

## ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of the alteration of meaning or terminology is one of the most interesting studies to be traced. It is because the development of an increasingly advanced era has made the level of society viewpoint also develop. This developing society viewpoint also affects the use of the language used by the society itself. Therefore, research that focuses on language and society approaches is necessary to be conducted.

That exposure is illustrated in the alteration of meaning in the sensory disability terminology, particularly in Yogyakarta. The aims of this qualitative research are to find out terminology in sensory disability and the terminology concerning disabilities itself, to describe the meaning of each terminology, to explain the factors which influence the alteration meaning, and to present graph regarding the popularity of the terminologies.

This research was conducted by applying a sociolinguistic approach. With this approach, researchers conducted interviews with both disability and non-disability respondents to obtain more accurate information. In conclusion, the terminologies found are *cacat*, disability(*disabilitas*), *difabel*, *tuna netra*, *tuna rungu*, *tuna wicara*, *tuli*, *Tuli*, *disabilitas netra*, *disabilitas rungu*, *disabilitas wicara*, *difabel rungu*, *ruwi*, and HoH(Hard of Hearing). Many factors influence the change in meaning in the term sensory disability, some of which are acceptance in society, respect for fellow human beings, reduced acts of discrimination, and equality. This shows that language has a very strong influence on people's perspectives regarding prevailing norms and the importance of social life.

**Keywords:** alteration meaning, disabilities terminology, sensory disability terminology, Sociolinguistics.