Conversational Maxims in the Interview Between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama

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CONVERSATIONAL MAXIMS IN THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN OPRAH WINFREY AND MICHELLE OBAMA

A THESIS

Submitted as the Partial Fulfillment of Requirement for the Degree of Master Arts (M.A.) in English Postgraduate Study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, University of Sumatera Utara

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CONVERSATIONAL MAXIMS IN THE INTERVIEW BETWEEN
OPRAH WINFREY AND MICHELLE OBAMA

I certify that the thesis I wrote as one of the requirements to obtain the degree of Master of Art from English Postgraduate study Program, Faculty of Cultural Sciences, University of Sumatera Utara, is exactly my own work.

I certify that I clearly mentioned the reference of the citations I used in some specific parts of the thesis based on norms, rule, and etiquette of the technique of a scientific writing.

I certify, in the future, that I am willing to accept the sanction of the renovation of my academic degree which I receive and other sanction in accordance with the prevailing laws and regulations, provided some parts of all parts of this thesis are invented not to be my own work or to commit plagiarism.

Medan, 4th December 2017

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ABSTRACT

This study deals with the conversational maxims in the interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama. The study attempted to investigate the types of conversational maxims, the realizations and the reasons why those conversational maxims occurred in the interview. This study was conducted by using descriptive qualitative method. The data of this study were the utterances of Michelle Obama as the interviewee. The source of data was the video and transcript of the interview. The findings show that all types of conversational maxims occurred in the interview. There were 52 utterances which contained conversational maxims; 17 types were obedience maxims and 35 types were violation maxims. The conversational maxims in this interview tended to be violated rather than obeyed by interviewee. The obedience of conversational maxims in the interview were realized through quantity maxim (informative, straight to the point, and provide sufficient information) quality maxim (direct, undoubtful answer and provide sufficient information), relevance maxim (relevant and match with the topic), manner maxim (brief and orderly answer). The violation of conversational maxims were realized through quantity maxim (understatement, overstatement and using tautologies), quality maxim (vagueness, rhetorical question, using irony, contradiction and metaphor), relevance maxim (give association clues), manner maxim (ambiguous and exaggerates things). From the data analysis, it is found that there are some reasons of obedience of conversational maxims, they are; not excessive, in accordance with what being asked, saying something truly real, in accordance with the real fact, related clearly, giving appropriate response, being brief and orderly. Meanwhile there are some reasons of violation of conversational maxims in the interview context, they are hiding the truth, saving face, satisfying the hearer, cheering the hearer, avoid hurting the hearer, building one’s belief, convincing the hearer, and avoid giving wrong information.

Keywords: Conversational Maxims, Obedience of Maxims, Violation of Maxims, Interview Context
ABSTRAK

Studi ini membahas tentang maksim percakapan dalam wawancara. Penelitian ini bertujuan menyelidiki jenis maksim percakapan (kepatuhan dan pelanggaran), realisasi dan alasan mengapa maksim percakapan terjadi didalam wawancara. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif. Data dalam penelitian ini adalah ujaran-ujaran orang yang diwawancarai. Sumber data adalah video dan transkrip dari wawancara. Hasil temuan menunjukkan bahwa semua jenis maksim percakapan ada didalam percakapan dalam wawancara. Ada 52 ujaran-ujaran yang mengandung maksim percakapan, 17 jenis adalah maksim kepatuhan, dan 35 jenis adalah maksim pelanggaran. Maksim percakapan dalam wawancara tersebut lebih sering dilanggar daripada dipatuhi oleh yang diwawancarai. Kepatuhan terhadap maksim percakapan dalam konteks wawancara diwujudkan melalui maksim kuantitas (memberikan informasi dan memberikan tanggapan jelas tanpa keragu-raguan), maksim kualitas (memberikan jawaban langsung tanpa keraguan, dan memberikan cukup informasi serta bukti), maksim relevansi (relevan dan sesuai dengan topic), maksim pelaksanaan (jelas dan disertai jawaban berurut). Pelanggaran terhadap maksim percakapan diwujudkan melalui maksim kuantitas (memberikan sedikit informasi, informasi yang berlebih, dan mengulang perkataan), maksim kualitas (berbentuk pertanyaan, sindiran, kontra dan majas), maksim relevansi (memberikan klu), maksim pelaksanaan (ambigu dan berlebih-lebihan). Dari analisis data ditemukan alasan-alasan maksim percakapan dipatuhi yaitu tidak berlebihan, sesuai dengan apa yang ditanyakan, mengatakan sesuatu dengan sebenar-benarnya, sesuai dengan fakta, sesuatu yang berhubungan dan jelas, memberikan tanggapan yang sesuai, memberikan pesan yang jelas, jelas dan berturut. Sementara beberapa alasan maksim percakapan dilanggar dalam konteks wawancara adalah menyembunyikan kebenaran, menyelamatkan reputasi, menyenangkan dan menghindari melakukan hati sipendengar, membangun kepercayaan, meyakinkan dan menghindari pemberian informasi yang salah.

Kata Kunci: Maksim Percakapan, Maksim Kepatuhan, Maksim Pelanggaran, Konteks Wawancara
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Finally, the writer realizes that this study is far from being perfect. Therefore, she always expects any constructive criticism and suggestion from the reader to make this thesis be better.

Medan, 4th December 2017

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT ........................................................................................................................................... i

ABSTRAK ........................................................................................................................................... ii

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT ........................................................................................................................... iii

CURRICULUM VITAE ............................................................................................................................. vi

TABLE OF CONTENTS ........................................................................................................................... viii

LIST OF TABLES ..................................................................................................................................... xi

LIST OF FIGURE ..................................................................................................................................... xii

LIST OF APPENDICES ........................................................................................................................... xiii

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS ...................................................................................................................... xiv

CHAPTER I  INTRODUCTION .................................................................................................................. 1

1.1 Background of the Study .................................................................................................................. 1

1.2 Problems of the Study ...................................................................................................................... 7

1.3 Objectives of the Study .................................................................................................................... 7

1.4 Scope of the Study ............................................................................................................................ 8

1.5 Significances of the Study ............................................................................................................... 8

1.6 Definition of Key Terms .................................................................................................................. 9

CHAPTER II  REVIEW OF LITERATURE ............................................................................................... 10

2.1 Theoretical Framework .................................................................................................................... 10

2.1.1 Conversational Analysis ........................................................................................................... 10

2.1.2 Conversational Maxims ............................................................................................................ 12

2.1.2.1 Quantity Maxim .................................................................................................................. 14

2.1.2.2 Quality Maxim .................................................................................................................... 15

2.1.2.3 Relevance Maxim ............................................................................................................... 15

2.1.2.4 Presupposition Maxim ....................................................................................................... 16
2.1.2.4 Manner Maxim

2.1.3 Realization of Conversational Maxims

2.1.3.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims

2.1.3.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims

2.1.4 Reason of Conversational Maxims Occurrences

2.1.4.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims

2.1.4.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims

2.1.5 The Interview of Oprah Winfrey

2.1.6 Relevant Studies

2.1.7 Conceptual Framework

CHAPTER III RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

3.2 Data and Source of Data

3.3 Technique of Data Collection

3.4 Instruments of Data Collection

3.5 Technique of Data Analysis

3.6 Trustworthiness of the Study

CHAPTER IV DATA ANALYSIS, FINDINGS, AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Data Analysis

4.1.1 Types of Conversational Maxims employed by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the Interview

4.1.1.1 Types of Obedience of Conversational Maxims

4.1.1.2 Types of Violation of Conversational Maxims
4.1.2 Realization of Conversational Maxims realized by Oprah Winfrey and
Michelle Obama in the Interview ................................................................. 55

4.1.2.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims ............................................... 55

4.1.2.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims ............................................... 63

4.1.3 Reason of Conversational Maxims realized by Oprah Winfrey and
Michelle Obama in the Interview ................................................................. 77

4.1.3.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims ............................................... 78

4.1.3.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims ............................................... 85

4.2 Findings .................................................................................................... 97

4.3 Discussion .................................................................................................. 98

CHAPTER V CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION ....................................... 103

5.1 Conclusion .................................................................................................. 103

5.2 Suggestion .................................................................................................. 104

REFERENCES ................................................................................................. 105

APPENDICES
## LIST OF TABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Realization of Conversational Maxim Obedience</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Types of Obedience of Conversational Maxim</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Types of Violation of Conversational Maxim</td>
<td>49</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Theory and Research Finding 1</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Theory and Research Finding 2</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# LIST OF FIGURE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Conceptual Framework</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 : The Transcription of Interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama
Appendix 2 : Code of the Utterances
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

QN : QUANTITY
QL : QUALITY
MN : MANNER
RL : RELEVANCE
CHAPTER I
INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

As social creature, people cannot live by themselves because they need each other to support their life. Everybody absolutely communicates along his life, as communication is one of the ways to interact with others. One of the types of communication is through oral communication or conversation. Human being needs conversation to other people. Conversation has a crucial role to deliver the meaning in communication.

To be successful in communicating through conversation, two or more people as participants of a conversation should be able to be cooperative each other so there is no misunderstanding in the conversation. The speaker can lead the listener to gain the messages in the conversation clearly and the listener can understand the meaning, even the hidden meaning in the speaker’s utterances.

Becoming the most commonly used of human language, conversation also has its function as a part of language. In a conversation, to do those functions well, there are some rules that should be followed by the participants of the conversation. Yule (1996:36) stated that the ability to provide an expected amount of information by a speaker in a conversation is a concept of cooperative principle in which the participants make their contributions as informative as is required.
Cooperative principle is a rule that should be obeyed to make communication among speakers. The cooperative principle describes how people interact with one another (Yule, 1996: 36). The principle is what forms the basis of interpretation of utterances. Cooperative principle which is mainly attributed to Grice (1975) presents the cooperative principle in the following terms: “Make your conversational contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged”.

According to Grice’s theory, there are four guidelines to construct good communication with others that relate to the truthfulness, giving required information, relevance and clear. These guidelines are called as cooperative principle. May (2011:43) argues that cooperative is a guarantee for successful communication and a premise for the generation of any implication of conversation. Based on statement above, the participant must obey a general cooperative principle to conduct an efficient and effective use of language in conversation. Hence, Grice (1975) proposed conversational maxims theory.

Conversational maxims are a set of rule in conversation between speaker and listener as Chapman (2000:131) says that conversational maxims are the areas in which conversational partners cooperate. The speaker and the listener cooperate during conversation by delivering his/her intention for speaker and interpreting the speaker’s intention for the listener so that the communication becomes effective. Therefore, understanding conversational maxims is fundamental for smooth communication, and conversational maxims which are shared in society may contribute to mutual understanding during conversation.
Conversational maxims can occur in the conversation in every situation of human life. One of the ways to investigate the phenomenon of conversational maxims is through spontaneous conversation in which ongoing conversation among the participants have not been prepared previously. The more natural the conversations run, the better data would be gained. Besides, spontaneous everyday conversation live, TV show can also serve as objects of investigation of conversational maxims, since they are considered as spontaneous even though they are broadcasted on TV.

In this case, the researcher chooses the Oprah Winfrey Show. It is a United State talk show syndicate which is aired around the world. Oprah Official site explained that the talk show is licensed to 150 countries internationally for more than two decades. The named is gained from the host’s name, Oprah Winfrey. The talk show always raises current topic to talk about (but still real). Oprah Winfrey as the host is able to conduct interactive and natural interview with regular people, celebrities, politicians, and even the president. In this study, the researcher employs special interview remarks by the First lady, Michelle Obama in Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C of Women summit on June, 14, 2016.

The researcher interested in choosing Michelle Obama as the object of data because of some reasons. The first reason is dealing with the figure of Michelle Obama as the first lady at that time. As the first lady, her interview in Oprah program especially in women summit really got people’s attention. The second reason is because she is a role model for many people. Michelle is one of the first ladies that has a graduate degree, graduating from law school and becoming successful
businesswoman. Because of that, she has a very articulate and personable woman who can give an excellent speech. So, she is really extremely educated and inspiring woman. Therefore, it is very interesting to analyze the conversational maxims on the Oprah Winfrey Show especially Michelle Obama as the guest.

In the conversation during interview, the interviewee may obey the maxim by giving informative answer to what the interviewer asks and violate them by giving uncooperative and complicated answers during the interview. The example of obedience of conversational maxims that occur in the interview can be seen in the preliminary data below:

MS Winfrey : We never heard, did you get that job?
MRS. Obama : I did, I did

In the conversation above, the response given by Michelle Obama as the interviewee to respond the interviewer’s question was the example of the obedience of maxim. It’s maxim of quantity. The clear answer which was given by MRS Obama as interviewee without any doubt which is not too little and not too much can be concluded as obedience in maxim of quantity based on the theory proposed by Grice.

However, sometimes the speaker may utter something which is different with what they intended to be understood which make the listener cannot respond appropriately. In daily conversation, people do not always say what is true and what they have evidence for. The speaker might also make their contribution not as
informative as it is expected. The contribution which is uttered by them may also not always relevant to the context and the way they conveyed their idea or answers is sometimes unclear. In this case, they break the rule in cooperative principle, they violate the conversational maxims.

There are some reasons that make people violate the maxim in their conversation. According to Peccei (1999: 27), violation is quite in the sense that is certain at the time of the utterance that the speaker has deliberately lied, supplied insufficient information or been ambiguous, irrelevant or hard to understand. In the way people violate the maxims, they have certain purpose to do it.

The example which showed the violation of conversational maxims in the interview can be seen in the conversational below:

**MS. Winfrey**: Like we do yes and Farm Fresh Gal says, “As woman leader in the corporate world, I feel like I have to be brave a lot”, and what you just described was brave. “Any advice or tips on bravery?”

**MRS. Obama**: That’s a good question. Gosh, *I don’t know*. If I ever, I don’t ever view it as bravery.

In this example, one of the maxims has been violated, that is maxim of quality. MRS. Obama response with doubtful answer of what she said. This is related to the maxim of quality that is “don’t say something that is believed to be false”. It is possible that she hides something that she does not want MS. Winfrey to know. Therefore she does not tell the truth. When someone violates a maxim of quality, it’s possible for her to tell a direct lie.
The preliminary data above showed that obedience and violation of conversational maxims occurred in the interview between MRS. Obama and Oprah Winfrey. According to Ericson and Shultz (1982), conversation is socially organized for both participants have to take action by taking into account what the other is doing at the time. The understanding about the conversational is very important to build a meaningful conversation. Understanding conversational rules is therefore fundamental for smooth communication, and conversational rules that are shared in society may contribute to mutual understanding during conversation, especially in the interview.

This study has the differences from the previous studies. Many of the studies analyzed conversational maxims in other fields such as conversational maxims in school counseling context, observance and non observance of Gricean Maxims in the classroom. Many of researchers only analyze violation of maxims and flout of maxims. Therefore, in this study, the researcher conducted the research about conversational maxims in the interview; obedience and violation of maxims. It is expected to find out the occurrences of conversational maxims in the interview, how the conversational maxims occurrences were realized and the reasons behind the obedience and violation of conversational maxims by the interviewee.
1.2 Problem of the Study

Based on the explanation given in the background, the problems of the study were formulated in the following questions.

1. What types of conversational maxims do Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama employ in the interview?
2. How do Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama realize the conversational maxims in the interview?
3. Why do Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama realize the conversational maxims in the interview?

1.3 Objective of the Study

The objectives of the study can be described as follow:

1. To analyze the types of conversational maxims employed by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the interview.
2. To describe how the conversational maxims realized by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the interview.
3. To find out the reason why Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama realized the conversational maxims in the interview.
1.4 Scope of the Study

In order to keep the research in track and focus on what the matter of what the researcher tries to investigate, this scope of the study should be formulated. This can avoid the unnecessary or overlapping data analysis. The study of this research is focused on the conversational maxims which are found in the interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama. The study is limited to the occurrences of conversational maxims in the interview by using the theory of conversational maxims.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The results of the study are expected to be useful theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the findings of this study are expected to give contribution to linguistic theories especially in conversational maxims and the development of studies related to conversational maxims. In addition, the findings can be references for further studies related to interactional language.

Practically, it is hoped to be useful to be a references for the university students majoring in English language Master who are interested in studying and conducting any further studies about conversational maxims. For speakers and listeners in daily conversation, the knowledge of conversational maxim will help them to create a better and more effective communication.
1.6 Definition of Key Terms

Conversational Maxim : The rules or norms that people should contribute in conversation to make the conversation required as they are expecting, such as; maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relevance, maxim of manner.

Obedience : The condition where the speaker obey the maxim in order to be able to achieve meaningful and efficient communication as proposed by Grice (1975) in cooperative principle.

Violation : The condition where the speakers do not purposefully fulfill certain maxim. The speaker is liable to provide insufficient, ambiguous, or irrelevant information. Grice defines it as “quite and unostentatious”.
CHAPTER II
REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Theoretical Framework

In a research, theories and concepts must be explained clearly and specifically to make the discussion easily understandable. This theoretical orientation is important for other researchers so that a replication, if necessary, can be conducted one day to verify the findings of the research. By presenting the theoretical framework, the purpose, procedure and principle of conducting the research are acceptable.

2.1.1 Conversation Analysis

Conversation is a linguistic activity when people can do a mutual exchange of information, ideas, and emotions and surely it always happens in every part of our activity. The successful of interaction requires a pair of speaker and listener who can accept the purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which they are engaged. In conversation, there is an interaction between two people or more where it is not only convey what they want to talk, but also to give contribution to speaker with some feedback.

There are various definitions which are said by some linguists about what conversational is. Levinson (1983: 284) states that conversation is a familiar predominant talk in which all participants freely alternate in speaking. Yule (1996:71), in addition, creates an analogy for conversation. He said that conversation
is like a dance with the conversational partners synchronizing their movements smoothly.

In conversation, there are some things which are needed to be analyzed. It may be the meaning of conversation or what occurred in conversation. According to Liddicoat (2007: 10) conversation analysis concerned with identifying pattern of action, identifying instance of action through unmotivated looking and then moving to establishing collections of similar actions is an effective way of examining regularly occurring patterns. Paltridge (2006: 83) said that conversation analysis, ordinary conversation is the most basic form of talk and the main way in which people came together, exchange information and maintain social relations.

Conversation Analysis (CA) research is assumed to be included in typically linguistic disciplines such as Pragmatics, Discourse Analysis, or sociolinguistics. In fact, it started in American sociology by the lectures of Harvey Sacks and his co-workers- Gail Jefferson and Emanuel Schegloff in 1960s (Liddicoat, 2007: 4). Mazeland (2006: 153) states that the framework of CA that used to focus on talk in conversations has gradually been extended to research of other types of talk such as medical and clinical interaction, lessons, or news interview. For such reason, he concludes why the more general characterization talk in interaction nowadays is often preferred over conversation.

CA refers to the analysis of natural conversation in order to discover what the linguistic characteristics of conversation are and how conversation is used in ordinary
life (Richard, Platt and Platt, 2000: 106). Liddicoat (2007: 6) defines conversation analysis as a study of talk in interaction. In CA, particular attention is given to spoken interaction such as; interview. The data of CA consist of tape recordings and transcripts of naturally occurring conversations. In sum, conversation Analysis is an analysis which is only done for conversation or talk. It means that the main object of conversational analysis is talk or conversation.

2.1.2 Conversational Maxims

In order to communicate successfully, human beings are supposed to obey to a certain mode of interaction. For this reason, the linguist, Herbert Paul Grice, developed a mode of interaction for successful communication called the Cooperative Principle (CP). Cooperative Principle is one of the significant theories in Pragmatics. Grice (1975: 45) explains that cooperative principle leads the participants to make a contribution as is required in a conversation. The aim and the direction of talk exchange determine the requirement.

In every conversation is needed to follow certain conversational rules. Based on this condition, Grice developed the CP which every person should obey in order to realize a successful communication.

The cooperative Principle (CP) which is also known as conversational maxim as an unwritten rule about conversation which people know and which influences the form of conversational exchanges (Grice in Richards; Platt & Platt, 2000). According to Yule (1996: 129), Grice’s conversational maxim is rule conversation assumed to
be followed. It means that speaker and listener should follow the rules to interpret the inferences to make sense during conversation. The speaker and listener cooperate in conveying these rules. The cooperation is naturally involved in speaker’s word and mean. It can be said that when speaker says more than he says, listener recognizes the speaker’s meaning. Both speaker and listener cooperate each other in conversation to make sense of what is said and what the words mean.

According to Chapman (2000: 131) conversational maxim is the area in which conversational partners cooperate. It is important to figure out what a speaker is saying and implying because sometimes speaker says more than he/she says, so the listener must recognize the speaker’s meaning.

From the definition above, it can be concluded that conversational maxims are a set of rules which govern the speaker and listener to be cooperative so that the conversation will be effective and efficient.

Grice divided those maxims into four maxims. As Chapman (2000: 131) reveals Grice identified four main areas in which conversational partners cooperate and presents these as four maxims of conversation. They are maxim of quantity, quality, relevance and manner. He defines quantity is speaker and listener are informative as required. Speaker and listener are truthful as quality. Speaker and listener are relevant. Speaker and listener are brief or not ambiguous as manner.
2.1.2.1 Quantity Maxim

Quantity Maxim deals with the amount of information that should be delivered by the speaker. Grice (1975) states that the rules are: (1) Make your contribution as informative as required. (2) Make the strongest statement you can. From the statement we know that the speaker neither give too much nor too little information. The speaker should know how much information the listener require so the speaker does not give more information than that is required.

Example:

a. That is my mom
b. That is my mom, she is 45 years old. She is a teacher in one of elementary school in Medan. She is very kind and friendly.

The utterances above show that the speaker is trying to introduce her mom in occasion. In utterance (a), the speaker already followed the maxim of quantity. She provides adequate information. Meanwhile, the utterances (b) violate the maxim of quantity. In this case, the speaker gives to much information by mentioning age, her workplace and her character. The speaker may want to give more complete introduction about her mom. However, it also can be interpreted that the speaker not only attempts to introduce her mom but also wants to show her mom’s profession and character.
2.1.2.2 Quality Maxim

Quality Maxim is about the truth. It requires the speakers to say what is true. It is not recommended to say something that the speaker believes to be false if they lack adequate evidence. The rules of quality maxim are:

a. Do not say what you believe to be false, and
b. Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence

Example:

A : Why did you come late last night?
B : “The car was broken down”

In the example, B gave the truth because his car was broken down so that he came late. If B can also show the evidence for his absent and also the reasons are acceptable, it can be said that B has obeyed quality maxim.

2.1.2.3 Relevance Maxim

The rule of relevance maxim is being relevant (Leech, 1983:8). The meaning of relevant is the speakers are required to be relevant in saying something. Speakers should say something which is relevant to the previous saying in a conversation. The speakers should answer the question appropriately. They should give the related answer to the question.
Example:

A: How about Oprah Winfrey Talk show?
B: Oprah Winfrey talk show is very interesting program.

From the example A can deduce from B’s reaction that B means that Oprah Winfrey is very interesting program. Thereby B’s answer is relevant with the question being asked.

2.1.2.4. Manner Maxim

The last sub-principle is manner maxim. According to Leech (1983: 8), the rules of maxim of manner are avoid obscurity of expression, avoid ambiguity, be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity), and be orderly. Here, the maxim of manner requires the speakers to be clear. Specifically, the speakers should avoid obscurity and ambiguity and should be brief and orderly in saying something in a conversation.

Example:

A: Where were you last week?
B: I went to my hometown and visited my close friend.

In the example above, the speaker B gives a clear explanation where he was last week, A also responded to the question orderly. It means that the speaker B obey the maxim of manner.
2.1.3 Realization of Conversational Maxims

In conversation, conversational maxims might be obeyed or violated during the conversation. The realization of obedience of conversational maxims will be described below:

2.1.3.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims

Levinson (1983: 103) states that what participants have to do in order to converse in a maximally efficient, rational, cooperative way: the participant should speak sincerely, relevantly, and clearly while providing sufficient information. In more detail, the realization of obedience of conversational maxim can be seen in the table below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAXIM</th>
<th>OBEYING THE MAXIMS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>QUANTITY</td>
<td>• The speaker speaks straight to the point&lt;br&gt;• The speaker is informative&lt;br&gt;• The speaker provides sufficient information&lt;br&gt;• The speaker doesn’t repeat certain words</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>QUALITY</td>
<td>• The speaker says something that is believed to be true&lt;br&gt;• The speaker provides adequate evidence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RELEVANCE</td>
<td>• The speaker makes the conversation match with the topic&lt;br&gt;• The speaker stick to the conversation topic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANNER</td>
<td>• The speaker doesn’t use ambiguous language&lt;br&gt;• The speaker doesn’t exaggerate thing&lt;br&gt;• The speaker uses the words which are understood by the listener&lt;br&gt;• The speaker’s voice is loud enough</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2.1.3.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims

According to Brown and Levinson (1987: 211), the violation of conversational maxim can be realized in the utterances which conversationally implicate some other utterances. The realization of violation of conversational maxims proposed by Brown and Levinson (1987) will be described below:

a. Violation of Quantity Maxim

The ways which are applied to violate maxim of quantity are:

1) Understating

Understatement is a way to produce implicature by saying less than is acquired. Example: that dress is quite nice (that dress is not good at all).

2) Overstating

Over means that the speaker says something that more than is required. Example: There were a million people in the Co–op tonight. (c.i an excuse for being late).

3) Using tautologies

Tautologie is unnecessary repetition of the same idea in different words without the addition of meaning or clarity. By doing this, the speaker encourages hearer to look for an informative interpretation of non informative utterance. Example: War is war
b. Violation of Quality Maxim

The ways which are applied to violate maxim of quality are:

1) Contradiction

Contradiction means stating two things that contradict each other. The speaker encourages the hearer to find an interpretation that reconciles the two contradictory propositions.
Example:

A: are you upset about that?
B: Well, I’m and I’m not

2) Using Irony

The speaker violates the maxim of quality by saying the opposite of what the speaker means. Example: John is a real genius. (After John has done twenty stupid things in a row).

3) Metaphor

Metaphor means to compare two seemingly different things. Speaker using metaphor, and leaves it to hearer to interpret his intended meaning. Example: Harry is a real fish (he swims like a fish).
4) Using rhetorical question

Using rhetorical question means asking a question but leave the answer hanging in order to speaker want the hearer to provide him with the indicated information. Example: How many times do I have to tell you (it means many times).

c. Violation of Relevance Maxim

The ways which are applied to violate maxim of relevance are:

1. Give hints

If the speaker says something that is not clear, here the speaker invites the hearer to search for interpretation of the possible relevance. Example: A: it is cold in here (c.i shut the window).

2. Give association clues

If speaker gives a related kind of implicature triggered by mentioning something associated with the act required of hearer, either by precedent in speaker hearer’s experience or by mutual knowledge irrespective of their interactional experience. Example: are you going to market tomorrow? There is a market tomorrow I suppose (c.i. give me a ride there).

3. Presuppose

Speaker makes hearer looking for the presupposed prior event by implicating something. Example: I washed the car again today (he presupposed that he has done it
before. The use of “again” forces the hearer to search for the relevance of the presupposed prior event.

d. Violation of Manner Maxim

The ways which are applied to violate maxim of manner are:

1. Be ambiguous

Ambiguity includes the literal meaning of the utterance and it is possible implicature. The speaker utters with not always clear exactly which of the connotations of a metaphor are intended to be invoked. Example: “John’s a pretty sharp cookie” (this statement could be either a compliment or an insult, depending on what the connotation of sharp is latched into).

2. Be vague

Vagueness can be used as an indirect criticism and attract to the addressee. Example: perhaps someone did something naughty (vague understatement).

3. Overgeneralize

Speaker utters a rule of instantion that may leave hearer to have a choice of deciding whether the general rule applies to him. Example: Mature people sometimes help do the dishes.
2.1.4 Reason of Conversational Maxims Occurrence

In a conversation, sometimes maxim was obeyed or violated by the speaker for a certain reason. The reasons behind the obedience or violation of conversational maxim are:

2.1.4.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims

Cooperative principle is a significant theories. Grice (1975: 45) explains that cooperative principle leads the participant to make contribution as is required in a conversation. The aim and the direction of talk exchange determine the requirement. Grice in (Wardaugh, 2006: 293) also states that conversation is cooperative activity. That is when speakers and listeners can understand each other in a conversation. They can share what they intend to share smoothly. The speaker behaves in a particular way to lead the listener to understand the speaker’s utterances so the listeners are able to give appropriate responses to the speaker’s utterances. Rahardi (2003:27) states that there are some reasons of why people obey the conversational maxims, they are:

1. Not excessive

In quantity maxim, a speaker is expected to deliver a message or information that is truly adequate, enough, and give the information to the listener as informative as required. In other words, it can be interpreted that the reason people obey quantity maxim are in order not excessive.
2. In accordance with what is being asked.

A speaker is expected to deliver a message or information that is truly adequate, enough, and give the information to the listener as informative as required. It can be interpreted that the reason people obey quantity maxim is in order accordance with the real facts in communication event (genuine and not spurious).

3. Saying something truly real

Quality maxim is about the truth. It requires the speaker to say what is true. By applying the maxim of quality on Grice cooperation principle, a speaker wants to deliver something truly real. So, the speakers and listeners can understand each other in a conversation.

4. In accordance with the real facts

The maxim of quality is a maxim which describes that the speaker has to provide the information in accordance with the facts. They should not say what they think is false or make statements for which they have no evidence.

5. Related clearly

In maxim of relevance, it is obviously stated that in order to make a good cooperation between the speaker and the listener, they should give a relevance contribution about something which is being on their conversation. The speaker’s contribution is to deliver something related clearly to the purpose of the exchange.
6. Giving appropriate response

In order to make a good cooperation between the speaker and the listener, they should give a relevance contribution about something which is being on their conversation. A speech can be said to carry out the maxim of relevance when the speech which is given to the listener is an appropriate response.

7. Giving clear message

The maxim of manner in the cooperative principle of Grice requires that each participant are always greeted speak directly, clearly and the message should not be ambiguous or obscure it. Therefore, the speaker wants to give clear message to the hearer with not contain an ambiguous message, being brief and orderly. The contribution speaker makes and executes his performance with reasonable dispatch.

8. Being brief and orderly

In cooperative principle, Grice requires that each participant are always greeted speak directly, clearly and the message should not be ambiguous or obscure it. Therefore, the speaker wants to give clear message to the hearer with not contain an ambiguous message and being brief and orderly.

2.1.4.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims

According to Thomas (1995:64), Maxim violation is intentionally generating a misleading implicature. It is to lead the listener to misunderstand with the utterances of the speaker. The speakers may say something that is not true, irrelevant or
ambiguous, and they give incorrect information and it may lead the listener to wrongly assume that they are cooperating. According to Christoffersen (2005), people believe that a lie is in the natural tool to survive and to avoid them from anything that may put them inappropriate condition.

Christoffersen (2005) also states that there are some reasons of why people violate the conversational maxims, they are:

1. Hiding the truth

Hiding the truth means that the speaker consciously cover the truth by saying antipodes to the fact. In other words, the speaker actually understands the question but avoids giving the real information in response to the question. Example: (John covers his real age to his sister’s friend whom he met a party by telling her that they have the same age).

A : I am twenty years old, and how old are you?  
B : Exactly the same

2. Saving face

Saving face means that the speaker tells lie in order to avoid being ashamed or embarrassed because of something that can decrease his or her prestige.

Example:  
(Ann covers herself for being shoplifter in front of people)  
A : What is in your bag? I think our bracelet is in it  
B : I-I do not know what you are talking about. I do not have any bracelet.
3. Feeling jealous about something

   This reason happened due to the speaker jealous feeling to someone because the speaker has already known that another get more he or she expects.

Example: (Cindi lies to Jance that she doesn’t know Jim, the new student. Cindi actually likes him).

   A : I know you talked to Jim, this morning. He is awesome. What do you think about him?
   B : I don’t know what you are talking about.

4. Satisfying the hearer

   Satisfying the hearer means that the speaker has already known that the hearer’s expectation is similar to the speaker. So the response given was being made in order to create good situation which meet the hearer’s expectation.

   (A conversation between a mother and her son)

   A : Mom, how was I born?
   B : Uhm…because God loves you so he sends you to me as a gift.

5. Cheering the hearer

   Cheering the hearer means that the speaker violate the maxim by telling lie to avoid confrontation and to give goodness to the side of hearer.
Example:

(A wife asks her husband whether she looks OK with the purple blouse or not. Her husband who hates purple, cheers his wife by giving an answer that is expected by his wife).

A : Honey, does this colour nice?
B : Of course sweetheart, you look gorgeous.

6. Avoid hurting the hearer

Avoid hurting hearer means that the speaker avoids giving the real information since the fact will hurt the hearer.

Example:

(A mother of three years old boy wants to protect his son by telling that this father has gone over seas rather than saying that he died)

A : Mummy, where is Daddy?
B : Daddy has gone overseas because he wants to buy some toys for you.

7. Building one’s belief

This reason means that the speaker consciously tells untrue information to get the trust from the hearer.

Example: (Joan asks her boyfriend whether he still remembers his ex-girlfriend or not. Her boyfriend lies to her and makes her believe 100%).
A : I wonder if you are still in love with your ex.
B : Of course not darling, you know you are the one in my heart.
A : But how come you still keep her photo in your wallet?
B : that is not her; she is my cousin who looks like her.
(Fact: he is still in love with his ex).

8. Convincing the hearer

Convincing the hearer means that the speaker tells incorrect information by adding some additional information or evidence that can make the hearer believe that something is true.

Example:

(a part time clerk asks his friend to take his shift, but his friend refuses by creating a good reason).

A : Can you take my shift tonight?
B : I wish I could, but I have to take my daughter to the dentist.

2.1.5 The Interview of Oprah Winfrey

The conversation, of course also happen in every talk show even specifically in the interview but actually it has differences from natural conversation in daily life in which speaker and listener speak directly. When the speaker and listener make a conversation in their daily life, it seems to be a natural conversation. Both of them share an issue only for their consumption and there is no people’s curiosity to watch them to communicate. Two or more speakers and listeners speak each other by two ways between the speakers and listeners. They are supposed to respond each other in
their turn and exchange with the need information that benefits both of them in the conversation.

While, it is different in a talk show or interview situation where the participants who are discussing a hot topic whether it is related to the guest himself or daily issue occurred in society. The conversation in the interview not only between the host and guests but also the audiences who are in and out of the location involved in interaction.

When a host in the interview converses with the guest, the host is only a media to fulfill audiences’ curiosity on issues relating to the guests even current issues which the guest knows well about. The host investigates, confirms and asks deeply to give audiences truly answer from the guest. The host plays role as a media from guest to audiences.

Interview is one of the word of mouth communications. Hanafiah (2016: 32) states that word of mouth communication is an activity of exchange ideas and thoughts. The language used is spoken or conversational language. The usual form of spoken language is a direct communication between one person to another or with some communicant in achieving effective value among communicators.

The Oprah Winfrey show, often referred to simply as Oprah, is an American talk show. As launched in the Oprah official site, its entry in national syndication in 1986 makes it the highest rated talk show in television history. The show has been highly influential, and many of its topics have penetrated into the American pop
cultural consciousness. Winfrey has used the show as an educational platform, featuring book clubs, interviews, self improvement segments, and philanthropic forays into world events.

*Oprah* is one of the longest running daytime television tabloid talk show in history. The show received 47 Daytime Emmy Award before Winfrey chose to stop submitting it for consideration in 2000. In 2002, TV Guide ranked it at 49 on TV guide’s 50 greatest TV show all of time. In 2013, they ranked it as the 9 greatest TV show of all time.

In this study, the researcher analyzed Oprah Winfrey Show. It is special interview remarks by First Lady, Michelle Obama and Oprah Winfrey in a conversation of women summit at Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C on June, 14th 2016. The duration of conversation is 43 minutes.

### 2.1.6 Relevant Studies

In review of literature, it is necessary to roll out the relevant studies in order to keep the origin of the research. There are some of the previous relevant studies related to this research.

First, Natalia, Christine, H. (2017) conducted the study about Conversational Maxims in School Counseling Context. This study attempted to investigate the types of conversational maxims (obedience and violation), the realization and the reasons why those conversational maxims occur in counseling context in school by using the theory of conversational maxims. This study was conducted by using qualitative
design. The data in this study were taken from ten recorded utterances of the students in school counseling session. The findings show that all types of conversational maxims employed in school counseling context. The conversational maxims tended to be fulfilled rather than violated by students.

Second, the study was conducted by Limbong, Kristin. N. (2017). It was an analysis of conversational maxims of the autistic children in SLB Yapsi Tebing Tinggi. The objectives of the research were to find out the types of conversational maxims used by the autism children to describe the reasons of conversational maxims in the way they are. The research conducted by using qualitative research. The data were obtained by observing the autistic children and recording the utterances of the autistic’s children conversation. The data collected were analyzed by applying interactive models of Miles and Huberman. The result of the study is the observance maxim and non observance maxim occurred in autistic children’s conversation.

Third, Kamila (2014) conducted the study about Cooperative Principles in the classroom interaction. This study investigates how often students and teacher violate the maxim of cooperative principles in classroom interaction and the reasons why the students and teacher violate those maxims. The result of the study showed that there were only two types of cooperative principles maxims violated in classroom interaction. They were maxim of relevance and maxim of quality. The reasons behind violation of these maxims are different from each violation. The reason of the violation of maxim of relevance and quality is to live up the situation in the classroom and to make jokes.
Fourth, Nasution, J. (2014) conducted the research of conversational maxims in Mata Najwa talk show program on Metro TV. This study explains the conversational maxims in Mata Najwa talk show program on Metro TV. The objectives of the study are to find out the types of conversational maxims occurring in the talk show, the difference of conversational maxims among three topics and the reasons for obedience and violation of conversational maxims in the talk show. The finding showed that all kinds of conversational maxim occurring in all topics and guests. The conversational maxims occurring with different guest are actually affected by the issues of topic itself. Therefore, there are no relationship between culture and language tradition of the guest and their conversational maxim because the guests have the same violation of maxim of quantity and all different guest have the same obtain obedience of maxim manner.

Fifth, Tupan and Natalia (2008) investigate the multiple violations of conversational maxims in lying done by the characters in some episodes of desperate housewives. This study is done by using descriptive qualitative method based on Gricean implicature. The finding of this study revealed that violating all maxims was meant to eliminate the interlocutors chance to respond. Violating three maxims was to cover the truth and violating two maxims was to create another lie in the future. This research gives contribution about the characteristics and reasons of conversational maxim violations in the research will be conducted. In this research, Tupan and Natalia do not explain how violations of Grice maxim (quantity, quality, relevance, and manner) can be realized but only the reason for the violation.
Sixth, “The violation of cooperative principles and four maxims in Iranian Psychological Consultation” was conduct by Sagheby and Sobhani (2014). After analyzing their language by means of conversational implicature and the occurrences of the violation of cooperative principle, it is concluded that the recognition of conversational implicature is essential for the understanding of the non cooperative attitudes of the speakers and their violation of one or more cooperative principle maxims. The violation of all types of maxim was found in this study. There were instances when the purpose was to intentionally miscommunication within this sophisticated social context.

Seventh, the study about “A pragmatic analysis of maxim flouting performed by Solomon Northup in 12 years a slave movie” was conducted by Fatmawati (2014) this research aims to analyze the maxim flouting in 12 years a slave movie. In more specific terms, this research is aimed at identifying the types of maxim flouting; documenting the strategies that are used and seeking out the reasons for maxim flouting performed by Solomon Northup in 12 years a slave movie. The results of the show that four types of maxim flouting are performed by Solomon Northup to flout the maxim, the strategies of maxim flouting are applied by Northup and four reasons that lead Solomon Northup to flout the maxims.

Eighth, was Hartini (2016) conducted the research about Maxims Violation of Politeness Principle in Indonesia’s candidates debate. The objectives of the study are to describe the types of maxims violation, to elaborate the linguistic realization, and reasons of participants violated maxim of politeness principle. The approach in this
study are based on politeness theory by Geoffrey Leech (1983); tact, generosity, approbation, modesty, agreement, and sympathy. The method of this research employed qualitative design. The subjects or the data source are taken from utterances of Presidential Candidates in dialogue of Indonesia’s Presidential Debate. All written data are the transcriptions of recorded observation and interview. The reason is the participants tried to obtain the benefit from the hearer by delivering the questions expecting to cost the hearer.

The other study was conducted by Fitriyah (2013). The Analysis of Conversational Maxim and Flouting Maxim in “The Land of Five Towers” Novel by A. Fuadi. The objective of this research is to find out conversational maxims, flouting maxims and the speaker’s meaning of flouting maxims conversation in “The land of five towers” Novel. Qualitative research is used as the design of research to reach the objectives of this research. The finding showed that there are 8 maxims of quality, 7 maxims of quantity, 8 maxims of relation and 21 maxims of manner. The finding also showed that there are 4 flouting maxims of quantity, 3 flouting maxims of relation and 6 flouting of manner. Furthermore, the finding shown that each conversation has specific meaning when the speaker flouted the maxims.

The last was Abdillah (2016) conducted the research of Maxim flouting in non formal debate shows on Indonesia’s TV channel. The research deals with the maxim flouting namely Quantity, Quality, Manner, and relevance occurred in non formal debate shows in two Indonesian’s TV channels namely TV One’s debate and Metro TV’S Forum Indonesia. The analysis is centered on the flouting of maxims that
were flouted by the debate’s panelist based on the side of affirmative, negative, and neutral sides and also their reasons. The data were analyzed by using the cooperative principle theory by Grice. The findings of the analysis are four maxims are occurred in the two non formal debate shows, the maxim flouting of manner were flouted by the speakers by giving long, unclear, and wordy answer in their utterances in respond to the questions that were being asked or being wordy and unclear with the question they wanted to ask. The reason of the occurrences of the most dominant maxim flouting which is maxim of manner is because the panelist tend to speak unclearly, wordy, repeatedly, and blurry and also when the opposite sides discusses the detail and leading questions regarding the sides that they are representing and also in which TV channel they are participating and what political view does the TV channel share.

The previous studies above are relevant to this study because the theories and result provided in those theories give some insights and contribution to this recent study. They are very useful to lead the researcher to have a better understanding and to conduct the study about the conversational maxims in the Interview remark by Michelle Obama at the United State of women summit.

2.1.7 Conceptual Framework

In a conversation, commonly, speaker and listener are suppose give response each other in their turn and exchange with the require information that benefits them.
By giving the required information, they can understand the meaning and the conversation runs smoothly and cooperatively.

Cooperative principle is the principle which is needed to be managed and by the member of the conversation in order to be able to achieve meaningful and efficient communication. It deals with the contribution of the speaker and hearer in conversation to build a good communication to make the ideas conveyed clearly understood both by the speaker and the hearer.

Cooperative principle is also needed in the interview which is watched by many people. This study is applied to the context of interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama. Therefore, conversational maxims occur in this kind of interaction. In this study, the occurrences of obedience and violation happen in the interview context would be analyzed. This study will also investigate the reasons behind the obedience and violation of conversational maxim in the interview. The conversation occurrences in the interview will be analyzed by using the theory of conversational maxim to guide the researcher in finding the data for this study. The research design, the data source, steps of collecting and analysis the data will be explained in the next chapter. The related theories in this chapter will be applied in analyzing the data and describing the findings of the study. Briefly, the conceptual framework of the study can be seen in the figure below:
CHAPTER III
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

3.1 Research Design

This research used a descriptive qualitative method as a research type. Qualitative method is a study in which the researcher does not set out test hypothesis, but rather to observe what is present with their focus and consequently the data are free to vary during the observation. Bungin (2007: 27) states that a descriptive qualitative research uses theory to lead the research before collecting the data. Hanafiah (2016: 32) also states that qualitative method is a research method depart from a preliminary to the object study to get the real problem. Therefore, the problem must be extracted from the preliminary study through empirical facts.

Bogdan and Biklen (1992:29) explain that qualitative research is descriptive where data collected are in the form of words and picture rather than number. It means this study can be classified as qualitative approach since the data are in form of words or sentences not a number. Nazir (2003: 55) also states that a descriptive design is conducted to describe situation, events or occurrences of the basic data. By using the qualitative descriptive method, this study is intended to find and describe conversational maxims in the interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama.
3.2 Data and Sources of Data

Data are very essential for a scientific research. There were 142 utterances in the interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama. The data of this study were the utterances of Michelle Obama as the interviewee. There were 52 utterances of Michelle Obama which contained conversational maxims taken out from the transcript.

The source of data is the video and transcript of the interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama which take place in Washington Convention Center, Washington, D.C on June, 14th 2016. The duration of conversation is 43 minutes. The video was downloaded from www.youtube.com.

3.3 Technique of Data Collection

Vanderstoep and Jhonston (2008: 189) state that there are four types of data collection techniques. They are interviewing (face to face question and answer process), ethnography observation (observing people enacting culture), analysis of documents and material culture (written text or cultural artifacts), and visual analysis (e.g interpretation of mediated communication text such as films or television programs). This research employed visual analysis technique in which the utterances of participant in video of a recorded interview were interpreted and analyzed. In the data collection, the researcher use the following steps was drawn as follows:

1. Downloading the interview video on the website of www.youtube.com.
2. Watching the video of the interview and seeking the transcription of the video to strengthen the data in order to find the conversational maxims.

3. Making data sheet and categorizing the raw data into data sheets. Data sheet used to record all the information.

3.4 Instruments of Data Collection

Research instrument is very important to obtain the data of research for it is a set of method which is used to collect data. There were two kinds of instruments used in this research: human instrument and non human instrument. According to Bogdan and Biklen (1992:31) in qualitative research, the researcher is as the key instruments. The primary instrument of this study was the researcher herself as human instrument who selected, collected, analyzed the data and also reported the result of the study. Because of the data source is an interview video, the researcher needs a laptop, pen, notebook, data sheet (as non instrument) in visualizing the interview as a media.

3.5 Technique of Data Analysis

After finishing the data collection, the researcher analyzed the raw data that had been recorded in the data sheets. In qualitative research, the relation between data collection and data analysis is inseparable (Bungin, 2007: 107). Since this research was qualitative research, the researcher started the analysis when she selected the raw data and arranged them into a data sheet. In addition, the remaining steps of the data analysis were:
a) Classifying

In this step, the utterances between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama were selected as data. Those utterances were coding as U1, U2, U3, U4,….(The complete description were shown in appendix 2) Then the researcher only focused on Michelle Obama’s utterances which contains conversational maxims; there were four types of maxims namely; maxim of quantity, maxim of quality, maxim of relevance and maxim of manner. They were divided into obedience and violation. The researcher provided data sheet. All data found in the interview arranged in data sheet. They were classified based on their types, realization and reason.

b) Analyzing

After classifying all data, the researcher analyzed them. Then she counted all data which were classified in each category. This process helped the researcher to make her analysis more comprehensive by knowing which maxim ranks the highest and vice versa. Finally, the result was put in the findings.

c) Discussing

After the findings were revealed, the researcher gave detail explanation of her analysis. The detail explanation covered the answer how and why the findings could be so. Moreover, the discussion was conducted to the whole findings.
d) Reporting

The last step was reporting the finding and discussion of the findings. In writing the report of the research, the researcher added some points of conclusion and suggestions.

3.6 Trustworthiness of the Study

Trustworthiness is very important in qualitative research. The aim of it is to support the argument that the inquiry’s findings are worth paying attention to the reader. Lincon and Guba (1985) assert that trustworthiness consist of four criteria such as credibility (confidence with truth value), transferability (applicability of the findings to another context), dependability (findings are consistent and could be repeated), and confirmability (neutrality of the findings). Some activities to establish the trustworthiness can be shown below:

a. Credibility

To fulfill the trustworthiness in terms of credibility of the study, triangulation technique was applied in this research. Triangulation refers to the use more than one approaches to investigate a research question in order to enhance confidence in the ensuing findings.

b. Transferability

The transferability of this research is achieved through a thick description of the research process and finding. The description is called sending context.
c. Dependability

To make sure that the finding is dependable, deliberate checking and jotting down the process and the result of the research will be done. This process is called audit trail which is divide into two kinds:

- Audit trail the process : deliberate and complete note of the research process compared with the standard theory to make sure that the progress is done precisely.
- Audit Trail product : consist of data note and data interpretation to make sure that the research finding is supported by data.

d. Conformability

In order to fulfill conformability of the study, raw data, reduced data and reconstructed the data were provided in the study. The transcription of the utterances were also put in the appendixes as Mazeland (2006) defines a transcription is the combined result of carefully listening to how and where the utterances are produced and the interpretative work of the transcript as a competent member of the culture under investigation. Transcription allows the data to be available for scientific community.
CHAPTER IV
DATA ANALYSIS, FINDINGS, DISCUSSION

4.1 DATA ANALYSIS

The data from this study were taken from the utterances Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the interview. The transcript of the interview were analyzed in order to answer the research question, such as; types of conversational maxim, realization of conversational maxim and reason why conversational maxim employed by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the interview.

4.1.1 Types of Conversational Maxim Employed by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama In the Interview

After analyzing the data, the researcher found out that all conversational maxims are found during the interview. Obedience and violation of conversational maxims can be found in the interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama.

4.1.1.1 Types of Obedience of Conversational Maxims

There were 52 utterances which contained conversational maxims found in the interview. The total number of obedience of conversational maxim was 17 utterances. There were 3 types of obedience of quantity maxim, 5 types of obedience of quality maxim, 6 types of obedience of relevance maxim and 3 types of obedience of manner maxim. It can be seen from the table below:
Absolutely, absolutely. I’m just proud of all the work that’s been done here. So I agree.

Absolutely. Because in this -- particularly when you’re in public service, you’re First Lady, the President and you’re interacting with the world, people can smell in authenticity. They know when you are not what you appear to be. And that was always something that I said in this role that -- I want people to know me, know Michelle, Michelle Robinson Obama, not the First Lady. In every interaction I have had with anybody who’s had some connection with me, I have tried to be authentically myself. And in order to do that, I learned that I have to do things that I authentically care about. Because if I fundamentally, deep down have a belief in the cause, and I -- it moves me, then I’m going to be excited about it. That excitement is going to be conveyed to the people that I’m trying to reach. It’s not going to be a heavy lift.

That’s why people say, how can you speak in front of all these people and do this every day? Look, I get energy from people. And not everybody in politics, in public service are people-people. Barack and I really do -- we are energized by the people we meet, by the military spouses that I meet out there. I picked working with military families because they moved me. I met them out on the campaign trail and I didn’t know that there were millions of military families out there serving and sacrificing in ways that we take for granted in this country. And I vowed then and there, just from meeting them, that if I got to be First Lady I would try to be that voice for them, I would try to shine that light on them. (Applause)

So that came out of a direct passion for who those people were and what I learned about
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>U22</strong></td>
<td>I did. I did</td>
<td>√</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U38</strong></td>
<td>Value. That’s absolutely right.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U44</strong></td>
<td>Know your own value. Absolutely</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U52</strong></td>
<td>-- and good work. You don’t have to say anything to the haters. You don’t have to acknowledge them at all. You just wake up every morning and be the best you can be. And that tends to shut them up.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td><strong>U60</strong></td>
<td>-- and transformed in the process</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U70</strong></td>
<td>Oh, it feels -- public service -- I left the practice of law to go into public service for selfish reasons. I wanted to be happy and feel good every single day. I wanted to wake up inspired and ready to do something greater than myself. And that’s what service and giving and -- that’s what this room means to so many. And I just want to make sure that when people leave here they don’t go back into their isolation; that they don’t go back to their phones, looking down. Because this relationship isn’t enough. You need to have people in your lives that you’re connecting with, that you’re helping. I mean, there is nothing that makes me feel better than knowing that I helped to change somebody’s life --</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U6</strong></td>
<td>Of America</td>
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<td><strong>U12</strong></td>
<td>It’s interesting, I really tried not to limit myself by expectations.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U14</strong></td>
<td>Absolutely not. And as you all know, when Barack was talking about running, I was like, are you crazy? I mean, would you just, like, chill out and do something else with your life? (Laughter) So I was working hard to try to get him to do the other thing, so -- whatever that was. So, yeah, absolutely, it wasn’t something that I</td>
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could have planned for, could have expected from myself. But one of the things I knew -- because people asked all throughout the campaign what are your issues going to be, what are you going to be like as First Lady, and I said, I have to wait until I get there to figure out what that’s going to feel like for me. I specifically did not read other First Ladies’ books, because I didn’t want to be influenced by how they defined the role. I knew that I would have to find this role -- (applause) -- very uniquely and specifically to me and who I was. So I came in thinking about who I wanted to be in this position and who I needed to be for my girls, first of all. So you remember, Malia and Sasha were little itty-bitties when we came into office. I mean, it still moves me to tears to think about the first day I put them in the car with their Secret Service agents to go to their first day of school. And I saw them leaving and I thought, what on Earth am I doing to these babies? So I knew right then and there my first job was to make sure they were going to be whole and normal and cared for in the midst of all this craziness. (Applause) And then I started to understand that if I was going to

**U16** I knew how to do that. 

**U66** That’s right, that’s right  

**U94** No, he was very swagalicious. (Laughter.) Look, I told people this from the very start, when I -- started running -- Barack Obama is exactly who he says he is. We both are. That’s what I’ve been trying to tell people. Ain’t no surprises. We’re telling you who we are, and no tricks up our sleeves. We’re regular folks. We care about people. We care about family. We want to do well. We want to make our country proud. We don’t want to waste our talents just making money for ourselves. Barack Obama hasn’t changed, not as a person. Because he is an authentic man who came in, and he’s going to leave that same person. (Applause.) So it’s not the office that changes you, it’s just -- it amplifies who you are. I think
I said that at the last convention. Being President doesn’t change who you are, it reveals who you are. And that’s something that we should all remember. (Applause)

And that was an advantage. But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it. You’ve got to find those people. Because they’re out there. I tell my mentees all of -- there is somebody out there who loves you and who is waiting to love you, and you just have to find them. And that means you have to make room for them. And if you’re surrounded by a bunch of low-life folks who aren’t supporting you, then there is no room for the people who do love you.

(Applause)

Yes, yes. That’s been some of the most fulfilling things we’ve been able to do in the White House. It’s really bringing people here who would never, ever get to set foot on that lawn and walk into those doors. (Applause.) I tell my mentees all the time -- you know, one of the things I want them to take away when they come -- because they come regularly; they come at least once a month and we sit down and we talk, and they have seminars -- and I want them all to know you walk into the White House every day, and you walk up to the First Lady of the United States and say, “Hey, Michelle, what’s going on?” And if you can do that, you can do anything. If you can exist in this space at this time in this moment --

(Applause) –

Oh, god, everybody has it all. Everybody is lying. They’re lying. (Laughter and applause.) You all need to stop lying. Be real about the fact that -- no one gets everything. That was one of the first rules you learned as a little kid. You don’t always get your way. Come on, people. You don’t always get what you want all the time. And that’s true in life.

So what I’ve told many young people is that
you can have it all, but oftentimes it’s hard to get it all at the same time.

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<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
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<td>17</td>
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4.1.1.2 Types of Violation of Conversational Maxims

There were 35 utterances which contained violation maxims found in the interview. There were 6 types of violation of quantity maxim, 16 types of violation of quality maxim, 4 types of violation of relevance maxim and 9 types of violation of manner maxim. It can be seen from the table below:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code of the Utterances</th>
<th>Utterances</th>
<th>QN</th>
<th>QL</th>
<th>RL</th>
<th>MN</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>U20</td>
<td>Oh, yeah</td>
<td></td>
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<td>U28</td>
<td>FarmFreshGal</td>
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<tr>
<td>U64</td>
<td>Wow. So many ways. I mean, first of all, there is absolutely nothing I can’t do, right?</td>
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<tr>
<td>U116</td>
<td>It’s hard to think of one thing.</td>
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<tr>
<td>U118</td>
<td>But the work always continues. And by that I mean we’re never done. We can never be complacent and think that we’ve arrived now as women. Because I hear this from young women. Some of you young women who aren’t feeling the pains that many of our predecessors have felt -- you think, well, there aren’t any problems, women’s rights, we’ve got this all figured out, I’m already equal, I’m good -- I’m just like, oh, just you wait, you’ll feel it. So the work continues. And for all the young women in this room, all the young men, we can never be complacent. Because we have seen in recent times how quickly things can be taken away if we aren’t vigilant, if we don’t know our history, if we don’t continue the</td>
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work. (Applause.)

So my hope is that people leave here inspired and ready to do something. Again, remember, it’s not what people say about you, it’s what you do. So the question is what are you going to do? How are you going to be better? What are you going to change in your office, in your life, in your relationships? What are you going to change in your family dynamic? And how are you going to empower yourself with the knowledge that you need to know what work needs to be done?

We can’t afford to be ignorant. We can’t afford to be complacent. So we have to continue the work.

U122 Yeah, I know

U10 So it’s just a matter of managing expectations. So for me, for example, you know, when your husband is President of the United States and you have children, something has got to give. I’ve made compromises in my life and my career, but I’ve also, in exchange, gained a wonderful platform to do some great work. Who would have ever imagined that we would make the inroads we’ve made on healthy eating and changing the way our kids are fed in school? (Applause.) I can point to so many things that I’ve had -- that I’ve been able to do. If I want to be heavily involved in my girls’ lives that means that sometimes I have to put some things on the back burner to give them what they need.

So it’s hard to have it all. But that’s where you go back to knowing who you are, and knowing that you’re really living through phases. And if you’re compromising through one phase of your journey, you’re not giving it all up, you’re compromising for that phase. There’s another phase that’s coming up where
you might be able to have more of what you thought you wanted. You get to know yourself a little bit more.

So, no, I don’t want young women out there to have the expectation that if they’re not having it all that somehow they’re failing. Life is hard. But life is long if you maintain your health, which is one of the reasons why we talk about health, talk about taking care of yourself. Because you want to get to the next phases in life where you can do more of what you want to do at any given time.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>U18</th>
<th>You know why? Because they don’t have to balance anything. Sorry. (Laughter and applause.) And I hope that that is changing, but so many men don’t have to do it all.</th>
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<tr>
<td>U32</td>
<td>That’s a good question. Gosh, I don’t know. If I ever -- I don’t ever view it as bravery.</td>
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<tr>
<td>U40</td>
<td>And that goes back to knowing who you are. And I think as women and young girls, we have to invest that time in getting to understand who we are and liking who we are. (Applause) Because I like me. I’ve liked me for a very long time. (Applause) So for a long time I’ve had a very good relationship with myself.</td>
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<tr>
<td>U46</td>
<td>I think it’s different for everyone. And I can’t say that I’ve loved myself for a long time, but there was a journey to get there. And some of it starts as a young girl -- when you confront your first bully, the first time somebody calls you out -- your name, as we would say. The first disappointments and failures that you have, how do you deal with that? What supports systems do you set up for yourself? I always tell young girls, surround yourself with goodness. I learned early on how to get the haters out of my life. (Applause) You’ve got to just sort of surround yourself with people who uplift you, who hold you up. And for whatever reason -- well, I was lucky I had people like -- I had parents who held me up. I had a father that valued me.</td>
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Well, when it comes to social media -- there are just times I turn off the world, you know. There are just some times you have to give yourself space to be quiet, which means you’ve got to set those phones down. You can’t be reading all that stuff. I mean, that’s like letting somebody just walk up and slap you, you know? (Laughter.) You would never do that. You would never just sit there and go, slap me in the face and I’m good with it. No. So why would you open yourself up to that?

So that’s one thing. With social media and -- I don’t read that stuff. I learned that early in the campaign. I couldn’t keep reading stuff about my husband and what people thought and -- because I knew who he was. I knew what was going on in our home, in our lives. So I didn’t need to read about it from somebody else.

But the other thing that I have found, particularly in this job, that it’s -- people won’t remember what other people say about you, but they will remember what you do. So my strategy -- and I’ve always been like this. When a teacher would come and tell me that I couldn’t do something, I would get so much satisfaction proving them wrong. I’d be like, okay, all right, oh, you don’t think I’m going to do X, Y and Z, well I’m going to be the best X, Y, Z you can imagine.

So when it came to this role, I just said, you know, let me just be First Lady. Let me wake up every day and work hard to do something of value, and to do it well, and to do something consequential, and to do something that I care about. And then let that speak for itself. And that would shut up the haters, because I would have a whole portfolio of stuff that defined me because it’s what I did, not what you called me. (Applause) So the best revenge is success --

So many kids, you think their world view will
never be the same. And that’s the least we can do as President and First Lady. I think that’s the obligation of anyone who lives in that house. (Applause)

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<tr>
<td><strong>U74</strong></td>
<td>Yeah, we know. And you did that pretty well too</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U76</strong></td>
<td>Yes, absolutely. That is really the thing. So I don’t know, I don’t sort of -- my growth is incidental. It’s the lucky gift I get for giving. And, like you said, I’m still growing. We are all still growing. I used to tell some of the young people I worked with way back in Chicago days that I used to hate the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?” because it assumes that at some point you stop becoming and you just are something. And that would be a sad thing to think that this is it. And that’s one of the things I’ve learned -- that there are so many phases to life that this is just -- even as big as being First Lady and living in the White House has been, this is still just a portion of a very bigger journey that I have yet to know the outcome. And I won’t know it until I’m laying down. It’s just ever-evolving. (Applause.) And I think that reality -- this experience has helped me to see that. These are just phases. And this has been a very interesting phase, and a very impactful phase, but there’s more to come.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U78</strong></td>
<td>We ain’t through!</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U102</strong></td>
<td>Just be better. (Laughter and applause.) I could go on but I’m not. (Laughter.) You get the point, fellas, right? Fellas? (Applause.) What are you going to be?</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U114</strong></td>
<td>It’s amazing gathering</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U120</strong></td>
<td>We’re neither confirming or denying.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U124</strong></td>
<td>“Hey, Michelle.” (Laughter) I get that, I see</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U128</strong></td>
<td>You and me. That will be a scene. (Laughter.) You know, it’s</td>
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<td><strong>U130</strong></td>
<td>What? You want to go shopping with us? (Applause) It’s really the little things. And you feel this -- fame can be confining. And then you start missing the little things. What do I want to do? I want to walk out -- I want</td>
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to open my front door without discussing it with anyone -- (laughter) -- and I want to walk out that door and just walk.  (Laughter.)

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<tr>
<td>U3</td>
<td>Hello.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td>U138</td>
<td>We’re going to shop</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U142</td>
<td>Ms. Oprah Winfrey! (Applause.)</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>U90</td>
<td>And you know he’s got that walk, right?</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>U30</td>
<td>I hope</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>U34</td>
<td>Right.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>U68</td>
<td>We’ve been to the mountain top, and it was a hard climb but we made it.  (Laughter) We made it!  (Applause) So you just -- again, you begin to understand how much you can tolerate, how much growth you can have, how much potential there is, how much opportunity there is to help people, how fulfilling it is.  I mean, that’s been the thing that I’ve learned, that</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>U72</td>
<td>Amen.</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>U82</td>
<td>There are so -- yeah, just sitting up here, mmm, mmm, mmm.  (Laughter.) There are a lot of those moments.  Prince and Stevie</td>
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Wonder singing in the East Room, just -- may he rest in peace. I mean, those rare gifts of entertainment, the kind of music we have been able to bring into the White House. Sitting with the Pope, watching my mother and my daughters talk to the Pope. That’s like a –

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<tr>
<td><strong>U84</strong></td>
<td>Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) Dinner with the Queen of England, just like, mmm, mmm, mmm.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U86</strong></td>
<td>You know, you try to play these moments off, like oh, yes, yes, I know what I’m doing -- and inside you’re going, mmm, mmm, mmm.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>U88</strong></td>
<td>Good lord. Watching my husband walk off of Marine One and go to the Oval Office, it’s like, mmm, mmm, mmm.</td>
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<td><strong>U92</strong></td>
<td>Like, mmm, mmm, mmm.</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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### 4.1.2 Realization of Conversational Maxims realized by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the Interview.

#### 4.1.2.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims

**A. Obedience of Quantity Maxim**

Quantity Maxim deals with the amount of information that should be delivered by the speaker. Grice (1975) states that the rules are: make your contribution as informative as required (don’t say too much and too little), make the strongest statement you can. Obedience of quantity means that the speaker obeys the principle of quantity maxim. The obedience of maxim quantity was realized through informative, straight to the point and provides sufficient information. It can be seen as follow:
MS. WINFREY: Of America, not just of women, yes. (Laughter) So I think that the fact that I’ve been watching this being streamed all day, and the fact that there are men here, women here of all ages -- young women, maturing women -- and all walks of life is a move in the right direction, would you not say? (U7)

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely, absolutely. I’m just proud of all the work that’s been done here. So I agree. (U8)

MS. WINFREY: We never heard, did you get that job? (U21)

MRS. OBAMA: I did. I did. (U22)

MS. WINFREY: You know, I’ve always thought too, that the best success comes when you can actually shift your paradigm to service. And obviously, you are in a position of public service. Was it a conscious, intentional decision to sort of sit still, be with this place, and then allow your passion to fuel your interest, allow your passion to lead you to all the things you’ve been able to do with international girls’ education, with health and wellness? Was that a conscious, intentional decision? (U53)

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely. Because in this -- particularly when you’re in public service, you’re First Lady, the President and you’re interacting with the world, people can smell in authenticity. They know when you are not what you appear to be. And that was always something that I said in this role that -- I want people to know me, know Michelle, Michelle Robinson Obama, not the First Lady. In every interaction I have had with anybody who’s had some connection with me, I have tried to be authentically myself. And in order to do that, I learned that I have to do things that I authentically care about. Because if I fundamentally, deep down have a belief in the cause, and I -- it moves me, then I’m going to be excited about it. That excitement is going to be conveyed to the people that I’m trying to reach. It’s not going to be a heavy lift. That’s why people say, how can you speak in front of all these people and do this every day? Look, I get energy from people. And not everybody in politics, in public service are people-people. Barack and I really do -- we are energized by the people we meet, by the military spouses that I meet out there. I picked working with military families because they moved me. I met them out on the campaign trail and I didn’t know that there were millions of military families out there serving and sacrificing in ways that we take for granted in this country. And I vowed then and there, just from meeting them, that if I got to be First Lady I would try to be that voice for them, I would try to shine that light on them. (Applause) So that came out of a direct passion for who those people were and what I learned about them. (U54)
From the three data above, it can be seen the interviewee’s answer is matched with the concept of maxim quantity and can be concluded as maxim quantity obedience. In data 1 the interviewee answers the question informatively. She also says “absolutely, absolutely” to strengthen her words. In data 2, she answers the interviewer’s question by saying “I did, I did”. She answers the question informatively which is not too little and not too much. Here, MRS Obama makes not long utterances and the utterances could give information as required. In data 3, the conversation fulfills the maxim of quantity, since it is giving information to interviewer as required. The interviewee starts the utterances by saying “Absolutely” and also provides sufficient information. It is matched with the concept of quantity.

B. Obedience of Quality Maxim

Quality maxim point is about truth. It requires the speaker to say what is true. The obedience of maxim quality means that the speaker says something that is believed to be true and the speaker can provide adequate evidence. The obedience of maxim quality in the interview was realized through direct and undoubtful answer, and provides sufficient information.

Data 4

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. (U37)
MRS. OBAMA: Value. That’s absolutely right. (U38)

Data 5

MS. WINFREY: Because you know your own value(U43).
MRS. OBAMA: Know your own value. Absolutely. (U44)
Data 6

MS. WINFREY: Is success, yes. (U51)
MRS. OBAMA: -- and good work. You don’t have to say anything to the haters. You don’t have to acknowledge them at all. You just wake up every morning and be the best you can be. And that tends to shut them up. (U52)

Data 7

MS. WINFREY: You see them get empowered – (U59)
MRS. OBAMA: Oh, gosh, yeah. (U60)

Data 8

MS. WINFREY: Fulfilling in it. (U69)
MRS. OBAMA: Oh, it feels -- public service -- I left the practice of law to go into public service for selfish reasons. I wanted to be happy and feel good every single day. I wanted to wake up inspired and ready to do something greater than myself. And that’s what service and giving and -- that’s what this room means to so many. And I just want to make sure that when people leave here they don’t go back into their isolation; that they don’t go back to their phones, looking down. Because this relationship isn’t enough. You need to have people in your lives that you’re connecting with, that you’re helping. I mean, there is nothing that makes me feel better than knowing that I helped to change somebody’s life -- Oprah, you know this more than anyone else. And if you’re doing that every single day, the haters, the doubters -- none of that matters, because you are getting so much by the -- from the work that you’re doing. (U70)

From the data above, it can be seen MRS Obama answers the question in U38 by saying “Value. That’s absolutely right”, In U44 “Know your own value, absolutely” and U60 “Oh, gosh, yeah” with a statement which is very exact and without any doubt. This statement is matched with the concept of maxim of quality. In data 6 and 8, MRS Obama gives information and provides adequate evidence. Therefore, all of the data above are concluded as obedience in maxim of quality in which the interviewer obeys the rules of maxim of quality.
C. Obedience of Relevance Maxim

Relevance maxim is obeyed when the participants of a conversation convey information by following the rule in maxim of relevance which are being relevant, and stay on topic. In interview session, obedience of relevance maxim realized through being relevant and match with the topic.

Data 9
MS. WINFREY: And our First Lady of the United States. (Applause) (U5)
MRS. OBAMA: Of America. (U6)

Data 10
MS. WINFREY: But when you came in, there were the world’s expectations, there were other expectations. What did you really expect? (U11)
MRS. OBAMA: It’s interesting; I really tried not to limit myself by expectations. (U12)

Data 11
MS. WINFREY: Because nobody grows up thinking “I’m going to be a First Lady.” (U13)
MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely not. And as you all know, when Barack was talking about running, I was like, are you crazy? I mean, would you just, like, chill out and do something else with your life? (Laughter) So I was working hard to try to get him to do the other thing, so -- whatever that was. So, yeah, absolutely, it wasn’t something that I could have planned for, could have expected from myself. But one of the things I knew -- because people asked all throughout the campaign what are your issues going to be, what are you going to be like as First Lady, and I said, I have to wait until I get there to figure out what that’s going to feel like for me. I specifically did not read other First Ladies’ books, because I didn’t want to be influenced by how they defined the role. I knew that I would have to find this role -- (applause) -- very uniquely and specifically to me and who I was. So I came in thinking about who I wanted to be in this position and who I needed to be for my girls, first of all. So you remember, Malia and Sasha were little itty-bitties when we came into office. I mean, it still moves me to tears to think about the first day I put them in the car with their Secret Service agents to go to their first day of school. And I saw them leaving and I thought, what on Earth am I doing to these babies? So I knew right then and there
my first job was to make sure they were going to be whole and normal and cared for in the midst of all this craziness. (Applause) And then I started to understand that if I was going to protect them, I had to, number one, protect myself and protect my time. So I knew going into this role that I didn’t want to waste any time; that any time I spent away from my kids -- and I actually took this on even before I became First Lady, even as a lawyer, as a vice president at a hospital. One of the things I realized is that if you do not take control over your time and your life, other people will gobble it up. If you don’t prioritize yourself, you constantly start falling lower and lower on your list, your kids fall lower and lower on your list. (U14)

Data 12

MS. WINFREY: So by the time you got here you knew how to do that. (U15)
MRS. OBAMA: I knew how to do that. (U16)

Data 13

MS. WINFREY: Because you walk in that – (U65)
MRS. OBAMA: That’s right, that’s right (U66)

Data 14

MS. WINFREY: He’s got the swag. (Laughter) Did he always have that swag? Or has he gotten swaggier? (U93)
MRS. OBAMA: No, he was very swagalicious. (Laughter). Look, I told people this from the very start, when I -- started running -- Barack Obama is exactly who he says he is. We both are. That’s what I’ve been trying to tell people. Ain’ no surprises. We’re telling you who we are, and no tricks up our sleeves. We’re regular folks. We care about people. We care about family. We want to do well. We want to make our country proud. We don’t want to waste our talents just making money for ourselves. Barack Obama hasn’t changed, not as a person. Because he is an authentic man who came in, and he’s going to leave that same person. (Applause.) So it’s not the office that changes you, it’s just -- it amplifies who you are. I think I said that at the last convention. Being President doesn’t change who you are, it reveals who you are. And that’s something that we should all remember. (Applause) (U94)

From the utterances above, it can be seen that MRS Obama answers the questions relevantly and still stayed on the topic. All of statements uttered by interviewee are matched with maxim of relevance rule which are being relevant, and stay on topic. For example in U12, when Oprah asked “there were the world’s
expectations, there were other expectations. What did you really expect?” MRS Obama responded by saying “I really tried not to limit myself by expectations”. Then in U16, the answer given by MRS Obama stick to the conversation topic, Oprah asked her “So by the time you got here you knew how to do that?” MRS Obama directly response by saying “I knew how to do that”. Therefore, the answers given by the speaker are match with the relevant rule which are being relevant and stay on the topic. It can be concluded as obedience of relevance maxim.

D. Obedience of Manner Maxim

The rules of manner maxim are avoid obscurity of expression, avoid ambiguity, be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity), and be orderly. Therefore, obedience to manner maxim in the interview was realized through brief and orderly answer. They can be seen in the data below:

Data 15

MS. WINFREY: I think people who have good parents are -- they come into the world with strength, yes, and an advantage. (U47) MRS. OBAMA: And that was an advantage. But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it. You’ve got to find those people. Because they’re out there. I tell my mentees all of -- there is somebody out there who loves you and who is waiting to love you, and you just have to find them. And that means you have to make room for them. And if you’re surrounded by a bunch of low-life folks who aren’t supporting you, then there is no room for the people who do love you. (Applause) (U48)

Data 16

MS. WINFREY: And I remember when you all first arrived at the White House, you said to the country that this is your house, and we’re going to open this up as your house. And so when I saw all those Girl Scouts out on the lawn, I went, you all really did open up the house. (Laughter)(U55)
MRS. OBAMA: Yes, yes. That’s been some of the most fulfilling things we’ve been able to do in the White House. It’s really bringing people here who would never, ever get to set foot on that lawn and walk into those doors. (Applause). I tell my mentees all the time -- you know, one of the things I want them to take away when they come -- because they come regularly; they come at least once a month and we sit down and we talk, and they have seminars -- and I want them all to know you walk into the White House every day, and you walk up to the First Lady of the United States and say, “Hey, Michelle, what’s going on?” And if you can do that, you can do anything. If you can exist in this space at this time in this moment -- (applause) –

(U56)

Data 17

MS. WINFREY: Especially if you’re looking at everybody else’s facebook page. (U107)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, god, everybody has it all. Everybody is lying. They’re lying. (Laughter and applause.) You all need to stop lying. Be real about the fact that -- no one gets everything. That was one of the first rules you learned as a little kid. You don’t always get your way. Come on, people. You don’t always get what you want all the time. And that’s true in life. So what I’ve told many young people is that you can have it all, but often times it’s hard to get it all at the same time. (U108)

In data 15, Michelle answers the interviewer’s question. It can be concluded as the obedience of maxim manner. It is realized from brief and orderly answer. Michelle gives a clear and orderly explanation when being asked about having parent with its strength and advantage. She also strengthen by saying “But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it....”. In this case she gives an orderly explanation. In U56 MRS Obama expresses a direct clear, brief and orderly way without any other communicative intention involved. When MS Winfrey reminds her what Michelle ever said to the country that White House is their house. Then she answer’s very clear by saying “Yes, Yes……” and adds long explanation. In addition, in U108 the speaker also expresses a brief and orderly explanation about looking at everybody else’s facebook page. She can answer MS Winfrey’s question
with brief explanation and also giving suggestion to be real about the fact that no one gets everything. Besides, her explanation is clear and easy to be understood and does not create ambiguity.

4.1.2.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims

A. Violation of Quantity Maxim

Violation of quantity maxim rules can also be found in the interview. The interviewee can be uninformative or giving too short or too much information in answering the question. Therefore, the violation of maxim of quantity was realized through understatement, overstatement, using tautology. They can be seen as follows:

1. Understatement

Data 18

MS. WINFREY: So how did you figure it out? I’ve read the story -- I’m sure many of you have heard the story of early on, you were going to a job interview and you took Sasha with you to interview. (U19)
MRS. OBAMA: Oh, yeah. (U20)

Data 19

MS. WINFREY: How do you feel -- I always feel that until you take your last breath you’re always growing, and that every experience that you encounter in your life -- just all of you being together here today and being in a room with people who are like-minded, who share the same vision -- all of that is so stimulating. You leave here and you feel like you can be better and do better. What has the experience -- or how has the experience of being First Lady actually grown you? (U63)
MRS. OBAMA: Wow. so many ways. I mean, first of all, there is absolutely nothing I can’t do, right? (Applause) (U64)
Data 20

MS. WINFREY: You see all these women and you’re just like, I just want to be more of a woman! And you’re going to be overstimulated. (Laughter). What is the one thing you want us to leave here with? What is the one charge or one offering? What do you want to say? (U115)

MRS. OBAMA: It’s hard to think of one thing. (U116)

Data 21

MS. WINFREY: Okay. (Laughter). When you all are done -- okay, when you’re done and you move out of the White House, I’ve heard you say that you look forward to riding around with the windows down. You’re still going to be Michelle Obama. (U121)

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, I know. (U122)

In data 18, Michelle only answers by giving too little information. Winfrey asked Michelle about taking Sasha to job interview, but she answered by saying only two words “oh yeah”. The contribution speaker gives is not informative. The speaker violated the maxim of quantity by using understatement. She does not give sufficient information in responding the question. Her information she gave is too short and does not answer the question. Furthermore, in data 19 Winfrey asked the question how the experience of being first lady actually has grown her. However MRS. Obama answers the question by saying “wow, so many ways”. The contribution speaker gave is not informative. She does not give sufficient information in responding the question. She just responds to it by saying “so many ways “but does not mention what they are. She gives too little information for the purpose of the exchange. Besides, in data 20 Winfrey raises the question what is the one thing she want them to leave here with, what the one charge or one offering is, and what she wants to say. But the response given is not informative. She just responded by saying “It’s hard to think of
one thing, also in the last data when being asked about that she look forward to riding around with the windows down, she is still going to be Michelle Obama. She does not answer Winfrey’s question but only says “Yeah, I know”. As the characteristic of maxim quantity “give the information or contribution as require”. From all data above, Michelle give contribution less than require, so she violated the maxim quantity by using understatement.

2. Overstatement

Data 22

MS. WINFREY: Okay, a couple. (U117)

MRS. OBAMA: But the work always continues. And by that I mean we’re never done. We can never be complacent and think that we’ve arrived now as women. Because I hear this from young women. Some of you young women who aren’t feeling the pains that many of our predecessors have felt -- you think, well, there aren’t any problems, women’s rights, we’ve got this all figured out, I’m already equal, I’m good -- I’m just like, oh, just you wait, you’ll feel it. So the work continues. And for all the young women in this room, all the young men, we can never be complacent. Because we have seen in recent times how quickly things can be taken away if we aren’t vigilant, if we don’t know our history, if we don’t continue the work. (Applause). So my hope is that people leave here inspired and ready to do something. Again, remember, it’s not what people say about you, it’s what you do. So the question is what are you going to do? How are you going to be better? What are you going to change in your office, in your life, in your relationships? What are you going to change in your family dynamic? And how are you going to empower yourself with the knowledge that you need to know what work needs to be done? We can’t afford to be ignorant. We can’t afford to be complacent. So we have to continue the work. (U118)

In Michelle’s utterance above, she says something more than is required. She gives too long information in responding the interviewer’s question. Winfrey only asks a couple of thing she has today. However, her explanation is too informative. As the characteristic of maxim quantity “give the information or contribution as
require”. In data 21, the process of Michelle utterances is violation quantity maxim. The contribution given is too much and not as informative as needed. She breaks the maxim which requires her to make contribution as informative as required. So she violated the quantity maxim by using overstatement.

3. Using Tautologies

Data 23

MS. WINFREY: Well, that comes from a sense of -- and you said you arrived here knowing who you were. I think that is the journey. That is the journey. And there is a question from Farm Fresh Gal. (U27)
MRS. OBAMA: Farm Fresh Gal. (U28)

In the utterances above, Michelle as interviewee repeats certain word Farm Fresh Gal. She gives unnecessary repetition of the same idea. Therefore it can be concluded that the utterances 28 is violated quantity maxim using tautologies.

B. Violation of Quality Maxim

Violation of quality maxim can be found in the interview when the interviewee consciously or unconsciously didn’t follow the rule in maxim of quality. They might say something that the speaker lack adequate evidence. The violation quantity maxim was realized through vagueness, rhetorical question, using irony, contradiction and metaphor. They can be seen as follow:
1. Vagueness

Data 24

MS. WINFREY: Well, I wanted to start with the issue of self-value and self-worth. Because over the years, I’ve interviewed thousands of people, most of them women, and I would say that the root of every dysfunction I’ve ever encountered, every problem has been some sense of a lacking of self-value or of self-worth. And I know that we all know that we live in a world where you are constantly being bombarded by images that encourage you to be liked, literally. And it’s a lot to live up to. And I wonder, particularly you, who have had to face this as your own woman and as a candidate’s wife, the pressure of other people’s expectations -- and what can you share with our audience here and online that would help us stand more inside ourselves and own that space? (U9).

MRS. OBAMA: Very good question. Well, one of the things that I always -- I tell my mentees, I tell my daughters is that our first job in life as women, I think, is to get to know ourselves. And I think a lot of times we don’t do that. We spend our time pleasing, satisfying, looking out into the world to define who we are -- listening to the messages, the images, the limited definitions that people have of who we are. And that’s true for women of color for sure. There is a limited box that we are put in, and if we live by that limited definition we miss out on a lot of who we are. But it takes taking the time to know who you are to be able to deal with the onslaught of negative messages that you’re bound to get. So for me, I came into this with a pretty clear sense of myself. And some of that comes with age. Some of that comes with experience. Some of that comes from being fortunate enough to have been raised by a loving mother, strong, focused, and a father who loved me dearly. So I fortunately came into this situation with a really clear sense of who I was. So when you hear the smack-talking from outside the world, it’s easy to sort of brush that off. Because I know who I am. (Applause) (U10)

Data 25

MS. WINFREY: Like we do, yes. And FarmFreshGal says, “As a woman leader in the corporate world, I feel like I have to be brave a lot,” -- and what you just described was brave -- “any advice or tips on bravery?” (U31)

MRS. OBAMA: That’s a good question. Gosh, I don’t know. If I ever -- I don’t ever view it as bravery. (U32)
Data 26

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. I was just saying that to a friend recently. (U39)

MRS. OBAMA: And that goes back to knowing who you are. And I think as women and young girls, we have to invest that time in getting to understand who we are and liking who we are. (Applause) Because I like me. I’ve liked me for a very long time. (Applause) So for a long time I’ve had a very good relationship with myself. (U40)

Data 27

MS. WINFREY: Okay. So when you’re saying “I know who I am” -- and I’m telling you, it’s the thread that runs through everything. It’s the thing that allows you to stand in your own truth. And one of the things for years that Maya Angelou used to say to me, is “Baby, you need to know that you are alone are enough. You alone are enough.” (Applause). So how do we get there? You were there. You’ve loved yourself a long time. What is that process?

MRS. OBAMA: I think it’s different for everyone. And I can’t say that I’ve loved myself for a long time, but there was a journey to get there. And some of it starts as a young girl -- when you confront your first bully, the first time somebody calls you out -- your name, as we would say. The first disappointments and failures that you have, how do you deal with that? What supports systems do you set up for yourself? I always tell young girls, surround yourself with goodness. I learned early on how to get the haters out of my life. (Applause) You’ve got to just sort of surround yourself with people who uplift you, who hold you up. And for whatever reason -- well, I was lucky I had people like -- I had parents who held me up. I had a father that valued me. (U46)

Data 28

MS. WINFREY: -- and transformed in the process.(U61)

MRS. OBAMA: So many kids, you think their world view will never be the same. And that’s the least we can do as President and First Lady. I think that’s the obligation of anyone who lives in that house. (Applause)(U62)

Data 29

MS. WINFREY: Yeah.(U73)

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, we know. And you did that pretty well too. (Laughter and applause) (U74)
Data 30

MS. WINFREY: But when you think about growing and being empowered yourself, it is what you’ve been able to do for other people that leaves you the fullest. (U75)

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, absolutely. That is really the thing. So I don’t know, I don’t sort of -- my growth is incidental. It’s the lucky gift I get for giving. And, like you said, I’m still growing. We are all still growing. I used to tell some of the young people I worked with way back in Chicago days that I used to hate the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?” because it assumes that at some point you stop becoming and you just are something. And that would be a sad thing to think that this is it. And that’s one of the things I’ve learned -- that there are so many phases to life that this is just -- even as big as being First Lady and living in the White House has been, this is still just a portion of a very bigger journey that I have yet to know the outcome. And I won’t know it until I’m laying down. It’s just ever-evolving. (Applause.) And I think that reality -- this experience has helped me to see that. These are just phases. And this has been a very interesting phase, and a very impactful phase, but there’s more to come. (U76)

The utterance of MRS Obama in data24, 26, 27, 28 and 30 are violated maxim quality. Her contribution in interview is not truthful. She uses many times the word “I think and I don’t know”. It shows her doubtful about something. It means that she is still not sure to say about something. According to Grice (1975), maxim of quality is concerned with truthfulness of a contribution. In addition, In data 25, when Winfrey asks about advices or tips on bravery, MRS Obama also responds by saying “Gosh, I don’t know. If I ever, I don’t ever view it as bravery”. It shows his doubt and there is something hidden that must be covered. She cannot explain or even deny it. If it is related to her response, she does not give strong evidence because of doubt in her utterances. Therefore, she violated quality maxim.
2. Rhetorical Question

Data 31

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s one of the number-one issues with women. I never, in all my years of interviewing, have ever heard a man say, you know, I just don’t have the time, I just don’t, I don’t find a way to balance. (U17)

MRS. OBAMA: You know why? Because they don’t have to balance anything. Sorry. (Laughter and applause) And I hope that that is changing, but so many men don’t have to do it all. (U18)

Data 32

AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- go shopping! (U129)

MRS. OBAMA: What? You want to go shopping with us? (Applause) It’s really the little things. And you feel this -- fame can be confining. And then you start missing the little things. What do I want to do? I want to walk out -- I want to open my front door without discussing it with anyone -- (laughter) -- and I want to walk out that door and just walk. (Laughter) Just want to walk by myself, or with a semblance of feeling like I’m by myself, because that’s what you learn how to do -- it’s like, I’m alone with 800 people walking behind me. (Laughter.) But I’ve learned how to -- “I’m by myself.” But I do, I want to walk down a street. I want to sit in a yard that is not a national park. (Laughter.) I do want to drop into Target. I want to -- I do, I want to go to Target again! (Laughter.) I’ve heard so many things have changed in Target! (Laughter.) I tell my friends they’re going to have to give me a re-entry training for like, okay, what do you do at CVS now? How do you check out? (Laughter.) It’s like I’ve been living in a cave. But it is, it’s the small things -- fresh air. In the White House you can’t open a window. Sasha opened her window once -- there were calls. (Laughter) “Shut the window!” It never opened again. (Laughter.) So it’s the little things that you -- (U130)

In data 31, Winfrey asks her “I think that’s one of the number-one issues with women. I never, in all my years of interviewing, have ever heard a man say, you know, I just don’t have the time, I just don’t, I don’t find a way to balance”. However, the response given by Michelle is asking back a question but she still gives the answer shortly and makes a joke by saying “You know why? Because they don’t have to balance anything. Sorry. (Laughter and applause) and I hope that that is
changing, but so many men don’t have to do it all. Furthermore, in data 32, when the audience involve in conversation then they say “go shopping!” Michelle asking back a question by saying “What? You want to go shopping with us?” in the utterances, Michelle answered the question by asking a question but left the answer hanging in order that the hearers provide her information. Here, she intentionally breaks the maxims with making joke. Besides, she says what she believes to be false.

3. Metaphor

Data 33

MS. WINFREY: You mentioned a moment ago “the haters.” How do you handle the haters, particularly in this office, where haters have to be handled politically correctly and with discretion? (Laughter.) And I know so many people are faced with it -- we know this about social media -- people say just the meanest things, and you’re faced in your life with people who can tear you down a lot -- the haters, hateration. (U49)

MRS. OBAMA: Well, when it comes to social media -- there are just times I turn off the world, you know. There are just some times you have to give yourself space to be quiet, which means you’ve got to set those phones down. You can’t be reading all that stuff. I mean, that’s like letting somebody just walk up and slap you, you know? (Laughter) You would never do that. You would never just sit there and go, slap me in the face and I’m good with it. No. So why would you open yourself up to that? So that’s one thing. With social media and -- I don’t read that stuff. I learned that early in the campaign. I couldn’t keep reading stuff about my husband and what people thought and -- because I knew who he was. I knew what was going on in our home, in our lives. So I didn’t need to read about it from somebody else. But the other thing that I have found, particularly in this job, that it’s -- people won’t remember what other people say about you, but they will remember what you do. So my strategy -- and I’ve always been like this. When a teacher would come and tell me that I couldn’t do something, I would get so much satisfaction proving them wrong. I’d be like, okay, all right, oh, you don’t think I’m going to do X, Y and Z, well I’m going to be the best X, Y, Z you can imagine. So when it came to this role, I just said, you know, let me just be First Lady. Let me wake up every day and work hard to do something of value, and to do it well, and to do something consequential, and to do something that I care about. And then let that speak for itself. And that would shutup the haters, because I would have a whole portfolio of stuff that defined me because
it’s what I did, not what you called me. (Applause) So the best revenge is success --
(U50)

Data 34

MS. WINFREY: Not through. So 5,000 women and men in this room. (Applause.)
Thousands and thousands of others streaming us online -- hey. (Laughter.) Hey,
everybody streaming. What is the one thing -- because I think it’s really easy when
you come to a conference like this and you get so inspired and you see Marley and
Mikaila, those young women, and you see Billie Jean King, and Gloria Steinem, and
ShondaRhimes, and Kerry Washington. (U113)
MRS. OBAMA: It’s amazing gathering-- (U114)

In U50, it is obvious that Michelle violated quality maxim. She used metaphor
walk and slap to compare two seemingly different things or two unlike objects and
leaves it to the hearer to interpret her intended meaning. Here, she breaks the maxim
which requires her to say that has adequate evidence. In addition, in utterance 114,
she gave a statement “amazing gathering” to interpret her intended meaning.

4. Using Irony

Data 35

MS. WINFREY: I love you saying that -- I’m not through. (U77)
MRS. OBAMA: We ain’t through! (Laughter) (U78)

Data 36

MS. WINFREY: And we’re going to know who you are. And it won’t matter how
many baseball caps you put on, we’re going to say, “Hey, Michelle.” (U123)
MRS. OBAMA: “Hey, Michelle.” (Laughter) I get that, I see-- (U124)

Data 37

MS. WINFREY: Let’s go shopping. (U127)
MRS. OBAMA: You and me. That will be a scene. (Laughter). You know, it’s --
(U128)
From the conversations above, Michelle said something opposite of what she means. She violates the quality maxim by saying the opposite of what she means. Here she intentionally breaks the maxim by making humor or joke answer. In data 35, Winfrey stated ”I love you saying that I’m not through”, then Michelle replied by repeating “We ain’t through”! She used the irony to herself. In addition, in data 36, Michelle also makes a joke by saying to herself “Hey, Michelle.” (Laughter) I get that, I see. Also in the last data, she states “You and me. That will be a scene”. So she violated the quality maxim by using irony.

5. Contradiction

Data 38

MS. WINFREY: Be better. (Applause) I love that. (U101)
MRS. OBAMA: Just be better. (Laughter and applause) I could go on but I’m not. (Laughter) You get the point, fellas, right? Fellas? (Applause) What are you going to be? (U102)

Data 39

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s powerful. Because the question that you just offered to us is what did this mean, and what can I do with what I have received from all the stimulation, all of this energy -- what can I do, that’s the question. You were talking about the next phase. I heard you say that when you all are done -- we saw your new house -- when you’re -- (U119)
MRS. OBAMA: We’re neither confirming or denying. (Laughter) (U120)

Contradiction means stating two things that contradict each other. In data 38, MRS Obama stated ”I could go on but I’m not” and in data 39, she said “We’re neither confirming or denying”, here, the speaker encourages the hearer to find an interpretation that reconciles the two contradictory proposition.
C. Violation of Relevance Maxim

The violation of relevance maxim can also be found. The interviewee violated the rule of relevance maxim by changing the conversation topic or makes the conversation unmatched with the topic. It can be seen as follow:

1. Give association clues

Data 40

MRS OBAMA : So I’m going to turn it over to Oprah. (U2)
MS. WINFREY : Hello. (U3)

Data 41

MS. WINFREY: It’s going to happen. And we’re going to go shopping. (U137)
MRS. OBAMA: We’re going to shop! (U138)

Data 42

MS. WINFREY: Thank you. (Applause) And I just want to say, the way you’ve handled this office, the way you carry yourself, have presented yourself to the United States of America, and the women of the United States of America, and men of the United States of America, reminds me of a line that Maya used to say -- it’s actually in the beginning of one of her books -- she says “You make me proud to spell my name W-O-M-A-N.” (Applause.) Michelle Obama. And I would like to add to that: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter) (U141)
MRS. OBAMA: Ms. Oprah Winfrey! (Applause.) (U142)

Data 43

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter) (U89)
MRS. OBAMA: And you know he’s got that walk, right? (U90)

From those conversations, MRS Obama did not answer the questions asked by Winfrey. All of the answers given by speaker just gives a related kind of implicature by mentioning something associated with the act required of hearer. For example in
data 41, MRS Obama said “And we’re going to go shopping”, then the response given is give association clues by saying “We’re going to shop”! Furthermore, in data 42, MS Winfrey gave statement that praises her and says “You make me proud to spell my name W-O-M-A-N.” but MRS Obama does not answer the question but only gives a clue “Ms. Oprah Winfrey”.

**D. Violation of Manner Maxim**

When the interviewee did not obey the rules in maxim of manner by using ambiguous language, exaggerating things, or talk in unclear voice, their utterances can be concluded as of violation manner maxim.

**1. Ambiguous**

**Data 44**

MS. WINFREY: She must have her own garden. (U29)
MRS. OBAMA: I hope. (U30)

**Data 45**

MS. WINFREY: You didn’t think that was brave? Saying, look, I’m going to be paid full time? (U33)
MRS. OBAMA: Right. (U34)

**Data 46**

MS. WINFREY: Well, you know, I figured this out -- early on in the show I had read this quote from Dr. King, one of my favorite quotes from him, that says, “Not everybody can be famous, but everybody can be great, because greatness is determined by service.” And I literally shifted -- I used that quote to help me shift the way I saw the platform of television. Instead of like, oh, I’m going to -- I’m on TV, how do I use that platform as a platform of service, is what I did. (U71)
MRS. OBAMA: Amen. (U72)
Data 47

MS. WINFREY: So I want to know, what are those days when you just say, mmm, mmm, mmm -- (laughter) -- look at me in the White House. (Laughter) (U81)
MRS. OBAMA: There are so -- yeah, just sitting up here, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter). There are a lot of those moments. Prince and Stevie Wonder singing in the East Room, just -- may he rest in peace. I mean, those rare gifts of entertainment, the kind of music we have been able to bring into the White House. Sitting with the Pope, watching my mother and my daughters talk to the Pope. That’s like a – (U82)

Data 48

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (U83)
MRS. OBAMA: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) Dinner with the Queen of England, just like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter)(U84)

Data 49

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (U85)
MRS. OBAMA: You know, you try to play these moments off, like oh, yes, yes, I know what I’m doing -- and inside you’re going, mmm, mmm, mmm. (U86)

Data 50

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (U87)
MRS. OBAMA: Good lord. Watching my husband walk off of Marine One and go to the Oval Office, it’s like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter and applause)(U88)

Data 51

MS. WINFREY: I know! (Laughter.) (U91)
MRS. OBAMA: Like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (U92)

From those conversations, the answers given were ambiguous. In data 44, MS Winfrey stated “She must have her own garden” and MRS Obama answered by saying the word “I Hope”. Then, in data 45 Winfrey asked “You didn’t think that was brave?” MRS Obama said “Right”. Here, she makes the contribution obscure, she does not state her point of view clearly, the word hope and right were ambiguous, she
provides hint information for the hearer. In data 46, the speaker makes contribution obscure, ambiguous or difficult to understand by using the word *Amen*. Since she does not state her point of view clearly, the utterance can be classified into the violation of manner maxim.

2. Exaggerates Thing

Data 52

**MS. WINFREY**: You live in the White House. (U67)

**MRS. OBAMA**: We've been to the mountain top, and it was a hard climb but we made it. (Laughter) We made it! (Applause). So you just -- again, you begin to understand how much you can tolerate, how much growth you can have, how much potential there is, how much opportunity there is to help people, how fulfilling it is. I mean, that's been the thing that I've learned, that (U68)

The speaker makes contribution exaggerates. When Winfrey asked MRS Obama about living in the white house, she used the exaggerate words by saying “We've been to the mountain top, and it was a hard climb but we made it”. Since she does not state her point of view clearly, the utterances can be classified into the maxim violation.

4.1.3 Reason of Conversational Maxims realized by Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama in the Interview

In this interview, maxims were obeyed or violated by the speaker (interviewee) for a certain reasons. The reasons behind the obedience or violation of conversational maxim in the interview are:
4.1.3.1 Obedience of Conversational Maxims

There are seven reasons of conversational maxim obedience in this interview, they are: not excessive, in accordance what is being asked, saying something truly real, in accordance with the real fact, related clearly, giving appropriate response, Being brief and orderly.

1. Not excessive

Data 1

MS. WINFREY: We never heard, did you get that job? (U21)
MRS. OBAMA: I did. I did. (U22)

From the datum above, it can be seen the interviewee’s answer is not excessive. Furthermore, she answers the question informatively which is not too little and not too much. Here, MRS Obama makes not long utterances and the utterances could give information as required.

2. In accordance with what being asked

Data 2

MS. WINFREY: Of America, not just of women, yes. (Laughter) So I think that the fact that -- I’ve been watching this being streamed all day, and the fact that there are men here, women here of all ages -- young women, maturing women -- and all walks of life is a move in the right direction, would you not say? (U7)
MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely, absolutely. I’m just proud of all the work that’s been done here. So I agree. (U8)
Data3

MS. WINFREY: You know, I’ve always thought too, that the best success comes when you can actually shift your paradigm to service. And obviously, you are in a position of public service. Was it a conscious, intentional decision to sort of sit still, be with this place, and then allow your passion to fuel your interest, allow your passion to lead you to all the things you’ve been able to do with international girls’ education, with health and wellness? Was that a conscious, intentional decision?

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely. Because in this -- particularly when you’re in public service, you’re First Lady, the President and you’re interacting with the world, people can smell in authenticity. They know when you are not what you appear to be. And that was always something that I said in this role that -- I want people to know me, know Michelle, Michelle Robinson Obama, not the First Lady. In every interaction I have had with anybody who’s had some connection with me, I have tried to be authentically myself. And in order to do that, I learned that I have to do things that I authentically care about. Because if I fundamentally, deep down have a belief in the cause, and I -- it moves me, then I’m going to be excited about it. That excitement is going to be conveyed to the people that I’m trying to reach. It’s not going to be a heavy lift. That’s why people say, how can you speak in front of all these people and do this every day? Look, I get energy from people. And not everybody in politics, in public service are people-people. Barack and I really do -- we are energized by the people we meet, by the military spouses that I meet out there. I picked working with military families because they moved me. I met them out on the campaign trail and I didn’t know that there were millions of military families out there serving and sacrificing in ways that we take for granted in this country. And I vowed then and there, just from meeting them, that if I got to be First Lady I would try to be that voice for them, I would try to shine that light on them. (Applause). So that came out of a direct passion for who those people were and what I learned about them.

In data 2 and data 3, the speaker’s contribution is informatively as required as the question. Those conversations fulfill the maxim of quantity since it is giving information to the question. In this case, Michelle answers the question in accordance with what being asked.
3. Saying something truly real

Data 4

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. (U37)
MRS. OBAMA: Value. That’s absolutely right. (U38)

Data 5

MS. WINFREY: Because you know your own value (U43).
MRS. OBAMA: Know your own value. Absolutely. (U44)

From the data above, it can be seen MRS Obama answers the question in U38 by saying “Value. That’s absolutely right”, In U44 “Know your own value, Absolutely” with the statement which is very exact and without any doubt. This statement is matched with the concept of maxim quality. In those data, MRS Obama gives information and provides adequate evidence. Therefore, she obeyed the quality maxim by saying something truly real.

4. In accordance with the real facts

Data 6

MS. WINFREY: Is success, yes. (U51)
MRS. OBAMA: -- and good work. You don’t have to say anything to the haters. You don’t have to acknowledge them at all. You just wake up every morning and be the best you you can be. And that tends to shut them up. (U52)

Data 7

MS. WINFREY: You see them get empowered —(U59)
MRS. OBAMA: Oh, gosh, yeah. (U60)
DATA 8

MS. WINFREY: Fulfilling in it. (U69)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, it feels -- public service -- I left the practice of law to go into public service for selfish reasons. I wanted to be happy and feel good every single day. I wanted to wake up inspired and ready to do something greater than myself. And that's what service and giving and -- that's what this room means to so many. And I just want to make sure that when people leave here they don't go back into their isolation; that they don't go back to their phones, looking down. Because this relationship isn't enough. You need to have people in your lives that you're connecting with, that you're helping. I mean, there is nothing that makes me feel better than knowing that I helped to change somebody's life -- Oprah, you know this more than anyone else. And if you're doing that every single day, the haters, the doubters -- none of that matters, because you are getting so much by the -- from the work that you're doing. (U70)

Based on the conversation above, when the interviewer asked the question “Is success, yes? MRS Obama added by saying “and good work...” Then in data 8, she also answered about public service suitable with the real fact. Therefore, she obeyed the quality maxim to say something in accordance with the real fact.

5. Related clearly

Data 9

MS. WINFREY: And our First Lady of the United States. (Applause) (U5)
MRS. OBAMA: Of America. (U6)

DATA 10

MS. WINFREY: But when you came in, there were the world’s expectations, there were other expectations. What did you really expect? (U11)
MRS. OBAMA: It's interesting, I really tried not to limit myself by expectations. (U12)

DATA 11

MS. WINFREY: So by the time you got here you knew how to do that. (U15)
MRS. OBAMA: I knew how to do that. (U16)
DATA 12

MS. WINFREY:  Because you walk in that – (U65)
MRS. OBAMA:  That’s right, that’s right(U66)

From those conversations, there are related conversation between interviewer and interviewee. From the utterances above, it can be seen that MRS Obama answers the questions relevantly and still stayed on the topic. As in utterance 12, when Oprah asked “there were the world’s expectations, there were other expectations. What did you really expect?” MRS Obama responds by saying “I really tried not to limit myself by expectations”. Then in U16, the answer given by MRS Obama stick to the conversation topic, Oprah asked her “So by the time you got here you knew how to do that?” MRS Obama directly response by saying “I knew how to do that”. Therefore, the answers given by the speaker related and clearly.

6. Giving appropriate response

Data 13

MS. WINFREY:  Because nobody grows up thinking “I’m going to be a First Lady.”(U13)
MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely not. And as you all know, when Barack was talking about running, I was like, are you crazy? I mean, would you just, like, chill out and do something else with your life? (Laughter). So I was working hard to try to get him to do the other thing, so -- whatever that was. So, yeah, absolutely, it wasn’t something that I could have planned for, could have expected from myself. But one of the things I knew -- because people asked all throughout the campaign what are your issues going to be, what are you going to be like as First Lady, and I said, I have to wait until I get there to figure out what that’s going to feel like for me. I specifically did not read other First Ladies’ books, because I didn’t want to be influenced by how they defined the role. I knew that I would have to find this role -- (applause) -- very uniquely and specifically to me and who I was. So I came in thinking about who I wanted to be in this position and who I needed to be for my girls, first of all. So you remember, Malia and Sasha were little itty-bitties when we came into office. I mean, it still moves me to tears to think about the first day I put them in the car with their
Secret Service agents to go to their first day of school. And I saw them leaving and I thought, what on Earth am I doing to these babies? So I knew right then and there my first job was to make sure they were going to be whole and normal and cared for in the midst of all this craziness. (Applause) And then I started to understand that if I was going to protect them, I had to, number one, protect myself and protect my time. So I knew going into this role that I didn’t want to waste any time; that any time I spent away from my kids -- and I actually took this on even before I became First Lady, even as a lawyer, as a vice president at a hospital. One of the things I realized is that if you do not take control over your time and your life, other people will gobble it up. If you don’t prioritize yourself, you constantly start falling lower and lower on your list, your kids fall lower and lower on your list. (U14)

Data 14

MS. WINFREY: He’s got the swag. (Laughter.) Did he always have that swag? Or has he gotten swaggier? (U93)
MRS. OBAMA: No, he was very swagalicious. (Laughter.) Look, I told people this from the very start, when I -- started running -- Barack Obama is exactly who he says he is. We both are. That’s what I’ve been trying to tell people. Ain’t no surprises. We’re telling you who we are, and no tricks up our sleeves. We’re regular folks. We care about people. We care about family. We want to do well. We want to make our country proud. We don’t want to waste our talents just making money for ourselves. Barack Obama hasn’t changed, not as a person. Because he is an authentic man who came in, and he’s going to leave that same person. (Applause). So it’s not the office that changes you, it’s just -- it amplifies who you are. I think I said that at the last convention. Being President doesn’t change who you are, it reveals who you are. And that’s something that we should all remember. (Applause)(U94)

It can be seen from the utterances above that MRS Obama answers the questions appropriately. Therefore, the answers given by the speaker are match with the relevant rule which are being relevant and stay on the topic. It can be concluded as obedience of relevance maxim. So, the speaker’s answers are to give appropriate response to the listener.
7. Giving Brief and orderly answer

DATA 15

MS. WINFREY: And I remember when you all first arrived at the White House, you said to the country that this is your house, and we’re going to open this up as your house. And so when I saw all those Girl Scouts out on the lawn, I went, you all really did open up the house. (Laughter) (U55)

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, yes. That’s been some of the most fulfilling things we’ve been able to do in the White House. It’s really bringing people here who would never, ever get to set foot on that lawn and walk into those doors. (Applause.) I tell my mentees all the time -- you know, one of the things I want them to take away when they come -- because they come regularly; they come at least once a month and we sit down and we talk, and they have seminars -- and I want them all to know you walk into the White House every day, and you walk up to the First Lady of the United States and say, “Hey, Michelle, what’s going on?” And if you can do that, you can do anything. If you can exist in this space at this time in this moment -- (applause) -- (U56)

Data 16

MS. WINFREY: Especially if you’re looking at everybody else’s facebook page. (U107)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, god, everybody has it all. Everybody is lying. They’re lying. (Laughter and applause). You all need to stop lying. Be real about the fact that -- no one gets everything. That was one of the first rules you learned as a little kid. You don’t always get your way. Come on, people. You don’t always get what you want all the time. And that’s true in life. So what I’ve told many young people is that you can have it all, but often times it’s hard to get it all at the same time. (U108)

Data 17

MS. WINFREY: I think people who have good parents are -- they come into the world with a strength, yes, and an advantage. (U47)

MRS. OBAMA: And that was an advantage. But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it. You’ve got to find those people. Because they’re out there. I tell my mentees all of -- there is somebody out there who loves you and who is waiting to love you, and you just have to find them. And that means you have to make room for them. And if you’re surrounded by a bunch of low-life folks who aren’t supporting you, then there is no room for the people who do love you. (Applause) (U48)
In data 15, Michelle answers the interviewer’s question briefly and orderly answer. In U56 MRS Obama expresses a direct clear, brief and orderly way without any other communicative intention involved. Next, in data 16, the speaker also expresses a brief and orderly explanation about looking at everybody else’s facebook page. She can answer MS Winfrey’s question with brief explanation and also giving suggestion to be real about the fact that no one gets everything. Besides, her explanation is clear and easy to be understood and does not create ambiguity. In addition, Michelle also gives a clear and orderly explanation when being asked about having parent with its strength and advantage. She also strengthen by saying “But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it....”. in this case she gives an orderly explanation. The contain of message is clear because while Winfrey asking about having parents with its strength. Then Michelle explains clearly and orderly how important the parents are, even if they don’t have, they have got to find it. So, the reason speaker obeys the maxim from the data above are to say something briefly and orderly.

4.1.3.2 Violation of Conversational Maxims

There are eight reasons conversational maxim violated by interviewee in the interview, they are: hiding the truth, saving face, satisfying the hearer, cheering the hearer, avoid hurting the hearer, building one’s belief, convincing the hearer and avoid giving wrong information.
1. Hiding the truth

Data 18

MS. WINFREY: So how did you figure it out? I’ve read the story -- I’m sure many of you have heard the story of early on, you were going to a job interview and you took Sasha with you to interview. (U19)
MRS. OBAMA: Oh, yeah. (U20)

Data 19

MS. WINFREY: How do you feel -- I always feel that until you take your last breath you’re always growing, and that every experience that you encounter in your life -- just all of you being together here today and being in a room with people who are like-minded, who share the same vision -- all of that is so stimulating. You leave here and you feel like you can be better and do better. What has the experience -- or how has the experience of being First Lady actually grown you? (U63)
MRS. OBAMA: Wow. So many ways. I mean, first of all, there is absolutely nothing I can’t do, right? (Applause) (U64)

Data 20

MS. WINFREY: You see all these women and you’re just like, I just want to be more of a woman! And you’re going to be overstimulated. (Laughter.) What is the one thing you want us to leave here with? What is the one charge or one offering? What do you want to say? (U115)
MRS. OBAMA: It’s hard to think of one thing. (U116)

Data 21

MS. WINFREY: Okay. (Laughter.) When you all are done -- okay, when you’re done and you move out of the White House, I’ve heard you say that you look forward to riding around with the windows down. You’re still going to be Michelle Obama. (U121)
MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, I know (U122)

DATA 22

MS. WINFREY: She must have her own garden. (U29)
MRS. OBAMA: I hope. (U30)
MS. WINFREY: You didn’t think that was brave? Saying, look, I’m going to be paid full time? (U33)
MRS. OBAMA: Right. (U34)

In utterance 20 and 122, MRS Obama answered by using the word “Oh, yeah, yeah” to hide the truth. Actually she understands the question but avoids giving the real information about what she knew. Furthermore, in utterance 64, she said “so many ways” but does not mention what they are. She understands the question but avoids mentioning the real information. In utterances 116 when Winfrey asked about “What is the one thing you want us to leave here with? What is the one charge or one offering? What do you want to say?” MRS Obama responded by saying “It’s hard to think of one thing. Since she wants to be careful to say something, she delivers hidden message. The word “I hope” in utterance 30 is to hide the truth. She intentionally said ambiguous word. Since he wants to be careful to say something, she delivers hidden message.

2. Saving face

MS. WINFREY: I love you saying that -- I’m not through. (U77)
MRS. OBAMA: We ain’t through! (Laughter) (U78)

MRS Obama violated the maxim to save her face only once during Interview, It was done in order to avoid being a shamed or embarrassed toward Winfrey statement “I love you saying that, I’m not through”. So, MRS Obama repeats the same word by
saying “We ain’t through” but not only “I’m but also We” in order to avoid being ashamed or embarrassed because of something about her prestige.

3. Satisfying the hearer

Data 25

MS. WINFREY: Yeah. (U73)
MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, we know. And you did that pretty well too. (Laughter and applause) (U74)

Data 26

MS. WINFREY: Not through. So 5,000 women and men in this room. (Applause.) Thousands and thousands of others streaming us online -- hey. (Laughter.) Hey, everybody streaming. What is the one thing -- because I think it’s really easy when you come to a conference like this and you get so inspired and you see Marley and Mikaila, those young women, and you see Billie Jean King, and Gloria Steinem, and ShondaRhimes, and Kerry Washington. (U113)

MRS. OBAMA: It’s amazing gathering– (U114)

In utterance 74, she praised the hearer by saying “And you did that pretty well too”. The speaker response was being made in order to create good situation. In addition, in utterance 114, “It’s amazing gathering”, the reason of this utterance is to satisfy the hearer. The speaker has already known that hearer’s expectation is similar to the speaker, so the response given was being made in order to create good situation.

4. Cheering the hearer

Data 27

MS. WINFREY: Well, you know, I figured this out -- early on in the show I had read this quote from Dr. King, one of my favorite quotes from him, that says, “Not everybody can be famous, but everybody can be great, because greatness is
determined by service.” And I literally shifted -- I used that quote to help me shift the way I saw the platform of television. Instead of like, oh, I’m going to -- I’m on TV, how do I use that platform as a platform of service, is what I did. (U71) MRS. OBAMA: Amen. (U72)

Data 28

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) (U89) MRS. OBAMA: And you know he’s got that walk, right? (U90)

Data 29

MS. WINFREY: Be better. (Applause.) I love that. (U101) MRS. OBAMA: Just be better. (Applause.) I could go on but I’m not. (Laughter.) You get the point, fellas, right? Fellas? (Applause.) What are you going to be? (U102)

Data 30

MS. WINFREY: And we’re going to know who you are. And it won’t matter how many baseball caps you put on, we’re going to say, “Hey, Michelle.” (U123) MRS. OBAMA: “Hey, Michelle.” (Applause.) I get that, I see— (U124)

Data 31

MS. WINFREY: Let’s go shopping. (U127) MRS. OBAMA: You and me. That will be a scene. (Laughter.) You know, it’s— (U128)

Data 32

AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- go shopping! (U129) MRS. OBAMA: What? You want to go shopping with us? (Applause) It’s really the little things. And you feel this -- fame can be confining. And then you start missing the little things. What do I want to do? I want to walk out -- I want to open my front door without discussing it with anyone -- (laughter) -- and I want to walk out that door and just walk. (Laughter.) Just want to walk by myself, or with a semblance of feeling like I’m by myself, because that’s what you learn how to do -- it’s like, I’m alone with 800 people walking behind me. (Laughter.) But I’ve learned how to -- ‘I’m by myself.’ But I do, I want to walk down a street. I want to sit in a yard that is not a national park. (Laughter.) I do want to drop into Target. I want to -- I do, I want to go to Target again! (Laughter.) I’ve heard so many things have changed in Target! (Laughter). I tell my friends they’re going to have to give me a
re-entry training for like, okay, what do you do at CVS now? How do you check out? (Laughter.) It’s like I’ve been living in a cave. But it is, it’s the small things -- fresh air. In the White House you can’t open a window. Sasha opened her window once -- there were calls. (Laughter.) “Shut the window!” It never opened again. (Laughter.) So it’s the little things that you -- (U130)

Data 33

So I’m going to turn it over to Oprah. (U2)
MS. WINFREY: Hello. (U3)

Data 34

MS. WINFREY: It’s going to happen. And we’re going to go shopping. (U137)
MRS. OBAMA: We’re going to shop! (U138)

Data 35

MS. WINFREY: Thank you. (Applause) And I just want to say, the way you’ve handled this office, the way you carry yourself, have presented yourself to the United States of America, and the women of the United States of America, and men of the United States of America, reminds me of a line that Maya used to say -- it’s actually in the beginning of one of her books -- she says “You make me proud to spell my name W-O-M-A-N.” (Applause.) Michelle Obama. And I would like to add to that:
Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) (U141)
MRS. OBAMA: Ms. Oprah Winfrey! (Applause.) (U142)

Data 36

MS. WINFREY: So I want to know, what are those days when you just say, mmm, mmm, mmm -- (laughing) -- look at me in the White House. (Laughter) (U81)
MRS. OBAMA: There are so -- yeah, just sitting up here, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) There are a lot of those moments. Prince and Stevie Wonder singing in the East Room, just -- may he rest in peace. I mean, those rare gifts of entertainment, the kind of music we have been able to bring into the White House. Sitting with the Pope, watching my mother and my daughters talk to the Pope. That’s like a -- (U82)

Data 37

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (U83)
MRS. OBAMA: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) Dinner with the Queen of England, just like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter) (U84)
Data 38

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (U85)
MRS. OBAMA: You know, you try to play these moments off, like oh, yes, yes, I know what I’m doing -- and inside you’re going, mmm, mmm, mmm. (U86)

Data 39

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (U87)
MRS. OBAMA: Good lord. Watching my husband walk off of Marine One and go to the Oval Office, it’s like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter and applause) (U88)

Data 40

MS. WINFREY: I know! (Laughter) (U91)
MRS. OBAMA: Like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (U92)

From Utterances 72, MRS Obama responded by saying Amen is to cheer the hearer. She avoids confronting and gives goodness to the side of hearer. The word “Mmm, mmm, mmm” found in many data above is to cheer the hearer. Michelle response is to give goodness to the side of hearer.

5. Avoid hurting the hearer

Data 41

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s one of the number-one issues with women. I never, in all my years of interviewing, have ever heard a man say, you know, I just don’t have the time, I just don’t, I don’t find a way to balance. (U17)
MRS. OBAMA: You know why? Because they don’t have to balance anything. Sorry. (Laughter and applause). And I hope that that is changing, but so many men don’t have to do it all. (U18)

Avoid hurting hearer means that the speaker avoids giving the real information since the fact will hurt the hearer. The reason of this utterance (U18) is
avoid hurting someone. Although she answered what being asked at first, however she gives the good response at the last by saying “and I hope that is changing”.

6. Building one’s belief

Data 42

MS. WINFREY: Well, that comes from a sense of -- and you said you arrived here knowing who you were. I think that is the journey. That is the journey. And there is a question from Farm Fresh Gal. (U27)

MRS. OBAMA: Farm Fresh Gal. (U28)

Data 43

MS. WINFREY: But when you think about growing and being empowered yourself, it is what you’ve been able to do for other people that leaves you the fullest. (U75)

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, absolutely. That is really the thing. So I don’t know, I don’t sort of -- my growth is incidental. It’s the lucky gift I get for giving. And, like you said, I’m still growing. We are all still growing. I used to tell some of the young people I worked with way back in Chicago days that I used to hate the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?” because it assumes that at some point you stop becoming and you just are something. And that would be a sad thing to think that this is it. And that’s one of the things I’ve learned -- that there are so many phases to life that this is just -- even as big as being First Lady and living in the White House has been, this is still just a portion of a very bigger journey that I have yet to know the outcome. And I won’t know it until I’m laying down. It’s just ever-evolving. (Applause.) And I think that reality -- this experience has helped me to see that. These are just phases. And this has been a very interesting phase, and a very impactful phase, but there’s more to come. (U76)

Data 44

MS. WINFREY: Okay. So when you’re saying “I know who I am” -- and I’m telling you, it’s the thread that runs through everything. It’s the thing that allows you to stand in your own truth. And one of the things for years that Maya Angelou used to say to me, is “Baby, you need to know that you are alone are enough. You alone are enough.” (Applause).So how do we get there? You were there. You’ve loved yourself a long time. What is that process? (U45)

MRS. OBAMA: I think it’s different for everyone. And I can’t say that I’ve loved myself for a long time, but there was a journey to get there. And some of it starts as a young girl -- when you confront your first bully, the first time somebody calls you out
-- your name, as we would say. The first disappointments and failures that you have, how do you deal with that? What supports systems do you set up for yourself? I always tell young girls, surround yourself with goodness. I learned early on how to get the haters out of my life. (Applause) You’ve got to just sort of surround yourself with people who uplift you, who hold you up. And for whatever reason -- well, I was lucky I had people like -- I had parents who held me up. I had a father that valued me. (U46)

Data 45

You were talking about the next phase. I heard you say that when you all are done -- we saw your new house -- when you’re -- (U119) MRS. OBAMA: We’re neither confirming or denying. (Laughter) (U120)

Data 46

MS. WINFREY: You live in the White House.(U67) MRS. OBAMA: We’ve been to the mountain top, and it was a hard climb but we made it. (Laughter) We made it! (Applause).So you just -- again, you begin to understand how much you can tolerate, how much growth you can have, how much potential there is, how much opportunity there is to help people, how fulfilling it is. I mean, that’s been the thing that I’ve learned, that (U68)

From the utterances above, she wanted to get trust from the hearer. She wanted the hearer believe what she said is true by providing information. As the example of U76, Michelle wanted to get trust from the hearer. She wanted the hearer believe what she said about long process and a journey of life by providing information. Furthermore, In U20 she wants the hearer believe that she neither confirming nor denying her new house. Therefore, the reason Michelle violated maxim is building one’s belief.
7. Convincing the hearer

Data 47

MS. WINFREY: Okay, a couple. (U117)
MRS. OBAMA: But the work always continues. And by that I mean we’re never done. We can never be complacent and think that we’ve arrived now as women. Because I hear this from young women. Some of you young women who aren’t feeling the pains that many of our predecessors have felt -- you think, well, there aren’t any problems, women’s rights, we’ve got this all figured out, I’m already equal, I’m good -- I’m just like, oh, just you wait, you’ll feel it. So the work continues. And for all the young women in this room, all the young men, we can never be complacent. Because we have seen in recent times how quickly things can be taken away if we aren’t vigilant, if we don’t know our history, if we don’t continue the work. (Applause) So my hope is that people leave here inspired and ready to do something. Again, remember, it’s not what people say about you, it’s what you do. So the question is what are you going to do? How are you going to be better? What are you going to change in your office, in your life, in your relationships? What are you going to change in your family dynamic? And how are you going to empower yourself with the knowledge that you need to know what work needs to be done? We can’t afford to be ignorant. We can’t afford to be complacent. So we have to continue the work. (U118)

Data 48

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. I was just saying that to a friend recently. (U39)
MRS. OBAMA: And that goes back to knowing who you are. And I think as women and young girls, we have to invest that time in getting to understand who we are and liking who we are. (Applause) Because I like me. I’ve liked me for a very long time. (Applause) So for a long time I’ve had a very good relationship with myself. (U40)

Data 49

MS. WINFREY: You mentioned a moment ago “the haters.” How do you handle the haters, particularly in this office, where haters have to be handled politically correctly and with discretion? (Laughter.) And I know so many people are faced with it -- we know this about social media -- people say just the meanest things, and you’re faced in your life with people who can tear you down a lot -- the haters, hateration. (U49)
MRS. OBAMA: Well, when it comes to social media -- there are just times I turn off the world, you know. There are just some times you have to give yourself space to be quiet, which means you’ve got to set those phones down. You can’t be reading all
that stuff. I mean, that’s like letting somebody just walk up and slap you, you know? (Laughter.) You would never do that. You would never just sit there and go, slap me in the face and I’m good with it. No. So why would you open yourself up to that? So that’s one thing. With social media and -- I don’t read that stuff. I learned that early in the campaign. I couldn’t keep reading stuff about my husband and what people thought and -- because I knew who he was. I knew what was going on in our home, in our lives. So I didn’t need to read about it from somebody else. But the other thing that I have found, particularly in this job, that it’s -- people won’t remember what other people say about you, but they will remember what you do. So my strategy -- and I’ve always been like this. When a teacher would come and tell me that I couldn’t do something, I would get so much satisfaction proving them wrong. I’d be like, okay, all right, oh, you don’t think I’m going to do X, Y and Z, well I’m going to be the best X, Y, Z you can imagine. So when it came to this role, I just said, you know, let me just be First Lady. Let me wake up every day and work hard to do something of value, and to do it well, and to do something consequential, and to do something that I care about. And then let that speak for itself. And that would shut up the haters, because I would have a whole portfolio of stuff that defined me because it’s what I did, not what you called me. (Applause) So the best revenge is success --

(U50)

Data 50

MS. WINFREY: -- and transformed in the process.(U61)

MRS. OBAMA: So many kids, you think their worldview will never be the same. And that’s the least we can do as President and First Lady. I think that’s the obligation of anyone who lives in that house. (Applause)(U62)

The reason of maxim violation from interviewee’ utterances above are to convince the hearer. It means that the interviewee gave some additional information or evidence that can make the hearer believe that what she said is true.

8. Avoid giving wrong information

Data 51

MS. WINFREY: Well, I wanted to start with the issue of self-value and self-worth. Because over the years, I’ve interviewed thousands of people, most of them women, and I would say that the root of every dysfunction I’ve ever encountered, every problem has been some sense of a lacking of self-value or of self-worth. And I know that we all know that we live in a world where you are constantly being bombarded
by images that encourage you to be liked, literally. And it’s a lot to live up to. And I wonder, particularly you, who have had to face this as your own woman and as a candidate’s wife, the pressure of other people’s expectations -- and what can you share with our audience here and online that would help us stand more inside ourselves and own that space? (U9)

MRS. OBAMA: Very good question. Well, one of the things that I always -- I tell my mentees, I tell my daughters is that our first job in life as women, I think, is to get to know ourselves. And I think a lot of times we don’t do that. We spend our time pleasing, satisfying, looking out into the world to define who we are -- listening to the messages, the images, the limited definitions that people have of who we are. And that’s true for women of color for sure. There is a limited box that we are put in, and if we live by that limited definition we miss out on a lot of who we are. But it takes taking the time to know who you are to be able to deal with the onslaught of negative messages that you’re bound to get. So for me, I came into this with a pretty clear sense of myself. And some of that comes with age. Some of that comes with experience. Some of that comes from being fortunate enough to have been raised by a loving mother, strong, focused, and a father who loved me dearly. So I fortunately came into this situation with a really clear sense of who I was. So when you hear the smack-talking from outside the world, it’s easy to sort of brush that off. Because I know who I am. (Applause) (U10)

Data 52

MS. WINFREY: Like we do, yes. And Farm Fresh Gal says, “As a woman leader in the corporate world, I feel like I have to be brave a lot,” -- and what you just described was brave -- “any advice or tips on bravery?” (U31) MRS. OBAMA: That’s a good question. Gosh, I don’t know. If I ever -- I don’t ever view it as bravery. (U32)

The reason of violation maxim from the utterances 10 and 32 are to avoid giving wrong information. In utterance 10 Michelle stated “I tell my daughters is that our first job in life as women, I think, is to get to know ourselves. And I think a lot of times we don’t do that. Then in Utterance 32, she used the word “I don’t know”, in this cases, she does not know for sure how to describe bravery. Therefore she avoids giving wrong information.
4.2 FINDINGS

Based on the data analysis of the study, the findings of this study are summarized as the following:

1. It is found that all types of conversational maxims occurred in the interview. The conversational maxims were obeyed and also violated during the interview. There were 52 utterances which contained conversational maxims; 17 types were obeyed and 35 types were violated by interviewee. Therefore, the conversational maxims in this interview tended to be violated rather than obeyed by interviewee.

2. The obedience of conversational maxims in the interview were realized through:
   a. Quantity Maxim (informative, straight to the point, and provide sufficient information)
   b. Quality Maxim (direct and undoubtful answer and provide sufficient information)
   c. Relevance Maxim (relevance and match with the topic)
   d. Manner Maxim (brief and orderly answer).

The violation of conversational maxims in the interview were realized through:
   a. Quantity Maxim (understatement, overstatement, and using tautologies)
b. Quality Maxim (vagueness, rhetorical question, using irony, contradiction and metaphor)

c. Relevance Maxim (give association clues)

d. Manner Maxim (ambiguous and exaggerates things)

3. From the data analysis, it is found that the reason of obedience of conversational maxims are not excessive, in accordance with what being asked, saying something truly real, in accordance with the real fact, related clearly, giving appropriate response, being brief and orderly. Meanwhile there are some reasons of violation of conversational maxims in the interview context, they are; hiding the truth, saving face, satisfying the hearer, cheering the hearer, avoid hurting the hearer, building one’s belief, convincing the hearer and avoid giving wrong information.

4.3 DISCUSSION

The cooperative principle has played important role in the talk exchanges. Levinson (1983: 101) states that in communication, people should apply the cooperative principle to make the conversation work effectively and run smoothly. The cooperative principle describes how effective communication in conversation is achieved in common social situations. By using a set of general rules in speaking both of the speakers will conduct the conversation well. Grice (1975) also states that people will have a successful conversation if they fulfill the cooperative principles that are related in the four maxims of conversation. The four maxims are quantity, quality, relevance and manner maxim.
In line with the data analysis and findings, there were some points which are considered necessary to be discussed in this study. All types of maxims namely maxim of quantity, quality, relevance and manner were occurred in the interview session. It is similar to theory from Grice (1975) which stated that conversational maxims as the part of cooperative principle have the purpose to run conversation smoothly and effectively. Obedience and violation of conversational maxims can be found in the interview. From the analysis, there were 52 utterances which contained conversational maxims; 17 types are obeyed and 35 types are violated by interviewee. Therefore, the conversational maxims in this interview tended to be violated rather than obeyed by interviewee.

This finding is not similar to the findings of previous research conducted by Natalia (2017) related to conversational maxims in school counseling context, she found that the conversational maxims in school counseling context tend to be obeyed than violated by students. The obedience of the conversational maxim might be due to the power possessed by the teacher. In teacher student communication, the teacher possess higher power so the students tried to give the best contribution by obeying the conversational maxims, however the maxims violation still can be found in school counseling.

The obedience of conversational maxims in this interview were realized through quantity maxim (informative, straight to the point and provide sufficient information), quality maxim (direct, undoubtful answer and provide sufficient
information), relevance maxim (relevance and match with the topic), manner maxim (brief and orderly answer).

The violation of conversational maxims were realized through quantity maxim (understatement, overstatement and using tautologies), quality maxim (vagueness, rhetorical question, using irony, contradiction and metaphor), relevance maxim (give association clues), and manner maxim (ambiguous and exaggerates things).

This finding is not wholly in line the previous theory proposed by Brown and Levinson (1987):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Theory Brown and Levinson (1987)</th>
<th>The research Findings</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Understatement</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Overstatement</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Using tautologies</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Contradiction</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Using irony</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Metaphor</td>
<td>√</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Using rhetorical question</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Giving hints</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Giving association clues</td>
<td>-</td>
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<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Presupposing</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Ambiguous</td>
<td>√</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Vagueness</td>
<td>√</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Over generalize</td>
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In line with the previous theories, there are thirteen realization of maxims violation, however not all the realization proposed by Brown and Levinson (1987) can be found in present study. The absence of giving hints, presupposing, and over generalize were found in this study.
Then, it is found that all reasons of obedience of conversational maxim in the interview were found, they are; not excessive, in accordance with what being asked, saying something truly real, in accordance with the real fact, related clearly, giving appropriate response, giving brief and orderly answer. The absence of giving clear answer found in this study.

Meanwhile, the previous theory by Christoffersen (2005) about criteria of reasons of violation of conversational maxim were not wholly covered the reason of the interviewee realized the violation conversational maxim.

Theory and Research finding

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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hiding the truth</td>
<td>✓</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Saving Face</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Feeling jealous about something</td>
<td>—</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Satisfying the hearer</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Cheering the hearer</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Avoiding to hurt the hearer</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Building one’s belief</td>
<td>✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Convincing the hearer</td>
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<td>Avoid giving wrong information</td>
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It was found the absence of feeling jealous about something in this study. The present study has found that the violation of conversational maxim is also potentially realized through avoid giving wrong information. This is because the context of Cristoffersen (2005) found it in natural conversation while this is done in interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama which has informative function. These
apparently create different criteria too. It can be concluded that different context result different reasons of conversational maxim violation.
CHAPTER V

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

5.1 CONCLUSIONS

In the conversation during interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama, the interviewee was obeyed and violated the maxim. It is found that all types of conversational maxims occurred in the interview. Conversational maxims were obeyed and also violated during the interview. There were 52 utterances which contained conversational maxims; 17 types were obeyed and 35 types were violated by interviewee. Therefore, the conversational maxims in this interview tended to be violated rather than obeyed by interviewee.

The obedience of conversational maxims in the interview were realized through; quantity maxim (informative, straight to the point, and provide sufficient information), quality maxim (direct and undoubtful answer, provide sufficient information), relevance maxim (relevance and match with the topic), manner maxim (brief and orderly answer). Meanwhile, the violation of conversational maxims were realized through; quantity maxim (understatement, overstatement, and using tautologies), quality maxim (vagueness, rhetorical question, using irony, contradiction and metaphor), relevance maxim (give association clues), Manner maxim (ambiguous and exaggerates things)

From the data analysis, it is found that there were some reasons of obedience of conversational maxims, they are not excessive, in accordance with what being
asked, saying something truly real, in accordance with the real fact, related clearly, giving appropriate response. Being brief and orderly. Meanwhile there were some reasons of violation of conversational maxims in the interview context, they are hiding the truth, saving face, satisfying the hearer, cheering the hearer, avoid hurting the hearer, building one’s belief, convincing the hearer, avoid giving wrong information.

5.2 SUGGESTIONS

Having seen the result of the study, the researcher would like to offer the suggestions as follows:

1. It is suggested that further studies should be conducted to find out more reasons and realizations of conversational maxim violation and obedience in same context by providing more data to enrich the analysis of conversational maxim in the interview.

2. It is suggested that further studies should be conducted to find out more realizations and reasons of conversational maxim obedience and violation in other context.

3. It is advisable for speakers and listeners to understand the conversational maxim then follow the rules of conversational maxim in order to create a successful communication and avoid misunderstanding.
REFERENCES


**Website Materials:**


www.wikipedia.org
Appendix 1: The Transcription of the Interview between Oprah Winfrey and Michelle Obama.

Remarks by the First Lady and Oprah Winfrey in a Conversation at the United State of Women Summit

Washington Convention Center
Washington, D.C.

6:43 P.M. EDT

MS. WINFREY: Hi, everybody! (Applause) We are here for the United State of Women! (Applause)

MRS. OBAMA: Now, I know you all have had a busy, packed, full day -- very inspiring, right? (Applause) And hopefully, our conversation will live up to the hype. But before we begin, of course, I want to take a moment to just acknowledge what has happened in Orlando -- that even as we gather here today and we talk about the challenges that women face, we have to remember those that we lost in Orlando, as well as those who were injured, and all of their loves ones, and know that we will all continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

But the one thing I just want us all to know -- that in tragic times like these, in this country, it’s time for us to come together, to love each other, to support each other and not tear each other down. (Applause.) So I hope that that is one of the many takeaways that we move forward with. And I just love you all for the work -- the amazing work you all have done today and that you do every single day.

So I’m going to turn it over to Oprah.

MS. WINFREY: Hello.

MRS. OBAMA: We have Oprah Winfrey here. (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: And our First Lady of the United States. (Applause.)

MRS. OBAMA: Of America.

MS. WINFREY: Of America, not just of women, yes. (Laughter.) So I think that the fact that -- I’ve been watching this being streamed all day, and the fact that there are men here, women here of all ages -- young women, maturing women -- and all walks of life is a move in the right direction, would you not say?
MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely, absolutely. I’m just proud of all the work that’s been done here. So I agree.

MS. WINFREY: Well, I wanted to start with the issue of self-value and self-worth. Because over the years, I’ve interviewed thousands of people, most of them women, and I would say that the root of every dysfunction I’ve ever encountered, every problem has been some sense of a lacking of self-value or of self-worth. And I know that we all know that we live in a world where you are constantly being bombarded by images that encourage you to be liked, literally. And it’s a lot to live up to. And I wonder, particularly you, who have had to face this as your own woman and as a candidate’s wife, the pressure of other people’s expectations -- and what can you share with our audience here and online that would help us stand more inside ourselves and own that space?

MRS. OBAMA: Very good question. Well, one of the things that I always -- I tell my mentees, I tell my daughters is that our first job in life as women, I think, is to get to know ourselves. And I think a lot of times we don’t do that. We spend our time pleasing, satisfying, looking out into the world to define who we are -- listening to the messages, the images, the limited definitions that people have of who we are. And that’s true for women of color for sure. There is a limited box that we are put in, and if we live by that limited definition we miss out on a lot of who we are.

But it takes taking the time to know who you are to be able to deal with the onslaught of negative messages that you’re bound to get. So for me, I came into this with a pretty clear sense of myself. And some of that comes with age. Some of that comes with experience. Some of that comes from being fortunate enough to have been raised by a loving mother, strong, focused, and a father who loved me dearly.

So I fortunately came into this situation with a really clear sense of who I was. So when you hear the smack-talking from outside the world, it’s easy to sort of brush that off. Because I know who I am. (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: But when you came in, there were the world’s expectations, there were other expectations. What did you really expect?

MRS. OBAMA: It’s interesting, I really tried not to limit myself by expectations.

MS. WINFREY: Because nobody grows up thinking “I’m going to be a First Lady.”

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely not. And as you all know, when Barack was talking about running, I was like, are you crazy? I mean, would you just, like, chill out and do something else with your life? (Laughter.)
So I was working hard to try to get him to do the other thing, so -- whatever that was. So, yeah, absolutely, it wasn’t something that I could have planned for, could have expected from myself. But one of the things I knew -- because people asked all throughout the campaign what are your issues going to be, what are you going to be like as First Lady, and I said, I have to wait until I get there to figure out what that’s going to feel like for me. I specifically did not read other First Ladies’ books, because I didn’t want to be influenced by how they defined the role. I knew that I would have to find this role -- (applause) -- very uniquely and specifically to me and who I was.

So I came in thinking about who I wanted to be in this position and who I needed to be for my girls, first of all. So you remember, Malia and Sasha were little itty-bitties when we came into office. I mean, it still moves me to tears to think about the first day I put them in the car with their Secret Service agents to go to their first day of school. And I saw them leaving and I thought, what on Earth am I doing to these babies? So I knew right then and there my first job was to make sure they were going to be whole and normal and cared for in the midst of all this craziness. (Applause.) And then I started to understand that if I was going to protect them, I had to, number one, protect myself and protect my time.

So I knew going into this role that I didn’t want to waste any time; that any time I spent away from my kids -- and I actually took this on even before I became First Lady, even as a lawyer, as a vice president at a hospital. One of the things I realized is that if you do not take control over your time and your life, other people will gobble it up. If you don’t prioritize yourself, you constantly start falling lower and lower on your list, your kids fall lower and lower on your list.

MS. WINFREY: So by the time you got here you knew how to do that.

MRS. OBAMA: I knew how to do that.

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s one of the number-one issues with women. I never, in all my years of interviewing, have ever heard a man say, you know, I just don’t have the time, I just don’t, I don’t find a way to balance.

MRS. OBAMA: You know why? Because they don’t have to balance anything. Sorry. (Laughter and applause.) And I hope that that is changing, but so many men don’t have to do it all.

MS. WINFREY: So how did you figure it out? I’ve read the story -- I’m sure many of you have heard the story of early on, you were going to a job interview and you took Sasha with you to interview.

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, yeah.
MS. WINFREY: We never heard, did you get that job?

MRS. OBAMA: I did. I did.

MS. WINFREY: Okay.

MRS. OBAMA: I was the vice president of community outreach for the University of Chicago Hospital. (Applause.) And I got that job because I didn’t compromise. Because before getting -- working at that job, I was working as an associate dean. I had had Malia, Barack was in the U.S. Senate, so I was basically mothering part time on my own, having -- I had a full-time job. So I tried part time -- I’ve talked about this before -- I tried part time because I thought, I have to figure this out, I have to be able to pick the kids up, I’ve got to be able to do all this. So I tried part time. So the only thing I found out from part time was that you just get paid part time. (Applause.) Because I was still doing a full-time job --

MS. WINFREY: Everything, yeah.

MRS. OBAMA: -- I was just cramming it all into the few hours that I was there and driving myself crazy. So I had vowed that if I continued to work, that I would never settle for part time. I knew what my time and energy was worth.

So when I went into that -- the president’s office to interview for that job, I thought, I have a little baby, I don’t have babysitting, so here we go, we’re all going to go in to see the president because this is who I am. (Laughter.) And I said, and if I take this job, I need flexibility and I need full pay. So if you want me to leave my baby and my kids, then you’re going to have to pay me, because I’m going to do the job -- that was never a question. I could deliver. But I knew then I wasn’t going to sell myself short. And I had the leverage, at the time, to make that decision.

MS. WINFREY: Well, that comes from a sense of -- and you said you arrived here knowing who you were. I think that is the journey. That is the journey. And there is a question from FarmFreshGal.

MRS. OBAMA: FarmFreshGal.

MS. WINFREY: She must have her own garden.

MRS. OBAMA: I hope.

MS. WINFREY: Like we do, yes. And FarmFreshGal says, “As a woman leader in the corporate world, I feel like I have to be brave a lot,” -- and what you just described was brave -- “any advice or tips on bravery?”
MRS. OBAMA: That’s a good question. Gosh, I don’t know. If I ever -- I don’t ever view it as bravery.

MS. WINFREY: You didn’t think that was brave? Saying, look, I’m going to be paid full time?

MRS. OBAMA: Right.

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s brave.

MRS. OBAMA: I just viewed it as I’m not going to be taken advantage of. (Applause.) I am just not going to keep selling myself --

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value.

MRS. OBAMA: Value. That’s absolutely right.

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. I was just saying that to a friend recently.

MRS. OBAMA: And that goes back to knowing who you are. And I think as women and young girls, we have to invest that time in getting to understand who we are and liking who we are. (Applause.) Because I like me. I’ve liked me for a very long time. (Applause.) So for a long time I’ve had a very good relationship with myself.

MS. WINFREY: I know.

MRS. OBAMA: And we like -- we all like ourselves in here. But you’ve got to work to get to that place. And if you’re going out into the world as a professional and you don’t know who you are, you don’t know what you want, you don’t know how much you’re worth, then you have to be brave. And then you have to count on the kindness and goodness of others to bestow that goodness on you when you should be working to get it on your own. Because you deserve it.

MS. WINFREY: Because you know your own value.

MRS. OBAMA: Know your own value. Absolutely.

MS. WINFREY: Okay. So when you’re saying “I know who I am” -- and I’m telling you, it’s the thread that runs through everything. It’s the thing that allows you to stand in your own truth. And one of the things for years that Maya Angelou used to say to me, is “Baby, you need to know that you are alone are enough. You alone are enough.” (Applause.)
So how do we get there? You were there. You’ve loved yourself a long time. What is that process?

MRS. OBAMA: I think it’s different for everyone. And I can’t say that I’ve loved myself for a long time, but there was a journey to get there. And some of it starts as a young girl -- when you confront your first bully, the first time somebody calls you out -- your name, as we would say. The first disappointments and failures that you have, how do you deal with that? What supports systems do you set up for yourself?

I always tell young girls, surround yourself with goodness. I learned early on how to get the haters out of my life. (Applause.) You’ve got to just sort of surround yourself with people who uplift you, who hold you up. And for whatever reason -- well, I was lucky I had people like -- I had parents who held me up. I had a father that valued me.

MS. WINFREY: I think people who have good parents are -- they come into the world with a strength, yes, and an advantage.

MRS. OBAMA: And that was an advantage. But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it. You’ve got to find those people. Because they’re out there. I tell my mentees all of -- there is somebody out there who loves you and who is waiting to love you, and you just have to find them. And that means you have to make room for them. And if you’re surrounded by a bunch of low-life folks who aren’t supporting you, then there is no room for the people who do love you. (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: You mentioned a moment ago “the haters.” How do you handle the haters, particularly in this office, where haters have to be handled politically correctly and with discretion? (Laughter.) And I know so many people are faced with it -- we know this about social media -- people say just the meanest things, and you’re faced in your life with people who can tear you down a lot -- the haters, hateration.

MRS. OBAMA: Well, when it comes to social media -- there are just times I turn off the world, you know. There are just some times you have to give yourself space to be quiet, which means you’ve got to set those phones down. You can’t be reading all that stuff. I mean, that’s like letting somebody just walk up and slap you, you know? (Laughter.) You would never do that. You would never just sit there and go, slap me in the face and I’m good with it. No. So why would you open yourself up to that?

So that’s one thing. With social media and -- I don’t read that stuff. I learned that early in the campaign. I couldn’t keep reading stuff about my husband and what
people thought and -- because I knew who he was. I knew what was going on in our home, in our lives. So I didn’t need to read about it from somebody else.

But the other thing that I have found, particularly in this job, that it’s -- people won’t remember what other people say about you, but they will remember what you do. So my strategy -- and I’ve always been like this. When a teacher would come and tell me that I couldn’t do something, I would get so much satisfaction proving them wrong. I’d be like, okay, all right, oh, you don’t think I’m going to do X, Y and Z, well I’m going to be the best X, Y, Z you can imagine.

So when it came to this role, I just said, you know, let me just be First Lady. Let me wake up every day and work hard to do something of value, and to do it well, and to do something consequential, and to do something that I care about. And then let that speak for itself. And that would shut up the haters, because I would have a whole portfolio of stuff that defined me because it’s what I did, not what you called me. (Applause.) So the best revenge is success --

MS. WINFREY: Is success, yes.

MRS. OBAMA: -- and good work. You don’t have to say anything to the haters. You don’t have to acknowledge them at all. You just wake up every morning and be the best you you can be. And that tends to shut them up.

MS. WINFREY: You know, I’ve always thought too, that the best success comes when you can actually shift your paradigm to service. And obviously, you are in a position of public service. Was it a conscious, intentional decision to sort of sit still, be with this place, and then allow your passion to fuel your interest, allow your passion to lead you to all the things you’ve been able to do with international girls’ education, with health and wellness? Was that a conscious, intentional decision?

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely. Because in this -- particularly when you’re in public service, you’re First Lady, the President and you’re interacting with the world, people can smell inauthenticity. They know when you are not what you appear to be. And that was always something that I said in this role that -- I want people to know me, know Michelle, Michelle Robinson Obama, not the First Lady. In every interaction I have had with anybody who’s had some connection with me, I have tried to be authentically myself. And in order to do that, I learned that I have to do things that I authentically care about. Because if I fundamentally, deep down have a belief in the cause, and I -- it moves me, then I’m going to be excited about it. That excitement is going to be conveyed to the people that I’m trying to reach. It’s not going to be a heavy lift.

That’s why people say, how can you speak in front of all these people and do this every day? Look, I get energy from people. And not everybody in politics, in public
service are people-people. Barack and I really do -- we are energized by the people we meet, by the military spouses that I meet out there. I picked working with military families because they moved me. I met them out on the campaign trail and I didn’t know that there were millions of military families out there serving and sacrificing in ways that we take for granted in this country. And I vowed then and there, just from meeting them, that if I got to be First Lady I would try to be that voice for them, I would try to shine that light on them. (Applause.)

So that came out of a direct passion for who those people were and what I learned about them.

MS. WINFREY: And I remember when you all first arrived at the White House, you said to the country that this is your house, and we’re going to open this up as your house. And so when I saw all those Girl Scouts out on the lawn, I went, you all really did open up the house. (Laughter.)

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, yes. That’s been some of the most fulfilling things we’ve been able to do in the White House. It’s really bringing people here who would never, ever get to set foot on that lawn and walk into those doors. (Applause.) I tell my mentees all the time -- you know, one of the things I want them to take away when they come -- because they come regularly; they come at least once a month and we sit down and we talk, and they have seminars -- and I want them all to know you walk into the White House every day, and you walk up to the First Lady of the United States and say, “Hey, Michelle, what’s going on?” And if you can do that, you can do anything. If you can exist in this space at this time in this moment -- (applause) --

MS. WINFREY: Yes.

MRS. OBAMA: And there is no class that you can’t handle. There’s no school whose rejection will make you fold or make you crumble. You’ve been here. And I’ve watched so many kids come through those gates and really be in that space -- picking tomatoes with me in the garden, getting to sit in and have tastings at the state dinner, being invited to watch Hamilton. I mean, just watching their eyes just experiencing things that really only the privileged get to experience, but having it be kids and people who would never believe they would set foot in that house.

MS. WINFREY: You see them get empowered --

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, gosh, yeah.

MS. WINFREY: -- and transformed in the process.
MRS. OBAMA: So many kids, you think their world view will never be the same. And that’s the least we can do as President and First Lady. I think that’s the obligation of anyone who lives in that house. (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: How do you feel -- I always feel that until you take your last breath you’re always growing, and that every experience that you encounter in your life -- just all of you being together here today and being in a room with people who are like-minded, who share the same vision -- all of that is so stimulating. You leave here and you feel like you can be better and do better. What has the experience -- or how has the experience of being First Lady actually grown you?

MRS. OBAMA: Wow. So many ways. I mean, first of all, there is absolutely nothing I can’t do, right? (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: Because you walk in that --

MRS. OBAMA: That’s right, that’s right.

MS. WINFREY: You live in the White House.

MRS. OBAMA: We’ve been to the mountain top, and it was a hard climb but we made it. (Laughter.) We made it! (Applause.)

So you just -- again, you begin to understand how much you can tolerate, how much growth you can have, how much potential there is, how much opportunity there is to help people, how fulfilling it is. I mean, that’s been the thing that I’ve learned, that

MS. WINFREY: Fulfilling in it.

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, it feels -- public service -- I left the practice of law to go into public service for selfish reasons. I wanted to be happy and feel good every single day. I wanted to wake up inspired and ready to do something greater than myself. And that’s what service and giving and -- that’s what this room means to so many.

And I just want to make sure that when people leave here they don’t go back into their isolation; that they don’t go back to their phones, looking down. Because this relationship isn’t enough. You need to have people in your lives that you’re connecting with, that you’re helping. I mean, there is nothing that makes me feel better than knowing that I helped to change somebody’s life -- Oprah, you know this more than anyone else. And if you’re doing that every single day, the haters, the doubters -- none of that matters, because you are getting so much by the -- from the work that you’re doing.
MS. WINFREY: Well, you know, I figured this out -- early on in the show I had read this quote from Dr. King, one of my favorite quotes from him, that says, “Not everybody can be famous, but everybody can be great, because greatness is determined by service.” And I literally shifted -- I used that quote to help me shift the way I saw the platform of television. Instead of like, oh, I’m going to -- I’m on TV, how do I use that platform as a platform of service, is what I did.

MRS. OBAMA: Amen.

MS. WINFREY: Yeah.

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, We know. And you did that pretty well too. (Laughter and applause.)

MS. WINFREY: But when you think about growing and being empowered yourself, it is what you’ve been able to do for other people that leaves you the fullest.

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, absolutely. That is really the thing. So I don’t know, I don’t sort of -- my growth is incidental. It’s the lucky gift I get for giving. And, like you said, I’m still growing. We are all still growing.

I used to tell some of the young people I worked with way back in Chicago days that I used to hate the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?” because it assumes that at some point you stop becoming and you just are something. And that would be a sad thing to think that this is it.

And that’s one of the things I’ve learned -- that there are so many phases to life that this is just -- even as big as being First Lady and living in the White House has been, this is still just a portion of a very bigger journey that I have yet to know the outcome. And I won’t know it until I’m laying down. It’s just ever-evolving. (Applause.) And I think that reality -- this experience has helped me to see that. These are just phases. And this has been a very interesting phase, and a very impactful phase, but there’s more to come.

MS. WINFREY: I love you saying that -- I’m not through.

MRS. OBAMA: We ain’t through! (Laughter.)

MS. WINFREY: We aren’t through! (Applause.) Okay, so, yes, I believe in service. I believe in helping people. I want people to feel fulfilled and empowered in their life. But still, somedays I think it’s just cool to be me. (Laughter.)

MRS. OBAMA: And I think that too -- some days it’s just cool to be Oprah. (Laughter.)
MS. WINFREY: So I want to know, what are those days when you just say, mmm, mmm, mmm -- (laughter) -- look at me in the White House. (Laughter.)

MRS. OBAMA: There are so -- yeah, just sitting up here, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) There are a lot of those moments. Prince and Stevie Wonder singing in the East Room, just -- may he rest in peace. I mean, those rare gifts of entertainment, the kind of music we have been able to bring into the White House. Sitting with the Pope, watching my mother and my daughters talk to the Pope. That’s like a --

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm.

MRS. OBAMA: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) Dinner with the Queen of England, just like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.)

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm.

MRS. OBAMA: You know, you try to play these moments off, like oh, yes, yes, I know what I’m doing -- and inside you’re going, mmm, mmm, mmm.

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm.

MRS. OBAMA: Good lord. Watching my husband walk off of Marine One and go to the Oval Office, it’s like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter and applause.)

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.)

MRS. OBAMA: And you know he’s got that walk, right?

MS. WINFREY: I know! (Laughter.)

MRS. OBAMA: Like, mmm, mmm, mmm.

MS. WINFREY: He’s got the swag. (Laughter.) Did he always have that swag? Or has he gotten swaggier?

MRS. OBAMA: No, he was very swagalicious. (Laughter.) Look, I told people this from the very start, when I -- started running -- Barack Obama is exactly who he says he is. We both are. That’s what I’ve been trying to tell people. Ain’t no surprises. We’re telling you who we are, and no tricks up our sleeves. We’re regular folks. We care about people. We care about family. We want to do well. We want to make our country proud. We don’t want to waste our talents just making money for ourselves.
Barack Obama hasn’t changed, not as a person. Because he is an authentic man who came in, and he’s going to leave that same person. (Applause.) So it’s not the office that changes you, it’s just -- it amplifies who you are. I think I said that at the last convention. Being President doesn’t change who you are, it reveals who you are. And that’s something that we should all remember. (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: This is the United State of Women. There are a lot of cool men out here. I love the --

MRS. OBAMA: Let’s give it up for the brothers, for the men out here. (Applause.)

MS. WINFREY: There’s a lot of cool men out here. I love the President’s speech saying you’re looking at a feminist. What can men do leaving here?

MRS. OBAMA: Be better. (Laughter and applause.) Be better at everything. (Applause.) Be better fathers. Good lord, just being good fathers who love your daughters and are providing a solid example of what it means to be a good man in the world, showing them what it feels like to be loved. That is the greatest gift that the men in my life gave to me.

And we’ve talked about this -- the fact that I never experienced abuse at the hands of any man in my life. And that’s sad to say that that’s a rare reality. So men can be better at that.

Men can be better husbands, which is -- be a part of your family’s life. Do the dishes. (Applause.) Don’t babysit your children. You don’t babysit your own children. (Applause.) Be engaged. Don’t just think going to work and coming home makes you a man. Being a father, being engaged, all that stuff is important.

Be a better employer. When you are sitting at a seat of power at a table of any kind and you look around you just see you, it’s just you and a bunch of men around a table, on a golf course, making deals, and you allow that to happen, and you’re okay with that -- be better.

MS. WINFREY: Be better.

MRS. OBAMA: Be better.

MS. WINFREY: Be better. (Applause.) I love that.

MRS. OBAMA: Just be better. (Laughter and applause.) I could go on but I’m not. (Laughter.) You get the point, fellas, right? Fellas? (Applause.) What are you going to be?
AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Better!

MRS. OBAMA: There you go.

MS. WINFREY: There you go. (Applause.) So here’s the question that comes up over and over and over -- we talked a little bit about it -- this idea of balance. Is that a false notion for women? Because can we really -- are we ever going to have it all? I used to say you can have it all you just can’t have it all at one time. Is that a false notion?

MRS. OBAMA: I am always irritated by the “you can have it all” statement. And I grew irritated with that phrase and that expectation the older I got, as you’re trying to have it all. And you’re beating yourself up, and feeling less than because you aren’t having it all. Because it’s a ridiculous aspiration.

MS. WINFREY: Especially if you’re looking at everybody else’s Facebook page.

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, god, everybody has it all. Everybody is lying. They’re lying. (Laughter and applause.) You all need to stop lying. Be real about the fact that -- no one gets everything. That was one of the first rules you learned as a little kid. You don’t always get your way. Come on, people. You don’t always get what you want all the time. And that’s true in life.

So what I’ve told many young people is that you can have it all, but oftentimes it’s hard to get it all at the same time.

MS. WINFREY: Yeah, I believe that.

MRS. OBAMA: So it’s just a matter of managing expectations. So for me, for example, you know, when your husband is President of the United States and you have children, something has got to give. I’ve made compromises in my life and my career, but I’ve also, in exchange, gained a wonderful platform to do some great work. Who would have ever imagined that we would make the inroads we’ve made on healthy eating and changing the way our kids are fed in school? (Applause.) I can point to so many things that I’ve had -- that I’ve been able to do. If I want to be heavily involved in my girls’ lives that means that sometimes I have to put some things on the back burner to give them what they need.

So it’s hard to have it all. But that’s where you go back to knowing who you are, and knowing that you’re really living through phases. And if you’re compromising through one phase of your journey, you’re not giving it all up, you’re compromising for that phase. There’s another phase that’s coming up where you might be able to have more of what you thought you wanted. You get to know yourself a little bit more.
So, no, I don’t want young women out there to have the expectation that if they’re not having it all that somehow they’re failing. Life is hard. But life is long if you maintain your health, which is one of the reasons why we talk about health, talk about taking care of yourself. Because you want to get to the next phases in life where you can do more of what you want to do at any given time.

MS. WINFREY: You want to be wherever you are right now. And, just like you say, I’m not through.

MRS. OBAMA: Mmm hmm. You’re not through.

MS. WINFREY: Not through. So 5,000 women and men in this room. (Applause.) Thousands and thousands of others streaming us online -- hey. (Laughter.) Hey, everybody streaming. What is the one thing -- because I think it’s really easy when you come to a conference like this and you get so inspired and you see Marley and Mikaila, those young women, and you see Billie Jean King, and Gloria Steinem, and Shonda Rhimes, and Kerry Washington.

MRS. OBAMA: It’s amazing gathering --

MS. WINFREY: You see all these women and you’re just like, I just want to be more of a woman! And you’re going to be overstimulated. (Laughter.) What is the one thing you want us to leave here with? What is the one charge or one offering? What do you want to say?

MRS. OBAMA: It’s hard to think of one thing.

MS. WINFREY: Okay, a couple.

MRS. OBAMA: But the work always continues. And by that I mean we’re never done. We can never be complacent and think that we’ve arrived now as women. Because I hear this from young women. Some of you young women who aren’t feeling the pains that many of our predecessors have felt -- you think, well, there aren’t any problems, women’s rights, we’ve got this all figured out, I’m already equal, I’m good -- I’m just like, oh, just you wait, you’ll feel it.

So the work continues. And for all the young women in this room, all the young men, we can never be complacent. Because we have seen in recent times how quickly things can be taken away if we aren’t vigilant, if we don’t know our history, if we don’t continue the work. (Applause.)

So my hope is that people leave here inspired and ready to do something. Again, remember, it’s not what people say about you, it’s what you do. So the question is what are you going to do? How are you going to be better? What are you going to
change in your office, in your life, in your relationships? What are you going to change in your family dynamic? And how are you going to empower yourself with the knowledge that you need to know what work needs to be done?

We can’t afford to be ignorant. We can’t afford to be complacent. So we have to continue the work.

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s powerful. Because the question that you just offered to us is what did this mean, and what can I do with what I have received from all the stimulation, all of this energy -- what can I do, that’s the question.

You were talking about the next phase. I heard you say that when you all are done -- we saw your new house -- when you’re --

MRS. OBAMA: We’re neither confirming or denying. (Laughter.)

MS. WINFREY: Okay. (Laughter.) When you all are done -- okay, when you’re done and you move out of the White House, I’ve heard you say that you look forward to riding around with the windows down. You’re still going to be Michelle Obama.

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, I know.

MS. WINFREY: And we’re going to know who you are. And it won’t matter how many baseball caps you put on, we’re going to say, “Hey, Michelle.”

MRS. OBAMA: “Hey, Michelle.” (Laughter.) I get that, I see --

MS. WINFREY: So what is the one thing that you think you really want to do? And can we go shopping?

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, girl, let’s go shopping.

MS. WINFREY: Let’s go shopping.

MRS. OBAMA: You and me. That will be a scene. (Laughter.) You know, it’s --

AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- go shopping!

MRS. OBAMA: What? You want to go shopping with us? (Applause.) It’s really the little things. And you feel this -- fame can be confining. And then you start missing the little things.

What do I want to do? I want to walk out -- I want to open my front door without discussing it with anyone -- (laughter) -- and I want to walk out that door and just
walk. (Laughter.) Just want to walk by myself, or with a semblance of feeling like I’m by myself, because that’s what you learn how to do -- it’s like, I’m alone with 800 people walking behind me. (Laughter.) But I’ve learned how to -- “I’m by myself.”

But I do, I want to walk down a street. I want to sit in a yard that is not a national park. (Laughter.) I do want to drop into Target. I want to -- I do, I want to go to Target again! (Laughter.) I’ve heard so many things have changed in Target! (Laughter.) I tell my friends they’re going to have to give me a re-entry training for like, okay, what do you do at CVS now? How do you check out? (Laughter.) It’s like I’ve been living in a cave.

But it is, it’s the small things -- fresh air. In the White House you can’t open a window. Sasha opened her window once -- there were calls. (Laughter.) “Shut the window!” It never opened again. (Laughter.) So it’s the little things that you --

MS. WINFREY: The things that we all just take for granted.

MRS. OBAMA: Take for granted. I won’t even ask for anonymity, because I think that’s forever gone.

MS. WINFREY: Yes.

MRS. OBAMA: But one of the things that I’ve learned is that if you just flow into a pattern of life with people, they give you space to come in. That’s happened at my kids’ school and the places where I go and work out. Once people get used to the fact that you’re going to be there --

MS. WINFREY: “It’s the First Lady!”

MRS. OBAMA: Then it’s sort of like it’s over. It’s like you do it a few times, it’s like “It’s the First Lady.” So I hope to find a way to seamlessly work my way into a normal life. And it’s going to take time, but I’m going to slowly --

MS. WINFREY: It’s going to happen. And we’re going to go shopping.

MRS. OBAMA: We’re going to shop!

MS. WINFREY: We’re going to go shopping. And you will leave here most proud of?

MRS. OBAMA: You know, truly, I am most proud of my daughters. (Applause.) I mean, I could go down the list of my initiatives, and we have done a lot -- changed the way our kids eat. We’ve supported military families, we made that conversation
part of the community. The work that we’re doing on girls’ education will be something that I do for the rest of my life. This is all work that will continue. It is there. Those problems won’t be solved in my lifetime.

But raising two girls -- like I said at the beginning, when I sent them off in the car that first day and they were so little, and the bulletproof glass was so thick -- I thought, oh, my god, I just want them to grow up feeling a sense -- knowing that they’re loved by us. Feeling confident. Feeling a sense of normalcy, feeling a sense of obligation to do something outside of themselves. Just being good people.

And we just went to Malia’s high school graduation, and we’re watching Sasha move her way through high school. And I am very proud of those two and how they’ve managed this situation and how they have continued to be themselves, regular little girls just trying to figure it out. And as all mothers do, you breathe that sigh of relief that you didn’t mess up your kids. And every day I cross my fingers and hope that I’m doing right by them, and I’m providing them with a good foundation so that they can be great people.

MS. WINFREY: Thank you. (Applause.) And I just want to say, the way you’ve handled this office, the way you carry yourself, have presented yourself to the United States of America, and the women of the United States of America, and men of the United States of America, reminds me of a line that Maya used to say -- it’s actually in the beginning of one of her books -- she says “You make me proud to spell my name W-O-M-A-N.” (Applause.) Michelle Obama.

And I would like to add to that: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.)

MRS. OBAMA: Ms. Oprah Winfrey! (Applause.)

END
7:26 P.M. EDT

APPENDIX 2: CODE OF THE UTTERANCES

MS. WINFREY: Hi, everybody! (Applause) We are here for the United State of Women! (Applause) (U1)

MRS. OBAMA: Now, I know you all have had a busy, packed, full day -- very inspiring, right? (Applause) And hopefully, our conversation will live up to the hype. But before we begin, of course, I want to take a moment to just acknowledge what has happened in Orlando -- that even as we gather here today and we talk about the challenges that women face, we have to remember those that we lost in Orlando, as well as those who were injured, and all of their loves ones, and know that we will all continue to keep them in our thoughts and prayers.

But the one thing I just want us all to know -- that in tragic times like these, in this country, it’s time for us to come together, to love each other, to support each other and not tear each other down. (Applause) So I hope that that is one of the many takeaways that we move forward with. And I just love you all for the work -- the amazing work you all have done today and that you do every single day.

So I’m going to turn it over to Oprah. (U2)

MS. WINFREY: Hello. (U3)

MRS. OBAMA: We have Oprah Winfrey here. (Applause) (U4)

MS. WINFREY: And our First Lady of the United States. (Applause) (U5)

MRS. OBAMA: Of America. (U6)

MS. WINFREY: Of America, not just of women, yes. (Laughter) So I think that the fact that -- I’ve been watching this being streamed all day, and the fact that there are men here, women here of all ages -- young women, maturing women -- and all walks of life is a move in the right direction, would you not say? (U7)

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely, absolutely. I’m just proud of all the work that’s been done here. So I agree. (U8)

MS. WINFREY: Well, I wanted to start with the issue of self-value and self-worth. Because over the years, I’ve interviewed thousands of people, most of them women, and I would say that the root of every dysfunction I’ve ever encountered, every problem has been some sense of a lacking of self-value or of self-worth. And I know that we all know that we live in a world where you are constantly being bombarded by images that encourage you to be liked, literally. And it’s a lot to live up to. And I
wonder, particularly you, who have had to face this as your own woman and as a candidate’s wife, the pressure of other people’s expectations -- and what can you share with our audience here and online that would help us stand more inside ourselves and own that space? (U9)

MRS. OBAMA: Very good question. Well, one of the things that I always -- I tell my mentees, I tell my daughters is that our first job in life as women, I think, is to get to know ourselves. And I think a lot of times we don’t do that. We spend our time pleasing, satisfying, looking out into the world to define who we are -- listening to the messages, the images, the limited definitions that people have of who we are. And that’s true for women of color for sure. There is a limited box that we are put in, and if we live by that limited definition we miss out on a lot of who we are.

But it takes taking the time to know who you are to be able to deal with the onslaught of negative messages that you’re bound to get. So for me, I came into this with a pretty clear sense of myself. And some of that comes with age. Some of that comes with experience. Some of that comes from being fortunate enough to have been raised by a loving mother, strong, focused, and a father who loved me dearly.

So I fortunately came into this situation with a really clear sense of who I was. So when you hear the smack-talking from outside the world, it’s easy to sort of brush that off. Because I know who I am. (Applause) (U10)

MS. WINFREY: But when you came in, there were the world’s expectations, there were other expectations. What did you really expect? (U11)

MRS. OBAMA: It’s interesting, I really tried not to limit myself by expectations. (U12)

MS. WINFREY: Because nobody grows up thinking “I’m going to be a First Lady.” (U13)

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely not. And as you all know, when Barack was talking about running, I was like, are you crazy? I mean, would you just, like, chill out and do something else with your life? (Laughter)

So I was working hard to try to get him to do the other thing, so -- whatever that was. So, yeah, absolutely, it wasn’t something that I could have planned for, could have expected from myself. But one of the things I knew -- because people asked all throughout the campaign what are your issues going to be, what are you going to be like as First Lady, and I said, I have to wait until I get there to figure out what that’s going to feel like for me. I specifically did not read other First Ladies’ books, because I didn’t want to be influenced by how they defined the role. I knew that I
would have to find this role -- (applause) -- very uniquely and specifically to me and who I was.

So I came in thinking about who I wanted to be in this position and who I needed to be for my girls, first of all. So you remember, Malia and Sasha were little itty-bitties when we came into office. I mean, it still moves me to tears to think about the first day I put them in the car with their Secret Service agents to go to their first day of school. And I saw them leaving and I thought, what on Earth am I doing to these babies? So I knew right then and there my first job was to make sure they were going to be whole and normal and cared for in the midst of all this craziness. (Applause) And then I started to understand that if I was going to protect them, I had to, number one, protect myself and protect my time.

So I knew going into this role that I didn’t want to waste any time; that any time I spent away from my kids -- and I actually took this on even before I became First Lady, even as a lawyer, as a vice president at a hospital. One of the things I realized is that if you do not take control over your time and your life, other people will gobble it up. If you don’t prioritize yourself, you constantly start falling lower and lower on your list, your kids fall lower and lower on your list. (U14)

MS. WINFREY: So by the time you got here you knew how to do that. (U15)

MRS. OBAMA: I knew how to do that. (U16)

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s one of the number-one issues with women. I never, in all my years of interviewing, have ever heard a man say, you know, I just don’t have the time, I just don’t, I don’t find a way to balance. (U17)

MRS. OBAMA: You know why? Because they don’t have to balance anything. Sorry. (Laughter and applause.) And I hope that that is changing, but so many men don’t have to do it all. (U18)

MS. WINFREY: So how did you figure it out? I’ve read the story -- I’m sure many of you have heard the story of early on, you were going to a job interview and you took Sasha with you to interview. (U19)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, yeah. (U20)

MS. WINFREY: We never heard, did you get that job? (U21)

MRS. OBAMA: I did. I did. (U22)

MS. WINFREY: Okay. (U23)
MRS. OBAMA: I was the vice president of community outreach for the University of Chicago Hospital. (Applause) And I got that job because I didn’t compromise. Because before getting -- working at that job, I was working as an associate dean. I had had Malia, Barack was in the U.S. Senate, so I was basically mothering part time on my own, having -- I had a full-time job. So I tried part time -- I’ve talked about this before -- I tried part time because I thought, I have to figure this out, I have to be able to pick the kids up, I’ve got to be able to do all this. So I tried part time. So the only thing I found out from part time was that you just get paid part time. (Applause) Because I was still doing a full-time job – (U24)

MS. WINFREY: Everything, yeah. (U25)

MRS. OBAMA: -- I was just cramming it all into the few hours that I was there and driving myself crazy. So I had vowed that if I continued to work, that I would never settle for part time. I knew what my time and energy was worth.

So when I went into that -- the president’s office to interview for that job, I thought, I have a little baby, I don’t have babysitting, so here we go, we’re all going to go in to see the president because this is who I am. (Laughter) And I said, and if I take this job, I need flexibility and I need full pay. So if you want me to leave my baby and my kids, then you’re going to have to pay me, because I’m going to do the job -- that was never a question. I could deliver. But I knew then I wasn’t going to sell myself short. And I had the leverage, at the time, to make that decision. (U26)

MS. WINFREY: Well, that comes from a sense of -- and you said you arrived here knowing who you were. I think that is the journey. That is the journey. And there is a question from Farm Fresh Gal. ( U27)

MRS. OBAMA: Farm Fresh Gal. (U28)

MS. WINFREY: She must have her own garden. (U29)

MRS. OBAMA: I hope. (U30)

MS. WINFREY: Like we do, yes. And Farm Fresh Gal says, “As a woman leader in the corporate world, I feel like I have to be brave a lot,” -- and what you just described was brave -- “any advice or tips on bravery?” (U31)

MRS. OBAMA: That’s a good question. Gosh, I don’t know. If I ever -- I don’t ever view it as bravery. (U32)

MS. WINFREY: You didn’t think that was brave? Saying, look, I’m going to be paid full time? (U33)
MRS. OBAMA: Right. (U34)

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s brave. (U35)

MRS. OBAMA: I just viewed it as I’m not going to be taken advantage of. (Applause) I am just not going to keep selling myself – (U36)

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. (U37)

MRS. OBAMA: Value. That’s absolutely right. (U38)

MS. WINFREY: You knew your value. I was just saying that to a friend recently. (U39)

MRS. OBAMA: And that goes back to knowing who you are. And I think as women and young girls, we have to invest that time in getting to understand who we are and liking who we are. (Applause) Because I like me. I’ve liked me for a very long time. (Applause) So for a long time I’ve had a very good relationship with myself. (U40)

MS. WINFREY: I know. (U41)

MRS. OBAMA: And we like -- we all like ourselves in here. But you’ve got to work to get to that place. And if you’re going out into the world as a professional and you don’t know who you are, you don’t know what you want, you don’t know how much you’re worth, then you have to be brave. And then you have to count on the kindness and goodness of others to bestow that goodness on you when you should be working to get it on your own. Because you deserve it. (U42)

MS. WINFREY: Because you know your own value (U43).

MRS. OBAMA: Know your own value. Absolutely. (U44)

MS. WINFREY: Okay. So when you’re saying “I know who I am” -- and I’m telling you, it’s the thread that runs through everything. It’s the thing that allows you to stand in your own truth. And one of the things for years that Maya Angelou used to say to me, is “Baby, you need to know that you are alone are enough. You alone are enough.” (Applause)

So how do we get there? You were there. You’ve loved yourself a long time. What is that process? (U45)
MRS. OBAMA: I think it’s different for everyone. And I can’t say that I’ve loved myself for a long time, but there was a journey to get there. And some of it starts as a young girl -- when you confront your first bully, the first time somebody calls you out -- your name, as we would say. The first disappointments and failures that you have, how do you deal with that? What supports systems do you set up for yourself?

I always tell young girls, surround yourself with goodness. I learned early on how to get the haters out of my life. (Applause) You’ve got to just sort of surround yourself with people who uplift you, who hold you up. And for whatever reason -- well, I was lucky I had people like -- I had parents who held me up. I had a father that valued me. (U46)

MS. WINFREY: I think people who have good parents are -- they come into the world with a strength, yes, and an advantage. (U47)

MRS. OBAMA: And that was an advantage. But if you don’t have that parent -- that mother, that father -- then you’ve got to find it. You’ve got to find those people. Because they’re out there. I tell my mentees all of -- there is somebody out there who loves you and who is waiting to love you, and you just have to find them. And that means you have to make room for them. And if you’re surrounded by a bunch of low-life folks who aren’t supporting you, then there is no room for the people who do love you. (Applause) (U48)

MS. WINFREY: You mentioned a moment ago “the haters.” How do you handle the haters, particularly in this office, where haters have to be handled politically correctly and with discretion? (Laughter.) And I know so many people are faced with it -- we know this about social media -- people say just the meanest things, and you’re faced in your life with people who can tear you down a lot -- the haters, hateration. (U49)

MRS. OBAMA: Well, when it comes to social media -- there are just times I turn off the world, you know. There are just some times you have to give yourself space to be quiet, which means you’ve got to set those phones down. You can’t be reading all that stuff. I mean, that’s like letting somebody just walk up and slap you, you know? (Laughter.) You would never do that. You would never just sit there and go, slap me in the face and I’m good with it. No. So why would you open yourself up to that?

So that’s one thing. With social media and -- I don’t read that stuff. I learned that early in the campaign. I couldn’t keep reading stuff about my husband and what people thought and -- because I knew who he was. I knew what was going on in our home, in our lives. So I didn’t need to read about it from somebody else.
But the other thing that I have found, particularly in this job, that it’s -- people won’t remember what other people say about you, but they will remember what you do. So my strategy -- and I’ve always been like this. When a teacher would come and tell me that I couldn’t do something, I would get so much satisfaction proving them wrong. I’d be like, okay, all right, oh, you don’t think I’m going to do X, Y and Z, well I’m going to be the best X, Y, Z you can imagine.

So when it came to this role, I just said, you know, let me just be First Lady. Let me wake up every day and work hard to do something of value, and to do it well, and to do something consequential, and to do something that I care about. And then let that speak for itself. And that would shut up the haters, because I would have a whole portfolio of stuff that defined me because it’s what I did, not what you called me. (Applause) So the best revenge is success -- (U50)

MS. WINFREY: Is success, yes. (U51)

MRS. OBAMA: -- and good work. You don’t have to say anything to the haters. You don’t have to acknowledge them at all. You just wake up every morning and be the best you you can be. And that tends to shut them up. (U52)

MS. WINFREY: You know, I’ve always thought too, that the best success comes when you can actually shift your paradigm to service. And obviously, you are in a position of public service. Was it a conscious, intentional decision to sort of sit still, be with this place, and then allow your passion to fuel your interest, allow your passion to lead you to all the things you’ve been able to do with international girls’ education, with health and wellness? Was that a conscious, intentional decision? (U53)

MRS. OBAMA: Absolutely. Because in this -- particularly when you’re in public service, you’re First Lady, the President and you’re interacting with the world, people can smell in authenticity. They know when you are not what you appear to be. And that was always something that I said in this role that -- I want people to know me, know Michelle, Michelle Robinson Obama, not the First Lady. In every interaction I have had with anybody who’s had some connection with me, I have tried to be authentically myself. And in order to do that, I learned that I have to do things that I authentically care about. Because if I fundamentally, deep down have a belief in the cause, and I -- it moves me, then I’m going to be excited about it. That excitement is going to be conveyed to the people that I’m trying to reach. It’s not going to be a heavy lift.

That’s why people say, how can you speak in front of all these people and do this every day? Look, I get energy from people. And not everybody in politics, in public service are people-people. Barack and I really do -- we are energized by the people we meet, by the military spouses that I meet out there. I picked working with military
families because they moved me. I met them out on the campaign trail and I didn’t
know that there were millions of military families out there serving and sacrificing in
ways that we take for granted in this country. And I vowed then and there, just from
meeting them, that if I got to be First Lady I would try to be that voice for them, I
would try to shine that light on them. (Applause)

So that came out of a direct passion for who those people were and what I learned
about them. (U54)

MS. WINFREY: And I remember when you all first arrived at the White House, you
said to the country that this is your house, and we’re going to open this up as your
house. And so when I saw all those Girl Scouts out on the lawn, I went, you all really
did open up the house. (Laughter) (U55)

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, yes. That’s been some of the most fulfilling things we’ve been
able to do in the White House. It’s really bringing people here who would never,
ever get to set foot on that lawn and walk into those doors. (Applause.) I tell my
mentees all the time -- you know, one of the things I want them to take away when
they come -- because they come regularly; they come at least once a month and we sit
down and we talk, and they have seminars -- and I want them all to know you walk
into the White House every day, and you walk up to the First Lady of the United
States and say, “Hey, Michelle, what’s going on?” And if you can do that, you can
do anything. If you can exist in this space at this time in this moment -- (applause) --
(U56)

MS. WINFREY: Yes. (U57)

MRS. OBAMA: And there is no class that you can’t handle. There’s no school
whose rejection will make you fold or make you crumble. You’ve been here. And
I’ve watched so many kids come through those gates and really be in that space --
picking tomatoes with me in the garden, getting to sit in and have tastings at the state
dinner, being invited to watch Hamilton. I mean, just watching their eyes just
experiencing things that really only the privileged get to experience, but having it be
kids and people who would never believe they would set foot in that house. (U58)

MS. WINFREY: You see them get empowered —(U59)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, gosh, yeah. (U60)

MS. WINFREY: — and transformed in the process. (U61)
MRS. OBAMA: So many kids, you think their world view will never be the same. And that’s the least we can do as President and First Lady. I think that’s the obligation of anyone who lives in that house. (Applause) (U62)

MS. WINFREY: How do you feel -- I always feel that until you take your last breath you’re always growing, and that every experience that you encounter in your life -- just all of you being together here today and being in a room with people who are like-minded, who share the same vision -- all of that is so stimulating. You leave here and you feel like you can be better and do better. What has the experience -- or how has the experience of being First Lady actually grown you? (U63)

MRS. OBAMA: Wow. So many ways. I mean, first of all, there is absolutely nothing I can’t do, right? (Applause) (U64)

MS. WINFREY: Because you walk in that – (U65)

MRS. OBAMA: That’s right, that’s right (U66)

MS. WINFREY: You live in the White House. (U67)

MRS. OBAMA: We’ve been to the mountain top, and it was a hard climb but we made it. (Laughter) We made it! (Applause)

So you just -- again, you begin to understand how much you can tolerate, how much growth you can have, how much potential there is, how much opportunity there is to help people, how fulfilling it is. I mean, that’s been the thing that I’ve learned, that (U68)

MS. WINFREY: Fulfilling in it. (U69)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, it feels -- public service -- I left the practice of law to go into public service for selfish reasons. I wanted to be happy and feel good every single day. I wanted to wake up inspired and ready to do something greater than myself. And that’s what service and giving and -- that’s what this room means to so many.

And I just want to make sure that when people leave here they don’t go back into their isolation; that they don’t go back to their phones, looking down. Because this relationship isn’t enough. You need to have people in your lives that you’re connecting with, that you’re helping. I mean, there is nothing that makes me feel better than knowing that I helped to change somebody’s life -- Oprah, you know this more than anyone else. And if you’re doing that every single day, the haters, the doubters -- none of that matters, because you are getting so much by the -- from the work that you’re doing. (U70)
MS. WINFREY: Well, you know, I figured this out -- early on in the show I had read this quote from Dr. King, one of my favorite quotes from him, that says, “Not everybody can be famous, but everybody can be great, because greatness is determined by service.” And I literally shifted -- I used that quote to help me shift the way I saw the platform of television. Instead of like, oh, I’m going to -- I’m on TV, how do I use that platform as a platform of service, is what I did. (U71)

MRS. OBAMA: Amen. (U72)

MS. WINFREY: Yeah. (U73)

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, we know. And you did that pretty well too. (Laughter and applause) (U74)

MS. WINFREY: But when you think about growing and being empowered yourself, it is what you’ve been able to do for other people that leaves you the fullest. (U75)

MRS. OBAMA: Yes, absolutely. That is really the thing. So I don’t know, I don’t sort of -- my growth is incidental. It’s the lucky gift I get for giving. And, like you said, I’m still growing. We are all still growing.

I used to tell some of the young people I worked with way back in Chicago days that I used to hate the question “What do you want to be when you grow up?” because it assumes that at some point you stop becoming and you just are something. And that would be a sad thing to think that this is it.

And that’s one of the things I’ve learned -- that there are so many phases to life that this is just -- even as big as being First Lady and living in the White House has been, this is still just a portion of a very bigger journey that I have yet to know the outcome. And I won’t know it until I’m laying down. It’s just ever-evolving. (Applause.) And I think that reality -- this experience has helped me to see that. These are just phases. And this has been a very interesting phase, and a very impactful phase, but there’s more to come. (U76)

MS. WINFREY: I love you saying that -- I’m not through. (U77)

MRS. OBAMA: We ain’t through! (Laughter) (U78)

MS. WINFREY: We aren’t through! (Applause) Okay, so, yes, I believe in service. I believe in helping people. I want people to feel fulfilled and empowered in their life. But still, somedays I think it’s just cool to be me. (Laughter) (U79)
MRS. OBAMA: And I think that too -- some days it’s just cool to be Oprah. (Laughter) *(U80)*

MS. WINFREY: So I want to know, what are those days when you just say, mmm, mmm, mmm -- (laughter) -- look at me in the White House. (Laughter) *(U81)*

MRS. OBAMA: There are so -- yeah, just sitting up here, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) There are a lot of those moments. Prince and Stevie Wonder singing in the East Room, just -- may he rest in peace. I mean, those rare gifts of entertainment, the kind of music we have been able to bring into the White House. Sitting with the Pope, watching my mother and my daughters talk to the Pope. That’s like a – *(U82)*

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. *(U83)*

MRS. OBAMA: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) Dinner with the Queen of England, just like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter) *(U84)*

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. *(U85)*

MRS. OBAMA: You know, you try to play these moments off, like oh, yes, yes, I know what I’m doing -- and inside you’re going, mmm, mmm, mmm. *(U86)*

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. *(U87)*

MRS. OBAMA: Good lord. Watching my husband walk off of Marine One and go to the Oval Office, it’s like, mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter and applause) *(U88)*

MS. WINFREY: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) *(U89)*

MRS. OBAMA: And you know he’s got that walk, right? *(U90)*

MS. WINFREY: I know! (Laughter.) *(U91)*

MRS. OBAMA: Like, mmm, mmm, mmm. *(U92)*

MS. WINFREY: He’s got the swag. (Laughter.) Did he always have that swag? Or has he gotten swaggier? *(U93)*

MRS. OBAMA: No, he was very swagalicious. (Laughter.) Look, I told people this from the very start, when I -- started running -- Barack Obama is exactly who he says he is. We both are. That’s what I’ve been trying to tell people. Ain’t no surprises. We’re telling you who we are, and no tricks up our sleeves. We’re regular folks.
We care about people. We care about family. We want to do well. We want to make our country proud. We don’t want to waste our talents just making money for ourselves.

Barack Obama hasn’t changed, not as a person. Because he is an authentic man who came in, and he’s going to leave that same person. (Applause.) So it’s not the office that changes you, it’s just -- it amplifies who you are. I think I said that at the last convention. Being President doesn’t change who you are, it reveals who you are. And that’s something that we should all remember. (Applause) (U94)

MS. WINFREY: This is the United State of Women. There are a lot of cool men out here. I love the --(U95)

MRS. OBAMA: Let’s give it up for the brothers, for the men out here. (Applause) (U96)

MS. WINFREY: There’s a lot of cool men out here. I love the President’s speech saying you’re looking at a feminist. What can men do leaving here? (U97)

MRS. OBAMA: Be better. (Laughter and applause.) Be better at everything. (Applause.) Be better fathers. Good lord, just being good fathers who love your daughters and are providing a solid example of what it means to be a good man in the world, showing them what it feels like to be loved. That is the greatest gift that the men in my life gave to me.

And we’ve talked about this -- the fact that I never experienced abuse at the hands of any man in my life. And that’s sad to say that that’s a rare reality. So men can be better at that.

Men can be better husbands, which is -- be a part of your family’s life. Do the dishes. (Applause.) Don’t babysit your children. You don’t babysit your own children. (Applause.) Be engaged. Don’t just think going to work and coming home makes you a man. Being a father, being engaged, all that stuff is important.

Be a better employer. When you are sitting at a seat of power at a table of any kind and you look around you just see you, it’s just you and a bunch of men around a table, on a golf course, making deals, and you allow that to happen, and you’re okay with that -- be better. (U98)

MS. WINFREY: Be better. (U99)

MRS. OBAMA: Be better. (U100)
MS. WINFREY: Be better. (Applause.) I love that. (U101)

MRS. OBAMA: Just be better. (Laughter and applause.) I could go on but I’m not. (Laughter.) You get the point, fellas, right? Fellas? (Applause.) What are you going to be? (U102)

AUDIENCE MEMBERS: Better! (U103)

MRS. OBAMA: There you go (U104)

MS. WINFREY: There you go. (Applause.) So here’s the question that comes up over and over and over -- we talked a little bit about it -- this idea of balance. Is that a false notion for women? Because can we really -- are we ever going to have it all? I used to say you can have it all you just can’t have it all at one time. Is that a false notion? (U105)

MRS. OBAMA: I am always irritated by the “you can have it all” statement. And I grew irritated with that phrase and that expectation the older I got, as you’re trying to have it all. And you’re beating yourself up, and feeling less than because you aren’t having it all. Because it’s a ridiculous aspiration. (U106)

MS. WINFREY: Especially if you’re looking at everybody else’s Facebook page. (U107)

MRS. OBAMA: Oh, god, everybody has it all. Everybody is lying. They’re lying. (Laughter and applause.) You all need to stop lying. Be real about the fact that -- no one gets everything. That was one of the first rules you learned as a little kid. You don’t always get your way. Come on, people. You don’t always get what you want all the time. And that’s true in life.

So what I’ve told many young people is that you can have it all, but often times it’s hard to get it all at the same time. (U108)

MS. WINFREY: Yeah, I believe that. (U109)

MRS. OBAMA: So it’s just a matter of managing expectations. So for me, for example, you know, when your husband is President of the United States and you have children, something has got to give. I’ve made compromises in my life and my career, but I’ve also, in exchange, gained a wonderful platform to do some great work. Who would have ever imagined that we would make the inroads we’ve made on healthy eating and changing the way our kids are fed in school? (Applause.) I can point to so many things that I’ve had -- that I’ve been able to do. If I want to be
heavily involved in my girls’ lives that means that sometimes I have to put some things on the back burner to give them what they need.

So it’s hard to have it all. But that’s where you go back to knowing who you are, and knowing that you’re really living through phases. And if you’re compromising through one phase of your journey, you’re not giving it all up, you’re compromising for that phase. There’s another phase that’s coming up where you might be able to have more of what you thought you wanted. You get to know yourself a little bit more.

So, no, I don’t want young women out there to have the expectation that if they’re not having it all that somehow they’re failing. Life is hard. But life is long if you maintain your health, which is one of the reasons why we talk about health, talk about taking care of yourself. Because you want to get to the next phases in life where you can do more of what you want to do at any given time. (U110)

MS. WINFREY: You want to be wherever you are right now. And, just like you say, I’m not through. (U111)

MRS. OBAMA: Mmm hmm. You’re not through. (U112)

MS. WINFREY: Not through. So 5,000 women and men in this room. (Applause.) Thousands and thousands of others streaming us online – hey. (Laughter.) Hey, everybody streaming. What is the one thing -- because I think it’s really easy when you come to a conference like this and you get so inspired and you see Marley and Mikaila, those young women, and you see Billie Jean King, and Gloria Steinem, and Shonda Rhimes, and Kerry Washington. (U113)

MRS. OBAMA: It’s amazing gathering – (U114)

MS. WINFREY: You see all these women and you’re just like, I just want to be more of a woman! And you’re going to be overstimulated. (Laughter.) What is the one thing you want us to leave here with? What is the one charge or one offering? What do you want to say? (U115)

MRS. OBAMA: It’s hard to think of one thing. (U116)

MS. WINFREY: Okay, a couple. (U117)

MRS. OBAMA: But the work always continues. And by that I mean we’re never done. We can never be complacent and think that we’ve arrived now as women. Because I hear this from young women. Some of you young women who aren’t feeling the pains that many of our predecessors have felt -- you think, well, there
aren’t any problems, women’s rights, we’ve got this all figured out, I’m already equal, I’m good -- I’m just like, oh, just you wait, you’ll feel it.

So the work continues. And for all the young women in this room, all the young men, we can never be complacent. Because we have seen in recent times how quickly things can be taken away if we aren’t vigilant, if we don’t know our history, if we don’t continue the work. (Applause.)

So my hope is that people leave here inspired and ready to do something. Again, remember, it’s not what people say about you, it’s what you do. So the question is what are you going to do? How are you going to be better? What are you going to change in your office, in your life, in your relationships? What are you going to change in your family dynamic? And how are you going to empower yourself with the knowledge that you need to know what work needs to be done?

We can’t afford to be ignorant. We can’t afford to be complacent. So we have to continue the work. (U118)

MS. WINFREY: I think that’s powerful. Because the question that you just offered to us is what did this mean, and what can I do with what I have received from all the stimulation, all of this energy -- what can I do, that’s the question.

You were talking about the next phase. I heard you say that when you all are done -- we saw your new house -- when you’re -- (U119)

MRS. OBAMA: We’re neither confirming or denying. (Laughter) (U120)

MS. WINFREY: Okay. (Laughter.) When you all are done -- okay, when you’re done and you move out of the White House, I’ve heard you say that you look forward to riding around with the windows down. You’re still going to be Michelle Obama. (U121)

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, I know. (U122)

MS. WINFREY: And we’re going to know who you are. And it won’t matter how many baseball caps you put on, we’re going to say, “Hey, Michelle.” (U123)

MRS. OBAMA: “Hey, Michelle.” (Laughter) I get that, I see – (U124)

MS. WINFREY: So what is the one thing that you think you really want to do? And can we go shopping? (U125)

MRS. OBAMA: Yeah, girl, let’s go shopping. (U126)
MS. WINFREY: Let’s go shopping. (U127)

MRS. OBAMA: You and me. That will be a scene. (Laughter.) You know, it’s – (U128)

AUDIENCE MEMBER: -- go shopping! (U129)

MRS. OBAMA: What? You want to go shopping with us? (Applause) It’s really the little things. And you feel this -- fame can be confining. And then you start missing the little things.

What do I want to do? I want to walk out -- I want to open my front door without discussing it with anyone -- (laughter) -- and I want to walk out that door and just walk. (Laughter.) Just want to walk by myself, or with a semblance of feeling like I’m by myself, because that’s what you learn how to do -- it’s like, I’m alone with 800 people walking behind me. (Laughter.) But I’ve learned how to -- “I’m by myself.”

But I do, I want to walk down a street. I want to sit in a yard that is not a national park. (Laughter.) I do want to drop into Target. I want to -- I do, I want to go to Target again! (Laughter.) I’ve heard so many things have changed in Target! (Laughter.) I tell my friends they’re going to have to give me a re-entry training for like, okay, what do you do at CVS now? How do you check out? (Laughter.) It’s like I’ve been living in a cave.

But it is, it’s the small things -- fresh air. In the White House you can’t open a window. Sasha opened her window once -- there were calls. (Laughter.) “Shut the window!” It never opened again. (Laughter.) So it’s the little things that you -- (U130)

MS. WINFREY: The things that we all just take for granted. (U131)

MRS. OBAMA: Take for granted. I won’t even ask for anonymity, because I think that’s forever gone. (U132)

MS. WINFREY: Yes. (U133)

MRS. OBAMA: But one of the things that I’ve learned is that if you just flow into a pattern of life with people, they give you space to come in. That’s happened at my kids’ school and the places where I go and work out. Once people get used to the fact that you’re going to be there -- (U134)

MS. WINFREY: “It’s the First Lady!” (U135)
MRS. OBAMA: Then it’s sort of like it’s over. It’s like you do it a few times, it’s like “It’s the First Lady.” So I hope to find a way to seamlessly work my way into a normal life. And it’s going to take time, but I’m going to slowly -- (U136)

MS. WINFREY: It’s going to happen. And we’re going to go shopping. (U137)

MRS. OBAMA: We’re going to shop! (U138)

MS. WINFREY: We’re going to go shopping. And you will leave here most proud of? (U139)

MRS. OBAMA: You know, truly, I am most proud of my daughters. (Applause.) I mean, I could go down the list of my initiatives, and we have done a lot -- changed the way our kids eat. We’ve supported military families, we made that conversation part of the community. The work that we’re doing on girls’ education will be something that I do for the rest of my life. This is all work that will continue. It is there. Those problems won’t be solved in my lifetime.

But raising two girls -- like I said at the beginning, when I sent them off in the car that first day and they were so little, and the bulletproof glass was so thick -- I thought, oh, my god, I just want them to grow up feeling a sense -- knowing that they’re loved by us. Feeling confident. Feeling a sense of normalcy, feeling a sense of obligation to do something outside of themselves. Just being good people.

And we just went to Malia’s high school graduation, and we’re watching Sasha move her way through high school. And I am very proud of those two and how they’ve managed this situation and how they have continued to be themselves, regular little girls just trying to figure it out. And as all mothers do, you breathe that sigh of relief that you didn’t mess up your kids. And every day I cross my fingers and hope that I’m doing right by them, and I’m providing them with a good foundation so that they can be great people. (U140)

MS. WINFREY: Thank you. (Applause) And I just want to say, the way you’ve handled this office, the way you carry yourself, have presented yourself to the United States of America, and the women of the United States of America, and men of the United States of America, reminds me of a line that Maya used to say -- it’s actually in the beginning of one of her books -- she says “You make me proud to spell my name W-O-M-A-N.” (Applause.) Michelle Obama.

And I would like to add to that: Mmm, mmm, mmm. (Laughter.) (U141)

MRS. OBAMA: Ms. Oprah Winfrey! (Applause.) (U142)