

Theory of Interventions

Theory of Interventions was elaborated as a general methodological and sociolinguistic theory describing 1) influences which can change the language development (types of intervention, their effect and their classification) and 2) the possible ways how to design relationship between linguists, speakers and language.

According to this theory, language is an object which is exposed to interventions (metaphor of an Brownian motion from physics, p. 19). Among other possible divisions, interventions can be of two types: individual and institutionalized (p. 18).

Individual interventions include processes of (self-)censorship, proofreading or language management in media. These interventions create a spontaneous order, they are plural and variable. Therefore they mutually interfere and their impact is very small or none (they almost never influence the immanent evolution of language). On the other hand, institutionalized interventions include processes leading to standardization of language, language education or language politics. Impact of institutionalized interventions can influence development of language, because they are monopoly and because of their authority.