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Documentation for Final Project

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About

The project centers around tracking and representing the various personal offenses experienced by Emma Wormwood and the various others in her diary entries. The goal is to provide schemata, example markup, and an example XSLT transformation which allows individuals to document and display the offenses that occur in a diary, or for that matter, any sort of text. The core elements are designed to be flexible enough to apply to many different kinds of offenses (though only two appear in Emma Wormwood's diaries), but rigid enough to ensure that marked-up documents can be presented in a uniform and structured manner.

Marking up the offenses contained in a diary may aid in understanding social norms across societies and times. It also might serve as a companion to other writing about the same people, to elucidate the social dynamics implicit in a text. For example, perhaps an individual writes in their diary that they suffered a severe offense at the hands of person X. But person X's diary recounts the event as a trivial, lighthearted offense. The same action may be perceived in different ways. Furthermore, investigating the offenses of old can be fun, and humorous.

Elements

The core elements of the project are the <offense-event> element, the <offending-action>

element, and the <response> element.

offense-event: an event which results in offense being taken.

Attributes:

Belligerents: A list of all the people involved in the offense

offense Type: Specification of what sort of offense it was (physical blows, verbal insults, etc)

Severity (Choose one: Trivial, Moderate, or Severe): Specifies how severe the offense was.

May contain offending-action or response elements as descendant

Contents: text

offending-action: a single action within an offense event

Attributes:

Offender: the name(s) of the offending party.

Offended: the name(s) of the offended party.

Provoked (Boolean): whether or not the action was provoked

Presently may contain an insult element or a laugh-at element as descendant

Contents: text

response: a responding action within an offense event

May only contain an offending-action

The general structure of markup will be that the sentences describing an event which causes offense is

contained in an offense-event element. Each action which contributed to this offense is marked as an

offending-action, and where relevant, a response element. Within the offending-action element will be

a particular element, which at present is limited to an insult or a laugh-at, but this list may be expanded

should individuals happen across other kinds of offenses.

insult: a particular name or insult used in an offending-action

Attributes:

nameCaller: who said the name/insult

Target: who was the target of the name/insult

nameKind: the type of insult the name/insult is (e.g. religious insult, name with disparaging

implications)

modernEquivalent: where relevant, modern insults with similar meanings (eg 'backwoodser'

has a modern equivalent of hillbilly, etc.)

Explanation: where relevant, explains what the name calling instance means (e.g. Emma calls

Jesse a Heathen, which in view of the frequent mentions of going to church, is more severe

than if someone called another a Heathen in an atheistic setting).

Contents: text

laugh-at: a particular instance of someone laughing at another's expense

Attributes:

Laugher: the name of the person laughing

Laughee: the name of the person being laughed at

Reason: the reason that the laugher is laughing at the laughee.

Contents: text

Encoding Guide:

As encoders mark up a document, they should contain a passage that recounts an offense with

the offense-event element. Then, within the event, they should isolate the key action(s) and mark them

as offending-action. Within the offending-action element, they should specify the kind of action it was.

If need be, they may edit the schemata and XSLT to expand the possible offensive actions to include

whatever they are marking up.

Expanding the schemata involves defining a new element for a new kind of offense. Then,

reference that element within the offending-action element. The remainder of the schemata should

remain unchanged. Schematron rules may be written if need be. In the XSLT file, encoders may add

lines to template match onto their new element, and to the 'list of offenses' code, add an xsl:if

statement, putting their new element within the 'test' attribute, and then list the attributes of their

new element. For example, if I am encoding a document and I encounter a physical prank that causes

offense, then I would first add to the relaxNG schema:

Then, to the offending-action-element definition, add the emboldened line:

And to the XSLT document, add the following chunk:

Do this only when a particular offending action does not fit into any predefined categories. If desired, an encoder may enhance the schematron rules with the emboldened lines:

Among the other checks for offender/nameCaller/laugher rules, and the same for the offended/target/laughee rules.