CS506 NAACP Media Research Project

Libby James, Harrison Richmond, Alex Lin

**Keywords as Proxies**

**Related Articles with Keywords to use as a Proxy for Black People:**

**Article with Previous Report on Media Portrayal of African American Males:**

Kulaszewicz, Kassia E.. (2015). Racism and the Media: A Textual Analysis. Retrieved from Sophia, the St. Catherine University repository website: <https://sophia.stkate.edu/msw_papers/477>

→ This study analyzed the way media portrays African American males of all ages, looking at racism and victims of violence by civilians or police officers. They had a search query of key words and phrases that reflected this:

1. Police shootings
2. Violence towards Black men
3. Racism
4. Black male shooting victims
5. Black men killed by police officers

We could use some of these keywords or variations of these keywords.

**Words Compiled Based on this research (and personal contributions):**

1. Black men / a black man / a black male
2. Black women/ a black woman / a black female
3. African-American men / an African-American man / an African-American male
4. African-American women / an African-American woman / an African-American female

**Related Articles with Keywords to used as a Proxy for Tone or Sentiment Analysis:**

**Article About Black Male Media Representation:**

“Media Portrayals and Black Male Outcomes.” The Opportunity Agenda, <https://www.opportunityagenda.org/explore/resources-publications/media-representations-impact-black-men/media-portrayals>.

→ This looks at Black male media representation and the positives and negatives associated with this. It used topics as a proxy for sentiment.

1. Negative
   1. Criminality
      1. Perpetrator
      2. Violent Crime
      3. Arrest
      4. Inclusion of mug shots
      5. Gang member
   2. Poverty
      1. Low income
      2. Urban
      3. Un-employed
   3. Aggressive
2. Positive
   1. Sympathetic
      1. Victim
      2. Law Enforcement
   2. Fathers
      1. Parenting
   3. Sports
      1. Physicality
      2. Physical achievement
   4. Corporate
      1. Workers
      2. Athlete
      3. Laborers
      4. Entertainers

**Article on Black Male Representation in Media:**

Smiley, CalvinJohn, and David Fakunle. “From "brute" to "thug:" the demonization and criminalization of unarmed Black male victims in America.” Journal Of Human Behavior In The Social Environment vol. 26,3-4 (2016): 350-366. doi:10.1080/10911359.2015.1129256 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5004736/>

→ Article showing how black males are generally portrayed in a negative light even if they are really the victim.

1. Brute
2. Thug / thuggery
3. Suspect
4. Person of Interest

These words can be used in terms of negative connotations for black people.

**Article on African American Men and their Media Portrayal:**

Oliver, Mary Beth. “African American Men as ‘Criminal and Dangerous’: Implications of Media Portrayals of Crime on the ‘Criminalization’ of African American Men.” Journal of African American Studies, vol. 7, no. 2, 2003, pp. 3–18. JSTOR, [www.jstor.org/stable/41819017](http://www.jstor.org/stable/41819017).

→ Article discussing how African-American men are portrayed in media

1. Criminal
2. Dangerous
3. Violent
4. Villains (versus: heroes)

**Positive Words Compiled Based on this research (and personal contributions):**

1. Worker / Working
2. Parent / Parenting
3. Fundraising / Charity
4. Victim
5. Entertainer / actor / actress / musician
6. Hero / Heroic / Heroes

**Negative Words Compiled Based on this research (and personal contributions):**

1. Brute / Thug
2. Violent / Violence
3. Gang
4. Scam / Scammer / Rob / Robber / Mug / Mugger
5. Suspect / Person of Interest
6. Dangerous
7. Villain / Villains / Villainous

**Other Helpful Related Articles for the Project:**

**Article Looking at Amazon using Zip Codes for Racial Breakdown:**

Ingold, David, and Spencer Soper. “Amazon Doesn’t Consider the Race of Its Customers. Should It?” *Bloomberg.com*, Bloomberg, 21 Apr. 2016, <https://www.bloomberg.com/graphics/2016-amazon-same-day/>.

→ This looks at zip codes to determine black neighborhoods, much like we will. For Boston, they Specifically pinpoint Roxbury as a black community in Boston. It also includes a lot of helpful mapping of black communities versus white communities in Boston.

**Article Looking at Gender Imbalance in Media:**

Parater, Lauren. “We Need to Fix the Gender Imbalance in Our Stories on Innovation.” *UNHCR Innovation*, UNHCR, 10 Feb. 2019, <https://www.unhcr.org/innovation/gender-imbalance-innovation/>.

→ This seems as though it could be very helpful to look at not for keywords, but for how they went about conducting all of it as they provide some raw data information.

**Article Looking at Machine Racial Bias:**

Angwin, Julia, et al. “Machine Bias.” *ProPublica*, ProPublica, 9 Mar. 2019, <https://www.propublica.org/article/machine-bias-risk-assessments-in-criminal-sentencing>.

→ This again is not exactly the same, but they analyzed how black people were put at a disadvantage in risk assessment by not asking race but instead using proxy questions:

1. “Was one of your parents ever sent to jail or prison?”
2. “How many of your friends/acquaintances are taking drugs illegally?”
3. “How often did you get in fights while at school?”
4. Agree or disagree: “A hungry person has a right to steal”
5. Agree or disagree: “If people make me angry or lose my temper, I can be dangerous.”

The article continues on to talk about how the US already inprisons a disproportionate number of black people, making it so that it is more likely black people have had a parent sent to prison. Additionally, as the US’ implicit racism keeps more black people in poverty than white people, they may approach questions such as ‘A hungry person has a right to steal’ very differently.

**General Notes:**

Most of what I was able to find in terms of research was about Black males and their portrayal in the media, with much less being about females.