Abstract:

This study examines, from a sociolinguistic standpoint, Mexican speech and its non-standard use of “se los/las” to express a plural indirect object and a singular direct object; something that would normatively be expressed as “se lo/la”, the classic example being “se los dije [a ellos]” rather than “se lo dije”. The author proposes the name *selosismo* to define the phenomenon that, until now, has had multiple names. This work builds upon previous literature by linguists such as Schwenter (2011, 2021), Hoff (2021), and Moreno de Alba (2013), and it extends the conversation to the field of sociolinguistics. By using data collected from the PREESEA (2009) corpus, the study explores how social predictors such as birth city, level of education, gender, and age affect the implementation of this construction. The present study makes use of this information to predict the future extension of the phenomenon. After a statistical analysis carried out utilizing Jamovi (The jamovi project, 2021) as well as a qualitative analysis, the author finds evidence suggesting that *selosismo* may be stigmatized based on hypercorrection theory and the middle-class crossover effect (Labov, 2006). Evidenced by the fact that middle-aged and intermediately educated individuals employ the construction at unexpectedly low rates; being of the 3rd generation showing a P-value of .048 and being of high education showing a P-value of .016. The comparative variationist method (Tagliamonte, 2002) and apparent time theory (Magué, 2006) are also applied with the results suggesting that *selosismo* is undergoing dialect leveling, with implementation decreasing through the generations. Meanwhile, the author recognizes that more data is needed while proposing future directions of investigation.

**Keywords:**

Hispanic Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Mexican Spanish, Corpus Linguistics
References


