

BOOK NOTES

Language in Society 53 (2024)
doi:10.1017/S0047404523001033

TRANG THI THUY NGUYEN, *Individual language policy: Bilingual youth in Vietnam*.
Bristol: Multilingual Matters, 2022. Pp. 144. £90.

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Individual language policy is a complete and well-conducted overview of the language practices, beliefs, and management of bilingual youth in Vietnam. The author conducted twenty-eight in-depth qualitative interviews that provided a compelling collection of minority youth's experiences. Selected participants belong to six ethnic groups in Vietnam and know at least three languages: their ethnic language (L1), Vietnamese (L2, the language of the majority group), and English (learnt as a foreign language).

Nguyen explores the idea that minority youth confront constant negotiations between maintenance and transformation, that is, respectively, their desire to preserve their ethnic values and language and their wish to be part of the mainstream society. The author examined this issue through three angles related to individual language policy: practised language policy, perceived language policy, and negotiated language policy.

First, the youth's practised language policy is conditioned by different domains, such as family-ethnic community, church, school, and wider society. The last two domains seemed to provide the perfect conditions for Vietnamese integration, while family and church were spaces most dedicated to L1 preservation. However, youth also can exert their influence and change the paradigm, for example, by introducing Vietnamese (L2) into communication with parents.

Second, the perceived language policy refers to their language ideology, whether supporting maintenance or advocating for transformation. For instance, one of Nguyen's findings is that youth's self-enhancement is strongly connected with their ability to speak Vietnamese and English. Nevertheless, some beliefs aimed at the maintenance of their ethnicity. Thus, bilingualism is considered a valued resource, and using L1 is seen as a manifestation of ethnic solidarity and loyalty.


Third, the youth's negotiated language policy concerns how they manage their language practices and beliefs under explicit and external intervention, either by institutions and community forces or by individuals. This management is part of identity configuration and might contribute to the process of L1 preservation or that of alignment closer to mainstream society. Indeed, youth can exercise their agency by adapting their practices to external exigences or by refusing to modify their language behaviours.

Overall, the book succeeds in providing a comprehensive overview of the minority language situation in Vietnam. However, the author's membership in the majority Vietnamese ethnic group could have potentially influenced the responses of some interviewees. It would be compelling to contrast these findings with outcomes from research conducted by an indigenous ethnic minority investigator for further insights. One of the book's strengths is its innovative theoretical contribution to the discussion on language policy. In contrast to the extensive literature related to institutions, communities, and families, Nguyen focused on the language policy at the individual level, which is certainly accountable for daily practices and the future vitality of languages. Thus, this work will be highly valuable for the examination of regions facing comparable circumstances: a strong tendency among youth to transform and integrate into the majority norms, despite their connection with their ethnic values.

(Received 14 September 2023)

Language in Society 53 (2024)
doi:10.1017/S0047404523001045

LAURENCE R. HORN (ed.), *From lying to perjury: Linguistic and legal perspectives on lies and other falsehoods*. Berlin: De Gruyter, 2022. Pp. 411. Hb. €114.95.

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The third volume of 'Foundations in language and law', comprising sixteen chapters grouped into four thematic parts, delves into the salient subjects of falsehoods, deceit, and dishonesty, which have gained increased prominence recently.

Part I lays the theoretical foundation, introducing key figures like Augustine, Kant, and Frankfurt. While it provides a crucial foundation for the subsequent empirical chapters, it may challenge readers unfamiliar with pragmatics and implicatures. Thomas L. Carson's opening chapter explores the terminology and concepts used to distinguish between various shades of falsehood. William G. Lycan builds on this to underscore the moral philosophical foundation, explaining intentional deception through implicature. Roy Sorensen explores a priori and a posteriori lies, addressing the question of responsibility in deception scenarios, on the part of the perpetrator or the victim.

Part II explores these theories through experimental research and empirical evidence on people's judgements of various forms of dishonesty. Alex Wiegmann & Neele Engelmann use hypothetical scenarios to confirm a preferential tendency of misleading over outright lying when faced with personal choice. Ronny Boogaart, Henrike Jansen, & Maarten van Leeuwen examine the 'viewpoint defence', a strategy of quoting others to deflect personal commitment, showing that quoting can give rise to implicatures, potentially holding quoters accountable for the cited