

A comparative study of *how* and *why* in Taiwan Southern Min and Mandarin Chinese

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From looking into the same and different properties of *how* and *why* between Taiwan Southern Min and Mandarin Chinese, this paper aims to explain the post-verbal *how* construction with negative speaker attitude. Based on our observations and findings of the specific usages of *sī* and *leh*, we propose an analysis for the construction in question. According to our analysis, this construction is not a simple product of a single element, but a composition of *sī* and *leh*, which together generate the negative speaker attitude, and the verb with a post-verbal *how*, which produce a causal *how* reading.

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