

In Tamil language also, some attempts have been made to study the use of pronouns [Suseendirarajah, 1973; Karunatillake and Suseendirarajah, 1975; Levinson, 1982; Thirumalai, 1983 and Perumalsamy, 1988 a].

The influence of the social variable on the speech behaviour of a person has been studied by several Indian scholars [Annamalai, 1975 b; Gopinathan Nair, 1975; Karunakaran, 1975 b; Neethivanan, 1975; Somasekharan Nair, 1975; Tiwari, 1975; and Upadhyaya, 1975]. These scholars have given their arguments for the influence of caste differences over the linguistic behaviour of a person in reply to the claim of Pattanayak (1975) that caste dialect is a myth.

The studies on kinship terminologies related to the society have been carried out by a number of scholars (Capell, 1966; Muthu-⁶⁷shamugan, 1965 & ^{Beck,} 1972; Saraswathi Venugopal, 1980; Dumont, 1986; Bakthavatchalu, 1989; Usha Nambudiripad, 1989 and Perumalsamy, 1990).

A sociolinguistic study of kinship terms has also been made on Sri Lankan Tamil (Suseendirarajah, 1983). The contextual factors involved in the use of kinship terms in the Koya language has been studied by Tyler (1972).

The study of forms of address has started in the American English with the pioneering works of Brown and Ford (1964). Ervin -