

Crimes Against Women: Framing Analysis Of News Portrayal In Dinakaran

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Abstract:

Media has become a part of everyday lives of people in the contemporary society. The earliest media forms in India is attributed to newspapers. Radio, Television and Films followed suit later in the country. Despite each media outlet has its own merits and demerits, the audiences for these media outlets never receded but only kept increasing. As years and eras of media domination went by more and more newer media platforms emerged in the society and found their spaces amongst audiences of all age groups. Women account for 52% of India's populace. Women were looked down upon as someone who are incapable of doing things. Over the course of time, this perception has changed greatly and as a result of it, we get to see women play active roles in various fields and arenas. Although there is much progress in this regard, there are crimes that are happening even at this juncture against women. The current research paper is envisioned to explore the portrayal and coverage of framing of news in Dinakaran newspaper.

Key Words: *Crimes; Women; News; Framing; Dinakaran;*

I. INTRODUCTION**1.1 Types and Dimensions of Media:**

The first printed newspaper was published in 1605. Newspapers enjoyed the position of most preferred medium to reach a wider audience until electronic communication emerged on the media scene. In previous days, newspaper was the only medium that masses at large depend on, for daily news. A newspaper carries various kinds of communication, through topics and genres such as politics, socialism, current affairs, entertainment, finance, stocks, etc. It also includes cartoons, crossword, Sudoku, movie reviews, puzzles,

which captivates the imagination and interest of the readers, from all age groups. Newspapers play a great role in knowledge building and information dissemination and also on creating awareness amongst others.

1.2 Multidimensional Functions of Media

The key functions of mass media are stated to be investigating news, finding correlations and the transmission of culture, entertainment, and mobilization. However, there are underlying functions accompanying each of these. The main function of investigation by the media is providing news and data. Mobilization is how the media function to promote societal interest, especially during crises (Wright, C.R. & Page C.H., 1986).

Dennis Mc Quail put forward five functions of the media. First and foremost, they draw attention to problems, solutions, and higher authority. Second, they can confer status and rightfulness. Third, they can persuade and influence execution. Fourth, they can help organize groups and maintain them. Fifth, they are a means of bringing psychic rewards and fulfilment (McQuail, D., 1977).

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

2.1 Depiction of Women related Crime and Violence in Global Media

A research study analysed old and new modes of gender representation in newspapers and whether there was a balanced portrayal of women in their dynamic lives and the realities of the politics of representation. It was revealed that even in developed countries like Europe, male dominance in newspapers is prevalent and women are marginalised into cornering to private and entertainment and news. Female voices are often silenced and kept in background which is passive or pacified in comparison to their male counterparts. The study showed the systematic constructs of social identities. It constructs the male domain with the infusion of symbolic inequality which is prevalent throughout the world (Bamburac, Isanonoc and Jusic, 2006).

Scholars and feminist critiques spoke about four stages of feminist perspectives from a sociological point of view. The first is seen as one of the underlying absence of women in the cognitive structure of the discipline. The second stage focuses on the gender inequalities prevalent in the society. The third stage is seen as one moving towards the conceptualization of gender as a social structure while the fourth stage is seen as one of the realization phases (Rege, 2003).

2.2 Descriptions of Rape News in Print Medium

A research was undertaken to understand the representation of crime against women in print media with special reference to Delhi gang rape case and also how the young Indian women feels about representation of such incidents in media (Kaur, 2013).

Certain studies did not cover Indian news sources, nor provided a representative sample of international outlets. The author covers articles, commentaries, and op-eds from the Guardian, the Australian, the New York Times, the Wall street journal, CNN, and the Nation. The author compares these six different newspapers by highlighting different aspects in the incident in Delhi, December 2012. The author focused on a selection of visible international mass media reports. He focused on the aspect of international media coverage, namely the way many media stories presented around the victim's assault as a putative battle. This juxtaposition illustrates a larger logic: the way violence becomes internationally recognized as a violation of modern, rights-bearing subjects (Roychowdhury, 2013).

III. METHODOLOGY

The research study adopts Qualitative Content Analysis method to examine the kind of portrayal and reportage given to women-based issues by employing Framing theory with regards to the news stories analysed in Dinakaran newspaper with regards to the specific case study taken up for the study.

3.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To explore the portrayal of women-related crime news in Dinakaran.
- To explore the reportage of women-related crime news in Dinakaran.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

Arrest in Thiruchy Doctor's wife murder.

Drama enacted to exhort Rs. two lakhs.



As far as the framing of the above news article is concerned, the study revealed that the framing was constructed through 'Thiruchiyil doctor manaivi kaiyyil kaithu. Rs. 2 latchathukku aasaippattu adithu kondruvittu naadagam. SI, lorry driver vakkumoolam.'

which happens to be the headline of the story. Also, in the news article there is description of the crime through the phrases ‘Mannarkudiyil doctor manaivi kolai vazhakkil SI ullitta iruvar kaithu seiyyappattanar. Ivargal paraparappu vakkumoolam alithullanar. Ilancheranukkum Cherankulam gramathai searntha ooivupettra grama nirvaagi aluvalgar Karthikeyanudaiya magal Divya enbavar kkum kadantha 3 aandugalukku mumbu thirumanam nadanthathu. Indha nilayil, kadantha 17aam thethi Divya, thanathu kanavar veetil kaayangaludan mayangi kidanthaar. Mannarkudi arasu maruthuvamanikku kondu sendra pothu irandhu vittathaaga doctorgal therivithanar. Visaranaiyil avargal alitha vakkumoolam kurithu police therivithathaavathu: Muthazhagudan searnthu Divya vai adithu kondranthai iruvarum oppukkondanar. Kolaikkaaga Muthazhagan Rs. 2 latcham beram pesi, athil Rs. 1 latchatai Sivakumaaridam koduthullar. Ithai aduthu, Divya vai adithu kolai seithu vittu kollaiyargal kolai seithathu pol naadagam aadi ullanar. Ivvaru polisaar therivithanar.’

From the above news article, it is inferred that Dinakaran portrayed the news to be very sensational in nature and the tone of the headline, lead as well as the story was inclined towards sensationalism aspect. The story was also accompanied by two photographs - the victim, Divya and the other of Sivakumar - an accused in the case. It is also seen that colour photographs of huge size were used. In conclusion, this news story was constructed towards Conflict frame.

10th standard students found dead in mysterious circumstances.

Bodies recovered from railway tracks.



As far as the framing of the above news article is concerned, the study revealed that the framing was constructed through ‘10am vaguppu maanavigal 2 pear marma saavu. Thandavaalathil sadalangal meetpu.’ which happens to be the headline of the story. Also, in the news article there is description of the crime through the phrases ‘Neatru kaalai Vaiyyampatti aruge

Thattarampattiyil railway thandavaalathil iruvarum irandhu kidanthathu theriya vanthathu. Sambava idathirukku palli thalaimai aasiriyar Thangavel, udan velai seyyum aasiriyar oruvar udan vandhaar. Appothu thalaimai aasiriyar maanavigaliln puthgangalai thulaavi oru kadithathai eduthar. Athil engalin saavirku R.S. Vaiyyampattiyil plus 2 padikkum moondru maanavargal than kaaranam ena ezhuthappattirunthathu. Kadithai polisaaridam oppadaithu vittu iruvarum sendru vittanar. Ithai aduthu maanavigaliln saavirku kaaranamanna 3

maanavargalaiyum kaithu seiyyakkori petror mattrum uravinargal Vaiyyampatti kaavalnilayathai muttugaiyittanar. DSP Aasaithambi nadavadikkai eduppathaaga kooriyum thirupthiadaiyaamal Thiruchi-Dindigul salaiyil mariyal seithanar. Thodarnthu Gandhi Nagarilum, Salarapattiyil mariyal seithanar. Ithaiaduthu 3 maanavargalai pidithu polisaar visaarikkindranar.’

From the above news article, it is inferred that Dinakaran portrayed the news to be sensationalized in nature. The tone of the headline, lead and news story were inclined towards sensationalism aspect. Two colour photographs – each of the victims were used. In conclusion, this news story was constructed towards Conflict frame.

V. CONCLUSION

The current research study was envisioned to explore the portrayal and reportage of women-related crime news in Tamil Daily Dina Thanthi. Dina Thanthi gave tremendous amount of coverage given to the specific news stories about the death of a wife of a Trichy based doctor for dowry. The investigating officers ensured that the culprits were caught and remanded the accused in the case to judicial custody and further course of action. The next issue was about the suicide committed by two school children who also happened to cousins due to alleged abuse and ragging by seniors in school. The research study revealed that there was high coverage for both the news articles and was accompanied by many colour photographs and detailed coverage spanning across coloumns and pages.

VI. REFERENCE

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