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The sociolinguistics of rhotacization in the Beijing speech community Hu, H.

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Stellingen

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The Sociolinguistics of Rhotacization in the Beijing Speech Community

door Han Hu

1. Postvocalic *r* is a salient sociolinguistic marker that can be used to reveal the effects of social, attitudinal, and linguistic forces on language choice and pronunciation norm formation. (This dissertation)
2. Rhotacization is an oral, informal, and changeable speech phenomenon. (This dissertation)
3. More interdisciplinary studies on rhotacization in Mandarin should be conducted, as rhotacization is a quite complicated linguistic phenomenon that must be studied from the perspective of phonetics, phonology, sociolinguistics, lexicology, morphology, pragmatics, dialectology and language acquisition. (This dissertation)
4. Our knowledge about the variation of rhotacization is incomplete. (This dissertation)
5. Speakers in cities change their language attitude over time due to the upward social mobility of newcomers.
6. Even natives of the capital city of a country sometimes decide not to speak in their own native accent in order to avoid negative connotations.
7. In language variation studies, in addition to the segmental effects on a variant, suprasegmental effects, like tone and intonation, should also be well considered.
8. Cities have been spectacular places where social and linguistic innovations originate and develop.
9. An ending is just another beginning.