

Pragmatic Study of Irony in the Political Cartoons of Donald Trump

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Abstract

Irony means the opposite meaning of what you intend, it is something that is different or opposite from what is expected. In political discourse, such as speeches, memes, cartoons, there are a number of Irony used to criticize someone or social and political issues that happen in society. This study investigates irony in Donald Trump's political cartoons in terms of forms, types and functions of irony by using pragmatic approach. Data of this study were taken from the websites LA Progressive, and Pinterest. The collected data were analyzed qualitatively based on the theories of irony and pragmatic (Cumings, 2005) (Strauss and Feiz, 2014). The results show (1) words and statements used in terms of verbal and situational irony, (2) each type of irony has different functions, such as oppositional, reinforcing, complicating, and ludic. The functions of the irony reflect the social and political conflicts between USA and other countries, the problems about race, religion, and woman. Positively, Irony in political cartoons can be regarded as an expressive and effective ways to amuse and to criticize people or social issues as long as it is used within the politeness framework.

Keywords: Irony; Political cartoon; Donald trump; Pragmatic; Types and function.



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1. Introduction

Language is not only saying something to give an information, but it is also used to perform a number of communicative functions, such as to criticize to express feelings, moods, attitudes, and to make people doing something. There is a message or 'a force' in the language use, for example in the political cartoons of Donald Trump. Donald John Trump, often called Donald Trump or Trump, is the 45th and current President of the United States. Previously, before entering politics, he was a businessman and television personality. Donald Trump was born and raised in the New York City borough of Queens and received an economics degree from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania. During the election of the President of USA in 2016, there were a lot of memes and political cartoons that draw his behavior or his controversial statements since the election of President of USA in 2016 to the present.

Furthermore, political cartoon is a caricature made for the purpose of conveying editorial commentary on politics, politicians, and current events. There are many irony used to criticize politicians and president, such as Donald Trump. The political cartoons draw the current issues about social phenomena and Donald Trump's government. Those are amused but annoyed a person criticized. In addition, the political cartoons can fulfill an important criticizing and controlling function in society, and can encourage the process of opinion formation and decision making as well as provide entertaining perspectives on the news, and also they play important role in the political discourse of a society that provides for freedom of speech and of the press. Generally, it said as a primarily opinion-oriented medium and usually can be found on the editorial pages of newspapers and other journalistic outlets, whether in print or electronic form (<https://www.britannica.com/topic/political-cartoon>).

The topic of this study is irony that refers to the opposite of what you mean. Sometime, people use ironic words due to difficulty in criticizing of someone or the government's decision through nonverbal language, therefore people tend to use verbal language ironically, where message is conveyed to restrict polarity what is said. Then, irony is important implications for criticism (Wilson and Sperber, 1992) (Maynard and Greenwood, 2014). Then, the political cartoons are created to express a positive image and achieve goals (Gornostayeva, 2016).

In this study, the writers focus on investigating forms of ironic words, types and functions of irony in the political cartoons of Donald Trump. Here, we examined verbal and situational irony that have different functions. The findings show a little bit different from the previous researches done by Al-Hindawi and Abdulazeez (2015); (Hutcheon, 1995). There are some ideas that can be enhanced positively and pragmatic competence development.

2. Literature Review

Previous studies about irony have been done by some researches, for example (Yelenevskaya *et al.*, 2013), they analyzed functions of irony and the findings were three streams, namely attack, defense and entertainment. Next, (Barbieri and Saggion, 2014) studied irony in twitter that focused on investigating the automatic detection of irony casting it as a classification problem. They propose a model capable of detecting irony in the social network twitter. In addition, the research just focuses on modeling using ironic word in Twitter and non-ironic words. In their

research, they compared irony vs. education Irony vs. Humor and Irony vs. Politics by using quantitative method. Gornostayeva (2016) investigated the American modern political discourse on the debate of Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton during pre-election of presidential candidates in America. This study purposes to uncover the use of irony and its functions in political discourse. The data was studied from candidates' speeches, interviews with political and public figures, and recent witty sayings/comments.

Furthermore, (Yelenevskaya *et al.*, 2013) studied about the functions of irony with three streams, attack, defense and entertainment. This research also looked at the different functions of them. The findings show "attacking has a social character, and is directed to accentuating the faults of society and is similar to satire" (Gornostayeva, 2016). Then, defense is a very productive tool in political debates. Another one, entertainment is as the function for information and entertainment.

In addition, (Al-Hindawi and Abdulazeez, 2015) studied about irony in political cartoons, they found verbal, situational irony used in the cartoons, the results show a number of functions of irony and grades of irony. In this study, we used some concepts from the previous researches done by Al-Hindawi and Abdulazeez, 2015, (Maynard and Greenwood, 2014) in Gornostayeva (2016) and other related theories, such as context as a key to understand the implied meaning or a message in the political cartoons of Donald Trump. The theories will be described in brief as follow.

2.1. Meaning and Contexts

A study of scientific meaning refers to semantics, but a study of meaning involves more than just the semantic interpretation of an utterance or a sentence refers to pragmatics, i.e. a scientific study of meaning based on contexts. In order to fully understand the meaning of a word or a sentence, we must understand the context in which it was uttered. There are four types of contexts, (1) physical contexts, where the conversation takes place, what objects are present, and what actions are taking place, (2) epistemic context, background knowledge shared by the speakers and hearers, (3) linguistics context, utterances previous to the utterance under consideration, and (4) social context, the social relationship and setting of the speakers and hearers.

Similarly, Cutting (2003), states that context is a key to understand the meaning pragmatically. He classifies three contexts, they are (1) situational context, what speakers know about what they can see around them, (2) background knowledge context, what they know about each other and the world, (3) co-textual context, what they know about what they have been saying. In the background knowledge context, it involves cultural general knowledge that most people carry with them in their minds, about areas of life; and interpersonal knowledge, specific and possibly knowledge about the history of the speakers themselves. Furthermore, in studying political cartoons, contexts plays important role to understand the meaning of irony and the functions of it.

2.2. Language and Political Discourse

Language is used to communicate, to intend, and to give information that criticizes the government's decision. However it engages in action and activities. In this matter, when people argue politic that protest decision made, they use language to say something through words, then using of language build images in the world and engage in world building that happen in politic. Furthermore to criticize political issues, it can be conveyed by anime, meme and cartoons. In the current situation, cartoon is a worldwide phenomenon through ironic words.

People sometimes accept politic decision or not. Therefore politic relate social goods. Social goods are the stuff of politic. It means that politic is not just about contending political parties, however how to increase and contribute social good in society. It means that the terms of that is money, status, power. In this matter, as quoted by Gee (2011, p.7) "Social good and their distribution are at stake, language is always political in a deep sense"

Talking about politic that the distribution is social goods (Gee, 2011). Next "politic is specific definition of politics as the set of activities politicians engage in" (Van Dijk, 1998). Moreover political discourse express group ideologies and other beliefs, especially in collective forms of text and talk (Van Dijk, 1998). In addition political discourse are produced by individual speakers, and personalize' the group beliefs. Next political discourse is not a genre, but a class of genres defined by a social domain, in terms of politics (Van Dijk, 1998). Then, political discourse is the discourse of politicians. Where discourses have social domains influence political decision making. Thus, government deliberates many genres that belong to the domain of politics, one of them is speech. In this research speech or statement is conveyed by Donald Trump that is criticized by society.

Furthermore "political discourse genres is defined in terms of professional politicians and political institutions" (Van Dijk, 1998). The same way, the genre description of political discourse should not be at the levels of text, but rather at the level of context. Discourses of politicians are produced in institutional settings, such as governments, parliaments or political parties (Van Dijk, 1998). Discourse analysis means talking descriptive and critical in analyzing the data. According to Gee (2011) "Discourse analysis is the study of language used to criticize". It approaches many different, in this study approach at the content of the language being used and the issue being discussed through cartoons Gee (2011). The approach to discourse analysis are critical discourse analysis. In addition, it is function how to deep language explanation what is said which talking about political issues, problem and controversies in the world. Next, critical discourse analysis approaches unscientific where it is swayed by his/her power for taking role some problem in the world. Therefore discourse analysis need to be critical. As quoted by Gee (2011) "Discourse analysis need to be critical, not because discourse analysis are need to be political, but because language itself". In general, language is a key to increase or decrease institution and relationship to become social good.

This study is about political cartoons of Donald Trump where a lot of ironic words used to criticize Donald Trump's decision in running the USA government. Many people criticize his leadership and decision. Pragmatically, it is very interesting to uncover the form of verbal (words) and situation (contradictory illustration used in the cartoons), functions, and the tendency of violating politeness principles in criticizing.

2.3. Theoretical Framework

There are some theories used in analyzing the data, definition of irony, the types of irony – verbal irony and situational irony, and the functions of irony. In order to make easier in analyzing the data.

2.3.1. Definition of Irony

There a number of definitions of irony. [Wilson and Sperber \(1992\)](#) state that irony is opposite of what literally. Then, [Gornostayeva \(2016\)](#) says that irony is to be persuade funny. Furthermore, Gibbs (2000) in [Averbeck \(2015\)](#) said that Irony is indirect message strategy in interpersonal conversations. Similarly, Dynel (2014) also said irony is meaning inversion. After that irony contains positive and negative evaluation. Shortly the point of irony is opposite and contrary. Moreover, irony can be performed by humor and non-humor determined by various contextual, stylistic and intentional factors ([Kapogianni, 2011](#)). Next, Cristal (1995) in [Gornostayeva \(2016\)](#) said that irony is language which expresses a meaning other than that literary conveyed by the words, usually for humorous or dramatic effect. All definitions tell us that using of words to convey a meaning that is the opposite if its literally meaning.

From those definitions, for this research as an operational definition irony refers to the opposite meaning based on the contexts influence all things that exist in the political cartoons. Pragmatically, we can understand the meaning of a political cartoon based on the background knowledge, situational, and cultural contexts. Context is a key to understand the 'message' in the cartoon. A message at the cartoons can be expressed ironically. It is not the same with semantic meaning, pragmatic meaning refers to interpretation based on all contexts influenced. It means that what it is said in the cartoon is opposite with a reality or a fact.

2.3.2. Types of Irony

The types of irony are divided by two types including verbal irony and situational irony. According to Muecke (1969) in [Al-Hindawi and Abdulazeez \(2015\)](#) defined there are two basic types of irony, namely verbal and situational irony.

According to [Shelley \(2001\)](#), situational ironies are accompanied by configuration of emotion. The emotions is evoked by to develop in particular ways irony considered. As one example quoted from [Shelley \(2001\)](#) Irony is expressed pity and despair. Pity is interpreted by sad situation and despair that situation turn out contrary interpreted. In addition, [Shelley \(2001\)](#) gives another example, irony from surprise which can be interpreted in anger. Irony is the form surprise to anger in the form of accusations of negligence, wrong-doing, and immorality. The form of anger aims particular target could be called hostility which means ironies of hypocrisy

2.3.3. Functions of Irony

One of the function of irony is for criticism the government decision, however in this study, there are a number of functions of irony and gives more detail explanation. [Hutcheon \(1995\)](#) said that through irony, a criticism seems to be most comprehensive. Next, Hutcheon writes a model of analyzing irony and gives a review of what has been extensively written at the irony throughout the centuries.

Furthermore, there are nine functions stated by Hutcheon, namely complicating, ludic, distancing, provisional, oppositional, reinforcing, self-protective, assailing, and aggregative. Complicating refers to all of art or esthetic discourse in form controlled valued ambiguity. Ludic contains trivializing and teasing. For teasing is benevolent humor and wit. Meanwhile trivializing is as irony as irresponsible, empty, even silly. Next, distancing increases even more including non-committal and indifference. Non-committal is refusal of engagement and involvement (Worcester, 1960 in [Hutcheon \(1995\)](#), and pejorative associations are with indifference (Wilde, 1981 in [Hutcheon \(1995\)](#)). Then, provisional is the evasiveness of equivocation hypocrisy, duplicity and deception (Decottignies 1988) in [Hutcheon \(1995\)](#). Then, functions are called oppositional that means both pictures rebel and suffer use irony at each other (Wright 1978) in [Hutcheon \(1995\)](#). Reinforcing is interpretation of irony underline the point delivered. After that self-protective is a kind of mechanism which contain self-deprecating to reject assume superiority. Then, assailing contains invective and attack ends of irony. Finally, aggregative is apparently found different of exclude and include.

A model proposed ([Al-Hindawi and Abdulazeez, 2015](#)), they found a model for analyzing irony in political cartoons that describe cartoons are illustrated as symbol, color, caricature, stereotyping. In the cartoons reflect influences, and functions that consist of (1) complicating, (2) ludic, (3) distancing, (4) provisional, (5) oppositional, (6) reinforcing, (7) self-protective, (8) assailing, (9). aggregative. These functions can be graded into over, cover, and private. This model has been used by [Al-Hindawi and Abdulazeez \(2015\)](#) to analyze Obama's political cartoons that illustrated about Obama's government (USA).

To make it clear, look at the following example.



This example consist of a caricature represented by Obama and skinny cow. The skinny cow is represented about US Treasury. Obama brought over-milking indicated by the US Treasury. Then, Obama's grin indicates to represent easygoing-manner to face a crucial issue. Whereas a skinny cow indicates that it is not milking. It means that US Treasury is bad. The picture of Obama and cow is contrast each other. The cartoon refers to Obama, irony contains two functions: complicating and distancing. Complicating is found full of meanings to be interpreted rather than obviously revealed. Then Distancing is also positively performed by tacitly refusing the inappropriate and undesirable judgments which Obama makes as far as expenditure and treasury are concerned.

This study inspires us to study the political cartoons of Donald Trump in terms of irony that involves forms, types, and functions. The phenomena that happen in the Donald Trump's government is one of the current issues to observe, especially in the political cartoons people try to draw feelings or emotions that reflects criticism towards Donald Trump statements or decisions that give strong responses from American people and also other countries. Pragmatically, ironic words used are influenced by a number of contexts. So, theories stated previously guided us to analyze the data.

3. Methodology

In this research the writers used qualitative method which relate to understanding some aspect of social life, and its methods which (in general) generate words, rather than numbers, as data for analysis. The approach used in this study was pragmatic that refers to a study of meaning based on contexts. In the political cartoons, the creators try to give information to the society. They try to emphasize the ideas that relate to the current issues faced by American people. The words and drawings used in the cartoons do not only have literal meaning but also provide the information that means "something" in a contextual meaning. The words used as an irony that connotes to something else based linguistics context, epistemic context, physical context, and social context. All these contexts influence the meaning of an irony and its function.

The source of data were taken from the websites LA Progressive 2017, 2018, Pinterest 2016, 2017, 2018 and IDM Time 2017, 2018. Data of this study were a number of political cartoons of Donald Trump that consist and illustrate irony of political and social issues that happen in the United States of America. In collecting the data, there were some steps to do, (1) searching hot issues or conflict that happen in USA or the controversial statements delivered by Donald Trump's government, (2) searching the political cartoons of Donald Trump that related to the hot issues, (3) the collected political cartoons were observed and classified into several topics, (4) classified data were analyzed based on theories that related to the research questions.

Furthermore, the data analysis depends on phenomena in USA, since the election of the president and the result is Donald Trump was elected as the president of USA until now. The political cartoons of Donald Trump consist of information about current issues and the phenomena that happen in America, including the relationship between Donald Trump and Vladimir Putin, Trump and Nieto (President of Mexico), the problem of race and religion, gender, women, intelligence, USA and Palestine, and many others. All of issues support the data analysis. There are a number of cartoons that focus on the hot issues and consist of irony, types and functions. Most of the political cartoons describe the opposite statements or words that differ from the facts.

4. Findings

From the data analysis, the results show (1) forms of irony used, (2) types of irony (verbal and situational irony), and (3) Functions of irony, such as complicating, an ludic. All of irony in the political cartoons of Donald Trump as a result of people interpretation about the responses, statements of Donald Trump towards social issues, political and cultural issues that happen in the American society. The interpretation can be wrong but those are illustrated in form of political cartoons. On the following we discuss the form of irony used as a response of Donald Trump's comments, speech, or tweets.

4.1. Forms of Irony

There are a number of words used to convey a meaning as an irony used in the political cartoons of Donald Trump. Previously, it has been stated that irony refers to the opposite of its literal meaning. Forms of irony have been written in the political cartoons based on topic discussed or issues happened. For example: *"I am not Racist"*, this statement has been regarded as an irony because of Donald Trump's tweets, and criticism about race and

religion. Then, “Trust me, Russia is behind you 100%”. According to the context, this statement is not the same with the fact that both countries, “Russia and USA attack each others”. Whatever Donald Trump give comments or statements, people try to use it to attack him, although the statements can be as wrong interpretation. This irony comes from people who want to attack Donald Trump. Those are illustrated and dawn in political cartoons. (read <https://www.usatoday.com/story/news/politics/onpolitics/2018>. In this study, we found the words used as irony that related to the causes and issues that happen in American society. Forms of ironic words used in the political cartoons of Donald Trump can be seen in table 1.

Table-1. Form and Type of irony in the Political Cartoon of Donald Trump

No	Forms of Irony	Facts	Issues of Topic	Types of Irony	
				Verbal	Situational
1.	Russia-American cyber security unit	Now, Russia cancels to cooperate about cyber security unit with USA	Russia and USA	Verbal	
2.	Trust me, Russia is behind you 100%	Both countries – Russia and USA attack each others	Russia and USA	Verbal	
3.	Nato Bad, Russia good	In the reality, USA offend Russia, whereas Russia is bad, Nato is good	Russia and USA	Verbal	Situational
4.	Have you found 30.000 Hillary missing email yet!	Donald Trump is sent email by Putin	Russia and USA		
5.	Putin didn’t attack America, He told me so	Since cool war, the relationship both countries – Russia and USA is bad, which attack each others	Russia and USA	Verbal	Situational
6.	We had a revealing conversation	The relationship both countries – USA and Russia are bad. In addition, both countries are different of allying each others.	Russia and USA	Verbal	Situational
7.	Good... Now, we can move on	The relationship is even worse since Donald Trump who is president of USA	Russia and USA	Verbal	Situational
8.	Moving forward, it good to know, where each of us stands!	Both countries assail each others. Donald Trump kicks out diplomats Russia.	Russia and USA	Verbal	Situational
9.	The Mexican is coming	Donald Trump want building border wall between USA and Mexican caused by he bans Mexican to come USA	USA and Mexico	Verbal	Situational
10.	No, just one	Donald don’t finance building border wall, he just demand president of Mexico that is fully funded financial border wall.	USA and Mexico	Verbal	Situational
11.	Not true, You Kenyan liar!	Donald Trump discriminates race like black American, moslem, Mexican	Race and Religion	Verbal	Situational
12.	I am not Racist	In fact that Donald Trump discriminates race and ban moslem come to USA	Race and Religion	Verbal	Situational
13.	I’m like, really, smart, and stable genius	The result of research that IQ of Donald Trump is lower that the sixth president (John Quincy Adams)	Intelligence	Verbal	Situational
14.	Anything having to do with intelligence	As we know, Hillary is smarter than Donald Trump who can be better lead USA. Whereas the cartoon says this statement is delivered by Donald Trump.	Intelligence	Verbal	Situational
15.	I have great respect for women	Donald Trump doesn’t respect for women caused by sexual misconduct for women	Women	Verbal	Situational
16.	To celebrate the season, I invited to easter bunny	Donald Trump disavows women who can not contribute in the politic.	Women	Verbal	Situational
17.	No wonder, I gave it away and went into politics	Donald Trump bans women contribution into politics	Women	Verbal	Situational
18.	Don’t even think about it	Donald Trump offend women	Women	Verbal	Situational
19.	Thank you for building this wall, Senor Trump! This way we can’t hear, your excessive yelling!	Donald Trump disavows campaign promise building border wall	USA and Mexico	Verbal	Situational
20.	Go home Amigo! The stupid US-Tax will take care of it	Donald Trump asks Mexico to use fully funded finance building border wall	USA and Mexico	Verbal	Situational

4.2. Types of Irony

Types of irony found in the data analysis are verbal and situational irony. Verbal irony occurs when a speaker’s intention is the opposite of what he is saying. For example, one says while looking at the untidy room, “What nice room we’re having!”. This expression is regarded as verbal irony, the use of words to say the opposite meaning of

something. In table 1, it can be seen there are 20 verbal irony used to say as criticism the real facts that happened in the society. The words 19-20 in table 1 “*Thank you for building this wall, Senor Trump! This way we can’t hear, your excessive yelling!*” Refer to verbal type of irony that does not relate to the fact that “Donald Trump disavows campaign promise building border wall”. And, the words “*Go home Amigo! The stupid US-Tax will take care of it*” is not the same with fact that “Donald Trump asks Mexico to use fully funded finance building border wall”.

Another type of irony, situational irony that occurs when the actual result of a situation is totally different from what you’d expect the result to be. According to Shelley (2001) situational ironies are accompanied by configuration of emotion. The emotions is evoked by to develop in particular ways irony considered. As one example quoted from Shelley (2001) Irony is expressed pity and despair. Pity is interpreted as sad situation and despair that situation turn out contrary interpreted. In addition, Shelley (2001) gives another example of irony from surprise which can be interpreted in anger. Irony is the form surprise to anger in the form of accusations of negligence, wrong-doing, and immorality. The form of anger aims particular target could be called hostility which means ironies of hypocrisy. As an example, look at the following cartoon that refers to verbal and situational types of irony.



The cartoon (1) was published in 2018 by Pinterest belonging to American Publication. The cartoon delivers about the problem of races and religion. Contextually, the cartoon shows linguistic context and physical context. Linguistic context of the cartoon consist of some words, there are “I’m not racist”, “Deport them all”, “Ban them all”, “Black lives matter!”. In this context, it tells that Donald Trump discriminates and kicks out those X from America which is written by “Deport them all”, “Ban them all”, “Black lives matter”. But it is not acted by Trump which is indicated by Trump’s words, “I’m not racist”. Then, Donald Trump make equalization of race bringing into reality great America is also pictured by “Trump for president make America great again”. Based on linguistic context, it can be known that the cartoon equalizes race. Physical context of the cartoon consists of the picture of Russian, moslem, black people, picture of Trump, symbol of cross. The context tells that picture of Russian, moslem, black people, are given symbol of cross on the pictures dues to that Trump is not problem of race. The end of the picture of white people is appointed by picture of Trump toward it to indicate that Trump kicks out them from USA. Thus, the cartoon shows that Trump did not kick out Moslem, Russian, black people from USA. However, the cartoon express an irony, because the fact shows that in 2018, Trump is discrimination of race according to the news published in New York Time (2018). He kicks out Russian people from USA (CNN Politic, 2018) and bans Moslem coming to USA.

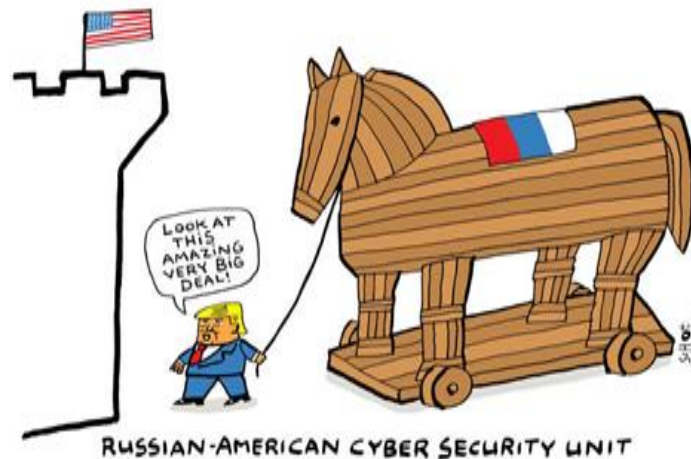
The phenomena described is not like pictured by the cartoon. What is expressed by Trump, “I’m not racist”. In the cartoon differs sharply from the fact. Thus, the cartoon contains a verbal irony, that is statement of speaker is different from the fact. Then the cartoon is influenced by some configuration of emotion expressed by facial emotion the picture of Trump.

4.3. Functions

According to the data analysis, there are a number of functions of irony, such as complicating, ludic, distancing, provisional, oppositional, and reinforcing. The functions of irony shows the conflict of USA and Russia, USA and Mexico, religion race, intelligence, and women issues. The findings will be described in brief as follow.

4.3.1. Distancing (Conflict USA and Russia)

(2)



The cartoon (2) was published in 2017 by LA Progressive belonging to American Publication written by Peeler. Physical context of the cartoon consists of the picture of American flag standing on the top of White House, Russian flag on the horse back, and picture of Trump. The context tells that Donald Trump is holding the rope of the horse belonging to Russia due to that the horse back is Russian flag. Based on the physical context, it can be read that the cartoon deals with USA and Russia. Then Donald Trump, president of USA invites and wants to make friend with Russia. It is indicated by picture of Trump who is pulling the horse toward White House, USA State Palace. Both countries – USA and Russia are in good relationship. The good relationship also pictured linguistic context by Trump's words, "Look at this amazing very big deal".

Furthermore both countries discuss to cooperate at the cyber security unit by cartoon's words "*Russia-America cyber security unit*". Thus, the cartoon shows that USA wants to make friend with Russia. USA invites Russia to be its friend which is indicated by Trump is holding the rope of the horse belonging to Russia. However, the cartoon is an irony, because the fact shows that in 2017, relationship between both countries was bad. This source says that the relationship between Russia and USA is even worse caused by Russia pro to Palestine, whereas USA pro to Israel. Therefore, the cooperation at the cyber security unit is cancelled by both countries caused this conflict. In other words, Russia cancels for cooperation cyber security unit with USA. The relationship of both countries is not like pictured by the cartoon. What is expressed by Trump, "Look at this amazing very big deal" in the cartoon differs sharply from the fact. Thus, the cartoon contains a verbal irony that is statement of speaker is different from the fact.

Then, irony performs function that is distancing. The first is accomplished by increasing even more that includes non-committal and indifference. Non-committal is told by refusal of engagement to refer to the relationship of Russian and American that is bad. Both countries are not consistent their relationship. Then indifference refers to pejorative association that both countries attack each other.

(3)

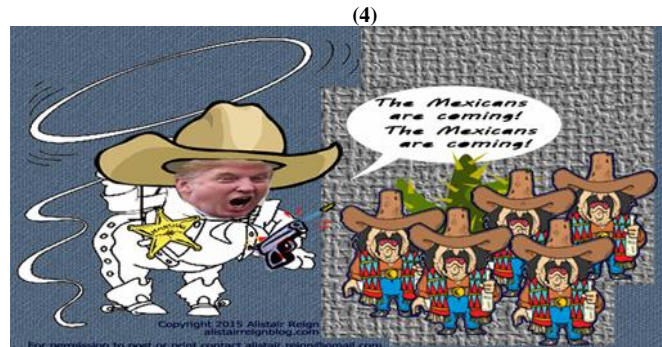


The cartoon (3) was published when the Donald Trump's position as president in 2018. The cartoon describes as if Donald Trump and Putin as a close friend, while describing Putin's words, "*Trust me Russia is behind you 100%*". Then, Russia keeps friendship ever after that it also told by Putin's words "*Kick me*". Thus, the cartoon shows that Russia has always good relationship as well as keep cooperation and make friend with USA. Russia invites USA for cooperation and friendship if it is looked from linguistic context.

From the physical context of cartoon, it consists of the picture of Putin hugging Trump from his side. The context tells that Putin embraces Trump using the hands of behind that indicates to make friend. Based on the physical context, it can be known that the cartoon is illustrating a friendship or cooperation with USA and Russia. Vladimir Putin, president of Russia invites and keeps friendship with USA. It is indicated by picture of Putin who is

always beside Trump. Both countries-USA and Russia are in good relationship. However, it is not like what expected as well as containing irony. The many sources inform that their relationship are bad. In fact that Russia chases away 150 western diplomats USA. The relationship of both countries is not like pictured by the cartoon. What is expressed by Russia, “*Trust me Russia is behind you 100%*”. The cartoon show opposite from the fact. Thus, the cartoon contains a verbal irony that the statement contrast with in the reality. The function of irony is distancing shown through conflict to increase even more including non-committal and indifference where non-committal is found in the refusal of engagement refer to the relationship both countries – USA and Russia and indifference is detected by attacking each other.

4.3.2. Complicating and Distancing (Conflict USA and Mexico)



The cartoon (4) shows Donald Trump’s campaign promise in pre-election of president USA 2016. The cartoon consists of the picture of Trump wearing cowboy clothes holding the pistol, and Mexicans wearing cowboy clothes. The context shows that Mexicans wears cowboy clothes of standing line due to that Mexicans comes to USA. Based on the physical context, it can be read that the cartoon allows Mexican to USA. Donald Trump, president of USA welcome Mexican to come to USA. It is indicated by picture of Trump who is confronting to Mexican and same wearing cowboy clothes in welcoming them. Both countries – USA and Mexico are in good relationship looked from physical context.

The harmonious relationship is also pictured linguistic context by Trump’s words, “The Mexicans are coming!”. Thus, the cartoon shows that USA is very excited receive arrival Mexicans. USA allows Mexican to come its country. However, the cartoon is an irony. The reality shows that the relationship between both countries was bad (New York Time, 2017), from facts caused by Trump will build wall border with Mexico if he is to be president to cooperate with Nieto. It is Trump’s campaign promise, where building is financed by USA in order to obstruct Moslem immigration to USA. After he is to be president disavows it. Whereas he demands Mexico own finance. In this matter, Nieto as president sues to his promise and refuse it (New York Time, 2017). The relationship of both countries is not like pictured by the cartoon. What is expressed by Trump, “The Mexicans are coming”. The cartoon show an irony that it differs or contrast from the fact. Thus, the cartoon contains a verbal irony, that is statement of speaker is different from the fact. As well as the cartoon is influenced by some configuration of emotion that is indicated by picture of emotion expressed by Trump.

The functions of irony are complicating and distancing. It is enriching of interpretation this cartoon about Trumps and Mexican influenced irony base all of art discourse in form controlled valued ambiguity called complicating. After that distancing is found that Trump is non committal at the campaign promise build wall border as well as Nieto is indifference Trump’s instruction.

4.3.3. Oppositional and Complicating



The cartoon (5) was published when a year of Trumps position as USA president in 2017 by IDM Time belonging to American Publication. The good cooperation building wall border USA and Mexico is pictured

linguistic context by Trump's words, "Gonna build a wall and Mexico will provide every brick". The builder of wall is not only responsibility Mexico, but also USA contribute it. It tells the good cooperation between USA and Mexico. It is indicated by Trump's words "No, just one". Thus, the cartoon show that USA invites Mexico make wall represented by linguistic context

The physical context tells about the two pictures of Donald Trump. The context tells that Donald Trump was raising of index finger and holding paper shows that he is commitment with his promises which has said at the campaign of president to refer to paper his hand. Second picture is also described by open arm to stimulate cooperation to build wall. Based on the physical context, it can be read that the cartoon cooperate with USA and Mexico. Donald Trump, president of USA invites and wants to make building with Mexico. It is indicated by picture of Trump who is serious expression. Both countries – USA and Mexico are in good relationship.

However, the cartoon is an irony, because the fact shows that in 2017, relationship between both countries was bad (The New Yorker, 2017). In fact that president of Mexico refuses it dan cancel meeting with Trump discussing wall (The New Yorker, 2017). The relationship of both countries is not like pictured by the cartoon. What is expressed by Trump, "No just one". The cartoon is opposite sharply with in the reality. Thus, the cartoon shows a verbal irony, represented by statement to contrast from the fact. Then situational irony is shown influencing expressed by emotion of Trump.

Two functions of irony are oppositional and complicating. Oppositional is found through two picture caricatures describe different meaning between yes/not Trump to give finance for building wall border. Then complicating is shown through this cartoon enriching interpretation until ambiguity valued.

4.3.4. Complicating (Religion and race problem)



The cartoon was published when two year of Trump's position as USA president by Pinterest belonging to American Publication in 2018. Physical context of the cartoon consists of two simultaneously pictures: caricature and Trump. Trump is leaping happily raising his hand up as well as straddle his feet, a caricature standing point toward above its words. The context tells that a caricature standing asks to Trump like a conversation due to that Trump is behind it. Donald Trump is leaping happily due to that its statement is wrong. Based on physical context, it can be read that the cartoon is not problem about race.

The not different of race is also pictured by linguistic context by caricature's words, "America is not cured of racism" which is being wrong by Trump's words, "Not true you Kenyan liar". The cartoon shows that Trump is not difference of race. However, the cartoon is an irony due to shows that in 2018, Trump discriminates moslem. In other word, since Trump is to be president discriminate race and ban Moslem to come his country as well as expelling life in America. The problem of race is not like described by the cartoon. What is expressed by Trump, "No true, you Kenyan liar!". The cartoon is opposite from the fact. Thus, the cartoon represent a verbal irony, that statement is shown different from the fact. Situational irony is influenced by emotion expressed by Trump to appear not racist. Expression is shown opposite the real expression. Furthermore the type of irony is oppositional. It is found two pictures are different statement "right or wrong" or racist or not racist that the fact, he discriminates race or religion.

5. Intelligence



The cartoon was two years of Trump position as USA president which is published in 2018 by LA Progressive belonging to American Publication. Physical context at the cartoon consists of the picture of Trump and the picture of Einstein. The comparison of character both pictures that is Einstein and Trump. Einstein is looked at a brainware indicated by the old of face and a change maker indicated by gray hair. The context tells that Donald Trump is stress make change indicated by the florid face picture of Trump. Donald Trump, president of USA thinks to make great USA. It is indicated by picture of Trump who is face expressed by part of facial body such as eyes, eyebrow seeing toward gray hair. He is a brainware indicated by gray hair. Based on physical context, it can be read that the cartoon is smart and genius with Albert Einstein and Donald Trump.

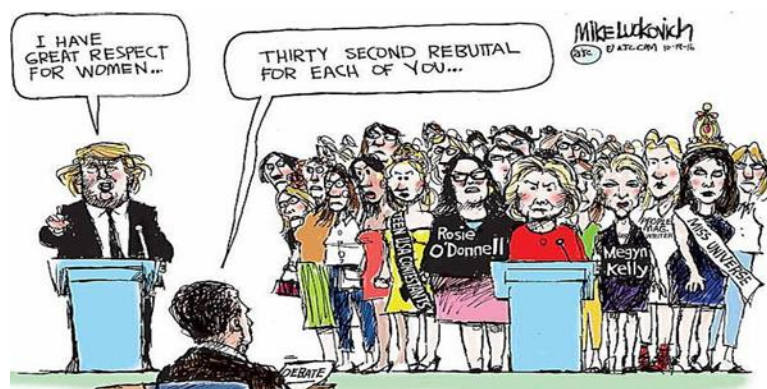
The smart person is also pictured by linguistic context by Trump's words, "I'm, like, really smart and stable genius". Thus, the cartoon shows that Donald Trump is as smart as Albert Einstein indicated by Einstein's words, "the more I learn, the more I realize, how much I don't know". However, the cartoon is an irony, because the fact shows that in 2018, Trump's IQ is lower than Albert Einstein (The Washington Post, 2018). Indeed The previous president of USA (Adams) is smarter than Albert Einstein. Einstein is famous as a scientist proved by invention of electricity to create the good change for society. Einstein is generally considered the most influential physicist of the 20th century (Britannica, 2018)

The cartoon is indicated to differ from the fact. Thus, the cartoon show a verbal irony, that statement at the cartoon is contrast with in the reality. Then situation irony is represented by the picture of Trump expressed influent of emotion on his facial to refer to identity as genius person. Then the function of irony is Ludic that is found the cartoon contains trivializing and teasing compared by cleverness of Einstein, opposite with Trump. As explained by (Hutcheon, 1995) says that Ludic contains trivializing and teasing.



The cartoon was found from Pinterest in 2017. It was two years of Trump's position as USA president. Physical context of the cartoon consists of two simultaneously pictures. There are the picture of Donald Trump and the picture of Hillary. The context tells that both pictures are face to face due to that they are talking. Based on the physical context, it can be read that the cartoon are the good communication between Donald Trump and Hillary. Trump believes his statement indicated by Donald Trump talking who his thumb toward to his self. Both actors – Donald Trump and Hillary are in good communication.

The good communication is also pictured in linguistic context by Trump's words, "Anything having to do with intelligence, I don't trust". Thus, the cartoon shows about Trump. However, the cartoon indicate an irony, in fact shows that in 2017, relationship between both countries was not harmonious. The phenomena happen that are not represented by the cartoon caused by cartoon contrast from the fact. Thus, the cartoon show a verbal irony seen by statement of speaker opposite with in the reality. Then situational irony is influenced by configuration of emotion expressed by Trump's face. Furthermore, the function of irony is ludic due to that the cartoon contains trivializing and teasing Trump's word about "...I don't trust" delivered.



The cartoon was published by Pinterest published in 2016. It was election of president in 2016. Physical context consists of Donald Trump standing in the pulpit, Hillary standing in the pulpit. The context describes that women support to Hillary due to that Hillary respects and gives freedom to women indicated by Hillary standing in the pulpit her behind is the beautiful. Donald Trump is respect to women. Donald Trump is also standing beside the

pulpit of Hillary there indicated by Trump respect to women. Both candidates of Trump and Hillary respect for women.

The good respect to women who is pictured by linguistic context by Trump's words, "I have great respect for women". Thus, the cartoon shows that at the election of president in 2016 debating Hillary and Trump assert respect for women by moderator's words, "thirty second rebuttal for each of you". However, the cartoon indicates an irony caused in 2017, Trump has degraded women, and he has been sexual misconduct for women. The good respect is not shown by the cartoon. What is expressed by Trump, "*I have great respect for women*".

The cartoon is represented contrast from the fact. Thus, the cartoon shows a verbal irony seen from the statement is different with in the reality. Then situational irony is found by emotion of Donald Trump opposite with in the reality. In fact that Trump doesn't respect for women. The functions of irony are complicating and oppositional. Complicating is shown by valued ambiguity the cartoon influenced by art discourse. Then oppositional is found by opposite between Hillary and Trump, where Hillary respects for women while Trump is not

6. Conclusion

From the findings and the analysis, it can be concluded that people in America tend to be free or too free in expressing their ideas, feelings to criticize the President related to what phenomena or decision has been made. They do not care about misinterpretation of the words delivered by their President in writing the comments in twitter, and speeches. In Criticism, they tend to ignore the social factors that should be considered, to whom they talk, in this case they just ignore and freely criticizing the first man in the America. Then, most of the cartoons were used irony that have ambiguous meanings due to unclear contexts or supporting facts. The expressions of emotions tend to express the feelings of anger, sadness, happiness and many others in the cartoon that reflect the opposite meaning of the reality.

From the perspective of culture and social, it is not polite to use bad image of a President, and using bad caricature, the expressions of rudeness, and sarcastic words. Irony can be used as one of indirect strategy to criticize the government's decisions, because cartoon is regarded as humor, it can amuse people who read and see it. However, the cartoonists should be consider and obey the social factors and politeness principles that in public all over the world learn the expressions through the cartoons. They will interpret that the ideas can freely express without paying attention to whom they speak, language use can give positive and bad impact, especially for children or young generations. in the framework politeness that still consider the polite strategies to criticize a President. For the further researches the political cartoons can be investigated in terms of implied meaning or implicature, speech acts, politeness principles, and negative emotions.

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