

Intrusive/Embedded Implicatures

Some Examples

Early discussions in Cohen [2], Wilson [7], Gazdar [3].

- (1) Bill and Jane have three or four children. [5, apparently discovered by Ducrot].
- (2) Any mother with three children is happier than any mother with four. [4, 204]
- (3) If you ate some of the cookies and no one else ate any, then there must still be some left. [4, 205]
- (4) The man with two children near him is my brother; the man with three children near him is my brother-in-law. [4, 218]
- (5) You should buy the car with four doors rather than the one with two; it's more useful and the price is good. [4, 219]
- (6) Every father feels happy if his daughter gets married and gives birth to a child; much less if she gives birth to a child and gets married.
- (7) Bill believes that there were four boys at the party. (Landman via Recanati)
- (8) Every boy kissed three girls.

Cohen's original example:

- (9) If the old King has died of a heart attack and a Republic has been declared, then Tom will be quite content.
- (10) Eating some of the cake is better than eating all of it
- (11) John ate some of his cake but Jim ate all of his

- (12) It was a two-course meal. But everyone who skipped the first or the second course enjoyed it more, for he wasn't too full to appreciate it. [1]
- (13) If John has two cars, the third one parked outside must be somebody else's. (Levinson)
- (14) Kai had the broccoli or some of the peas last night. [6]

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