**NEWS SOURCE LITERATURE REVIEW**

Our Interests:

1. Content Choices
   1. Summary: How do media outlets choose to frame online news? With the possibility of media bias growing, articles may be written with certain information or misinformation just to keep readers engaged or maintain a high viewership. Media outlets choose what to publish to keep audiences interested. An article can also be written in a way that sways the audience in one direction by choosing what to cover or it may reaffirm one's belief.
   2. [Book | Media, Mobilization, and Human Rights: Mediating Suffering 3) How editors choose which human rights news to cover: a case study of Mexican newspapers](https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=7Pw0EAAAQBAJ&oi=fnd&pg=PA96&dq=how+news+chooses+what+stories+to+cover&ots=b2EhWnxUPP&sig=gdPk3Q9U6VtzygyuoQIcGhDRmcE#v=onepage&q=how%20news%20chooses%20what%20stories%20to%20cover&f=false)
   3. [Book | The Power of News - Introduction: News as Public Knowledge](https://books.google.com/books?hl=en&lr=&id=jr9V0ku5rzoC&oi=fnd&pg=PA1&dq=how+news+chooses+what+stories+to+cover&ots=RYT3RCuTGS&sig=PyMsunt3cPqs3AX3NZeTFA4ElIA#v=onepage&q=how%20news%20chooses%20what%20stories%20to%20cover&f=false)
   4. [Content Analysis in the Research Field of News Performance | SpringerLink](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-658-36179-2_7)
   5. [2023\_25.pdf (icwsm.org)](https://workshop-proceedings.icwsm.org/pdf/2023_25.pdf)
   6. [A systematic review on media bias detection: What is media bias, how it is expressed, and how to detect it - ScienceDirect](https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0957417423021437)
   7. [News Can Help! The Impact of News Media and Digital Platforms on Awareness of and Belief in Misinformation - Sacha Altay, Rasmus Kleis Nielsen, Richard Fletcher, 2024 (sagepub.com)](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/19401612221148981)
   8. [A New Way of Looking at Trust in Media: Do Americans Share Journalism’s Core Values? (americanpressinstitute.org)](https://americanpressinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/Media-Insight-Project-Study-Report.pdf)
   9. Action: (Choice 1) Look at different articles with the same content across all the media outlets. Analyze each article by seeing the most used words that may be relevant to the content of the article. Collect the most used words in each of the articles and compare them side by side with other articles from other media outlets. Look at the overlaps, what is added or not included in other articles (could organize the most used words into broad groups and create a Venn diagram comparing words used from each media outlet). (Choice 2) Define “quality” for the study and create a formula/framework/rubric that can determine whether an article is of good quality (good quality can be defined as being objective and transparent).(Choice 3) In each newsletter, analyze the topics of the articles that are included and how many of each are included in the newsletter. Analyse the title of the articles + newsletter (keywords). (Choice 4) Analyze the length of the article.
2. Headline Portrayal
   1. Summary: Headlines create a frame for the rest of the article and shape the way a reader reads the article. Choice of word, tone of headline, etc. The subject line for news articles offers to pull readers in. It is the first sentence that readers read, especially as many younger readers may read news as a “chore” rather than wanting to read. Therefore, we can analyze how journalists write their headlines + subject lines.
   2. [McMaster University Library | “Villian” VS “Victim”: A News Headline Analysis and Literature Review of Canadian News Print Media in Representing refugees and Framing Canadian Perceptions of Refugees](https://macsphere.mcmaster.ca/handle/11375/22157)
   3. [University of Oregon Libraries | Agenda Setting and Framing International News at the Headline](https://scholarsbank.uoregon.edu/xmlui/handle/1794/24745)
   4. [University of Stavanger Libraries | Hyper-reading headlines: How social media as a news-platform can affect the process of news reading](https://uis.brage.unit.no/uis-xmlui/handle/11250/2504274)
   5. Action: (1) Detecting the polarity of the headline using VADER. After determining whether the headline is positive, negative, or neutral based on the result from VADER, group the headlines into each polarity. Compare within the group choice of word and how many headlines are in each group (positive, negative, and neutral).
3. Sentiment Variance/Linguistic Bias
   1. Summary: We can look at the communication style (informal/formal), which was also done by the similar study added on the bottom of this document. And the polarity of the article. framing, media bias, agenda-setting,
   2. [Turning Words Into Consumer Preferences: How Sentiment Analysis Is Framed in Research and the News Media - Cornelius Puschmann, Alison Powell, 2018 (sagepub.com)](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/2056305118797724)
   3. [Digitala Venteskapliga Arkivet | Critical Discourse Analysis of online News Headlines: A Case of the Stoneman Douglas High School Shooting](https://diva-portal.org/smash/record.jsf?pid=diva2%3A1483958&dswid=6555)
   4. [AMC Digital Library | Identifying Framing Bias in Online News](https://dl.acm.org/doi/abs/10.1145/3204948)
   5. [Oxford Academic | Framing Bias: Media in the Distribution of Power](https://academic.oup.com/joc/article/57/1/163/4102665)
   6. [Linguistic Bias | Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Communication](https://oxfordre.com/communication/display/10.1093/acrefore/9780190228613.001.0001/acrefore-9780190228613-e-439#:~:text=A%20linguistic%20bias%20is%20defined%20as%20a%20systematic,reveal%2C%20and%20thereby%20maintain%2C%20social-category%20cognitions%20and%20stereotypes.)
   7. Action: (1) Use VADER again to rate the polarity of the article and compare the polarity of the article to the headline. This comparison can show whether certain languages are used to pull in viewers to read an article or to form an idea in readers head before they read the article.
4. Communication Frequency
   1. Summary: How many emails do we receive from media outlets (could be newsletters we subscribe to or emails with subscription plans). Spam? What can we categorize as spam?
   2. [Understanding news outlets’ audience-targeting patterns | EPJ Data Science | Full Text (springeropen.com)](https://epjdatascience.springeropen.com/articles/10.1140/epjds/s13688-019-0194-8)
   3. Action: (Choice 1) See how many emails about subscribing are sent each week.
5. AI Use
   1. Summary: The use of artificial intelligence in media could limit the freedom of speech available in media because it prevents other articles created by journalists from being published.
   2. [MDPI | Artificial Intelligence in News Media: Current Perceptions and Future Outlook](https://www.mdpi.com/2673-5172/3/1/2)
      1. **RQ1.** How is news media positioning itself in the subfields of artificial intelligence?
      2. **RQ2**. To what extent is AI being deployed in the news industry?
      3. **RQ3.** What are the future avenues for AI in news media?
   3. [Kampala International University Journal of Social Sciences | Utilization of Artificial Intelligence in Journalism in Nigeria](https://d1wqtxts1xzle7.cloudfront.net/96355777/1239-1-3464-1-10-20210725-libre.pdf?1672037526=&response-content-disposition=inline%3B+filename%3DUtilization_of_Artificial_Intelligence_i.pdf&Expires=1718637541&Signature=bGcWWoXmhXphlVJvFBiHSIjeT5R1gfMp9spHqWzCoLgo7uiwlW7UdGkLOrnuYYxsXQR1z6rkUdLlVO7tgP5c47ARNEfZr0JF9aFtvX-Ffll1fnvKd~SRaXnkCjUTFkM-CuF4iraLKDfCATGycKmK7IcJBqotBliYlCxnpjG7-H7jCsGZ51oJg8AgWOVvs9ZTCZNGdB8cauL0xojJyguY-nwoznR4EX7nFzJTIw5VoVJEL--QMdfnq5xH2WX35Di~d1YljVDIAKUXvwqMTJQjQrOrwqGty9LXZzN1tkMl7TfuJq~S-Ph9oYRtmOJoZiPYSEy~Z9jAN4RE1b1wb0ARsQ__&Key-Pair-Id=APKAJLOHF5GGSLRBV4ZA)
   4. [European Journal of Law and Technology | A freedom of expression perspective on AI in the media – with a special focus on editorial decision making on social media platforms and in the news media](https://ejlt.org/index.php/ejlt/article/view/752)
   5. [Wiley Online Library | Semi-automated Journalism: Reinforcing Ethics to Make the Most of Artificial Intelligence for Writing News](https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1002/9781119706519.ch8)
   6. Action: Use AI checkers \_\_\_\_
6. Information Gap/
   1. Summary: Economic constraints (i.e. subscription fee) & digital divide (i.e. technology) create a significant barrier to accessing news for lower-income Americans. The resources available to access news are limited with potential information gap on news coverage, especially with the information that is accessible to lower-income households.
      1. ChatGPT: How does income disparity prevent lower income households from accessing news from media outlets?
         1. Financial Constraints
            1. Subscription Costs
            2. Internet and Device Access
         2. Time Constraints
            1. Work and family responsibilities
            2. Care responsibilities (household duties, caregiving, etc.)
         3. Education and Literacy
            1. Lower educational attainment (unable to read or complex articles may be too challenging to read)
            2. Digital Literacy
         4. Access to Quality Information
            1. Limited access to libraries and public resources
            2. Geographical barriers
         5. Reliance on Social Media and Free Outlets
            1. Misinformation and bias (on social media)
            2. Echo chambers (algorithms show contents based on previous interactions, which leads to limited exposure to various sides).
         6. Psychological Barriers
            1. Stress and disengagement (families from lower income may focus more on providing for themselves and their family over news)
            2. Distrust in the media (lower-income families may feel unrepresented).
         7. Policy and Structural Issues
            1. Unequal representation
            2. Lack of public investment
   2. Stats: [US household income distribution data, shown in one chart | World Economic Forum (weforum.org)](https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/07/household-income-distribution-wealth-inequality-united-states/)
   3. Action: More on the data analysis side.

[Perceptions of fair news coverage among different groups | Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (ox.ac.uk)](https://reutersinstitute.politics.ox.ac.uk/digital-news-report/2021/perceptions-fair-news-coverage-among-different-groups)

**Similar Studies Check** (only found one)

[Email Newsletters: An Analysis of Content From Nine Top News Organizations](https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/19312431211037681)

**Abstract**: Email newsletters are increasingly popular delivery systems for legacy and digital-native news outlets. The newsletter embodies another level of gatekeeping, but little research has explored which stories make it through the email newsletter “gate” and into the subscriber's inbox. This content analysis of newsletter items (N = 1,231) from select broadcast, cable, print, and digital-native news outlets provides a snapshot of the focus, subject matter, and style of daily newsletters. Newsletter subscribers generally are encouraged to link to the outlet's full-length online content on its website; however, not all outlets attempt to make personal connections with their newsletter readers. In general, the newsletters are largely filled with nationally focused stories on politics and government and mimic the style of their full-length counterparts.

Research Questions

R1: What is the focus (national vs. international) of the news items delivered by these organizations?

R2: What subject areas are most prevalent in print, broadcast, cable and digital-native newsletters?

R3: What style (e.g., language, links, etc.) do newsletters use to deliver content?

***Notes on the study:***

Gatekeeping and Curation

*Gatekeeping:*

“Fundamentally, it can be defined as the process of sifting through large amounts of information and selecting which pieces of that information will reach an audience ([Shoemaker & Vos, 2009](https://journals-sagepub-com.ezproxy.lib.vt.edu/doi/full/10.1177/19312431211037681#bibr36-19312431211037681)).”

“Gatekeeping decisions made by journalists and editors shape the public's social reality.”

With the increasing variety of news platforms, content providers must do more research into what to publish to draw readers in.

Younger (under 35) audiences tend to view reading the news as a “chore” compared with older audiences. Younger audiences gravitate towards digital news that are convenient to access.

“News selection is no longer just about what is relevant, it is about what is popular ([Heinderyckx & Vos, 2016](https://journals-sagepub-com.ezproxy.lib.vt.edu/doi/full/10.1177/19312431211037681#bibr12-19312431211037681)), and content providers must respond and determine how to display and narrate those items to catch the interest of audiences.”

*Curation:*

It is no different from gatekeeping.

“re-presenting [news] in imaginative ways” and “re-formulating existing content in new configurations” (p. 6). In other words, news curation practices have the power to “remix and re-imagine” content for digital audiences who are reading newsletters in a way that was not possible with newspapers limited by the number of pages or broadcasts with time constraints.

Newsletters and Professional Practices

News outlets maximize the use of newsletters to create a relationship with readers.

The New York Times and the Seattle Times have experimented with subjects, length, frequency, etc., of their newsletters (emails) to improve its performance goal.

Method:

This study analyzes the daily, general interest, morning newsletters from nine top news organizations (broadcast, cable, newspaper, and digital-native).

*How they selected the nine top news organizations:* Because no established database of email newsletters exists from which to select a random sample and not all news organizations produce morning newsletters, researchers considered circulation, reach, ratings and availability of morning newsletters to select the cross-section of news organizations used in this study.

Newsletters were captured in two randomly selected periods (five-day periods).

*How the newsletters were categorized:* categorized by focus (national, international) and subject (politics, government, business, technology/science, health, lifestyle, arts/entertainment, sports, opinion, spot or other).

* Analyzed the communication style by looking for informal and formal languages.
* The depth of information provided, inclusion of multimedia, and the use of hyperlinks also were recorded.