

PCC effects in German? Weak pronouns in the middle field

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Anagnostopoulou (2008) observed that a subgroup of native speakers of German exhibit Person Case Constraint effects with weak pronouns preceding the subject in the middle field: the combination of first or second person direct object with third person indirect objects pronouns, as in (1), are reported to be deviant for this group of speakers.

(1) *weil dich ihm irgendwer vorgestellt hat
because you-ACC him-DAT someone-NOM introduced has
'because someone has introduced you to him'

(1) ??weil mich ihr irgendwer vorgestellt hat
because me-ACC her-DAT someone-NOM introduced has
'because someone has introduced me to her'

In this talk, I discuss the results of a rating study on this type of sentences. While we do not find a clear PCC effect for the relevant group in the data, the pronoun-subject word order is rated rather low overall. In this light, I discuss possible conclusions as well as an outlook on potential further studies.

Anagnostopoulou, Elena. 2008. Notes on the Person Case Constraint in Germanic (with Special Reference to German). In; Roberta D'Alessandro, Susann Fischer & Gunnar Hrafn Hrafnbjargarson (eds.), *Agreement restrictions*, 15–47. Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter.