# VERBAL AND NON-VERBAL IN GREY'S ANATOMY SERIES "PAPA DON'T PREACH" : AN ETHICAL COMMUNICATION IN ABORTION

#### By

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## Keywords:

Verbal and Non-Verbal Communication, Ethical Language, Hipocratic Oath, Abortion Abstract: In Season 16 episode 7 'Papa Don't Preach', is told about a patient named Cassidy Gardner who is 25 years old. Cassidy fell down the stairs, and upon checking the doctor found that the patient was pregnant. Before falling from the stairs it turns out she was trying to abort her womb. Cassidy asked the doctors to abort her pregnancy and got two different responses from the two doctors. From the explanation, it can be seen that this film is interesting for researchers because researchers want to see whether the verbal and non-verbal communication made between the two doctors who treat patients fulfill the Hippocratic Oath. The researcher wants to know the verbal and non-verbal communication of actors who took the Hippocratic Oath and the Oath, and what verbal and non-verbal communication violates the Hippocratic Oath. This study uses a descriptive *qualitative method. The researcher separates the verbal and* non-verbal data obtained from the film, then categorizes them according to the fulfilled and violated Hippocratic oaths. And from this research, it was found that the total verbal communication was ethically appropriate and absent by 59% and non-verbal ethically appropriate and absent by 41%.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Language is a way for people to interact with one another to create good communication, in which we understand what is being said or what other people are thinking so that others can explore their ideas, opinions, information, or even their feelings. As a result, Hutajulu and Herman (2019:29) stated that a language is a tool of communication that plays an important role in communication. Language is very important in people's lives because it allows them to communicate with one another and understand what is said or thought in their words and ideas. People use language not only to communicate but also to convey the speaker's message, in any way. The primary function of language is communication via various methods, such as verbal, written, symbolic, nonverbal, and so on. Spoken language, written language, and body language are all forms of verbal communication that play an important role in effective communication.

Written language helps to maintain people's views or ideas for a longer period in the form of a letter, books, articles, and so on. While body language, also defined as

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communicative competence, is extremely useful in making our conversation more interesting. Sometimes, body language and signs are used in an unusual way that can only be understood and comprehended by those in that community. Body language understanding is influenced by the user's context, civilization, and status in society. Body language, according to Ozuorcun (2013:71), is a form of communication that includes body movements that involve the head, eyes, neck, hands, arms, feet, or other parts of the body to represent expressions. These body movements communicate with the listener and are mainly used to portray our emotions or even to support specific communication.

In Season 16 episode 7 'Papa Don't Preach', is told about a patient named Cassidy Gardner who is 25 years old. She fell down the stairs resulting in blunt trauma to the abdomen, and arm lac from the fall. When Doctor Hunt examined her condition, it turned out that the patient was 8-10 weeks pregnant. It turned out that before the patient fell, she had tried to abort her womb, but the baby survived. After hearing Cassidy's reasons, Doctor Shepherd agrees to help Cassidy abort the baby, but Doctor Hunt does not agree, as he is carried away by his emotions, due to his problems with Doctor Shepherd.

From the explanation above, it can be seen that this film is interesting for researchers because researchers want to see whether the verbal and non-verbal communication made to the two doctors who treat patients fulfill the Hippocratic Oath. Here the researcher wants to know the verbal and non-verbal communication of actors who take the Hippocratic Oath and the Oath, and what verbal and non-verbal communication violates the Hippocratic Oath earlier.

In Přemysl, Kateřina, & Miroslav (2019), entitled Analyzing the semantic space of the Hippocratic Oath, stated that the actuality of the Hippocratic Oath is very important for doctors. Furthermore, it was found that female doctors and their male counterparts, female doctors rated the Oath progression more highly than men and perceived the Oath, in general, more positively than men.

Meanwhile, the researcher wants to know whether the verbal and non-verbal communication of the actors who play doctors in the film Grey's Anatomy season 16 episode 7. entitled 'Papa Don't Preach' follow the existing ethics of the Hippocratic Oath or not.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

In season 16 episode 7 'Papa Don't Preach', In this episode, the researcher collects data about abortion. The patient, named Cassidy Gardner, is 25 years old. She fell down the stairs resulting in blunt trauma to the abdomen, and arm lac from the fall. When Doctor Hunt checked her condition, it turned out that the patient was 8-10 weeks pregnant. Before the patient fell from the stairs, it turned out that the patient was trying to abort her womb by taking herbal medicine, she doubled the dose of herbal medicine she was taking so she could abort her womb. But the herbs gave her a headache, and she fell down the stairs on her way down to the basement to do laundry. At the hospital, Doctor Hunt explained that the baby was safe. After hearing Cassidy's reasons, Doctor Shepherd agrees to help Cassidy abort the baby, but Doctor Hunt disagrees, as he is carried away by his emotions, due to his problems with Doctor Shepherd.

From the explanation regarding the episode 'Papa Don't Preach' above, it is concluded that this research will relate to the Hippocratic Oath, Abortion, and verbal and non-verbal communication. Below we will explain these three things in more detail.

#### 1. The Hippocratic Oath

The Hippocratic Oath is a moral oath historically chosen to take by physicians. One of the most well-known Greek medical texts. In his original state, he required a brand-new doctor to swear to uphold specific ethical principles with several healing gods. It is the standards of ethics attributed to the ancient Greek physician Hippocrates, which has been in use as a guide for the medical industry for centuries and is still in use in so many med school graduations. And with the development of this era, the Hippocratic Oath has been rewritten numerous times over the centuries to reflect the values of various cultures impacted by Greek medicine. There are 12 components of the classic Hippocratic Oath that has been categorized by Orr et al. (1997). There are two chapters and eight parts to the Hippocratic Oath. The physician's duties to the gods, the mentor, and the students are discussed in the first chapter. The obligations of the doctor to the patients are discussed in the second chapter. Contrary to popular opinion, most new healthcare schools do not require the Hippocratic Oath, although a few have implemented modern versions which suit many of those in the job role in this twenty-first century.

## 2. Abortion

Abortion is a surgical and medical process that is used to end a woman's pregnancy. The US Supreme Court decided in Roe v. Wade (1973) that the Constitution guarantees a woman's right to have an abortion before the viability of the fetus. Abortion is an ethically sensitive issue that is also strongly connected to human rights. It was about the right to life, which is, of course, crucial, although it is not an inherent right and could be restricted in certain cases. It should also be balanced with the other rights, particularly the right to private information, freedom of choice, respect and dignity, and personal autonomy of women. The early part of life is a crucial and contentious issue, because both legal and medical interpretations may differ. Abortion opponents generally object to the protocol for religious or ethical reasons, claiming that it adds up to the death of what people consider to be a living creature. According to Rawls (1993), we begin our moral principles with "important variables," or beliefs and values regarding moral behavior that we have and that seem toward being clear and convincing and completely right at different levels of abstraction (e.g., "do good and avoiding harm," "killing people without excuse is completely mistaken,"). Others who support abortion access argue that it's a problem of human rights because a woman should always be capable of making medical choices regarding her own body and her life. Those who oppose abortion typically identify as pro-life, while people who support access to safe, legal abortions usually identify as pro-choice. Both actions continue to have disagreements. Some pro-life activists might very well support abortions in cases of rape or incest, while some are adamant that all abortion is murder. However, the issue of abortion remains highly contentious, and several countries have implemented restrictions that discourage that decision. Prohibitions on abortion have frequently been confronted in higher courts. Some have been affirmed, including the denial of the state budget for the process. Others, such as the requirement of marriage consent for an abortion, have already been overturned.

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## 3. Verbal and Non-Verbal communication

There are two sorts of communication: verbal and nonverbal. Wahyuni (2018) defines verbal communication as the ability to explain ideas vocally utilizing both written and spoken words logically and understandably. Nonverbal communication in speech, on the other hand, is defined by Sutiyatno (2018) as speech without words in which the speaker emphasizes verbal communication by using expressions, gestures, and movements during an engagement.

## **RESEARCH METHOD**

This study used the descriptive qualitative method. Creswell (1994:145) states that qualitative is descriptive, where the researcher is interested in the process, meaning and understanding obtained through words or pictures. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method that pays attention to the body language and dialogue spoken by each character from the film Grey's anatomy season 16, episode 7, namely, Papa Don't Preach.

The researcher will transcribe the conversation in the Papa Don't Preach episode into written form. For his body language, the researcher will observe every movement and facial expression of the cast and then record it. After the data was collected, the researcher separated each actor's body language and dialogue and divided them into two categories, namely verbal and non-verbal, then the two categories were adjusted to the Hippocratic oath. The researcher will separate which verbal and non-verbal communication complies with/fulfills the Hippocratic oath and which violates the Hippocratic oath.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This section is divided into two parts. The first part discusses the verbal material from Grey's Anatomy Season 16 Episode 7. The second section discusses the non-verbal data of Grey's Anatomy Season 16 Episode 7. All of the attached data has been linked by the researcher to the Hippocratic Oath in the world of medic.

NO	Data	Types of Data		TOTAL	
		In accordance with the code of ethics	Violates the code ethics	Total Data	Percentages Data
1	Verbal	16	7	23	59%
2	Non- verbal	11	5	16	41%

The following below is verbal data from Grey's Anatomy Season 16 Episode 7 that complies with and violates the doctor's code of ethics in the Hippocratic Oath:

NO	DATA VERBAL				
NU	In accordance with the code of ethics	Violates the code ethics			
1	16	7			
Percentages	70%	30%			

- A. Verbal data that violates the doctor's code of ethics:
  - 1. I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

Doctor Hunt: "So you threw yourself down the stairs?"

Doctor Owen Hunt asked this question with a sarcastic intonation that made his patient uncomfortable.

2. I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

Doctor Hunt: "Um, actually Cassidy, I think we want to focus on the fall injuries first. Ok?"

Doctor Hunt: "I'm a trauma surgeon, I don't order's abortions"

Doctor Hunt denied the patient's wish even though it could have been done simply because of a personal issue in the past with his partner and he got carried away.

3. I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

Doctor Hunt: "You really need to stop overstepped in there."

Doctor Hunt refused the patient's wishes even though it could be done only because of a personal problem in the past and felt offended that he was upset.

## **B.** Verbal data in accordance with the doctor's code of ethics:

**1.** I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures [that] are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

Doctor Hunt: "She was trying to terminate a pregnancy."

Doctor Hunt: "Cassidy the CT shows that there is some bleeding in your spleen, were gonna take you up to the OR to remove it. And I can do that laparoscopically."

2. I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

Doctor Sheperd: "She might be more comfortable talking to another woman, I can say it's a neuro check"

Doctor Sheperd: "Henry is over the moon, a very sweet nurse show him a snack drawer."

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Dr. Sheperd agreed to the patient's request and reassured the patient not to worry.

3. responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My sick.

Doctor Sheperd: "emergency department don't turn people away, regardless of their financial problem, so they will give you the surgery that you need, okay?"

Doctor Hunt: "okay, so, we'll see up in the OR shortly"

Dr. Sheperd reassured the patient not to worry about the cost and would perform the surgery together with Dr. Hunt.

4. I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

Doctor Sheperd: "but surgery uh, will put the fetus at risk, so I have to ask you, are you planning to keep this pregnancy?"

Dr. Sheperd convinces the patient whether she really wants an abortion or not so that the doctor can take further action.

The following below is non-verbal data from Grey's Anatomy Season 16 Episode 7 that complies with and violates the doctor's code of ethics in the Hippocratic Oath:

NO	DATA NON-VERBAL			
NU	In accordance with the code of ethics	Violates the code ethics		
1	11	5		
Percentages	69%	31%		

- A. Non-verbal data that violates the doctor's code of ethics:
- 1. I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures [that] are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.
  - a) Doctor Hunt crossed his arms, looked not at the patient but away, and frowned. (Rejecting patient's opinion and Doctor Shepherd's opinion)
  - b) Doctor Hunt crossed his arms, looked at the floor, then looked at the patient when he finished speaking (He wanted to avoid talking about abortion with his patient)
- 2. I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.
  - a) Doctor Hunt frowning while raising one of his eyebrow (indicating that he accuses his patient of intentionally injuring herself)

- 3. I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.
  - a) Doctor Hunt crossed his arms, raised an eyebrow, then glanced up at the ceiling of the room. (He doesn't want to listen to his patient's explanation because he feels it's just an excuse)
  - b) Doctor Hunt raises his hand in front of Doctor Shepherd's face (Tells doctor shepherd to stop talking, and let him do as he pleases.)
- B. Non-verbal data in accordance with the doctor's code of ethics:
- **1.** I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science, and that warmth, sympathy, and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.
  - a) Doctor Shepherd smiles (assures the patient that everything is fine)
  - b) Doctor Shepherd looks straight at Cassidy, smiles to reassure the patient, and occasionally nods his head (She tries to make the patient comfortable, and shows that he understands what condition the patient is experiencing)
- 2. I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart, a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.
  - a) Doctor Shepherd frowned, then smiled (trying to convince the patient that he doesn't need to worry about medical expenses)
  - b) Doctor Shepherd looks straight at the patient, raises eyebrows, nods occasionally (Doctor Shepherd tries to convince the patient with her explanation)

It was found that both verbally and non-verbally, in the Grey's Anatomy TV series there was more data showing that the doctors spoke and behaved in accordance with the code of ethics than not.

# CONCLUSION

The research was conducted on an episode of the Grey's Anatomy series, namely episode 7, season 16 entitled 'Papa Don't Preach', to see which verbal and non-verbal communication fulfills the Hippocratic oath, and which verbal and non-verbal communication violates the code the ethics of the Hippocratic oath. And from the results of the study, it was found that the total verbal communication was ethically appropriate and absent by 59% and non-verbal ethically appropriate and absent by 41%. More specifically, there are 70% of verbal data are following the ethics of the Hippocratic Oath, and 30% are not following the ethical oath of Hippocrates. And non-verbal data that following the ethical oath of Hippocrates is as much as 31%.

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