Gender-Based Social Constraints associated with Language in Punjabi society.

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This research explores variations in language use due to gender-based social constraints in Pakistan's Punjabi society. It explores the use of language forms: assertive; apologetic; declarative; requesting; and imperative on the basis of gender roles, taking into account economic status, professional status, family roles, class status and social dealings. A questionnaire is used to describe the differences in the use of different forms of language by both sexes. The findings reveal that in Punjabi society, women tend to use a more polite, standard variety of language. They also use more declarative forms and make less use of imperative and assertive forms. The study also revealed that social constraints affect the use of language. Males use a more declarative form but they also use assertive and imperative forms. This new initiative in research in the area of sociolinguistics in Punjabi society highlights the differences in language use by both males and females within this social order.