

ABSTRACT

This study is a content analysis of two Filipino films, namely: “English Only, Please” and “That Thing Called Tadhana.”

The researchers chose to conduct this study for the following reasons, first, to adhere to the vision and mission of the Film Development Council of the Philippines that Philippine cinema should be the source of the country’s culture and identity enrichment as well as to encourage social and cultural transformation in the society. This study aims to bring back the Filipinos’ interest in watching local films. In general, this study compares and analyzes the different communication barriers in the films and tackles the proofs that communication barriers are significant in the communication process.

This study will not only benefit the film enthusiasts but also future filmmakers because it can provide them more knowledge of the elements such as communication barriers that will provide a new dimension to the plots of films, also the significance and effectiveness of it. It will benefit the communication students who will conduct a similar study. It will provide more knowledge regarding communication barriers and the application of the three theories used in this study, namely, Social Penetration Theory, Genderlect Styles Theory and Communication Privacy Management Theory on understanding communication barriers.

The analysis of the communication barriers was done using coding sheets. The researchers watched the films to be able to determine communication barriers used in

the films. The cause, effect, influence and implication of communication barriers were all provided in this study. After defining the meanings, the overcoming of the communication barriers was presented.

The researchers have found that the communication barriers such as language barriers, privacy/emotional barriers, cultural barriers, physical barriers, selective exposure, gender difference, perception, and technology, are usually present and numerous when both communicators are strangers to each other. These barriers presented in the films are a huge factor in the communication process. It can change the mood of the speaker, it can cause trouble and conflicts between communicators such as the protagonists in this study, namely, Tere Madlansacay, Julian Parker, Mace Castillo and Anthony Lagdameo. It can also influence the way a person thinks and acts but once the communicators have overcome these communication barriers, there will be a development in their relationship. In both films, the main characters learned to love each other and were able to build new relationships.