

SOCIOLINGUISTICS: LANGUAGE USE, VARIATION AND IDENTITY IN PARADIGMS OF GENDER

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ABSTRACT

This paper critically examines language variation in the specific context of gender identity and social stature. Predicated on indicative studies conducted by experts within the sociolinguistic playfield, the aim of this analysis is to deconstruct the four approaches to Language and Gender Theory and therefore trace the trajectory of such research across the years.

KEYWORDS: *Sociolinguistics, Paradigms of Gender, Language Use*