

Description Of Responsibility Framing of News In Indian Express

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Abstract:

Media has become an integral part of everyday lives of the people. India has seen a multitude of media forms since its inception. One of the earliest forms of media in India has been palm leaves. Later, manuscripts, rock edicts and other forms of media came into existence. However, these forms of media were used mostly by royal people and elites and not by the common man for a long period of time. As time progressed, these communication forms were being used by the common man as well. Newspapers, Magazines, Radio, Television and Films followed suit later in the country through the course of time. 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 despite accounting for 52% of India's populace 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 description of framing of news in Indian Express newspaper.

Key Words: *Crimes; Women; News; Responsibility; Framing; Indian Express;*

I. INTRODUCTION**1.1 Role of Media in the Society**

Media has various effects on the society to a great extent by playing a role and acting as informer of facts to the society. Media plays an important role in democracy as watch dog helping in the establishment of democracy and safeguard the existing values in the democracy and also entertain the public by way of music, drama, films, dance, etc. Not only media is useful society but also used for business marketing in which their product introduced to society through media and ultimately and it results in economic growth of nation, as media educates people.

1.2 Media Subsistence in the Society

It is a known fact that media has an immense power to shape the attitudes of people in reconstruction of reality. A study on National knowledge commission and media revealed that newspapers being a part of a common man's life have a vital role to play in creating awareness about the knowledge society (Jain, Singh&Chand, 2013).

A research on Hostile media effect to study how fare audiences tend to perceive media coverage as biased against their own view suggested that there was a causal effect of affective involvement on bias. Surprisingly it was also revealed that opinion-hostile media coverage (Matthes, J., 2013). A study on media effects on perceptions of public opinion revealed that perceived public opinion varies significantly across media markets (Hoffman, L.H., 2013).

II. REVIEW OF LITERATURE**2.1 Depiction of Women related Crime and Violence in Indian Media**

In the Indian democracy the political groups are categorised by gender, ethnicity, region, socio economic status, age or education that represents the functioning in the policy making process. The feminist theorist opines that the presence of women in the government and administration helps to convey different perspectives on political issues because they are just not 'standing as women but acting for women as group' (Phillips, 1995, 1998; Mansbridge, 1999).

2.2 Representation of Crime News in Print Medium

A research study on providing gender equilibrium under the perspectives of gender universality through various media showed that empowering women in diversified fields helps in the manifestation and redistribution of the power in the patriarchal ideology (Avasti & Srivastava, 2001).

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).

III. METHODOLOGY

The research study adopts Qualitative Content Analysis method to examine the kind of portrayal and description given to women-based issues by employing Framing theory with regards to the news stories analysed in Indian Express newspaper.

3.1 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To explore the portrayal of women-related crime news in Indian Express.
- To explore the descriptions of women-related crime news in Indian Express.

IV. DATA ANALYSIS AND PRESENTATION

Nurses deny treatment, woman delivers stillborn baby.



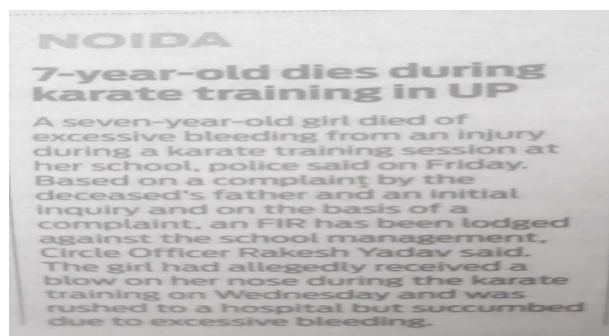
As far as the framing of the above news article is concerned, the study revealed that the framing was constructed through

‘Nurses deny treatment, woman delivers stillborn baby.’ which happens to be the headline of the story. Also, in the news article there is description of the crime through the phrases ‘a young woman gave birth to a stillborn child on Thursday, after nurses at the local Primary Health Centre in Vallipuram in Kancheepuram district allegedly refused to admit her or arrange an ambulance to take her to the district headquarters hospital. Subhasini (22) was taken to the PHC around 11.30 pm after developing labour pain on Wednesday. However, two staff nurses allegedly told the woman that it was normal pain due to body heat and sent her away. A Health Department official said that the nurses advised the kin to take the

woman to Government Chengalpattu Medical College Hospital, as the PHC had no facility to conduct pre-term deliveries (her due date was next month). “As the pain was mild, the woman and the relatives decided to go to the hospital only in the morning. However, in the morning, the kin came to the PHC again and said the woman gave birth at home itself. According to the nurses, they asked the relatives to call for an ambulance to take her to the medical college hospital, as they can do it only if the patient is in the PHC,” the official added.’

From the above news article, it is inferred that Indian Express portrayed the news to be sensationalized in nature. The tone of the headline, lead and news story were inclined towards sensationalism aspect. No photographs were used. In conclusion, this news story was constructed towards Responsibility frame.

7-year-old dies during karate training in UP.



As far as the framing of the above news article is concerned, the study revealed that the framing was constructed through ‘7-year-old dies during karate training in UP’ which happens to be the headline of the story. Also, in the news article there is description of the crime through the phrases ‘a seven-year-old girl died of excessive bleeding from an injury during a karate

training session at her school. The girl had allegedly received a blow on her nose during the karate training on Wednesday and was rushed to a hospital but succumbed due to excessive bleeding.’

From the above news article, it is inferred that Indian Express portrayed the news to be sensationalized in nature. The tone of the headline, lead and news story were inclined towards sensationalism aspect. One photograph of the woman attacked was used. In conclusion, this news story was constructed towards Responsibility frame.

Killer school van crushes toddler in front of house. 2-yr-old had come out to see her sister, driver flees scene as neighbors turn violent.



As far as the framing of the above news article is concerned, the study revealed that the framing was constructed through ‘Killer school van crushes toddler in front of house. 2-yr-old had come out to see her sister, driver flees scene as neighbors turn violent’ which happens to be the

headline of the story. Also, in the news article there is description of the crime through the phrases ‘in a tragic incident, a two-and-a-half-year-old girl, who came out of home to see off her sister to school, was allegedly run over by a school van near Medavakkam on Tuesday morning. “When the van door was closed, Samiksha ran in front of the vehicle, which was neither noticed by the van driver nor her mother, Eswari. The little girl was fatally knocked down by the van,” police said. The deceased Samiksha, daughter of Sudhakaran of Vembullamman Koil Street in Gowrivakkam, was waiting when her elder sister, Tataksha (6), was boarding school van at around 850 am. Tension prevailed in the area following the incident and neighbors attacked the driver who managed to flee the scene.’

From the above news article, it is inferred that Indian Express portrayed the news to be sensationalized in nature. The tone of the headline, lead and news story were inclined towards sensationalism aspect. No photographs were used. In conclusion, this news story was constructed towards Responsibility frame.

V. CONCLUSION

The current research study was envisioned to explore the portrayal and description of women-related crime news in the English Daily Indian Express. Indian Express gave tremendous amount of coverage given to the specific news stories about the delivery of a stillborn baby at a primary healthcare centre. Investigation revealed that there were no facilities at the primary healthcare centre for delivery purposes. However, the relatives of the woman concerned were adamant that delivery be performed at the healthcare centre despite the nurses stating the lack of equipment and personnel and further referring them to nearest government hospital for further course of action. The next news story was about the death of a 7-year-old child due to injuries she suffered during karate training at her school. The final news story was about the death of a 2-year-old child who had come to see off her elder sister to school due to negligence on the part of the driver and the children’s mother. The child had moved to the front portion of the school van and was not seen neither by the driver nor the children’s mother and was crushed to death. The research study revealed that there was high coverage for all the news articles and was accompanied by many colour photographs and detailed coverage spanning across columns and pages.

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