

Discourse of Law: Analysis of Cooperative Principles and Speech Acts in Iranian Law Courts

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ABSTRACT--- *Judgment is closely connected with language, its questioning, answering, meaning and interpretation. Forensic linguistics for its application in real life and for its involvement in the field that is capable of influencing the course of one's life has become a very interesting and pragmatic discipline to study; however, one that is still not very widespread in the Iran academic setting.*

This paper aims at providing an insight of how language operates in the legal setting by building bridges between cooperative principles and speech acts in forensic linguistics.

This study is an initial attempt to investigate the relationship between violation of Gricean quantity maxim by more than 50 defendants (half of the cases incriminated and half of them acquitted) in relation to different speech acts which are used by interrogators in criminal courts. This study is based primarily on written and terminated documents from judiciary files. Data for this study is collected through Iran's judicial courts.

This study aims to show how maxim of quantity is violated in criminal cases (incriminated or acquitted) in relation to different speech acts. The analysis shows that quantity maxims' violation has correlation with criminal convictions in relation to different speech acts.

Keywords---- Judgment, Forensic Linguistics, Discourse of Law, Cooperative Principles, Speech Acts, Criminal Conviction and Acquittal.

1. INTRODUCTION

Linguistic findings in judicial system show a new science named Forensic Linguistics. Forensic linguistics connect two fields "linguistics and law". This science is like legal medicine, legal psychology, etc. Forensic linguistics helps judicial system conduct investigation into language crimes -perjury, bribery, insult, fake advertisement, fraud, etc. - better than before. It is a field of applied linguistics involving the relationship between language, the law, and crime. Forensic linguistics covers a wide range of topics, including the language used in trials by judges, lawyers and witnesses; the language of the law itself; the language used in civil cases; and the language used in criminal cases [1]. Forensic linguists use linguistic factors including phonetics, phonology, semantics, pragmatics etc., to help judges and juries to form more precise judgments. The field of forensic linguistics has been growing in prominence in the past couple of decades. The significance of how language shapes our society and serves to regulate social behavior makes forensic linguistics a very important and interesting discipline to study.

Language of the law functions as a spoken and written medium for exchanging information between/among people participating in various legal situations happening in different legal settings. For centuries it has succeeded in keeping its special status. Legal language is a distinctive genre of English. Maley considers it "a medium, process and product in the various fields of the law where legal texts, spoken or written, are generated in the service of regulating social behavior" [2].

In Kořenský's view (1997):

All legal communication takes place in society. In the past decades certain tendencies encouraging the understanding of the linguistic side of the law only within the context of the theory of verbal communication have appeared. All activities examined under the roof of forensic linguistics have to be understood within verbal-communication context [3].

It is the real world where the language of the law has been used for centuries and has been intensively influenced by it. It creates the space where the language of the law operates. It influences the form, content and interpretation of a legal message.

In the investigating legal context, judges and lawyers frequently comment that in some cases in criminal investigations there are not any clear or proved evidence to find solutions for the crimes and sometimes some cases are incriminated wrongly and missteps might happen in the courts, so this is a problem which this study tries to give a solution for that by considering linguistic features like speech acts and cooperative principles. This study has paid special attention to the criminal files and tried to find similar features among them. The study focused on the written files. Focusing on the written files showing the linguistic features which we thought it can be a solution for finding new clues from defendants to obtain new information or truth in the cases. It seems speech types and defendant's answers in relation to interrogator's questions in criminal courts lead to gathering insufficient evidence which causes incrimination or acquittal challengeable matter. We presuppose that the analysis of Gricean cooperative principles in defendant's answers in relation to different speech acts which are used by interrogators can accelerate judgment and fair trial processes. For instance, different kind of speech acts, cooperative principle violations and also the style of writing in a threatening letter or message can help linguists with identifying the culprit or narrowing the number of culprits down. In this study we focus on the speech acts and quantity violation in criminal cases. We believe that the science of forensic linguistics must be allowed to enter the Iranian judicial system.

This study aims to contribute towards the research field of forensic linguistics by building bridges between speech acts and cooperative principles for detecting the truth and forming more precise judgments. The courtroom context provides us with an example of the relationship between language and people's lives. Courtroom discourse is a site of conflict. The opposing parties make use of language to introduce competing interpretations of past events, which means that the linguistic choices made by them become crucial in determining the outcome of the trial. The outcome can considerably influence the course of one's life. The topic of courtroom interaction has become increasingly popular as an object of linguistic investigation. So this is the necessities of this study. Numerous studies focused on power relations, questioning strategies, manipulation of meaning, and other aspects.

We believe that different kinds of speech acts can be used by the jury and judges, interrogators and police officers especially in the absence of clear and/or typical evidence, to determine a suspect's guilt or innocence by considering cooperative principles which defendants violate or keep. The analysis is expected to show that, maxims violations in relation to different speech acts has correlation with criminal convictions. This study is an initial attempt to investigate official and unofficial solutions for guaranteeing fair trial in Iranian law courts by analysis of speech acts and cooperative principles. Therefore, in order to find whether there is a relationship between the violation of cooperative principles in relation to different speech acts and criminal convictions or acquittals, we decided to study Gricean cooperative principles (especially quantity maxim) in relation to different speech acts to identify and describe the inadequacies of the defendants in answering questions which are asked by interrogators.

Though Gricean maxims have often been used in the analysis of spoken communication, there is no argument stating that they cannot be used in writing. Indeed, writing is another form of communication and violating these maxims in writing may cause problems in communicating or getting the meaning out of a particular text. As Grabe and Kaplan state, writing is "structured to communicate information within certain accepted principles", which may include Grice's Cooperative Principle and its maxims [4].

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

Oxford English Dictionary defines "Forensic" as:

Forensic: Adj. Pertaining to, connected with, or used in courts of law; suitable or analogous to pleadings in court.

Following from this, Forensic Linguistics could be expected to be the study of courtroom language (i.e., being descriptive of and/or active in courtroom proceedings), which is actually only part of the field's scope. By expanding on the traditional definition of "Forensic", Forensic Linguistics actually deals with a wide variety of instances of the interface between language, crime, and the law. These may include, among many other areas of research, courtroom discourse (including the interpreting process and requirements), the (in) comprehensibility of legal documents (i.e., "legal language"), issues of comprehension surrounding police cautioning of suspects ("Miranda" rights in the US, the right to legal counsel etc.), authorship identification and attribution, the use of linguistic evidence and linguists as "expert witnesses" in court, the treatment of vulnerable witnesses (such as children or the handicapped), and police-citizen interaction and interviewing techniques [5].

To date, forensic linguists have been utilized to provide courtroom testimonies in cases of trade mark disputes, use of legal language, authorship identification, plagiarism, asylum seekers' rights, and the legality of the uses of undercover operatives. Despite its apparent breadth, Forensic Linguistics is a relatively young field of analysis within the broad realm of Applied Linguistics, having only identified itself as a separate field of study in the last decade of the twentieth century [5].

As the present study focuses on the message quantity in relation to different speech acts in criminal courts, intentions and answers are two main factors in detecting truth and judgments (especially defendants' answers in relation to intentions of judges or interrogators in asking questions). One factor which is important in intentions is speech acts. Recognizing the speech act that is being performed in the production of an utterance is important because it is the speech act that to some extent tells us what the speaker intends us to do with the propositional content of what he says. The identification of the speech act that is intended by the production of an utterance is vital than as it provides appropriateness constraints for defendants' responses. By this I mean that after every utterance, conversational expectations are created (either explicitly or implicitly) which serve us in understanding later conversation, in producing a relevant and appropriate response. Not only this, but also if the function intended by the production of a certain utterance cannot be understood, then we will also be unable to form opinions about the position of a speaker with respect to the content of his utterance. So, recognizing speech acts could be essential for ascribing the correct beliefs and goals to a participant, for gleaning background knowledge of that participant and thus for being able to build on the knowledge gained from the current conversation in order to facilitate future interactions with that speaker [6]. In forensic linguistics, especially in the absence of clear and/or typical evidence, the main goal is finding new clues from the defendants' sentences by motivating them to speak more or less. Speaking more or less is related to the quantity violation of Gricean maxims.

This study aims to answer the following question: Are there any direct relationships between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction or acquittal?

Speech acts are a staple of everyday communicative life, but only became a topic of sustained investigation, at least in the English-speaking world, in the middle of the Twentieth Century. Since that time "Speech Act Theory" has been influential not only within philosophy, but also in linguistics, psychology, legal theory, artificial intelligence, literary theory and many other scholarly disciplines [7]. Recognition of the importance of speech acts has illuminated the ability of language to do other things than describe reality. In the process, the boundaries among the philosophy of language, the philosophy of action, the philosophy of mind and even ethics have become less sharp. In addition, an appreciation of speech acts has helped lay bare an implicit normative structure within linguistic practice, including even that part of this practice concerned with describing reality. Much recent research aims at an accurate characterization of this normative structure underlying linguistic practice [8].

Table 1: Detailed Description of Speech Acts (Searle (1979) and Searle and Vanderveken (1985))

Speech act	Description	Verb associated with speech act	Example
Assertives	Statements that can be verified as true or false	Assert, claim, affirm, assure, inform, predicts, report, suggest, insist, hypothesize, swear, admit, confess, blame, praise	I assure you that we will meet our budget goals in 2001.
Directives	Statements that call upon the listener to do something	Direct, request, ask, urge, demand, command, forbid, suggest, insist, recommend, implore, beg	I urge to you vote against this resolution.
Commissives	Statements that commit to a course of action	Promise, vow, pledge, swear, consent, refuse, bet assure, guarantee, contract,	I assure that you will receive more funding next year.
Expressives	Statements that express a psychological position about a state of affairs	Apologize, thank, condole, congratulate, complain, protest, compliment, praise, welcome	I complement your achievement in meeting your third-quarter numbers.
Declaratives	Statements that, through their utterance, perform an act	Fire, pronounce, declare, appoint, confirm, endorse, renounce, denounce, name, call, repudiate	I am firing you

Speech acts can be classified according to how they affect the social interaction between speaker and hearers. We used speech act word lists (mostly verbs) from Searle and Vanderveken (1985). We try to analyze the question's verbs on the basis of these lists. The details for these speech act clue lists are given below. The most basic categorization consists of five different types of speech acts: assertives (equivalent to Searle's category of representatives [9]), directives, commissives, expressives, and declaratives (also called performatives) [10] & [11].

Another variable of this study is Cooperative Principles. In discourse, there is a principle named "Cooperative Principle" which was developed first by Grice. In Gricean's view, each communication requires interaction and cooperation of the speaker and listener or writer and reader. In other words, the persons involved in communication cooperate with each other continually. If they break this procedure, the communication will expose flaw or interrupt; therefore, the explanation will be needed to comprehend. Cooperative principle presupposes that the cooperation between the persons involved is what the persons need. In order to have a comprehensive communication, there should be some rules that the persons have to observe. In other words "cooperative principle" says the persons should participate in any stage of communication to meet their aims [12].

Although Grice's cooperative principle has long been discussed for spoken interactions, there have been a few studies that adapted the cooperative principle to analyze written discourse. These studies claimed that Grice's conversational principles define how people abide by those principles in spoken interaction in order to understand and to be understood by others, so similarly these principles can be adapted to written discourse into the interaction of writers and readers. In other words, this approach assumes that written discourse is a result of the attempt to produce sequences of sentences in accordance with the maxims described by Grice. Therefore, Green argued that, in written discourse, each sentence is intended to say "something necessary, true and relevant to accomplishing some objective in which (it is mutually believed) the text producer and the intended audience are mutually interested" [13].

In a more detailed study, Celce-Murcia and Olshtain argue that in written discourse, these maxims help particularly during revision and editing, and they explain how each maxim can be adapted for written discourse. About the maxim of quantity they believe that:

The maxim of Quantity requires that the writer carefully consider the amount of information that should be imparted in the text or, in other words, what content elaboration might be necessary. This is an important feature of an effective text in terms of written communication [14].

The examination of legal language in the light of Grice's cooperative principle (CP) [12] may bring some enrichment to the study of legal communication. They are also called *Grice's four maxims*: maxim of quality, maxim of quantity, maxim of relation and maxim of manner. All the maxims reflect the nature and the content of a communicating message. The *maxim of quantity* is the matter of informativeness. The quantity maxim requires that the information given has to be informative enough. The amount of information has to be sufficient to achieve the comprehension of the hearer/reader. It should include neither more nor less information than required. It should not be crowded with ineffective words [3]. Adams states that experienced police officers are wary of people that give "extraneous information" in their testimony; such behavior is often a sign that a person is trying to disguise a certain piece of information by surrounding it in other, irrelevant facts. It may also be the case that they are simply talking to try and satisfy the needs for a response, but that they are over-extending due to the need to avoid the particular matter at hand [15]. In other words, those who give more information than the listener/reader needs may give new clues about events for detecting new idea about that crime. The effect of this maxim is to present that the statement is the strongest, or most informative that can be made in the situation.

3. METHODOLOGY

Data for this study is collected from Iranian law courts. In this study firstly, data was gathered around 250 files in civil and criminal cases and then among them, 100 criminal files were selected by purposive or judgmental sampling. Finally, 50 files with 100 cases were chosen randomly. The target number of cases for this study is more than 100 cases in two groups namely interrogators and accused cases to show an average sampling of the trends in speech patterns of interrogators who use them in relation to accused cases and to consider cooperative principles of accused cases in relation to the questions. Tools which are used for data collection is on the basis of observations, samplings, taking photographs, using tables and asking questions about cases from lawyers and judges.

Table 2: Participants in the Study

N=100		
INTERROGATORS(N=50)	ACCUSED(N=50)	
	INCRIMINATED (N=25)	ACQUITTED(N=25)

Table 3: Questions of the Study

N=354			
INCRIMINATED (N=193)		ACQUITTED(N=161)	
REPRESENTATIVES	N=26	REPRESENTATIVES	N=25
DIRECTIVES	N=131	DIRECTIVES	N=114
EXPRESSIVES	N=14	EXPRESSIVES	N=11
DECLARATIVES	N=22	DECLARATIVES	N=11
COMMISSIVES	N=0	COMMISSIVES	N=0

A qualitative analysis based on pragmatic interpretation was employed in order to find speech acts of interrogators and cooperative principles of defendants. In this study, not only more than 50 detailed tables were used for showing the results of correlation between speech acts and maxim of quantity in different cases (incriminated or acquitted) but also samples were treated with the descriptive statistics like figures for each case (more than 50 figures). The figures are expressed in percentage. Finally, the results of each case (incriminated or acquitted) will be analyzed in percentage terms and compared with each other to draw the conclusion. In this study just conclusions presented.

• *Speech Acts:*

In relation to legal discourse, Danet classifies speech acts based on Searle's classification in the following way:

1. Representatives which are utterances that commit the speaker to something being the case or assert the truth of proposition, including testifying, swearing, asserting, claiming and stating.
2. Commissives which commit the speaker to do something in the future, such as in contracts, marriage ceremonies and wills where both the relevant parties engage in commissive acts.
3. Expressives which express the speakers' psychological state about or attitude to a proposition, including apologizing, excusing, condemning, deploring, forgiving and blaming.
4. Declaratives whose successful performance brings about a correspondence between their propositional content and reality, including marriage ceremonies, bills of sale, recipes, appointments, and nominations; and the legislative stipulation of rights and of definitions of concepts; lawyers' objections, sentences, and appellate opinions, indictments, confessions, pleas of guilty/not guilty, and verdicts; and there is a subcategory of representative declarations for certain institutional situations, e.g., a judge making factual claims, requiring claims to be issued with the force of declaration, and also require the speaker to have certain authority, representative declarations share with representatives a sincerity condition. This would cover a marriage ceremony, bills of sale appointment or nominations, legislative stipulation of rights and definitions of concepts, indictments, confessions, pleas of guilty/not guilty, verdicts etc.
5. Directives which are future-oriented speech acts, seeking to change the world, to get someone to do something, most prominent in legislation that imposes obligations [16].

According above mentioned speech acts we will examine speech acts in the interrogators' questions.

• *Quantity Maxim:*

The amount of information provided is evaluated as:

1. Whether the defendants have provided unnecessary details about their defenses,
2. Whether the information they have provided is sufficient enough to support their claims by evaluating whether what they argue needs to be further explained and developed.

In fulfilling maxim of quantity, the speaker/writer should be as informative as it is required. He/she should not give too little information or too much. People who give too little information risk their listener not to be able to identify what they are talking about because they are not explicit enough. Maxim violation of quantity occurs when a speaker/writer gives more or less information than the situation requires. If a speaker/writer violates the maxim of quantity, he/she does not give the listener/reader enough information to know what is being talked about, because he/she does not want the listener/reader to know the full picture [17]. On the basis of these explanations we will examine maxim violation by considering above mentioned criteria.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

When we considered the number of participants and questions which were asked by interrogators in this study, we faced two primary results which one of them is unexpected. According to table 3.2 in the methodology chapter, we can draw figures 1 and figure 2:

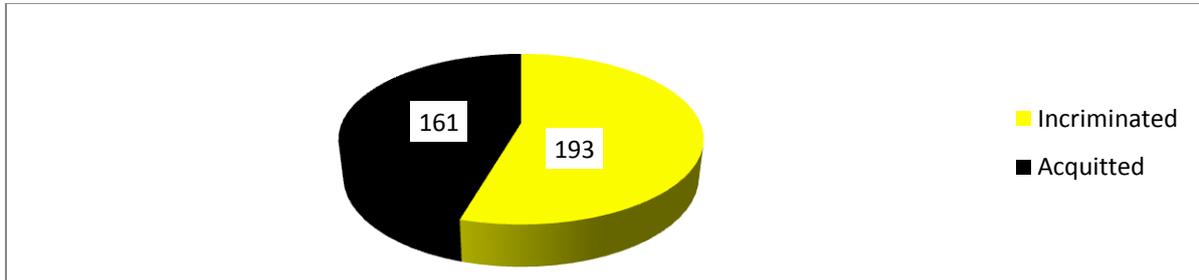


Figure 1: The Number of Questions in Incriminated Cases and Acquitted Ones

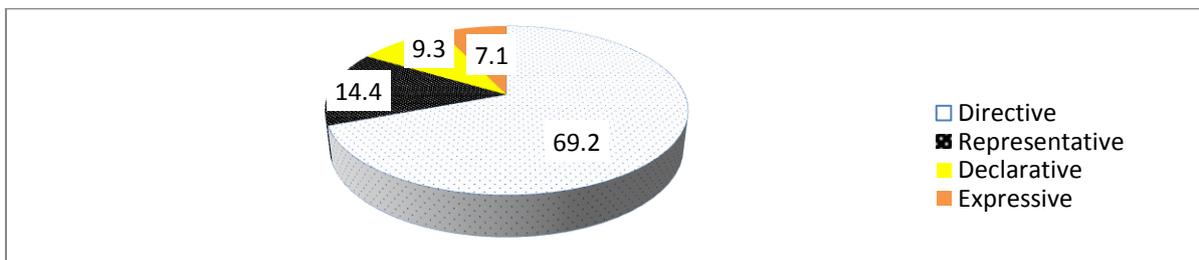


Figure 2: Frequencies of Speech Acts in the Questions

This analysis indicates the following results:

1. The number of questions which is used in incriminated cases is more than acquitted ones. It is unexpected results that we experienced throughout this study.

2. Among all 354 asked questions, 69.2% are directive, 14.4% are representative, 9.3% are declarative, 7.1% are expressive and 0% is commissive. So directive speech act is most frequent speech act and commissive is the least frequent one. This analysis shows the frequencies of speech acts in incriminated and acquitted cases.

4.1 Quantity Violation in Relation to Different Speech Acts in Incriminated Cases

After analysis of 25 incriminated cases, we came to this conclusion that quantity violation in relation to the declarative speech act happens most frequently than other speech acts. Quantity violation happened most frequently in relation to declarative speech acts than other speech acts like expressive, representative and directive respectively (figure 3). As we did not see commissive speech act in this study we ignore this speech act here.

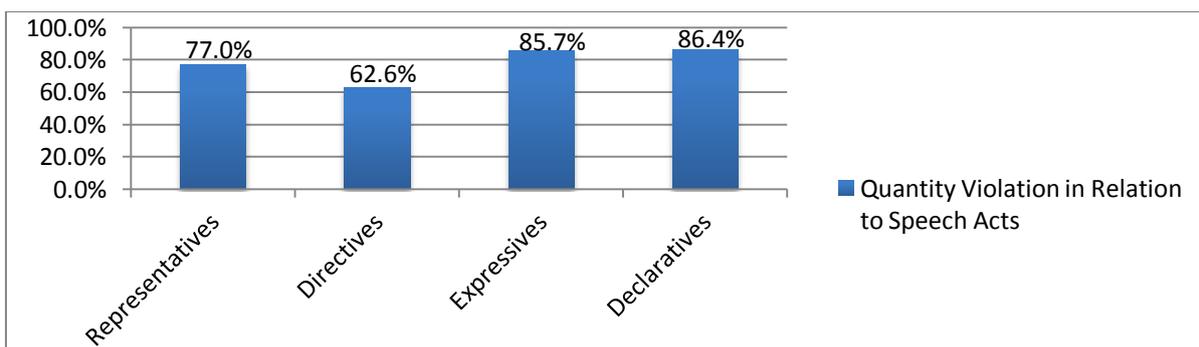


Figure 3: Quantity Violation in Relation to Different Speech Acts in Incriminated Cases

This analysis indicates the following result:

Quantity violation in relation to different speech acts in incriminated cases is different and the violations happened most frequently when declarative, expressive, representative and directive speech acts were asked respectively. It is the answer to the first parts of the question in this study which is: are there any direct relationships between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction or acquittal?

4.2 Quantity Violation in Relation to Different Speech Acts in Acquitted Cases

After analysis of 25 acquitted cases in Iranian criminal courts, we came to this conclusion that acquitted cases mostly violate quantity maxim when they face representative questions. Quantity violation happened most frequently in relation to representative speech acts than other speech acts like directive; expressive and declarative (figure 4). As we did not see any commissive speech acts in this study we ignore it in this figure.

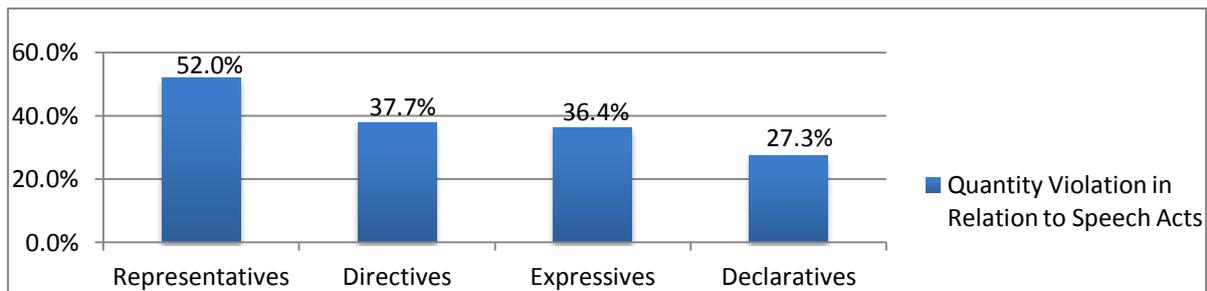
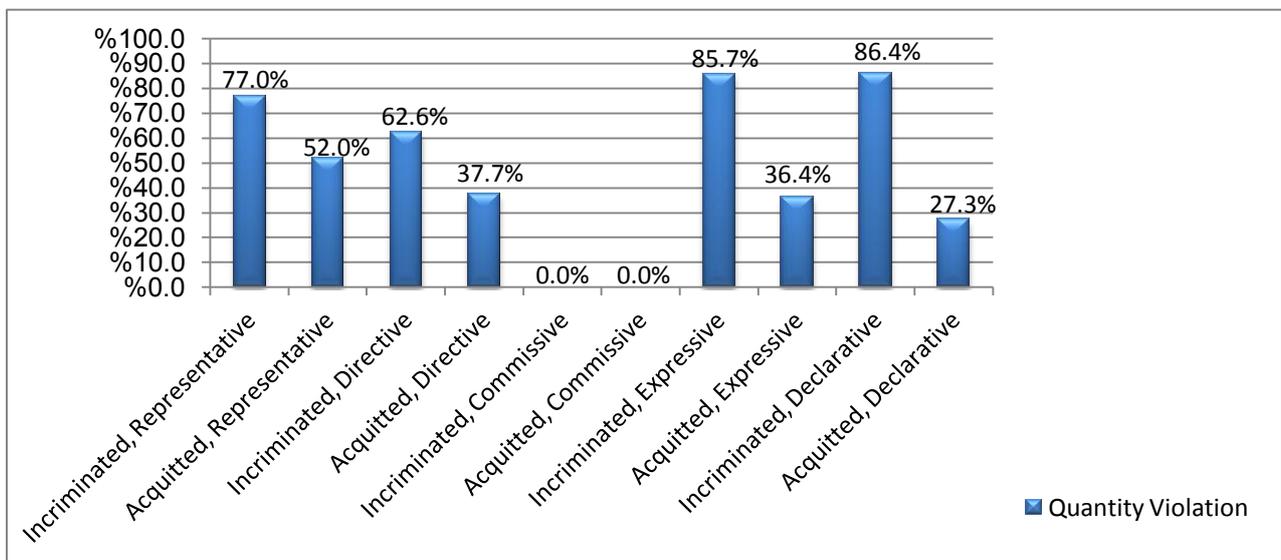


Figure 4: Quantity Violation in Relation to Different Speech Acts in Acquitted Cases

This analysis indicates the following result:

Quantity violation in relation to different speech acts in acquitted cases happened most frequently in representative speech acts. It is the answer to the second parts of the question in this study which is: are there any direct relationships between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction or acquittal? On the basis of this study, quantity violation happened most frequently in relation to representative, directive, expressive and declarative speech acts respectively in acquitted cases.



4.3 Results of the Quantity Maxims' Analysis

Figure 5: Quantity Violations in All Incriminated Cases and Acquitted Ones in Relation to Different Speech Acts

On the basis of this study we came to this conclusion that the violation of quantity in relation to different speech acts is different and the implications of this violation can be helpful in choosing best speech acts in relation with different accused cases (incriminated / acquitted). In figure 4.5 we tried to gather quantity violation in relation to all different speech acts in incriminated and acquitted cases in one figure. By analyzing of incriminated and acquitted cases' quantity violation in relation to different speech acts we draw this conclusion that in incriminated cases quantity is violated most frequently in relation to the declarative speech act while the directive speech act is violated least frequently than other speech acts, but in acquitted cases quantity is violated in relation to the representative speech act most frequently while the declarative speech act least frequently than other speech acts (figure 5).

The results of the maxim violations' analysis in relation to different speech acts in different criminal cases answer the questions that our study addresses. In relation to the main question, i.e., are there any direct relationships between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction or acquittal? The result of the descriptive statistical analysis indicates that there is a highly significant positive correlation between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal convictions. Similarly, there is also a highly significant negative correlation between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts (except representative) and being acquitted in the criminal courts. This finding reveals that culprits violate quantity maxim in relation to all speech acts different in degree and similarly acquitted cases often violate quantity maxim when they face just representative speech acts (Figure 5).

In this analysis, the most remarkable result is that the directive speech act is most frequent speech act and commissive speech act is least frequent one in different cases (incriminated or acquitted). In addition, the number of expressive speech act in incriminated and acquitted cases is close to each other (Figure 6 & Figure 7). Thus, this analysis shows that the frequencies of the speech acts in different cases (incriminated or acquitted) can be different, suggesting that the questions problem/difficulties in incriminated or acquitted cases can be related to the kind of speech acts which are used in the interrogations, it means that using directive speech act for eliciting more or less information in convicted or acquitted cases on the basis of figure 4.5 is not appropriate speech acts because the quantity violation happened in directive speech acts less than declarative, expressive and representative speech acts respectively. So using directive speech act as a frequent speech act in criminal courts is an inappropriate speech act.

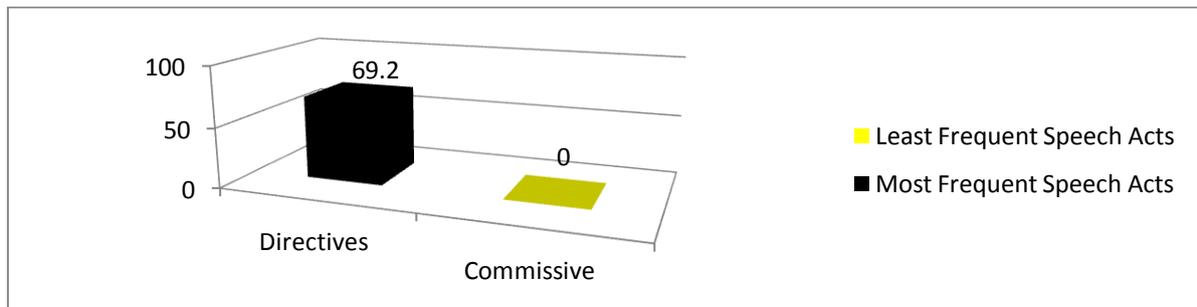


Figure 6: Most / Least Frequent Speech Act in Iranian Criminal Courts

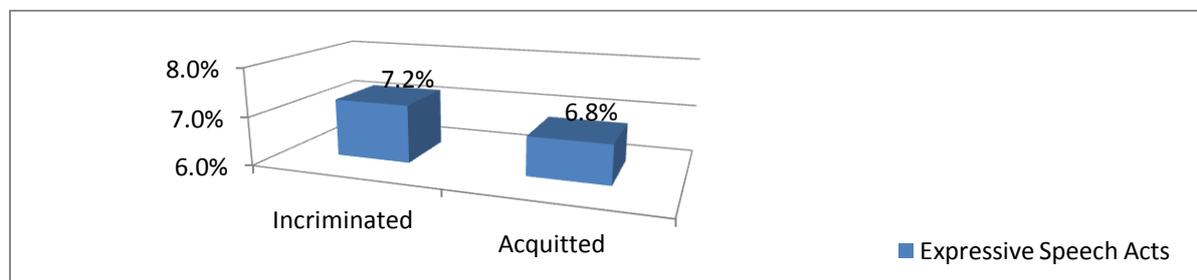


Figure 7: Expressive Speech Act in Incriminated Cases and Acquitted Ones

Moreover, the similarity in the number of quantity maxim's violation in relation to representative speech act in incriminated cases and acquitted ones showed that this kind of speech act is unsuitable in asking questions (Figure 8).

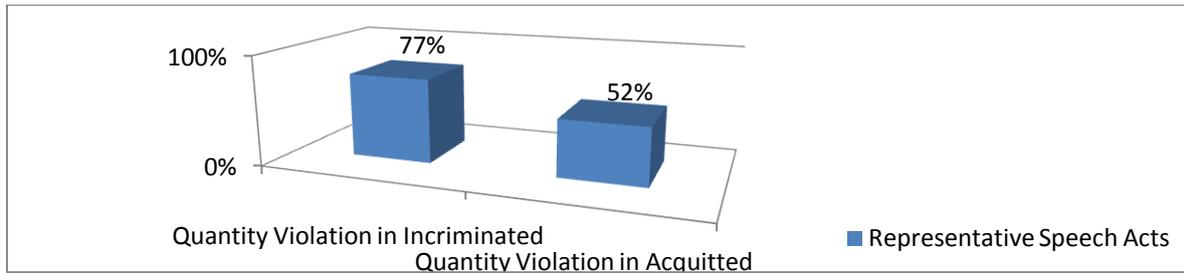


Figure 8: Quantity Violations in Relation to Representative Speech Act in Incriminated Cases and Acquitted Ones

In addition, declarative speech act can be suitable speech act in questioning for obtaining more or less information from criminal convicted and also saving time in acquitted interrogations (Figure 9).

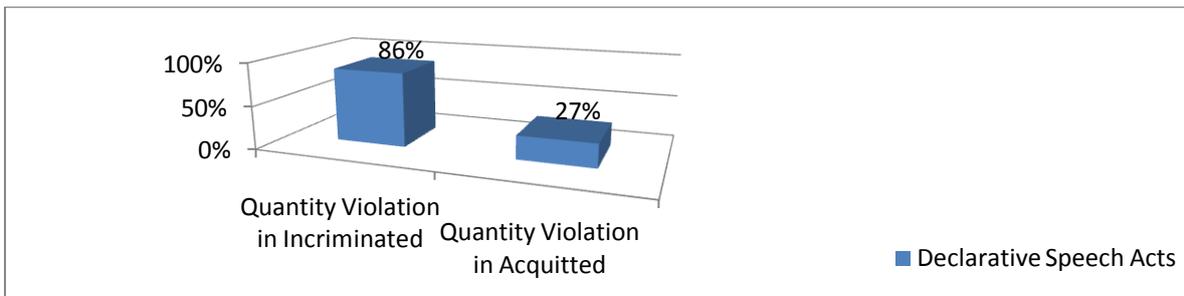


Figure 9: Declarative Speech Act and Quantity Violation in Incriminated Cases and Acquitted Ones

As far as the main question is concerned (are there any direct relationships between cooperative principle violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction or acquittal?), quantity maxims' violation is the most negatively correlated between incriminated cases and acquitted ones. The negative correlation between incriminated and acquitted cases in quantity violation is significantly important because it shows that culprits violate quantity maxim more frequent than innocents (Figure 10).

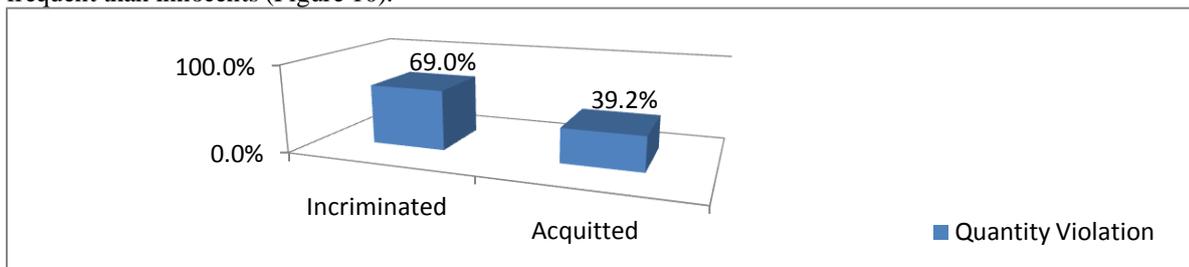


Figure 10: Quantity Violation in Incriminated Cases and Acquitted Ones

5. CONCLUSIONS

5.1 Summary

In this study, we studied speech acts as a trigger for motivating defendants to give new clues by violating maxim of quantity. At the beginning of this study, we believed that there is a direct relationship between violation of cooperative principles in relation to different kinds of speech acts and criminal convictions, providing relevant and sufficient evidences and supporting and using clear expressions in well-organized interrogations. The assumption was that maxim violation in relation to different speech acts might be different. In order to test this assumption, we conducted this study and found rather interesting results as presented in result and discussion chapter.

According to this study, we found interesting explanations for our assumptions: the highly significant positive correlations between quantity maxim violations in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction showed that the violation problems/difficulties that are identified in incriminated or acquitted cases are restricted to the specific speech acts.

In sum, this study has two important conclusions: there is a direct relationship between quantity maxims' violation in relation to different speech acts and criminal conviction or acquittal. In addition, some speech acts like directive speech act is most frequent, commissive speech act is least frequent and the number of expressive speech act is close to

each other in incriminated and acquitted cases. Therefore, defendant's problems/difficulties in answering to the questions may be related to the kinds of speech acts which are used by interrogators. It is apparent that everything in legal language is subordinated to the effort to achieve precision and avoid ambiguity. This obsession is predominantly the cause for violation of Gricean principle in legal communication. Thus, language used in the legal setting is understandable to the specialist community but it keeps non-specialists at a respectable distance.

5.2 Implications of the Study

As mentioned earlier, we tried to analyze speech acts as a trigger for motivating defendants to elicit new clues by violating maxim of quantity in this study. We supposed that the speech acts are the main parts of questioning while cooperative principles are the main parts of answering in legal discourse for detecting truth and judgment. So the main implications of this study are in the criminal courts and police stations specially are on the judges, interrogators, police officers and lawyers for detecting new clues by using different appropriate speech acts and analyzing Gricean quantity maxim in defendants' answers.

The other implication of this study can show the significant role of translators in translating and interpreting utterances in judicial courts. Translators can keep or violate Gricean quantity maxim in the courts when they try to translate defendant's answers into English or other languages. And also according to this study we try to show the necessities of learning legal discourse genre to advanced English learners for being successful in different legal situations. In order to make legal language easy to understand, one needs to follow certain principles of communication as advised by pragmaticians. Grice, a noted pragmatician, has discussed four principles for effective and rational communication. They are as follows:

1. Principle of Quality
2. Principle of Quantity
3. Principle of Relevance
4. Principle of Manner

A pragmatic analysis of legal discourse would be immensely important in order to eradicate the idiosyncrasies and ridiculous nature of language employed in it. Legal discourse seems to have failed in communicating thoughts with common men and women. Legal discourse is known for its obscurity, ambiguity and complexity. So knowing this genre of discourse for advance English learners is necessary [18].

5.3 Suggestions for Further Study

In this section, suggestions for further study are put forward.

1. Further study can be carried out with other cooperative principles like quality, relation and manner.
2. The same study can be carried out in larger group of accused cases with different ages.
3. Further study can examine the effect of gender and education in maxim violations in relation to different speech acts.
4. The same study can be carried out in oral interrogations of defendants.

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