Study of Gender Sensitive Reporting on Crime News in Dawn & Khabarain

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Abstract
Media should give special consideration to the gender sensitive news with an eye of social responsibility and ethical boundaries should be seen in the report. In this research focus is given to the frequency of gender sensitive news and a comparison is given between frequency of crime news and gender sensitive news in two leading newspapers, that it can be analyze that how these newspapers treat the gender sensitive news. First portion of research also gives separate analytical approach to highlight the coverage of crime news & gender sensitive news in both newspapers. In second portion statistical comparison between two newspapers is given to maintain understanding about the difference of coverage regarding crime and gender sensitive issues.

I. Introduction
Media are in the business of providing information. Women and men read watch and listen to this information daily which is in the shape of what we know as news. The media’s focus on the current issues and events of the day and the collection and editing of this information for presentation through the news media newspapers, television and radio is the practice of journalism. Journalism, however, is not a flawless exercise. In simple terms, media’s function is to inform, to educate and to entertain. (Global media monitoring, 2009)

The fight to free the media of gender biases and inequalities has come largely from gender activists who have identified the media as a key institution in the struggle for gender equality. Media provides the mediums through which gendered messages are transmitted and limit the ability of men and women in the society. These messages have the potential to reinforce, or challenge gender stereotypes and sex-based discrimination.

By giving quality coverage to women’s issues news and communications channels can put women’s rights and gender equality on the agenda of public policymakers. It can be done by holding governments accountable to many of the international and regional women’s rights conventions and instruments they have signed in the same way the media holds governments accountable to conventions on torture, political rights, and labor rights. (Lowe, 2001)
Most of our society sees women as their property as most as seems women as their honour and respect and this leads to obstacles in the freedom and basic rights of a women. This prevents women from getting education and learning about their rights. Moreover the role of media in this regard is not very admirable because in serials and dramas women is shown in the state of needing the help and support in men traditional and sensitive in media where the women is shown as a working women. She is not because of her own will or liking ability but because of her need, this point restricts the society’s mind that women should only work when it is economic necessity. (Arif, 2000) The media has to stop focusing on stuff that will benefit none. Inspiring and great personalities of women should be brought forward in the media from which all the other women can learn especially the ones in real rural areas. So, that they can become independent and take control of their lives.

Having independent FM stations is a trend which is coming, and the staff especially hired in FM is now educated and well aware of the taste of society. However it is creating a little positive impact on the society as far as the issues of women are concerned. Pakistani films mostly show rural women very traditional simple and a one who is connected with only love. Mostly Pakistani films show typical village culture in which women is shown mostly in agriculture setup, this is on which our 70% population is dependent. Chaddars and veils are the symbols of our culture, majority of Pakistan to maintain their Parda even they work in fields. But this is the reality which is ignored in media may be because it is trying to make the image of Pakistan “as a liberal country” this to improve the image at international platform.

As in 1 research it was concluded that in Pakistan there are only about 30,531,000 newspaper readers, it was also said that women reader might be very less because of less literacy rate of women in Pakistan. (Zaman, 2004)

It is usually the man who earns decides which newspapers the family would like to read, mainly because male is dominants in Pakistan, it is only asked by in 1 exception while choosing publication male member, when the family is able to afford more than 1 publication there is no chance.

It is difficult for women to get anytime for her, but where she gets any leisure hour, she spends in reading fashion magazines, cooking mags and other romantic novels, however the quality of books and reading material has however is not counted among any good reading material duly to which male dominance is maintained in the society, women is also sacrificing for this.

Significance of the Study
In this world, women are voice the number of men, yet they are being held back and suppressed. Women are degraded in every field, whether they are in education or at work or in any field. They are not free to make their decisions. Women have always been considered inferior to men. However sociologists have been working day and night, so that women can have their own full eights. In 1970, the sociologists were working for item, under which the duties of both men and women and their characteristics can be defined. They finally came up with the word “gender”.

‘Gender’ emphasizes the relation between men and women. Gender defines them, places them and organizes them according to the customs and regulations of the society. There used to be a time when gender was used only to define women but now however, its meaning has been broadened and this particular misunderstanding has been removed to somewhat extent.

Many social organizations, NGO’s and UN is working and laying a great emphasis on the role of women in society. They know what changes can be brought in a society by the improving women’s position. They can bring such positive changes that will not only benefit them, but the whole society as well. If women start putting their full energies in business, economics, medicines etc, then they will be capable of contributing a great deal to society. (UN Conference on Women, 1980)

Statement of the Problem

The researcher will conduct research on different spares of gender sensitive reporting and crime news to evaluate the issue wise coverage in two leading newspapers. The topic is stated as Study of Gender Sensitive Reporting on Crime News in Dawn & Khabarain

Rationale for Selecting Dawn.

Along with Dawn, in English journalism of Pakistan there are only a few newspaper, which have, credibility and those are “The News”, “The Nation”, “The Observer”, “The Muslim” and “The Frontier Post”. But Dawn has its own unique position in them having a large number of readers.

Now a day the daily Dawn is appeared, from the Herald press under the Editorship of Saleem Asmi, who is the successor of Mr. Ahmad Ali Khan. Lahore edition of daily Dawn appears under the editorship of Tahir Mirza. It has a big team of renowned journalists of Pakistan.

Rationale for Selecting Khabarain.

Daily Khabarain was started publishing from Lahore and Islamabad on 26th September 1992. And then keeping in view the popularity, it was also published from Muzfarabad and Sheikupura. It was published from Multan on 14th June 1997 and then under the supervision of Khabarain, Naya Akhbar was also started publishing from Multan. Then it was published from Karachi on 23rd March, 2000. It is a popular newspaper that’s why it’s famous among the educated and middle class people of Pakistan. Its circulation mostly based on class group of Pakistan

Objective of the Study
1. Explore gender issues within media on various levels.
2. Understand the concept of gender stereotypes.

Major Concepts
1. Crime News
2. Gender Sensitive News
II. Review of Literature

Women in Contemporary Politics:

Stokes (2005) argues on the discussion of women in politics is an agreement that democracy as self-government is a goal that is acceptable according to the law and we should keep on improving. It admits that through representation self-government is not an easy thing, but a compulsory one if we are to have something like a good and well-ordered society.

She is of the view that a feminist concern does not always is women's political participation. There have always been plenty of politically busy women with little belief of feminism and access to the note and member ship of political organizations and assemblies can be simply constructed as egalitarian concern. However, women participation has been motivated by feminism regarding notable expectations, interest, research and activism rather than conception of equality. She further says that most feminist critics do not consider democracy as important, but approach it, as harmful. In a result, feminists have tended to favor democracy which have strong part of participation and which are not limited to the political sphere. Feminist writers support democracy critically.

There is less noticed assumption that women are politically more conservative than men. This has been checked by voting statistics. Which show women voting for more conservative parts in a little larger proportion than men? Recently, this discussion has come in for investigation. The question has been raised about the policies, nature of the parties and demographics of the population.

She elaborates two purposes in this book: one it describes where women can be found in contemporary politics and second what they are doing. It has made able to understand the factors that have enabled and handicapped women. In 18th century, the law should not differentiate between people on the base of their sex. This has involved and caused extending the franchise to women as well as to the working people. Further in the 20th century equal treatment was taken, when the implementation law was considered in its content.

Collins (2007) finds in his research with Fawcett Society that women are treated differently to men in the candidates. They are asked about child-care, while men not. It also says that in some cases discrimination clears itself in the form of sexual harassment. As a consequence of these outdated views the conservative party is losing high quality female candidates.

Fraser (1995) reveals clearly that initially women and men were not equal around the world, despite the asserting of sex equality in the UN charter and the declaration of human rights. In 1963, twenty two countries had introduced a resolution calling for a
declaration on eliminating discrimination between men and women. The resolution concluded that factors regarding social situation affected women).

Stephen (2006) throws light on the role of women and explains that as far as women are concerned in ICT’S and education, women are not taking part as professionals in the ICT sector. Women are not trying to achieve the field of computer sciences in well numbers. When they enter in this field, they are not employed in programming and decision making but they are in word processing and data entry position. She is of the view that the acceptance of gender leads to gender-sensitive programme design, which deliberately remove barriers to women’s participation and it encourages women’s involvement. Gender sensitive programme design applies to all aspects of the educational system. Stephen explains the Malaysian organization WAO that is experimenting with a variety of strategies and techniques to provide computer training to dwellers and ex-dwellers. This organization also provide shelter and counseling to survivors of violence against women.

WAO also provides information to survivors of violence against women by using website. They have concluded that there have been success, but the source remains largely impossible to get for the most Malaysian women due to the lack of technology and skills. WAO has founded that public education in more effective through radio and other forms of media. They have become partner with several national radio stations. So, they may produce regular programmes concerning women’s problems and issues.

New ICT’S has started to be used in a few countries but radio, television and audio video cassettes have been used to support both formal and non-formal education for decades in the Asian Commonwealth countries. Recently Malaysia has established private virtual university that is offering degree and diploma programs on the internet. However, rural areas are focused for future plan to expand the use of more ICT.

Stephen highlights some of the factors that inhibit women from acquiring knowledge i.e. illiteracy, time famine, poverty, relevancy, socio-cultural factors and mobility. These are the main barriers or factors that women face in accessing ODL and the same is faced while using ICTS.

One of the major barriers is illiteracy for women education in Asian and African countries about 70% of adult women are illiterate in most sub-Saharan African countries. In different areas, the issue of illiteracy was raised for women in the rural areas.

The major challenges that are faced by women are as a result of changes in the world economy arising from quick globalization, progress of technology and a growing work. As greatly become difficult or different. It is essential to awe variety in cultural and material conditions in each country. As culture is determined for women by the history and tradition of their countries to an important extent determines the rules of entry into a market economy, of which the digital economy is a part. The Asian experience, however, is different from Africa or Latin America. As a consequence, one crucial area for further research will be compared by the condition of women in Asia, with the participation of women in the IT sector in Africa and Latin America.
The essential barrier to success in self-employment in the internet economy is lack of technical and business skills. The use of internet is more complicated and demands skills. Women in self-employment are in less experience than men and are also less experienced in solving technical problems. This is the fear that restricts women from indulging in business over the internet. Men and women find it challenging to operate business over the Net nationally and internationally because lack of marketing or business skills.

According to the Tuvalu reports, it has been social by all the regions that women have less time to learn because of the responsibilities of domestic works.

These reports also explained that the household commitments make it difficult for women to acquire education. It has been pointed out in Malaysia and Nawru reports that women are confined to be caretakers of the children, even though those of them are in the workplace.

Sakr (2004) the freedom of expression is not equally measured in different parts of the world. The discrimination between male and female opportunities is clearly wider in the field of media also.

Lauzen and Dozier (1999) review the study of US films and prime time television from mid to late 1990's show that the history of women empowerment and outlook was miserable. There were no proper dignity and respect given by women from the male side.

A survey conducted by American Institute of press (2002) by the two third of the women editor of USA believed that the only hurdle in the way of their promotion is men. They think that are better in every field of life especially in decision making, leadership traits and so many vision regarding news.

Reed (2002) a study regarding the salaries of women editors and reporters shows that there is also a discrimination lie between the salaries of male and female. The study shows that it is hundreds and thousands of dollars less than men for the same work.

Mills (n.d.) finds after his study that the coverage of news stories regarding rape sexual harassment and health issues can be change the impact of women on masses and this change is make possible by the efforts of men and women as a large number of women in the field of media now.

Van Zoonen (1998) says "It is not women who change the news, but changes in the news that open the way to women."

Khiabny and Sreberny (n.d) quotes Shadi Sadr "the women's movement in Iran is like the drizzle. You don’t feel it, but by the time you reach your destination you are totally soaked". They are of the view that the gender equality comes when women want to change these discrimination in other words the social awakening is the only factor which can generate the ideas of social changes in women's life.

Ahmadi-Khorasani (2001) describes women rights have been violated in the name of culture in Islamic Republic Constitutional also. He says that patriarchy a cultural
invasion have excluded the women from some powerful professions and just bound them
to work as teachers, nurses and secretaries. Although they have to be awarded high
respect as a mother, daughter and wives but most of their rights has been crushed by
masculine society.

Salhi (n.d) quotes Nejia Ben Mabrouk a Tunisian film director "A women is a
human being with faults and contradictions. A woman is not a dream but a reality. I
would like to see that reality dealt with. She is a not just a moving picture, not a doll, a
goddess or a fairy. She is a living person with difficulties, limitations and weaknesses.
That is what I want to deal with.

Haq (2006) is of the view that violence against women in war time is not
accidental but it is a systematic, strategic and gender specific weapon of war. Especially
in war time the violence of human rights were at their peak. Men forced them to make
sacrifice in all fields whether it is a matter of food, healthcare or residence. They had to
face all difficulties and had become the first victim of rape, unattended pregnancies,
unsafe abortions and least health care facilities of reproduction and sexual infections
including HIV. Haq also reveals that the less opportunities of women participation in
political and economical field of society, generate the fear of insecurity between them
.This insecurity reflected in every field of their lives.

According to Human Development in South Asia 2005, an estimated number of
raped women in Bangladesh during the 9 months of war in 1971 are 250,000 to 400,000.
This had result an estimated 25,000 pregnancies. Same as in Kashmir both militants and
security forces used this rape tactic regularly to harass, punish, humiliate and degrade the
Muslims.

According to the Human Development in South Asia 2005, only 45% of adult
South Asian women are literate or in other words 250 million illiterate women live in this
region. on the other side the working women have to face the hazardous working
environment with low wages, sexual harassment and work hard .The masculine society is
of the view that the women can easily hire and fire, they are less demanding in terms of
wages .Same as the economic contribution of south Asian women in terms of agriculture
households have not been counted.

VAW--- Violence against Women explain “any act of gender-based violence that
result in or is likely to result in physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to
women including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty,
whether occurring in public or in private life”.

Women from every field of life have to face the physical sexual or psychological
violence but according to the UN Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against
Women points out that the women from minority groups, refugee women, indigenous
women, migrant women, women in detention, women with disabilities, elderly women,
women in war and conflicts and female children are the most vulnerable women in the
world, and the factor which influenced them most is "patriarchy".
Haq (2006) resulted in Human Development in South Asia that 10-67% of women have experienced violence from their husband's side at least once in their lives and one-fifth of the women accepted it as a normal act from their patriarchal culture.

An editorial published in the daily Dawn on the topic of "Women's Disenfranchisement" describes that thousands of women from a backward city of Pakistan have no rights to vote due to the patriarchy system.

Violation of Human Rights in Pakistan (2002) illustrate that in some regions of Pakistan the court hearing of women are not allocated to testify, even though the eyewitness cannot allow to give evidence. ]1.

Willson I I, Gutierrez and Chao (2003) explain the dual role of women regarding sexism and racism. They say that women are simply called the object of sexism and a powerless subject in male dominant society.

According to the American Society of newspaper editors (2002) found that only 37% of newsroom have occupied by the female and this small ratio of women are trying to working for the betterment of feminism.

Flanders (1997) quotes Helen Benedict in his book "Real Majority, Media Minority" that media used to portray female as crime victim, sexual figure and used them to create sensationalism instead of any positive aspect.

“The wall has grown all black, up to the circling roof.
Roads are empty, travelers all gone. Once again
My night begins to converse with its loneliness;
My visitor I feel has come once again.
Henna stains one palm, blood wets another;
One eye poisons, the other cures”.
(Faiz Ahmed Faiz)

III. Hypotheses

H1; More coverage to the crime news will be given in Khabarain than Dawn.
H2; More coverage to the gender sensitive news will be given in Khabarain than Dawn.

IV. Research Design

This particular study chooses content analysis method as a research design. Quantitative and qualitative method of data collection is used. Quantitative data is the information in the form of numbers.

Universe of the Study

This study will consider contents of the two leading newspaper “Dawn” and “Khabarain” from 1st January 2009 to 31 December 2009 as the universe of the study.

Population
In this study the researcher has selected crime and gender sensitive news items of the two leading newspapers “Dawn” and “Khabarain” from 1st January 2009 to 31 December 2009 as the population of the study.

Sample
This study will consider one year sample of the two leading newspapers “Dawn” and “Khabarain” selected from 1st January 2009 to 31 December 2009. Systematic sampling technique is used, in which each odd number date is selected for this study from aforesaid period.

Unit of Analysis
The unit of analysis and unit for the coding is the “Crime News” and “Gender Sensitive News” published in the two leading newspaper “Dawn” and “Khabarain” from 1st January 2009 to 31 December 2009.

TABLE A: DAWN 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Space In Ccm</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime News</td>
<td>8633</td>
<td>72.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender sensitive News</td>
<td>3267</td>
<td>27.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interpretation
This figures in the table illustrate that more coverage is given to the crime news violence as 8633Ccm space is given to it and 3267Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive news in comparsion.

Summary
Overall results shows that the is more coverage is given to the crime news in comparsion to gender sensitive news as 8633Ccm space is given to it.

TABLE B: Khabarain 2009

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Space In Ccm</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crime News</td>
<td>28625</td>
<td>83.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender sensitive News</td>
<td>5819</td>
<td>16.9%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Interpretation
This table shows that more coverage is given to the crime news as 28625Ccm space is given to it and 5819Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive news in comparsion.

Summary
Overall results shows that more coverages given to the crime news. As 28625Ccm space is given to it in year 2009 by Khabrain.

Hypothesis Tests (1)
\( \hat{P}_1 \) = Proportion of Crime news (Ccm) in Khabarain.

\( \hat{P}_2 \) = Proportion of Crime news (Ccm) in Dawn.

\( H_o : \hat{P}_1 = \hat{P}_2 \)

\( H_1 : \hat{P}_1 > \hat{P}_2 \)

\( \alpha = 0.05 \)

Test Statistic

\[
Z = \frac{(\hat{P}_1 - \hat{P}_2) - (P_1 - P_2)}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{P}_1 \cdot Q_1}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{P}_2 \cdot Q_2}{n_2}}}
\]

Calculations

\[
Z\text{-score} = 31.292
\]

Conclusion

In the first sample of 40263 observations, the sample proportion equals 0.71. In the second sample of 15167 observations, the sample proportion equals 0.57. Since the P-value for the test is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis is rejected at the 95.0% confidence level.

Hypothesis Tests (2)

\( \hat{P}_1 \) = Proportion of gender sensitive news (Ccm) in Khabarain.

\( \hat{P}_2 \) = Proportion of gender sensitive news (Ccm) in Dawn.

\( H_o : \hat{P}_1 = \hat{P}_2 \)

\( H_1 : \hat{P}_1 > \hat{P}_2 \)

\( \alpha = 0.05 \)

Test Statistic

\[
Z = \frac{(\hat{P}_1 - \hat{P}_2) - (P_1 - P_2)}{\sqrt{\frac{\hat{P}_1 \cdot Q_1}{n_1} + \frac{\hat{P}_2 \cdot Q_2}{n_2}}}
\]

Calculations

\[
Z\text{-score} = 22.7961
\]

Conclusion
In the first sample of 40263 observations, the sample proportion equals 0.14. In the second sample of 15167 observations, the sample proportion equals 0.22. Since the P-value for the test is greater than or equal to 0.05, the null hypothesis cannot be rejected at the 95.0% confidence level.

V. Summary and Discussion

An overall result of Dawn shows that more coverage is given to the crime news as 8633Ccm space is given to it and 3267Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive news in comparison. Overall result of Khabarain shows that more coverage is given to the crime news as 28625Ccm space is given to it and 5819Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive news in comparison. In analysis of both newspapers it is observed, Khabarain has given more coverage to the crime news as 28625Ccm space is given to it and 8633Ccm space is given to the crime news in Dawn. In analysis of both newspapers it is observed, Khabarain has given more coverage to the gender sensitive news as 5819Ccm space is given to it and 3267Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive in Dawn.

H1; It is accepted in the light of data that Khabarain gives more coverage to the crime news in comparison with Dawn as 28625Ccm space is given to the crime news by Khabarain in year of 2009 and 8633Ccm space is given to the crime news by Dawn in year 2009.

H2; It is established in the light of data that Khabarain gives more coverage to the gender sensitive news in comparison with Dawn as 5819Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive news by Khabarain in year of 2009 and 3267Ccm space is given to the gender sensitive news by Dawn in year 2009.

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