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Ethnolinguistic Orientation and Language Variation:
Measuring and Archiving
Ethnolinguistic Vitality, Attitudes and Identity

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17 Abstract

18

19 Sociolinguists and social psychologists have long been interested in how language variation is
20 associated with social psychological variables, including people's beliefs about and attitudes
21 towards languages and their speakers, as well as their feelings of affiliation with their own
22 ethnolinguistic group, and there is a growing interest in archiving such information along with
23 sociolinguistic data for use by other researchers. With this end in mind, we suggest some brief,
24 quantitative indices that might be appropriate and useful for documenting social psychological
25 variables for contemporary and future purposes. The first construct considered is
26 ethnolinguistic vitality, which refers to those characteristics that make a language group likely
27 to behave as an active collective entity in language contact situations. The second is language
28 attitudes, which refers to the feelings and beliefs that people hold with regards to their own
29 and others' languages and the associated language community/ies. The third is ethnolinguistic
30 identity, which refers to the manner and extent to which individuals define themselves as
31 members of an ethnolinguistic group. Although we maintain that more extensive, detailed
32 coding should be included in sociolinguistic archives, we suggest that these three sets of indices
33 should be minimally included in an assessment battery to assess a speaker's ethnolinguistic
34 orientation.

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36

37 1. Introduction

38 For many reasons, sociolinguists, social psychologists, and other social scientists
39 interested in language variation have become increasingly concerned about improving the
40 accessibility and longevity of their research data. There are several good reasons for archiving
41 social and linguistic data, including the possibility of reanalyzing and/or extending the analyses
42 of data in published reports; replicating important findings to determine their consistency
43 across diverse social contexts; and facilitating systematic reviews and meta-analyses of existing
44 studies. As well, in order to examine the temporal dynamics of socio-cultural and linguistic
45 changes, data must necessarily be archived for use in longitudinal and repeated cross-sectional
46 studies. Perhaps in recognition of such potentially useful research purposes, there has arisen
47 some institutional pressure to archive data, as outlined in the policies of research funding
48 agencies, including the U.S. National Science Foundation and the Social Sciences and
49 Humanities Research Council of Canada. As discussed in the introduction to this issue, their
50 guidelines stipulate that the data collected with funds from these organizations should be made
51 available to researchers other than those who collected the data.

52 This paper discusses the kinds of variables that researchers might consider including if
53 they wish to create or use corpora that are annotated for ethnolinguistic orientation, including
54 speakers' beliefs, attitudes and identities vis-à-vis their own and other language communities.
55 It is a challenge to record these aspects of ethnicity in a manner that captures their varied
56 distribution in a community and their dynamics over time. As Hall-Lew and Wong (this issue)
57 point out, participants do not necessarily define constructs in a manner similar the researcher,

58 and so the researcher must clarify the participants' meaningⁱ. Moreover, these socio-
59 psychological phenomena are neither constant nor homogenous within a group, and every
60 speaker may have multiple, variable beliefs, attitudes and identities which are intersecting and
61 potentially negotiated throughout a given recording. Ideally we would use the most extensive
62 and detailed coding possible to "justify any use of broad labels, to recognize that speakers will
63 differ in their orientation to those labels, and to recognize that one speaker's orientation may
64 shift over the course of a single interaction" (Hall-Lew & Wong, this issue: 16). Tagliamonte
65 (this issue) provides an overview of just how wide ranging the contextual information necessary
66 for predicting language behavior could be.

67 We take the perspective that more information is better than less, and indeed
68 necessary, but we still need to specify what must be minimally included in our corpora. This is
69 important because there may be limits to the capacity of an archive, and even if not, there are
70 likely limits to the amount of information that any given researcher can synthesize. Moreover,
71 even with extensive coding, it is not always possible to forecast everything that might be
72 relevant to other researchers. Thus, we must decide on some variables that are likely to be of
73 broad interest over a long period of time, and develop "observation-level metadata, [including]
74 standard names and definitions for a wide variety of demographic and situational factors,
75 standardized ways of expressing the possible values for those factors and standardized formats
76 for encoding the association of factors with values" (Simons, this issue: 5). We recognize that a
77 minimal set of indices is necessarily reductive, but all analysis of data derived from natural
78 speech samples requires abstracting from the original speech event, such that some
79 information is lost in the process (Kendall, 2008). This is particularly true of quantitative data

80 coding, in which beliefs, attitudes, and identities are cast as a restricted set of statements or
81 categories with which participants agree or disagree on some numeric scale. Nonetheless, we
82 focus our discussion on quantitative indices of beliefs, attitudes and identities because they can
83 concisely document variables of interest and they lend themselves well to statistical analysis,
84 two qualities that might be useful in comparative studies. As Soukup (2012) points out, the
85 kinds of generalities that quantitative data analyses provide can be useful as long as
86 constructionist considerations are taken into account. We hold the optimistic assumption that
87 after at least 40 years of studying language variation and its link to socio-psychological
88 variables, scholars have established some shared understanding of what might be important
89 themes that will likely to continue to be of interest in the longer run. We also expect that the
90 information provided by these few, brief indices would be supplemented by other information,
91 both qualitative and quantitative (in the spirit of “maximal coding”; Hall-Lew and Wong, this
92 issue: 7) and by the original research reports where an extended discussion of the data can be
93 found. Where possible new and original research reports could be further supplemented by
94 discussions with the original researcher(s) to better understand the intent and context in which
95 the data were collected. This triangulation would help to situate analysts’ formal categories and
96 explanations in more specific situated practices.

97 Figure 1 portrays three constructs that social scientists have used to analyze the relation
98 between speakers’ social psychological world and language behavior. We refer to this
99 combination of loosely interrelated variables as a speaker’s ethnolinguistic orientation, that is,
100 the degree to which a speaker references, is influenced by, and actively engages in a particular
101 ethnolinguistic group (cf. Nagy et al, in press). Ethnolinguistic orientation includes multiple

102 aspects, such as beliefs, attitudes, values, and behaviours, and we will focus specifically on
103 beliefs regarding a group's ethnolinguistic vitality, language attitudes, and ethnolinguistic
104 identity. Each of these categories of variables has received considerable research attention
105 over the past 4 decades because they are hypothesized to be important predictors of language
106 behaviour.

107 Figure 1: The Ethnolinguistic Orientation-Language Use Triangle

108- -----

109 Insert Figure 1 here

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112 2. Subjective ethnolinguistic vitality

113 Ethnolinguistic vitality (ELV) was developed by Giles, Bourhis and Taylor (1977) as a framework
114 to systematically describe the socio-structural relations between language groups in contact,
115 and to explain how this socio-structural context is related to language behavior (Johnson, Giles,
116 & Bourhis, 1983; Harwood, Giles, and Bourhis, 1994). ELV is defined as "that which makes a
117 group likely to behave as a distinctive and active collective entity in an intergroup situation"
118 (Giles et al., 1997, p. 308). In order for a language group to survive and actively thrive, it must
119 have strength across three facets. First, it must have strong demographic representation, in
120 terms of the number of speakers, the direction and rate of change in those numbers (e.g.,
121 births, migration, exogamy), and the distribution of speakers in a territory. Second, it must
122 evidence high status, economically, historically and socio-politically, both within and outside

123 the territory. Third, it must have formal and informal institutionalized support, in education,
124 government, industry, religion, mass media, and other sociocultural institutions. Reasonably
125 objective indices of these aspects of ELV can be obtained through archival and ethnographic
126 work (e.g., censuses, media analyses, policy reviews, etc.; see Kindell and Lewis, 2000, and
127 McEntee-Atalianis, 2011, for in-depth discussions of ELV assessment).

128 Johnson, Giles and Bourhis (1983) argued that subjective perceptions of ethnolinguistic
129 vitality (SELV) mediate the relation between objective ELV and communicative competence and
130 language use, and ultimately language loss, maintenance and acquisition. They developed the
131 Subjective Vitality Questionnaire (SVQ) to assess perceptions of the three components
132 proposed by Giles et al. (1977). In general, the internal consistency of the SVQ items are high,
133 suggesting that the items tap a common construct. Attempts to validate the distinctiveness of
134 the status, institutional support, and demographic representation, however, indicate that
135 subjective perceptions do not correspond neatly with the theoretical distinction between these
136 three factors. Some have found support for one or two of these dimensions, and/or found that
137 additional dimensions were necessary (e.g., Giles, Rosenthal, and Young, 1985; Currie and
138 Hogg, 1994; Kraemer, Olshtain, and Badier, 1994, Allard and Landry, 1984, 1994; Clément 1986;
139 Hogg, D'Agata, and Abrams, 1989). In an effort to provide a "definitive" study to validate the
140 SVQ, Abrams, Barker and Giles (2009) examined Asian American, African American and Hispanic
141 Americans' perceptions of the vitality of Caucasians, African Americans and Hispanic Americans
142 in the United States. They found that the hypothesized three-factor structure could not be
143 confirmed, as many items did not define their hypothesized dimension or defined multiple
144 dimensions. They concluded that "these SVQ items were not measuring discrete latent

145 variables but essentially provided a unidimensional measure of overall vitality perceptions” (p.
146 65).

147 Given that this popular measure of SVQ seems to assess speakers’ general sense of
148 vitality, and keeping in mind the present goal of identifying a brief but valid measure for SELV
149 beliefs, one might wonder if a smaller set of items could adequately assess SVQ. Abrams and
150 her colleagues (2009, p. 155) report that two items “may well hold the key to obtaining an
151 overall sense of perceptions of group vitality”. These highly intercorrelated items asked about
152 the perceptions of group strength in the present and in the future, and correspond to items
153 developed by Bourhis et al. (1981) for their Australian study that originally stated “How strong
154 and active do you feel the following groups are in Melbourne” (p. 154) and “How strong and
155 active do you feel the following groups will be 20 to 30 years from now?” (p. 155). This finding
156 would suggest that a brief index of subjective ELV should at least include these two items
157 (adapted to the appropriate ethnolinguistic context).

158 There are two additional points to keep in mind. First, the original version of the SVQ
159 queried participants’ perceptions of a targeted ethnolinguistic group (usually the participant’s
160 heritage group) and another relevant ethnolinguistic group (often one of higher vitality).
161 Because participants must consider both groups together, the information gleaned from this
162 instrument is inherently relative; it tells us the vitality of one group compared to another. It
163 would seem that such a format would make more salient any intergroup issues between the
164 two groups. If only the target group were assessed or if the groups were assessed separately,
165 respondents might be less likely to reflect on the groups’ relative vitality. In other words, the
166 comparative perspective used in the SVQ might prime intergroup concerns, such as

167 competitiveness or threat. It might be, then, that different assessment approaches result in
168 different relations between SELV and other variables. If SELV indices are recorded separately
169 for each group (ideally the ingroup language before other languages; see Wänke and Schwarz,
170 1997; Schwarz, 2014 for a discussion of order effects), then it would possible to examine each
171 group separately or to derive a difference or ratio score to index the vitality of one group vis-à-
172 vis the other group, as best suits the research purposes. However researchers decide to
173 proceed, they need to be clear about the how this index was presented to participants.

174 A second point is that the relation between ELV and language behavior are posited to be
175 indirect and/or supported by a number of other factors. A variety of mediators and moderators
176 of this relation have been forwarded, including the individual's network of linguistic contacts
177 (Allard and Landry, 1994), identification (Hogg and Rigoli, 1996), dissonance or perceived threat
178 between groups (Ehala, 2011), motivation (Karan, 2000, 2011), and the extent to which
179 language choices are self-determined (Landry, Allard and Deveau, 2007), among others. In one
180 of the more elaborated models of the relations between ethnolinguistic vitality and language
181 behavior, Allard and Landry (1986, 1994) claim that objective indicators of ELV are linked to
182 SELV beliefs through each person's network of linguistic contacts. One's network is also argued
183 to be the most proximal predictor of language competence and use. Support for these claims
184 has been mixed. For example, Hogg and Rigoli (1996) found the network of linguistic contacts
185 did not predict language behaviour, but societal-level indices of language support (e.g.,
186 education, mass media) and identification did. Vincze and Harwood (2013) found that a
187 person's network is an important mediator of objective and subjective ELV only in localities
188 where the ethnolinguistic ingroup is the local majority. They suggest that, in minority contexts,

189 the ingroup network is not relevant because people are well aware of the outgroup's higher
190 status. In sum, although each of these variables is assumed to be important, it is not altogether
191 clear how they relate to each other in a broader system.

192 Other variables have been suggested to be important in such an analysis. Ehala (2010)
193 maintains that the ability of a language group to sustain itself depends not only on members'
194 assessments of their group's status relative to other groups, but also on their perceptions of
195 discordance between groups, the openness of their social networks to people outside their
196 ingroup, and their commitment to the heritage language. Karan (2000, 2011) argues that
197 people's language choices are affected not only by their SELV perceptions, but also by their
198 motives to use styles that will best serve their personal interests. In a recent revision of their
199 model, Landry et al. (2007, 2013) suggest that group members' SELV combined with a strong
200 political consciousness and the sense that they are the agents of their language choices predict
201 ethnolinguistic identity. In turn, SELV, identity, and the feelings that one is autonomous,
202 competent and connected with members of an ethnolinguistic group predict the motivation to
203 use that language and linguistic competencies, and ultimately language use. If a researcher
204 were interested in understanding how these variables (and others) and their interrelations
205 develop over time, it would be necessary to assess these diverse variables. However, if the
206 researcher's main objective in compiling ELV indices is the descriptive documentation of the
207 sociostructural context within which speech samples are taken, it might be sufficient to assess a
208 brief index of the participants' SELV for all relevant groups, along with some objective ELV
209 indices (including census data on the distribution of a target language communities in a
210 particular area, etc.).

211 3. Language attitudes

212 Language attitudes refer to positive or negative evaluations of a language and/or its speaker.

213 For over 60 years, sociolinguists and social psychologists have been trying to understand why

214 and how people judge speech styles and speakers, and the conditions and processes by which

215 attitudes predict language behavior. Beginning with Lambert, Hodgson, Gardner and

216 Fillenbaum's (1960) matched guise study, the general premise of this research has been that

217 speech styles elicit cognitive representations of particular social groups which in turn lead to

218 particular kinds of stereotyped judgments (Ryan, Hewstone and Giles, 1984; Giles and Billings

219 2004). Ryan and Giles (1982) posited that evaluations can be made along at least two

220 dimensions, status and solidarity; these two dimensions have long been suggested to be the

221 primary dimensions of interpersonal relations (Brown, 1965; cited in Bradac, 1990; see also

222 Fiske, Cuddy and Glick, 2007)ⁱⁱ. Status refers to characteristics such as intelligence, confidence

223 and ambition. Solidarity refers to social attractiveness traits that include friendliness, sociability

224 and likeability. An evaluator might perceive a group to be high (or low) on both dimensions, or

225 high on one dimension but not the other.

226

227 There is some ambiguity about the sociostructural circumstances that predict patterns of

228 attitudes. Generally, majority groups with high socioeconomic status and urban speech styles

229 are regarded as having greater status by both members of the majority and minority groups.

230 The conditions precipitating solidarity judgments are less clear. In their review, Bourhis and

231 Maass (2005, p. 1590) claimed that "the general findings from a large number of language

232 stereotype studies ... show that the in-group accent or language variety is evaluated more

233 favourably on solidarity dimensions, while the out-group speech variety is upgraded on status
234 traits if the out-group accent or language is used by a ruling elite or dominant majority".
235 Elsewhere, Giles and Marlow (2011, p. 166) maintain that "those who speak nonstandard
236 varieties are upgraded on traits of social attractiveness (or benevolence) and hence viewed as
237 more friendly, generous, and likeable than their standard speaking counterparts". A recent
238 meta-analysis of twenty studies done by Fuertes, Gottdiener, Martin, Gilbert, and Giles (2012)
239 found that while standard-accented speakers are rated higher on solidarity than nonstandard-
240 accented speakers overall, a number of studies found the opposite pattern, where
241 nonstandard-accented speakers are rated higher in solidarity. Hence, it would seem that
242 either the ingroup or the lower status group could be perceived more positively on solidarity
243 traits (than the outgroup or the majority group, respectively).

244 Clearly more work is needed to specify the conditions that lead to different attitudinal
245 patterns. In their early writings, Ryan, Giles and Sebastian (1982) suggested that two
246 sociostructural determinants underlay the development and expression of language attitudes,
247 including standardization (i.e. "a set of norms defining correct usage has been codified and
248 accepted within a speech community"; p. 3) and vitality (i.e. "the number and importance of
249 the functions served by the variety"; p. 4). Elsewhere, Cargile and Giles (1998) suggested that
250 the degree of competitiveness between groups with relatively equal status might predict
251 whether groups are down-graded on solidarity items. Perhaps future analysts will find some
252 utility in the Stereotype Content Model (SCM) proposed by Fiske, Cuddy, Glick and Xu (2002).
253 Similar to the dimensions of status and solidarity, the SCM differentiates between dimensions
254 concerning the attitude target's competence (e.g., intelligent, competent, capable, efficient,

255 skillful and confident) and warmth (e.g., tolerant, warm, good natured, sincere, friendly, well-
256 intentioned, trustworthy). They present evidence that competence is predicted by the status of
257 the group under consideration (similar to notions of vitality), and warmth by the degree of
258 intergroup competitiveness (similar to Cargile and Giles' (1998) proposal and Ehala's (2010)
259 notion of discordance).

260 In sum, language attitudes are theorized to play a central role in how people interact with
261 speakers of other language varietiesⁱⁱⁱ. Attitudes can be assessed through questionnaire and
262 interview survey methods, through matched or verbal guise experimental techniques, or
263 through ethnographic and archival studies, and it would seem possible in all of these
264 approaches to note participants' evaluations of the competence and warmth of the target
265 language groups. (See Garrett, 2010; Giles and Rakic, in press, for review). In addition to these
266 two minimal assessments of attitudes towards a language group, researchers might consider
267 including some of the sociostructural dimensions discussed with regards to SELV, including
268 assessments of participants' perceptions of the groups' status (i.e., SELV) and competitiveness
269 (i.e. the perceptions that the group does not challenge the status quo nor contribute to
270 intergroup discordance), because these might usefully predict how warm and competent
271 members of a language group are perceived to be.

2724. Ethnolinguistic identity

273 The third point of the ethnolinguistic orientation triangle is ethnolinguistic identity, which refers
274 to people's thoughts and feelings about their membership in a group that is defined in terms of
275 a shared ethnolinguistic background. In their comprehensive review of the psychological
276 research on collective identity, Ashmore, Deaux and McLaughlin-Volpe (2004) concluded that

277 identity is a multi-faceted phenomenon, including self-categorization, self- and collective
278 evaluation, importance or centrality of the identity to the self, feelings of attachment to the
279 identity and/or group and a sense of interdependence among group members, social
280 embeddedness, considerations of its content and meaning, and behavioral involvement. For
281 the purposes of the present discussion of what facets of identity might be most important to
282 document for archival purposes, I will only focus on aspects that were developed with language
283 and communication processes in mind. (See Noels (in press) for an extended discussion of
284 psychological approaches to ethnolinguistic identity and possible links with language use and
285 variation.)

286 The notion of identity that is the basis of many prominent social psychological theories
287 of language behaviour, including Communication Accommodation Theory and Ethnolinguistic
288 Identity Theory (Sachdev, Giles and Pauwels, 2012; Giles and Gasiorek, in press), is based on
289 social identity theory. Tajfel (1981, p. 255) defines social identity as “that part of the
290 individuals’ self-concept that derives from their knowledge of their membership of a social
291 group (or groups) together with the value and emotional significance of that membership”.
292 This definition is reflected in social identity indices such as Cameron’s (2004) instrument, which
293 assesses (1) the centrality or importance of the identity to one’s sense of self (e.g., “I often
294 think about the fact that I am a member of my ethnic group”); (2) affect, or one’s sense of
295 esteem associated with this membership (e.g., “Generally, I feel good when I think about myself
296 as a member of my ethnic group”); and (3) ingroup ties or a sense of connectedness to the
297 ethnic group (e.g., “I have a lot in common with other members of my ethnic group”). Most
298 studies of the relation between ethnolinguistic identity and language behavior do not

299 differentiate between the components described by Cameron; many focus on identity
300 centrality (termed “strength”, “importance”, or “salience”, etc.) or combine various aspects
301 together (e.g., Kang and Kim, 2012). We suggest that researchers assess all three aspects
302 separately, as they are not always strongly intercorrelated (e.g., although an identity may be
303 salient, it may not be associated with positive esteem; see Gluszek and Dovidio, 2010; Jaspal
304 and Sitaridou, 2013), and more importantly from a sociolinguistic perspective, the dimensions
305 may be differentially related to language behavior. For instance, Gatbonton, Trofimovich and
306 Segalowitz (2011; see also Gatbonton and Trofimovich, 2008) found that Québec
307 Francophones’ sense of affiliation with their heritage ethnolinguistic group was correlated
308 negatively with indexical aspects of English pronunciation. This finding was strongest with
309 regards to politicized aspects of ethnic affiliation but weaker for aspects of affiliation that were
310 operationalized in a manner similar to centrality and affect (which they termed “core ethnic
311 affiliation”).

312 Although social identity theory has had a significant impact on the way in which social
313 scientists conceptualize the relation between identity and language, there are some limitations
314 to this perspective that become evident when one considers how other psychologists have
315 construed identity. First, this type of measure usually focuses just on ingroup identity, that is,
316 the thoughts and feelings pertaining (usually) to the ancestral or heritage ethnolinguistic group.
317 But psychologists interested in acculturation, that is, the process of cultural change that takes
318 place when two or more cultural groups come into continuous first-hand contact, emphasize
319 that we must consider not only allegiances with the heritage group, but also with any other
320 relevant cultural group. Thus, a person might identify with only their heritage group (termed

321 “separation”; Sam and Berry, 2010) or only with the other relevant group (termed
322 “assimilation”), and we might expect that these monocultural identity profiles might be linked
323 to relatively exclusive use of the language associated with that group. Alternatively, one might
324 identify as a member of both groups (termed “integration”). A fourth profile, in which people
325 disidentify with both relevant ethnic groups (termed “deculturation” or “marginalization”).
326 These acculturation profiles have been linked to language behaviour; for instance, Montaruli
327 and her colleagues (2011) found that people with an integrated profile were more proficient in
328 both languages. The important point is that as several papers in this volume demonstrate)
329 ethnolinguistic identities are not unitary, and we can identify to greater or lesser degrees with
330 various relevant ethnolinguistic groups.

331 A second limitation of an identity measure such as Cameron’s (2004) is that it taps a
332 generalized sense of ethnolinguistic identity that may not be consistent with the experience of
333 people on a day-to-day basis. Although we can articulate an overarching sense of our affiliation
334 with different groups, social constructionists remind us that identities are negotiated in each of
335 our social encounters, and hence our feelings of ethnolinguistic identification can vary
336 depending on who we are with, where we are, what we are doing, and so on. Given that social
337 situations and identities are inherently linked, Clément and Noels (1992) proposed a situated
338 ethnolinguistic identity model, which posits that identification with the heritage group and
339 other relevant ethnolinguistic groups (often the majority group) varies depending upon the
340 situation (cf. Hymes, 1974; Brown & Fraser, 1979). Accordingly, Clément and Noels maintain
341 identities should be measured with reference to the most common situational domains that
342 individuals encounter. Based on responses to open-ended survey questions and focus groups in

343 which people described their daily activities, a taxonomy of situations was developed in terms
344 of where people were, who they were with, and what activity they were doing or talking about
345 (Côté and Clément, 1994; Noels et al., 2014). The most commonly reported situational domains
346 across students and non-student samples were family, friends, school/work, and community,
347 although others were also evident (e.g., religion, leisure). These four situational domains
348 represent two relatively personal domains and two relatively public domains. It is perhaps not
349 surprising that the heritage language tends to be spoken in situations involving the family than
350 in more public domains (Yip and Fuligni, 2002), given that there is usually less opportunity for
351 interaction with members of other ethnolinguistic groups among family members than in other
352 situations. This difference is relevant for identity because acculturative changes in identity are
353 hypothesized to begin in situations where there is greater opportunity for intercultural
354 interaction, and eventually penetrate more intimate settings. Moreover, some research
355 indicates that ethnolinguistic vitality can moderate this pattern, such that acculturative shifts in
356 identity in the private domains are more evident for lower vitality groups than higher vitality
357 groups (Clément and Noels, 1992).

358 These considerations suggest that documenting ethnolinguistic identity requires
359 assessments of general identification with the heritage ethnolinguistic group and other relevant
360 ethnolinguistic groups. It also suggests that the researcher should index these identities across
361 situational domains that are relevant for the people under investigation and appropriate for the
362 analytical purposes of the researcher (perhaps corresponding with individual networks for
363 linguistic contacts; Allard and Landry, 1994).

3645. Conclusion

365 In this paper, we have considered three social psychological constructs that reflect people's
366 ethnolinguistic orientation, including SELV, language attitudes, and ethnolinguistic identity. We
367 have suggested some brief indices by which these constructs might be measured and archived
368 for use in future examinations of sociolinguistic data, whether cross-sectionally or
369 longitudinally. There are certainly other measurement issues that merit consideration, including
370 appropriate labelling of ethnolinguistic groups (Hall-Lew and Wong, this issue); the scaling of
371 numeric indices (Schwarz, 2014); the influence of the ethnicity of the interviewer and the
372 language of the questionnaire (Tagliamonte, this issue; Noels, 2013), among many other
373 concerns. We've restricted this discussion to delimiting a minimal set of social psychological
374 constructs that we anticipate will continue to be of interest in future research. We reiterate
375 our earlier comment, that our suggestions for minimal indices of social psychological constructs
376 would be enhanced by a more detailed encoding of social information, careful cross-
377 referencing, and access to already-published works based on the corpus to be studied. We
378 hope that this presentation will contribute to the larger discussion of how to make the most of
379 archived sociolinguistic information.

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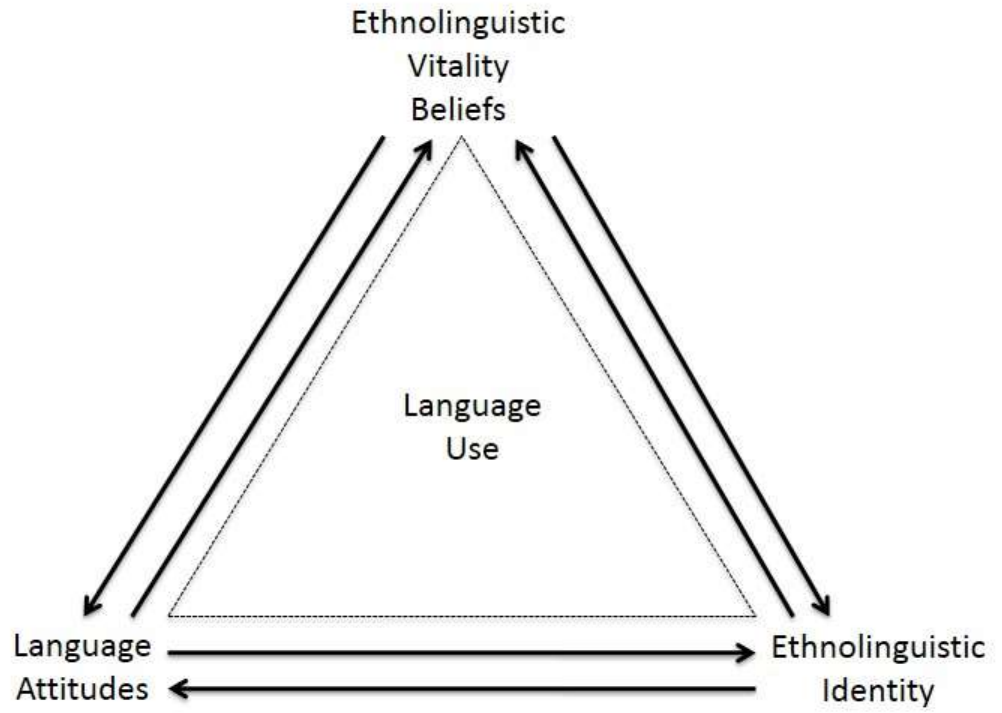
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5426. *Subjective ethnolinguistic vitality*

543 *Ethnolinguistic vitality (ELV) was developed...*

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545 Endnotes

ⁱ An example of the difficulty in defining terms comes from a consideration of the term “ethnic”.

Among many other possibilities, ethnicity could be defined in terms of ancestry, language, national origin, religion, cultural practices and traditions, and so on. Just as scholars vary in their understanding (particularly for such a topic, which is of interest to researchers across many disciplines), so to do lay people. It is thus important that scholars make clear their own definitions and the meanings of the terms for their participants. For the present purpose we use the term ethnolinguistic group to refer to a group of people who share a common cultural ancestry and language. When referring to the work of other scholars, we use the term they employ or is most commonly employed in that subdiscipline (e.g., “ethnic” or “cultural”).

ⁱⁱ A third dimension, dynamism, is occasionally reported (see Mulac, 1975; Zahn and Hopper, 1985). This dimension refers to the energy, activity, strength and aggressiveness of the language and/or its speakers. Because it is not assessed as consistently as the status and solidarity dimensions, it is not discussed further here.

ⁱⁱⁱ A caveat is in order here: researchers should ascertain that their participants can correctly identify the speaker’s speech style. If speakers are unable to judge or misjudge the variety, they may rely on general stereotypes of the “foreigner” or stereotypes of an unintended ethnolinguistic group to make their judgments (Cargile and Giles, 1998; Lindemann, 2003; Roberts, 2013).