

LESoL ONLINE SYMPOSIUM 2

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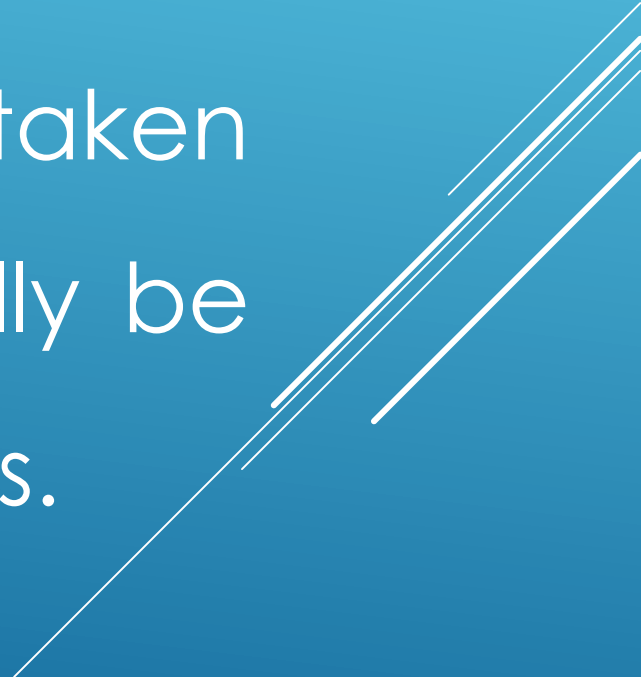
A sociolinguistic approach of Agiasos, Greek: Language attitudes of people aged 20 to 40

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The sociolinguistic research towards the doctoral dissertation is one of the few on-site linguistic investigations that have taken place in this area, which will hopefully be useful to other prospective researchers.

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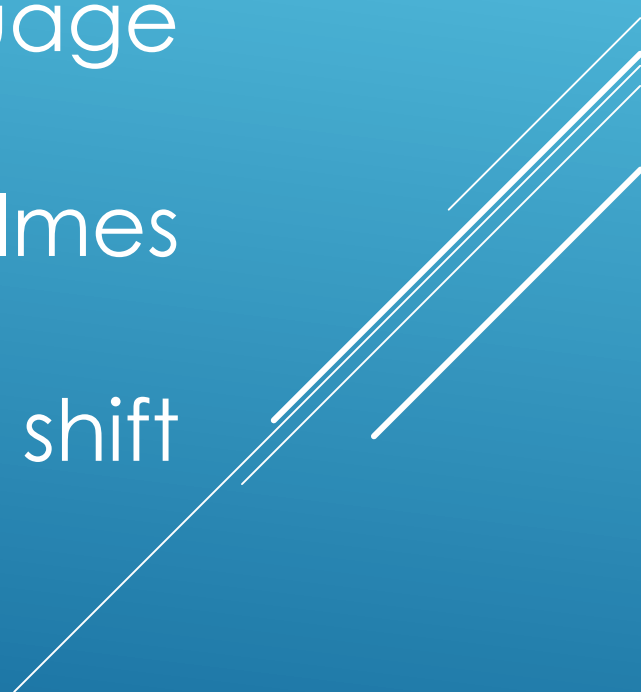
This survey is an effort to evaluate the language attitudes of younger generations towards one of the most characteristic regional varieties on the island of Lesbos, spoken in Agiasos, taking into consideration factors, such as gender, age, and educational level of informants.



The reason for focusing on Agiasos Greek is that it manifests significant deviation not only from standard Modern Greek but also from the other geographical varieties of the island of Lesbos (cf. Ralli 2017; Papazachariou 2018).



The main focus is on the younger generations, in particular the 20-40 age groups as their role is crucial for investigating language maintenance/death. According to Holmes (1992) young people are the fastest to shift languages.


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The working hypothesis stems from attested sociolinguistic reality, which is characterized by the high prestige of Modern Greek koine and the low prestige of regional varieties at large (Archakis & Kondyli 2004; Baslis 2005; Papazachariou et al. 2018).

This research aims to answer the **main question**:

How do people aged 20-40 react and what do they think about the regional variety of Agiasos, based on the sociolinguistic reality, which is characterized by the high prestige of the standard Modern Greek language and the low prestige of the regional varieties?

MORE POINTS TO BE INVESTIGATED ARE:

- to find out in which domain and in what frequency speakers in Agiasos use the regional variety as opposed to standard Modern Greek
 - to determine the reasons (solidarity, language insecurity etc.) behind using or avoid to use the regional variety
 - to trace the feelings, thoughts, and attitudes of non-speakers towards the regional linguistic system we are focusing on
 - to study the interaction of Agiasos Greek with other regional varieties in Greece
 - to determine whether we are dealing with a situation of language maintenance or language death of the regional variety of Agiasos
- 


RESEARCH METHODS & TOOLS

- **Semi-structured interview**, which is a more flexible form of interview, allowing one to get more deeply involved. It also allows respondents to discuss and raise issues that one may not have considered before. The interviews will be recorded with an obvious tape recorder, then they will be transcribed and analyzed.
- **Participant observation**, where the researcher observes and participates as equal in the activities of the group(s) under investigation. It also enables the researcher to be a messenger as well as a shareholder in bi- or multi-directional communication.


THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK




Language, as a complex phenomenon related to all areas of human life, offers many possibilities. Through the language, people can communicate with their fellow human beings, express their thoughts, feelings, attitudes and desires and defend their positions and opinions.




According to Lewis (1993), language is the means to achieve interactive, emotional, creative goals, which are common to the transfer of the relationship between the user and his / her language. Through language we recognize and express ourselves.

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A fundamental issue of sociolinguistics is the study of language attitudes. Language attitudes reveal ratings not only for the language varieties themselves but also for the speakers of these varieties and the social groups they belong to. The importance of studying language attitudes lies in the fact that attitudes affect the linguistic behavior and the social life of the speakers (Papazachariou et al. 2018).



The continuity of a language variety can be observed from the domain of language use by a community of young people in their social environment. The linguistic practices of the younger generation is the main indicator of the process of intergenerational language.

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Domain is a general concept that is clearly supported by three important social factors: the participants, the setting, and the topics (Fishman, 1979).

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The concept of domain, in the field of sociolinguistics, refers to a group of institutionalized social situations which are usually limited by a series of behavioural rules e.g. the domain of the family is the house, of religion is the church, etc. (Crystal, 2008).

PARTICIPANT OBSERVATION



1st example

Domain: Bakery shop

Main Participant: woman 30-40 years old,
secondary education

Co-Speaker	Age	Language code
Man	younger	Standard Modern Greek
Woman	younger	Standard Modern Greek
Man	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos

2nd example

Domain: Greengrocer's shop

Main Participant: man 30-40 years old,
secondary education

Co-Speaker	Age	Language code
Man	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos

3rd example

Domain: Tourist shop

Main Participant: woman 20-30 years,
university education

Co-Speaker	Age	Language code
Man	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos

4th example

Domain: Cafeteria

Main Participant: man 20-30 years,
university education

Co-Speaker	Age	Language code
Man	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos

5TH EXAMPLE

Domain: Cafeteria

Main Participant: woman 20-30 years,
secondary education

Co-Speaker	Age	Language code
Man	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos

6TH EXAMPLE

Domain: Professional environment

Main Participant: woman 20-30 years,
secondary education

Co-Speaker	Age	Language code
Man	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	younger	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	same age	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Man	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos
Woman	older	Regional Variety of Agiasos


LANGUAGE CHOICE & USE

WITH INTERLOCUTORS FROM DIFFERENT PLACES

Use of Standard Modern Greek with all age groups, but the majority of the speakers cannot avoid:

- ❖ the characteristic pronunciation of some consonants
- ❖ the use of the phenomenon of “tsitakismos”
- ❖ the use of the article “η” for male instead of “ο”
- ❖ some words such as “edies”

Agiasos is a mountainous town, built amphitheatrically on the eastern slopes of mount Olympus. According to the national population census of 2011, it has a population of 2373 inhabitants and is 27 kilometers away from Mytilene, the capital of the island.

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Η ΕΛΕΝΗ ΑΛΛΩΤΚΑ



Κυριακή 18 Νοεμβρίου 2018, στις 7.30 μ. μ.
Αίθουσα πολλαπλών χρήσεων Γυμνασίου Αγιάσου

POSTER FOR THEATRICAL PERFORMANCE

ΓΙΑΤΙ ΣΕΙΣ ΜΗ ΚΑΝΙΤΕ

Θεοφράτειο Μογοπάτι Φυσιογνωσίας

Σίλας Σίλας - Σίλας Σίλας - Σίλας Σίλας
Προστασία Σίλας Σίλας Σίλας

Προστασία Σίλας Σίλας Σίλας
Σίλας Σίλας - Σίλας Σίλας - Σίλας Σίλας

ΛΑΤΕΙ ΣΤΓΙΟΥΡΤΗ ΤΟΥ ΚΑΣΤΑΝΟΥ
ΝΑ ΦΑΤΕΙ ΤΣΙ ΝΑ ΠΓΗΤΕΙ
ΜΟ ΣΤΟΥ ΣΤΑΥΡΙ ΜΥΤΙΛΗΝΙΟΙ
ΘΑ ΕΥΧΑΡΙΣΤΗΘΗΤΕΙ.
ΔΙΕΥΘΥΝΤΗΣ ΓΙΟΥ ΜΠΑΛΙΑΛΙΑΣ
ΤΣΙ ΤΟΥ ΖΗΛΕΛ ΓΙΟΥ ΜΠΟΣΗΣ
ΓΙΑΓΙΑΣΟΥ ΕΙΝ ΟΜΟΥΡΦΟΥ ΧΟΥΡΙΟ
ΕΧ ΤΣΙ ΓΑΜΠΡΟΙ ΜΙ ΔΟΣΕΙΣ.

CHESTNUT FESTIVAL

Ο άλλος λέει μιλάει 12 γλώσσες...
Έλα βρε γατάκι στην Αγιάσο...
Κι άμα συνεννοηθείς,
εμένα να με χέσεις!!!

ON
FACEBOOK



CALENDAR YEAR



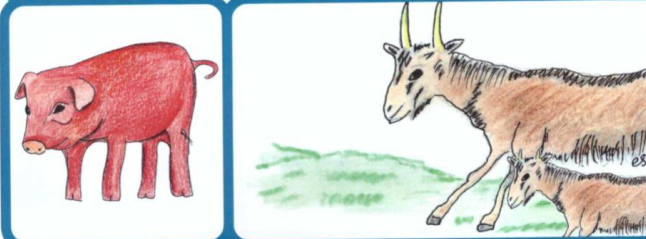
MULTILINGUAL ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF REGIONAL VARIETY OF AGIASOS STAFIDAS (2014)



ο γάδαρος
ο γάιδαρος
der Esel
dunkey
l'âne (m.)

ο σάλιακας
το σαλιγκάρι
die Schnecke
snail
le loup

το ρουγίδ'
η αράχνη
die Spinne
spider
l'araignée (f.)



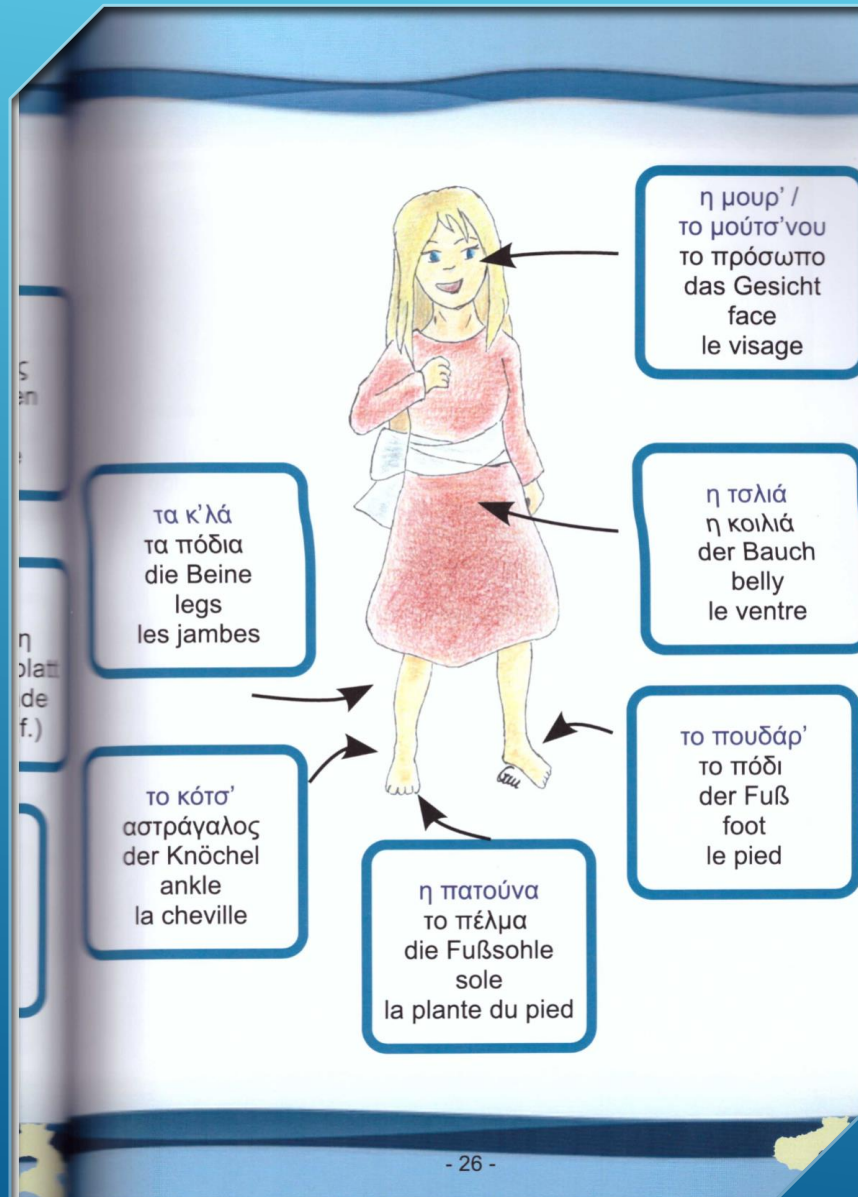
το γρουν'
το γουρούνι
das Schwein
swine/pig
le cochon

η μαξέλα
η γίδα
die Ziege
goat
la chèvre

το κατσ'καδέλ'
το κατσικάκι
das Zicklein
goatling
le chevreau



ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF REGIONAL VARIETY OF AGIASOS STAFIDAS (2014)



ILLUSTRATED DICTIONARY OF REGIONAL VARIETY OF AGIASOS STAFIDAS (2014)



κ'βανιώ
κουβαλώ
tragen
to carry
porter

μανίζου
τσακώνομαι
sich streiten
to fight
se battre /
se quereller

λουγιάζου
κοιτάζω
anschauen
to see
regarder



μπ'γαδιάζου
πλένω τα ρούχα
Wäsche waschen
to do laundry
faire la lessive

τρώγου
τρώω
essen
to eat
manger

πλένουμι
πλένομαι
sich waschen
to wash
se laver

**Thank you for your
attention! 😊**

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European Social Fund

Operational Programme
Human Resources Development,
Education and Lifelong Learning

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