

**Linguistic construction of news values in American news media  
coverage of a hate crime: A corpus-based discursive analysis**

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### **Abstract**

*The paper aims to explore how news values related to hate crime offender and victims have been linguistically constructed in the American news media, taking the New Zealand attack against Muslims in March 2019 as a case study. To this end, the study adopts two analytical approaches: the discursive news values analysis (DNVA) of Bednarek and Caple (2012, 2017), and a corpus linguistic approach, using the AntConc software tools (Anthony, 2019). The specialized corpus of the study is composed of 151 news reports, compiled from three American News organizations: CNN, New York Times and Washington Post, covering the period from March 15<sup>th</sup>, to 22<sup>nd</sup> 2019, while the reference corpus is the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), specifically the newspaper texts corpus. The corpus-based analysis focused on the tools of key word list, clusters, concordance lines, and file view. To reveal the linguistic resources that construct news values, an analytical framework is designed, based on Bednarek and Caple (2017) and Jeffries (2010). Among the main findings of the study is that NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS are the most frequently constructed news values when portraying both the offender and victims. It is also found that the news value of IDEOLOGY tends to be exclusively established when representing the offender, while PERSONALIZATION and POSITIVITY are established with the victims.*

**Keywords:** news values; discursive news values analysis (DNVA); corpus linguistics; hate crime.

## 1. Introduction

The past several decades have witnessed the rise of hate crimes which started as “sadistic quests to inflict pain on members of minority groups” and turned into acts of ‘violence’ against social changes (McCoy, 2018) brought by immigrants and refugees. A representative example of a hate crime is the New Zealand attack that took place in two mosques on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, perpetrated by a 28-year-old Australian, claiming the lives of 50 Muslims. This attack is identified as a hate crime for being motivated by prejudice against immigrants and Muslims, and for lack of material gains for the offender, and absence of previous relationship between the offender and victim(s) (McDevitt, et al., 2002, p. 304). In other words, it is an “unprovoked” bias-based attack (p.305). The role of media in representing such a crime is crucial since it impacts “the prevalent public values, attitudes, and behaviors”, and reflects “the culture and societal values of a community in their reportage” (Warren-Gordon, 2018, pp.172-3). The media is often described as a ‘window on the world’ or a mirror reflecting ‘real life’; however, Jewkes argues that it would be more accurate to view the media “as a prism, subtly bending and distorting the view of the world it projects” (2004, p.37). The images created by the media are “*not* reality”, but rather “a *version* of reality culturally determined” and created by the news organizations (p.37, emphasis in original), influencing the image of crime, offender and victims in the minds of the readership.

This paper sets out to investigate how three American media institutions, namely CNN, New York Times and Washington Post, linguistically construct the news values related to the offender and victims of the New Zealand hate crime, drawing on a corpus-based discursive approach (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). In more precise terms, this paper explores how these news organizations sell the New Zealand attack ‘as news’ to its audience through verbal resources, combining two approaches: Discursive News Values Analysis (DNVA), and a corpus linguistic approach using AntConc tool.

### 1.1. Key terms

#### 1.1.1. Hate crime

Social scientists and lawmakers have not reached a consensus on a definition of a hate crime. According to American Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), a hate crime is a “criminal offense against a person or property motivated in whole or in part by an offender’s bias against a race, religion, disability, sexual orientation, ethnicity, gender, or gender identity” (2019). Notably, what distinguishes a hate crime from an ordinary one is the ‘offender’s bias toward a victim “based on a perception of difference or ‘otherness’”, established by specific characteristics (Boeckmann & Turpin-Petrosino, 2002, p. 208). Such traits may stir the perpetrator’s hostility, which “is then indiscriminately directed toward any person who possesses those defining characteristics”, targeting a “victim not as an individual, but as a representative of a group perceived as possessing a reviled set of characteristics” (p.208). It is noted that the FBI definition neither defines the victim, or the harm inflicted on him/her, nor refers to the perpetrator’s motive.

Petrosino (2003) provides a victim-based definition of a hate crime: “the victimization of minorities due to their racial or ethnic identity by members of the majority” (p.10). Consequently, hate crime victims are identified as “members of distinct racial or ethnic (cultural) minority groups...decidedly less powerful politically and economically than the majority”; and viewed by the perpetrator as “a threat to their quality of life (i.e., economic stability and/or physical safety)” (10). Further, Boeckmann and Turpin-Petrosino (2002, p. 209) refer to two significant factors that seem to distinguish hate crimes victims: “(1) the historical continuity of hate crime victimization of racial minorities, Jews ... and (2) the complicity of mainstream institutions and culture in their victimization.” (209).

In general terms, Boeckmann & Turpin-Petrosino (2002, p. 209) maintain that the perpetrator’s primary aim of the crime is to convey a clear message of ‘rejection’ to the victim and his/her community. In an elaborate manner, McDevitt, et al. (2002, p.305), while admitting that ‘bigotry’ is the underlying motive, identify four primary motivations: ‘thrill or excitement’, ‘defense’, ‘mission’, and ‘retaliation’. Accordingly, four types of offenders are recognized: (a) those who commit their crimes “for the excitement or the thrill”, (b) those who regard themselves “as defending their turf... provoked by feeling a need to protect their resources under conditions they consider to be threatening”, (c) those who have a life mission: “to rid the world of groups they considered evil or inferior”, as they “perceive themselves as crusaders who hope to cleanse the earth of evil”, and finally (d) those

who are “retaliatory”, i.e. having a desire to “avenge a perceived degradation or assault on their group” (pp.305-6).

### 1.1.2. News Values

In general terms, the word *news* is frequently used to refer to new information. This paper uses the word *news* as related to news reports published by news organizations (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p.6). Fuller (1996, p.6) maintains that most journalists would agree that “news is a report of what a news organization has learned about matters of some significance or interest to the specific community that news organization serves”. Related to news are reported ‘events’, a word used as a cover term for events, issues, happenings including news actors or location (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p.6).

In the journalism studies literature, the concept of *news values* has originally been introduced by Galtung and Ruge (1965) to answer a central question ‘How do events become news?’. To answer this question, they present “a system of twelve factors” to describe an event as newsworthy (p.90). These factors have been termed in media studies as ‘news values’, which can be described as the “values by which one “fact” is judged more newsworthy than another” (Bell 1991, p.155). As stated by Bednarek and Caple (2012, p.39), there are various definitions for *news values*. Bell defines them as the rules applied by news workers to decide what is ‘news’ (1991, p.155). Richardson (2007) refers to news values as “the (*imagined*) preferences of the expected audience” about what is newsworthy (as cited in Bednarek & Caple, 2012, p.39). Galtung and Ruge (1965) regard these values as the criteria that make a certain event more newsworthy than another, as agreed by news producers and audience. News values are also defined by Cotter (2010) as the “qualities of news actors” (p.69), and “elements of content” (p.94) deemed necessary to make a story newsworthy. These definitions have one common factor; they agree that news values are “what makes something newsworthy – worthy of being news” (Bednarek & Caple, 2012, p.40). To determine the status of new values in the news process, Caple and Bednarek (2015) distinguish between three aspects: (a) “*News writing objectives*”, for example brevity, clarity, accuracy...; (b) “*Selection factors*”, that is the criterion which a journalist applies to decide “whether or not a story becomes published...”; “*News values*”, i.e. “the ‘newsworthy’ aspects of actors, happenings and issues as established by a set of recognised values such as Negativity, Proximity and so on” (p.4, italics in original).

Caple and Bednarek (2015) maintain that news values have four dimensions: (a) ‘cognitive’, indicating that “news values are internalised, that is, mental...” (p.3), or “existing in the minds of journalists” (p.2); (b) ‘material’, focusing “on the potential newsworthiness of an event in its material reality” (p.3); (c) social where “news values are applied as selection criteria in journalistic practices” (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p.42); and (d) discursive where news values are communicated through discursive strategies and linguistic devices (p.42). For each dimension there is a different research perspective on news values.

In this study, the term *news value* is used in relation “to the events as reported in news stories and to the news actors involved in the events ...” (Bednarek & Caple, 2012, p.42), adopting a discursive approach, as will be discussed below in section (2.1.1.). These values include Negativity, Timeliness, Proximity, Consonance, Impact, Superlativeness, Personalization, Eliteness, and others.

## 1.2. Objectives and questions of the Study:

The main purpose of the study is to find out how news values related to the New Zealand hate crime news actors – mainly offender and victims - are linguistically constructed in the American news media. Further it aims to:

- 1- explore if the news actors, namely offender and victims, are associated with specific news values;
- 2- reveal the ideological implications of the repeated association of news values and actors.

To this end, the study attempts to find answers to the following questions:

- 1- What are the news values that are linguistically constructed through discourse by the American news media in its coverage of the New Zealand hate crime?
  - 1.1. What are the news values associated with the offender?
  - 1.2. What are the news values associated with victims?
- 2- To what extent has the linguistic construction of news values unveiled the ideological stance of the American news organizations towards the hate crime offender and victims?

## 2. Review of Literature:

This section is divided into two parts. The first part introduces the linguistic approaches that represent the theoretical framework of the study. The second part provides a survey of some previous studies so as to identify the gap in literature that can be filled by the current study.

## **2.1. Theoretical Framework:**

The study combines two approaches: the discursive news values analysis (DNVA), as outlined by Bednarek and Caple (2012, 2017), and a corpus linguistic approach.

### **2.1.1. Discursive News Values Analysis (DNVA):**

Linguistic scholars have adopted three approaches to news values: the practice-based approach, the cognitive approach, and the discursive approach. The practice-based approach is represented by Bell (1991) and Cotter (2010), who draw on their professional expertise as journalists. Bell refers to journalism studies to define news values as “the -often unconscious – criteria by which news workers make their professional judgment as they process stories (1991, p. 155). To Cotter, news values are the journalists’ “*internalized assumptions* about what is important to transmit” (2010, p. 56). The cognitive approach is represented by van Dijk (1988), and Fowler (1991), who adopt critical discourse analysis. van Dijk views news values as “constraints that have a cognitive representation” and underlies the production of news, including selection and formulation (p.121). In Fowler’s terms, news values are seen as “socially constructed intersubjective mental categories” (1991, p. 17) where audience determine the newsworthiness of events by referring explicitly or implicitly to ‘frames’, ‘schemata’...etc. as defined in cognitive psychology. Finally, the discursive approach is represented by Bednarek and Caple (2012, 2017) who have developed the analytical framework of Discursive News Values Analysis (DNVA) to study, in a systematic manner, how news values are constructed through linguistic devices. According to DNVA, newsworthiness is regarded as ‘a quality of news media talk and text’, and “news values are conceptualised as the ‘newsworthy’ aspects of actors and events as constructed through linguistic resources” (Bednarek, 2016, p.28). The current study adopts the discursive approach, since it is regarded as ‘complementary to the other approaches’ (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p.43), and provides a systematic analytical tool to explore how news values are established in

discourse, which would enable the researcher to answer the questions of the study.

The discursive approach to news values is described by Bednarek and Caple (2017, p.51) as “a middle ground between constructionism and realism”. The approach has ‘a constructionist perspective’ in that it highlights “how reality is given meaning by the media”, and ‘a realist perspective’, assuming “that the media may ‘represent reality [material events] more or less accurately” (p.51). Based on previous literature, Bednarek and Caple (2017, p.53) identify and label the following ten news values: NEGATIVITY, SUPERLATIVENESS, CONSONANCE, UNEXPECTEDNESS, IMPACT, TIMELINESS, PROXIMITY, POSITIVITY, PERSONALIZATION, and ELITENESS, defined and conceptualized in the following manner, as shown in table (1) (57-66):

News value	Definition
CONSONANCE	the construction of an event’s news actors, social groups, organizations, or countries/nations in a way that conforms to stereotypes that members of the target audience hold about them.
ELITENESS	Related to human and non-human entities and types of ‘eliteness’ discursively constructed through “status, expertise, authority, celebrity, fame, or stardom”.
IMPACT	“the construction of an event as having significant effects or consequences, without restricting these effects/consequences to the lives or experiences of the target audience”.
NEGATIVITY	“the construction of events as negative... concerned with how events are constructed as newsworthy in relation to negative aspects”.
PERSONALIZATION:	“concerns references to ‘ordinary’ people (eyewitnesses, survivors, or other private citizens), that is, reference to non-elite individuals not acting or speaking in an official



	capacity”
POSITIVITY	the construction of events as positive. It has a ‘wide range of related dimensions’ including “success, victory, peace, heroic or selfless acts... lack of crime, injuries, or damage...”
PROXIMITY	the construction of an event as happening geographically or culturally near the target audience”
SUPERLATIVENESS	the construction of events as of high intensity or large scope/scale and can relate to the extent of a news event, the number of people involved, the impact of an event, the size of entities, the force of actions or behavior, and many other aspects”
TIMELINESS	“ how an event is established as temporally relevant to the reader at the time of publication
UNEXPECTEDNESS	“establishing contrast with the expected. Such contrast can arise because aspects of an event are construed as atypical, unusual, rare, different, that is, out of the ordinary in some way because they conflict with what audiences have come to expect based on their experience of the world”.

Table (1): List of news values and their definitions (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

As for the linguistic construction of news values, Bednarek and Caple (2017, p.78) provide an inventory of linguistic resources that may be used as an analytical framework to reveal how news values are constructed linguistically. Such an inventory is based on (a) previous linguistic studies of news discourse, (b) reference books for linguistic markers indicative of news values, and (c) linguistic resources recognized inductively through analyzing news reports. The allocation of linguistic resources to a particular news value is made according to three criteria: “meaning potential, typical usage, and function” (p.78). Since the language-news values relationship is not ‘one-to-one’, different news values can be constructed by the same linguistic marker (p.104).

### 2.1.2. Corpus Linguistics (CL):

A corpus can be defined as a representative collection of texts characterized by being “systematic, planned and structured” (Tabbert, 2015, p. 57) and having “similar contextual or situational characteristics” (Crawford & Csomay, 2016, p.6). Corpus linguistics is an empirical approach to the analysis of linguistic data, using a computer software to handle corpora, of considerable size and carefully designed, and adopting a statistical approach to data to reveal information related to frequency, concordances, clusters, and others, to be functionally interpreted (Baker, 2006; McEnery & Hardie, 2012; Tabbert, 2015). The main aim of CL is to reveal linguistic patterns showing how language is used and making “assertions about language use in relation to discourse” (Tabbert, 2015, p.55).

Generally, there are three approaches of Corpus Linguistics: corpus-assisted, corpus-based, and corpus-driven. In the corpus-assisted approach, large reference corpora are used to provide objective interpretations related to the use of particular words or syntactic structures (Tabbert, 2015, p.56). Under a corpus-based approach, the corpus is used “to explore a theory or hypothesis, typically one established in the current literature in order to validate it, refute it or refine it” (McEnery & Hardie, 2012, p.6). As for the corpus-driven approach, it is argued that “the corpus *itself* should be the sole source of our hypotheses about language” (p.6). Given that the corpus-based and corpus-driven approaches have the same basic characteristics, as both are empirical, based on corpora and a computer software to interpret qualitatively the quantitative patterns (Tabber, 2015, p.57), McEnery and Hardie reject this binary distinction, arguing that “*all* corpus linguistics can be justly described as corpus-based” (p.6). Based on this argument, the current study adopts the term ‘corpus-based’.

According to Baker (2006, p.26), different types of corpora have been developed by researchers, depending on their research objectives and questions. Basically, there are two types of corpora:

- 1-Specialized Corpus, used to study linguistic features of a particular variety or genre of language, for example the language of newspapers. Baker (2006) recommends that building a specialized corpus to investigate a particular subject requires that researchers be “more selective in choosing” texts, giving equal or more preference for “the quality or content of the data...over issues of quantity” (p.29);
- 2-Reference Corpus, which is a large corpus, usually consisting of millions of words from a wide range of texts, and representative of a particular language variety (p.30). Examples of reference corpus are the

British National Corpus (BNC), Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), American National Corpus (ANC); Bank of English, and others. The function of a reference corpus is to conduct an inter-textual analysis where a target text is compared against a reference corpus.

Several software packages have been developed to analyze the data, e.g. *WordSmith Tools* (Scott, 2016), *WMatrix* (Rayson, 2009), and *AntConc* (Anthony, 2019). In this paper the AntConc software package, freely available online, is used for providing the following basic corpus tools, which will be utilized in the analysis (<https://www.laurenceanthony.net/software/antconc/releases/AntConc358/help.pdf>):

- 1- Word List, showing all the words in the corpus, sorted according to frequency or alphabetically;
- 2- Keyword List, showing which words are unusually frequent (or infrequent) in the corpus in comparison with the words in a reference corpus... to identify characteristic words in the corpus;
- 3- Cluster/N-gram tool, allowing the researcher to search for a word or pattern and group (cluster) the results together with the words immediately to the left or right of the search term. The n-gram allows the scanning of the entire corpus for 'N' word clusters (e.g. 1 word, 2 words,... ) to find common expressions in a corpus.
- 4- Concordance tool, showing search results in a 'KWIC' (KeyWord In Context) format to see how words and phrases are commonly used in a corpus of texts. A concordance line shows the search term in its textual environment by listing all 'the occurrences of a particular search term in a corpus, presented within the context that they occur in' (Baker 2006, p.71).
- 5- File view, showing the raw text of individual files, to investigate in more detail the results generated in the concordance tool of AntConc.

## 2.2. Previous studies of news values, crime, and hate crime:

In her book *Media and Crime* (2004), Jewkes discusses how crime news is manufactured and why it has been 'newsworthy'. In this respect, she develops a set of 'news values', based on Chibnall (1977, cited in Tabbert, 2015, p.23), to highlight the criteria used for the choice and presentation of news stories involving crime and deviance in

contemporary media. Jewkes (2004, p.40-59) lists 12 news values that tend to shape crime news, among which are:

News Value	Definition
Threshold	Events have to meet a certain level of perceived importance or drama in order to be considered newsworthy (p.41);
Predictability	a story that is <i>predictable</i> may be deemed newsworthy because news organizations can plan their coverage in advance and deploy their resources accordingly (p.42);
Simplification	stories about ordinary people (p.44);
Individualism	offenders within an individualist framework, that is s/he is described as being “impulsive, a loner, maladjusted, irrational, animal-like, aggressive and violent” (Blackman and Walkerdine, 2001, cited in Jewkes, 2004, p.45).
Celebrity	a story is always more likely to make the news if it has a well-known name attached to it (p.49)
Proximity	it has both spatial and cultural dynamics. Spatial proximity refers to the geographical ‘nearness’ of an event, while cultural proximity refers to the ‘relevance’ of an event to an audience (p.51).
Violence	It fulfils the media’s desire to present dramatic events in the most graphic possible fashion (p.53)
Children	any crime can be lifted into news visibility if children are associated with it (p.55)
Conservative ideology	a story becomes newsworthy when there is emphasis on “deterrence and repression and voices support for more police, more prisons and a tougher criminal justice system” (p.58).

Table (2): List of News values related to crime news (Jewkes, 2004, pp.40-59).

Notably there is overlap between the list suggested by Bednarek and Caple (2017) and that by Jewkes (2004). Both lists indicate that a news event is newsworthy if it is related to ordinary people (Personalization/Simplification), or if it involves high-status people (Eliteness/Celebrity), or if it has spatial and cultural ‘nearness’ to the

audience (Proximity). Further, Jewkes' news values of Violence and Children indicate Negativity, while Predictability overlaps with Consonance. In the current study, the news values labels and conceptualizations of Bednarek and Caple are adopted for the sake of convenience. In addition, the news value of Ideology (Jewkes, 2004) is added to the list, but with different conceptualization, as it will refer to the ideological beliefs underlying the news actors' actions and behaviors.

The newsworthiness of crime has also been addressed by Tabbert (2015, 2016) who investigated the linguistic construction of offenders and victims in British and German news reports, drawing on Critical Stylistics (Jeffries, 2010) and using corpus linguistic tools. In her books, she touched upon the crime news values as defined by Jewkes (2004), and the linguistic devices identified by Bednarek and Caple (2012) to indicate that news stories are adapted according to the criteria of newsworthiness.

The literature on media and newsworthiness that has taken the discursive news value analysis (DNVA) as their framework is considerable (e.g. Huan, 2016; Fruttaldo & Venuti, 2017; Molek-Kozakowska, 2017). It is noted, however, that the only research on crime news reports that entirely counts on the analytical framework of Bednarek and Caple (2017) is that of Makki (2019) who investigated how newsworthiness is constructed in Farsi language crime news reports in two Iranian newspapers. The quantitative analysis of data showed that ELITENESS was the most frequent news value in both newspapers, while UNEXPECTEDNESS was the least constructed one. The construction of POSITIVITY, which may seem unusual in crime news reports, was also detected when evaluating the efforts and behavior of police officers. The qualitative analysis revealed that news values were construed in consistency with the dominant sociocultural values.

As for research on hate crime coverage in western media, Warren-Gordon (2018) conducted content analysis for news reports covering hate crime in selected American and British newspapers. She found that most of the reports presented a neutral tone, while a few showed a negative one. The analysis also revealed that most of the reports provided factual information about the crime and victim(s) with limited evaluative tone. Among the findings is that the UK news reports on hate crime exceed those in the US, which she attributed to the UK strict laws regarding hate crimes.

Notably, the abovementioned studies have addressed news values as related to crime in general not to hate crime in particular (Jewkes, 2004; Tabbert, 2015, 2016; Makki, 2019). The only study that tackles hate crime does not adopt a linguistic/discursive approach. Hence, the present study sets out to fill a gap by exploring news values as linguistically constructed in news reports of hate crime, taking the New Zealand attack as a case study, and counting on a corpus-based discursive approach.

### 3. Methodology

#### 3.1. Corpus design

The study relies on two corpora: specialized and reference. The specialized corpus is composed of 151 news reports compiled from three American News organizations: CNN, New York Times (NYT) and Washington Post (WP), and collected through LexisNexis, the large computerized database of archived newspapers. These news media organizations in particular are chosen as they come at the top 25 US newspapers and news media (<https://www.journalism.org/2011/05/09/top-25/>). The corpus covers the period from March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019, marking the day of the attack, to March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, when thousands of New Zealanders, Muslims and non-Muslims, gathered at the time of Friday prayer to mourn the victims, in front of al-Noor mosque, where the attack started. Within the database, the term *New Zealand attack* was searched, and only news reports on the event of the attack were collected, excluding opinion and editorial articles, since the focus of the paper is on news values and newsworthiness. The following table (3) shows the total number of reports collected from each source, as well as word tokens and types:

News media	Reports (N.)	Word tokens (N.)	Word types (N.)
CNN	55	43598	5112
NYT	55	72449	5620
WP	41	46923	5958
Total	151	162970	9738

Table (3): Distribution of news organizations reports, word tokens and types

As for the reference corpus, the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) is chosen. The corpus covers five genres: spoken, fiction, popular magazines, newspapers, and academic journals. For the purpose of the study the corpus that includes newspaper texts covering the period from 1990-2012 was downloaded (<https://www.corpusdata.org/formats.asp>) and used for being suitable in content and size (309295 word tokens and 20379 word types).

The corpus analysis toolkit used for text analysis and concordance is Lawrence Anthony's *AntConc* (2019), freely available online, and able to read and process data converted to a required format (.txt). The version used in this paper is *AntConc 3.5.8 (Macintosh OSX)*. The corpus is divided into 24 text files, each is labelled according to news organization, date of news report publication and total number of reports, e.g. *NYT 15 16*, i.e. reports are collected from New York Times, published on 15<sup>th</sup> of March and the file includes 16 news reports.

### 3.2. Procedures of Corpus Analysis

The researcher followed these steps in the corpus analysis of news values:

1. Analysis of keyness with the help of COCA as a reference corpus in comparison with the specialized corpus, searching for labels of offender and victims (figure 1).

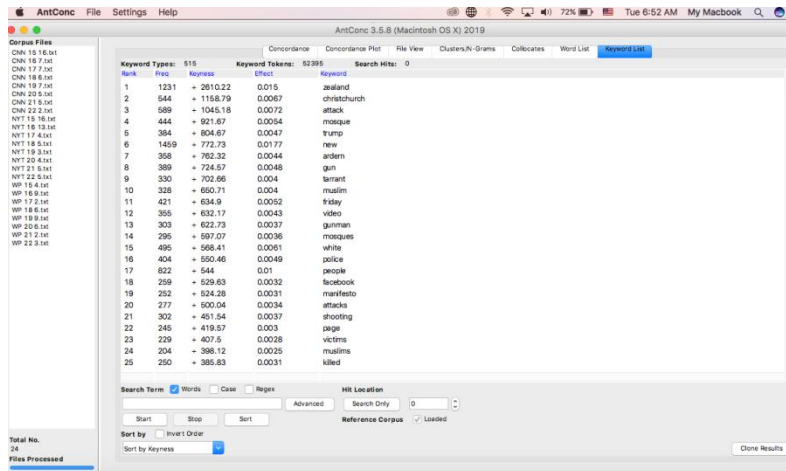
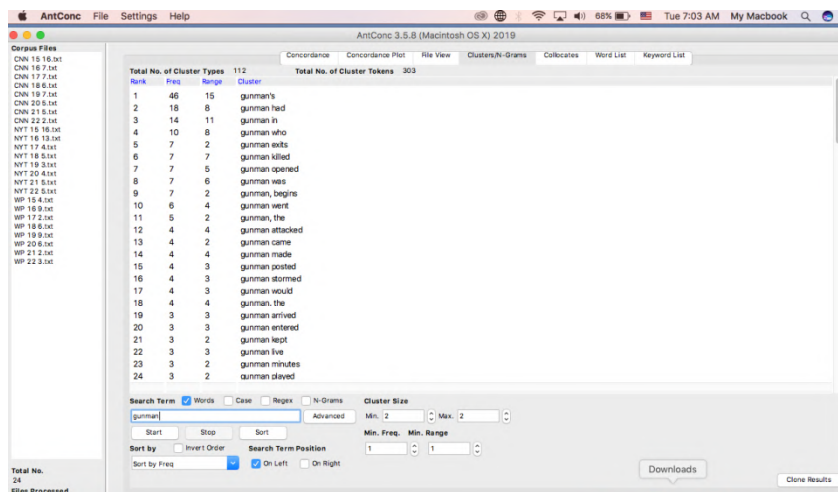


Figure (1): List of keywords

2. Analysis of 2/3-gram clusters around top-ranked labels for offender and victims, where the search term is on the left side position. An example of 2-gram clusters for *gunman* is shown in the below screenshot (figure 2). In cases where the search term on the left side position does not generate significant results, the term is searched on the right side position as in the case of *terrorist*.

Figure (2): 2-gram clusters for the search term *gunman*

3. Analysis of concordance lines of the 2/3-gram clusters to reveal the processes associated with offender and victims as participants, as well as grammatical structure patterns;
4. Selecting significant concordance lines and clicking on each line to go to file view where the term is shown in its full context to enable the researcher to explore larger extracts and identify additional linguistic resources for constructing news values.

### 3.3. Analytical Framework:



To reveal how news values associated with offender and victims of the New Zealand hate crime are linguistically constructed in the coverage of the CNN, NYT and WP, the study draws mainly on the inventory of linguistic devices suggested by Bednarek & Caple (2017, pp. 78-102). Added to this inventory are other devices derived from selected critical stylistic tools (Jeffries, 2010), namely *representing actions/events/states* through transitivity model (process types), following Simpson's (1993) model, *contrasting*, through Contrastive X, *but Y* (Jeffries, 2010, p.55), *exemplifying/enumerating*, through the three-part list (Jeffries, 2010, pp.66-74), and *prioritizing*, via fronting (p.83). The linguistic devices that establish the news value of IDEOLOGY are identified inductively by the researcher. Whenever required, reference is also made to Biber et al. (2007) and Carter and McCarthy (2006) for grammatical analysis. The following table (4) introduces, in brief, the linguistic resources to be referred to when investigating the construction of news values:

News value	Linguistic devices
ELITENESS	-High-status markers: Role label: {Title + Proper noun}/ quasi-title; appositive noun phrase; -Status indicating adjectives: {premodifier + proper noun}; Recognized names: {proper nouns}; -Description of achievement: {proper noun + post modifier}; {noun + relative clause}
CONSONANCE	-Implicit: stereotypical attributes (negative or positive); -Explicit: Lexis assessing the news actor's behavior as expected; Exemplifying through Comparing with the past to show that the current event as expected; Reference to general knowledge, assumptions, customs, traditions, stereotypes.
NEGATIVITY/ POSITIVITY	-Referring to news actor's negative/positive emotions or attitude through: Labelling emotions through fixed figurative expressions; -Describing emotional behavior -Using negative/positive evaluative language expressing writer's opinion;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Using negative/positive category labels for news actors;</li> <li>- Using Negative/positive lexis: expressions that describe events or news actors;</li> <li>- Describing negative/positive behavior/action/state of affairs.</li> </ul>
IMPACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Assessing significance: {adjective + noun}</li> <li>- Constructing causality: causal connectors, verbs, coherence relations</li> <li>- Representing actual or non-actual/hypothetical consequences</li> </ul>
PERSONALIZATION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Referring to 'ordinary people' by name or non-elite role labels;</li> <li>- Describing ordinary news actor's emotional/personal experience or emotional behavior</li> <li>- Using direct speech;</li> <li>- Elite news actors are included when talking about ordinary citizens' experience.</li> </ul>
PROXIMITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Referring to places near the target audience through nominal phrases or prepositional phrases</li> <li>- Referring to people from the community of the target audience or to communities culturally near them</li> <li>- Using deictics, generic place references, adjectives, personal pronouns, determiners;</li> </ul>
SUPERLATIVENESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Intensification: related to force, degree, intensity, hyperbole, drama, exaggeration through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High intensity lexis or implicit superlative adjectives, verbs, nouns (Carter &amp; McCarthy, 2006, p.443);</li> <li>• Metaphor and simile;</li> <li>• Comparisons: use of comparative/superlative adjectives;</li> <li>• Comparison with other events through vocabulary;</li> <li>• Repetition</li> <li>• Lexis of growth</li> <li>• Use of <i>only, just, one, alone, already</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use of aspectual verbs that indicate progress and continuity of some event, <i>kept firing</i> (Biber et al., 2007, p.364)</li> <li>• Three-part list</li> <li>-Quantification: emphasizing amount or size through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Numerals, precise or vague</li> <li>• Lexicalized expressions that imply a large amount or size,</li> <li>• Suffixes such as <i>-fest, -athon</i></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
TIMELINESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Temporal references by locating an event close to the time of publication;</li> <li>- Tense/aspect: use of simple present tense, present progressive and present perfect;</li> <li>- Implicit time reference through lexis;</li> <li>- Referring to current trends; or to seasonal happenings; newness/changes.</li> </ul>
UNEXPECTEDNESS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Evaluative lexis indicating unexpectedness: premodifiers, adjectives or adverbs or nouns;</li> <li>- Referring to people's expectations or surprise;</li> <li>- Comparing with other events to show unusuality: superlative adjective;</li> <li>- Referring to unusual happenings, beyond societal expectations or norms;</li> <li>- Grammatical constructions related to unexpectedness including contrastives <i>X but Y</i>, concession and negation.</li> </ul>
IDEOLOGY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-Labelling creed and ideology using abstract nouns;</li> <li>- Using Evaluative language indicating news actors' or reporters' attitude towards ideological beliefs</li> <li>-Labelling advocates of creed using common nouns</li> <li>-Referring to a tenet in the creed</li> </ul>

Table (4): Linguistic Resources for Construing News Values (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Jeffries, 2010)

Based on the above procedures and analytical framework, the researcher conducted quantitative and qualitative analysis, and reached the results presented in the following section.

#### 4. Analysis and Results: News values associated with offender and victims

##### 4.1. News values associated with offender:

Having examined the keywords in the corpus, the researcher identified the following nouns (table 5), which are arranged in order of keyness, labeling the offender, or offenders of other similar crimes, or pre-modifying the attack perpetrated by the offender. The offender's labels can be clustered around four semantic components: personhood, crime, role in investigation and ideology.

	Offender	Semantic component	Keyness
1	Tarrant	Personhood	702.66
2	Gunman	Crime	622.73
3	Suspect	Role in investigation	322.76
4	Shooter	Crime	254.61
5	Terrorist	Ideology	220.59
6	Extremist	Ideology	206.68
7	Supremacist	Ideology	178.78
8	Nationalist	Ideology	172.39
9	Brenton	Personhood	155.36
10	Attacker	Crime	104.28
11	Killer	Crime	91.15
12	Racist	Ideology	83.25
13	Neo Nazi	Ideology	57.46
14	Fascist	Ideology	42.56
15	Assailant	Crime	31.92
16	Perpetrator	Crime	25.54

Table (5): Labels of offender

Notably, the key nouns are *Tarrant* (offender's surname) and *gunman* (compound noun). The frequent use of surname 'constructs distance from the offender' (Tabbert, 2016, p.74) and indicates formality and social distance (Chaika, 1994). NEGATIVITY is constructed by the compound noun *gunman*, a negative category label that describes the New Zealand attacker. With lesser frequency and keyness come other crime-related nouns including *shooter*, *killer*, *assailant*, *perpetrator*, formed by derivation or nominalization from the negative material action intentional processes *shoot*, *kill*, *assail* and *perpetrate* to establish NEGATIVITY through category labels, and further brand him as the offender. The offender has also been repeatedly referred to as an IDEOLOGY advocate, namely *terrorist*, *extremist*, *supremacist*, *nationalist*, *racist*, *neo Nazi*, and *fascist*, formed by derivation through adding the suffix *-ist*, with the exception of *neo Nazi*, to refer to a 'person believing in or following a doctrine' (Biber et al. 2007, p. 321), which represents the motivation of the hate crime, to construct the news values of NEGATIVITY, and IDEOLOGY.

The following sub-sections present the news values construed through analyzing 2 or 3 gram- clusters and concordances related to five labels of the offender: *Tarrant*, *gunman*, *terrorist*, *white supremacist*, and *white nationalist*, who represent three main components: personhood, crime and ideology.

#### 4.1.1. Clusters: Analysis and results

The following table (6) shows numbers of cluster types, tokens and type-token ratios (TTR) for the five search terms: *Tarrant*, *gunman*, *terrorist*, *white supremacist* and *white nationalist*

Offender label	Type (N.)	Token (N.)	Type/Token Ratio (%)
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Tarrant	116	330	35
Gunman	112	303	37
Terrorist	43	136	31
White supremacist	55	83	66.3
White nationalist	38	64	59.4

Table (6): Numbers of Cluster types and tokens; and type/token ratio

Evidently, the TTRs of the offender labels, *Tarrant*, *gunman* and *terrorist* indicate low lexical diversity while those of *white supremacist* and *white nationalist* signify moderate lexical diversity.

#### 4.1.1.1. *Tarrant* Two-Gram Clusters

The genitive case *Tarrant's* scores the highest frequency with 51 occurrences, followed by *Tarrant was* (22), as shown in figure (3).

Total No. of Cluster Types 116				Total No. of Cluster Tokens 330
Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster	
1	51	12	tarrant's	
2	22	7	tarrant was	
3	21	8	tarrant had	
4	16	10	tarrant, who	

Figure (3): frequency of *Tarrant* Two-Gram Clusters

Having referred to concordances of *Tarrant's* cluster, it is found that *Tarrant* is part of specifying genitive phrases, whose main function is “to specify the reference of the noun phrase of which it is a part, in the same way as a determiner” (Biber et al., 2007, p. 294). *Tarrant* is associated with nouns that refer to his platform: *hate-filled/hateful racist manifesto*, family members: *mother, sister, parents, family*; online activities: *social media use, online purchases*, birthplace: *hometown of Grafton, residence, travelling: travels in Eastern Europe..., in Turkey, Pakistan, and other countries*; and possessions: *arsenal*, that serve to define his identity in terms of his origins, background and explicitly stated beliefs. Notably, the genitive phrases that construct NEGATIVITY are those related to the manifesto he posted and the *arsenal* he possessed. The manifesto is negatively evaluated with the pre-modifying adjectives *hate-filled, hateful, racist*, and entail two other news values: SUPERLATIVENESS, through implicit superlative adjective *hate-filled* and IDEOLOGY, by describing the manifesto as *racist*.

Referring to concordances of the 2-gram cluster *Tarrant was*, it is found that it has two patterns, as shown in table (7), that construe the

news values of NEGATIVITY, through equating *Tarrant* with negative category labels *licensed gun owner, suspect*, and describing his state of affairs via material action intentional processes *arrested, captured, handcuffed, and remanded*.

Grammatical structure pattern	Clauses
Carrier + relational intensive process + Attribute	Tarrant was a licensed gun owner Tarrant was the suspect in the massacre
Goal + material process	Tarrant was arrested Tarrant was captured and arrested Tarrant was handcuffed Tarrant was remanded

Table (7): Grammatical structure patterns of the cluster *Tarrant was*

#### 4.1.1.2. Gunman Two-Gram Clusters

As shown in figure (4), the genitive case *gunman's* scores the highest frequency with 46 occurrences, followed by *gunman had* (18).

Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster
1	46	15	gunman's
2	18	8	gunman had
3	14	11	gunman in
4	10	8	gunman who
5	7	2	gunman exits
6	7	7	ounman killed

Figure (4): frequency of *gunman* two-gram clusters

The concordances of *gunman's* cluster revealed that, as part of genitive phrases, *gunman* specifies nouns that mainly focus on (a) the attack, described as *gruesome stunt*; (b) the tools used in the shooting: *weapons, helmet, vehicles, (self-made) video of the shooting*; (c) motivation: *hate*; (d) online communication: *social media posts, Facebook page, white nationalist diatribe*; and (e) legal procedures: *first court appearance*. The main news value constructed through the genitive phrases is NEGATIVITY represented by lexis related to the attack, *weapons, shooting, hate, gruesome*. Other news values include (a) SUPERLATIVENESS, established through implicit superlative nouns: *stunt* to dramatically describe the attack, and *diatribe* to refer to his

forceful verbal attack, i.e. his manifesto; (b) IDEOLOGY, specifically ‘*white nationalist*’, which pre-modifies *diatribe*.

The concordance lines of the 2-gram cluster *gunman had*, reveal four patterns, as shown in table (8) establishing NEGATIVITY:

	Grammatical structure pattern	Clauses
1	Carrier + relational possessive process + Attribute	Gunman had five firearms Gunman had no moving targets
2	Actor + past perfect progressive + material action intentional process + goal	Gunman had been opening fire
3	Senser + past perfect progressive + mental process + phenomenon (material action intentional process)	Gunman had been planning to kill
4	Actor + had + material action intentional process	Gunman had opened fire Gunman had rushed into two mosques

Table (8): Grammatical structure patterns of the cluster *gunman had*

The clauses describe the offender’s actions via material action intentional processes *open fire, kill, rushed, moved...* Examining the concordances of the pattern {past perfect/past perfect progressive + material/mental process}, it is found that they represent a case of tense backshift used in indirect speech (Carter & McCarthy, p.811): *Ms. Arden said the gunman had been planning to kill more..., the police said the gunman had modified ...; He said that he had a friend in another mosque in the area who told him a gunman had opened...*, creating distance from the content of the clause, to project the news values of ELITENESS and PERSONALIZATION.

#### 4.1.1.3. Terrorist Two-Gram Clusters:

The clusters that have the highest frequencies are the noun phrases *terrorist attack* and *terrorist attacks* (respectively 55 and 19 occurrences), as indicated in figure (5), where *terrorist* serves as premodifier and *attack(s)* as head noun to form negative category labels that establish the news value of NEGATIVITY.



Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster
1	55	16	terrorist attack
2	19	12	terrorist attacks
3	6	5	terrorist who
4	5	4	terrorist propaganda
5	3	2	terrorist video
6	2	2	terrorist and
7	2	2	terrorist content
8	2	2	terrorist group
9	2	2	terrorist in

Figure (5): frequency of *terrorist* two-gram clusters

The third cluster in rank is *terrorist who* {noun + post-modifying relative clause}. Concordance lines show that reference is made to 3 different terrorists:

The terrorist	killed and martyred fifty innocent people (New Zealand)
who	committed the Norway attacks; murdered 77 people in 2011 (Norway)
	gunned down four people at a kosher market in eastern Paris (France)

The above post-modifying clauses establish the news value of CONSONANCE, interwoven with NEGATIVITY, by referring to negative past events to show that the current one can be expected.

To reveal premodifiers of *terrorist*, 2-gram clusters are searched by positioning the term on the right - not the left. It is found that *terrorist* as a noun is pre-modified by IDEOLOGY-related lexis: *far-right*, *extreme-right*, *right wing*, *extremist*, *white supremacist*, to construct SUPERLATIVENESS through implicit superlative adjectives: *far*, *extreme*; and PROXIMITY-linked adjectives: *American* and *domestic*.

#### 4.1.1.4. White Supremacist Three-Gram Clusters:

Through searching the term *supremacist* in the corpus, it is found that it has always been pre-modified by *white*. Hence, the 3-gram clusters and concordances of the noun phrase *white supremacist* are examined. The top-ranked cluster is ‘*white supremacist and*’ (7 occurrences) followed in rank by 3 clusters that are equally frequent (4 occurrences): ‘*white supremacist content*’; ‘*white supremacist killers*’; ‘*white supremacist who*’ (figure 6).

Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster
1	7	5	white supremacist and
2	4	1	white supremacist content
3	4	2	white supremacist killers
4	4	4	white supremacist who
5	3	3	white supremacist groups

Figure (6): frequency of *white supremacist* three-gram clusters

Concordance lines for '*white supremacist and*' reveal that the adjectival label is coordinated with other IDEOLOGY-related terms: *anti-immigrant, far-right-nationalist, neo Nazi*, which tend to summarize the tenets of white supremacy IDEOLOGY. Through examining the 3-gram clusters, it is found that *white supremacist* acts as a pre-modifier for the following nouns: *Ideology* establishing IDEOLOGY; *killers, shooters, murders, violence, extremism, anti-Muslim, anti-immigrant* constructing NEGATIVITY; *rhetoric, manifesto, discourse, memes, content* constructing hypothetical IMPACT; and *western civilization* indicating PROXIMITY.

Another significant cluster is *white supremacist who*, where the labelling noun phrase is post-modified by relative clauses that project NEGATIVITY (lexis: *killed, murdered*; describing negative behavior: *planning for an attack*) and PROXIMITY (*African Americans*):

white	killed nine African Americans in church...
supremacist who	murdered 77 people in 2011...
	was planning for an attack on several television anchors...

#### 4.1.1.5. White Nationalist Three-Gram Clusters

As with *supremacist*, the search term *nationalist* seems to be often pre-modified with *white*, with the exception of few cases where it is pre-modified by the suffix *ethno-*. The top-ranked cluster, as shown in figure (7), is the noun phrase '*white nationalist manifesto*' (8 occurrences) followed in rank by two noun phrases '*white nationalist heroes*' (5); '*white-nationalist manifesto*' (4); a noun, post-modified by a relative pronoun '*white nationalist who*' (3); and a noun phrase *white nationalist credo* (2).

Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster
1	8	3	white nationalist manifesto
2	5	1	white nationalist heroes
3	4	1	white-nationalist manifesto
4	3	2	white nationalist who
5	2	2	white nationalist credo
6	2	2	white nationalist groups
7	2	2	white nationalist ideology
8	2	2	white nationalist internet
9	2	2	white nationalist movements
10	2	2	white nationalist or

Figure (7): frequency of *white nationalist* three-gram clusters

The *manifesto* or *credo*, posted by the offender on Twitter and 8chan, has been pre-modified by an ideology-loaded label *white nationalist*. Notably, when searching for the term *manifesto* in the corpus, it is found that it has also been pre-modified with the following labels: racist (9 occurrences), ideological (2), anti-Muslim (1), and supremacist (1). This indicates that the *manifesto* is projected as ideological in the first place, promoting white nationalist, supremacist and racist attitudes against Muslims, to construct and intensify the news value of IDEOLOGY. The concordance lines of *white nationalist manifesto* revealed that it mainly served as the verbiage of the verbal process ‘emailed’: *Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern was among dozens of lawmakers and media who were emailed a white nationalist manifesto purportedly from the gunman*, whose target was the prime minister, law makers and media (ELITENESS). The second rank cluster is the *white nationalist heroes*, whom the offender listed in his manifesto, to establish SUPERLATIVENESS, through the implicit superlative noun *heroes*. As for the cluster ‘*white nationalist who*’, the offender is referred to as a participant in a single pattern: {Sayer + relative pronoun [verbal process + verbiage + circumstances]}: *the white nationalist who posted a racist manifesto online*. Evidently, the top-ranked 3-gram clusters of *white nationalist* in the corpus have been closely associated with the *manifesto*, either as a pre-modifier or as the writer of the document. In addition to the above noun phrases, the corpus analysis has revealed that the term *white nationalist* also acted as a pre-modifier for the following nouns: *ideology, extremist, supremacist, beliefs* to construct IDEOLOGY; *killers, attack, rage threat, hatred, diatribe* establishing NEGATIVITY; *western civilization* to indicate PROXIMITY.

#### 4.1.2. Concordance lines and extracts: Analysis and Results

Forty-two concordance lines, where the offender is referred to as a participant, whether actor, goal, sayer, or carrier, are selected, extended into file extracts and analyzed (see Appendix A).

Offender	Number of extracts
Tarrant	13
Gunman	7
Terrorist	10
White supremacist	7
White nationalist	5
Total	42

Table (9): distribution of extracts related to the offender

Through the analysis of longer extracts, several news values related to the offender's attack, acts, behavior, creed and influence are linguistically constructed. The following table shows number of occurrences of the news values as detected in the corpus analysis:

News value	Frequency	
	N.	%
NEGATIVITY	45	24.2
SUPERLATIVENESS	41	22.2
IDEOLOGY	32	17.2
UNEXPECTEDNESS	19	10.2
CONSONANCE	13	7
ELITENESS	10	5.5
IMPACT	10	5.5
PROXIMITY	10	5.5
TIMELINESS	5	2.7
TOTAL	185	100

Table (10): Frequency of news values in the offender corpus

It is noted that NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS are the most frequently occurring news values in the corpus, which is expected, given the nature of the attack. Being a bias-based crime, IDEOLOGY tends to be constructed with relatively high frequency, followed by UNEXPECTEDNESS, CONSONANCE, ELITENESS, IMPACT, PROXIMITY and TIMELINESS. Notably, the news values of PERSONALIZATION and POSITIVITY are not detected to create distance from the offender and eliminate any positive aspect related to him. It is noted that the same linguistic devices can project two or more news values.

#### 1- **NEGATIVITY:**

This news value appears to be construed through several devices distributed in the extracts:

- Using category labels structured as noun phrases {premodifier (adj) + head noun}: Mr. *Tarrant is ....accused killer, avowed neo-Nazi Brenton Harrison Tarrant, Tarrant being a lone gunman*, where the premodifiers

project other news values: IDEOLOGY (*neo-Nazi*) and SUPERLATIVENESS (*lone*)

- Describing his criminal act using (a) gerund nouns indicating 'action' : *killing, slaughtering, storming, shooting*; and (b) complex noun phrases: *deadliest mass shooting in New Zealand's history* {premodifier (adj) + head noun + post-modifier (prepositional phrase)}, *one of the worst cases of right-wing terrorism* {noun + of phrase [premodifier + noun] + of phrase [premodifier + noun]. Evidently, the act is further intensified by implicit superlative processes: *slaughter, storm*, and superlative adjectives: *deadliest, worst*; and the number of victims is magnified by describing the *shooting* as *mass*, to establish the news value of SUPERLATIVENESS. Further, *Tarrant's* act is also coupled with IDEOLOGY, being labeled a *case of right-wing terrorism*. In another example, the offender's acts establish NEGATIVITY: *a gunman stormed two mosques in the city of Christchurch during Friday prayer, killing 49 people; the gunman turned and fired through a window. He kept firing; fifty people were killed and 50 more were injure...when a gunman attacked two mosques...*; SUPERLATIVENESS is established through implicit superlative verb: *storm*; numerals: 50, 49, 50,000; lexis implying large size: *the wider Islamic world* and use of the aspectual verb *kept* which indicates repetition of the action and characterizes "the stage of progress of the activity" as put by Biber et al. (p. 364)

- Evaluating his manifesto as being *littered with conspiracy theories about white birthrates and white genocide*. The negative evaluation articulated by the expression *littered with* is also associated with IDEOLOGY: *conspiracy theories*, and SUPERLATIVENESS: using implicit superlative noun *genocide*

- Referring to his actions before the attack : *Tarrant met with right-wing extremists...his Twitter posts showed weapons covered with names of military generals and mass-shooters.*

- Using negative lexis related to the gunman, e.g. *shooting, weapons, firing, genocide, war crimes, killing, massacre, mass shootings*, which projects SUPERLATIVENESS through the use of implicit superlative nouns: *genocide, massacre*, and lexis that implies large number of people: *mass shooting*.

## II- NEGATIVITY/ELITENESS:

The below extract (1) tends to project two interwoven news values constructed through:

1. Mr. Shanks, the country's chief official in charge of determining what is protected speech and what is not, made clear that the gunman's white nationalist diatribe was off-limits. "It promotes, encourages and justifies acts of murder and terrorist violence against identified groups of people," Mr. Shanks said. "It identifies specific places for potential attack in New Zealand, and refers to the means by which other types of attack may be carried out. It contains justifications for acts of tremendous cruelty, such as the deliberate killing of children ." NYT 22

- role label + description of job status, realized by {[title + proper noun] + [appositive noun phrase]} *Mr. Shanks, the country's chief official in charge of determining what is protected speech and what is not*. The appositive noun phrase is equivalent to the position of New Zealand chief censor who would bring credibility to the reasons given for banning the offender's manifesto. Noteworthy is that Mr. Shanks, having examined the offender's manifesto under the Films, Videos and Publications Classification Act 1993, stated that it "is deemed objectionable for a number of reasons" (<https://www.lawsociety.org.nz/news-and-communications/latest-news/news/disagreement-with-censors-ban-on-terrorists-document>).
- Referring to Mr. Shanks' negative attitude towards the manifesto through (a) labeling it *gunman's white nationalist diatribe*, projecting IDEOLOGY via creed labeling: *white nationalist*, NEGATIVITY through category label: *gunman*, SUPERLATIVENESS via implicit superlative noun: *diatribe*, i.e. a 'forceful and bitter verbal attack' (<https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/diatribe>); and (b) describing the manifesto as *off-limits*, that is 'not to be mentioned or discussed' or banned. ([https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/off\\_limits](https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/off_limits)).
- Referring to negative acts stated in the manifesto, using negative lexis: *acts of murder and terrorist violence; potential attack in New Zealand; acts of tremendous cruelty, such as the deliberate killing of children*, projecting the news value of SUPERLATIVENESS via implicit superlative adjectives *tremendous*. Such official statements provide reasons for banning the manifesto, and implicitly refer to what *white nationalists* are planning to do.

### III- SUPERLATIVENESS:

In extract (2), the force and size of the *American white nationalist movements* have been augmented through the following devices:

2. Amid a social network crack down on ISIS propaganda, US white nationalist movements have thrived , with followers growing by more than 600% on Twitter since 2012, according to a 2016 study by the Program on Extremism at George Washington University. In fact, growth in white nationalist and Nazi accounts on Twitter outpaced ISIS by almost every metric... CNN 21

- Comparing the status of US white nationalist movements with that of ISIS through lexis: *crack down on ISIS* versus *US white nationalist movements have thrived*; and comparing the *growth in white nationalist and Nazi accounts* with that of *ISIS* via lexis: *outpaced*. This comparison is conducted by *the Program on Extremism at George Washington University*, to project both ELITENESS and PROXIMITY.
- Using lexis of growth when describing (a) the status of *US white nationalist movements* with the implicit superlative verb *thrive*, to project SUPERLATIVENESS; (b) the status of followers: *with followers growing by more than...*; (c) the status of Twitter accounts of white nationalists and Nazis : *growth*
- Using numerals to underline the growth rate of white nationalist movements followers: *by more than 600%* .
- Using an expression that indicates the overwhelming growth of *white nationalist and Nazi accounts* at the expense of *ISIS*: *outpaced ISIS by almost every metric*
- Using superlative adjectives plus implicit superlative when describing the attack: *the worst massacre in New Zealand's modern history*.

#### IV- **IDEOLOGY:**

The motivation behind the hate crime has been highlighted by constructing the news value of IDEOLOGY through:

- Referring to creed advocates, namely *right-wing extremists* whom Tarrant met during a visit to Europe in 2017; and President Trump who is labeled by Tarrant, in his manifesto, '*a symbol of renewed white identity*'. As indicated in extract (3) the attacker is identified by the ideology he embraces '*white supremacy*', and the motive of killing is implicitly defined in terms of ideology, referring to '*religious conflicts* and describing the *shootings at houses of worship* by being *white supremacist*. Evidently NEGATIVITY is being constructed via lexis: *killed, conflict, killings*; and describing behavior: *shootings at houses of*

*worship*, and intensified by using lexis of growth and metaphor: *rising tide* to reflect SUPERLATIVENESS.

3. According to law enforcement, a self-avowed white supremacist killed 50 people at al Noor and Linwood mosques in Christchurch. The killings came amid a rising tide of religious conflict and white supremacist shootings at houses of worship. CNN 19

Highlighting his *white supremacist* identity, as indicated in extract (4), the attacker refers to his role models: (a) *white supremacist killers*, as he considers himself their *disciple and comrade*; and (b) *President Trump* whom he *hailed* for his white supremacy advocacy. Along with IDEOLOGY, three news values are being constructed: NEGATIVITY through lexis: *killer(s)*, *massacre*, PROXIMITY: *President Trump*, and UNEXPECTEDNESS, using the contrastive structure X, *but* Y, mocking Trump *but* still praising him as '*a symbol of renewed white identity*'.

4. A manifesto linked to the accused killer, released through his social media account on the morning of the massacre suggests its author considered himself a disciple and comrade of white supremacist killers. The suspect ... also hailed President Trump, mocking his leadership skills but calling him "a symbol of renewed white identity and common purpose." NYT 15

- Labelling creed and ideology, as the attacker is being described as '*Espousing **anti-immigrant, white-nationalist ideology***, projecting SUPERLATIVENESS as the implicit superlative verb *espouse* tends to intensify the force of his belief in this ideology.

As indicated in extract (5), the news reporter describes what is written on the weapons and clothes of the offender, constructing the news value of IDEOLOGY through using *white nationalist* to pre-modify the lexis *credo*, and equating it with *neo-Nazi*. Notably, other news values seem to be established including: SUPERLATIVENESS/UNEXPECTEDNESS through using fronting predicate: *Scrawled on his rifle was; On his flak jacket was*, to magnify the offender's unusual act of writing on rifle and jacket; CONSONANCE through referring to stereotypical beliefs and symbols, as indicated by *popularized, commonly used*; NEGATIVITY projected by lexis: *terrorist, neo-Nazi, paramilitary*; and PROXIMITY via adjectives, referring to people from the American community *American domestic*.



5. Scrawled on his rifle was a white nationalist credo popularized by the American domestic terrorist and neo-Nazi David Lane. On his flak jacket was a symbol commonly used by the Azov Battalion, a Ukrainian neo-Nazi paramilitary organization. NYT 15

- Referring to tenets of the offender's IDEOLOGY in extract (6) through an *of-phrase* where *ideology*, as head noun, is being pre-modified by adjectives that articulate its main components: *anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim and white supremacist*, a three part list that projects SUPERLATIVENESS, which seems to be reflected when describing the attacker and his ideology. His interest in travelling all over the world and in *an internet subculture* of this ideology is intensified through implicit superlative lexis: *globe-trotting*, and *immersed himself*; and the ideology he is interested in is being described as '*extreme*'.

6. The alleged shooter in the New Zealand mosque massacre was a globe-trotting young Australian and avowed racist who immersed himself in an Internet subculture of extreme anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim, white supremacist ideology. WP 16

As shown in extract (7), the *narrative*, labeled *white nationalist*, is followed by explicit reference to the beliefs and actions of *white nationalist* leaders: *leading battles against largely nonwhite forces*; carrying out *mass shootings of Jews and Muslims*. This is associated with UNEXPECTEDNESS for referring to the unusual behavior of the offender: '*On his weapons, he wrote the names of centuries-old military leaders*' , SUPERLATIVENESS through using lexis implying large numbers: *mass, largely*; and NEGATIVITY for describing negative behavior: *led battles...; shooting of Jews and Muslims*.

7. The gunman seems to have a significant interest in history -- at least, the parts that fit into a white nationalist narrative. On his weapons, he wrote the names of centuries-old military leaders who led battles against largely nonwhite forces, along with the names of men who recently carried out mass shootings of Jews and Muslims . NYT 15

In the following extract (8), the offender, labeling himself '*ethno-nationalist eco-fascist*', as quoted from his manifesto, articulates one of his '*nationalist philosophy*' tenets, namely, opposition to '*mass immigration*' and what he called '*uncontrolled urbanization*' as a pretext for accusing left politicians of destroying natural environment.

8.The suspect , Brenton Harrison Tarrant, described himself as an "ethno-nationalist eco-fascist" in his lengthy, discursive statement, but he rooted that in his nationalist philosophy, accusing politicians on the left of "presiding over the continued destruction of the natural environment itself through mass immigration and uncontrolled urbanization." WP 17

## V- UNEXPECTEDNESS

This news value tends to be established through:

- Referring to unusual happenings for being “outside established societal expectations” (Caple and Bednarek 2017, p. 101) (extract 9), where the offender *played aloud a propaganda song* while committing his crime, projecting also the news value of IDEOLOGY.

9.the gunman played aloud a propaganda song that pays tribute to Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb leader who was convicted of genocide and war crimes. NYT 16

Another unusual behavior is using guns *inscribed with numbers, symbols or messages*, where the gunman appears to establish his autonomous status through unique unexpected actions. Other unusual acts by Tarrant include: (a) the act of *broadcasting the attacks live on Facebook and disseminating a racist online screed*, where the first act is stereotypical as indicated before but the second is not, which shows how he has outdone his predecessors and projects his IDEOLOGY; and (b) Tarrant’s decision to *represent himself in the prosecution* as stated by *Richard Peters, his court-appointed lawyer*.

- Using Contrastives *X, but Y*, where two cases are detected in the

10.a gunman attacking an Orlando, Fla., nightclub paused between shots to post on his own Facebook page. But mass murderers often seek to innovate to outdo their predecessors ... Mr. Meloy, the forensic psychologist noted, and Mr. Tarrant appears to have broken new ground in his self-conscious efforts to surf the waves of internet fandom. NYT 15

corpus. In the first case, the behavior of *mass murderers* is compared with that of their predecessors shown in extract (10):

Notably, other news values conflate with UNEXPECTEDNESS, namely: (a) SUPERLATIVENESS is projected through comparing mass murderers' behavior with other actors' using lexis: *outdo*; and using metaphor: *surf the waves of internet fandom*; (b) ELITENESS by using role label {TLN + appositive noun phrase} referring to *Mr. Meloy*; (c) TIMELINESS by referring to Tarrant's efforts to break *new ground* and start a new trend. The other case of Contrastive is represented by Tarrant's quote "*The varied cultures of the world greeted me with warmth and compassion.*" *But he said immigrants were "invaders . . . who colonize other peoples lands"*, where he evaluates positively the way he was treated by other cultures '*with warmth and compassion*, yet he negatively evaluates the people who come from these cultures as intruders and colonizers, which represents a tenet of his IDEOLOGY.

## VI- CONSONANCE

It tends to be construed by:

- Referring to Tarrant's behavior regarding social media as stereotypical: *Mr. Tarrant is hardly the first accused killer to take a cue from social media*, implying that there are other similar cases.
- Representing the offender, as a white supremacist, as being stereotypical and predictable. As shown in extract (11), the news value is constructed through the adverb '*once again*', denoting that what the attacker did had been done before. Along with consonance are the news values of IDEOLOGY, through referring to the offender as a creed advocate, NEGATIVITY via stating the act of attacking *minority group* and *selecting soft target*, and SUPERLATIVENESS by implicitly intensifying the offender's cruelty for attacking a '*house of worship*' and metaphorically describing it as a '*soft target*'.

11. Once again, a white supremacist choosing to attack a minority group selected a "soft target," a house of worship. WP 16

- Comparing with past events through exemplification to show that the current event may be expected through providing examples of two gunmen who live-streamed the attacks as *Tarrant* did, as indicated in extract (12):

12. In 2015, a gunman in Roanoke, Va., sought to stream video of his killing of two local television journalists. The next year, a gunman attacking an Orlando, Fla., nightclub paused between shots to post on his own Facebook page.

In extract (13), the New Zealand attack, as a news event, has been constructed as 'usual', comparing, through exemplification, the attack and attacker with similar events and offenders, referred to in the manifesto of the New Zealand offender, which '*seems to recall*' stereotypical hate crime perpetrators. Notably, the offender is identified as *shooter* while the label *far-right terrorist* is reserved for the Norway attacker who is also set as an example of *white nationalist killers* to project the news value of IDEOLOGY.

13. the shooter's "manifesto" seems to recall those of previous white nationalist killers such as Anders Breivik, a far-right terrorist who committed the 2011 Norway attacks. CNN 15

In extract (14), where the increasing IMPACT of social media is highlighted, the term *terrorist* is used to refer to similar offenders in Kenya and Paris who attempted to post a video of their attack:

14. Social media has increasingly been co-opted by terrorists in recent years. In 2013, Al-Shabaab militants live-tweeted the Westgate shopping mall attack in Nairobi, Kenya. By posting updates as the militants opened fire on shoppers, they took control of the narrative away from the media and bystanders. In January 2015, a terrorist who gunned down four people at a kosher market in eastern Paris recorded the attack on a GoPro camera, according to a US intelligence official. CNN 15

Along with CONSONANCE are other news values: SUPERLATIVENESS via growth lexis *increasingly*, NEGATIVITY: negative lexis (*militants, opened fire, gunned down*) and describing negative behaviors, PROXIMITY and ELITENESS: referring to an American intelligence official.

Another hate crime that resembles the New Zealand attack is the one committed against Jews in Pittsburgh synagogue: *On Oct. 27, a terrorist*

*murdered 11 members of my synagogue in Pittsburgh*, as quoted by Molly Pascal, a member of the synagogue, who evaluated the attack of New Zealand as: *Another act of terrorism. Another act of hate*, to project both CONSONANCE and PROXIMITY.

- Exemplification: In extract (15), CONSONANCE is established through providing examples for perpetrators who are identified as *white supremacists* and equated with *neo-Nazi*. They all share the ideology of *white supremacy* for choosing to kill worshippers in church and mosque, and shoot *immigrants*. The news values of NEGATIVITY is constructed through stating criminal acts, and SUPERLATIVENESS through mentioning the number of victims.

15. In 2011, a white supremacist and neo-Nazi murdered 77 people in Norway. In 2015, a white supremacist walked into a Charleston, S.C., church with a gun and killed nine people. In 2017, a white supremacist shooter killed six and injured 19 at a mosque in Canada. In 2018, a neo-Nazi and failed political candidate in Italy targeted and shot immigrants, injuring six. WP 15

- Equating threats and influence of white supremacists to those of al-Qaeda and ISIS through stating explicitly that '*there's really little difference*' (extract 16). Other significant news values are NEGATIVITY via lexis: '*massacre, violent, threat*', and ELITENESS through role label: *Oren Segal, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism*.

16. The Christchurch massacre "underscores that **violent white supremacists** are an international **threat**," said Oren Segal, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism. "We tend to focus on international threats like al-Qaeda and ISIS, **but** when you look at the way that white-supremacist ideas impact people, are spread, et cetera, there's really little difference," Segal said. WP 16

## VII- **ELITENESS:**

This news value is constructed through

- Using the 'Role Label' {title + proper noun} for high status people who labeled the offender *terrorist*, referring to the direct speech of Prime Ministers of New Zealand, Australia, and Pakistan, as well as the Imam of Al Noor mosque where one of the attacks was carried out. As indicated in extract (17), the negative attitude of Ardern towards the

offender is expressed through refraining from mentioning his name and intensified through using the three-part list, describing him as a *terrorist, criminal and extremist*, to project the news value of SUPERLATIVENESS.

17."You will never hear me mention his name," Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern told the New Zealand Parliament Tuesday. "He is a terrorist, he is a criminal, he is an extremist, but he will, when I speak, be nameless..."  
CNN 19

Quoting Scott Morrison, the Australian Prime Minister: "*We stand here and condemn absolutely the attack that occurred today by an extremist, right-wing, violent terrorist*", the reporter constructs three news values: NEGATIVITY as his negative attitude towards the attack is explicitly articulated through the verbal process *condemn*; and SUPERLATIVENESS through maximizing the process by an adverb *absolutely*, and using the three-part list of adjectives to describe the offender: *an extremist, right-wing, violent terrorist*. Similarly, the Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan, when praising one of the victims, Rashid, "*who was martyred trying to tackle*" the attacker, is quoted as describing the offender as *terrorist*, pre-modified with IDEOLOGY-related adjective *White Supremacist terrorist*. Delivering a sermon at the Christchurch memorial, the Imam of Al Noor Mosque, Gamal Fouda, is cited as saying that he "*saw hatred and rage in the eyes of the terrorist who killed and martyred fifty innocent people, wounded 42, and broke the hearts of millions around the world*". Fouda labelled the offender *terrorist*, whose emotions are negatively evaluated and intensified through lexis *hatred and rage*; and post-modified by two relative clauses that reflect NEGATIVITY via lexis: *killed, martyred, wounded*, and SUPERLATIVENESS through numerals: *fifty, 42, millions*, and figurative expressions: *broke the hearts*.

#### VIII- **IMPACT:**

The IMPACT of *Tarrant's* criminal act tends to be established through:

- Representing actual consequence by describing the effect of the attack on New Zealand with the implicit superlative verb *rattling* to project SUPERLATIVENESS as well (extract 18):

18. Brenton Tarrant is accused of killing 50 people at two mosques in Christchurch on Friday, **rattling** a country that takes pride in its safety, diversity and openness. WP 20

- Representing non-actual consequences of *Tarrant's* attack and possession of *arsenal* (extracts 19 & 20), by referring to *tightening gun regulations* and imposing a *ban on semiautomatic weapons*, two measures that are still under consideration:

19. The details of Mr. Tarrant's arsenal emerged as New Zealand **considers tightening** its gun regulations. NYT18

20. Leaders **are considering a total ban** on semiautomatic weapons like the one avowed neo-Nazi Brenton Harrison Tarrant, a 28-year-old Australian, is accused of using. WP17

Along with IMPACT comes TIMELINESS which implicitly refers to the changes to be brought to effect as a consequence of the attack.

- Representing both actual and non-actual consequences in extract (21), where the attacker, labelled *terrorist*, had a specific aim: dividing the New Zealand society apart by disseminating *evil ideology* which represents the aspired effect of the attack. In the meantime, such ideology has an actual effect: *has torn the world apart*, which project two other news values: NEGATIVITY, through lexis (*divide apart, evil, torn apart*) and TIMELINESS through using the present perfect tense (*has torn*) that implies 'immediacy' (Bell, 1991, p. 320).

21. Fouda was delivering his Friday sermon at the Al Noor Mosque last Friday when the gunman began his attack. "This terrorist sought to divide our nation apart with an evil ideology that has torn the world apart... CNN 21

- Using causative verb: In extract (22), the news value of IMPACT is established through causative verb: *cause shock* as articulated by the attacker. It is also highlighted by an indirect victim through using cleft structure: *This is what the terrorist wanted*, pointing forward to the attacker's desired effect: *He wanted us to feel like we are not safe anywhere*. Along with IMPACT are PERSONALIZATION by referring to the experience and emotions of an ordinary man, UNEXPECTEDNESS through using evaluative lexis: *shock*; CONSONANCE for describing the usual status of New Zealand using {adverb + verbal process + circumstances} pattern: *often lauded for*

*being a safe haven* and NEGATIVITY via lexis: *killed, attacks, gunman, not safe*.

22. "This doesn't change my feelings about New Zealand," said Said Abdukadir, whose 70-year-old father was killed in the attacks, which the Australian suspect said he committed specifically to cause shock in a country often lauded for being a safe haven. Abdukadir was late for mosque that day and pulled up just as the gunman was leaving. "This is what the terrorist wanted," he said ... "He wanted us to feel like we are not safe anywhere..." WP 18

#### IX- IMPACT/PROXIMITY:

Two news values are revealed in extract (23) where the perpetrator is identified as a *white supremacist* whose *shooting* has had a significant actual effect on the American parties' attitude towards *President Trump's rhetoric on immigrants*.

23. In the United States, the shooting of Muslim worshipers allegedly by a white supremacist underscored the deep partisan divide over President Trump's rhetoric on immigrants and whether his words serve as incitement for extremist violence. WP 17

Such attitude is negatively evaluated via the noun phrase *partisan divide*, intensified by the pre-modifying implicit superlative adjective *deep*. Further, the possible effect of Trump's *words* on inciting extremists to act violently against immigrants has also been underlined.

#### X- TIMELINESS:

The attack perpetrated by the gunman is constructed as timely, i.e. "sound as immediate ... as possible" (Bell, 1991, p. 320) through:

- Using simple present tense to portray the scene of the attack, as shown in extract (24):

24. The clip, which may have been taken from a helmet camera worn by a gunman, begins behind the wheel of a car. A man, whose face can occasionally be seen in the rearview mirror, drives through the streets of Christchurch before pulling up in front of the Muslim Association of Canterbury and its adjoining mosque on Dean Avenue, beside the sprawling Hagley Park. He then approaches the front of the mosque on foot, his weapon visible, and begins shooting at people at the entrance... At one point, the gunman exits the mosque and fires in both directions



down the sidewalk before returning to his car for another gun... When he re-enters the mosque, he shoots several bodies at close range. After another few minutes, he returns to his vehicle and drives away. NYT 15

The use of the present tense tends to project the event as if “dealing with ‘the now’”, creating “a sense of referring to a present reality”; and narrowing “the distance between the event and its telling in such a way that it undermines chronology” (Montgomery, 2005, p.243). In addition to the present tense, lexis of implicit time reference is used: *begins*. TIMELINESS is associated with the news value of NEGATIVITY where negative actions are described, and UNEXPECTEDNESS for presenting an unusual event where the gunman keeps shooting in cold blood unarmed victims in a place of worship while senselessly taking a clip of the crime.

#### 4.2. News values associated with victims:

Having examined the keywords in the corpus, the researcher found that direct and indirect victims are labelled thirtyone nouns (table 11), arranged in order of keyness and grouped under six semantic components, namely victimhood, religion, social system, personhood, nationality, and citizenship status:

Victim	Semantic component	Keyness
Victims	Victimhood	407.5
Muslims	Religion	398.12
Families	Social system	113.47
Worshippers	Religion	112.79
Aziz	Personhood	108.54
Bodies	Victimhood	104.12
Mustafa	Personhood	87.25
Immigrants	Citizenship status	76.92
Syrian	Nationality	68.1
Elayyan	Personhood	63.84
Brother	Social system	59.11
Hamza	Personhood	55.33
Rashid	Personhood	51.07
Khaled	Personhood	42.56
Pakistani	Nationality	39.44

Alayan	Personhood	38.3
Relatives	Social system	34.86
Indian	Nationality	34.78
Mohammad	Personhood	33.32
Ahmed	Personhood	31.32
Isam	Personhood	29.79
Refugee	Citizenship status	29.68
Darwish	Personhood	27.66
Nazer	Personhood	27.66
Syed	Personhood	27.66
Talha	Personhood	27.66
Zaid	Personhood	27.66
Ali	Personhood	26.6
Nasr	Personhood	25.54
Hamid	Personhood	23.41
Ashraf	Personhood	21.28

Table (11): Labels of victims.

The key nouns are victims and Muslims. Two main news values that prevail are NEGATIVITY and PERSONALIZATION+NEGATIVITY. Nouns that construct NEGATIVITY refer to direct and indirect victims, falling under the semantic components of victimhood: *victims, bodies*, citizenship status: *immigrants, refugees*, nationality: *Indian, Syrian, Pakistani*, represented as direct victims; and social system: *families, relatives, brother* as indirect victims. The interwoven news values of PERSONALIZATION+NEGATIVITY are constructed by proper nouns – first names – and common nouns, referring to direct and indirect victims under the semantic component of Personhood: e.g. *Aziz, Mustafa, Hamza, Rashid*, and Religion: *Muslims, worshipers*.

For the purpose of the study, the two-gram clusters and concordances of the 4 top-ranked key words that label the victims are thoroughly examined. These key words are *victims, Muslims, families and worshipers*, which are selected for representing 3 main semantic components: *victimhood, religion* and *social system*. It is noteworthy that the other labels in the corpus, especially first names, are analyzed whenever encountered.

### 4.2.1. Clusters: Analysis and Results

The following table (12) shows numbers of cluster types, tokens and type-token ratios (TTR) for the four search terms: *victims*, *Muslims*, *families*, and *worshippers*

Offender label	Type (N.)	Token (N.)	Type/Token Ratio (%)
Victims	84	228	36.8
Muslims	90	204	44.1
Families	73	136	53.6
worshippers	29	53	54.7

Table (12): Numbers of Clusters types and tokens, and type/token ratio

Evidently, the TTRs of the victims' labels, *victims* and *Muslims* signify relatively low lexical diversity, while those of *families* and *worshippers* indicate moderate lexical diversity.

#### 4.2.1.1. *Victims* Two-Gram Clusters

The most frequent 2-gram clusters are '*victims of*' (50 occurrences), followed by '*victims were*' (26), and '*victims and*' (18), shown in figure (8).

Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster
1	50	19	victims of
2	26	12	victims were
3	18	11	victims and
4	6	3	victims as
5	5	4	victims' bodies

Figure (8): frequency of *victims* two-gram clusters

The concordance lines of the Cluster '*Victims + of* phrases' revealed several news values along with NEGATIVITY, namely SUPERLATIVENESS through implicit superlatives: *massacre*, *terror*, *tragic*; lexis indicating large number: *mass*; IDEOLOGY by labeling the offender: *racist*; TIMELINESS via temporal reference: *Friday's*; and CONSONANCE + PROXIMITY through referring to a similar event in the United States: *the tree of life massacre*. The *of*-phrases as "postmodifiers usually contain more signals of syntactic/semantic

relationships” (Biber et al. 2007, p.300), some of which are “**defining**” (p.303, emphasis in original), occurring in “descriptions to mark identity” (Carter and McCarthy, 2006, p.113). In the above phrases, the identity of the victims is defined and marked by the attack, which tends to be specified spatially, temporally and ideologically. For example, the marked noun phrase *victims of the tree of life massacre* defines the victims of the Jewish Synagogue in Pittsburgh, USA, to construct CONSONANCE and PROXIMITY through referring to a similar event in an American city, and SUEPRLATIVENESS through implicit superlative noun: *massacre*.

Referring to the concordances of the second cluster in rank ‘*victims were*’, three structure patterns (table 13) are unveiled. They serve to establish the news value of NEGATIVITY through describing the condition of the victims: *critical, targeted, killed, buried, laid to rest, and unrecognizable*. Further, PERSONALIZATION tends to be projected through referring to their residence and ages.

Clause patterns	Examples
victims [carrier] + were [relational: intensive] + attribute	the victims were immigrants the victims were unrecognizable
victims [carrier] + were [relational: intensive] + circumstances	the victims were in critical condition the victims were in suburban locations. the victims were "predominantly from the ages of 20 to 60
Goal + were + material process	The victims were targeted victims were buried on Friday the victims were killed, victims were laid to rest

Table (13): clause patterns of *victims were*

#### 4.2.1.2. Muslims Two-Gram Clusters

The most frequent cluster type is *Muslims in* (29 occurrences), followed by *Muslims and* (24), and *Muslims are* (12) (figure 9).

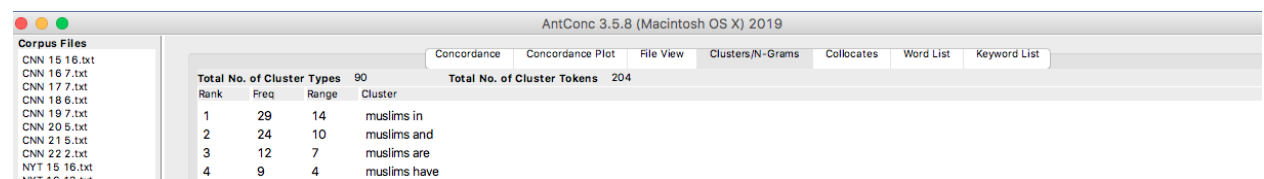


Figure (9): frequency of *Muslims* two-gram clusters

Examining the concordances lines of *Muslim in* made it possible to reveal the entire context where the following patterns of phrases are identified:

Phrases	Patterns
<i>Muslims in</i> cities across the United States <i>Muslims in</i> New Zealand and abroad <i>Muslims in</i> New Zealand, here in the U.K. and around the world <i>Muslims in</i> the American fabric	Noun Phrase { head noun + prepositional phrase }
The massacre of <i>Muslims in</i> New Zealand The shocking massacre of <i>Muslims in</i> Christchurch Slaughter of <i>Muslims in</i> New Zealand	Noun Phrase { head noun+ of phrase + prepositional Phrase }
Recent attacks on <i>Muslims in</i> New Zealand	Noun Phrase { premodifier + head noun + prepositional phrase + prepositional phrase }
Hate against <i>Muslims in</i> his tweet (referring to Trump) Manifesto against <i>Muslims in</i> Istanbul	Noun Phrase { head noun + prepositional phrase + prepositional phrase }
<i>Muslims in</i> pain	Noun Phrase { head noun + prepositional phrase }

Table (14): patterns of the phrase *Muslims in*

As indicated in the above table (14), the cluster *Muslims in* indicates the position of *Muslims* in certain locations and areas specifically, New Zealand, acting as head noun or part of other phrases: *of* + phrase, and prepositional phrases, where *Muslims* are targets of hate, murder and pain. The main news value is NEGATIVITY realized by lexis: *attacks, killed, hate*; NEGATIVITY + SUPERLATIVENESS established by implicit superlative: *shocking massacre, slaughter*. Other news values include PROXIMITY, referring to the *United States*, and TIMELINESS, through temporal reference: *recent*.

The second cluster in rank is '*Muslims and*', which is further investigated by going to concordance lines. It is found that *Muslims* are

often coupled with *immigrants, other minorities, non-whites, blacks* to whom a negative attitude is expressed by Trump and the offender, as indicated in the following phrases and non-finite clauses, constructing NEGATIVITY:

- Animosity towards *Muslims and immigrants*;
- Demonizing *Muslims and immigrants*;
- Denouncing *Muslims and immigrants*;
- To prevent *Muslims and non-whites* from taking over western society;
- Disparaging *Muslims and other minorities*...

Trump's negative attitude towards Muslims and Islam, and his positive stance towards white nationalists have also been highlighted in the following complex phrase: "*Trump's frequently combative stance toward Muslims and Islam, as well as his more muted response to acts of white nationalism...*". Evidently four news values are constructed in this phrase: NEGATIVITY through lexis: *combative stance*, CONSONANCE, via lexis assessing Trump's attitude as 'usual': '*frequently*', SUPERLATIVENESS via comparative adjectives: *more muted*; and Ideology, using labels: *white nationalism*.

As for the cluster *Muslims are*, three clause patterns are identified, as shown in the following table (15):

Clause patterns	Examples
Goal [Muslims] + are + material action intentional process+ actor	Muslims are burned to death and are bombed by all known and unknown weapons.
Actor [Muslims] + material action intentional process + goal	Muslims are taking over Europe
Carrier [Muslims] + are [relational: intensive process] + attribute	Muslims are doctors, lawyers ... Muslims are not terrorists. Muslims are welcome in New Zealand.

Table (15): clause patterns of *Muslims are*

The news value of NEGATIVITY is established by describing the negative status of Muslims in Syria in the first example, where *Muslims* act as the goal of the material processes of *burned to death* and *bombed*, and the actor *weapons* is impersonalized. The second example quotes Trump as accusing *Muslims*, as actor, of *taking over Europe*. In the last example, *Muslims* are the carrier who have certain characteristics: being

*doctors, lawyers, not terrorists and welcome*, which imply a positive attitude towards Muslims to project POSITIVITY.

#### 4.2.1.3. Families Two-Gram Clusters:

At the top of clusters come *families and* (16 occurrences) and *families of* (15), shown in figure (10).

Rank	Freq	Range	Cluster
1	16	7	families and
2	15	10	families of
3	4	3	families, and
4	3	2	families are

Figure (10): frequency of *families* two-gram clusters

Concordance lines for *families and* reveal the following phrases:

	Examples
<b>families + and + noun ± post-modifiers</b>	families and friends of the people who lost their lives in the devastating attack in Christchurch families and friends of those who have lost their lives families and everyone affected by this tragedy Families and some officials

Notably, the search term *families*, as indirect victim, is coupled with *friends* of direct victims, constructing the news values of NEGATIVITY via lexis: *lost their lives, attack, SUPERLATIVENESS* through implicit superlative lexis: *devastating, tragedy*, and PERSONALIZATION by referring to ordinary people. The term '*families*' is also linked with officials to imply that high-status people are as involved and concerned as the victims' *families*, projecting the news value of ELITENESS.

The second cluster in rank is *families + of* phrase, for which the following results are revealed in concordance lines:

Families + <i>of</i> phrase ± postmodifier	the families of the victims the families of each victim families of terror victims the families of the dead and injured in New Zealand the families of those who lost their lives the families of those who were killed or wounded
--	---

The semantic relationship between *families* and the *of*-phrase is that of 'defining', indicating that the noun *families* belongs to *victims* (Carter and McCarthy, 2006, p.113), which have three variants: *the dead and injured, those who lost their lives, those who were killed or wounded*, to construct NEGATIVITY through lexis that describe such a negative event.

#### 4.2.1.4. *Worshippers* Two-Gram Clusters:

Since no significant results are revealed with the search term *worshippers* position on the left, we changed its position to the right (figure 11). The top-ranked clusters are *on worshippers* (7 occurrences), followed by *fleeing worshippers*, *Muslim worshippers*, and *of worshippers* (each 4 occurrences).

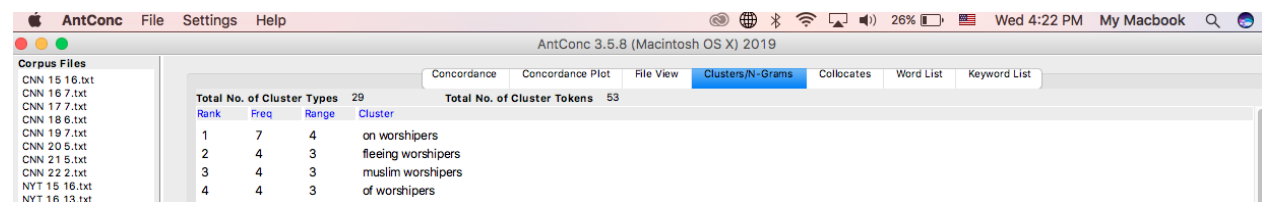


Figure (11): frequency of *worshippers* two-gram clusters

Searching the concordance lines of *on worshippers*, it is found that it acts as a prepositional complement for the verbs *firing*, *open fire* and the noun *attacks*, where *worshippers* are the target of such aggressive acts, to construct NEGATIVITY. The clusters at the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> ranks are noun phrases {premodifier (Adj) + head noun}: *fleeing worshippers* and *Muslim worshippers*. The former describes their status during the shooting to construct NEGATIVITY while the latter marks their identity. The concordance lines of both reveal the following patterns:

Pattern	Example
Noun + <i>of</i> phrase	the shooting of <i>Muslim worshippers</i> mass shooting of <i>Muslim worshippers</i>
Non-finite clause: gerund + prepositional complement	shooting at <i>fleeing worshipping</i>
Process + goal	Killed 50 <i>Muslim worshippers</i>



In the first pattern, '*Muslim worshipers*' is part of '*of phrases*' for the noun *shooting*, where the semantic relationship is that of 'objective' (Biber et al., 2007, p.303). The second pattern, *fleeing worship* is the prepositional complement for the gerund *shooting at*. Similarly, the cluster *Muslim worshipers* acts as the goal or object of the material action intentional process *kill*. In all cases, *worshipers* are portrayed as the victims of the attack through constructing the news values of NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS. Finally, the cluster *of worshipers*, an *of*-phrase, occurred in 'partitive' semantic relationship with the following nouns: a multi-ethnic group of *worshipers*; crowds of *worshipers*, who are the target of the attack.

#### 4.2.2. Concordance lines and extracts: Analysis and Results

The number of concordance lines selected and extended into extracts amount to 39 where the victims are constructed as goals.

Victims	Number of extracts
Victims	9
Muslims	15
Families	9
Worshipers	6
Total	39

table (16): distribution of extracts related to victims

Through the analysis of longer extracts (see Appendix B) several news values related to the acts, behavior, creed and influence of the news event and actors are linguistically constructed. Table (17) indicates the frequency rate of news values revealed in the corpus related to the victims.

News Values	Frequency	
	N.	%
NEGATIVITY	50	24.3
SUPERLATIVENESS	45	21.8
ELITENESS	28	13.6
IMPACT	16	7.8
POSITIVITY	14	6.8
CONSONANCE	13	6.3

PERSONALIZATION	12	5.8
PROXIMITY	12	5.8
TIMELINESS	9	4.4
UNEXPECTEDNESS	7	3.4
TOTAL	206	100

Table (17): Frequency of news values in the corpus related to the victims.

Notably, the news values of NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS seem to be established in all extracts, followed by ELITENESS and IMPACT. Despite the bloody attack, POSITIVITY is detected along with ELITENESS and PROXIMITY. There is also a tendency to show the human face of the victims, direct and indirect, through PERSONALIZATION. The ways victims have been affected have also been highlighted through IMPACT.

#### I- ELITENESS:

To reveal the attitude of high-status news actors towards the victims of the attack, ELITENESS is constructed through:

- Role label {title + surname + position}, where the New Zealand prime minister, as shown in extracts 25 and 26, refers to the *victims* as *immigrants*, and *breadwinners in their families*, showing concern and meeting with the *victims' relatives*.

25.Ms. Ardern, the prime minister, noted that many of the victims were immigrants.... "For many this may not have been the place they were born," she said. "For many, New Zealand was their choice, the place that they chose to come to and committed themselves to, the place they chose to raise their families." NYT 15

26.Many of the people killed in the attacks were the breadwinners in their families, Ms. Ardern said after meeting with victims' relatives on Saturday. NYT 15

Along with ELITENESS are NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS. Negativity tends to be projected through lexis '*killed in the attacks*' and reference to a negative state of affairs: the *breadwinners* being killed, while SUPERLATIVENESS is projected through quantifiers '*many*' and

repetition '*for many*', '*the place*' referring to victims and New Zealand respectively.

As indicated in the extracts below (27-28), the reaction of New Zealander officials and non-governmental organization to victims' families seems to have the same purpose: offering help. While stating the kind of help they would offer, both officials referred to the IMPACT of the attack on the families: *left without income*, and *dealing with trauma*, projecting, in the meantime, NEGATIVITY through describing the families' economic and psychological status, and SUPERLATIVENESS via implicit superlative noun *trauma*.

27. Ms. Ardern said a government compensation system would help families left without income NYT 15  
 28. Christchurch Mayor Lianne Dalziel said her focus was on "providing practical support for families dealing with the trauma. "We've all been affected," she said. "Everyone has been touched in in some way, shape or form." WP 20

In the extracts below (29-30), the opinions of a few American elite figures on Trump's negative attitude towards *Muslims* are highlighted. As indicated in extract 29, a democratic senator underlines the IMPACT of Trump's *rhetoric* using an implicit superlative verb *exacerbated* (SUPERLATIVENESS) and negative lexis: *tensions* (NEGATIVITY). Asking him *to condemn bigotry against Muslims* implies that Trump has never did so before, which constructs NEGATIVITY through referring

29. Minnesota Democratic Sen. Amy Klobuchar said President Donald Trump's rhetoric exacerbated tensions and called for him to condemn bigotry against Muslims... She said after the recent attack on Muslims in New Zealand, it was "on all of us to condemn this hate," including Trump. CNN 17

indirectly to his negative attitude towards Muslims. SUPERLATIVENESS appears to be established by using implicit superlative lexis: *exacerbated*, *bigotry*.

Through role label, another eminent figure is quoted (extract 30), highlighting the IMPACT of Trump's *rhetoric*, which has been a source of '*concerns that many in the U.S. Muslim community have about the*

*climate created by the president's rhetoric*'. Establishing UNEXPECTEDNESS through the contrastive pattern *X, but Y*, president and executive director of Muslim Advocates admitted that Trump would not carry out the attacks himself, *but he had a drumbeat of demonizing Muslims and immigrants*, to construct NEGATIVITY + SUPERLATIVENESS through negative metaphor: *drumbeat*, implicit superlative verb: *demonizing*, and the three-part list: *that we should be feared and that we're violent and that we don't belong*, to intensify the negative attitude of Trump towards Muslims.

30. For Farhana Khera, president and executive director of Muslim Advocates, the anger over immigration and the reference to Trump in the shooter's manifesto is a troubling confirmation of concerns that many in the U.S. Muslim community have about the climate created by the president's rhetoric. "Trump is not going out and carrying out these attacks, but he has had a drumbeat of demonizing Muslims and immigrants, saying that we should be feared and that we're violent and that we don't belong," Khera said. WP 16

- Recognized name (Proper nouns): The attitude of *Erdogan*, the president of Turkey, towards the attack and victims is highlighted (extract 31). In his statement, the news value of IDEOLOGY is construed through his call to combat *Islamophobia*. He is also portrayed as taking advantage of the attack before local elections, as *he aired footage of the mosque shooting*, yet *the victims* were not seen clearly or *blurred out*, to construct the news value of UNEXPECTEDNESS, via referring to unusual happening and concession '*though*'. Both NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS seem to be constructed through lexis: *attack, Islamophobia, shooting massacre, suspect*.

31. Erdogan has called on Western governments in the aftermath of the Christchurch attack to do more to combat Islamophobia. But he also appears to be politicizing the massacre discussing it at events ahead of local elections. At a rally Monday, he aired footage of the mosque shooting that had been live-streamed by the suspect, though the victims were blurred out. CNN 19

- Anonymous sources: New Zealand official authorities and police are projected as showing concern for the victims and their families realized through the expression '*turned their focus on*', which can be expected to establish CONSONANCE through referring to stereotypical role of authorities, along with NEGATIVITY through referring to negative state of affairs '*families of those who lost their lives*' (extract 32).

32. With the main suspect in custody, authorities turned their focus to the victims and the families of those who lost their lives. "Our other key priority is making sure that those people so horribly affected by these events get the support and welfare that they need," the New Zealand Police said in a statement. "There are many, many victims of this tragic event and we are giving every possible support to them." CNN 16

SUPERLATIVENESS is another news value constructed through quantifiers and repetition '*many, many victims*, and implicit superlative adverbs and adjectives '*horribly, tragic*'.

Other anonymous sources referred to are *critics* and *Muslims leaders*. The negative stereotypical attitude of Trump towards Muslims is described by unnamed critics using lexis that construct CONSONANCE: *follows familiar pattern, often, frequently* (extract 33). Trump's stance towards *attacks and hate crimes perpetrated by Muslims* is markedly intensified by showing eagerness to *highlight* these crimes constructing SUPERLATIVENESS, while his response *when Muslims are the victims*, is *slower and less forceful*. As for Muslim leaders (extract 34), they asked Trump explicitly to change his attitude which is implicitly described as 'unusual' compared to his predecessors, Bush and Obama, to establish UNEXPECTEDNESS.

33. Trump's handling of the New Zealand terrorist attack, critics say, also follows a familiar pattern: The president has often seemed eager to highlight attacks and hate crimes perpetrated by Muslims but has **frequently** been slower and less forceful when Muslims are the victims. WP 19

34. Muslim leaders have asked Trump to speak out in the way that President George W. Bush did after the 9/11 attacks and the way President Barack Obama did at a Baltimore-area mosque : explicitly affirming the faith of Islam and the place of Muslims in the American fabric. WP 16

## II- ELITENESS + POSITIVITY:

The attitude of Ms. Ardern, Prime minister of New Zealand, has been evaluated as positive by several eminent figures: political commentator, Iranian-American journalist, and a Turkish lawmaker. The news value of ELITENESS tends to be constructed through Role label, as shown in extracts (35 & 36). As for POSITIVITY, it is constructed through:

- Using positive evaluative lexis describing *Ardern's performance* as 'extraordinary' to establish SUPERLATIVENESS via implicit superlative adjective. Her action is being praised via adverbs like *boldly underlines*.
- Describing her positive behavior and actions with Muslim mourners: *visited refugees and Muslims. Dressed in black and wearing the Muslim-style headscarf known as a hijab, which is described as 'a sign of respect'; She symbolically covers her head when she goes to a home for condolences; she boldly underlines her respect and solidarity.*
- Referring to her positive action as a statesperson, preserving the unity of her country through telling '*Muslims in pain, You, you're us*, reiterating that the whole country is '*united in grief*'.

35. "Ardern's performance has been extraordinary ..." political commentator Bryce Edwards told Reuters. When she went to Christchurch the day after the attacks, Ardern visited refugees and Muslims. Dressed in black and wearing the Muslim-style headscarf known as a hijab, she tearfully told them that the whole country was "united in grief." Wearing the hijab was "a sign of respect," wrote Negar Mortazavi, an Iranian American journalist. WP 19

36. Cihangir Islam, a Turkish lawmaker from an opposition Islamist party, also praised Ardern. She tells Muslims in pain, " 'You, you're us!' " Islam wrote. "She symbolically covers her head when she goes to a home for condolences; she boldly underlines her respect and solidarity. How thirsty we have become for justice and mercy in state administration. " WP 19

## III- ELITENESS + PROXIMITY:

The extracts below (37 & 38) present two condolences messages conveyed by elite American figures to victims' families. In her tweet, Ivanka Trump shows sympathy and describes negative emotional

behavior, using inclusive we: *we pray for the families of each victim and grieve together.*

37. We join New Zealand and Muslim communities around the world in condemnation of this evil as we pray for the families of each victim and grieve together," the first daughter and adviser to the President tweeted. CNN 15

Similarly, the spokesman of the American National Rifle Association offers condolences using superlative adjective: *deepest sympathies*, and describes the attack with implicit superlative adjective + noun: *senseless tragedies* to construct SUPERLATIVENESS.

38. In the United States, the National Rifle Association, a leading advocate of gun-owner rights, issued its first statement on the attack... "It doesn't matter if these senseless tragedies occur in the United States or abroad, our deepest sympathies are with the victims and their families," said Andrew Arulanandam, a spokesman for the group. NYT 16

#### IV- IMPACT:

This news value tends to be constructed through the following devices:

- Representing non-actual consequence of the attack, as indicated by the offender in his manifesto (extract 39), where the aspired effect of killing Muslims is to *'directly reduce immigration rates.*

39. In a 74-page manifesto released online ahead of the attacks, Tarrant promised to kill Muslims and "directly reduce immigration rates". WP 16

- Representing the actual consequences of the attack on Muslims (extracts 40-43), using evaluative negative implicit superlative lexis and phrases: *devastated, tragedy, terror rippled, drew both sadness and outrage, a brazen act of borne from years of anti-Muslim sentiment*. SUPERLATIVENESS has also been established through quantifiers: *all, many*; numerals: *50,000 Muslims*; metaphor: *terror rippled through ...*; and expressions implying large areas: *reaching into homes throughout the Middle East, Asia and Oceania*, to further dramatize the effect of the attack.

40.American group Muslim Advocates said: "We are devastated. Today is a tragedy not just for Muslims, but for all people of faith and goodwill." CNN 16

41.And so when a gunman stormed two mosques in the city of Christchurch during Friday Prayers, killing 49 people, the terror rippled through New Zealand's nearly 50,000 Muslims and beyond, reaching into homes throughout the Middle East, Asia and Oceania. NYT 15

42.For Muslims in New Zealand and abroad, the massacre drew both sadness and outrage -- it was a crime and a tragedy , but also, in the eyes of many, a brazen act of borne from years of anti-Muslim sentiment. NYT 15

43.Muslim leaders across New Zealand, however, stressed that the attacks were out of character for the country, a place many of them associated with peace. He said that the deaths would **affect** Muslims across the country . NYT 15

The news values of IMPACT and PROXIMITY are constructed through 'representing actual consequences' of the New Zealand attack on the American Muslims. While mourning the death of worshipers (extract 44), American Muslims have experienced *new ripples of fear* which *echoed through their community*, to project NEGATIVITY through referring to negative emotions: *fear, unease*; SUPERLATIVENESS via metaphor: *ripples of fear echoed*; and CONSONANCE through lexis: *new, long felt*, implying that the feelings of *fear* and *unease* are common among Muslim community in the States. In extract (45), the impact of the attack on American police departments is also constructed through 'referring to actual consequences': taking more deterrent security procedures to protect worshipers entering mosques for prayer. SUPERLATIVENESS appears to be projected through implicit superlative verb: *intensified security*, and lexis implying large numbers: *clusters of police officers*.



44.As American Muslims mourned the worshippers killed in attacks on two New Zealand mosques, new ripples of fear echoed through a community that has long felt unease in the United States ... WP 16

45.Police departments in major American cities intensified security around houses of worship. At some mosques in New York, clusters of police officers wearing tactical gear and armed with semiautomatic rifles stood sentry as worshippers entered for prayer. NYT 16

#### v- POSITIVITY:

Despite the negativity of the news event, the news value of POSITIVITY has been construed through:

- Referring to news actors' positive attitude towards Muslims: *writing supportive messages using the hashtag #TheyAreUs*, which was first used by prime minister Ardern (extract 46).

46.People started writing supportive messages using the hashtag #TheyAreUs to signal that Muslims are welcome in New Zealand . The phrase gained traction after New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern used the words when discussing the attack on Friday . CNN 15

- Referring to news actors' positive actions and behavior towards Muslims. As indicated in extract (47), a church opened *its doors to Muslims because mosques had been closed*.

47.Immediately after Friday's attacks in Christchurch, the Te Atat Baptist Church in Auckland, New Zealand, announced on Facebook it was opening its doors to Muslims because mosques had been closed. CNN 15

Another positive action is referred to (extract 48) where thousands of New Zealanders, including the prime minister, joined Muslims for Friday prayers a week after the crime. Evidently, SUPERLATIVENESS is constructed through numerals: *hundreds, thousands*; and implicit superlative verb: *rang out* to intensify the sound of '*the call to prayer*', as a token of more support to Muslims.

48. Exactly a week after the attacks, hundreds of Muslims were joined by thousands of other New Zealanders, including the prime minister, for Friday prayers. The call to prayer rang out across Hagley Park, opposite the Al Noor Mosque... WP 22

Further, Ms. Ardern, New Zealand prime minister, positively evaluated both the mosque worshipers and police for displaying '*extraordinary courage*', to project SUPERLATIVENESS (extract 49).

49. Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern gave an emotional speech at her first address to Parliament since the terror attack, praising the "extraordinary courage" demonstrated by mosque worshipers and police during one of the country's "darkest days." CNN 19

In the extract below (50), the attitude of the *New Zealand police* towards *families* tend to be positive through the material process *working with*, indicating cooperativeness. Further, PERSONALIZATION appears to be projected through giving an emotional label for victims: *their loved ones*'.

50. New Zealand Police told CNN in a statement that they were working with families to return their loved ones' bodies after a coroner had identified 12 victims. CNN 19

## VI- CONSONANCE + NEGATIVITY

Describing the expected actions and emotions of the victims' *families*, the reporter constructs this news values through the following devices (extracts 51-54):

- Describing the negative emotional behavior of families through lexis: *frantically*, and referring to their expected behavior: *race to the bed sides of the injured*, to construct SUPERLATIVENESS: implicit superlative adverb *frantically*; and metaphor *race to the bed sides*; and lexis referring to many parts of the world: *Throughout the Middle East*,

51. Throughout the Middle East, Asia and Oceania, families frantically sought visas so they could race to the bed sides of the injured . NYT 15  
*Asia and Oceania.*

- Referring to stereotypical negative actions: *mourn the dead, bury*, and to traditions: *conduct ritual washings, in accordance with Muslim tradition*.

52. By the end of the day, as emergency rooms scrambled to treat the wounded and families gathered to mourn the dead, police had three people in custody, including Tarrant, a former fitness WP 16

53. authorities are racing to identify the 50 people killed in a massacre at two mosques so their families can bury them in accordance with Muslim tradition. CNN 17

54. Local funeral home has been designated to receive bodies for families to conduct ritual washings. WP 18

- Referring to the families' negative attitude towards the process of identifying the victims' bodies. While indicating that the rules followed in such circumstances are stereotypical '*in line with international standards and New Zealand's strict procedures for murder victims*', evaluated by an implicit superlative adjective: '*meticulous*', the process has been negatively described by the news reporter as *divisive*; and *paternalistic* by the *affected families* (extract 55).

55. The process of identifying bodies has been, by all accounts, meticulous, in line with international standards and New Zealand's strict procedures for murder victims. It has also been divisive. Some of the affected families described the process as paternalistic. NYT 20

## VII- PERSONALIZATION:

The news event tends to be 'personalized' or given a 'human' face through two devices:

- Referring to ordinary people's names, nationality, age, education and citizenship status when describing victims as indicated in extracts (56-58). As shown, NEGATIVITY is being projected through lexis: '*war in Syria, buried, laid to rest*'; as well as SUPERLATIVENESS via quantifiers: '*many*', and implicit superlative adjectives and nouns: *blossoming, terror*.

56. A Syrian refugee and his teenage sons, a Pakistani academic and a blossoming student are among the victims of Friday's terror attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand. CNN 16

57. On Wednesday, 16-year-old Hamza Mustafa and his father, Khaled Mustafa, who had arrived in New Zealand only a few months ago after escaping the war in Syria, were laid to rest, becoming the first victims of the Christchurch mosque attacks to be buried. WP21

58. Atta Elayyan, 33, was one of the many victims of the mosque attacks laid to rest in a mass funeral on Friday. His loved ones told his story. NYT 22

• Referring to ordinary people behavior exemplified by *Members of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue*. In addition to PERSONALIZATION, several news values are established in extract (59), namely:

- CONSONANCE, PROXIMITY, NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS through referring to the attack against the Jews in Pittsburgh synagogue, using negative lexis: *killed*, and implicit superlative adjective: *deadliest in the American history*;
- IDEOLOGY via creed labeling: *anti-Semitic, white supremacist*;
- POSITIVITY, through referring to the positive attitude of the synagogue members towards the victims of New Zealand attack: *support*

59. Members of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue, where a white supremacist killed 11 worshippers October 27 in the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in American history have started a campaign to support mourners and victims of Friday's massacre at two mosques in New Zealand. CNN 19

### VIII- TIMELINESS + NEGATIVITY

When reporting the news event, and labeling the victims *worshippers*, the news reporter constructs NEGATIVITY interwoven with TIMELINESS, through the following devices:

• Describing dramatically the attack using present tense, as evident in extract 60, starting from the moment the offender enters the mosque, fires on *worshippers*, whose terror is signified by the adjective *fleeing*, and goes back to his car to *swap weapons*. In extract 61, SUPERLATIVENESS

seems to be constructed through referring to the large numbers of victimized *worshippers* using lexis: *dozens of huddling*

60.He approaches the mosque on foot, his weapon visible, and begins shooting at people at the entrance. What follows is a harrowing nearly two minutes of his firing on worshippers...For nearly two minutes, he shoots at fleeing worshippers before he runs back to his car and swaps weapons. NYT 15

61.He is accused of storming the two houses of worship during midday prayers and shooting dozens of huddling and fleeing worshippers... WP 17

- Referring to the negative event, narrated by an Afghan refugee as an eyewitness of the attack, to project PERSONALIZATION (extract 62).

62.When Ahmed Khan moved to New Zealand as a refugee from Afghanistan 12 years ago, he thought he had left violence and death behind. But on Friday, as he was praying at Linwood mosque in Christchurch, an armed man started shooting indiscriminately at worshippers-- first outside the mosque, then through the windows as women and children huddled inside CNN 16

The NEGATIVITY of the act of shooting *worshippers* is interwoven with implicit temporal reference: *started*, and intensified by the adverb *indiscriminately*, portraying helpless women and children being clustered and targeted in the mosque, to provide a detailed dramatic picture of the crime.

## 5. Discussion and Conclusion

In its coverage of the New Zealand hate crime, the American news organizations have attempted to create a version of reality that projects an ideological position towards not only the offender and victims, but also the elite news actors, specifically, Trump and Ardern. NEGATIVITY and SUPERLATIVENESS are the most frequently constructed news values when portraying both the offender and victims, where the attack and perpetrator have been negatively labeled and magnified, and the victims negatively represented as the attacker's soft target. Notably, the news value of IDEOLOGY tends to be exclusively established when

representing the offender, while PERSONALIZATION and POSITIVITY are only construed with the victims.

As revealed in the corpus analysis, there are two types of offenders: primary offender, the one who actually perpetrated the crime, and secondary offenders at the top of whom come Trump, and other white supremacists, as well as social media. Both primary and secondary offenders are being portrayed through three main news values: NEGATIVITY, SUPERLATIVENESS, and IDEOLOGY. A special attention has been given to the news value of IDEOLOGY which represents the motive of the crime, through several devices, especially the tenets and advocates of white supremacy and nationalism. Combining IDEOLOGY with ELITENESS and PROXIMITY, opponents implicitly name Trump as an indirect offender for his rhetoric against Muslims and immigrants, hailed by the offender but harshly criticized by his Democratic opponents and Muslims leaders in the States. While describing the eccentric unusual behavior and acts of the New Zealand attacker (UNEXPECTEDNESS), the news reporters have referred to other similar attacks performed by white nationalists in western countries, but reiterated that Tarrant has outrivalled his predecessors. By doing so, they raise alarm that such attacks may have become trendy worldwide and attackers are not only inspired by each other, but tend to distinguish themselves through unexpected outrageous acts. The political IMPACT of the crime is represented by the New Zealand and world leaders' decision to consider a total ban on semiautomatic weapons, which may act as a silver lining in this gloomy bloody event. Notably, the news organizations have not labeled the perpetrator 'terrorist', but rather attributed such a label to elite news actors, namely prime ministers of New Zealand, Australia and Pakistan. In the light of the typology of hate crime offenders, the New Zealand attacker may fall under two types: (1) the one who defends his race and territory against immigrants and refugees, reflected in his white supremacist ideology as inscribed in his Manifesto, which is negatively evaluated by the American news media; and (2) the one who has the 'life mission' of ridding the western world of Muslims, perceived as colonizers, a mission which has been

accomplished by the brutal act of massacring 50 Muslims in two New Zealand mosques.

In their portrayal of the victims, the American news media have projected them as being 'ideal', as defined by Christie (1986, p.18) who describes an 'ideal victim' as 'a person or category of individuals who ...are given the complete and legitimate status of being a victim', when struck by crime. In the New Zealand attack, the victims can be categorized as 'ideal' for being, at the moment of the attack, "vulnerable, defenceless, innocent and worthy of sympathy and compassion" (p.18), since they were armless worshipers who were taken by surprise and include women and children. The portrayal of 'ideal victim' has been constructed by the news value of NEGATIVITY + TIMELINESS through describing, in a dramatic manner, the attack on the helpless worshipers in the mosques, and PERSONALIZATION through the narrative of an eyewitness. Victims are acquired the status of 'ideal victim', through causing the collective mourning of New Zealanders, and people across the globe, bringing significant changes to policies related to weapons possession. The IMPACT of the attack on Muslims, in New Zealand, the States, and all over the world, has been highlighted, probably sending a message of warning to Muslim immigrants and refugees, as well as authorities. Further, the IMPACT on US police authorities has also been underlined through referring to the measures taken by the police to protect Muslims in their mosques, to represent the official stance of US security forces. POSITIVITY seems to be the marked unexpected news value represented by (1) the official stance of the New Zealand prime minister, Ardern, towards the victims' families, and Muslims; (b) the attitude of New Zealanders towards Muslims, inspired by their prime minister; and (c) the act of joining Muslims for Friday prayers a week after the attack. This news value is the second silver lining detected in the coverage of this brutal tragic attack. The American media have been keen on showing that historically, the religious and racial minorities, especially Jews, have been continuously victimized, through constructing the news values of CONSONANCE and PROXIMITY interwoven with PERSONALIZATION, comparing the New Zealand attack against Muslims with Pittsburgh attack against Jews.

The complicity of Trump, in his capacity as a US president, in the victimization of Muslims has been emphasized by referring to his 'eagerness' to spotlight attacks, if a Muslim is the offender, and reluctance to condemn the attack, if Muslims are the victims.

The findings of the study can be further verified by thorough quantitative corpus analysis using other *AntConc* tools such as concordance plot and collocates or another software tools. The analysis can also be extended to reveal the news values as visually constructed in news reports on hate crime, using Bednarek and Caple analytical framework for visual resources (2017), which is an under-researched area of study. There is also a need to conduct a contrastive study of English-speaking media coverage of attacks perpetrated by Muslims targeting non-Muslims, and those by non-Muslims targeting Muslims to get a more comprehensive picture of the degree of bias in such news media. Another study is suggested to contrast the news values constructed by English-speaking news reports and Arabic-speaking ones when covering a hate crime in a western country. Linguistic and ideological features of news reports on hate crimes can also be explored through adopting the critical stylistic approach (Jeffries, 2010), making use of its linguistic analytical tools.

It is recommended that the discursive news values analysis (DNVA), with its linguistic resources inventory, be introduced to linguistics, media and journalism students and scholars to be more knowledgeable of how language can be used and manipulated to construct newsworthiness. The approach of discursive news analysis can be used as a tool by laypeople to understand the hidden meanings in news reports and the ideological position of news organizations towards bias-based hate crimes perpetrated against Muslims or Non-Muslims.



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## Appendix A

### News Values Analysis of Selected Extracts Related to Offender

Tarrant
<p>1. <u>Mr. Tarrant</u> is <u>hardly</u> the first accused <u>killer</u> to take a cue from social media or relish its reaction [consonance: stereotypical behavior; negative: lexis]. In 2015, a gunman in Roanoke, Va., sought to stream video of his killing of two local television journalists. The next year, a gunman attacking an Orlando, Fla., nightclub paused between shots to post on his own Facebook page. [consonance: comparing with past events].</p> <p>2. <u>But</u> mass murderers often seek to innovate to outdo their predecessors, including through the exploitation of the media [unexpectedness: contrast], Mr. Meloy, the forensic psychologist, [eliteness: role label] noted, and <u>Mr. Tarrant</u> [non-proximity: formality creating distance] appears to have broken new ground in his self-conscious efforts to surf the waves of internet fandom [timeliness: newness/changes; unexpectedness: unusual happening]. NYT 15</p> <p>3. Richard Peters, his court-appointed lawyer, [eliteness: status indicating premodifier] said <u>Mr. Tarrant</u> [non-proximity: formality] had indicated he might represent himself in the prosecution [unexpectedness: unusual happening]. NYT 15</p> <p>4. References throughout his manifesto indicate that he was deeply immersed [superlativeness: high intensity lexis] in white nationalist internet forums [ideology: creed advocate]. He also appears to have developed a detailed interest [superlativeness: high intensity lexis] in American politics. "Were/are you a supporter of Donald Trump?" <u>Mr. Tarrant</u> [non-proximity: formality] asked himself in the manifesto. "As a</p>

symbol of renewed white identity and common purpose? Sure [ideology: creed advocate]. As a policy maker and leader? Dear god no." 15 NYT

5. Members of the international news media poured [superlativeness: lexis implying large numbers] into Grafton, 380 miles south of Sydney, rushing to find anyone who knew or remembered the suspect, Brenton Harrison Tarrant, [non-proximity] 28, a former bodybuilder, accused of slaughtering 49 people [negativity: lexis & and describing negative event; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] at two mosques in Christchurch, broadcasting the attacks live on Facebook and disseminating a racist online screed [ideology: creed advocate; negativity: evaluative language; unexpectedness: unusual happening]. NYT 16 13.txt

6. Tarrant's manifesto was littered [negativity: evaluating language] with conspiracy theories about white birthrates and "white genocide." [negativity: lexis] WP 16

7. Tarrant, who described himself as "a regular white man, from a regular family," [consonance: lexis assessing his behavior as expected] said he did not hate foreigners or Muslims who lived in their "homelands." The varied cultures of the world greeted me with warmth and compassion." But he said immigrants were "invaders . . . who colonize other peoples lands." [ideology: referring to a tenet in the creed] WP 16

8. Tarrant [non-proximity: detachment], who according to London's Independent newspaper met with right-wing extremists [ideology: creed advocates; negativity: lexis] during a visit to Europe in 2017, declared allegiance to a group he called Europeans. And his Twitter posts showed weapons covered with names of military generals and mass shooters [negativity: lexis; superlativeness: lexis implying large numbers; unexpectedness: unusual happening]. WP 16

9. Leaders [eliteness: status] are considering a total ban on semiautomatic weapons [impact: representing non-actual consequence; timeliness: referring to changes] like the one avowed neo-Nazi Brenton Harrison Tarrant, a 28-year-old Australian [ideology: advocate], is accused of using to kill 50 people in attacks on two mosques [negativity: lexis; referring to negative event] WP 17

10. Police in Christchurch have said that all the evidence points to Tarrant being a lone gunman... WP 17

11. Police say Tarrant masterminded and conducted the deadliest mass shooting in New Zealand's history - and one of the worst cases of right-wing terrorism in years [superlativeness: comparison superlative, lexis implying large number; ideology: creed labeling; negativity: lexis ]. He is accused of storming the two houses of worship during midday prayers and shooting dozens of huddling and fleeing worshipers while live-streaming the killings over social media with a body-mounted camera [timeliness: present progressive; unexpectedness: unusual happening; superlativeness:

high intensity lexis (storming, huddling, fleeing)]. WP 17

12. The details of Mr. Tarrant's arsenal [superlativeness: high intensity lexis; non-proximity: detachment; negativity: lexis] emerged as New Zealand considers tightening its gun regulations [impact: representing non-actual consequences]. NYT 18

13. Espousing anti-immigrant, white-nationalist ideology, 28-year-old Australian national Brenton Tarrant [superlativeness: fronting; high intensity lexis (*espousing*); ideology: creed advocate; non-proximity: detachment] is accused of killing 50 people [negativity: lexis; superlativeness: numeral] at two mosques in Christchurch on Friday, rattling [impact: representing actual consequence] a country that takes pride in its safety, diversity and openness. WP 20

#### Gunman

1-The clip, which may have been taken from a helmet camera worn by a gunman, begins behind the wheel of a car. A man, whose face can occasionally be seen in the rearview mirror, drives through the streets of Christchurch before pulling up in front of the Muslim Association of Canterbury and its adjoining mosque on Dean Avenue, beside the sprawling Hagley Park. He then approaches the front of the mosque on foot, his weapon visible, and begins shooting at people at the entrance. What follows is a harrowing nearly two minutes of his firing on the worshipers. NYT 15

2-At one point, the gunman exits the mosque and fires in both directions down the sidewalk before returning to his car for another gun -- which, like the others, was inscribed with numbers, symbols or messages. When he re-enters the mosque, he shoots several bodies at close range. After another few minutes, he returns to his vehicle and drives away. "There wasn't even time to aim, there was so many targets," he says at one point, as the sirens of an emergency response vehicle blare in the background [Timeliness: simple present tense; negativity: describing negative action & negative lexis; superlativeness: high-intensity lexis; unexpectedness: unusual happening]. NYT 15

3-Before the shooting, the gunman posted links to a white nationalist manifesto on Twitter and 8chan [negativity: lexis; ideology: creed advocate], an online forum known for extremist right-wing discussions [consonance: referring to general knowledge; negativity: lexis; ideology: creed labeling]. The 8chan post included a link to the gunman's Facebook page [negativity: lexis], where he said he would also broadcast live video of the attack [unexpectedness: unusual happening]. The Twitter posts showed weapons covered in the names of past military generals and men who have recently carried out mass shootings [negativity: describing negative behavior; unexpectedness: unusual happening; superlativeness: lexis implying large amount]. NYT 15

4-Driving his white S.U.V. to the Deans Avenue mosque on Friday afternoon, the gunman played aloud a propaganda song that pays tribute to Radovan Karadzic, the former Bosnian Serb leader who was convicted of genocide and war crimes [negativity: negativity: describing negative behavior & lexis; unexpectedness: unusual happening; superlativeness: high intensity lexis]. NYT 16

5-So when a gunman stormed two mosques in the city of Christchurch during Friday Prayer, killing 49 people {negativity: lexis & describing negative behavior; unexpectedness: unusual happening; superlativeness: high intensity lexis; numeral}, the news moved quickly through New Zealand's nearly 50,000 Muslims and the wider Islamic world [superlativeness: numeral]. NYT 16

6-He shouted to the congregation of about 80 people to get down. The gunman turned and fired through a window. He kept firing [negativity: using lexis & describing negative behavior; superlativeness: lexis implying large numbers; numeral; aspectual verb; repetition *fire*; unexpectedness: unusual happening]\_ NYT 18

7-Fifty people were killed and 50 more were injured in the worst massacre in New Zealand's modern history when a gunman attacked two mosques in central Christchurch last week [negativity: using lexis & describing negative behavior; superlativeness: high intensity lexis, numeral, comparison *superlative*; unexpectedness: unusual happening]. CNN 20

#### Terrorist

1- At first glance, the shooter's "manifesto" seems to recall those of previous white nationalist killers [consonance: comparing with past events] such as Anders Breivik, a far-right terrorist [negativity: category label] who committed the 2011 Norway attacks [negativity: describing an event]. CNN 15

2- Social media has increasingly [superlativeness: growth lexis] been co-opted by terrorists in recent years [timeliness: temporal reference]. In 2013, Al-Shabaab militants live-tweeted the Westgate shopping mall attack in Nairobi, Kenya [consonance: comparing with past events]. By posting updates as the militants opened fire on shoppers, they took control of the narrative away from the media and bystanders.

In January 2015, a terrorist who gunned down [negativity] four people at a kosher market in eastern Paris recorded the attack on a GoPro camera [consonance], according to a US intelligence official [proximity; eliteness]. He tried to email the video out before he was killed by the police. CNN 15

3- As the Muslim community gathered to pray and mourn, hundreds of non-Muslims stood around the perimeter of the site in solidarity [superlativeness: numerals, quantifiers] . The area was treated with the



reverence of a mosque, with many women -- including the prime minister -- wearing headscarves as a mark of respect. Following the moment of silence, the Imam of Al Noor Mosque, Gamal Fouda, delivered a sermon at the Christchurch memorial, saying that he "saw hatred and rage in the eyes of the terrorist [negativity: negative lexis] who killed and martyred fifty innocent people, wounded 42, [negativity: describing negative event; superlativeness: numerals] and broke the hearts of millions around the world. [negativity: labelling emotions; superlativeness: metaphor; numerals]" CNN 21

4- Fouda was delivering his Friday sermon at the Al Noor Mosque last Friday when the gunman began his attack. "This terrorist sought to divide our nation apart with an evil ideology [negativity: describing negative state of affairs], that has torn the world apart, but instead we have shown that New Zealand is unbreakable, and that the world can see in us an example of love and unity. We are brokenhearted [negativity: emotions], but we are not broken. We are alive. We are together. We are determined to not let anyone divide us." CNN 21

5- "You will never hear me mention his name," Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern told the New Zealand Parliament Tuesday. "He is a terrorist, he is a criminal, he is an extremist, but he will, when I speak, be nameless, and to others I implore you: Speak the names of those who were lost rather than the name of the man who took them. He may have sought notoriety but we in New Zealand will give him nothing -- not even his name." CNN 19

6- Molly Pascal, a writer and a member of the Tree of Life synagogue [eliteness; proximity], lives in Pittsburgh.

When I saw the news from New Zealand Friday, the cracks in my heart widened [superlativeness: metaphor]. Another act of terrorism. Another act of hate. I know something of what the Christchurch community is going through because less than five months ago, my community went through something similar. On Oct. 27, a terrorist murdered 11 members of my synagogue in Pittsburgh [consonance: comparing with past event]. WP 16

7- "This doesn't change my feelings about New Zealand," said Said Abdukadir [personalization], whose 70-year-old father was killed in the attacks, which the Australian suspect said he committed specifically to cause shock in a country often lauded for being a safe haven [impact: hypothetical consequence; constructing causality]. Abdukadir was late for mosque that day and pulled up just as the gunman was leaving.

"This is what the terrorist wanted," he said, recalling how his father loved to walk through Hagley Park on his way to the mosque. "He wanted us to feel like we are not safe anywhere [impact: hypothetical consequence; superlativeness: repetition]. But we know what New

Zealand is." WP 18

8- For Jean-Yves Camus, a political scientist and scholar of the French far right [eliteness], who is unrelated to Renaud Camus, there is no empirical evidence connecting the New Zealand shooter to contemporary French discourse, for now. What is striking, he said, is that few seem interested in finding any.

"What I'm waiting for is the real inquiry in how and when the terrorist came into France," Camus said. "Did he meet with any right-wing group or individual? How long did he stay and where did he go?"

"We focus so much on the Islamist terrorist movement [ideology: advocate]," he added, "that when it comes to an extreme-right terrorist [ideology: advocate], we simply do not believe that it's as much of a threat. [unexpectedness: comparing with other entities; superlativeness: lexis implying large size]" WP 20

9- Shortly after the Friday shootings at two mosques in Christchurch, New Zealand, Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison confirmed that the primary suspect was an Australian citizen and denounced [negativity: attitude] him as a right-wing "terrorist" [ideology: advocate]. "We stand here and condemn absolutely [negativity: attitude; superlativeness: adverb] the attack that occurred today by an extremist, right-wing, violent terrorist, [negativity: category label; superlativeness: lexis " Morrison told a news conference. WP 16

10- Pakistani Prime Minister Imran Khan announced Sunday that Rashid would be given a posthumous national award for bravery. In tweets after the attack, Khan said the nation was proud of Rashid, "who was martyred trying to tackle the White Supremacist terrorist [ideology: advocate]. WP 18

#### White Supremacist

1- According to law enforcement, a self-avowed white supremacist [ideology: creed advocate] killed [negativity: negative action] 50 people [superlativeness: quantifier] at al Noor and Linwood mosques in Christchurch. The killings came amid a rising tide [superlativeness: lexis of growth] of religious conflict and white supremacist shootings at houses of worship [consonance: comparing with past events; negativity: negative actions; ideology: labelling creed] . CNN 19

2- Once again [consonance: lexis], a white supremacist [ideology: creed advocate] choosing to attack a minority group selected a "soft target," a house of worship [negativity: negative behavior] . WP 16

3- A manifesto linked to the accused killer, released through his social media account on the morning of the massacre [negativity: negative event; superlativeness: high intensity lexis], suggests its author considered himself a disciple and comrade of white supremacist killers [ideology: creed advocate; negativity: category label]. The suspect,

identified in court papers as Brenton Harrison Tarrant of Australia, also hailed President Trump [eliteness: role label], mocking his leadership skills but [unexpectedness: contrast] calling him "a symbol of renewed white identity and common purpose." [ideology: creed advocate] NYT 15 4-In 2011, a white supremacist and neo-Nazi murdered 77 people in Norway. In 2015, a white supremacist walked into a Charleston, S.C., church with a gun and killed nine people. In 2017, a white supremacist shooter killed six and injured 19 at a mosque in Canada. In 2018, a neo-Nazi and failed political candidate in Italy targeted and shot immigrants, injuring six. [consonance: referring to similar events; negativity: category labels, lexis and actions; ideology: creed advocates; superlativeness: numerals] WP 15

5-The alleged shooter in the New Zealand mosque massacre [negativity: category label; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] was a globe-trotting [superlativeness: metaphor] young Australian and avowed racist who immersed himself [superlativeness: high intensity lexis] in an Internet subculture of extreme anti-immigrant, anti-Muslim, white supremacist ideology [ideology: creed advocate; unexpectedness: referring to unusual happening; superlativeness: repetition]. WP 16

6-In the United States [proximity], the shooting of Muslim worshipers [negativity: describing negative event] allegedly by a white supremacist [ideology: creed advocate] underscored [super: lexis of growth] the deep partisan divide [impact: representing hypothetical consequences] over President Trump's [eliteness: role label] rhetoric on immigrants and whether his words serve as incitement for extremist violence [impact: representing hypothetical consequences; negativity: category label] . WP 17

7-The Christchurch massacre "underscores that violent white supremacists are an international threat," [Impact: actual consequence; negativity: lexis] said Oren Segal, director of the Anti-Defamation League's Center on Extremism [Eliteness: role label]. "We tend to focus on international threats like al-Qaeda and ISIS, but when you look at the way that white-supremacist ideas impact people, are spread, et cetera, there's really little difference," [unexpectedness: contrastive] Segal said. WP 16

#### White Nationalist

1-Scrawled on his rifle [superlativeness: fronting predicate] was a white nationalist credo [ideology: creed labeling; unexpectedness: unusual happening] popularized by the American domestic terrorist and neo-Nazi David Lane [consonance: stereotypical credo for neo-Nazi; negativity] . On his flak jacket [superlativeness: fronting predicate] was a symbol commonly [consonance: stereotypical symbol for neo-Nazi] used by the Azov Battalion, a Ukrainian neo-Nazi paramilitary organization. NYT 15

2-The gunman seems to have a significant interest in history -- at least, the parts that fit into a white nationalist narrative [ideology: creed labeling]. On his weapons, he wrote the names of centuries-old military leaders who led battles against largely nonwhite forces, along with the names of men who recently carried out mass shootings of Jews and Muslims [ideology: creed advocate; unexpectedness: referring to unusual happening; superlativeness: lexis implying a large amount; negativity: describing negative behavior] . NYT 15

3-The suspect , Brenton Harrison Tarrant, described himself as an "ethno-nationalist eco-fascist" "[ideology: creed advocate] in his lengthy, discursive statement, but he rooted that in his nationalist philosophy [ideology: creed advocate], accusing politicians on the left of "presiding over the continued destruction of the natural environment itself through mass immigration and uncontrolled urbanization." [superlativeness: lexis of growth & lexis of size] WP 17

4-Amid a social network crack down on ISIS propaganda, US white nationalist movements [ideology: creed advocate] have thrived , with followers growing by more than 600% [superlativeness: lexis of growth; numerals] on Twitter since 2012, according to a 2016 study by the Program on Extremism at George Washington University. In fact, growth in white nationalist and Nazi accounts on Twitter outpaced [superlativeness: lexis of growth; comparison with other movement through lexis] ISIS by almost every metric [superlativeness: lexis implying large amount] , in part because they faced less pressure from suspensions [impact: constructing causality]. CNN 21

5-Mr. Shanks, the country's chief official in charge of determining what is protected speech and what is not [eliteness: role label (appositive noun phrase)], made clear that the gunman's white nationalist diatribe [negativity: category label; ideology: creed advocate; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] was off-limits.

"It promotes, encourages and justifies acts of murder and terrorist violence against identified groups of people," Mr. Shanks said. "It identifies specific places for potential attack in New Zealand, and refers to the means by which other types of attack may be carried out. It contains justifications for acts of tremendous cruelty, such as the deliberate killing of children[negativity: describing negative state of affair; superlativeness: high intensity lexis]." NYT 22

## Appendix B

### Discursive News Values Analysis of Selected Extracts Related to Victims

## Victims

1. Ms. Ardern, the prime minister, [eliteness: role label] noted that many of the victims were immigrants [negativity: lexis; superlativeness: lexis indicating large number]. "For many this may not have been the place they were born," she said. "For many [superlativeness: lexis indicating large number; repetition], New Zealand was their choice, the place that they chose to come to and committed themselves to, the place they chose to raise their families. [superlativeness: repetition] " NYT 15
2. Many of the people killed in the attacks were the breadwinners in their families [superlativeness: lexis indicate large number; negativity: lexis; referring to negative state of affairs; impact: implying hypothetical consequences], Ms. Ardern [eliteness] said after meeting with victims' relatives on Saturday. NYT 15
3. Some victims [negativity] had found refuge in New Zealand. A Syrian refugee, a Pakistani academic and their sons were among the 50 people killed, [personalization: referring to ordinary people; superlativeness: numeral; negativity: lexis], family members [personalization] and nonprofit organizations [eliteness] confirmed. Syrian refugee Khaled Mustafa and his family moved to New Zealand in 2018 because they saw it as a safe haven [consonance: ref. to assumptions], Syrian Solidarity New Zealand [eliteness] said on its Facebook page. CNN16
4. A Syrian refugee and his teenage sons, a Pakistani academic and a blossoming student [personalization] are among the victims of Friday's terror attacks [negativity: lexis, referring to negative state of affairs; superlativeness: high intensity lexis; timeliness: temporal reference] in Christchurch, New Zealand. CNN 16
5. With the main suspect in custody, authorities [eliteness] turned their focus to the victims and the families of those who lost their lives [negativity: lexis, referring to state of affairs] . "Our other key priority is making sure that those people so horribly affected by these events [negativity: labelling emotions; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] get the support and welfare that they need," the New Zealand Police [eliteness] said in a statement. "There are many, many victims of this tragic event [superlativeness: repetition, high intensity lexis; negativity: lexis] and we are giving every possible support to them [consonance: ref to stereotypes]." CNN 16
6. Members of Pittsburgh's Tree of Life synagogue, where a white supremacist killed 11 worshippers October 27 in the deadliest anti-Semitic attack in American history [negativity: lexis, ref to negative action; superlativeness: superlative adjective; proximity: ref to American community; consonance: comparing with past event], have started [timeliness: newness] a campaign to support [positivity: ref to positive action] mourners and victims of Friday's massacre [negativity: lexis;

timeliness: temporal reference; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] at two mosques in New Zealand. CNN 19

7. Erdogan [eliteness] has called on Western governments [eliteness] in the aftermath of the Christchurch attack [negativity] to do more to combat Islamophobia [idology: creed]. But he also appears to be politicizing the massacre [negativity: evaluative language, lexis; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] discussing it at events ahead of local elections. At a rally Monday, he aired footage of the mosque shooting that had been live-streamed by the suspect, though the victims were blurred out [negativity: describing negative action; unexpectedness: concession]. CNN 19

8. On Wednesday, 16-year-old Hamza Mustafa and his father, Khaled Mustafa, [personalization: ordinary people] who had arrived in New Zealand only a few months ago after escaping the war in Syria, were laid to rest [negativity: lexis, ref to negative action], becoming the first victims of the Christchurch mosque attacks to be buried [timeliness: newness]. WP21

9. Atta Elayyan, 33, [personalization: ordinary people] was one of the many [superlativeness: quantifier] victims of the mosque attacks laid to rest [negativity: lexis, ref to negative action] in a mass [superlativeness: lexis implying large number] funeral on Friday [timeliness: temporal sequence]. His loved ones [personalization: category labels] told his story. NYT 22

#### Muslims

1- And so when a gunman stormed [superlativeness] two mosques in the city of Christchurch during Friday Prayers, killing 49 people [negativity: describing negative action; superlativeness: numeral], the terror rippled [superlativeness: high intensity lexis; negativity: evaluative language] through New Zealand's nearly 50,000 Muslims and beyond, reaching into homes throughout the Middle East, Asia and Oceania [superlativeness: numerals and lexis; impact: representing actual consequence]. NYT 15

2- For Farhana Khera, president and executive director of Muslim Advocates [Eliteness], the anger over immigration [negativity: labelling emotion] and the reference to Trump in the shooter's manifesto [negativity: negative behavior] is a troubling confirmation [negativity: evaluative] of concerns that many in the U.S. Muslim community [proximity: referring to American community] have about the climate created by the president's rhetoric [impact: referring actual consequence]. "Trump [Eliteness] is not going out and carrying out these attacks, but [unexpectedness: contrast] he has had a drumbeat of demonizing Muslims and immigrants [impact: actual consequence; negativity: lexis; superlativeness: high intensity lexis], saying that we should be feared and that we're violent and that we don't belong," Khera said. WP 16

- Trump [eliteness] has often been quick to wade in when a Muslim extremist has been a perpetrator of an attack and Muslims are not the victims, or to use such attacks to further his political arguments [negativity: evaluating Trump's attitude towards muslims]. CNN 15
- 3- People started writing supportive messages using the hashtag #TheyAreUs to signal that Muslims are welcome in New Zealand [positivity: referring to positive attitude] . The phrase gained traction [impact: actual consequence] after New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern [eliteness] used the words when discussing the attack on Friday . CNN 15
- 4- For Muslims [personalization: ordinary people] in New Zealand and abroad, the massacre drew both sadness and outrage [negativity: lexis; impact: actual consequence] -- it was a crime and a tragedy [negativity: lexis; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] , but also, in the eyes of many [superlativeness: quantifier], a brazen act of hatred [negativity: lexis; impact: actual consequence] borne from years of anti-Muslim sentiment. NYT 15
- 5- Muslim leaders across New Zealand [eliteness], however, stressed that the attacks were out of character for the country [unexpectedness: phrase indicating unusual behavior], a place many of them associated with peace [superlativeness: quantifier; unexpectedness: comparing with past state of affairs].  
He said that the deaths would affect Muslims across the country [impact: verb]. "Everybody knew each other," [consonance: stereotypical behavior] he said, adding that he had been unable to contact friends who had worshiped at the Christchurch mosques on Friday. NYT 15
- 6- Demonizing Muslims [negativity: attitude; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] and immigrants leads to predictable results [impact: verb & noun; consonance: lexis evaluating *results* as expected] WP 15
- 7- Immediately after Friday's attacks in Christchurch, the Te Atat Baptist Church in Auckland [eliteness], New Zealand, announced on Facebook it was opening its doors to Muslims because mosques had been closed [positivity: positive behavior]. CNN 15
- 8- In a 74-page manifesto released online ahead of the attacks, Tarrant promised to kill Muslims [negativity: lexis] and "directly reduce immigration rates. [impact: hypothetical consequence]". WP 16
- 9- American group Muslim Advocates [eliteness; proximity] said: "We are devastated [negativity: negative feelings; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] . Today is a tragedy [negativity: negative feelings; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] not just for Muslims, but for all people of faith and goodwill. [superlativeness: quantifier]" The group urged Muslims in the United States [proximity] to stay "vigilant and strong" as they attend mosques on Friday. CNN 16

- 10- Minnesota Democratic Sen. Amy Klobuchar [eliteness; proximity] said President Donald Trump's rhetoric exacerbated tensions [negativity: negative attitude; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] and called for him to condemn bigotry against Muslims... Klobuchar spoke with CNN from Iowa as she vies for her party's presidential nomination to challenge Trump next year. She said after the recent attack on Muslims [negativity; timeliness] in New Zealand, it was "on all of us to condemn this hate," including Trump [consonance: referring to expected behavior]. "He, at the very least, should be giving strong statements, public speeches, defending Muslims in this world, [impact: hypothetical consequence]" Klobuchar said. CNN 17
- 11- Trump's handling of the New Zealand terrorist attack, critics say, also follows a familiar pattern: The president has often seemed eager to highlight attacks and hate crimes perpetrated by Muslims but has frequently been slower and less forceful when Muslims are the victims [consonance: Trump's stereotypical behavior constructed by lexis; superlativeness: comparing events] . WP 19
- 12- Muslim leaders [eliteness] have asked Trump to speak out in the way that President George W. Bush did after the 9/11 attacks and the way President Barack Obama did at a Baltimore-area mosque [proximity]: explicitly affirming the faith of Islam and the place of Muslims in the American fabric [positivity: positive attitude; superlativeness: metaphor]. WP 16
- 13- "Ardern's performance has been extraordinary [positivity: positive attitude; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] ..." political commentator Bryce Edwards [eliteness] told Reuters. When she went to Christchurch the day after the attacks, Ardern visited refugees and Muslims. Dressed in black and wearing the Muslim-style headscarf known as a hijab, she tearfully told them that the whole country was "united in grief." [positivity: describing her behavior]. Wearing the hijab was "a sign of respect," wrote Negar Mortazavi, an Iranian American journalist [positivity: evaluating her act; eliteness] WP 19
- 14- Cihangir Islam, a Turkish lawmaker from an opposition Islamist party [eliteness], also praised [positivity] Ardern[eliteness]. She tells Muslims in pain, " 'You, you're us!' [positivity: positive attitude]" Islam wrote. "She symbolically covers her head when she goes to a home for condolences; she boldly underlines her respect and solidarity [positivity: positive attitude]. How thirsty we have become for justice and mercy in state administration. [superlativeness: metaphor, high intensity lexis; impact: exclamative]; " WP 19
- 15- Exactly a week after the attacks, hundreds of Muslims [superlativeness: numerals; personalization] were joined by thousands of other New Zealanders [superlativeness: numerals; personalization],



including the prime minister [eliteness] , for Friday prayers [positivity: positive behavior] . The call to prayer rang out [superlativeness: high intensity lexis] across Hagley Park, opposite the Al Noor Mosque, where 42 people were killed [negativity: negative action]. WP 22

### Families

- 1- We join New Zealand and Muslim communities around the world in condemnation of this evil as we pray for the families of each victim [personalization] and grieve together [negativity: lexis, emotional behavior]," the first daughter and adviser to the President [eliteness; proximity] tweeted. CNN 15
- 2- Ms. Ardern [eliteness] said a government compensation system [positivity: positive behavior] would help families left without income [impact: actual consequence; negativity: negative state of affairs ]. In the meantime, mosques will continue to receive police protection, she said. NYT 15
- 3- Throughout the Middle East, Asia and Oceania, families frantically [negativity: emotional behavior] sought visas so they could race to the bed sides of the injured [superlativeness: high intensity lexis] . NYT 15
- 4- By the end of the day, as emergency rooms scrambled to treat the wounded and families gathered to mourn the dead [negativity: lexis; negative state of affairs; consonance: stereotypical behavior], police had three people in custody, including Tarrant, a former fitness WP 16
- 5- In the United States, the National Rifle Association, a leading advocate of gun-owner rights [eliteness; proximity], issued its first statement on the attack, denouncing the killer while saying nothing about the weapons used [negativity: negative attitude]. "It doesn't matter if these senseless tragedies occur in the United States or abroad, our deepest sympathies are with the victims and their families," [consonance: stereotypical act] said Andrew Arulanandam, a spokesman for the group [eliteness]. NYT 16
- 6- authorities are racing [eliteness; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] to identify the 50 people killed in a massacre at two mosques so their families can bury them in accordance with Muslim tradition [negativity: negative state of affairs; consonance: stereotypical tradiiton]. CNN 17 7.tx
- 7- Local funeral home has been designated to receive bodies for families to conduct ritual washings [consonance: stereotypical tradition]. But families still don't know where the funerals will be held. WP 18 6.txt
- 8- Christchurch Mayor Lianne Dalziel [eliteness] said her focus was on "providing practical support for families" dealing with the trauma [impact: actual consequence; negativity: evaluating language;

superlativeness: high intensity lexis]. "We've all been affected," she said. "Everyone has been touched in in some way, shape or form." [impact: actual consequence] WP 20

- 9- The process of identifying bodies has been, by all accounts, meticulous, in line with international standards and New Zealand's strict procedures for murder victims [consonance: referring to rules]. It has also been divisive [negativity: evaluating process]. Some of the affected families [negativity: evaluative lexis] described the process as paternalistic [negativity: evaluating process]. NYT 20

#### Worshippers

1- He approaches the mosque on foot, his weapon visible, and begins shooting at people at the entrance [negativity: describing negative act; timeliness: tense/time reference; unexpectedness: unusual happening]. What follows is a harrowing [negativity: evaluating language; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] nearly two minutes of his firing on worshippers [negativity: describing act]. NYT 15

2- Police departments in major American cities [proximity] intensified security around houses of worship. At some mosques in New York [proximity], clusters [superlativeness: lexis implying large numbers] of police officers wearing tactical gear and armed with semiautomatic rifles stood sentry [superlativeness] as worshippers entered for prayer [unexpectedness: unusual happening]. NYT 16

3- When Ahmed Khan [personalization] moved to New Zealand as a refugee from Afghanistan 12 years ago, he thought he had left violence and death behind.

But on Friday, as he was praying at Linwood mosque in Christchurch, an armed man started shooting indiscriminately at worshippers [negativity: describing and evaluating act; timeliness: implicit time reference]-- first outside the mosque, then through the windows as women and children huddled inside [superlativeness: lexis implying large numbers], screaming [negativity: describing emotional behavior]. CNN 16

4- As American Muslims [proximity; personalization] mourned the worshippers killed in attacks on two New Zealand mosques [negativity:

negative act], new ripples of fear [negativity: negative emotions; timeliness: newness; superlativeness: high intensity lexis] echoed through a community that has long felt unease in the United States [impact: representing actual consequence]... At Masjid Muhammad in Washington [proximity], more than 300 sock-footed worshipers packed in for prayer [superlativeness: numerals, lexis implying large number; consonance: referring to tradition], along with city leaders [eliteness]. Staff and members worked hard to create a feeling of calm: A small girl walked around hugging visitors, Girl Scouts sold cookies on the sidewalk and smiling worshipers greeted people enthusiastically [positivity: emotional behavior] at every doorway. WP 16

5- Police say Tarrant masterminded and conducted the deadliest mass shooting in New Zealand's history - and one of the worst cases of right-wing terrorism in years [superlativeness: superlative adj., lexis implying large number]. He is accused of storming the two houses of worship during midday prayers and shooting dozens of huddling and fleeing worshipers [negativity: act, describing behavior; superlativeness: quantifier, lexis implying large number]; while live-streaming the killings over social media with a body-mounted camera [unexpectedness: unusual happening]. WP 17

6- Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern [eliteness] gave an emotional speech at her first address to Parliament since the terror attack, praising the "extraordinary courage" demonstrated by mosque worshipers and police [positivity: evaluating worshipers and police] during one of the country's "darkest days. [superlativeness: superlative adj.]" CNN 19

## الملخص باللغة العربية

البناء اللغوي للقيم الإخبارية في تغطية وسائل الإعلام الأمريكية لإحدى جرائم الكراهية:

تحليل خطابي مستند علي المتون

تهدف الدراسة الي الكشف عن اساليب البناء اللغوي للقيم الإخبارية في التقارير الصادرة عن وسائل الإعلام الأمريكية والتي تناولت مرتكب وضحايا جريمة الكراهية التي وقعت في نيوزيلندا في مارس ٢٠١٩ ضد المسلمين . ويعتمد البحث علي نهجين تحليلين هما التحليل الخطابي للقيم الإخبارية (بدنارك وكابل ٢٠١٢ ، ٢٠١٧) ونهج المتون اللغوية مستخدما تطبيق أنت كونك (انطوني ٢٠١٩) . ويتكون المتن المتخصص للدراسة من ١٥١ تقريراً اخبارياً تم جمعها من ثلاث مؤسسات اخبارية امريكية هي سي أن أن ونيويورك تايمز وواشنطن بوست وتتناول الفترة من ١٥ الي ٢٢ مارس ٢٠١٩ ، أما المتن المرجعي فهو متن الأنجليزية الأمريكية المعاصرة ولاسيما متن النصوص الصحفية . ويستخدم التحليل المستند علي المتون اللغوية عدة أدوات منها قائمة الكلمات الرئيسية والعبارات المتوافقة مع كلمة البحث ، أما الإطار التحليلي للأساليب اللغوية التي تسهم في بناء القيم الإخبارية استندت الباحثة علي قائمة الأدوات اللغوية ل بدنارك وكابل (٢٠١٧) وجيفريز (٢٠١٠). وتوصلت الدراسة الي أن أكثر القيم الأخبارية تواجداً عند ذكر مرتكب الجريمة او ضحاياها هي "السلبية" (أي الصورة القاتمة السلبية) و"المبالغة" ، أما القيمة الأخبارية التي تقتصر علي مرتكب الجريمة فهي الأيدولوجية في حين ان القيم الي اقتصرت علي الضحايا فهي "اضفاء الطابع الأنساني الشخصي" و "الأيجابية" .