

Unveiling Power Dynamics: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Cybercrimes News Reporting in Pakistani Print Media

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ABSTRACT

Cybercrime is a worldwide illegal human activity. It is not limited to a specific boundary or border. It is a new kind of threat to challenge all legal authorities, enforcement agencies, and governments to curb it completely within and outside boundaries. The present study aims to analyze the cybercrime news reports published in Pakistani print media. It investigates cybercrime news stories in the context of textual, cognitive, and social critical perspectives through Van Dijk's CDA model 2005. Van Dijk's Model was an attempt to analyze the structure of the news, its production, consumption, and presentation in two Pakistani English Newspapers Dawn and The Express Tribune. Data compiled of Cybercrime news stories from January 01, 2023, to 31 December 2023, and analyzed using Van Dijk's CDA model: textual, Socio-Cognitive, and social context. The researcher purposively selected four (4) cybercrime news stories. The research revealed that the Cybercrime stories published in Pakistani Print Media are manipulated for ideological, cultural, and social interests. In different crime news stories, the reporters deliberately utilized the structure of the news story for specific ideological and social purposes. This study will help reporters and editors avoid such prejudices, biases, and manipulation.

Keywords: Cybercrime, Pakistani Print Media, Newspaper, CDA, Socio-Cognitive, Van Dijk Model.

INTRODUCTION

Critical Discourse Analysis addresses how language maintains social inequalities and power relations. It emerged during the 1970s and 1980s based on the response to traditional methods, which most times nullified the social and political contexts. CDA pays more attention to behaviour and ideas being shaped, focusing on discursive strategies toward societal challenges such as power and authority (Van Dijk, 2001). Cybercrime has emerged as an issue with technological advancement and increased online engagement over the past few years. The activity is rampant in Pakistan; most Pakistani netizens will readily relate to social media harassment, fraud, and cyber-stalking. According to the Federal Investigation Authorities, 65% of cyber-crime incidents of harassment on Facebook are mainly among females (The Express Tribune, 2018).

This research studies the way cybercrime is represented through the use of language in Pakistani print media, specifically in Dawn and The Express Tribune, by making use of CDA and Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model (2005) to understand discourses representing these crimes and their reflection on social beliefs.

Although digital technologies have dramatically changed the communication dynamics which offer enormous opportunities, yet also resort to enormous challenges even in the field of cyber-crime; a term that includes a variety of illegal activities taking place online (Yar & Steinmetz, 2019). Because the media is the primary institution which frames public discourse, it defines and influences public perceptions about cybercrime. An important area is how cybercrime is reported in a complex media landscape such as Pakistan. Media shapes the public's understanding and influences the policy-making process for cyber-security. Techniques used in print media work to disseminate certain ideologies in specific ways, as Van Dijk (2005) reminds us about the role of discourse in media in producing and reproducing societal power relations. Thus, in media reporting, there are significant variations to be found behind the policy and power. As, in most cases, representations in these texts are far from reality. Public discourse, in ever-increasing repute, is discussing issues regarding cyber-crime relevance. In contrast, research about Pakistani print media is massively under-represented, especially during the years 2022-2023.

Therefore, the present study aims to bridge this gap by critically analyzing how The Dawn and The Express Tribune report on cybercrime, unearthing implicit meanings as well as inherent biases. It has been observed that the media tends to exaggerate the prevalence of Cybercrimes, which in turn affects public fear and demands for more stringent controls (Chouliaraki and Fairclough, 1999). Research in the Pakistani context indicates that media reports on Cybercrimes are highly politicized (Khan, 2018). While there are significant writings on media portrayal of cyber-crimes internationally, there is a lack of examinations on Pakistani print media especially in 2022-2023. Most existing examination either takes a wide perspective on computerized wrongdoing or cyber-security. Burak (2020) analyzed cybersecurity News in Turkish Print Media and found similar manipulation of language. Another research conducted in Nigeria highlights how discourse and visual strategies in framing internet fraudsters in selected Nigerian Newspapers uncover the fact that media indeed uses language to benefit the powerful, controlling institutions (Osisanwo, A. & Olaniyi, T. 2021).

Moreover, Syed's (2023) study on Pakistani print media's portrayal of Cybercrime News is limited, focusing on two newspapers from 2020-2021. This study aims to fill this gap by examining how Pakistani papers, specifically English newspapers Dawn and The Express Tribune, have portrayed and projected cyber-crime using textual structures, social cognition and social contexts in 2022-2023. The research aims to reveal implicit meanings, ideological positions, and biases in news coverage using Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis (2005), contributing to public knowledge and policy discussion on Cybercrime.

Limitations

Although this research is comprehensive, the researchers acknowledge that it has some limitations.

The sample size of 4 cyber-crime news reports is enough for qualitative analysis but may not be adequate to capture all Pakistani print media reporting practices. Larger sample sizes might help to gain a better understanding of the media landscape.

Moreover, this investigation involves only two English-language newspapers, Dawn and The Express Tribune. This concentration overlooks other Urdu-language newspapers as well as local publications that could offer alternative perspectives on the issue of Cybercrime reporting.

Objectives

1. To analyze the discourse structures used by Print Media in Pakistan to portray news reporting on cyber-crime in the light of Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model (2005).
2. To examine the portrayal of cyber-crime news reporting by Print Media in Pakistan through Social Cognition and Context.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) reveals the power dynamics and underlying ideologies that underlay social interactions in a society (Ryan, 2011). Similar to spoken or written language, a text must be described linguistically and examined contextually (Widdowson, 2008). Since CDA identifies text as a

social phenomenon, it is imperative to examine the text's historical, social, and contextual elements. Print media is a source of information for the masses, hence, its biases, potential for inequality, specific ideologies, and other issues are all unfolded in the way the language is used. There is also a great potential for the hegemonic groups to control the text which is a highly discussed topic (Faerch & Kasper, 1984). CDA is a widely used tool to expose the ideologies that categorize the oppressed while presenting a favourable picture of those in positions of power (Sahmeni, 2019). The study of CDA aims to reproduce the text in a social function of society while also examining and challenging the relationships between power and discursive legitimization of dominance (Van Dijk, 2001).

Brenner (2010) has pointed out that the publication has limited knowledge about the Cybercrime that occurs in the digital realm. As per the internet world statistics of 2017, 15.5% of Pakistan's population was using the internet. This number has increased to 22.2%, which is equivalent to 2 million users, in 2018. Pakistan's internet user base grew by 22 million (+35.9%) from 2021 and 2022 (Kemp, 2022). The Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) obtained a total of 102,356 complaints of Cyberbullying and harassment from Jan 1, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021 (Dawn, 2022).

As per the Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG) report of 2020, cyber attackers started Distributed Denial of Services (DDoS) attacks on websites of Pakistani Security Forces and the Federal Government. The study emphasized how challenging it is for the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) to protect against these kinds of attacks because they call for specific knowledge and experience. The official report from the National Response Centre for Cyber Crime verified that the FIA division is unable to identify indications of intrusion, particularly when the intrusion is carried out through proxies. (Bitaab, 2020). There has been a notable transition from the physical to the digital world as a result of the quick development of technical innovation and connection. However, this shift has also led to numerous vulnerabilities in the world of the internet. The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA), the Cyber Security Wing of NACTA, and the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) are collaborating to strengthen their capacities in order to combat Cybercrimes in Pakistan. (Warraich, 2023).

Reah (2002) discusses how News is significant information about current events that is disseminated for the benefit of sizable groups and has the potential to impact those specific groups' lives. In previous years, many well-known researchers, including Van Dijk (1983, 1989, 1993a, 1995) Valdivia (2003), and McCombs (2004) have admitted the Power and dominance of mass media. Van Dijk (1983), asserts that the News is based on reconstructive reality for some societies' norms and values rather than actual events. It is a known truth that the affluent class despises "ordinary people," and that they have Power over them (Schiffrin, Tannen, & Hamilton, 2015). News has to be impartial, fact-based, trustworthy, and significant to the public. (Edstrom, 2002). However, Fowler (1991) argues that the News is not dependent on fact and neutrality but is dependent on production. It is a product of an industry which is shaped by the mutual relations of media, political, economic structure, administration, bureaucracy, and other institutions of the country.

It's a common misconception that the media is a reliable and impartial source of information, but in reality, it serves as a tool for mind control and the replication, justification, and reinforcement of discursive practices within the natural framework (Syed, 2023). Mahmood, Kausar, and Khan (2018) conducted similar research on Newspaper ideology by examining News reports on the attack on the Army Public School on December 16 from Dawn News and The New York Times and found that editors can use headlines as an emotionally charged tactic to start and maintain conversations and shape people's opinions. In addition to controlling Social behavior, the Power also has mental control over its constituents (Van Dijk, 1998). The various media include News reports, political action, religious discourse, and advertising, their main objectives are not just to pass information but to also influence and change the behaviors of the targeted group. CDA focuses on discursive analysis and non-discursive practices, with misuse of Power by the ruling class. It also allows influence over language, discourse, context, and decision-making processes, as well as access to media outlet elites.

Ebebe et al. (2020) point out the significance of the study of CDA on internet fraud of selected songs by Nigerian singers. Nigerian singers use language to describe how Cybercrime is executed by locals. Nigerian hip-hop musicians in the music industry have had a history of making music of either supporting openly the crimes or poetically interpreting them, both on a positive note. Similarly,

Osisanwo, A., & Olaniyi, T. (2021) investigated the discourse and visual strategies in framing internet fraudsters in 4 selected Nigerian Newspapers published between January 2021 and May 2021. The study reveals that internet scammers are portrayed in Nigerian media as Social actors whose deeds have a significant impact on the nation's socioeconomic structure; as such, their portrayals have increased Social and economic significance.

As Richardson (2006) states a News story must go through several procedures, including selection, gathering, writing, story construction, idea generation, and editing, all of which are based on Social conventions. If that is compromised, the story may be seen as being against the interests of the elite class.

Syed (2023) states that Cybercrime News reporting is not featured on Newspaper front pages or main pages in Pakistani Print Media. Any country's Print Media primarily publishes commercial News on its front pages and the main pages are devoted to stories on politics, economy, national security, and other topics while less important pages are covered by stories about Cybercrime. Data was collected from News articles about Cybercrimes between May 20, 2020, and April 13, 2021. In the context of the present study, the researchers address the lack of comprehensive analysis of how Pakistani Newspapers Dawn and The Express Tribune cover Cybercrimes from the years 2022 to 2023. Furthermore, the Power dynamics and impact of these media sources in influencing the public's view of Cybercrimes have not been sufficiently examined in previous research. The research attempts to reveal underlying meanings, ideological attitudes, and biases in their reporting through the application of CDA. The purpose of this analysis is to improve public knowledge of Cybercrime in Pakistan and to contribute to policy discussions.

METHODOLOGY

This research adopts a qualitative approach using CDA to analyze 4 news stories, 2 from each, Dawn and The Express Tribune, published between January 2022 and December 2023, focusing on the reporting of Cybercrime in Pakistani print media. As it provides a thorough framework for comprehending how news narratives are created and discursive activities may be evaluated via a qualitative lens to show underlying power relations, the research is well-suited for evaluating news narratives. To find hidden biases, complicated power relations, and hidden beliefs in the language used to report cybercrime, an exploratory study technique was applied. This methodology enables a detailed examination of the language features and ideologies included in the newspapers, illuminating how these components influence readers' perceptions and interpretations. Further, the purposive sampling method was used to choose the sample from the English newspapers, The Dawn and The Express Tribune. Due to the nature of this qualitative research, purposive sampling helps the researcher to collect the most relevant data.

To ensure validity and reliability, a thorough methodology and Socio-Cognitive theory have been established to validate the results of the current study. The study explores the relationship between cyber-crimes and print media and its link with Critical Discourse Analysis to investigate news reporting in the Pakistani context. For data analysis, a qualitative research approach was selected. Qualitative analysis is conducted using Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model (2005) which emphasizes on Textual Structures, Social Cognition, and Social Context.

Ethical Consideration

The research adheres to the highest ethical standards to ensure the integrity and credibility of the study. The research process must be transparent, with clear communication of the study's purpose, methods, and potential impacts. It is important to respect the autonomy and dignity of all participants, treating them with fairness and respect. The research should aim to contribute positively to the field while avoiding any form of exploitation or harm.

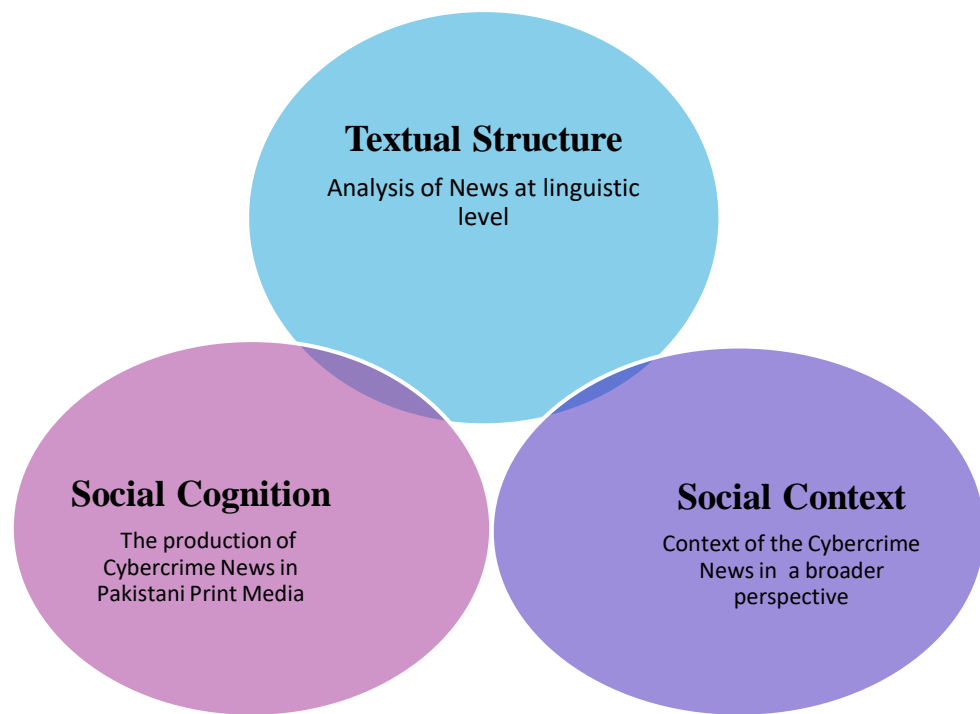


Figure 1: Socio-Cognitive Model (Van Dijk, 2005)

Van Dijk's Socio-Cognitive Model (2005) focuses on three interrelated dimensions: the textual structure regarding linguistic features such as Syntax, Semantics and Rhetorical devices; the Cognitive level that examines how readers' thinking processes shape their production, reception and interpretations of Cybercrime News reports and the Social context, which evaluates the broader context that includes Social background and cultural norms. By incorporating these components, the study aims to provide an in-depth understanding of how media narratives influence and reflect Power dynamics and societal attitudes regarding Cybercrime. Figure 1 explains Van Dijk's (2005) idea in three loops which are as follows:

1. **Textual Structure:** Where data is analyzed linguistically, i.e. syntax, semantic, phonological, rhetorical, sentence and grammatical levels.
2. **Cognition Level:** Production of cyber-crime news in Print Media in Pakistan: its consumption and comprehension via cognition processes.
3. **Social Context:** the context of the Cybercrime News in a broader perspective: its context and Social background norms and culture are included.

DATA ANALYSIS

Using Van Dijk' Socio-Cognitive Model (2005) and a variety of tables, the researchers examined data from two English-language Pakistani Newspapers, The Dawn and The Express Tribune, based on factors such as ideological content on textual structure (macro-structure, super-structure, and micro-structure), social cognition and social context levels. The section below shows a detailed analysis of the News stories.

Table 1: A	A Scheme of Textual Structures
Macro-structure	Analyzing a text with global significance from a thematic and values viewpoint
Superstructure	Analyzing apparent text in a schematic significance such as schema of showing introduction, content and conclusion
Micro-structure	Analyzing observable text for importance in local meaning Semantically, syntactically, Stylistically, and Rhetorically, the observer closely examines the choices of words, phrases, and techniques employed in the text.

Table 1 outlines a scheme for discourse analysis, which splits into three levels of examination: Macro-structure, Super-structure, and Micro-structure. The Macro-structure analyzes a text's underlying principles and themes to determine its global importance. The text's schematic arrangement is examined in the Superstructure, which assesses how the introduction, content, and conclusion are divided into sections. Finally, the Micro-structure entails a thorough examination of the text's local meaning, paying close attention to the words, phrases, and rhetorical devices chosen for their semantic, syntactic, stylistic, and rhetorical purposes.

Table 2: B	Discursive Elements	
Discursive structure	Observable aspects in the text	Elements
Macro-structure	Thematic, Topics/themes are the main concern	Topic
Superstructure	Observing the parts, strategies and sequences of new reporting	Scheme

Table 2 outlines the discursive elements involved in evaluating texts. The Macro-structure level focuses on thematic issues, including the text's primary subjects or themes, classified as "Topic." The Super-structure level of analysis focuses on the structure and tactics of news reporting, encompassing the different sections and flow of the text, which is categorized as a "Scheme."

Table 3: C	Micro-structure of the Text	
Semantic	Explicitly providing the details on one side and reducing on the other side in the News story to give the meaning of will	background, intention, details, presupposition, assumption
Syntax	How functional words to choose for coherence to draw meanings of will and designed shape of the sentence by using the connector in the News story.	Constructing phrases, sentences, coherence, connector, functional, part of speech, pronounce
Stylistic	Analyzing the style of the producer in the way of tone, behavior and lexical choice to make sentences logical for the readers to convince them	Lexical choice
Rhetoric	Using persuading diction to convince readers, emphasis on certain ideas	Metaphorical presentation, graphical imagery, number game, expectations

Table 3 delves into the Micro-structure of text analysis, with an emphasis on four key elements: semantic, syntax, stylistic and rhetoric. The semantic aspect involves looking at how particular details and background information are presented in the news story to clarify the meaning of terms while downplaying others, addressing background, intention, details, presupposition, and assumption. Syntax analysis emphasizes phrase formation, sentence design, coherence, and the function of parts of speech by examining how connectors and functional word choices are used to organize sentences logically. The stylistic aspect, which focuses mostly on lexical selection, assesses the producer's use of tone, and vocabulary choice to create sentences that readers will find convincing and logical. The Rhetoric aspect

focuses on the art of persuasive communication that employs carefully chosen diction to influence readers' emotions and beliefs.

Each one of the news stories has been analyzed through the same design. The section below shows a detailed CDA of Stories 1 through 4.

Story 1: Two Arrested for Sexual Blackmail

Table 4: A. Macrostructure of the Text

Theme/ topic	The text discusses the successful operation by the FIA Cybercrime Circle in Quetta, targeting individuals involved in sexual harassment and blackmail through a deceptive loan app, emphasizing the importance of cybersecurity awareness.
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Table 4: B. Superstructure of the Text

Introduction	The leading paragraph in this Cybercrime News story put the information related to sexual harassment and blackmailing. Reporting News stories with an informative tone as the story begins by The Federal Investigation Agency's Cybercrime Circle in Quetta has apprehended two individuals involved in sexual harassment and blackmail, Malik Shariq and Saqib Abbas, in a significant operation.
Content	This story is based on a convict, Malik shariq and Saqib Abbas, involved in the crime. they targeted individuals, attempting to extort money by threatening to leak their compromising pictures and videos. The victim of the story was the complainant's daughter
Closing	In closing, the text emphasizes the importance of arrests in combating Cybercrimes and the dedication of law enforcement agencies to justice. It encourages citizens to remain vigilant and report suspicious activities, underscoring the need for cybersecurity awareness in the digital age.

Table 4: C. Microstructure of the Text

Semantics	In the Cybercrime News story, the reporter used specific and impactful language to convey the message. Phrases like "successfully apprehended," "deceptive loan app," and "threatening to leak compromising pictures" carry strong semantic weight, emphasizing the severity of the crimes. The use of terms like "exploit," "extort money," and "objectionable photos" contributes to framing the accused actions as morally and legally reprehensible.
Syntax	The reporter of the story used a combination of complex and compound sentences that contribute to the clarity and coherence of the narrative. The use of passive voice, as in "were taken into custody" and "confiscated two mobile phones," shifts the focus onto the actions performed by law enforcement, maintaining a formal tone. The syntax contributes to a straightforward and informative narrative flow.
Stylistics	The reporter elevated this Cybercrime News story through Stylistic devices. the text employs a formal and authoritative style, befitting a News or official statement. The repetition of the agency's name,

	"Federal Investigation Agency's (FIA) Cybercrime Circle," creates a sense of authority and officialdom. The choice of words like "apprehended," "launched an investigation," and "legal process is underway" adds a layer of formality, establishing a serious tone.
Rhetoric	From the Rhetorical point of view, it underlines the gravity of the issue and the steps taken by the law enforcing officers. The word "threatening to leak compromising pictures and videos" uses imagery; it brings in a greater emotional impact and condemnation of the suspect. The repetition of the agency's promise, as in "committed to ensuring justice" and "leave no stone unturned," uses Rhetorical devices to make amends of its commitment.

Source: (The Express Tribune, November 25th, 2023)

Story 2: Bushra Ansari takes to FIA against fake accounts threatening Imran Khan in her name

	Table 5: A. Macrostructure of the Text
Theme/topic	Combating online impersonation and its misuse for Political agendas

	Table 5.1: B. Superstructure of the Text
Introduction	<p>Bushra Ansari, one of Pakistan's veterans for acting, has taken decisive steps to curb the evil of online impersonation.</p> <p>The actress lodged a complaint with the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA) against more than 10 fake accounts being operated in her name on various Social media platforms, mainly Twitter, which have been misusing her image and fame, which even chanted political slogans against former Prime Minister Imran Khan.</p>

Content	Actress Bushra Ansari took up cudgels by fighting against harassment and a blackened reputation by fake accounts issued threats against Imran Khan. She filed a complaint with FIA against the impersonators, surmising this growing issue of celebrity impersonations as well as protecting online identity. It isn't an isolated incident, as many other actors have gone through some form of attack in Pakistan. Ansari, a known PTI supporter, has denied any connection to the fake accounts and their views.
Closing	Although the concluding paragraph seems to present a fair argument, it whispers, in the end, manipulative and biased tones as it begins to focus on Imran Khan and Ansari's association with the PTI, perhaps for an ulterior political motive aimed at serving Khan's party. A very limited context regarding Ansari's political leaning detracts from all possibilities that might explain impersonation and creates a skewed narrative. Leaving out fake accounts on other platforms also reinforces the Twitter-centric view in such a larger issue.

Table 5: C. Microstructure of the Text

Aspect	Description
Semantics	The term "fake accounts" introduces a semantic struggle around identity, online impersonation, and political implications. The term "fake accounts" initiates a semantic struggle around identity, creating ambiguity about Ansari's genuine views. Expressions

	like "submitted an application to FIA's Cybercrime Reporting Centre" and "taking action" signify a semantic shift towards legal intervention, highlighting the severity of online impersonation and the active role of authorities. The phrase "misusing her fame for political incentives" introduces a layer of political manipulation, portraying impersonation as an intentional effort to exploit Ansari's celebrity for political gains.
Syntax	The reporter adeptly uses syntax to unfold the narrative, initiating with a concise and declarative statement establishing Bushra Ansari's claim of impersonation. Transition phrases like "According to Express News" introduce sources, enhancing credibility. The repetition of "more than 10" creates a syntactic pattern, reinforcing the prevalence of fake accounts. Temporal markers, "Two years ago" and "Last year," introduce chronological structure. The strategic placement of political views clarification builds a narrative climax.
Stylistics	The reporter utilizes a combination of Stylistic elements to present a well-rounded and engaging News report, combining factual details, emotional nuances, and contextual information.
Rhetoric	The reporter strategically employs Rhetorical devices to craft a persuasive narrative in reporting Bushra Ansari's situation. Attention-grabbing language used by reporter like "fake accounts threatening Imran Khan" and giving open threats" inject a sense of urgency and potential controversy, setting an emotionally charged tone. Moreover, the mention of Ansari's staunch support for PTI serves not only as a political context but also adds an emotional layer by emphasizing her unwavering commitment. This could influence the reader's perceptions and engagement with the reported events on an empathetic level.

Source: (The Express Tribune, January 19, 2023)

Story 3: Kolai-Palas police arrest father of girl killed on Jirga orders

Table 6: A. Macrostructure of the Text

Theme/topic	The theme revolves around the tragic consequences of uploading edited pictures on Social media, which resulted in a girl's killing on the order of jirga in the kolai-Palas district. It also reveals the theme of gender superiority as the killing of the girl allegedly by her father, following the Jirga's orders, indicates Patriarchal influence. Further, cultural related theme is also found in the text as it explores the consequences of Social media actions within the context of local cultural norms.
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Table 6: B. Superstructure of the Text

Introduction	The News report introduces the incident by reporting a magistrate's decision to remand a man, Mohammad Yaseen, in police custody in Kolai-Palas district. The alleged crime involves uploading edited pictures on Social media, which is linked to the killing of a girl under the orders of a jirga. This sets the stage for the unfolding tragedy and legal actions
Content	The content details the arrest of Mohammad Yaseen by the police, presenting information about the remand and investigation. Key figures, such as District Police Officer Mukhtar Khan Tanoli and FIA Cyber Crime Wing Deputy Director Mohammad Asif, provided official statements regarding the incident. The inclusion of information about the edited pictures, local cultural taboos, and subsequent police actions adds depth to the story as he used the term "na mehram" to reflect cultural norms and taboos. Details about the rescue of the other girl and the protective custody of Aiman Dar highlight elements of the investigation.

Closing	The report concludes by stating that a high-level committee, including officials from the Hazara Division and law enforcement, is actively investigating the matter. The use of the term "exposed" by FIA Cyber Crime Wing deputy director Mohammad Asif suggests an intention to reveal hidden aspects. The closing emphasizes the seriousness of the situation and the continued efforts of authorities to uncover the truth.
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Table 6: C. Microstructure of the Text

Semantics	The terminology used, such as "remanded," "physical remand," and "na mehram" (stranger), carries legal and cultural connotations. The Social media context and its potential impact on traditional practices are highlighted through phrases like "uploaded edited pictures," "Facebook account ID," and "local folk song."
Syntax	The syntax is straightforward, conveying a chronological sequence of events from the magistrate's action to the ongoing investigation. The use of direct quotes from District Police Officer Mukhtar Khan Tanoli and FIA Cyber Crime Wing Deputy Director Mohammad Asif adds authenticity to the report.
Stylistics	Stylistically, the report employs a mix of formal language, legal terms, and regional cultural references. The mention of a "high-level committee" and phrases like "exposed shortly" adds a sense of ongoing inquiry. The juxtaposition of legal actions and cultural norms creates a layered Stylistic approach
Rhetoric	Through the narration of the News story, reporter used words carefully to emphasize the seriousness of the incident, such as "killing," "jirga," and "taboo." - Phrases like "cropped and combined in a video with the addition of a local folk song" contribute to the narrative's vividness. The use of "protective custody" frames certain actions as protective measures, potentially invoking a sense of safeguarding.

Source: (Dawn, December 9th, 2023)

Story 4: FIA arrests man for cybercrime in Abbottabad

Table 7: A. Macrostructure of the Text

Theme /Topic	The theme of the News story is based on the case in which a child is abused. The report revolves around the arrest of an individual, Gultasab, by the FIA Cybercrime wing for engaging in child pornography. The report highlights the nature of his alleged crimes, involving videotaping children, uploading explicit videos on Social media and subsequently blackmailing the victims.
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Table 7: B. Superstructure of the Text

Introduction	The leading paragraph in this Cybercrime News story put the information related to child pornography in Abbottabad. Gultasab was involved in the crime investigated by the FIA Cybercrime Wing. The introduction creates immediate gravity by addressing a sensitive and serious subject.
Content	The story is based on a convict, Gultasab, involved in the Crime of child pornography. It provides a chronological account of the arrest operation conducted by the Cybercrime wing in Abbottabad's Hawaiian area. The narrative progresses to the specific accusations against Gultasab, involving videotaping children, sharing explicit content on Social media, and engaging in blackmail. The report uses direct quotes from a senior FIA official, adding credibility to the information presented. The recovery of obscene videos from Gultasab's electronic devices is highlighted, emphasizing the nature and evidence of the alleged crimes.

Closing	The Report concludes by stating the legal actions taken, specifying that a case has been registered against Gultasab under the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016. The closing maintains a matter-of-fact tone, summarizing the arrest and clearly stating the legal consequences.
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Table 7: C. Microstructure of the Text

Aspect	Description
Semantic	In this Cybercrime News story, the reporter echoed the verb, arrested to convey the central action throughout the report. The language used is clear and direct, focusing on conveying the facts without unnecessary embellishments. Key terms such as "arrested," "Cybercrime," "Child pornography," "Black-mailing" and "Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016" carry specific legal and law enforcement connotations.
Syntax	The Syntax is straightforward, presenting information in a linear and easily understandable structure. Sentences are concise, contributing to a quick comprehension of the events.
Stylistics	The style is formal and factual, maintaining a serious tone that focuses on the subject matter. The report employs official terms and designations such as "Federal Investigation Agency" and "Cybercrime wing," contributing to the overall professionalism of the text.
Rhetoric	The Rhetoric is minimal, focusing on providing information rather than persuasive elements. The use of direct quotes adds authenticity to the report. The mention of cooperation with Interpol adds an international dimension, emphasizing the seriousness of the alleged crime. While the report touches on a susceptible subject, the language is restrained, avoiding sensationalism. The focus is on presenting the facts rather than manipulating emotions

Source: (Dawn. August 27, 2023).

Social Cognition

Textual analysis is important, but it's not enough to truly understand how News shape minds and societies. Socio-cognitive structure determines how a person produces and consumes information, especially News. For instance, the News producer's political and Social beliefs might influence how they present a story, shaping how a person understands it. Analyzing news discourse goes beyond words; it delves into the cognitive and social structures that influence how news is created, received, and interpreted (Boyd-Barrett, 1994).

Story 1. In this report, social cognition has shaped how readers see the cybercrime incident involving Malik Shariq and Saqib Abbas. Connecting the case with wider concerns about privacy and security, the report makes the narrative relevant and urgent. It clearly assigns blame to the accused, prompting moral outrage and concern for the victims, specifically the daughter of the complainant, which sparks sympathy. It Highlights proactive measures by the FIA induces trust among police forces and reiterates what is expected of society in pursuing justice. Further, the call to action calls upon readers to remain vigilant and report suspicious activity, enabling them to actively participate in Cybercrime.

Story 2. The report shapes readers' understanding of Ansari's situation. Attribution paints the fake accounts as fraudulent, while the sheer number ("more than 10") triggers a sense of threat. Acknowledging other victims confirms existing beliefs about online misrepresentation while focusing on Ansari's actions risks emphasizing the bigger issue. At last, the report gently challenges readers to consider the motivations behind the impersonation and to interact with the larger political and Social surroundings.

Story 3. The News report employs Social cognitive elements to shape readers' understanding of a tragic incident. The emphasis on the alleged role of edited Social media pictures in influencing the killing sets the tone for a narrative linking online activities to real-world consequences. The mention of a jirga

reinforces the cultural context, portraying traditional norms as influential in the community's actions. The use of terms like "taboo" and the rescue of a girl by the police adds emotional impact. The Cyber Crime Wing's involvement adds a modern dimension, highlighting the evolving challenges posed by technology.

Story 4. The News presents an ideology condemning the heinous act of child pornography, focusing on the arrest of the accused individual, Gultasab, and the actions taken by the Federal Investigation Agency (FIA). The tone of the report is condemnatory, aligning with societal norms against such criminal activities. The Social cognitive elements employed by the reporter serve to evoke strong negative emotions in the readers. By emphasizing Gultasab's alleged actions of videotaping children, uploading obscene videos on Social media, and then blackmailing them, the narrative paints a disturbing picture that is likely to elicit a visceral response from the audience. The use of terms like "child pornographer" and detailing the recovery of obscene videos from the suspect's possessions further amplifies the severity of the crime, aiming to shape readers' perceptions and attitudes towards the accused.

Social Context

According to Van Dijk (1998), the Social Context refers to circumstances, situations, and conditions through which communication and discourse operate. It encompasses cultural, political, and historical background, as well as aspects of power dynamics and social relationships that both influence people and are influenced by them in the way they express themselves and communicate and exchange ideas.

Story 1. The subject matter of the News story revolves around the Social problem of Sexual harassment in society through blackmailing based on content in the shape of videos or pictures. The text reflects a societal context where Cybercrimes are positioned as real and substantial threats to privacy.

Story 2. In the charged Pakistani social setting, Bushra Ansari's fight against fake accounts reflects not just a personal battle but displays deeper problems of society. To mention Imran Khan, a former Prime Minister and leader of PTI, injects a volatile political dimension, given the angle of the fake tweets toward him, which fuels existing polarization and raises concerns about the manipulation of public opinion. While Ansari's vulnerability as a "veteran actor" expands the scope of online impersonation, it throws larger questions in terms of celebrity privacy and ethics in a culture where fame is easily exploited online.

Story 3. The News headline "Another man held over Kolai-Palas girls' killing" develops inside a social context of cultural influence, patriarchal structures, and, in this case, the influence of Social media in the Kolai-Palas district. As manifested through this reported incident, this community traditionally is dominated by practices, where a jirga still holds a lot of influence in its decision-making processes. The killing of a girl, apparently due to some allegedly manipulated pictures on social media, bespeaks the confluence of modern technology and conservative values resulting in tragic consequences. The language used in the report portrays a critical perspective, emphasizing the taboo associated with the girls' interaction with "na mehram" boys. The subsequent arrests and involvement of law enforcement agencies, including forming a high-level committee, suggest an awareness of the need to address such incidents within a legal framework.

Story 4. A News story cannot be represented without Social context. Here, the News report unveils a dark aspect of the societal landscape, child pornography and the actions taken by law enforcement. The Social context depicted is one where technology, criminal activities, and international collaboration intersect. The location-specific raid in the Hawaiian area reflects the urgency of addressing such crimes at a grassroots level. The accused, Gultasab, is portrayed as engaging in heinous acts in videotaping children, uploading explicit content on Social media, and resorting to blackmail. The use of technology, specifically cell phones, memory cards, and SIMs, as tools for crimes, points to the evolving challenges posed by digital platforms. The reference to the Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016, highlights the legal framework in place to combat Cybercrimes, indicating a societal commitment to addressing these offences.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Findings show that Child abuse, blackmailing, Institutional Hegemony and Sexual harassment are the most reported Cybercrimes in English Pakistani Print Media more specifically in The Dawn and The Express Tribune English Newspapers published in Pakistan. Both the Express Tribune and Dawn are prominent Pakistani Newspapers with slightly different language styles and approaches to reporting.

The Socio-Cognitive Model illustrates how the impact of report types affects the construction and the communication patterns and practices of the audience over the Cybercrime issues. It is a Socio-Cognitive model, introduced in 2005, is apparent that the terminology and framing of such News reports have an impact on the readers and that societies regard these issues. For instance, The Express Tribune employs a more emotive tone, creating an engaging narrative that focuses on individual stories like involving public figure “Bushra Ansari”, and may involve subtle political nuances like “Imran Khan”, providing information with an emotive touch.

Dawn uses many more nouns in Reports unlike The Express Tribune which is too concise so the use of excessive gerunds “edited pictures” and “on the orders of a jirga” is ideal for the details of the Murder. Headlines such as “Another man held over Kolai-Palas girl's killing,” in Dawn aim at the heart of the reader through the announcement of the News. Dawn uses words like “na mahram” in the report giving a religious touch. Further, it incorporates inside quotes from officials, as well, adding authenticity to the report. Dawn places a strong emphasis on legal actions, societal norms, and cultural references while The Express Tribune focuses on National News, on the other hand, Dawn News covers Regional stories generally and provides more detail and context in its reporting as compared to the Express Tribune Newspaper.

The research shows that the well-known Cybercrime issues outlined in the text, particularly in The Express Tribune and The Dawn Newspaper of Pakistan, include Child pornography, Cyber blackmail, Organizational supremacy and Sexual molestation. These issues offer a glimpse into the social issues, litigations, and changing nature of Crime due to technological advancement. Both Newspapers maintain a formal tone, presenting information with focus and precision. In the case of child abuse, the reports emphasize the severity of the crime, using straightforward language to convey the arrest and legal consequences. The stories highlight the intersection of technology, criminal activities, and international collaboration, pointing to the evolving challenges in addressing Cybercrimes. The Prevention of Electronic Crimes Act, 2016, is referenced, underlining the societal commitment to combating such offences. The language in the report regarding issues of blackmailing is far from neutral and judicial, rather it stresses the measures taken by the law agencies. The reports detail the alleged crimes, including the use of deceptive loan apps and threats to leak compromising content, framing these actions as morally and legally reprehensible. Sexual harassment cases are reported with sensitivity. The Social Cognitive elements that are used while reporting these incidents further highlight the need to examine the relationship between the News discourse and the public's attitude and reaction to Cybercrimes. Whether or not the News in question prevails, it is ascertained that the effect of these News reports is twofold. On the one hand, they serve to inform the public of particular aggravated assaults, raising awareness about how serious it is on the other hand it is shaping public perceptions of Cybercrimes. Understanding that News discourse influences societal beliefs and reactions, particularly in a context where cultural meanings and Power relations largely shape narratives around these issues, is important.

CONCLUSION

This current research is an attempt to explore the importance of the language used in media in defining and discussing public opinions over Cybercrime in Pakistan. Using Socio-Cognitive Model 2005, the current study focuses on the role through which media discourse reflects and considerably shapes societal beliefs, attitudes, and behaviors toward Cybercrime. This model is very relevant in this context because it reveals the language, cognition, and Social factors engaged in narrating Cybercrime which helps explain how stories are being told about Cybercrime. After examining four different stories from Dawn and the Express Tribune, it became apparent that, although covering more general topics such as child abuse, sexual harassment, and problems of identity theft. Cybercrimes continue to evolve, but the role of media in highlighting such issues remains paramount. Therefore, it is most important for News

reporters to create a balanced story that not only informs the citizens but also empowers them to responsibly navigate the complexities of the digital age. Going forward, it will be crucial to cultivate a culture of cyber-security awareness in order to reduce the hazards connected with online activity and safeguard vulnerable members of society.

RECOMMENDATIONS

This research has explored Unveiling Power Dynamics: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Cybercrimes News Reporting in Pakistani Print Media. The recommendations would help to reach a balanced and accurate approach to reporting Cybercrimes through the Pakistani Print Media.

Curriculum designers should integrate Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) into Media literacy and language-related courses at both levels, Undergraduate and Postgraduates levels as CDA helps students to assess critically and understand how Power is constructed in Media texts and how these texts can influence Social understandings of matters, thus designing a more Socially aware curriculum.

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), the study of Media discourses in relation to Power, ought to become part of curricula taught in Media Studies, Sociolinguistics and Journalism not least because this is vital knowledge for future Academics. This will be beneficial for the Critical consciousness of journalists and researchers so that they can identify how their choice of language could favor specific groups unfairly without them realizing it.

Cybercrime Proper Legislation and Enforcement Officials can work with media organizations to ensure responsible and adjudicated reporting that is fair not discriminate against certain groups or perpetuate systemic biases. Responsible News reporting has the potential to prevent the public from developing skewed perceptions of Cybercrime and those involved, promoting bias-free and objective views of Cyber laws and justice systems.

Print Media organizations ought to implement editorial guidelines that emphasize balanced, non-biased reporting of Cybercrime, being aware of the words that might imply discrimination or overstate Power relations.

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