



### INTRODUCTION or ABSTRACT

- Interruption does not necessarily represent a competitive or disruptive act.
- People may interrupt to display their high participation or involvement in a conversation such to support utterances of the current speaker, to develop ideas, or to share things which eventually resulted as cooperative act of interruption (Agustin, 2014).
- Using the conversation analysis approach, this study analyzed how interruption was managed by the participants in the TV talk show.

#### Research Aims



To investigate how interruption practices are managed by the participants in the Malaysian TV talk show called the DOPStv (Deen of Peace Studios). Although verbal interruption is crucial to analyze, this research also provides new insight on nonverbal resources or gestures that occur during the interruption.

### METHODOLOGY

The video data was obtained from online Youtube video of Malaysian tv talk show named DOPStv, of their 'Couple Talk' series

The talk show was hosted by Aiman Azlan (A), a well-known Malaysian motivational speaker with Noh Salleh (N) and Mizz Nina (M) as the invited guests

The video data was watched several times, transcribed and analyzed using the CA approach

The study focused on both verbal and nonverbal aspects of interruption behaviour in the interaction, hence the analysis was based on both audio and visual aspects of the data.



Figure 1: The participants in the multi-party interaction

### LITERATURE REVIEW

#### Conversation Analysis of Talk Show

Recently, there is a growth interest in using CA to talk show as a part of the institutional setting (Tolson, 2001; Carnel 2012). However, as claimed by Carnel (2012), although talk shows are being regarded as a form of institutional setting, television talk shows tend to be more spontaneous and less regulated. Hence, as talk shows involve both casual features and institutional discourse, it could be regarded as semi-institutional discourse (Illie, 1999; Carnel, 2012).

#### Cooperative Interruption

Interruption does not necessarily have to be harmful as it could also be useful in maintaining and keeping the conversation in progress. Cooperative interruption is known to perform such functions. In cooperative functions, the speaker who interrupts act as the collaborator, as he contributes to the development of the ideas or topic of discussion in the conversation (Amalia, 2016). The cooperative interruption functions are to offer assistance, agreement and clarification (Li, 2001).

#### Interruption in Talk Show

Hartono and Gunawan (13) analyzed an Indonesian television talk show called 'Indonesia Lawyers Club' on overlaps and interruption, in which their findings suggested that the interruption and overlaps in their study did not represent violation, instead they found that the interruption displayed a positive behavior between the host and the guest. On the other hand, Shalaby (2006), who conducted a research on interruption in Egyptian TV talk shows, reported that in a talk show, the power and institutional role were given to the host, hence the host took charge of the conversation, which allowed them to display competence, enforce topic shifts and others.

#### Gestures in Interruption

Kaartinen (2013) claimed that multi-functional gestures served for different functions and purposes such as to regulate floor taking and turn-taking system particularly in the institutional setting and supporting the verbal utterances that occur simultaneously.

### FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The study found that most of the interruption presented was cooperative interruption. There were three functions of cooperative interruptions found in the multi-party interaction featured in the *DOPStv: Couple Talk* :

- 1) agreement , 2) clarification and 3) assistance

The following is an example of discussion of assistance function based on both verbal and nonverbal occurrences;

**Assistance** occurred when the interrupter provided assistance to the current speaker, particularly when he or she felt that the current speaker was in need of help in completing the utterances

#### Excerpt 1

01 N: Dia:: sebab one time er::: ( ) erm:: producer,  
he::: because one time er::: ( ) erm:: producer,  
02 your [manager  
03 M: [my manager



Figure 2: Noh's Gestures provided an opportunity for assistance interruption

As presented in the excerpt 1, in line 1 Noh displayed uncertainty behavior. Initially, he mentioned the position as 'producer', but later displayed hesitation and made a repair as he uttered "your manager" and pointed his index finger towards Mizz. Upon noticing Noh's difficulty, Mizz provided assistance interruption when she noticed the hand gestures, Mizz gazed on Noh as she provided a confirmation by saying "my manager". Hence it could be seen that the hand gestures created an opportunity for Mizz to interrupt and offer an assistance.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT or CONTACT

We would like to thank every individuals who has contributed to this project, directly or indirectly.

Aida Sahira Mohd Azalan, final year undergraduate student at the Department of English, Kulliyah of Languages and Management, International Islamic University Malaysia.  
Email: sahirazalan22@gmail.com

Nur Nabilah Abdullah, Assistant Professor at the Department of English, Kulliyah of Languages and Management, International Islamic University Malaysia.  
Email: nnabilah@iiu.edu.my