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# “Do bilingual individuals perceive two distinct personalities, one for each language?”

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## 1.0 Introduction

In today's world it is not uncommon to be bilingual. According to Gration (2022), there are more than 3.3 billion bilinguals in the world, accounting for more than 43% of the world's population. This type of bilingualism refers to being able to speak and understand more than one language. Bilingualism is according to the Linguistic Society of America is when a person can speak two languages fluently. However, there are two types of bilingualism. There is simultaneous bilingualism and sequential bilingualism. Simultaneous bilingualism is when the person learns two languages concurrently, in other words, two mother tongues. Sequential bilingualism is when the second language is learned after the first language. (Limacher, 2019)

This thesis is a study of “Do bilingual individuals perceive two distinct personalities, one for each language?” Two sub-questions are: “How does the mother tongue influence the identity of an individual?”, and “Is language one of the characteristics which define a person?”

What is identity? Identity is “an individual's sense of self-defined by a set of physical, psychological, and interpersonal characteristics that is not wholly shared with any other person and range of affiliations and social roles.” (Dictionary of Psychology). This means that what one likes to do, what race one is, language, interests, likes/dislikes, goals, interests, values, and beliefs are all shaping your identity, and then the sum of all this is what defines your identity.

There will be a questionnaire and an interview with some of the participants used for the study from the questionnaire. After this, the findings will be presented both from the questionnaire and the interviews. Thirdly, this thesis will use the different studies that have been done in this field and their relevance to this thesis. Lastly, there will be a conclusion, stating what the author has found, and what the limitations were in this thesis.

Why is it important to understand why some might perceive themselves as having two identities? There are several bilingual speakers who feel as if they have two identities because they speak two languages, one identity for each language that they speak. It is also important to find out why some feel as if they have two identities and why some do not feel as if they have two identities. This will help to better understand people and might help them to accept themselves for who they are.

The reason why this is relevant today is because of how many bilingual speakers there are in the world. Earlier in the text it said that there were 3.3 billion bilingual speakers, almost 43% of the world's population (Gration, 2022). In order to understand and to help the

bilingual speakers in the world, it is important to understand how they perceive themselves and what they think about themselves.

## 1.1 Description of chapters

Chapter one will provide information about what the thesis goals are, and the relevance with this thesis.

Chapter two will provide different studies that have been done in the area of bilingualism; Fuller (2008), Grosjean (2011), Limacher (2020), Mendoza-Denton and Osborn (2010), Ono and Ransom (2018) and Ramírez-Esparza (2006).

Chapter three will provide why the author chose mixed methods, the questionnaire, how the interviews were executed, it will also provide information about the participants, the validity and reliability, lastly it will provide information about the ethics in this thesis.

Chapter four will present the data found in the questionnaire and the interviews.

Chapter five will provide a discussion of the patterns found and compare it to other studies.

Finally, chapter six gives a conclusion of the thesis statement: “Do bilingual individuals perceive two distinct personalities, one for each language?”

## 2.0 Literature Review

### 2.1 Fuller (2008)

A researcher who has studied the theory of bilinguals who feel as if they have two personalities is Janet M. Fuller, who wrote “Language Choice as a Means of Shaping Identity” (2008) which is a study on how one person can adopt different identities using different languages. In this study she discusses how social identity is defined as the socially constructed membership in a social group or category. While groups and categorize themselves are often preexistent. “An individual's membership is socially constructed through their own (and others) language and social behavior.” (Fuller, 2008) Each person has constructed their own identity with the use of the language they use and how they behave with others. “Studies of bilingual communities have shown that language choice is often a

**Kommentar [1]:** Writing chapter descriptions in a thesis can be a great way to give your readers an overview of what they can expect to find in your work. Typically, chapter descriptions provide a brief summary of the key topics that will be covered in each chapter of your thesis. To write effective chapter descriptions, you should be clear and concise in your writing, and use language that is easy to understand. Here are a few tips to get you started:

Begin each chapter description with a clear and informative title that accurately reflects the content of the chapter.

Provide a brief overview of the main topic or problem that will be addressed in the chapter.

Highlight the key objectives or goals that you hope to achieve in the chapter, and explain how you plan to approach the topic.

Identify and briefly discuss the main arguments or theories that will be presented in the chapter.

Conclude each chapter description with a brief statement that summarizes the key points you have covered and outlines what the reader can expect to find in the chapter.

Remember, the goal of your chapter descriptions is to provide your readers with a clear understanding of what your thesis is about and what they can expect to learn from it. With a little bit of effort and creativity, you can write chapter descriptions that will engage your

key aspect in such identity construction.” (Fuller, 2008). What language one chooses will affect one's identity.

## 2.2 Grosjean, F. (2011)

Grosjean discusses in his article that bilinguals use their languages for different purposes, different domains and with different people. The different purposes, domains and people will activate the different parts of oneself, the different attitudes and behavior. “What is taken as a personality shift due to a change of language may have little, if anything, to do with language itself.” (Grosjean, 2011). This extract from the article by Grosjean says that the personality shift bilinguals feel may not be because the language changes, it might be because of the different domains, the different people and the purposes. Later in the article, he discussed that monolinguals change the way they speak, within the same language depending on who one is talking to. This will also happen to bilinguals, except that the language changes. But what does it mean?

## 2.3 Limacher (2020)

The article by Limacher claims that being multilingual does not necessarily have multiple identities, however the person might “act” differently in order to fit in. One adjusts their way to communicate by changing the way they talk and gesture. This article states that multilingual people do not have multiple personalities, because having multiple personalities is a disorder. Later in the article the author states that the people who feel as if they have multiple personalities, is because people keep asking them to choose one or the other.

## 2.4 Mendoza-Denton and Osborn (2010)

Many different studies have been done on the questions that bilingual people feel as if they have two personalities. Looking at the different theories found, there is a clear line through them all; bilingual people have two identities. In the study, it is mentioned diglossia, which means that there are two varieties of languages “high” and “low”. High language is the prestigious form used in formal situations, such as education, literature, writing, and formal communication. Low language is the informal form used in everyday talk.

## 2.5 Ono and Ransom (2018)

Ono and Ransom focused on how bilingualism shapes one's identity and how it affects a person. They also state that it is not only language that influences the identity, it is also the culture which also has an impact on one's identity. This article states that bilingual people use what is called "situational code-switching". "Situational code-switching" is a shift in one's style or altering the way one speaks in order to establish certain identities within each interaction. People who are bilingual will alter the way they speak to fit in with the person, or group, with whom they are speaking to, changing the way they talk to fit in.

## 3.0 Methodology

### 3.1 Mixed Methods

Mixed methods is when one combines qualitative and quantitative methods. In this study, there will be quantitative, meaning questionnaires and qualitative, meaning interviews. The reason why mixed methods is a good option in this study, is to provide a better and deeper understanding of the topic. It will also give a bigger picture on the research question "Do bilingual people have two personalities, one for each language?" Qualitative and quantitative data will combine the "why" and the "what". This will give a deeper insight into some questions which need to be examined more closely to achieve more insight. (Streefkerk, R. (2019)

Quantitative data is countable data, one can count how many answers are "yes" or "no". Results can be generated as numerical values or scores for certain variables. After the quantitative results, one can execute an analysis of the data that has been collected to see if the theory is correct or not. After the results are collected, an in-depth interview with some of the subjects will be conducted, and open-ended questions will be asked.

The pros on using mixed methods are that combining the two approaches will balance out the limitations. It can also provide stronger evidence and can give more confidence in the findings. (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2020) Lastly, using mixed methods is that one will cancel out the misinterpretation, it will also give a more in-depth overview. It will also for some follow-up questions, that can give a more understanding into some of the questions that the participants answered. This will also allow one to gain insight into why

people feel like they have two personalities, where, and how it makes them feel. (Streefkerk, R. (2019)

The cons on using mixed methods are that they are complex to carry out, for that reason there are two types of data one needs to go through. An additional cons is that one is required to have more expertise to collect and analyze the data, and to interpret the results. Lastly, another con is that it is time consuming. It takes a long time to go through two different methods in collecting data. (Office for Health Improvement and Disparities, 2020)

### 3.2 Questionnaires

There were 19 participants who answered the questionnaire, there were 9 males and 10 females. The author knew most of the participants who answered the questionnaire. Using the quantitative method will show the different varieties. There are 10 questions in the questionnaire. The reason for doing a questionnaire was to try to get an insight in how the participants feel while speaking the different languages. The purpose here was to find out whether they feel more or less the same when speaking the different languages. All of the participants in this study speak two languages simultaneously, some might speak more than only two languages.

Each participant was given a link to the google form with the questionnaire, this was anonymous. The questions that participants answered were:

1. female or male
2. What languages do you speak?
3. What country were you born in?
4. Does one of your parents speak it?
5. What languages do you speak with your family?
6. What is the preferred language?
7. Do you feel like your identity changes, when the language changes?
8. Do you feel like the same person when speaking different languages?
9. Is your group of friends the same type in both countries?
10. What country do you feel most at home?

### 3.3 Interviews

Qualitative data is not easily countable data, the subjects can go in depth, they can be more descriptive or textual in their answers. Qualitative methods will allow us more in-depth answers. The author uses semi-structured interview, to allow the interviewees to answer open-ended questions which will allow the interviewees to go more in-depth in their answers. By using interviews (qualitative data) one will better understand the theory “Do bilingual people perceive to have two personalities, one for each language?”

After the questionnaire is done, there will be a selection for interviewees. Out of the 19 participants there will be four interviews, two who feel like they have different identities, and two who don't feel like they have different personalities. The reason for choosing two different views is to find out why. They will be asked questions based on what they answered on the questionnaire. The questions that will be focused on are question numbers six through number 10. The four questions will allow the interviewee to go more in depth, and try to figure out why they feel as if they have different identities in different countries.

Another question that will be asked is “Why do you prefer to speak Norwegian, rather than your other language, when speaking to your family?” Looking at how many who prefer to speak Norwegian rather than their other language.

### 3.4 Participants

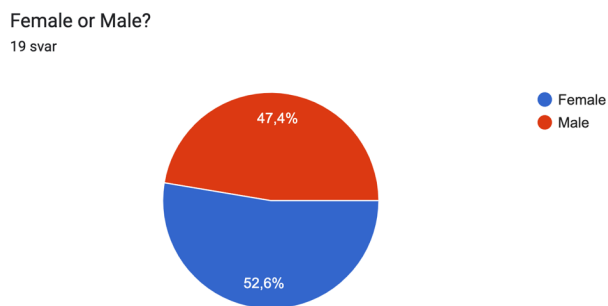


Figure 1, female or male

There are 19 participants in this study. All of them were over the age of 20. This was done anonymously. All who speak two languages or more than two. Everyone in this study



has Norwegian as one of the languages. Within this interview there will be no recording to protect the participants' identity.

The sampling technique used is called "Non-probability sampling". This type of sampling is not random, the author decides. Under the "non-probability sampling" there is a sample method called "convenience sampling". This type of sampling will allow the author to determine who will be interviewed based upon the ease of access, the geographical proximity, and the existing contact. (Nikolopoulou, K 2022)

### 3.5 Validity and reliability

"Validity determines whether the research truly measures that which it was intended to." (Golafshani, 2003)

Validity in qualitative studies is vital. Validity refers to the accuracy in a study and aims to make sure that the findings in the study are true to what one might expect to find elsewhere.

There are various ways to prove validity in a study, there are: credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability. Credibility refers to the degree to which the findings accurately reflect the experiences and perspectives of the participants in the study. Transferability refers to the extent to which the findings of a study can be transferred, or applied to, other contexts or settings beyond the original research context. Dependability refers to the consistency and stability of the data collection and analysis process. Lastly, confirmability refers to the degree to which the findings are objective and can be confirmed by others. It is about ensuring that the researcher's personal biases, opinions, and values do not influence the results. (Golafshani, 2003)

In studies such as this reliability means making sure that the results are consistent and can be repeated. This is important because it helps ensure that the research is done in a way that produces consistent findings.

To make qualitative research more reliable, researchers can use different techniques like checking with participants, having multiple people analyze the data, and talking with others in a particular field. For example, triangulation involves using multiple methods or sources of data to verify the findings. Member checking involves sharing the findings with the participants to confirm the accuracy of the data. Inter-rater reliability involves having multiple researchers analyze the data to ensure that their interpretations are consistent with

each other. Peer debriefing involves discussing the research with other researchers to identify potential sources of bias or error.

By using these methods, researchers can increase the reliability of their findings and ensure that they are accurate and consistent. This is important because it increases the trustworthiness of the research and allows others to build on the findings in future research. (Golasfshani, 2003)

### 3.6 Research Ethics

There are six ethical considerations one needs to take into consideration before one can do any form of research that involves participants. These will ensure the safety of both the participants and the researcher. The six ethical considerations are, (Bhandari, P. 2021):

Number 1: Voluntary participants, meaning the participants are free to say no at any time during the study.

Number 2: Informed Consent, meaning the participants know what the study is about.

Number 3: Anonymity, meaning that the participants' names and information are not collected.

Number 4: Confidential, meaning that the information collected is hidden from everyone else.

Number 5: potential for harm, meaning that physical and psychological harm are kept to a minimum.

Number 6: results communication, meaning that the work is free from plagiarism.

Without using research ethics the credibility can be compromised. Since it is hard to trust the data if the methods are doubtful and perceived as going against human rights.

To ensure the participants remain confidential, their names will not be shown, only their gender and the languages they speak. (Bhandari, P. 2021)

## 4.0 Presentation of data

### 4.1 An overview of the answers from the questionnaire

The results from the questionnaire were quite interesting to say the least. The first question from the questionnaire was if the participants were female or male, 47.7% were

male and 52.6% were female, 11 female and 8 males.

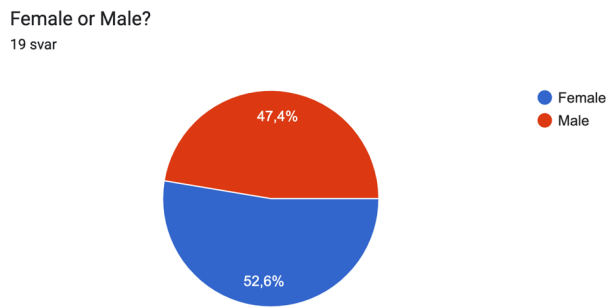


Figure 1, female or male?

The second question that the participants had to answer was what languages they speak. 48.7% said that they speak Norwegian, which was expected due to the fact that they live in Norway. By looking at the diagram below, one can see that the second most spoken language was Bosnian, four out of the 19 participants. The third largest language spoken was English, three out of 19 participants.

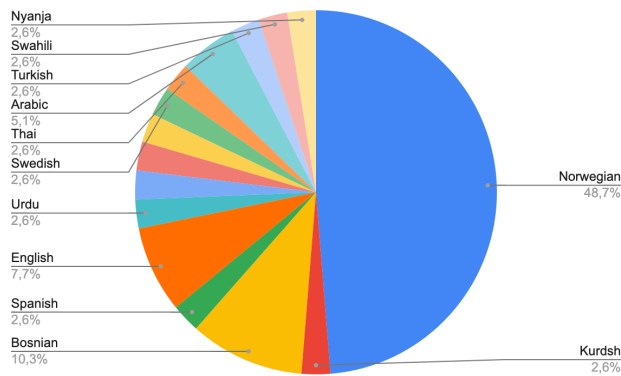


Figure 2, the different languages the participants speak

Third question was “what country were you born in” the answers were predicated. Most of the participants were born in Norway, however some were born outside of Norway as seen below.

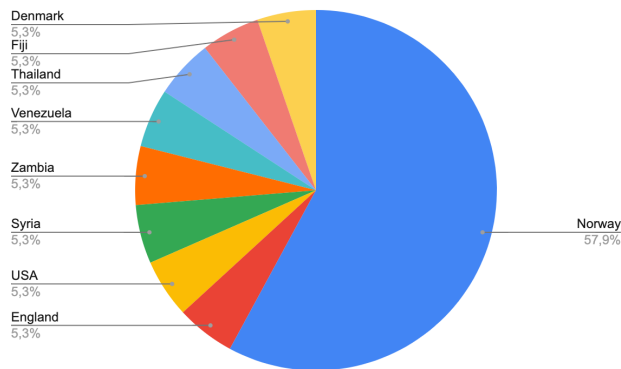


Figure 3, Where were you born

As seen on the diagram above, more than half are born in Norway. The people born in Norway might have parents who immigrated to Norway. The participants who moved from their “homeland” are in other words immigrants. However, this might also be because at least one of their parents is Norwegian or that the parents are immigrants.

Does one of your parents speak it?  
19 svar

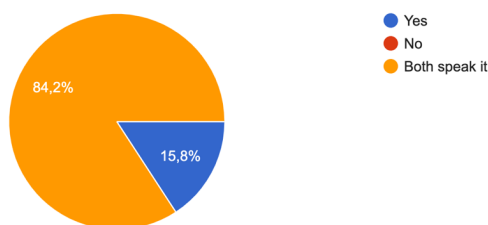


Figure 4, does one of your parents speak it?

The fourth question was “Does one of your parents speak it?” 84.2% answered that at least one of their parents speak another language than Norwegian, and only 15.8% answered that both of the parents speak the other language. This was interesting to look at, because this may indicate that one of the parents were not born in Norway and one of them was. This suggests that the family or one of the parents are immigrants.

What language do you speak with your family?

19 svar

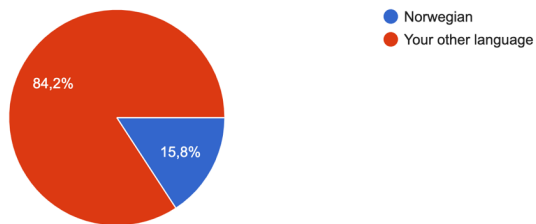


Figure 5, What languages do you speak with your family?

The fifth question was “What language do you speak with your family?” As seen above 84.2% speak the other language to their family. On the other hand 15.8% of the participants speak Norwegian with their family, this can mean that one of their parents speaks Norwegian, or that the parents want to learn Norwegian and the best way to learn is to speak it daily. A reason that some only speak Norwegian is that they only have one parent and that parent is Norwegian or that they are more comfortable speaking Norwegian.

What is your preferred language?

19 svar

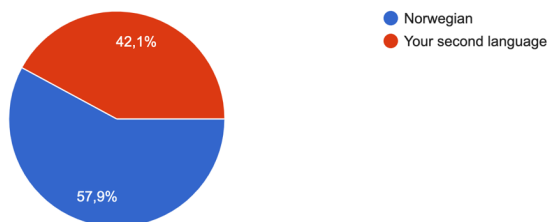


Figure 6, What is your preferred language?

The sixth question was “What is your preferred language?” By looking at the diagram one can see that 57.9% prefer to speak Norwegian and only 42.1% prefer to speak the other language. This is an indicator to what language they are comfortable using everyday compared to their other language, whether it is Norwegian or their other language.

Do you feel like your identity changes, when the language changes?

19 svar

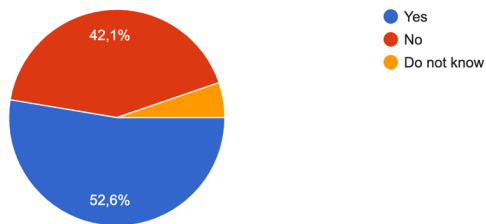


Figure 7, Do you feel like your identity changes, when the language changes?

Question number seven was “Do you feel like your identity changes, when the language changes?” Looking at this chart, one can see that 42.1% feel as if their identity changes when the language changes, 52.6% do not feel as if their identities change when the language changes, and 5.3% do not know if their identity changes when the language changes.

Do you feel like the same person when speaking the different languages?

19 svar

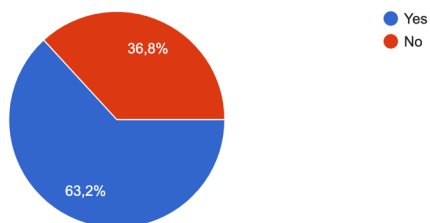


Figure 8, Do you feel like the same person when speaking the different languages

The eight question was “Do you feel like the same person when speaking the different languages?” Here one can see that 36.8% said “yes” that they feel as if they are different people when speaking the different languages that they know, yet 63.2% wrote down “no” that they do feel as if they change when the language changes.

Is your group of friends the same type in both countries?

19 svar

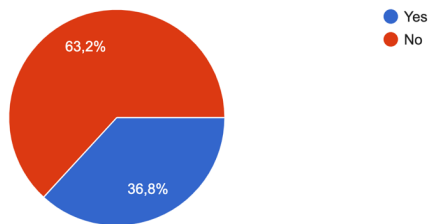


Figure 9, Is your group of friends the same type in both countries?

The ninth question was “Are your friends the same type in both countries?” Here one can see that 63.2% said that their friend group are not the same type of people, and 36.8% wrote down “yes”. This is interesting to look at compared to the question above “Do you feel like the same person when speaking different languages?” The participants who answered “no” said that they do not feel as if they change when talking the different languages, however they wrote down “yes” that their friend group is not the same.

What country do feel most at home in?

19 svar

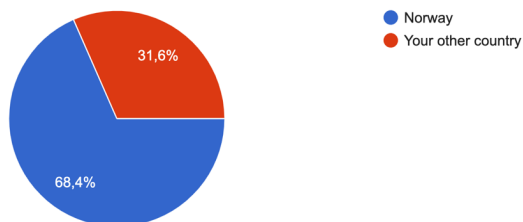


Figure 910, What country do you feel most at home in?

The tenth and last question was “What country do you feel most at home in?” More than half said that Norway was where they felt more at home. This can be because that is where they were born. 57.9% said that they were born in Norway compared to 42.1% that was not born in Norway.

## 4.2 Overview of the answers from the interviews

### Participant 1:

This participant is half Norwegian and Bosnian. When asked “Why” they feel as if their identity changes when the language changes, the participant answered that she does not feel 100% herself when speaking one or the other languages. The participant also stated that she always feels as if something is missing, she does not fit in completely when in Norway nor when in Bosnia, like an outsider in her own country and a local at the same time. Even though the participant has a community with Bosniacs, which her whole family is a part of, including many of her friends, she still feels as if something is missing and something is not quite right. The participant stated that she has always felt this way, her whole life, and she feels like that this will never change, but that she needs to make amends with it. The participant also commented that she prefers to speak Norwegian, because she feels more confident speaking Norwegian rather than Bosnian. This was because she speaks this more than Bosnian, and the other reason is because she feels as if the other Bosnians might “laugh” if she says a word wrong.

#### Participant 2:

This participant is also half Norwegian and Bosnian. This participant answered “no” in the questionnaire when it asked about if the participants feel as if their identity changes when the language changes. The author asked why, the participant said that the reason why she doesn't feel as if she has two identities is because she feels connected with both sides of her. The participant was born in Norway, however all of her older family members are born in Bosnia. The participant is also a part of the Bosnian community with her whole family. The participant also stated that she has a community where her Bosnian side is “met” and she has her Norwegian friends and school to ensure that her Norwegian side is “met”.

Participant 2 also said in the interview that she feels more like a Norwegian rather than an Bosnian. She still felt like a Bosnian when speaking the language and vacationing in Bosnia. When asked what language she prefers to speak, she was not sure, since both languages are a part of her. Sometimes it was Norwegian, and sometimes it was Bosnian, she added that this might be because of how long they have stayed in one of the countries or if their second identities are met on a regular basis, that the two identities have merged into one.

#### Participant 3:

Participant 3 is born in The United States of America, the participant is also half Norwegian because of his mother. The participant said in their interview that the reason why



he feels as if something is missing is because he was not born in Norway. The participant also pointed out that he does not have many friends that are half American and half Norwegian, that he does not have any friends that understands what he is going through. Later on in the interview the participant said that since he left The USA early on in his life, that he did not get a chance to find himself as an American before he moved to Norway. The participant said that he has “found” himself, or the Norwegian side, however not the American “side”. The participant explained that he has lived and visited the US many times, still he feels as if he is a foreigner in his own country.

Participant 4:

Participant 4 speaks three languages; Norwegian, Swahili and Nyanja. In the interview the participant answered that she was fine with having different identities, because that having identities that “fit” into the different countries is okay, because she then feels as if she fits in with the rest. The participants find it difficult to combine the different identities, some of “her” fits in better in Norway, and some of “her” fits in better in Zambia. The participant said that rather than feeling as if one does not fit in anywhere, try to think that you fit in two or more places, embrace that you can fit in two or more places and feel as one with the people.

Participant 5:

Participant 5 is half Kurdish and half Norwegian. She wrote down that she did not if she feels as if she has two identities. When asked “why”, the participant concluded that she does not know if her identity changes when the language changes. She feels like herself when speaking both languages. The participant said that she could not tell if her identity changed, she said that she might change somewhat when the language changes, because she feels as if the way she phrases herself and acts might change. The participant said that this has never occurred to her, that she might change the way she talks and behaves according to what language she talks.

## 5.0 Discussion

### 5.1 Comparison with other studies

Looking at the article by Limacher (2019), where she states that multilingual people do not have multiple personalities, they only change the way they communicate to fit in. However, one can see that people do feel as if they have two or more identities according to the questionnaire. There is some truth to the quote “If they have a sort of “identity crisis”, then it’s because other people ask them to choose one (and only one!) of their cultures.” (Limacher, 2019). The reason why some might feel as if they have multiple identities is because they are asked by people “do you feel as if you have different identities in the two countries?”. When the participants were asked why they feel as if their identity changes when the language changes, the answer was that they don't feel as if one of the languages is 100% them. If they were not asked if they feel differently when the language changes, they wouldn't notice, this is true for the participants who answered “no” to the question “do you feel like your identity changes, when the language changes?” This is not true, if one said “yes” to this question, one of the participants said in the interview that she does not fit in anywhere because she speaks two languages, she does not know where she fits in. Sometimes it is easier to not feel this way, and sometimes it is quite hard.

Limacher (2019) later discusses that multilinguals feel “different” when the language changes. She explains that the reason why people feel “different” is because the cultures are different from each other. We can see that this is true, because in the questionnaire that 52.6% do feel as if their identities change, when the language changes.

Later in the study, Limacher (2019) explains that she feels a shift when she changes her language. She describes a scenario where she uses German when she wants to communicate quickly, this happened because she is more comfortable talking in her dominant language.

In the questionnaire several participants said that they prefer speaking Norwegian, but that as it may, some said that they prefer to speak the other language. In the interview part, one participant said that the reason why she prefers Norwegian over her other language, was because she feels more comfortable speaking it, because she speaks Norwegian better than her other language and it is easier. If she speaks with her family, it is in the second language, and with her friends and sometimes her siblings, it is Norwegian. When one wants to

communicate something in a hurry, the person will often do it in the preferred language, since the person is more comfortable in that language.

In the study done by Fuller (2018), she argues that one can have multiple “positions” that deal with different aspects of one’s identity. The different interaction will affect which “positions” in other words personality that comes forward in one’s life. One of the participants said that she needs to be a different person, because the different countries are different in how they talk, behave and dress. One “position” will come forward when addressing one side of her, and the other when it is needed. Sometimes it is hard to not “be both”, sometimes one needs to choose what side to listen to.

Later in her study, Fuller explains that the culture will affect the individual on how one talks, the clothing and how one behaves, one will behave a certain kind of way when in different countries. The participants who were born in Zambia speak in a way that was typically Norwegian, it would make her an outsider, and people from Zambia would not think of her as one of their own. It can also make them uneasy, and it can also offend citizens of Zambia. As mentioned earlier, one changes sides unconsciously. Sometimes one side of the bilingual person will shine, the next day the other side will. Sometimes, one needs to think about how to act in order to fit in. Nevertheless, the languages that one speaks will affect how one talks, thinks, behaves, dresses, and how one behaves onto others.

The article by Ono and Ransom (2018) argues that people who are bilingual change their language depending on what their environment is. Participant two said that she uses Norwegian to communicate with friends who don’t speak Bosnian, and speaks Bosnian with family and the Bosnian community. In any case, she also speaks Norwegian to her sisters who were born in Norway. “Bilinguals who use and acquire their prospective languages for different purposes” bilinguals alter the way they talk depending on who they are talking to, to make them feel comfortable and the people they talk to. (Ono and Ransom, 2018),

Participant one mentioned in the interview that she does not feel 100% herself in either country. This can be because of culture, two different cultures trying to merge into one. “Culture is also one of the significant factors that influences an individual’s identity and perception” (Ono & Ransom, 2018). Trying to fit into two cultures can be difficult. A culture has one set of “rules” and the country has a different set of norms, it is important to stay mindful of these things, otherwise they may create obstacles in communication. Participant one also said that sometimes she feels like a Bosnian when in Norway because of the culture, and sometimes it is the opposite. This participant said that occasionally the norms in Norway differ from norms are in Bosnia, trying to navigate through the different cultures

will make one question “where do I really belong”. Nonetheless, if we analyze the results from the participant who does not experience having a second identity, we can conclude that this statement is not accurate. She has managed to combine the two cultures to fit into her own life.

“High and Low” languages, as mentioned earlier in this thesis, by Mendoza-Denton and Osborn (2010). “High” language is what one uses educationally and in formal settings. “Low” languages is what one uses to communicate with friends and family. In Norway, Norwegian tends to be the “high” language and the other language is referred to as the “low” language. Looking at the diagram of what the participants preferred language is, one can see that more than half of the participants answered Norwegian. This might be because they use Norwegian formally settings, “high” variety. For most people, school accounts for over half of their lifetime, from the day they start kindergarten to the day they start their job, then it is either Norwegian if they work in a Norwegian job or English if it is an international job. According to the questionnaire 57.9% prefer to speak Norwegian rather than their own language. This can be because of how often they speak Norwegian and how comfortable they are with it, since they speak it the majority of the time. Although, some prefer to speak their other language, because they feel more comfortable with it.

## 6.0 Conclusion

Having conducted a study on the statement “Do bilingual individuals perceive two distinct personalities, one for each language?” It is still unclear what the answer is. According to this thesis it can be both. Some do not feel as if they have two personalities. It all comes down to what the person feels inside and how she/he was raised. It depends if there is a community where people are from the same country, and speak the same language near where one lives. The article by Limacher states that bilinguals do not have several personalities, they change their language to fit in better. While it may be accurate in certain situations, there are individuals who believe that their personalities change based on the questionnaire and the interview.

Yet, there are some studies that do not believe bilingual people have different personalities, because having multiple disorders is “a disorder, being multilingual is not!” (Limacher, 2020). Some studies disagree with this statement, that having multiple personalities is not a disorder, it is all within the people who are bilingual. Some might feel as if they do not have two personalities, some find that they do have two personalities. It is all

up to each of us, it all comes down to what one feels within oneself. Occasionally, a person may find themselves in scenarios where two languages or cultures are conflicting with each other, resulting in a “battle.” As one of the interviewees mentioned, one can mix the two personalities and make up one's own “culture” within one's family.

The author has learned that there are bilinguals who feel as if they do not fit in anywhere, because they have multiple identities, and there are bilinguals that also feel as if they have multiple identities, but they embrace them both. The thesis question that was asked is something that needs to be further examined, trying to understand the reasons, and trying to come up with something that could help the bilinguals who feel like they do not fit in anywhere.

There were some limitations to this thesis. In the interview, the author did not record the participants, because of the reason to respect their privacy. The participants were not asked beforehand if they wanted to or not, this was a decision done by the author to not have the interview recorded. This was a limitation, because the author could not write down everything they said, and there were limitations to who could take the questionnaire, resulting in an imbalance between female and male participants. Another limitation that occurred, was the number of participants, there were only 19 participants in this study and only five of them were interviewed. For further investigation, one might need to have more participants, which one will have a broader understanding.

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