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## **The development of the speech production mechanism in young children : evidence from the acquisition of onset clusters in Dutch**

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Stellingen behorende bij het proefschrift

*The development of the speech production mechanism in young children; Evidence from the acquisition of onset clusters in Dutch*

door

Margarita Gulian

1. For a two-year-old a minimal pair can be distinguished by an acoustic trace. (Chapter 2, this thesis).
2. Children's onset clusters over time show that development consists of a top-down tweaking of the word-production mechanism. (Chapter 3, this thesis).
3. There is an initial production advantage for word forms without a lexical representation. (Chapter 4, this thesis)
4. Two-year-olds have a more detailed representation of the first consonant than of the second consonant of plosive + sonorant onset clusters. (Chapter 5, this thesis)
5. One should be careful with the interpretation of child perception studies when production acquisition facts are not considered.
6. For the interpretation of child production data, quantitative analyses should not be the norm.
7. Linguists should treat first and second language acquisition as two subcategories of the same field rather than as two different fields.
8. To create a grammar of language universals, linguists should look at a representative sample of the languages of the world and then conclude whether or not a category is universal, rather than use a single language as an example and test other languages against it.
9. Given the different cognitive development of boys and girls, they should not be tested with the same final exam in the final grade of Dutch primary schools.
10. It is difficult to obtain an equal representation of men and women in top university positions if the selection committees consist predominantly of male members.
11. Listening to folk music of any kind has a positive correlation to happiness.
12. It is far harder to kill a phantom than a reality. (Virginia Woolf)