

# **The Newsworthiness of an Armed Conflict: A Corpus-Assisted Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Selected Philippine Newspaper Reports**

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**Master of Arts major in English Language Studies**

by

**Wilfred Gabriel Aguirre Gapas**  
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UNIVERSITY OF SANTO TOMAS  
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### "The Newsworthiness of an Armed Conflict: A Corpus-Assisted Multimodal Discourse Analysis of Selected Philippine Newspaper Reports"

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**Dedication**

*For those journalists who  
have risked (and even lost) their lives in pursuit of the truth,  
have lost their livelihood because the truth exposes people in power, and  
have continued to report the truth notwithstanding pressures from powers that be,  
let's bring back the voice of reason together for the people.*

~\*~

*Para sa mga mamamahayag na  
nagsakripisyo (at namatay) upang matunton ang katotohanan,  
nawalan ng kabuhayan dahil nasisiwalat ang dumi ng mga makapangyarihan,  
at patuloy na nagbabalita kahit na pinag-iinitan ng mga makapangyarihan,  
magtulungan tayong ibalik ang boses ng katwiran para sa bayan.*

## ABSTRACT

The reporting of both terrorism and conflicts is extensively investigated in past media discourse studies across contexts. However, a dearth in the literature exists regarding newsworthiness and its establishment in various forms of news discourse. Based on this niche, this thesis sought to closely examine how the 2017 Marawi City siege is constructed in print news reports as newsworthy. Specifically, it was aimed at determining (a) the linguistic and visual resources used to construe newsworthiness, (b) the news values used to construe the event's newsworthiness, and (c) the existing multimodal relationship between language and images. Sixty news reports from three Philippine broadsheets were analyzed using Bednarek and Caple's (2017) discursive news values framework. This multimodal corpus was examined with multiple methods, namely: (a) collocation analysis of MARAWI and its top three first order collocates, (b) manual analysis of verbal and visual devices utilized for each news value, and (c) the verbal and visual relationship in terms of each discursive news value. A scrutiny of the corpus reveals how local broadsheet journalists constructed the crisis as newsworthy. Firstly, MARAWI is associated closely with collocates that establish Proximity, Negativity, Eliteness, Personalization, Timeliness, Positivity, and Consonance; through collocates *city*, *said*, and *Maute*, recurring second order collocates of Negativity and Eliteness were largely identified. Regarding the manual analysis of texts and images, a range of verbal and visual devices were identified to construct news values except for Aesthetic Appeal. Secondly, an intrasemiotic assessment of news value trends in both verbal and visual data reveal that while the former constructs a concrete set of news values (i.e., Proximity, Timeliness, Superlativeness, and Eliteness), images appear to lack this feature. Lastly, when assessed for their multimodal relationship, texts and images appear to exhibit harmony, where texts and images complement news values with each other. How the crisis' newsworthiness is constructed in the corpus is believed to have implications on news reporting principles and the role of the media in shaping public awareness of events.

**Keywords:** Marawi City, terrorism, news values, news discourse, corpus-assisted multimodal discourse analysis (CAMDA), press photography

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### **Sensitive Content Warning**

This thesis contains explicit images of death, which could be found in pages 118, 177, and 178. These images were published in circulated Philippine newspapers, but we recognize that these might cause varying degrees of trauma. Thus, readers are advised to view these images with caution and are encouraged to seek relevant professional advice if necessary.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains the relevance of media coverage of terrorist activities such as the Marawi crisis. It also illustrates how news reports are reconstructed event narrations and discusses relevant studies that highlight this view. Moreover, views of newsworthiness are tackled, emphasizing how discourse construes events as newsworthy. Further, this chapter enumerates the study objectives, the discursive news values framework, and corpus-assisted multimodal discourse analysis.

### 1.1. Background on the news, newsworthiness, and terrorism

#### 1.1.1. Social relevance of the news

Perhaps it is already an established fact that the news media is positioned on an important societal pedestal, especially in terms of significant sociopolitical events. Kovach and Rosenstiel (2014) underline the media's responsibility in shaping the awareness of the public, who possess an instinctive need to obtain information beyond their reach. In other words, the news helps audiences in understanding the consequences of events and in shaping the public agenda and opinion (Teodoro, 2014; Zhang, 2015).

In spite of its importance, news discourses are not completely objective or impartial. In the Philippine context, one manifestation of this imprecision in news coverage is through the proliferation of pseudo-events or events that are rooted in constructed and non-spontaneous realities (Tandoc & Skoric, 2010). However, in discursive terms, Facchinetti (2012) explains that the news are reconstructions of events through meaningful semiotic resources. However, these resources usually

depend on various publication constraints such as newspaper space, deadlines, and news agency priorities. Since journalists contend with these constraints, they often decide on what information to include and how these are presented. These are semiotic choices that often prioritize “a different meaning and emphasis to the event and the corresponding news story” (Staab, 1990, p. 429). These journalistic decisions could result in the obfuscation and prominence of certain facets of news events.

#### **1.1.2. Newsworthiness and news values**

Journalistic decisions and practices could be evaluated through an examination of newsworthiness and news values. News values refer generally to the factors or qualities that shape an event’s newsworthiness or sufficiency for media attention, which may be gleaned through news discourse (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Caple & Bednarek, 2013). However, this perspective of newsworthiness and news values is only one part of an interdisciplinary and complex discussion from linguistics and communication scholarship that define these concepts through various lenses. Based on these studies, Bednarek and Caple forward four general dimensions or views to examining newsworthiness, namely, the material (i.e., newsworthiness as identified through physical features of events), social (i.e., newsworthiness based on news selection guidelines), cognitive (i.e., newsworthiness based on standards of individual journalists), and discursive (i.e., newsworthiness as constructed and emanating from language and images) approaches. These four approaches could be regarded as progressive paradigm shifts across decades of newsworthiness

scholarship, although these paradigms are interrelated and needs equal attention (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Huan, 2015).

One of the early approaches to newsworthiness was utilized in Galtung and Ruge's (1965) examination of reports on three international crises. In this analysis, a material perspective is reflected – that is, newsworthiness is determined based on the physical features of events, while news values are innate physical attributes of events (Conley & Lamble, 2006; Shoemaker et al., 1991). Despite its significant contribution to understanding the nature of newsworthiness, this normative view was criticized for overlooking the contexts of events (Brighton & Foy, 2007; Machin & Niblock, 2006) and the impact of other connected factors (e.g., cognition, social practices, and language) in news presentation (Caple & Bednarek, 2013; Tunstall, 1971).

These criticisms propelled subsequent studies to explore newsworthiness and news values through their other interfaces. The social dimension is one such alternative dimension, whereby newsworthiness and its news values are governed by a newsroom's selection principles, guidelines, and practices (Hartley, 1982). Numerous journalism studies exhibit this orientation through content analyses or interviews from a gatekeeping perspective (Harcup & O'Neill, 2001, 2017; Rosen et al., 2016). This interface is likewise explored in linguistics by employing newsroom ethnographies, where news values as criteria are purportedly instilled among press organizations through either formal learning (Bell, 1991) or socialization among journalists (Cotter, 2010). Nonetheless, this approach is criticized for ignoring

journalists' worldviews and uncritically valuing culture as a principal motivator for establishing newsworthiness (Cotter, 2010; Huan, 2016; Sinclair, 2006).

A cognitive orientation of newsworthiness has emerged to account for the role of ideology by providing "a more profound cultural understanding of practice and its 'insider' entailments" (Cotter, 2010, p. 86). Both newsworthiness and news values in this perspective are believed to emanate from "the journalistic gut feeling" (Schultz, 2007, p. 190) or an internalized criteria espoused by media members (Strömbäck et al., 2012). A valuable method in exploring this dimension is Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), whereby news values are theorized in terms of social cognition (Fowler, 1991; van Dijk, 1988) or perceived target audience preferences (Richardson, 2007).

Despite the illuminating contributions of these perspectives toward such a multidimensional concept, these approaches are previously critiqued by Caple and Bednarek (2013) for a number of limitations. The first limitation refers to the lack of sufficient attention on meanings contributed by various semiotic modes such as language and images in the formation of newsworthiness. In addition, there seems to be a preponderance for these literature to subsume various aspects of journalistic procedures under 'news values,' thereby unable to delimit and clearly conceptualize the term. This tendency could be gleaned in proposals to update Galtung and Ruge's (1965) original classification. For instance, while Bell (1991) includes the values of writing objectives and selection, van Dijk (1988) integrates economic and editorial processes in their respective classifications. Nonetheless,

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	<p>these accounts of newsworthiness are reportedly ambiguous (Bednarek &amp; Caple, 2017; Caple &amp; Bednarek, 2013).</p> <p>These conceptual dilemmas are addressed in Bednarek and Caple's (2012, 2017) discursive news values analysis (DNVA) paradigm. Unlike earlier paradigms of newsworthiness and news values, this paradigm shifts its attention towards the discursive, rhetorical, or semiotic enactment or establishment of newsworthiness and news values in the coverage of events. In other words, newsworthiness in this paradigm could be defined as a semiotic construction or presentation of the news per se, while news values are the elements that define newsworthiness as realized through various semiotic resources such as texts, photography, and typography. This paradigm of newsworthiness is gaining scholarly interest and could be used in examining how significant happenings such as armed conflicts, crime, terrorist attacks, and other events of social relevance are represented to their readership.</p> <p><b>1.1.3. Terrorism and conflicts in the Philippines: The Marawi crisis</b></p> <p>One event of social relevance is the Marawi City crisis, which is widely regarded as a terrorist crisis. Vasudev (2002) broadly describes a crisis as a situation whereby a critical disruption of public life and economic affairs occur as a result of various forms of othering and the proliferation of fear. Aggression, violence, and strife tend to be typical manifestations of crises and were evident in this event, which is only one of many terrorist crises in the living memory of Filipinos. Indeed, this skirmish exemplifies both a crisis and the ominous result of terrorism, a crucial domestic security issue.</p>	5

This conflict started on May 23, 2017, when Marawi City became a victim to domestic terrorism. It was attacked by the Maute and Abu Sayyaf Group (ASG), both of which are affiliate terrorist movements of the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). These local jihadist groups retaliated in a thwarted attempt to arrest the prominent ISIL leader Isnilon Hapilon, resulting in a citywide encounter that left almost 1,000 casualties, 300,000 displaced citizens, and 17-million-pesos worth of infrastructure damages. Moreover, this conflict enabled President Rodrigo Duterte to declare Mindanao under martial law to suppress potential terrorist activity. After five months of battle, the military had managed to assassinate both Maute leader Omarkhayam Maute and Hapilon, thus allowing the government to declare the city's liberation from terrorist occupation (Betteridge-Moes, 2017; Placido, 2018). Panzo (2018) notes the various concerns arising from this single event such as local citizen welfare, the exposure of poverty and security lapses, and the potential perpetuation of jihadism.

This skirmish is reportedly an example of religious extremism. The groups involved in this form of terrorism employ *jihad* or violence to overthrow societies that seem to deviate from the 'true' doctrines of Islam (Aguirre, 2009; Haykel, 2016). Moreover, the involved groups are infamous for previous terrorist engagements. For instance, the ASG is a terrorist organization responsible for different incidents such as the kidnapping of tourists in Sipadan, Malaysia in 2000 and in Palawan, the Philippines in 2001. These dastardly actions that are purportedly envisioned to "establish a theocratic Islamic state in the southern Philippines" (Aguirre, 2009, p.

50) usually result in a myriad of damaging and traumatizing consequences (Fabe, 2013).

Despite its socio-political significance, what constitutes terrorism remains a point of debate (Easson & Schmid, 2011; Ramsay, 2015). Based on Primoratz (1990) and Aguirre's (2009) assertions, terrorism may be seen as the premeditated usage of violence or threats on civilians by non-state perpetrators to further their political objectives. In addition, terrorism studies highlight the likelihood for terror incidents to happen in nations with poverty levels and social inequality (Burgoon, 2006; Choi & Piazza, 2016). Meanwhile, these movements could be distinguished as the four strains of extremism, namely, nationalist, exclusionist, socialist, and religious, where each strain may evolve as organizations learn ideological and tactical insights from both historical and modern-day conditions (Parker & Sitter, 2016). As Parker and Sitter state, terrorists gain these pieces of information from "older groups or even adopted models from rival or opposing organizations" (p. 201). This appears to be the case of jihadism in the Philippines, where its historical roots could be traced to the Moro nationalist movements, their eventual ties with Islamic extremist groups, and the rise of infamous terrorists such as the Al-Qaeda and ISIL (Quimpo, 2016).

Because of its historical rootedness and national and regional impact, this event is probably regarded by both news workers and their audiences as worthy of media attention. However, how it is represented and constructed as newsworthy by various press institutions requires careful analysis of news outputs in order to determine how news information is marketed to their audiences.

## 1.2. Literature review

### 1.2.1. Analyses of news reporting and media representation

Multitudes of analyses from media studies, (critical) discourse analysis, and social semiotics support Staab's (1990) and Facchinetti's (2012) claims. This body of literature also examines different aspects of reports from various perspectives, although they broadly underpin the subjective dispositions gleaned in news reports of contentious events. As Reyes et al. (2012) purport in a semiotic comparison of two Philippine newspapers in reporting five distinctly negative events, these sentiments could be subtly expressed through typography, images, and the text itself while adhering to news writing conventions. Furthermore, existing studies shed light on the broader societal impact brought by the manner these happenings are reported.

With respect to terrorism media coverage, prior analyses generally observe the polarizing usage of the concept of terrorism in political and media discourses despite its contestable nature. Bhatia's (2009) analysis of official documents and press statements uncover discordant metaphors utilized by the Bush government. Terrorism-directed metaphors (e.g., *lawlessness* and *barbarism*) reflected the administration's worldview while potentially evoking their constituents' emotions. These representations are mirrored not only as simplistic subjective categories, but also as reflections of the status of terrorism discourses as constant places of struggle between dominating and subordinated groups.

In addition to these polarizing associations to terrorism, its largely negative portrayal in the media is underscored in subsequent studies. In his qualitative

study of American news coverage, Altheide (2007) asserted that politicians involved in the promotion of a hegemonic US policy endowed terrorism with fearful, uncertain characteristics that are propagated through the media. By conflating terrorism with negative allusions to criminality, previous conflicts with other societies (e.g., Iraq), and Islam, political voices shaped terrorism discourse along themes of distress. In addition, Altheide posited that these strategic references contribute to the public acceptance of social control measures, since these themes of distress are enforced through public policies that function under such a mindset.

However, Evans and Schuller (2015) contended that regular crimes could be injudiciously conflated with terrorism, even in the absence of ample evidence. This argument is elaborated by examining how the 2013 Woolwich murder incident was depicted in the British media as terrorist. Both close reading and concordance analysis of TERRORIST enabled the identification of “terrorist” representations of the incident, while critical stylistics was employed to identify discursive strategies that legitimize the frame. Their work revealed that the terrorism frame is manifested by emphasizing divisive political opinion and diminishing the suspect’s intentions and reasoning behind the crime. In addition, this frame is engrained by referring to previous jihadist attacks, linking the culprit with existing violent organizations, and portraying the incident as an emerging form of terrorism. However, this is believed to be a haphazard depiction of the event because of the absence of both the suspect’s intentions and relationship between the culprit and existing extremist groups.

Meanwhile, news reporting of sociopolitical upheavals is carefully studied from a critical perspective enabling the identification of journalistic inclinations and their possible sociopolitical effects. On the one hand, Chiluwa (2011) surmised that although the news could be potential avenues for sociopolitical commentary, these texts might likely sensationalize crucial events and unfairly situate the news participants' agency. Headlines on the Nigerian sociopolitical crises were analyzed using transitivity analysis, revealing strategies that exaggerate violent events (e.g., a riot described as a 'bloodbath') and prejudicially depict news actors (e.g., activists framed as 'militants'). He also asserted that these strategies implicitly comment on the government's mismanagement of the crisis.

On the other hand, studies that explore sociopolitical violence forward that an unequal reporting of events may aggravate existing upheavals. To examine how political violence was recontextualized in Turkish print newspapers, Way and Kaya (2016), as well as Way and Akan (2017), employed multimodal critical discourse analysis. Using this approach, they identified how divisive opinions were magnified in the news coverage by portraying opposing political groups as responsible for the incidents. These studies also insisted that while partisan journalistic representations are often likely to enable mutual favors with institutional allies, divisive discourses endorsed through the news might be detrimental to the society's well-being.

Prior news discourse research also focused on specific news actors such as terrorists, war combatants, and refugees from war-ravaged areas. Various

methods were employed to assess how these participants are evaluated and represented in the news reporting. Osisanwo (2016) examined transitivity and categorization strategies used by the Nigerian press to evaluate the terrorist group Boko Haram. It was revealed that the terror group was assigned with negative and felonious features, which may be traced from the journalists' agenda of cultivating audiences with a negative view of the organization.

However, through this journalistic agenda, social differences could possibly be reinforced through media reports of terrorism. Auer et al.'s (2019) work illustrate this observation through an intersectional analysis of British news reports that revolved on a female suspect in a Kenyan bombing incident. Using an intersectional approach, they revealed that the reports emphasized various aspects of her identity (e.g., age, gender, appearance, religion, and personality) instead of her alleged role in the assault. Specifically, these components of her identity were controlled to distinguish 'typical' from 'deviant' citizens, defaming her identity in the process.

In addition, the news media may evaluate actions of opposing combatants in non-terrorist conflicts in an unbalanced manner. For instance, Altheide (2007) observed that the American news obscured civilian casualties by US forces to avoid public criticism, while those committed by enemies were normally foregrounded. Similar findings were identified in García Marrugo's (2017) analysis of how death is established in the Colombian coverage of the conflict between Marxist guerillas and right-wing paramilitaries. She claimed that the media often highlights violence in guerilla-related coverage while downscaling this agency in

paramilitary-focused reports. She also observed this unequal representation of criminal agency, whereby guerillas are explicitly tagged through active verb forms as wrongdoers engaging in violence. Meanwhile, although paramilitaries were complicit in such violent acts, their involvement in these activities are occluded through nominalization, in effect shifting the focus to the material outcomes of their actions. Based on these findings, she suggested that this unbalanced representation of agency likely contributes in perpetuating paramilitary ideology.

Although other discourse analyses revolve on singular journalistic milieus, existing research have also applied a comparative lens in examining stance taking in news discourse. An example is Ballesteros-Lintao's (2018) appraisal study of the West Philippine Sea dispute coverage by Chinese and Filipino print news media, in which she inspected and compared how journalists from these milieus express their stand on the reported dispute. While both groups purportedly adhere to conventions and covertly express their positions, the nature of their expressed sentiments differ. Negativity appears to be the underlying theme found in Filipino news reporting, whereas positivity is subtly expressed in Chinese reports in their call for diplomacy and cooperation. By taking a comparative approach, this study seems insightful in justifying how subjectivity is deeply rooted in a society's value systems.

It could also be noted in prior studies that the representation of stigmatized individuals (i.e., refugees and Muslims) served as the main research focus. A study by Baker et al. (2013) employed corpus linguistic techniques to examine the representation of Muslims in British news reports within an eleven-year period.

They noticed that Muslims are generally characterized as a group with uniform social features but associated with being often affronted, usually engaged in conflict, and different from 'Western' societies. In order to support this finding, concordances of two related clusters (i.e., *Muslim world* and *Muslim community*) were evaluated that reportedly exemplify how journalists perceived the differences between Muslims and 'Western' societies. In addition, they posited that hateful ideas categorized as opinion columns further legitimize these negative images of Muslims in the United Kingdom.

Meanwhile, Mohd Don and Lee (2014) examined the representation of both refugees and asylum seekers in Malaysia based on how government voices become recontextualized in mainstream and alternative newspaper reports. A close analysis of articles through a discourse-historical approach revealed that government voices were amplified in mainstream news reports, whereby refugees were characterized as criminals for their illegal residence in the country. However, they also found that the alternative media recontextualized opposition voices, representing refugees as needing humanitarian protection while being critical of government policy. Moreover, Mohd Don and Lee contended that their illegal standing was both reinforced and legitimized through these recontextualized voices, because they prevented refugees from contesting this status.

War photography has also been explored through studies in visual rhetoric and semiotics. Focusing on the conflict between Palestinians and Israelis, van Leeuwen and Jaworski (2002) examined how the struggle was visually portrayed in a British and Greek newspaper. An analysis of the depiction of both parties

revealed that whereas conventionalized visual topoi (i.e., composition strategy) highlights armed struggle and its impact on civilian lives, an obfuscation of specific details of the conflict may be observed in images from both newspapers. For instance, one newspaper tended to portray the actions of Palestinian forces in the conflict, while Israeli forces' agency was not visually established in the same way. In addition, they maintained that aside from the usage of morbid imagery, these images contributed to conflict's newsworthiness by "providing news audiences with the expected and tested ways of representing reality" (p. 259).

Other studies on press photography have investigated how themes related to armed conflicts are established. Wells (2007) exemplified this direction through a careful inspection of how images of children in the 2003 Iraq occupation were used in a British tabloid and a broadsheet. She identified two predominant frames that visually depict the conflict. The first frame portrayed children in terms of their emancipation from oppression, while the second frame highlighted undue distress endured in the conflict. These observations may appear to support Chouliaraki's (2012) proposition, where modern war images focus on "the psychological trauma of war...with an intensely moralistic context for understanding war as humanitarian benevolence" (p. 316). In this work, it was surmised that the placement of these images is purposeful – that is, journalists often use these visuals to frame events in accordance to their agendas and perception of readers (Wells, 2007).

Socio-semiotic case research by Konstantinidou (2008) also revealed similar observations but stressed that the prevailing power relations facilitated the meaning embedded in war images published in Greek newspapers. She further

espoused that despite the presence of national anti-American sentiments, an ambiguous anti-war message was conveyed. Specifically, it was purported that these images reflect the Greeks' opposition to hegemonic 'western' policies while exhibiting a stereotypical and 'oriental' visual representation of victims as the "perpetually objectified and victimized" (p. 163).

Furthermore, visual representations of death were also claimed to possess political value, especially when conveyed through the news media. Auchter (2017) surmises that under Western cultural traditions, spectacles of corpses present a contradiction. On the one hand, these images emphasize the need for action to address humanitarian crises, which involves humanizing visuals of dead bodies. On the other hand, these spectacles degrade bodies of deceased enemies towards a portrayal of their physical vulnerabilities.

The above literature demonstrates various semiotic resources employed by media workers in covering and reconstructing events for public consumption. These analyses also underline carefully the relevant social ramifications that might emerge from skewed, agenda-propelled news reporting. Furthermore, these studies underscore the relations between news reporting and the worldviews espoused by journalists. Since discourse and ideology may influence each other, the former may contribute to the construction of public knowledge, particularly when the latter is embedded in texts consumed by the lay public (Fowler, 1991; van Dijk, 1998; van Leeuwen, 1995; Wodak, 2006). An implication of their dialectic relationship is that expression of beliefs is possible through news discourse, which Richardson (2004) describes as "an argumentative discourse genre" (p. 227).

Nevertheless, it is apparent that relevant press photography and (critical) discourse analyses of crisis reporting might need to address the overarching issue of newsworthiness and its discursive attainment.

### **1.2.2. Developments in discursive news values analysis**

News discourse research that employ DNVA are emerging, whereby earlier works concentrated on testing the framework's methodological possibilities. Despite this focus, these investigations provided insights on how various events are discursively newsworthy. Earlier case studies focused on natural disaster reporting such as the 2011 Queensland, Australia deluge, in which Bednarek and Caple (2012) explored how news values were reflected in language and images despite not including the multimodal interactions in their analysis. Meanwhile, Potts et al. (2015) used corpus linguistic techniques to measure their usefulness in examining how news values were routinized from in synchrony and diachrony. Because news values do entail ideological underpinnings, DNVA can be employed in CDA to unmask what "ideology of newsworthiness" (p. 152) is inculcated to target readers (Bednarek & Caple, 2014). A CDA orientation also may possibly reveal underlying perceptions regarding specific news participants, events, and issues.

Another direction in previous studies is that DNVA is integrated with other discourse frameworks and methods to explore newsworthiness. On one hand, Bednarek (2016a), in a case study of broadcast news, examined the relationship between news values and attribution strategies. Her work revealed that a

personalized voice in the news coverage is often contributed by non-newscaster voices such as (e.g., victims' relatives, witnesses, and field correspondents). In addition, combining DNVA with the attribution framework appeared valuable in determining the self-positioning of the media vis-à-vis covered events.

On the other hand, DNVA may be integrated with ethnographic procedures, which Huan (2016) applies to understand news values as a professional network of practice, particularly in the Chinese press. It is discovered that a journalist's idea of news values is reflected in texts and is mediated by institutional policy and editorial decisions. He states that government policies in China require the media to spread its national values. While editorial decisions enforce this mandate, attainment of a wider audience is also prioritized. His analysis also reveals that the news values of Personalization and Negativity are important to entice readers, whereas Eliteness and Positivity are highlighted to satisfy policy requirements.

This framework could also be employed from an intercultural perspective, as demonstrated by Fruttaldo and Venuti's (2018) case analysis of how selected Italian, British, and American reports on a landmark 2015 US Supreme Court ruling on same-sex marriage was established as newsworthy. While only a small corpus was examined, adopting this perspective allowed them to identify how discursive news values relate to cultural milieus. Specifically, American reports are reported to often construct the ruling's future implications (Impact), the conflicting views of people (Negativity), and the role of the Supreme Court justices (Eliteness), whereas the British press conveyed the event as timely, having widespread implications, and various negative features (e.g., the ruling being an undemocratic exercise).

Meanwhile, the Italian news sample constructs the event as momentous, especially on social media, in relation to recent successes of President Obama. Their findings seem to demonstrate how cultural considerations influence how newsworthiness is discursively achieved.

Attention is also given to news articles that are widely disseminated through social media. To examine how newsworthiness is built in widely shared news texts on Facebook, Bednarek (2016b) analyzed 99 English news reports across contexts through both manual annotation and corpus methods. Her analysis seems to indicate the emphasis of Novelty and Unexpectedness in the corpus, particularly in reports of research developments. Moreover, Positivity tended to be emphasized less in the corpus than Negativity, a characteristic often gleaned when controversial situations and undesirable event outcomes are involved. Furthermore, Bednarek suggested the communicative usefulness of these news values – that is, Negativity can arouse the emotions of readers, while novel and surprising aspects may likely attract readers.

Meanwhile, news coverage of various scientific issues became the focus of other discursive news values analyses. A few analyses adopted realist persuasion to explore issues such as news sensationalism and moral panics. These practices were employed in Molek-Kozakowska's (2017) analysis of 38 news reports from a popular international scientific magazine, where ecological issues were construed as intriguing yet easily understandable through discursive maneuvers to establish newsworthiness and engage prospective readers. Despite the use of statistics and technical information, textual readability was attained

through different reporting techniques such as the use of figurative language, conversationalization, and other established conventions. Further, the discursive emphasis on news values such as impact, unexpectedness, timeliness, superlativeness, and valence of environmental affairs purportedly shape these reports' infotainment tendencies.

Newsworthiness is also examined with framing in a related study focusing on selected reports of biomedical issues from the same outlet. In an earlier analysis, Molek-Kozakowska (2016) investigated 54 news articles on the topic and subjected the corpus to a triangulation of content analysis, corpus techniques (i.e., keyness and concordance analyses), and DNVA. Her examination uncovered consistent stylistic practices, exemplifying the frames endowed on specific topics of ageing, diseases, and death, which were construed as appealing, advantageous, successful, with enduring risks and ambivalence that may be alleviated through a continued support for scientific endeavors. She asserted that these strategies of constructing newsworthiness are likely driven by economic objectives of attaining a wider readership. As such, the severe consequences of medical issues become overlooked in favor of infotainment.

This sensationalist tendency is further observed in another study by Molek-Kozakowska (2018), which explored how climate change information is mitigated by a science news agency. Whereas 30 climate change texts were analyzed for their frames, news values, and evaluations, these findings were later utilized to determine obfuscated information by comparing the texts with an institutional report from the World Meteorological Organization for subtle differences in

emphasis. This critical discourse analysis demonstrated how negative climate change information is being complemented or overridden by frames of scientific novelty, timeliness, and impact. As such, disquieting scientific information is mitigated in place of occurrences of scientific progress and alarmist precautions. Further, Molek-Kozakowska posited that concerns of climate change are often underestimated in the corpus, as science is construed generally as a solution to such environmental issues.

While the above studies concentrate exclusively on the linguistic resources of the news, some attention has been given to explore its visual interface. Sustaining a focus on climate change reporting, Dahl and Fløttum (2017) adopted a multimodal lens to analyze how climate change is interpreted as newsworthy by a tabloid and a broadsheet newspaper. A manual analysis of headlines and images was conducted to understand how news values complement across modes. However, they detected certain instances where visual and verbal modes offered conflicting news values (e.g., negativity in texts and positivity in images). Based on their observations, these images fulfilled two functions, namely, to originally depict previous events and to forestall climate change events.

Furthermore, this discursive approach to newsworthiness has been utilized on non-English data. Makki's (2019) examination of Iranian crime reporting reveals the extent to which the sociocultural context of Iran affects how news values were constructed. For instance, while Eliteness was central to the corpus, references to religious events, as well as law enforcement and judicial titles, were construed as instances of this news value because of their high status in the Shiite community.

Moreover, while Negativity is a given in the corpus, Positivity is widely established through references to arrests and even forgiveness. This trend is believed to be in line with Iranian press regulations, notwithstanding their ideological leanings.

Lastly, Lorenzo-Dus and Smith (2018) scrutinized how elite and non-elite social actors involved in political crises were portrayed in photographs published by a British newspaper. Using content and discursive news values analysis, with a focus on both content and camera techniques, they identified an imbalance in the visual portrayal of both groups of news actors. On one hand, elite news actors (i.e., political leaders) were illustrated in terms of their collectedness in dealing with political upheavals. This finding was supported through news values ascribed to them (i.e., consonance, eliteness, and proximity), which further positions these elites as capable of addressing crises. On the other hand, non-elite news actors (i.e., protesters) were mostly characterized in the opposite – that is, they appear incapable of addressing these issues. This observation was based on the news values associated to them (i.e., superlativeness, impact, aesthetic value, and negativity), which relate to their irate, loud, and hostile appearances. Their findings appear to highlight not only unfair, elitist-driven stereotypes, but also the social enactment of any given crisis.

Although news contexts in the existing discursive news values are different, these analyses reveal how journalists constructed the newsworthiness of different events, whereby certain news values were highlighted through deployed textual and visual resources. However, DNVA of terrorism coverage has not yet been explored thoroughly. Furthermore, most research on discursive news values tend

to focus on selected text portions such as headlines and opening paragraphs (Bednarek, 2016b) or concentrate on selected news values. For instance, Molek-Kozakowska's (2017) analysis had only considered seven news values. In addition, most analyses tended to explore news discourse from a mono-modal perspective while overlooking the visual resources and their meaning-making relationship with textual counterparts.

Furthermore, news values in the Philippine media are scarcely researched, particularly through a systematic investigation of discursive features. For instance, Canlas' (2015) rhetorical study examined user-generated videos as they are used in broadcast reporting and the likely influence of audiences and news producers on newsworthiness standards. Unlike the discursive news values analyses above, her work appears to perceive newsworthiness as criteria and not as an outcome of various semiotic choices. Therefore, it is necessary to carefully examine the news from a multimodal perspective by utilizing various discourse analytic techniques in filling these research niches.

### **1.2.3. The case for corpus-assisted multimodal discourse analysis**

In order to address the multisemiotic characteristic of news reporting, Bednarek and Caple (2014, 2017) propose the integration of linguistic techniques, namely, corpus linguistics, discourse analysis, and multimodal analysis. This form of triangulation is termed 'corpus-assisted multimodal discourse analysis' (CAMDA), which is purported to provide a comprehensive understanding of how semiotic resources of these texts operate and interrelate with each other.

### **1.2.3.1. Corpus linguistics and discourse analysis**

As a distinct linguistic subfield, corpus linguistics broadly refers to a methodology that examines authentic language data through software (Lindquist, 2009; McEnery & Hardie, 2012). Corpus methods (e.g., collocation, concordancing, and semantic tagging) may be integrated in discourse analytic procedures to explore different topics (Baker, 2006; Baker & McEnery, 2015). This synergy of approaches has been employed in previous empirical research on discursive news values and the reporting of violence (e.g., Bednarek, 2016b; Evans & Schuller, 2015; Molek-Kozakowska, 2016).

The combination of these approaches – corpus-based discourse analysis – is beneficial, since it contributes to the reduction of bias and the cross-validation of findings obtained from each approach. On one hand, this approach exemplifies methodological triangulation, as corpus linguistics often provides quantitative input that may possibly converge, complement, or contrast with qualitative insights from discourse analysis (Baker, 2006; Marchi & Taylor, 2009). On the other hand, Baker (2006) reports that a corpus-based approach could assist to minimize researcher bias in both data collection and analysis, because these procedures are more systematic and less propelled by personal views. Baker and McEnery (2015) note that computer-based techniques could offer statistically objective results. However, they also underscore that “there is no such thing as unbiased research” (p. 9), as subjectivity can manifest in other aspects of the analysis such as the interpretation and reporting of findings.

Aside from these applications of the approach, corpus-based discourse analysis may uncover meaningful discursive conventions that emerge from the “incremental effect of discourse” (Baker, 2006, p. 13) or the manner through which dominant public knowledge is constructed through repeated patterns of discourse. Similarly, it could possibly reveal changing and unpredicted discourses (Baker, 2006; Baker & McEnery, 2015). These methodological gains are also forwarded in Potts et al.’s (2015) case study, where they demonstrated the capability of corpus techniques to reveal synchronic and diachronic insights. Specifically, the former informs how newsworthiness is constructed at the height of events, whereas the latter may determine how news values evolve as news events unfold. However, they acknowledge that a strictly corpus linguistic approach cannot account for the communicative, co-textual, and open-ended characteristics of newsworthiness. A thorough analysis of individual texts in the corpus may then be necessary. However, a corpus-as-method approach focuses primarily on language or texts. As newsworthiness may be established through visual features of news discourse (Caple, 2013; Caple & Bednarek, 2015), multimodality may need to be considered.

### **1.2.3.2. Multimodality**

Since news reporting involves multimodal platforms for circulating information, it may be crucial to explore the semiotic elements present in these texts. Multimodal discourse analysis (MDA) examines the interaction of various discourse modes in texts (Kress & van Leeuwen, 2001) or the grammar manifested in different modes of meaning organization (Halliday, 1985). According to Jones (2012), the usage of

multiple modes in discourse is an informed, strategic choice of expression, since any information that could not be verbally conveyed may be expressed visually despite constraints underlying every semiotic mode. As such, exclusive scrutiny of language to investigate social practices could lack comprehensiveness, because people are capable of self-expression through multiple modalities (Kress, 2011). For example, visuals – photographs in particular – carry tremendous political value, since they deliver an illusion of objective representation through aesthetic options while allowing for interpretation (Bleiker, 2018). Bleiker also adds that this political value of images enables emotions to be evoked and allows people to recall and act because of their iconicity.

The value of a multimodal approach has been emphasized in prior research. Firstly, Kress and van Leeuwen (2006) purport that MDA provides a holistic insight on the attainment of text cohesion and the portrayal of social agents based on their contextual relationship with others. A careful analysis of visual data may also reveal more embedded meanings compared to textual equivalents, particularly with evolving platforms that enable news presentation through galleries (Caple & Knox, 2012; Knox, 2009). Moreover, interpersonal functions with their intended readers such as the maintenance of solidarity to preserve reader loyalty are often achieved (Caple & Bednarek, 2010). With respect to DNVA, a multimodal approach enables the identification of not only intrasemiotic newsworthiness trends (i.e., the way newsworthiness is construed in a monomodal dataset) but also intersemiotic newsworthiness trends (i.e., how newsworthiness is established across multiple semiotic modes) (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

Although multimodal analyses of discursive news values appear to be scarce (e.g., Bednarek & Caple, 2012, 2017; Dahl & Fløttum, 2017), a prevalent approach is that both semiotic modes are examined separately but later compared to identify their meaning relationships. However, these analyses do not discount the possibility for a combined examination of both text and images at the outset. Furthermore, in spite of methodological advantages provided by these approaches, discursive news values studies that employ CAMDA remain largely unapplied due mainly to its complexity (Bednarek, 2015; Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Caple, 2019). Based on this methodological niche, CAMDA was utilized to examine how the invasion in Marawi City is verbally and visually established as newsworthy.

### **1.3. Research objectives**

This thesis sought to investigate the discursive construction of the Marawi conflict as a newsworthy event in selected print national broadsheet reports. By fulfilling this objective, it attempted to satisfy the dearth of discursive news values analyses in the Philippine context and on terrorism-related events. In addition, it hoped to contribute to a meager body of literature whereby corpus linguistics, multimodality, and discourse analysis are combined to scrutinize news discourse. Specifically, it was aimed at answering the following questions:

- (a)** What linguistic or verbal and visual resources were deployed to construct the Marawi City crisis as newsworthy in print reporting?
- (b)** What discursive news values were used to construct the newsworthiness of the said event?
- (c)** How do verbal and visual modes of the news articles relate to each other in constructing the event's newsworthiness?

#### **1.4. Research significance**

This thesis contributes not only to methodological and theoretical progress of the field, but it also has pedagogical relevance. These contributions are discussed in the following sub-sections.

##### **1.4.1. Methodological contributions**

The principal methodological contribution of this analysis was the employment of CAMDA. This multiple method combination appears uncommon within the news discourse scholarship because of its sheer complexity. Nevertheless, it provided opportunities to investigate news reporting as multimodal products, which consist of semiotic elements that together shape the textual expression of meaning. Apart from the multimodal focus, this combination also illustrated the complementarity of corpus linguistic and manual analyses of discourse, where the vertical and non-contextual approach involved in the former complemented with the horizontal and contextual nature of the latter (Marchi & Taylor, 2009). As such, this investigation provides further reason to employ multiple methods to arrive at a comprehensive understanding of the news and newsworthiness.

##### **1.4.2. Theoretical contributions**

This investigation sought to contribute to the existing literature on Philippine news media and applied linguistics by testing the discursive news values framework in the diverse journalistic milieu of the Philippines. Apart from the lack of studies that scrutinize the news from this perspective, one important contribution of this work is that due consideration is given to how Filipino target readers might interpret the

messages expressed in the reports. As such, the analysis recognizes that context (i.e., historical, cultural, economic, communicative) where the reports are situated. While many findings in this thesis may be presently seen as obvious, this is not the case for those unfamiliar with the news context and may not be in the passage of time. As such, "there is value in producing academic research which will serve as an historical account for future generations" (Baker & McEnergy, 2015, pp. 10-11).

This research also provides a glimpse of the discursive practices of Filipino journalists in national broadsheets. Given the critical nature of the Marawi crisis, a multimodal exploration of these semiotic conventions and practices might reveal not only the worldviews of journalists on what makes the crisis newsworthy, but also how media institutions reconstruct pieces of information provided to target readers. According to Perttierra (2012), Philippine broadsheets follow 'traditional' news coverage practices and often give serious attention to crucial events unlike tabloids. As such, this work elaborates how such attention is attained in the case of Marawi crisis print coverage.

An understanding of these reporting practices is also relevant because of the public accessibility of the media to Filipinos. Filipinos are generally exposed to various media forms based on data from the Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) (2013) *Functional Literacy, Education and Mass Media Survey* report. However, this report also signified a low newspaper readership among Filipinos, where only 9.8% of Filipinos claim to read newspapers daily, 60.7% of them receive exposure to it. Estella and Löffelholz (2019) also underscore a decline in newspaper readership, which may have motivated broadsheets to extend their coverage publication not

only in print, but also through online media in order to sustain their audience reach. Whether newspapers publish their reports in print or online, it is worth highlighting Perttierra's (2012) argument that each news outlet's reporting "often gives one the impression that they are referring to distinct realities" (p. 13), as these newspapers are often managed by prominent families with links to other powerful individuals, making them free but partisan. Through DNVA, this research elaborates how these realities of the said crisis were manifested in three distinct broadsheets.

#### **1.4.3. Pedagogical contributions**

This investigation also has relevance on developing media and information literacy and journalistic writing skills. On one hand, the Philippine K-12 curriculum stresses the importance of media and information literacy. This knowledge is emphasized particularly in a core senior high school subject *Media and Information Literacy*. As its learning goal is "to be creative and critical thinkers as well as responsive users and competent producers of media and information" (Department of Education, 2013, p. 1), educators could discuss how events could be portrayed differently in various news outlets, using DNVA as a springboard. For instance, learners may be asked to compare news reports by left- and right-wing media on polarizing issues such as terrorism. The teacher may facilitate scrutiny of the reports with the class as a means of discussing the power of the media in driving public opinion.

On the other hand, this research provides insights in developing journalistic writing skills. Aside from tertiary students in undergraduate journalism programs, these skills are essential for secondary education majors in English and Filipino, who are expected to complete journalism modules (i.e., *Campus Journalism* and

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	<p><i>Introduksyon sa Pamamahayag</i> respectively) (Commission on Higher Education, 2017). In addition, these insights are useful for schools participating in the <i>Special Program in Journalism</i> that offer journalism as a regular part of the curriculum and even schools that provide optional journalism classes as co-curricular activities (Department of Education Mandaluyong, 2019). In fact, Caple and Bednarek (2016) propose that this approach could be introduced to prospective journalists to develop their awareness of reporting conventions and strategies before engaging in news reporting per se. For instance, educators may compare three sample news reports on a single issue and examine what news values are highlighted in each report. Educators can then facilitate discussion on what semiotic devices were used to establish different news values. This exposes learners to various reporting conventions and strategies, which they may use when tasked to cover events. Alternatively, learners may be assigned to collect information on and take pictures of a given event; from those information, they may be asked to write a report and compare their work with peers to illustrate how news values and newsworthiness are construed through semiotic resources.</p> <p><b>1.5. Scope and limitations</b></p> <p>This newsworthiness analysis employed Bednarek and Caple's (2017) discursive paradigm and CAMDA on a small, multimodal corpus of national print coverage of one significant terrorist attack. While this study focused on print coverage of one event, it acknowledges that other sites and modes of news reporting may utilize other meaningful resources (e.g., image-text positioning and typography) in order</p>	30

to highlight different news values. Further, a small-scale corpus may enable an in-depth, contextual interpretation of results, especially when it is a multimodal one.

Bednarek and Caple (2017) also provide caveats related to the publication or communicative context of the corpus, which may apply in this research. Firstly, it does not substantiate reasons behind any editorial decisions for news selection and publication due to the dynamism of newsroom management (e.g., deadlines, state censorship, and other external influences). These aspects may be explored closely through observations, interviews, and content analysis.

Second, authorial intent for highlighting and diminishing news values may not be determined through DNVA due to the existence of numerous conventions in news writing (Catenaccio et al., 2011). Moreover, reports undergo a complex writing process through multiple individuals (e.g., journalists, correspondents, and editors) and are “a product of organizational structures and professional practices” (Bell, 1991, p. 38). Nonetheless, there is a need for media practitioners to present events that could attain audience attention and response (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

Lastly, DNVA cannot identify the readers’ actual response to news articles, because texts are viewed from various positions that can allow them to differently construe news values and newsworthiness (Johansson, 2014). Instead, these are identified based on a text’s preferred meaning – that is, journalists envisage a target audience who share similar interpretations of texts with them (Hartley, 1982; Martin & White, 2005). However, it is fallacious to assume that audience reactions would be similar to what news agencies expect.

### **1.6. Theoretical framework**

This investigation employed Bednarek and Caple's (2017) discursive news values framework. This view differs from other approaches in that their focus emphasizes what makes an event newsworthy or why such events are worthy of coverage. On the other hand, DNVA is concerned with how newsworthiness is established in news texts through semiotic resources – that is, through both language and visuals. They forward 11 news values, each having corresponding textual and visual devices that are substantively elaborated in the following subsections.

Moreover, this framework also emphasizes that news values are not merely reinforced in texts; these values are rather shaped or constructed through discourse. This notion is based on the dialectical link between discourse and cultural systems, where both texts and cultures possess reciprocal transformative and reproductive impact (Fairclough, 1995, as cited in Bednarek & Caple, 2017). Using this notion, discursive practices of journalists do not only mirror their professional practices but can also transform them.

Furthermore, this framework espouses a constructionist-realist balance. On the one hand, this framework accepts that news values are relative to the sociocultural group that designates these values on events. For example, a Filipino audience may receive the terrorists' defeat in Marawi City with positivity, while terrorists would view it otherwise. On the other hand, realism is actualized by accepting that "there is a material reality beyond semiosis" (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 51). In other words, events likely possess other details that language may not readily represent.

### 1.6.1. Aesthetic Appeal

Bednarek and Caple (2017) explain that this news value is constructed through any visual reference to the beautiful features of represented entities and settings (e.g., the Aurora Borealis). However, an image's appealing properties often needs further justification due to the context-dependence of beauty.

In addition to content, Caple (2013) asserts the role of capture strategies in establishing this news value. On one hand, the aesthetic quality of events may likely be construed by strategically manipulating shutter speed (i.e., to produce blurred or clear images) and aperture settings (i.e., to increase or reduce focus). The sharpness of images may also be adjusted to "add a painterly quality to an image, which could, depending on the context, enhance the Aesthetic Appeal of an image" (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 110). On the other hand, composition may possibly establish this news value through dynamic assymetry (i.e., unequal positioning of elements along a diagonal axis) and interrupted symmetry (i.e., momentary disruption of balance).

### 1.6.2. Consonance

Consonance is a news value arising from stereotypes associated by target audiences to news participants, groups, or nations involved. Occurrences of this news value were determined through intuition (i.e., reliance on one's personal understanding of the target audience). Overt realizations of this news value include but are not limited to the following lexico-grammatical constructions:

**Indicators of stereotypical characteristics:** "Drug addict parents gave 23-month-old son methadone 'like Calpol'"

**Evaluations of typical or usual behavior:** “a man whose love of luxury and lavish parties is legendary”

**Pointing similarities with previous events:** “America is once again torn apart by race and police power”

**Overt allusions to common knowledge, practices, and stereotypes:** “In keeping with the Germans’ well-known love of beer”

As regards the visual realizations of Consonance, two content aspects may illustrate stereotypicality, particularly through represented participants and their corresponding attributes that indicate stereotypes usually held by target readers. The activity sequence performed or experienced by news participants is also an indicator of this news value. For instance, Caple and Bednarek (2015) cite sailors and female soldiers marching in China’s 60th National Day as signposts of Consonance: The infantries are the depicted participants and marching is the activity sequence.

### 1.6.3. Eliteness

The third news value refers to Eliteness, which portrays events, persons, groups, or whole nations as prestigious or influential to present an event as newsworthy. A feature of this news value is its scalarity, where the extent of one’s eliteness relies on the target audience (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). For example, Amparo Cabotaje-Tang (Sandiganbayan Presiding Justice) may be elite for Filipinos, but this may not apply in Canadian contexts. Meanwhile, individuals such as United States President Donald Trump and Pope Francis may be considered elites across contexts for their global prominence.

The scalarity of Eliteness also depends on cultural prestige of careers (e.g., doctors as compared to clerks) and professional hierarchy (e.g., a department chair against a beginning teacher). News participants then could be regarded with varying levels of eliteness, as in the case of ordinary police officers, who might be elites as persons of authority but not in their professional hierarchy. Haarman and Lombardo (2009) set a related distinction between legitimated (e.g., elected and appointed) and typical law enforcers. They purport that the former is empowered to represent their institutions, whereas the latter “generally speak for themselves, though they *stand for* others of their kind” (p. 11). Their distinction was considered when faced with elite news participants that may not possess prestige in terms of professional hierarchy. Meanwhile, this news value was considered established when at least a facet (i.e., cultural prestige or hierarchical position) of this news value is present.

Among the primary lexico-grammatical resources surmised to indicate this news value include prestige or authority labels such as the following:

**Role labels:** Senior Associate Justice Antonio P. Carpio; Prime Minister Theresa May; The Cranberries lead singer Dolores O'Riordan

**Status adjectives:** long-term industry observers, well-placed government sources, top-ranking government officials

**Recognized name (without titles):** Margaret Thatcher; Seoul; Hollywood; the European Union; University of Oxford; the FIFA World Cup

**Fame or achievement descriptions:** “The Norwegian entertainer was also very popular in neighboring countries, dominated the 1970s disco scene”

Meanwhile, Eliteness is visually constructed through four aspects of image content. First, this news value can be observed when the portrayed participants in images are individuals or groups likely known by the target audience. An example of this are photos of world leaders convening in a summit. Second, the participants' attributes such as attires or items signalling authority or recognition (e.g., trophies, academic regalia, presidential symbols, and judicial gavels), as well as the use of self-reflexive instruments (e.g., artists' microphones in concert photos) convey this news value.

The images' activity sequences may also highlight this news value when a person or group is surrounded by security or the media in a scrum (e.g., photo of an ambush interview). Eliteness can also be observed in sequences where persons in elite occupations are linked to their respective professional tasks or instruments (e.g., a biologist using a microscope). Furthermore, the setting or background in the image can indicate this news value when the context is associated to prestigious or authoritative occupations (e.g., courthouses and laboratories).

#### **1.6.4. Impact**

Impact, the fourth news value, is the discursive presentation of an event's possible or actual influence – whether as a direct cause or primary factor – to people's lives. Bednarek and Caple (2017) emphasize this news value is observed when an event's significant influence is expressed vis-à-vis the target audience, although Impact can also be gleaned when related to entities beyond the target audience.

Among the linguistic resources that possibly exhibit Impact could include:

**Journalistic evaluation of significance:** “a potentially momentous day”

**Representations of possible or actual outcomes:**

“thousands of people may be massacred”

“leaving scenes of destruction”

With regard to this news value’s visual realizations, the images’ represented participants and their respective attributes can be examined. Through these aspects, impact could be gleaned through an event’s material outcomes (e.g., injuries, ruins, and other outcomes) or resulting emotions (e.g., weeping victim after a tragedy).

#### **1.6.5. Personalization**

Through Personalization, events are constructed as newsworthy through references to experiences and emotions of ordinary individuals such as direct witnesses and relatives of victims (Bednarek, 2016a). Persons of elite stature may be considered ordinary when they act within non-authoritative or non-presigious roles to express personal feelings (e.g., a politician as an earthquake victim) or those related by other ordinary persons (e.g., a news reporter as a typhoon onslaught witness).

For written news reports, this news value can be identified through various forms of references to common individuals, their sentiments, and their experiences. These include the following resources with corresponding examples from Bednarek and Caple (2017):

**Non-elite names and role labels:**

“Charissa Benjamin and her Serbian husband”

“a 31-year-old plumber”

**Emotion labels and descriptions:**

"Mike's devastated owner"

"Reeva Steenkamp's cousin sobbed while testifying"

**Direct and indirect speech:**

"Another man, who lives near the offices, first mistook the sounds of gunshots for celebrations of Chinese new year. However, he said he soon realized the gravity of the situation when he saw 'police officers playing hide-and-seek with the criminals'".

Images may also contain indicators of Personalization. In terms of content, images focusing on common individuals and any likely attributes of their ordinary nature such as informal attires, specific everyday items, and displays of emotions. The image setting or background may also signify this news value through domestic or street backdrops (e.g., inside a house in the slums).

Bednarek and Caple (2017) also state specific capture-related indicators of Personalization. The first capture-related indicator may be observed in photograph salience, where news agents are unequally positioned – primarily by backgrounding or foregrounding – in terms of photograph composition. This unequal positioning may be combined with closer shot lengths and reduced image scope to focus on a person's features such as emotional expressions.

#### **1.6.6. Proximity**

Proximity pertains to the presentation of a news event as newsworthy by linking its geographical or cultural nearness to the prospective audience. Bednarek and Caple (2017) emphasize that distance is likely relative to prospective readers in terms of culture and geography. For example, Indonesian events can be geographically close to Filipino readers but distant in cultural aspects such as

language. Moreover, while Russian events are physically and culturally distant for Filipino audiences, events in Mindanao are likely close in both aspects. Thus, Proximity may possibly become established if geographical or cultural representations are present.

Proximity is often realized through these lexico-grammatical choices:

**Indicators of nearby locations through adjectives, deictics, and generic place references:**

"A potential attack on the nation's capital and the country's highest office"  
"Homegrown terrorist Mohamed Elomar pledges to bring the horror here"

**Cultural references:**

"Soldiers' farewell haka footage goes viral"

**Overt references to places or nationalities near the target audience:**

A federal judge in the District of Columbia

**Inclusive first person pronouns:** "Is this the end of our local newsagents?"

On the other hand, this news value is established in images through content manifestations that illustrate renowned landmarks (e.g., Malacañan Palace, Quiapo Church), natural locations (e.g., Chocolate Hills, Banaue Rice Terraces), and ethnic symbols (e.g., the Philippine flag and various cultural attires). It is also likely that Proximity is established when photographs consist of embedded textual references to nearby locations such as signages (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

#### **1.6.7. Superlativeness**

According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), Superlativeness is constructed when references relating to the highly intense or encompassing properties of events are presented. This news value is associated to various attributes of news events; in

this study, it includes the magnitude of news actors' actions, the situation's lasting effects, the news location's scope, and the number of persons involved.

For them, considering the event's proximity and the preferred meaning of target readers is crucial, as some contexts could view one casualty as equivalent to hundreds of fatalities (Rau, 2010, in Bednarek & Caple, 2017). To address this theoretical concern, Bednarek's (2016c) approach is followed, whereby numerical quantifiers below 10 are not treated as occurrences of Superlativeness, except in instances that are informed by contextual and co-textual considerations.

This news value is often realized through the following linguistic devices:

**Intensifiers:** "A sensational corruption inquiry has concluded"

**Quantifiers:**

"a tragedy of epic proportions"

"hundreds who flew with an infected nurse"

**Intensified words:**

"U.S. forces hammered ISIS fighting positions, vehicles and buildings"

"they were petrified"

**Comparisons:**

"...one of the world's most prolific serial killers"

"Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's wedding was so secret Jolie's father Jon Voight did not know it had taken place"

**Repetitions:**

"...with building after building flattened or punctured by shells"

**Growth words:**

"It had sheer scale, scope, the length and the breadth of the evil unfolded"

"The volume of email cloaked in encryption technology is rising"

**Only / alone / already / just + spatial or temporal lexis**

"Already this year 64 clandestine ice labs have been busted and dismantled"

"almost a hundred foreigners... were arrested in one raid alone"

**Similes and Metaphors:**

"... country towns in northern NSW are battling a tsunami of crime"  
"a June wildfire... ripped through as if the land had been doused with gas"

Meanwhile, this news value could be visually constructed through content and camera techniques. On the one hand, Superlativeness is established through the former when depicted participants express strong emotions (e.g., a grieving parent) or when large numbers of news actors are captured (e.g., a crowd occupying a whole plaza). On the other hand, camera techniques may construct this news value through shot length strategies such as zooming and using broad angles to accentuate spatial differences. Indicators of photographer and camera motion (e.g., blurring in images) may exemplify Superlativeness, especially when items are hurled in their direction (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

**1.6.8. Timeliness**

Timeliness pertains to the portrayal of a news event as chronologically pertinent to readers vis-à-vis the publication period. However, an event's timeliness is believed to diminish when its occurrence is distant from the news report's publication date. To address this concern, Chovanec's (2014, in Bednarek & Caple, 2017) position that Timeliness is maintained in two newspaper issues from the event's occurrence was observed.

Timeliness is typically construed through the following linguistic devices:

**Temporal references:** "yesterday's flash flooding"

**Implied time references through lexis:**

"Search ongoing for missing Victoria woman Karen Chetcuti"

**Present and present perfect:** "it is testing our emergency resources"

**References to current trends:** "selfie'- the smartphone self-portrait – has been declared word of the year for 2013"

**References to seasonality:** "...as Public Health England urged people to keep their homes well heated this winter"

**References to change or recency:** "In an unexpected development"

On the other hand, visual realizations of Timeliness may be gleaned through depictions of representative artifacts (e.g., Christmas trees and fireworks displays) and periodic environmental phenomena that denotes temporal recency (e.g., floods during the rainy season). Moreover, sequences involving groundbreaking activities such as the unveiling of items may also exhibit this news value. In addition, similar to Proximity, embedded textual references that establish temporal recency may also construct an event's Timeliness.

#### 1.6.9. Unexpectedness

Unexpectedness pertains to any references to any untypical, extraordinary, or rare aspects of events. In other words, events are being communicated as deviating from common experiences and expectations of the target audience (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). However, unexpected situations are believed as relative to expectations held by the target readers. This analysis then followed Bednarek's (2016c) conservative approach, where apparent instances of uncommon events were identified.

The lexico-grammatical resources below often construe this news value:

**Evaluations of unexpectedness:** "one of the strangest scandals"

**Surprise or expectation references:** "people just really can't believe it"

**Unusuality comparisons:** "Sydney's wettest August in 16 years"

**References to uncommon occurrences:**

"Queensland woman fights off kangaroo with backpack"

Meanwhile, this news value may be visually established through portrayals of individuals with surprised facial expressions and gestures, as well as events that do not conform to social expectations. Unexpectedness may also manifest through image composition when two juxtaposed entities present a remarkable contrast (e.g., the world's smallest dog beside a tall caretaker) (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

#### **1.6.10. Valence: Positivity and Negativity**

Positivity and Negativity – also collectively termed valence – refer to the portrayal of events as newsworthy by centering on an event's positive (e.g., victories and heroic acts) or negative aspects (e.g., disasters and wars). Both news values are akin to others due to its audience dependence, although their political and cultural beliefs may differ in certain issues such as marriage equality and tax reforms. To address this difficulty, this study marked definite instance of this news value when "either the 'preferred' meaning is obvious... or where the target audience is unlikely divided in their attitudinal point of view" (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 61).

Positivity and negativity can be determined verbally through the following:

**References to positive/negative emotions and attitudes:**

"a move that has outraged local politicians"

"Baltimore residents celebrate charges in Gray case"

**Positive/negative evaluative language by journalists:**

"shoddy financial advice"  
"the brilliant astrophysicist"

**Positive/negative lexis:**

"Boy, 8, one of 3 killed in bombings at Boston Marathon; scores wounded"  
"Teens chase kidnapping suspect on bikes, save 5-year-old girl"

**Descriptions of positive or negative acts or behaviors by news actors:**

"Hospitals don't have enough beds, and there aren't enough ambulances"  
"[Canadian Prime Minister] Trudeau, who last year unveiled a cabinet with an equal number of men and women 'because it's 2015'"

These news values also have their respective visual realizations. Positivity is present in images through the participants' positive expressions and artifacts that illustrate positivity such as medals, trophies, flowers, and regalia. Another visual resource includes depictions of positively recognized actions (e.g., handshaking, bowing, hugging) or events (e.g., graduation rites and proclamations of winners).

On the other hand, Negativity can be identified through negative emotions expressed (e.g., a grieving person) or through negative outcomes (e.g., wreckage, injuries, and aftermaths). Like in Positivity, this news value can be observed in an image's activity sequence, such as arrests by law enforcement, deviant or criminal activities (e.g., inflicting damage to person or property), identity concealment (e.g., suspects covering their face), and aggressive expressions (e.g., a disgruntled activist with fists in the air).

The effects of camera settings may also indicate Negativity through image blurs. Bednarek and Caple (2017) state that these blurs may either conceal negative content (e.g., a bloody corpse) or may be a result of constant movement on the part of the photographers (i.e., to avoid harmful objects). Meanwhile,

negative aspects of an event may be emphasized by reducing photograph noise. Furthermore, the potential lack of focus may signify Negativity, particularly when these photos are taken in extreme situations, disallowing image clarity (e.g., a photo taken with lens stained with ashes during a volcanic ashfall event).

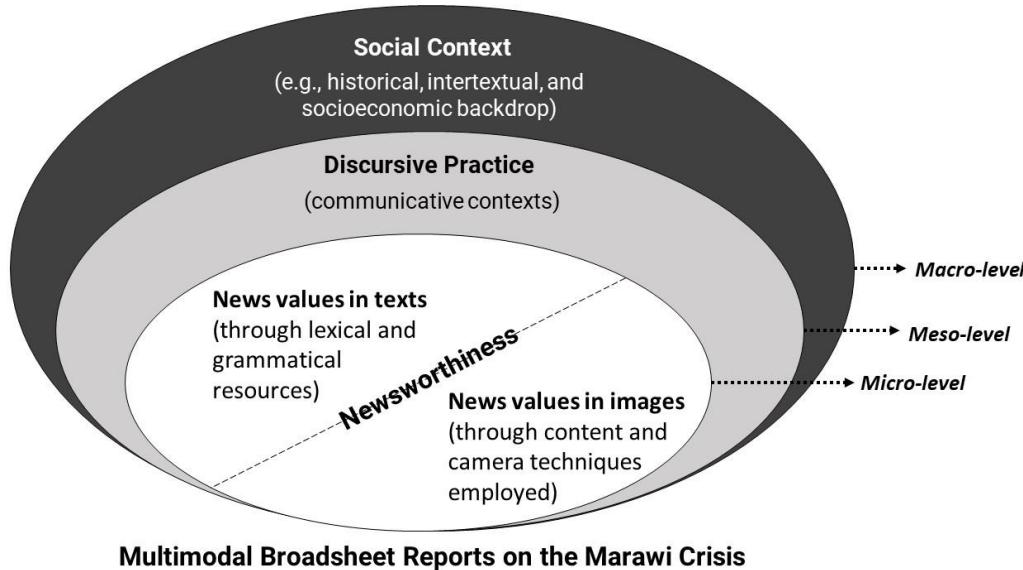
The above semiotic resources were employed to identify news values in the corpus. However, this undertaking entails considering journalists' creative capacity of emphasizing newsworthy features through other potential discursive maneuvers. As noted by Bednarek and Caple (2017), these resources constitute an inexhaustive list and may be expanded through careful analysis.

### **1.7. Conceptual framework**

This conceptual framework is anchored on the above related studies, particularly the discursive notion of news values and newsworthiness. Its schematic portrayal is presented in Figure 1, utilizing Fairclough's (2010) and Kress and van Leeuwen's (2006) respective work on textual and multimodal analyses as springboards. This schematic diagram sought to illustrate how the news values and newsworthiness of the Marawi conflict was established. A concentric circles representation was utilized to portray (a) the three levels of textual analysis according to Fairclough (2010) – that is, the *micro-, meso-, and macro-levels* – and (b) the situatedness of the multimodal corpus within its context of publication. It is worth noting that while Fairclough's (2010) and Kress and van Leeuwen's (2006) linguistic and visual resources were not employed due to the open-endedness of news values, their principles discussed below were relevant to the analysis.

**Figure 1**

A schematic representation of the construction of the conflict's newsworthiness



The innermost circle refers to the multimodal articles on the conflict, which was scrutinized at the micro-level for news values. Fairclough (2010) relates this level of analysis to the description of both lexical and grammatical structure and the interpretation of the meaning of each resource and the text's overall message. However, the semiosis of meaning is not merely expressed verbally in multimodal texts, particularly news products (Caple & Knox, 2010; Kress & van Leeuwen, 2006). Thus, not only verbal resources for each news values were explored, but also those visual devices in images such as the content and effects of camera strategies. To portray the multimodality of the corpus, this circle is divided equally into two areas (i.e., texts and images) through a broken line. This line recognizes the presence of two distinct semiotic modes, but both are equally important in the construction of the crisis' newsworthiness. To be sure, this representation does not suggest that

these are the only semiotic modes available in the articles; rather, the study was only limited to texts and images and excluded other such resources as colors and typography.

At the micro-level, aside from identifying the verbal and visual devices for each news value, it also involved exploring the intrasemiotic construction of news values. This entailed how newsworthiness was construed separately in both texts and images by evaluating which news values were foregrounded or backgrounded in each mode. Since these intrasemiotic trends only account for half of the corpus' construction of newsworthiness, both trends were appraised together in order to determine the semiotic relationship of both modes in terms of news values and the overall discursive enactment of newsworthiness by the articles.

However, these articles were not appraised in isolation at the micro-level; rather, these articles were examined at the meso-level, whereby verbal and visual resources were considered alongside their discursive practices (i.e., the contextual and institutional variables influencing news production) (Fairclough, 2010). In this study, these discursive practices relate to the communicative context – that is, how newspapers are written and published – in which the corpus is situated. For instance, news reporting is purportedly constrained by time, space, availability of topics, and other printing and writing limitations (van Dijk, 1988). In addition, the journalistic writing process per se is multifaceted, since different journalists (e.g., field correspondents, reporters, photojournalists, and editors) contribute to the production of these stories at different editorial stages (Bell, 1991). Moreover, the preferred reading of target audiences – Filipino readers – was also considered to

account for how they may possibly interpret the message set out in news reports (Bell, 1991; Hartley, 1982; Martin & White, 2005). In other words, newsworthiness and news values were not mechanically deciphered and requires considering how a prospective reader might treat messages in news texts and images.

Lastly, the macro-level considers the broader social context in which news reports are situated (Fairclough, 2010). At this level, the articles were considered through various contextual elements. Firstly, the news articles are believed to be situated on the Philippines' historical backdrop of contending with terrorism and other national security issues (Aguirre, 2009; Quimpo, 2016). Secondly, the articles are intertextually situated that each news coverage is intertwined with previously reported events. Lastly, the socioeconomic position of newspapers is relevant, as most Philippine media outlets are owned by families with business engagements and interests (Pertierra, 2012). These outlets are also businesses and are believed to thrive in commercial and industrial establishments. As these financial pursuits entail maintaining cordial institutional relations, content and presentation of news are purportedly influenced (Fowler, 1991).

## 2. METHODOLOGY

This chapter explains the study's corpus and methods of data collection. In addition, it discusses the software and statistical measures utilized, the validation procedures, and the ethical issues addressed.

### 2.1. Research design

This investigation adhered to a mixed-methods research design by using CAMDA, a form of methodological triangulation (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Marchi & Taylor, 2009). Moreover, this research is both intertextual and intersemiotic – that is, both textual and visual resources that discursively establish news values were analyzed for each article in the corpus. However, results from both semiotic modes were first separately appraised before considering both modes together.

### 2.2. Research corpus

This section discusses the design and composition of the research data. This corpus is referred to as the 2017 Marawi Crisis Broadsheet Reports corpus.

#### 2.2.1. Corpus design

This corpus-as-method research used purposive sampling to collect 20 print articles from each of the three represented newspapers, which total to 60 news reports. The reports were selected based on six criteria: the source newspaper, genre, publication period, news content, word count, and image presence.

Firstly, this analysis examined reports published and circulated by the three leading Philippine broadsheet newspapers in English, namely, *The Manila Bulletin*

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	<p>(TMB), <i>The Philippine Star</i> (TPS), and <i>Philippine Daily Inquirer</i> (PDI). The Media Ownership Monitor Philippines (n.d.) reports that these quality newspapers “have established a readership in their online platforms” (para. 6) and are circulated on a nationwide scale, thereby suggesting wide public accessibility. These publications are also listed in the Computerized Index of Philippine Periodical Articles (CIPPA), a registry of print articles from selected local magazines and newspapers. Hence, each news report, including their respective bibliographic information (i.e., authors, publication dates, volume and issue numbers, and page numbers) is indexed here.</p> <p>The second criterion refers to genre, where only news reports relevant to the Marawi City conflict were considered; excepted in this study are other journalistic genres (e.g., editorials, opinions, and letters to editors). Montgomery (2007) defines news reports as informative texts on relevant current affairs that occur beyond the target audiences’ access. Although news reports could be found in different sections of a broadsheet, 56 reports originated from the front page, while the remaining reports – three from TPS and one from PDI – were published in other sections. The bibliographic details of each article are in Appendix A.</p> <p>The third criterion is the time period, where reports published from May 23, 2017 to October 31, 2017 were included. This five-month period is inclusive of the conflict’s onset until the government’s declaration of victory over terrorist groups. In this research, four reports published in each broadsheet within 31-day intervals (e.g., four reports from May 23, 2017 to June 24, 2017 inclusive) were selected to ensure a monthly balance in the article selection process.</p>	50

As the fourth criterion, the news content contains any of these specific event dimensions: relief effort and crisis coverage. The former pertains to any individual, institutional, or international efforts of providing assistance to victims, while the latter focuses on such happenings as shootings, bombings, evacuations, accounts of victims' struggle for survival, event descriptions, and various pronouncements and enactments by any government branch (Liu & Stevenson, 2014). The content focus of the corpus is in Table 1, summarizing the frequency of reports from either one or both categories. It indicates the presence of crisis reports across each corpus item, except for 10 articles that also report instances of rescue efforts.

**Table 1***Article frequency based on content*

<b>Newspaper</b>	<i>Relief efforts</i>	<b>News Content</b>	
		<i>Crisis-related</i>	<i>Both relief and crisis</i>
The Manila Bulletin	0	18	2
The Philippine Star	0	16	4
Philippine Daily Inquirer	0	16	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>10</b>

As the fifth criterion, word count (i.e., number of words from both headline and body) was considered. It is believed that longer news articles may provide more occurrences of evaluation (Liu & Stevenson, 2013). However, it is likely for editors to exercise preferences to brevity and audience recognition, which could influence word count (Farhi, 2014). Using these considerations, texts with word counts that range from 350 to 1,350 words were included in the corpus. The number of words in each corpus item is also indicated in Appendix A.

Lastly, the sixth criterion is the presence of at least one photograph in the news report. This criterion was established in order to balance the number of full texts and images in the corpus. The relationship between images and full texts was determined through its captions that were later excluded. Furthermore, only the first image was examined when the text contains multiple images, unless an image was embedded in another larger image.

### **2.2.2. Corpus composition**

This design resulted in a specialized multimodal corpus on the Marawi City crisis. According to Baker (2006), a specialized corpus concentrates on a genre and may even further focus on a specific topic. Based on the design, this corpus consists of 60 images and 49,535 words. This small-scale corpus allows feasibility for manual, context-reliant coding, and a degree of conclusiveness (Bednarek, 2009).

## **2.3. Research software**

This investigation utilized three software, namely, the Lancaster University Corpus Toolbox, MAXQDA 2018 Analytics Pro, and the Kaleidographic.

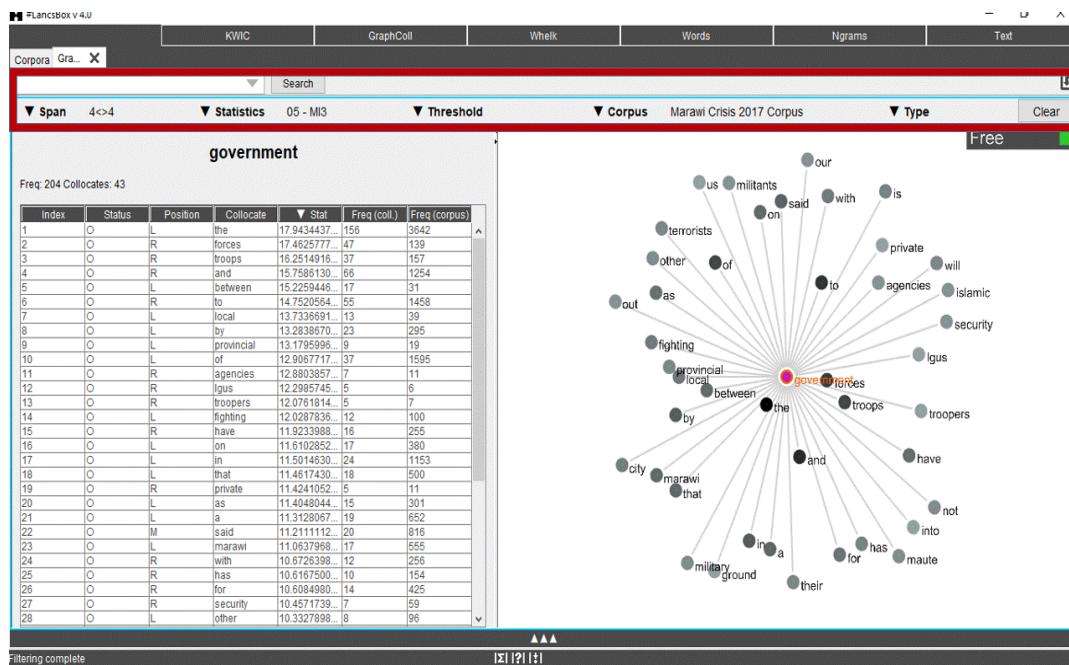
### **2.3.1. Lancaster University Corpus Toolbox**

This investigation employed the fourth version of the Lancaster University Corpus Toolbox (LancsBox). It is a free corpus linguistic software initially designed as the *GraphColl* in order to support the idea of collocation networks – that is, the interrelationship of collocations within a corpus. This feature is now in LancsBox alongside the other corpus analysis functions and was employed to analyze collocates of topical content words. Figure 2 presents the GraphColl interface in

LancsBox, where its features are highlighted above the sample collocation table and graph.

**Figure 2**

*GraphColl interface in LancsBox*



The *GraphColl* feature automatically generates collocates of node or search words. However, various settings as highlighted above – span, statistics, threshold, and unit – influence the resulting collocates. Span refers to the number of words on the left and right sides of the node word, whereas statistics pertains to the statistical measures (e.g., frequency, log-likelihood, and mutual information [MI] score) used to generate collocates. Moreover, threshold filters individual collocates, depending on the minimum collocation frequency and statistical value, whereas the unit setting defines whether lemmas, types, or part-of-speech tags would be generated.

*GraphColl* enables the visualization of data in two ways, the first of which is through a collocation table. Collocates are indicated in this table with their corresponding text position (i.e., whether it equally or frequently occurs to the left or right of the node), status (i.e., if collocates were expanded for second order collocates or not), statistical value, collocation frequency, and occurrence frequency in the corpus.

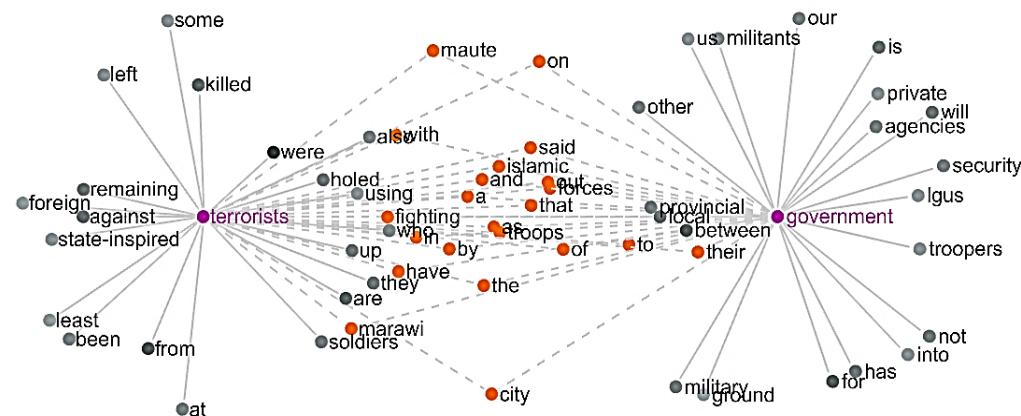
The other visualization – the collocation graph – is produced alongside the collocation table and exemplifies how various collocates in the corpus relate to each other (Brezina et, 2015). Each collocate is represented as a circle positioned around a node word to signify collocate position. In addition, each circle is shaded based on collocation frequency, where a high frequency results in a darker circle. Each collocate is connected to the node word with a line, where its length is determined by the statistical value. In this case, collocates with shorter lines signify a high relationship between the node and collocate.

In addition, *GraphColl* may be useful in identifying both shared collocates and second order collocates. As such, a simple graph containing only a node's first order collocates could be expanded into a collocation network. This network could depict the relationship of collocates in terms of common and distinctive collocates. Common collocates are positioned in the middle section of a graph, whereas distinct ones are positioned in the outer areas. Furthermore, nodes are linked to their shared collocates by broken lines. An example of a collocation network is provided in the following figure, with GOVERNMENT as the original node word and

TERRORIST as a first order collocate. Their shared collocates are marked by orange points.

**Figure 3**

*Collocation network for GOVERNMENT and TERRORISTS*



**Note.** Collocation parameters notation: 5a-MI3 (9), R4-L4, C5-NC5, no filter.

*GraphColl* is accompanied by five other functionalities of LancsBox. These functions include the Key Word-in-Context (KWIC), Whelk, Words, N-grams, and the Text features. These functionalities are briefly described in the following table.

**Table 2**

*Other key LancsBox features*

Features	Description
KWIC	As a concordance tool, it provides all occurrences of a search term with its immediate co-text.
Whelk	This tool supplies the search term frequency in each corpus file.
Words	This tool supplies information needed to analyze keywords such as the frequency and distribution of types (i.e., word forms), lemmas (i.e., words with varied inflections but similar base forms), and part-of-speech tags (i.e., annotation of words based on word class)
N-grams	This tool is useful for exploring n-grams or multiword expressions.
Text	This tool fully views texts with occurrences of a search term.

### **2.3.2. MAXQDA 2018 Analytics Pro**

The second software is the MAXQDA 2018 Analytics Pro. This software was used to manually annotate both linguistic and visual resources that establish news values. According to its official website, it is a multifunctional data analysis useful for both qualitative and mixed-methods research (<http://www.maxqda.com>). This software does not only permit manual, multimodal analyses without using multiple software, but it also contains features that facilitate both statistical and annotation procedures (e.g., color-coded categorization, code visualization, typology tables).

### **2.3.3. Kaleidographic**

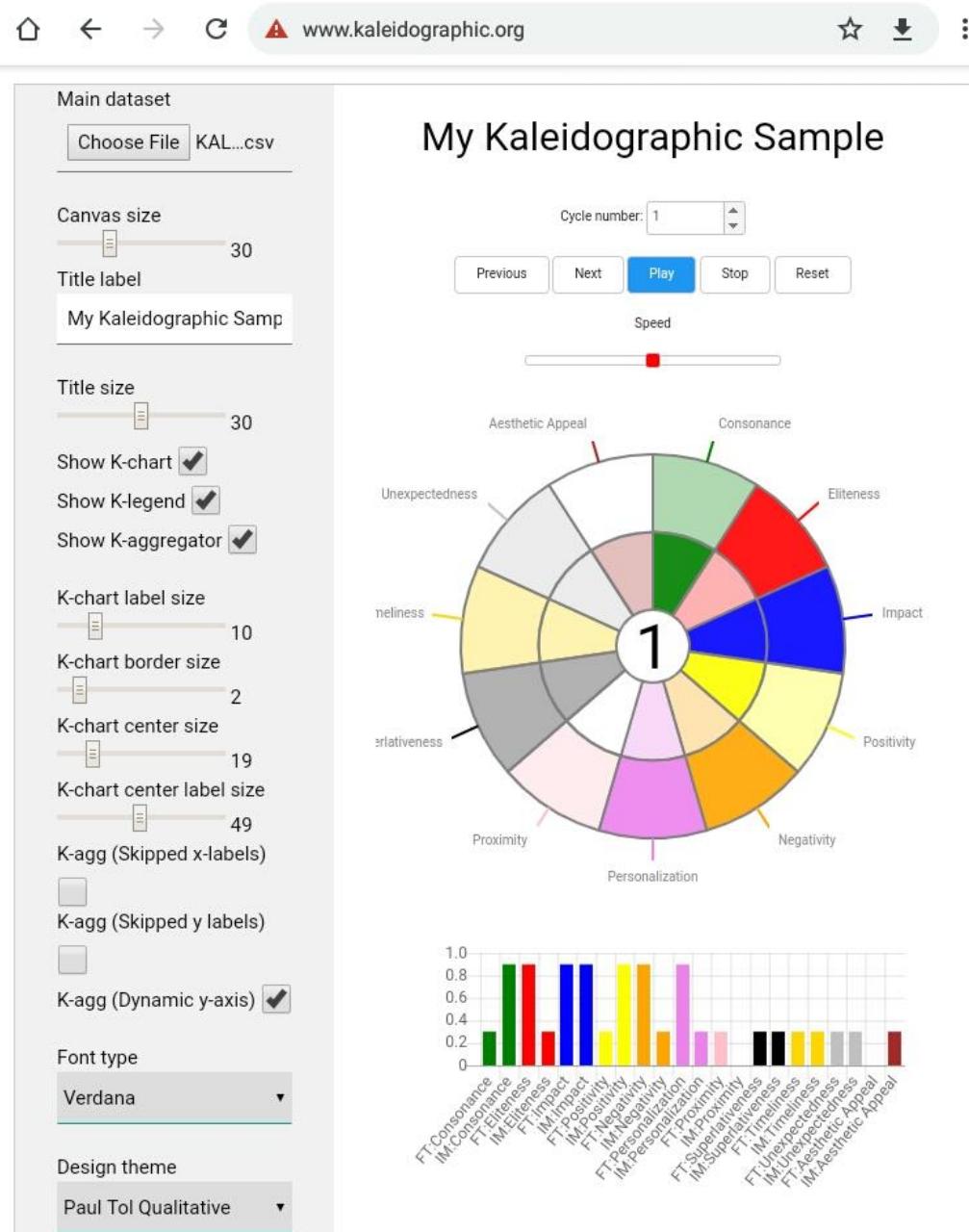
The third software pertains to the Kaleidographic, an online data visualization tool that was used in examining visual-verbal relationships in the corpus. According to Caple et al. (2018), this online tool provides valuable insights of the data that linear means of data presentation (e.g., tables and graphs) might not readily provide. They report that this tool could “allow the analyst to experience the data both dynamically and iteratively, noting where variables intersect with or diverge from each other within and across texts” (p. 7).

This visualization was utilized alongside tables to examine multimodal relations in each text. A Microsoft Excel 2013 spreadsheet in a tab-separated values format was loaded to the online builder (<http://kaleidographic.org/builder>). This spreadsheet contains categorical data on whether a news value was clearly, vaguely, or not established in each text and image. After the spreadsheet was

loaded to the builder, its font style, size, and other settings were determined. A screenshot of the online Kaleidographic builder is presented in the following figure.

**Figure 4**

*Kaleidographic builder interface*



The color assignment for each news value in Figure 4 is also used in this work. In particular, the color assignment is as follows: (1) green for Consonance, (2) red for Eliteness, (3) blue for Impact, (4) yellow for Positivity, (5) orange for Negativity, (6) maroon for Personalization, (7) teal for Proximity, (8) brown for Superlativeness, (9) gold for Timeliness, and (10) violet for Unexpectedness.

There is a total of 60 Kaleidographic visuals, which reflect the number of articles in the corpus. Each Kaleidographic has two layers that signify both modes, while each news value was represented by different colors. The hue of each news value depends on the manner they are constructed in a text or image. For instance, a lighter hue means that means that a given news value is not clearly established in a mode, while a stronger hue manifests its clear construction. Meanwhile, the lack of color means that the news value was not employed.

## **2.4. Data gathering procedure**

### **2.4.1. Article gathering and filtering**

The initial data collection stage involved locating pertinent news articles by using the bibliographic information supplied by the CIPPA. This index was queried using the search syntaxes ‘Marawi’ and ‘Marawi City,’ which supplied the bibliographic information (i.e., the title, page number, volume and issue number, and publication date) of each article. At this point, all articles beyond the required genre, period of publication, and news agency were manually filtered.

In the second stage, these pieces of bibliographic information were noted to track the news articles in the *PressReader* platform application, where news

reports were accessed. Its website states that it provides access to digital issues of different periodicals as they appear in print (<https://about.pressreader.com>). All articles were then validated to ensure that other parameters (i.e., word count, image count, and topical relevance) were satisfied. This procedure was conducted by close report reading (i.e., to determine if the content focuses on either the crisis or relief efforts), taking screenshots of newspaper pages (i.e., to check image presence) and retyping article texts on Microsoft Word 360 (i.e., to authenticate the word count). Furthermore, the articles taken were no longer crosschecked for the digital copy's faithfulness to its print counterpart.

#### **2.4.2. Corpus encoding and organization**

The third stage in data gathering was the reformatting of both full texts and images of each article. While the full texts were carefully reformatted verbatim on a plain text software, the images were screenshot and taken from digital newspaper pages before they were stored in the Graphics Interchange Format using Clip Paint Studio. Image captions were retained during the collection of images, although these texts were disregarded to concentrate only on image features and camera techniques described above without influence from these supplementary texts.

Following the reformatting process, all full texts and images were stored in their respective folders, resulting in a multimodal corpus with two components: the full-text (FT) and the news image (NI) sub-corpora. This procedure differs from Bednarek and Caple's (2017) multimodal study of shared online news reporting, where images, headlines, and opening paragraphs are separate components. In this study, the FT sub-corpus consists of both headlines and article bodies, while

the NI sub-corpus comprises of images from each article. Both sub-corpora were stored in separate folders, where each item was labelled based on the structural unit (i.e., FT or NI), source newspaper (i.e., TMB, TPS, or PDI), and news article number. This scheme resulted in file names such as FT-TMB-01 and NI-TPS-01.

### **2.5. Data analysis procedure**

This subsection discusses the data analysis procedure, which could be portrayed in three phases. The first phase involves the identification of news value resources or devices in each sub-corpus item, which is used as springboard for the second phase of identifying intrasemiotic trends. These intrasemiotic trends pertain to the tendency whereby each news value is construed within each mode: the verbal and the visual mode. Both phases are covered in Sections 2.5.1 and 2.5.2. Lastly, these trends were employed for identifying the intersemiotic mode, which refers to how newsworthiness is established across the two semiotic modes. However, prior to the analysis, the entire corpus was read closely to understand the unfolding of the crisis in context.

#### **2.5.1. Linguistic analysis of texts**

The first research phase focused on identifying news values established in the FT sub-corpus, using both collocation analysis and manual annotation of reports. At this point, it is important to emphasize that the terms *verbal*, *linguistic*, and *textual* are interchanged as observed in previous studies, particularly Bednarek and Caple (2017).

### 2.5.1.1. Collocation analysis

The FT sub-corpus was first appraised using collocation analysis, a technique that could reveal non-random and statistically significant word associations (Lindquist, 2009; McEnery & Hardie, 2012). It is also previously established that news values could be established through the collocates associated to specific topics or news actors. In addition, collocates may be parts of conventions (e.g., phraseologies, figurative language, and rhetorical devices) employed to represent events (Potts et al., 2015).

The content node word MARAWI was selected and investigated based on its raw frequency ( $f = 555$ ) and its standard deviation ( $SD = 50.26$ ). These selection parameters were applied using LancsBox's Words feature to ensure the node word examined frequently occurs and is spread across corpus files. Moreover, this node is relevant as the key location of the crisis. In fact, this word is utilized in collecting and compiling the data. As such, this word is expected to be present in all articles.

This collocation analysis adheres to both Baker's (2006) general procedure and considerations from related research. (e.g., Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Potts et al., 2015). First, a list of first order collocates was obtained using these GraphColl settings: A minimum collocation frequency (MCF) of nine was established along with a four-word span on both left and right sides of the node word. Moreover, two association measures – that is, the cubic form of the mutual information score (MI3) and log-likelihood (LL) – were used. Both measures were implemented separately, since GraphColl restricts the synchronized use of both statistics. Hence,

to identify collocates common to **both** measures, the collocation tables and graphs of each node and their corresponding statistics were documented.

The garnered first order collocates were then categorized in a table based on statistic (i.e., MI3, LL, or both) and word class (i.e., function and content words). Since this procedure concentrates on news values construed around a topic-related node word, lexical first order collocates common to both measures were exclusively analyzed in this phase. The KWIC function was employed to identify news values through their concordance lines. Using the default KWIC settings, each first order collocate was classified based on the discursive news value established and are then discussed based on how they are primarily used in the concordances. Since multiple news values may be established in collocates, it was possible for them to be classed under more than one news value.

Lastly, the shared and exclusive collocates (i.e., second order collocates) of MARAWI were sought. In this analysis, only the top three first order collocates were selected based on their node-collocate frequency (NCF), namely, *city*, *said*, and *Maute*. Specifically, the collocation graph was expanded into a network by clicking on each of the four collocates in turn, employing the same MCF and only the MI3 statistic. Similar to the analysis of first order collocates, the concordances of every second order collocate – whether shared or exclusive – were appraised to determine not only the news value(s) constructed, but also their meaning relations between MARAWI and the corresponding first order collocate.

Furthermore, both collocation graphs and networks are labelled through the collocation parameter notation (CPN), which permits readers to identify the

settings employed in processing the corpus for collocates. This notation could also be used as a means of methodological transparency. As described by Brezina et al. (2015), the CPN has seven key components, namely, the association measure code (i.e., 4a for MI3; 6a for LL), the name of the measure, the cut-off statistical value applied, the span on both sides of the node, the minimum required number of occurrences for both collocate (C) and collocation (NC), and any filters applied. An example of a CPN is found in the caption of Figure 3, whose CPN is as follows: 5a-MI3 (9), R4-L4, C5-NC5, no filter.

#### **2.5.1.2. Manual textual analysis**

Other news value resources were manually annotated using an adaptation of the general procedures outlined in Bednarek (2015), because collocation analysis is constrained to the surrounding co-texts of select node words (Potts et al., 2015). In other words, corpus techniques are insufficient to capture comprehensively the discursive construction of newsworthiness. In addition, previous studies underline the role of context, the preferred interpretation of the target readers, and the scalar nature of news values (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Makki, 2019). For instance, textual references to death were not always negative; in fact, it was possible for Positivity to be constructed by references to terrorist deaths, because this preferred reading of the newspapers' target audiences was considered.

Before coding, all FT sub-corpus items were uploaded to MAXQDA. Two color-coded annotation categories were defined through the software: The first category has two sub-categories, namely, the discursive news values – excluding

Aesthetic Appeal – and its corresponding linguistic devices. The second category refers to whether a news value's construction in each corpus item is **clear, possible, or not established**. For Valence, the categories are as follows: **Positivity, Negativity, unclear or mixed, and no Valence.**

This study employed Bednarek's (2015) specific annotation decisions as a springboard for determining whether each text or sub-corpus item clearly, possibly, or does not construct news values. A new coding document was then developed by marking three sample articles (i.e., one from each broadsheet) based on both annotation categories. A news value was examined at a time: For example, all linguistic devices that established Impact was identified first before proceeding to the next news value. Meanwhile, decisions that deviate from her original scheme were revised and indicated in the preliminary document, while those that adhere with her scheme were retained.

Using this study's preliminary coding guide, the remaining items of the FT sub-corpus were marked for each news value and their respective linguistic device. Once each linguistic occurrence was identified, it was highlighted and dragged to the appropriate news value and device sub-category. Moreover, each verbal device was attached with a comment to describe how a news value was construed. This practice was useful especially in cases of doubt, where the presence of doubt and its reasons were explicated in the comments. In addition, verbal devices were annotated in every instance despite appearing in the same form, as they appeared in different co-texts. It was also possible for various parts of the texts to be coded into different linguistic categories multiple times.

Similar to the procedure in creating the preliminary coding guide, one news value was attended to at a time to ensure an organized analysis. The frequencies of individual resources for each news value were then obtained using MAXQDA's Code Matrix Browser, while the frequency of full texts per news value was obtained through the Sub-code Statistics function.

After linguistic resources were examined, news values were evaluated at the level of each sub-corpus item to determine whether the construction of news values was clear, possible, or nonexistent. In this regard, texts were analyzed once per news value based on the utilized linguistic resources and their meanings in relation to the context. If there is at least one linguistic device that establishes a given news value, the concerned sub-corpus item is coded as ***clear***.

In analyzing the rest of the corpus, new devices and coding decisions were encountered and included in the coding document under the relevant news value. However, every amendment had caused the analysis of a specific news value to be restarted to consider each addition to the manual. Similar conditions were applied in annotating NI sub-corpus items. This protocol reflects how the present research is "an interpretive piece of research" (Caple & Bednarek, 2015, p. 17).

### **2.5.2. Analysis of images**

The NI sub-corpus was only manually examined, using the procedures and coding categories akin to the coding of its textual counterpart. Apart from the contextual reasons stated earlier for manually analyzing images, there is no automatic means to scrutinize visual data similar to collocation analysis. As before, this component

was first loaded onto MAXQDA and the same set of color-coded categories were created. A preliminary annotation document was developed to examine the NI sub-corpus by adapting Caple's (2016) manual of visual devices and decisions, which served as the basis for deciding whether a news value was clearly, possibly, or not constructed in each item. Similar to the process in coding full texts, three example photographs were first coded for each news value through their content and camera techniques to arrive at these decisions. In case different coding decisions were taken from the original, these new decisions were included in this paper's coding manual, while coding judgments that were adhered to were retained.

This preliminary coding manual was employed to annotate the other images for one news value at a time. Content features were investigated before proceeding to camera techniques in every image. Visual resources that construct news values were annotated by selecting the relevant image portion and dragging it to the proper news value and device sub-category. As before, each visual resource was appended with a comment to describe how a specific news value is established through such a device. The relevant frequencies were also obtained through the two MAXQDA functionalities mentioned previously.

After the annotation of each visual resource, each NI sub-corpus item was evaluated if the construction of news values was clear, doubtful, or nonexistent. This part of the visual analysis followed closely the conditions and procedures observed with its verbal counterpart, where each news image is examined based on the visual devices and their meaning in context. The number of images categorized as **clear, possible**, and **no established news value** was also presented

in a frequency table. As with the textual analysis of Valence, the same categories – **Positivity, Negativity, unclear or mixed**, and **no Valence** were employed.

### 2.5.3. Analysis of multimodal relationships

Multimodal relationships in news articles were examined based on the annotation judgments for each item in both the FT and NI sub-corpora, which were transferred to a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. As the Kaleidographic builder cannot recognize nominal data, the annotation judgments (i.e., *clear, possible, and news value not established*) were assigned a corresponding numerical value in the spreadsheet. Specifically, sub-corpus items categorized as clearly construing a news value were encoded with a numerical value of '100,' whereas '50' was assigned to sub-corpus items where the construction of a news value is either debatable or possible. Lastly, a zero value was given to items where no visual or verbal device exists to construct a news value. These numerical values were assigned to produce the desired hues of the color assigned to each news value in the Kaleidographic. In this case, a value of '50' would have a weaker hue compared to '100.'

After completing the spreadsheet, this document was loaded to the online builder to generate the Kaleidographic visual. After its generation, this visual was played multiple times at various speeds to evaluate existing visual-verbal relations for each discursive news value. The visualization was played slowly to examine the relationships across each news article, whereas it was played quickly to account for the whole corpus. Further, Kaleidographic-based observations were crosschecked with frequency tables to understand multimodal relationships in the

corpus and ensure consistency of findings. The Kaleidographic was uploaded at <https://senseigab.github.io/research/thesisinfo/index.html>.

#### **2.5.4. Validation procedure**

Following the full analysis, the findings were subjected to careful validation, where 30 percent of the overall data (i.e., 18 texts and images) were checked using the procedures above. Separate groups of intercoders were involved in evaluating verbal and visual data in order to sustain validator focus.

##### **2.5.4.1. Intercoders' profile**

Two independent coders were assigned to examine 18 news texts. They possess an undergraduate degree in language studies and are currently graduate students in the same area. Further, these persons have previously engaged in and published applied linguistic research. Despite their academic background, they received a manual on DNVA to become familiar with the research objectives, procedures, and pertinent concepts related to DNVA. The intercoders were also assisted whenever confusion arises from the concepts or the procedure itself.

As for the visual data, only one independent coder was involved. This sole coder has academic and professional journalistic experience, teaching experience, and a graduate degree. He was also oriented with the investigation's objectives, its theoretical basis, and its procedures.

##### **2.5.4.2. Intercoder reliability**

Both independent coder groups applied the same procedure using the annotation manual in Appendix B. However, as subjectivity is likely to have occurred given the

context-sensitiveness of discursive news values, differences in annotating each verbal and visual item was expected. All conflicting opinions were thoroughly discussed and resolved by consensus.

Gwet's AC<sub>1</sub> served as the basis for measuring intercoder reliability. Brezina (2018) provides that this statistic considers the role of agreement by chance and can be calculated through the following equation:

$$AC_1 = \frac{\text{raw agreement} - \text{agreement by chance}}{1 - \text{agreement by chance}}$$

Raw agreement and agreement by chance are needed before identifying the value of this statistic. The former is calculated through the quotient of the number of agreement cases and total cases, while the latter is computed by twice the product of chances of being interpreted as X and chances of not being interpreted as such. The AC<sub>1</sub> value was interpreted as follows: A negative value signifies disagreement, where -1.00 means absolute disagreement. Meanwhile, zero serves as the baseline value for random agreement; 0.67 indicates the baseline for general agreement; 0.80 is the threshold for a definite agreement, whereas 1.00 is the ceiling for absolute agreement (Brezina, 2018).

The values of AC<sub>1</sub> for each news value in the analysis of texts are presented in Table 3. While there is widespread agreement in most news values, there initially was a high degree of disagreement in Consonance ( $AC_1 = -0.44$ ). Specifically, the disagreement concerns the extent certain stereotypes are indeed held by the target audiences and if the identified stereotype is, in fact, expected rather than

typical behavior. Considering their inputs, the sub-corpus was re-analyzed until a consensus was met.

**Table 3***Intercoder reliability in the textual analysis*

News value	Type of agreement		AC <sub>1</sub>	Remarks
	Raw	By chance		
Consonance	0.833	0.457	0.58	Random agreement
Eliteness	0.944	0.168	0.93	Definite agreement
Impact	0.889	0.198	0.86	Definite agreement
Personalization	0.889	0.444	0.80	Very good agreement
Proximity	1.000	0.444	1.00	Absolute agreement
Superlativeness	0.944	0.198	0.90	Definite agreement
Timeliness	0.944	0.036	0.94	Definite agreement
Unexpectedness	0.889	0.324	0.84	Definite agreement
Valence	0.944	0.417	0.90	Definite agreement

Meanwhile, Table 4 presents the intercoder reliability of the visual analysis, which illustrates complete agreement in most news values. The disagreements discussed in four news values relate to the concreteness of the coded segment in constructing the news value. For example, both intercoders initially disputed whether destroyed structures were to be considered cases of Personalization, but it was later decided that such cases are best excluded because of the absence of "ordinary" features.

While this study utilized statistical measures for intercoder reliability, it is worth echoing Bednarek's (2015) advice that this practice "would not have reduced the 'subjectivity' of the coding *per se*" (p. 6), since intercoder reliability checks the coding manual's quality (i.e., how easily consistently it can be applied).

Hence, other reliability measures were employed such as repeated and consistent coding of data and publishing this study's coding manual.

**Table 4***Intercoder reliability in the visual analysis*

News value	Type of agreement		AC <sub>1</sub>	Remarks
	Raw	By chance		
Aesthetic appeal	1.00	0.00	1.00	Absolute agreement
Consonance	1.00	0.00	1.00	Absolute agreement
Eliteness	1.00	0.40	1.00	Absolute agreement
Impact	0.94	0.42	0.90	Very good agreement
Personalization	0.89	0.49	0.78	General agreement
Proximity	0.94	0.38	0.90	Very good agreement
Superlativeness	1.00	0.40	1.00	Absolute agreement
Timeliness	0.83	0.38	0.73	General agreement
Unexpectedness	1.00	0.00	1.00	Absolute agreement
Valence	1.00	0.40	1.00	Absolute agreement

## 2.6. Statistical measures

This study used different but complementary statistics for both the analyses of collocation and manual examination. These measures are discussed below.

### 2.6.1. Manual annotation statistics

Since the research data is collected through purposive sampling, this analysis only employed raw frequencies. Previous research on discursive news values tend to utilize the raw or absolute frequencies in order to determine (a) the number of full texts and images with each news value and (b) the total individual occurrences of verbal and visual devices. Percentages were also computed by multiplying the

quotient of the number of each visual/verbal device's occurrence and the total device occurrences for each news value with 100.

### 2.6.2. Collocation statistics

Two statistical measures were also used to examine the association between words, namely, the cubic variant of the mutual information score (MI3) and log-likelihood (LL). These measures balance the occurrence of low-frequency content words and high-frequency function words, thereby reflecting a “trade-off between frequency and saliency” (Baker, 2006, p. 102). Both measures are automatically calculated by the LancsBox software.

As the first association measure, the MI3 examines collocation strength – that is, the statistical propensity for two words to co-occur. This statistical measure “gives more weight to observed frequencies and thus gives high scores to collocations which occur relatively frequently in the corpus” (Brezina et al., 2015, pp. 159-160). The formula for the MI3 score was computed by LancsBox using the following formula:

$$MI3 = \log_2 \frac{O_{ij}^3}{E_{ij}}$$

In the abovementioned formula,  $O_{ij}$  refers to the number of observed co-occurrences between a node word and its corresponding collocates, while  $E_{ij}$  refers to the expected frequency of node-collocate co-occurrence, which was calculated through the following formula:

$$E_{ij} = \frac{(node\ frequency)(collocate\ frequency)}{corpus\ size}$$

In contrast to the MI3 score, the LL is a measure of statistical significance that confirms if there is “enough evidence in the data to reject the null hypothesis (which says that there is no difference between the observed and expected values)” (Brezina et al. 2015, p. 161). Evert (2008) states that the formula for LL in terms of collocation analysis is the following:

$$LL = 2 \sum_{ij} O_{ij} \log \frac{O_{ij}}{E_{ij}}$$

## 2.7. Units of analysis

In analyzing how the Marawi crisis is constructed as newsworthy, the news values in both texts and images serve as units of analysis. These news values are observed through the following units of observation for annotation.

### 2.7.1. Verbal units of observation

The verbal unit of coding were words, phrases, or clauses that exhibit news values. These linguistic realizations were identified based on their co-text and context and were counted per instance or occurrence. For example, in analyzing Eliteness, the elite name *President Duterte* could be found in the headline and repeated within the body of the news report.

### 2.7.2. Visual units of observation

Bednarek and Caple (2017) purport that visual data exhibit news values using both content and capture strategies. These two separate aspects are discussed below, using the following figure as an example.

**Figure 5***Example Marawi City crisis news photograph*

**Note.** This image is taken from TPS #24.

#### 2.7.2.1. Content

Content refers to the visual depiction of news actors, objects, events, and locations, which is generally termed as *represented participants* (van Leeuwen, 2006). The depiction of news participants could be scrutinized further to determine news context indicators such as attributes (i.e., any artifact worn or carried), activity sequences (i.e., actions performed or endured), and setting (i.e., the environment of the happening).

In Figure 5, various news participants were represented, which included a child, Muslim adults, and soldiers. Based on their attires, it was possible to identify the adults inside the military truck as Muslims, while the uniformed personnel as

members of the Philippine military. Furthermore, the image portrays the soldiers as being involved in assisting the evacuees. Regarding the setting, without relying on the caption, it is difficult to decipher where this spectacle took place apart from the sequence happening behind a military truck.

#### **2.7.2.2. Capture strategies: Image composition**

Newsworthiness may also be constructed through capture strategies. One area under this strand is composition, which has six dimensions explained in Table 5.

**Table 5**

*Areas of photographic composition*

Area	Description
Salience	Refers to the placement of image contents in a way that some elements may be more or less prominent than others
Shot length	Refers to the distance of image content from viewers, resulting in the inclusion of greater or lesser detail of a scenario
Cropping	Refers to the inclusion and exclusion of selected details in an image
Camera angle	Refers to the vertical and horizontal positioning from where news participants are captured
Dynamic asymmetry	Refers to the unequal positioning of elements along a diagonal axis
Interrupted symmetry	Refers to the presence of contents disrupting a balanced symmetry (e.g., a car driving on the wrong side of the road)

**Note.** These definitions originated from Bednarek and Caple (2017).

Figure 5 exemplifies specific dimensions of photographic composition. It could be observed that certain news actors (i.e., the soldiers and the child) were more salient than the other participants and the background itself. Moreover, this news image was captured through a medium shot length, where key participants

are portrayed from their waists to the head. In terms of the camera angle utilized, this image was taken at the neutral or eye level. Meanwhile, cropping is not present in this image, but it could be employed to enable the image to concentrate on the soldier carrying the child. In addition, both dynamic asymmetry and interrupted symmetry were not exhibited, because the news actors' positioning in the frame illustrates neither counterbalancing nor news actors disrupting the symmetry.

#### **2.7.2.3. Capture strategies: Technical affordances**

The other area under capture strategies pertains to the technical affordances or settings of the camera, which may influence image quality in terms of its focus, movement, and noise. Firstly, focus refers to the outcome of aperture settings on an image's depth of field: Adjusting the aperture to emphasize a specific area may limit depth of field, while including a wider area maximizes it. Aperture settings in Figure 5 are possibly adjusted to focus on a specific area, thereby constraining the depth of field.

Second, movement refers to the influence of a camera's shutter speed on image quality. It is believed that low shutter speeds cause captured movements to appear blurred in images, whereas high shutter speeds permit a sharper capture of motion. In the case of Figure 5, the camera's shutter speed might be high, since the activity was photographed clearly.

Lastly, the effect of a camera's International Standards Organization (ISO) scale settings on image cleanliness and sharpness pertains to noise. Bednarek and Caple (2017) explain that noise or image graininess tends to result in photos taken using low ISO levels, whereas a clean, sharper image are often observed in

images captured using higher ISO levels. As regards Figure 5, a high ISO setting is utilized because of its clear, sharp features.

## **2.8. Ethical considerations**

This investigation did not involve human participation and thus did not require any clearance from the University's institutional ethics committee. However, it had to contend with ethical questions on (a) copyright, (b) transparency and management of bias, and (c) the portrayal of photographs bearing sensitive content.

### **2.8.1. Copyright issues**

The first ethical consideration relates to copyright issues, because excerpts of the news articles – including entire photographs – were deployed as examples in this manuscript. This matter is also faced by linguists whose data collection approach relies on text and/or data mining (Baker & McEnery, 2015). A legal solution to this issue is to confirm if the use of newspaper material for non-profit research counts as 'fair use,' although intellectual property rights differ in various countries. Baker and McEnery (2015) cite the United Kingdom's Intellectual Property Office when it exempted non-profit research using text and data mining from seeking copyright clearance if analysts have legal reading access.

In this research's circumstances, Philippine intellectual property legislation is observed. Based on Section 185 of the Republic Act 8293, academic purposes are among the instances of fair use of copyrighted material (The Official Gazette, 1997). Therefore, copyright clearance was no longer sought, because this research – where there is no intention to gain profit - is an example of fair use. However, it

was necessary to credit news images to their respective newspapers. Nonetheless, a legal officer from the Philippine Intellectual Property Office encouraged that, for propriety, news outlets' permission for using images be sought before publishing them on an academic journal.

Despite having no significant legal issues, there are ethical issues involved with 'public' data such as forums, blogs, tweets, and comments in Facebook news pages. While these discourse data types are publicly accessible, it is worth noting that their authors do not necessarily expect their own texts to "come under scrutiny in an academic journal, read by a different sort of audience than they had envisaged" (Reid, 1996, as cited in Baker & McEnery, 2015, p. 11). Different studies working on different corpora may have different approaches to exercise sensitivity, which range from obtaining the consent of every commenter on a Twitter thread to not using excerpts as examples.

However, in this study, newspapers appear to be distinct in the sense that its authorship belongs to a public institution. In other words, a news article may be prepared by selected journalists, but there are other players involved in the editorial process (Bell, 1991). Moreover, it might be reasonable to assume that journalists would expect their published work to face scrutiny for media accountability, which refers to the news media being held responsible by non-government stakeholders for public welfare and improved news event coverage (Bertrand, 2000; Elizabeth et al., 2017; McQuail, 2013). This research arguably is one way of holding the press to account, as this work illustrates how journalists essentially contribute to public knowledge through their coverage and provides an avenue for considered thought

on how events could be better represented in the future. However, there is a need for transparency due to the subjectivity of this analysis.

### **2.8.2. Transparency and management of bias**

The other issue relates to the management of bias. It was previously underscored that DNVA is a subjective undertaking per se, where analysts may arrive at varying interpretations. This presence of subjectivity lies at the heart of news values, since they are scalar and context dependent (Bednarek, 2016c; Caple, 2015). In fact, it is possible that other analysts may arrive at different observations from this paper, as exemplified by the disagreements during intercoding. Meanwhile, on a broader consideration of the methods used, Baker and McEnery (2015) emphasize that the use of corpus methods could still lend itself to bias. For instance, MARAWI was selected as the node word, since it is the most frequent content word in the corpus. However, this frequency is partly because the same word was used as a keyword in identifying articles in the CIPPA. To warrant the decisions behind the results, the study followed Baker and McEnery's advice to "instead aim for wider transparency about methodological decisions and a more nuanced set of stated claims about the benefits of using computational methods" (p. 9). Specifically, the annotation or coding decisions were compiled in a single document found in Appendix B.

### **2.8.3. Treatment of sensitive images**

The research corpus contains five visual spectacles of death, where three pictures explicitly portrayed corpses with obvious wounds and blood stains. However, this research did not involve direct elicitation or generation of images as practiced in

other disciplines as visual sociology, which would require rigorous ethical scrutiny on issues such as anonymity, confidentiality, and consent (Rose, 2016). Therefore, the present work did not face direct any ethical issue on these sensitive images. However, it is recognized that readers might find the three images uncomfortable and may even cause trauma. To address this issue, a sensitive content warning was given in the preliminary pages of this manuscript.

Although there are no direct issues with these spectacles, it is necessary to briefly highlight the ethical and moral issues of these photographs, particularly with images of violence and other humanitarian issues. To address these tensions, Chouliaraki and Blaagaard (2013) stress that it is important to become cognizant of "the historical, technological, and semiotic specificity of images and thus the changing contexts of power within which these images may turn into objects of our reflection, emotion and action" (p. 255). In other words, images might need to be interpreted based on not only what they represent but also what imageries they establish and later reproduce.

### 3. NEWS VALUE RESOURCES IN TEXTS AND IMAGES

This chapter attempts to answer in detail the first research question. Specifically, it discusses the verbal and visual devices used to construe news values and the newsworthiness of the Marawi siege. Firstly, the linguistic resources identified by means of collocation analysis were presented. This discussion is supported by a comprehensive walkthrough of the verbal and visual resources identified through manual computer-based analysis and is then connected with previous findings.

#### 3.1. News value resources through collocation

This section presents the results of the collocation analysis, starting with the first order collocates of MARAWI, followed by its second order collocates with *city*, *said*, and *Maute*.

##### 3.1.1. First order collocates

MARAWI was examined for its 73 first order collocates, which are presented in a roster in Table 6 according to association measure and word class.

**Table 6**

*First order collocates of MARAWI*

Collocation Measures	Function words and BE, DO, HAVE	Collocates	
		Lexical words	
<b>MI3 only</b>	None	None	
<b>LL only</b>	<i>who, at, not</i>	None	
<b>Both MI3 and LL</b>	<i>in, the, of, to, for, is, from, and, on, that, out, a, up, he, by, with, which, since, as, after, was, are, be, has, are, some, our, it, they, more, have, but, were</i>	<i>city, said, siege, task, rehabilitation, force, rebuilding, crisis, joint, battle, conflict, reconstruction, residents, still, Duterte, maute, military, armed, 23, holed, fighting, may, government, terrorists, forces, group, president, operations, troops, end, security, peace, added, islamic, militants, people</i>	

As MARAWI in itself refers to the name of a local major Philippine city where the event is centered, it embeds Personalization. In other words, this first-order collocatation analysis involves mapping other related discursive news values by considering their meaning enacted based on their concordance lines. One such news value is Eliteness, where references to law enforcement (*military, government, and troops*) and leaders (*Duterte and president*) are provided. These collocates operate as elite role labels, referring to persons and institutions in government, who appear to serve as official voices of news information or are reportedly involved in events.

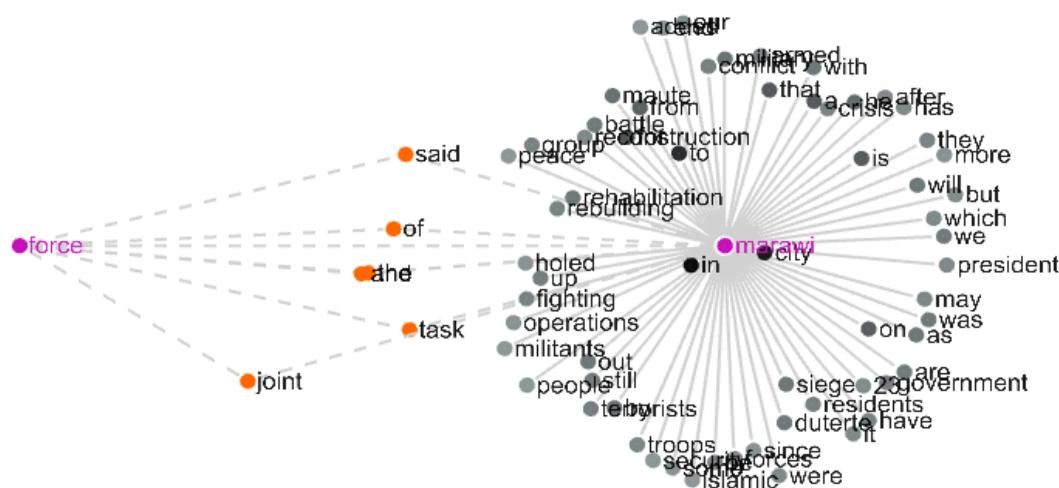
The same observations also apply to collocates *forces* and *security*, which allude to the military except when respectively pertaining to terrorists who *joined forces* or the Marawi *security situation*. Further, it is interesting to note collocates that work as components of elite multiword nouns: In all instances of collocation, *joint*, like *task* and *force*, is part of *Joint Task Force Marawi*, whereas the latter two comprises the task force's alternative name, namely, *Task Force (Bangon) Marawi*. This point is exemplified through the network between MARAWI and *force* in Figure 6, where *task* and *joint* are shared collocates that form the multiword noun.

*Armed* is another first order collocate that constructs Eliteness when it is a component of a multiword noun that refers to the *armed forces* or the *Armed Forces of the Philippines*. However, a closer look at its five instances of collocation reveals that this reading is a resistant discourse prosody emerging from the corpus. In fact, this collocate could function as a negative evaluative term when it modifies words such as conflict, hostilities, and militants. This interpretation is

regarded as the dominant discourse prosody, which is supported by seven co-occurrences in its concordance. However, it is worth noting that no news value may be identified within the co-text of three concordance lines. The different usages of *armed* are reflected in Figure 7.

**Figure 6**

*Collocation network of MARAWI and force*



**Note.** Collocation parameters notation: 5a-MI3(9), R4-L4, C5-NC5, no filter

**Figure 7**

*Discourse prosodies of the collocate 'armed'*

affected by the ongoing <b>armed</b> conflict in days due to the <b>armed</b> conflict in	Marawi City. According to Banaag, the National Disaster
displaced by the ongoing <b>armed</b> conflict in	Marawi City, Lanao del Sur which resulted to
to help educate children as it rebuilds	Marawi City, Lanao del Sur, have died due
first to enter the war-torn city of	Marawi City The <b>Armed Forces of the Philippines</b>
the Maute Group still holed up in	Marawi not <b>armed</b> with any weapon, not protected
Duterte likewise tackled the <b>armed</b> conflict in	Marawi City, <b>Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP)</b>
Three	Marawi City, which entered its 100th day Wednesday.
of the local people."Last stand? In	Marawi siege leaders slain <b>Armed Forces of the</b>
the endgame of the <b>armed</b> hostilities inside	Marawi some in the <b>armed forces</b> are hopeful
proud of you," the WestMinCom Chief added.	Marawi we will be shifting our forces to
and children, in our drive to clear	Marawi liberation The <b>Armed Forces of the Philippines</b>
the informant," he said in Filipino. The	Marawi of all <b>armed</b> elements," he added. A
Even as the five-month-old <b>armed</b> conflict in	Marawi conflict began when <b>armed</b> militants blocked government
We just wanted to get out of	Marawi City is finally over, government forces have
Marawi."	Marawi "The <b>armed</b> men ordered us to hurry

Whereas the previous collocates are associated to negative discourses, it is possible for *end*, *peace*, *reconstruction*, *rehabilitation*, and *rebuilding* to establish

positive discourses. The collocate *end* is utilized in all collocation instances as a reference to a desirable outcome of culminating the conflict. Meanwhile, the other collocates relate to an overarching meaning of Marawi's restoration of livelihood, social harmony, and infrastructure. The latter three collocates are also utilized with reference to various renewal efforts, and *peace* can be interpreted as an objective (i.e., an assured and accomplished outcome that can be delivered by prayer and the intervention of soldiers). Through these collocates, Positivity is constructed as demonstrated in Figure 8 by uses of the collocate *peace*.

### Figure 8

#### *Concordance of the collocate 'peace'*

aimed at restoring **peace** and order in **Marawi** City. Lorenzana, appearing in a Palace press same time incessantly praying for **peace** in **Marawi** City," Ubial said. "Let us continue to started a 14-day prayer for **peace** in **Marawi**, where clashes between government forces and the **Marawi** evacuees assured of **peace** as caravan from all Filipinos to pray for **peace** in **Marawi** and the rest of Mindanao. "Peace that President said. "We have restored **peace** in **Marawi** but that should not be a cause to the road of **peace**," he said. **Marawi** rehab to start The deaths of Hapilon Filipino soldiers for bringing back **peace** in **Marawi**. In her closing speech at the Angat and heroism to bring back **peace** in **Marawi**," she said. "The end of the crisis

The noun collocates *people* and *residents* generally pertain to Marawi City locals and function as generic non-elite labels. Based on nine concordance lines when the node co-occurs with *people*, the collocate is employed within four direct quotations from elite participants, who may be addressing citizens themselves (e.g., *we assure the people of Marawi*) or referring to their existing conditions (e.g., *the people who have been used as human shield*). Meanwhile, its non-quotation use resembles the case of *residents*, which could be accompanied by quantification (e.g., *246,000 residents* and *many displaced Marawi residents*) and description (e.g.,

*residents fleeing Marawi and displaced Marawi residents*). These collocates enact Personalization, although its genericity renders its establishment weak.

Meanwhile, concordances of the collocate *still* indicates the continuation of different state of affairs (e.g., *300 buildings still to be cleared in Marawi; people still trapped in Marawi; Benbinuto is still recovering*), while 23 and May point to the siege's initial date. While these are all temporal collocates, only *still* is believed to construct Timeliness and the other two collocates function instead as a historical reference. This is because publication date of news articles containing instances of collocation through GraphColl were published beyond the two-day period. Thus, these two collocates do not construct any news value.

Lastly, Consonance might be constructed by the collocate *holed*, which is a part of the phrasal verb *holed up* to describe terrorists hiding from government forces. The act of covering or holing up is purportedly widely regarded as a typical behavior from a terrorist organization, especially in conflict situations.

There are other collocates that are purportedly without news values. Firstly, the reporting verbs *said* and *added* do not construct newsworthiness in themselves. However, the news participants whose statements are quoted in the reporting could construct either Personalization or Eliteness. For instance, *said* co-occurs with elite figures in 79.4 percent ( $f = 54$ ) of its total collocation with the node. In addition, the nouns *city* and *operations* are similar cases of news values constructed by the lexes surrounding them: While *city* co-occurs with lexis of geographical proximity (i.e., local city names such as Marawi, Iligan, and Cotabato),

*operations* may co-occur with negative or positive descriptors when referring to war or recovery situations.

Lastly, the noun collocates *group* and *Maute* both refer to the same terrorist participants in the Marawi crisis. In fact, the node's collocations with *group* have varied wordings in pointing to the same news participants such as *Maute group*, *terror group*, *Maute-ISIS group*, and *terrorist group*. Furthermore, inspecting the collocations of *Maute* and the current node word reveals various characterizations of the press. In fact, the collocation instances include the co-occurrence of these descriptions with the collocate, namely, *group* or *terror group*, *militants*, *fighters*, *rebels*, *gunmen*, and *captors*. However, it is worth noting that the said collocate co-occurs once with the first name 'Abdullah,' the last name 'Hapilon' (i.e., another key news participant), and 'positions' as a generic location indicator.

In summary, this first order collocation analysis of the node word MARAWI indicates the close association of a myriad of discursive news values. Primarily, the news event involving Marawi City is portrayed as a war with terrorists, thus linking the city name with Negativity. Despite this news value prevailing, Positivity is also enacted with references to peace and recovery from the armed conflict. In addition, Eliteness and Personalization are both constructed with respect to the involvement of military figures in and ordinary citizens of Marawi City. Meanwhile, Timeliness could be construed when referring to how certain event sequences continued, while Proximity appears to be constructed through religious references.

### 3.1.2. Second order and shared collocates

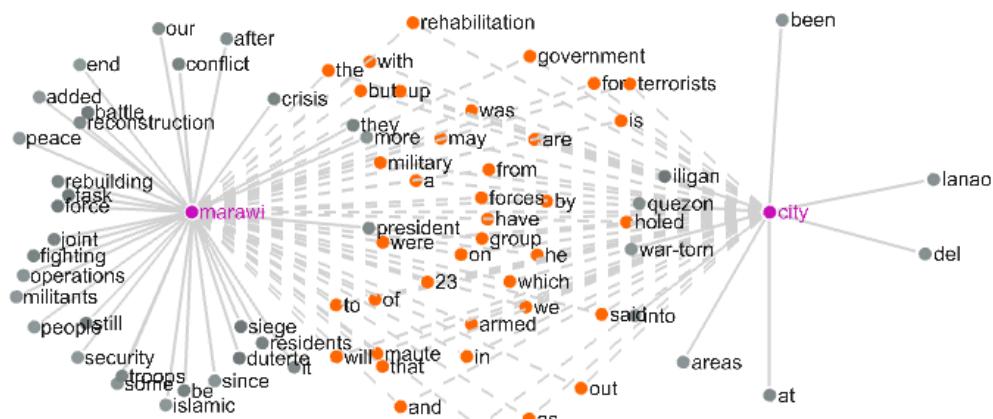
The collocates of MARAWI were further analyzed by inspecting second order and shared collocates. The original collocation graph was expanded into a collocation network between the node and the top three first order collocates in terms of node-collocate frequency – *city*, *said*, and *Maute* – and are discussed below. For each network presented, shared collocates are signified by orange dots in the middle of each figure, whereas exclusive collocates are marked by gray dots.

#### 3.1.2.1. City

The first order collocate *city* depends on its immediate co-text in order to construct newsworthiness, as evidenced by frequent co-occurrence with the node MARAWI. *City* generally pertains to Marawi City, and its content collocates often relate to its state of affairs and the personalities involved in such happenings. However, other locations occur with it as shown in Figure 9, where *Quezon* and *Iligan* are exclusive collocates and construct Proximity.

**Figure 9**

*Collocation network of MARAWI and 'city'*



**Note.** Collocation parameters notation: 5a-MI3(9), R4-L4, C5-NC5, no filter

Moreover, Proximity is enacted by the collocates *Lanao* and *del* in referring to either *Lanao del Norte* (i.e., where *Iligan* is) or *Lanao del Sur* (i.e., where *Marawi* is). The second order collocate *areas* does not establish this news value, although it apparently operates as a generic location indicator (e.g., *certain areas of the city, surrounding areas, large areas of the city*). Lastly, the adjective collocate *war-torn* constructs Negativity by describing the ruined state of Marawi City.

Unsurprisingly, MARAWI also shares 12 content collocates with *city*, which include other first order collocates explained in this chapter, namely, *said* (3.1.2.2) and *Maute* (3.1.2.3). *Said* generally indicates pronouncements of various news actors, especially from elites on events in Marawi. Moreover, *May* and *23* purportedly function as historical references and do not construct Timeliness. Meanwhile, *Maute* and *military* are shared collocates that indicate two opposing parties in the conflict: Although the former constructs no news value, it is regularly portrayed within the concordance lines as a *group* (i.e., another shared collocate). Eliteness can be construed by the latter along with other law enforcement collocates such as *forces*, *government*, and even *armed* when its concordance lines clearly pertain to the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

As observed earlier, *armed* also construes Negativity when concordance lines refer to **armed** *conflict*, **armed** *hostilities*, and **armed** *militants*. Terrorists also consistently construes this news value as a negative evaluative label. Moreover, the collocate *rehabilitation* focuses on rebuilding efforts, thus constructing Positivity. Further still in line with earlier findings, Consonance seems enacted through shared collocates that signify an expected behavior (i.e., *holed*).

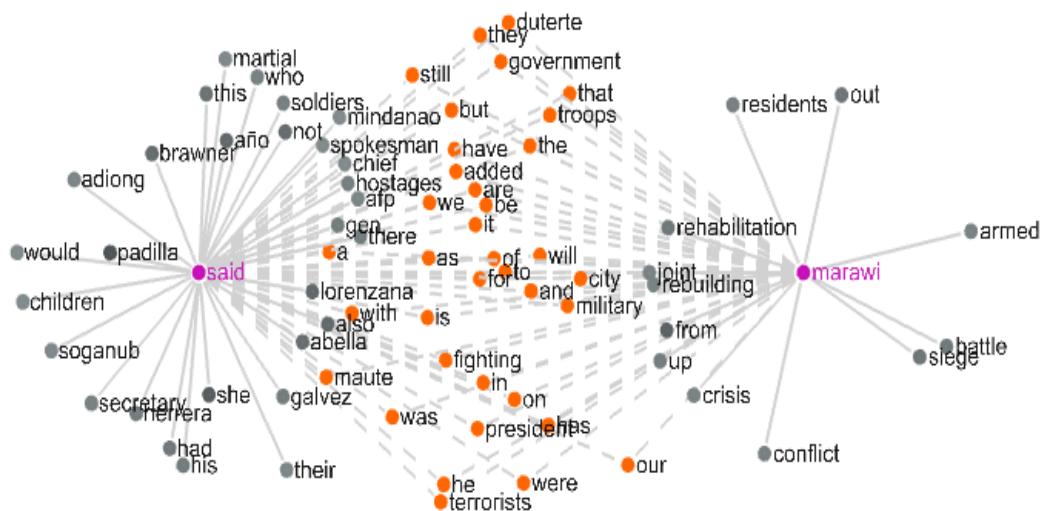
At this point, it is worth noting that these collocation trends seem generally consistent in relation to the other first order collocates examined. Since *city* ties in closely with the node, it is expected that similar news values – Negativity, Eliteness, Positivity, and Consonance are shared.

### **3.1.2.2. Said**

It was earlier mentioned that the reporting verb *said* does not construct news values per se, which are formed instead through the surrounding co-text. Figure 10 below illustrates the collocation network between MARAWI and *said*. For this collocate, a filter ( $MCF > 14$ ) was introduced to depopulate the collocation network, leaving only 68 collocates. Twenty-nine content collocates were examined below.

**Figure 10**

### *Collocation network of MARAWI and 'said'*



**Note.** Collocation parameters notation: 5a-MI3(9), R4-L4, C5-NC5, filter: MCF > 14

Figure 10 stipulates 18 collocates are unique to the first order collocate *said*. From these collocates, Eliteness is primarily enacted through elite names and

role labels such as *Padilla*, *Brawner*, *Lorenzana*, *Año*, *Abella*, *Galvez*, *Herrera*, *AFP*, *secretary*, *spokesman*, *chief*, and *Gen.* The initial seven second order collocates are last names of well-known political and military leaders, whereas the remaining ones occur as parts of role labels. For example, *secretary* consistently refers to members of the cabinet, while *chief* may refer to different law enforcement leaders such as President Duterte (i.e., *chief executive*), Eduardo Ano (i.e., *AFP chief*), Ronald dela Rosa (i.e., *PNP chief*), and Edgard Arevalo (i.e., *AFP Public Affairs Office chief*). In their respective concordances, it seems apparent that these news actors, including those referred to by role labels or titles such as *Gen.*, issued pronouncements.

The second order collocate *soldiers* may also enact Eliteness, while *children* may potentially construct Personalization. However, both collocates' concordances are more often written in terms of their activities and conditions than participants whose voices were reported. On one hand, the voices of *soldiers* in Figure 11 (page 91) were only highlighted twice, since the other lines indicated this collocate as a topic discussed. As for *children*, their voices were expressed only in four occasions as seen in Figure 12 (page 91), with one instance being a part of a paraphrased recount.

**Figure 11**

### *Concordances of 'soldiers' and 'said'*

and strong support for our soldiers," Herrera  
to show support for the soldiers. He  
to visit our soldiers and police), "Herrera  
and remain undetected, soldiers at the battlefield  
the mountains with only the soldiers," he  
are fanatical and accomplished fighters, the soldiers  
that lasted for about four hours. Brawner  
already isolated terrorist locations," Galvez said. He  
homes and observe Ramadan," the Westmincom chief  
Yesterday, the Armed Forces of the Philippines  
Jo-Ar Herrera, spokesman for Task Force Marawi,  
with some of the soldiers there, Pacquiao  
in fighting that wounded three soldiers. He  
melee," the defense chief added. He also  
in Marawi," Año said. The AFP chief  
provided they would not bring soldiers. "[They]  
scale of 1 to 10. But soldiers  
hit any of the civilian hostages," he  
of the civilian hostages," he said. Brawner  
risen—to 811 from 774 on Monday. Brawner

said. Duterte, despite getting advice not to go  
said he does not want to go to  
said "Very firm, very dedicated ang ating Pangulo  
said. "We believe there have been some foreign  
said. Many of the fighters are young recruits,  
said. "By the way they move and their  
said at least 20 **soldiers** were wounded during  
said even Muslim **soldiers** deferred their observance of  
said. "Our Muslim **soldiers** who are in Marawi  
said 13 **soldiers** were killed and 51 others  
said the **soldiers** have recovered the bodies of  
said that they need the moral support of  
said the gunmen had rigged the building with  
said **soldiers** and other security forces fighting the  
said **soldiers** will continue to be on guard  
said you're all welcome provided no intelligence and  
said the small enemy groups were no less  
said Brawner said 148 **soldiers** and policemen, some  
said 148 **soldiers** and policemen, some 660 militants  
said **soldiers** cleared more recaptured areas in the

**Figure 12**

### *Concordances of 'said' and 'children'*

exclusive interview with Manila Bulletin on Thursday, why they idolize the militants, the **children** grateful for improving their plight. The **children** to their fathers. The government, the **children** (to the education of your **children**)," he star" for use making improvised bombs. Marjalino their captives are teenagers." Sen. Richard Gordon on, what happens to our **children**?" he Oro City with her four **children**. She want to join IS While playing, he lift martial law in Mindanao. The **children** children. Positive perspective Lt. Col. Jo-an Herrera and psychosocial support for the **children**, Herrera scholar. She vowed to study well. Herrera scholarships to all the 35 **children**, Herrera

said reports about some children in evacuation centers  
said they were grateful for improving their plight.  
said the Maute Group gives them food and  
said, has done nothing, Ramirez recounted. "I think  
said. "So with the scholarship that is already  
said several children appeared sick due to the  
said the use of children as soldiers is  
said. He added that there is no mercy  
said she and her family hitched a ride  
said, the children were asked what they wanted  
said they wanted to continue their schooling and  
said the children, who were living in evacuation  
said. "With this opportunity, they will be given  
said the children did not bring up martial

Like *children*, *Soganub* and *hostages* construct Personalization, and a close look into their concordance lines reveal their voices being infrequently highlighted. Instead, their actions are more prominently described in each line as demonstrated in the concordance of *Soganub* in Figure 13.

**Figure 13***Concordances of 'said' and 'Soganub'*

phone in an interview with DXIC-RMN. He at the Interfaith Council for Peace, "he the terrorists for 117 days. Mr. Duterte of the Philippines and the police," he me, for my healing and recovery," **Soganub** my healing and recovery," **Soganub** said. Lorenzana the troops for the "excellent job." Año answered, God is good all the time," from Cagayan de Oro. De la Peña after back-channel talks with the terrorists. He Islam during his captivity, De la Peña Muslim Mindanao Assemblyman Zia Alonto Adiong. Adiong not, it doesn't hold any water," he hold any water," he said. The prelate the release of **Soganub**, De la Peña **said** Fr. **Soganub** is thankful for all the **said** Healing, re-integration Fr. **Soganub**, along with the **said** that once **Soganub** was presented to him, **Soganub**, 51, was flown to Manila on **said** Lorenzana said the rescue of **Soganub** and **said** the rescue of **Soganub** and Acopio came **said** **Soganub** had yet to undergo tactical debriefing. **said** Marilyn **Soganub**, the priest's elder sister. **Soganub** **said** **Soganub** related to him "the facts of **said** **Soganub** was "liberated through a special operation." **said** **Soganub** remained a Catholic priest to the **said** **Soganub** was forced to convert by his **said** The prelate said **Soganub**, the vicar general **said** **Soganub**, the vicar general of Marawi, remained **said** he hadn't heard anything of the sort.

The last two exclusive second order collocates are *martial* and *Mindanao*.

The former expressly relates to the martial law imposed in Mindanao, and a closer look at its concordance lines highlight the voices of political and military leaders providing their input on the matter, although this prominent reading is resisted by two cases where non-elites expressed their views. On the other hand, the collocate *Mindanao* constructs Proximity as a location, but it may also be a part of a military division name (i.e., *Western Mindanao Command*) or a media briefing title (i.e., *Mindanao Hour*).

As for the 11 shared collocates, Eliteness is prominently constructed in five collocates (i.e., *president*, *Duterte*, *government*, *military*, and *troops*), which often indicate whose voices are expressed or the entity whose actions are discussed. For example, the role label *president* highlights leaders' voices in the texts and is utilized frequently in reference to President Duterte. However, non-government presidents were also identified such as the *European Chamber of Commerce in the Philippines president* Guenter Taus; *Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry President* George Peralta; and *Archbishop Socrates Villegas, president* of the CBCP.

On the other hand, actions of troops are consistently described in its concordance lines by other news actors.

Both the elite proper noun *Duterte* and *military* (i.e., as an institution and as an elite role label of officers) primarily construct Eliteness in their concordances by portraying them as providers of information except in cases where their actions or statements are instead described or reiterated by other news actors. The same news value is also established by *government*, where concordance primarily highlight the involvement of state authorities in events as said by the state officials.

Meanwhile, *terrorists* and *fighting* both construct Negativity by referring to a group of news actors and their clashes with the military, respectively. In relation to the first order collocate *said*, it is observed that government officials frequently state or explicate *terrorists'* activities in the battlefield and the status of the *fighting*. However, in Figure 14, the third concordance line presents non-elite news actors providing information about the *terrorists'* plans.

**Figure 14**

### *Concordances of 'said' and 'terrorists'*

not to negotiate with **terrorists** remains," Abella brother Roel, 37, and Jimmy Esperat, 43, in Pasay City, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana (AFP) Chief of Staff General Eduardo Año a firefight so they were finished," he of the terrorists. On Thursday, the military but did not say how many. Herrera the commercial district of Marawi. The military the areas held by the **terrorists**. Herrera and cleared all the **terrorists** inside. He citizens, taking note of a report that intense as before," Padilla said. The military Armed Forces spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla mosque but they found none. The military

in a Palace news conference. "Hence, the terrorists were planning to strap improvised explosive devices onto children to use as suicide bombers," he said. "The Marawi terrorists were using children to fight other terrorists. Five other terrorists were killed but their All terrorists, fighting troops. All hostages have been freed by the Maute terrorists have control over three buildings. There are still terrorists occupying buildings and the terrorists' resistance continues to wane and the troops have cleared 16 buildings and they were able to rescue some 1,645 terrorists. They were able to stockpile firearms and the terrorists seemed to be saving their remaining Maute terrorists continue to pose a threat to the government. 666 terrorists; at least 147 government troops

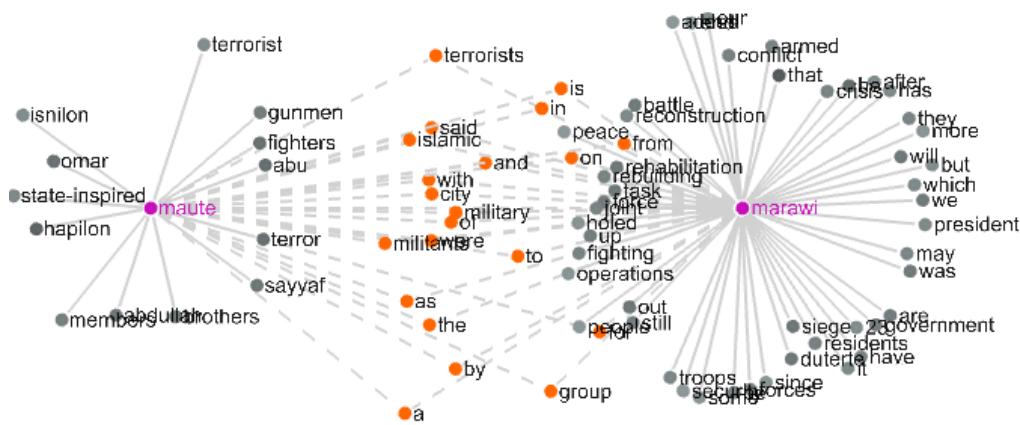
Further, the concordance lines of *still* in Figure 15 appears to consistently underline the continuity of various affairs in Marawi City based on the statements



either exclusive or shared with MARAWI. Figure 16 presents the network between the node and *Maute*, where there are 20 second order collocates in total.

**Figure 16**

Collocation network of MARAWI and Maute



**Note.** Collocation parameters notation: 5a-MI3(9), R4-L4, C5-N5, no filter

Seven shared lexical collocates could be determined from the above figure. No news value is established by the collocate group, but *Maute* is notably signified as an organization and not merely an individual figure, thereby reflecting previous findings. Further, negative collocates *terrorists*, *militants*, and *Islamic* (i.e., *Islamic State-inspired*) were employed to characterize this group, thus enacting Negativity. As explained earlier, *city* and *said* do not construct newsworthiness per se but could reveal respectively through the co-text the location (e.g., *Zamboanga City*, *Marawi City*, *Davao City*, *city jail*) and the news actors issuing pronouncements or are the focus of such pronouncements. Meanwhile, *military* can construe Eliteness either as information source (e.g., *the military said*, *according to the military*) or an active participant in events (e.g., *yesterday's military operations*, *the military unleashed heavy firepower*).

Meanwhile, the remaining collocates are exclusive to *Maute*, which include proper noun collocates that indicate its affiliation with *Isnilon Hapilon* and the *Abu Sayyaf* (i.e., *Abu*, *Sayyaf*, *Isnilon*, *Hapilon*). Moreover, it expectedly co-occurs with the given names of *Maute* family members (i.e., *Omar*, *Abdullah*) and with generic references to its membership (i.e., *brothers*, *members*). Thus, these second order collocates purportedly do not construct newsworthiness as references to terrorist news actors, it is possible to manually determine how they are described.

Finally, collocates that brand the *Maute* group in an undesirable light such as *fighters*, *gunmen*, *terrorist*, and *terror* enact Negativity. Their meanings as used in their concordance lines are consistent, as demonstrated by the co-occurrences of *terror* in Figure 17 below. Moreover, as mentioned earlier, the last second order collocate *state-inspired* is employed as part of the multiword adjective *Islamic State-Inspired*, thus constructing the same news value as well.

### Figure 17

#### *Concordances of 'Maute' and 'terror'*

spokesman Ernesto Abella said this, dismissing the declaration of martial law to neutralize the	Maute	terror leader's reported demand for the release
between government troops and the Islamic State-inspired	Maute	terror group after its occupation of Marawi
remaining defensive positions of remnants of the	Maute	terror group. The Department of National Defense
as hostilities between government troops and the	Maute	terror group in Marawi City, the military
months of martial law to crush the	Maute	terror group stop, according to the military.
low on food, ammunition Remnants of the	Maute	terror group in Marawi City and other
Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon and the	Maute	terror group still holding out in Marawi
after Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon and	Maute	terror group's acknowledged head Omarkhayam Maute were
Hapilon and Maute terror group founder Omarkhayam	Maute	terror group founder Omarkhayam Maute were killed
(IS) group and is allied with the	Maute	were killed by security forces on Monday,
Sayyaf gunmen and their allies from the	Maute	terror group that the military has been
the region against the threats of the	Maute	terror group, flying the black IS flag
disowned the mortar firings, pointing fingers at	Maute	terror group In a joint session on
abducted by hundreds of gunmen from the	Maute,	the homegrown terror group that tried to
that among those still fighting alongside Omar	Maute	and Abu Sayyaf terror groups who rampaged
still fighting alongside Omar Maute of the	Maute	of the Maute terror group and Isnilon
	Maute	terror group and Isnilon Hapilon of the

Based on these findings, there is a propensity for both exclusive and shared collocates of *Maute* and the node to construe Negativity. While it could be argued

that these findings may not be surprising, these trends indicate how journalists can (re)produce Filipinos' widely held perception of the Maute group's involvement in terrorism.

Overall, this analysis of second order collocates affirms the tendencies that were gleaned through first order collocation analysis. Specifically, the news values of Negativity and Eliteness recur with MARAWI through lexis that paint this local city with allusions to terrorism and law enforcement. Moreover, in respect of *city* and *said*, the former also constructs Consonance and Positivity, whereas the latter constructs Personalization and Proximity. However, these findings only capture a partial image of discursive construction the event's newsworthiness; thus, manual analysis is necessary.

### **3.2. News value resources through manual analysis**

In support of the collocation findings, this section presents both verbal and visual resources employed to construct the newsworthiness of the crisis. These devices were gleaned manually through MAXQDA and are enumerated for each news value, which are alphabetically listed.

#### **3.2.1. Aesthetic Appeal**

Aesthetic Appeal is the sole news value that was completely backgrounded in the corpus, because there were no visual resources that constructed it. This meant that journalists more often emphasized matters that target audiences might not readily treat or appreciate as beautiful such as spectacles of destruction and death, which generally convey Negativity than Aesthetic Appeal. Aside from the possible

influence of editorial decision-making, it is likewise likely that journalists could not find material scenes (e.g., ecological or cultural settings and attributes) that may be visually pleasing to the audiences' view.

### 3.2.2. Consonance

The corpus constructs Consonance through references to various stereotypes, which are ascribed to news actors and are subscribed to by the target audiences. Several textual references to stereotypical characteristics were identified through both collocation analysis results and intuition, since the analysts (including the intercoders) are members of the target audience. The frequency of references to these stereotypes in the FT sub-corpus are found in the following table.

**Table 7**

*Frequency of verbal Consonance resources*

Verbal resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Indicators of stereotypical features	38	23	22	83	79.05
Overt references to common knowledge, practices, and stereotypes	3	6	10	19	18.10
Evaluations of typical or usual behavior	1	1	1	3	2.85
Pointing similarities with previous events	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The (stereo)typical characteristics of news actors were explicitly marked by either referring to common knowledge and through assessments of the typicality of their behavior. On the one hand, common knowledge references such as *a bastion of the Islamic faith in Mindanao, mostly Muslim evacuees, most important Muslim City, predominantly Muslim City, and mostly Muslim-populated*

*Marawi* represent Marawi residents as typically Muslim. Similarly, *mainly Catholic Philippines* and a *largely Catholic country* establishes a stereotypical image of Filipinos as Roman Catholics. On the other hand, journalists emphasize the typical infamy of terrorists in the following extracts through *usually* and *notorious*.

- (1) According to Padilla, terrorist groups in Mindanao **usually** recruit young college students with leadership potential, either belonging to the middle class or from poor families with no education. (TMB #09)
- (2) The death of the two **notorious** militants is seen to hasten the liberation of the country's only Islamic city, he said. (TPS #37)
- (3) Ismail fled with his family ... when security forces tried to raid the hideout of **notorious** Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon, the IS anointed "emir" in Southeast Asia. (PDI #60)

However, (stereo)typical behaviors tended to be implied within the FT sub-corpus. Most of the stereotypes identified are associated with President Duterte and the terrorist groups: On the one hand, Consonance is constructed through allusions to how the former is iron-fisted, highly supportive and trusting of law enforcement, undiplomatic and unwilling to face scrutiny. Examples of these are presented in the following extracts.

- (4) **Mr. Duterte**, who has waged a controversial war on drugs that has claimed thousands of lives, **warned martial law would be "harsh" and similar to military rule** imposed by dictator Ferdinand Marcos a generation ago. (PDI #41)
- (5) President Duterte stressed this Wednesday night **as he finally left to the military the option whether or not to carry out bombing runs on mosques** where members of the Maute Group are believed holed up. (TMB #14)
- (6) Despite the rain, **the President obliged with selfies and groupies with his troops** before he left after an hour visit. (TMB #10)

- (7) President Duterte **has vowed to ignore the Supreme Court and Congress as he enforces martial law across Mindanao** despite the Constitution giving them oversight. (TPS #22)
- (8) Despite **the unwarranted attacks of President Duterte against some foreign nations and the United Nations** for meddling in his drug war and foreign policy, Abella said the administration has not closed its doors to any assistance from other countries, including allies. (TPS #33)

On the other hand, the latter were usually characterized through such behavior as persons without regard to life, involved in abuse and brainwashing, and always in hiding to evade government forces. In fact, the third stereotype is established through the lexis *holed up*, which frequently recurs during collocation analysis. Examples of these stereotypes are highlighted as follows.

- (9) An air and ground assault by government forces, with US and Australian intelligence support, has pushed the terrorists to the city center, where **the gunmen are holed up in buildings and mosques**. (PDI #52)
- (10) Based on the account of a policeman involved in the clearing operations in Marawi City, **the Maute Group is using children aged 10 to 16 years old to carry out their ambushes** and were reportedly carrying baby armalites. (TMB #01)
- (11) The sources also gave credence to the military's claims that there was infighting among Dawla leaders "internal issues" as exemplified by cases of **hard-core militants allegedly gunning down followers who try to flee**. (TMB #05)

In addition to references to (stereo)typical behavior from President Duterte and the terrorists, such behavior were highlighted less frequently around other news actors such as members of Congress at the time, children, and Mindanao residents. These preconceptions are presented respectively in Extracts 12 and 13, which are believed to reflect the target audiences' preconceptions of Congress of the Philippines as highly supportive of the Duterte presidency and stereotypes of

Filipino children as possibly dedicated learners. Meanwhile, Extract 14 constructs a preconception of Mindanao residents as poor.

- (12) On Saturday, *an overwhelming majority of the Senate and House of Representatives voted in favor of extending the declaration of martial law and suspension of the privilege of the writ of habeas corpus* in Mindanao. (TPS #28)
- (13) *Like the other children*, Usman wanted to be able to continue her studies and hoped she would be made a scholar. (PDI #53)
- (14) *The impoverished southern Philippines*, home to many of the nation's Muslim minority, has for decades endured conflict. (TMB #20)

The NI sub-corpus also stereotypically represents news actors based on non-spontaneous (i.e., staged or rehearsed) activity sequences. There are two apparent preconceptions in the visual data. The first preconception refers to the religiousness of Filipinos, which are presented in Figure 18. In this figure, two different groups of Filipino news actors (i.e., ordinary Muslims and soldiers) were captured to be gathered inside places of worship.

### Figure 18

*Religiousness as a stereotype about Filipinos*



**Note.** Images are taken respectively from TMB #17 and TPS #25.

Aside from the religiousness stereotype, other stereotypes relating to the behavior of Filipino soldiers were represented in both images featured in Figure 19 above. On the one hand, the righthand image depicts a staged portrayal of soldiers exhibiting the Philippine national flag outside a seemingly ruined structure; this representation constructs a preconceived idea of Filipino soldiers' patriotism. A similar stereotype is constructed in the left-hand image, which presents soldiers performing military honors to a deceased comrade. The precise, uniform salute and marching performed in the photograph seemingly adheres to Filipino readers' common knowledge of military practices and the discipline they entail.

**Figure 19**

*Visual portrayal of soldiers' stereotypical behavior*



**Note.** Images are taken respectively from PDI #47 and #44.

A photograph is also believed to construe Consonance by highlighting the positively viewed behavior of a group of children gesturing for peace. This activity sequence might communicate a stereotype about children as innocent persons, but whether Filipino readers subscribe to it might be moot and require further study. Hence, Figure 20 was categorized only as 'possible' for this news value.

Whereas visual references to common knowledge and stereotypes around the news participants are purportedly rare, the full texts often highlight these

details. It is, however, worth emphasizing the role of subjectivity in exploring Consonance, as indicated initially by the disagreement measured through Gwet's AC<sub>1</sub>. Although the analyst and the intercoders belong to the same target audience, the nature of these disagreements revolved not only on whether an instance is expected or typical, but also whether the stereotype is widely espoused by the target readers. To address subjectivity, Bednarek's (2016c) coding principle was adopted and consistency in applying the annotation manual was ensured.

**Figure 20**

*Possible stereotypical portrayal of children*



**Note.** The news image is taken from TMB #01.

### 3.2.3. Eliteness

This multimodal corpus also establishes Eliteness through both visual and verbal references to individuals of prestige and authority such as legislators, executive officials, law enforcement personnel, and others of elite standing. Regarding the

prominent linguistic devices, the FT sub-corpus is observed to utilize elite role labels and names more frequently than the other devices as shown in Table 8.

**Table 8***Frequency of verbal Eliteness resources*

Verbal resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Role labels	260	317	235	811	52.56
Recognized names (without labels)	261	316	150	728	47.18
Status adjectives	1	2	0	4	0.26
Fame or achievement descriptions	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>523</b>	<b>635</b>	<b>385</b>	<b>1,543</b>	<b>100.00</b>

As can be observed in the table, news reporting of various happenings during the Marawi crisis appear to capitalize on role labels and recognized names. Role labels appear to be more frequently utilized to indicate news participants' elite status, which could be achieved through different forms. One role label structure in the corpus is the use of titles and noun-accompanied quasi-titles. Extracts 15 and 16 involve quasi-titles, where the appositive phrases supply news actors' titles. Meanwhile, Extracts 17 and 18 involve titles preceding the news actors' names.

- (15) **Aminoden Guro, director of the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulator Board for Mindanao**, said nine buses that were deployed to evacuate people still trapped in Marawi were stopped from proceeding on Thursday because of the ongoing firefights. (PDI #41)
- (16) **Melia Sarap, the provincial nutritionist for Lanao del Sur**, said initial surveys of more than 600 evacuees had found six cases of severe malnutrition and a further 20 cases of moderate malnutrition. (TMB #04)
- (17) **Communications Secretary Martin Andanar**, who was also in Marawi, said **the President** visited the rescued hostages. (TPS #38)
- (18) The four senators who voted "no" to the extension were **Senate Minority Leader Franklin Drilon, Senators Risa Hontiveros, Francis Pangilinan and Paolo Benigno "Bam" Aquino**, who all belong to the minority bloc. (PDI #48)

Apart from specific local and national authorities, this news value is enacted in role labels that purportedly function as metonymic references to the members of elite institutions. Such role labels identified in the FT sub-corpus include the *Iligan LGU*, *Lamitan City council*, *Lanao del Sur provincial government*, and even the *US and Philippine government*. Moreover, Eliteness is believed to be construed in other role labels belonging to former leaders (e.g., *former president Benigno Aquino III* and *late dictator Ferdinand Marcos*); foreign government officials (e.g., *Foreign Minister Julie Bishop*); specialists (e.g., *American Chamber of Commerce of the Philippines senior advisor John Forbes*); religious leaders (e.g., *Archbishop Martin Jumoad*), and even athletes or celebrities (e.g., *Horn, the new world champion*; *Bb. Pilipinas Grand International & National Peace Ambassador Elizabeth Clenci*).

Role labelling by predication – that is, describing the subject's role within the predicate – is also observed twice in the textual sub-corpus. The following cases illustrate how the predicated label portrays the subject as an authoritative news participant. Interestingly, Eliteness is being reinforced in both instances, since the DPWH is a government agency, while Pacquiao is both a famous boxer and politician.

- (19) *The DPWH is the lead agency for the Reconstruction Committee of Task Force Bangon Marawi.* (PDI #38)
- (20) Pacquiao was *the second government official to visit Marawi* apart from President Duterte, according to the senator. (TPS #29)

Role labels may also be deployed without names, which may carry either a specific or a generic function. The former specifies individuals who were referred

to in earlier parts of news texts, enabling their eliteness to be clearly construed. For example, role labels such as *lawyer by profession, chief executive, commander-in-chief, and president* strictly pertain to President Duterte. Meanwhile, other elite figures and institutions are also explicitly referred to by other such labels as *AFP chief of staff, defense chief, WestMinCom chief, mayor, health secretary, the bishop of Marawi, and even two chambers of the legislature.*

Meanwhile, the latter usage is exemplified in elite role labels such as *troops, troopers, sharpshooters, security forces, soldiers, policemen, military engineering brigades, and military sources.* Such role labels may be described as enacting weak Eliteness, as these devices point to ordinary or anonymous elites. This work treats ordinary law enforcement markers in this way due to their incapacity to act or make statements without the permission of higher-ranking officials (Haarman & Lombardo, 2009). However, this research argues that not all generic labels operate in this way as in the case of generic specialist roles (e.g., *historians, security analysts/experts, and psychologist*) and legitimated officials (e.g., *lawmakers, [a] cabinet official[s], members of the high court, and an undersecretary*), whose elite standing are likely recognized by the broadsheets' target audience.

Proper nouns could also endow Eliteness when these devices identify popular, prestigious, or authoritative news participants. The FT sub-corpus contains various explicit references to institutions (including their abbreviated forms) such as *World Bank, Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas, Commission on Human Rights, Department of Labor and Employment, Office of the President, and Catholic Bishops' Conference of the Philippines.* Influential nations such as *China, United*

States, Singapore, and Australia also concretely construct the news value when they are portrayed as news participants than mere locations. Furthermore, various government officials tend to be identified by surname (e.g., Año, Abella, Purisima, Binay, Brawner, Dela Rosa, De Lima, Drilon, Duterte, and Robredo), while their complete identities are usually cited with role labels when first identified in each article. The only elite full proper noun observed throughout the FT sub-corpus is *Jeff Horn*, an Australian boxer.

However, proper nouns relating to events and locations – especially places bearing the name of organizations – probably establish weak Eliteness. This point is exemplified in how the name *Malacañang* is employed in the following extracts:

- (21) They flew from Laguindingan Airport in Misamis Oriental province for a five-day tour of Manila that would include a visit **to Malacañang** and a meeting with President Duterte. (PDI #53)
- (22) In a press briefing **in Malacañang**, AFP spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said that when he says they are in full control it means that they can control who comes in and who comes out, and [sic] moves around and who doesn't in the city. (TMB #01)
- (23) **Malacañang** said the ceasefire was a gesture of solidarity with Muslims. (TPS #25)
- (24) **Malacañang** earlier announced a P10-million bounty for Hapilon and P5 million each for Maute brothers Omar and Abdullah. (TPS #37)

Unlike Extracts 23 and 24 that portrays *Malacañang* as an institution with active involvement in events, the proper noun is only identified in passing as a place in the preceding two extracts. This portrayal of recognizable locations and events suggest their relatively minor importance compared to elite institutions. The same could be gleaned in the highlighted events and locations below.

- (25) "We now announce the termination of all combat operations in Marawi," he told reporters on the sidelines of ***the 11th ASEAN Defense Ministers Meetings*** at ***the Clark Freeport Zone*** in Pampanga. (TMB #20)
- (26) The money that the Philippines would save from letting go of the hosting responsibility for ***the 2019 Southeast Asian Games*** could also be used for sports programs for Mindanao and other marginalized people. (PDI #49)
- (27) The Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) has received heavy equipment ***from China*** that would be used in the reconstruction of Marawi. (TPS #38)
- (28) "Given the present day, when the possibility of history repeating itself looms imminent, no cause requires your commitment as much as the cause of human rights, justice, and democracy," Sereno was quoted as saying in her speech during the commencement exercise ***at the Ateneo de Manila University*** last Friday. (TPS #22)

The last verbal resource for Eliteness are the status adjectives *elite* and *US-backed*, which are exemplified in their only occurrences in the extracts below. The adjective *elite* appears to portray the relevant news participants as personnel with a high distinction or prominence, while *US-backed* describes the news event in direct relation to the support of an elite country.

- (29) Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon and the Maute terror group's acknowledged head Omarkhayam Maute were killed one after the other at separate locations by ***elite*** Army Scout Ranger snipers using long range rifles fitted with night-vision scopes. (TPS #37)
- (30) Military sources said the two were among the more than a dozen gunmen killed in battle in the past days by the ***elite*** Rangers, who reportedly used remote-controlled devices to locate the militants' exact locations. (TPS #37)
- (31) The ensuing ***US-backed*** military campaign to evict the militants claimed more than 1,000 lives, displaced 400,000 residents and left large parts of Marawi in ruins. (TMB #20)

Eliteness is also constructed in the NI sub-corpus through various devices, whose frequencies are presented in the following table.

**Table 9***Frequency of visual Eliteness resources*

Visual resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Content: Represented participants and attributes	13	17	10	40	67.80
Content: Activity sequence	5	6	4	15	25.42
Content: Setting	2	0	2	4	6.78
<b>Total</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The abovementioned table indicates that the news value is visually enacted by representing elite news actors or their eliteness-endowing features. These elites include appointed and elected officials, law enforcers, and people involved in rescue and body recovery. There are also four images in which legitimated officials (e.g., President Duterte and Senator Pacquiao) were captured alongside ordinary soldiers, who are seen as weak Eliteness constructions. In these four photographs, the news value is clearly established because of the officials present. In Figure 21, for example, the news value is construed primarily through President Duterte and AFP Chief of Staff Eduardo Año at the front. Notably, the president is wearing a medal, which can indicate his authority. The individuals behind them – except for former Special Assistant to the President Bong Go (in shades), who is considered an elite – partly reinforces the news value.

**Figure 21***President Duterte and soldiers as elites*

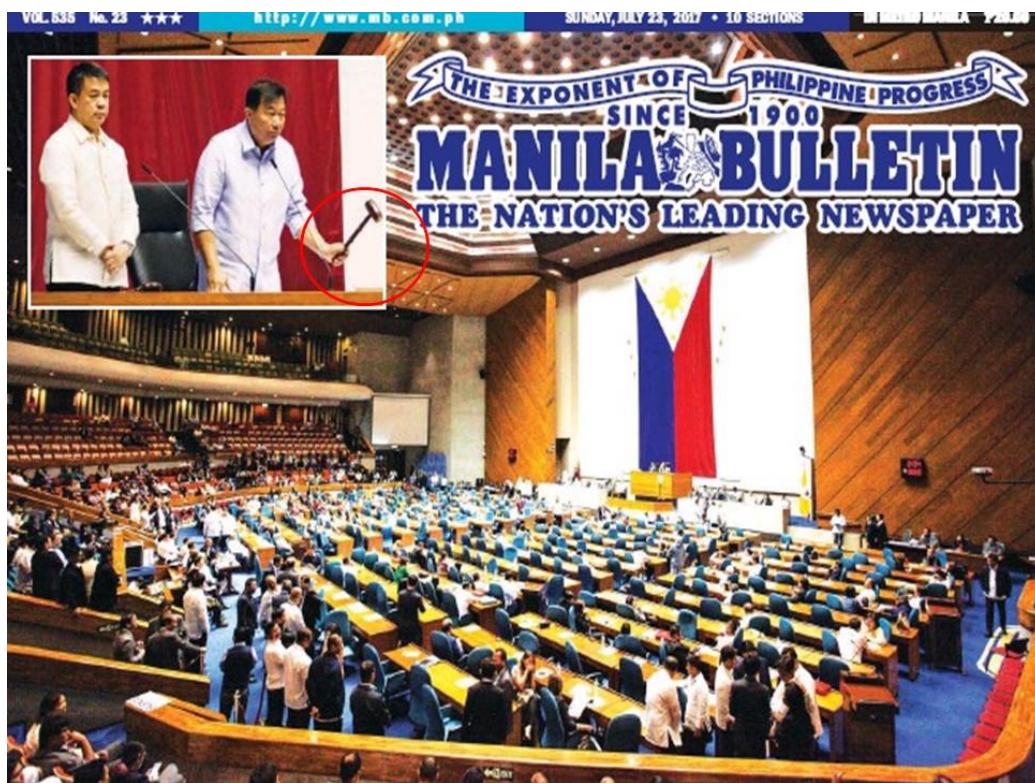
**Note.** This image of TMB #07 constructs Eliteness through represented participants (i.e., President Duterte and AFP Chief of Staff Eduardo Año) and their attributes (i.e., fatigues and President Duterte's medal to signify authority or distinction).

Various elite activity sequences are also visually represented in the NI sub-corpus. These sequences involve portrayals of military activities such as marching or patrolling streets, facilitating evacuation, gathering evidence, engaging enemies (i.e., by infantry or through military aircrafts), and saluting as a deceased soldier's remains are delivered. The following image reflects military activities, whereby the soldier aims toward their enemies' positions. An inset photograph accompanies this visual representation, in which an attack helicopter can be seen launching missiles at a target.

**Figure 22***Representation of military activities*

**Note.** This image of TPS #28 constructs Eliteness through represented participants (i.e., a soldier aiming at a possible target) and activity sequences (i.e., a military aircraft firing a missile [inset photo] and a soldier targeting enemy positions).

Elite settings such as the House of Representatives main chamber beyond the inset photograph in Figure 23 highlights the event's elite characteristics. The location's visual depiction may be regarded as a highly elite or authoritative setting for Filipino readers, since pieces of legislation are debated, voted on, and formed in this location.

**Figure 23***Session hall of the Philippine House of Representatives*

**Note.** This image of TMB #08 constructs Eliteness through represented participants (i.e., Senate President Pimentel and House Speaker Alvarez [inset], as well as many unidentified members of Congress), activity sequence (i.e., gavel banging, which indicates the passage of a resolution by Congress), and setting (i.e., session hall of the House of Representatives).

Other settings may also possibly enact Eliteness as in Figure 24, whereby a tarpaulin indicates that the venue belongs to a certain management committee operation center. However, the analysts doubt on whether the target readers could readily recognize its eliteness, especially if the image clearly captures only a portion of the tarpaulin.

**Figure 24***Military personnel in a government operation center*

**Note.** This image of TMB #04 constructs Eliteness through represented participants (i.e., ordinary soldiers), an activity sequence (i.e., gathering pieces of evidence), and setting (i.e., an operation center belonging to a governmental management committee)

The prominent discursive construction of elite voices and representations in the corpus may be expected. In fact, this is demonstrated by the collocates of the first order collocate *said*, where numerous names of military and political leaders emerged. However, this journalistic practice has received reproach in previous studies. This reporting practice termed as “extensive membershipping” (Fairclough, 1988, p. 131) utilizes elites’ voices to covertly establish the legitimacy of the reporting and their social practices (Fairclough, 1988; van Leeuwen, 2008).

A possible effect of this reporting strategy, as Lampropoulou (2014) claims, is that “ordinary people’s views are mostly presented as reactions to news and are less preferred, as if they are entitled to their experiences but not their opinions” (p. 473).

### 3.2.4. Impact

The articles also construct Impact, which highlights the substantial outcomes or consequences of the crisis. In theory, this news value could be realized through the portrayal of different outcomes (e.g., mental, emotional, and physical) or based on how journalists assess these outcomes. Table 10 below presents the frequency of these resources in the textual data.

**Table 10**

*Frequency of verbal Impact resources*

Verbal resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Representations of outcomes	79	67	107	253	93.36
Evaluations of significance	7	3	8	18	6.64
<b>Total</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The relatively high frequency of representations of outcomes is apparent in the abovementioned table. A careful look at these representations reveals that there seems to be a propensity towards referring to actual outcomes over non-actual ones. On the one hand, most actual outcomes mentioned refer mainly to the physical or material effects of events related to the conflict. These outcomes may be negative (e.g., deaths, disruption of lives, and the obliteration of property) or positive (e.g., the rescue of hostages and repatriation). These consequences

are reflected below, where Extracts 32 and 33 depict undesirable outcomes, while Extracts 34 and 35 present positive effects.

(32) ***More than 2,000 trapped*** (PDI #42)

(33) Duterte also extended his apologies to ***the 700,000 people displaced by the conflict***. (TPS #38)

(34) Herrera added that Duterte's visit ***definitely boosted the morale of the soldiers*** and inspired them in their operations against the terrorists in Marawi City. (TMB #07)

(35) ***Some 6,500 families are due to return this week in a phased repatriation***, a fraction of the 77,000 that fled to evacuation camps or nearby towns. (PDI #60)

On the other hand, the remaining actual consequences refer to the emotions of news participants. These emotions revolve around anxiety and happiness, which are manifested in the examples below. In Extract 36, the direct quotation expresses how people felt as a result of sudden mortar explosions within their vicinity. The reference to emotional outcomes originates from an ordinary person's observations, which the broadsheets might have emphasized. In contrast, the scenes of joy in Extract 37 is a consequence of the liberation of Marawi and the ability for residents to return to their homes.

(36) ***"Women were crying and the children were terrified,"*** resident Jamirah Macabalang said. (PDI #51)

(37) There were ***scenes of joy*** and chaos as a convoy of returning residents poured into Marawi to a cacophony of horns and whistles, jamming what only a few hours earlier were deserted streets. (PDI #60)

In addition, references to possible and hypothetical situations purportedly enhance the construction of the impact of events related to the Marawi crisis. Such

non-actual situations include predictions on the duration of the conflict following a successful military operation, future government plans on counterterrorism and rehabilitation measures, and various other apprehensions that affect Mindanao residents as consequences of possible events. Extracts 38 and 39 exemplify these fears from the perspective of elite news participants, who expressed concerns that further harm may be inflicted upon residents as a result of a minor victory (Extract 38) and if the martial law is not extended (Extract 39). While no such fears are indicated in Extract 40, the likely impact of the absence of martial law is highlighted.

- (38) Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana expressed fears on Monday that the terrorists, who have been using their hostages as human shields, **may force some of the captives to serve as suicide bombers.** (PDI #50)
- (39) He said Lamitan is wary of the **possible spillover of the Marawi violence to other towns and cities in Mindanao.** (TPS #27)
- (40) A slide presentation by the Armed Forces compared the crisis in Marawi City to the takeover of the Iraqi city of Mosul. **Marawi itself could now become a magnet for foreign fighters in Iraq and Syria,** the presentation said. (PDI #48)

Apart from these resources, Impact is also constructed in the textual data by employing evaluation to describe the events' overall importance (Bednarek, 2006). This device is employed in 17 news texts, where the Marawi City crisis is described in its massive and serious characteristics. For example, Extracts 41 and 42 below assess the conflict through historical comparison (i.e., comparing the Marawi crisis vis-à-vis previous local conflicts), whereas the general relevance of the war is signified in Extract 43 by reference to its fatal nature.

- (41) The military believes hundreds of civilians are still trapped by the conflict, **the biggest internal security threat the Philippines has faced in decades** and

a shock to neighboring countries worried that the Islamic State (IS) group is trying to establish a foothold in Southeast Asia. (PDI #46)

- (42) Except for small clusters of troops dotted amid the ruins and skinny cats and dogs scavenging for food, the heart of Marawi is a ghost town, all but destroyed by the Philippines' ***biggest and fiercest urban battle in recent history.*** (PDI #58)
- (43) It was one of the first military teams deployed to Marawi following the ***deadly*** siege of Islamic State (IS)-linked militants last May. (TMB #19)

Unlike texts, the photographs construct Impact through actual material outcomes relating to either infrastructural damages or death. The frequency of these represented effects in the visual data are found in the following table:

**Table 11**

*Frequency of visual Impact resources*

<b>Visual resources</b>	<b>Frequency</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>TMB</b>	<b>TPS</b>	<b>PDI</b>		
Content: Representations of damage	4	6	9	19	79.17
Content: Representations of death	1	1	3	5	20.83
<b>Total</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The represented aftermaths indicated tend to co-construe Negativity, since these scenarios paint sites of brutality, which are expectedly horrific situations in mass conflicts. On the one hand, death is portrayed chiefly through vivid images of lifeless bodies of key terrorists (e.g. Figure 37) and victims. The following image of three deceased persons serves as a concrete representation of the conflict's fatal outcomes. These bodies contain features that relate to both death and violence such as the blood and bruise marks, which appears to amplify these news values. In fact, such visual representations carry sociopolitical ramifications, since such a portrayal provides room for interpreting it as a failure of the state to defend

vulnerable sectors of society (Auchter, 2016). The bodies being left in an unknown place, as marked by the grassy terrain, may contribute to the enactment of Impact.

**Figure 25**

*Bodies of deceased victims*



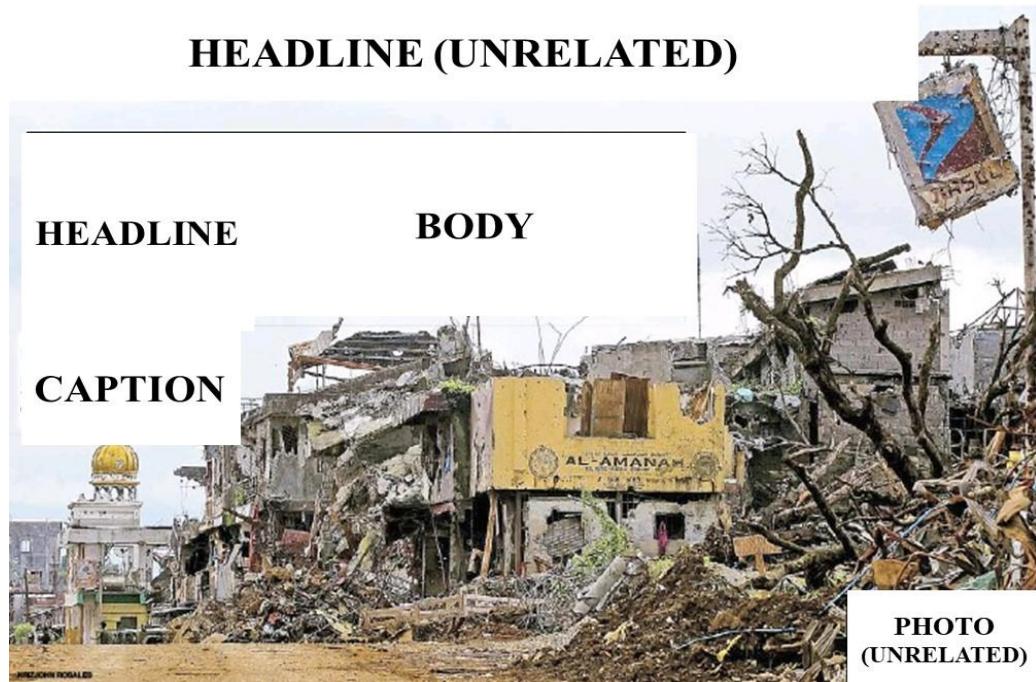
**Note.** This image of PDI #42 constructs Impact through the represented participants and their attributes. In this case, lifelessness is suggested through deceased ordinary persons, their blood stains and bruises are presented.

Death is further illustrated through other representations such as caskets (c.f. Figure 40) and cadaver bags as presented in Figure 26 below. Auchter (2017) surmises that apart from being material symbols of demise, these representations are positioned often within a wider narrative of brutality and death. In this example, humanitarian workers could be gleaned retrieving the remains of war victims.

**Figure 26***Illustration of death through cadaver bags*

**Note.** This image of PDI #46 constructs Impact through the represented participants and their attributes. In this case, lifelessness is suggested through the cadaver bag.

On the other hand, the NI sub-corpus constructs Impact more frequently by presenting infrastructural destruction, an outcome expected from months of warfare and bombings. Specifically, such an aftermath is visually foregrounded by different illustrations of wreckage and bullet holes (c.f. Figure 41). The news image in Figure 27 below establishes Impact by foregrounding a street full of ruins. This figure also constructs Superlativeness, as the wide angle employed provides a greater view of the extent of destruction.

**Figure 27***A street of destroyed buildings*

**Note.** This image of TPS #39 constructs Impact through a street lined with building debris.

To briefly conclude, different verbal and visual resources were found to be employed in the corpus to establish Impact. More importantly, this news value often intersects with other values such as Superlativeness (i.e., when referring to a numerous affected persons) and Negativity (i.e., when unfortunate themes are referred to).

### 3.2.5. Personalization

Another discursive strategy utilized to construct the newsworthiness of the Marawi crisis is to represent ordinary individuals and settings, thereby establishing the news value of Personalization in both texts and images. This news value is textually achieved through different verbal devices as explicated in Table 12, where

through this table, an inclination towards identifying various ordinary people and their roles can be observed.

**Table 12***Frequency of verbal Personalization resources*

Verbal resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Non-elite names and role labels	107	84	210	401	85.87
Direct and indirect speech	22	3	32	57	12.20
Emotion labels and descriptions	2	0	7	9	1.93
<b>Total</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>467</b>	<b>100.00</b>

As the table indicates, emotional references appear infrequent compared to the other verbal devices belonging to this news value. These instances include positive and negative emotional dispositions. On one hand, positive sentiments from ordinary individuals stem are reflected in the extracts below, which indicate people's contentment and relief from the stress induced by the crisis itself.

- (44) The priest, flanked by Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año, **appeared to be in good health and high spirits** when he was presented to reporters in [sic] military headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City. (PDI #51)
- (45) Khaliluddin Ismail returned home on Sunday after five months of war in Marawi City to find his house ransacked. But **he's still smiling**. (PDI #60)
- (46) New sights and the thrill of traveling to Manila **pleased the children** from Marawi, but the conflict that had forced them to flee their city was never far from their minds during their visit to the country's capital on Tuesday. (PDI #53)

On the other hand, descriptions of negative sentiment illustrate feelings of astonishment, resentment, and grief. These sentiments could be gleaned in the extracts below; it is likely that these sentiments are provided to explain to the

target readers the emotional toll endured by victims. It is noteworthy that these emotion references are attributed by journalists and are not found in the speech of non-elites.

- (47) "On the ground, everyone thinks you're an enemy – military, Maute fighters and civilians alike. One of the Marines pointed a gun ready to shot on us even if we bore a white flag, an identification card and shirt that screamed rescue team. It was the first time I surrendered in my life," Minalang recalled **while tears began welling in his eyes**. (TMB #12)
- (48) They did not kill me because I was able to recite a Muslim prayer. The others were not so lucky," said a **visibly shocked Bandung**, who was with eight others who accompanied one of the bodies out of the city. (TMB #01)
- (49) She also said **she was angry** with the terrorists for starting the war. She hoped for an end to the conflict after recounting the hardship that she and her family went through as they escaped the fighting. (PDI #53)

Instances of direct and indirect speech seem more frequently occurring than emotion references. Bednarek and Caple (2017) stipulates that direct speech is more capable of delivering a humanizing voice to the news report, because readers could access the thoughts of ordinary citizens. These thoughts consist of a range of viewpoints such as retelling of certain events during the conflict, pleas for help, and expressions of gratitude and other emotions. Examples of direct speech are found in the following extracts:

- (50) "I'll pray for you. God bless you all. Pray for me for my healing and recovery. Thank you very much. God Bless you," said the priest, still sporting a long, white beard. (TPS #35)
- (51) "My children are getting sick. One has diarrhea and another has an allergic reaction on his skin – the water we have to use here is not good," said Tarhata Mostare. (TMB #04)
- (52) "He was a very thoughtful husband and father," Carmi said. "Whenever he had time, especially when there were family gatherings, he would send a

text message or make a call just to greet us. He asked us to buy our daughter a new dress for her first birthday." (PDI #44)

Meanwhile, broadsheets also restate non-elite thoughts and viewpoints with indirect speech, which were identified through the absence of quotation marks. In addition, these occurrences of indirect speech express a variety of experiences and emotions similar to direct quotes as in Extracts 53 to 55. Quotations may, however, not always need a reporting verb as in Extract 53, where the headline is composed only of the headline and the paraphrased message. This quote presentation strategy may be conventional, particularly for headlines that are intended to summarize the entire report (Bell, 1991; van Dijk, 1988).

(53) Rescued priest: Pray for my healing, recovery (TPS #35)

(54) Extending martial rule means their continued stay in evacuation centers, she added. (PDI #48)

(55) Idol, 38, recounted how Maute fighters even threatened to shoot at them as they tried to get trapped individuals to run to them. (TMB #12)

There is also one instance whereby both direct and indirect quotations co-exist within a single sentence. This sole instance is exemplified in Extract 56, with the indirect quotation underlined:

(56) She said she had lost all her possessions, "but I would still want to come home." (TMB #04)

Furthermore, non-elite names and role descriptions are observed as the most frequently employed verbal device category to achieve Personalization. On the one hand, role labels often tend to be generic – that is, they pertain to either groups of ordinary individuals or anonymous persons such as *civilian(s), hostages, people, residents, children, family/families*, and *evacuees*. These generic role labels

also include quantifying phrases that implicitly allude to ordinary groupings (e.g., *more than 2,000* and *tens of thousands*). These generic non-elite labels in the corpus are regarded as weak Personalization instances because of the lack of “concreteness of individual reference” (Fowler, 1991, p. 92).

On the other hand, unlike generic ordinary person labels such as *the public*, *students attending weekend classes*, and *kin of fallen soldiers*, there are non-elite labels that describe and specify ordinary persons through anaphoric references. For instance, in Extracts 57 and 58, there are non-elite labels that describe and specify ordinary individuals through anaphora. Specifically, a *fruit vendor* in Extract 57 is an appositive to the pronoun *she*, which points back to the Marawi evacuee Salema Ampasong. Meanwhile, the label *the office clerk and mother of six* directly pertains to Norida Manna, who had been previously mentioned in the news article whereby Extract 58 is taken.

- (57) “I will be the happiest woman in the world if I am allowed to return,” said **Salema Ampasong**, a 28-year-old woman who was among about 1,000 evacuees given shelter in a gymnasium in the town of Balo-i, several miles outside Marawi.

**A fruit vendor**, she said she had lost all her possessions, “but I would still want to come home. (TMB #04)

- (58) **Norida Manna’s** three-story house was leveled by an airstrike, but she’s thankful she’s alive.

**The office clerk and single mother of six** will now live at her sister’s home, from which she fled in May as troops outside battled hooded, black-clad gunmen who helped the escape of Hapilon. (TPS #60)

Other similar role labels to ordinary people include references to the hostage victim Fr. Rey Teresito Sunganob such as *priest/the priest, kidnapped priest*,

*rescued priest, the 51-year-old priest, and a/the Catholic priest.* As in the case of previous examples, these role labels operate as backward references and specify non-elites. As the identity of whom these role labels pertain to are apparent in the corpus, these labels appear to concretely construct this news value.

Other concrete manifestations of this news value refer to direct mentions of non-elite individuals. These persons overtly indicated in the FT sub-corpus range from ordinary persons outside the warzone, evacuees, rescued hostage victims, and bereaved relatives of law enforcers killed in action. These non-elite identities may be accompanied by other descriptive details such as their age, occupation, and even residential addresses; examples of such names are presented in Extracts 59 to 63.

- (59) The Marawi conflict began when armed militants blocked government security forces from serving an arrest warrant on Hapilon, linked to high profile Abu Sayyaaf terror activities including the kidnapping and beheading of ***US national Guillermo Sobero*** in June 2001. ***Sobero*** was among a group of foreign and local hostages taken by the bandits from the Los Palmas hotel in Palawan a month earlier. (TPS #37)
- (60) He was tagged by ***Mohaimen Mutalib, a resident of Reliance St., Barangay Highway Hills, Mandaluyong***, as the person who tried to place the abovementioned ammunition into the relief packages, which the former organized to help Marawi City residents. ***Mutalib*** is a native of Marawi City, hence his decision to organize his own relief drive. (TMB #05)
- (61) ***Abato Saide, a resident of West Marinaut***, said the non-extension of martial law would put to a halt the bombing of the city. (PDI #48)
- (62) President Duterte told reporters on Monday that the military rescued ***Soganub*** in a special operation that also led to the rescue of another hostage, ***Dansalan College teacher Lordbin Noblesa Acopio***. (PDI #56)
- (63) She said the military was clearing parts of two villages, conscious of the continued captivity of at least 80 hostages, including ***Catholic priest Teresito "Chito" Suganob, vicar general of Marawi***. (PDI #51)

The Marawi crisis corpus also constructs Personalization, using visual devices that represent ordinary individuals, occasionally in non-elite or everyday environments. It is deemed construed by depicting ordinary persons, but the news value could be reinforced by other visual elements and techniques. Table 13 illustrates each visual element's number of occurrences.

**Table 13***Frequency of visual Personalization resources*

Visual resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Content: Represented participants and attributes	7	7	7	21	60.00
Capture strategy: Composition	2	3	2	7	20.00
Content: Settings	5	0	1	6	17.14
Capture strategy: Technical affordances	1	0	0	1	2.86
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Based on this table, Personalization could be accounted as commonly established through the visual representation of ordinary news participants and their attributes. Aside from ordinary persons in commonplace clothing, the visuals often represent non-elites such as war refugees, hostages, and deceased victims. Figure 28 below constructs Personalization by illustrating Marawi evacuees in the frame. It is supplemented by setting (i.e., possibly an evacuation center) and the use of a medium shot length.

**Figure 28***Marawi City evacuees in an ordinary setting*

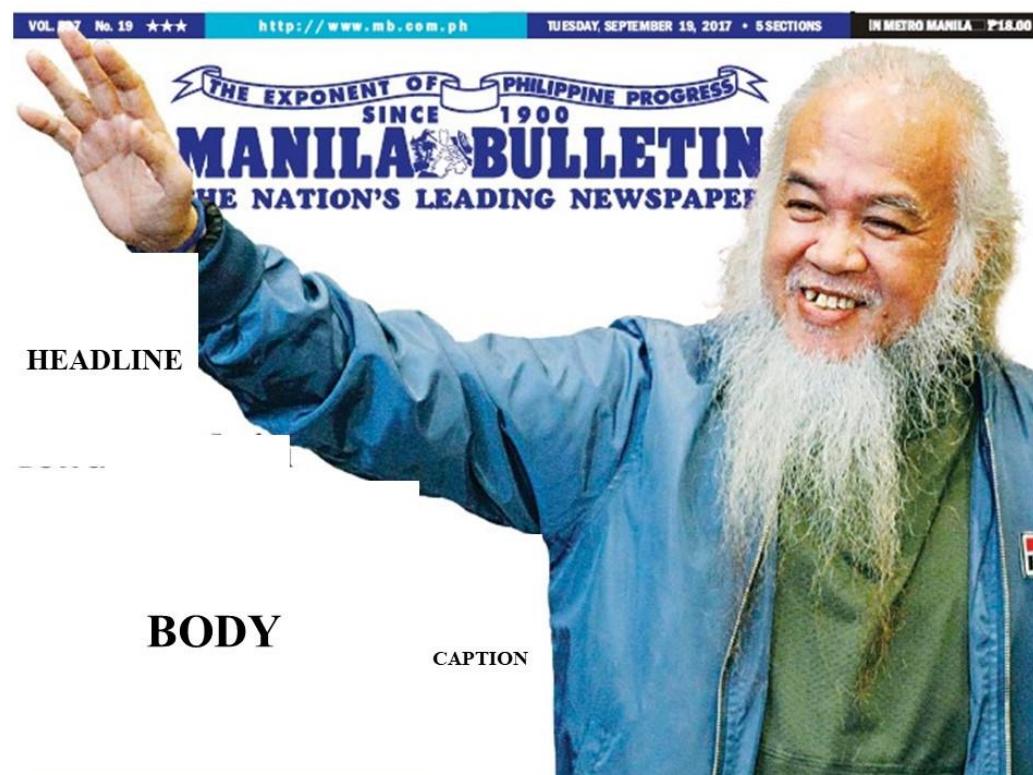
**Note.** This image of TMB #06 constructs Personalization through represented participants (i.e., a group of Marawi evacuees), the setting (i.e., a covered court, possibly an evacuation center), and the capture strategy (i.e., through a medium shot length).

Personalization in news images often rely on the depiction of various non-elites. A notable non-elite represented is Fr. Teresito Sunganob, whose experiences could be characterized as a concrete example of Marawi City residents' adversities. He is a widely reported Marawi-based priest whom the terrorists had held hostage until his eventual escape and rescue. His portrayal in the figure below is reinforced by compositional strategies that enable the photograph to focus on him.

**Figure 29***Close-up photograph of Fr. Suganob*

**Note.** This image of TMB #34 constructs Personalization through a represented participant (i.e., hostage victim Fr. Teresito Suganob) and the capture strategy (i.e., by a combination of cropping and medium close-up shot).

Visual composition plays a crucial role in strengthening Personalization in seven images. Camera techniques such as cropping or utilizing close shot lengths could direct readers' attention to non-elite news actors themselves while leaving out other details. Meanwhile, Figure 30 exemplifies a cropped photograph of Fr. Suganob, which was taken using a medium close-up shot. These devices provide him with an exclusive reporting focus, since traces of the backdrop are removed through cropping. The result of this composition technique is that certain pieces of information (e.g., his audience and the location) are unknown.

**Figure 30***Cropped photograph of Fr. Suganob*

**Note.** This image of TMB #15 constructs Personalization through a represented participant (i.e., hostage victim Fr. Teresito Suganob) and the capture strategy (i.e., by a combination of cropping and medium close-up shot).

The settings captured in six images are instrumental visual elements, which could strengthen Personalization, since understanding where non-elites are situated provide further information regarding their ordinariness. As an example, Figure 31 below presents an image of Marawi City evacuees; this status could be deduced from the relief packages in the background. In addition, this news image constructs Personalization through camera settings, where the depth of field is constrained to clearly focus on the news actors centered in the frame (i.e., a

woman carrying a baby). As a result of the aperture settings, the elements within the background appear less sharp. This news image provides a glimpse in the experiences of family refugees amid the conflict.

**Figure 31**

*Ordinary evacuees in an evacuation center*



**Note.** This image of TMB #03 constructs Personalization through represented participants (i.e., ordinary evacuees such as the mother with a baby), setting (i.e., an evacuation center as indicated by relief goods), and the camera setting (i.e., reduced depth of field to blur the background).

Based on these semiotic resources, Personalization is frequently referred to in the entire corpus. However, most full texts construct this news value in a weak way, because non-elites are often referred generically. In addition, Lampropoulou's (2014) criticisms seem apparent in this case, where opinions of victims and

refugees are infrequently established. As observed in the collocation analysis of MARAWI and *said*, generic non-elites are more often portrayed in terms of their activities and rarely their views. Since this news value is also deemed to be construed infrequently in a clear manner in images, it might be regarded as a less prioritized news value compared to other values.

### **3.2.6. Proximity**

The corpus contains manifold references to the Marawi City crisis' geographical or cultural proximity. The news value of Proximity is enacted, particularly in the texts, through the devices provided in Table 14.

**Table 14**

*Frequency of verbal Proximity resources*

<b>Verbal resources</b>	<b>Frequency</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>TMB</b>	<b>TPS</b>	<b>PDI</b>		
References to nearby places or nationalities	250	272	228	750	67.14
Indicators of nearby locations	52	53	90	195	17.46
Cultural references	57	45	23	125	11.19
Inclusive first-person plural pronouns	8	30	9	47	4.21
<b>Total</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>400</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>1,117</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The study corpus contains numerous explicit references to nationalities and locations proximate to Filipino readers. These textual devices include places inside Marawi City (e.g., *West Marinaut*, *the Jamaitul Philippine Al-Islamiyah*, *Dansalan College*) and references to the city per se. In addition, references to Mindanao itself, its provinces and cities (e.g., *Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao*, *Cagayan de Oro City*, *Misamis Oriental*) were gleaned from the manual

analysis. Moreover, since many news events related to the Marawi attacks occurred elsewhere (e.g., the declaration of martial law), it was expected to identify references to areas beyond Mindanao such as *Albay*, *Laoag City*, *Cebu City*, and even *the Ateneo de Manila University*. This last group include government agencies stationed in the National Capital Region such as *the Department of Foreign Affairs*, *the Supreme Court*, *Office of the Vice President*, *Malacañang*, and *the Quezon City Prosecutor's Office*. These textual devices are claimed to be "the most obvious way in which Proximity is established" (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 91) and could therefore be identified in different placements in a news report as can be seen in the following extracts.

- (64) **DAVAO CITY** – President Duterte is likely to extend martial law in **Mindanao** beyond the 60-day period as clashes between government forces and Islamic militants in **Marawi City** continue. (TPS #27)
- (65) **LANAO DEL SUR** – Sen. Manny Pacquiao yesterday urged soldiers in **Marawi City** to vigorously pursue the restoration of law and order in the area, convinced it can be accomplished sooner than expected. (TPS #29)

Extracts 64 and 65 exhibit Proximity not only through in-textual mentions of close locations such as *Mindanao* and *Marawi City*, but also through datelines that are present in only 17 reports. Datelines are a journalistic conventional device designed to establish the exact location of news stories, particularly if they occur outside the agency's area (Christian et al., 2014). In this study, these datelines refer to places within the Philippines albeit beyond Metro Manila (i.e., the broadsheets' base of operations), thereby constructing geographic proximity along with other explicit references to nearby locations describe earlier.

The data also has references to Filipino nationality (e.g., *Muslim Filipinos* and *Philippine government*) that clearly establish the news value. Unlike these devices, Proximity is weakly constructed in references to Southeast Asia per se; other countries in this region such as Singapore, Malaysia, and Indonesia, and nationalities. Specifically, these instances of *Southeast Asia* relate to the Islamic State's presence in the region, and references to other Southeast Asian locations and ethnicities (i.e., *Malaysia/Malaysian* and *Indonesia/Indonesian*) are linked to the origins of foreign terrorists who took part in the Marawi siege. An exception is the single mention of *Singapore*, which is indicated as a nation that offered military training assistance. These non-Filipino seems to establish the event's proximity to the target readers in a weak fashion, but these references appear to suggest that the event has wide regional implications.

The same news value is also established through discursive choices that do not involve specified location names. Generic locational references such as *the city*, *the country*, *a military camp*, *a checkpoint*, *the south*, and *surrounding communities* frequently occur throughout the corpus. These linguistic devices appear generic in form, but they tend to function as instances of anaphoric references. *The city* and *the barangay* in the following extracts illustrate this point, in which proper place names are identified previously.

- (66) President Duterte has increased by P10 million the bounty for the "neutralization" of Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon, while civic groups in Lanao del Sur province have called for a halt to airstrikes in **Marawi** to save **the city** from destruction. (PDI #43)
- (67) Initial reports estimated some 5,000 residents of **Barangay Malutlut** returned to what remained of their village.

Local officials have to screen the evacuees to determine if they are residents of *the barangay*. (TPS #40)

These devices may also be generic in both form and meaning, but the target audiences may likely interpret these as markers of the news setting's geographic or physical nearness. This may be due to the following reasons, namely, the presence of complementing co-textual resources that assist in construing Proximity and the contextual knowledge shared between readers and writers. Extracts 68 and 69 reflect these cases, where the generic references a *devastated community* and *key cities* are described by the underlined adjective phrases. Specifically, these place references are accompanied by co-textual clues (i.e., *the frontlines* and *the south*) that may be interpreted as referring to Marawi City and Mindanao itself.

- (68) During his brief visit, Duterte inspected **a devastated community** near the frontlines and talked to troops guarding a recaptured building. (TPS #32)
- (69) Intelligence reports that Hapilon sent funds and ordered allied militants to launch attacks in **key cities** across the south have been validated, he said. (TMB #07)

Spatial deictic markers and adjectives indicate the event's close distance to the target readers albeit less frequently than other proximity resources. On the one hand, deictic markers such as *here* and *there* direct to a specific location from either the journalists' or interviewed news actors' perspectives. Notably, these markers clearly refer to Marawi City on all occasions, construing the event's proximity to the target audiences as can be observed in the examples below:

- (70) After two failed attempts, President Duterte finally visited besieged Marawi City in Lanao del Sur to talk to the government troops fighting against the terrorists **there**. (TMB #07)
- (71) "I just want this thing over and the radicals, extremists out of the Muslim world **here**," said Duterte, the country's first president from Mindanao (TPS #26)
- (72) MARAWI CITY— He took off his helmet and bullet-proof vest, laid down his firearm and turned on the megaphone to speak to the Islamic State-inspired gunmen **here** on Oct. 19. (PDI #59)

In addition, the FT sub-corpus contains eight occurrences of Tagalog deictic pronouns in the oblique case, namely, *dito* and *doon*. These pronouns are especially found in direct speech that contain Tagalog elements. McFarland (2008) elaborates that both pronouns respectively signify areas that are close or distant to the speaker. Regardless of whether these deictics refer to near or far places, these resources point to areas near the target audience, because both deictic pronouns allude to the battle zone in Marawi City except for a single instance (see Extract 75) where *doon* points to Mindanao. These Tagalog deictic pronouns are highlighted in the extracts below:

- (73) "Very firm, very dedicated ang ating Pangulo sa pagsuporta lalo na sa ginagawang operation **dito** sa Marawi City (Our President was very firm and very dedicated in showing support in our troops who are doing military operations here in Marawi City)," he added. (TMB #07)
- (74) "Si Abdullah, si Madi, at saka si Otto ay patay na raw ito lahat. May mga sibling din **doon** na hindi naman prominente na dalawang Maute din (Abdullah, Madi, and Otto are all reported dead. There are two Maute siblings there who are not that prominent) but we feel that they are not significant," Año said. (TMB #15)
- (75) "Some of the oppositors are from Luzon. Sana tumira sila **doon** para malaman nila ang advantages na magkaroon ng martial law," said Maguindanao Rep. Zajid Mangudadatu. (TMB #08)

On the other hand, adjectives such as *nearby*, *close by*, and *local* construe this news value by emphasizing how proximate locations and news actors are to the target audiences. The workings of the adjectives in the following excerpts could be suggested as building a sense of closeness (i.e., of specific news sites) or imminence (i.e., of news actors).

- (76) **Close by**, a mosque minaret had fallen into a mash of metal and rock.  
Behind it was a lone, leafless tree with only a few branches left. (PDI #58)

- (77) The STAR received text messages from relatives of Hapilon in the **nearby** Maluso and Lantawan towns confirming his death. (TPS #37)

- (78) Aside from using and peddling illegal drugs, the **local** terrorists are also using mosques as sniper nests, logistics hub and safe havens for the command and control of their core group. (TMB #04)

Moreover, news reporting of the Marawi crisis convey its proximity through reader-inclusive English first person personal pronouns (i.e., *we*, *us*, and *our*) and the Tagalog pronoun *tayo*. There is an inclination for pronouns to originate from quoted statements – often from elite news participants – whereby the pronoun referent's coverage involves target readers. Because of these inclusive resources, the statements tend to convey messages with a sense of 'we-ness' that directly engages with target audiences.

- (79) In her message for the observance of Eid'l Fitr, Robredo said she hopes "love will prevail over hate" among Filipinos and that "peace will reign in **our** country." (TPS #25)

- (80) "Let **us** help the government rebuild the city of Marawi so that its citizens may return and restore their broken lives," Lingayen Dagupan Archbishop Socrates Villegas, president of the CBCP, said. (TMB #06)

(81) "When a soldier goes to war, one foot is already in the grave. He is lucky if he returns home alive. That is why **we** should respect and do not take them for granted, particularly in times of war," said retired Air Force Col. Ricardo Nolasco Jr., AMWSLAI chair and president. (PDI #44)

(82) The mayor added: "Walang kapayapaan kung hindi **tayo** magkakaisa (There will be no peace if **we** don't unite). Huwag **tayo** magpadiin sa takot (Let **us** not be held back by fear). He or she who fights to live, will live again." (TMB #17)

Finally, Philippine cultures were indicated through references to religion, languages, and social media. It is worth emphasizing that the difficulties Bednarek (2016c) underscores were encountered in analyzing "cultural references to people, institutions/organizations... which are famous in or tied to the respective culture" (p. 12), because of globalization and coder (un)familiarity with certain cultural aspects. Other sources of difficulty in this research's context is the Philippines' (i.e., the target audience) multicultural nature and the profound effects of Spanish and American colonization (e.g., the use of the English language) on it, thus permitting the idea of cultural reference to become complex. On these bases, cases of cultural closeness are considered individual examples of weak Proximity.

There are three types of cultural references identified in the texts. Religious references recur and are apparently frequently indicated in the corpus. This cultural aspect is purportedly predictable due to the circumstances surrounding the reported event (e.g., the conflict occurring alongside Ramadan). These indications of religion include holidays (e.g., *Ramadan*, *Eid al-Fitr*, and *feast day of St. Therese of the Child Jesus*); religious practices (e.g., *mass* and *prayers for his safe release*); and religious labels, figures and institutions (e.g., *Prelature of Marawi*, *Catholic*, *imam*, *Islamic*, *mosque*, and *the Church*).

Other cultural references – language and media references – seem to be less frequent than religious references. On one hand, there were two references each to local songs (i.e., *Freddie Aguilar's song "Mindanao"* and *the "Kalilintad" (Peace) song*) and *Facebook*. On the other hand, indications of local languages and dialects spoken by news actors such as *Filipino, English, the Maranao vernacular* or *local Maranao dialect*, and the *Yakan dialect* possibly construes how close the crisis is to Filipino readers. It is also worth explaining cultural proximity provided by direct speech, with either English-Tagalog codeswitching or exclusive local language use. Three examples of this example of cultural proximity are found in the following:

- (83) **"Ito kasing Maute parang ang nakikita namin dito, eh** they are going to fight to the death na, eh (The way we look at it, the Maute Group is going to fight to the death)," Lorenzana said. (TMB #05)
- (84) "I am physically strong and sound. **Yun lang** (that's all)," he added. (TPS #35)
- (85) **"Dili masulod sa kalibutan ang gibating dakong kalipay"** Vera Cruz said over the phone in an interview with DXIC-RMN. (TMB #15)

In broadcast reporting, it could be argued that this news value is constructed through accents and dialects heard from news actors (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). A similar view could be purported for print reporting, in which direct speech could be regarded as analogous resources when codeswitching or a local language is utilized. Both resources possess the potential to establish how close the news event and its participants are to target local audiences, especially when codeswitching is believed to reflect Filipinos' bi/multilingual repertoire and a normal linguistic practice in a linguistically diverse society (Bautista, 2004;

McFarland, 2008). However, because English could also be argued as a culturally close language for Filipino audiences, language references are thus classified as weak representations of Proximity.

Before proceeding to the visual constructions of Proximity, one news article may have communicated this news value by using the lyrics of "Mindanao" by local composer Freddie Aguilar. These lyrics appear to be a component of the narrative, whereby a news participant (i.e., a rescue worker) played the song in the journalist's midst. Interestingly, the lyrics illustrate how Proximity is reinforced in a news text, namely, local language use and references to the local nationality (i.e., *Pinoy*) and nearby place (i.e., *Mindanao*). These resources are underscored below:

(86) ***Pinoy kapwa Pinoy ang naglalaban sa Mindanao***

*Marami nang dugo ang dumanak sa lupang Mindanao*

***Mindanao, Mindanao*** *Hindi na ba maaawat, hindi na ba matatapos*

*Ang solusyon ba'y digmaan sa lupang pangako*

*Hindi na ba masasagip ang mga kapatid natin sa Mindanao* (TMB #12)

Translation:

*Pinoy, fellow Pinoys are fighting in Mindanao*

*Lots of blood had been shed in the land of Mindanao*

***Mindanao, Mindanao, will it never be pacified, will it never end***

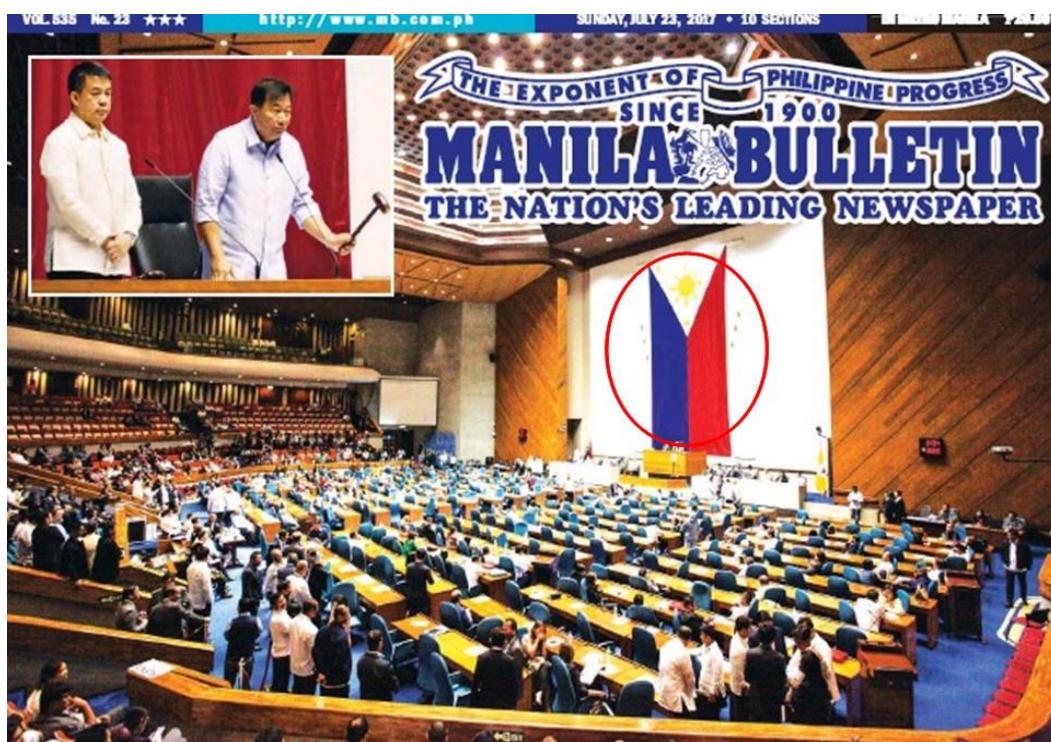
*Is war in the promised land the answer*

*Will our own siblings in Mindanao be never saved*

The event's geographic and cultural proximity is likewise represented in the NI sub-corpus. The following table presents how the present news value is usually construed through the images' content features.

**Table 15***Frequency of visual Proximity resources*

Visual resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Content: Represented participants, attributes, and settings	5	8	5	18	94.74
Content: Embedded verbal text	1	0	0	1	5.26
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Figure 32***The House of Representatives as a visual Proximity device*

**Note.** This image of TMB #08 constructs Proximity by representing the session hall of the House of Representatives and the Philippine national flag.

The infrequency of visual devices might be expected, as only eight images clearly establish Proximity through Philippine government offices' seals, national flag, and the House of Representatives' Session Hall. The last two devices could be seen visually portrayed in Figure 32 above, which evidently construe the news

happening's nearness. Both resources are purportedly familiar to target readers and reinforce this news value within a single visual: The session hall could be argued as a widely recognizable location of the Philippine legislature, while the national flag strengthens the event's nearness by symbolizing the country itself.

**Figure 33**

*An unknown mosque as a possible Proximity device*



**Note.** This image of PDI #58 may construct Proximity by representing a ruined, unknown mosque in the city.

Unlike the national flag, other cultural references within the NI sub-corpus are deemed as weak manifestations of nearness. Aside from the reasons stated earlier regarding cultural references in texts, it is possible that such references in photographs either have inadequate features to be readily recognizable or might

not be widely known to the target readers unless the caption or the article itself is consulted. These represented cultural settings refer to religious buildings such as churches and mosques as presented in Figure 33 (page 141).

**Figure 34**

*Proximity through the embedded text*



**Note.** This image of TMB #01 constructs Proximity through the embedded verbal text (i.e., the local city name “Marawi” written on the cardboard) and the setting (i.e., an unknown mosque in the background).

Lastly, an embedded verbal text constructs Proximity in one news image, where “Marawi” – a major Philippine city – is clearly written on a cardboard held by a news participant as presented in the figure above. It is possible that capturing this embedded text enables the visual to convey the situation’s local relevance.

While Proximity is the default news value in the corpus, these resources demonstrate other ways close locations and cultures could be referred to in

addition to Marawi City references. However, the infrequent visual resources for this news value indicates how its construction in these selected news articles is reliant on one semiotic dimension.

### **3.2.7. Superlativeness**

Both intense and large-scale features of the Marawi City assault are also observed in the corpus, and any reference to these characteristics construe Superlativeness.

Table 16 illustrates the frequency of each verbal resource for this news value.

**Table 16**

*Frequency of verbal Superlativeness resources*

<b>Verbal resources</b>	<b>Frequency</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>TMB</b>	<b>TPS</b>	<b>PDI</b>		
Quantifiers	123	90	135	348	51.48
Intensified words	68	67	81	216	31.95
Intensifiers	27	18	24	69	10.21
Growth words	11	3	6	20	2.96
Comparisons	8	1	4	13	1.92
<i>Only / alone / already / just + spatial or temporal lexis</i>	3	2	5	10	1.48
Similes and metaphors	0	0	0	0	0.00
Repetitions	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>676</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The above table indicates a propensity for broadsheets to quantify different aspects of the Marawi City siege to establish its superlativeness. Indeed, such event features as the number of persons affected (i.e., as victims or fatalities) (e.g., *some 1,645 civilians; many displaced Marawi residents*), infrastructural damages (e.g., *at least 400 structures in a one square kilometer area*), and monetary amounts (e.g., *more than P56 million worth of food and non-food items*) signify how extensive the event was portrayed. Quantifiers could also have the

same effect when referring to time (e.g., *has long been marred*), distance (e.g., *parked vehicles that stretched for kilometers*), and territorial reach (e.g., *large areas of the city, swaths of the mosque dotted city*). Moreover, quantifiers could be further investigated in their exactitude, where either an exact or non-exact value can be provided. Extract 87 exemplifies exact values thrice to construct the event's superlative features, while the remaining ones – notwithstanding only being estimates – convey how large-scale the event is.

- (87) Ubial said temporary shelters were set up in **87 evacuation centers** to accommodate **26,991 internally displaced persons (IDPs)**, while those living outside evacuation centers or homebased IDPs added up to **97,788 families or 438,701 individuals**. (TMB #06)
- (88) **Three hundred cases** of diarrhea have been recorded among the **nearly 40,000 people** huddled in emergency shelters set up in community halls, gymnasiums, and Islamic schools, he said. (TMB #04)
- (89) Saripada Pacasum Jr. gagged and turned away the first time he came across a decomposing body in Marawi, where **hundreds have died** since Islamic State-inspired terrorists attempted to overrun the city six weeks ago. (PDI #46)
- (90) **Scores of gunmen** are still holding hostages and continuing to fight in four areas of the city, the military said (TPS #27)
- (91) Ubial said the DOH conducted on Wednesday children's parties in **several evacuation centers** to enlighten and relieve the burden among the displaced children. (TMB #06)

Intensifiers and intensified lexis are also prominent Superlativeness textual devices. Described in Quirk et al. (1985) as a "scaling device" (p.445), intensifiers in the corpus such as *bloody, brutally, deadly, deadliest, extreme, hardcore, heavy, serious, severe, significant, unrelenting, and vigorously* depict the ferociousness of

events and their respective features. In the following extracts, the lexical intensifiers *intense*, *fierce*, and *bloody* intensify conflict-related activities.

- (92) Brawner said at least 20 soldiers were wounded during the ***intense*** firefight to liberate Marawi City that started at around 2 a.m. and ended at around 6 a.m. Monday. (TMB #18)
- (93) The military said he is still wounded from a January air strike and the ***fierce*** Maute resistance is aimed at protecting him. (TPS #21)
- (94) This led to the ***bloody*** siege that prompted President Duterte to declare martial law over Mindanao. (PDI #44)

Intensified words, unlike intensifiers, implicitly encode the intense or large-scale properties of news events (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). This work observes that nouns such as *assault*, *battle*, *bloodshed*, *clash(es)*, *conflict*, *destruction*, *gridlock*, *hostilities*, *rampage*, *siege*, *violence*, *war*, and *warfare*; adjectives such as *battle-scarred*, *besieged*, *botched*, *raging*, *wartorn*, and *war-devastated*; and even verbs such as *battered*, *erupted*, *flared up*, *rampaged*, *ravaged*, *looted*, *pummeled*, and *smoldering* often bear a discursive effect of creating an already upscaled imagery of the war's fierce properties. These lexes also construct Negativity and may be classified under Bell's (1991) war vocabulary. These lexes could be observed as constructing both Negativity and Superlativeness in the following extracts:

- (95) Hundreds of people are still unaccounted for, believed to be hiding in the basements of a city that has been ***pummeled*** by government air strikes. (TMB #04)
- (96) The intense fighting has turned swaths of the mosque-dotted city, a bastion of the Islamic faith in Mindanao, into a ***smoldering*** war zone. (PDI #45)
- (97) The government will allocate P10 billion for the rebuilding of Marawi City, which has been ***ravaged*** after continuing clashes between government troops and the Islamic State-inspired Maute terror group. (TPS #23)

Growth vocabulary such as *climbed*, *fast-rising*, *grow*, *increase*, *intensified*, *proliferation*, and *raised* “simply reference growth or a rise in intensity, scale, or scope” (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 96). In this work, these words are associated with war situations such as the number of victims, fear of growing and spreading terrorism, and upscaled government efforts to stop terrorism. Each of these three situations were suggested as growing in the following extracts:

- (98) Meanwhile, Malacañang assured that the government will find ways to reconstruct the lives of the people affected by the attacks in Marawi City as the total number of civilians rescued by the military **climbed** to 390 as of Sunday evening. (TMB #01)
- (99) The military on Friday made this guarantee as it **intensified** its campaign to convince the remaining members of the Islamic State-inspired Maute fighters and their allies to surrender. (PDI #54)
- (100) President Duterte imposed martial law across the entire region of Mindanao on May 23, within hours of the attack in Marawi in a bid to quickly crush what he said was the **fast-rising** threat from the Islamic State. (TPS #30)

Another Superlativeness resource is the employment of comparisons, which is believed to be a fruitful resource in English reporting (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). This resource involving comparing the current event from previous events. As can be observed in the following extracts, the expressions *heaviest*, *a far more different*, *the most serious*, and *biggest and fiercest* compare the described news situation vis-à-vis related happenings.

- (101) Col. Romeo Brawner, deputy commander of the task force battling the militants, said the military had encountered some of the **heaviest** resistance in recovering the mosque. (TPS #34)
- (102) They also had **a far more different** mission than the soldiers and terrorists – they were there to rescue trapped residents and recover the dead. (TMB #12)

(103)The statements in the letter appear to differ from his assurance last week that the Marawi crisis, ***the most serious*** he has faced so far, could end in 10 to 15 days. (TMB #07)

(104)Except for small clusters of troops dotted amid the ruins and skinny cats and dogs scavenging for food, the heart of Marawi is a ghost town, all but destroyed by the Philippines' ***biggest and fiercest*** urban battle in recent history. (PDI #58)

Spatial and temporal lexis that are accompanied by *already, alone, just, and only* also construct Superlativeness, since "expressions like ONLY and JUST might be considered 'reversed' superlatives" (Bednarek, 2006, p. 95). In Extracts 105 to 107, these expressions evoke a dramatizing effect and likely communicate urgency to readers. This device is however found infrequent in the FT sub-corpus.

(105)President Duterte has ordered troops to ensure the safety of the hostages and not launch a massive assault that can endanger the captives even if that prolongs the terrorist siege of Marawi, which has ***already dragged for more than two months***. (PDI #50)

(106)He said that ***in his area alone***, the terrorists' will to fight had shrunk to just 1, on a scale of 1 to 10. (PDI #47)

(107)She walked out of Marawi City, along with thousands of others, ***just hours after delivering her fifth child***, and trekked for hours with the infant swaddled in cloth and her own traditional malong, or long skirt, drenched in blood. (TMB #04)

(108)He said they were able to rescue some 1,645 civilians in Marawi City, including eight residents ***only yesterday morning***. (TPS #24)

The visual data also exhibits Superlativeness despite being construed only in 12 news images. As indicated in the following frequency table, these images

tend to enact this news value by representing news participants in the image. The same news value is also constructed through the composition of four images.

**Table 17***Frequency of visual Superlativeness resources*

Visual resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Content: Represented participants	2	6	5	13	72.22
Composition:					
Shot length, zooming, and broad angles	2	2	1	5	27.78
Composition: Movement	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>100.00</b>

**Figure 35***Aerial view of a ruined mosque complex*

**Note.** This image of TPS #32 constructs Superlativeness through a represented participant (i.e., a mosque complex with structural damages) and composition (i.e., a full aerial shot).

The superlative characteristics of events in the Marawi City crisis seems to be visually established through content, particularly through indications of the news event's size or scope. For instance, destroyed buildings could be portrayed

from an aerial or street view, allowing target readers to see the widespread extent of damages. This portrayal is evident in Figure 35 above, whereby an aerial view of the complex provides a glimpse of massive damages left by the conflict.

**Figure 36**

*Aerial shot of numerous Muslims*



**Note.** This image of TPS #25 constructs Superlativeness by portraying the represented participants (i.e., Muslims who fill the entire image frame) through its visual composition (i.e., a full aerial shot).

Similarly, the recurrence of visual elements in an image frame is regarded as another device for construing Superlativeness. This repetition was identified in images that represent large groups of people, occupying a large portion of the image frame. As an example, Figure 36 illustrates not merely one or two, but a vast number of Muslims gathered for Eid'l Fitr. The high angle employed to depict the gathering enables this happening to be interpreted in its massiveness.

Lastly, as mentioned earlier, the composition of images play a role on how Superlativeness is constructed. The full aerial shots employed in the previous two figures illustrate widespread damages caused by the armed conflict. Alternatively, close-up shot lengths as exemplified in Figure 46 (page 188) also strengthen this news value, because this visual device allows for a closer look of the dead terrorist leaders' wounds and facial distortions.

Although instances of Superlativeness through visual devices are generally scarce, a common angle employed in the textual dimension is the construal of this news value through references to the widescala aspects of the Marawi crisis. In addition, this news value's discursive prominence is often partnered with other similarly foregrounded values such as Impact and Negativity. These combinations thus contribute to the general portrayal of the crisis as a full-blown conflict.

### **3.2.8. Timeliness**

News reporting under study also present the news event based on how timely it is. In terms of written language, journalists tend to utilize lexical and grammatical devices such as the present tense, words signifying recency, and definite temporal markers. Meanwhile, unlike these resources, references to change, seasonality, and recent tendencies appear less in the FT sub-corpus. The frequency of these resources in texts is presented in Table 18.

**Table 18**  
*Frequency of verbal Timeliness resources*

<b>Verbal resources</b>	<b>Frequency</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>TMB</b>	<b>TPS</b>	<b>PDI</b>		
Use of the present tense	53	77	93	223	34.79
Implied time references through lexes	82	83	36	201	31.36
Temporal references	46	62	59	167	26.05
References to seasonality	4	18	9	31	4.84
References to change	3	9	7	19	2.96
References to current trends	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>249</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>641</b>	<b>100.00</b>

To construct Timeliness, the corpus appears to be inclined in employing the present verb tense to express different forms of immediacy or recentness. How they construct such senses depend on whether they are marked for the progressive and/or perfect aspects. In this research, there are 106 verbs used in the present perfect (e.g., *have streamed out*, *have died*, *has recommended*, *have urged*), while 67 instances are unmarked for aspect (e.g., *thwarts*, *urges*, *offers*, *retake*). The perfective aspect seems to position events as having significance with current situations and is typical in the news register (Biber, Conrad, & Leech, 2002; Montgomery, 2005, as cited in Bednarek & Caple, 2017). When the aspect is unmarked, the event is packaged as though it immediately occurred despite being a past event. This specific device is purportedly a widely used news reporting convention (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

Meanwhile, fewer instances for progressive ( $f = 47$ ) (e.g., *is assisting*, *are also staging*, *is now conducting*, *are verifying*) and the perfect progressive ( $f = 3$ ) (e.g., *has been receiving*, *have been using*, *have been trying*) forms were identified.

The progressive forms in this analysis generally construct a sense of continuity even if the action was carried out in the past.

In addition to the use of present tense, temporal proximity may be enacted through implicit timeliness expressions such as *already, continue, current, earlier, fresh, latest, now, ongoing, recent, remain, still, and underway*. These expressions corroborate the repeated patterns of Timeliness observed through the collocate *still*, which conveys a sense of continuity. The full texts usually employ these resources to describe the conflict (e.g., *surgical airstrikes continue, ongoing battle, current operations*), reported developments and/or statistics (e.g., *recent reports, latest progress*), and news participants' activities and/or statuses. In the extracts below, the continuity or immediateness of news actors' situations are implied through the highlighted words.

(109) Suspension of aerial assault mulled; 100 militants **still** in Marawi City (TMB #02)

(110) There were reports that terrorist sympathizers are **now** putting up as much as P50,000 rental fee for each boat ride that would ferry them toward the main battle area from the other side of the lake. (TPS #33)

(111) Some of the children displaced by the fighting in Marawi see Islamic State (IS) group fighters as heroes, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) found after it **recently** hosted games for peace for them. (PDI #49)

The newspapers also seem inclined to establish how close the event is to the publication date through direct time references. Timeliness is constructed through these markers when they point to a definite proximate past or future date – that is, two days before or after the publication date. The results illustrate that temporal proximity is established through lexical or phrasal devices pointing to

near past or future periods. Aside from devices such as *yesterday, today, tomorrow, and last night*, other temporal references such as *on Friday night, early on Monday, and ahead of the voting* rely on the publication context before concluding that Timeliness is construed. The highlighted time references in the extracts below fall within this two-day timeframe:

- (112)The extension took effect **at 10 last night** when the 60-day martial law declaration under presidential Proclamation 216 ended. (TMB #08, published on Sunday, July 23, 2017)
- (113)But **right now**, Dela Rosa said it is too early to predict the outcome of the ongoing police and military operations against the Maute Group since a lot of its fighters are still holed up in Marawi City. (TMB #01, published on Tuesday, May 30, 2017)
- (114)Duterte made the declaration a day after Abu Sayyaf leader Isnilon Hapilon and Maute terror group founder Omarkhayam Maute were killed by security forces **on Monday**, ending the five-month crisis inspired by the Islamic State (IS) terror network in Marawi. (TPS #38, published on Wednesday, October 18, 2017)
- (115)**Ahead of the voting**, security officials told lawmakers that martial law was needed to stabilize a region where IS was gaining influence, and supporters could be inspired to stage uprisings in Mindanao with foreign jihadists. (PDI #48, published on Sunday, July 23, 2017)

Unlike the temporal references *at 10 last night* and *right now*, the references in both Extracts 114 and 115 are less apparent unless cross-checked with the publication date and the reporting context. In Extract 111, *on Monday* functions as a Timeliness device by referring to an event that occurred two days before the publication date. The news value is also construed in the phrase *ahead of the voting*, which pertains to Congress voting on the extension of martial law. This activity was referred to in the text through Extract 116 below.

- (116) In a joint session **on Saturday**, the Senate and the House of Representatives voted 261-18 to extend martial law in Mindanao until Dec. 31. President Duterte earlier declared a 60-day martial rule following attacks by the Islamic State-inspired Maute group. (PDI #48)

It is noteworthy that not all temporal markers establish Timeliness as in the case of remote time references, which are believed to elaborate the progression of related events (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). In addition, it is likely that these explicit temporal references are used in referring to preceding events instead of underlining the current state-of affairs presented, which could allow readers to recall when they took place. Examples of distant past markers are provided in the following extracts, where the temporal references highlighted are beyond the benchmark employed.

- (117) Baghdadi has not been seen in public since proclaiming himself “caliph” in the Iraqi city of Mosul **three years ago**. (TMB #03, published on Saturday, June 17, 2017)

- (118) Hundreds of terrorists claiming allegiance to the Islamic State (IS) group seized large areas of the city of 200,000 people **in May** and clung on through unrelenting government airstrikes and artillery bombardments, right until the last remaining gunmen were killed **three days ago**. (PDI #58, published on Friday, October 27, 2017)

- (119) The militants have control of some government buildings, including a jail, which was seized **on Tuesday**, leading to the escape of more than 100 prisoners, including some Maute members. (TPS #21, published on Sunday, May 28, 2017)

There were also unclear temporal markers that were not coded for this news value, because these references do not specify a clear time in themselves. Extracts 117 and 118 both illustrate these unclear time references, in which the first instance refers to an unclear past time, while the second example points to an unspecified future.

(120) Government troops sought to flush out the Maute group from the city **last week** but failed to do so because of the presence of trapped civilians and the continued resistance of the terrorists. (TPS #23, published on Sunday, June 11, 2017)

(121) Padilla said the full liberation of Marawi is possible **within the next few days** given the recent positive developments on the ground. (PDI #50, published on Tuesday, August 1, 2017)

Bednarek and Caple (2017) also include references to seasonality, discovery and change as textual Timeliness devices, although these resources were found less frequent. On the one hand, references to Ramadan and Eid'l Fitr were categorized as devices for construing recency in news articles published during or close to these events. Both events are commonly regarded as recurrent religious events: Ramadan refers to a period of fasting and prayer in Islam, which lasted in 2017 from May 27 until its culmination on Eid'l Fitr on June 26, coinciding with the first month of the war. These references are exemplified in the following extracts:

(122) **Ramadan, Islam's holy month of fasting and prayer**, began yesterday. It has special significance in Marawi, which has a predominantly Muslim population in a largely Catholic country. (TPS #21)

(123) Senators Grace Poe, Joel Villanueva and Leila de Lima, in separate statements, expressed solidarity with Muslims in the country and the rest of the world and greeted them "**Eid Mubarak!**" (FT-TPS-25, Pos. 22)

(124) **Eid'l Fitr marks the end of Ramadan, a Muslim holy month observed by fasting and prayers.** It was declared a national holiday by Republic Act 9177 enacted in 2002. (TPS #25)

On the other hand, change and discovery references were employed through 'development' and 'found' expressions. These resources express a sense of novelty, although Bednarek (2016c) notes its debatable strength as a timeliness

resource. In this research, 'developments' are employed in featuring the evolving tide of events, as can be observed in the extracts below. The 'development' in Extract 125 pertains to soldiers' deaths by military airstrikes, whereas Extract 126 and 127 respectively relates to the extension of martial law in Mindanao and the deaths of key terrorists.

- (125) Galvez assured that while the AFP leadership commits and takes the initiative to conduct a thorough investigation on the circumstances surrounding **this unwanted development**, the AFP will remain focused on its mission. (TMB 02)
- (126) As **this developed**, the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP), League of Cities of the Philippines (LCP), the League of Municipalities of the Philippines (LMP), League of Provinces of the Philippines (LPP) and the Liga ng mga Barangay expressed their support for martial law extension in the south. (TPS #28)
- (127) With **this latest development**, the only remaining leader of the group is Omar Maute. (TMB #15)

The word *found* is identified as another keyword in establishing references to change and discovery. It is often utilized in media accounts involving the rescue of hostages and the retrieval of deceased individuals. However, it is also employed in other discovery situations as exemplified in the following extracts.

- (128) Melia Sarap, the provincial nutritionist for Lanao del Sur, said initial surveys of more than 600 evacuees **had found** six cases of severe malnutrition and a further 20 cases of moderate malnutrition. (TMB #04)
- (129) Some of the children displaced by the fighting in Marawi see Islamic State (IS) group fighters as heroes, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) **found** after it recently hosted games for peace for them. (PDI #49)

The timeliness of news happenings related to the Marawi City crisis is also established in 15 images, whereby artifacts and activities of combat and conflict

are portrayed such as guns, tanks, and soldiers in action. The frequency of these devices in the NI sub-corpus are presented in the following table.

**Table 19***Frequency of visual Timeliness resources*

Visual resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
Content: Represented artifacts	3	5	4	12	52.17
Content: Activity sequence	1	8	2	11	47.83
Content: Embedded verbal texts	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The representation of artifacts and activities that indicate the news event's timeliness coexist occasionally in embedded news images as in Figure 37.

**Figure 37***Timeliness as established through representative artifacts*

**Note.** This image of TPS #28 constructs Timeliness through represented artifacts (i.e., a combat helicopter in the inset photo and a sniper rifle in use).

From the abovementioned figure, artifacts such as high-caliber rifles and vehicles (e.g., tanks, fighter jets, and helicopters) and their usage by news actors could be seen as reflecting existing circumstances during the crisis. In other words, these resources seemingly signal target audiences to recognize how the conflict between the government and terrorist forces in Marawi City is ongoing.

Meanwhile, Figure 38 also construes this news value by depicting a familiar religious activity during the Eid'l Fitr. Since this Islamic occasion is published on the holiday itself, it is possible for it to communicate the event's timeliness.

### Figure 38

*Timeliness as established through activity sequence*



**Note.** This image of TPS #25 constructs Timeliness through the activity sequence, whereby Muslims are gathered in prayer for Eid'l Fitr, a periodic cultural event.

It may be deduced from these findings that Timeliness is primarily enacted in the verbal dimension, which possibly corroborates Bednarek and Caple's (2017) claim that the visual construal of this news value is challenging. Nonetheless, this news value's prominence in the full texts suggests not only how journalists may presume this news value, but it also demonstrates how it is discursively prioritized in order to establish the crisis as a newsworthy event.

### **3.2.9. Unexpectedness**

Print broadsheet reporting of the Marawi crisis also construct Unexpectedness. Through this news value, the event is packaged as newsworthy by emphasizing its uncommon, shocking, or surprising features. However, a closer examination of the corpus reveals the low frequency of this news value. The frequency of verbal resources is reflected in the following table.

**Table 20**

*Frequency of verbal Unexpectedness resources*

<b>Verbal resources</b>	<b>Frequency</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>TMB</b>	<b>TPS</b>	<b>PDI</b>		
Surprise or expectation references	6	3	6	15	71.42
References to uncommon situations	2	0	1	3	14.29
Journalistic assessment of an event's unexpectedness	1	0	2	3	14.29
Unusualness comparisons	0	0	0	0	0.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Table 20 indicates how local broadsheets appear to represent news participants' expressions of shock. These expressions could be conveyed through either direct or indirect means: On one hand, peoples' shock are usually contained in verbatim quotations as illustrated in Extracts 130 and 131, where both suggest

astonishment from persons concerned. Unexpectedness is implicitly construed in the first extract by indicating that the said sentiment (i.e., that children would like to become ISIS members) is both unusual and a sign for alarm. Meanwhile, the second extract communicates a similar sense of surprise but for a different reason, because this expression of shock stems from the fact that his home was ruined and looted during the conflict.

(130) "I think the government must be alarmed on this," he said about the children's sentiment, which he said is "**not an ordinary feedback.**" (TMB #09)

(131) "I opened the door and **I was shocked**, but I'm still happy to be home," he said. (PDI #60)

On the other hand, news participants' surprise is indirectly expressed where journalists likely attempt to capture the shock they experienced. In the following extracts, various instances where individuals were said to have expressed surprise or astonishment are highlighted.

(132) Shortly after retaking the mosque, the troops **were surprised** by President Duterte's visit to the frontlines. (TPS #32)

(133) The Maute rebels' hold of Marawi City and the government's announcement that Indonesians and Malaysians were among the fighters **have raised alarm** about the prospect of the IS's radical ideology gaining traction in Southeast Asia. (TPS #21)

(134) Friday and entered the main battle area where he **surprised** soldiers and policemen fighting the militants for the 73rd day. (TMB #10)

(135) "They did not kill me because I was able to recite a Muslim prayer. The others were not so lucky," said **a visibly shocked** Bandung, who was with eight others who accompanied one of the bodies out of the city. (TMB #01)

(136) One of the pictures ***caught Jabar's attention*** because it showed a boy who looked like her son, Ram-Ram, who was kidnapped in 2010 when he was just 3 years old. (PDI #52)

(137) PSC Chair William Ramirez said the finding, while not scientific, ***was alarming*** so he informed the PSC psychologist and a Cabinet official about it so that other government agencies could do something to counter it. (PDI #49)

These extracts illustrate different news participants being characterized through lexes such as shocked, alarmed, and surprised. For example, in Extract 133, Unexpectedness is constructed through the phrase *have raised alarm*, which seems to be experienced by an implied news actor. It may also be likely for references to the unexpected be marked through nuanced expressions as in the case of Extract 136. The phrase *caught Jabar's attention* suggests an element of surprise, because in the context of this event, it was unexpected on her part to see a photograph of her child engaging in terrorist activity.

Print news reporting also highlight uncommon situations in three instances, which relate to children being involved in terrorist activity or aspiring to become a member of the terror groups themselves. These situations are unexpected in a way that these happenings appear contrary to the target audience's expectations. It may be argued, however, that such events may be expected in the context of terrorism. These happenings are represented in the following extracts:

(138) During the celebration of International Humanitarian Law Month at the Department of Foreign Affairs in Pasay City, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said the ***Marawi terrorists were using children to fight government soldiers.*** (TMB #11)

(139) They ***answered that they wanted to be members of IS*** because the Middle East based jihadist group provided them with food and paid their fathers, while they got nothing from the government, Ramirez said. (PDI #49)

Lastly, the news reporters themselves assess certain news situations as unexpected through attributive adjectives. The two uses of this verbal resource is utilized are highlighted in the following:

(140) In an ***unprecedented*** move, the Senate and the House of Representatives met jointly on Saturday and voted 261-18 to extend martial law in Mindanao until Dec. 31. (PDI #48)

(141) The crisis inside Marawi City, home to some 200,000 people, has grown increasingly dire as the Maute group terrorists showed ***unexpected*** strength.... (PDI #42)

Both the above extracts present how the attributive adjectives *unexpected* and *unprecedented* construe Unexpectedness. These words are evaluative devices used in reporting to characterize how uncommon these events or their aspects are. Extract 140 highlights how unusual gigantic majorities are in joint congressional sessions, whereas Extract 141 stresses extremists' unforeseen combat capacity.

Meanwhile, *rare* is utilized once as a predicative adjective, although it does not appear to construct this news value. As can be seen in the following excerpt, it describes the frequency of suicide attacks in the country. However, a closer look at its co-text reveals that a suicide attack had not occurred at coverage.

(142) Suicide attacks are ***rare*** in the Philippines despite decades of Islamist insurgency.

"That's the difference between here and Syria and Iraq," said Ordiales, the marine general. "It's almost the same war tactics and fighting tactics, the one thing that's not the same is the human bomb or the suicide bombing."

***"It hasn't happened, not yet."***

In terms of visual resources, Unexpectedness appears to be backgrounded.

It is established once in Figure 39 to highlight an uncommon aspect of the crisis.

**Figure 39**

*Sole visual representation of Unexpectedness*



**Note.** This image of PDI #52 constructs Unexpectedness through represented participants (i.e., news actors deviating from social expectations by carrying high-caliber weapons and donning combat attire).

In this circumstance, the unexpected element refers to the depiction of armed teenagers as terrorists. Specifically, the three young news actors depicted in the figure above are either child or teenage members of the terrorist groups. This portrayal is coded as a clear case of this news value, because their attributes (i.e., in arms and combat attire) run against the expectations likely held by target readers on members of the youth. The social expectation where they deviate is

that youth members are believed to never carry dangerous weapons. It may also be surmised that adult terrorists are often news participants expected to carry such weapons and not children or even teenagers. As such, Unexpectedness is visually highlighted in this case due to that remarkable deviation from social norms.

Interestingly, Lee-Koo (2018) surmises that such visual representations of children communicates the existence of an “underdeveloped illiberal disorder” (p. 49) and drives a narrative not only of the need to rescue innocent children, but also the villainy of a prejudiced world order. In addition, the same news image provides other clues, which signify the affiliation of these news participants as members of terrorist groups. These visual clues also establish Negativity through the activity sequence (i.e., exhibition of norm-breaking conduct by possessing guns) and the blurring of two news actors’ eyes.

An interesting observation in this analysis is the tendency for TMB and PDI to construct this news value in nearly equal measure than the TPS. Whereas further analysis is necessary to determine the role of authorial intent regarding this trend, the infrequent instances of Unexpectedness in either semiotic dimensions indicates not only its overall backgrounding in the study corpus, but also how it appears to be a peripheral discursive news value.

### **3.2.10. Valence: Positivity and Negativity**

This analysis earlier observed the tendency for both Negativity and Positivity to combine in the verbal data. These news values relating to these aspects of the Marawi City crisis were attained through textual devices, whose frequencies are presented in Table 21.

**Table 21***Frequency of verbal Negativity and Positivity resources*

Valence	Verbal resources	Frequency			Total	%
		TMB	TPS	PDI		
Negativity	Negative lexis	165	173	159	497	34.61
	Negative evaluative language	153	144	187	484	33.70
	Descriptions of negative acts or states	59	63	71	193	13.44
	References to negative emotions	10	3	23	36	2.51
Positivity	Descriptions of positive acts or states	27	30	29	86	5.99
	Positive lexis	31	28	26	85	5.92
	References to positive emotions	5	9	17	31	2.16
	Positive evaluative language	8	7	9	24	1.67
<b>Total</b>		<b>458</b>	<b>457</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>1,436</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Various resources were found to be instrumental in the textual enactment of both valence news values. For instance, news coverage on this crisis include various references to positive (e.g., happiness, gratitude, hope, and optimism) and negative emotions (e.g., shock, resentment, and fear). These sentiments are often reported as labels. Positive and negative emotions are characterized using the words *upbeat*, *in high spirits*, *rejoicing*, *grimace*, *pained*, and *despair and anxiety*.

(143) While officials are **upbeat** that the Marawi crisis would soon be over, the leaders of the terrorist group, Maute brothers Omar and Abdullah and Isnilon Hapilon, remain at large. (TPS #23)

(144) The priest, flanked by Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana and AFP Chief of Staff Gen. Eduardo Año, appeared to be in good health and **high spirits** when he was presented to reports in military headquarters at Camp Aguinaldo in Quezon City. (PDI #55)

(145) The news that Fr. Suganob was finally free after 117 days of captivity by the Maute Group was greeted with great **rejoicing** here on Monday (TMB #15)

(146) With a **grimace**, Brig. Gen. Melquiades Ordiales of the Philippines 1st Marine Brigade recounted the painful gains made against Islamist militants in Marawi City. (TMB #16)

(147) Buada said the thought of hostages left behind **pained** him but he could not do anything anymore as the fighting had resumed by then. (PDI #59)

(148) For Abas, risking life and limb in Marawi City paled in comparison to the **despair and anxiety** he had to endure after learning that his five-month old daughter was hospitalized. (TMB #12).

In addition, the news articles describe the emotional dispositions of news actors, albeit less frequently. Further examples of these characterizations are found in the highlighted examples below. Whereas Extracts 149 and 150 recount how negative feelings or emotions were expressed, Extracts 151 and 152 provide positive emotional behavior.

(149) The blast sent students **scampering for their safety**. Many were **crying out** of fear.

(150) "On the ground, everyone thinks you're an enemy – military, Maute fighters and civilians alike. One of the Marines pointed a gun ready to shot on us even if we bore a white flag, an identification card and shirt that screamed rescue team. It was the first time I surrendered in my life," Minalang recalled **while tears began welling in his eyes**. (TMB #12)

(151) Khaliluddin Ismail returned home on Sunday after five months of war in Marawi City to find his house ransacked. But he's still **smiling**. (PDI #60)

(152) Soganub's family in Norallah, South Cotabato province, is **rejoicing**. (PDI #55)

More frequent than emotion references are pointers of positive or negative actions or conditions. Indications of positive actions or states often involve civilian repatriation, hostages' release or escape, the assistance of foreign countries, efforts of peace promotion, and military successes during the conflict. In contrast,

negative actions or states reported often focus on clashes between government and terrorists; people enduring various illnesses; civilian deaths and destruction of property, and other indications of criminal activity. The extracts below contain positive (Extracts 153-155) and negative (Extracts 156-158) acts or states.

(153) Australia is also **helping out the government** as it recently discussed ways to assist in the fight. (TPS #26)

(154) Dureza said the Peace Buzz **travelled nationwide to showcase the peacebuilding efforts of the government, raise public awareness, and promote a culture of peace through outreach programs to the public.** (TMB #17)

(155) Government troops **have captured** Mapandi bridge in Marawi, which leads to the main position of Islamic State-inspired terrorists in the city's commercial center. (PDI #50)

(156) He was tagged by Mohaimen Mutalib, a resident of Reliance St., Barangay Highway Hills, Mandaluyong, as the person who **tried to place the abovementioned ammunition into the relief packages** which the former organized to help Marawi City residents. (TMB #05)

(157) The civilian hostages being used as human shields by the terrorists **have prevented the military from delivering the final blow** to the Maute members to end the conflict. (TPS #33)

(158) Ram-Ram **was taken from the family apartment** in Tondo, Manila, while Jabar was tending her stall at Tutuban Mall in Divisoria, the city's busy commercial district. (PDI #52)

References to the killing of news participants were also categorized under this textual valence device. However, whether Positivity or Negativity is construed depend largely on co-textual (i.e., who were killed) and contextual (i.e., how target readers are likely to interpret the happening) information. The killing reference in Extract 159 and 160 highlight Positivity and Negativity respectively, since deaths

of terrorists are widely perceived as positive situations in contrast to deaths of non-terrorists. However, it is possible for such devices to simultaneously point to both terrorist and non-terrorist news participants, as exemplified in Extracts 161 and 162. In these cases, the highlighted excerpts were coded for both valence news values to recognize that the valence for that text is mixed.

(159) 8 FOREIGN TERRORISTS **KILLED** (TMB #02)

(160) At least 45 civilians were **killed** by the terrorists while 1,724 were rescued. (PDI #51)

(161) A total of 562 Maute militants, 128 government troopers and 45 civilians **have died** since the clashes started last May. (TPS #31)

(162) The army says nearly 350 people **have been killed** in the fighting, including 257 militants, 62 soldiers and 26 civilians. (TMB #04)

Further, there is an inclination for both news values to be construed through evaluative language or valence lexis. This research follows Bednarek and Caple's (2017) distinction with the latter being a more manifest expression of evaluation or opinion unlike the former. In the case of the former, this study gleans that instances of positive evaluative language (e.g., *proactive action*, *lucky few*) were infrequent than negative ones. In fact, negative opinion is frequently and repeatedly expressed using value-infused labels associated with the Maute group and its affiliates such as *bandits*, *fighters*, *extremists*, *terror(ist) group*, *terrorists*, and *militants*.

Lastly, positive and negative lexes were employed in describing the events. These devices construct Positivity through the employment of lexis of rescue and recovery (e.g., *phased repatriation*, *evacuation of hostages*, *rehabilitation efforts*,

*rescue missions, safe rescue); triumph (e.g., defeat of the Daesh-inspired group, control of strategic vantage points, significant developments achieved, success) and solidarity or partnership (e.g., cooperation and financial assistance, engagements and dialogues, solidarity, fostering of nat'l unity). However, more frequently used were negative lexes that focus on illness and demise (e.g., severe malnutrition, pre-existing conditions, fatalities, bodies, casualties), destruction (e.g., skeletons of mangled steel and rubble, ruins, rubble, ravaged streets), mishaps (e.g., incident, botched aerial assault), terrorism and crime (e.g., terrorism, extremism, threats to national security, lawless violence, drug-related incidents, shabu haul), and war or conflict (e.g., besieged city, conflict, crisis, assault, siege, urban battle, skirmishes, clash, war-torn Marawi, internally displaced persons, bombardment)*

### 3.2.10.1.1. Visual findings

The following table presents the frequency of visual resources for Negativity.

**Table 22**

*Frequency of visual Negativity resources*

Visual resources	Frequency			Total	%
	TMB	TPS	PDI		
<i>Content:</i>					
Represented participants and attributes	4	7	13	24	70.59
<i>Content: Activity sequence</i>	2	4	1	7	20.59
<i>Capture strategy: Technical affordance</i>	0	1	2	3	8.82
<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>100.00</b>

In considering both this table and that of Positivity (Table 23), the portrayal of news participants may be a purposeful device of constructing either news value, while Negativity could be enhanced by camera setting effects. Further, intertextual

analysis observes that both Valence news values tend to be constructed within the NI sub-corpus.

The negative visual representations identified in Table 22 often underscore both Negativity and Impact. One such visual combination was observed in Figure 40, where the casket suggests death as an unwanted consequence of the conflict.

**Figure 40**

*A casket as a visual Negativity device*



**Note.** This image of PDI #44 constructs Negativity through represented participants and attributes (i.e., a casket being carried, which symbolizes death).

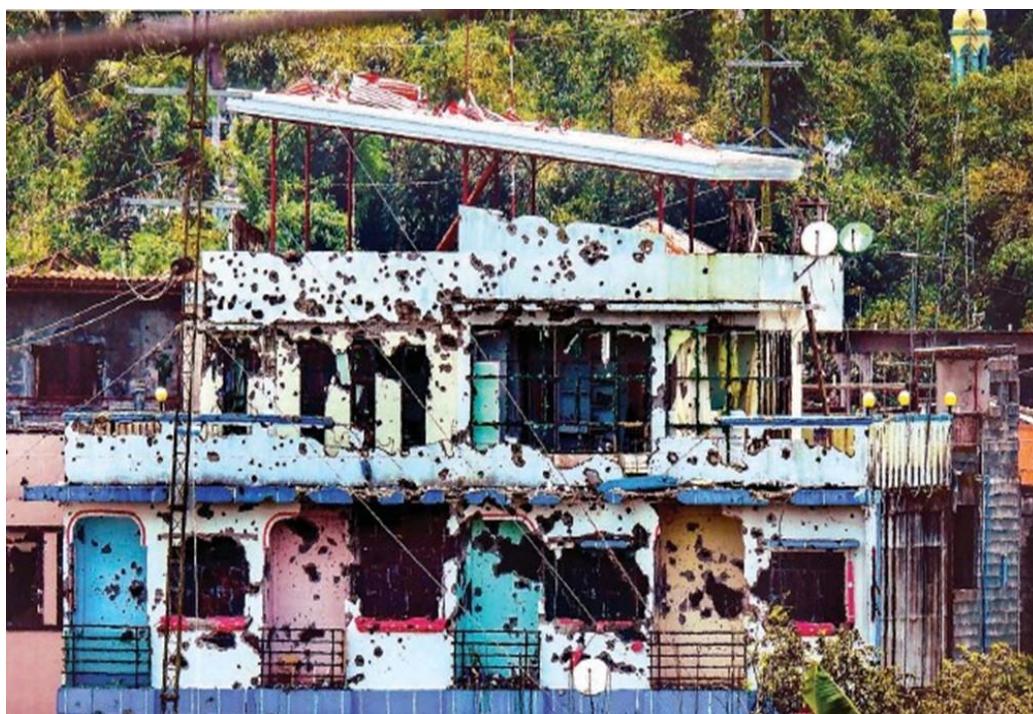
The above image presents a different representation of death compared to the body bag in Figure 26 (page 119) and the explicit visuals of corpses in Figure 25 (page 118). This photograph presents the dead soldiers through a widely known practice where they are unseen except through the casket covered in the national flag. From prospective readers' standpoint, this portrayal is negative in spite of the

dead soldier being treated akin to a hero (i.e., through the military tradition shown), because it represents the loss of life from enemy forces.

Meanwhile, more frequently presented in the news articles are spectacles of destruction, as presented in the example below.

**Figure 41**

*Negative image of destruction through bullet holes*



**Note.** This image of TMB #13 constructs Negativity through the represented participant and its attributes (i.e., a building with numerous bullet holes).

The above image represents a building punctured with bullet holes, which explicitly suggests that both forces had clashed at this location. Similar spectacles were presented earlier through swathes of destroyed buildings such as Figure 27 (page 120) and Figure 35 (page 148). During the intercoding process, it was helpfully cited during the discussion that these portrayals no longer represent "ordinary" locations, since the siege may be deemed as having taken away their

ordinary characteristics. In other words, the siege is believed to have eliminated traces of ordinary life in the city, which may be further justification to classifying this as an example under this news value.

Moreover, activity sequences can convey Negativity as in Figure 42 below.

**Figure 42**

*A negative activity sequence of arrested suspects escorted*



**Note.** This image of TMB #11 constructs Negativity through the activity sequence, where handcuffed suspects are escorted. These suspects also conceal their faces and avoided the camera by bowing.

Negativity is central in the above image's activity sequence, where the law enforcement members escort handcuffed suspects. Aside from being handcuffed, the suspects are hooded and avoid the camera with bowed heads to obscure their identities from further media exposure or engagement. Although these suspects are not elite personalities (e.g., Oscar Pistorious in Caple & Bednarek, 2014), their portrayal above possibly positions them into shame for potential involvement in

criminal activity. Apart from this example, other activity sequences such as norm-breaking behavior (e.g., Figure 39 in page 163) and military airstrikes (i.e., Figure 22 in page 111) establish Negativity.

**Figure 43**

*Negativity as reinforced by technical affordances*



**Note.** This image of PDI #50 constructs Negativity through represented participants (i.e., destroyed structures and trees) and is reinforced through technical affordances (i.e., the use of blurry or grainy visual output as a result of a high ISO level and low focus).

Furthermore, Figure 43 above presents how noise and grainy effects could further strengthen the already negative situation involving destroyed buildings. In this case, camera setting effects tend to enhance the negativity of events albeit it is used infrequently in the visual corpus. These visuals usually exhibit a diminished output quality, thereby resulting in grainy or blurry photographs as observed above, which has the effect of heightening the dramatic effect (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

However, it is worth pointing out that not all camera effects of this nature function to reinforce or establish Negativity, since there are news photographs that employ monochromatic photography (i.e., utilizing black-and-white imagery) that satisfy other functions such as minimizing potentially traumatizing or adverse content.

The NI sub-corpus also establishes favorable or desirable events related to the Marawi crisis albeit less frequently than Negativity. Bednarek and Caple (2017) stipulate that Positivity is largely portrayed through the contents of visuals. The frequency of visual devices for this news value are illustrated in Table 23.

**Table 23**

*Frequency of visual Positivity resources*

<b>Visual resources</b>	<b>Frequency</b>			<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
	<b>TMB</b>	<b>TPS</b>	<b>PDI</b>		
<i>Content:</i>					
Represented participants and attributes	5	5	3	13	61.90
<i>Content: Activity sequence</i>	3	4	1	8	38.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>100.00</b>

The sub-corpus often expresses Positivity through imageries of victory and cheerfulness. One example is provided below, where soldiers exhibit a triumphant posturing by waving happily at the camera. Thus, a positive imagery is constructed when news actors are represented as performing or having positive gestures and facial expressions. These physical attributes include smiling, waving at the camera, embracing others, performing signs of peace, and other triumphant gestures as exemplified below. Furthermore, the figure below may intersect Positivity with weak Eliteness, compared to Figure 30 (page 129), where Fr. Suganob was happily

waving presumably to journalists in a press conference. In the case of the latter, an intersection of Personalization and Positivity could be witnessed.

**Figure 44**

*Positive image of soldiers smiling*



**Note.** This image of PDI #50 constructs Positivity through the represented participants, where soldiers are smiling and waving at the camera.

Furthermore, this news value is visually constructed by portraying positive acts such as a senator providing soldiers with relief items, the president visiting wounded soldiers, soldiers assisting evacuees, non-elites reunifying with relatives, and other peace-related activities. One visual example is provided in Figure 45, in which a parent soldier and his child were reunified at the conclusion of the conflict. This fortunate activity sequence is complemented by the facial expressions of both news actors, enhancing the news value.

**Figure 45***Positive image of a parent-child reunion*

**Note.** This image of TMB #19 constructs Positivity through the represented participants (i.e., a soldier/parent and his child smiling) and activity sequence (i.e., the child hugging the parent).

Finally, Positivity could be gleaned in two news images whereby spectacles of terrorist deaths are portrayed. This interpretation arguably recognizes how the target audiences often perceive these news participants with contempt, because they are framed as enemies. In fact, Auchter (2017) – while not focusing on deaths in terms of newsworthiness – elaborates that the deaths of terrorists in visuals

convey triumphalism. She also notes that unlike visual portrayal of ordinary deaths, enemy bodies are often bereft of human dignity, as the photographs often propel viewers to approach them as mere objects that are undeserving of empathy. On these bases, the depictions below of Isnilon Hapilon and Omarkhayam Maute in their lifelessness may be favorable and signals optimism that the conflict may be nearing its end.

**Figure 46**

*Positive close-up image of deceased terrorists*



**Note.** This image of TMB #18 constructs Positivity through the represented participants (i.e., the deceased bodies of terrorist leaders Omarkhayam Maute and Isnilon Hapilon).

Aside from the representation of terrorist deaths, a worthwhile resource used in Figure 46 is the effect of the close-up shot, providing a closer look at their facial injuries. This camera technique reinforces Superlativeness and provides for the construction of Impact. It may also be worth noting the role of monochromatic

imagery in this photograph, which arguably functions to mitigate sensitive content instead of constructing Negativity. Meanwhile, the camera techniques in Figure 47 still purportedly fulfill non-newsworthiness functions, while the content illustrates Positivity by including the entire bodies of terrorists.

**Figure 47**

*Positive image of deceased terrorists*



**Note.** This image of TPS #37 constructs Positivity through the represented participants (i.e., the deceased bodies of terrorist leaders Omarkhayam Maute and Isnilon Hapilon).

In general, the presence of both Positivity and Negativity devices across semiotic modes indicate the extent to which both Valence news values tend to mix. This trend could also signify the general direction of news events as interpreted by journalists – that is, some aspects of events are widely treated as favorable while others are believed to be unwanted by the target audience.

### **3.3. Discussion of news value resources**

Based on the aforementioned resources, it is reasonable to claim that news values were discursively foregrounded or backgrounded differently in each broadsheet as these articles navigate through reporting conventions and processes and editorial interventions. The diversity of news value resources identified in this analysis point towards the creative potential that meaning-making resources offer: In terms of this specific genre, it demonstrates not only how news values could be established in various ways, but also how journalists can present news stories and represent happenings in different ways through various verbal and visual manipulations. For example, although the city name “Marawi” is present in all texts, other devices such as references to local places or even to aspects of local culture were present. In addition, journalists successfully label the Maute and Abu Sayyaf groups through evaluative labels akin to *terrorist* and *terror groups* such as *fighters*, *bandits*, and *militants*. With respect to images, it was found possible to represent destruction through different camera strategies.

Despite their diversity, these resources relate and contribute to discourses surrounding the Marawi City crisis. Although this study has focused only on local broadsheet news reports, the devices employed (and frequently repeated) supply

the overarching themes that the corpus sought to convey. This point is evidenced primarily by collocation analysis, where various content words (i.e., at the first and second orders) closely associated with MARAWI signify how the city is involved in a war between government and terrorists that is adversely affecting city residents. As collocation analysis concentrates on repeated patterns of occurrences, it may be reasonable to claim that these linguistic devices are conventionalized rhetorical resources or strategies in the coverage of the Marawi City crisis. These resources may also be rhetorical conventions in terrorism and war coverage more generally, and other studies seem to indicate similar practices (e.g., Chiluwa, 2011; Osisanwo, 2016), but more work in the Philippine context is needed to verify this. Nonetheless, these repeated patterns possibly establish public knowledge of the Marawi crisis, which is likely reproduced when target readers consume these print reports.

Meanwhile, both manual verbal and visual analyses provided affordances to investigate how news value devices from each mode combine. For example, it is revealed that the report texts do not only state residents are negatively affected (i.e., forming Impact and Negativity) but also the large proportions of people who were affected (i.e., forming Superlativeness). Images also possess akin capacity to combine news values, for instance, when elites are positioned in nearby places. Interestingly, this interconnection is also apparent through collocation networks, where networks of meanings were traced from the node toward its second order collocates. These interrelated resources demonstrate how these news discourses, as with other discourse genres, consist of networks of meanings that construct and represent social realities. These social realities could be manifested through

the way newsworthiness is rhetorically enacted – that is, through confluence or intersection of news value resources.

While it is beyond this paper's remit to assess whether media bias exists, the creative potential of meaning-making resources has implications on reporting practices, the notion of press objectivity, and journalists' role in shaping awareness of the public. Firstly, news coverage may work as sites, whereby worldviews are embedded and prioritized, particularly when journalists need power and profit to thrive and establish their public legitimacy (Fowler, 1991; Richardson, 2007). As a corollary, the news media may not be wholly objective professionals by default and may instead be driven by underlying agenda. Indeed, an obvious example is how the Maute group and the ASG – through collocation – are largely tagged in negative terms as a terrorist organization; they may likely become disreputable if they did otherwise. However, these resources may also be a result of constraints emanating from the physical features of events (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). For example, while linguistic reliance on elite voices and the visual portrayal of deaths may establish press legitimacy, estimation (e.g., *nearly 40,000 people*) for enacting Superlativeness is possibly used out of difficulty to precisely count individuals. Nonetheless, given the potentials offered by these resources, journalists are thus not merely detached sense-makers; rather, they interpret events from a standpoint.

Although identifying the rhetorical devices for newsworthiness is essential, it is believed that relying solely on individual resources and their frequencies are inadequate when these resources are viewed in context and in relation with other identified devices. As explained previously, not all news value resources construct

clearly news values, since they are “socioculturally assigned” (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 51). Furthermore, even clear news value resources are often unevenly dispersed in the corpus. Thus, there is a need to consider as well how each news value is constructed at the level of each text and image.

Lastly, in terms of methodology, the synergy of manual discourse analysis and collocation analysis provided opportunities for depth and breadth of insight, because the former enables to consider the meaning of resources throughout the text in context, whereas the latter considers the meaning of lexical items around their immediate co-textual environment. For example, the re-occurrence of various law enforcement officials’ names around *said* and MARAWI suggested how these individuals frequently serve as information sources in the corpus, while more elite voices were represented throughout the corpus through other similar devices. In addition, this synergy enables the identification of news value resources that were unaccounted for in collocation analysis (e.g., Superlativeness devices and visual resources).

## 4. INTRASEMIOTIC TRENDS OF NEWSPRINT

To address the second research question, this chapter presents the tendencies of news values in both the FT and NI sub-corpora. These tendencies are a result of manual verbal and visual examination of visual resources in the previous chapter.

### 4.1. Verbal tendencies

The full texts illustrate a trend in which the newsworthiness of the Marawi crisis is constructed through a combination of different news values. Table 24 presents these trends, where Eliteness, Impact, Proximity, Superlativeness, and Timeliness appear to be more prominent than Personalization, Unexpectedness, and Consonance. It should be noted that Tables 24 to 29 are described as tendencies due to the influence of subjectivity in the analysis (Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

**Table 24**

*Tendencies of news values constructed in the verbal data*

News values	Observed cases (n=60)					
	Clear		Possible		Not established	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Proximity	60	100.00	0	0.00	0	0.00
Timeliness	59	98.33	0	0.00	1	1.67
Eliteness	58	96.67	2	3.33	0	0.00
Superlativeness	57	95.00	1	1.67	2	3.33
Impact	54	90.00	0	0.00	6	10.00
Consonance	34	56.67	8	13.33	18	30.00
Personalization	23	38.33	29	48.33	8	13.33
Unexpectedness	16	26.67	2	3.33	42	70.00

The above table illustrates how consistent or less varied the construction of newsworthiness in the verbal data were. For instance, Proximity is purportedly

the central news value textually enacted largely through indications of various local locations, particularly Marawi City, whereby the crisis largely unfolded. This news value frequently co-occurs with references to the magnitude of events and how many were affected (Superlativeness), the happenings' recency or ongoing characteristics (Timeliness), the active role of government officials such as President Duterte and his cabinet (Eliteness), and their significant effects (Impact). These trends support the claims in the earlier collocation analysis of MARAWI, whereby similar values were found to recur throughout the corpus.

While Proximity appears central in the journalistic coverage of the Marawi siege, this prominence could also be a result of a deliberate topic bias in compiling the corpus, whereby news articles focused on this specific matter. In fact, this news value is considered predetermined and expected in the textual component, because the search terms "Marawi" or "Marawi City" were used to locate the relevant data.

Another observation is the less frequent references to common knowledge and stereotypes (Consonance) and unexpected situations (Unexpectedness), which purportedly signifies the textual backgrounding of both news values. Meanwhile, Personalization could also be regarded as a prominent news value in texts, and the MARAWI collocates *residents* and *people* support this claim. However, how this news value is established varies as to whether identities and characteristics of these ordinary people are specified. A clear construction of this news value may be observed in less than 40 percent of the textual data when concrete characteristics of ordinary persons (e.g., names, ages, and emotions)

that provide a vivid or “human” portrayal of people. The same value is also construed in news articles using generic non-elite categories such as *residents* and *people*; these labels are regarded as less personalizing. As such, the enactment of Personalization is considered weak.

As for Positivity and Negativity, the trends for both news values are found in the following table.

**Table 25**

*Tendencies of Positivity and Negativity constructions in the verbal data*

<b>Judgments</b>	<b>Observed trends</b>	
	<b>f</b>	<b>%</b>
Unclear or mixed valence	37	61.67
Negativity	14	23.33
Positivity	9	15.00
No valence	0	0.00
Total	60	100.00

Table 25 illustrates that while both valence news values are constructed, they often co-occur or are both present in news texts. These trends support Bell’s (1991) claim that Negativity is “the basic news value” (p. 156) due to frequent references to negative themes such as terrorism, death and destruction, and even diseases, but these also reflect the salience of positive themes such as rescue, recovery, and the deaths of terrorists. Therefore, it is purported that intrasemiotic clashes between the news values of Positivity and Negativity are present. While it is beyond this study’s remit to explain these trends in relation to journalistic intent or decision-making, it is likely that its role is indispensable in accounting for these trends.

#### 4.2. Visual tendencies

In terms of the visual data, it appears that Negativity, Personalization, and Impact tend to be foregrounded more than other news values. Unlike the FT sub-corpus, a more varied or diverse trend in the enactment of newsworthiness seems apparent in the NI component, since each news value is employed in less than half of the entire visual dataset. Despite the frequencies of the three news values mentioned, such a tendency suggests a dearth of a core or central news value set comparable to those foregrounded in full texts. These trends are illustrated in Table 26.

**Table 26**

*Tendencies of news values constructed in the visual data*

News values	Observed Cases (n=60)					
	Clear		Possible		Not established	
	f	%	f	%	f	%
Impact	23	38.33	1	1.67	36	60.00
Personalization	20	33.33	1	1.67	39	65.00
Timeliness	17	28.33	0	0.00	43	71.67
Superlativeness	11	18.33	1	1.67	48	80.00
Eliteness	10	16.67	28	46.67	22	36.67
Proximity	10	16.67	7	11.67	43	71.67
Consonance	4	6.67	1	1.67	55	91.66
Unexpectedness	1	1.67	0	0.00	59	98.33
Aesthetic appeal	0	0.00	0	0.00	60	100.00

In this table, Aesthetic Appeal is the sole news value that was completely backgrounded in the visual sub-corpus due to the absence of beautiful imageries. While journalistic decision-making might probably have played a role in this trend, war contexts may less likely provide suitable opportunities for photojournalists to capture aesthetic settings. Meanwhile, other discursive news values lack the same prominence observed in texts, as these news values were not constructed in more

than 50 percent of the sub-corpus. In fact, news value variety can be further seen in the Valence news values trends in images presented in the table below. In this table, it is gleaned that despite the visual prominence of Negativity, it is relatively as frequent as visual items appraised with Positivity and no Valence.

**Table 27**

*Tendencies of Positivity and Negativity constructions in the visual data*

<b>Judgments</b>		<b>Observed cases</b>
	<b>f</b>	<b>%</b>
Negativity	28	46.67
No valence	16	26.67
Positivity	14	23.33
Unclear or mixed valence	2	3.33
Total	60	100.00

Compared to other discursive news values in the corpus' visual component, Negativity is arguably a commonly constructed news value in the sub-corpus per se. Due to the nature of the event, journalists are provided with ample opportunities to highlight this news value not only in texts, but also in images. As a result, visuals appraised included vivid spectacles of urban desolation and non-terrorist deaths more often. There is also a likelihood that this trend is an outcome of journalistic decisions, since Negativity is believed in journalistic praxis as primary in attracting attention (Bell, 1991). In other words, local broadsheets might be adhering to the "old trope of 'if it bleeds, it leads'" (Schradie, 2017, para. 5). These reasons may possibly explain the prevalence of negative themes.

In addition, themes of desolation and demise demonstrate a combination of Impact and Negativity, because these scenarios depict the conflict's significant

effects. These themes are contrasted with fewer images with Positivity, whereby happiness, rejoicing, and solidarity are occasionally depicted. In these portrayals, Positivity tends to combine with Eliteness (e.g., when officials smile at the camera or soldiers rejoice) or Personalization (e.g., when ordinary persons smile or are reunified with their loved ones). Furthermore, images may establish the event's newsworthiness without relying on valence resources (i.e., images do not explicitly illustrate either positive or negative content). For example, Figure 48 constructs Personalization without valence news values through a medium close-up shot of Marawi evacuees in a covered court.

**Figure 48**

*News image of Marawi City evacuees*

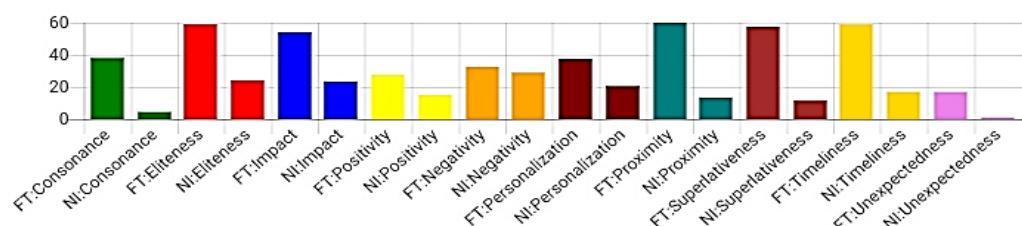


**Note.** This image from TMB #06 lacks Valence, as none of the news participants' facial expressions contain discernable emotions or any negative situations portrayed explicitly.

In summary, the FT and NI sub-corpora appear to demonstrate different discursive patterns. On the one hand, the verbal dimension can be characterized as having a consistent trend that packages the Marawi crisis through Proximity (i.e., that the event is near geographically and/or culturally), Timeliness (i.e., that the news event is presented as recent or ongoing), Eliteness (i.e., that entities of either prestige or authority are present), Superlativeness (i.e., that the crisis was widespread and massive), and Impact (i.e., that people were affected physically or emotionally). These discursive news values were considered consistent or regular by being constructed clearly in 90 percent of the entire sub-corpus. In contrast, in spite of selected news values (i.e., Negativity, Impact, and Personalization) being concretely established in the NI sub-corpus more often than others, this dimension showcases variety – that is, no prominent news value(s) can be concretely viewed, since they are constructed in fewer than 50 percent of the total sub-corpus items. These intrasemiotic trends are visualized by the aggregator, which accompanies the Kaleidographic view of the research corpus. A screenshot of this aggregator is presented in the following figure.

**Figure 49**

*Aggregation of discursive news values across modes*



**Note.** This aggregator accompanies the Kaleidographic view of the research corpus. It may be accessed at <https://senseigab.github.io/research/thesisinfo/index.html>. It is possible to see this exact bar graph once the Kaleidographic visual reaches cycle #60.

#### 4.3. News value tendencies per broadsheet

Both general verbal and visual tendencies reflect how the 2017 Marawi City siege is packaged in local broadsheets as a newsworthy crisis. Whereas the full texts are usually consistent in the news values construed, the accompanying news photographs often enact a range of news values. However, these observations so far relate to the corpus as a whole; these trends may need to be further examined to determine how each broadsheet construct each news value and package the crisis. Table 28 outlines the 'clear' trends in full texts for each broadsheet.

**Table 28**

*Tendencies of verbal news value constructions per broadsheet*

News values	Frequency of 'clear' full texts			Total Texts (n=60)
	TMB	TPS	PDI	
Proximity	20	20	20	60
Timeliness	20	20	19	59
Eliteness	19	20	19	58
Superlativeness	20	19	18	57
Impact	18	16	20	54
Consonance	12	9	13	34
Personalization	8	3	12	23
Unexpectedness	6	2	8	16
Negativity	2	5	7	14
Positivity	5	3	1	9

This table demonstrates a trend to the consistent foreground Proximity, Timeliness, Eliteness, Superlativeness, and Impact in the broadsheets' reporting of the Marawi siege. However, the journalistic packaging of the Marawi crisis varies in both Consonance and Personalization. The news event's Consonance appears constructed in more than half of TMB and PDI, while the tendencies seem to present the opposite with TPS articles. Moreover, there is also an inclination for

Personalization to be concretely established in PDI than the other broadsheets, where most TMB and TPS articles construe it in a weak manner. Further, despite both Positivity and Negativity being backgrounded in each broadsheet along with Unexpectedness, it is worthy to note how most of the texts in the entire sub-corpus combine both Valence news values.

Meanwhile, Table 29 demonstrates the frequency of 'clear' trends in news images from each broadsheet, which further justifies the extent of variation of news values constructed to visually package the newsworthiness of the Marawi attacks. However, it is worthy to note how certain broadsheets tend to establish a given news value slightly more than others. For example, PDI appears to construe Negativity and Impact slightly more frequently than TMB and TPS do. These slight differences may be a result of various journalistic decisions undertaken during the broadsheets' respective complex editorial processes.

**Table 29**

*Tendencies of visual news value constructions per broadsheet*

News values	Frequency of 'clear' news images			Total Images (n=60)
	TMB	TPS	PDI	
Negativity	5	10	13	28
Impact	5	7	11	23
Personalization	7	6	7	20
Timeliness	4	9	4	17
Positivity	6	6	2	14
Superlativeness	3	3	5	11
Eliteness	4	4	2	10
Proximity	3	3	4	10
Consonance	1	1	2	4
Unexpectedness	0	0	1	1
Aesthetic appeal	0	0	0	0

#### 4.4. Discussion of intrasemiotic trends

Whereas the previous chapter revolved on verbal and visual news value resources, this chapter delved into how each news value was constructed at the level of each verbal and visual sub-corpus item. This research observes that there are discursive differences in the manner the Marawi crisis' newsworthiness is established in both verbal and visual data. Specifically, the news values trend indicate that the former possesses a core set of news values, which the latter was unable to establish. This trend substantiates Facchinetto's (2012) claim that the news is not monolithic but a multifaceted discourse genre, since journalists appear to communicate different themes or news values in the news reports. Moreover, this semiotic difference is noteworthy, because it reflects the opportunities and constraints offered by texts and images. Although both discursive modes could be altered, unlike texts, images are capable of recording scenes of events as they existed (Barthes, 1977, as cited in Bednarek & Caple, 2017).

When considered separately, it could be argued that the verbal and visual components of the corpus contribute to wider discourses of the Marawi City crisis in different ways. On one hand, the full texts primarily convey the crisis' closeness to target audiences in time, location, and even culture (Proximity and Timeliness); both widescale and intense effects (Superlativeness and Impact), and the involvement of government forces against their foes (Eliteness). On the other hand, photographs do not convey an overarching theme of newsworthiness, but these instead magnify various news values for each image. Despite this difference, both components of the corpus illustrate the likelihood of an intersection or confluence

of news values not only through a combination of resources but their co-presence within texts and images. However, it should be noted that certain photographs construct an exclusive news value, thereby lacking any form of intrasemiotic news value intersection. For instance, Figure 29 (page 128) and Figure 30 (page 129) both construct Personalization exclusively.

Because these news values construed emerged from the meaning-making resources, these findings consequently have implications to the role of journalists in the construction of public knowledge and awareness of the crisis. It is believed that as some news values are magnified over others, it might be further indication that pieces of information may be magnified or minimized in presenting the news story and representing social reality. These intrasemiotic portrayals can then be reproduced and contribute to broader discourses on the event when these articles are circulated in the public domain. It might be possible that the prevailing public understanding of the events in Marawi as a terrorist attack may have been shaped by how its newsworthiness – that is, its relevance to audiences as a news event – was packaged and circulated. As Bednarek and Caple (2014) surmise, “any story would be written in such a way as to sell the happening as newsworthy to the target audience” (p. 151).

Overall, the meanings in both verbal and visual components continue to be of equal value despite their news value trend differences. Either aspects of news reports, through their respective resources, together create meaning that possibly influences readers’ understanding of social realities. As such, attention may need to be given to how journalists interpret or make sense of events. However, because

the news is multimodal and multifaceted, the construction of newsworthiness may be further understood by evaluating the relationships between full texts and news images.

## 5. INTERSEMIOTIC TRENDS OF NEWSWORTHINESS

The intrasemiotic analyses examined how news values are construed within verbal and visual modes. In this section, the relationship of news values across both the semiotic modes are discussed by consolidating the observed intrasemiotic trends using the Kaleidographic view. This visualization tool is located at this webpage: <https://senseigab.github.io/research/thesisinfo/index.html>.

### 5.1. News value harmony: Reinforcement

Table 30 offers a sketch of this visual-verbal relations by presenting how frequent news articles concretely construct news values in either full texts, news images, or both. The trends observed were sought based on the frequencies of 'clear' verbal or visual items, as well as exploring how often news values are common to both modes and exclusive to either. It excludes texts or images coded as 'possible.'

**Table 30**

*Correlation in the clear establishment of news values across semiotic modes*

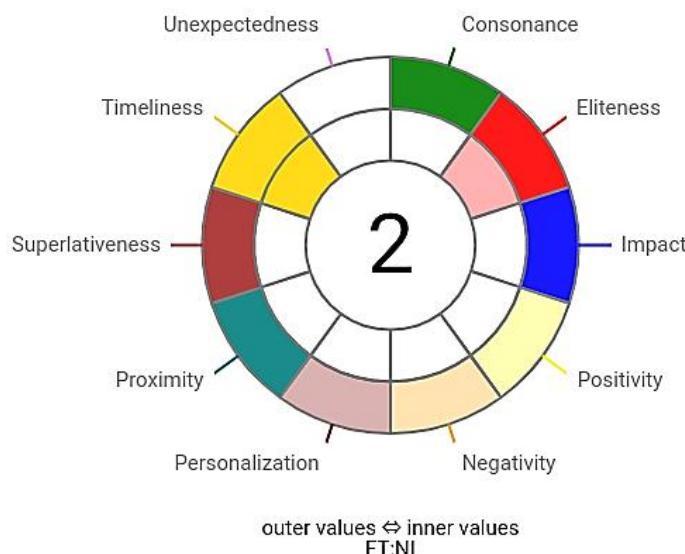
News values	In both FT and NI	In FT only	In NI only	In either FT or NI
Proximity	10	50	0	60
Timeliness	17	42	0	59
Eliteness	10	48	0	58
Superlativeness	10	47	1	58
Impact	21	33	2	56
Consonance	1	33	3	37
Personalization	10	11	10	31
Negativity	11	3	17	31
Positivity	4	5	10	19
Unexpectedness	1	15	0	16

**Note.** The last column focuses on news values constructed in either semiotic modes, so it is expected that this is the sum of the second to third columns.

Based on the abovementioned table and the Kaleidographic visualization, the corpus' verbal and visual dimensions may be viewed as generally harmonious. While reinforcement or overlapping of news values across both semiotic modes is present in fewer than half of the corpus, this trend could point to semiotic harmony. Specifically, there is an accumulation or reinforcement of Timeliness or Impact in both modes more frequently than other values. In addition, an interesting tendency can be gleaned where most discursive news values – Superlativeness, Timeliness, Proximity, Impact, and Eliteness – are shared by news photographs with full texts in most cases despite having comparatively fewer 'clear' instances. For example, all 10 images that clearly establish Proximity share this news value with their verbal counterpart.

**Figure 50**

*Kaleidographic view of TMB #02*



These trends can be gleaned in the Kaleidographic by a slow playthrough and by excluding other values in each round (i.e., by clicking other news values to

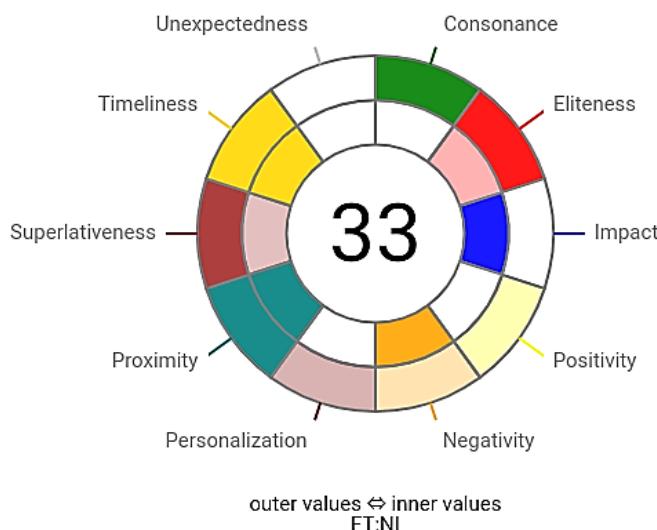
grey them out). To exemplify verbal-visual reinforcement of news values, Figure 50 represents how Timeliness is accumulated or reinforced across semiotic modes of TMB #02 through verbal (e.g., *now, still, before noon Wednesday*) and visual (i.e., a military aircraft launching a missile) devices.

### 5.2. News value harmony: Complementation

However, a more prominent trend of news value harmony could be gleaned when either modes complement their semiotic counterparts in the enactment of various news values. For example, Table 30 highlights how frequent the news values of Proximity, Eliteness, Superlativeness, Timeliness, Impact, and Consonance are prominently established in full texts alone, while other news values are verbally exclusive with fewer instances. It may be purported that these text-only news values complement images in instances when accompanying text is deemed either a possible or an unqualified case for a specific news value.

**Figure 51**

*Kaleidographic view of TPS #33*



A similar tendency was observed with the visual data, whereby Negativity, Positivity, and Personalization are visually exclusive. Figure 51 above illustrates news value complementation in TPS #33, where Consonance (i.e., by stereotyping terrorists) and Impact (i.e., by presenting damaging effects of the armed conflict) are respectively exclusive in the full text and image. Further, it signifies how Superlativeness (i.e., using quantifiers and intensified words) and Negativity (i.e., by presenting destruction) are enacted clearly respectively in the verbal and visual dimension to complement the semiotic counterpart that were regarded as 'possible' for these news values.

### **5.3. News value dissonance and cases of ambivalence**

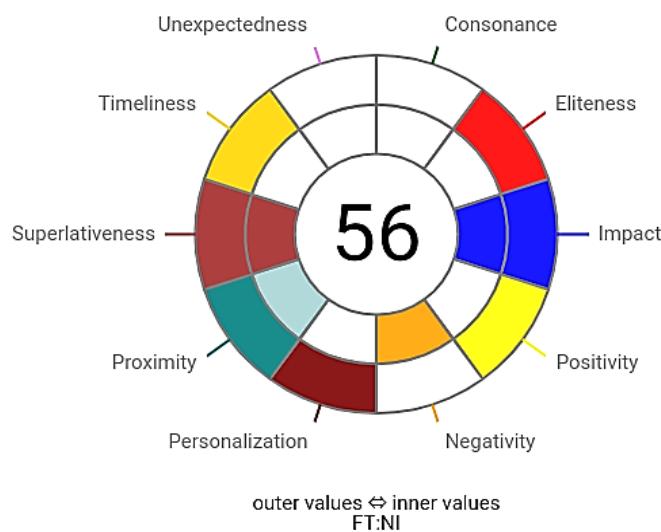
However, this study reports three cases involving a clash or dissonance between the Valence news values, namely, TMB #14, TMB #17, and PDI #56. In each article, Positivity is established clearly in texts but is countered by Negativity in news photographs. For instance, Figure 52 presents the Kaleidographic view of PDI #56, whereby the full text reports the positive event of Fr. Suganob's escape, while the accompanying image portrays an overview of a damaged city.

Moreover, the Kaleidographic view of the multimodal corpus demonstrates a tendency, where the ambiguous valence enacted by the verbal dimension appears to be complemented and contrasted by the positive or negative visual element. This semiotic scenario is illustrated in Figure 51, where TPS #33's verbal aspect offers a weak or ambivalent valence. However, as Negativity is constructed within the image, this news argue could be argued as the more dominant news value overall, since the opposing news value is purportedly weak in its construction.

In a similar way, Positivity may be the more dominant valence when it is clearly established in the visual mode but is combined with Negativity within the verbal mode, resulting in a mixed valence. This is illustrated in the Kaleidographic view of TMB #20 in Figure 53.

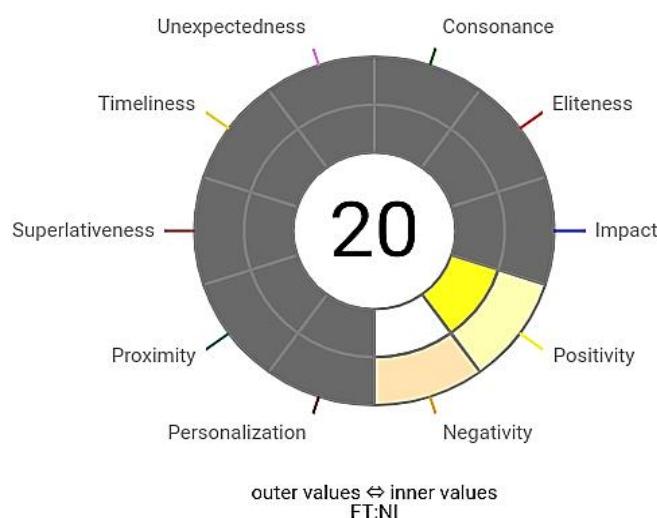
**Figure 52**

*Kaleidographic view of PDI #56*



**Figure 53**

*Kaleidographic view of TMB #20*



#### 5.4. Discussion of intersemiotic trends

Overall, this chapter has found that news values across semiotic modes tend to work in harmony (i.e., through complementation) and intersemiotic news value clashes seem to be rare. However, as both verbal and visual modes are interrelated as part of the same news story, there is a need to consider the overall construction of the Marawi City crisis' newsworthiness.

The final column in Table 30 presents how the event's newsworthiness is constructed in either semiotic mode – that is, regardless of which semiotic mode enacts each news value. Specifically, the Marawi attacks appear to be established largely through Proximity ( $n = 60$ ), Timeliness ( $n = 59$ ), Superlativeness ( $n = 58$ ), and Eliteness ( $n = 58$ ) in either or both of its semiotic components. Meanwhile, Consonance is enacted in 37 (61.67%) articles, whereas both Personalization and Negativity are each constructed in only 31 (51.67%) articles.

In other words, these tendencies observed seem indicative of the manner the Marawi City assault was packaged in the news coverage of selected Philippine broadsheets. Specifically, reported affairs were represented as happening close to target audiences, ongoing or recent, with highly intense or far-reaching features, and with the participation of elite individuals and institutions. Moreover, the crisis was occasionally represented through widely recognized stereotypes or common knowledge, the experiences of non-elites, and unfortunate situations. Meanwhile, surprising aspects and socially favorable situations are generally backgrounded, because Positivity and Unexpectedness are constructed in less than 32 percent of the corpus. It may be surmised that these multimodally established news values

are discursive contributions of local broadsheets to the public understanding of the Marawi City crisis, as these discursive themes are reproduced in widely read newspapers.

These overall trends appear to resemble previous research findings on how newsworthiness is formed in reporting other happenings such as natural disasters, where Negativity, Impact, and Superlativeness are often featured in American and Australian contexts (Bednarek & Caple, 2012; Potts et al., 2015). Lorenzo-Dus and Smith's (2015) findings on how the British media represent the newsworthiness of political crises also reveal relatively similar news value trends, but these trends are dependent on the news participants portrayed. In their work, the elites were more closely linked with Eliteness, Consonance and Proximity, whereas non-elites were often associated with Superlativeness, Impact, Negativity, and Aesthetic Appeal, which is not established in this thesis. Meanwhile, this research's findings appear to differ from Makki's (2019) analysis of Iranian crime news, where Positivity was found to be constructed widely along with Negativity and Eliteness. However, in making these comparisons, the preferred reading of target readers in other milieus and other external influences (e.g., cultural beliefs and press regulations) must be recognized as well (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Huan, 2015; Makki, 2019).

The abovementioned findings demonstrate that despite the differences in intrasemiotic trends, considering the relationship of texts and images provides a better understanding of the multimodal formation of the event's newsworthiness. It is surmised that newsworthiness is a result of a multimodal enterprise, because each semiotic component may be employed to create meaning and contribute

news values. Moreover, while this research has found rare instances of conflicting semiotic modes, it presents opportunities for representing various facets of events in separate modalities to create a hint of balance and transparency in reporting.

While the foregrounding and backgrounding of news values are possibly influenced by the complexity of the editorial process and other constraints (e.g., restrictions on correspondents' movements in the battlefield), these findings are purportedly a product of journalistic discursive strategizing where news values are prioritized or not. This, in turn, enables them to not only represent and market the conflict in newspapers, but also highlight its significance to their readers. As such, this potentially positions journalists in an influential position that may shape public agenda and perception of social realities.

## 6. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter offers the concluding remarks for this analysis by first recounting the research objectives, procedures, and primary findings. This information serves as basis for explaining the conclusions, its wider directions, and recommendations.

### 6.1. Summary

This thesis sought to investigate how the 2017 Marawi City crisis was reported in Philippine broadsheets as a newsworthy event. Specifically, it sought to identify the verbal and visual resources that construct newsworthiness, the news values that are foregrounded in full texts and images, and the relationship between both verbal and visual dimensions of the corpus. In order to address these objectives, 60 multimodal news articles were scrutinized by utilizing Bednarek and Caple's (2017) discursive news values paradigm through CAMDA and a constructionist-realist lens.

In respect of the first objective, various linguistic resources were identified through manually scrutinizing each full text and exploring collocates of MARAWI. This work found the presence of different linguistic devices to establish each news value, although Unexpectedness resources were rarely observed. Meanwhile, role labels and elite identities, references to local nationalities and places, and negative words contributed respectively to enacting Eliteness, Proximity, and Negativity.

These linguistic trends were supported by results of collocation analysis, whereby the node is closely associated with Negativity (i.e., through conflict and terrorism collocates); Eliteness (i.e., through proper nouns and role labels related

to government); Personalization (i.e., through references to refugees and civilians); Timeliness (i.e., through continuity collocates); Positivity (i.e., through recovery collocates); and Consonance (i.e., a typical extremist behavior). These tendencies are further supported by second order collocation analysis, whereby Negativity and Eliteness recur through shared and exclusive collocates of *city*, *said*, and *Maute*. Other news values were also associated with other collocates of *city* (i.e., Positivity, Consonance) and *said* (i.e., Timeliness, Personalization, Proximity).

Meanwhile, content resources of photographs mostly construe various news values except for Aesthetic Appeal. For example, both Impact and Negativity were often emphasized through visual scenarios of death and mass destruction, whereas the representation of war refugees and hostage victims in ordinary settings establish Personalization. However, the reinforcement of the construction of news values by capture techniques (e.g., cropping and close-up shots to focus on Fr. Suganob) was reportedly seldom.

Based on these semiotic devices and the coding guidelines in Appendix B, the second research objective was addressed by appraising how each individual verbal and visual corpus item construct each news value. The former sub-corpus reveals a consistent trend in the concrete establishment of Proximity, Timeliness, Eliteness, Superlativeness, and Impact. In addition, Positivity and Negativity often clash in this mode, suggesting an intrasemiotic conflict between the Valence news values. In contrast, the news image sub-corpus illustrates having more variety than its counterpart, since no news value were established in more than half of the sub-corpus. Despite this trend, Negativity, Personalization, and Impact may be seen as

clearly constructed in more than 30 percent of the visual data. While these do not constitute the core visual news values, but this tendency suggests that more images are inclined to concretely establish these news values.

Lastly, the third research objective was addressed by consolidating both the verbal and visual intrasemiotic findings. Using a Kaleidographic view of the corpus, a harmonious intersemiotic relationship of news value may be observed. This trend was gleaned in most articles, whereby full texts often complement images with news values that were not clearly established in the latter. Further evidence to this intersemiotic concord is the relatively infrequent instances of reinforcement across modes. Meanwhile, news value clashes between Positivity and Negativity are rarely observed in only three occasions, which are believed to be affordances for representing various facets of events in separate modalities to create a hint of balance and transparency in reporting. Overall, these findings have implications to news reporting practices, the role of journalists in the formation of public awareness, and the notion of press objectivity.

## 6.2. Conclusions

In general, these tendencies offer a glimpse into the reporting practices of selected national broadsheets on the 2017 Marawi City siege, and perhaps more broadly, terrorism and national security matters. This research identified various resources to construe every news value except Aesthetic Appeal. An intrasemiotic look at both verbal and visual data reveal differing trends in how newsworthiness is established in which the former possesses a core set of consistently established news values (i.e., Proximity, Timeliness, Eliteness, Superlativeness, and Impact),

while the latter seems to lack core news values by virtue of the diverse trend that images illustrated. However, when the corpus is treated as a multimodal enterprise, both modes were typically harmonious, where the verbal data complements visual data by constructing news values that the latter lacks. There were also occasions where both modes reinforce the same news value and rare instances where both modes construct opposing Valence.

Thus, In this crisis' context, selected broadsheet news coverage generally packages it by expressing how close events occur to target audiences (Proximity), how they are ongoing or recent (Timeliness), how the scale of the crisis and its effects are large (Superlativeness and Impact), and how elite news actors largely participate in events (Eliteness). Further, relatively frequent references to common knowledge and stereotypes (Consonance), the experiences of hostages and other war victims (Personalization), and negative conditions and role labels (Negativity) were construed, while other news values are minimized or backgrounded.

Although this thesis focused strictly on the Marawi City siege, the findings carry important implications to news reporting practices, the role of journalists in shaping public awareness on the matter, and even the issue of press objectivity. It is established that journalists carry a vital role in facilitating public understanding of this terrorist crisis. As they provide factual details, they employ semiotic devices in making sense of events for their target audiences. In so doing, they foreground and background simultaneously certain pieces of information – news values – and this practice is executed in full texts differently from their image counterparts. Thus, it seems likely that these discursive affordances could enable journalists to

underline a worldview notwithstanding the complex editorial processes and news reporting constraints.

Although the full texts appear to function differently from news images, it is believed that as a multimodal genre, the meanings established in both semiotic modes contribute to the message expressed in the entirety of each report. In this case, the Marawi terrorist attacks were not only established as a newsworthy event. It is also interpreted or made sense to readers by portraying it using Proximity (i.e., that the crisis is close to readers), Timeliness (i.e., that it is recent or still on-going), Superlativeness (i.e., that it is quite intense and widespread), and Eliteness (i.e., that authorities were taking part). As such, journalists – through these news values and the overall construction of newsworthiness – could shape public knowledge of the Marawi siege. In other words, the reproduction of these discourses in reports can facilitate how readers understand and assess its relevance.

These observations may likely signify how Philippine national broadsheets discursively establish knowledge of the Marawi crisis itself, and perhaps terrorism by extension. Since journalists – either as individuals or institutions – could shape public knowledge and opinion of happenings, they are called upon to be judicious in how realities are represented through various semiotic machineries. It involves strategizing and reflecting what meanings these resources provide in the coverage of critical events. Moreover, media literacy efforts may also need to be enhanced beyond mere verification of facts and shed light on the rhetorical power of various forms of news discourse for readers to discern the subtle meanings embedded in these texts.

### **6.3. Recommendations**

This thesis finally proposes the following areas for future investigations.

#### **6.3.1. Methodological recommendations**

Since corpus-assisted multimodal discourse analysis is a complex undertaking per se, analysis of this study's corpus may be extended in the following directions: It is useful to appraise tabloids newspapers to determine how armed conflicts are portrayed as newsworthy in these discourses. On one hand, Estella and Löffelholz (2019) report that tabloids appear to be more popular than broadsheets in terms of copies sold, because the former is more affordable and expedient for reading. In fact, they highlight a 2017 Nielsen Company survey finding, where the former outnumbers the latter in a top 10 roster of widely read newspapers. In addition, the former often employ distinct rhetorical strategies in catering to their audiences (Conboy, 2006); in the local setting, they usually report stories involving crime and controversy in a sensationalized way (Estella & Löffelholz, 2019; Tandoc & Skoric, 2010). Hence, while tabloids may cover armed conflicts less extensively, there is merit in examining how newsworthiness is achieved in tabloid reporting to identify the discursively prioritized news values. In so doing, the rhetorical resources for sensationalism, if any, may also be identified with news value devices utilized for a comprehensive illustration of how tabloids represent these crises.

An intercultural rhetorical analysis might also be a useful direction, since the siege has possibly gained international attention. The event may probably be discursively constructed by newspapers abroad by enacting other news values.

For example, Southeast Asian newspapers such as *The Straits Times* and *The Star* in Singapore and Malaysia, respectively, may construe different news values, since the event occurred beyond their country. This direction may also be initiated locally through reports by regional newspapers, which often report in their local languages and is a growing effort in the Philippines (Opiniano et al., 2015). It could be argued that these regional or community news outlets cater to specific subsets of Filipino target audiences with distinct cultural orientations. As DNVA is a context-sensitive work, due regard to the publication milieu and the newspapers' target audience is thus crucial. For example, when scrutinizing news reports from the *Bohol Chronicle*, analysts might need to consider the preferred interpretation of Boholano readers. Non-English news reporting could also be examined as in Makki (2019), but this direction entails identifying how linguistic resources for each news value may be realized through reporting in other languages.

Moreover, other forms of news reporting may be considered as to how the conflict was reported. These forms do not only include broadcast media (i.e., radio and television news), but also updates disseminated through social media platforms such as Facebook and Twitter. On the one hand, broadcast media often contains other semiotic elements absent within print news reports. For example, television broadcasts contain news tickers and the use of sign languages. On the other hand, social media is increasingly utilized to create, spread, and consume news (Weeks & Holbert, 2013). For example, individual correspondents can post updates in their name despite affiliation with a journalistic institution. However, in

conducting these analyses, due attention must be given to issues relating to data representativeness (Bednarek, 2009).

Further, other corpus techniques such as concordance analysis, part-of-speech tagging, and semantic tagging to further validate this study's collocation analysis. In fact, it is also possible to utilize other collocation statistical measures such as the original MI score or its squared version. However, as Brezina (2019) notes, each association measure has specific purposes and their mechanisms must be understood first before using them. For example, the effect of using frequencies to determine collocates may result in having frequently employed function word collocates such as the article *the*.

Lastly, the remit of this study revolves strictly on the discursive point-of-view and provides only one dimension of newsworthiness. Other studies may also focus on other dimensions of newsworthiness (i.e., material, social, and cognitive) in addition to the discursive lens. For example, a combination of content analysis of policy documents, ethnographic fieldwork in the newsroom, and interviews with individual journalists as demonstrated in Huan (2016) may complement the present approach. However, given the complexity of the current approach, feasibility might need to be addressed.

### **6.3.2. Topical recommendations**

This paper also proposes five topical directions for further investigation. Since the 2017 Marawi Crisis Broadsheet Reports corpus only focused on the five months of active conflict between government and terrorists, it may be useful to examine how post-war efforts were reported. It seems reasonable to argue that the Marawi

crisis extends beyond the perceived threat of terrorism; it also includes such concerns as mass displacement, loss of livelihood, and other issues hampering restoration and renewal (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, 2019). Similarly, there seems to be merit in scrutinizing the reporting practices of the news media on the Philippine security theater post-Marawi crisis.

In addition, a historical approach to discourse may be introduced to study how domestic terrorism was previously covered. Because of the Philippines' long history of terrorist attacks dating as far back as the Marcos regime (Quimpo, 2019), a news corpus covering a longer timeframe of reporting could be examined to glean the discursive performance of journalists in making sense of these events. Nevertheless, it is worth reminding that "terrorism is not, and will never be, a conceptually clean label" (Parker & Sitter, 2016, p. 211). As such, it may be necessary to justify how a given situation reported in the press counts as terrorism and not a street crime while also remaining aware of how the media discursively constructs information on terrorism. This may also be an opportunity to explore if reports utilized sensational or alarmist language to appeal to their audiences.

Furthermore, beyond issues of newsworthiness, terrorism continues to be a contentious concept. This lacuna may call for research that explores the meanings associated with terrorism across different genres within a sociopolitical milieu. For example, presidential speeches, policy documents, legislative debates, and relevant texts by the government could be scrutinized as to how "terrorism" is utilized. This topic could address matters such as the possible meaning expansion of the word, possible contradictions between pronouncements and intended

government policy, and possibly the social actors who are frequently given agency over terrorism cases.

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**Appendix A**

News article roster and corresponding information

**A. The Manila Bulletin (TMB)**

- 01 **AFP thwarts Marawi burning**, May 30, 2017, pp. 1-8 (1231 words<sup>1</sup>)
- 02 **Air strikes kill 11 soldiers**, June 2, 2017, pp. 1-4 (1013 words)
- 03 **225 Maute fighters slain**, June 17, 2017, pp. 1-6 (778 words)
- 04 **19 Marawi evacuees die**, June 20, 2017, pp. 1-12 (1139 words)
- 05 **Militants want out of Marawi**, June 28, 2017, pp. 1-4 (1009 words)
- 06 **40 Marawi evacuees die**, July 18, 2017, pp. 1-10 (850 words)
- 07 **Duterte sets foot in war-torn Marawi City**, July 21, 2017, pp. 1-18 (738 words)
- 08 **Congress extends martial law**, July 23, 2017, pp. 1-11 (1140 words)
- 09 **AFP to help educate children as it rebuilds Marawi City**, August 4, 2017, pp. 1-6 (691 words)
- 10 **PRRD visits Marawi troops in battle zone amid rain**, August 6, 2017, pp. 1-4 (633 words)
- 11 **Marawi rebels down to 40 –AFP**, August 15, 2017, pp. 1-6 (1129 words)
- 12 **The unsung heroes of Marawi**, August 28, 2017, pp. 1-4 (931 words)
- 13 **No way out for Maute**, August 30, 2017, pp. 1-4 (622 words)
- 14 **Marawi's fate in AFP's hands**, September 1, 2017, pp. 1-20 (626 words)
- 15 **Three Marawi siege leaders slain**, September 19, 2017, pp. 1-6 (733 words)
- 16 **Battle in Marawi: It took one week to cross a street**, September 26, 2017, pp. 1-6 (1245 words)
- 17 **Marawi evacuees assured of peace as caravan from Baguio reaches Iligan**, October 2, 2017, pp. 1-4 (805 words)
- 18 **Bloody end for Hapilon, Maute**, October 17, 2017, pp. 1-6 (708 words)
- 19 **Troops pull out of Marawi for much-needed break, training for next mission**, October 21, 2017, pp. 1-6 (989 words)
- 20 **Battle of Marawi ends**, October 24, 2017, pp. 1-6 (678 words)

**Total number of words:**

17,685 words

**Average words per article:**

884 words per article

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<sup>1</sup> Each word count and the total word count are provided automatically through LanksBox.

**B. The Philippine Star (TPS)**

- 21 **AFP turns to heavy firepower vs Maute**, May 28, 2017, pp. 1-6 (1309 words)
- 22 **Duterte 'won't listen' to Congress, SC on ML**, May 29, 2017, pp. 1-8 (966 words)
- 23 **Gov't allots P10 B for Marawi rehab**, June 11, 2017, pp. 1-2 (910 words)
- 24 **Remaining Maute positions breached**, June 22, 2017, pp.1-6 (1087 words)
- 25 **Rody: Faith will see us through**, June 26, 2017, pp. 1-8 (1002 words)
- 26 **Rody: Marawi will be prosperous again**, June 28, 2017, pp. 1-10 (1268 words)
- 27 **Rody likely to extend Mindanao martial law**, July 9, 2017, pp. 1-8 (629 words)
- 28 **DND chief to enemies of state: Surrender or else...**, July 24, 2017, pp. 1-10 (718 words)
- 29 **Pacman to soldiers in Marawi: Never surrender**, July 30, 2017, pp. 1-8 (668 words)
- 30 **Military ops in Marawi winding down – Duterte**, August 6, 2017, pp. 12 (611 words)
- 31 **Maute fighters in Marawi down to 40, says AFP**, August 15, 2017, pp. 6 (562 words)
- 32 **Troops retake Grand Mosque in Marawi**, August 26, 2017, pp. 1-2 (740 words)
- 33 **AFP: Maute running low on food, ammunition**, August 31, 2017, pp. 1-5 (471 words)
- 34 **Priest rescued as Army captures Maute base**, September 18, 2017, pp. 1-14 (1052 words)
- 35 **Rescued priest: Pray for my healing, recovery**, September 19, 2017, pp. 1-2 (742 words)
- 36 **300 buildings still to be cleared in Marawi**, September 20, 2017, pp. 18 (376 words)
- 37 **Hapilon, Maute killed**, October 17, 2017, pp. 1-14 (955 words)
- 38 **Rody: Marawi liberated**, October 18, 2017, pp. 1-8 (1281 words)
- 39 **Troops still clearing Marawi of bombs**, October 26, 2017, pp. 1-2 (1121 words)
- 40 **Marawi evacuees return to site of first battle**, October 30, 2017, pp. 1-3 (532 words)

**Total number of words:** 16,999 words

**Average words per article:** 850 words per article

**C. Philippine Daily Inquirer (PDI)**

- 41 **Army tanks roll into Marawi City**, May 26, 2017, pp. A1-A19 (1210 words)
- 42 **19 bodies of civilians recovered in Marawi**, May 29, 2017, pp. A1-A19 (987 words)
- 43 **Duterte offers P20M for Hapilon, 2 Maute brods**, June 6, 2017, pp. A1-A4 (607 words)
- 44 **Aid pours in for kin of fallen soldiers**, June 23, 2017, pp. A1-A16 (707 words)
- 45 **Fighting resumes after 8-hour truce**, June 26, 2017, pp. A1-A2 (928 words)
- 46 **'Suicide squad' braves bullets in rescue job**, July 4, 2017, pp. A1-A4 (631 words)
- 47 **Terrorists split into small groups**, July 14, 2017, A1-A10 (731 words)
- 48 **Congress extends martial law**, July 23, 2017, A1-A11 (1043 words)
- 49 **Kids view Marawi gunmen as heroes**, July 28, 2017, A1-A14 (489 words)
- 50 **Troops retake key Marawi bridge**, August 1, 2017, A1-A7 (572 words)
- 51 **Islamic school hit by Marawi mortar**, August 8, 2017, A1-A8 (567 words)
- 52 **Woman asks: Is this my boy with Maute?** August 28, 2017, A1-A5 (550 words)
- 53 **Marawi kids want Duterte to end war**, August 30, 2017, A1-A4 (868 words)
- 54 **Now, gov't urges Maute terrorists to surrender**, September 16, 2017, A1-A4 (500 words)
- 55 **DU30: Priest rescued in special ops**, September 19, 2017, A1-A2 (933 words)
- 56 **Priest escaped, says Bishop of Marawi**, September 20, 2017, A1-A8 (728 words)
- 57 **Gov't fatalities rise to 160 in Marawi**, October 13, 2017, A1-A2 (612 words)
- 58 **Troops, strays only signs of life among ruins of Marawi**, October 27, 2017, A1-A20 (798 words)
- 59 **How scout ranger captain won hostages' release**, October 28, 2017, A1-A8 (722 words)
- 60 **Marawi's lucky few return to looted homes**, October 31, 2017, A8 (664 words)

**Total number of words:** 14,851 words

**Average words per article:** 743 words per article

**Overall corpus size:**

49,535 words or tokens; 6,316 types; 5,551 lemmas

**Appendix B**

## Annotation or Coding Guide

**Part I. About this Manual****A. Rationale**

This document is designed for the following purposes: First, it provides both verbal and visual resources and the annotation or coding decisions taken. Second, it is used as basis for validating the results of the study. The verbal and visual resources lists were taken from Bednarek (2016) and Caple (2016), while the annotation decisions were adopted from the same documents albeit with modifications. Furthermore, it satisfies the ethical values of transparency and illustrates that decisions taken in the study are consistent.

**B. Discursive news values framework**

Bednarek and Caple's (2017) discursive news values framework proposes that journalists construct the newsworthiness of events by emphasizing news values through various semiotic devices. There are 11 discursive news values, namely:

- |                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>1. Consonance (CO)</b>        | Events are reported in terms of news actors' stereotypes.                                 |
| <b>2. Eliteness (EL)</b>         | Events are reported by emphasizing high distinctions of events and/or their participants. |
| <b>3. Impact (IM)</b>            | Events are reported as carrying significant outcomes or widespread influence.             |
| <b>4. Positivity (PO)</b>        | Events are reported in favorable or good terms.   |
| <b>5. Negativity (NE)</b>        | Events are reported as unfavorable or undesirable.  |
| <b>6. Personalization (PE)</b>   | Events are reported as having ordinary features.  |
| <b>7. Proximity (PR)</b>         | Events are reported as physically or culturally close to the target audience.             |
| <b>8. Superlativeness (SU)</b>   | Events are reported by highlighting their highly intense properties or characteristics.   |
| <b>9. Timeliness (TI)</b>        | Events are reported by focusing on their recent or seasonal features.                     |
| <b>10. Unexpectedness (UN)</b>   | Events are reported by focusing on their strange or rare features.                        |
| <b>11. Aesthetic appeal (AA)</b> | Events are visually portrayed as beautiful. This news value only applies to images.       |

**C. Required software**

MAXQDA Analytics Pro 2020 must be used during the annotation process. While a subscription is preferred, it is not needed. Coders may opt to use a 14-day trial of the software. If you need more time, you can register for another free trial download link [with a different email](#).

**D. General procedure**

The following enumerates the procedure coders will use through MAXQDA:

1. Select *New Project* in the MAXQDA 2020 Plus start-up interface. As you create the new file, use the following file name: DNVAMarawi\_lastname.mx20.
2. Import the 18 news texts by clicking *Texts, PDFs, Tables* under the *Import* tab. This will prompt you to find the necessary files and upload them to the software. You will see the files under the *Document System* window.
3. Under the *Codes* tab, click *Import Code System*. This will prompt you to locate the code file (in MTR format) and upload it. The coding categories will appear under the *Code System* window.
4. Before annotating, you must read all news reports first to understand the details of the news event. For intercoders, you only need to read the full texts, whereas the independent expert will only examine the images.
5. Code each full text for each news value in turn – that is, Consonance first before Eliteness, and then Impact. While you may decide which news value to analyze first, it is crucial to proceed with one news value at a time for consistency and systematicity. This also prevents you from feeling overwhelmed with results.
6. You will code the full texts in two ways: Firstly, you will identify and examine linguistic devices (i.e., words, phrases, or sentences) that construct news values. The inventory of devices in Part II will be used. As you examine each linguistic device, consider its surrounding co-text and its preferred meaning (i.e., how the target readers of these broadsheets interpret the message).

For instance, the sentence, “President Duterte is the Philippines’ head of state” contains Proximity (by identifying a location) and Eliteness (through role labels and predication). These devices are coded in this way, because of devices such as *head of state* and *president*; Duterte is well-known to the newspapers’ target audience of Filipino readers (in the country).

To code linguistic devices, highlight the word, phrase, or sentence and drag the segment to the appropriate device category under the specific news value. For

example, after highlighting “President Duterte,” drag it to the code option “Role Labels” under Eliteness.

Note that the same device could be frequently repeated in other parts of the text. However, these devices must be considered in relation to how they were used in the text – that is, by considering their co-text and context. Coding semiotic devices should therefore not be conducted mechanically (i.e., using the search function to find all occurrences).

7. Secondly, each full text is annotated once per news value. In this case, you will consider the meaning of each full text – with focus on the linguistic devices that were coded previously (step 6) – as basis for coding. There are three options for most news values:
  - a. CLEAR: The news value is clearly established in the full text;
  - b. POSSIBLE: While the news value could be established on this occasion, there is an element of doubt or is debatable.
  - c. NOT ESTABLISHED: The news value is not present in the text.

For all news values, if a full text contains at least one device that constructs the news value, it is coded as *clear* despite being accompanied by other devices that only ‘possibly’ constructs the news value. The same principle applies if it is the only device used to clearly construct a news value.

Use the *Annotation Sheet* file to record your findings at this stage.

8. Steps 5-7 also apply in examining news images, using the inventory of visual devices and coding decisions found in Part III of this document.

In using this document, it is important to note that there are other valid approaches of discursive news values analysis and that the resources listed are not exhaustive. For further information, you may read the resources attached in the email or contact me directly.

## Part II. Verbal Resources and Annotation Decisions (per text)

### A. Consonance

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<i>Indicators of stereotypical characteristics</i>	Drug addict parents gave 23-month-old son methadone 'like Calpol'
<i>Evaluations of typical or usual behavior</i>	A man whose love of luxury and lavish parties is <b>legendary</b>
<i>Similarities with past events</i>	America is <b>once again</b> torn apart by race and police power
<i>Overt references to common knowledge, practices, and other stereotypes</i>	In keeping with the Germans' <b>well-known</b> love of beer

#### DECISIONS:

Texts are '**clear**' if they represent individuals, groups, or nations/societies as adhering to stereotypes that target audiences might have, or they overtly establish attributes as well known or stereotypical through lexis of expectedness.

Texts are '**doubtful or possible**' if individuals, groups, or societies are represented based on possible stereotypes that some target readers might have. This code is strictly used if there is any doubt that the attribute is stereotypical.

Other cases such as expected behaviors are **not coded** for this news value.

### B. Eliteness

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<i>Role labels</i>	<b>Senior Associate Justice</b> Antonio P. Carpio; <b>UK Prime Minister</b> Theresa May; <b>Pope</b> Francis; <b>Taoiseach</b> Leo Varadkar,
<i>Status adjectives</i>	<b>well-placed</b> government sources; <b>top-ranking</b> official
<i>Recognized names (without titles)</i>	George Clooney, Cory Aquino, Hollywood, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, University of Sydney, the FIFA World Cup
<i>Fame or achievement descriptions</i>	The Norwegian entertainer was also <b>very popular in neighboring countries, dominated</b> the 1970s disco scene

**DECISIONS:**

Texts are '**clear**' if there are references to distinguishable persons, organizations, and groups that may be considered elite. This decision also applies to entertainment celebrities, academics, business and community leaders, as well as famous civic or non-civic organizations and companies.

The same decision is also utilized with references to (1) any government institution and (2) appointed or elected government authorities. Hence, metonymic references to elite members such as *cabinet officials*, *congressmen*, and *justices*, as well as any reference to individual government units (e.g., *Manila City council* and *provincial government*) are considered as clear examples of this news value, because they do point to legitimated authorities.

Texts are '**doubtful**' when direct references to locations and events, as long as they are recognized by the target audience as elite. This is because "there appears to be a difference between describing the actions of elite news actors and mentioning elite nations/events, often as locations" (Bednarek, 2016, p. 9). Furthermore, this judgment is used if the elite position is weak as in the case of unrevealed or "blind item" celebrities, anonymous ordinary persons of authority (e.g., police officers and traffic enforcers), social media references, and whenever there is doubt that the news entity is elite.

Other cases are **not coded** for this news value.

**C. Impact**

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<i>Journalistic assessment of significance</i>	<i>a potentially momentous day</i>
<i>Representations of possible or actual outcomes</i>	<i>thousands of people may be massacred; leaving scenes of destruction</i>

**DECISIONS:**

Texts are coded '**clear**' if they describe an event's consequences and other features, which render them significant, which could be understood as either having effects on target audiences or having large-scale effects on people. It includes these cases:

- a. direct references to remarkable impact on social media;
- b. descriptions of an event's consequence to a group within a target audience;
- c. direct references to an event's outcomes, whether actual or non-actual, and
- d. uses of evaluative lexis that marks an event's importance.

Meanwhile, texts are '**doubtful or possible**' when they can be disputed in terms of this news value.

For other cases, the text is **not coded** for this news value if the event outcomes are implicitly described or affecting only a few persons. The same annotation decision is applied when the second person perspective is used.

#### D. Positivity and Negativity

##### For Positivity:

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<b>References to positive emotions or attitudes</b>	<i>Baltimore residents celebrate charges in Gray case</i>
<b>Positive evaluative language by journalists</b>	<i>the brilliant astrophysicist</i>
<b>Positive lexis</b>	<i>Teens chase kidnapping suspect on bikes, save 5-year-old girl</i>
<b>Descriptions of positive acts or behaviors by the news actors</b>	<i>[Canadian Prime Minister] Trudeau, who last year unveiled a cabinet with an equal number of men and women 'because it's 2015'</i>

##### For Negativity:

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<b>References to negative emotions or attitudes</b>	<i>A move that has outraged local politicians</i>
<b>Negative evaluative language by journalists</b>	<i>shoddy financial advice</i>
<b>Negative lexis</b>	<i>Boy, 8, one of 3 killed in bombings at Boston Marathon; scores wounded</i>
<b>Descriptions of negative acts or behaviors by the news actors</b>	<i>"There are others inside," she screamed.</i>

##### DECISIONS:

**FOR POSITIVITY:** Texts are '**+clear**' if (a) the event is generally positive or favorable to target readers; (b) news participants and/or entities are positively described, or (c) lexis with positive connotative or denotative meanings are used.

**FOR NEGATIVITY:** Texts are '**--clear**' if (a) the event depicted is unfavorable or negative, (b) news actors and entities are negatively characterized, or (c) lexis with negative connotative or denotative meanings are used.

**FOR BOTH PO AND NE:** Meanwhile, texts are ‘**doubtful**’ if prospective readers have mixed opinions on an event’s negativity or positivity, or if both values are present together.

#### E. Personalization

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<i>Non-elite names and role labels</i>	<i>Charissa Benjamin and her Serbian husband</i>
<i>Emotion labels and descriptions</i>	<i>Mike's <b>devastated</b> owner</i>
<i>Direct and/or indirect speech by journalists</i>	<i>Another man, who lives near the offices, first mistook the sounds of gunshots for celebrations of Chinese New Year. However, he said <b>he soon realized the gravity of the situation when he saw police officers playing hide and seek with the criminals.</b></i>

#### DECISIONS:

Texts are coded ‘**clear**’ if ordinary individuals (of any age), pairs (e.g., brother-sister dynamic), and families are portrayed.

Meanwhile, texts are coded ‘**doubtful**’ if ordinary citizens are portrayed in generic terms or groupings or persons (e.g., workers, activists, evacuees) are represented as unlawfully behaving, which is distinct from clear violators of the law.

Individual texts are **not coded** for this news value if news actors are elite, clearly identified as law violators (e.g., felons, terrorists and insurgents), non-humans, or are not clearly referred. This study further **does not recognize the second person perspective ‘you’** as an example of this news value.

#### F. Proximity

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<i>Cultural references</i>	<i>Soldiers' farewell <b>haka</b> footage goes viral</i>
<i>Overt references to places or nationalities near the target audience</i>	<i>A federal judge in the <b>District of Columbia</b></i>
<i>Indicators of nearby locations through adjectives, deictics, and generic place references</i>	<i>A potential attack on <b>the nation's</b> capital and <b>the country's</b> highest office</i>
<i>Inclusive first-person pronouns</i>	<i>Is this the end of <b>our</b> local newsagents?</i>

**DECISIONS:**

Texts are '**clear**' if there are direct references to locations in the Philippines, as the newspapers examined have a national audience.

Meanwhile, texts are annotated as '**doubtful**' when there are direct references to locations within Southeast Asia. This decision also applies to direct references to Philippine languages, religions, organizations, and other cultural representations. This approach is also used to consider unresolved issues concerning local cultures and globalization.

Other texts not listed above are **not coded** for this news value.

**G. Superlativeness**

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<b>Intensifiers</b>	A <i>sensational</i> corruption inquiry has concluded
<b>Quantifiers</b>	A tragedy of <i>epic</i> proportions
<b>Intensified words</b>	U.S. forces <b>hammered</b> ISIS fighting positions, vehicles, and buildings
<b>Comparisons</b>	Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie's wedding was <b>so secret</b> Jolie's father Jon Voight did not know it had taken place
<b>Repetitions</b>	...with <b>building after building</b> flattened or punctured by shells
<b>Growth words</b>	The volume of email cloaked in encryption technology is <b>rising</b>
<b>Only/alone/already/just + spatial or temporal lexis</b>	<b>Already this year</b> 64 clandestine ice labs have been busted and dismantled
<b>Similes and metaphors</b>	country towns in northern NSW are <b>battling a tsunami</b> of crime; a June wildfire... ripped through as if the land had been doused with gas

**DECISIONS:**

Texts are coded as '**clear**' when the following elements exist:

- direct references to the highly intense or encompassing properties of events;
- direct indications of critical near-miss situations (e.g., *nearly died*)
- direct indications that more than 10 persons or entities affected by the event, unless the typography, co-text and context indicates otherwise (e.g., *Mother mourns at the murder of her FOUR children*), or
- intensified words and metaphors unequivocally establish this news value.

Meanwhile, texts are coded '**doubtful**' if they are debatable, unclear, or constructs Superlativeness in a weak fashion (e.g., *Travelers stranded by thunderstorm* as compared to *Travelers resisted further deluge*).

For other cases, the text is **not coded** for this news value, especially in the absence of any reference to the event's scope.

#### H. Timeliness

RESOURCES:	EXAMPLES:
<i>Temporal references</i>	<i>yesterday's flash flooding</i>
<i>Lexical time references (implied)</i>	<i>Search ongoing for missing Victoria woman Karen Chetcuti</i>
<i>Verbs In the present tense (except when in quotations)</i>	<i>It is testing our emergency services</i>
<i>References to current trends</i>	<i>'Selfie' – the smartphone self-portrait – has been declared word of the year for 2013</i>
<i>References to seasonality</i>	<i>...as Public Health England urged people to keep their homes well heated this winter</i>
<i>References to change or discovery</i>	<i>In an unexpected development</i>

#### DECISIONS:

Texts are coded as '**clear**' if any these elements are present:

- news participants' statements and questions;
- time markers that indicate the event's occurrence in the near past or future (i.e., determined by two newspaper issues before or after the event);
- events indicated as ongoing or currently happening, or
- references to the event as first, immediate, current, or seasonal.

Texts are '**doubtful**' if they are references to either (a) change or transformation, or (b) reports on discoveries, findings, and rulings of a court.

Texts is **not coded** for this news value if the timely characteristics of the event is implicitly described. In addition, remote time references such as *last month* are not coded for this news value, because a date is not clearly specified.

#### I. Unexpectedness

RESOURCES	EXAMPLES
<i>Journalistic evaluations of unexpectedness</i>	<i>one of the strongest scandals</i>

<i>Surprise or unexpectedness references</i>	people just <b>can't believe it</b>
<i>Comparisons to the unusual</i>	<i>Sydney's wettest August in 16 years</i>
<i>References to uncommon situations</i>	<i>Queensland woman fights off kangaroo with backpack</i>

**DECISIONS:**

Texts are '**clear**' if events are unusual or unanticipated for the target audience. This is also used if the event is explicitly characterized as an unexpected situation.

Meanwhile, individual texts are '**doubtful**' if the events are **possibly** unusual or unexpected for some target audiences, and if **there is doubt**.

Other texts are **not coded** for this news value.

**Part III. Visual Resources and Annotation Decisions (per image)****A. Consonance****Resources:**

- **Content:** Represented participants with stereotypical attributes
- **Content:** Staged, non-spontaneous, or highly choreographed activities typically performed by a person, group, or nation

**Decisions:**

Images are annotated as '**clear**' if news participants are portrayed using stereotypes that are apparent to the target audience.

Images are '**doubtful**' when the stereotypes about the news actors are debatable or doubtful.

Other cases are not coded for this news value. For example, items relating to expected attributes (e.g., Muslims wearing cultural attire) activities of law enforcement (e.g., gathering of evidence, using weapons, assisting evacuation efforts) are excluded, since this news value is concerned with stereotypes and not with the "expectedness or predictability of events" (Bednarek & Caple, 2017, p. 57).

**B. Eliteness****Resources:**

- **Content:** Elite represented participants (e.g., a convention of world leaders)
- **Content:** Attributes marking elite status (e.g., medals, regalia, and other symbols that signal authority or recognition; holding self-reflexive equipment such as the microphone held by a singer during a concert)
- **Content:** Activity sequence by elites (e.g., a person surrounded by security or media in a scrum; elite occupations doing their professional tasks)
- **Content:** Elite settings (e.g., a courthouse)

**Decisions:**

Images are '**clear**' if they depict recognizable elite individuals, organizations, and structures or buildings. The same decision is applied to authority, prestige, or high-status symbols (e.g. a mace).

Images are '**doubtful**' when news actors with weak elite traits (e.g. ordinary law enforcers and unidentified celebrities) or elements that may enable analysts to doubt the eliteness of the news actor are represented.

Other cases are **not coded** for this news value.

### C. Impact

#### **Resource:**

- **Content:** Represented participants or settings and their attributes (e.g., injuries, ruins, and emotions conveyed through actions such as weeping)

#### **Resources:**

Images are marked as '**clear**' if they illustrate a news event's consequences **and** the characteristics that make them significant (e.g., tremendously changing the lives of the target audience).

Images are classified as '**doubtful**' when they do not clearly portray participants as a part of the target audience.

Other images are **not coded** for this news value.

### D. Positivity and Negativity

#### **Resources for Positivity:**

- **Content:** Represented entities and their attributes (e.g., medals, trophies, flowers, and positive expressions such as laughter)
- **Content:** Activity sequences (e.g., handshaking, bowing, and proclamations of election winners)

#### **Resources for Negativity:**

- **Content:** Represented entities and their attributes (e.g., expression of negative emotions such as a weeping person and negative outcomes such as wreckages and injuries)
- **Content:** Activity sequences (e.g., arrests, crimes, identity concealment, and aggressive expressions)
- **Capture strategy (Technical affordance):** blurring due to either movement (e.g., to avoid incoming projectiles) or to hide negative content (e.g., a person beheaded); noise (to intensify negative content), and lack of focus (e.g., when extreme situations prevent capturing sharp, clear visuals).

#### **Decisions:**

**FOR POSITIVITY:** Images are '**+clear**' if they contain news actors with positive emotions and actions or positive outcomes of an event.

**FOR NEGATIVITY:** Images are '**--clear**' if they exhibit news participants, who are expressing negative emotions and actions; this decision is also used when negative outcomes of an event or blurring because of movement or concealment of sensitive content are presented.

**FOR BOTH PO AND NE:** Images are '**doubtful**' when the newspapers' target audience have mixed opinions on the event or if both news values are constructed. This judgment is especially used in images where dead terrorists are depicted and if news actors are either concealed or looking away from the camera.

#### E. Personalization

##### **Resources:**

- **Content:** Represented participants and attributes (i.e., when the image focuses on common individuals and any likely attributes of their being ordinary such as informal attires, everyday items, and displays of emotion)
- **Content:** Domestic or street backgrounds or settings
- **Capture strategy (Composition):** Salience where participants are unequally positioned through back/foregrounding, closer shot lengths, and cropping to focus on a person's features (e.g., emotional expressions)

##### **Decisions:**

Images are '**clear**' if they portray ordinary citizens, who could be shown in isolation or through foregrounding or backgrounding.

Images are '**doubtful**' when news participants were engaged in unlawful behavior (e.g., by being interviewed by law enforcement or concealing their identities).

Other images that portray non-ordinary individuals such as clear law violators, non-human entities, and elites are **not coded** for this news value. Destroyed buildings and ordinary settings without ordinary news actors are coded using this judgment, because these represent disruption of ordinary life.

#### F. Proximity

##### **Resources:**

- **Content:** Renowned landmarks (e.g., Quiapo Church), natural locations (e.g., the Banaue Rice Terraces), and ethnic symbols (e.g., the Philippine flag)
- **Content:** Embedded textual references or signs that indicate the location

##### **Decisions:**

Images are '**clear**' if they represent items, places, and entities that are known to the publication's target audience.

Meanwhile, images are '**doubtful**' if they represent locations in Southeast Asia or Philippine cultural landmarks and items (except for the national flag and famous monuments and structures that are clear realizations of this news value).

Other news images are **not coded** for this news value.

### G. Superlativeness

**Resources:**

- **Content:** Represented participants and their attributes (e.g., when news actors express strong emotions or are in large numbers)
- **Capture strategy (Composition):** Strategic use of shot length or zooming, and broad angles
- **Capture strategy (Composition):** Signs of photographer movement to avoid any incoming projectile

**Decisions:**

Images are '**clear**' if they contain the highly intense or encompassing properties of events or extreme angles to emphasize the said properties. Meanwhile, images are '**doubtful**' when faced with uncertainty regarding the scope of an event or the number of participants. Other images are **not coded** for this news value.

### H. Timeliness

**Resources:**

- **Content:** Portrayal of representative artifacts (e.g., vote counting machines in an election, guns during a conflict)
- **Content:** Portrayal of periodic cultural or environmental situations (e.g., floods during the wet season)
- **Content:** Portrayal of groundbreaking activities (e.g., ribbon-cutting event)
- **Content:** Embedded textual references that indicate the news value

**Decisions:**

Images are classified as '**clear**' if they have social or ecological settings or artifacts that relate to the publication date. Images with embedded written temporal information close to the publication date can also be coded under Timeliness.

Meanwhile, images are '**doubtful**' in debatable or unclear cases.

Other images are **not coded** for this news value.

### I. Unexpectedness

**Resources:**

- **Content:** News actor attributes (e.g., when they wear facial expressions and gestures of surprise)
- **Content:** Represented events (i.e., when these situations do not conform to social expectations)
- **Capture strategy (Composition):** Juxtaposition of two entities that create a remarkable contrast

**Decisions:**

Images are coded as '**clear**' if they clearly represent unusual, shocking, or rare situations, or news actors' reactions of surprise or wonder.

Images are '**doubtful**' if the unexpectedness of the portrayed situations or the target readers' perception of a given situation are debatable or unclear.

### J. Aesthetic Appeal

#### **Resources:**

- **Content:** Beautiful entities and settings
- **Capture strategies (Composition):** Dynamic asymmetry and / or interrupted symmetry
- **Capture strategies (Camera settings):** Strategic manipulation of shutter speed (i.e., to clarify or blur images), aperture (i.e., to increase or reduce focus), and ISO level (i.e., to adjust noise)

Other images are **not coded** for this news value.

#### **Decisions:**

Images are '**clear**' if they contain:

- a. places, situations, or people known by target reader's culture as aesthetic;
- b. composition with either dynamic asymmetry or interrupted symmetry, or
- c. enriched movement, noise, and focus through the camera settings.

Meanwhile, images are '**doubtful**' if the target audiences' aesthetic appreciation of image content could not be determined through intuition.

Other images are **not coded** for this news value.

### Appendix C

Top 50 words based on frequency and dispersion

This appendix presents the study corpus wordlist. In this list, each type (e.g., *region*, *regions*, and *regional*) is enumerated with their ***raw frequency*** (i.e., first wordlist) and ***standard deviation dispersion rate*** (i.e., the second wordlist). These lists only present the top 50 types in both measures. In addition, in each wordlist, the node word selected for collocation analysis is highlighted.

#### A. Wordlist (arranged in terms of raw frequency)

Type	Frequency (raw)	Dispersion (SD)
1. the	3642.000000	119.646266
2. of	1595.000000	80.537821
3. to	1458.000000	86.433913
4. and	1255.000000	69.629143
5. in	1153.000000	61.825712
6. said	817.000000	53.935795
7. a	652.000000	54.458175
<b>8. <u>marawi</u></b>	<b><u>555.000000</u></b>	<b><u>50.259181</u></b>
9. that	500.000000	38.511068
10. for	425.000000	48.571289
11. he	414.000000	60.937663
12. is	412.000000	39.841092
13. city	404.000000	39.182104
14. on	381.000000	42.772005
15. we	335.000000	46.257502
16. was	315.000000	46.799199
17. are	314.000000	46.619766
18. as	301.000000	37.832328
19. by	295.000000	30.622133
20. were	267.000000	49.206386
21. from	259.000000	25.735476
22. with	256.000000	31.313021
23. have	255.000000	43.348666
24. they	245.000000	39.362017
25. be	238.000000	33.551587
26. maute	237.000000	40.479567
27. military	218.000000	27.240285

28. terrorists	207.000000	47.249637
29. will	206.000000	37.781443
30. government	205.000000	22.099833
31. their	203.000000	30.164025
32. not	188.000000	25.320314
33. it	179.000000	25.311654
34. at	171.000000	26.529415
35. group	166.000000	26.487405
36. but	161.000000	23.554767
37. mindanao	159.000000	29.284462
38. troops	157.000000	39.798585
39. has	154.000000	24.179538
40. this	151.000000	21.452081
41. who	150.000000	22.842973
42. our	146.000000	25.875846
43. duterte	141.000000	37.212844
44. forces	139.000000	18.143378
45. his	134.000000	35.742558
46. also	133.000000	23.476274
47. martial	130.000000	51.993395
48. law	129.000000	47.787104
49. president	123.000000	25.557094
50. there	119.000000	23.419868

**B. Wordlist (arranged in terms of dispersion)**

Type	Frequency (raw)	Dispersion (SD)
1. the	3642.000000	119.646266
2. to	1458.000000	86.433913
3. of	1595.000000	80.537821
4. and	1255.000000	69.629143
5. in	1153.000000	61.825712
6. he	414.000000	60.937663
7. a	652.000000	54.458175
8. said	817.000000	53.935795
9. martial	130.000000	51.993395
<b>10. marawi</b>	<b>555.000000</b>	<b>50.259181</b>
11. were	267.000000	49.206386
12. for	425.000000	48.571289

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13. law	129.000000	47.787104
14. terrorists	207.000000	47.249637
15. was	315.000000	46.799199
16. are	314.000000	46.619766
17. we	335.000000	46.257502
18. have	255.000000	43.348666
19. on	381.000000	42.772005
20. maute	237.000000	40.479567
21. hostages	104.000000	39.948509
22. is	412.000000	39.841092
23. troops	157.000000	39.798585
24. they	245.000000	39.362017
25. city	404.000000	39.182104
26. that	500.000000	38.511068
27. as	301.000000	37.832328
28. will	206.000000	37.781443
29. duterte	141.000000	37.212844
30. children	72.000000	36.923790
31. soganub	41.000000	36.554319
32. his	134.000000	35.742558
33. she	82.000000	35.625795
34. peace	66.000000	34.205804
35. be	238.000000	33.551587
36. i	112.000000	32.427679
37. padilla	74.000000	31.489364
38. with	256.000000	31.313021
39. by	295.000000	30.622133
40. na	52.000000	30.261538
41. their	203.000000	30.164025
42. mindanao	159.000000	29.284462
43. her	46.000000	28.768332
44. still	103.000000	28.735340
45. hapilon	73.000000	28.049816
46. militants	93.000000	28.036225
47. gunmen	50.000000	27.361374
48. military	218.000000	27.240285
49. them	107.000000	26.676793
50. buada	15.000000	26.596765

**Appendix D**  
Collocate information

Appendix D provides the statistical details of the first and second order collocates of the node word MARAWI.

**A. Collocates of MARAWI (MI3)**

Frequency: 555

Number of collocates: 70

Index	Position	Collocate	Stat	Collocation frequency	Corpus frequency
1	L	in	20.60228	275	1153
2	R	city	20.56027	192	404
3	L	the	19.97433	349	3642
4	L	of	18.39494	184	1595
5	L	to	16.9875	129	1458
6	R	said	15.11497	69	817
7	L	for	14.66384	50	425
8	R	and	14.36839	67	1255
9	R	siege	14.28299	21	41
10	L	task	14.25945	20	36
11	L	rehabilitation	14.03706	20	42
12	R	is	13.84975	41	412
13	L	from	13.70917	34	259
14	R	that	13.67476	42	500
15	R	on	13.63373	38	381
16	L	force	13.59266	19	49
17	L	rebuilding	13.37691	15	28
18	R	a	13.29181	42	652
19	R	crisis	13.23007	15	31
20	L	joint	13.0968	15	34
21	L	reconstruction	12.97995	13	24
22	L	battle	12.92197	19	78
23	L	out	12.84613	21	111
24	R	conflict	12.6307	16	57
25	R	residents	12.6307	16	57
26	L	up	12.53615	17	73
27	L	maute	12.32973	24	237
28	R	duterte	12.28982	20	141
29	L	still	12.28687	18	103
30	R	military	12.26609	23	218

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31	R	he	12.03477	27	414
32	R	armed	11.89886	15	78
33	R	23	11.86093	12	41
34	L	holed	11.84441	10	24
35	L	by	11.82971	23	295
36	R	will	11.74287	20	206
37	R	with	11.64054	21	256
38	L	fighting	11.54041	15	100
39	R	may	11.47626	14	85
40	R	which	11.27951	13	78
41	R	as	11.19576	20	301
42	R	since	11.14397	10	39
43	R	government	11.0465	17	205
44	L	terrorists	11.03249	17	207
45	R	was	10.90817	19	315
46	R	we	10.81936	19	335
47	L	group	10.80922	15	166
48	R	forces	10.76671	14	139
49	R	after	10.69492	12	92
50	R	are	10.67874	18	314
51	R	president	10.6224	13	123
52	L	troops	10.59103	14	157
53	R	be	10.56877	16	238
54	L	operations	10.4521	10	63
55	R	has	10.29812	13	154
56	R	they	10.24762	15	245
57	R	have	10.18991	15	255
58	R	it	10.08109	13	179
59	L	end	10.06648	9	60
60	L	security	10.06648	9	60
61	M	our	10.02865	12	146
62	M	some	9.937522	10	90
63	L	peace	9.928971	9	66
64	R	but	9.887561	12	161
65	R	more	9.771163	10	101
66	L	added	9.633516	9	81
67	R	were	9.504214	13	267
68	R	islamic	9.465571	9	91
69	L	militants	9.434207	9	93
70	L	people	9.418777	9	94

**B. Collocates of MARAWI (LL)**

Frequency: 555

Number of collocates: 73

Index	Position	Collocate	Stat	Collocation frequency	Corpus frequency
1	L	in	1372.84	275	1153
2	R	city	1239.517	192	404
3	L	the	1142.926	349	3642
4	L	of	598.3586	184	1595
5	L	to	339.8958	129	1458
6	R	said	169.113	69	817
7	L	for	152.549	50	425
8	R	siege	132.5901	21	41
9	L	task	130.8206	20	36
10	L	rehabilitation	122.2846	20	42
11	R	is	111.3258	41	412
12	L	from	110.1856	34	259
13	R	and	109.8077	67	1255
14	L	force	106.1218	19	49
15	R	on	103.1678	38	381
16	R	that	100.8308	42	500
17	L	rebuilding	96.4262	15	28
18	R	crisis	92.22315	15	31
19	L	joint	88.57025	15	34
20	L	battle	85.59019	19	78
21	L	reconstruction	83.92985	13	24
22	L	out	83.26085	21	111
23	R	a	80.90752	42	652
24	R	conflict	77.0635	16	57
25	R	residents	77.0635	16	57
26	L	up	74.84739	17	73
27	L	still	68.29783	18	103
28	R	duterte	67.45268	20	141
29	L	maute	65.34438	24	237
30	R	military	64.37828	23	218
31	R	armed	59.83917	15	78
32	R	23	58.85862	12	41
33	L	holed	57.49575	10	24
34	R	will	52.74729	20	206
35	L	fighting	52.15612	15	100
36	R	he	52.05816	27	414
37	L	by	51.47987	23	295
38	R	may	51.32047	14	85
39	R	with	48.87617	21	256

40	R	which	47.94951	13	78
41	R	since	46.02997	10	39
42	R	government	39.80729	17	205
43	L	terrorists	39.50714	17	207
44	R	as	39.02708	20	301
45	R	after	38.32217	12	92
46	R	forces	37.7676	14	139
47	L	group	37.44535	15	166
48	R	president	36.23759	13	123
49	L	operations	35.83823	10	63
50	L	troops	34.58636	14	157
51	R	was	33.89609	19	315
52	R	we	31.92877	19	335
53	R	be	31.46414	16	238
54	L	end	31.20816	9	60
55	L	security	31.20816	9	60
56	R	has	30.79	13	154
57	R	are	30.5474	18	314
58	L	peace	29.4914	9	66
59	M	some	28.78594	10	90
60	M	our	27.82185	12	146
61	R	it	27.27521	13	179
62	R	they	27.06574	15	245
63	R	more	26.59615	10	101
64	R	have	26.05092	15	255
65	L	added	25.89394	9	81
66	R	but	25.7132	12	161
67	R	islamic	23.9049	9	91
68	L	militants	23.53802	9	93
69	L	people	23.35806	9	94
70	R	were	18.5218	13	267
71	R	who	15.86511	9	150
72	R	at	13.91006	9	171
73	R	not	12.54226	9	188

**C. Collocates of MARAWI and city**

Frequency of city: 404 Number of collocates: 48 Shared: 38

Index	Position	Collocate	Stat	Collocation frequency	Corpus frequency
1	L	marawi	20.56471	192	555
2	L	the	19.81086	302	3642
3	L	in	19.79343	205	1153
4	L	of	17.11437	123	1595

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5	L	to	16.64079	107	1458
6	L	iligan	15.21051	19	22
7	R	on	14.0963	38	381
8	L	quezon	13.84503	11	11
9	L	from	13.17402	27	259
10	L	war-torn	12.97651	9	11
11	R	and	12.91149	43	1255
12	R	a	12.83982	34	652
13	R	that	12.53432	29	500
14	R	said	12.51436	34	817
15	L	holed	11.85098	9	24
16	R	del	11.76267	10	35
17	R	was	11.59274	20	315
18	L	maute	11.5472	18	237
19	R	23	11.5344	10	41
20	L	terrorists	11.49507	17	207
21	R	as	11.43633	19	301
22	R	lanao	11.33736	10	47
23	L	into	11.15054	9	39
24	L	up	11.11463	11	73
25	L	rehabilitation	11.04362	9	42
26	R	is	10.98345	19	412
27	L	areas	10.94409	9	45
28	R	may	10.89507	11	85
29	R	he	10.74245	18	414
30	R	by	10.72159	16	295
31	R	have	10.65248	15	255
32	L	group	10.65244	13	166
33	M	armed	10.60655	10	78
34	R	we	10.53815	16	335
35	L	out	10.51004	11	111
36	R	has	10.41426	12	154
37	R	at	10.2632	12	171
38	R	which	10.15054	9	78
39	R	with	9.681051	12	256
40	R	government	9.624979	11	205
41	R	were	9.620355	12	267
42	R	will	9.617958	11	206
43	R	been	9.61576	9	113
44	R	but	9.561031	10	161
45	R	military	9.536274	11	218
46	R	forces	9.316998	9	139
47	R	for	9.296164	13	425
48	R	are	9.009838	11	314

**D. Collocates of MARAWI and said**Frequency of *said*: 817 Number of collocates: 67/108 Shared: 46

Index	Position	Collocate	Stat	Collocation frequency	Corpus frequency
1	L	he	21.49861	274	414
2	R	the	21.21704	530	3642
3	L	padilla	17.55114	62	74
4	L	she	16.47202	50	82
5	R	of	16.45693	134	1595
6	R	in	16.18736	113	1153
7	L	brawner	15.98679	33	33
8	L	lorenzana	15.86043	38	55
9	L	military	15.77775	59	218
10	R	was	15.73198	66	315
11		said	15.69937	90	817
12	L	año	15.69347	37	57
13	R	to	15.65289	108	1458
14	R	a	15.56883	81	652
15	L	abella	15.50569	32	42
16	L	marawi	15.10723	69	555
17	R	that	15.0654	66	500
18	R	is	14.78545	58	412
19	R	were	14.76888	50	267
20	R	they	14.62513	47	245
21	L	duterte	14.38681	37	141
22	R	it	14.37997	40	179
23	L	galvez	14.36941	22	30
24	R	also	14.3525	36	133
25	L	herrera	14.3221	22	31
26	L	and	14.11431	72	1255
27	R	on	13.98812	47	381
28	L	gen.	13.75274	22	46
29	L	adiong	13.51654	17	25
30	R	not	13.4766	33	188
31	R	had	13.08811	25	107
32	L	this	13.08166	28	151
33	R	have	13.03683	33	255
34	L	secretary	12.99793	19	50
36	R	are	12.86577	34	314
37	R	terrorists	12.77846	29	207

39	L	for	12.67646	36	425
41	R	soganub	12.54045	16	41
43	L	city	12.50218	34	404
46	R	there	12.38148	22	119
47	L	spokesman	12.33327	15	39
48	R	we	12.23066	30	335
49	R	his	12.21021	22	134
50	L	hostages	12.16335	20	104
51	M	soldiers	12.08243	20	110
54	L	with	11.99932	26	256
55	R	troops	11.98168	22	157
56	R	still	11.95529	19	103
59	R	afp	11.91247	17	76
60	L	our	11.88513	21	146
61	L	chief	11.7607	15	58
62	R	be	11.75807	24	238
63	R	will	11.5898	22	206
64	L	added	11.55815	16	81
65	L	children	11.44875	15	72
66	R	as	11.41927	24	301
67	R	who	11.41297	19	150
69	L	president	11.21788	17	123
71	M	government	11.18431	20	205
72	R	would	11.11088	15	91
74	R	fighting	10.97482	15	100
76	R	has	10.89361	17	154
78	R	martial	10.87564	16	130
79	L	but	10.82948	17	161
86	L	their	10.49506	17	203
94	L	mindanao	10.30579	15	159
101	R	maute	10.00926	16	237

**E. Collocates of MARAWI and Maute**

Frequency of Maute: 231

Number of collocates: 35

Shared: 21

Index	Position	Collocate	Stat	Collocation frequency	Corpus frequency
1	L	the	19.74772	242	3642
2	R	to	15.82164	72	1458
3	R	said	15.79538	59	817
4	L	and	13.80696	43	1255
5	R	in	13.61625	40	1153

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6	R	had	13.08018	16	107	
7	L	police	12.61497	11	48	
8	L	that	12.42654	23	500	
9	L	marawi	12.27598	23	555	
10	R	operations	12.22266	11	63	
11	L	a	11.64987	21	652	
12	L	of	11.60437	28	1595	
13	R	on	11.51038	17	381	
14	L	by	11.33774	15	295	
15	R	has	11.30974	12	154	
16	R	not	11.02194	12	188	
17	L	maute	10.68779	12	237	
18	R	was	10.62375	13	315	
19	R	it	10.30361	10	179	
20	L	he	10.22947	13	414	
21	R	is	9.890029	12	412	
22	R	as	9.553807	10	301	
23	L	city	9.541726	11	404	
24	R	are	9.492806	10	314	
25	L	for	9.468618	11	425	
26	R	they	9.394779	9	245	

## Appendix E

### Sample news article

#### Screenshots from the PressReader application:



## AFP thwarts Marawi burning

Gov't forces in full control of besieged city; surgical airstrikes continue

By FRANCIS T. WAKEFIELD and GENALYN D. KABILING

**T**he plan of the Islamic State-linked Maute Group to burn down the besieged city during the month of Ramadan was

thwarted when government forces raided one of the hideouts of the local terrorist group, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) revealed yesterday.

AFP Chief of Staff General Eduardo Año said the Maute plan was uncovered following a night raid on one of the terror group's hideouts in Marawi City. Other significant information were also uncovered during the raid, but Año

declined to disclose it.

The terrorist Maute-ISIS Group was surprised by raiding government forces in that safe house in Barangay Basak Maitutin, Marawi, occupied by Junlon Hapilon – the touted "Amir" of ISIS in

the Philippines," Año said.

APF Public Affairs Office chief Martin Coquel Edgar Arevalo said the grand plan to burn down the entire city of Marawi in the ensuing two weeks was thwarted as a result of the raid. ►8

#### Continuation:

### AFP thwarts Marawi...

"Hence, what others termed to be a 'botched raid' turned out to be an 'aberrative raid that prevented what could have been carnage of an Islamic City in two weeks yet," Arevalo said.

"And this explains why at the time of the raid, the terrorist group was able to pull out almost instantaneously and simultaneously counter actions in various locations in the city to distract the focus of the raid," Arevalo added.

So far Arevalo said the terrorist Maute-ISIS Group has suffered 61 - 42 physically accounted for and 19 based on eyewitness accounts - dead and undetermined number of wounded in the ongoing government offensive Marawi.

On Monday, government forces traded heavy gunfire with the Maute militants, as fears grew for up to 2,000 people unable to escape a week of fighting.

"They are text us and calling us for help," Zia Alonto Adiong, spokesman for the provincial crisis management committee, said of the 2,000 people his office had recorded being unable to leave areas held by the militants.

"They can't leave because they are afraid of running into checkpoints put up by the gunmen."

Myrna Bandung, a Catholic woman,

told reporters at a checkpoint on Monday how she was spared by the militants.

"They did not kill me because I was able to recite a Muslim prayer. The others were not so lucky," said a visibly shocked Bandung, who was with eight others who accompanied one of the bodies out of the city.

#### Daring escape

Meanwhile, CNN Philippines television reported that 10 people took hostage while fleeing Marawi had escaped their Maute captors during the Monday air strike and are now in safe hands. The 11th man who tried to escape drowned while crossing a river.

The group said they decided to plan the daring escape after another hostage was beheaded Sunday.

The escapees said that they had no food to eat while being held captive in a building by maestizo-looking men. They also learned that a priest and some women were also held hostage at the same building.

#### Cleared by June 1?

But the military declared Monday that it is already in full control of Marawi, expressing hope that it can clear the besieged city of Maute terrorists by June 1.

In a text message sent to reporters,

Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana said as far as they are concerned the area should be cleared of militants by Thursday June 1.

In a press briefing in Macauanang, AFT spokesman Brig. Gen. Restituto Padilla said that when he says they are in full control it means that they can control who comes in and who comes out, and moves around and who doesn't in the city.

"We have complete control of the city, contrary to what is coming out in social media and other information, perhaps some fake news," Padilla said.

"We are trying to end all these pockets of resistance that have remained," he added.

"Although we do not have a timeline, we're seeking to end this as soon as possible. Our ground commanders have assured us that the end is almost there so we hope to get clear results," Padilla said in a Palace press conference.

"It is not true that half of the city is controlled by the rebels. Totally untrue. The armed forces and the police and all armed – our forces are in complete control of the city, except for certain areas of the city where they continue to hold. These are the subject of clearing operations that are continuously being conducted," he said.

Padilla assured that martial law in Mindanao will be lifted as soon as law and order have been restored in the region,

especially in Marawi City.

Director General Ronald dela Rosa, chief of the Philippine National Police (PNP), said he will recommend the lifting of the martial law in Mindanao as soon as the security situation in Marawi City normalizes.

But right now, dela Rosa said it is too early to predict the outcome of the ongoing police and military operations against the Maute Group since a lot of its fighters are still holed up in Marawi City.

#### Reconstruction plan

Meanwhile, Macauanang assured that the government will find ways to reconstruct the lives of the people affected by the attacks in Marawi City as the total number of civilians rescued by the military climbed to 390 as of Sunday evening.

Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO) Assistant Secretary Marie Banago said both the provincial and national government will look into how to deliver the assistance to the residents affected by the ongoing armed conflict in Marawi City. According to Banago, the National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC) will work with the local government units (LGUs) at the municipal level first. But if that is not enough, she said the calamity fund of the LGU will be utilized.

"Però kung hindi kakayahan ng calamity fund (But if the calamity fund will not be enough), the provincial government and the national government will look into it kung papaano (on how we can extend the assistance)," she said during the first episode of the Mindanao Hour Monday

morning.

#### Rescue 'child warriors'

As this developed, Senator Nancy Binay called on the AFP members of the media, and the local government of Marawi City to rescue the children allegedly being used by the Maute Group as "child warriors."

Binay said the reported participation of children in the ongoing conflict in Marawi is seriously alarming and untrue, is "inhumane and morally unacceptable."

"I'm asking the AFP, local officials, residents, and the media to confirm the presence of child warriors in Marawi," Binay said in a statement.

"It is inhumane and morally unacceptable to use children in armed combat roles, and expose them to extreme violence," the senator said.

Based on the account of a policeman involved in the clearing operations in Marawi City, the Maute Group is using children aged 10 to 16 years old to carry out their ambushes and were reportedly carrying baby armalites.

If indeed the reports are true, Binay said she is appealing to the military to do everything to spare the children.

"They are not combatants nor should they be treated as rebels. Sila rin po ay mga biktima ng karahasan at maligang ideolohiya (They, too, are victims of violence and wrong ideology). It is our moral duty to save them from the horrors of war," Binay added. (With reports from AFP, Reuters, Aaron B. Recueno, Argyll B. Gochico, Mike Crisimundo, and Hannah L. Torregosa)

### Palace clarifies PRRD's...

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mostly would ignore the two branches

in Mindanao

Pimentel III attended the meeting.

"The senators will listen to the briefing (of the defense and security officials led by Esancon) and they do

**RETYPE FULL TEXT EXAMPLE:****AFP thwarts Marawi burning*****Gov't forces in full control of besieged city; surgical airstrikes continue***

(May 30, 2017)



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## Wilfred Gabriel Aguirre GAPAS

### Curriculum vitae

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☎ +639998189949

Web: <https://senseigab.github.io>



#### ※ Experience

**Instructor** (August-December 2019)

English Area, College of Education, Colegio de San Juan de Letran, Manila

**Module writer (project-based)** (2018-2019)

Research Center for Teacher Quality, Philippine Normal University, Manila

**Lecturer** (2016-2017)

Department of English, Institute of Arts and Sciences, Far Eastern University, Manila

#### ※ Education

**MA English Language Studies**, University of Santo Tomas, Manila (2020)

**BA English Language Studies (cum laude)**, University of Santo Tomas (2015)

#### ※ Publication

**Gapas, W. G. A.** (2016). The discourse organization of Philippine university newspaper opinion columns. *Asian Journal of English Language Studies*, 4, 34-53. Available at <https://ajels.ust.edu.ph/volume-category/volume-4/>

#### ※ Conference Presentations

**Gapas, W. G. A.** (2019). *Investigating the discursive newsworthiness of the 2017 Marawi City Siege*. The 20th English in Southeast Asia Conference, Raffles Town Club, Singapore.

**Gapas, W. G. A.** (2018). *A discursive news values analysis of the Duterte administration's war on illegal drugs*. 2018 Linguistic Society of the Philippines National Conference and General Meeting, Balanga, Bataan.

**Gapas, W. G. A.**, & Lintao, R. B. (2017). *Spoken communication difficulties and coping strategies of selected medical technology students*. 2017 Philippine Association of Language Teachers International Conference, University of Santo Tomas, Manila.

#### ※ Invited Talks

**Appreciating Language Realities through Philippine English**, Bulacan Agricultural State College, San Ildefonso, Bulacan, August 28, 2019

**Introducing World Englishes: One Language, Multiple Identities, Multiple Realities**, Senior High School, Far Eastern University, Manila. September 7, 2018

**Language, Gender, and Discourses: Things People Should Know (Parallel Session)**, The 3rd Communication Conference: Exploring the Realm of Communication, De La Salle University, Manila. August 4-5, 2017

**Publication and Research Ethics**, Far Eastern University, Manila. March 14, 2017

**Action Research** (co-facilitated with Mr. Danny O. Balance), University of Santo Tomas, Manila. October 29, 2015

#### ※ Professional membership: Lifetime member, Linguistic Society of the Philippines

#### ※ Research interests: (instructed) second language acquisition, social justice and equity in language education, language and the media, textual construction of knowledge and identity, language politics, deception and aggression, populist rhetoric