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A COMPILATION OF CONTEMPORARY MANILA SLANG IN PRINT
AND BROADCAST MEDIA

A Thesis

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the Graduate School of
Education, Arts and Sciences
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of the Requirements for
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by

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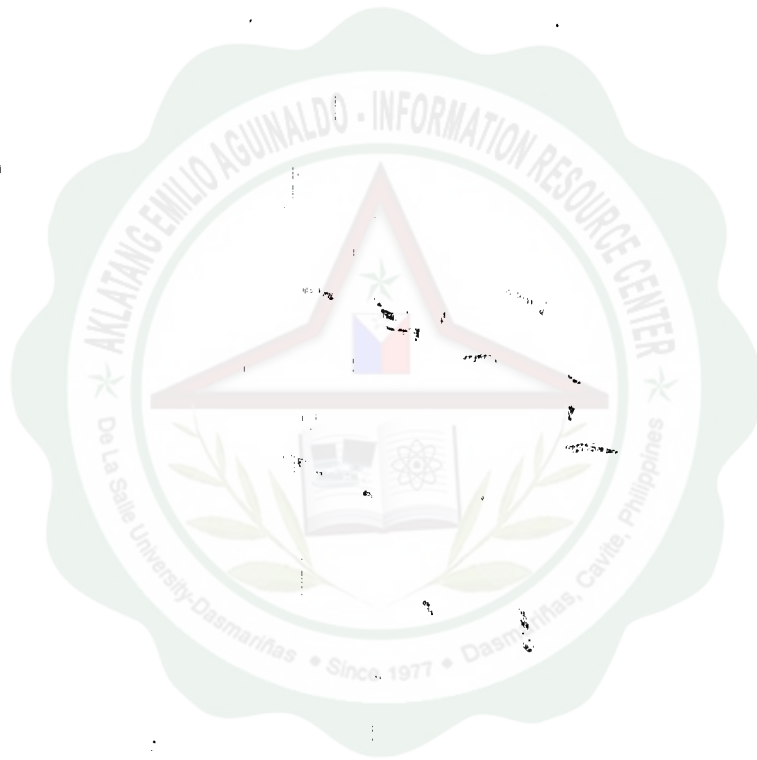
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Chapter V

Summary, Conclusion and Recommendations

5.1 Summary

This study is a compilation of contemporary Manila slang in print and broadcast media. Each slang term is presented with its corresponding part of speech and definition, and is used in a sample sentence.

Five different movie magazines, *Orig*, *Showblitz*, *Kislap*, *Intrigue* and *Movie Flash* were used as sources of slang. Five tabloid newspapers, *Tempo*, *Abante*, *Balita*, *People's Journal* and *Pilipino Ngayon*, were also consulted for additional entries. The five magazines and the five tabloids were read over a ten-week period. For broadcast media, programs aired on radio stations DZRH and DZMM were taped every day for a one-week period.

Four writers/critics, Genoveva Edroza-Matute, Lualhati Bautista, Jun Cruz Reyes and Buenventura Medina, Jr. were consulted for validation of the entries. They were asked to review and give comments on the collection.



This compilation of slang terms shows several word-formation processes at work: metathesis, derivation from original slang word, playing with words, clipping/truncation, blending, acronyms/abbreviation, language mixing, loanwords from Spanish, English, and from other languages, Tagalog words with recent shifts of meaning, and repetition of words.

Moreover, in comparison with earlier compilations done by Nick Joaquin, Rafael Ongpin, Cecile Zamora, Celso Rezaba, Ariel Hernandez, and Angie Duarte, several terms appear in both my compilation and theirs.

5.2 Conclusion

The conclusion consists of two parts -- a linguistic analysis of the slang terms I compiled and a comparison of my compilation with the earlier compilations done by Joaquin, Ongpin, Zamora, Rezaba, Hernandez, and Duarte.

5.2.1 Linguistic Analysis

In separate articles written by Richard Seymour (1979) and David Zorc (1989), they identified linguistic processes in the formation of slang. Seymour gave seven processes. These are derivation, clippings, blending, acronyms, conversions, rhyme formations and alliteration. Zorc, on



the other hand, presented eight processes: loanwords from Spanish, English and other languages, metathesis, playing with words, Tagalog words with recent shifts of meaning, coinages or new words, language mixing, truncation and abbreviations. Both categorizations will be used in my groupings but since there are overlappings, I combined some of them. The three combined categories are Seymour's derivation, clippings, and acronyms with Zorc's metathesis, truncation, and abbreviations. The categories of conversions and rhyme formations were deleted since no examples for these processes could be found in my collection. I also added two categories, which are not found in Seymour's and Zorc's groupings. They are derivation from original slang word and repetition of the word.

Slang words in my collection may be grouped into different categories, according to the linguistic processes involved in forming them. They are:

1. Metathesis

This involves "switching sounds within a word, either the inversion of syllables or quite a complex rearrangement of the sounds and letters" (Zorc, 1989, p. 5).

Examples are:



<u>Original Word</u>	<u>Slang</u>
Mother	Ermāt
Father	Erpat
Pulis	Lespu
Pare	Erap
Misis	Esmi
Party	Tipar
Hindi	Dehins

2. Derivation from original slang word

New slang terms are derived from old ones.

Examples are:

<u>Original Slang</u>	<u>New Slang</u>
Flop	Flopsing, Flopsingaks, Flopsinang
Babuy	Babuyita
Putā	Putatsing, Putatsina
Cheap	Cheapy-cheapy, Cheapanga
Bongga	Bonggadera
Etch	Etching, Etchingera
Imbiyerna	Imbiyernix
Kiyeme	Kiyems
Badaf	Vadaf



OK

Oks

Pare

Pars, Erap

Manay

Manash

Syota

Syobit

3: Playing with words

"Playing with words goes even further in the re-arrangement of sounds. It may involve dropping or adding syllables to words from just any language" (Zorc, 1989, p. 6).

Dropping Syllable

Original Word

Slang

Baby

Babe

Pregnant

Preppy

President

Prexy

Brother

Brod

Adding Syllable

Original Word

Slang

Banat

Banatan

Star

Istariray

Kati

Kakatihan

Palengke

Palengkera



Loko

Kalokohan

Pobre

Pobresito

Dig

Digs

4. Clipping/Truncation

Seymour defines clipping as "the reduction of a word to one of its (assumed) parts" (1979, p. 307). It consists of two forms: back clipping (the second or last part of the word is omitted) and fore clipping (first part is omitted). Zorc, on the other hand, says that truncation "involves the shortening of words" (1989, p. 9).

Back Clipping

Original Word

Restaurant

Bruha

Celebrity

Legitimate

Penetration

Security

Congratulations

Direktor

Editor

Honey

Slang

Resto

Bru

Celeb

Legit

Fene

Sikyu

Congrats

Direk

Ed

Hon



Information	Info
Magazine	Mag
Original	Orig
Photographer	Photog
Picture	Pic
Pornography	Porno
Professional	Pro
Promotion	Promo
Prostitute	Prostie
Schedule	Sked
Statistics	Stas
Teenager	Teen
<i>Fore Clipping</i>	
<u>Original Word</u>	<u>Slang</u>
Amerikano	Kano
Pilipino	Pinoy
Pilipinas	Pinas

5. Blending

In this process, two words are combined to form a new word. In many cases, clipping of the original words also occurs. Some examples are:



<u>Word 1</u>	+	<u>Word 2</u>	=	<u>Slang</u>
Press		Conference	=	<i>Presscon</i>
Situation		Comedy	=	<i>Sitcom</i>
Sex		Escapade	=	<i>Sexcapade</i>
Sex		Exercise	=	<i>Sexercise</i>
Sex		Experience	=	<i>Sexperience</i>

6. Acronyms/Abbreviation

Some slang terms are formed using abbreviated forms. Some examples are:

<u>Unabbreviated Form</u>	<u>Slang</u>
Boyfriend	BF
Dirty Old Man	DOM
Girl friend	GF
Boy friend	BF
Headquarters	HQ
Karapatan	K
Kill Joy	KJ
Libog	L
Over acting	OA
Oh, Promise Me	OPM
Sosyal, Shabu	S
Sex Trip	ST



Soon To Follow

STF

Trying Hard

TH

Thank You

TY

7. Language Mixing

This process refers to the "blending of two or more languages within any given sentence or phrase" (Zorc, 1989, p. 7).

<u>Word 1</u>	+	<u>Word 2</u>	=	<u>Slang</u>
Bago (Tag.)		-ito (Span.)		= Bagito
Kilig (Tag.)		to the Bones (Eng.)		= Kilig-to-the-bones

8. Loanwords from Spanish

New slang words are created by giving new meaning to Spanish words.

<u>Spanish Words</u>	<u>Slang</u>
Bruja- witch; sorceress	Bruha
Brusque- gruff; sudden	Brusko
Leche- milk	Letse
Mama- mother	Mama
Aburrido- bored; tiresome	Aburido
Macho- male; strong	Macho



9. Loanwords from English

A. Several English words are given new meaning.

Examples are:

<u>Word</u>	<u>Old Meaning</u>	<u>New Meaning</u>
Alaska	largest state in the US	to insult someone
Bow	to bend or curve	to agree
Do	to execute	sexual intercourse
In	inside; in the confines of	person in style
Jingle	to make a tinkling sound	to urinate
Made	produced or manufactured	fully developed, especially in mastering one's craft
On	used to indicate position	relationship with opposite sex
Split	to divide sharply	the end of a relationship
Type	a kind; category	to like a person; event or thing

B. Some English words are also used as slang by

Filipinos. Examples are:

<i>Trip</i>	<i>Pad</i>	<i>Sugar Daddy</i>
<i>Flick</i>	<i>Nope</i>	<i>Steady</i>



<i>Chick</i>	<i>Corny</i>	<i>Pussies</i>
<i>Ass</i>	<i>Bitchy</i>	<i>Goon</i>
<i>Champ</i>		

10. Loanwords from other languages

This includes loan words from other Philippine and Oriental languages. Some examples are:

<i>Gurang</i>	(from Bisayan)
<i>Kuno</i>	(from Bisayan)
<i>Utoi</i>	(from Pampango)
<i>Bakya</i>	(from Hokien)

11. Tagalog words with recent shifts of meaning

Several old Tagalog words are given new meaning. Some examples are:

<u>Word</u>	<u>Old Meaning</u>	<u>New Meaning</u>
Alaga	someone or something being cared for	male sexual organ
Bagoong	small fish, shrimps or prawns that have been soured	to keep for a while for future use
Berde	green	vulgar or obscene
Bira	a strong pull or tug	criticism
Dale	an attack	to make good at a venture



Damo	grass	marijuana
Dating	arrival	impact
Gamit	use; the act of using	to use someone for personal advantage
Hatak	pulling; towing	to get the desired audience
Ibuga	to expel	to show unexpected strength or talent
Kabit	connected	paramour
Kalkal	scraped or scratched	to reveal something
Kapal	thickness	shameless
Kinagat	bitten	to be accepted
Sandata	weapon, dispersing	male sexual organ
Sabog	scattering	high on drugs
Talsik	splash of liquid	to be driven away
Tama	correct; right	an effect of something to someone usually referring to liquor
Toyo	soybean sauce	to go into a tantrum
Tuhog	a string of beads, jewels, etc.	to have sexual intercourse



Tuka	bill; the beak of a bird	to kiss
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12. Repetition of words

In this category, words are repeated. Some examples are:

Bara-bara	Cheapy-cheapy	Et-et	Karay-karay
Chika-chika	Ek-ek	Goody-goody	Wardi-wardi

5.2.2 Comparison with other compilations

After comparing my slang collection with the works of Joaquin, Ongpin, Zamora, Rezaba, Hernandez, and Duarte, I found out that there are several slang terms present in my collection which can also be found in their respective lists. The following terms are in Joaquin's list: *ermat, erpat, brod, tepok, lespu, yosi, toma, tira, bata, steady, bola, basted, pare, jingle, TV, trip, type, bangga, sward, damo, datung, kano, chicks, macho, goodtime, and dyakol*. Compared with Ongpin the similar terms are: *atat, bagets, bata, bow, datung, 'day, epek, ek-ek, K, L, manash, pene, sipsip, taray, tita, and tsong*.

With Rezaba's work, there are three similar terms: *kuno, kulukadidang, and nota*. Compared with Hernandez's work, I found similar terms, such as: *bakya, bata, bruha,*



damo, durog, hanip, itlog, kalog, kilig-to-the-bones, makunat, napagtripan, nota, pabling, pare, Pedro, pokpok, sabog, sibat, sisiw, sosyal, tira, toyo, yari, bad trip, boobs, bread, cats, cheap, chick boy, corny, jingle, macho, manay, mama, nope, plastic, score, T-bird, trip, type, badaf, bagets, BF, brod, bru, buking, dedo, erap, esmi, haybol, KJ, lespu, OA, pards, repa, Tate, TH, tipar, tsokaran, and utol.

Finally, the terms in my collection which are similar with Duarte's are: *dehins, tipar, Pinoy, putatsing, ST, haybol, brod, ebak, CR, tibo, parak, kepyas, and libog.*

The comparison of lists also reveals one finding-- there are changes in spelling in some of the terms. Some examples are:

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| a) <u>Joaquin</u> | <u>Gregorio</u> |
| Diahe | Dyahi |
| Lespo | Lespu |
| Busted | Basted |
| Imbierna | Imbiyerna |
| Bonga | Bongga |
| Chicas | Chikas; Tsikas |
| Jakol | Dyakol |
| b) <u>Onqpin</u> | <u>Gregorio</u> |



Tiyong

Tsong

c) Hernandez

Gregorio

Chekwa

Tsekwa

Chokaran

Tsokaran

d) Duarte

Gregorio

Putatching

Putatsing

Siota

Syota

Brad

Brod

Baboo

Babu

In my collection of slang terms from print and broadcast media, there are similar terms used in both media. Some examples are: *tsong, gonna, pare, bagets, bakbakan, balitaktakan, bara-bara, bata, bira, binatang, bola, bow, buking, click, dada, diskarte, diskitahan, hirit, ibuga, kabalastugan, kalokohan, kantiyaw, kulit, kuno, nasakote, presscon, puntirya, sabat, sipsip, tameme* and *usi*.

Comparing the number of slang terms collated, more items were culled from the print media than from broadcast media. The researcher also noted that broadcasters did not use any single sex term, unlike the magazine and tabloid



writers who used several sex terms.

This collection further confirms the truth of Zorc's observation that Filipinos are the "most inventive" among the different language users. He writes:

After observing numerous languages and cultures from a forty plus year vantage point, I can say with assurance that I know of no peoples more inventive than Filipinos in injecting both humor and creativity into their everyday vocabulary. The admiration on my part should not be construed to imply that Filipinos are the best players with words, Australian Aboriginal groups have some outstanding and noteworthy idioms, but Filipinos are surely among the best in my book. (Zorc, 1987, p. 1)

When Zorc learned of the collection being undertaken by this author, he personally wrote: "Coiners of slang rarely go through painstaking effort. They show instant creativity in a burst of linguistic genius. Far more FUN, than PAIN. Unfortunately, too, many of the creators will never be aware of your study, e.g. kanto boys, drug addicts, who have no connectibn with academe or literata" (Correspondence with Zorc and researcher, July 20, 1989). Zorc is right and this is one reason why we need to record the growing slang. No matter who the coiners are, or where they come from, the important thing is that we recognize their slang as part of our language.



Recommendations

Slang is a major part of Philippine language. As a result of this study, the following recommendations are made:

1. There should be a general effort by linguists to come out with a collection of Philippine slang. There are few studies but these are not enough to catch up with the growing sets of slang. Past and current studies should be combined to eventually produce a dictionary of Philippine slang.

This collection has not made an exhaustive collection that can cover all the generations that have passed. Also, in other parts or regions of the country, there are a lot that need to be recorded and the growth means that the collection process should start as soon as possible to catch up with its fast pace.

2. A more sophisticated collection process should be adapted to produce a valid collection. In the production of Chapman's book, for example, several editors were hired and a corps of fifty or more collectors were used. A pattern of this kind should be followed.

