

Swear Words Used by Filipino: A Case Study

Ida Bagus Andika Wiguna^{1*}, I Gede Budasi¹, I Made Suta Paramarta¹

¹ Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha

bagus.andika@undiksha.ac.id *

ABSTRACT

This study was designed using descriptive qualitative method that aims to identify and to analyze the forms, the functions, and the references of swear words in the Filipino language. Primary data in this research was collected using in-depth interview techniques, while secondary was collected by doing document analysis. The researcher acted as the main instrument which was equipped with additional instrument in the form of an interview guide, questionnaire by choosing three informants who were selected based on predetermined criteria. The Data were collected from Filipino tourists visiting Bali. The research found a total of 54 swear words in Filipino, classified across various categories. In terms of form, swear words appear as words (23), phrases (12), and clauses (19). For the function of the function swear words, they serve to expressing emotions (10), drawing attention (3), aggression and provocation (47), and have regressive uses (38). Furthermore, the study analyzed the references underlying these swear words, identifying categories such as religion (6), sex (6), excrement (3), animal names (7), mental illness (19), and personal background (8). These findings answer all research questions set previously where it can contribute to a deeper understanding of the multifaceted nature of swear words in Filipino and highlight the potential for cross-cultural misunderstandings if not carefully considered. It has significant implications in the field of sociolinguistics, particularly in understanding the structure, function, and sociocultural references of swear words in the Filipino language. In addition, this study has practical implications for intercultural communication, especially for individuals interacting with Filipinos in various contexts, such as tourism, business, and social settings.

ARTICLE INFO

Keywords:

Filipino;
swear words;
the form;
the functions;
the references

Article History:

Received: 8 February 2025

Revised: 27 March 2025

Accepted: 20 May 2025

Published: 27 May 2025

How to Cite in APA Style:

Wiguna, I. B. A., Budasi, I. G., & Paramarta, I. M. S. (2025). Swear Words Used by Filipino: A Case Study. *Lexeme : Journal of Linguistics and Applied Linguistics*, 7(2), 291–304.

<https://doi.org/10.32493/ljal.v7i2.47576>

This is an open access article under CC-BY-NC 4.0 license.



INTRODUCTION

Individuals from various backgrounds frequently communicate in the linked world of today. In these exchanges, language is essential for promoting communication both inside and between groups. Understanding context, audience, and the subtle delivery of messages are all necessary for effective communication, which goes beyond simple terminology (Tseng, 2018). But because of things like socioeconomic disparities, cultural and religious divisions, and other reasons, this interaction also raises the possibility of conflict (Galtung, 1990). When people from different cultures communicate, they bring their own set of linguistic and cultural standards (Hinner, 2017). The possibility of misconceptions due to language itself is an important factor in

cross-cultural communication. Conflict can easily arise from the use of offensive language, such as swear word. Although swear words are frequently seen negatively, they can also have constructive social purposes including closeness and humor (Nur Fatimah Az et al., 2019). Swear words, which can be regarded as dirty terms, are known to be improper for use in public by some persons, despite their use in social relationships in specific groups (Meliyana, 2024).

Bali, a renowned tourist destination, attracts millions of visitors annually, creating a melting pot of cultures (Jauhari, 2023). This diversity, while enriching, also presents challenges, particularly in language-related interactions. Among the diverse visitors, Filipino tourists constitute a significant segment. Understanding the nuances of Filipino language, including swear words, is crucial to prevent misunderstandings and potential conflicts with the local Balinese population.

There are several studies that have been conducted on swear words. There is research regarding the form of an analysis of the use of swear words, where it was found that swear words are used to express various social functions such as creating identification, providing catharsis, emphasizing points, provoking reactions, attracting attention, and fostering social bonds (Saniada et al., 2023). Likewise, research that had similar results, swear words in the Philippine language, namely abusive "*Putang Ina*" which means whore mother, animal name "*babo*" which means pig, social deviation "*bobo*" which means stupid, genitalia insult "*ahas*" which means penis that is like a snake (Dewi et al., 2017.). There is also regarding the use of swear words in Filipino which have communicative functions such as expressing frustration, competitiveness and catharsis (Alamo et al., 2023).

This research was conducted because of a phenomenon where language is used in people's daily lives. Bali, which in fact is a place for tourists to visit, makes conversations between Balinese and foreign tourists inevitable. In this case, conversations between Balinese people use harsh words and also conversations between Balinese and Filipinos because the Philippines is one of the countries that has many foreign tourists who come to Bali. Harsh words themselves are something that is considered taboo because they can create unwanted conflict. In this case, the analyze in Filipino swear words require an in-depth analysis in order to avoid conflict. This research analyze the swear words of Filipino, which will reduce the feeling of misunderstanding and miscommunication between the two parties in the future. The scope of this research is a descriptive qualitative approach. Besides, That problem is also defined for increased effectiveness, efficiency, focus, and depth of study. Because of that, it is important to identify problems and limit research. This study will investigate the context usage of swear words in Filipino, focusing on tourists that come to the Singaraja region. The researcher conducted interviews and note taking using criteria for choosing informants and documents in the form of books, movies, articles, and other online sources in order to gather data for this study.

This research investigates Filipino Tagalog swear words, exploring their forms, functions, and references. Swear words, while often culturally taboo, can express intense emotions, provoke insult, and even elevate discourse, while also fostering social intimacy in contexts like greetings, jokes, and bonding (Nur Fatimah Az et al., 2019). The study categorizes swear words based on their form consist of word, phrase, or clause (Maillart & Parisse, 2019), function consist of expressing emotions, attracting attention/emphasis, social/group identity, aggression/provocation, or regressive, drawing (Rothwell, 1971; Wang et al., 2014) and reference consist of religion, sex, excrement, animal names, mental illness, or personal background (Sultonov & Numonova, 2021 Hughes, 2015; Wijana & Rohmadi, 2007).

This study aims to address the gap in existing research by investigating the forms, functions, and references of swear words used by Filipino tourists in the Singaraja region of Bali. Specifically, the research questions are: 1) What swear words are used by Filipinos? 2) What forms of swear words are used by Filipinos? 3) What are the functions of swear words in Filipino? 4) What references are used in swear words in Filipino? The objectives of the study are to: 1)

Identify the swear words used in Filipino; 2) Analyze the forms of swear words found in Filipino; 3) Analyze the functions of swear words in Filipino; 4) Analyze the references used in swear words in Filipino. The novelty of this research lies in its focus on the specific context of Filipino tourists interacting with the Balinese community in Singaraja. This study aims to fill this gap by providing a more nuanced and context-specific understanding of Filipino swear words within the unique cultural and social environment of Bali.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Recent studies on the use of swear words in Balinese and Filipino contexts provide valuable insights into their classifications, functions, and cultural significance. There is a study titled "An Analysis of Balinese Swearwords of English Private Course Students in Buleleng Regency," using a descriptive qualitative method. This study identified five classifications of swear words: those related to religion, sex, excrement, animals, and mental illness. While this research effectively categorized swearwords, its scope was limited to Buleleng, leaving room for further exploration across different regions, age groups, and cultural settings (Wisudayanti, 2020). Similarly, there is a research about swear words in Poh Bergong village, identifying their occurrence in words, phrases, and clauses. However, the study did not explore gender-based differences in swear word usage, which is a crucial aspect of language variation (Saniada et al., 2023).

The research titled "Linguistic Swearing of Mobile Legend Players: A Pragmatic Study," examined the use of swear words in the Philippines, highlighting their expressive functions in social and competitive interactions. Despite its valuable findings, this study focused solely on Mobile Legends players, limiting its applicability to a broader population (Alamo et al., 2023). Similarly, a research titled "A Comparative Study of American and Balinese Swearwords," finding that both cultures use swear words for both negative and positive purposes. However, the study relied on movie dialogues, internet sources, and journals, which may not fully represent real-life interactions (Yani et al., 2017.). Lastly, Dewi et al. (2017) analyzed Balinese swear words in Cempaga village, emphasizing their role in cultural and social relationships. This research utilized diverse instruments such as recordings and interviews but was restricted to individuals aged 25-60, overlooking the linguistic behaviors of younger generations. These studies collectively contribute to the understanding of swear words but also highlight the need for broader, more inclusive research across different demographics and social contexts (Dewi et al., 2017.).

Based on these previous studies, the research approach used in this study is descriptive qualitative, focusing on the use of swear words in the Philippines, as per the studies mentioned above. Research on language use in Bali communities has been classified based on function and reference. However, this study solely focuses on a few villages. Research on the use of swear words in the Philippines is limited to Mobile Legends gamers and lacks a clear classification system. This project will categorize Filipino swear words according to their forms, purposes, and references.

METHOD

This research has a descriptive qualitative design. This research is qualitative research because in the process of collecting data, document analysis, questionnaires, and also conducting interviews are carried out. Respondents numbered 3 people, all of whom were tourists from the Philippines who vacationed in Singaraja, Bali. The selection of respondents utilizes a snowballing sampling technique, in which the researcher contacts Filipinos to ask for their willingness to be informants. After the first Filipino provides the data, they will recommend it to other people who know about the use of swear words in the Philippines. Respondents must be able to speak with a native Tagalog/Filipino accent and dialect, the age range of the research subjects must be between 20-65 years, and they must not have lived away from their home country for a long period of time. This data is analyzed using the theory of Miles and Hubberman (1994) which consists of data

condensation involves the careful selection, focusing, simplification, and abstraction of raw data, specifically Filipino Tagalog swear words, to identify and emphasize key findings. This process requires decisions on data organization and presentation, enabling the formulation of meaningful conclusions. Second, data display utilizes tables to visually organize the condensed data, simplifying understanding and analysis. Finally, conclusion drawing and verification entails a descriptive qualitative analysis of the displayed data, leading to conclusions that directly address the research objectives. To ensure validity, data source triangulation is conducted after data condensation and analysis, but before final conclusions are made. The results of this study show that the swear words found have different forms and have different functions and references.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

FINDING

The findings are used to answer the following research questions: 1. What swear words are used by Filipinos? 2. What forms of swear words are used by Filipinos? 3. What are the functions of swear words in Filipino? 4. What references are used in swear words in Filipino? The result can be seen in the table below.

1. *Swear Words Used by Filipino*

Table 1. Swear Words Used by Filipino

No	Swear Words	Meaning
1.	"gago"	Stupid, idiot
2.	"ulol"	Crazy, insane
3.	"tarantado"	Jerk, troublemaker, scoundre, crazy, fool
4.	"bobo"	Stupid, dumb, ignorant
5.	"hudas"	demon, traitor
6.	"lintik"	Lightning, frustration
7.	"tanga"	Stupid, idiot
8.	"inutil"	Worthless, useless.
9.	"siraulo"	Crazy, insane, out of your mind
10.	"demonyo"	Demon
11.	"walang hiya!"	Shameless
12.	"peste ka!"	You are a pest
13.	"anak ng puta!"	Son of a bitch/prostitute
14.	"lintik na buhay to!"	What kind of curse life is this.
15.	"anak ng tinapa!"	Son of a smoked fish
16.	"leche ka!"	You Milk
17.	"inutil ka!"	You're worthless
18.	"walang kwentang tao!"	You're a worthless person, lazy person.
19.	"gunggong ka!"	You are fool/idiot/moron/dumb/crazy
20.	"bwesit ka!"	You are annoying
21.	"anak ng demonya!"	Son of a demon
22.	"lintek ka!"	You are cursed
23.	"peste kang tao ka!"	You are a pest/nuisance
24.	"ulol na gago!"	You're a crazy fool or You're a damn idiot
25.	"hudas kang hayop ka!"	You're traitor / you are animal
26.	"walang kwentang buhay!"	Meaningless life
27.	"tarantadong gago!"	Damn fool or Stupid idiot
28.	"buwisisit na buhay to!"	Meaningless life
29.	"anak ng tipaklong!"	Grasshopper's child or Child of a grasshopper.
30.	"putang ina mo"	Motherfucker, It's refer also to the person who stupid.
31.	"walang hiya ka"	You have no shame
32.	"hayop ka"	You are an animal
33.	"tangina mo / tang ina mo"	Motherfucker, It's refer also to the person who stupid
34.	"puta"	Fuck, whore
35.	"buang"	Crazy, insane
36.	"putragis"	Damn
37.	"putik / pote"	What the heck, what the hell

38.	<i>"bruha ka talaga"</i>	You Bitch
39.	<i>"wala kang kwenta"</i>	You're a worthless person, lazy person, doing something not appreciated by your parents.
40.	<i>"syet / shet"</i>	Shit
41.	<i>"kupal"</i>	Jerk, asshole, fool
42.	<i>"burat"</i>	Men erection
43.	<i>"mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka"</i>	You motherfucker, you are fucker, masturbation
44.	<i>"ungas"</i>	You are fool or simpleton
45.	<i>"hinayupak"</i>	Beast/animal, someone rude or disturbing or harsh
46.	<i>"pucha"</i>	Fuck, whore
47.	<i>"pesteng yawa"</i>	Cursed devil, pest and demon
48.	<i>"pakshet"</i>	Fucker, fuck shit
49.	<i>"pakyu ka"</i>	Fuck you
50.	<i>"puke ng ina mo"</i>	Motherfucker
51.	<i>"supot"</i>	Small dick
52.	<i>"kainin mo tae ko"</i>	“eat my shit”
53.	<i>"animal ka"</i>	You an animal
54.	<i>"yawa"</i>	Devil/prohibited in devil, you are cursed.

2. The Form of Swear Words Used by Filipino

In this section, forms of swear words used by Filipino divided into three namely; in the form of word, in the form of phrase and in the form of clause. Furthermore, it will be explained specifically as follows.

A. Word

Table 2. The Swear Word Used by Filipino in Morphological Structure of Monomorphemic

No.	List of Swear word	Meaning
1.	<i>"gago"</i>	Stupid, idiot
2.	<i>"ulol"</i>	Crazy, insane
3.	<i>"tarantado"</i>	Jerk, troublemaker, scoundrel
4.	<i>"bobo"</i>	Stupid, dumb, ignorant
5.	<i>"hudas"</i>	demon, traitor
6.	<i>"lintik"</i>	Lightning, frustration
7.	<i>"tanga"</i>	Stupid, idiot
8.	<i>"siraulo"</i>	Crazy, insane, out of your mind
9.	<i>"demonyo"</i>	Demon
10.	<i>"puta"</i>	Fuck, whore
11.	<i>"buang"</i>	Crazy, insane
12.	<i>"putragis"</i>	Damn
13.	<i>"putik / potek"</i>	What the heck, what the hell
14.	<i>"syet / shet"</i>	Shit
15.	<i>"kupal"</i>	Jerk, asshole, fool
16.	<i>"burat"</i>	Men erection
17.	<i>"ungas"</i>	You are fool or simpleton
18.	<i>"hinayupak"</i>	Beast/animal, someone rude or disturbing or harsh
19.	<i>"pucha"</i>	Fuck, whore
20.	<i>"pakshet"</i>	Fucker, fuck shit
21.	<i>"supot"</i>	Small dick/uncircumcised
22.	<i>"yawa"</i>	Devil/prohibited in devil, you are cursed.

The list above shows are the results., where there are 22 (twenty-two) swear word in morphological structure of Monomorphemic namely *gago*, *ulol*, *tarantado*, *bobo*, *hudas*, *lintik*, *tanga*, *siraulo*, *demonyo*, *puta*, *buang*, *putragis*, *putik/potek*, *syet/shet*, *kupal*, *burat*, *ungas*, *hinayupak*, *pucha*, *pakshet*, *supot*, *yawa*

Table 3. The Swear Word Used by Filipino in Morphological Structure of Polymorphemic

No List of Swear Words Meaning

1. *inutil* useless

The list above shows are the results., where there is one (1) swear word in polymorphemic, the swear words is *inutil*.

B. Phrase

Table 4. The Swear Word Used by Filipino in The Form of Noun Phrase

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	<i>anak ng puta!</i>	Son of a bitch/prostitute
2.	<i>anak ng tinapa!</i>	Son of a smoked fish
3.	<i>walang kwentang tao!</i>	You're a worthless person, lazy person.
4.	<i>anak ng demonya!</i>	Son of a demon
5.	<i>walang kwentang buhay!</i>	Meaningless life
6.	<i>anak ng tipaklong!</i>	Grasshopper's child or Child of a grasshopper.
7.	<i>pesteng yawa!</i>	Cursed devil, pest and demon
8.	<i>putang ina mo!</i>	Motherfucker
9.	<i>puke ng ina mo</i>	Motherfucker
10.	<i>tangina mo</i>	Motherfucker

The list above shows are the results., where there are ten (10) swear words in form of noun phrase, the swear words are *anak ng puta!*, *anak ng tinapa!*, *walang kwentang tao!*, *anak ng demonya!*, *walang kwentang buhay!*, *anak ng tipaklong!* *pesteng yawa!*, *putang ina mo!*, *puke ng ina mo* *tangina mo*.

Table 5. The Swear Word Used by Filipino in The Form of Adjective Phrase

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	<i>ulol na gago!</i>	You're a crazy fool or You're a damn idiot
2.	<i>tarantadong gago!</i>	Damn fool or Stupid idiot

The list above shows are the results., where there are two (2) swear words in form of adjective phrase, the swear words which are *ulol na gago!*, *tarantadong gago!*

C. Clause

Table 6. The Swear Word Used by Filipino in The Form of Independent Clause

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	<i>walang hiya!</i>	Shameless
2.	<i>peste ka!</i>	You are a pest
3.	<i>lintik na buhay to!</i>	What kind of curse life is this.
4.	<i>leche ka!</i>	You Milk
5.	<i>inutil ka!</i>	You're worthless
6.	<i>gunggong ka!</i>	You are fool/idiot/moron/dumb/crazy
7.	<i>bwesit ka!</i>	You are annoying
8.	<i>lintek ka!</i>	You are cursed
9.	<i>peste kang tao ka!</i>	You are a pest/nuisance
10.	<i>hudas kang hayop ka!</i>	You're traitor / you are animal
11.	<i>buwisit na buhay to!</i>	Meaningless life
12.	<i>walang hiya ka!</i>	You have no shame
13.	<i>hayop ka!</i>	You are an animal

14.	<i>bruha ka talaga!</i>	You Bitch
15.	<i>wala kang kwenta!</i>	You're a worthless person, lazy person
16.	<i>mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka!</i>	You motherfucker, you are fucker, masturbation
17.	<i>pakyu ka!</i>	Fuck you
18.	<i>kainin mo tae ko!</i>	"eat my shit"
19.	<i>animal ka!</i>	You an animal

The list above shows are the results., where there are nineteen (19) swear words in form of phrase that are used by the Filipino, the swear words are *walang hiya!* *peste ka!* *lintik na buhay to!* *leche ka!* *inutil ka!* *gunggong ka!* *bwesit ka!* *lintek ka!* *peste kang tao ka!* *hudas kang hayop ka!* *buwisit na buhay to!* *walang hiya ka!* *hayop ka!* *bruha ka talaga!* *wala kang kwenta!* *mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka!* *pakyu ka!* *kainin mo tae ko!* *animal ka!*

3. The Function of Swear Words Used by Filipino

A. Expressing Emotion

Table 7. Swear words Used by Filipino That Has a Function to Expressing Emotion

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>gago</i> "	Stupid, idiot
2.	" <i>bobo</i> "	Stupid, dumb, ignorant
3.	" <i>tanga</i> "	Stupid, idiot
4.	" <i>anak ng puta!</i> "	Son of a bitch/prostitute
5.	" <i>lintik na buhay to!</i> "	What kind of curse life is this.
6.	" <i>leche ka!</i> "	You Milk
7.	" <i>walang kwentang buhay!</i> "	You're a worthless person, lazy person.
8.	" <i>tarantadong gago!</i> "	Damn fool or Stupid idiot
9.	" <i>buwisit na buhay to!</i> "	Meaningless life
10.	" <i>syet / shet</i> "	Shit

The Table above shows 10 swear words that has a function to expressing emotion there are: "*gago*", "*bobo*", "*tanga*", "*anak ng puta!*", "*lintik na buhay to!*", "*leche ka!*", "*walang kwentang buhay!*", "*tarantadong gago!*", "*buwisit na buhay to!*", "*syet / shet*".

B. Drawing Attention

Table 8. Swear words Used by Filipino That Has a Function to Drawing Attention

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>lintik na buhay to!</i> "	What kind of curse life is this.
2.	" <i>buwisit na buhay to!</i> "	Meaningless life
3.	" <i>syet / shet</i> "	Shit

The table above shows 3 swear words that has a function to drawing there are: "*lintik na buhay to!*", "*buwisit na buhay to!*", and "*syet / shet*".

C. Aggression and Provocation

Table 9. Swear words used by Filipino that Has a Function to Aggression and Provocation

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>gago</i> "	Stupid, idiot
2.	" <i>ulol</i> "	Crazy, insane
3.	" <i>tarantado</i> "	Jerk, troublemaker, scoundrel
4.	" <i>bobo</i> "	Stupid, dumb, ignorant

5.	" <i>hudas</i> "	demon, traitor
6.	" <i>tanga</i> "	Stupid, idiot
7.	" <i>inutil</i> "	Worthless, useless.
8.	" <i>siraulo</i> "	Crazy, insane, out of your mind
9.	" <i>demonyo</i> "	Demon
10.	" <i>walang hiya!</i> "	Shameless
11.	" <i>peste ka!</i> "	You are a pest
12.	" <i>anak ng puta!</i> "	Son of a bitch/prostitute
13.	" <i>anak ng tinapa!</i> "	Son of a smoked fish
14.	" <i>inutil ka!</i> "	You're worthless
15.	" <i>walang kwentang tao!</i> "	You're a worthless person, lazy person.
16.	" <i>gunggong ka!</i> "	You are fool/idiot/moron/dumb/crazy
17.	" <i>bwesit ka!</i> "	You are annoying
18.	" <i>anak ng demonya!</i> "	Son of a demon
19.	" <i>peste kang tao ka!</i> "	You are a pest/nuisance
20.	" <i>ulol na gago!</i> "	You're a crazy fool or You're a damn idiot
21.	" <i>hudas kang hayop ka!</i> "	You're traitor / you are animal
22.	" <i>tarantadong gago!</i> "	Damn fool or Stupid idiot
23.	" <i>anak ng tipaklong!</i> "	Grasshopper's child or Child of a grasshopper.
24.	" <i>putang ina mo</i> "	Motherfucker, It's refer also to the person who stupid .
25.	" <i>walang hiya ka</i> "	You have no shame
26.	" <i>hayop ka</i> "	You are an animal
27.	" <i>tangina mo / tang ina mo</i> "	Motherfucker, It's refer also to the person who stupid
28.	" <i>puta</i> "	Fuck, whore
29.	" <i>buang</i> "	Crazy, insane
30.	" <i>putragis</i> " (2 morphemes)	Damn
31.	" <i>putik / potek</i> "	What the heck, what the hell
32.	" <i>bruha ka talaga</i> "	You Bitch
33.	" <i>wala kang kwenta</i> "	You're a worthless person, lazy person, doing something not appreciated by your parents.
34.	" <i>syet / shet</i> "	Shit
35.	" <i>kupal</i> "	Jerk, asshole, fool
36.	" <i>mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka</i> "	You motherfucker, you are fucker, masturbation
37.	" <i>ungas</i> "	You are fool or simpleton
38.	" <i>hinayupak</i> "	Beast/animal, someone rude or disturbing or harsh
39.	" <i>pucha</i> "	Fuck, whore
40.	" <i>pesteng yawa</i> "	Cursed devil, pest and demon
41.	" <i>pakshet</i> "	Fucker, fuck shit
42.	" <i>pakyu</i> "	Fuck you
43.	" <i>puke ng ina mo</i> "	Motherfucker
44.	" <i>supot</i> "	Small dick/uncircumcised
45.	" <i>kainin mo tae ko</i> "	"eat my shit"
46.	" <i>animal ka</i> "	You an animal
47.	" <i>yawa</i> "	Devil/prohibited in devil, you are cursed.

The table above shows 47 swear word that has a function to aggression there are "*gago*", "*ulol*", "*tarantado*", "*bobo*", "*hudas*", "*tanga*", "*inutil*", "*siraulo*", "*demonyo*", "*walang hiya!*", "*peste ka!*", "*anak ng puta!*", "*anak ng tinapa!*", "*inutil ka!*", "*walang kwentang tao!*", "*gunggong ka!*", "*bwesit ka!*", "*anak ng demonya!*", "*peste kang tao ka!*", "*ulol na gago!*", "*hudas kang hayop ka!*", "*tarantadong gago!*", "*anak ng tipaklong!*", "*putang ina mo*", "*walang hiya ka*", "*hayop ka*", "*tangina mo / tang ina mo*", "*puta*", "*buang*", "*putragis*", "*putik / potek*", "*bruha ka talaga*", "*wala kang kwenta*", "*syet / shet*", "*kupal*", "*mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka*", "*ungas*", "*hinayupak*", "*pucha*", "*pesteng yawa*", "*pakshet*", "*pakyu*", "*puke ng ina mo*", "*supot*", "*kainin mo tae ko*", "*animal ka*", "*yawa*"

D. Regressive

Table 10. Swear words Used by Filipino That Has a Function to Regressive

No	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>gago</i> "	Stupid, idiot
2.	" <i>ulol</i> "	Crazy
3.	" <i>tarantado</i> "	Jerk, troublemaker, scoundrel
4.	" <i>bobo</i> "	Stupid, dumb, ignorant
5.	" <i>tanga</i> "	Stupid, idiot
6.	" <i>inutil</i> "	Worthless, useless.
7.	" <i>siraulo</i> "	Crazy, insane, out of your mind
8.	" <i>walang hiya!</i> "	Shameless
9.	" <i>peste ka!</i> "	You're damn
10.	" <i>anak ng puta!</i> "	Son of a bitch
11.	" <i>anak ng tinapa!</i> "	You fucker
12.	" <i>leche ka!</i> "	You're a damn
13.	" <i>inutil ka!</i> "	You're worthless
14.	" <i>walang kwentang tao!</i> "	You're a worthless person, lazy person.
15.	" <i>gunggong ka!</i> "	You are fool/idiot/moron/dumb
16.	" <i>bwesit ka!</i> "	You are annoying
17.	" <i>anak ng demonya!</i> "	Son of a bitch
18.	" <i>lintek ka!</i> "	You are cursed
19.	" <i>peste kang tao ka!</i> "	You are a pest/nuisance
20.	" <i>ulol na gago!</i> "	Crazy and Stupid
21.	" <i>putang ama mo!</i> "	You fucker
22.		meaningless life in English. It is used to describe a life that is perceived as insignificant, unimportant, or lacking purpose. It's like you don't have a dream
23.	" <i>walang kwentang buhay!</i> "	Damn fool or Stupid idiot
24.	" <i>tarantadong gago!</i> "	Grasshopper's child or Child of a grasshopper.
25.	" <i>anak ng tipaklong!</i> "	You have no shame
26.	" <i>walang hiya ka</i> "	You are an animal or You're an animal. express anger or frustration toward someone
27.	" <i>hayop ka</i> "	crazy
28.	" <i>buang</i> "	Bitch
29.	" <i>bruha ka talaga</i> "	You're a worthless person, lazy person, doing something not appreciated by your parents.
30.	" <i>wala kang kwenta</i> "	Jerk, asshole
31.	" <i>kupal</i> "	useless
32.	" <i>burat</i> "	You are fool or simpleton
33.	" <i>ungas</i> "	Fucker
34.	" <i>pakshet</i> "	Fuck you
35.	" <i>pakyu ka</i> "	Motherfucker
36.	" <i>puke ng ina mo</i> "	Small dick
37.	" <i>supot</i> "	Tae means poop, "eat my shit"
38.	" <i>kainin mo tae ko</i> "	You an animal, describing someone rude, uncivilized, not appropriate behaviour. Joke only
	" <i>animal ka</i> "	

The table above shows 38 swear word that has a function to regressive there are "*gago*", "*ulol*", "*tarantado*", "*bobo*", "*tanga*", "*inutil*", "*siraulo*", "*walang hiya!*", "*peste ka!*", "*anak ng puta!*", "*anak ng tinapa!*", "*leche ka!*", "*inutil ka!*", "*walang kwentang tao!*", "*gunggong ka!*", "*bwesit ka!*", "*anak ng demonya!*", "*lintek ka!*", "*peste kang tao ka!*", "*ulol na gago!*", "*putang*

ama mo!", "walang kwentang buhay!", "tarantadong gago!", "anak ng tipaklong!", "walang hiya ka", "hayop ka", "buang", "bruha ka talaga", "wala kang kwenta", "kupal", "burat", "ungas".

4. The Reference of Swear Words Used by Filipino

A. Religion

Table 11. Swear words used by Filipino That Referenced From Religion

No.	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>hudas</i> "	Mythical figure, Traitor.
2.	" <i>demonyo</i> "	Demon
3.	" <i>anak ng demonya!</i> "	Son of a demon
4.	" <i>hudas kang hayop ka!</i> "	You are a Traitor, you animal
5.	" <i>pesteng yawa</i> "	Pest and demon
6.	" <i>putik / potek</i> "	What the heck, what the hell

The table above shows 6 swear word that referenced from religion there are "*hudas*", "*demonyo*", "*anak ng demonya!*", "*hudas kang hayop ka!*", "*pesteng yawa*", "*putik / potek*"

B. Sex

Table 12. The Swear Word Used by Filipino With The Reference From Sex

No.	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>burat</i> "	Men erection
2.	" <i>mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka</i> "	You motherfucker, you are fucker, masturbation
3.	" <i>pakshet</i> "	Fucker, fuck shit
4.	" <i>pakyu</i> "	Fuck you
5.	" <i>puke ng ina mo</i> "	Motherfucker
6.	" <i>supot</i> "	Small dick

The table above shows 6 swear word that referenced from sex there are "*burat*", "*mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka*", "*pakshet*", "*pakyu*", "*puke ng ina mo*", "*supot*".

C. Excrement

Table 13. The Swear Word Used by Filipino With The Reference From Excrement

No.	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>syet / shet</i> "	Shit
2.	" <i>pakshet</i> "	Fuck shit
3.	" <i>kainin mo tae ko</i> "	"eat my shit"

The table above shows 3 swear word that referenced from excrement there are *syet/shet*, *pakshet* and *kainin mo tae ko*.

D. Animal Names

Table 14. Swear Word Used by Filipino With The Reference From Animal Names

No.	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	" <i>peste ka!</i> "	You are a pest
2.	" <i>anak ng tinapa!</i> "	Son of a smoked fish
3.	" <i>hayop ka</i> "	You are an animal
4.	" <i>hinayupak</i> "	Beast/animal, someone rude or disturbing or harsh
5.	" <i>pesteng yawa</i> "	Pest and demon
6.	" <i>animal ka</i> "	You are animal
7.	" <i>anak ng tipaklong!</i> "	Grasshopper's child or Child of a grasshopper.

The table above shows 7 swear word that referenced from excrement there is "peste ka!" "anak ng tinapa!" "hayop ka" "hinayupak" "pesteng yawa" "animal ka" "anak ng tipaklong!"

E. Mental Illness

Table 15. The Swear Word Used by Filipino With The Reference From Mental Illness

No.	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	"gago"	Stupid, idiot
2.	"ulol"	Crazy
3.	"tarantado"	Jerk, troublemaker, scoundrel
4.	"bobo"	Stupid, dumb, ignorant
5.	"tanga"	Stupid, idiot
6.	"inutil"	Worthless, useless.
7.	"siraulo"	Crazy, insane, out of your mind
8.	"walang hiya!"	shameless
9.	"inutil ka!"	You're worthless
10.	"walang kwentang tao!"	You're a worthless person, lazy person.
11.	"gunggong ka!"	You are fool/idiot/moron/dumb
12.	"bwesit ka!"	You are annoying
13.	"ulol na gago!"	You're a crazy fool or You're a damn idiot
14.	"tarantadong gago!"	Damn fool or Stupid idiot
15.	"walang hiya ka"	You're shameless
16.	"buang"	Crazy, insane
17.	"wala kang kwenta"	You are worthless
18.	"kupal"	Jerk, asshole, Fool
19.	"ungas"	You are fool or simpleton

The table above shows 19 swear word that referenced from mental illness there are "gago", "ulol", "tarantado", "bobo", "tanga", "inutil", "siraulo", "walang hiya!", "inutil ka!", "walang kwentang tao!", "gunggong ka!", "bwesit ka!", "ulol na gago!", "tarantadong gago!", "walang hiya ka", "buang", "wala kang kwenta", "kupal", "ungas", "anak ng tipaklong!"

F. Personal Background

Table 16. The Swear Word Used by Filipino With The Reference From Personal Background

No.	List of Swear Words	Meaning
1.	"anak ng puta!"	Son of a bitch
2.	"anak ng demonya!"	Son of a demon
3.	"putang ina mo"	Motherfucker
4.	"anak ng tipaklong!"	Grasshopper's child or Child of a grasshopper.
5.	"bruha ka talaga"	Bitch
6.	"kupal"	Jerk, asshole
7.	"burat"	useless
8.	"mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka"	You motherfucker, you are fucker

The table above shows 8 swear word that referenced from personal background there are "anak ng puta!", "anak ng demonya!", "putang ina mo", "anak ng tipaklong!", "bruha ka talaga", "kupal", "burat", "mga punyeta kayo / punyeta ka".

DISCUSSION

Based on the research results, there are a total of 54 swear words. All the swear words are classified based on form, which consists of word, phrase, clause. Based on its function, which consists of expressing emotion, Drawing attention, Aggression and Provocation, and Regressive. Meanwhile, based on the reference, those that reference religion, those that reference sex, those that reference excitement, those that reference animal names, those that reference Mental Illness, and those that reference Personal Background. Based on this, it was found that swear words are

mostly used for aggression and provocation and regression. Of all the swear words, there are some that have more than one function. Then on the reference which mental illness is the most reference of swear words used by Filipinos.

For comparison with the recent studies, the previous study entitled "An Analysis of Balinese Swearwords of English Private Course Students in Buleleng Regency" that used descriptive qualitative method (Wisudayanti, 2020). The method is the same method as this research, namely descriptive qualitative method. This research also have same objective which analyse the reference of swear words that consist of the word related to religious, the word related to sex, the word related to excrement, the word related to names of the animal and the word related to mental illness, but if compared with the current research about Filipino swear words, there is one more reference found which is referencing personal background. Meanwhile, the similarities of this study with research conducted by Yani et al., (2017) both examine the function of swear words which both found that swear words are used for negative purposes and also serve as positive purposes such as fostering intimacy and friendliness within the communities, This research references swear words from religion, sex, excrement, animals, personal background, mental illness, sexual activity, personal background, mental illness, sexual activity, which is actually the same as the current study except that sexual activity is included in the sex category. While the research effectively presents these findings, a deeper critical engagement would enrich the discussion. For instance, the analysis could move beyond simply stating the prevalence of certain categories to exploring why aggression and mental illness references are so prominent in Filipino swear words.

The identification of swear words that do not fit into the established reference categories (e.g., lintik, leche ka) presents an opportunity for a more profound analysis. Rather than simply stating their exclusion, the researcher could explore the underlying semantic and cultural logic behind these expressions. The categorization of lintik and leche ka as "object-referenced" and the life-related curses as "situation-referenced" is a descriptive starting point. However, a more critical approach would delve into the cultural significance of these objects and situations. For example, why is lightning a potent symbol of frustration? What cultural connotations does "milk" carry in the context of insults? Similarly, why are life situations such as "cursed life" and "annoying life" used as swear words? What are the cultural or social pressures that create these cursing situations?

Finally, the study could benefit from a more thorough examination of the contextual nuances of these swear words. As the provided examples demonstrate, the impact of a swear word is heavily dependent on tone, context, and the relationship between speakers. Exploring these variables would provide a richer understanding of the social functions of Filipino swear words. A more nuanced analysis would move beyond simply cataloging and categorizing to exploring the deeper cultural and social implications of these linguistic choices.

CONCLUSIONS

Swear words, often culturally taboo and not meant literally, serve to express intense emotions, provoke insult and elevate, however it could also build social intimacy through flexible usage in various contexts, including greetings, jokes, and as a tool for bonding. Swear words, is one key area where misunderstandings can potentially lead to conflicts. All language have its own swear words including Balinese and Tagalog Filipino, if Balinese are not careful about hearing ordinary words in Filipino and vice versa that may is a swear words in one , it will cause misunderstandings and lead to conflict. That's why this research analyzed the swear words of Filipino.based on the research results, there are a total of 54 swear words. All the swear words are classified based on form, which consists of word (23), phrase (12), clause (19). Based on its function, which consists of expressing emotion (there are 10 swear words), Drawing attention (there are 3 swear words), Aggression and Provocation (there are 47 swear words), and Regressive (there are 38 swear words). Meanwhile, based on the reference, those that reference religion (there are 6 swear words), those that reference sex (there are 6 swear words), those that reference

excitement (there are 3 swear words), those that reference animal names (there are 7 swear words, those that reference Mental Illness (there are 19 swear words), and those that reference Personal Background (there are 8 swear words).

Based on this, therefore, it is a must that the Balinese people involved in tourism become more aware of their use of language, be open to learning the Filipino language and culture, listen actively, and communicate respectfully to allow for open communication and cultural exchange. In this way, Balinese people can contribute to making tourism more inclusive and respectful for all.

In this research, we interviewed only three informants, who are only tourists who come to Bali on vacation. This limits the findings of swear words from the Philippines. The specific context of Filipinos visiting Bali may also influence their language use, potentially distorting the results. It is unclear whether swear words used in the tourist context are representative of swearing in other contexts. Future researchers could research the use of Filipino swear words in more specific contexts, as this study only investigated the use of swear words in general. In addition, the topic of future research can be comparative, which compares Filipino swear words with swear words of other languages, whether they are different or the same in terms of function. It is hoped that the availability of this research will provide hints for future researchers who intend to write on the same topic, particularly linguistics. The author anticipates that the results of this study will serve as empirical examples to bolster any similar future research.

REFERENCES

Alamo, E., Benosa, J. A., Fernandez, C., & Paderan, M. P. (2023). Linguistic Swearing of Mobile Legend Players: A Pragmatic Study. *Journal of English Education and Linguistics*, 4(1), 43-56. <https://doi.org/10.56874/jeel.v4i1.1324>

Dewi, K., Budasi, G., Ramendra, D. P. (2017). An analysis of balinese swear words used in cempaga village. *Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Undiksha*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.23887/jpbi.v5i2.14961>

Galtung, J. (1990). Cultural Violence. *Journal of Peace Research*, 27(3), 291–305. <https://doi.org/10.1177/0022343390027003005>

Hinner, M. B. (2017). Intercultural Misunderstandings: Causes And Solutions. *Russian Journal of Linguistics*, 21(4), 885–909. <https://doi.org/10.22363/2312-9182-2017-21-4-885-909>

Hughes, G. (2015). *An encyclopedia of swearing: The social history of oaths, profanity, foul language, and ethnic slurs in the English-speaking world*. Routledge.

Jauhari, S.S. (2023) *Bali jadi provinsi dengan objek wisata favorit wisatawan Asing*, GoodStats Data.. <https://data.goodstats.id/statistic/bali-jadi-provinsi-dengan-objek-wisata-favorit-wisatawan-asing-2DUme>.

Maillart, C., & Parisse, C. (2019). *Clauses and phrases*. SAGE Publications, Inc. <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781483380810.n119>

Meliyana, M. (2024). Types and functions of swear words used in bad santa movie. *International Journal of English and Applied Linguistics*. <https://doi.org/10.47709/ijeal.v4i1.3866>

Miles, M. B. , & Huberman, A. M. (1994). *Qualitative data analysis*. SAGE Publications.

Nur Fatimah Az, Z., Sitaresmi, N., & Siti Sulistyaningsih, L. (2019). Comparison of indonesian and korean swear words reference: a case study of humorous discourses of webtoon and meme *Atlantis Press*. <https://doi.org/10.2991/icollite-18.2019.67>

Rothwell, J. D. (1971). Verbal obscenity: Time for second thoughts. *Western Speech*, 35(4), 231–242. <https://doi.org/10.1080/10570317109373711>

Saniada, K. N., Ramendra, D. P., & Mahendrayana, G. (2023). The analysis of swear words used by the children in poh bergong village. *International Journal of Language and Literature*, 7(2), 75–82. <https://doi.org/10.23887/ijll.v7i2.32271>

Sultonov, K., & Numonova, Z. (2021). The form of euphemism and its formal innovations. *ISJ Theoretical & Applied Science*, 1119-1123.

Tseng, M. Y. (2018). Creating a theoretical framework: On the move structure of theoretical framework sections in research articles related to language and linguistics. *Journal of English for Academic Purposes*, 33, 82–99. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jeap.2018.01.002>.

Wang, W., Chen, L., Thirunarayan, K., & Sheth, A. P. (2014). Cursing in english on twitter. *Proceedings of the ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work, CSCW*, 415–425. <https://doi.org/10.1145/2531602.2531734>

Wijana, I. D. P., & Rohmadi, M. (2007). *Sosiolinguistik kajian teori dan analisis*. Pustaka Belajar.

Wisudayanti, K. H. O. (2020). An analysis of balinese swearwords of english private course students in buleleng regency. *The Art of Teaching English as a Foreign Language*, 1(2), 5–12. <https://doi.org/10.36663/tatefl.v1i2.43>.

Yani, K. T., Budasi, I. G., & Ramendra, D. P. (2017). A comparative study of american and balinese swearwords. *Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris Undiksha*, 5(2). <https://doi.org/10.23887/jpbi.v5i2.13612>