

LANGUAGE FLOWS IN URBAN SOCIOLINGUISTICS

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Abstract: *In the 1920s in linguistics, the need to study the city in a linguistic aspect was recognized, which led to the formation of such a scientific problem as urban sociolinguistics. It is not (or no longer) sufficient to position the city as a single social space whose dominant function would be integration (and its corollary exclusion), a function manifested both by a linguistic heterogeneity that is a constituent of any social community and by a linguistic mobility that the sociolinguist would have the sole task of making homogeneous and locatable for his field of knowledge and his community of research. It must at least be thought of as a discursive matrix founding more or less consciously elicited regularities, experienced or perceived by its various actors; regularities no doubt as much macro-structural (among other things the social organization of space) as more specifically linguistic and linguistic. But this does not take into account the current dynamic, that of urbanization as a more global phenomenon.*

Keywords: *sociolinguistics, city language, urbanism, urbanized social spaces*

The linguistic dimension (the socio-linguistic part) is quite simply absent from the political and urbanistic discourses relating to projects - in any term combined - on land use planning and related urban policies. All approaches and analyzes combined, the discursive arguments place the territory (national, regional and particularly urban) at the center of the necessities of an intervention; conceptualized, the term is thought of in his speeches as a datum, in other words put into words and in context as an acquired, ineluctable societal value. The territory thus posed is that of the dominant discourse, that of the institutions and/or of the culturally hegemonic group.

Urban sociology has particularly shown the conceptual and descriptive efficiency of urbanization such as the enhancement of spatial mobility; related to sociolinguistics and linguistic facts in general, a sociolinguistic urbanization would then be the taking into account of the dynamism of the urban space (invested by the various discourses on identity appropriations via language and its perceived variation) for what it designates and singles out: a spatial mobility put into words, socially evaluated in discourse, and characterized in language. Considering the approach of urban territories in this way obviously refers to their diversity and their multiplicity in the community space; it refers above all to the epistemic conviction of a discursive otherness perceived as both a resultant and a dimension of the urbanized social space. The discursive analyzes on languages that Claudine Moïse calls for to renew the approach to language policy are those named here. In the specific dynamics of sociolinguistic urbanization, the analysis of the discourse on the territory and starting from its appropriation - territorialization - is to be conceived theoretically in the light of at least three guiding principles:

the perception of others because represented in discourse, the said territory constitutes the speaker as subject and actor of his enunciative space; the perception of others being the perception of a differentiated space referred from the other to the one.

polyphony insofar as it is inherent in all discursive activity. Not only is each word (urban category, denomination of language forms, designation of places, etc.) heavy with the given meanings because its use refers to other discourses, but there is also no use that does not refer to the matrix discursive that constitutes the urban space.

interaction because the space of exchange (concretely to be considered as the perceived or experienced product of spatial mobility) territorialized thus produced can only be so in interaction of two discourses, in other words that it is a level of urban materiality which - without denying other levels of materiality - is only discursive.

The exploration of this questioning will lead us, of course, to review the advances of science over the past ten years, but also to question ourselves on the different visions of the city that appear in the various publications, and on the different choices of cities: an analysis of a very multilingual African or Asian city does not necessarily lead to the same theoretical results as that of a more linguistically unified European city. Finally, we will question the relevance of the linguistic/sociolinguistic opposition by taking the city as a touchstone. It is in this semantic field that it is necessary to analyze the word suburb, literally meaning the wide territory of a league, around the city, on which applied the ban, the authority of the lord. It nevertheless justifies that urban sociolinguistics has looked at these etymological fringes of the city, on its margins: since the suburbs are an extension of the city, then urban sociolinguistics had to put its nose in it. What for? This is probably where “urban sociolinguistics” is the least “social”. Over the past ten years we have witnessed a flowering of studies and publications, some scientific and others more media-oriented, on the language of young people from the suburbs, essentially on their lexicon, claiming sociolinguistics, as if the.

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