

## MASTER'S THESIS

### Bona to vada your dolly old eke!: a case study of the differences of English use between homosexual and heterosexual people in written discourse

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**BONA TO VADA YOUR DOLLY OLD EKE! A CASE STUDY  
OF THE DIFFERENCES OF ENGLISH USE BETWEEN  
HOMOSEXUAL AND HETEROSEXUAL PEOPLE IN  
WRITTEN DISCOURSE**

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## Abstract

This paper attempts to explore the differences of English use by homosexual and heterosexual people in written discourse with respect to the choice of lexical items through linguistic content analysis. Although gender studies has been thrown into the spotlight recently, most researchers in that field only investigate the differences between male and female. Homosexuality, despite people becoming more open-minded about it, still remains a taboo topic. Therefore, homosexual language analysis so far only reflects part of the reality of how homosexual people use language. As there is no previous study about the differences of English use by homosexual and heterosexual people in written discourse, the intention of this paper is to provide the readers with a better understanding of the language used by one minority, homosexual people, as compared to heterosexual people.

## 摘要

在所謂父權異性戀體制的文化主流價值基礎上，與同性戀有關的人和事往往不被大眾接納或認同。同性戀者常常要通所一些“密碼”(包括文字、衣著服飾等)來進行溝通和表現自己身分。有趣的是，一般異性戀都不能理解這些“密碼”。

這篇論文試圖透過內容分析 (Content Analysis), 嘗試研究及探討男同性戀作家們及其文學作品，在不同的政治、經濟及社會文化語境中，如何藉文字創作建立自我主體身份認同和表達其背後的意識形態，從而反映出與男異性戀作家們在寫作上運用詞彙的分別。

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