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Gender Linguistic Behavior
Complaining for Men Vs Women:
Case Study of Tlemcen Speech Community

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Dedications

First of all, I should be very thankful to our God ALLAH, for giving me the chance to continue my studies and realize all my dreams.

I dedicate this work to all the members of my family and my friends.

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ABSTRACT

The differences between men and women in speech are very apparent in the field of language and gender. For this phenomenon, is studied as complaining for Men Vs. Women to set up with a result, to know who complain more than the other. As a conclusion of discussing the subject of complaining between “Men” and “Women”, women complain more than men as a result of a research study on 40 participants. Representing the Tlemcenian speech community chosen randomly from the mass of students at the University of Tlemcen.

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GENERAL INTRODUCTION

General Introduction

Some of the most important linguistic changes affecting the world since the 1960s have arisen from the way society has come to look differently at the practices and consequences of sexism. There is now a widespread awareness, which was lacking a generation ago, of the way in which language covertly displays social attitudes towards men and women.

Gender is a social arrangement and every individual's gender is built into the social order. Gender consists in a pattern of relations that develops over time to define male and female, masculinity and femininity, simultaneously structuring and regulating people's relation to society. Gender is embedded so thoroughly in our institution, our actions, our beliefs, and our desires, that it appears to us to be completely natural and noticeable. Thus, we are surrounded by gender from the time we are very small, it is ever-present in conversation, humour, and conflict. The current study describes one such phenomenon, which is carried out by the learners of English Language at Tlmcen University. The objectives of this study are twofold:

1. To examine the students attitudes towards complaint.
2. To analyse the phenomenon of complaining expressed by Men and Women.

Complaint is very prominent in the Algerian society as women are “etiquette” to complain more than men. Is this a stereotype or a real fact? The results will be displayed at the end of this research.

In the first chapter, we are going to deal with a brief review of the evolution from sociolinguistics to language and gender, and the difference between gender and sex. At that level, we are going to display the sociolinguistic situation in Tlemcen by shedding some light on bilingualism and its different notions.

As for as the second chapter, we are going to deal with the practical part, where we are going to observe the differences in speech between male and female. Then questioning EFL students in order to analyse their reactions towards complaint and their attitudes towards the way men and women complain. A total of 50 EFL LMD students, at ABOU BAKR BELKAID University of Tlemcen, participate in this research enterprise.

CHAPTER ONE

1.1. Introduction :

This chapter gives a brief review of the evolution of sociolinguistics into language and gender studies. Within this shift, it is necessary to shed some light on some key concepts underlying both disciplines such as bilingualism and its different notions that are diglossia, code-switching, code-mixing, and borrowing.

1.2. From Sociolinguistic to Language and Gender Studies:

In the 1980s, it was not unusual for sociolinguists to describe their interest in language and gender studies as “language and sex”. However, in the subsequent years the term “sex” has largely been replaced by the term “gender” which represents one of the fundamental characteristics of human language behavior.

Language and Gender is an introductory discipline to the study of the relationship between gender and language use. This field of study is one of the most dynamic and interesting in the field of the language use in society. It is characterized by many debates and heated discussions about the “pros” and “cons” associated with one’s different ways of conceptualizing, interpreting and putting into practice the relationship between language and society.

1.3. *Birth of Gender Studies:*

Giddens defines gender as “the psychological, social and cultural differences between males and females”. (1989:158). admittedly, the evolution of gender studies started in 1970s. it is clear and evident that the gender divide is a natural and biological classification that has led to different uses of language by males and females (male-oriented language Vs. female oriented language) .This explains the advent of gender studies.

It is more coherent to talk about gender as an attempt to understand of what it means to be a man and what it means to be woman in addition to the changes that language has undergone from one generation to another and how male language use and female language use are perceived by different radicalized, ethnic and religious groups, as well as by members of different social classes.

The beginning of the studies on language and gender can be traced back to the early 1970s, when Lakoff published an article entitled “Language and Women’s Place” (1972). This provoking article argued that women had a different way of speaking from men a way of speaking that both reflects and produces a subordinate position in the society. This has given a start to gender studies on a sociolinguistic basis and sociolinguists expressed their interest in the study of men and women’s language, and their differences in speech.

Thus language and gender studies has emerged remarkably as a field of study dealing with the diversities on language structures among men and women.

The focus on differences in the study of language was not an isolated development, but took place in a wider context of psychological studies of gender differences. Gilligan (1982), for example, argued that women had different modes of moral reasoning, and Belenky and et al (1986) argued for gender differences in acquiring and processing knowledge.

1.4. ***Gender Vs Sex:*** According to Fausto (2000) “labeling someone a man or a woman is a social decision. We may use scientific knowledge to help us make the decision, but only your beliefs about gender-not science- can define our sex.

Sex is a biological categorization based primarily on reproductive potential, whereas gender is the social elaboration of biological sex. Gender builds on biological sex, it exaggerates biological difference and, indeed, it carries biological difference into domains in which it is completely irrelevant.

1.5. Sociolinguistic Situation in Tlemcen:

Tlemcen, like all the Algerian town and cities, shows an alterable and collector appearance of its sociolinguistic heritage, dating back to the 4th C. Historically speaking, the Romans were the first people who conquered Tlemcen under the name of Pomaria which means a Roman site, ancient seat of a bishopric disappeared name is used as a titular see of a Catholic bishop without a diocese, then in 429 AD the Vandal settlements

followed by the Berbers who established the town “Tagrat” as capital of one of the Zianide State. In 1517 Tlemcen fell in the hands of the Ottomans as part of their Islamic conquests of the North African countries. In the mid 1800s Tlemcen became part of the French administration whereby French became the official language of administration and education. This succession of rulers over Tlemcen has significantly affected the languages and dialects used in that area.

3.1. Bilingualism: According to Weinreich, the notion of bilingualism is “the practice of alternately using two languages”. (1953:1)

Bilingualism is a sociolinguistic phenomenon which refers to the state of linguistic community in which two languages are in contact. Generally two types of bilingualism are distinguished: societal and individual bilingualism. Societal bilingualism occurs when in a given society two different languages are spoken, a national, regional or foreign language. Individual bilingualism on the other hand, refers to the way two languages are used by the same person, taking into account many factors, including his/her gender ability, performance, competence and use of two languages within both the receptive and productive skills.

Algeria is considered as bilingual country, which results from the long gradual domination and occupation of the whole country by the French colonizers. Bilingualism in Algeria is not homogeneous since not all the population is bilingual.

The largest population of bilinguals lives in or around the big cities where contact with French is strong and necessary. In studying the sociolinguistic profile of Tlemcen, Arabic-French bilingualism is the most common type of bilingualism among Algerians; the French language goes with Arabic and mainly used in social life, education, administrative institutions and economy. In Tlemcen we find both active and passive bilinguals, in that Algerians are not all balanced bilinguals; they can be either active bilinguals with the ability to understand speak and even write in the two languages, or passive bilinguals, with the ability to understand but to speak and write only one language.(Derni 2009).

3.2. Diglossia:

“Is a sociolinguistic phenomenon described as a relatively stable situation , in which , in addition to the primary dialects of the language there is a very divergent, highly codified often grammatically or more complex superposed varieties, the vehicle of language and respected body of written literature, either of an earlier period or another community which is learned largely by formal education and is used for most written and formal education and is used for most written spoken purposes”(Ferguson:1959).

According to the quotation, diglossia refers to the use of two languages or dialects: the first is the community’s present day vernacular, the second may be an ancient version of the same language, e.g. modern standard Arabic Vs Algerian Arabic .

The Algerian speech is in general distinct but genetically related to two languages; Arabic and French. One can find some Algerian talk with their dialect language or in everyday conversations at home (low variety) and use a formal variety in formal situations and for high functions speak in French or MSA (high variety). That is the high variety is given more prestige by all the Tlemcenian speakers and the low one does not have this prestige.

3.3. Code-switching: “There are many phenomena of language contact other than code switching which for the linguist may represent cases of the juxtaposition of the two languages or varieties.....”(Aguer1999:15).

So, according to this quotation, the definition of the code-switching is that people who talk more than one language or variety but choose between them according to the situation they are in.

According to Bell (1976) “a code may be a language, a variety, or a style of a language” (Bell in Derni 2009:76).

In the Algerian Arabic usage, the speakers regard Arabic and French as two separate codes. In fact, they are since keys belongs to two difference families of languages semitic Vs Indo-European. Code-switching can be either “intersentential” or “intrasentential”. Intersentential code switching refers to the alternation of two languages between

utterances, and we have intrasentential code switching on the other hand, which refers to the use of two languages within the same sentences or the same utterance (it is sometimes referred to as code-mixing).

The construct of Algerian-Arabic/French code switching, emerges as a result of the long-term French occupation, which imposed its language. Indeed, Algerian Arabic-French code-switching among students suggests that the respondents associated certain topics, interlocutors, and situations with Algerian Arabic, and associated others with French, for example the speaker may use Algerian Arabic when speaking to friends and switch to french when speaking to a teacher or doctor.

3.4. Code-mixing:

Trudgill (1992:16) defines code-mixing as

“The process whereby speakers indulge in code switching between languages of such rapidity and density, even within sentences and phrases that it is not really possible to say at any given time which language they are speaking”.

Where a bilingual speaker faces problems of expressing his ideas when he is talking to another bilingual, so he changes the language without any change in the situation. This is called code-mixing; it is also called metaphorical/conversational code switching.

For example: inskrivit lyoum f la fac taà biology. (Phonetic transcription)

I registered today in the Faculty of Biology.

3.5. Borrowing :“a code-switch can be of any length (a word, a phrase, a sentence) and it is a complete shift to the other language, whereas a borrowing is a word or short expression that is adapted phonologically or morphologically to the language being spoken” Grosjean(1982:308).

Borrowing is the situation where words become part of another language system by being assimilated to its linguistic structural specificities. The distinction between code-switching and borrowing seems to be one of the most ambiguous in the study of language contact phenomena.

Borrowing is involved when single vocabulary items, phrase; or frozen expressions from one language are used in the target language. Borrowed words or loans are usually integrated in the grammatical system of the borrowing language in the sense that they are dealt with as if they were part of the lexicon of that language.

Hudson (1996:55) stated that “.....borrowing involves mixing the systems themselves, because an item is “borrowed” from one language to become part of the other language”. Borrowing is another way in which switching between languages may take

place. It involves mixing languages at the level of language-systems as opposite to code switching and code mixing that involve the mixture of languages at the level of speech.

1.4 Conclusion:

The aim of the theoretical part was to give an overview of some basic concepts in the field of sociolinguistic studies, and to illustrate the way Tlemcen speech is realised.

Language is a part of the culture of a people. So, language should be considered as a dynamic, social and interactive phenomenon, whether between speakers and listeners, or writers and readers. Thus, it argues that language differentiations depend on language uses in the communities.

CHAPTER TWO

2.1 INTRODUCTION:

Many linguists specialized on Gender studies and initiated the systematic study of the difference between male and female in speech. Investigators examined that this distinction in speech is when constructing and performing their gender and sexual identity, they drew on the conventions of the linguistic behaviour of men and women in their society.

The studies illustrated that male and female, are not equally dimorphic every work. Nor are they experienced or defined in the same ways everywhere. This action research discusses a social phenomenon assimilates by male and female differences in speech, and the population' attitude on the way men and women complain in Algeria; and what are the reasons that push them to complain.

2. 2 SOCIAL VARIABLES:

Are those aspects of a person which may well impact on the way in which they answer a question, speak a languages dialect, what accent they have, where they shop, their politics etc... Generally speaking social scientists insist on « controlling for » the social variables of respondents in order to ensure that their test results and responses from any study's participants are « valid ».

In this research we are going to study some of the male and female's social variables including their differences in speech and focus to some categories of the women speech.

2.2.1 Male and Female Differences in Speech:

As for the differences between male and female speech, Romaine notes that « *Women and their speech have been measured against male standards and found to be deviant and deficient just as not too long ago there was something 'wrong' with working class speech, black speech* » (1994 :100-1).

Because of different gender roles and socialization patterns and power relations men and women speak differently, in their language the men use a higher frequency of nonstandard speech, but the women are more conservative in their use of certain language features, especially with stable features that reflect changes in progress for a long time.

Trudgill (1974 in Coupland 1997:289) found that some males may associate standard speech with femininity, and has also suggested that middle-class speech may carry feminine connotations because schools, which generally support middle-class speech, are staffed largely by women. At a discourse level , men are more likely to use familiar forms of address even where reel status of speakers suggest that a formal, impersonal tone is more appropriate and the women are more likely to initiative conversations, they succeed less often because males less willing to co-operate .

In tag questions, women lead to use tag questions more frequent; men are more likely to use commands when women use them more likely to be interrogatives. So, men

and women use different kind of tags, women's are more facilitative, men's are modal. Here are some stereotypes of male and female speech.

Stereotypes of male speech:

- Use deeper voices/ lower in pitch.
- Swear and use taboo language.
- More assertive in group interaction (interruptions, few tag question).
- Topics are « traditional » male topics like business, politics, economics.
- Use non-standard speech, even middle class.
- Use explicit commands (gimme the pliers).

Stereotypes of female speech:

- Minimal responses: mhm, yeah, mmmmm.
- Talk more than men.
- Use more tag questions.
- Use more interrogatives.
- Use more hedges (sort of, kind of).
- Use more super polite speech: would you please.

2.2.2 Women's Speech:

Many female occupations derive from male terms; linked to these are traditional perceptions of women's roles as housewives etc..., and notions handed down culturally (Adam and Eve) as women being derived from men. In fact, women use more standard

forms, they speak more « correctly » because they are sensitive to the social implications of speech ; the social networks for women are more loosely-knit, and women stick in conservatism to older forms because they are more conservative. It is also stated that as the majority of primary school teachers are women, they play a leading role in standardizing language norms.

In the early 1970s, the American linguist Lakoff proposed, a distinctive part of speaking « as a woman » is speaking tentatively, side stepping firm commitment and the appearance of strong opinions. Women are disempowered by being constrained to use « powerless » language, ways of speaking that simply are not very effective in getting others to think or to do what the speaker wants them to.

2.2.2.1 Politeness Conventions:

Politeness categories have been the subject of study in the differences between male and female's speech, thus « *Conventions of politeness vary considerably between language communities, not least in their linguistic form. In most cities, however, there appears to be a correlation between more formal styles and a higher level of overt politeness. Politeness may be defined in a number of ways and will depend on a variety of factors, including the relative age and social distance between speakers, the context, and how well the speakers know one another. Personality traits also enter into the equation* ». (Safianou 1999, and Marquez Reiter 2000).

Notions of politeness are perhaps best tackled in a pincer movement combining intellectual understanding (through linguistic lectures) and practical exercises (in language classes). In all conversations both male and female use a kind of politeness in their way of speaking especially with friends and in the work, but women's speech is characterised by the frequency of politeness markers like : please and thanks. Politeness has two main strategies:

a- Positive politeness strategy:

A strategy that seeks to create a positive relationship with the hearer. **e.g.:**

- *Dear Mary, could you open the window?*

- *You're so strong, could you open the window?*

b- Negative politeness strategy:

A strategy that seeks to minimize the threat to the hearer's face. **e.g.:**

- *Sir, could you open the window?*

- *Could you open the window?*

However, Romaine (1999) argue that it is alleged that women have more status consciousness and concern for politeness , and that we must see women's language in relation to who holds power in society (often men) and that women's speech is perceived as secondary or as 'a deviation that has to be explained' working class speech and 'norms' .

It is important for us as learners to be made aware of the sensitive nature of conventions of politeness and the importance of observing customs in the particular contexts in which they conduct their social and work lives in the foreign culture.

2.2.2.2 Prestige:

As Labov says: « *The principle must be qualified by the observation that for women to use standard norms that differ from every day speech, they must access to those norms* » (1990:213).

Women generally adopt new linguistic forms more enthusiastically than men do, so if an innovation conflicts with the current standard, there may be a time when the normal pattern is reversed. Women's speak more correctly because they are sensitive to the social

implications of speech. They use more prestige variants than men (who use more vernacular forms), women use more boosters or amplifiers on their expression of opinion.

Lakoff proposed, a distinctive part of speaking « as a woman » is speaking tentatively, side stepping firm commitment and the appearance of strong opinions. Women are disempowered by being constrained to use « powerless » language, ways of speaking that simply are not very effective in getting others to think or do what the speaker wants them to. She was arguing that in positioning themselves as women, in taking up a certain place in the gender order, those who made use of the various resources she identified were also positioning themselves as powerless, were rejecting positions of authority from which they might successfully launch their meanings into discourse with a reasonable hope for their success.

Women use more prestige, ideas that women consider more status conscious because of higher standards for female behaviour, female life style (focused on home) , little inherent status.

2.2.2.3 Complaint:

Complaint is an expression of objection by words or by actions, to particular events, policies or situations. Complaint can take many different forms, from individual statements to mass demonstrations. Complainers may organize a complaint as a way of publicly making their opinions heard in an attempt to influence public opinion or government policy, or they may undertake direct action in an attempt to directly enact desired changes themselves. Where complaints are part of a systematic and peaceful campaign to achieve a particular objective, and involve the use of pressure as well as persuasion, they go beyond protest and may be better described as cases of civil resistance or nonviolent resistance, and political or social revolution. As an example of the social revolution we may find the problems between man and woman, and the way of each one of them to express him / herself or problems by complaining, and everyone has his/ her

way of complaining. To know who complains more men or women, we should study their status of life.

2.3. DATA COLLECTION:

This study attempts to discuss the participants' opinion about complaining between Men and Women. A total of 50 students, at ABOU BAKR BELKAID University of Tlemcen, have been chosen to be participants in this research.

During 30 minutes the students asked questions about the women way of complaining and the topics women complain about and if the men complain too. By giving their point of view about women's language and their way in facing their problems.

All the informants were below 25 years of age. There were both 25 male and 25 female students. Their opinions were disparate according to the topics that it was asked.

2.4 RESEARCH INVESTIGATION:

In all the societies of the world we will find the reasons and the problems which make people complain. It is a fundamental on our speech and language that we used some words to express our feeling against something painful, and annoying. In almost all the Algerian families, complaint exists, because it becomes a way to demonstrate and prove the personality of the person, whatever it is a man or a woman.

This part of my research construct on work study field. It concerns with the ways women are complaining. In this part, I will test by carefully observing, questioning and investigate to find out who complain more Men or Women.

2.4 .1 Research Instruments:

The data needed in this research has been collected through two main research instruments (observation and questionnaire). It is used to show and explain the phenomenon of complaint in our society.

2.4.1.1. Observation:

The most marked in our society, and because of the problems and criticism that faced the woman in her daily life, women protest and complain of their compressive situations, whether at home, at work or even in their studies.

With associations' support of woman, women seek conventions for their rights. To know more about the women and their daily problems, and under the permission of six women in our society, I participated in their houses and offices by setting front of them to observe them explaining and describing their psychological situations.

The women were below 40 years old. During 15 minutes they were speaking about the problems contrasted them during the week. Three of them (non-working women) were talking about the difficulties of breeding kids, preparing lunch and cleaning the house at the same time, and the routine of everyday life. The other three (working women) were complaining about their situations at work, with their director and his commands and the salary that it was not in off for the rest of the month, they were also protesting about the doings that were waiting for them at home.

The language was informal, and it was of our dialect, most of them were using their body language and using gestures and high pitch and were nervous.

2.4.1.2. Questionnaire:

Questionnaire as a research instrument was treated here as a qualitative means. Some questions are good for soliciting subjective data and the variety of responses should be wider and more truly reflect the opinions of the respondents, other questions make it easier to calculate percentage and filter out the useless and extreme answers that may occur in other questions. (Dornyei, 2010).

According to the research objectives, the questions were designed to obtain necessary information. A total of 5 questions were asked to the informants.

1. *When a couple of is arguing and discussing a sensitive topic, according to you who is the one who complains more?*

This question intends to seek the participants' opinion on complaint between man and woman by giving to options of answer, 'husband' or 'wife'.

2. *What are the topics that women are more likely to complain about?*

This question we asked to know if women complain about more than one topic, by giving some options.

3. *When complaining, men usually have recourse to (Gesture, Crying and Shouting, Repetitions, High pitch voice, Low pitch voice, Swear words and expletives)?*

These questions aimed to probe men's "feeling" and their way of complaining by suggesting some opinions.

4. *When complaining, women usually have recourse to (Gesture, Crying and Shouting, Repetitions, High pitch voice, Low pitch voice, Swear words and expletives)?*

These questions also aimed to probe women's "feeling" and their way of complaining by suggesting some opinions.

5. Why do you think women ‘usually’ complain?

From this question the informants are going to translate their opinion of the main reasons that ‘usually’ push women to complain.

6. Do you think that men complain as much as women?

This question was asked in order to detect informants’ judgement about men if they also complain or not. Participants whose response was ‘yes’, had to choose an option ‘about what’, this traces the best close reason to the question ‘about what’, and the options are: money, work, family.

2.5. RESULTS:

1. When a couple of is arguing and discussing a sensitive topic, according to you who is the one who complains more?

	<i>Husband</i>	<i>Wife</i>
<i>Number</i>	3	47
<i>Percentage</i>	6%	94%

-Table 1-

The majority of the participants show their opinions that women complain more than men by giving a large answer of ‘wife’.

2. *What are the topics that women are more likely to complain about?*

	<i>Money</i>	<i>Children and Family</i>	<i>Work</i>	<i>Study</i>
<i>Number</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>08</i>
<i>Percentage</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>44%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>16%</i>

-Table 2-

The majority of the participants stated that the children and the family are the main reasons for the women to complain.

3. *When complaining, men usually have recourse to :*

	<i>Gestures</i>	<i>Crying and Shouting</i>	<i>Repetitions</i>	<i>High pitch voice</i>	<i>Low pitch voice</i>	<i>Swear words and expletives</i>
<i>Number</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>05</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>00</i>	<i>05</i>
<i>Percentage</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>10%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>00%</i>	<i>10%</i>

This table shows that a great number of men use high pitch voice, when they complain, then they use gestures as a second way of complaining.

4. When complaining, women usually have recourse to:

	<i>Gestures</i>	<i>Crying and Shouting</i>	<i>Repetitions</i>	<i>High pitch voice</i>	<i>Low pitch voice</i>	<i>Swear words and expletives</i>
<i>Number</i>	<i>07</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>10</i>	<i>03</i>	<i>00</i>
<i>Percentage</i>	<i>14%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>20%</i>	<i>06%</i>	<i>00%</i>

-Table 4-

This table shows that a great number of women cry and shout, when they complain, and use repetitions as a second way of complaining.

5. Why do you think women ‘usually’ complain?

Explanations: informants gave different comments as it is shown in the table:

<i>Comments</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
<i>1-Because, they have problems in their social and daily life.</i>	<i>14</i>	<i>28%</i>
<i>2-Because, they always think that they don’t get their rights.</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>32%</i>
<i>3-They usually complain to take attention.</i>	<i>08</i>	<i>16%</i>
<i>4-They usually complain, because of the husbands behavior</i>	<i>12</i>	<i>24%</i>

-Table 5-

6. Do you think that men complain as much as women?

	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>
<i>Number</i>	<i>40</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Percentage</i>	<i>80%</i>	<i>20%</i>

-Table 6-

The majority of the participants had assumed that men also complain, and 20% of them do not agree.

If 'yes' what do they usually complain? (Tick as many answers you want)

<i>Topics</i>	<i>Number</i>
<i>Money</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Work</i>	<i>07</i>
<i>Family</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Other matters</i>	<i>05</i>

-Table 7-

Most of the informants stated that ‘money’ is the famous reason that push men to complain , and 18 of them claimed that ‘family’ is another reason, then a few found that ‘work’ is also a reason.

2.6 ANALYSIS:

In response to the first question of whether *husband complain more than wife or not*. 47 students have answered positively with ‘wife’ (figure 1). This largest positive answer was related to the reality of our environment. As a result of what they have learned from the society, the students behave positively towards ‘complaint’ and ‘wife’ as they complaining more than men, and as a reflection to the fourth question, women complain more because of their problems, to postulate for their rights, and as a good way where the women prove their personalities. 3 other students argued that men also complain, they thought that ‘husband’ also have reasons make him complain as it is shown in the result of the fifth questions.

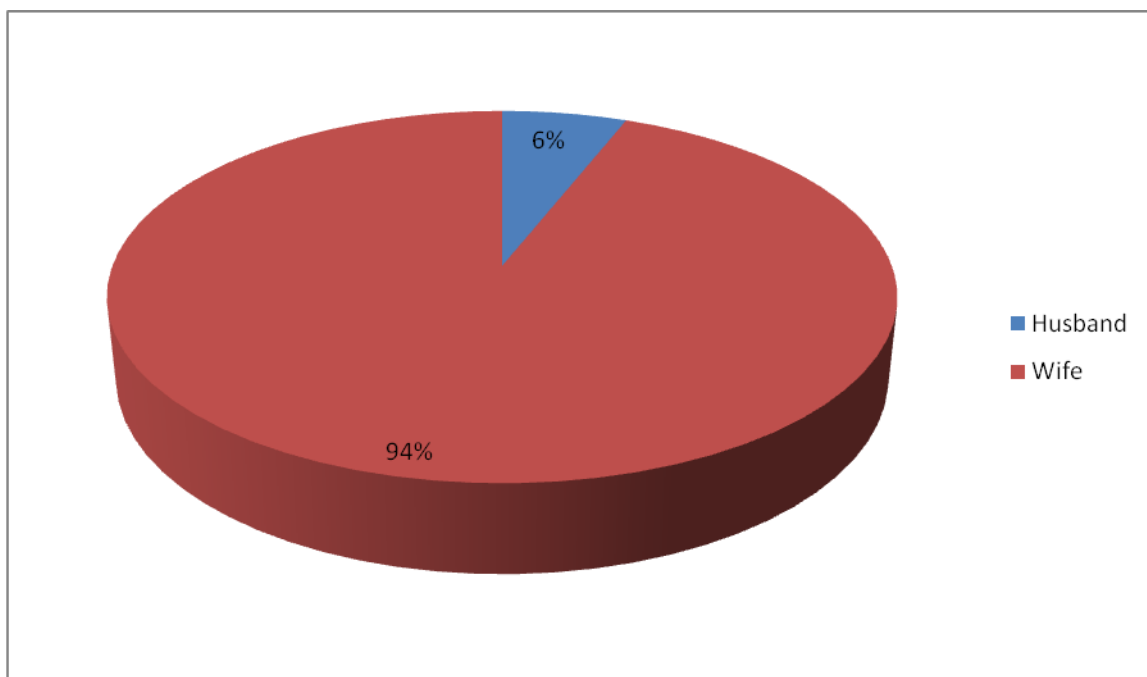
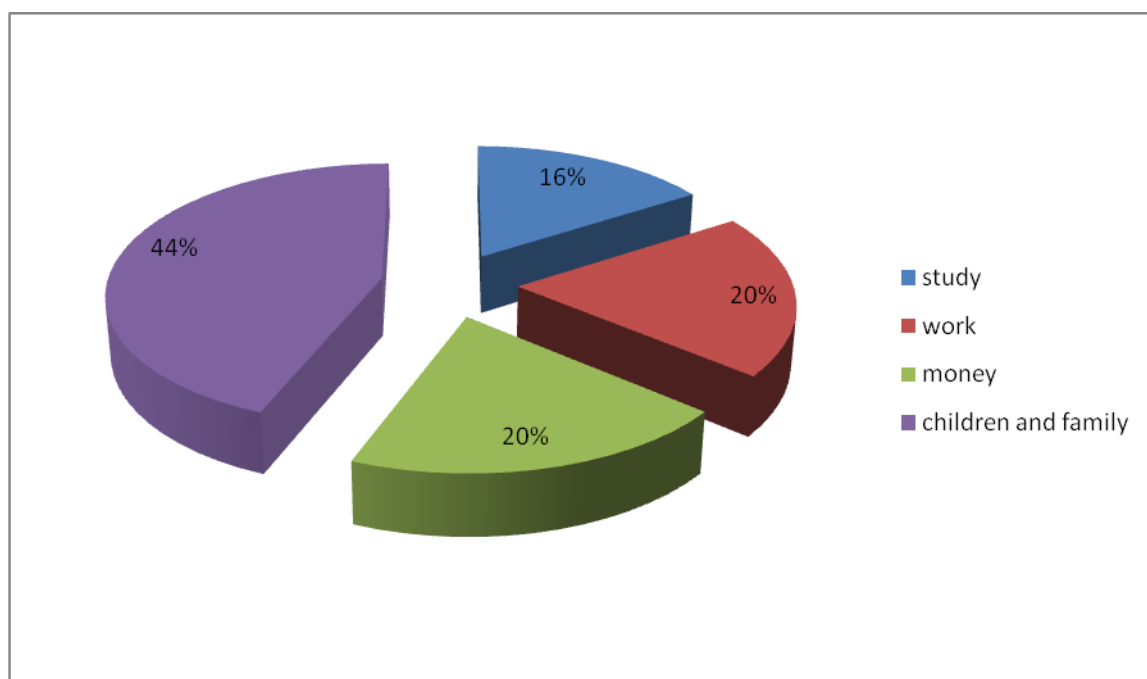


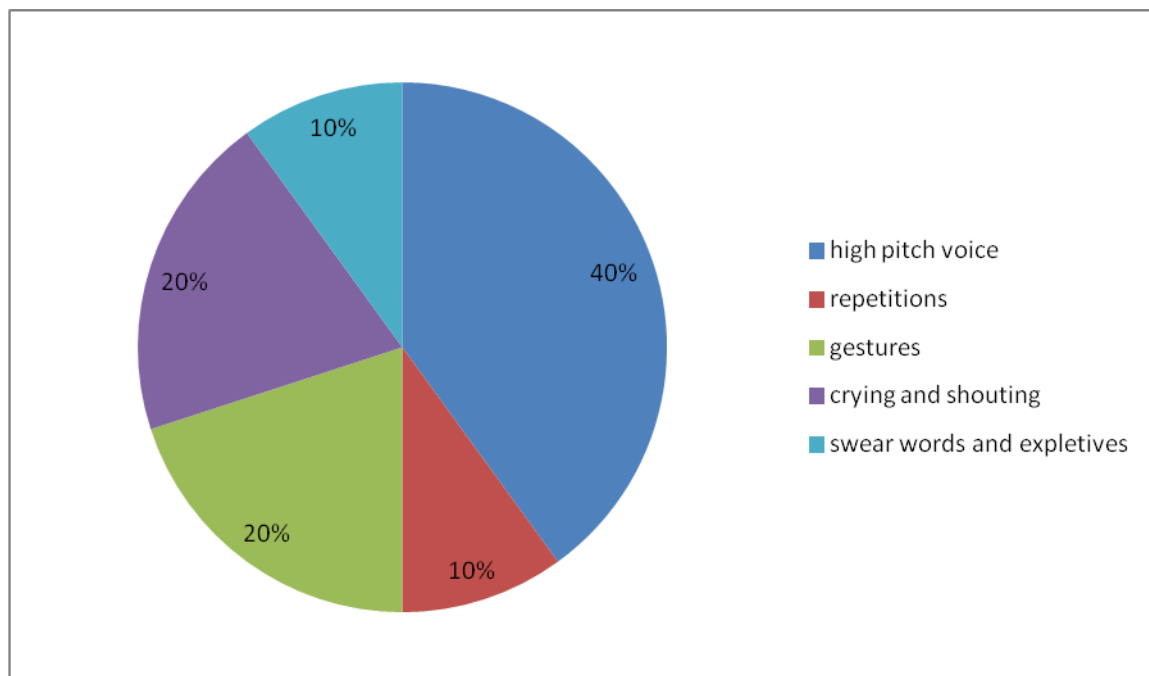
Fig (1): complaining of Husband Vs. Wife.

As a result for the second question to indicate *What are the topics that women are more likely to complain about?* 22 students claimed that ‘children and family’ are the most observable topics women complain about; 10 other students said that no, ‘work’ was the topic that women complain about. The other 18 students, their opinions were disparate between ‘money’ and ‘study’. (see figure 2).



Fig(2): Topics for the complaining of women.

The third question intended to find out *the men behavior during their complaining*, The majority of the students found that men use high pitch voice when they complaining; 10 students claimed that men use gestures, 5 other argued that men used swear words and expletives to complain, and they never ever speak with a swear words and expletives, but sometimes they use repetitions and low pitch voice. (See figure 3).



Fig(3): Men behavior while their complaining .

The third question intended to find out *the women behavior during their complaining*. The majority of the students found that women crying and shouting when they complaining ; 10 students claimed that women used repetitions of the words, 10 other argued that women used their high pitch voice to complain, and they never ever speak with a low pitch voice, but sometimes they use gestures or taboo words. (See figure 4).

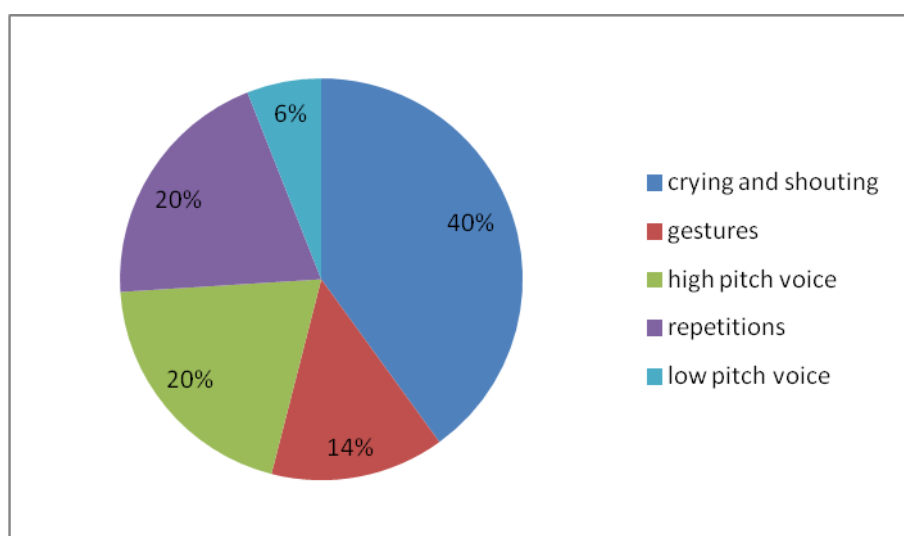


Fig (4): Women behavior while complaining

In answering the fourth question of *Why do you think women 'usually' complain*, the opinions were different from one student to the other. 16 students claim that women always think about their condign rights, this push them to complain. As a reflection to the second question 14 students' answer those women complain because of their daily problems. The 12 other students their answers were disparate between the husband as a reason for the woman to complain and that women complain to draw attention.

For the fifth question *if the men complain as well*. 40 students answered positively 'yes' and 10 others answer 'no', (figure 5). The results were related to the environment that men live in. Since women are not the only who complain, there are many reasons push the men to complain such as, money, work, and family.

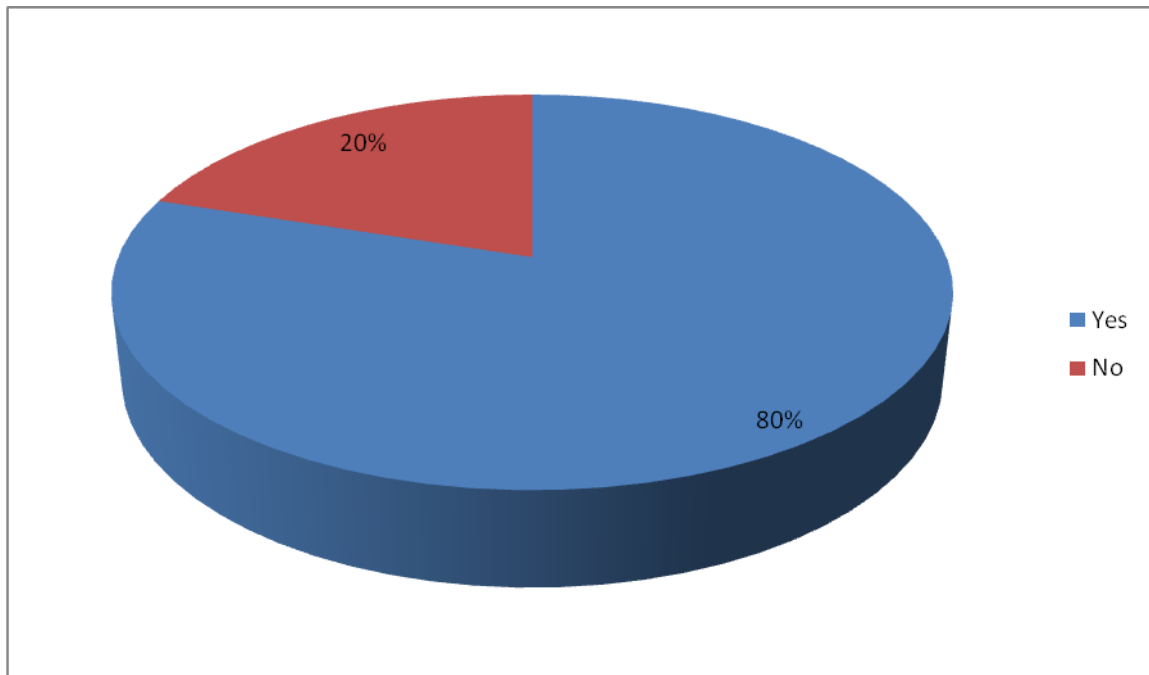


Fig (5): Do men complain as well?

2.7 CONCLUSION:

This study attempts to analyse participants' point of view in complaining for men Vs. women in social life. The results clearly show that women complain more than men. The difference was significantly clear. Women are complaining about many things at the same time. But this result does not exclude, the idea that men also complain, even if less than women.

Women generally known as the basis of complaint, but they usually complain to prove themselves, and to solve their daily problems and get their rights.

GENERAL CONCLUSION

General Conclusion:

In this extended essay, we have studied the phenomenon of complaints as expressed by men and women in the tlemcenian society. We intend to examine the students' opinions towards complaint. We have analyzed linguistically the use of complaint in order to show who complaint more Men or Women.

The findings of the study show that women generally complain more than men; they are not coherent in their daily speech, and they are always powerless in their speech, and this powerlessness seen as deriving from the weak stance or position, women were assuming.(Lakoff, 1975). Most of the students claimed out that women usually complain to solve their problems and to prove themselves.

Complaint can be regarded as gendered norms for language use, and sometimes it could be seen as non-honorific way of expressing ourselves, since it does not constrain speakers to signal hierarchical social relations in a variety of place in their utterances.

We think that women's rights could be taken only by protest and complaint, which will prove the women's personalities, whether, anger, cause or postulations.

Women's anger is often repositioned as frustration or emotional 'upset', the woman whose anger and verbal abuse targets others not responsible for the inequities that enrage her is not engaging in feminist politics. (Eckert, 1990:182).

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APPENDIX

Questionnaire

The following questions are intended for research work about the complaining act between Men and Women. So please give answers to the questions as objectively as possible. Thank you for your cooperation!

1. When a couple of is arguing and discussing a sensitive topic, according to you who is the one who complains more?

Husband wife

2 .What are the topics that women are more likely to complain about?

Money

Children and Family

Work

Study

3. When complaining, men usually have recourse to :

Gestures

Crying and Shouting

Repetitions

High pitch voice

Low pitch voice

Swear words and expletives

4. When complaining, women usually have recourse to :

Gestures

Crying and Shouting

Repetitions

High pitch voice

Low pitch voice

Swear words and expletives

5. Why do you think women 'usually' complain?

.....
.....

6. Do you think that men complain as much as women?

Yes No

If 'yes' what do they usually complain? (Tick as many answers you want)

- Money Work Family
- Other matters .