

# Look! Kaatje is still not heard sing a song (even without government)

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In this talk we re-examine an issue discussed in Bennis and Hoekstra (1989), namely the question of why verbs of perception and causation cannot be passivized when they take a bare infinitival complement. We propose a (government-free) analysis along the lines of Wurmbrand (2001), whereby verbs of perception and causation are semi-lexical and as a result can only occur in a position c-commanding passive morphology. Supporting evidence for the grammaticalization path of these verbs comes from Dutch dialects, where imperative forms of perception and causation verbs allow the subject of the embedded infinitival verb to raise to the matrix subject position.

## References

Bennis, Hans, and Teun Hoekstra. 1989. Why Kaatje was not heard sing a song. In *Sentential complementation and the lexicon*, ed. Dany Jaspers, Wim Klooster, and Yvan Putseys, 11–20. Dordrecht: Foris Publications.

Wurmbrand, Susi. 2001. *Infinitives: Restructuring and clause structure*. Mouton de Gruyter.