Textual Analysis

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In the article “There is No Unmarked Woman”, Deborah Tannen talked about a working conference to discuss the judgment about the dressing of women, also the example of marked is a staple of linguistic theory and example of the Miss or Mrs. Tannen got a main idea which is all women are judged, there is no unmarked woman in our society. In the essay, I found a specific evidence which shows Tannen’s idea, which is the difference prefix between man and woman.

In the article, it said that Mr. is meaning to respondent to male but no other specific meaning, however, female got different prefix such as Mrs. Or Miss, which can distinguish that woman married or not. In this case, we know if a man told you to call him Mr. that is no more meaning. But however, when a female told you to call her Miss, that means she is not married, other side, if she willing to be called as Mrs. she probably already got married. That can particularly show that women always give themselves marked. Tannen (1993) said in the article: “I sometimes try to duck these variously marked choices by giving my title as ‘Dr.’- and in so doing risk marking myself as either uppity or an overachiever” (p.2). Certainly, if a woman told others to call her as Dr. it will give people awkward felling, and more like to mark herself. Thing interesting is that those things will never ever happened to a male; man never be suspected to mark themselves. Another thing revealing is that when a women married a man whether she keeps her name or takes her husband name, female is always marked. But man will not face that problem because they may never have to give their
name up at all.

During the analysis of the evidence from what Tannen wrote, women all marked themselves, this idea are showed by author, there is no unmarked woman. From a deeper sense, it also exists certain discrimination between men and women. I hope and want to see this kind of situation will be less and less, like the idea-women always and must marked themselves.
References