

CHAPTER V

MILIK PERPUSTAKAAN
UNIMED

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1. Conclusion

To conclude the observations that were made on the study, the researcher came to the following conclusion.

1. Motherese is found to be used by the Indonesian caretakers in this particular study with all the characteristics that are described by Clarks, Ingrams and Taylor etc. The caretakers made adjustments on the use of motherese to the age level of the infants. In older infant, the use of more complex utterances were made, as compared to the use of much more simpler structure in the younger infant. A much more exaggerated intonations and higher pitch were made towards a younger infant.
2. Motherese which is used by the caretakers towards the infants assisted the development of their first language acquisition where the caretakers simplified the difficult sound and word that could be understood. The caretakers also offered substitution towards words that they felt would be difficult for the infants to understand and vocalize. Motherese also helped the infants to recognize important words when the caretakers repeated the words several times in the utterances that they made. The intonation and the pitch employed in the motherese allow the infant to recognize that the caretakers were talking exclusively to them, making the infants to feel much more secure and emotionally stable.

3. The use of motherese by the caretakers allowed the infants to express themselves in the form of their responses as conversations were initiated toward them. By giving the infants feedback promoted further responses from them, where eventually the exchanges between them helped the infants to understand the value of conversation.

At the end of the research, the developmental growth of both infants can be clearly seen to follow the normal course of Piaget's cognitive development. However, their language acquisition development seemed to be somewhat slower in the developmental stage of language as indicated by Paivio (1981). However, the researcher realized that the developmental stages of language which Paivio expressed was based on the development of the English speaking infants that might have certain differences compared to the Indonesian speaking infants. Nevertheless, although the developmental stages of language of Jojo and Andrew might be a little bit slower, however, the period that they have to go through are not fixed in terms of specific time, but contained a range of period. For example, echolalic period according to Paivio occur at the age of 0;9 to 1;0, which therefore ranged for about four months. Therefore, for Jojo who was at the beginning of babbling at the end of the research had not entered the echolalic period yet, however, he can be seen not to be very far behind in his development. With Andrew it was also the same. When the research was at the beginning, he was still at the babbling and echolalic period, and at the end of the research his early words was still under fifty words. As it was in Jojo's case, it was also the same as in Andrew's case. Andrew was

also not that far behind in his development, he was still in the range of period in acquiring his first words or beginning his holophrastic period.

To conclude, this study is based on the caretakers' use of the speech register of motherese, and the responses of the infants on the use of that speech register. At the end of the study, the researcher observed that the infants were very responsive to the caretakers conversations. The caretakers constantly involve Jojo and Andrew in conversation which helped them to acquire the skills that will help them to adapt to the other people outside their home later on. For through the interactions that they got from the caretakers which is realized in the speech register 'motherese', the infants eagerly responded with laughter, vocalization, gestures etc. which indicated that they could express themselves and that they knew what was expected from them. Although Jojo and Andrew were still speaking unintelligibly, however, the caretakers could understand what they meant or wanted. In time, through all these interactions, the infants will continue growing and able to initiate and response to the utterances made toward them. All these and with the full understanding of the caretakers will help the infants to become the adults who are capable to interact and socialize with all kinds of people in the language that they acquired.

5.2 Suggestions

In view of the research that was made on the use of the speech register 'motherese' towards the language acquisition of the two infants as the subject of the research, the following suggestions are made:

First, the length of the research should be longer, and additional subjects should be added to establish a much more detailed and accurate research. This research is made

towards the two infants who were at the babbling and holophrastic period, therefore to have a much more complete picture of the use of motherese towards the children in Indonesia, therefore, more subjects from the various stages of language development should be included .

Second, the research should be followed up by more researchers so that from the study we could learn how indonesian infants comprehend, produce and perceive language when the the speech register of motherese is used. As research on language acquisition of the Indonesian children is still pretty scarce, therefore, in making more studies on the language acquisition of the Indonesian children, the wealth of knowledge in the language acquisition study will increase.

Third, in initiating conversation with the infants, the caretakers have made an emotional contact with the child and therefore parents should be careful in choosing the people that surround the infant. For example, when choosing a baby sitter, parents should consider what effect the person will have on the infant's development. Especially at the crucial period of the babbling and holophrastic period, the infants were not able to communicate what they need or feel in utterances that the caretakers can understand, therefore, it will be up to the family to screen out a person that might hinder the child's speech and cognition developmental growth.

Finally, the caretakers should be careful not to use too much warnings such as the words "jangan", "awas", "tidak bolch" so that the infant will not experience inferiority because of being warned not to do so many activities. The development of the infants' social skill might become a problem later on, as children who are warned not to do things too often would be afraid to explore new things.