

8.3.2021

To whom it may concern,

Regarding the dissertation written by Mrs. Hefer, I had read previous drafts and versions, and have concluded this current version to be refined and revised to a great extent.

Although I found the previous version of the dissertation to be of a high standard, original in its content and profoundly and thoroughly investigated, the new version is without a doubt much improved. It is more organized, legible and considerably more detailed, especially in its in-depth description of the sample group and its particulars. The unique characteristics of said group were placed under the microscope, so to speak, and important, distinctive and very interesting findings were made, which were elaborated upon extensively in the dissertation.

A specific addition to the paper is the deliberation about and distinction between code mixing and code switching. This nuance has added another significant layer of depth and dimension to the article. As well as that, the social factor has been emphasized more, since it has been found to be the most critical in the linguistic behavior of the observed group, playing the lead role in the makeup of their speech. The ideology and culture of the speakers was pointed out to have a major effect on their speaking.

It has fascinated me to see in the study the endless range of the linguistic acrobatics that these bilinguals are capable of, especially in the endeavor made by Mrs. Hefer to compare them to other minorities worldwide. She has found characteristics that this group shares with other bilinguals, as well as characteristics that belong singly to them. It seems to me that in the encompassing research done by Mrs. Hefer, supported by the findings of Fishman and Gold, she alludes and hints that the time has come to recognize Jewish English Variety as a language on its own.

I assess this dissertation in a positive light, and see it to be a valuable contribution to the field.

POSITIVE

Sincerely,  
Professor Y. Tobin  
Beer Sheva, Israel

