

## UNRAVELING IMPLICATURE IN RACIAL HUMOR STAND-UP COMEDY ON YOUTUBE

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**Abstract:** Humor is a form of communication with the intention to implicitly express meaning by exposing a sense of comedy. The primary focus of this thesis is to investigate implicatures in stand-up comedy, which are then categorized according to the type of humor and to observe how stereotype racial issue depicted through implicatures in stand-up comedy. This thesis examines the implicatures found in stand-up comedy with the underlying topic of racial humor on YouTube. This thesis is a qualitative research using documentation techniques and data cards as a research instrument. It utilizes Yule's implicature theory and David Hector Monro's Theories of Humor. This thesis is limited to only 4 comedians with different backgrounds; Maz Jobrani, Hasan Minhaj, Jimmy O. Yang, and Gabriel Iglesias. The study found three categories of humor: superiority, incongruity and release. Incongruity is a major finding because it aligns with the characteristics of stand-up comedy which is to express genuinely miserable concepts while combining them with humor. This thesis discovered that the comedian's punchline indicated the existence of stereotypes regarding specific racial groups. The racial stereotype humor found is dominated by the Middle East, such as Iran, Arabia, and Indian. In addition, another finding in this thesis is the construction of Chinese identity. It can be inferred from the findings that humor belongs for particular occasions. People can use humor to express implicit meaning and to define their identity.

**Keywords:** *Implicature, Pragmatics, Racial humor, Racial stereotypes, Stand-up comedy*

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## INTRODUCTION

Stand-up comedy is an example of entertainment that is very popular with many people these days because it raises some humorous themes that are fresh, critical and relevant to everyday life. Stand-up comedy has several interesting themes to discuss, one of them is racism. Comedians frequently address the issue of racism in their performances by talking about racial stereotypes, which typically reach on the habits, behavior, and speech characteristics associated with a specific race. The discrimination that the comedian experiences and describes to audiences who might have gone through similar things is another phenomenon. Another topic of discussion about racism in stand-up comedy is race identity. Comedians who identify as multiracial illustrate to the audience whether or not they belong in that group.

In fact, humor is the most fundamental element of stand-up comedy. It is an effective medium for critique as well as an element of entertainment, enabling comedians to address tricky and difficult subjects like social problems, personal experiences, and cultural studies in

a humorous yet powerful way. One aspect of communication that definitely encourages laughter is humor. Humor can be discovered on television shows, social media, and even in direct communication. Sometimes, humor is expressed directly and making it simple to understand. To create a new impression and occasionally surprise the audience, some comedians choose to implicitly reveal punchlines to the audience. Humor's function in society can be viewed as sociological phenomena. By using certain techniques, humor aims to remove guilt, build relationships, and develop good affection in human interactions (Chen & Soo, 2018).

Stand-up comedy performances have determined themselves as one of the essential elements of an enjoyable experience. In stand-up comedy, the material of the dialogue is assumed to be in a situation that allows for their reaction, involvement, and collaboration. However, many academics dismissed stand-up comedy as essentially light entertainment without considering the theatrical aspects of its performance. (Adekunle, 2023) The spoken material that appears when the stand-up comedian conveys can be viewed as an ensemble of smaller written material units, some of that are clearly corresponding to traditional folkloric genres like legends, riddles, tall tales, jokes, speeches, spirits, dozen, memorates, blazons populaires, etc. Additionally, it might take the shape of arguments and rhetoric.(Adekunle, 2023)

One of the mediums used by comedian to do the stand-up comedy is through the YouTube platform. The writer uses the YouTube platform as a place for collecting the required data for examining this thesis. According to Technopedia.com, YouTube is a platform for uploading and sharing videos with all users who have accounts and access to the platform. Since YouTube is the largest repository for video material, its importance, growth, and amounts of data are comparable to Google, the largest search engine in the world, and it has effectively controlled the internet video industry (Vytiaz, 2018). Therefore, a lot of comedians today use YouTube as a platform for doing stand-up comedy in order to promoting their talent. One of the stand-up comedy genres that can be performed is racial humor. According to Takovski (2023), ethnic humor will emphasize identity characteristics like bloodlines, history, language, and customs and use them as source material for jokes. Ethnic humor causes one culture appear dominant by criticizing or mocking specific characteristics of other cultures, such as their dialects and practices (Takovski, 2018). Racial comedy is a discourse that has a long history of contributing significantly to the development and ensuring of racialized attitudes, structures, and ideologies. This type of humor was created in the early 1800s by white performers who regularly imitated, mocked, and depicted Black people as foolish, buffoonish, inarticulate, and naive while painting their faces black (Perez, 2022).

According to the background of the research that the writer has provided, the writer believes that comedians express their humorous material using several kinds of implications. The implicature need to be constructed in a specific way in order to convey a comic message because it has a hidden meaning. Therefore, this study aims to find out the kinds of humor and the racial stereotypes through the implicature meaning. This study is interested to be conducted because it can be discovered the implicatures offered in stand-up comedy in racial humor terms, and view the constructions of the comedy that can develop the humor's points from the implicatures transmitted by the comedians. Since it is still limited studies that are conducted in racial humor, the writer of this thesis chose it as a topic in order to explore on the implicature terms.

In exploring more deeply about the topic, implicature in racial humor, it is important for researchers to look at previous research. After reviewing the prior research, researcher discovered other studies that were related to this one. First, the research by Taghreed Abdulasalam and Istqlal Hassan Ja'afar in 2021 entitled "Pragmatic Analysis of Racial Humor in Online Discourse" that investigated about how racial humor is triggered in racial jokes posted online. The study examines 312 racist jokes that were gathered from eight different Twitter racial joke accounts. Three different categories of racial jokes were identified after a comprehensive review of the information and a structured categorization procedure. These are blended triggers, triggers based on incongruity, and triggers based on superiority. These three distinct categories were discovered to accomplish the dual purposes of addressing racial stereotypes and reinforcing them (Abdulasalam & Ja'afar, 2021).

Second, the study by Arshed Sadoun Atei and Qasim Obayes Al-Azzawi in 2021 entitled "Racial Jokes on Twitter: A Pragmatic Study" investigated various racial comedy elements in "computer mediated communication" as well as the connections between racial humor and a variety of practical approaches. In this study, two hypotheses are proven. First, three categories of racial jokes may be identified: incongruity resolution-based triggers, superiority-based triggers, and blended triggers. Second, incongruity-based triggers are the focus of the majority of racial jokes (Arshed Sadoun Atei, 2022). Third, the study entitled "Vine Racial Comedy as Anti-Hegemonic Humor: Linguistic Performance and Generic Innovation" by Kendra Calhoun in 2019 that explores the anti-hegemonic racial humor in Viner King Bach's videos for its semiotic elements and socio-political critique. The analysis that follows shows that African American stand-up comedians and existing multimodal genres of online discourse have significantly influenced Vine racial comedy. However, King Bach's adaptation of these features to the specific opportunities of the Vine platform defines Vine racial comedy outside of the limitations of the types of comedy it draws on. By extending the semiotic possibilities available for achieving the socio-political and linguistic objectives that define a genre, investigation of this digitally controlled multimodal discourse shows that, while not predictable, the medium through which discourse develops may profoundly impact how a discourse genre is technically understood. (Calhoun, 2019)

Forth, the study entitled "Implicatures in stand-up comedy by Kevin Hart on YouTube videos" by Faris Siraj Nabawi in 2021 that identified flouts of maxims and how the implicatures are used based on the cooperative principal theory of Grice (1975). The findings of this study show that Kevin Hart frequently violates the maxims of quantity in line with his origins as an American and member of the black ethnicity. Americans have a tendency to say things in an obnoxious manner and to criticize things bluntly and without using language filters. In accordance with his background as an gv54, American and member of the black ethnicity (Nabawi, 2021). From the fourth previous studies provided above, the writer finds the gap and decided to analyzing implicature based on kinds of racial humor in stand-up comedy on YouTube.

The research questions for the research are what are the kinds of humor found in stand-up comedy videos on comedian Official YouTube Channel, what are the implicature meanings behind the utterances in comedian Official YouTube Channel, and How does implicatures in stand-up comedy portray racial issue and stereotype in comedian Official YouTube Channel?

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The method used in this research is qualitative method. According to Creswell (2018), qualitative approaches use text and visual data, employ distinctive data analysis procedures, and draw ideas from a variety of designs. Therefore, this thesis uses qualitative methods because the corpus is in the form of narrative text based on the utterances shown in the videos itself and the transcription provided in the videos by giving a deep explanation about the implicature that happens in the videos. In this research, the data collection technique is documentation so, the instrument of the research is data card. The writer takes some notes about the racial humor shown in the video, make a list about which implicature containing racial humor and write down in the data card. The writer watches several videos by herself to gain the data that contains the implicature on the dialog in the videos using Yule's implicature theory.

This research employs 15 videos of stand-up comedy on YouTube as the data source with 4 comedians with different background culture. There are Maz Jobrani, Hasan Minhaj, Gabriel Iglesias, and Jimmy O. Yang. This research uses data from the comedian spoken utterance while synchronizing it with the transcription provided in the videos. After collecting the data, the writer analyzed the data that had been collected by watching several stand-up comedy videos on YouTube in deep understanding. The writer categorizing the racial humor into kinds of humor based on Monro's theories of humor (1963), then analyzing the implicature behind racial humor using Yule's implicature theory (1996). Last, exploring how racial stereotypes can contributes to understanding the implicature.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Superiority

In this research, superiority is a type of humor that is used to explain which kinds of humor that has superiority characteristics in it. What signifies by superior in this context is how a person laughs because they feel more powerful and perceive others as weak (Monro, 1963). It was further clarified that in humor, superiority is meant to imply feeling more dominant and in beyond of power so that they can attack aother groups who are weaker due to their stupidity or incapacity. Therefore, that groups in power can claim it superiority (Attardo, 2017). Based on the research, there are several data found as superiority such as:

#### Datum 1

*"take the beard, you go on an airplane, wait till they're about to start, you're Egyptian, get on the back of the plane, get the beard go and get a thick accent, going when they get about to start" (1.a)*

The first data was taken from the Maz Jobrani's official YouTube channel in his video entitled Racial Profiling: White vs Muslims that exist in I'm Not a Terrorist but I've Played One on TV section. Racial profiling is an action taken as a result of discrimination on the basis of race and is classified as a racial issue. Racial profiling is a crime that occurs when a person's race is used to justify arbitrary law enforcement activities like stops, identity checks, questions, or investigations. Police use the term "racial profiling" to describe making generalizations based on race, ethnicity, religion, or national origin rather than on individual behave, comprehensive descriptions of participants, or intellect (Amelia, 2022).

In the video, Maz tells the audience how he tries to profile himself. He recounted his experience when he was on a plane as it was about to take off. In that short time, Maz found a white woman around the age of 25 running from the back of the plane towards the plane door which was still being opened by the flight attendant. The woman screamed in fear, saying that she had to get out of this plane and could not continue her flight. The response from the flight attendant was initially confused so the pilot also intervened to solve the problem. In the end, the white woman was allowed to leave the plane peacefully. Next, Maz tries to construct his experience if the white woman is a man with a thick Persian accent and have a beard, running towards the plane door approaching the captain and flight attendant, then what will happen is,

“...Obama will give a speech”. (1.a)

After Maz told the audience about how he profiled himself, at the end of the stand-up comedy session, he gave 1 sentence called a punchline. In datum 1, the punchline “take the beard, you go on an airplane, wait till they’re about to start, you’re Egyptian, get on the back of the plane, get the beard go and get a thick accent going when they get about to start” is included in the Superiority type. Humor is used to illustrate one's dominance, superiority, or power over others. An obvious way to show one's "superiority" or claim to the superiority of one's reference group is to make fun of other groups' foolishness, flaws, or weaknesses in order to strengthen one's ego (Friedman & Friedman, 2019). The audience laughed when the sentence uttered by Maz, where in this context because of their sense of superiority towards the jokes delivered by Maz which were related to the characteristics of Middle Eastern people.

Maz mentions the funny part right after he twists the facts and tells if what white women do is done by Middle Eastern men with beards and strong accents imitating her. In the video, the punchline mentioned by Maz has a deeper meaning which in linguistics is called an implicature. Actually, the audience was already laughing when Maz tried to explain the physical characteristics of the middle easterner, as stated in data description, “take the beard, you go on an airplane, wait till they’re about to start, you’re Egyptian, get on the back of the plane, get the beard go and get a thick accent going when they get about to start.”

An explanation of the characteristics of Middle Eastern people associated with the incident on the plane gives the audience an understanding of the existence of certain racial stereotypes, which in this case has been mentioned by Maz, an Egyptian. The sentence "Obama will give a speech" does not necessarily only mean that the president will deliver a speech, but another meaning of this punchline is that something big will happen. What is meant by something big about to happen refers to the 9/11 incident, where the incident involved an entity in Middle Eastern society, namely Al-Qaeda. In the aftermath of 9/11, where images of Muslims are those of terrorists and threats, comedians address both the fear of Muslims by non-Muslims and their own fears as Muslims. The most recent minority group in the US to receive negative attention is Muslim Americans. But even before 9/11, there were Orientalist common tropes. After 9/11, they simply transformed into stereotypes of Muslims as "terrorists" who pose a threat to the country's security.

Therefore, there is implied meaning of the punchline conveyed. In this term, Maz using “Obama” instead of another U.S President because at that time the stand-up comedy attended, the president of the United States still Barrack Obama. According to dw.com in their website about Barack Obama Hussein, the first African-American president of the United States, elected in 2009 for a first term of five years, and re-elected in 2012 for a second term that ended

in 2017. Another reason Maz choose the word ‘Obama’ because it refers to the leader of the state itself that has rights over its citizens if something happens and threatens the state.

The sentence "Obama will give a speech" also reinforces the existence of stereotyping against certain races. Usually, the president will deliver a speech after a major event such as what happened on 9/11. Thus, if Obama makes a speech it means bad things like 9/11 will happen. According to Sierra (2019) Stereotypes in humorous substance can also intentionally or explicitly offer sensitive issues to emerge. Her research shows how speakers create their humorous personal identities as well as their related cultural and ethnic identities through the "others" they voice, while at the same time activating and reinforcing stereotypes found in the media they mention (Sierra, 2019).

In this data, racial-specific stereotypes emerge when comedians deliver a punchline associated with a particular racial identity. The mention of certain racial physical characteristics in this video such as thick accent, using beard associated with dangerous incidents which in this case occurred on airplanes which of course lead to bad acts such as terrorism, further strengthens the existence of racial stereotypes. Between 1970 and 2019, there were 41,837 incidents in the Middle East, making up 24.9% of all terrorist attacks worldwide. Though terrorist attacks have decreased since 2014, when they peaked, they are still a major global source of fatalities and injuries, especially in the Middle East, where 24.9% of all attacks in history have occurred (Saleh, Al Mulhim, & Ciottone, 2022).

The relation between these physical characteristics and acts of terrorism is because news circulating about terrorism always comes from eastern countries. Stereotypes about particular races arise as a result of how those races' physical characteristics are portrayed and then linked to terrorist acts and other dangerous behaviors. This is how identity is constructed. Therefore, when white people see incidents that occur on planes caused by Middle Eastern people, as Maz mentioned, it will have an impact on the threat to some group of races.

## **Datum 2**

*“that dude was ISIS??” (2.a)*

In the second data, the writer retrieved from the Maz Jobrani’s official YouTube channel in his video entitled "When Indians are mistaken for ISIS" in I'm Not a Terrorist but I've Played One on TV section. According to theatlantic.com, The ideology of the Islamic State, also referred to as the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham (ISIS), is a unique interpretation of Islam whose beliefs on the Day of Judgment and the way of Islam influence its tactics and may assist the West in understanding its rival and portraying its actions (WHAT ISIS REALLY WANTS, 2015).

In the video, Maz told that her son, who is half Indian, half Iranian, has a half black, half white neighbor who at that time, his neighbor's cousin from Wisconsin came to visit. Wisconsin is one of the East North Central states located in the north central region of the United States mainland. It started when they were washing their hands together, this Iranian-Indian boy was wearing a turban which suddenly surprised this boy from Wisconsin, and he said,

*“that dude was ISIS??” (2.a)*

Maz tries to deny it by saying “no, he's not. He's Indian he's an Indian Sikh there were turbans.” But the boy getting confused and keep asking Maz whether he is ISIS or not and at the end, Maz tries to educated the boy by explaining that his wife is Indian but it makes the boy asking again whether his wife ISIS or not.

As in datum 2, the sentence “that dude was ISIS???” is the punchline. The Wisconsin boy questioned that because Maz's son had a turban on his head, an iconic characteristic among certain racial outfits. According to Britannica, Turbans, also known in Arabic as ‘imāmah and in Persian *dulbānd*, are headdresses made up of a smaller, that underlie hat or a long scarf that is wrapped around the head. The turban is a common Eastern-style head covering worn by Muslim men in the Old World, although it was no longer required of them after the early 1800s. Several American Indian tribes, who had created the head covering on their own, also put on turbans.

According to the explanation above, this punchline refers to superiority types of humor because the significance of the audience laughing when the punchline is made by Maz and the essence of the punchline is a sense of superiority when the comedian mentions the word ISIS and was previously associated with the mention of Turban. There is a stereotype that occurs between the outfit accessories that characterizes Middle Eastern people with the ISIS organization based in the Middle East, as the name implies, Iraq and Syam/Syria. There is connectivity that indirectly makes the name Middle East always associated with the organization because of their movement. Wilsoncenter.org stated that, about 30% of Syria and 40% of Iraq were under ISIS control. Ninety-five percent of its territory had been lost by December 2017, involving its two largest properties, the officially recognized capital of Raqqa in northern Syria and the city with the second-largest population in Iraq, Mosul.

The sentence “that dude was ISIS???” has hidden meaning which means implicature. That dude refers to Maz’s son whose wearing Turban shortly after he saw him wearing a Turban. the use of the word ISIS accompanied by that dude which means a boy wearing a turban shows that this sentence has a double meaning. Firstly, the turban is a hallmark of Middle Eastern clothing which later became associated with ISIS because this organization was founded in Middle Eastern countries, namely Iraq and Syria. Secondly, the question 'that dude was ISIS' asked by the boy must be based on what he knows about the ISIS organization. Mentioned by Maz that "he's not allowed a lot of diversity" shows that he doesn't know too much diversity. Therefore, when he sees there is 1 characteristic that he relates to what he knows, he will spontaneously mention it without finding out the actual facts about it.

Identity might make sense to differentiate between social and individual identities, characterizing group identities as collective and external, such as those provided based on character or looks, and personal identities as unique and "intuited" or experienced (Taylor, 2015). From the previous explanation, it can be concluded that there is one characteristic of a particular culture that makes that culture different from the others. The use of turbans, as one of the characteristics of Middle Eastern clothing, is a labelling of a certain race. Thus, there is a racial identity formed which is then associated with an organization based in the Middle East, namely ISIS.

### Datum 3

*“Sir, you middle-eastern? oh I'm Guatemalan, son wake up what do you see?” [son starts saying “policia”] (6.a)*

In this data, the writer retrieved from the Maz Jobrani's official YouTube channel in his video entitled "What's Really Going on Sweden" in this video, Maz explains his experience traveling with his family to several countries. There is 1 experience Maz told to the audience when he went to Hawaii. There he told to the audience that he and his family had just bought fruit and planned to bring it home. As soon as he arrived at the airport, there was a rule that he could not bring fruit from Hawaii. So, Maz plans to eat all of the fruit he has bought because he feels it would be a waste to throw it away. When he got on the plane, Maz felt that he had a problem with his stomach and at the same time the flight attendant passed him and asked if he was okay. However, in answering questions from flight attendants who were worried about Maz's condition, he answered in a slightly high tone and seemed angry, which made the flight attendant respond,

“Sir, you middle-eastern?” (6.a)

Maz answering it by saying “oh I'm Guatemalan, son wake up what do you see?” [son starts saying *policia*] The punchline given by Maz, which is the question from the flight attendant whether he is Middle Eastern people, after the flight attendant hears Maz's high-pitched voice indicates that the flight attendant often communicates with Middle Eastern people who speak in a high tone so he can ask that question. Maz, who was surprised when asked by the flight attendant, tried to divert the focus of the flight attendant by immediately answering he was a Guatemalan and trying to convince the flight attendant by waking his son and asking what he saw and the boy answered *policia*, which means the police are in Guatemalan.

This type of humor refers to Superiority because there is a sense of superiority and power over certain races when Maz conveys the punchline which contains stereotypes of eastern people when they speaking, it has a special tone so that people can easily tell where that person comes from. According to Quora (2018) Al Zibrikahn stated that Arabs are talkative, social, and in some cases loud-talking individuals who ensure that their message is recognized (Zibrikahn, 2018). This statement turns the opinion into a conclusive fact that Middle Eastern people speak in a slightly higher tone. In the video, indirectly, Maz makes the audience feel they have more power over their race and they express this feeling by laughing at the punchline that Maz gave.

The punchline of this video, “Sir, you middle-eastern? oh I'm Guatemalan, son wake up what do you see?” [son starts saying “*policia*”] contains implicature. According to Britannica, Guatemala is a Central American nation. The primary feature that sets Guatemala apart from its neighbours in Central America is its strong presence of an Indian culture within its own interior mountainous areas (Stansifer, Anderson, & Griffith, 2023). The way Maz tries to communicate with the flight attendant after he ask him about his nationality and suddenly, he said Guatemalan makes it funny, especially when he tries to waking up his son and he said *policia*. There is a hidden meaning why Maz chose Guatemala and his son also said *policia*. He tries to profile himself and he tried to cover up his identity for the sake of mutual security and comfort, especially since this incident happened on an airplane.

Maz chose Guatemalan because according to his racial origin, he is Iranian-Indian-American so that it fits Guatemala, which is strong in Indian culture. when their children speak *policia*, their tone of voice is made as if they are residents of Guatemala so that is their way of making the flight attendant believe that they are from Guatemala. There is a stereotype that arises from the characteristic speech style of a particular race so that it makes Maz surprised

that he has to profile himself that he is a Guatemalan, just because he doesn't want to make a fuss further if he admits that he is a middle easterner

Therefore, from this punchline, the racial issue emerges where there is labelling of the cultural differences of a particular race which creates a stereotype that if someone speaks in a high tone, they will be known as a Middle Eastern people. Choosing the city of Guatemala is also a feature in this punchline because Guatemala has a history that many Indian cultures developed there. So that in terms of choosing Guatemala and convincing the audience that the comedic message is conveyed, it is added to the mention of policia which characterizes Guatemala. Therefore, these 2 factors contributed to conveying the comedic message through the punchline delivered by the comedian.

### **Incongruity**

In this research, incongruity is part of the racial type of humor that will be discussed. Incongruity is a type of racial humor that arises from a mismatch between what happened and what was we laughed at. Based on the research, there are several data found as incongruity such as:

#### **Datum 4**

*“Indian people in the United States are the hardest working people I have ever seen”*  
(1.d)

In the fourth data, the writer retrieved from Gabriel Iglesias Official YouTube Channel entitled “Aloha Fluffy”. Aloha is taken from the popular greeting for the local people from the place where the video was held, Hawaii and Fluffy is a special nickname for the comedian. In this video, Gabriel shows several comedies that are still within the scope of racial comedy. One of them is how Gabriel starts his comedy by calling Indian people a hard-working race. Gabriel explained that in the United States, Indian people are rarely or almost never involved in bank theft or other crimes because it is something that is impossible to happen. Gabriel also explains that Indian people are so nice and they're so sweet because in doing that action, needs a lot of courage, the use of weapons, and an intimidating appearance that makes the criminal feared by others.

Additionally, it would be completely impossible if done by an Indian. Gabriel employs the example by illustrating there are two Indians with a very strong accents who want to rob a bank, but only one of them enters while the other waits in the car. When the Indian came into the bank and tell them to hand over the money, they have then people will laugh at them, which annoys the Indian and causes them to get out of the bank quickly out of their fear of being pursued by the police. Neither of them ultimately received no money, and he told his friends who were waiting in the car that they laughed when he pointed the gun at them. Instead, they were given a computer that the bank employee thought was he was a computer technician.

Furthermore, according to outlookindia.com stated that, the violent murder of the Sikh family is the earliest in a series of murderous acts this year that have targeted Indians living in the US for racial profiling, monetary theft, and violent crimes. All four Sikh family members, which includes an eight-month-old baby girl, who were abducted in the US state of California just recently have been discovered dead in an orchard, bringing a tragic end to the shocking story. Indians have been abused, beaten, and even killed in the US this year alone as a result of gun violence, financial fraud, or crimes with racial implications that target Indians. Four

Indian-American women were racially assaulted and slammed by a Mexican-American woman in the U.S. State of Texas in August. She yelled racist epithets at them, telling them to "go back to India" and that they were "ruining" America ("I Hate You Indian", "Go Back To Your Country", "Dirty Hindu": 5 Times Indians Faced Abuse In US, 2022).

Based on the data presented, it strengthens the statement that Indians rarely commit crimes in the US and in fact, on the contrary, they are the victims of racist crimes in America. Therefore, what Gabriel said referred to the fact that it was true that Indians ought not to commit crimes, and when he illustrated a bank robbery incident by an Indian as displaying a thick Indian accent, the audience laughed because they thought this was a criminal act that couldn't possibly happen because they had the idea that there would be a bank robbery that needed several people with tough physiques and even carrying weapons.

In this case, the audience laughs because of an incongruity between the facts that are known and the comedian's illustration. The basic concept of incongruity is that humor is mainly found through an intellectual perception of some illogical contradiction between opposing expectations and results. An incongruity is an unfamiliar or unexpected arrangement of things, ideas, or events (Mohamed & Bnini, 2020). The audience understands that that the bank robber will create a terrifying persona for himself, complete with a frightening voice and possibly even a weapon that will make people even more hysterical. This is different from Indian people, where the way they speak also shows an inconsistency with the typical characteristics of thieves in general. Thus, in this section, the kinds of humor belongs to incongruity types because the mistake made by the object of laughter is not always what makes something funny. The fact that we are confronted with is the source of humor because it causes incongruous shifts in the way we think (Mohamed & Bnini, 2020).

In this data, the punchline "Indian people in the United States are the hardest working people I have ever seen" contain implicature. The way the comedian labelled Indian people with the hardest working people is because they are not just hard workers, but there is another meaning, that they are a race that will not beg for food. Gabriel stated that "you will never see Indians with signs saying "we will work for food" in the United States." and strengthens this statement by providing an illustration of how if the bank heist was carried out by Indians, this certainly would not be possible. According to a recent survey, India is the nation that works the hardest in the world, and it doesn't hesitate to go beyond what is expected. Even if they could work fewer days per week for the same pay, 69 percent of Indians said they would still work five days per week (Gupta, 2018). This means that Indian people will use all their energy to work and earn money rather than having to steal from banks or commit other crimes just to earn money.

From this data, there is an identity construction that is formed, the stereotype of the Indian race which is a minority in the US and their strong accents in communication actually make them more often victims of violence than perpetrators of crime. Thus, construction challenges universal, ahistorical explanations of fixed or fundamental identities that focus on a limited or monadic individual. It also highlights the connections between identities, disparities, and the practice of power in modern society. Based on existing facts, Indians are considered not to commit criminal acts in western countries, especially America, thus providing an identity construction for the Indian race. This is proven by the way Indians communicate using their very distinctive and contradictory accent which of course minimizes crimes committed by Indians. Therefore, the correlation between a stereotypical Indian accent and crime is that

crimes are less likely to happen when they are carried out by someone who is less accustomed to engaging the character of a criminal who is characterized by a loud, strong voice and a frightening appearance.

## Datum 5

*“Asian people, we don't ever say I love you to each other” (2.c)*

In the fifth data, the writer taken from Laugh Society Official YouTube Channel entitled “Asian People Don't Pay for Atmosphere” by Jimmy O. Yang. In this video, Jimmy talks about his parents who are Chinese. He said that even though he made fun of his parents, at the end he still loved his parents. Until one day his condition was bad, then he called his mother and told her that he loved her. Then what happened next was that on the other phone, Jimmy's mother cried when she heard her son express his love to her and then his mother said,

“oh, Jimmy do you have a cancer?” (2.c)

In this data the punchline “Asian people, we don't ever say I love you to each other” (2.c) is included in the incongruity type of humor because the way the audience laughs is caused by the guilt shown towards the comedian who experienced something inappropriate, the lack of love received from his parents which caused a mismatch with the existing reality. The audience knows that parents should be able to show love to their children so that it doesn't become something strange for them. When a kid isn't given the love, they deserve obviously the audience become sad but when it's conveyed as a stand-up comedy, the audience gets the impression that the joke doesn't make sense because it's accompanied by guilt but it still funny, then it's defined as incongruity.

After Jimmy stated that he loves his mother, the response Jimmy got was that his mother asked him again as if she didn't believe what Jimmy said. Here, Jimmy's mother associates it with cancer because it is a deadly disease. According to World Health Organization (2022), cancer thus becoming the most common cause of death globally almost 10 million deaths, or exactly one in six deaths in 2020 (Cancer, 2022). The reason why Jimmy's mother immediately asked if Jimmy had cancer was because she felt it was strange and usually in Asian parenting culture, suddenly saying words of affection means like the last message.

The punchline contains an implicature. There is an implied meaning in the joke that Jimmy mentioned. He started by telling the audience that Asian people rarely express love directly, for example by saying I love you which then supported by Jimmy who gave an example of his experience, at that time his mother was shocked by her son who suddenly said these words of love and speculated that his son was suffering from a serious illness. This happens because Asian parents rarely receive words that show affection, so that when the opportunity arises, it will be interpreted in other ways, even unexpected things such as death.

Regarding this issue, we can correlate with the deficiency of parental warmth that affects the children's behavioral issues. Warmth, affection, support, or even just the parents' love for their children are all examples of parental acceptance. There is a physiological need for embracing from the most important people. Therefore, children require parental acceptance, such as a sense of warmth, affection, or support (Cano-Lozano et al., 2020). Therefore, parents need to get used to giving love to their loved ones so that it doesn't become something strange to do and can produce to inappropriate speculation.

In this data, there are things that portrays stereotype of Chinese parents that comedian convey to the audience. Parents (or caregivers) who come from different cultural backgrounds have been observed in developing their identities in different ways. For parents, their identities are perpetually claimed, built, and arranged in different situations where parents essentially realize their position as parents (Han & Chen, 2019). Every parent has their own parenting style based on their background. In this data, the comedian is Chinese, so he was educated by parents with a Chinese cultural background. The unique characteristics of Chinese parents give rise to identity construction regarding the parenting style of Chinese parents.

## Datum 6

*“Just two brown dudes trying to make it in America” (1.b)*

In the sixth data, the writer taken from Netflix is a Joke Official YouTube Channel entitled “Hasan Minhaj Dad Hates Yoghurt”. This video talks about Hasan's father in everyday life. In one part of the video, Hasan talks about his parents who married and then gave birth to Hasan in California. However, his mother had to return to India because she had to continue her medical school there. Thus, Hasan lived with his father for the first 8 years of his life. Here, Hasan mentioned “Just two brown dudes trying to make it in America” but he mentioned again,

*“Minus all the unconditional love, I gotta be real.” (1.b)*

The relationship between a parent and child affects many other relationships in a lifetime because the main bonds are always going down to us in our later years. Regardless with Indian parents, as they don't show their kids their love in an honest and direct manner. The warmth of mothers and fathers' self-expression and substituted appreciation developed as the subthemes. They are loved by their parents, but mothers show this love while fathers do not. In contrast to mothers, fathers in India, in particular, are not less expressive. Expressiveness is also influenced by an individual's personality and the distinctiveness of their family (Rajan et al., 2020).

Based on the explanation above, it can be seen that Indian parents, especially fathers, are mostly unable to express affection for their children. Therefore, what Hasan said, that he did not get unconditional love from his father because at that time he only lived with his father, is true. They try to survive together in America but are constrained by the love and affection that Hasan did not get from his father. In fact, affection and love are needed when children are still at a young age because it makes it easier for the bonding that is formed between children and parents.

As in datum 6, the punchline belongs to incongruity type because the audience laughed when Hasan talked about the lack of unconditional love, he received from his father who was with him at that time, which means there is a gap between what was laughed at and the actual sad situation that he did, which is not receiving the love that Hasan should have received as a child from his father. In this data, the punchline also represents stereotypes that refers to a certain ethnicity, in this case, to people from the Middle East. Hasan, who was raised in an Indian-blooded family, was not treated with enough affection when he was young. This contributed to the stereotype that Indian parents, particularly fathers, would find it difficult to show their children affection, causing the kids feel that they were not receiving unconditional love.

## Datum 7

*“Immigrants slap you across the face and bruise your soul. It's Guantanamo of the mind.” (2.b)*

In the seventh data data, the writer taken from Netflix is a Joke Official YouTube Channel entitled Hasan Minhaj's Dad Hates Yoghurt. In this video, Hasan discusses regarding his life in America with his parents. At the beginning of the video, he states that life is challenging and occasionally we don't realize what we are doing. Young Hasan lived with his father because of the reason that his mother was studying medicine in India. The two of them once attended a wedding when Hasan was a kid and his father was around the same age as Hasan is now. Hasan said that his father warned him to be careful while he was carrying a soda drink to the altar.

Hasan, who was still a young child, ignore his father's advice and slipped over his own shoes, putting off the soda can's explosion. After the soda can exploded, Hasan's father checked the conditions around the altar and then slapped Hasan for his actions. Hasan explains that Asian parents, whom Hasan refers to as "Immigrants" will not harm their children the way white parents do, but rather,

*“Americans hit their kids on the arm and bruise their body. Immigrants slap you across the face and bruise your soul. It's Guantanamo of the mind.” (2.b)*

After Hasan told the audiences about his childhood experiences, at the end of the stand-up comedy session he gave 1 sentence called a punchline. In datum 8, the punchline *“Americans hit their kids on the arm and bruise their body. Immigrants slap you across the face and bruise your soul. It's Guantanamo of the mind” (2.b)* refers to incongruity type of humor because there is an inconsistency between the facts that are known and what actually happened. In this passage, Hasan compares the parenting styles of American parents and immigrant parents. Hasan claimed that while American parents hit their kids on the arms and leave bruises around their bodies, immigrant parents slap their kids in the face and bring emotional trauma on them. In the punchline, Hasan uses the word "Guantanamo" to describe his feelings and convince the audience of the emotional pain he received from his father. The Guantánamo Bay Detention Camp, also known as Gitmo, is a U.S. prison based at the Guantánamo Bay Naval Base, which is situated on the coast of Guantánamo Bay in southeast Cuba. Muslim militants and suspected terrorists taken by the US military in Afghanistan, Iraq, and other places were kept at the Guantánamo Bay prison facility (Nolen, 2023).

This punchline contains implicature which of course has a hidden meaning than just a punchline. The way Hasan stated *“Immigrants slap you across the face and bruise your soul. It's Guantanamo of the mind.” (2.b)* indicates that in addition to physical wounds, migrant parents' strict parenting styles also result in emotional wounds. There are unique difficulties for immigrant parents who are raising their children abroad. Immigrant parents that are unfamiliar with the family's tradition of origin may misunderstand and violently assess for their obviously unconventional practices by education, mental health, or child welfare services and resulting in experiences of discrimination and social stigma for both parents and children (Bornstein et al., 2020).

According to Reza (2020) in his article, young immigrant parents are often struggling to raise their kids in accordance with local cultural norms, which may differ from the parenting style they were taught in their own home. Understanding whether immigrant parents' child-

rearing methods follow what is regarded as "normative" in their new culture and society is important. Research on transnational families—those with members who reside abroad—and how this affects parenting styles has recently attracted more attention. Even though hitting or spanking children has a negative impact on their social and emotional development, parents around the world employ a variety of other disciplinary methods (Reza, 2020).

Parenting practices have an impact on numerous contextual factors, such as gender, the parents' own childhood experiences, their socioeconomic background, education, and cultural systems. Research on discipline mainly focuses on parents who use physical punishment because it is an unacceptable method of discipline. Physical punishment, such as spanking, was one of the least popular types of punishment in an ongoing investigation on different disciplinary strategies used by parents with children of various ages. Although physical punishment is typically the most uncommon type, the public may assume that some immigrant parents subject their kids to violent physical punishment. One explanation is that might mistakenly accuse parents of abusing their children because of how immigrants raise their children, which may not align with dominant culture norms. For instance, even if they are "loving and dedicated parents who follow traditional forms of child raising that may include a rule-based approach and tough physical punishment, together with high levels of intimacy and support," some immigrant parents may use harsh physical punishment (such as slapping with the hands and beating with an implement) (Reza, 2020).

As a result, it can be inferred that Hasan's target in asserting the parenting style of immigrant parents and contrasting it with that of American parents is to explain the effects of this parenting style. According to several articles, children of migrant parents are more likely to experience hitting and slapping as physical punishment; this is definitely consistent with what Hasan has gone through. It is true that immigrant parents also love their kids, but when it comes to discipline, immigrant parents leave more psychological and physical scars than American parents, who only cause physical harm.

In this data we can also see the racial issue that is built from the punchline delivered by the comedian. The subject of identity construction is likely to represent the techniques that lead some people become to be viewed as "others" that are accepted and normal, as well as the behaviors by which such representations of specific groups or categories of people are communicated, contested, and strengthened (Taylor, 2015). In this video, the identity of immigrant parents can be seen very clearly considering that this is Hasan's personal experience as a child. He constructs how immigrant parents deal with their children when they make mistakes. According to Sahithya (2019), physical punishment and parental rejection have been repeatedly related to underprivileged behavioral development in kids. It has been associated to higher levels of social anxiety disorder, depression, and anxiety. Raised rates of all problematic behavior problems in children, child violence, and bullying were connected to parenting practices which included punishing interactions like spanking and physical violence (Sahithya et al., 2019). Furthermore, society can judge that parents from immigrant backgrounds will do more physical activity and without realizing it often hurt their feelings emotionally. At the end, parenting style from immigrant parents become normal and rising a new habit of parenting.

## Datum 8

*"I do a show at a comedy club I'll say PG 13, whenever I announce that the Americans who've been here a long time will bring their 13-year-olds, the Middle Easterners bring their six-year-olds" (4.a)*

In this eighth data, the writer taken from the Maz Jobrani's official YouTube channel in his video entitled Immigrant Rules vs American Rules that exist in I'm Not a Terrorist but I've Played One on TV section. In this video, Maz tells how America works, not only looking at the language, but also from the system that exists there because in fact there are more rules in America than in other countries. Here he compares regulations in America with regulations in Iran. One of these rules is regarding the film rating system. Maz explained that in Iran people don't really care about film ratings, but it's different in America. He shared his experience when holding a stand-up show at a comedy club. He informed that the show's rating was Parental Guide 13 or above 13 years because Maz was worried that adult language would appear.

What Americans do, they bring their children aged 13 years and over and Middle Eastern people actually bring their children aged 6 years. Seeing this, Maz asked the Persian why he had brought his 6 years old child even though he had been clearly told that this program was rated for 13 years and over and it was feared that there would be cussing that a 6 years old child should not do. hear. the answer from the Persians was,

“Moz, don't worry I cuss at him all the time that's why I bring him so you can cause at him too he is big disappointment six years old not a doctor can you believe that I'm going to send them back to Iran to a study” (4.a)

The reason the Persians brought their 6 years old child was because they didn't care about the information provided, and also because they thought this event was the right place to give a warning to their child. Despite the fact that his child was only six years old, the Persian justified taking him to a stand-up comedy event, referring to the child's disappointment at not being able to pursue a career in medicine at this age. Although the concept of age may seem overrated, Asian parents are known for placing a great deal of pressure on their kids to elevate the status of their family at any age. Indeed, this quote emphasizes even more that the only reason he is returning his child to Iran is because he has failed to live up to his parents' expectations.

In this data, the punchline falls into the incongruity category because there is a discrepancy between what is laughed at and the original incident where the audience laughed at how the Persian child was allowed to hear words that were actually inappropriate, even though it was an ironic incident. so that there is a misconception about the existing facts and the events that occurred at that time. Then, if it is related to the construction of identity that arises from the humor delivered by the comedian, of course in this case the people of the Middle East, especially Persia, have such a strong determination for their children's success that sometimes they don't. don't really care about the child's condition. They view the medical field as the gold standard for professional success. They also take this determination seriously, so if it is not met, the child may receive some cussing, which is similar to failure.

## **Release**

In this research, release is type of humor that "releases" pressures, psychic energy, or liberates from rules, conventions, and restrictions (Attardo, 1994). According to the release theory of humor, laughing is an acceptable technique to let out tension and nervous energy, which in turn reduces tension. Many people might be afraid, uncomfortable, or find it difficult to talk about certain topics, such as assault, a lack of power, sexism, violence, and racism. These people can release their tension about these sensitive issues in a way that is acceptable in social settings

by using humor (Friedman & Friedman, 2019). Based on the research, there are several data found as release such as:

## Datum 9

*“I was like I think it means Spanish because that's who's taking over”. (3.a)*

In this data, the writer taken from Maz Jobrani's official YouTube channel in his video entitled “Iranian Grandmothers at my Shows” that exist in I'm Not a Terrorist but I've Played One on TV section. In the video, Maz told the audience that he was doing a show in Jacksonville, Florida. When Maz finished his show, he was approached by a Persian woman who he thanked because he really enjoyed Maz's stand-up comedy performance. However, this woman expressed her complaints because at the event she brought her mother to enjoy stand-up comedy. The woman's mother had difficulty understanding Maz's joke and suggested she tell the joke in Persian. Maz answered that he couldn't do stand -up comedy in Persian because the audience was diverse and not only Persian.

The woman then told to Maz that this is America and they should know how big Persia is. Then, Maz answered again that what the woman meant was Spain because that was the country that took over Persia. Based on the explanation, this punchline categorizes into release theory of humor because when Maz delivered his joke, there was a kind of tension that emerged because the audience felt they needed further explanation regarding the meaning of the “take-over” that Maz conveyed. After the audience understands that the Persian land mentioned as a wide land has been taken over by Spain which then gives a feeling of relief to the audience. According to Monro (1963), laughter can take many different forms and relief always occurs in them as a fundamental and defining element. The delighted laugh, then, is mainly an expression of relief at the victory of a struggle.

## Datum 10

*“I grew up with low self-esteem because I was raised by Asian parents”. (1.c)*

In this data, the writer taken from Laugh Society YouTube Channel starring Jimmy O. Yang in the video entitled “10 Minutes of Jimmy O. Yang Being Roasted By His Dad”. In the video, Jimmy said that he grew up with low self-esteem because he was raised by Asian parents. He also said that in this case of low self-esteem his mother looked worse than his father. Jimmy shared his experience while traveling with his mother, who casually was an old Asian woman. Jimmy explained that most Asian women will clearly and precisely tell us what is wrong with our appearance, especially with our faces. So that's what makes Jimmy feel like he has low self-esteem. One day he went to his mother's house and the first thing she noticed was Jimmy's appearance.

*“Jimmy oh you oh yo, why is your face so fat? your clothes look homeless?” (1.c)*

In this dialog, Jimmy's mother tried to confirm her son's condition, but the words used such as “homeless” seemed very demeaning to Jimmy. Homeless can be defined as a person who is not having a place to live and typically wears tattered and unpleasant clothing. The way Jimmy's mother asked about his condition by directly saying that he was fat was another factor in why Jimmy felt he had low self-esteem as a child. Even though those words were said directly because he saw his son's condition. In this data, the punchline falls into the release category because when the punchline is first mentioned, the audience is shocked by Jimmy's

admission that he grew up in a family that lacked self-confidence. However, when it was explained that he had indeed grown up in a family with an environment like that, the audience felt a sense of relief and they understood what the comedian meant. Simply laughing in disapprove is primarily a sign of relief at an enemy's weakness. It is challenging to separate the emotions of relief from those of triumph or mock in each of these situations. According to Monro (1963), The act of laughing to relieve tension suggests that the person being laughed at is foolish or powerless in some way. (Monro, 1963).

## CONCLUSION

The writer concludes that superiority, incongruity, and release by David Hector Monro are used to categorize humor on YouTube and offer substantial understanding into the structure and impact in this thesis. This thesis analyzes the implicatures meaning through punchlines that are subsequently divided into 3 kinds of racial humor and analyzes at how racial stereotype is reflected through implicatures in stand-up comedy. As a result, three categories of humor have been identified in this thesis. First superiority that aims to reinforce preconceptions and encourage a feeling of superiority in a particular group—typically the racial or ethnic group that is dominant. Second, incongruity can make people think critically and encourage admitted racial stereotypes. They draw attention to the nonsense of racism and promote challenging cultural standards. Third, release that defined as a frequently way for people to deal with racial tension and awkwardness through humor. It might include self-deprecating humor or humor that publishes pent-up difficulties. The punchlines in release humor act as a form of emotional release, enabling people to convey their disappointments and obstacles associated with racial identity.

According to the three categories, incongruity is the most commonly discovered because it aligns with the characteristics of stand-up comedy which is to express genuinely miserable concepts while combining them with humor. Furthermore, other characteristics of stand-up comedy are roasting others and talking about oneself or other people. The punchlines which contain implicatures are not only classified into different kinds of humor, but also highlight the identity constructions of four comedians from diverse cultural backgrounds. Middle Eastern identities, such as Arab, Indian, and Iranian identities, are most commonly found and it also reveal some Chinese identity. In brief, humor serves a variety of functions in daily life in addition to become an instrument for delivering comedy, and comedians often have implicit messages they wish to get through to their audience. Comedians use this hidden message to both explain identity construction and share their humor with the audience. These classifications and their effects should be understood by both the writers and readers because they have a big impact on how racial humor affects our assumptions and personal identities. In the end, promoting a more multicultural and compassionate society leads to an objective examination of the racial humor we come across on websites like YouTube.

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