

Toxicity in news articles

Perspective API defines toxicity as "rude, disrespectful, or unreasonable content". It returns a toxicity score (out of 1) where a high score denotes more toxic content. Some toxic news excerpts from our dataset are given here:

- Opinion pieces often reflect toxicity:

eg.

<https://www.opindia.com/2020/04/how-to-debate-tablighi-jamaat-issue-corona-virus-with-liberal-idiot/>

Perspective API toxicity score: 0.7162694

Excerpts:

"It is futile to debate anything with idiots, but they are fun to engage. So I'm back because 'liberal' idiots are back. These days they are busy washing away thook stains of Tablighi Jamaat."

"You keep shouting "test test test" so go and test those Hindus who attended any event that you claim. Go on and prove your claim. And mind you, when you trace these people and go to test them, they will not throw stones at police, they will not break head of doctor, and they will not spit at nurses."

- Even news reports reflect toxicity sometimes, when they are not written with a factual tone:

eg.

<https://www.opindia.com/2020/04/mukhtar-abbas-naqvi-trolled-tablighi-jamaat-coronavirus-corona-warriors/>

Perspective API toxicity score: 0.60453844

Excerpts:

"However, if the gathering itself was irresponsible borne of a toxic mix of ignorance, stupidity, and callousness, the conduct of some of the Jamaatis that followed could only be attributed to their perversity. Some were also involved in attacking health workers, making bizarre demands and spitting on doctors."