

## Verbal Abuse: A Study in English-Arabic Pragmatics

Dr. Zainab Kadim Igaab<sup>1</sup>, Dr. Mohammed Jasim Betti<sup>2</sup>

### Abstract

*Verbal abuse is an act of using words or expressions against the persons' family members. It is an offence when a person forcefully criticizes, insults, or denounces someone else. It is distinguished from other offences by underlying anger or hostility. It is regarded as a destructive form of communication which is intended to harm the self-concept of the persons and produce negative emotions. Verbal abuse consists of two elements which are physical and internal. It is like the other five verbal offences which are bribery, blackmail, defamation, insulting, verbal threat but each deals with a different legal aspect. Dictionaries are different in referring to insulting and verbal abuse as being the same or different. Verbal abuse is sometimes included within defamation or insulting or threatening. So, this area of the study is problematic. The aim of the present paper is showing the similarities and differences in verbal abuse in terms of speech act theory, implicature and impoliteness between English and Arabic. This study concludes that verbal abuse as a speech act has both illocutionary and perlocutionary acts in both languages. This study will make contributions because there is a focus on its legal and pragmatic aspects in both languages. Then, the information and results are so important for lawyers, readers of linguistics and contrastive analysis. It can also be of a great benefit to the MA and PH.D students whether in linguistics or at law departments.*

**Keywords:** Contrastive Analysis, Pragmatics, Verbal abuse.

### 1. Introduction

Verbal offences are language crimes that are committed by mere utterances of certain words or expressions whether they are accompanied by physical acts or not. They are blackmail, bribery, defamation, insulting, verbal abuse, verbal threat, etc (see Igaab, 2021; Igaab, 2022; Igaab & Algburi, 2021). This study is show the verbal abuse in particular. The comparison between English and Arabic in terms of this crime or verbal offence from a legal aspect and a pragmatic one is problematic since no study has shed light on such aspects concerning the study under investigation. The researcher has not found any previous related study to get a benefit from about this topic. This paper presents a question which is "In strategies of verbal abuse in terms of speech act theory, implicature and impoliteness, what are the points of similarity and difference between English and Arabic?" It aims at shedding light on the points of similarity and difference in verbal abuse in terms of speech act theory, implicature and impoliteness between English and Arabic. Its hypothesis is that in terms of speech act theory, implicature and impoliteness, English and Arabic have points of similarities in strategies of verbal abuse.

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<sup>1</sup> Department of English, College of Education for Humanities, University of Thi-Qar, Iraq, zaineb-k@utq.edu.iq

<sup>2</sup> Department of English, College of Education for Humanities, University of Thi-Qar, Iraq,  
mohammedjasimbetti@utq.edu.iq

The data of this study are a number of complaints of verbal abuse. The complaints are 20 in number. The English data are taken from the English website: <https://www.govinfo.gov/> while the Arabic data are taken from judges of investigation in Nasiriya Court of Appeal and investigators in the police centre in Thi-Qar Province; Al-Haydary and Betti, 2020 and different Arabic websites. The translation of the pragmatic and forensic linguistic terms into Arabic is taken from Ritchard, et al. (2007). Longman Dictionary of Language Teaching & Applied Linguistics: English- English- Arabic and Yousif (2020). "Conversational Maxims in Pragmatics".

The procedure adopted to achieve the aim of the study and test its hypothesis includes the following: writing the literature review of the verbal abuse from legal and pragmatic aspects; analyzing the English and Arabic data according to an eclectic model which consists of Grice's theory of implicature (1967); speech acts theory by Searle (1975); impoliteness by Culpeper (1996 & 2005); discussing the data whether English or Arabic; writing the examples in the Arabic section following three steps which are: a) translating the examples into English; b) writing the example in Arabic; and then c) transliterating it. The Arabic examples and the information are translated depending on a number of dictionaries listed in the references below in addition to the researchers themselves; and arriving at a number of general conclusions with showing the similarities and differences between English and Arabic in terms of the verbal abuse.

English refers to American and British while Arabic refers to Iraqi.

## **2. Literature Review**

This section focuses on the way language is used in the legal context, in particular, on how people get what they want by abusing others. But getting things, achieving our wishes are under moral restrictions, eventually, legal restrictions. It also aims to show how language works in such a case (verbal abuse).

### **2.1 Legal Aspect of Verbal Abuse in English and Arabic**

To English and Iraqi legislators, verbal abuse is a crime which belongs to the same type of crimes which includes defamation but verbal abuse is an accusation not of a certain wrongful act in a certain place at a certain time like defamation. For example, he is a thief, fraudulent. Linguistically, bad words or phrases are uttered to attack another person. Legally, it is an accusation of a person of a defect or an expression, a phrase which belittles the person's value, reputation, consideration, personality among his/her inhabitants.

Sometimes, traditions and beliefs have a role in distinguishing between defamation and verbal abuse. Some utterances may include an accusation of a certain wrongful act but they are used by everyone in the same community, so they represent verbal abuse not defamation (Algburi & Igaab, 2021; Ahmed, 2013: 21; Al-Musawy, 2010: 74-75; Al-Durra, 2009: 249-250; and Al-Qulaly, 1948: 131).

Verbal abuse consists of three elements which are *actus reus*, publicity and *mens rea* which are similar to those of defamation (Al-Musawy, 2010: 83-87).

### **2.2 Pragmatic Aspect of Verbal Abuse in English and Arabic**

Verbal abuse is difficult to define, which is missed in standardized measures. It is an offensive communication which affects people emotionally and psychologically. Verbal abuse can be classified into dejection, degradation, threats, denial of affection that are boosted by several researchers.

In English and Arabic, verbal abuse is similarly defined and they have the same negative effect on the victim's feelings, dignity, consideration among the people in the same

community. Using bad words or expressions against a person, whether a man, a woman, an old or a young person, or even a child, is prevented by law and religion.

Verbal abuse is as a type of non-fatal violence. Such violence is perpetrated by a customer who receives services from an establishment like a patient or a visitor who is common in hospitals (Pompeii, et al., 2015: 1194).

### 2.2.1 Verbal Abuse Language

Aggressive or inappropriate language is included in verbal abuse. This makes the worker feel threatened, scared and/or uncomfortable. It is like yelling, name calling, rude language and verbal bullying (Pompeii, et al., 2015: 1194-1195).

Specific examples are words like spurn, belittle, devalue, terrorize, threaten, deny emotional responsiveness, ignore, shame, ridicule, criticize, humiliate, contradict, block, divert and manipulate. It is sometimes known as vulgar abuse which causes distress, fear, or similar emotions. It may contain insults, threatening gestures, excessive and unfounded criticism, and denigration (Al-Musawy, 2010: 83; Garner, 2009: 11; Esteban, 2006: 244 and Al-Hadithy, 1996: 250).

Using negative words or expressions against people's honour and consideration is forbidden by law and religion. Law seeks to protect the human dignity. Mentioning other people's defects, ridiculing others, making fun at the others, or injuring their feelings are prevented. For example,

A student says to his teacher that he is 'sinful, fraud, forged, blind, ugly, a pig, a dog', etc.

"فاسق, نصاب, مزور, اعمى, قبيح, خنزير, كلب, الخ"

(fasiq, naSSab, muzawir, a9ma, qabiiH, xinziir, kalb)

(Betti, 2019: 179; Suroor, 2004: 553 and Sa'dy, 1988: 163).

### 2.2.2 Speech Act of Verbal Abusing

Verbal abusing aims to lower working status and power of the people at the work. It can be defined as a form of workplace violence which does not leave visible scars. The victim may emotionally be destroyed. It is communicated through words, tone or manner which disparage, intimidate, patronize, threaten, accuse or disrespect another.

The threats or verbal assaults may negatively cause severe emotional injury. It also affects work performance, physical and psychological well-being negatively (Al-Shawariby, 1985: 81).

There is also a negative effect on the organization culture and a threat on the organization itself by higher turnover rates, increased lawsuits, increased errors and overall decreased quality of care.

The abuse is used in an inappropriate, offensive, rude or hostile manner, with malicious rumours to belittle or humiliate the others (Çelik, et al., 2007: 359-361).

Verbal abusing is regarded as a speech act because it includes both illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. The former is uttering words or expressions to humiliate, disrespect, lower the victim in the work, in the street, among his friends or family members.

## 3. The Model of the Study

The model of the study is eclectic, i.e., it is taken from Grice (1967), Searle (1975), Culpeper (1996, 2005). An eclectic model is used to analyse and discuss verbal abuse.

Following the model, English and Iraqi-Arabic cases will be analysed. Implicature and impoliteness are the same in both languages while speech act theory is different from English into Arabic. With Speech act theory in Arabic, there are different points of view

and opinions presented by Arab linguists, grammarians, and rhetoricians. But they agreed on the distinction made among locutionary, illocutionary and perlocutionary acts. So, cases of both languages will be analysed following the same model by Searle (1975).

In this eclectic model, there is a background for every verbal abuse case.

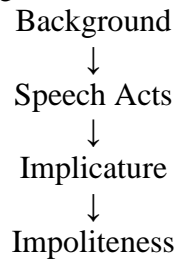


Figure: An Eclectic Model for Analysing Verbal Abuse

## 4. English Data: Analysis and Discussion

### 4.1 Verbal Abuse Cases

Selecting ten verbal abuse cases to be analysed and discussed under the cover of the eclectic model is to shed light on the legal and pragmatic features of this verbal offence.

#### 1. a. Background

Plaintiff, an employee, Jorge filed a complaint against a number of officers in a federal prison. Because he was charged with insolence to staff and damaging government property, he was then handcuffed and escorted by an officer to a pod/ cage which housed "rival gang members".

#### b. Speech Acts

Even though Jorge told that officer that he did not want to be placed in the cage, the officer said, "Man up and stop acting like a bitch." The officers continued using such expressions and words of abusing Jorge. That prisoner sought relief from a governmental officer or employee's mocking at. This caused him mental and emotional injury. This also caused him anxiety and mental anguish.

#### 2. a. Background

Carey Ross, an old worker in a factory did something wrong against another worker who was younger than him unconsciously.

#### b. Speech Acts

That young man abused the old man, saying "You are walking as a turtle" with humiliation and disrespect. Since he was an old man and ridiculed in front of the others, he decided to leave the work. Uttering such a full sentence affected the old man negatively.

#### 3. a. Background

Lorenzo, a state prisoner, was abused by the warden.

#### b. Speech Acts

When Lorenzo asked him to eat, the warden yelled and uttered such a full sentence repeatedly, "You are despicable. Stop asking me again." So, Lorenzo prevented himself from saying "I'm hungry or I want my lunch or dinner" because of being ridiculed and made fun of. He became very sick and then he suffered physically in addition to psychologically from that warden.

#### 4. a. Background

Burdine, a prisoner in the Washington County Detention Centre (WCDC) in Tennessee filed a complaint against the jail officers because they prevented him from seeing his doctor. He asked the nurse to see the doctor because he was so sick but she refused and gave him some medication that made him feel sick more than before.

#### b. Speech Acts

One of those officers said, "You are nothing, you are just rubbish, damn you." Another official added as a comment, "You are my shoe I dress but I do not feel comfortable because it is so narrow." Uttering such aggressive sentences against a sick prisoner was a crime. Instead of being well, his sickness increased due to the psychological sufferings.

#### 5. a. Background

Plaintiff, Guzman, was in the holding pens at the Mineola Courthouse when he told corrections officers that he needed toilet paper to use the bathroom because he "had to poop." The officers refused to give him toilet paper. Plaintiff again asked for toilet paper to use the bathroom.

#### b. Speech Acts

Then, one of the officers handcuffed him very tight and verbally assaulted him, "shit on you, you want to shit and you are..." Guzman said to one of the officers that he hurt him, the officer replied, "shut up Cyclopes." The result was hurting him physically. There was mild erythema on his right wrist. Such a result embarrassed him among his inmates in the jail.

#### 6. a. Background

Martinez was seeking compensatory and punitive damages for alleged violations of his civil rights by government officials while he was detained by the Suffolk County Sheriff's Office in New York.

#### b. Speech Acts

One of his allegations was the verbal abuse by corrections officers, preventing him from attending religious services, denying medical care, etc, saying "bastard, go away from me and do not say it again. You do not deserve health since you are mean." As a result, he was physically and psychologically harmed. He hated life and himself. His desire was to die. The officers' actions affected him negatively. They had a very harsh and hostile treatment with the prisoners.

#### 7. a. Background

Michael and Dawn Deluca (plaintiffs) brought this lawsuit against several Boston police officers after an unpleasant encounter following a Bruins game. Michael Deluca was employed as a police officer by the City of Leominster Police Department. Dawn is Deluca's wife and the defendants were Boston police officers.

#### b. Speech Acts

Plaintiffs attended a Bruins game in Boston. When they left the place, Deluca was holding a "professionally- made" Bruins sign. While they were walking, one of the defendants yelled at Mr. Deluca, "Get the shit out of here". Deluca asked him what he had done wrong, the defendant said, "I told you to get the shit out of here." Another one ran up to him, "Did not you hear what he said". Another defendant came violently and said, "Esposito, you're a fag." The defendants treated Deluca and his wife aggressively by pushing the man with both hands, shoving him violently, screaming in his face. Such actions embarrassed Mr. Deluca and his wife in the street. Although they did nothing wrong, they were verbally abused by their colleagues.

8. a. Background

A worker, Jackson, was working in an office with other workers. Although Jackson was so sick, the owner of the office asked him to work and complete what he began.

b. Speech Acts

When Jackson rejected to work, the owner shouted and said, "I was sure you are bugger and today I am very sure." Such an action makes Jackson think of leaving the work since this is of a negative effect on him.

9. a. Background

A driver, Plaintiff, was transferring employees from the house to the company. One day, the driver was late because he was not well.

b. Speech Acts

One of the employees yelled and said, "Son of fornication, we consider you as our servant, where have you been?". All other employees laughed at the driver. So he felt so shy and became sad and depressed.

10. a. Background

A worker of cleaning did not clean the school well at that day because he was an old man and the school was so large and dirty.

b. Speech Acts

The manager became nervous and screamed at his face, "corrupt and varmint", "work hard otherwise I'll deprive you of the food", "It seems that you are full up." "Damn you, go to hell." This makes the old man feel embarrassed and shy among the students. This injures his dignity and feels unfair. The manager does not appreciate years of work, patience and tiresome.

c. Implicature

In the above ten verbal abuse cases, there is one sentence which has an implicated meaning:

You are walking as a turtle.

It means he is an old man, so he will be slow in his work, it is better to leave the work in comparison with young men.

d. Impoliteness

Positive Impoliteness occurs with verbal abuse. This strategy of impoliteness is used with some of its subcategories like: being disinterested, unconcerned, and unsympathetic;

A warden asks a prisoner to stop saying "I am hungry" or saying, "you are despicable"; a young worker makes fun of an old one by saying, "you are walking like a turtle," which means that he cannot work, so he worked so slowly like a turtle; the wardens prevented a prisoner from seeing his doctor, saying "You are nothing, you are just rubbish, damn you"; preventing a prisoner from taking a toilet paper, saying "shit on you..."; preventing him from religious services and denying medical care, saying "bastard, go away from me and do not say it again. You do not deserve health since you are mean"; forcing a sick man to work, shouting "I was sure you are bugger"; forcing an old man to clean a very large school, yelling "work hard otherwise I'll deprive you from the food."

- using taboo words- swear, or using abusive or profane language;

despicable, bastard, mean, bugger, son of fornication, corrupt, varmint.

- calling the other names. The S uses derogatory nominations.

rubbish, Cyclopes, fag, Esposito.

Using such a strategy with its subcategories is to insult, belittle, and degrade the addressee.

## 5. Arabic Data: Analysis and Discussion

This section presents 10 cases taken from the Iraqi community.

### 5.1 Verbal Abuse Cases

#### 1. a. Background

An official, who was employed as the head at the Administrative Department in Al-Haboubi Hospital, was transferred to Thi-Qar Health Office. This transference was instigated against that official by two officials who were employed as heads at the Administrative Department before, Ra'ad Mohammed and Rafi' Jameel. Then the order of transference was postponed for a period of time.

#### b. Speech Acts

Ra'ad attacked that official by pushing him and saying, "Get out from here, you are transferred." Rafi' screamed at his face in front of the people inside the hospital, saying "You are agitating us, you are transferred." Then, both came to me and abused me, "You are a son of a dog, get out from here."

Using such words and sentences is to devalue that official, to consider him low in comparison with his colleagues.

اطلع بره انت منقول. انت شنو تستفزنا مو انت منقول. انت كلب ابن كلب اطلع بره

(?iTla9 barrah ?inta manquul. ?inta shinu tis-tifiz-na mu ?inta manquul. ?inta kelb ?ibn kelb ?iTla9 barrah.)

#### 2. a. Background

Plaintiff, Iman Abdul-Razzaq, was verbally abused by Firas Qadir in her house because of a quarrel between her son and Firas.

#### b. Speech Acts

Firas yelled and said:

-..... يا .....يت

- انا امرأه جبیره وأم شلون ولد شاب يكولي هيچ كلمات مو زينه

"harlot, a daughter of a harlot." "I am an old woman and a mother, how can a young man say such bad words against me." Surely, he wants to belittle the whole family because of such hostile words which are said against a lady in her house among her kids.

(ya saqTa bital saqTa.)

(?ana ?imra?a t3biira w?um shlon walad shab ygulli hiit3 kalimat muziena.)

#### 3. a. Background

Ali Lakin Ubeid, a welder, went to a house where Rasoul, Ra'ad and Ali Qasim lived to make an iron door for one of the house rooms.

#### b. Speech Acts

After completing the work, the defendants kicked him out and took the welder's equipment. Then they verbally abused him, saying

انعل ابوك يابو عشيرتك -

"shoe on your father and shoe on your tribe."

(?an9al ?ubuuk yabu 9ashiirtak.)

Such a behaviour affects the welder's psychology negatively. This is the way to destroy his work by not giving him his right after a tiring day and taking his equipment by force from him. The defendants behave in a tricky way because the brother may not want to pay for the welder. So, they tried to provoke the worker to leave the house and forget about his money.

#### 4. a. Background

At 5:30 PM, plaintiff, Tahiyya Farman, was verbally abused by Hasna Flayeh and Murtadha Kadhim, saying very bad words like "harlot, a mother of men, etc." That happened because of a quarrel between them. The defendants sold plaintiff's agricultural house without her knowledge.

.....-

(saqTa ?umllzilim.)

#### b. Speech Acts

First, the defendants take plaintiff's right and then say harshly and impolitely very worse words among people who are neighbours. As a result, plaintiff decides to move to another house in a new area because she feels shy in front of the others.

#### 5. a. Background

In the house among the members of the family, Plaintiff's daughter's husband shouted with uttering words which were socially forbidden like

قندره على أبوك وعلى عشيرتك يا سافل يا بذيء.

"shoe on your father and your tribe, saucy, raffish."

(qindara 9ala ?abuuk w- 9ala 9ashiirtek ya safil ya baDii?.)

#### b. Speech Acts

What had happened was because of troubles between his daughter and her husband, Mohammed Qasim.

Such words enlarge the gap between the husband and wife and even her father asks him to divorce her. So, this will destroy the whole family. This is the way to insult the plaintiff's father, his tribe and the plaintiff himself.

#### 6. a. Background

At 9 AM, "I was standing by my house door", plaintiff, Nabeel Muftin filed a complaint against Muslim Aqeel who came with his mother in a car and tried to run over him with the car.

#### b. Speech Acts

Muslim said:

-أنت ابن... وحقير وكواد وابن كلب وزمال

"You are a son of fornication, mean, pimp, a son of a dog, a donkey."

(?inta ?ibin zina w-Haqiir wgawwad w?ibn kelb wizmaal.)



Muslim was Nabeel's divorced's brother. Such words increase the number of troubles among families instead of finding the suitable solutions for reconciliation. So, the outcome of the verbal abuse is only harmfulness and hurting.

#### 7. a. Background

لتضوج امنه ليش تجي انت ومرتك لأذية امنه .انت سافل ومطي حتى المطي احسن منك .شكد مكروه انت .انت تعيش حقيير وتموت حقيير .محد يريدك ومحد يحترمك .ما نشتريك بنعال .انت خره .ابتعد عن امنه لان انت نعال

"Do not make our mother sad; why do you come with your wife to hurt our mother; you are raffish, you are a donkey; even the donkey is better than you; how hatred you are! You live as being mean and you die as being mean; no one of us wants you or respects you; we do not buy you with a slipper; you are a shit; be away from our mother because you are a slipper," said one of the brothers to a brother who is harmful to his old mother all the time.

(latDhawwid3 ?umna. liish tichi ?inta w-martak l?aDiyat ?umna. ?inta safil w- muTi Hata ?almuTi ?aHsen minek. shgad makruuh ?inta. ?inta t9iish Haqiir w- tmuut Haqiir. maHad yridek w- maHad yHtarmak. ma nishtirik bin9al. ?inta xara. ?ibti9id 9an ?umna li?an ?inta n9al.)

#### b. Speech Acts

Such words and expressions create harshness and hard- heartedness between that brother and the others.

#### 8. a. Background

One brother, plaintiff, lived with his only sister. His two brothers came to him, saying with a loud voice:

راح نشترى بيت لأختنا حتى تعيش معززه مكرمه احسن من العيشة وياك .انت حيوان انت نعال وانت قندره -

"We'll buy a house for our sister to live in honoured life better than life with you; you are an animal; you are a slipper; you are a shoe."

(raH nishtiri bet l?ixtna Hata t9ish mu9azaza mukarrama ?aHsen min ?il9isha wayak. ?inta Haywan. ?inta n9al. ?inta qindara.)

#### b. Speech Acts

Uttering such words kills the peaceful life when the brother and his sister live together.

#### 9. a. Background

Plaintiff, a policeman, Ali Mohammed, went out with his family members to go to visit the doctor. He saw the defendants, Ali and Hussein Raheem, washing their cars in front of his house and the street was full of water. Plaintiff asked them not to do this again.

#### b. Speech Acts

The two defendants began shouting in the middle of the street with uttering:

- .انت والشارع نعالى..... عليك وعلى عيالك

" You and the street are my slipper. Shit on you and on your family." The family including a lady and two girls felt shy and scared and the father felt embarrassed.

(?inta wilshari9 n9aly. zerba 9alik w- 9ala 9iyalak.)

#### 10. a. Background

Plaintiff, Razzaaq, lent Muhannad an amount of money. Razzaaq wanted his money after a period of time.

b. Speech Acts

After Razzaq asked Muhannad to give him back his money, the latter used very ugly words:

-نعالاتي على شاربك .نعالاتي احسن منك .احترم واسمع النعالات اكثر منك

"My slippers are on your moustache; my slippers are better than you; I respect and listen to the slippers rather than you."

(n9alati 9ala ʃarbak. n9alati ?aHsan minak. ?aHturum wa ?asma9 lilna9alat ?akØar minak.)

Plaintiff decided not to lend anyone money again. What had happened affected him negatively. Razzaq did something good and Muhannad punished him by using such abusive words which cannot be stood by any man.

c. Implicature

In the above ten cases, implicature does not exist.

d. Impoliteness

Positive Impoliteness occurs with verbal abuse. This strategy of impoliteness is used with some of its subcategories like:

d. being disinterested, unconcerned, unsympathetic;

A young man quarreled with an old woman and a mother , saying with a loud voice " a daughter of a harlot"; after completing his work in their house, they kicked him out and stole his equipment, saying " shoe on your father and shoe on your tribe"; after taking her right, uttering very bad words harshly, " a mother of men";

j. using taboo words- swear, or using abusive or profane language;

harlot, saucy, raffish, a son of fornication , mean, pimp.

k. calling the other names. The S uses derogatory nominations.

a son of a dog, a donkey, hatred , a shit, a slipper, an animal, a slipper, a shoe.

**6. Comparison**

6.1 English Verbal Abuse in terms of Speech Acts

Verbal abuse is expressed by declarative, interrogative (positive and negative), imperative utterances; conditional clauses; sentences with futurity, swear adjectives and nouns; 1st and 2nd pronouns; clauses beginning with 'until, as soon as, as'; 'otherwise' and different types of verbs.

Table (1): English Speech Acts and their Forms

| Verbal Abuse |                                                                                                                                   |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|              | <b>Verbal Abuse</b>                                                                                                               |
| <b>Form</b>  | imperatives, sentences with abusive words, abusive words, 2 <sup>nd</sup> pronouns, sentences with 'as' followed by a noun phrase |

6.2 Arabic Verbal Abuse in terms of Speech Acts

Verbal abuse is expressed by declarative, interrogative (positive and negative), imperative sentences; conditional clauses; sentences with futurity, swear adjectives and nouns; 1st and 2nd pronouns and different types of verbs.

Table (2): Arabic Speech Acts and their Forms

|             | <b>Verbal Abuse</b>                                                                      |
|-------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Form</b> | <b>Verbal Abuse</b>                                                                      |
|             | 2 <sup>nd</sup> pronouns, abusive noun phrases & adjectives, abusive sentences & phrases |

### 6.3 Impoliteness of English Verbal Abuse

With verbal abuse, the second strategy.

Table (3): Impoliteness Strategies Applied to English Verbal Abuse

| <b>Verbal Offence</b> | <b>Type of Impoliteness Strategies</b> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Verbal Abuse          | Positive impoliteness                  |

### 6.4 Impoliteness of Arabic Verbal Abuse

With verbal abuse, the second strategy.

Table (4): Impoliteness Strategies Applied to Arabic Verbal Abuse

| <b>Verbal Offence</b> | <b>Type of Impoliteness Strategies</b> |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Verbal abuse</b>   | <b>Positive impoliteness</b>           |

### 6.5 English Verbal Abuse in terms of Implicature

With verbal abuse, there is a little implicature.

Table (5): Implicature in English Abuse

| <b>Verbal Offence</b> | <b>Implicature</b>           |
|-----------------------|------------------------------|
| verbal abuse          | You are walking as a turtle. |

### 6.6 Arabic Verbal Abuse in terms of Implicature

With verbal abuse, there is no implicature.

Table (6): Implicature in Arabic Verbal Offences

| <b>Verbal Offence</b> | <b>Implicature</b> |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| verbal abuse          | No implicature     |

## 7. Conclusions

There are a number of conclusions which are arrived at through this study. These conclusions are illustrated by the following general conclusions, similarities and differences in verbal abuse between English and Arabic:

### 7.1. General Conclusions

1. By using abusive words or expressions publically or non- publically, a person is guilty of an offence according to the Iraqi penal code while in the criminal code for England, by using abusive words or expressions publically, a person is guilty of an offence but if those words are heard by a person or persons inside a dwelling, otherwise the person is not guilty.
2. Verbal abuse is not mentioned in Searle's classification, but suitable for the description of verbal abuse such as: insulting, attacking, accusation are identified in the analysis.
3. If there is no perlocutionary act, there is no verbal offence. The perlocutionary act is the characteristic feature of the verbal offence.

## 7.2 Specific Conclusions

These conclusions include a number of similarities and differences.

### 7.2.1 Similarities

1. Verbal abuse is expressed by declarative, interrogative (positive and negative), imperative utterances; conditional clauses; sentences with futurity, swear adjectives and nouns. This point supports the second hypothesis which is that the two languages are similar to each other in verbal abuse in terms of speech act theory.

2. Verbal abuse as a speech act has both illocutionary and perlocutionary acts.

3. With verbal abuse, positive impoliteness is available.

This point supports the hypothesis of the study in which both languages are similar to each other in verbal abuse in terms of impoliteness.

4. Verbal abuse is prohibited in both English and Iraqi-Arabic communities.

### 7.2.2 Differences

In English, implicature is available in verbal abuse, while in Arabic, there is no implicature in verbal abuse.

## References

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