

# Analyzing the CNN coverage of the Prague University shooting

Matáš Levínský

2024-02-29

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### Sensitive content

This Article, while only analyzing the reporting about a mass shooting will still contain some references about it. Read with caution if you are sensitive to that.

Given that the University shooting that happened on the 21 December 2023 was unprecedented in Czech history, I wondered whether it would be reflected as such in american media that has grown increasingly desensitized to news of mass shootings.

## Resources used

I used the web-scraping tutorial provided by [renatatopinkova](#) and the book *Text Mining with R* by [Julia Silge](#) and [David Robinson](#). ChatGPT-4 and its internal module R-Guru were used for troubleshooting.

## Getting the data

I wanted to compare the mass shooting to comparable reporting about mass shootings using the same live-block format CNN used for the Prague shooting. I used the first 12 articles that popped up for the Google search `'site:cnn.com "mass shooting" live-news'` and filtering for articles in 2023-2024.

I created a list of the necessary URLs and a couple of helper functions: `readUrlList`, `parseUrlList` and `generateTeiCorpus`. They are simple for-loops that do what their name suggest. Let's load them together with the packages we will need.

```

1 library(rvest)
2 library(tidyverse)
3 library(jsonlite)
4 library(janitor)
5 library(here)
6 source(here("helperCNNAalysis.R"))

```

Now we can use them to read and parse the HTML of the CNN live-blogs. This may take some time so lets save it for later. If the code should be broken I have provided my own webscrape from 28.02.2024.

```

1 htmlList <- readUrlList(urlList, silent = T)
2 parsedDt <- parseUrlList(htmlList, silent = T)
3 saveRDS(parsedDt, file = "parsedDt_WebscrapingCNN.rds")
4 parsedDt

```

Alternative:

```

1 parsedDt <- readRDS(here("parsedDt_WebscrapingCNN.rds"))
2 parsedDt

```

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4	https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/nashville-shooting-covenant-school-03-27-23/index.h
5	https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/unlv-shooting-12-06-23/index.h
6	https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/kansas-city-chiefs-super-bowl-shooting-02-15-24/index.h

7 <https://www.cnn.com/us/live-news/atlanta-midtown-shooting/index.h>  
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headline

1 Live updates: Prague mass shooting at Charles University  
2 October 25, 2023 - Lewiston, Maine mass shootings  
3 3 killed in Farmington, New Mexico shooting  
4 March 27, 2023 Nashville Covenant School shooting news  
5 UNLV campus shooting victims, suspect, and responses  
6 Kansas City Chiefs Super Bowl parade shooting news  
7 May 3, 2023 - Suspect arrested after deadly Midtown Atlanta shooting, police say  
8 April 11, 2023 - The latest on the Louisville bank shooting  
9 Jennifer Crumbly, mother of Oxford school shooter, found guilty  
10 Chiefs Super Bowl rally shooting leaves one dead and multiple injured  
11 April 10, 2023: Louisville, Kentucky shooting  
12 October 25, 2023 - Lewiston, Maine mass shootings  
13 Live updates: Allen, Texas, shooting at outlet mall leaves at least 8 dead

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2 A manhunt is underway after a  
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4 A sho  
5 Three people were killed and one person is in  
6 One person was killed and more than 20 people  
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8 Louisville police have releas  
9 Jennifer Crum  
10 One person was killed and more than 20 people were shot in Kansas City, Missouri, after a  
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12 A manhunt is underway after a  
13 Eight people v

1 <https://www.cnn.com/europe/live-news/prague-shooting-charles-university-12-21-23/index.h>  
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