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Over inherente normen binnen de eigen groep

Hun doen allemaal van die rare woorden, weet je

Abstract

This paper concerns the use of the plural personal pronoun *hun* instead of *zij* as subject in (sub) standard Dutch. The use of *hun* is a systematic change that is nearing completion since members of the community have become aware of it and it is an overt topic of social comment (stereotype). In addition to Nijmegen and the IJsselmeerpolders, the use of *hun* as subject has also spread to the south of Heerlen very quickly. In Nijmegen and in the IJsselmeerpolders, young women use *hun* significantly more often than young men. It is said that these women are ahead in the process of language change and that they are speaking more standard Dutch than men of the same age. However, in the multicultural and multilingual neighbourhood Lombok/Transvaal in Utrecht young women are displaying negative attitudes towards the use of *hun* and, what is more, unlike in Nijmegen they do not use *hun* in their spontaneous speech. Instead, they use all kinds of different expressions which are unknown in standard Dutch. It is assumed that this behaviour can be accounted for only by taking the inherent group (in-group versus out-group) norms of these women into consideration.