

# Face Threatening Act in Media Chat: A Discourse-Pragmatic Analysis

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## ABSTRACT

*The purpose of this study is to investigate how face threatening acts are used in Donald Trump's Victory speech. The study has examined the use of different speech acts (requests, offers, promises, etc.) to impose negative or positive face threat on either the speaker or the hearer, in order to obtain political objectives. The study is, therefore, based on the study of face threatening acts used by the former American president, Donald Trump, in his victory speech. The researcher also wants to examine whether positive or negative face threatening acts are being used more frequently by Trump. It is hypothesized that the American president, Donald Trump, uses negative face threatening acts more frequently than positive face threatening acts. The procedures followed by the researcher involves illustrating the adopted model of analysis of Brown and Levinson's (1987) model on politeness theory, and collecting data. One speech by the former USA President, Donald Trump has been chosen. The researcher has discovered that Trump uses negative face threatening acts more than the positive one towards the hearer.*

**Keywords:** *Speech Acts, Face Threatening Acts, Positive FTA's, Negative FTA's, Politeness Theory*

## INTRODUCTION

Communicating in a language is performing speech acts, for example, making statements, giving commands, asking questions, making remarks, requests etc., and all the more uniquely, acts, for example, alluding and predicating and that these acts are when all are said in done made conceivable by and are acted as per certain standards for the utilization of linguistic components. The purpose behind focusing on the investigation of speech acts is just this: all discourse correspondences include etymological acts. The unit of linguistic correspondence isn't the image, word, or sentence but instead the generation or issuance of the image, word, or sentence in the presentation of the speech act. Speech acts are the fundamental or minimal units of etymological correspondence.

A language hypothesis is a component of an activity hypothesis simply because talking is a conventional type of behavior prescribed. An inconceivable framework can be said without considering speech, but such a fully shaped hypothesis is fundamentally insufficient. The speech act acted in the articulation of a sentence is all in all an element of the

significance of the sentence. The importance of the sentence doesn't in all cases extraordinarily figure out what speech act is acted in a given expression of that sentence, in light of the fact that a speaker may mean more than what he really says, yet it is consistently on a fundamental level workable for him to state precisely what (s)he implies. Of the considerable number of issues in the general hypothesis of language use, speech act hypothesis has most likely excited the greatest enthusiasm as it arranges logical undertakings towards contemplating the capacity of language in human correspondence. The speculation that the speech acts are the essential unit of correspondence together with the guideline of expressibility proposes that there are a progression of logical associations between the idea of discourse acts, what the speaker implies, what the sentence (or other linguistic units) articulated methods, what the speaker expects, what the listener comprehends, and what the standards administering the semantic components are.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### Preliminary Remarks

This section introduces some basic topics to understand speech acts in linguistics. Therefore, it is important to shed a light on the study of pragmatics, politeness, the notion of face, and speech acts theory.

### The Study of Pragmatics

Huang (2014, p. 1) states that one of the most encouraging and quickly created field of concentrate in ongoing linguistics and the way of thinking of language is pragmatics. These days, it turns into a significant subject in —artificial insight, informatics, neuroscience, language pathology, human studies, and sociology.

Richards and Schmidt (2002, p. 412) state that pragmatics manages —the investigation of the utilization of language in correspondence, especially the connections among sentences and the unique circumstances and circumstances in which they are used. Bloodsucker (1983), along with Sperber and Wilson (1986) contend that pragmatics becomes in the late 1970s, a progressed subfield of semantics, it sees how individuals comprehend and make an activity or a speech act in a specific conversational setting. It attempts to recognize two purposes or senses in every speech or expressive activity of genuine transmission. One is the scholarly goal or the provision sense, and the other is the expressive goal or sense (as referred to by Byram, 2000, p. 693). Yule (2010, p. 128) characterizes Pragmatics as —the investigation of —invisible significance, or how we perceive what is implied in any event, when it isn't really said or composed. Moreover, pragmatics is concerned about the investigation of significance, i.e., the intention of what the speaker wants to mean as opposed to the genuine words or expressions he employs. Consequently the clarification of what individuals demonstrate in a particular setting and how the circumstance controls what is said, is absolutely exemplified in pragmatics. It requires a knowledge on how speakers request what they should state in concurrence with who they are addressing, where, when, and underneath what occasion. One addition by Yule is that pragmatics is associated with the investigation of importance passed on by a speaker and showed by an audience. To look through how listeners can turn out conclusions about what is expressed, ought to be

explored so as to discover a clarification of the speaker's implied idea or the shrouded significance. Researchers raise various perspectives about the expressed and unuttered speech. Furthermore, the idea of separation is connected by the basic answer. Closeness, regardless of whether physical, social, or theoretical, surmises shared analysis. Speakers pinpoint the amount it should be said based on how adjoining or remote the audience is. In this manner, the investigation of the outflow of relative separation is alluded to as (1996, p. 3).

### Speech Acts

#### *Definitions of Speech Acts*

According to Searle "speaking a language is performing speech acts". Consequently, to offer expressions, to offer directions, to pose inquiries, to make promises, and so on are viewed as speech acts. With explicit principles for utilizing language, these demonstrations are in general made conceivable. Language correspondence incorporates linguistic acts on the grounds that any sort of linguistic correspondence is utilized for a particular sort of expectation under specific conditions (1969:16). Furthermore, Sadock (2006: 53) specifies that speech acts demonstration hypothesis shows "the appropriate harmony among show and expectation". Along these lines, individuals can utilize language to welcome a visitor, to demand something, to fire someone, and so on. These are called 'speech acts' done during the time spent talking. Yule (1996, p. 47) includes those activities accomplished by talking are for the most part called 'speech acts' such as *apology, complaint, complement, invitation, promise or request*.

It is implied that speech acts theory fundamentally deals with "the communicative functions of utterances in terms of what the speaker aims to achieve by virtue of speaking and in terms of the resulting effect on the addressee". (Perkins, 2007, p. 15).

It is claimed by Crystal (2008, p.424) that speech acts are articulations which perform various purposes, for example, r, requesting, welcoming, advising, complaining, warning, persuading, and so forth. In semantics, they are utilized to contain a hypothesis that examines the job of expressions in connection to the conduct of speaker and listener in relational correspondence.

### *Speech Acts Theory*

Speech acts theory assumes that when human beings communicate with each other, the smallest unit in their communication is not seen as only an expression or a sentence. The smallest unit is considered as a performance of a specific type of act. Acts like conveying information, saying a statement, asking a question, ordering someone, making a description, stating an explanation, expressing an apology, to congratulate, to thank the others, and the like. A performance of one, or more than one, of these acts mentioned could be made by the speaker when he/ she utters a sentence or sequences of sentences. Therefore, it is worth mentioning that there should not be a confusion between the concept of act in performance and the concept of sentence in utterance. (Searle, Kiefer, & Bierwisch, 2010, p .vii).

Consequently, in dealing with speech acts theory and face theory, a distinction is made between face-threatening act and face- saving act. When a person speaks in a way that causes a threat to the other person's self-image or face, this might cause face damage in pragmatics, then this is called "face threatening act". For example, using direct speech act to make a request by using imperative mood without having the social power or status that allows for such use as in the sentence "Give me that pen". The speaker of this sentence seems to have more social power than the hearer but in fact they are in equal status. (Yule, 2010, p.135).

In contrast, the face- saving act shows the request, for example, in a way that is less threatening by using indirect speech act implies the polite function embedded in interrogative structure by putting the modal verb "could" at the beginning of the sentence to become "could you give me that pen please?". Furthermore, face- saving act includes an emphasis on displaying solidarity, cooperation, paying attention to the common goals, and participating with the others if the face- saving act has an emphasis on positive face. (Yule, 2010, p.135).

It is obvious and concluded from the previous explanations from studies involved in the concepts of politeness, the notion of face, speech acts theory, positive and negative face and other aspects like face- saving act and face threatening act, that all these topics deal pragmatically with the functions

and performances of utterances. These concepts are basic background knowledge to deal with practical applications like request, invitation, suggestion, apology and other functions of language use in communicative purposes. The later topic "Apology" is an example of speech act theory.

### *Classification of Speech Acts*

The main developer who has watched the huge arrangement of the scientific categorization of speech acts is Austin, at that point after his demise in 1960, Austin's thoughts were refined, systematized, and exhorted particularly by his Oxford student, the American rationalist J. R. Searle. At long last, Bach and Harnish together accompany their order (mixed classification)

Due to the fact that various speech acts are found to make different purposes, numerous noticeable propositions for arranging discourse acts, for the most part Austin's (1962) classification, Searle's (1969) arrangement and Bach and Harnish's (1979) order have been displayed. The ensuing areas are to exhibit the three referenced above noticeable characterizations.

### *Austin's Classification*

Austin (1962) suggests that not all utterances are intended for depicting various things or matters, in other words, they can't be valid or bogus, however they may show certain exhibitions and acts being performed. He names such sorts of utterances as performatives or performative expressions to recognize them from constatives. Austin (1962, p. 5) sees that this originates from the perception that sentences, for example, "*I name this ship Queen Elizabeth*" can't be valid or bogus, in light of the fact that by talking such a sentence is clearly playing out an activity, however, not portraying a true or bogus activity.

Austin's exertion is to propose a syntactic foundation by which performative and constative expressions are separated from one another. Yet, while applying his hypothesis, it has numerous troubles. He understands that there are conflicting examples to the formula he puts (1962, p. 55-6).

He recognizes that numerous performative utterances are not traditional. In this way, subsequent to managing the traditional

performatives, he extends the scope of the performative utterances, yet new issues develop when managing these performatives. In this manner, he subdivides performatives into two different terms: explicit performatives and implicit performatives. He keeps up that there is a correspondence between the explicit performatives, in other words, they contain explicit performatives, for example, 'I wager', 'I guarantee', 'I hand down'. Also, explicit performatives are commonly demonstrative in indicating the act, for instance wagering, promising, and granting (ibid, p. 32-3).

Then again, because of their having no express performative action words, the understood (or essential) performatives are assigned by the 'crude gadgets' going with the speech, for example, state of mind, manner of speaking, qualifiers, interfacing particles and the conditions of the articulation (ibid, p. 73-6)

At long last, Austin surrenders the performative/constative order and exhibits an alternate classification by which he partitions an expression into three acts. These demonstrations are: Locutionary Act, Illocutionary Act and Perlocutionary Act (ibid, p.101).

1. According to (Sadock, 2006, p. 54), locutionary Acts, are demonstrations of uttering explicit sounds and words that include the creation of speech in blend of linguistic principles of a specific language and with distinct faculties and references.

2. Illocutionary Acts, are acts done in talking denoting the activity accomplished by a speaker through performative (wedding, dedicating and so on.) or constative (satisfying or attesting) expressions (ibid, p.54-5)

3. Perlocutionary Acts, are the outcome or result of talking. They are acts done by talking. In this way, they signify the impact of illocutionary act, for example, making individuals to allude to a particular ship as the 'Joseph Stalin', persuading someone to the truth of an announcement, making someone to the need to accomplish something (Sadock, 2006, p. 55).

### *Searle's Classification*

The American scholar, Austin's understudy, John R. Searle progresses and organizes Austin's Speech Acts Theory. After his educator's passing, he had an important role in developing the Speech Acts Theory. He keeps up that all 'linguistic

communication' involves semantic acts (Searle, 1969, p.16).

However, he adds that not every one of the action words listed inside the classes of Austin's order of discourse acts really satisfy the meanings of the classes (ibid, p.10). Searle (ibid, p.24) gathers that playing out an illocutionary demonstration implies performing, simultaneously, the propositional and utterance acts. To perform a speech act is to observe certain essential principles that set up the sort of act (Huang, 2007, p.104)

Searle relies on three fundamental dimensions for the classification of speech acts, and these are:

1. Contrasts in the purpose of the act.

Searle claims that the point of an "order can be shown by saying that it is an endeavor to get the audience to accomplish something." Yet, the objective of description is to speak to something as "genuine, bogus, exact or "inaccurate". What's more, the point of a promise is that the speaker is obliged to "do something (1979, p.2)

1. Contrasts to fit between words and the world.

It is worried about how to get the words and the world compare with each other. For example, in assertions the words must match something "true in the world". Be that as it may, promise requires the speaker to accomplish his commitment, which means that the world changes to fit the speaker's words (Searle, 1979, p.3)

3. Contrasts in the mental states.

In this point, the speaker communicates a state or a frame of mind to the propositional content. Searle conveys that the speaker exemplifies a certain state of mind in the display of every illocutionary act with an intended meaning. In other words, the speaker expresses his mental state when he talks. He includes that "the mental state communicated in the presentation of the illocutionary act is the truthfulness state of the demonstration" (ibid, p. 4-5)

### **Direct and Indirect Speech Acts**

There is a straightforward differentiation of speech hypotheses between direct acts of speech, in which the speaker says what he simply means, and indirect acts of speech, in which (s)he implies more than what he (s) says.

The speaker says a certain thing in an indirect speech act, signifies what he says, but it presupposes something more. For example, a speaker may say to

a listener, "You are remaining on my foot." And it could mean: "You are remaining on my foot," however in many situations, it would definitively indicate something progressively, for example, "If it's not too much trouble get off my foot." The immediate speech act, which communicates the exacting significance of the sentence, lies in the realm of semanticization. The indirect speech act is expressed in the wording of the speaker insofar as it varies in the field of pragmatics from the strict significance of the sentence. (Vrabel, 2005, p.38)

The speech of the speaker may differ in a range of ways from literal significance. The meaning of the speaker often include literal meaning; however it may go past because of the acts of speech, or because of similarity or because of inconsistency it may leave. It may be opposite to it. The distinction between meaning of the speaker and the meaning of a sentence is normal for all theories of speech-act; the dilemma is whether the qualification corresponds to that of context free meanings (semantics) or context dependent meanings (pragmatics). There are evolving grades of indirectness depending on how unique the two substances are. For example, the sentence "Do you realize what time it is?" It is likely (not the only possible one, of course) in this context that I do not know the time, want to know the time, and believe you may well be able to tell me. In this setting it would in a roundabout way pass on "What time is it?" This is why it is completely uncooperative to reply only with "Yes" in such a context. "Yes" would respond to the question that is really posed, however not the one that really need to have replied.

Another conceivable setting for the previously mentioned sentence is the place it is routed to a kid (by a parent, for example) when it is known to be past the kid's sleep time: here my goal likely could be to pass on an order to hit the sack. In either contextualization, I perform two illocutionary acts all the while, one legitimately (an inquiry with respect to whether you recognize what time it is), and one by implication (an inquiry regarding what time it is, or an order to hit the sack). Regularly, the immediate demonstration is clearly less significant than the circuitous one – as when the enthusiasm of the inquiry whether you realize the time is just that in the event that you do you will have the option to respond to the inquiry that I truly need a response to. The first recommended contextualization is less aberrant than the second on the grounds that the

propositional substance of the passed on "What time is it?" is incorporated as a component of that which is really communicated, though "You hit the hay" isn't (ibid).

Indirect speech acts are phenomena that are remarkably unavoidable. Some types of illocutionary acts are executed indirectly more regularly than directly, either in general or in a certain scope. Take first the case of applications, not generally but where speakers and addresses are not closely related but are social equivalents. In this case, a request would be much less likely made directly than indirectly. Rather than the direct "Please open the window", for instance, the speaker is probably going to utilize one of the accompanying indirect directives or something along similar lines: *Can/Could you (if it's not too much trouble) open the window* (ibid, p 38).

## The Framework of Politeness Theory

### *On Politeness and Face*

In general, the concept of politeness means to treat, and communicate with, people tactfully, modestly, and nicely. Pragmatically, the word "face" is closely related to the study of politeness as a linguistic topic. "Someone's face" means his/her public self-image. The meaning of self-image is something emotional and social. Expectations are made that people recognize each other's' self-image. (Yule, 2010, p.135).

Historically, Ide and Lakoff (2005) mention that the introduction of the study of politeness into linguistics began more than thirty years before the year of their book publication (p.1).

The two researchers mentioned earlier state that, at the beginning of the twentieth century, there was a useful and important contributions in the study of interpersonal behavior that involved different cultures in diversity investigated by the anthropologists at that time who emphasized and clarified the idea that what is regarded as polite in one group might be the opposite by the other group's considerations (Ide & Lakoff, 2005, p.1).

*The Notion of Face*

The notion of face, which is very important and crucial to recent researchers of politeness, was first introduced by the anthropologist and sociologist Eving Goffman in 1967 in his book titled "interaction ritual". He states:

**“Face is an image of self-delineated in terms of approved social attributes – albeit an image that others may share, as when a person makes a good showing for his profession or religion by making a good showing for himself” (Goffman, as cited in Marquez-Reitter, 2000, p.18).**

Two types of face aspects are specified by Brown & Levinson (1978) as universal aspects of face according to their claims. These are called "negative face" and "positive face" which represent two crucial desires of any speaker or communicator in any communication activity. The concept of "negative face" means the need of a person to act without imposition, to have the freedom, and not to be prevented by others. (As cited in Marquez-Reiter, 2000, p.12).

On the other hand, the concept of positive face could be defined according to Brown and Levinson (1987) as:

**“They want of every member that his wants be desirable to at least some others”. (Brown and Levinson, as cited in Seiwald, 2011, p.5).**

The wants of positive face are exemplified in two types of desires. The first type of desire is to get the acceptance and approval by others in a specific group. The second type of desire is to get the self-image appreciated by others. In other words, to accomplish the wants of positive face, the speaker who converses want his goals to get the acceptance and even the desirability by the others hence the positive face wants could be fulfilled (Thomas, as cited in Seiwald, 2011, p.5).

*Brown and Levinson's Politeness Theory*

Building on the study of politeness in three languages, English, Tzeltal and Tamil, Brown and Levinson theory (1987) was developed. Two related

aspects made up this theory. The first assumption is that all speakers and hearers have a face, the public self-image that each member tries to acquire himself, comprising two fundamental principles.

- (i.) Negative face: fundamental territorial claims, personal preservation, non-distraction rights – i.e. freedom of action and the freedom from imposition.
- (ii.) Positive face: the positive self-image (including the desire to appreciate and approve the self-image) that the interactors claim (Brown and Levinson, 1987, p. 61)

The second assumption is that interactors can achieve certain objectives rationally. Face is an interaction with others that is changeable and thorough, socially and culturally dynamic. In order to sustain their faces, speakers recognize their vulnerability as rational agents and are ready to work with others.

Brown and Levinson (1987, p.65) claim that everyday communication includes the use of face-threatening acts (FTA), which in their nature are opposed to the face desires of the hearer and/or of the speaker.

Both the face of the speaker and the listener can be threatened by FTAs. Also, the positive and negative side of the face can be obstructed. Negative FTAs obstruct the freedom of the speaker or the hearer to act and impose. These can threaten the listener if they:

- a) Put the hearer under pressure to do or not do something, such as: advice, suggestions, requests, orders, reminders, warnings, and threats.
- b) Convey the speaker's a strong negative attitude or opinion of the hearer, such as: hatred, anger, lust, compliments, expressions of envy, admiration.
- c) Signify some positive future actions by the speaker towards a listener that force the listener to refuse or accept it, such as: offers and promises.

FTAs that threaten the negative face of the speaker are those that offend the person's face, for example by expressing gratitude, accepting the thank-offer, apologies, answers to hearing the untrue pas, etc.

Positive FTAs harm the hearer's face by denoting the disregard of the interlocutor for one's feelings, desires, etc. Thus, the hearer's face is threatened by:

- I. Demonstrating the negative assessment of the positive face of the hearer by the speaker, as in: disapproval, criticism, insults, complaints, etc.
- II. Displaying a lack of care for the positive face of a listener, as in: excessive emotionality, irreverence, misuse of honorifics, mention of taboo topics, etc.

The positive face of the speaker is threatened with acts that imply that one has committed transgression or lost control of the situation, e.g. apologies, confessions, admissions of guilt or responsibility, etc.

Brown and Levinson's interpretation of politeness is accurate with regard to FTAs – they identify it as face saving, act i.e. the use of threat reduction strategies (1987, p. 68). They distinguish between multiple categories when discussing the strategies of politeness. In the case of the speaker and listener, however, both agree that the importance of face requests may be stopped in the interest of urgency or effectiveness" or where the threat to the face of the listener is very slight, it is reasonable for the Bald-on recording strategy (Brown and Levinson 1987, p. 69).

A positive politeness strategy has been designed to reduce the threat to the positive face of the hearer and involves expressions that express an interest in the needs and wishes of the hearer, contain in-group markers of identity, optimism, humor and discord prevention. Negative politeness are used to avoid or reduce possible damage to the negative face of the

hearer and include hedges or question statements, pessimism, indirectness, etc.

Finally, the off-record or indirect politeness strategy turns into totally indirect statements that prevent the speaker from posing a potential threat.

While Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness has received much criticism, in particular because it is not universally applicable to cultures and its interpretation of the face, it certainly sets goals for further politeness research.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND ADOPTED MODEL**

**Preliminaries**

The researcher has used the internet in order to collect the data; the script of Donald Trump's victory speech, which was found in (<https://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/10/us/politics/trump-speech-transcript.html>)

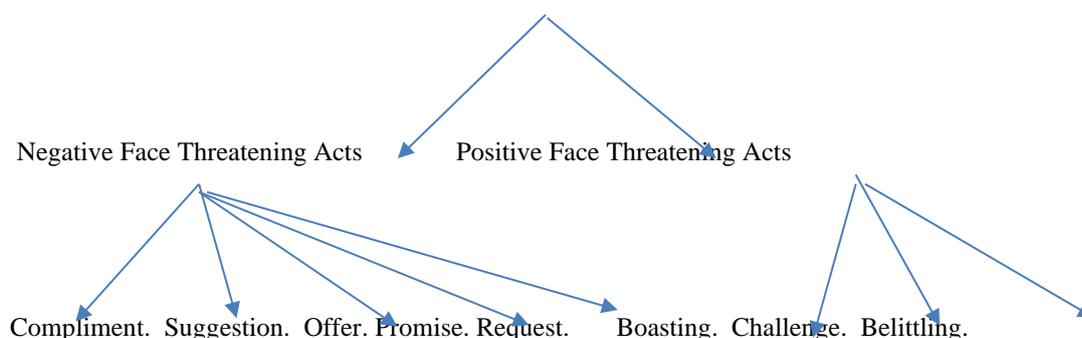
Moreover, the first strategy used by the researcher was to read the speech, and then classify the data according to Brown and Levinson's politeness theory to be analyzed.

Moreover, Brown and Levinson's (1987) model was chosen by the researcher for analysis.

**The Adopted Model for Analysis**

The researcher has chosen Brown and Levinson's (1987) model for analysis. The following Figure illustrates the model.

**Figure (1) Brown and Levinson's (1987) Model**



**RESEARCH RESULTS****Face-threatening Acts and Politeness Strategies in Donald Trump's Victory Speech**

The examination of Trump's victory speech has resulted in a total of 197 discovered FTAs. The separated FTAs were classified as positive or negative and as targeted towards the hearer or the speaker. Table 1 demonstrates that negative FTAs appear more frequently and that a great majority of FTAs represent a threat to the hearer's rather than the speaker's face.

**Table (1): Negative Face Threatening Acts in Donald Trump's Victory Speech**

Negative FTA's	NO.
To the hearer	33
Compliment	17
Suggestion	1
Promise	14
Request	3
Offer	1
To the speaker	0

These Face Threatening Acts include large numbers of Compliments, promises and requests:

- (1) *Fantastic family. I was very lucky. Great brothers, sisters; great, unbelievable parents.*
- (2) *And I promise you that I will not let you down. We will do a great job. We will do a great job.*
- (3) *We must reclaim our country's destiny and dream big and bold and daring.*

However, there are also suggestions and offers:

- (4) *We will seek common ground, not hostility; partnership, not conflict*
- (5) *For those who have chosen not to support me in the past, of which there were a few people, I'm reaching out to you for your guidance and your help so that we can work together and unify our great country.*

Trump uses different forms of negative face threatening acts in his speech. He causes disruption to his audience's wants to be free to do everything on their own. When the negative face is threatened, freedom of choice and action is affected. The acts can harm the negative face of the listener if that act

which confirms or denies a future act of the listener causes the listener to either carry out the act or not.

**Table (2): Positive Face Threatening Acts in Donald Trump's Victory Speech**

Positive FTA's	NO.
To the hearer	
Boasting	10
Challenge	1
Belittling	0
To the speaker	0

Positive Face Threatening Acts are found in two various forms, all of them threatening the hearer. 99% of positive Face Threatening Acts are of boasting:

- (1) *Sorry to keep you waiting; complicated business; complicated.*
- (2) *We have a great economic plan.*
- (3) *For those who have chosen not to support me in the past, of which there were a few people, I'm reaching out to you for your guidance and your help so that we can work together and unify our great country*

The study demonstrates how Trump threatens his audience's positive face, as he does not care about their feelings, wants, etc. His acts damages his audience's positive face, as they express negative assessment of the hearer's positive face

**CONCLUSION**

The analysis demonstrated that face threatening acts occur in presidential speeches. A significant majority of FTAs are directed to the listener and threaten the negative face. Qualitative analysis suggests that face threatening acts, whose role is to perform a particular action, such as suggestions, promises, offers, and that place pressure on the hearer are usually found in presidential speeches. In political discourses, there is a frequent use of politeness strategies, most of them positive and negative. However, bald on-record strategies are placed in specific places in the texts.

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## APPENDIX

*Following is a transcript of Donald J. Trump's victory speech, as compiled by Federal News Services.*

**TRUMP:** Thank you. Thank you very much, everyone.

(APPLAUSE)

Sorry to keep you waiting; complicated business; complicated. (**Boasting**)

(APPLAUSE)

Thank you very much.

(APPLAUSE)

**TRUMP:** I've just received a call from Secretary Clinton.

(APPLAUSE)

She congratulated us — it's about us — on our victory (**Boasting**) , and I congratulated her and her family on a very, very hard-fought campaign. I mean, she — she fought very hard. (**Compliment**)

(APPLAUSE)

Hillary has worked very long and very hard over a long period of time, and we owe her a major debt of gratitude for her service to our country. (**Compliment**)

(APPLAUSE)

I mean that very sincerely.

(APPLAUSE)

Now it's time for America to bind the wounds of division; have to get together. To all Republicans and Democrats and independents across this nation, I say it is time for us to come together as one united people. (**Request**)

(APPLAUSE)

It's time. I pledge to every citizen of our land that I will be president for all Americans, and this is so important to me. **(Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

For those who have chosen not to support me in the past, of which there were a few people, I'm reaching out to you for your guidance and your help so that we can work together and unify our great country. **(Offer)**

(APPLAUSE)

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As I've said from the beginning, ours was not a campaign, but rather an incredible and great movement made up of millions of hard-working men and women who love their country and want a better, brighter future for themselves and for their families. **(Boasting)**

(APPLAUSE)

It's a movement comprised of Americans from all races, religions, backgrounds and beliefs who want and expect our government to serve the people, **and serve the people it will. (Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

Working together, we will begin the urgent task of rebuilding our nation and renewing the American dream. I've spent my entire life and business looking at the untapped potential in projects and in people all over the world. **That is now what I want to do for our country. (Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

Tremendous potential. I've gotten to know our country so well — tremendous potential. It's going to be a beautiful thing. **Every single American will have the opportunity to realize his or her fullest potential. The forgotten men and women of our country will be forgotten no longer. (Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

We are going to fix our inner cities and rebuild our highways, bridges, tunnels, airports, schools, hospitals. We're going to rebuild our infrastructure, which will become, by the way, second to none. And we will put millions of our people to work as we rebuild it. **(Promise)**

We will also finally take care of our great veterans. **(Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

**They've been so loyal**, and I've gotten to know so many over this 18-month journey. The time I've spent with them during this campaign has been among my greatest honors. **(Compliment)**

Our veterans are incredible people. **(Compliment)**

We will embark upon a project of national growth and renewal. **I will harness the creative talents of our people and we will call upon the best and brightest to leverage their tremendous talent for the benefit of all. It's going to happen. (Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

We have a great economic plan. **(Boasting)**

We will double our growth and have the strongest economy anywhere in the world. At the same time, we will get along with all other nations willing to get along with us. We will be. **(Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

We'll have great relationships. We expect to have great, great relationships. No dream is too big, no challenge is too great. **(Promise)**

**TRUMP:** Nothing we want for our future is beyond our reach.

America will no longer settle for anything less than the best. **(Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

We must reclaim our country's destiny and dream big and bold and daring. **(Request)**

We have to do that. We're going to dream of things for our country and beautiful things and successful things once again. **(Promise)**

I want to tell the world community that while we will always put America's interests first, we will deal fairly with everyone, with everyone — all people and all other nations. **We will seek common ground, not hostility; partnership, not conflict. (Suggestion)**

And now I'd like to take this moment to thank some of the people who really helped me with this, what they are calling tonight, very, very historic victory.

First, I want to thank my parents, who I know are looking down on me right now.

(APPLAUSE)

Great people. I've learned so much from them. They were wonderful in every regard. I had truly great parents. **(Compliment)**

I also want to thank my sisters, Maryanne and Elizabeth, who are here with us tonight. And, where are they? They're here someplace. They're very shy, actually. And my brother Robert — my great friend. Where is Robert? Where is Robert?

(APPLAUSE)

My brother Robert. And they should all be on this stage, but that's OK. They're great. And also my late brother, Fred. Great guy. Fantastic guy. **(Compliment)**

(APPLAUSE)

Fantastic family. I was very lucky. Great brothers, sisters; great, unbelievable parents. **(Compliment)**

To Melania and Don. . .

(APPLAUSE) . . . and Ivanka. . .

(APPLAUSE)

. . . and Eric and Tiffany and Baron, I love you and I thank you, and especially for putting up with all of those hours. This was tough. ?

(APPLAUSE)

This was tough. This political stuff is nasty and it's tough. So I want to thank my family very much. Really fantastic. Thank you all. Thank you all.

And Lara, unbelievable job, unbelievable. **(Compliment)**

Vanessa, thank you. Thank you very much.

What a great group. You've all given me such incredible support, and I will tell you that we have a large group of people. You know, they kept saying we have a small staff. Not so small. Look at all the people that we have. Look at all of these people. **(Boasting)**

And Kellyanne and Chris and Rudy and Steve and David. We have got — we have got tremendously talented people up here. **(Compliment)**

And I want to tell you, it's been — it's been very, very special. I want to give a very special thanks to our former mayor, Rudy Giuliani.

(APPLAUSE)

Unbelievable. Unbelievable. He traveled with us and he went through meetings. That Rudy never changes. Where's Rudy? Where is he? Rudy. **(Compliment)**

Governor Chris Christie, folks, was unbelievable.

(APPLAUSE)

Thank you, Chris.

The first man, first senator, first major, major politician, and let me tell you, he is highly respected in Washington because he's as smart as you get: Senator Jeff Sessions. Where is Jeff? **(Compliment)**

(APPLAUSE)

Great man.

Another great man, very tough competitor. He was not easy. He was not easy. Who is that? Is that the mayor that showed up? Is that Rudy? Oh, Rudy got up here. **(Compliment)**

Another great man who has been really a friend to me. But I'll tell you, I got to know him as a competitor because he was one of the folks that was negotiating to go against those Democrats: Dr. Ben Carson. Where is Ben?

(APPLAUSE)

Where is Ben?

**TRUMP:** And by the way, Mike Huckabee is here someplace, and he is fantastic. Mike and his family, Sarah — thank you very much.

General Mike Flynn. Where is Mike?

(APPLAUSE)

And General Kellogg. We have over 200 generals and admirals that have endorsed our campaign. And they're special people and it's really an honor. We have 22 congressional Medal of Honor recipients. (**Boasting**)

We have just tremendous people. (**Compliment**)

A very special person who believed me and, you know, I'd read reports that I wasn't getting along with him. (**Compliment**)

I never had a bad second with him. He's an unbelievable star. He is. . .

(CROSSTALK)

**TRUMP:** That's right. How did you possibly guess? So let me tell you about Reince, and I've said this. I said, Reince — and I know it, I know. Look at all those people over there. I know it. Reince is a superstar. But I said, "They can't call you a superstar, Reince, unless we win," because you can't be called a superstar — like Secretariat — if Secretariat came in second, Secretariat would not have that big, beautiful bronze bust at the track at Belmont.

But I'll tell you, Reince is really a star. And he is the hardest-working guy. (**Compliment**)

And in a certain way, I did this — Reince, come up here. Where is Reince? Get over here, Reince.

(APPLAUSE)

Boy oh boy oh boy. It's about time you did this, Reince. My God.

(APPLAUSE)

Say a few words. No, come on, say something.

**RNC CHAIRMAN REINCE PRIEBUS:** Ladies and gentlemen, the next president of the United States, Donald Trump.

(APPLAUSE)

Thank you. It's been an honor. God bless. Thank God.

**TRUMP:** Amazing guy.

Our partnership with the RNC was so important to the success and what we've done. (**Boasting**)

So I also have to say I've gotten to know some incredible people — the Secret Service people.

(APPLAUSE)

They're tough and they're smart and they're sharp, and I don't want to mess around with them, I can tell you. **(Compliment)**

And when I want to go and wave to a big group of people and they rip me down and put me back down on the seat. But they are fantastic people, so I want to thank the Secret Service.

(APPLAUSE)

And law enforcement in New York City. They're here tonight.

(APPLAUSE)

These are spectacular people, sometimes underappreciated unfortunately, but we appreciate them. We know what they go through. **(Compliment)**

So, it's been what they call a historic event, but to be really historic, we have to do a great job. **(Request)**

And I promise you that I will not let you down. We will do a great job. We will do a great job. **(Promise)**

(APPLAUSE)

I look very much forward to being your president, and hopefully at the end of two years or three years or four years, or maybe even eight years. . .

(APPLAUSE)

. . . you will say, so many of you worked so hard for us, but you will say that — you will say that that was something that you really were very proud to do and I can. . . **(Boasting)**

(CROSSTALK)

**TRUMP:** Thank you very much.

And I can only say that while the campaign is over, our work on this movement is now really just beginning. **(Challenge)**

(APPLAUSE)

We're going to get to work immediately for the American people. **(Promise)** And we're going to be doing a job that hopefully you will be so proud of your president. **(Boasting)** You'll be so proud. **(Boasting)** Again, it's my honor. It was an amazing evening. It's been an amazing two-year period. And I love this country.

(APPLAUSE) Thank you. Thank you very much.

(APPLAUSE)

Thank you to Mike Pence. Thank you.

(APPLAUSE)