CHAPTER 13

SOCIAL AND STYLISTIC VARIATIONS OF VARIABLE (?)

13.1 INTRODUCTION

The variables that is rare in most varieties of the Malay language is the insertion of a glottal in word-final open syllables such as *apa, api, kepala, dahi* and *dagu.* In most varieties of Malay, the word-final open syllables remains opened, which is also the case for the standard Malay.

In Standard Malay, the glottal insertion, for instances the ?-insertion occurs in different environments such as in between two identical vowels, in between two non-identical vowels if the first is a prefixal vowel or in between two non-identical vowels if the first is non-high and stem-final (Farid M. Onn, 1980):

Examples:

saat 'second'	:	[σαατ] ~ [σα?ατ]
tabii 'behaviour'	:	[ταβιι] ~ [ταβι?ι]
dieja 'is spelled'	:	[διεZδα] ~ [δι?εZδ]
diukir 'is crafted'	:	[διυκιρ] ~ [δι?υκιρ]
mengetahui 'knowing'	:	[μ↔N↔ταηυι] ~ [μ↔N↔ταηυ?ι]
diketuai 'leading'	:	[δικ↔τυαι] ~ [δικ↔τυα?ι]

In this study, the researcher only investigates the insertion of glotal in final open syllables such as *apa, api, kepala, dahi* and *dagu.* However, single syllable words such as *di* and *ke* are not included in this study. The researcher encloses the sound of the insertion of glottal in word-final open syllables in parentheses and named it as 'variable (?)'. Variable (?) is not equivalent to phoneme /?/ as there is no phoneme /?/

in the Malay language. The sound of [?] is only an allophone of the phoneme /k/ in the Malay language. It is also an allophone or a variant of the variable (k) (see 10.1) and variable (h) (see 8.1) in Sabah Malay dialect (SMD). The variable (?) is also not equivalent to the ?-insertion of Standard Malay mentioned above (Farid M. Onn, 1980). As all the insertion in final open syllables are either glottal stop [?] or glottal fricative [h], the researcher will use the term 'variable (?)' as the term 'variable (h)' has been used to represent phoneme /h/ in other chapter. Thus, 'variable (?)' is considered the most suitable option. In relation to this, the discussion of this chapter focuses on the variable (?) as a representation of glottal insertion in word-final open syllables in SMD, and not the phoneme /?/, ?-insertion or the allophone [?] of the phoneme /κ/ in the Malay language.

Variable (?) of SMD is a variable in the sense that some speakers sometimes do not insert any glottal, other times they insert glottal stop [?] or glottal fricative [ɳ] in word-final open syllables. Therefore, the variable (?) has three variants in SMD, namely, no glottal insertion [O], insertion of glottal fricative [ɳ] and insertion glottal stop [?] as the following:

$$(?) = \text{Insertion of glottal in word-final open syllable} : \rightarrow \begin{cases} (?)\text{-}_1 = [O] \\ (?)\text{-}_2 = [ɳ] \\ (?)\text{-}_3 = [?] \end{cases}$$

These symbols representing the first variant of the variable (?) is no glottal insertion [O]; the second variant is the insertion of glottal fricative [h] and the third variant the insertion of glottal stop [?]. The standard variant is the [O] variant, while [?] variant

and [η] variant are on-standards. The variable (?) in word-final open syllables is used alternately in SMD as follows:

Examples:

ada	'have'	:	[αδα] ~ [αδαη]~ [αδα?]
api	'fire'	:	[απι] ~ [απιη]~ [απι?]
kepala	'head'	:	[κ↔παλα] ~ [κ↔παλαη]~ [k↔pαλα?]
δαηι	'forehead'	:	[δαηι] ~ [δαηιη]~ [δαηι?]
dagu	'chin'	:	[δαγυ] ~ [δαγυη]~ [δαγυ?]

As the variable (?) in word-final open syllables is a common feature in the Malay language, it is presented in the speech or stylistic variations of the 90 informants who were involved in Word-List Style (WLS) and Reading Passage Style (RPS), and also the speech or stylistic variations of all 108 informants who were involved in Formal Speech (FS) and Casual Speech (CS).

Based on Table 13.1, variable (?) is variably realised either as the [O] variant, the [η] variant or the [?] variant. The respective percentage mean of variable (?) realised as [O], [h] and [?] are 43.83, 23.83 and 32.34% in WLS; 79.64, 4.92 and 15.43% in RPS; 70.63, 4.77 and 24.60% in FS; 68.94, 3.43 and 27.63% in CS. This shows that the variable (?) is realised the most as [O] (43.83-79.64%); less as [?] (15.43-32.34%); and the least as [h] (3.43-23.83%).

Table 13.1: Descriptive Statistics of Variable (?) Word-Final

Stylistic Variation	Variant	N	Min	Max	Mean	Standard Deviation
WLS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	90	0	89.83	43.83	26.30
	(?)-$_2$ = [h]	90	0	91.53	23.83	19.93
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	90	0	98.31	32.34	22.60
RPS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	90	14.54	97.79	79.64	14.18
	(?)-$_2$ = [h]	90	0	24.67	4.92	4.90
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	90	1.32	80.62	15.43	14.20

FS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	108	13.64	99.59	70.63	13.92
	(?)-$_2$ = [h]	108	0	23.88	4.77	4.13
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	108	0.41	79.55	24.60	14.26
CS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	108	5.56	99.30	68.94	19.20
	(?)-$_2$ = [h]	108	0	14.06	3.43	2.99
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	108	0.35	94.44	27.63	19.44

13.2 VARIABLE (?) AND GENDER

The study shows that most of the time both gender groups do not insert any glottal in word-final open syllables. However, both genders use a medium amount of the [?] variant and the least amount of the [ɳ] variant in all stylistic variations as shown in Table 13.2.

Table 13.2: Percentage Means of Variable (?) Word-Final by Gender and Stylistic Variation

Stylistic Variation	Variant	Male	Female
WLS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	42.98	44.51
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	22.29	25.06
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	34.73	30.42
RPS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	77.88	81.05
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	4.67	5.12
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	17.44	13.83
FS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	72.86	68.92
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	5.03	4.57
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	22.11	26.51
CS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	70.18	67.98
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	3.65	3.26
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	26.17	28.75

About 42.98 to 77.88% of the time males do not insert any glottal in word-final open syllables. However, when they do, they insert more of [?] then [ɳ]. They insert [?] between 17.44 and 34.73% of the time, and [ɳ] between 3.65 and 22.29% of the time in different stylistic variations. Similarly, about 44.51 to 81.05% of the time females do not insert any glottal in word-final open syllables. They insert

[?] βετωεεν 13.83 and 30.42% of the time, and [ɳ] only between 3.26 and 25.06% of the time in different stylistic variations.

However, between the two genders, males insert more glottal in word-final open syllables in WLS and RPS. Males also use a higher percentage of [?] in WLS and RPS, and a higher percentage of [ɳ] in FS and CS. Females, in general, insert more glottal in FS and CS. Females also insert a higher percentage of [?] in FS and CS, and they insert a higher percentage of [ɳ] in WLS and RPS.

The indices for variable (?) by gender and stylistic variation lie between the scores of 132.78 and 191.75 (see Figure 13.1). These index scores of variable (?) correspond to the use between the [O] and [h] variants.

The variable (?) is not subject to gender differentiation, as shown by the narrow space separating the gender lines and also overlapping at RPS-FS. This is supported by the insignificant percentage difference at 5% level (p>0.05) of variable (?) realised as [O], [ɳ] and [?] word-finally between one gender group and another in all stylistic variations as tested by the Independent-Samples T-Test (Appendix Ki).

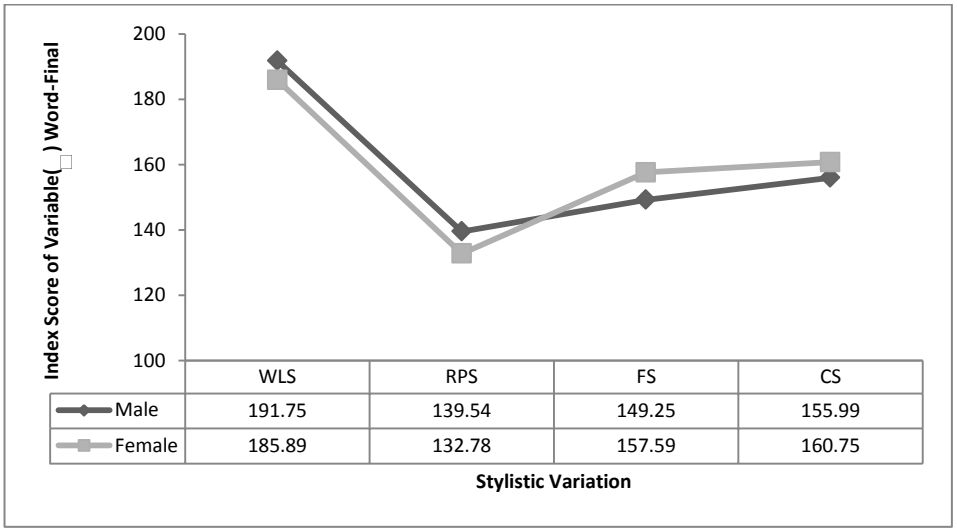


Figure 13.1: Index Score of Variable (?) Word-Final by Gender and Stylistic Variation

Although the percentage difference between WLS-RPS is dropping, the percentage differences between RPS-FS, and FS-CS are consistently rising in the less formal stylistic variation. Thus, variable (?) is considered correlated to stylistic variation. This is supported by the significant percentage differences at 5% level (p<0.05) of variable (?) realised as [O], [h] and [?] word-finally between one stylistic variation and another specifically WLS-RPS, RPS-FS, and FS-CS as tested by the Paired-Samples T-Test (Appendix Kii).

As the variable (?) does not correlate with gender variation but stylistic variation, it is thus neither a marker nor an indicator in the speech community of SMD. The variable (?) has no consequential role in the marking of gender differences. In other words, there is no significant differences between the speech of males and females with regard to the use of variable (?) in SMD.

13.3 VARIABLE (?) AND AGE

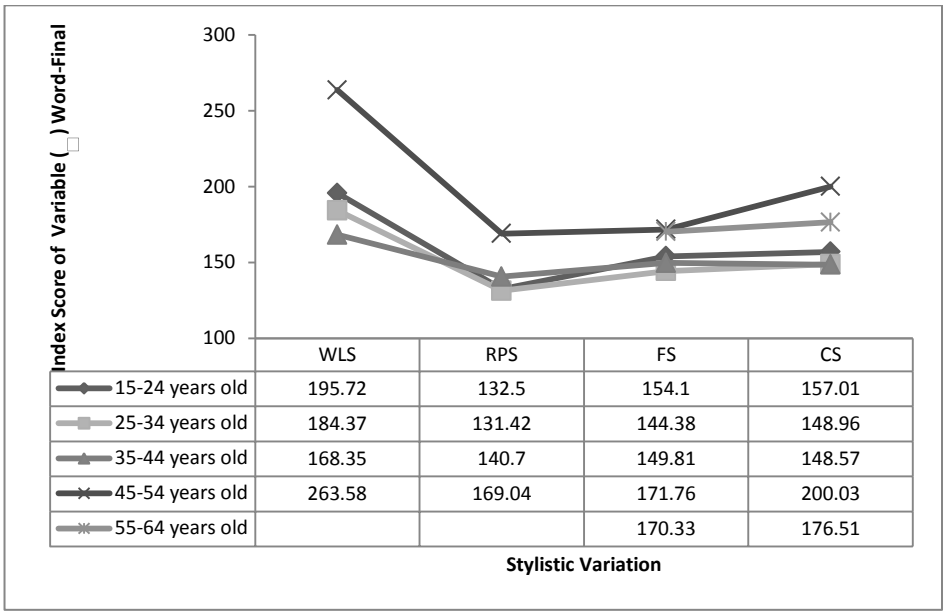
The study shows that, on average, all age groups use the most percentage of the [O] variant and they do not insert any glottal in word-final open syllables about 36.10 to 82.55% of the time in different stylistic variations. All age groups insert [?] variant about 12.75 to 76.70%, and inserting [h] only between 0.89 and 32.08% of the time in different stylistic variations as shown in Table 13.3.

Table 11.3: Percentage Means of Variable (?) Word-Final
by Gender and Stylistic Variation

Stylistic Variation	Variant	15-24 yrs	25-34 yrs	35-44 yrs	45-54 yrs	55-64 yrs
WLS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	36.10	46.39	58.81	13.14	.
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	32.08	22.85	14.06	10.17	.
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	31.82	30.76	27.14	76.70	.
RPS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	80.25	82.55	77.60	65.05	.
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	7.00	3.48	4.10	0.89	.
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	12.75	13.97	18.30	34.07	.
FS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	69.78	75.64	72.80	62.68	63.04
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	6.31	4.34	4.59	2.91	3.56
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	23.90	20.02	22.61	34.42	33.39
CS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	69.04	74.13	74.16	48.53	60.71
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	4.91	2.78	3.11	2.91	2.10
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	26.05	23.09	22.73	48.56	37.20

Among all the age groups, the youngest age group of 15-24 year olds uses the highest percentage of [ɳ] in all the stylistic variations. The 25-34 year olds age group inserts the lowest percentage of [?]. Consequently they use the highest percentage of [O] in RPS and FS. The age group of 35-44 year olds uses the highest percentage of [O] or no insertion but the lowest percentage of [?] in RPS and FS. The age group of 45-54 year olds uses the highest percentage of the [?] in all four stylistic variations and [h] in WLS, RPS and FS. Conversely, they use the lowest percentage of [O] in all stylistic variations. The oldest age group of 55-64 year olds uses the lowest amount of h-insertion.

The indices for variable (?) by age and stylistic variation lie between the scores of 131.42 to 263.58 as shown in Figure 13.2. These index scores of variable (?) are corresponding to the use between the [O] and [?] variants.



	WLS	RPS	FS	CS
15-24 years old	195.72	132.5	154.1	157.01
25-34 years old	184.37	131.42	144.38	148.96
35-44 years old	168.35	140.7	149.81	148.57
45-54 years old	263.58	169.04	171.76	200.03
55-64 years old			170.33	176.51

Figure 13.2: Index Score of Variable (?) Word-Final by Age and Stylistic Variation

One glance at the index graph seems to reflect that there is not much correlation between the variable (?) and age groups. This is because each of the age lines entangle with others and there is no clear space separating the groups. However the percentage differences of variable (?) realised as [O], [η] and [?] in word-final open syllable between one age group and another are significant at 5% level (p>0.05) in all stylistic variations as demonstrated by One-Way ANOVA Test (Appendix Kiii).

Although the percentage difference between WLS-RPS drops, the percentage differences between RPS-FS, and FS-CS consistently rise in the less formal stylistic variation. This is supported by the significant percentage differences at 5% level (p<0.05) of variable (?) realised as [O], [h] and [?] word-finally between one stylistic variation and another as verified by the Paired-Samples T-Test (Appendix Kiv).

As the variable (?) is correlated with age variation and stylistic variation, it is a marker in the speech community of SMD. Therefore, it has some consequential role in

the marking of age differences, especially between the older (45-54 and 55-64) and younger age groups (15-24, 25-34 and 35-44) in different stylistic variations.

13.4 VARIABLE (?) AND ETHNIC MEMBERSHIP

The study shows that, on average, all ethnic groups use the most as [O], less as [?]and the least as [η] in all stylistic variations as shown in Table 13.4. All ethnic groups insert [?] in word-final open syllables between 2.56 and 42.04%, and insert [h] between 2.64 and 32.67% of the time. About 32.65 to 90.52% of the time these ethnic groups do not insert any glottal in word-final open syllables in all of the stylistic variations

Table 13.4: Percentage Means of Variable (?) Word-Final by Ethnic Membership and Stylistic Variation

Stylistic Variation	Variant	MLY	KDZ	BJU	BGS	BMP	CHI	ONB
WLS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	52.40	32.65	47.45	54.58	57.63	36.84	.
	(?)-$_2$ = [η]	13.12	25.30	27.34	32.67	22.32	26.00	.
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	34.47	42.04	25.21	12.74	20.06	37.16	.
RPS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	80.06	75.93	82.26	90.52	83.32	71.94	.
	(?)-$_2$ = [η]	2.64	4.97	5.38	4.74	7.70	7.13	.
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	17.30	19.10	12.36	4.74	8.99	20.93	.

Table 13.4, cont.

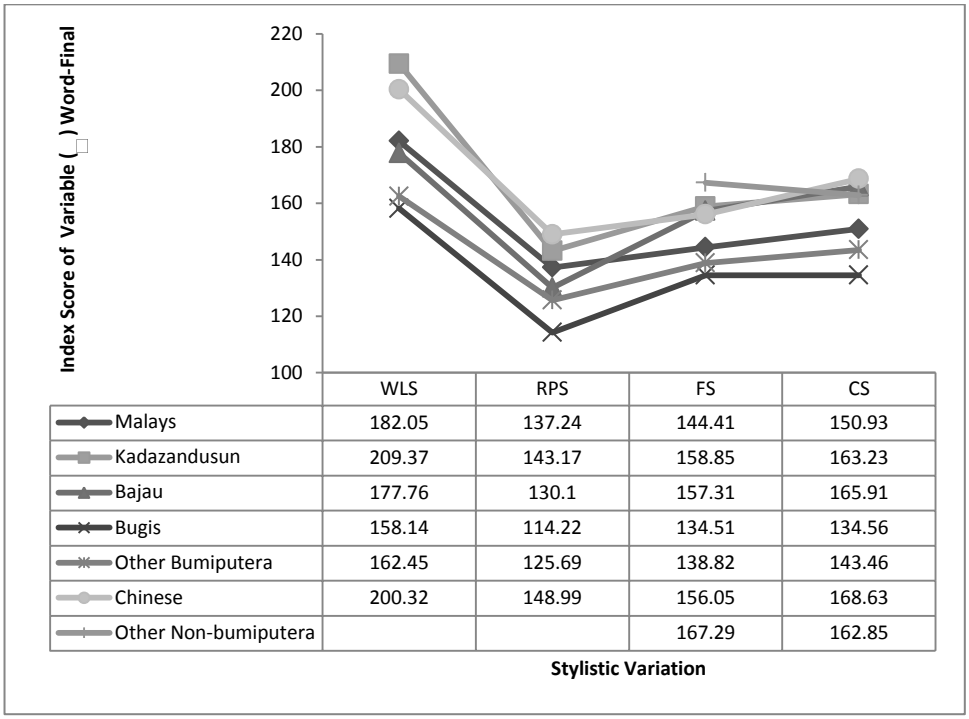
Stylistic Variation	Variant	MLY	KDZ	BJU	BGS	BMP	CHI	ONB
FS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	75.74	67.91	69.07	79.91	79.31	69.35	64.15
	(?)-$_2$ = [η]	4.11	5.33	4.55	5.67	2.56	5.25	4.41
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	20.15	26.76	26.38	14.42	18.13	25.40	31.44
CS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	72.72	66.63	65.66	80.64	76.42	63.62	67.14
	(?)-$_2$ = [η]	3.63	3.51	2.77	4.19	3.70	4.16	2.87
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	23.65	29.86	31.57	15.18	19.88	32.23	29.99

in three of the stylistic variations, namely RPS, FS and CS. KDZ insert the highest percentage of [?], consequently they use the lowest percentage of [O] in WLS. BJU insert the highest percentage of [h] in RPS but the lowest percentage of [h] in CS. At the same time, BJU also insert the highest percentage of [?] in CS. BGS use the

highest percentage of [O] in almost all the stylistic variation. Given this, they insert the lowest percentage of [ʔ] ɪn all four stylistic variations. BGS also tend to insert the most percentage [h] in WLS, FS and CS. BMP use the highest percentage of [O] ɪv WLS and the lowest percentage of [h] in FS. CHN use the lowest percentage of [O] in RPS and CS, but they use the highest percentage of [ʔ] in RPS. ONB use the lowest percentage of the [O] and thus they insert the highest percentage of [ʔ].

It is found that the indices of variable (ʔ) by ethnic membership and stylistic variation lie between the scores of 114.22 and 209.37 as shown in Figure 13.3. These index scores correspond to the use between the [O] and [ŋ] variants.

The index graph shows that the variable (ʔ) is subject to ethnic group differentiation, as each of the ethnic lines is quite distinct from others, especially BGS and BMP. The percentage differences of variable (ʔ) realised as [O], [ŋ] and [ʔ] word-finally between one ethnic group and another are significant at 5% level ($p<0.05$) in all stylistic variations as verified by One-Way ANOVA Test (Appendix Kv).



	WLS	RPS	FS	CS
Malays	182.05	137.24	144.41	150.93
Kadazandusun	209.37	143.17	158.85	163.23
Bajau	177.76	130.1	157.31	165.91
Bugis	158.14	114.22	134.51	134.56
Other Bumiputera	162.45	125.69	138.82	143.46
Chinese	200.32	148.99	156.05	168.63
Other Non-bumiputera			167.29	162.85

Figure 13.3: Index Score of Variable (?) Word-Final by Ethnic Membership and Stylistic Variation

Variable (?) is subject to stylistic differentiation. Although the percentage difference between WLS-RPS drops, the percentage of differences between RPS-FS, and FS-CS consistently rise in the less formal stylistic variation. This is supported by the significant percentage differences at 5% level (p<0.05) of variable (?) realised as [O], [h] and [?] word-finally between one stylistic variation and another as tested by the Paired-Samples T-Test (Appendix Kvi).

As the variable (?) is correlated with ethnic group variation and stylistic variation, it is a marker in the speech community of SMD. Therefore, it has some consequential role in the marking of ethnic differences, especially between BGS, as well as BMP and the other ethnic groups in different stylistic variations. There is no significant difference between the speeches of other ethnic groups with regard to the use of variable (?) in SMD.

13.5 VARIABLE (?) AND SOCIAL STRATIFICATION

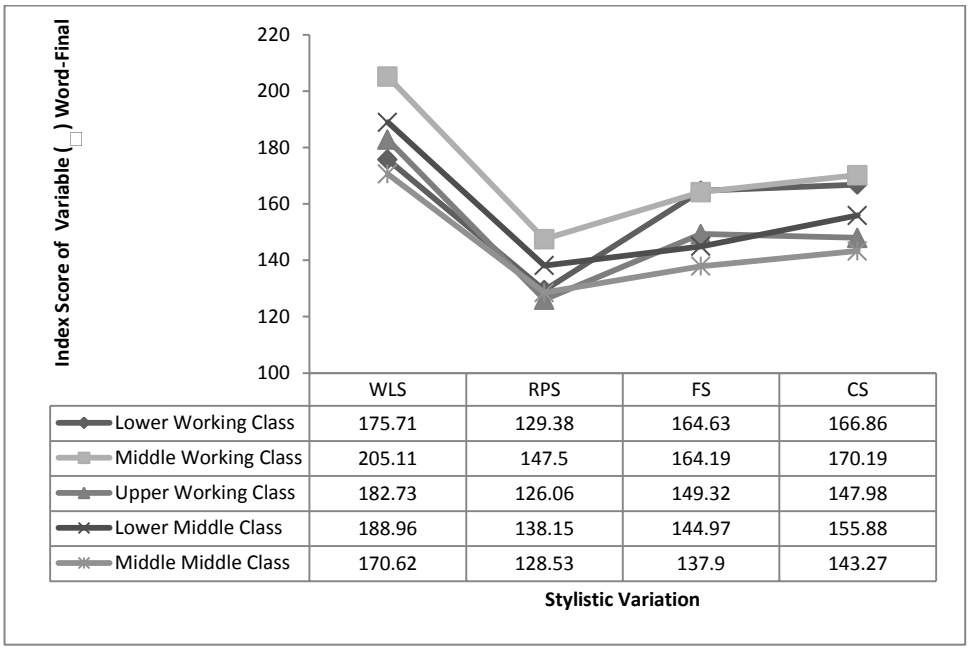
The study shows that about 35.44 to 83.92% of the time, all social strata do not insert any glottal in final open syllables. All social strata insert a medium amount [?] (9.98 and 40.57%), they insert the least amount of [ɳ] (2.24 and 27.89%) in different of the stylistic variations.

Table 13.5: Percentage Means of Variable (?) Word-Final by Social Stratification and Stylistic Variation

Stylistic Variation	Variant	LWC	MWC	UWC	LMC	MMC
WLS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	51.13	35.44	44.69	42.94	57.23
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	22.03	23.98	27.89	25.16	14.92
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	26.84	40.57	27.42	31.90	27.85
RPS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	83.36	73.77	83.92	78.61	83.85
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	3.90	4.96	6.10	4.63	3.74
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	12.74	21.27	9.98	16.76	12.40
FS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	66.21	64.73	72.41	75.24	79.22
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	2.95	6.35	5.86	4.58	3.66
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	30.84	28.92	21.73	20.19	17.12
CS	(?)-$_1$ = [O]	65.45	62.66	73.85	70.56	76.91
	(?)-$_2$ = [ɳ]	2.24	4.49	4.32	3.00	2.88
	(?)-$_3$ = [?]	32.31	32.85	21.83	26.44	20.20

Among all the social strata, LWC insert the highest percentage of [?] in FS, but the lowest in WLS. This group also inserts the lowest percentage of [h] in FS and CS. MWC uses the lowest percentage of [O] ιν all four stylistic variations and consequently they insert the highest percentage of [?] in WLS, RPS and CS, and [h] in WLS and RPS. UWC insert the highest percentage of [h] in WLS and RPS. This group also insert the lowest percentage of [?] but the highest percentage of [O] in RPS. MMC uses the highest percentage of [O] in WLS, FS and CS; consequently this group insert the lowest percentage [?] FS and CS.

It is found that the indices for variable (?) by social stratification and stylistic variation lie between the scores of 126.06 to 205.11 as shown in Figure 13.4 These index scores of variable (?) correspond to the use between the [O] and [ɳ] variants.



	WLS	RPS	FS	CS
Lower Working Class	175.71	129.38	164.63	166.86
Middle Working Class	205.11	147.5	164.19	170.19
Upper Working Class	182.73	126.06	149.32	147.98
Lower Middle Class	188.96	138.15	144.97	155.88
Middle Middle Class	170.62	128.53	137.9	143.27

Figure 13.4: Index Score of Variable (?) Word-Final by Social Stratification and Stylistic Variation

The index graph shows that the variable (?) is subject to social strata differentiation, as each of the social lines is quite distinct from others especially middle class (MMC) as compared to the working class (LWC). The percentage differences of variable (?) realised as [O], [ɳ] and [?] word-finally between one social group and another are also significant at 5% level (p<0.05) in all stylistic variations as verified by One-Way ANOVA Test (Appendix Kvii).

Although the percentage difference between WLS-RPS drops, the percentage differences between RPS-FS, and FS-CS are consistently rising in the less formal stylistic variation. This is supported by the significant percentage differences at 5% level (p<0.05) of variable (?) realised as [O], [h] and [?] word-finally between one

stylistic variation and another as tested by the Paired-Samples T-Test (Appendix Kviii).

As the variable (?) is correlated with social strata variation and stylistic variation, it is a marker in the speech community of SMD. Therefore, it has some consequential role in the marking of age differences, especially between the middle classes (MMC) and the working classes (LWC) in different stylistic variations.

13.6 CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the variable of (?) of SMD is realised as the [O] variant ranging from zero to 99.59%; the [ɳ] variant ranging from zero to 91.53%; and the [?] variant ranging from zero to 98.31. The index scores for the variable (?) are ranging between the score of 114.22 and 209.37, which inclined towards the sub standard variants of [h] and [?] in WLS but moved towards the standard variant [O] in the less formal stylistic variations. This also means that in general the speech community of SMD use a very high percentage of the [O] variant and less percentage of the [ɳ] variant and the [?] variant.

In most cases, the speakers would use [ɑpɑ] 'what', [ɑpɪ] 'fireə and [bahu] 'shoulder' as [ɑpɑ], [ɑpɪ] and [βɑɳʊ], especially by the age groups of 15-24, 25-34 and 35-44; the ethnic groups of BGS and BMP; and the social stratum of MMC. These social groups tend to maintain the word-final open syllables as opened.

However, the variable (?) is correlated with age, ethnic membership, and social stratification variations. Therefore, the age group of 45-54 year olds, the ethnic groups of MLY, KDZ and CHN, and the social stratum of LWC would most likely to use ?-

insertion in most word-final open syllables such as [απα?], [απι?] and [βαηυ?]. On the contrary, the age group of 15-24 and the social stratum of MWC would most likely to use h-insertion instead, in words such as [απαη], [απιη] and [βαηυη] in most formal stylistic variation. The age group of 45-54 year olds, the ethnic of Bugis (BGS) and other bumiputera (BMP) and social stratum of MMC would most likely not insert glottal in variable (?) as they are most likely to alter [apa] and [siku] as compared to other speech communities.

There is strong correlation between stylistic variation and all the four social variations of gender, age, ethnic membership and social stratification for the variable (?), especially in the more formal stylistic variation. It is interesting to note that the percentage differences between WLS-RPS consistently rise in the less formal style, while the percentage difference between RPS-FS, and FS-CS generally drop in the less formal stylistic variation, for all social variation. The high percentage of ?-insertion in WLS can be explained as the ?-insertion tends to occur more often in a slow utterance especially in word-list reading style (WLS).