

DAVAO GAY COMMUNITY SOCIOLECT: A NEOLOGISM SKETCH

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ABSTRACT: *One of the notable modern languages today is the gay lingo, a language established by the gay community. Gay people came to create their own words or neologisms to shield themselves from the harm of social stigma. This research provides a view of gay words formed through morphological processes and how they function in a sentence. This study specifically explored on neologisms in gay language through a qualitative approach – this was done by collecting new words from the gay community. The findings indicate that gay neologisms were mostly created through affixation and clipping wherein an original word is clipped and have a new component and meaning. It is also found out that there are existing words used in gay lingo that have different meanings. It is highly recommended to further analyze other morphological functions in the gay lingo.*

KEYWORDS: neologisms, morphological processes, affixation, clipping, speech, communities, gay lingo.

Introduction

Society is composed of different kinds of people from various groups. ‘*Sociolect*’, which means a variety of speech derived by a specific group who are members of a particular community (Encyclopedia, 2016). One of the members of the society are the gays. In the face of discrimination, they are still part of the society wherein they also have their own language. In the United States, there is a language identified as ‘*gay men's language*’ – this term and its identification of its own material in the field of linguistics gain judgement of its value from many publications (Campbell – Kibbler, Podesva, & Roberts 2002; Kullick, 2000).

England also has its own variety of gay language called ‘*Polari*.’ It was created in 1940’s and was used by homosexual men to hide their conversation from outsiders and undercover policemen, because at that time it was illegal and punishable by law to have same sexual relation. This language functioned as a secret language to cover from detection and stigmatization (Rosales, 2019). Baker (2010) mentioned that just like any secret language ‘*Polari*’ never made it to print, it was only passed down through verbal communication which had resulted to different versions.

In the Philippines, gay language is very common; it may have different varieties but it shares the same goal. It has been speculated that gay lingo started in the 70’s at this time Filipinos were conservative and old-fashioned, and being homosexual was not an option (Salao, 2010). Sangga (2015) mentioned that gay language comes with many variations, these are ‘*EngLog*’, ‘*Taglish*’, ‘*Carabao English*’, and ‘*Conyo English*’. He also asserted that gay lingo has no specific rules or formula in creating words, but they only used these gay words to feminize their speech.

While having their own language, gays are also creating new words at the same time. This process is called neologism. Neologism is a new word or expression or a new meaning for an existing word (Nordquist, 2017). Gay language had already influenced the language of the society. Language is constantly changing its nature, and gay language is not exempted from this. Since language is evolving, there are new words that will be created; and other words would dissolve as well. Current gay words may not live and be used for a long period because they may be replaced by the words of the new community in the next few years (Lunzaga, 2011). Gay language can be created easily, but it may vanish immediately as well. It changes from time to time, that is why it cannot be written and employed in a textbook; and there are only small chances for this language to be absorbed in the national language (Ong, 2018). Among all languages, gay language is the most unstable, can easily be changed and influenced.

As years go by, there are words that gained meanings based on the gay language here in the Philippines; and these gay words are constantly changing (Remoto, 1998). Baytan (2002) supposes that some of the words may cease to exist and fail to keep their value. Regardless of this situation, studying the gay language is still considered important for future purposes. Gay language may be used as a standard or a guide in understanding the significance and the message of the literary pieces or materials which are written today. There are a lot of existing studies about gay morphology. This study is more focused on Davao gay language and its neologism and how these gay words are formed. This can be used as a basis on word formation in other languages. The data that were collected are the words of the gays. These gay words might have evolved in the course of time, and this study showed the evolvement of the previous gay words to the present gay words. Hence, this study is conducted for the other speech communities in Davao City to be aware of the language used by the gay community.

Research Questions

The aim of this study is to identify the gay neologisms and their morphological processes. Specifically, this sought to answer the following questions:

1. What are the neologisms reflected in the sociolect of the Davao City gay community?
2. What are the morphological processes found in the sociolect of Davao City gay community?

Purpose of the Study

The purpose of this study is to know the gay neologisms used by the gay speech community. This study explored on the morphological processes that these gay neologisms undergo.

THEORETICAL LENS

In this section, presented are the theories which were used for the analysis of gay neologisms. *Word Formation Theory* (Plag, 2002). Sometimes, language speakers do not know how important words are in a language. There are many things to consider when a person wants to speak and understand the language, and one of these many

things is that the person must have enough knowledge about the words and its meaning of the language (Plag, 2002). According to Plag, the one who proposed the Word Formation in English Theory, words are connected to other words. This theory also explains how language allows the member of the speech community to form new words. Word formation deals with how words are formed.

The study is anchored on the proposition of Haham (1989) on classification of neologisms, where he classifies neologisms by their meaning and structure in three ways: (a) a word where its form and meaning are new; (b) the structure of the word is new, but the meaning already existed; and (c) an existing word taking up a new meaning. This proposition can also be supported with the study of *Semantic Neologism* by Newmark (1998) wherein according to him a neologism can be an existing word but has different meaning. He also added that neologism can either last longer or can be replaced at any moment.

The theories mentioned above can be applied in this research because through word formation processes and stages, words which are commonly used by the society may acquire new form and establish new set of meanings. Words can undergo many processes to acquire the expected word. Furthermore, the processes being undergone may affect the words' main parts in speech; and majority of the words which underwent the process can produce another word in gay lingo (Nadera & Rollon, 2015).

REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Presented in this section are the pieces of related literature and studies that have bearing to the present study. *Language Use and Formation*. Casabal (2008) cites the essay of Baytan (2002) entitled *Language, Sex, and Insults: Notes on Garcia and Remoto's Gay Dictionary* which stipulated some facts about the language use of the gay speech community. Baytan asserts that gays use their language so that they can say what they want to say without other people understanding about it. To support this statement, Baytan sites an example of two gay men who were talking about a man. Through gay language, a straight man would not understand what they were talking about. Baytan adds that gay language whirls into controlling negative ideas.

The gay community in the Philippines starts on creating new words which is also connected to the existing word and puts new meaning into them. The gay language also deals with the combination of words like the word *bakla* which means *a man who wants to become a girl*. Another is the root word (*binata*) which is clipped into *bina* and combined to another clipped word of *babae* (*bae*) resulting to the word *binabae* (Casabal, 2008). Gays may use the words until they become socially accepted as the expression of their speech community. Baytan (2002) ended his paper having said that the reason why gay language is developing is to defend themselves (gay) from any abuse like verbal abuse that they experience.

Gay lingo is just composed of words created playfully, removing or adding some words from an existing Filipino word, creating a word with a new meaning that will be taken from famous names or personalities. Some of the words are just suddenly discovered

to provide conviction during a conversation like the term *char* or something that describes a certain untypical situation like *meletchuchu* (Cayabyab, 2008).

Lunzaga, Bendulo, and Felisilda (2011) mentioned that language has its own nature for change that is why a language which already existed must be recorded into a document for future purposes. Gay language just adapts the main languages like English and Filipino, to hide their response from the talks of other gender. They create a word from an original word through word formation processes. Gay language violated some of the English rules, but they are still using it for the expression of their feelings and ideas. Because the gay community already gained social acceptance, they create their own language as a means of communication which is the gay lingo. Gay words are the newly created terms from terminologies that already exist. Language is changing, a word can be created but sooner or later, it will be removed and replaced. Numerous word processes are being used to come up with a new term or word.

Aside from the fact that gay language is evolving, it is not difficult to speak and understand the language because it does not follow certain grammar rules, and the challenge of the gay lingo is not just about the society acceptance but the acceptance in the view of linguistics (Casabal, 2008).

Ingo Plag, in his book *Word Formation in English* (2002), enumerated different ways on how words are formed: clipping, reduplication, and affixation. Further, he discussed about establishing word formation rules. There are many words that can be created from small elements in which most of these elements are detected by one's intuition. Surprisingly, these intuitions are compatible with some of the complex words like *unhappy* and *girlfriend*. The challenge of having this in word formation is that people must determine the rules that lie behind the formation of such complex words. For example, the word *analyzable*, one can easily know the meaning of *unanalyzable* even without knowing the word in the beginning. In relation to intuition when it comes to word formation, it seems that there is a unique system in human minds as the speaker that is very much responsible on the ability to create words with own rules (Plag, 2002).

Clipping. Clipping is a word formation process of shortening large words into a one-syllable or two-syllable word. Clippings are not considered as words which belong to the language standard vocabulary. Clipped words came from special groups who created it (Marchand, 1969). Clipping is a process of removing a part of a word but still part of morphology. It also deals with the association of a base word and a new word created, wherein a new word is being made through the absence of some parts of the words. Most of the clipped words are a one-syllable word or a two-syllable word in which usually taken from the first part of the original word (Plag, 2002).

Morphology is one of the very main field of linguistics considering different kind of process in creating new words and by making a word more shortened. In word formation, there is what is known as less productive word formation and of those is the clippings together with back formation and blending. Even though clipping is categorized to be less productive, it is still important in daily conversations. One of the main reasons why words are being clipped is that people usually do not like saying the

whole word, most especially if it is too long or if it is unnecessary to say the whole word for others to understand the meaning. There are different kinds of clipping. One of these is '*back clipping*' wherein only the first syllable of a word remains, for instance '*advertisement*' to '*ad*', and '*professor*' to '*prof*'. The second kind is the '*fore clipping*', opposite to back clipping because the last syllable of the word remains, for example '*telephone*' to '*phone*'. And lastly the '*middle clipping*' wherein the beginning and the end of the word are removed, for example '*influenza*' to '*flu*' (Blatt, 2008).

Clipping always offers the same meaning from the base word but will only differ on the style level or how it is use and clipping makes the clipped word and the base word exist. There are also semantic differences of the clipped word from the base word wherein clipped words are more considered technical than of the base word even if in a particular field of meaning clipping is not allowed. Restrictions of meaning can be found on clipping because clipped words can be pluralized. For example, the word '*examinations*' clipped into '*exams*' which means a '*test or result*'; however, if the word is '*examination*', not plural the meaning is '*process*' (Jamet, 2009).

Reduplication. Reduplication is the process wherein words are formed through repetition of words or sounds. English is filled with playful creation of words like '*bling-bling*', '*boo-boo*', and '*pee-pee*' (Wasko, 2013). As for Plag (2002), reduplication is when a word is created from the repetition of a base word. Reduplication can be full or partial. Full reduplication happens when the entire root or stem is repeated while partial reduplication is the repetition of a part of the stem (Rubino, 2013). In accordance to Blake (1917), reduplication can be either significant or non-significant. It is non-significant when there is no new semantic category created from reduplicating a word.

Affixation. Affixation is a process of attaching a bound morpheme to a base word. Plag said that affixation is frequently used in a word formation process. There are three kinds of affixation: suffix, prefix, and infix. There are properties of affixation that can be considered. Most of these properties are about phonological accounts only, but these may affect the properties of the derivational word. One great example of these occurrences in affixation is about the differences of prefixes and suffixes. When a prefix is added to a base word, it does not affect the pronunciation of the word; while when a suffix is added, it may create and affect. The effect may take place through removing an object at the end part of the base word, or it may be on changes on the stress pattern. It means that there are suffixes that cause a change on phonological aspects, but there are suffixes also that do not affect anything. Majority of the morphology experts said that there are no infixes in English, but there are chances that infixes can be used with newly created words to express conviction by the speaker. Plag also added that there are many different ways to identify the classification of affixes and one of the easy ways to identify is through their position using the base word. Through the position, the prefix, suffix, and infix can be easily identified (Plag, 2002).

Majority of the English words are formed by adding affixes into it. It means that affixes can change the meaning of a word and even determines the tense of a word. It is very important to observe how words are formed through morphemes. One of those is the

derivational morpheme wherein affixation is involved by means of creating new words and even they change the part of speech the word is categorized with (Al-Timen, 2018). The formula of creating a new word is the combination of a free and bound morpheme, for example, 're-' + 'turn' can form 'return' and 'boy' + '-ish' can form 'boyish'. She also included in her paper that there are two types of affixation: derivational and inflectional affixation. Derivational affixation is creating a new word that will have a new category in grammar and its meaning as well. For example, the word 'friend' (noun) when added by suffix '-ly' it will become 'friendly' (adverb), clearly we can see that there is a change of its grammatical category wherein adverb is derived from a noun; also the word 'love' when a prefix 'un-' will be added the meaning will change from 'to show an act of love' to 'not showing act of love'. Another one is the inflectional affixation which creates a new function in grammar; for example the word 'flower' when added by '-s' it will become 'flowers' which clearly shows the change of the function of the word in grammar which is from singular to plural; and also the word 'marry' when added by '-ed' it will become 'married' wherein the change of tense is evident, from present tense into past tense. Also when talking about tenses, most of the present tense-verbs are added by the affix '-s' or '-es' while past tensed words are added with '-d' or '-ed'; for example 'wash' + '-es' can form 'washes'; 'change' + '-d' can form 'changed'. The morphological process done through affixation is producing many words in English (Marapaung, 2015).

According to Marpaung (2015), words are formed through one or more morphemes in which morphemes are combined to create a new word according to the rules of morphology. She mentioned that affixation includes prefix, suffix, infix, and circumfix, but infix and circumfix are not usually used in English but can be found in other languages. As for infixes, these are used to express feelings saying adding affixes on the word. While circumfixes are affixes which is placed in the beginning and at the end of a word. She also added that affixation best describes how words are formed morphologically. Among the four types of affixes, only circumfixes are not included in the Word Formation Theory of Ingo Plag.

It can also be observed that there are also other processes that had flourished aside from the Word Formation Theory of Plag (2002). These are the following:

Anonym. Anonym is a pseudonym, where a word is formed through spelling it backwards (Sheehan, 2013). It is common in popular culture. As of today, majority of the anonyms that are used can be proper nouns or fictional inventions. One example is Oprah Winfrey's company, which is called 'Harpo Corporation' which is the reverse spelling of the actress' name. The word anonym came from the Greek word 'ana-' that means 'back' and the suffix '-nym' that came from the Greek word 'onyma' which means 'name', which literally means 'back-name' (Hawks, 2015). Some writers or even communities, just like the gays, like to invent words in this particular manner. There are few different reasons presented by TvTropes (n.d.). These are (a) *to create an unusual and unique name*; (b) *to reference a real name of an actor or a writer*; (c) *to disguise a meaningful name*; and (d) *to pair two characters or name*.

Coinage. Coinage is the least common processes of word formation in English. It is a process in which a new word or neologism is created either deliberately or accidentally

without using the other word formation processes and often from seemingly nothing. It is identified process of inventing entirely new words (Yule, 2006).

It also refers to extension of a name of product from a specific to a more general one, for example Kodak, Xerox, and Kleenex. There are also some cases wherein the meaning of these words is broadened, example of this are those complicated technical or chemical terms such as '*Aspirin*' for acetylsalicylic acid and much more (Yule, 2006).

Onomatopoeia. Onomatopoeia is a Greek term which means '*the sound*' or '*name I make*'. It refers to the naming of a thing or an action that phonetically imitates the sound associated with the thing it describes. Examples of which are the words used to name or describe the noises of the animals, for example, dog's '*bark*', a cat's '*meows*' and among others. Onomatopoeic words can vary from language to another, as the words should suit into a larger linguistic system (Literary Devices, 2013).

A lot of onomatopoeic words can be used as verbs and nouns. For example, the word '*slap*' is used not only for the sound for when the skin hitting skin, it can also use the action of hitting someone with an open hand and so on. Onomatopoeic words are usually based on the letter combination within the word. It can be seen at the beginning of the word, but some can be seen at the end (Your Dictionary, 2019). These are some of the examples that have been grouped according to how they are used. Words that are related to any related to liquids or water usually begin with '*sp*' or '*dr*', such as '*splash*' and '*spray*' are called '*water sound*'. The sounds that come from the mouth are called '*vocal sounds*', it usually starts with '*gr*' sound and '*mu*' if the sounds come out through the lips, tongue and teeth, such as '*growl*' and '*murmur*'. '*Collision sounds*' occur between two or more objects. If the collision happens between metal or glass, it usually starts with '*cl*' for '*clang*, and sounds like soft but heavy object usually starts with '*th*' for '*thump*' and '*thud*'. '*Air sounds*', words which describe or are related to air usually start with '*wh-*' and end with '*-sh*'. Examples are '*whisper*', '*swoosh*' and the likes. Lastly, words that are related to animal noises have long vowels, such as '*ay*' and '*oo*' for '*moo*' and '*arf*', are called '*animal sounds*' (Your Dictionary, 2019).

Neologisms. As the world continues to progress and also technology along with that, language is also affected. New words are created, meanings are added, and even currently existing words are put together. The Second Edition of Oxford English Dictionary that was published in 1989 listed 171, 476 words and 47,156 obsolete words. Obsolete words are those words that still existed but are no longer used, and around 9,500 derivative words are included as subentries in the dictionary. The exact number of words in the English language is still a mystery, since new words are created every day (Lexico, 2019). This creation of new words is called neologism. Neologism came from the French word, *néologisme*, *neo-* meaning '*new*' and the Greek '*logos*' that means word, which literally means *new word*. In 1803, the term neologism was coined in English; but the variant of this term was not original since in the previous 65 years, other languages such as French, Italian, and German had already invented their respective terms for neologism (Saveljeva, 2014). Many different definitions have risen for the term neologisms, but each of these definitions have something similar with each other.

Neologisms, according to Newmark (1988), are those newly coined lexical units or lexical units with a new meaning or those terms that emerged and accepted into everyday usage. As stated by Kalinowska (2016), neologism is a new term which has been commonly used, but has not been fully accepted by the people in the field of linguistics. He also mentioned that neologisms rise because of the development in social life, culture, and science. Kalinowska (2016) said that neologisms pass through three stages: creation, trial, and establishment. First, the new term will be labelled as a protologism, which is used first by a small community until it becomes widely accepted and stabilised. The word protologism was coined by Mikhail Epstein in the year 2005. This means a new word or phrase that is invented in the hope that it will be accepted and generally used (Macmillan Dictionary, 2008).

There are neologisms that are created every day, yet there is no single way of classifying them. Many different classifications of neologisms are being regarded by scholars. One of this is by a Russian linguist L.A. Haham (1989). He classifies neologisms by their meaning and structures. He proposed three ways of classifying neologisms. These are (a) a word where its form and meaning are new; (b) the structure of the word is new, but the meaning already existed; and (c) an existing word taking up a new meaning. It can be concluded that this classification of neologisms can be called as 'structural-semantic classification of neologisms'.

For a neologism to become a word, it must go through four stages that Lipka (1992) proposed. This is called the Process of Lexicalization. Lipka said that complex words may become a single-unit word having its own contents. These words are frequently used, and they are also very connected to neologism. The process involves the following: (a) *unstable creation* is a newly proposed word which is used only by a small sub culture/ speech community; (b) *diffusion* it is when the word will reach other audience; (c) *stability* occurs when the words will be recognized and will be accepted; and (d) *dated* is when the new word will be acknowledged maybe both culturally or linguistically, and this new word will not be considered new anymore.

According to Epstein (2005), every word in use has started out as a protologism, subsequently becoming a neologism, and becoming part of the language. The theory of Lipka suggests that new words created by a certain speech community as their language has the possibility to be dated or widely accepted. This last stage may not be the final one because social acceptance must be considered, this means that other speech communities will accept the neologism and its life span (Lipka, 1992).

Gay Lingo or Gay Morphology. Across the nation, gay men are really known with being creative, talented, and interesting. However, regardless of how talented, and wonderful people they are, they still are not safe from social stigma. Gay men are afraid of being treated as social cast out. This is the reason why they created their own culture which includes their own literature that shows not just their identities but their real life experiences as well (Wright, 2017). Gay lingo has gained acceptance here in the Philippines. Regardless of gender, most people are using gay lingo for communication. Gay lingo is not just a language. For gay men, this is a tool for social judgement and stigma. However, linguistically, the gay lingo and as to how it is created makes code

mixing possible like mixing the Filipino and English. The common gay lingo is code mixing which obviously violates the grammar of the English language in Philippine setting. The words from gay lingo may sound confusing to those average Filipino speakers. On one hand, gay language is also created to protect gay men from the society's condemnation of their identity (Casabal, 2008).

There are characteristics of gay language, and one of these is the culture. Gay language differs from place to place, like the gay lingo in the province which is different from the standard gay expressions known nationwide. There are standard gay lingo words, and there are regional gay lingo as well. Regardless of these differences, gays still understand and communicate to each other using their own language. Another characteristic is that gay lingo differs in terms of who the speaker is, which means that every gay expression or word has a social class involved. Those gays who have good educational background tend to speak gay language that mirrors their academic accomplishments, emphasizing sophistication in every gay word they say. There are also gays who speak the language to show their occupational background. Considering these examples, it can be concluded that gay language varies depending on the speaker (Casabal, 2008).

When gay language is analyzed linguistically, there is a phonological element that is being observed; and most of these are found in the element of proper names. For example, the name *Tom Jones*, who is a singer, is given new meaning in gay language which means *gutom (hungry)*. Hence, when gays say, *I am so Tom Jones na*, it means *really hungry*. Here, it is clearly seen that grammar is already violated considering that the proper noun became an adjective (Casabal, 2008).

According to Casabal (2008), there is more to these violations found in gay language:

Proper noun used as a verb. There are proper nouns used as a verb. For example, *Crayola Khomeini* which means *to cry* in gay language. In this example, the proper noun becomes a verb.

Proper noun used as an adjective. There are also proper nouns that are used as adjectives in the gay language like *Mahalia Jackson* which means *expensive* in gay language. In this example, the proper noun Mahalia Jackson becomes an adjective.

Proper nouns used as proper nouns with different meaning. There are also proper nouns that are used as proper nouns as well. It is just that the gay lingo puts different meaning into it which of course is very far from the actual meaning of the word. For example, *Anita Linda* which means *AIDS* in gay lingo. There are also proper nouns that are used as other function words like *Wella Shampoo* which means *oh well* in gay lingo. Example sentence is *wella shampoo, can I buy you a dinner then?* wherein in this example the proper noun is used as an expression to give emphasis into something (Casabal, 2008).

Linguistically, gay language in the Philippines truly violates the rules of grammar in English because of how they construct and put meanings into it wherein a noun can mean differently. There are names that are used with metaphor which exactly embodies the identity of gay language and gay community. However, having an assumption that

gay language violates grammar in English is too much. It is better to say that gay lingo, which is having code mixing to create a new word, is part of being creative of gay men as a way for them to feel belongingness in the society despite of who and what they are. Gay lingo, as a language is not just made for fun and creativity. It also benefits the Philippine society (Casabal, 2008).

Gay words are one of the words used for everyday communication and are formed in different ways as well. Gays are creative when it comes to forming new words, and these words are created through combining morphemes from different languages. There are strategies on forming a new words like syllable switching or of full reversal like the word '*batsi*' which is means '*sibat*' in Bisaya and '*to escape*' in English. Also, in the process of affixation like the word '*tumanders*' which means '*tanda*' in Tagalog and '*old*' in English, affixes do not change the meaning of the word. Another way is substitution, a process of changing the sound or part of the word by other sound mostly happens on the consonant, like '*k*' and '*h*' changed into '*j*', '*jili-jili*' which means '*kili-kili*' (armpit), '*jirap*' which means '*hirap*' in Taglog (difficult) (Pascual, 2016). Furthermore, gay language also uses names of people and assigned meanings to it, and also use figures of speech like onomatopoeia. There are major reasons why gay men are creating their own language. One of these is to have their own identity in the society and to be accepted in the society (Pascual, 2016).

Language and Society. According to Rubrico (2013), gender is also a factor in language. The gay community created gay lingo for their own use and advantages. It is an argot or a secret language for them to communicate with each other and is not supposed to be understood by others. Members of gay community coin new words or create a new meaning for existing words. Most of gay slang or gay lingo words are created as a form of anti-languages. Usually, anti-languages are created by marginalized communities, a secret language that only the members of the said community can only understand. This is to prevent discrimination from the other communities that looked down on them and do not understand their lifestyle (Racoma, 2013).

As years go by, gays and gay lingo are becoming more visible and acceptable in the Philippines. Gay lingo is known as a strange yet playful language. Even though it is strange and hard to understand, it became mainstream and is increasingly used in the society. Gay lingo incorporates Tagalog, English, Visayan, Spanish, and even Japanese words. It also incorporates variety of references such as celebrities, politicians and even trademark brand, for example, *Backstreet Boys*, which means *cute boys at the back*; *Bitter Ocampo*, from local celebrity *Deither Ocampo*, which means *bitter* or *sad*. Gay lingo has become mainstream especially among youth and even from other gender communities such as heterosexual males and females. Words like *charut*, which means *joke*, and *chaka* for *ugly*, are frequently used in conversations. Common expressions are also used like *chus*, *churva*, and *etchus* (Ethnic Group Philippines, 2018).

Furthermore, Racoma (2013) posed that using gay lingo requires caution. It has to be made sure that people understand very well the meaning of all the words and phrase being used. There is a right time, place, and people. Gay lingo is becoming mainstream,

yet it is not used in legal and formal documents and papers for it is not an official language.

Language and Sexuality. Kullick and Cameron (2003) mentioned about the language being used by homosexuals. The authors unravelled the idea that what people know about gender will matter not only with the experiences but also from the conversations that they have access to. Kullick and Cameron also discussed about the issue that the study of language and sexuality is the same with the study of language itself and sexual identity according to the view of literature because literature contends that sexual identity is identified only by one particular phase of sexuality. Furthermore, it has been asserted that the use of certain words in language; and sexuality offers two main points: the language they created (gay language) which can be used by a sexual group of people having different sets of beliefs and behaviors from the culture followed by the society, and the problem that the homosexuals like gays are identified through their way of speaking.

There is also a raise of question on how gays utilize the patterns of their choice of use of words to exchange ideas and feelings aside from just using the word itself to indicate that they are gays. Another subject that is really connected to this is how letters and sounds are projected by their voices which identifies them as gays. However, it does not mean that they can determine the field of language and sexuality on their own.

Language is one of the great ways for people to understand the things around them especially sexuality. A language that represents sex and sexuality has an important impact on what one is going to do and what one does to be accepted and recognized. Some studies assert that gay language describes homosexuality. In connection, just like other groups or subcultures, gays who have their own language have their own culture as well. Some of the researchers purport that not only homosexuals used the linguistic properties of a word but also those people who are heterosexuals.

Language and Speech Community. Kullick (2002) states that not only the gays can understand the words they created and the meanings but also the straight people. Both gays and straight people have similarities in understanding the language terms. It means that the gay community does not just create its language to just define its own community but also to affect other speech communities as well. The study of Kulick (2000) enshrined in his book *Gay and Lesbian Language*, cited that gay language is a way of expressing the feelings of the gays. These are words that are created, discovered, and used by gay people. He said that gays are having characteristics like women though they are naturally men, and for that, many people rejected them and their feelings as well. Because of this, they are having revenge through criticizing other people through their own words.

Remoto (1998) asserts that gay language is usual rather it is a normal way of communication that connects the gay people to the world using their own words. There is an interesting part of gay language in the Philippines. This is the process of having the gay language widely recognized and acknowledged. Surprisingly, the gay language, which is naturally being spoken by gay people, is used by the society as a means of

communication. Disregarding the gender of person, the gay language is attracting a large scale of audience and was absorbed by different kinds of medium that act not just a way or channel to communicate but as a model of language as well. This claim can be supported through understanding that gay community and other communities (male and female) are both familiar with the language and they both use the gay language as part of their daily life conversation (Casabal, 2008).

One of the media where usage of gay language is evident regardless of gender is the radio program. Some speakers tend to speak gay words with a matching gay voice. Gay words are attracting not just the listeners but also the readers of printed materials through written articles. Televisions, which are one of the most influential forms of media, have a great contribution to the spread of gay language to their audience. Gay expressions are now used not just by the gays but also by the people from different communities.

In the research of Guinto (2017), the term *bakla* or *bayot* is considered a taboo because gay people are always prone to negative talks from people around them. Regardless of the situation, experts in sociology consider Philippines as one of the friendliest countries with homosexuals. However, today, gays are not treated that way anymore because the society somehow accepted already the gay community. Through this acceptance, gays came to establish their own language, the gay lingo, to converse. Remoto (1998) also clearly stated that gay language is not used by gays only anymore because their language mediates the communication as one of the languages of the country. In Iligan City, there is a famous gay language called *yeyeleng* spoken by both men and women aside from the gays. Gay language is used to show the existence of a culture like that of gay community (Guinto, 2017).

Sociolect. Language is the reflection of culture, literature, and of the country as well. The language that people use is dynamic and adaptive because it is constantly changing, which includes adding and creating new words used for communication. This means that those new words are widely accepted by Filipinos nationwide. There are words that were given additional meanings which are connected to real-life like replacing vowels, creating new words, shortening words, and old words that have new meanings. This only means that Filipino language is changing, and one of the mainstreams of these new words is the social networking sites which eventually created a modernized idiolect and sociolect. Today, the meaning of a word may lead to wide and broad perspective, and this leads in the increased ways on how to construct our language (Ramos & Luzano, 2018).

Sociolects are specialized words used by social sub-groups with the same interests and origins. The patterns of how language used for socialization are closely related to structure by means of the combination of content information which is the language used and structural information as to how it is formed (Reynolds, Salter, Farber et al., 2014). The pieces of related literature presented are useful in the present study because all of these mentioned readings deal about how language evolved and is used not just in the gay community but also in other speech communities. The neologisms of the gay

community can be determined through morphological processes and word formation processes.

METHODOLOGY

To analyze the gay words in the gay community in Davao City, the researchers used qualitative approach because it involves collecting qualitative information. According to Anora and Stoner (2009), a qualitative research aims to collect information and has a clearer picture about the issue being studied. This approach answered not only the questions on what, when, and where of the present condition but also the why and how questions which are more important among the rest. Based on the definition of Bryan and Bell (2007), qualitative research is defined as a strategy that shows the relationship of the study and the theories were used in this research. Also, qualitative research gives more emphasis on how theories were utilized in the study.

Also, this research followed morphological typology as its research method, which aims for the language to be arranged according to the styles of morphemes being combined and contained in a language (Anora & Stoner, 2009). This qualitative and morphological typology as a design to this research was used because this research aimed to present collected gay words that underwent stages and arrangements which were combined and used as neologisms. The corpora of this study were the interview transcripts. These transcripts were collected from the gay speech community which has its own language. This was done through an interview accompanied with a voice recording of the participants. These corpora were the source of the gay neologisms and the basis for analysing the morphological processes

The researchers looked for participants who are members of the Davao gay community that can speak and understand gay language. They prepared all the needed materials for gathering data including the letters, electronic devices for recording, and writing materials. Before starting with the data collection, the researchers asked permission by giving a letter to the participants to invite them to take part in the study and to let them know the process of the data collection. During the data gathering, the researchers used a cellular phone to record and at the same time wrote an outline of the interview. Then, the researchers transcribed the recorded data of the selected participants. Lastly, after gathering the gay words, the researchers analyzed and identify the morphological processes of the words.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The presentation and findings of the analysis of the data gathered from the gay participants in Davao City are presented in this chapter.

Neologisms in the Sociolect of the Gay Community

Presented in Table 1 are the neologisms that were gathered during the conversation that the researchers had with the participants. In total, there are 109 words. No words are gathered that starts with letters 'O', 'V', and 'Z'. Surprisingly, there are Neologisms

that starts with the letter ‘Q’ and ‘X’. For the other alphabets, several Neologisms are observed from ‘A’ to ‘N’, ‘P’ to ‘U’, and ‘W’ to ‘Y’.

Table 1
Gay words

Gay Neologism	Gloss	Semantic Use
aida	aids	Wang, gi- <i>aida</i> ang shoyot! (He got aids, wang!)
ava	crazy	Ayaw pag <i>inava</i> day. (Don’t act crazy, girl.)
ayam	bisexual	Katong keke <i>ayam</i> man to. (That guy is bisexual.)
baboosh	goodbye/bye	Uli nako, <i>baboosh!</i> (I’m going home, bye!)
balur	house	Nindot sila ug <i>balur</i> . (They got a nice house.)
Bangladesh	to defecate	Ubani ko bi, mag <i>Bangladesh</i> sok. (Can you go with me? I need to poop.)
betlog	egg	Mag luto ta’g <i>betlog</i> . (Let’s cook eggs.)
bowa	fat	<i>Bowa</i> na kaayo ka dai. (You’re getting fat, girl.)
burlog	to sleep/Sleep	<i>Burlog</i> man akong papa. (My father is sleeping.)
burnawa	to look/look	<i>Burnawa</i> iyang outfit. (Look at his/her outfit.)
burnelas	slippers	Nawala akong <i>burnelas</i> . (My slippers are missing.)
buyaw	to dance/dance	Nag <i>buyaw</i> ang bayot. (He’s dancing.)
buyla	buy	<i>Buyla</i> sako’g pagkaon. (I will buy some food.)
chaka	ugly	<i>Chaka</i> ka’g nawng. (You’re so ugly.)
char/charot	joke/just kidding	Gwapa ko, <i>char lang</i> . (I’m pretty, just kidding.)
chusmeta	classmate	Dili ko ganahan sa imong <i>chusmeta</i> . (I don’t like your classmate.)

climbs	social climber	<i>Climbs</i> kay ka dai. (You're such a social climber.)
concon	construction worker	Gi-sitsitan ko'g <i>concon</i> . (I was catcalled by a construction worker.)
cooking	to cook/cook	Nag <i>cooking</i> mi'g betlog. (We're cooking some eggs.)
crayola	cry	Nag <i>crayola</i> ang bayot kay gibulagan. (He is crying because his boyfriend dumped him.)
curriculum	correct	<i>Curriculum</i> iyang answer. (His/her answer is correct.)
daks	big	<i>Daks</i> kag totchi. (You've got big breasts.)
datsering	rich	<i>Datsering</i> sya'g pamilya (His family is rich.)
dutch	money	Pahiram kog <i>dutch</i> dai bi. (Girl, can you lend me some money?)
erkay	to ride/ride	Nag <i>erkay</i> mi'g jeep pauli. (We ride the jeepney going home.)
erktas	to walk/walk	Nag <i>erktas</i> me pauli. (We walked home.)
ernyak	pervert	<i>Ernyak</i> kayg nawong ang keke. (The guy's face looks like a pervert.)
flying colors	rainbow	Nindot ang <i>flying colors</i> . (The rainbow looks nice.)
gerdel	lesbian	Nakakita ko ug <i>gerdel</i> kagabie. (I saw a lesbian last night.)
gora/gorabels	to go/go	<i>Gora</i> nata. (Let's go.)
gorameya	old person	<i>Gorameya</i> na sya. (He is old.)

hags	tiring	<i>Hags</i> na kaayo. (It's so tiring.)
hagardo Versoza	haggard	<i>Hagardo Versoza</i> na kaayo ka. (You already look haggard.)
hairdo	hair	Taas na kaayo imong <i>hairdo</i> . (You have long hair.)
Holcim	bisexual	<i>Holcim</i> mana sya. (He's bisexual.)
inlababo	in love	<i>Inlababo</i> na kaayo sok. (I'm so in love.)
jealousie	jealous	Bawal mag <i>jealousie</i> , wang! (You're not allowed to get jealous, wang!)
judi	no/never	<i>Judi</i> na mag libak dai. (Girl, don't gossip.)
Judy Ann Santos	no	<i>Judy Ann</i> na. (Stop it/Don't)
juestra/juestro	teacher	But-an kay among <i>juestra/juestro</i> . (Our teacher is very kind.)
jumas	fare	Pag bayad ug <i>jumas</i> . (Pay for your fare.)
juspital	hospital	Gikan kog <i>juspital</i> . (I came from the hospital.)
kek/keks/keke	guy	Gwapo ang <i>keke</i> . (That guy is handsome.)
kewong	face	Chaka kaayo kay <i>kewong</i> . (Your face is very ugly.)
kikit	hurt	<i>Kikit</i> kay sa imong dughan? (Does it hurt your feelings?)

knowing	(I) know	<i>Knowing</i> naman ko ana. (I already know about that.)
korekong	correct (Expression)	<i>Korekong!</i> (Correct!)
kyubierms	night	<i>Kyubierms</i> name nag uli. (We went home late at night.)
kyudto	to go/go	<i>Kyudto</i> na ta'g Kyoril, wang. (Let's go to Toril, wang.)
kyugat	beach	Naligo me'g <i>kyugat</i> gahapon. (We went to the beach yesterday.)
kyughan	many	<i>Kyughan</i> kag dutch. (You have plenty of money.)
kyug-om	cloudy	Mag ulan ni ba kay <i>kyug-om</i> . (The sky is cloudy, it's going to rain.)
kyuho/kyuhoerms	smelly	<i>Kyuhho</i> syag paylok. (His/her armpits smell.)
kyulan	bulan	Nindot kay ang <i>kyulan</i> . (The moon looks nice.)
kyumang	crawl	Nag <i>kyumang</i> na ang bayot. (He is crawling.)
kyuntag	morning	<i>Kyuntag</i> nako nag mata. (I woke up in the morning.)
kyupoy	tired	Gi- <i>kyupoy</i> ko sa trabaho. (I'm tired from working.)
Kyoril	Toril	Layo kaayo ang <i>Kyoril</i> (Toril is very far.)
kyutukan	smart	<i>Kyutukan</i> ang bayot, dai. (Girl, he is smart.)
lany/Lani Misalucha	rain	Nag <i>lany</i> na gabie. (It was raining last night.)

laps/laffang	to eat/eat	<i>Laps ta dai, gutom na.</i> (I'm hungry, let's eat.)
latchmi	girl/woman	<i>Gwapa ang latchmi.</i> (That girl is pretty.)
latina	girl/woman	<i>Tanawa ang latina, dai.</i> (Look at her, girl.)
layka	house	<i>NIndot kay kag layka.</i> (You got a nice house.)
laysho	fancy	<i>Laysho kag relo.</i> (You have a fancy watch.)
lubi	buttocks	<i>Daks kay syag lubi.</i> (He/She got big a butt.)
matingera	thief	<i>Matingera ang bayot.</i> (He's a thief.)
Matet de Leon	steal	<i>Nag matet de leon syag cellphone.</i> (She steals a phone.)
maychi	small	<i>Maychi sya'g totchi.</i> (She got small breasts.)
mayet	bisexual	<i>Mayet man to sya.</i> (He's bisexual.)
numo	drink	<i>Numo ta?</i> (Let's drink?)
paingkod	to sit/sit	<i>Paingkod sa ta be.</i> (Let's sit.)
paybot	butt	<i>Daks kaayo s'yag paybot.</i> (He/She got big a butt.)
paylok	armpit	<i>Nag basa iyang paylok.</i> (He/She got a wet armpit.)
pepa/pepo	pretty/handsome	<i>Pepa/pepo ka.</i> (You're pretty/handsome.)
perlax	relax/calm	<i>Perlax lang bayot.</i> (Just relax.)

pintik	bisexual	Burnawa ang <i>pintik</i> . (Look at the bisexual.)
quizinging	quiz	Bagsak ko sa <i>quizinging</i> . (I failed the quiz.)
ratatat	nag/nagging	Buntag sayo nag <i>ratatat</i> na si mama. (My mother was already nagging early in the morning.)
roro	dog	Gi-paak ko sa <i>roro</i> . (I was bitten by a dog.)
shubtik	hurry	<i>Shubtik</i> na, wang! (Wang, Hurry!)
shaok	sing/singing	Nag <i>shaok</i> among silingan. (Our neighbor was singing.)
shubi	shut up	<i>Shubi</i> dai. (Shut up, girl.)
shugtas	walk/walking	Layo kay akong gi- <i>shugtas</i> . (We walked far.)
shunga	dumb	<i>Shunga</i> ka? (Are you dumb?)
shunser	cancer	Naa kay <i>shunser</i> ? (Are you diagnosed with cancer?)
shunyak	pervert	<i>Shunyak</i> ang keke. (The boy is a pervert.)
taichi	dead	Na <i>taichi</i> among roro. (Our dog just dies.)
talib	girlwoman	Gwapa kaayo ang <i>talib</i> dai. (That girl looks pretty.)
tanitoni	tattoo	Asa ka nagpa- <i>tanitoni</i> ? (Where did you get your tattoo?)

Tom Jones	hungry	<i>Tom jones nako.</i> (I'm so hungry.)
totchi	breast	Daks imong <i>totchi</i> . (You got big breasts.)
tumbalata	lesbian	<i>Tumbalata</i> baya na sya. (She's a lesbian.)
uyotar	gay	Gwapa kaayo ang <i>uyotar</i> . (He looks pretty.)
warsering	fight/fighting	Nag <i>warsering</i> me sa akong mama. (I had a fight with my mom.)
winky	ugly	<i>Winky</i> kaayo kag kewong. (Your face is very ugly.)
Winwin Marquez	win/winner	<i>Winwin Marquez</i> na ka sa imong uyab (You're already a winner with your boyfriend.)
X-Men	A guy who just came out as gay	<i>X-Men</i> sya. (He used to be a straight guy.)
yeyat	thin	<i>Yeyat</i> na kay ka. (You look so thin.)
yotar/yots	gay	<i>Yotar</i> mana siya. (He's gay.)

The words that are created show how language is evolving from time to time. Gay lingo is not just a tool for communication for gays but also it is their way to define who they really are and to distinguish themselves from social judgement and stigma. In this study, identified neologisms are proof on how the gay community creates a way for them to communicate in their own terms. As a result, they were able to form words through mixing codes, namely Filipino and English, and somehow they also violate the grammar rules of the English language.

These new words are in consonance to what Casabal (2008) mentioned that gay language in the Philippines violates the rules of grammar in English because of the way they construct words and how they put meaning into it, wherein a noun can mean differently. For example, the term '*Bangladesh*', a noun, is used as a verb in gay language that means '*to defecate*'.

The use of these neologisms from the gay community can be supported by the claim of Lunzaga, Bendulo and Felisilda (2011) that language is constantly evolving that is why it is a must to record and document a language that is already existing for future purposes. English and Filipino are the main languages that gays use to create words. It is their way to hide their response from the talks of other gender. They create a word from an original word through word formation processes. Gay language violated some of the English grammar rules yet they are still using it for the expressions of their feelings and ideas. For instance, Casabal (2008) mentioned about violations found in gay lingo, these are proper noun used as a verb and/or adjective and proper nouns used as a proper nouns with different meaning. Guinto (2017) pointed out that gays are always prone to negative talks from people around them. However, today, gays are not treated that way anymore because the society somehow accepted their own language, the gay lingo, to converse.

The list of neologisms in Table 1 can also be supported by the theory of Lipka (1992) on the process of lexicalization which considers four steps: first is that the created word is categorized as *unstable creation* because the word is used only by a small speech community, second is the process of *diffusion* wherein the created word will reach other speech communities, third is *stability* wherein the word will have a chance to be recognized, lastly is *dated* which may not be considered as part of lexicalization because even if a word already underwent the first to third steps a word will not be *dated* because there is only small chances that the neologism will be acknowledged linguistically most especially the gay neologisms. Before a neologism is considered a word, it must go through all of the steps of lexicalization.

Morphological Processes in the Sociolect of the Gay Community

The morphological processes that flourished from the recorded conversation from the participants are affixation, reduplication, blending, and clipping. These processes are in accordance to the theory of Ingo Plag (2002) which is the Word Formation Theory. This theory deals with how words are formed and also explains how language allows the member of the speech community to form new words. It can also be observed that the gays adapt to the process of coinage, anonym, and onomatopoeia, which are not included in the Word Formation Theory.

Table 2 : Affixation

Neologism	Morphological Process	Gloss
betlog	(it)log – clipped bet + log – affixation; prefix	egg
burlog	(tu)log – clipped bur + log – affixation; prefix	sleep
burnawa	(ta)nawa – clipped bur + nawa – affixation; prefix	to look/look
burnelas	(tsi)nelas – clipped bur + nelas – affixation; prefix	slippers
buyaw	(sa)yaw – clipped bu + yaw – affixation; prefix	to dance/dance
chusmeta	(class)mate – clipped chus + mate – affixation; prefix. Interchange ‘a’ and ‘e’	classmate
erkay	(sa)kay – clipped er + kay – affixation; prefix	to ride/ride
erktas	(ba)ktas – clipped er + ktas – affixation; prefix	to walk/walk
ernyak	(ma)nyak – clipped er + nyak – affixation; prefix	pervert
judi	di(li) – clipped ju + di – affixation; prefix	no
juestra/juestro	(ma)estro/a – clipped ju + estro/a – affixation; prefix	teacher

jumas	(pa)mas(ahe) – clipped ju + mas – affixation; prefix	fare
juspital	(ho)spital – clipped ju + spital – affixation; prefix	hospital
kewong	(na)wong – clipped ke + wong – Affixation; prefix	face
kyudto	(a)dto – clipped kyu + dto – affixation; prefix	to go/go
kyugat	(da)gat – clipped kyu + gat – affixation; prefix	beach
kyughan	(da)ghan – clipped kyu + ghan – affixation; prefix	many
kyugom	(da)gom – clipped kyu + gom – affixation; prefix	cloudy
kyuho	(ba)ho – clipped kyu + ho – affixation; prefix	smelly
kyulan	(b)ulan – clipped ky + ulan – affixation; prefix	moon
kyumang	(ka)mang – clipped kyu + mang – affixation; prefix	crawl
kyuntag	(bu)ntag – clipped kyu + ntag – affixation; prefix	morning
kyupoy	(ka)poy – clipped kyu + poy – affixation; prefix	tired

Kyoril	(T)oril – clipped Ky + oril – affixation; prefix	Toril
paingkod	(l)ingkod – clipped pa + ingkod – affixation; prefix	to sit/sit
paybot	(lu)bot – clipped pay + bot – affixation; prefix	buttocks
paylok	(i)lok – clipped Pay + lok – affixation; prefix	armpit
pepa	(gwa)pa – clipped pe + pa – affixation; prefix	pretty
pepo	(gwa)po – clipped pe + po – affixation; prefix	handsome
perlax	(re)lax – clipped per + lax – affixation; prefix	relax/chill out
shubtik	(a)btik – clipped shu + btik – affixation; prefix	hurry
shugtas	(bak)tas – clipped shug + tas – affixation; prefix	to walk/walk
shunga	(ta)nga – clipped shu + nga – affixation; prefix	dumb
shunser	(ca)ncer – clipped shun + cer – affixation; clipped	cancer
shunyak	(ma)nyak – clipped shu + nyka – affixation; prefix	pervert

yeyat	(pa)yat – clipped ye + yat – affixation; prefix	thin
balur	bal(ay) – clipped bal + ur – affixation; suffix	house/home
buyla	buy + la – affixation; suffix	to buy/buy
climbs	climb + s – affixation; suffix	social climber
cooking	cooker + ing – affixation; suffix	to cook/cook
daks	dak(o) – clipped dak + s – affixation; suffix	big
datsering	dat(o) – clipped dat + sering – affixation; suffix	rich
dutch	dat(o) – clipped dat + ch – affixation; suffix. ‘a’ changed to ‘u’	money
gora	go + ra – affixation; suffix	to go/go
gorameya	gora(ng) – clipped gora + meya – affixation; suffix	old person
hags	hag(gard) – clipped hag + s – affixation; suffix	tired
kek/keks	(lala)ke – clipped ke + k + s – affixation; suffix	guy
korekong	korek + ong – affixation; suffix	correct
knows	know + s – affixation; suffix	know
lany	(u)lan – clipped lan + y – affixation; suffix	rain

laps	lap(a) – clipped lap + s – affixation; suffix	to eat/eat
laffang	la(pa) – clipped la + ffang – affixation; suffix	to eat/eat
latchmi	(bi)lat – clipped lat + chmi – affixation; suffix	woman
latina	(bi)lat – clipped lat + ina – affixation; suffix	woman
layka	(ba)lay – clipped lay + ka - affixation; suffix	house/home
laysho	(sos)yal - clipped yal – lay – ananym lay + sho – affixation; suffix	fancy
maychi	(ga)may – clipped may + chi – affixation; suffix	small
mayet	may(a) – clipped may + et – affixation; suffix	bisexual
numo	(i)nom – clipped nom + o – affixation; suffix. Change ‘o’ to ‘u’	to drink/drink
quizering	quiz + erring – affixation; suffix	quiz
shubi	Shu(t) – clipped Shu + bi – affixation; suffix	shut up
taichi	(pa)tay – clipped yay + chi – affixation; suffix. Change ‘y’ to ‘i’	dead
totchi	tot(oy) – clipped	breast

	tot + chi – affixation; suffix	
warsering	war + sering – affixation; suffix	fight/fighting
yotar	(ba)yot – clipped yot + ar – affixation; suffix	gay
yots	(ba)yot – clipped yot + s – affixation; suffix	gay
crayola	cr + a + y – affixation; infix cray + ola – affixation; suffix	cry
tanitoni	ta(t)to(o) – clipped ta + ni + to – affixation; infix tanito + ni – affixation; suffix	tattoo
kyubierms	(ga)bie – clipped kyu + bie + rms – affixation; circumfixes	night
kyuhoerms	(ba)ho – clipped kyu + ho + erms – affixation; circumfixes	smelly
kyutokan	(u)tok – clipped kyu + tok + an – affixation; circumfixes	brainy/smart
uyotar	(ba)yot – clipped u + yot + ar – affixation; circumfixes	gay

One of the significant findings of this study is that most of the gay words are formed through affixation. Most of the words especially in English are formed through the process of affixation wherein the categorization of the words in speech is changed that could established different meaning as well (Al-Timen, 2018). According to Plag (2002), there are three types of affixation: prefix, suffix, and infix. Among the three, prefix and suffix are common in the English language while infix is not, but there are chances that infixes can be used with newly created words to express conviction by the speaker.

In the English language, a prefix is a single letter or group of letters that is placed at the beginning of a word. A prefix is a bound morpheme which means it cannot stand by itself as a word. Prefixes function in two ways: it can change the meaning of the word or create a new word (Literary Device Editors, 2013).

In table 2, words that had gone through prefixation did not follow the functions aforementioned. For example, the words '*Betlog*', '*Juestro/Juestra*', and '*Kyumang*' mean egg, teacher, and crawl respectively. Looking closely, '*Betlog*' came from the word '*itlog*' (egg in Bisaya) which is clipped to '*-log*' and is added with the prefix '*Bet-*' which resulted to '*betlog*'. Same thing happens with '*Juestro/Juestra*' and '*Kyumang*', which came from the Bisaya terms '*Maestro/Maestra*' and '*Kamang*', clipped into '*-estro/-estra*' and '*-mang*' then is attached with the prefix '*Ju-*' and '*Kyu-*'. Looking at it, it does not have any changes, it has still the same meaning as only the structure is changed. Unlike the English language, when the prefix '*pre-*' is attached to the word '*buy*' it changed not only the structure but the meaning as well.

Another type of affix is suffix. Suffix is a letter or group of letters that is attached at the end of the root word to change its meaning or tense. There are two types of suffixes: derivational suffix and inflectional suffix. Derivational suffix changes the meaning of a word and its grammatical function while inflectional suffix transforms the word into a different tense without changing its meaning (Literary Device Editors, 2013).

For instance, the gay words '*balur*', '*lany*', and '*taichi*' came from the Bisaya terms '*balay*', '*ulan*' (can be in Filipino as well), and '*patay*', clipped into '*bal-*', '*-lan*' and '*tay-*' and then attached with the suffixes '*-ur*', '*-y*', and '*-chi*'. As mentioned, suffixes function to change the word meaning and tense, but in this case, gay words are only attached to change the structure of the word. Hence, there are no rule followed when it comes to suffixation.

Another type of affix is the infix. Infixes occur in the mid-part of a word. The words '*Crayola*' and '*Tanitoni*' underwent the process of infixation, '*Crayola*' means '*cry*' in gay language. In the root word '*cry*', the infix '*-a*' is inserted between '*cr-*' and '*-y*' and it can be observed that it also underwent the process of suffixation, where the suffix '*-ola*' is added. Another example is the gay term '*Tanitoni*' which means '*tattoo*'. It can be observed that the morpheme '*ta*' and '*to*' remained, and the infix '*-ni*' is placed in between. The neologism also underwent the process of suffixation, where the suffix '*-ni*' is added.

Infixes are words that create emphasis of feelings or emotions felt by a speaker while circumfix is an affix placed both at the beginning and the end of a word. Infix and circumfix are also found in the results of the study on how the gay words are formed through affixes. Circumfix is not usually used in English but can be found in other languages. Circumfixes are affixes which are placed in the beginning and the end of a word (Marapaung, 2015).

'*Kyubierms*', which means '*night*', originated from the Bisaya word '*gabie*' which underwent the circumfixation process because prefix '*kyu-*' and suffix '*-rms*' are added to it to form a new word.

Reduplication

Another important findings of this about gay language is that words used by gay men are created through reduplication which is defined as the repetition of words and sound in accordance with the study of Plag (2002).

Table 2.1

Reduplication

Neologism	Morphological Process	Gloss
concon	con(struction) reduplication	– construction worker
keke	(lala)ke – reduplication	guy
kikit	(sa)kit – reduplication	hurt
roro	(i)ro – reduplication	dog

The first neologism in Table 2.1, '*Concon*', which means '*construction worker*' is an English word for people working in establishing a building. The neologism follows the process of reduplication because the first syllable of '*construction*' was repeated twice as '*concon*'. The second neologism is different from the first one because this time the reduplicated word is the last syllable of the word '*ke*' from the word '*lalake*' which means '*male*' which resulted to the neologism '*keke*'. According to Rubino (2013), reduplication is categorized into two: full and partial reduplication. Full reduplication is when the entire root word will be repeated. Table 2.1 presents the partial reduplication which is evident because a part of the root is only repeated.

Clipping

Part of the significant findings of this study is that gay lingo is processed also through clipping of words to have easier term of long words.

Table 2.2
Clipping

Neologism	Morphological Process	Gloss
ava	aba(ba) – clipped. ‘b’ changed to ‘v’	crazy
climbs	(social) climb(er) – clipped	social climber
kek/keks	(lala)ke	guy
laps	lap(a) - clipped	to eat/eat

According to Blatt (2008), the reason why people clip a word is that people tend to dislike on saying the whole word especially if the word is too long, so to make it easier people, shorten the words and use the clipped word more frequently than the original word. There are also chances in the use of gay language that once a word is clipped, it can be combined with other words which also undergo word formation process and can undergo another word formation again (Jamet, 2009).

The neologisms in Table 2.2 show how words are created through clipping. The word ‘*gwapa*’, which means ‘*beautiful*,’ was clipped into ‘*pa*’ which is attached to the morpheme ‘*pe*’, resulting to a neologism ‘*pepa*’. The neologism ‘*climbs*’ is somehow different from the other neologisms in Table 2.2. This word is based on the root word composed of two words ‘*social climber*’ and the second word of the root is clipped into ‘*climb*’ + ‘*s*’ which results to the neologism ‘*climbs*’.

Coinage

Coinage was defined by Yule (2006) as a new word created without following a process and is created suddenly and has been eventually used which in a small speech community like that of the gays.

Table 2.3**Coinage**

Neologism	Gloss
aida	aids
Bangladesh	defecate
bowa	fat
chaka	ugly
charot	joke
curriculum	correct (expression)
flying colors	rainbow
gerdel	lesbian
hairdo	hair
hagardo Versoza	haggard
Holcim	bisexual
inlababo	in love
jalousie	jealous
Judy Ann Santos	no
Lani Misalucha	rain/raining
Matet de Leon	thief
pintik	bisexual
Tom Jones	hungry
tumbalata	lesbian
winky	ugly
Winwin Marquez	winner/win
X-Men	A guy who just came out as gay

For example, the word '*chaka*' is associated with the famous movie character '*Chucky*', which has an ugly appearance in the movie '*Child's Play*'. Another example is, '*X-Men*'. It is a movie about superheroes, but in the gay lingo, it refers to a former guy who came out as gay. Cayabyab (2013) pointed out that gay lingo is just composed of words created playfully, adding, or removing from existing words that connote a new meaning. Sometimes, they are taken from famous names or personalities. Some of the words are just suddenly discovered to provide conviction during a conversation or to describe a certain untypical situation.

Anonym

Gays utilize the process of anonym in creating words. They simply reverse the spelling of the word. Anonym is a special type of anagram. It is a form of word play where the letters of a word or phrase are rearranged in a way to create a new word or meaning (Literary Devices Editor, 2013). Mostly, anagrams are used to create pseudonyms and secret codes, which are universal in a gay community. Gays, afraid of being outcasted in the society, create own culture and language that show their identities as well as their life experiences (Wright, 2017).

Table 2.4

Anonyms

Neologism	Morphological Process	Gloss
ayam	Maya – anonym	bisexual
talib	Bilat – anonym	woman

Gay lingo was made as a secret language in the community. They use this language to communicate with other gays to convey a message for them to understand exclusively (Rubio, 2013). Thus, they use anonym to send messages in a way to make it as a secret code between them. Baytan (2008) cites an example of two gays talking about a man. Through their language, a straight guy could not understand what they are talking about.

Onomatopoeia The last morphological process that gays use in forming words is onomatopoeia which is defined by Literary Devices Editor (2013) as naming a certain thing or action through the sound associated with.

Table 2.5

Onomatopoeia

Neologism	Gloss
baboosh	goodbye
ratatat	nag/nagging

The neologisms presented in Table 2.5 are categorized as onomatopoeia because the words are created based on a sound. This is to know the true meaning of the word. For

example, *'baboosh'* simply means *'goodbye'* because *'oosh'* indicates that someone is leaving while *'Ratatat'* is for a person who is nagging, a sound listened to the sound of continuous gunshots.

Gay language is created through the process mentioned in this paper. Words undergo affixation, clipping, reduplication, anonym, or onomatopoeia and coinage. Also, these words are like secret codes for gays. By means of secret codes, gay language is their way to protect themselves from the society that keeps on treating them like they are not part of it which result to a beautiful creation of their own language and culture (Wright, 2017). This is also their ticket to convey their message to each other effectively.

Neologisms are the newly created words which are very evident in the gay lingo. Neologisms are not only about new words, they could also be associated with existing words with different meaning, which are called semantic neologisms (Nordquist, 2017). It cannot be denied that gay lingo can be easily established, but it can disappear easily as well because of the unstable nature of this language. Despite this, it is influential because other speech communities are using the gay lingo as well. Indeed, the language may change from time to time, but the meaningfulness and the richness of the language itself stay the same.

CONCLUSION

Gays tend to create neologisms not just for the sake of creativity but also for having effective communication within their community. They use and create neologisms to make their daily conversations unique from others. It is their code and their way of protecting themselves from judgements and discriminations from the other communities that do not understand gay lingo and the community in general.

It can be observed from the gathered data that gays are fond of creating words using affixation, which turned out to be the most frequently used, followed by reduplication, and then clipping. They also use the process of coinage, anonym, and the association of sound, onomatopoeia. However, since gay language is constantly evolving throughout time, there are possibilities that these gathered words change. In the word formation process in the English language, affixation, reduplication and clipping are very clear and specific without combining the processed word with another word formation though there are special cases. However, in gay neologisms, most of the words are processed through affixation. For instance, a clipped word can be combined with another morpheme, and so it will create a new word which is more like clipping with affixation or vice versa. Evidently, there is richness in gay lingo because the morphological processes, although following the descriptive grammar, are reflective of creativity.

Implications for Field of Practice

As people continue to accept the gay community, their language has been a mainstream to everyone in the society, even to those who are straight. The AB English program can help broaden the knowledge of the students about gay language. The researchers can also help raise awareness not just about the language but also about the third gender

and its culture. With gay language, the teachers can help the students in painting a clearer picture in analyzing pieces of literature done by gay writers, as they are continuing making their marks on literature as well. For the students, they can use added knowledge about neologisms and morphological processes not just in gay language but also in other languages as well. The school administration can also provide seminars and other activities for teachers about understanding gay language and its neologisms and morphological processes, so that everyone could have a deeper understanding of the culture.

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