

Critical Discourse Analysis on “We are the World 25 for Haiti” Song Lyrics

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Submission date: 26-Nov-2020 03:08PM (UTC+0700)

Submission ID: 1457481315

File name: course_Analysis_on_We_are_the_World_25_for_Haiti_Song_Lyrics.pdf (565.4K)

Word count: 3984

Character count: 20590



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Abstract

This research aims at analyzing a song entitled "We are the World 25 for Haiti". This song was first introduced by Michael Jackson in 1985 named "We are the World 1985" when he made collaboration with other musicians for *USA for Africa* (United Support of Artists for Africa). The single was intended as a charity single to raise funds for famine relief efforts in Ethiopia who have suffered political instability and disaster drought in 1984-1985. Then, this song was chosen to be used for collecting funds in rehabilitating Haiti after the enormous earthquake. As we know that every song is composed with background and meaning written as lyrics. This paper is focused to investigate the song lyrics based on the composer's attitudes, the social relation among the participants, the context of the situation, and the power relation in the discourse. Theories used in this research were based on Van Dijk (2004), and Martin and Rose (2013). The lyrics are taken as the object of the research. The data were initially analyzed based on Martin and Rose (2003). The findings showed that all types of attitude were found; they were expressing feelings, judging people's character, and appreciating things. But one part of judging people's character was not found in the song lyrics. Findings of the study is hoped to be beneficial for readers to have a better understanding about the Critical Discourse Analysis .

Keywords: *Critical discourse analysis; expressing of feelings; judgement; appreciation*

Introduction,

In 2010, exactly on 12 January, the world was shocked with devastating news. A massive 7.0-magnitude earthquake struck a country, Republic of Haiti. Thousands of people were died and it was the Haiti's worst earthquake in two centuries. The huge earthquake hit South of the capital Port-au-Prince and wrecked the presidential palace, UN HQ, and other buildings. Some people were reported missing and made a very huge damage into billions. As quoted in <http://earthquake.usgs.gov/earthquakes/eqarchives/year/2010/>, 21st August 2015; 10.06 P.M., official estimates that 316,000 people killed, 300,000 injured, 1.3 million

displaced, 97,294 houses destroyed and 188,383 damaged in the Port-au-Prince area and in much of southern Haiti. Other estimates suggest substantially lower numbers of casualties, perhaps as low as fewer than 100,000. The casualties include at least four people killed by a local tsunami in the Petit Paradis area near Leogane. Tsunami waves were also reported at Jacmel, Les Cayes, Petit Goave, Leogane, LulyandAnse a Galets. The tsunami had recorded wave heights (peak-to-trough) of 12 cm at Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic and 2 cm at Christiansted, US Virgin Islands. Uplift was observed along the coast from Leogane to L'Acuil and subsidence was observed along the coast from Grand Trou to Port Royal. Felt (VIII) at Leogane; (VII) at Carrefour, Port-au-Prince and Petionville; (VI) at Vieux Bourg d'Aquin; (V) at Port-de-Paix. Felt (V) at La Vega, Moca and San Cristobal; (IV) at Bani, Bonao, Luperon, Nagua, Puerto Plata, Santiago, Santo Domingo and Sosua, Dominican Republic. Felt throughout Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Felt (III) at Oranjestad, Aruba; (IV) at Santiago de Cuba and (III) at Guantanamo, Cuba; (II) in the Kingston-Mona area, Jamaica; (II) at Carolina and San Juan, Puerto Rico; (III) at Cockburn Harbour and (II) at Cockburn Town, Turks and Caicos Islands; (III) at Maracaibo and (II) at Caracas, Venezuela. Felt in parts of The Bahamas, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands and as far as southern Florida, northern Colombia and northwestern Venezuela.

And of course, the news of the massive earthquake that hit Haiti, had made all people felt sympathy, including artistsandsingersinAmerica. About 100musiciansofthe genre ofpop, rock, rapandR&BuniteforHaiti. They took the initiative tocollaborate tosinga songto raise funds forearthquake victims. The selectedsongtobe sungis'We are theWorld' once popularizedbyMichaelJacksoncollaboratedwithsome of the top artistsin 1985. The song "We are the World1985"performed by45musicianscalling themselvesUSA for Africa(UnitedSupportofArtistsfor Africa). The single wasintended asa charitysingleto raise funds foraminerelieffortsinEthiopiawhohave sufferedpolitical instabilityanddisasterdroughtin1984-1985. Now, this song is remarked again into a new version, exactly 25 years ago on the new version in memorizing Michael Jackson. "We are the World" performedasthe closing songin thefuneral ofMichael Jackson, at theStaplesCenter, LosAngeles, July 7, 2009.

Some of the musicians and singers participated in "We are the World 25 for Haiti" are Drake, Lil Wayne, Miley Cyrus, T-Pain, Kanye West, Jay-Z, Adam Levine,

Jason Mraz, Eminem, Justin Bieber, Kid Cudi, Usher, LL Cool J, Bizzy Bone, Snoop Dogg, Anthony Hamilton, Gladys Knight dan Trey Songz, Carlos Santana, Orianthi, Jennifer Hudson, Jamie Foxx, Sugarland, Earth Wind & Fire, Natalie Cole, The Jonas Brothers, Brian Wilson, Justin Bieber, Nicole Scherzinger, India.Arie, Julianne Hough, Mary Mary, Melanie Fiona, BeBeWinans, Mya, Tyrese Gibson, Raphael Saadiq, Keri Hilson, Joel and Benji Madden, Heart, Brandy, Pink, MusiqSoulchild, Akon, Jordin Sparks, Celine Dion, Rob Thomas, Katharine McPhee, Jeff Bridges, Randy Jackson, Patti Austin, Usher, Will.i.am, Kanye West, Issac Slade (of The Fray), Nicole Richie, Ethan Bortnick, Taryll Jackson, Taj Jackson, TJ Jackson, Vince Vaughn, Freda Payne, Faith Evans, Robin Thicke, Rashida Jones, Barbra Streisand, Jimmy Jean Louis, Enrique Iglesias, Zac Brown, Lil Wayne, Tony Bennett, Josh Groban, Sean Garrett, Harry Connick Jr., Al JardinedanA.R.Rahman. (quoted in <https://andanalfainahemmy.wordpress.com/2010/02/15/detikcom-100-musisi-remake-we-are-the-world-untuk-haiti/>, 21st August 2015; 10.26 P.M.)

The musicians mentioned above were some experts in music using a text to conduct song lyrics that can convey various meanings to the listeners. When we are talking about music and any other fields, they are inevitable with text and context. A Text always refers to context. Every text has different meanings. The meaning of a text depends to its context. There are some experts discussing about **Critical Discourse Analysis** (henceforth, **CDA**). "Critical Discourse is a type of discourse analytical research that primarily studies the way social power abuse, dominance, and inequality are enacted, reproduced, and resisted by text and talk in the social and political context. With such dissident research, critical discourse analysts take explicit position, and thus want to understand, expose, and ultimately resist social inequality". (Dijk, 1998, p 352)

The definition is clear that CDA deals with the research analysis which deals with the context that influences the lyrics of song. The lyrics of "We are the World 25 for Haiti" are influenced by social context to the tragedy happened in Haiti. Moreover, by conducting CDA, a text can be taken into an explicit position to draw the social inequality such as what lies beyond composing the song or what the composer feels.

In this research, we know that some people may not know how the song actually negotiates the social relationship and tells the listeners how the composer feels about the tragedy happened in Haiti. There are so many kinds of theories

about CDA such as Van Dijk's schema (2004), Van Leeuwen, Hodge and Kress (1993), and Martin and Rose (2003). In this research, the researchers use the theory of CDA by Martin and Rose (2003). The researchers focus on the composer's attitudes, the social relation among the participants, the context of the situation, and the power relation in the discourse. In interpreting social discourse, the term Appraisal comes first as a discourse analysis. It evaluates the text by using a system of interpersonal meanings. ¹³ Martin and Rose (2003, p. 22) state that "we use the resources of Appraisal for negotiating our social relationships, by telling our listeners or readers how we feel about things and people (in a word, what our attitudes are)." ¹¹ Here attitudes have to do with evaluating things, people's character and their feelings. There are three basic options for appraisal. They are attitudes, amplification, and source. However as stated in introduction, this study limits the scope its object by analyzing the attitudes of the song composer only. Since songs are always becoming the media by the composer to deliver message, meaning or other information, it is suitable to investigate the composer's attitude in the song lyrics.

The previous studies of discourse analysis on song have been conducted by some researchers. One of them was by Setyono and Wahyuni (2013) in their research entitled ¹² Critical Discourse Analysis on the Javanese Song Lyric 'llir-llir'. Their research was aimed to find out whether the Javanese song lyric 'llir-llir', as the object of the study, has certain ideological commonsense and power relation between the participants involved in the lyric. It focussed on its textual surface of discourse or descriptive and interpretative stages, as well as its explanative stage in terms of critical discourse analysis. The data were initially analyzed based on Martin's theory of analyzing the discourse (2004), and then to move deeper into the power that exists in both situation and cultural contexts which create the discourse, the theory of Fairclough (1992) was adopted. The findings showed that the lyric consists of many metaphorical expressions and 'dominate' and 'dominated' power relation were obviously noticeable. The results of the study suggest a deep pedagogical implication that it is important for people to understand the Javanese philosophical thought about the purpose of life.

Research Methodology

This section discusses the method and procedure that are used to solve the problem of the research. The research design of this research paper is the library research. It is done by consulting some books and dictionaries in order to collect the theories and references. In conducting the analysis, the researcher used descriptive qualitative method. Strauss (2003, p. 7) defined that descriptive qualitative method refers to a research explaining the analysis or a hypothesis of a research. Hence, library research is a research that is done in library where a researcher faces many kinds of literatures that is suitable with the objective and problem of the analysis.

This research paper is conducted in the form of library research in which the data is taken in the form of English and Indonesia language. The data are collected from the song entitled "We are the World 25 for Haiti" which was composed by Michael Jackson. The researcher downloaded the lyrics from the Internet. Then, the researcher used the CDA theory by Martin and Rose (2003) in conducting the analysis. The lyrics of the son can be seen in Appendix

In analyzing the data, descriptive method is used. Nawawi (1991, p. 63) says that descriptive method can be defined as problem solving procedure which is researched by describing the subject or object of the research based on the real fact nowadays. The following procedures were followed to carry out a CDA to the song lyrics:

- Searching and copying the lyrics of "We are the World 25 for Haiti"
- Analyzing the song lyrics by tabling the song lyrics presented by theory of Martin and Rose (2003)

Findings

Martin and Rose (2003, p. 25) classify three kinds of attitudes as follows: expressing of feelings (affect), judging people's character, and appreciating things. After analyzing the data, the researcher came to the findings as shown in the following table.

- 1) Expressing of feelings (affect)

Table 1 Expressing of Feelings (Affect)

Positive	When the world must come together as one. Were saving our own lives.
-----------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------

Negative	There are people dying When you're down and out	
Direct	Emotional state	we are the World united by love so strong
	Physical expression	Withdrawn Shake uncontrollably
Implicit	Extraordinary behavior	Nou se mond la When we stand together as one
	Metaphor	As God has shown us by turning stones to bread when the floor breaks a magic carpet to stand on

Affect is the way we explore how people express their feelings in discourse. Table 1 shows that there are two general ways in affect. Firstly, affect can be positive or negative. Positive indicates that people have good feelings; meanwhile, negative has to do with the bad feelings. Secondly, affect can be expressed directly or implied since people can express their feeling directly, or sometimes they do it indirectly from their behavior.

2) Judging people's character

Table 2 Judging People's Character

		Direct	Implied
Personal	Admire	Gods great big family	when the earth quakes we'll help you make it through the storm
	Criticize	no we cannot turn away There's no way we can fall	Send them your heart We can't let them suffer
Moral	Praise	When we stand together as one	Its true well make a better day

	Condemn	-		-	
--	----------------	---	--	---	--

In judging people's characters, the researcher did not find any in these song lyrics since the song lyrics refer to the charity in order to raise fund for the disaster. In line with affect, judgements of people's character can be positive or negative, and they may be judged explicitly or implicitly. However, judgements differ between personal judgements of admiration or criticism and moral judgements of praise or condemnation.

3) Appreciating things

Table 3 Appreciating Things

Positive Appreciation	Negative Appreciation
We are the ones who make a brighter day	When you're down and out
When the world must come together as one	when the radio isn't on you can hear the songs

Table 3 shows that appreciating things have to do with the 'things' or we can assume that how people feel about people and the way they behave. In other words, how our attitudes are about 'things' such as about TV shows, films, books, CDs; about paintings, sculptures; about plays, parades; or feelings about the nature for that matter. As with affect and judgement, things can be appreciated positively or negatively. Positive and negative appreciations were depicted in the lyrics as the appreciation to the world in helping the disaster from the funding via the song.

Discussion

After analyzing the data based on the theory of Martin and Rose (2003), the researchers would like to discuss that the attitude in the song lyrics "We are the World 25 for Haiti" covered the expressing feelings (positive, negative, direct, and implicit), judging the people's character (personal and moral) but there were no condemn in the moral. Meanwhile, the appreciating things covered the positive and negative appreciation.

Based on the findings in this research, the researchers inferred that there was a similarity with the findings of the research done by Setyono and Wahyuni (2013). The theory used was the same by Martin's theory (2004), it about the expressing of feelings (affect), judging people's character, and appreciating things. The difference of the research done by Setyono and Wahyuni with this research was on the combination theory that Setyono and Wahyuni use for Martin (2004) and Fairclough (1992) since the song lyrics contain power in situation and cultural context. The reason was the Javanese song lyrics taken entitled 'Ilir-Ilir' has a certain ideological commonsense and power relation between the participants involved in the lyrics. There is an interconnection between text and culture in the song lyrics. Meanwhile, this research was only conducted by using theory of Martin (2004) since there was no ideological commonsense that refer to the ideological culture.

Conclusion

After describing the theory of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) by Martin and Rose (2003), then applying it into the song lyrics entitled "We are the World 25 for Haiti", it can be concluded that types of attitudes (expressing feelings, judging people's character, and appreciating things) are found, but condemn moral, parts of judging people' in the song lyrics.

The researchers hope that more research about CDA needs to be conducted to make further analysis in other kinds of field, not only in the song lyrics but through others in order to get a better understanding of CDA analysis because the researchers are sure that his research is not enough yet to fulfill human's needs (for those who are studying about linguistics) in further studying of CDA.

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Haiti Song – "We are the World 25 for Haiti"

We Are The World | Michael Jackson

(quoted from <http://www.metrolyrics.com/we-are-the-world-25-lyrics-various-artists.html>)

[Justin Bieber]

9 mmmmm

There comes a time
When we heed a certain call

5 [Nicole Scherzinger & Jennifer Hudson]
When the world must come together as one

[Jennifer Hudson]

There are people dying

[Jennifer Nettles]

Oh, And its time to lend a hand to life

The greatest gift of all

[Josh Groban]

We can't go on

Pretending day by day

[Tony Bennet]

that someone, somehow will soon make a change

[Mary J. Blige]

We are all a part of

Gods great big family

And the truth, you know love is all we need

[Chorus]

[Michael Jackson]

We are the world

We are the children

[Michael Jackson and Janet Jackson]

We are the ones who make a brighter day

So lets start giving

[Barbra Streisand]

Theres a choice were making

Were saving our own lives

Its true well make a better day

Just you and me

2 [Miley Cyrus]

Send them your heart

So theyll know that someone cares

[Enrique Iglesias]

so there cries for help

will not be in vain

[Nicole Scherzinger]

We can't let them suffer

no we cannot turn away

[Jamie Foxx]
Right now they need a helping hand
[Wyclef Jean]
6 Nou se mond la
We are the Children
[Adam Levine]
We are the ones who make a brighter day
so lets start giving
[Pink]
Theres a choice were making
Were saving our own lives
[BeBeWinans]
Its true well make a better day
Just you and me
2 [Michael Jackson]
When you're down and out
There seems no hope at all
[Usher]
But if you just believe
Theres no way we can fall
[Celine Dion]
Well, well, well, well, let us realize
That a change can only come
[Fergie]
When we stand together as one

3 [Chorus - All]
We are the world
We are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So lets start giving
[Nick Jonas]
Got to start giving
[All]
1 Theres a choice were making
Were saving our own lives
[Toni Braxton]
Its true well make a better day
Just you and me
[Mary Mary]
We are the world
We are the children
[Tony Bennet]
Its for the children
1 [Isaac Slade]
We are the ones who make a brighter day
[Toni Braxton]
So lets start giving
[Lil Wayne]
Theres a choice were making
Were saving our own lives

Its true well make a better day
Just you and me

1 [Chorus - All]
We are the world
We are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So lets start giving

[Akon]
Theres a choice were making
Were saving our own lives
Its true we make a better day
Just you and me

2 [T-Pain]
We are the world
We are the children
We are the ones who make a brighter day
So lets start giving

[Jamie Foxx imitating Ray Charles]
Choice were making
saving our own lives
Its true well make a better day
Just you and me

4 [Rap - LL Cool J, Will-I-Am, Snoop Dogg, Busta Rhymes, Swizz Beatz]
We all need somebody that we can lean on
when you wake up look around and see that your dreams gone
when the earth quakes we'll help you make it through the storm
when the floor breaks a magic carpet to stand on
8 we are the World united by love so strong
when the radio isn't on you can hear the songs
a guided light on the dark road you're walking on
a sign post to find the dreams you thought was gone
someone to help you move the obstacles you stumbled on
someone to help you rebuild after the rubbles gone
we are the World connected by a common bond
Love the whole planet sing it along

[Wyclef Jean]
Cabarette!

[Chorus - All]
[Kanye West]
Everyday citizens
everybody pitching in
[Singing - Children & Wyclef Jean]
Nou se mond la
nou se timounyo
[Will-I-Am]
You and I

You and I

3 [Kanye West]

Uh, 12 days no water
what's your will to live

[Will-I-Am]

we amplified the love we watching multiply

[Kanye West]

Feeling like the Worlds end
we can make the World win

[Will-I-Am]

Like Katrina, Africa, Indonesia
and now Haiti needs us, the need us, they need us

[W7]ef Jean]

Haiti, Haiti, Ha, Ha, ha, ha, ha

Haiti, Haiti, Ha, Ha, ha, ha, ha

Haiti, Haiti, Ha, Ha, ha, ha, ha

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