

Review of: ""We Only Came Home to Find His Body Dangling": Voices and Practs in Selected Nigerian Newspapers Reportage on Suicide"

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The analysis of how the media mediatize suicide is a relevant topic in a global context. The print media, such as the newspapers studied in this research, can represent an important breeding ground in the formation of the social imaginary of readers in relation to this topic. It would be worthwhile, with the information obtained, to continue with the research from the readers' perspective and to analyze whether the medium exerts any influence on how the different variables selected by the researchers are interpreted.

The theoretical framework and state of the art lead the reader to an analysis of determining factors in a suicidal act ranging from world statistics, motives, types and methods of suicide to legal positions for those who attempt to commit this act as well as for the instigators. The handling of the language of mass media reporting on suicide is also based on pragmatics and polyphony, as well as the implications of the possible effects of how these publications are presented to audiences.

In this sense, the theoretical framework presents a solid basis for determining not only the characteristics of the type of information in the articles, but also includes evidence from the state of the art of how, beyond the merely denotative, the wording of the text could normalize the act or promote it by giving concrete ideas of techniques for suicide, for example. It should be noted that with regard to the style of writing and the informative content and the interpretation of this reading by the audience, no evidence was presented as a result of the research, since it concentrated on a content analysis of the newspapers and did not include the readers as subjects of study. It would be advisable to point this out as a limitation of the research.

From the methodological point of view, the article presents, as just noted, a qualitative content analysis of articles on suicide published in three Nigerian newspapers. It would be worthwhile to include tables of results by variable in addition to the descriptive-explanatory narrative of the results.

In relation to the analysis carried out by the researchers, there are areas of opportunity. In the discussion of results, for example, there is a lack of data precision. Expressions such as "most of the cases", "a critical reading of the narrative shows that...", "it seems that...", etc., do not provide scientific validity with a level of significance in the presentation of results. Even though it is qualitative research, descriptive statistics are necessary. On the other hand, affirmative sentences are detected that are not necessarily affirmative, i.e., the affirmed fact is not as the researcher describes it; for example, "The textual activity part of Nigerian newspapers reportage on suicide confirms that males commit suicide more than females". The statement seems to imply that it is a fact that in Nigeria men commit suicide more than women, when the population under study was not Nigeria but the print media, and from this universe three were selected as a sample; then the reality is of that sample, not of the country.



The value of the authors' work and the relevance of the topic are indisputable. There will always be areas of opportunity, but the researchers have the tools to make the adjustments they consider pertinent.