells the audience that racism not only exists, but has been pioneered by certain groups for a long time. A deeper explanation is that in the sentence above, Chris Rock equates a certain group, namely the *OG's (Original gang)* with the *Sugarhill Gang*, which is a pioneering symbol in the world of hip-hop music. In this context, both terms usually have a positive connotation as a tribute to legendary figuresor pioneers. But Chris Rock uses both phrases as satire and directs it towards racism. He wants to inform the audience about it. However, this sentence conveys that sarcasm does not only function to satirize, but also as a means of conveying more frontal informastion. Therefore, the datum above includes the function of sarcasm as conveying information.

## **B.** Discussion

In this section, the researcher presents the research results that have been obtained previously. By using Elizabeth Camp's theory to reveal the types of sarcasm used by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy and Keraf's theory (in Wardani, 2019) to reveal the functions of sarcasm. This in-depth discussion is necessary because it can help answer the two research questions that have been made. The first research question is "What types of sarcasm does Chris Rock use in his stand-up comedy?", then the second research question is "What are the functions of sarcasm realized as social criticism in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy?".

First, we found some sarcasm utterances in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy from his personal account @chrisrock. There are 15 utterances that have been found, then analyzed the types of sarcasm in each sentence using Elizabeth Camp's theory. In Elizabeth Camp's theory, there are 4 types of sarcasm, namely: Propositional Sarcasm, Lexical Sarcasm, Like-Prefixed Sarcasm, and Illocutionary Sarcasm. From some of the sarcasm utterances, there are harsh words, words that are positive but have negative meanings, and direct sarcasm used by Chris Rock to convey his purpose. From the latest 7 short videos used by researchers to find data, there are different themes in each stand-up comedy, ranging from talks about relationships, family, and even politics. Therefore, each video must have a variety of sarcasm utterances that are used as data in this study.

Second, the functions of sarcasm in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy speech. The functions of sarcasm use Keraf's theory (in Wardani, 2019) which states that there are ten functions of sarcasm, namely: Sarcasm as rejection, as conveying prohibition, as conveying information, as affirmative, as conveying opinion, as

conveying order, as submitting question, as conveying equality, as conveying comparison and as conveying greeting. From the ten functions of sarcasm, the researcher only found 7 functions of sarcasm based on the data of sarcasm utterances found. In this section of sarcasm functions, the researcher only uses some of the coming analyzed as a representative of the other data.

Based on the analysis, it is evident that different types of sarcasm tend to be associated with different communicative functions. Illocutionary sarcasm, for instance, frequently corresponds with functions such as rejection and expressing criticism, as it relies on implied meaning and audience inference. Meanwhile, propositional and lexical sarcasm often serve the function of conveying opinion, comparison, or information with strong emotional charge. This pattern suggests that the structural form of a sarcastic utterance influences its pragmatic role in communication.

Furthermore, from the sixteen utterances analyzed, illocutionary sarcasm emerged as the most dominant type. The indicates that Chris Rock frequently uses sarcastic forms that depend on contextual implication rather than overt linguistic markers. Out of the fifteen utterances analyzed, 3 were classified as propositional sarcasm, 3 as lexical sarcasm, 1 as like-prefixed sarcasm, and 8 as illocutionary sarcasm. In terms of function, sarcasm as rejection, comparison, and opinion were most prevalent, reflecting how Chris Rock's humor often challenges societal norms through irony and confrontation. The dominant functions found were: 2 cases of sarcasm as rejection, 4 as comparison, 2 as opinion, 4 as criticism, 2 as information, 1 as question, and 1 as prohibition. These patterns highlight the deliberate use of

sarcasm not only for entertainment but also as s strategic tool for social commentary.

Additionally, the researcher found something unique from the data analysis process in the function of sarcasm. There is one data that has more than one function. For more details, the example will be described below:

"Stop telling your kids that they are special! Nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!"

The example sentence above contains two sarcasm functions, namely sarcasm as prohibition and sarcasm as rejection. The sarcasm type of the sentence above is included in illocutionary sarcasm. In sarcasm as prohibition, the sentence is spoken as if Chris Rock forbids audiences who have children to treat their children too specially. This is because when the child grows up, they will be surprised by the outside world, which is not as special as their parents' treatment of them. While in the sarcasm as rejection function, Chris Rock expressed to reject the phenomenon, because he felt that the phenomenon was not in line with him. So the sentence can have two different functions. Because each function has a different purpose.

Overall, this study found that there are several sarcastic utterances used by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy. It can be proven that sarcastic utterances in stand-up comedy are not only as a joke, but also as social criticism or to make the audience aware. Like some of the utterances that have been analyzed for their sarcasm function. By using Elizabeth Camp and Keraf's theories, this research succeeds in explaining what types of sarcasm are used by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy and successfully reveals the functions of sarcasm utterances used by

#### Chris Rock.

This research is closely related to several previous studies that have examined sarcasm in various media. Such as research conducted by Fitri and Amir (2020), examining the role of sarcasm in Deddy Corbuzier's vlog. However, in this study, researchers analyzed its positive and negative faces and types of sarcasm but used different theories. Then research conducted by Fadilah and Wijayanto (2024) focused on sarcasm in Sam Smith's Instagram post. Research conducted by Kumar and Harish (2018) classifies sarcasm but the object is a novel. From some previous studies, there are differences with this study, previous studies used research objects such as artists and novels, but the object in this study is comedians.

The advantages of this research are that it can reveal the types of sarcasm used by Chris Rock and reveal the functions of sarcasm. In the context of comedy, sarcastic words can be used and accepted by the audience. Like some harsh words that are vulgarly spoken but do not offend the audience. By analyzing its functions, we know the meaning of a sarcastic sentence without judging Chris Rock.

Moreover, the analysis also reveals that sarcasmin Chris Rock's stand-up comedy often functions as a form of satire. The sarcastic utterances do not merely aim to provoke laughter but also to highlight contradictions in social behavior, cultural norms, and gender expectations. By combining humor with criticism, the utterances can be understood as satirical statements, linguistic expressions that ridicule or question dominant ideologies in a humorous yet impactful way.

This research also provides novelty by choosing the object of TikTok, a digital platform in the form of short videos that are popular in the modern era, and

in the context of sarcasm is still rarely used as an object of research. Most other researchers use vlogs, novels, movies, and so on. By revealing the types of sarcasm and its functions, this research produces a new perspective on how sarcastic sentences uttered by comedians in their stand-up comedy do not only function as a joke, but as a tool of social criticism. As explained above, every sarcastic utterance in a stand-up comedy has a function and also the reason why the sentence is uttered by the comedian.

The use of two theoretical frameworks in this study, namely Elizabeth Camp theory to reveal types of sarcasm and Keraf theory to reveal functions of sarcasm is essential to fully understand how sarcasm operates in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy. Camp's theory is useful in identifying the types of sarcasm, revealing how sarcastic utterances are constructed and categorixed. However, analyzing only the types is insufficient to uncover the deeper meanings behind the utterances. Therefore, Keraf's theory is employed to interpret the function of each sarcastic utterances, especially how it reflects social criticism. By combining these tho frameworks, the research is able to not only classify the types of sarcasm used, but also explain their social significance and purpose in delivering satirical statements. This dual theoretical frameworks provides a more comprehensive understanding of how Chris Rock uses sarcasm as a strategic tool to critique societal issues through humor.

Thus, the findings presented above fully address the two research questions, first research question concerning the types, and second research question regarding the functions of sarcasm has been answered by showing how those types realize

specific pragmatic roles, such as rejection, comparison, and opinion to deliver commentary on social norms.

# **CHAPTER V**

# **CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS**

This chapter will show conclusions and suggestions based on the discussion that has been done in the previous chapter.

#### A. Conclusions

This research successfully reveals the strategies used by comedian Chris Rock in delivering social criticism without making the audience feel slapped. Through further explanation, it was found that sarcasm in stand-up comedy is not a bad thing that functions as criticism or ridicule, but also as a form of comedians making the audience aware of some social expectations. The analysis shows that sarcasm is often used to express opinions or criticize social expectations. On several occasions Chris Rock agrees with existing social expectations, but sometimes he also disagrees. The way he expresses his disagreement is when he does stand-up comedy, where his sarcasm is wrapped in several jokes. This makes the audience able to accept it well.

Overall, this study makes an important contribution to the study of sarcasm on the TikTok platform, especially in the context of stand-up comedy. The findings are expected to be a reference for future research on the use of sarcastic language in different objects or situations and provide insight to readers on how sarcastic speech does not only function as satire, but there are many functions as found in this study.

In conclusion, the sarcastic utterances found in Chris Rock's stand-up comedy reflect various communicative functions and serve as satirical statements that criticize social norms. This study confirms that sarcasm, while humorous in form, can deliver impactful social messages, making it a unique linguistic tool for satire in comedic performance.

# **B.** Suggestions

After completing this research, the researcher realizes that there are several limitations in this study. This research still has limitations in terms of data variation because this research only focuses on one TikTok account, @Chrisrock. Theoretically, the analysis that has been done only relies on the subjective interpretation of the researcher only on the types and functions of sarcasm, not analyzing how the audience receives the sarcastic utterances or netizen comments on the sarcastic utterances uttered by Chris Rock in his stand-up comedy.

In addition, the researcher suggests to future researchers to expand the object of research as well as the theory, such as for example comparing the types of sarcasm or the functions of sarcasm from two comedians.

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# **CURRICULUM VITAE**

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# **APPENDIXES**

Tables of sarcastic utterances through types of sarcasm based on Elizabeth Camp's theory and function of sarcasm based on Keraf's theory

No	Data	Type of Sarcasm	Function of Sarcasm
1	"I've actually thought about going somewhere. I talked to a lawyer, I look at a place, and I realize I'm going to go through the same shit with the next girl. So why not just stay here and be miserable with you?"	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Rejection
2	"When you got one kid, you're down in the sand because one kid is horrible, have a bunch of kids or have none at all"	Propositional Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Conveying Comparison
3	"No matter what you do, your woman is mad at you"	Propositional Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Expressing Opinion
4	"If you make more money than her, they will say 'Fuck you! I want to make decisions too! You ain't my fucking daddy." "If she makes more money than you, she will say "You broke motherfucker, I need to be taken care of!"	Lexical Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Criticism
5	"Two kids are easier than one, when you got two you're just an usher"	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Comparison
6	"A man is only loved under the condition that he provides something."	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Expressing Opinion
7	"A broke man is like a broke hand. Can't do nothing with it"	Lexical Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Comparison
8	"She is still going on complaining, acting all dumb like she don't know nothing" "What does he do that can help you out? Can this fucking facilitate a dream or not?"	Like-Prefixed Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Criticism and Question
9	"What does he do that can help you out? Can this fucking facilitate a dream or not?"	Like-Prefixed Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Criticism and Question
10	"My father used to leave for work at 6.30 in the morning and come home at 8.30 night. During the day, he and my mother had no contact at all, that's what a fucking relationship used to be"	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Comparison

11	"The kids could've died and he wouldn't have found that shit out till he got home."	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Conveying Information
12	"Stop telling your kids that they are special! Nobody on the whole earth outside of this door gives a fuck about you!"	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Prohibition or Rejection
13	"She didn't know? It's the royal family! They're the original racists! They invented colonialism!"	Propositional Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Conveying Information
14	"They're the OG's of racism. They're the Sugarhill Gang of racism."	Lexical Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Conveying Information
15	"Meghan Mrakle? Ugh didn't she hit the light skinned lottery?"	Illocutionary Sarcasm	Sarcasm as Criticism