Uses of Someone:
Beyond Simple Person Reference

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Outline

1 Introduction
2 Data and Method
3 Analysis
4 Discussion and Conclusion
5 Q & A
1 Introduction

Person reference:

1. Minimization e.g. a name
2. Recipient Design e.g. a name or a descriptive recognitional (the woman wearing a hat)

(Sacks & Schegloff, 1979)
Someone:

Non-recognitionional reference form
1 Introduction

Shared knowledge about a referent ➔ someone ➔ a simple reference

E.g. Disaffiliative actions of complaints, accusations, disassociation, and disapprovals
2 Data and Method

3 extracts: Media-generated conversations

1. The American TV sitcom *Friends*
2. The Singaporean film *I Not Stupid*
2 Data and Method

- Analytical framework: Conversation Analysis (CA)

-Detailed analysis

(Waring, Creider, & Box, 2013)
2 Data and Method

• Analytical framework: Conversation Analysis (CA)
  - Naturally occurring data transcribed from audio or video recordings

(Waring, Creider, & Box, 2013)
2 Data and Method

• Analytical framework: Conversation Analysis (CA)
  -Goal: To uncover the meaning of interaction from the participants' perspective

(Waring, Creider, & Box, 2013)
2 Data and Method

3 Analysis

Someone:

• Disapproval of the non-present referent
• Disassociation: Speaker ↔ Referent
• Reinforcing a complaint
3 Analysis
14 M: with *someone* who is critical of *EVERY SINGLE THING* you say.
3 Analysis

M: z'f I spent more she'd be saying (.) why're you wasting your MONEY =
  =I don't need flowers =
  =I'm de::: [ad.]
A: [((laughter))]
D: [That sounds like] ↑Nana,
A: [((laughter °))]
M: °(h)uh.
(1.3)
M: °.hhh°
(0.2)
3 Analysis

12 M: Did you know what it's like (.) to grow up,
13 (1.0)
14 M: with someone who is critical of EVERY SINGLE THING you say.
15 A: [((laughter))]
16 A: ((laughter))
17 (0.5)
18 D: I can imagine?
3 Analysis

20 M: k(h)e° he° (.hhh)e I'm telling you.
21 M: (0.5)
22 M: .hhh it's a wonder your mother turned out to be the **positive**
=life-affirming person't she i:...s.
23 M: 

14 M: \( \rightarrow \) with **someone** who is **critical** of E: VERY S: IN[GLE THI:NG you say.]

Disapproval
3 Analysis

Nana

01 M: z'f I spent more she'd be saying (. ) why're you wasting your MONEY.
02 =I don't need flowers=
03 =I'm de: : : [ad. ]

12 M: Di ↑you know what it's like (. ) to grow up,
13 (1.0)
14 M: → with someone who is critical of EVERY SINGLE THING you say.]
15 A: [((laughter))]

stress, high volume, lengthened emphasis

Disassocation

Strengthened Complaint
3 Analysis

Someone:

- Disapproval of the non-present referent (Nana)
- Disassociation:
  Speaker (M) ↔ Referent (Nana)
- Reinforcing a complaint
3 Analysis

Someone:

• Disapproval of the present referent

• An accusation

• Disassociation
3 Analysis
Extract 2

18 J:  →  \{someone - ((gazes at K))}\}
3 Analysis

11 J: =.hhh
12 so::rry, so::rry, Mr. °k-° Ku::.
13 I'm Jo::hn,=
14 =the creative director.=
15 K: =°h:m.°
16 J: I'm very sorry to be LA:T(h)E.
17 {kuh - ((J pulls a chair and sits down))}
3 Analysis

18 J: "someone" - ((gazes at K))
19 did not - ((slowly shifts his gaze from K to DA))

20 [tell me - ((lowers his head while gazing at DA))]
21 DA: ((gazes at J))

22 J: [that (. ) - ((shifts his gaze from DA back to K))]
23 DA: ((gazes away from J))

24 J: [the tiempo have been - ((gazes at K))]
25 [changed. (widely opens his eyes and raises his eyebrows while gazing at K)]
26 DA: [((slightly moves his head to the right and lowers it))]

27 J: where's my proposal?

Disapproval
3 Analysis
J: {someone - ((gazes at K))}
19  J: {did not - ((slowly shifts his gaze from K to DA))}
20  [tell me - ((lowers his head while gazing at DA))]
21  DA: [((gazes at J))]
22  J: [((gazes at K))]
23  DA: [((gazes away from J))]
24  J: {the time have been - ((gazes at K))}
25  [((changed. widely opens his eyes and raises his eyebrows while gazing at K))]
26  DA: [((slightly moves his head to the right and lowers it))]
27  J: where's my proposal?
22 J: [{that .) - ((shifts his gaze from DA back to K))}]

23 DA: [((gazes away from J)]
{changed. ((widely opens his eyes and raises his eyebrows while gazing at K))}

DA:

{((slightly moves his head to the right and lowers it))

Accusation
3 Analysis

18  J:  → {someone} \((\text{gazes at } K)\) 
19  {did not - \((\text{slowly shifts his gaze from } K \text{ to } DA)\)} 

20  [[{tell me - \((\text{lowers his head while gazing at } DA)\)}]] 
21  DA:  \[((gazes at J))\] 

22  J:  [[{that .} - \((\text{shifts his gaze from } DA \text{ back to } K)\)}]] 
23  DA:  \[((gazes away from J))\] 

24  J:  \{the ti:me °ha°ve been - \((gazes at K)\)} 

25  [[{changed. \((\text{widely opens his eyes and raises his eyebrows while gazing at } K)\)}]] 
26  DA:  \[((slightly moves his head to the right and lowers it))\] 

27  J:  where's my proposal?
3 Analysis

Someone:

• Disapproval of the present referent (DA)
• An accusation
• Disassociation:

Speaker (J) ⇐⇨ Referent (DA)
3 Analysis

Someone:

• Disapproval: Co-participants & non-present referent

• Disassociation:

  Co-participants ↔ Referent
  Speaker ↔ Referent
“Let’s let the Alan-bashing begin.”
Extract 3

08 M: → =we're talking about someone that I'm going out with?
### 3 Analysis

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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>01</strong> RS:</td>
<td>we loved °him.°</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>02</strong> All:</td>
<td>we LOVED him.=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>03</strong> ?</td>
<td>=[hold on. ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>04</strong> J:</td>
<td>°isn't that great?°=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>05</strong> M:</td>
<td>=ALL:::]RI:::]GH'?=</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>06</strong> P:</td>
<td>[°great.° ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>08</strong> M:</td>
<td>→=we're talking about someone that I::'m going out °with°=?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>09</strong> C:</td>
<td>=[YE(h):::]S.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong> P:</td>
<td>=[YE::::::::S.] [yeah. ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11</strong> J:</td>
<td>[↑yeah. ]</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12</strong> RC:</td>
<td>that pimento trick?</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3 Analysis

Someone:

• Disapproval: Co-participants (friends) & non-present referent (Alan)

• Disassociation:

  Co-participants (friends) ←→ Referent (Alan)
  Speaker (M) ←→ Referent (Alan)
4 Discussion and Conclusion

Someone:

• 1. Disapprovals: Present referent, non-present referent, or co-participants
4 Discussion and Conclusion

Someone:

• 2. Disassociation:

  Speaker ↔ Referent

  Co-participants ↔ Referent
4 Discussion and Conclusion

Someone:

• 3. Disaffiliative actions  E.g. Reinforcing a complaint, forming an accusation, etc.
4 Discussion and Conclusion

Theoretical:

To expand the definition of non-recognitionals proposed by Sacks and Schegloff (1979).
Implication:

To add to the existing knowledge of how social actions are accomplished and how social interaction is co-constructed.
Future research:
Expanding data collection
Thank you

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