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Research Article

A Critical Discourse Analysis of Former Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte's State of the City Addresses (SOCAs)

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ABSTRACT

This study examined the discourses in the State of the City Addresses (SOCAs) of the former Mayor Davao City Sara Duterte-Carpio. Specifically, the rhetorical expressions, semantic expressions, linguistic features, and classifications of ideologies in the political discourses were explored. Through a Critical Discourse Analysis, the researchers explored the use of language and the ideologies represented in such. Findings show that the SOCAs of former Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio contained a variety of rhetorical expressions and discourse patterns. The researchers also found significant results about semantic macrostructures, which vary from one speech to another. The ideology of positive *Us* was also represented through powerful statements that show the importance of former Mayor Sara's leadership, administration, projects, and all people involved in her success. The researchers conclude that the former Davao City Mayor used words powerfully to highlight essential accomplishments and to express the value of the critical actors that made these achievements possible.

Keywords: *Critical discourse analysis, Davao City, Political speeches, Rhetorical expressions, Sara Duterte, Semantic macrostructures*

Introduction

In a political setting, politicians are expected to deliver a message in front of their people with full authority; hence, people are expected to do something in return for what politicians say. In fact, "Political words create power and authority between rulers and ruled" (Little 29). Politics may be a struggle for power to place certain political, economic, and social ideas into practice. The study of political discourse covers a broad range of subject matter

and draws on various analytic methods (Wilson 39). Thus, the confusing situation arises from the definitions of political discourses regarding general issues such as power, conflict, control, and domination, since most of these concepts may apply in almost any form of discourse (Fairclough 4-5).

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) has interested several researchers in linguistics, language studies, and other science disciplines within the past twenty years (Chouliaraki and

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Fairclough 5-6). This interest has led to an out-sized number of studies analyzing oral and written texts, particularly within politics and mass media. Thus, (Wang 254-261) incorporates more attention to CDA studies that can help explore the link between language, ideology, and power. Therefore, the study investigates a side of discourse that has yet to receive adequate attention within the Philippine political discourse. It examined oral texts, specifically the political speeches of the incumbent former Mayor of Davao City, Sara Duterte-Carpio, from a critical discourse analysis perspective. Analyzing former Mayor Sara's political discourses sheds light on language as (Brno 720-733) a social semiotic system and her discursive representation of the identities and operations of her ideology and power. Investigating the speeches' key linguistic elements, main ideologies, and strategies and techniques employed served as a stepping stone in understanding the politician herself and determining the embedded ideologies.

It is vital to analyze the languages used by political figures when delivering their discourses since, in the realm of politics, reports are of significance. Charteris-Black (762) argues that successful speakers, especially in a political context, must appeal to attitudes and emotions already within the listeners. Jones (12) says that in building an ideology, the capacity to transmit the notion that the speaker and the listener want the same thing is crucial. Hence, in the local context, understanding the discourses present in the State of the City Addresses delivered by former Mayor Sara Duterte would greatly interest unraveling ideologies. The research attempted to investigate former Mayor Sara Duterte's speeches' key linguistic elements, main ideologies, and the strategies and techniques she employed to attain her long-term political objectives. Furthermore, the research analysis would provide beneficial information for the speech and oral communication classes. Additionally, through a Critical Discourse Analysis, this study brought understanding to the discourse of politics as power and dominance. Finally, this research was pursued because Davao is now facing a tremendous change; thus, it is within the realm to

pay attention to the core messages of the former Mayor and understand her plans as visions to uplift every constituent and the entire city.

This study aimed to reveal the linguistic features and discourse structures of former Mayor Sara Duterte and how her portrayal or identity is discursively constructed in her political speeches. In this paper, the researchers aimed to answer the following questions: (a) What linguistic features are present in the political speeches of former Mayor Sarah Duterte? (b) What semantic macrostructures can be extracted from her political discourses? and (c) What ideologies can be drawn upon from former Mayor Sara Duterte's SOCAs?

The results of this study redound to the benefit of society, considering that this study sought to establish how power and ideology manifest through the various linguistic choices of former Mayor Sara in her political speeches. In addition, people who wish to be influential public speakers would also benefit from this study, for the results show the linguistic strategies and techniques of public speaking. Further, the research analysis would provide beneficial information for speech and oral communication classes and academic writing. This study is also beneficial for future researchers seeking to analyze and study political discourses; it could serve as their reference in similar undertakings.

This study was anchored on the theory of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), which was an approach to scrutinize and analyze the language used concerning the issues of language, power, and ideologies. When the meaning of the words is analyzed, it will generate a relevant relationship between the hearer and the speaker. Another is that the researchers utilized the Ideological Square Model (van Dijk 249-283). This seeks to outline positive self-presentation and negative other-presentation—emphasizing the positives of "Us" and the negatives of "Them," at the same time, deemphasizing the positives of "Them" and the negatives of "Us." This model may help ascertain the common "Us" and "Them" actors in the SOCAs. Gramsci et al. (qtd. 359-383) state that text and talk control people's minds, and, therefore, discourse may indirectly influence peo-

ple's actions through persuasion and manipulation. This means that those groups who control the foremost influential discourse even have more chances to manage the minds and actions of others. Such powers of dominant groups could even be integrated with laws, rules, norms, habits, and even a quiet consensus resulting in "hegemony." In other words, van Dijk (359-383) emphasized that it is not most directly the social and scientific discipline but rather the symbolic economy of language and discourse that controls the minds of political actors and their actions. Furthermore, this study is reinforced by its proposition of Woods on the discourse of politics, which states that it uses persuasive linguistic techniques. This research is conducted because it functions as a stepping stone in understanding the politician herself and determining the embedded ideologies through investigating the speeches' key linguistic elements and main ideologies, as evidenced in the strategies employed.

Methods

This qualitative research was based on the methodological framework of Critical Discourse Analysis as developed by one of the prominent theorists, Norman Fairclough (90). Fairclough clarifies that discourse can be viewed as (a) a language text, for example, spoken or composed, (b) discourse rehearses (text creation and text utilization), and (c) socio-social practices. The researchers of this study scrutinized the linguistic features found in former Davao City Mayor Sarah Duterte's speeches. The analyses were based on three dimensions, as the model suggests (a) linguistic description of the language text, (b) interpretation of the relationship between discursive processes and the text, and (c) explanation of the relationship between the discursive processes and social processes.

The researchers accessed the video-recorded State of the City Addresses (SOCAs) of former Davao City Mayor Sara Duterte from various online platforms like YouTube and Facebook. These SOCAs are those delivered in 2018-2020. The recorded speeches were transcribed and converted into text as the data basis for analysis.

Since this study aimed to unravel the textual and ideological contents of the SOCAs of former Mayor Sara Duterte, the use of Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Framework for CDA was highly considered. As previously mentioned, the researchers focused on the following: (a) linguistic description of the language text, (b) interpretation of the relationship between discursive processes and the text, and (c) explanation of the relationship between the discursive processes and social processes.

The textual analysis scrutinized the political discourse on both macro and micro levels. Linking its linguistic practices with socio-cultural practices was also set out. The political speech under scrutiny was analyzed regarding its semantic macrostructures (topics) and local semantics (local meanings). After carefully analyzing the linguistic features, the researchers used Fairclough's Ideological Square to determine the dominant ideologies in former Mayor Sara's speeches.

Results and Discussion

Rhetorical Expressions in the SOCAs

Rhetorical expressions refer to a relation from one referential meaning to an otherwise empty set of alternatives; the specific relation depends on the rhetorical meaning at hand (Schmerling 9). This is similar to how classical rhetorical tropes replace one referential meaning with a related one. Charteris-Black (10) argues that successful speakers, especially in political contexts, must appeal to attitudes and emotions already within the listeners. When listeners perceive that their beliefs are understood and supported, the speaker has established links between the listener and the policy that they wish to communicate. Speakers use a variety of rhetorical strategies to be persuasive. Among the most common strategies based on the study of Charteris-Black (11) mentioned in the study of Kulo (4) are metaphors, metonymies, analogies, pronouns, imagery, active and passive voice, sound bites, alliteration, and word repetition.

The linguistic trends of Duterte-Carpio's SOCAs consist of five rhetorical devices: *metonymies*, *imagery*, *appeal to emotion*, and *pronouns* and *sound bites*. Results reveal that me-

tonymies are when an idea or concept is replaced by a single word or feature connected to it. Imagery helps to draw attention to the listeners. Appeal to emotions is a logical fallacy that uses weak reasoning. Pronouns are words that stand in for nouns, such as I or we, which helps who is responsible for the act. Lastly, sound bites summarize the content of a longer paragraph in fewer words.

Metonymies. When a word or aspect associated with an idea or concept is used in its stead, it is known as a metonymy. As mentioned by Kulo, cited by Gibbs (1993: 259), the foundation of metonymies is conceptual, as is the case with metaphors (4). Also, metonymies are very helpful in political discourse because they either reduce or increase the speaker's responsibility. In the speech, four were identified under this rhetorical expression.

"I have weathered numerous storms" (S4, P1, T3)

"I did not expect the current one to be smooth-sailing but my wildest dreams..." (S3, P1, T3)

"I will forever be between rock and a hard place amidst this pandemic..." (S1, P16, T3)

"The deaths, the pain, the debts, and frustrations are sent our way to change us into Dabawenyos who look at dark clouds and see it as the silver lining." (S2, P17, T3)

The excerpts mentioned above fall under metonymies because the words used in the sentences were replaced with the exact words that should have been used. For instance, "numerous storms" was used instead of "many challenges." This is because if former Mayor Sara used words that could be easily understood by many, others, especially those people who are against her, would think that she was bragging about all the accomplishments that she has done during her mayorship. This is also applicable to the second and third excerpts cited above. Metonymies help cover up the weight of the situation. For example, in the last sample excerpt, it used the words "dark clouds" in replacement of the word "bad situation" and used "silver lining" as replacement for "hope"

to lighten the worry and responsibility of the people and the former Mayor, respectively. If former Mayor Sara used common terms, they may worry about the situation and blame the former Mayor for the current situation. Additionally, former Mayor Sara avoided promise words to lessen the expectations and accountability for whatever promising words she said. Hence, using metonymies is helpful to avoid any misconceptions and negative comments from the other party, and to reduce the accountability of the former Mayor if the people will rely much on whatever she discussed during her SOCA.

Imagery. Imagery is a figurative language in politics that possesses expressiveness and draws the audience's attention, for which, in some cases, lexical units are capable of fulfilling a certain communicative task (Savich 170-180). For this rhetorical expression, two were observed in the SOCAs, and these are the following:

"When the pandemic is over, I invite everyone to ride through scenic areas..." (S1, P7, T3)

"I invite everyone to look up our sodium to LED bulbs transition for streetlights which have greatly improved visibility and security on the roads..." (S2, P7, T3)

The excerpts mentioned above are examples of imagery because the speaker attempted to catch the listener's interest by saying very appealing words. An example is the use of "scenic areas" as a definition of a beautiful place people will go to once the pandemic is over. Another is the word "invite," which shows how expressive former Mayor Sara was to draw the listener's attention. As shown in the excerpts, the objects that were described are to be experienced by the people, and this added interest to listen more to the SOCA of the former Mayor. This only implies that a speaker can use the imagery to draw the audience's attention for them to be attentive to whatever the speaker delivers the discourses.

Pronouns and Sound Bites. Using pronouns may tell a lot about how much responsibility a speaker wants to assume for an idea. Pronouns

are words substituting for nouns or noun phrases (Beard, 24). Sound bites, on the other hand, are a brief excerpt from a speech that is typically sent to the media so that they can be broadcast as soon as possible (Beard 37). The soundbite was chosen to encapsulate the content of a longer paragraph in fewer words, suitable for a headline. These were observed in the following excerpts:

"I have weathered numerous storms" (S4, P1, T3)

"Ah, well kung di siyamahuman we intend to...." (S1, P3,T1)

(Well, if this won't be finished, we intend to ...)

"We likewise need to fund the study...." (S2, P6, T3)

"How to continue the programs and projects under Byaheng Du30.... some of the 38 projects we undertook during the first biyahe some completed while others are ongoing" (S1, P2, T3)

"We're also proud to report that the city will once again...." (S1, P18, T2)

The excerpt above is an example of a pronoun because the speaker used "I" and "we ."Using pronouns in a discourse helps identify who is responsible for an act. The "I" pronoun clarifies who is responsible for the act, and that is the speaker. On the other hand, the pronoun "we" is unclear because the subject to whom it is being referred is vague. The use of these pronouns is something helpful in appealing to the sharing of interest between the speaker and the audience (Black, 4). Sound bites, on the one hand, show clarity and self-assurance, especially in matters like the city's plan. An example of this is the last excerpt, which reflects a leader who must discover ways to persuade the audience to accept a certain policy. The pronoun "we" can communicate both internal party cohesion and audience cohesion by using the "we" pronoun, as it is a sign that audiences are included in the discourses (Black, 5-6).

Among the three rhetorical expressions comprehensively observed in the SOCAs, the researchers found that the most dominant rhetorical expressions are metonymies. Metony-

mies are very helpful in political discourse because they reduce or increase the speaker's responsibility (Gibbs, 4). It is to avoid any unfavorable circumstances the speaker might get if they use more vulgar words. In terms of frequency, metonymies are then followed by pronouns and sound bites that help in making the audience believe in the speaker and can win over their heart since it gives a clear direction to whoever is responsible for the act; which is very advantageous, especially in politics (Born, Van Eck, Johannesson,685). Interestingly, imagery is seen as the most used rhetorical device.

Semantic Macrostructures

In the study by Louwerse and Graesser (3), global textual structures known as macrostructures contribute to the overall meaning of a text. Semantic macrostructure is ignored or ruled outside most formal linguistics and some method of discourse analysis. They are produced by employing the macro rules of construction, generalization, and deletion on a set of propositions extrapolated from the text. The relationship between microstructure and macro-structure involves the notion of importance or relevance. The macro-interpretation defines the essential event or object signified by the propositions' sequence. Furthermore, the same factors that make specific macro propositions easy to understand while reading also make them remember after reading. Numerous retrieval paths to macro propositions in the text representation as expanded information exist. According to Teun van Dijk, macro-structural information is vital in discourse comprehension and recall because it influences attention, prominent representation, and thus recall. Additionally, readers frequently employ their macrostructure representations strategically as a retrieval plan to cue their memories for text content in tasks that highlight reconstructive processes (Lorch Jr; Chauvin 4066-4068, Pelletier 279-306).

This political speech sent several vital messages to the Dabawenyos and the Philippines in 2018. These will be shown in the following discussion.

The 2nd State of the City Address of Sara Duterte-Carpio was held in Davao City Hall in 2018. The speech tackled the administration's future, particularly in the problems faced by the city in terms of areas. Moreover, the SOCA was open to the public and the media; questions were raised, which were answered immediately by the elected mayor. Through the political speech of Sara Duterte-Carpio, several important messages were sent to audiences. These are the following macro-structures that were observed during the SOCA.

Welcoming. The State of City Address 2018 started by role-calling the respected personnel and the beloved Dabawenyos. Stated gestures of welcome are an essential part of social interactions since they set the stage for social gatherings. There is no universally recognized definition of welcoming since definitions are more comparable to formulas without any propositional substance. Despite the fact that people have learned to use certain words to express greetings, they might not always mean what they say (Justova 777-780). This stood in contrast to the earnestness apparent in the former mayor Sara's address and was expressed through the discourses she used. The opening quotes from Mayor Sarah's address are as follows:

There being 28 members present, the chair declares column members of the 18th Council. To my fellow Dabawenyos, ladies and gentlemen, maayong buntag sa inyong tanan!. (S1,P1,T1)

(There being 28 members present, the chair declares column members of the 18th Council. To my fellow Dabawenyos, ladies and gentlemen, good morning to all of you!)

State of the Current State of the City. The second message is stating the current state of the City. Declaring the city's current situation is thought to be the most apparent element of the speech since it is given to deliver strong signals to the public about and for the public, according to Jasim's study (16-25). Ancho also emphasized that in a nation like the Philippines, beset by numerous political, social, and cultural challenges, public speeches are thought to be a

springboard in establishing a foundation for people to consume and digest arguments and ultimately build informed and evidence-based opinions. The following paragraph demonstrates how former mayor Sarah described the state of the city today:

Let me begin with our local economy, that has been bullish the past four years. The regional domestic product growth rate has shown an immense increase since 2015...(S2, P2, T1)

(Let me begin with our local economy that has been bullish the past four years. The regional domestic product growth rate has shown an immense increase since 2015...)

Announcing the Accomplished Projects. This is a list of completed projects. The speech's announcement of completed projects is regarded as one of the easiest sections because the subject is as evident as the section on the city's current state (Sicat). According to Thompson, this is utilized to demonstrate the populace's attainment of particular goals and advantages. This is shown in the excerpt below:

In the last two years, we have constructed 116 classrooms across all levels and sites using the Special Education Fund, bringing down the shortage to 368 for elementary and 38 for senior high school. More funds are needed to address the shortage for high school classrooms, as currently, we have a shortage of 1006 due to the increasing enrollment. We are endeavoring to construct more, (S2, P2, T1)

(In the last two years, we have constructed 116 classrooms across all levels and sites using the Special Education Fund, bringing down the shortage to 368 for elementary and 38 for senior high school. More funds are needed to address the shortage for high school classrooms, as currently, we have a shortage of 1006 due to the increasing enrollment. We are endeavoring to construct more....)

Announcing the Ongoing Projects. The ongoing projects are announced in the fourth message. Through political speeches, every public official can inform the public of the aims and future course of the government. Politicians use political speech to express their views on a government's policies, whether in agreement or disagreement. Every speech should outline the current initiatives and objectives for the betterment of the neighborhood (Thomas). Additionally, it was observed from the speech that a few abrasive speech acts are used to tell the public about the city's future intentions by delineating and linking them to the listeners (Hashim 699-706). As evidence, consider the excerpt that follows:

As of now, we have two mobile libraries roaming the City to service hard-to-reach areas. Second, we are undertaking the modernization of the library through the Tech for Ed or Technology for Economic Development, a project component of the Information Communications Technology Office and the Department of Science and Technology. And the Department of Information and Communications Technology, Tech four, Ed is a software installed in various district libraries in the City, allowing access to digital content in a faster and efficient manner. Currently, we are building a world-class City library...(S2, P18, T1).

(As of now, we have two mobile libraries roaming the City to service hard-to-reach areas. Second, we are undertaking the modernization of the library through the Tech for Ed or Technology for Economic Development, a project component of the Information Communications Technology Office and the Department of Science and Technology. And the Department of Information and Communications Technology, Tech four, Ed is a software installed in various district libraries in the City, allowing access to digital content in a faster and efficient manner. Currently, we are building a world-class City library....)

Thanking. In her fifth message, Sara Duterte-Carpio expresses her deep appreciation to everyone who has contributed to her achievements and good fortune. It is important for Sara Duterte, the city's mayor, to thank everyone who attended the speech and those in charge of successfully implementing the city's plans and projects. Also evident from the excerpts is the mayor's appreciation for the people and institutions he seemed to trust, as evidenced by the words "thank you" (Devanadera 513-520). The following excerpt is an example of how former Mayor Sarah expresses gratitude for the accomplishments of her administration:

It is my hope that all of us share the same and we take ownership in seeing to it that all of us share the same and we take ownership in seeing to it that one day all of these goals will see reality in our beloved Davao City. In behalf of the 18th Council and the people of Davao, maraming salamat! (S6, P30, T10)

It is my hope that all of us share the same and we take ownership in seeing to it that all of us share the same and we take ownership in seeing to it that one day all of these goals will see reality in our beloved Davao City. In behalf of the 18th Council and the people of Davao, thank you so much!

Being one of the images of the City, it is important to be polite and to use formal language. One method for making semantic structures explicit is to use formal language so that the expressions of this language can be interpreted correctly in the logical language's formal semantics (van Dijk 4). A macrostructure is typically more general than its corresponding microstructure. While macro rules must abstract and generalize, there must be some restrictions on the level of abstraction. Macro rules are necessary to yield specific information and are not too general (van Dijk 9). Thus, in this research, the researchers identified macrostructures in the SOCAs of former Mayor Sara. It is a must to answer questions with concrete and general explanations so the audience can follow and understand the scenario. Then, ending by

thanking them humbly and sincerely makes the audience feel they have been a part of the success (Paramasivan 8).

Another speech delivered by Mayor Sara was in 2019. Through her SOCA this year, several important messages were sent to the Dabawenyos and the whole Philippines in 2019. These are the following.

The 3rd State of the City Address of Sara Duterte-Carpio was held in Davao City Hall in 2019, and this lasted for an hour and 10 minutes. The speech tackled the programs and projects to be continued for the said year. According to the speech, the projects started during the previous year and would resume in 2019. Furthermore, the mayor presented the City's housing project, which gave many families chances to acquire their own homes. Through the political speech of Sara Duterte-Carpio, many important messages were sent to audiences. Table 2 shows the macrostructure, and discussions of this are found below.

Welcoming. In the first message, which is welcoming, Sara Duterte-Carpio is behaving in a polite or friendly way to a guest in her SOCA. She greeted the guest in a friendly way when they arrived. Additionally, as they create the circumstances for social meetings, spoken acts of welcome are seen as a crucial component of social interactions. Since definitions of welcoming are more akin to formulas without any propositional substance, no single definition is accepted everywhere. Although people have learned to use specific words as greetings, they may not always mean what they say (Justova 777-780). This contrasts with what was exhibited in former Mayor Sara's speech because the sincerity could be felt as manifested in her use of discourses. The following are the excerpts of how Mayor Sarah started the speech:

I like to begin by thanking all for the support you have given me and my administration and the freshmen you have given us during the day 2019 elections and of course another thank you for the win of the 12 senators here in Davao City. (S1, P1,T2)

(I like to begin by thanking you all for the support you have given me and my administration and for the freshmen you

have given us during the day, 2019 elections and of course another thank you for the win of the 12 senators here in Davao City.)

Stating the Current State of the City. The second message states the current state of the city. As stated in the study of Jasim (16-25), stating the city's current state is considered the most obvious part of the speech because this is given to convey powerful messages to the public about and for the public. Furthermore, Ancho highlighted that public speeches are thought to be a springboard in creating foundations for people to consume and digest arguments and eventually build informed and evidence-based opinions in a country like the Philippines, enveloped by multiple political, social, and cultural challenges. The excerpt below shows how former Mayor Sarah state the current status of the City:

How to continue the programs and projects under Byaheng Du30 which began implementing in 2016. Here are some of the 38 projects we undertook during the first biyahe, some completed while others are ongoing the pagkalinga sa bayan. One stop shop within which is now known as the Malasakit center 346 housing units completed in Los Amigos relocation site republic and ploy meant system office job matching over 40,000 individuals with the 5077 beneficial is Kian Gabrielle hotline ng bayan at lingapin see at the city health office at Magallanes Street and in Calinan, Palawan and to reproductive health and wellness center made a treatment have for persons living with HIV and aids completed over 1200 structure projects. (S1,P2,T2)

(How do we continue the programs and projects under byahengDu30 in this city? This began by implementing some of the 38 projects in 2016, which we undertook during the first biyahe. Some were completed while others are ongoing such as the pagkalinga sa bayan one-stop shop, which is now known as the Malasakit center 346 housing units which was completed in los amigos

relocation site republic and ploy meant system office. Also, there was job matching over 40,000 individuals with the 5077 beneficiaries and Kian Gabrielle hotline ng bayan at lingapin will be seen at the city health office at Magallanes Street and in Calinan, Palawan and to reproductive health and wellness center made a treatment for persons living with HIV and AIDS which completed over 1200 structure projects.)

Announcing the accomplished projects. Similar to the part of the speech tackling the city's current state, announcing the accomplished projects is also known to be one of the most easily observed parts since the topic is obvious (Sicat). According to Thompson, this is used to show the accomplishment of specific objectives and benefits attained by the people. This was observed in the excerpt below:

Davao City Library and Information Center which is under construction right now tourism and investment building under construction CSSDO building under construction and the Agdao farmers market under construction to Davao City sports complex to Davao skatepark in and out the underground cabling project with Davao light and power company important sports events did opera at 2018 and 2019 the Palarong Pambansa 2019 the iron man 2018 and 2019 the Epsom scholarships for step low and medicine the pagbabago campaign 112 classrooms initiated at the biodiesel facility the botanical garden in my 40 completed playgrounds in the Botanical Garden People's Park..... (S2, P2, T3)

(Davao City Library and Information Center which is under construction right now, also tourism and investment building is under construction; CSSDO building also is under construction and the Agdao Farmers Market, Davao city sports complex, Davao skatepark in and out the underground cabling project with Davao light and power company important sports events did opera at 2018 and 2019 the Palarong Pambansa 2019 the

iron man 2018 and 2019 the Epsom scholarships for step low and medicine the pagbabago campaign 112 classrooms initiated at the biodiesel facility the botanical garden in my 40 completed playgrounds in the Botanical Garden People's Park...)

Announcing the ongoing projects. The fourth message is announcing the ongoing projects. Every public official can speak to the public about the government's future intentions and directions through political speeches. Politicians communicate their opinions on a government's policies through political speech, whether they be in agreement or dissent. Announcing the ongoing plans and projects for the betterment of the community is necessary in every speech (Thomas). In addition, it was noted from the speech that some aggressive speech acts are utilized to inform the public about the city's future plans by outlining them and relating them to the listeners (Hashim 699-706). This can be observed in the excerpt below:

Best classrooms in the coming weeks the local school board is set to approve a budget of 650 million pesos and approximately 270 million pesos will be used to further fun classroom constructions in the different areas of Davao city the success in the provision of more classrooms for our learners was done with the help of the city's partners both local and international last year the embassy of the people's republic of China in the Philippines to the effort of a masters all allocated funds for the construction of 13 modern 2-story for classroom buildings in select public schools in the city 11 of these buildings have already been completed, and Arnold used by the students the department of education....(S1, P13, T2)

(Best classrooms in the coming weeks and the local school board are set to approve a budget of 650 million pesos and approximately 270 million pesos, which will be used to further fund classroom constructions in the different areas of Davao City the success for the

provision of more classrooms for our learners which was done with the help of the city's partners both local and international last year the embassy of the people's Republic of China in the Philippines to the effort of a masters all allocated funds for the construction of 13 modern 2-story for classroom buildings in select public schools in the city 11 of these buildings have already been completed and Arnold used by the students the department of education....)

Thanking. The fifth message is thanking, wherein Sara Duterte-Carpio is pleased to give her sincerest gratitude to all those who are part of her successes and graces. It is significant for Sara Duterte, the city's mayor, to honor those who took the time to listen to the speech and the people responsible for the plans and initiatives of the city's success. Moreover, it is clear from the extracts that the mayor appreciated the people and institutions that he seemed to trust that the words "thank you" were used (Devanadera 513-520). The excerpt presented below is an example of how former Mayor Sarah gives thanks for the success of her administration:

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our department heads and employees who have already passed on to the next line and those who have recently retired and of course, the higher hardworking Sangguniang Panlungsod our Vice Mayor Baste Duterte and all our counselors; thank you very much for your support. To my administration, these games were not achieved by the local government ...(S2, P54, T2)

(I would like to acknowledge the efforts of our department heads and employees who have already passed on to the next line and those who have recently retired and of course, the higher hardworking Sangguniang Panlungsod, our Vice Mayor Baste Duterte, and our counselors, thank you very much for your support to my administration...)

As a public speaker, one must follow a certain structure for their thoughts to be organized and clear. Macrostructures are crucial for comprehension and memory. The idea of macrostructure has been proven incredibly helpful in explaining various discourse and language use characteristics. For instance, research has found that language users typically remember these broad meanings the best. The ability of language users to condense discourse and text or to create a "gist" of what they have heard or read is also explained by macrostructures. Macrostructures also provide the "format" or "schema" that organizes the macro propositions of discourse, as is the case for the conventional format, such as political discourse (van Dijk, 5). Thus, in this research, the researchers identified the macrostructures in the SOCAs of former Mayor Sara as discourse structures that helped the politician better organize the speech content and channel the messages more effectively. The structure started with welcoming, which helped acknowledge the audience's presence and signal that the speech was starting. The 2019 speech ends with thanking as a conclusion to the discourses. Indeed, having a format means having a concrete direction and organized thought of the overall discourse. It can help the audience follow what has been discussed by the speaker and remember the details with clarity.

Mayor Sara's SOCA 2020 channeled a number of important messages to the Dabawenyos and the whole Philippines in 2020. These are the following.

This SOCA of Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio was delivered online because this was the year when the global pandemic started. Since the nation was restricted from having gatherings outside, the SOCA was accessible online and through television. It was evident that the city mayor presented information about the policies implemented against COVID-19 and how they would lessen the number of infected individuals. Furthermore, former Mayor Sara signed new rules regarding using masks and face shields to reduce COVID cases. Presented in Table 3 is the macrostructure of the 2020 speech. In the following paragraphs, the researchers discussed each of the structures.

Welcoming. The first message is welcoming, wherein this is best implicated from the lines below. Like the description given in the discussion above, this statement is considered welcoming because of a statement made by the host at the start of a ceremony or as a way to welcome and express gratitude to those who have gone through the trouble of marking their attendance. This declaration will begin any event, meeting, gathering, or celebration. It is evident in the speech of mayor Duterte because she began with a greeting to the audience. Simply put, a greeting speech is delivered to begin any special occasion or event and to welcome a guest to a gathering. The presented excerpt below is how former Mayor Sarah welcomed the guests:

Maayong adlaw sa inyong tanan! When I started my fresh term as Mayor in July 2019, I mentally prepared myself for the emergencies and disasters. No term of mine was ever uneventful and I did not expect the current one to be smooth sailing but my wildest dreams never considered a pandemic. As Chief Executive, I have weathered numerous storms but what completely floored me was that I did not see an end to this one. Ten months since the declaration of the coronavirus pandemic, Davao City remains trapped in a very peculiar reality just like the rest of the world. And we should all manage our expectations because this pandemic will define how we will live our lives for another two years...(S1, P1, T3)

(Good day to all of you! When I started my fresh term as Mayor in July 2019, I mentally prepared myself for the emergencies and disasters. No term of mine was ever uneventful, and I did not expect the current one to be smooth sailing, but my wildest dreams never considered a pandemic. As Chief Executive, I have weathered numerous storms but what completely floored me was that I did not see an end to this one. Ten months since the declaration of the coronavirus pandemic, Davao City remains trapped in a very peculiar reality just like the rest of the world. And we should all

manage our expectations because this pandemic will define how we will live for another two years....)

Stating the current state of the city. The third message states the current state of the city, wherein the lines are best indicated below. According to Jasim (16-25), describing the city's current situation is the speech's most clear point since it is made to make a strong point to the audience about and for the audience. Furthermore, Ancho emphasized that in a nation like the Philippines, beset by numerous political, social, and cultural challenges, public speeches are thought to be a springboard in laying the groundwork for people to consume and digest arguments, ultimately building informed and evidence-based opinions. This was observed in the presented excerpt below:

We also envision using technology to support the team. We endeavor to catch many of the contacts of a confirmed positive case using the Safe Davao QR. Isolate: As of date, we have 15 Temporary Treatment and Monitoring Facilities with a capacity of 1,171 bed spaces for various types of individuals from confirmed positive, suspects, contacts, and post-swab individuals. We also have 601 bed spaces across four facilities supporting our "Test and Wait" initiative for arriving passengers at the Davao International Airport. Treat: Initially, we had the Southern Philippines Medical Center as the sole hospital for COVID-19 patients. But with the surge of cases, three (3) private hospitals have opened COVID-19 wards. Cremation: Another project funded by the Bayanihan Law is the Wireless Public Cemetery Crematorium, which shall accommodate all COVID-related deaths.... (S1, P3,T3)

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Announcing the accomplished projects. The fourth message is announcing the accomplished projects. Announcing the completed projects is regarded as one of the speech's most easily noted passages, similar to the section on the city's current state because the subject is so evident. This is utilized to demonstrate the people's attainment of particular goals and advantages (Kolzow 268-282). The excerpt below was observed from this structure:

Along with this, the TUPAD of the Department of Labor and Employment has also helped jeepney drivers whose incomes have been greatly reduced because of the distancing requirements in public transportation. And just very recently, we used the same assistance to help out the displaced workers of the businesses affected by the liquor ban. Meanwhile, ESKWELA DAVAO is an educational assistance grant for children of families who lost their source of income or have reduced income due to the pandemic. The program will benefit 22,000 students — of which 4,500 are Junior High School; 4,500 are Senior High School; 10,000 are elementary; and 3,000 are kindergarten. The beneficiaries are set to receive cash assistance ranging from P1,000 to P3,000 each.... (S1,P4,T3)

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Announcing the ongoing projects. The fifth message is announcing the ongoing projects. Through political speeches, every public official can inform the public of the aims and future course of the government. Politicians use political speech to express their views on a government's policies, whether they be in agreement or disagreement. Every speech should outline the current initiatives and objectives for the betterment of the community. Additionally, it was observed from the speech that a few speech acts are used to tell the public about the city's future intentions by delineating and linking them to the listeners (Giuliani 245-255). Below is the excerpt where former Mayor Sarah announced the ongoing projects:

Even amidst the pandemic, the Byaheng DO30 program continues on. Here are the highlights of what we hope to finish during the end of my term in June 2022: We continuously support the big-ticket projects of the National Government that are aligned with the Infrastructure Modernization Project for Davao. In particular, we were able to gain the full support of the Department of Transportation on the High Priority Bus System project.... (S1, P5, T3)

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Thanking. The sixth message is thanking wherein Mayor Sara thanked everyone for the full support and love during her administration. It is noteworthy that Sara Duterte, the city's mayor, dedicated to and celebrated both those who took the time to listen to the speech and those in charge of successfully implementing the city's goals and objectives. Furthermore, it is evident from the excerpts that the mayor respected the people and organization in which she seemed to have faith (Devanadera 513-520). How the former Mayor gave thanks to the people behind her success can be observed in the presented excerpt:

My heartfelt gratitude to all honest and hardworking City Government officials, heads of offices and employees, National Government Agencies and Instrumentalities, officials and employees, and countless private donors who lift me up as your local chief executive. With them, I also thank all the Dabawenyos who help us become better servants with their support and constructive feedback. COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future...(S1, P6,T3)

(My heartfelt gratitude to all honest and hardworking City Government officials, heads of offices and employees, National Government Agencies and Instrumentalities, officials and employees, and countless private donors who lift me up as your local chief executive. With them, I also thank all the Dabawenyos who help us become better servants with their support and constructive feedback. COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future...)

One must adhere to a specific format when speaking in front of an audience in order for

their ideas to be coherent and understandable. Macrostructures are essential for memory and comprehension. It has been extremely beneficial to use the concept of macrostructure to describe a range of discourse and language use characteristics. For instance, studies have shown that those who use languages frequently retain these general meanings the best. Macrostructures also explain how language users might summarize speech and text or get the substance of what they have heard or read. In the case of the traditional format, such as political discourse, macrostructures also provide the "format" or "schema" that arranges the macro propositions of discourse (van Dijk, 5).

Thus, in this study, the researchers identified the macrostructures in the SOCAs of former Mayor Sara. The format in the two SOCAs, 2019 and 2020, started with a welcoming, followed by stating the current situation of the city, next is announcing the accomplished projects, then announcing the ongoing projects, and ending with thanking all the involved parties. Since studying linguistic knowledge is a complex multi-level process. Therefore, the format helps to understand and construct segment general knowledge (Ogneva,1). Thus, this format is essential in political discourse because it can help the speaker deliver the discourse well without confusing the audience. Welcoming helps to acknowledge the presence of the audience and also to give signals that speech is starting. Stating the current situation of the city informs the audience of what is happening in the city, hence raising the question of what the accomplished projects were, and from that, the speaker should inform the audience of the things that are needed to be looked forward to or the ongoing projects of the former Mayor. Furthermore, the SOCAs ended with thanks as a conclusion to the discourses. It is to wrap everything up and give credit to the involved parties for the city's success during the reign of the former Mayor. Indeed, having a format means having a concrete direction and organized thought of the overall discourse. It can help the audience to follow what has been discussed by the speaker and to remember the details with clarity.

Ideologies in the SOCAs

In this study, the researchers used the ideological square of van Dijk to determine the ideologies of former Mayor Sara. Teun van Dijk examined the connection between society, social cognition, and discourse in his theory of ideology. He put forth a model that summarizes the general discursive techniques used in writings and speeches to depict social groups and their relationships. Since fundamental political ideologies are generally expressed through such polarized division of people based on their norms and values, van Dijk's framework chooses the ideological square as the analytical tool (Allami and Barzegar, 95). van Dijk's Ideological Square includes *emphasizing positive Us*, *deemphasizing negative Them*, *deemphasizing negative Us*, and *deemphasizing positive Them*. In this study, "Us" means former Mayor Sara and her supporters or members of her government, while "Them" refers to the other parties against her administration or mayorship.

Upon careful observation, it has been found that the only ideology based on van Dijk's Ideological Square is *positive Us* representation or "emphasizing our good things." The former Mayor acknowledged the efforts and valued the hardships and accomplishments of her administration.

Former Mayor Sara did not use *negative Them* in her speeches or try to make negative comments about the other parties outside of her organization, simply because former Mayor Sara is a Mayor who focused more on her organization's success. And that be implied that Mayor Sara is a great Mayor who emphasizes the good things in their organization. It can be presented in the representation of ideologies in Table 4 below.

Strong Leader as People's Foundation. This is one of the themes that emerged after carefully analyzing the ideology of "positive Us" in the SOCAs. This theme talks about how former Mayor Sara became a strong leader by showing the Dabawenyos that she was the people's stronghold. Amidst the challenges she faced as Mayor during the years 2018-2020, she remained an image of resilience and persistence for her people. With the identified ideology, "positive Us," this theme represents how former Mayor Sara showed the positive side of her

leadership and her personality as an empowered woman. In her SOCAs, she projected herself as someone whom people could trust no matter what. One of the strongest lines she uttered in one of her SOCAs is in Table 4. The words "rock" and "hard" connote her leadership and personality. This assured people that her leadership would remain strong and steady regardless of the adversities.

Good Leader as a Responsible Figure. One noticeable feature of the three SOCAs analyzed in this paper is the prevalence of the mentioned projects and programs and implemented ordinances and policies in Davao City. Mayor Sara also gave importance to all her accomplishments in the years 2018, 2019, and 2020. This was also one way of appreciating her administration and her leadership as the City Mayor. Showing these accomplishments also reflected how responsible she was as the city's leader because she succeeded in determining the problems and in providing apt solutions for them. The highlight of her accomplishments as a City Mayor manifests the ideology "positive Us" because she showed how positive her administration was in providing solutions to the problems of the Dabawenyos. For example, when she mentioned the words "Eskwela Davao" and "big-ticket projects," she showed her achievements and the solutions she provided to address the needs of her residents by implementing these programs or pursuing these projects.

Inspiring Leader as a Fountain of Appreciation. Mayor Sara showed in her SOCAs that she is an inspiring leader by appreciating her administration's efforts and contributions and all people who exerted their dedication, service, and loyalty in the service of Davao City. This can be evidenced by how she recognized several offices, departments, key individuals, and even random people in her speeches. This was her way of giving an air of importance to those who greatly contributed to her success as City Mayor. Her utterance "my heartfelt gratitude" mirrors how she sincerely thanked the government officials and employees who helped her achieve the goals of her administration during her mayorship. In relation to the ideology "positive Us," it can be gleaned that Mayor Sara gave an air of importance to the people whom she sincerely valued, such as those who had been

part of her administration as the City Mayor. This showed how she acknowledged all of them as key players in the achievements of her Office's vision and mission.

Based on these themes that emerged from the identified ideology "positive Us," it can be concluded that former Mayor Sara sees her administration and her people as assets to the city during her reign. She tends to acknowledge all the efforts that the people are making to improve the city. Furthermore, she was careful in terms of her word choice as she did not use words that may be a reason for other parties to go against her. Because of this, people loved how she handled and governed Davao City, having been considered still as the safest city in the country. As van Dijk suggests, the use of discourses helps ideologies emerge in a political speech, for example. In the case of former Mayor Sara, she used discourses not to give focus to herself but to lift a higher air of importance to all the people who became instrumental in accomplishing her administration's goals. This ideology became more apparent in her 2020 SOCA, where she acknowledged the significant contributions of the units of officers and key individuals who helped her so much in combating the challenges brought about by the global pandemic. As Allami and Barzegar posed, the use of effective discourses helps intensify the positiveness of a person or group of people. In the case of Mayor Sara, she lifted the morale of these people by acknowledging and thanking them in her SOCAS.

Conclusion

Based on the findings, the rhetorical expressions used by former Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio include metonymies, pronouns and sound bites, and imagery. For former Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio's SOCA, it was implied that politics might be a struggle for power to put specific political, economic, and social ideas into practice. Additionally, the semantic macrostructure in the SOCA of former Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio in 2018 is composed of welcoming, stating the current state of the city, announcing the accomplished projects, announcing the ongoing projects, and thanking. The semantic macrostructure in the SOCA of former Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio in 2019 provides

welcoming, stating the city's current state, announcing the accomplished projects, announcing the ongoing projects, and thanking. The semantic macrostructure in the SOCA of former Mayor Sara Duterte-Carpio in 2020 shows welcoming, stating the city's current state, announcing the accomplished projects, announcing the ongoing projects, and thanking. The variety of macrostructures in the three SOCAs shows that Mayor Sara used different patterns in her speeches to channel information to people. These strategies were heavily context-specific, for example, in the 2020 SOCA, where she intently expressed thanks to key actors during her administration to help resolve issues related to the global pandemic. Hence, the use of such a macrostructure was deemed important for the effective channeling of the message. The researchers also found out that the most dominant ideology is the *positive Us*, in which former Mayor Sara acknowledged and recognized the significant contributions of all people who contributed to the annual success of her administration. Interestingly, Mayor Sara focuses more than on elevating her self-image but on thanking the different departments, agencies, key individuals, and the public for their contributions, loyalty, and continued support of all her administration's goals and visions for the City of Davao. This ideology was made apparent by Mayor Sara in her use of explicit phrases that show gratitude.

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