



University of Macau
Faculty of Arts and Humanities

**Code-switching in Chinese Sitcom: A Case
Study of Ipartment I (爱情公寓)**

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DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis/assignment here submitted is original except for the source materials explicitly acknowledged and that this thesis/assignment, or parts of this thesis/assignment have not been previously submitted for the same degree/course or for a different degree/course.

I also acknowledge that I am aware of the Rules on Handling Student Academic Dishonesty and the Regulations of the Student Discipline of the University of Macau.



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葛文詮

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ABSTRACT

A majority of previous studies on code-switching are based on 'authentic' linguistic data in Mainland China, thus demonstrating a neglect for media discourse, especially the tele-cinematic discourse. Against this background, this thesis attempts to explore the phenomenon of code-switching in a popular Chinese sitcom *Ipartment I*, which mainly tells the colorful lives of seven youngsters in their mid-to-late 20s. According to the framework of screen-to-face discourse, the thesis seeks to explore the functions of code-switching in televisual characterization by virtue of a qualitative analysis of the data gathered from the TV drama. This investigation also attempts to reveal how code-switching to acronyms and brand names, to some degree, helps construct in-groupness among peers as well as the contemporary Chinese youth culture in bilingual talk. In this thesis, my discussion will focus on the reasons of frequent use of code-switching in *Ipartment*, and it also attempts to compare the language/style in face-to-face conversation and that of scripted dialogues

Key words: code-switching, sitcom, televisual characterization.

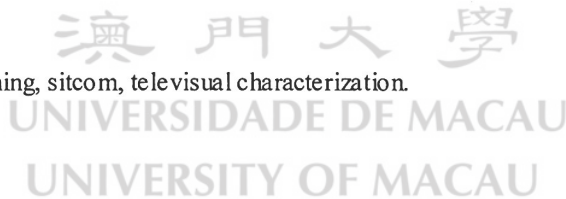


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