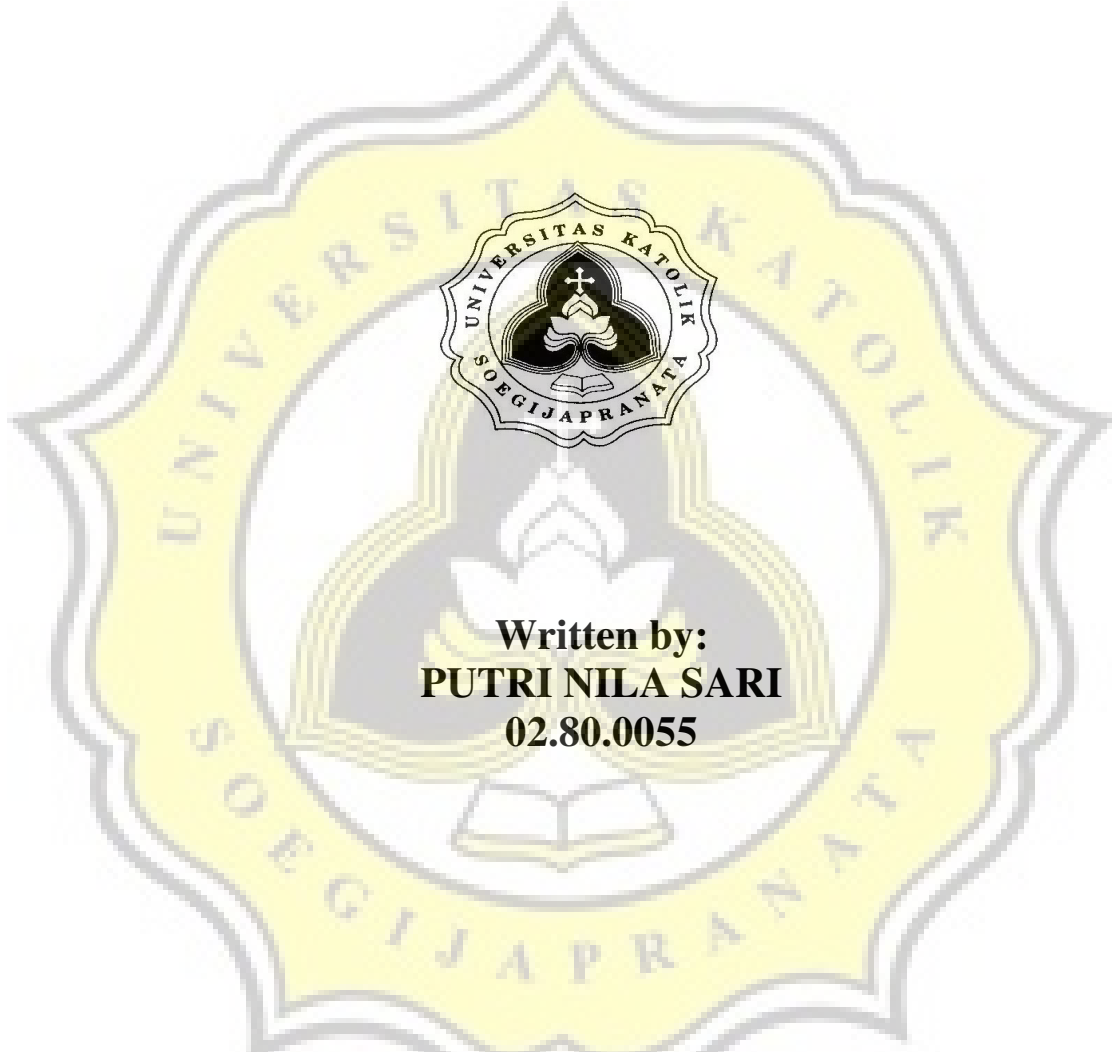


**GENDER DIFFERENCES IN EXPRESSING  
SYMPATHY AND ADVICE  
AMONG THE FACULTY OF LETTERS' STUDENTS  
AT SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY**



**Written by:  
PUTRI NILA SARI  
02.80.0055**

**ENGLISH LETTERS STUDY PROGRAMME  
FACULTY OF LETTERS  
SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY  
SEMARANG  
2006**

A THESIS ON

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND ADVICE  
AMONG THE FACULTY OF LETTERS' STUDENTS  
AT SOEGIJAPRANATA CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

By:

PUTRI NILA SARI

02.80.0055

Approved by,

Angelika Riyandari, SS, M.A  
Major Sponsor

Dra. Wuryani Hartanto, M.A  
Co-Sponsor

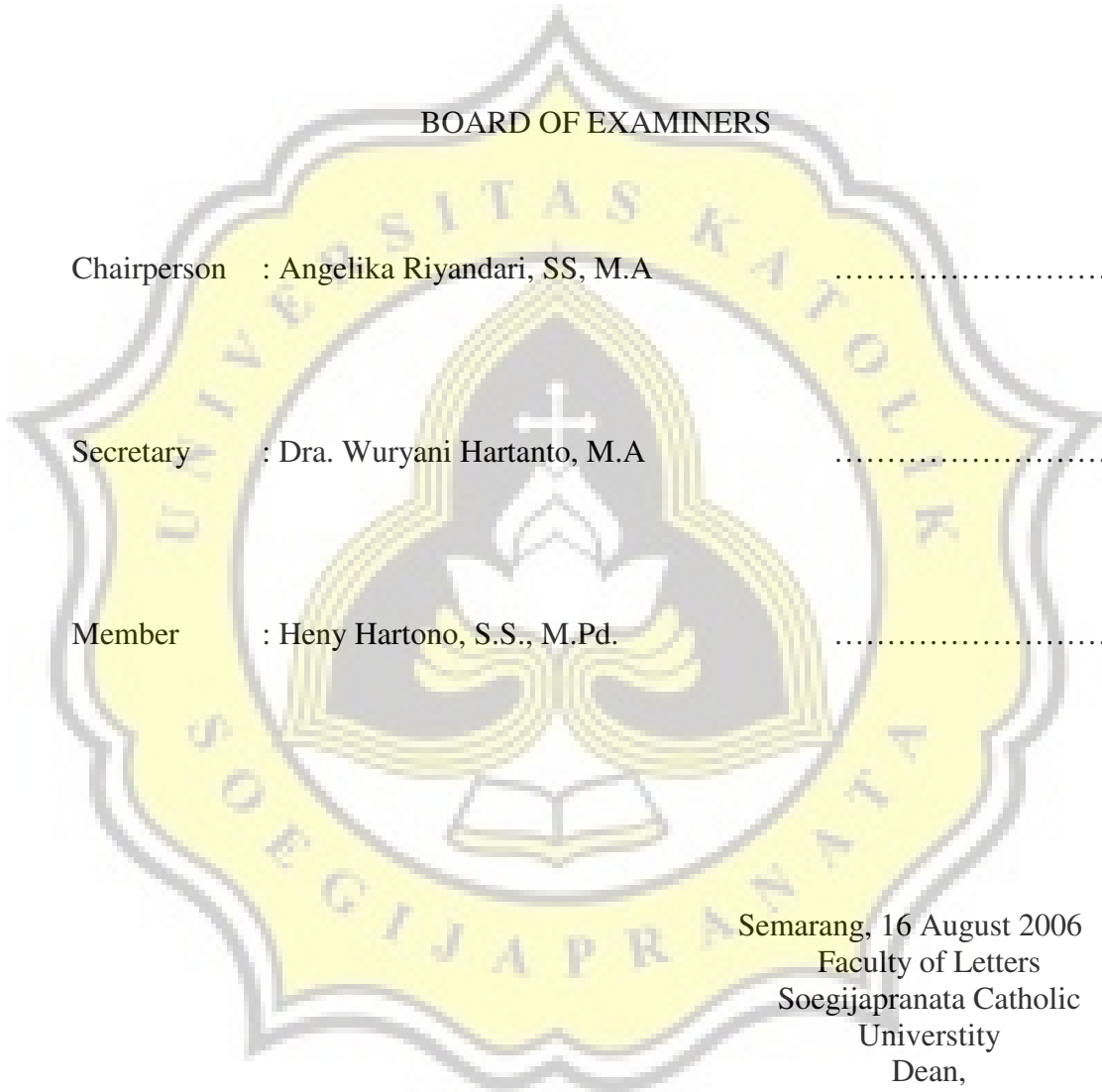
A Thesis defended in front of the Board of Examiners on July, 28, 2006 and  
declared acceptable

BOARD OF EXAMINERS

Chairperson : Angelika Riyandari, SS, M.A .....

Secretary : Dra. Wuryani Hartanto, M.A .....

Member : Heny Hartono, S.S., M.Pd. ....



Semarang, 16 August 2006  
Faculty of Letters  
Soegijapranata Catholic  
University  
Dean,

Heny Hartono, S.S., M.Pd.  
058.1.1998.221



*This thesis is dedicated to:*

⊙ *Myself*

⊙ *My beloved parents and family*

⊙ *My beloved best friends*

⊙ *My lecturers and all the students*

*of Faculty of Letters*

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all who made this thesis come true. First and foremost I would like to express my deepest gratitude to Allah SWT for always giving the blessings and guidance in completing this thesis.

I would also like to express my sincere gratitude to those who have helped me in finishing this thesis:

1. Angelika Riyandari, SS, M.A. as my major sponsor who have guided and encouraged me with her patience, support and advice.
2. Dra. Wuryani Hartanto, M.A. as my co-sponsor who have helped me in correcting this thesis and given great guidance and advice.
3. All of The Faculty of Letters' lecturers who have shared their knowledge with me.
4. My parents and family who always give their support and make me believe that everything will come true if I keep trying and praying to God.
5. My friends, Atrind, Pebri, Novi (One For All, All For One, girls!!!), Angga, Dimas, Jimmy and all of 2002 students who were always with me through good and bad times.
6. Last but not least, all of the research participants who have helped me in eliciting the data for this research.

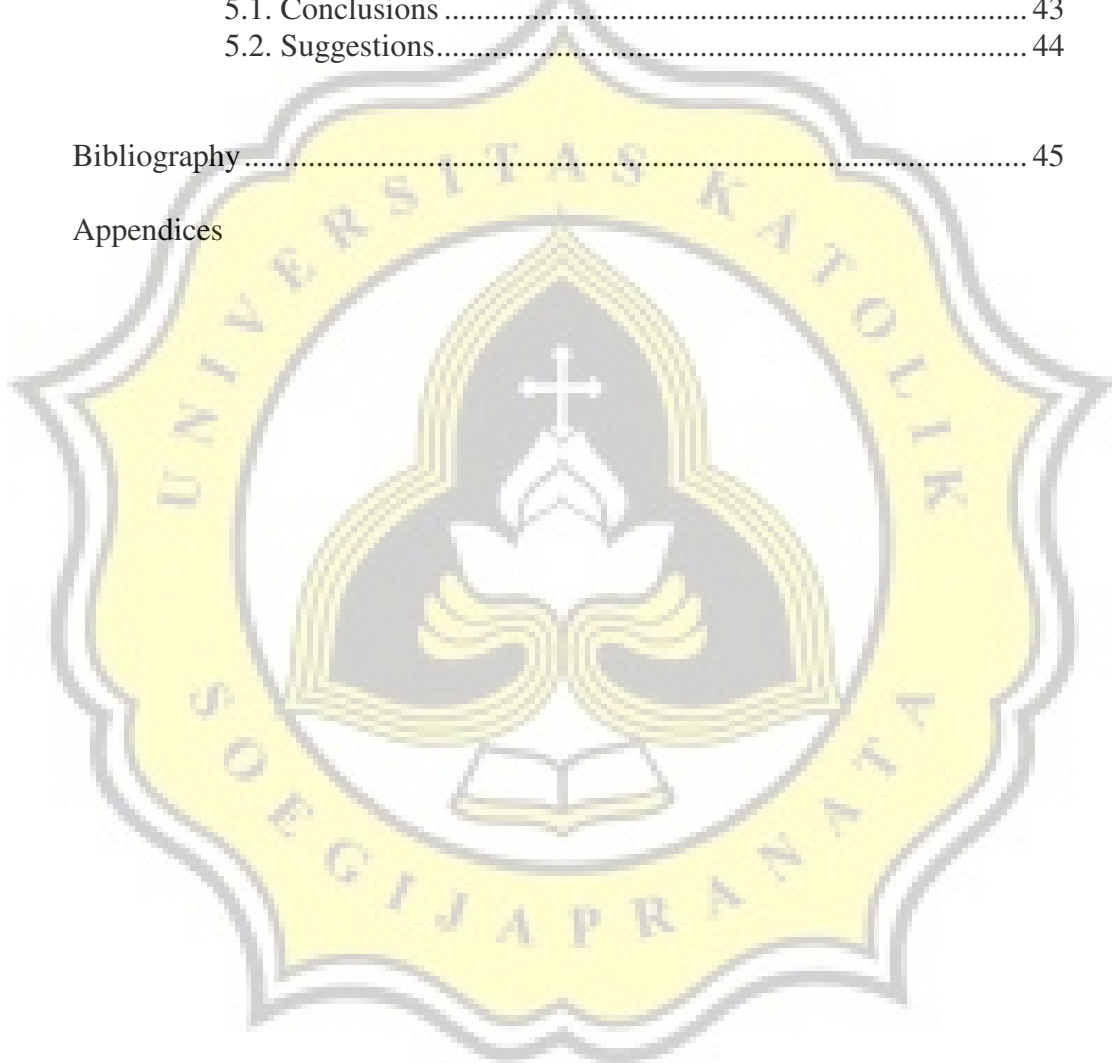
Semarang, July 2006

The writer

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

Pages of Title.....	i
Pages of Approval .....	ii
Board of Examiners.....	iii
Acknowledgement.....	v
Table of Contents .....	vi
Abstract .....	viii
Abstrak .....	ix
CHAPTER I. Introduction.....	1
1.1. Background of The Study.....	1
1.2. Scope of The Study .....	3
1.3. Problem Formulations .....	4
1.4. Objectives of The Study .....	4
1.5. Significance of The Study .....	4
1.6. Definition of Terms.....	4
CHAPTER II. Literature Review .....	6
2.1. Sex and Gender .....	6
2.2. Stereotype .....	7
2.3. Gender Stereotypes.....	8
2.4. Gender-Related Conversational Styles.....	9
2.5. Sympathy and Advice.....	11
CHAPTER III. Research Methodology.....	14
3.1. Method of Data Collection.....	15
3.1.1. Participants .....	15
3.1.2. Instrument.....	16
3.1.3. Procedure.....	17
3.2. Method of Data Analysis.....	18
CHAPTER IV. Data Analysis and Interpretation.....	19
4.1. The Ways of Male in Expressing Sympathy and Advice ....	21
4.1.1. The Ways of Male in Expressing Sympathy .....	21
4.1.2. The Ways of Male in Expressing Advice.....	24
4.1.3. The Differences between Competitive and Co-operative Advice Used by Male Respondents .....	28
4.2. The Ways of Female in Expressing Sympathy and Advice .....	31
4.2.1. The Ways of Female in Expressing Sympathy.....	31
4.2.2. The Ways of Female in Expressing Advice .....	34
4.2.3. The Differences between Competitive and	

Co-operative Advice Used by Female Respondents .....	37
4.3. The Comparison between Male and Female Respondents in Expressing Sympathy .....	39
4.4. The Comparison between Male and Female Respondents in Expressing Advice.....	40
 CHAPTER V. Conclusions and Suggestions .....	43
5.1. Conclusions .....	43
5.2. Suggestions.....	44
 Bibliography.....	45
Appendices	



## ABSTRACT

Gender causes some distinction between males and females in many aspects of this life. One of those aspects is communication especially in a conversational style. Based on those distinctions, there is a gender stereotype created by the society dealing with the difference of males and females to express their sympathy and advice when they respond to a friend who shares a personal problem. The stereotype states that males tend to share their advice while females tend to give their sympathy. Therefore, the writer tries to find out the different ways of males and females in expressing both expressions.

Because of the writer's purpose to find out such differences, this research is categorized into a qualitative one. The writer uses only one instrument called WDCT (Written Discourse Completion Task). There are 30 participants in this research. They are 15 male and 15 female respondents. All of them are the students of Faculty of Letters Soegijapranata Catholic University.

The results of this research show that the majority of male and female respondents expressed their sympathy using some support phrases that can also be categorized as advice like "*Be patient*" and "*Do not give up*". Yet, there is one more phrase used by male respondent, "*Calm down*". Only a few of them who chose to express pure sympathy. All of the sympathy expressions were followed by expressing advice. Moreover, there are four differences between males and females in expressing their advice. First is about the quantity of the advice itself. Males tend to generalize their advice while females tend to be more detailed. Second is about the problem situation that is responded mostly by expressing competitive advice. Males choose to express competitive advice when responding to a problem about the betrayal of someone's boyfriend / girlfriend. Females choose to express it when responding to unclear news. Third is about the different purpose of males and females in giving their competitive advice. Males express competitive advice in order to take a score in the conversation while females express it to lecture the listener in a conversation. Fourth, there is a difference between males and females in expressing their co-operative advice. The majority of male respondents expressed their co-operative advice when the problem deals with people who are close to their friend's life while the majority of female respondents chose to express co-operative advice in every problem mentioned in WDCT.



## ABSTRAK

Jender menyebabkan adanya perbedaan antara pria dan wanita dalam beberapa aspek kehidupan. Salah satunya berkaitan dengan komunikasi khususnya menyangkut gaya berbicara dalam percakapan. Berdasarkan perbedaan-perbedaan tersebut, ada sebuah stereotip yang dibentuk oleh masyarakat yang berkaitan dengan perbedaan pria dan wanita dalam mengucapkan simpati dan nasehat ketika mereka menanggapi seorang teman yang menceritakan masalah pribadinya. Stereotip itu mengatakan bahwa pria cenderung menyampaikan nasehat sedangkan wanita cenderung untuk menyampaikan rasa simpati mereka. Oleh karena itu penulis mencoba untuk mengetahui perbedaan-perbedaan cara antara pria dan wanita dalam menyampaikan kedua ekspresi tersebut.

Berdasarkan tujuan penulis yang berkeinginan untuk mengetahui perbedaan-perbedaan tersebut, penelitian ini tergolong dalam penelitian kualitatif. Penulis hanya menggunakan satu macam instrumen yang disebut dengan WDCT (Written Discourse Completion Task). Ada 30 peserta dalam penelitian ini. Mereka terbagi atas 15 peserta pria dan 15 peserta wanita. Semuanya adalah mahasiswa Fakultas Sastra Universitas Katolik Soegijapranata.

Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa mayoritas peserta pria dan wanita menyampaikan simpati mereka dengan menggunakan beberapa frase yang juga bisa dikategorikan sebagai nasehat, seperti *“Sabar”* dan *“Jangan menyerah”*. Tetapi ada satu frase lagi yang digunakan oleh peserta pria yaitu *“Tenang”*. Hanya sedikit dari mereka yang memilih untuk menyampaikan simpati yang sebenarnya. Semua ekspresi simpati itu diikuti dengan penyampaian nasehat. Selain itu ada empat perbedaan antara pria dan wanita dalam menyampaikan nasehat. Yang pertama mengenai kuantitas nasehat tersebut. Pria cenderung untuk mempersingkat nasehat mereka sedangkan wanita cenderung untuk menyampaikannya dengan lebih detil. Kedua mengenai situasi masalah yang ditanggapi kebanyakan dengan menyampaikan nasehat yang kompetitif. Pria memilih untuk mengekspresikan nasehat kompetitif ketika memberikan tanggapan pada sebuah masalah yang berhubungan dengan pengkhianatan pacar seseorang. Wanita memilih untuk mengekspresikannya ketika memberikan tanggapan pada sebuah kabar yang tidak jelas. Ketiga mengenai tujuan yang berbeda antara pria dan wanita dalam mengucapkan nasehat kompetitif. Pria menyampaikan nasehat kompetitif dengan tujuan untuk mendapatkan nilai dalam percakapan sedangkan wanita mengekspresikannya untuk mendidik pendengar dalam sebuah percakapan. Keempat ada perbedaan antara pria dan wanita dalam mengekspresikan nasehat yang kooperatif. Sebagian besar pria menyampaikan nasehat kooperatif ketika masalahnya berhubungan dengan orang-orang dekat teman mereka sedangkan wanita menyampaikannya untuk setiap masalah yang tercantum di WDCT.