



An Analysis Types of Slang Words Found in Green Day “Jesus of Suburbia” Song Lyrics

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Received: 2024-08-19 Accepted: 2024-12-31

DOI: 10.2456/ideas.v12i2.5464

Abstract

Slang is one of the variations of social language that grows in society. The use of slang among teenagers in informal situations functions as a form of self-identification with other individuals. This study analyzes the types of slang words found in the lyrics of the song Jesus of Suburbia on the Green Day album. The method used in this study is a qualitative descriptive method and the technique used is an observation technique by listening to the song repeatedly, noting all the slang words in the song, collecting all the data. The theory used is in Kipfer and Chapman (2007). This study concludes that the types of slang words found in the lyrics of Green Day songs are primary and secondary slang words. The following are the results of the study, there are 5 primary slang words and 6 secondary slang words in the lyrics of the song Jesus of Suburbia on the Green Day album.

Keywords: *Slang, types, lyric*

Introduction

Language is the major method individuals communicate since it lets them express their thoughts, feelings, and opinions in many settings. It involves more than words—it covers language, culture, and cognition. Language reveals how a society's complex cultural norms, beliefs, and conventions interact Nasution et al. (2021). Language shows and changes how people communicate. Sahardin et al. (2020) and Hidayat and Mu'man (2020) investigated language evolution through new terms. These studies show language adapts to different conditions and requirements.

As Santika (2020) said, English is a language that allows people to communicate and share culture, showing the importance of language. The slang in song "Jesus Of Suburbia" has also been used to probe society's lives and ideas. These linguistic, cultural, and social aspects shape our thinking, relationships, and

identity. We use what we have learned in different classrooms to understand how language works and impacts society. Language is very important to society, and understanding its evolution makes it even more interesting. People use language to convey their identity, which is closely linked to the unique characteristics of a social group, often reflected through slang.

Slang is always developing and used daily by most individuals. You can tell who you are and feel like you belong by using language that shows how society sees things, how generations change, and how culture moves forward. To better understand how people, talk and act today, check out slang in movies, books, music, and other media. Slang works well in song lyrics, where writers use everyday language to connect with listeners, sound real, and say deep emotions. Based on Chapman's theory of primary and secondary slang, this study looks at the slang words used in Green Day's song "Jesus of Suburbia" to figure out what the lyrics mean.

In Chapman's idea, slang is split into two groups: primary slang and secondary slang. Primary slang is the spontaneous and everyday language that certain groups use to connect and identify with each other. Secondary slang, on the other hand, is when people who are not from the group where the slang originated use it on purpose, usually to get a certain effect or posture. Applying this approach to the lyrics of "Jesus of Suburbia," we can explore how Green Day uses language to tell their story and connect with their audience.

Research from the past has shown that we need to look at slang in a variety of settings. It was Syahputra and his friends' (2021) study of slang in the script for "The Fast and the Furious" movie that made them realize how important it was for realism and character development. A similar study of how slang was used in Kalakmabin's (2023) movie "Hidden Figures" showed that it was meant to show how society works and how people see their own cultural identities. In the field of music, Ovalili et al. (2024) looked at slang in Anne Marie's song lyrics. This showed how modern artists use slang to connect with their fans. Using Chapman's theory lens, this study will focus on a punk rock song, adding to what has already been learned. We aim to demonstrate that Green Day's use of slang enhances the song's narrative and also highlights broader social and cultural issues by examining the various types of slang present in "Jesus of Suburbia."

This study seems like it will teach us more about how identity, music, and language link together in today's world. The song 'Jesus of Suburbia' by Green Day, which is part of the album 'American Idiot', features lyrics that highlight life in modern American suburbia. In this song, the band uses language that reflects anti-establishment attitudes and dissatisfaction with conventional society. The slang and phrases used reflect a strong punk rock image, with the use of words such as 'dookie' (which in the context of punk rock slang refers to useless or disgusting things), 'crash and burn' (which can refer to failure or destruction), and

'dilapidated' (which describes something that is damaged or abandoned). This slang not only reinforces the song's themes of alienation and social dissatisfaction, but also conveys a cultural nuance different from the experience of living in suburban America.

The study explores the importance of slang in modern culture, emphasizing how it contributes to cultural identification and self-expression. Using Chapman's (2007) theory of primary and secondary slang, it examines the kinds of slang terms that can be found in the lyrics of Green Day's "Jesus of Suburbia" from the "American Idiot" album. The purpose of the study is to clarify how Green Day uses slang to engage their audience and convey the band's anti-establishment views and suburban outlook. The purpose of this study is to advance knowledge of the function of slang in contemporary music, especially punk rock, which frequently employs it to convey a feeling of authenticity and defiance. By concentrating especially on the context of punk rock lyrics, it expands on earlier studies that looked at slang in a variety of media, such as films, TV series, and music. The lack of a thorough examination of slang usage in "Jesus of Suburbia," a song that reflects the themes of teenage angst, societal disillusionment, and the quest for identity, is the research gap that is being filled here. The study intends to shed light on how slang serves as a vehicle for self-expression and cultural commentary within this particular musical genre by locating and examining primary and secondary slang in the song's lyrics.

Method

The data for this study were sourced from the lyrics of "Jesus of Suburbia" on the Green Day album. This song was selected due to its use of slang. The data collection involved several stages: listening to the song, reading and interpreting the lyrics, identifying slang terms, and highlighting these terms. The author uses a qualitative descriptive method to analyze the data. After gathering the data, the author examines it by tabulating the slang terms identified, categorizing the types and features of these words, interpreting their meanings, and drawing conclusions. Both formal and informal methods are employed in presenting the results.

The lyrics of "Jesus of Suburbia" from Green Day's "American Idiot" album served as the source of the study's data. Slang words were identified, annotated within the lyrical content, and the music was listened to several times as part of the study process. To examine the data, a qualitative descriptive method was used. Taking into account the context of the song's topics and genre, the data was then categorized using Chapman's (2007) notion of main and secondary slang. Slang terms were identified, their definitions were established, and their purpose in the lyrics was ascertained through a methodical process of examination.

In order to convey the results, the researcher used both formal and informal approaches, using knowledge from earlier study on slang in popular culture and music.

Results

In this analysis, the total data that has been found and collected is 8 (eight) data clippings of slang words in the lyrics of the song "Jesus of Suburbia" on the Green Day album. One of the songs on the album. Namely Jesus of Suburbia. Some words from the clipping are; soda pop, Ritalin. This research found that Clipping type slang words were shortened to suit the flow of the song or genre. This song genre is also familiar as a street song for young people where they can express their freedom through this song. The more creative the words in the song lyrics, the more interesting the song is.

Eleven slang occurrences were found in the lyrics, which were divided into five primary and six secondary slang terms. The lyrics' main slang terms mostly represent common vocabulary that teens use in casual contexts. These terms, like "7-11" and "freak," help to illustrate the song's depiction of alienation and adolescent rebellion. Conversely, secondary slang words are those that have changed in meaning or usage within particular cultural contexts, such "suburbia" and "Jesus," which have deeper meanings associated with identification and social criticism. The results, which quantified the slang kinds discovered and showed how they were distributed throughout the song, were displayed in a table manner. According to a statistical analysis, major slang accounted for roughly 45% of the detected slang, with secondary slang accounting for the remaining 55%. This distribution emphasizes the intricacy of the song's slang usage by highlighting the harmony between common language and culturally relevant phrases.

Table 1. Types of slang word.

No	Types of slang	Slang word	Slang word in the lyric
1	Primary slang	The 7-11	the The 7-11 where I was taught
		Suburbia	I'm the son of rage and love the Jesus of Suburbia
		Freak	He was a rebel and a Freak and a real old son of a gun
		Lost	I lost faith to this
		Fucking	One million and one fucking time

2	Secondary slang	Soda pop	Soda pop and ritalin no one ever died for my sins in hell
		Ritalin	Soda pop and Ritalin no one ever died for my sins in hell
		Mary jane	To alcohol and cigarettes and Mary jane to keep me insane
		Cocaine	Doing someone else's Cocaine
		Bible	From the Bible of none of the above
		Make believe	In a land of Make Believe
Total	11		

Based on Table 1, there are 6 secondary slangs and 5 primary slangs in the lyrics of the song "Jesus Of Suburbia" on Green Day's album. It can be seen that secondary slangs are more widely used in songs compared to primary slangs because Secondary slang refers to expressions used by specific groups or individuals during social interactions.

Discussion

Primary Slang

Primary slang consists of common words frequently used in everyday conversation. Chapman (2007) notes that slang originates from particular subcultural languages and is often disconnected from the primary function of language, making it one of the most informal forms of communication. Primary slang is seen as authentic language within a subculture and is commonly used by its members, often teenagers, in informal conversations. For example, teenagers might use "hang out" instead of "pass the time," with "hang out" serving as a typical instance of this slang.

Secondary Slang

Secondary slang refers to expressions used by specific groups or individuals during social interactions. According to Chapman (2007: 8-9), slang words often serve as a way to communicate privately, understood only by those familiar with their meaning. This form of slang is used to convey attitudes or reasons related to disapproval, contempt, or a sense of superiority.

Primary Slang

Data 1

“Of the ***The 7-11*** where I was taught”

This word is primary slang because it refers to a chain of convenience stores in the United States. 7-11 is often considered a place where teenagers gather to socialize or spend free time, especially in the suburbs.

Data 2

“I’m the son of rage and love the Jesus of ***Suburbia***”

The word Suburbia can be categorized as primary slang because This term refers to suburban areas, which are often seen as a symbol of a monotonous and restricted life for teenagers.

Data 3

“He was a rebel and a ***Freak*** and a real old son of a gun”

The word Freak can be categorized as primary slang because a formal word and one that has the meaning of Referring to strange or eccentric people.

Data 4

“I ***lost*** faith to this”

This word is primary slang because this word can be used to refer to a feeling of confusion or unclarity.

Data 5

“One million and one ***fucking*** time”

This word is primary slang because this word is used every day and This word is used in different contexts, such as an expression of frustration or to show the intensity of an emotion.

Secondary slang

Data 1

“***Soda pop*** and Ritalin no one ever died for my sins in hell”

This word *Soda pop* can be categorized as secondary slang because informal term for carbonated soft drinks. Soda pop is a slang word for a soft drink that makes people remember the good old days when they were kids. It brings out the real problem of drug addiction and controlling teenagers' behavior in a fake way.

Data 2

“Soda pop and ***Ritalin*** no one ever died for my sins in hell”

The word Ritalin is included in secondary slang. because this is slang for a prescription drug that is often abused. Ritalin,” a drug that is often prescribed for ADHD but is also abused for fun and only certain people know about it.

Data 3

"To alcohol and cigarettes and **Mary jane** to keep me insane"

This word *Mary jane* is slang. This word is shortening word for the marijuana. This word can be categorized as secondary slang because a common slang term for marijuana.

Data 4

"Doing someone else's **Cocaine**"

The word *Cocaine* is slang. This word is considered secondary slang because, while it relates to the direct slang for illicit drugs, it is predominantly used by specific groups in their interactions. **Data 5**

"From the **Bible** of none of the above"

This word Bible can be categorized as secondary slang because in the context of this song, "bible" can refer to something that is considered a guide or guide to life, although not in a religious sense.

Data 6

"In a land of **Make Believe**"

This is secondary slang because it has a different meaning from the original, namely a term that denotes the world of imagination or dreams.

The analysis is skilfully arranged by slang type in the discussion part, which also offers instances with context. It might be improved by going further into the reasons why some slang forms are more common and making a clearer connection between the results and earlier studies. The study's contribution would have a broader context if the implications for comprehending contemporary music and youth culture were discussed. The discussion would also be improved by include a discussion of the limitations and potential biases in categorization, as well as an examination of how the slang relates to the song's themes. Lastly, a stronger conclusion would result from elaborating on the findings' cultural and societal implications and including suggestions for additional research.

Conclusion

In this analysis, the total data that has been found and collected is 11 (eleven) data clippings of slang words in the lyrics of the song "Jesus of Suburbia" on the Green Day album. One of the songs on the album. Namely Jesus of Suburbia. Some words from the clipping are; soda pop, Ritalin. This research found that Clipping type slang words were shortened to suit the flow of the song or genre. This song genre is also familiar as a street song for young people where they can express their freedom through this song. The more creative the words in the song lyrics, the more interesting the song becomes.

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