
ONLINE PROSTITUTION REGISTER ON MICHAT

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Abstract	Article Information
<p><i>The birth and development of technology can affect people's behavior. In addition to influencing in a positive direction, the fact is that technology also influences social behavior in a negative direction. One example of negative influence is the rise of online prostitution business practices. Thus, the business practice of prostitution, which is the oldest business practice in the world, can change from traditional to modern. Prostitutes use terms that are only understood by their potential customers. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to find out the form, meaning and function of registers born in the midst of online prostitution business on one of Singapore's dating apps MiChat. The data collection method used is documentation technique. Furthermore, in analyzing the data, classification and interpretation techniques were used, to find out the function of the register I conducted a short conversation on the chat feature. After analyzing the data, this study found forty-eight registers classified into three forms. In addition to the classification into three forms of registers, this study also found several registers that have personal and representational functions.</i></p> <p>Keywords: <i>Michat, Prostitution, Register</i></p>	<p><i>Received:</i> 03/03/2024</p> <p><i>Revised:</i> 05/03/2024</p> <p><i>Accepted:</i> 06/03/2024</p>

INTRODUCTION

Along with the development of language skills, the development of technology and information can be said to be very rapid (Zaky et al., 2023). Therefore, today it is not uncommon for humans to use these technological advances to expand their networking and also express themselves (Suri, 2019). These social media applications have allowed individuals to connect with others from all around the world and share their thoughts, ideas, and experiences instantaneously (Alodat et al., 2023; Appel et al., 2020).

Social media is one of the online media that is most widely used by people to interact and get various information quickly and easily (Samsuri et al., 2022). One example of the development of existing technology is the birth of various new social media applications (Setiawan, 2019). Communication carried out by the community using modern information

and communication technology (ICT) products in the form of the internet is one form of information society (Rima Rismaya et al., 2022).

What is very popular among people, especially young people, with the phenomenon of social media is the existence of dating apps (Castro & Barrada, 2020; Parisi & Comunello, 2020). This is because there are many conveniences in accessing these applications. Besides the ease of accessing the apps, the main purpose of making friends is the reason why dating apps are popular among young people (Zervoulis et al., 2020). One of the most downloaded dating apps in Indonesia is MiChat. This app was developed by a Singapore-based company, *MiChat PTE Limited*.

Some of the features in the MiChat app are of particular interest to its users. In this application, there is a feature that is useful for synchronizing contacts stored in the user's phone and will automatically be added to the friends list. In addition, there is a feature to add friends with fellow app users who are in the vicinity of the user. Overall, these features stand out as key factors contributing to the popularity of the MiChat app amongst its user base. These features can support users to make new friends (Yudhistira & Jaya, 2022).

New networks are a positive impact of the birth of dating apps such as MiChat. However, according to Cahyono (2016) technological developments do not only bring positive impacts, but also become one of the reasons for cultural shifts. In addition, social media also has a negative impact in the form of language wars such as hate speech, incitement, defamation, and the spread of lies (Kusno et al., 2022). One of the negative uses of dating apps is the practice of *online* prostitution business. This highlights the importance of not only embracing technological advancements, but also actively addressing and mitigating negative impacts that may arise from these developments.

Arsanti (2017) and Karangora et al. (2019) stated that one of the factors causing the rise of the *online* prostitution business is the number of prostitution places closed by the government. So that prostitutes sell themselves through social media application. One of the dating apps often used to sell themselves by prostitutes is MiChat. According to Yudhistira & Jaya (2022) it is the convenience of the MiChat application that makes prostitutes choose this application to run their business.

The convenience of interacting on MiChat application that can be felt by prostitutes in this *online* prostitution practice is that they can access this application for free. In addition, they can disguise their identity without being known by potential customers. With the many conveniences in accessing the MiChat application, parents are concerned about their underage children. Parents are concerned that the accessibility and anonymity provided by the MiChat application may potentially expose their underage children to online prostitution.

In recent years, research on prostitution registers has been conducted by Jayanti et al. (2021). In their research, 71 prostitution registers were found. From the findings, this research has been classified into several reasons, such as the origin of the register language, form, and formation rules. In Jayanti et al.'s research, some of the registers using English found are in line and the same as the findings in Octaviani's research in (Octaviani, 2016).

In the writing process, researchers found research on the practice of *online* prostitution conducted by Asri in (2022). In this study, it was found that prostitutes prefer to sell themselves using the *WhatsApp* application which is considered more efficient in saving time. In addition, researchers concluded that the communication pattern found in this research process is transactional communication.

In addition to research on prostitution registers, there are several studies that make MiChat application the object of research. The research conducted by Yudhistira & Jaya in the year of 2022 found that the MiChat application is the most effective media tool for running an *online* prostitution business. This is based on several factors, including performance expectations, business expectations, social influence and facilities.

Yudhistira & Jaya's research still does not mention one important feature in the MiChat application, namely the *Bio* feature. The *bio* feature is generally used by prostitutes to post advertisements containing information about their brief profiles and proposed rules of the game. In selling themselves on this *bio* feature, prostitutes use certain terms that are only understood by a handful of people or people in the group. Therefore, this study aims to determine the form, meaning and function of Online Prostitution registers on MiChat dating app.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research on the form, function and meaning of online prostitution registers is a descriptive qualitative research with a semantic and morphological approach viewed from a sociolinguistic perspective. The data source of this research is advertising discourses on MiChat. Furthermore, the data of this study are advertising discourses that contain the meaning of prostitution on MiChat dating app.

The data collection technique used was documentation technique. Researcher screen capture prostitution advertisements on MiChat dating app. After the data is collected, then the researcher conducted the data analysis process. The first step in the data analysis process is for the researcher to classify the data based on the forms of registers found. Furthermore, the researcher will describe the meaning of the registers found with the interpretative method.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

In the data collection process, 48 word registers used by prostitutes in the *bio* feature of MiChat dating app were found. The results can be seen in the table below:

Table 1. Prostitution Registers on MiChat Dating App

No	Register	Sentence
1.	BBW / Big Beautiful Woman	' BBW di mari, ayo jangan lari'
2.	BJ / Blow Job	'ML, BJ , HJ no anal.'
3.	BO / Booking Order	' BO for this night, ready sampai jam 1 aja ya say.'
4.	BU / Butuh Uang	' BU ready BO malam ini.'
5.	CC / Cuddle Care	'info CC only.'

6. CIF / Cum in Face	‘BO, CIF ? Oke’
7. CIM / Cum in Mouth	‘keluar luar no CIM ’
8. CIR / Cash in Room	‘No tf, CIR only.’
9. COD / Cash On Delivery	‘Ga percaya bisa COD dulu.’
10. FFM / Female Female Male	‘ FFM , MMF oke.’
11. FWB / Friend With Benefit	‘ FWB ? Gas deh’
12. HJ / Hand Job	‘Lagi merah, BJ HJ oke.’
13. HS / Having Sex	‘ HS rasa pacar.’
14. LT / Long Time	‘Visitor Jogja ready LT ’
15. ML / Making Love	‘ ML , ready in the kost.’
16. MMF/ Male Male Female	‘ FFM , MMF oke.’
17. RR / Rules and Rate	‘ RR cek post.’
18. RO / Repeat Order	‘ RO ? Gas aku kasih diskon.’
19. SR / Special Rate	‘ SR buat brondong.’
20. ST / Sort Time	‘ ST aja gausah lama-lama.’
21. STW / Setengah Tuwir	‘ STW hamil. Yang punya fantasi main sama bumil yuk gas.’
22. 3s / Threesome	‘ 3S , Gangbang, orgy, aku siap.’
23. VCS / Video Call Sex	‘Real, no tipu-tipu. VCS Ready.’
24. Deeptalk	‘ready buat nemenin kamu tidur sambil deeptalk .’
25. InCall	‘lagi capek InCall aja.’
26. OutCall	‘ OutCall area Hartono Mall’
27. SleepCall	‘ SleepCall rasa pacar. Free video koleksi pribadi.’
28. Cuddle	‘ Cuddle sampai pagi?’
29. Swingers	‘Hubbi Wife ready for Swingers ’
30. Bisexual	‘ Bisexual ready for all role’
31. Gay	‘Gigolo ready for women #noGay ’
32. Massage Plus	‘Aku open MSG+, inc HJ dan BJ’
33. Morning Wood	‘ Morning wood banget nih. Info tante?’
34. Caps	‘Caps no Caps oke.’
35. Gadun	‘Gadun boleh merapat.’
36. Anal	‘No Anal !’
37. Avail/ available	‘aku avail ya kak. Mari.’
38. In	‘ In or Out boleh.’
39. Out	‘ In or Out boleh.’
40. Ready	‘ Ready all service sampai pagi.’
41. COD	‘Perlu bukti kalau real? COD aja.’
42. Include	‘ Include Room ya Kak.’
43. Exclude	‘ Exclude room dan lain-lain. Tarif for sex aja.’
44. BU	‘ BU banget. Aku ready apa aja bisa.’
45. Stay	‘ Stay di Hotel ***** ya Beb.’
46. To The Point	‘ To the point no fafifu.’
47. Brondong	‘ Brondong only, ada spesial harga.’
48. Transfer	‘ Transfer dulu baru main.’

Forms of Online Prostitution on MiChat Dating App

According to Kridalaksana (2011) one form of register is lingual register. Furthermore, he states that lingual registers are registers formed from abbreviations of several words.

This is in line with the results of this study, where twenty-three out of eight registers are abbreviations. The meanings of the twenty-three lingual registers are as follows.

Form and Meaning of Lingual Registers

- 1) *BBW* Register. *BBW* is an abbreviation of three English words, *Big Beautiful Woman*. It is a register that means 'a beautiful woman with a big or fat body'. In general, *BBW* registers are used by prostitutes to attract men with a fetish for women with large bodies.
- 2) Register *BJ* is an abbreviation of the English word '*Blow Job*' which means oral or oral sexual activity. It is used to explain what services are provided by prostitutes.
- 3) Register *BO* is an abbreviation of two English words, namely, *Booking* and *Order*. Register *BO* means that prostitutes are opening prostitution services but must make a reservation or order first.
- 4) *BU* is a register commonly used in the world of buying and selling. *BU* register is an abbreviation of two words, namely '*Butuh Uang*'. *BU* registers are commonly used in *online* prostitution practices to explain the state of the prostitute who is in need of money.
- 5) *CC* or *cuddle care* is a register that comes from English. In general, *CC* registers are used by prostitutes who only provide cuddling or pampering services.
- 6) *CIF* is a register derived from English abbreviations. *CIF* or *Cum in Face* is a register that is often used to explain the location of the release of sperm or ejaculation from men in the face of prostitutes.
- 7) *CIM* is an abbreviation of *Cum in Mouth*. Similarly, the *CIF* register is a condition that describes the location of the release of sperm or male ejaculate in the prostitute's mouth.
- 8) The *CIR* register is an abbreviation of *Cash in Room*, meaning that payment is made in cash in the room. In general, the *CIR* register is used so that the identity of the prostitute is not known by her guests because it does not show the owner's name as when making payments using transfers.
- 9) The *COD* register is an abbreviation of *Cash on Delivery* or what is often known as an on-the-spot payment method. On *MiChat* dating app, *COD* registers are widely used to prove whether the prostitute serving is the same as the one in the profile picture.
- 10) *FFM* register is an abbreviation of *Female Female Male*. The *FFM* register means a condition of sexual activity carried out by two women and one man simultaneously. In general, those who do it are married couples who need the services of other prostitutes.

- 11) FWB register is an abbreviation of *Friend With Benefit*. In general, prostitutes who use the FWB register are willing to serve without being paid but expect other benefits such as sexual satisfaction.
- 12) The HJ register is an abbreviation of the English word '*Hand Job*' which means sexual activity using hands. *HJ* registers are used to explain what services are provided by prostitutes. HJ is also a form of foreplay before penetrative sex.
- 13) The HS register has two extensions. In Indonesian HS can be interpreted as Sex Relationship, but in English HS means *having sex*. HS registers are used by prostitutes to invite potential customers to have sex. In general, HS registers are followed by the style of sex.
- 14) The LT register is an abbreviation of *Long Time* which means the availability of prostitution services for a long time. Generally, the time range for LT services is twelve to 24 hours or more.
- 15) The ML register is an abbreviation of two English words, *Making* and *Love*. In general, *making love* or ML is interpreted the same as the HS or *Having Sex* register, which is sexual activity like a husband and wife.
- 16) MMF register is an abbreviation of *Male Male Female*. MMF register means a condition of sexual activity performed by two men and one woman simultaneously. In general, those who do it are married couples who need the services of another male prostitute.
- 17) Register RR or *Rate and Rules* is a Prostitution register which means the value and rules of the game of prostitution services. Potential customers will ask about the value of both the way of playing, body shape, breast shape of the prostitute. In addition, many also interpret that *Rate* is the price set by prostitutes. Furthermore, the prostitute will provide the rules of the game in the process of prostitution services.
- 18) RO register, also known as *Repeat Order*, is a register that is often found in MiChat application. RO register means that customers can re-order the services provided.
- 19) *The SR* register is an abbreviation of the two words *Special Rate*. SR registers mean that prostitutes will provide special prices for their potential customers. In general, SR registers will be juxtaposed with specific criteria determined by the prostitutes.
- 20) The ST register is an abbreviation of *sort time* which means briefly. In general, ST registers are used to describe services that prostitutes only provide quick sex services. The duration ranges from thirty minutes to two hours only.
- 21) Register STW or '*setengah tua* (Old). STW registers are usually used to describe the condition of prostitutes who are old enough. In general, the STW register is used to describe prostitutes with an age range of forty to fifty years.
- 22) Threesome register or often referred to as 3s is defined as a condition of prostitution services performed by three people. The use of 3s register is commonly used by prostitutes to explain the type of service they provide.

- 23) VCS register is an abbreviation of *Video Call Sex*. Register VCS is one of the online services provided by prostitutes on the dating app. MiChat. Register VCS is done by making a video call online.

Forms and Meanings of Restricted Enclosure and Open Enclosure Registers

Looking from the other side of the register form, Halliday (1989) argues that there are at least two forms of register, namely limited scoped register and open scoped register. Limited scoped register is a form of register that does not have a broad meaning. On the other hand, open scoped register is a form of register that has a broader meaning and is generally found in other midwives.

The discussion of the meaning of the two registers is as follows.

Limited form of scoped register

- 1) *The deeptalk* register is a restricted register because it is not widely used in outside circles. The meaning of *deeptalk register* is the process of exchanging thoughts between one another. In general, the *deeptalk register* is used by prostitutes in the *Long Time* services they provide.
- 2) *InCall* registers mean telephone sex services and no physical meeting. In general, *incall registers* appear on the *bio* of prostitutes who do not provide other services.
- 3) *The outcall* register is the register used by prostitutes to explain that the prostitute opens direct services or can meet physically.
- 4) *The sleepcall* register is a register that comes from English and means a prostitution service that provides services to accompany customers to talk over the phone until they fall asleep.
- 5) Register *cuddle* is a sexual activity that is just a lot of wrestling and cuddling without having intercourse...
- 6) *Swinger* registers mean the actors who exchange partners between one partner and another.
- 7) *The bisexual* register is an orientation that describes a person's attraction to multiple genders. In general, people with a bisexual orientation open themselves up to *three-some* activities with other partners.
- 8) *Gay* register is also a sexual orientation that describes a man who is attracted to other men. In general, *gay* registers are used to reject *gay* people by adding the hashtag *#nogay*.
- 9) Register *massage plus (+)* is a service provided in the prostitution business. This service involves giving massages to guests and providing other services such as *blow jobs* or oral sex and *hand jobs* or the process of masturbation by hand.
- 10) *The morning wood* register is the process of erection in men. In general, *morning wood registers* are used by male prostitutes or gigolos to offer themselves or their services.

- 11) Register *Caps* is a register used to explain the rules of the game of the prostitute. The meaning of register *caps* is condoms or contraceptives.
- 12) *The gadun* register is a customer criterion. It means an old man with a wealthy social status.

Forms and Meanings of Open-Ended Register

- 1) *Anal* register is a register that is often used in other business fields. As in the medical world, *anal register* means the process through the anus. Similarly, in *online* prostitution registers, *anal sex* is a sexual activity where the penetration process is through the anus.
- 2) *The avail / available* register is a register that is often used in other fields. The register has the meaning of available. In the context of *online* prostitution this register is often used for opening advertisements, such as *avail for this night* and so on. The use of this register means that the prostitute is available to perform sex services.
- 3) Register *in* has a broad meaning of entry. However, in prostitution the register *in* means being able to ejaculate in the vagina.
- 4) Similar to register *in* register *out* also has a broad meaning, namely outside or out. But in prostitution register *in* means that you can ejaculate outside the vagina, either on the stomach or in the face.
- 5) Register *ready* broadly means ready. However, in the field of prostitution, *ready* means able and ready to engage in sexual activities.
- 6) COD registers are often and widely used in any field of buying and selling. In the field of *online* prostitution, the COD register means that the payment process is carried out on the spot both before and after sexual activities are carried out.
- 7) *Include* registers are well known in other fields. As in the field of buying and selling cell phones, register *include* means including accessories and so on. . But in *online* prostitution register *include* means including all the facilities needed such as condoms and rooms.
- 8) Just like register *include* register *exclude* also has a broad meaning which means exclude. In the field of *online* prostitution, *exclude* register means not including anything. In general, it is only the cost of sex services.
- 9) BU registers are often used in the field of buying and selling which is the reason people sell their goods because they need money. In the field of prostitution, the BU register also has the same meaning, which explains the condition of prostitutes who are in need of money.
- 10) *The stay* register is used to describe the place where a person lives. However, in the field of prostitution, register *stay* can be interpreted as a place where sexual intercourse will be practiced.

- 11) Register *to the point* is a register that is often used spontaneously in informal communication. In the field of *online* prostitution, the *to the point* register is used to explain that there is no need for pleasantries or verbiage in transactions.
- 12) *The brondong* register is a register that can also be found in the food field register, namely '*brondong jagung*'. However, in the field of *online* prostitution brondong is interpreted as a young man.
- 13) Transfer register is a register that means the process of payment through the bank. In the field of prostitution, the transfer register has the same meaning as in other fields.

Online Prostitution Register Function on MiChat Dating App

Based on the theory of seven language functions proposed by Halliday, (1989), the researcher found several language functions in the register of *Online* Prostitution on MiChat Dating Application. The language functions are:

1. Personal Function

The Personal function is one that gives a speaker the opportunity to express his or her feelings, emotions, personality, and deep reactions. Here is an example:

Customer: "Hello sis, how much for a **sleepcall** or **deeptalk**? I have an open room now" '*Hallo Kak, buat **sleepcall** atau **deeptalk** tarifnya berapa ya? Aku open room sekarang*'

PSK: "The **deeptalk** room from you is 400 until dawn, but the **sleepcall** is 100 until you fall asleep, Dek." '*Kalau **deeptalk** room dari Kamu 400 sampai shubuh, tapi kalau **sleepcall** 100 sampai kamu bobok ya Dek*'

Conversations with *sleep call* and *deeptalk* registers above have a Personal function that explains the process of activities that focus on communication so that consumers can express their expressions, emotions and so on.

2. Representational Function

Representational function is the use of language to "describe" actual reality.

Customer: "Can I join you for a threesome? I'm still 23 years old." '*boleh join buat threesome Kak? Aku Brondong masih 23 tahun*'

PSK: "Send a full body photo and a photo of your dick first." '*Kirim foto full body dan foto dick Kamu dulu*'

The above conversation is a representational function because in the communication process the use of the *threesome* register aims to describe the reality of sexual activities carried out by three people.

CONCLUSION

The process of forming online prostitution business register on MiChat dating app is influenced by several factors. Most of them are influenced by the presence of a foreign language, namely English. Socio-cultural factors also influence the formation of registers in Online Prostitution business on MiChat Dating App. More than ninety percent of the registers found were of English origin.

The forms of prostitution registers found are three, namely lingual registers, open-ended registers, and closed-ended registers. Of the forty-eight registers found, there are only six noun-shaped registers and the rest are verb forms related to sexuality. There are two out of seven language functions found in conversations containing Online Prostitution registers on MiChat Dating App. Namely, Personal Function and Representational Function.

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