Acquisition of sentential negation and negative concord

The thesis presents a detailed investigation of the acquisition of sentential negation and negative concord in child language particularly for children acquiring double negation and negative concord languages. Natural languages are divided into two main categories with respect to the expression of sentential negation such as negative concord languages allowing the use of more than one negative elements per clause to yield negation and double negation languages which allow only one negative element per clause to express sentential negation. It is argued that children acquire sentential negation of their local language based on the strong role of the input they receive from their caregivers. In addition, age also facilitates the acquisition process.