

Corpus-Based Critical Discourse Analysis of “Violence Against Women in Turkey”

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It is generally the case that Turkish media tend to focus on violence against a woman with a belief that “the victim is always a woman” and this corpus-based critical discourse analysis aims to offer an insight into the various aspects of violence against women with a specific focus on the possible causes by analyzing the news of violence in Turkish mainstream media. For this purpose, a corpus is compiled from the Daily Hürriyet and the size of the corpus is 75,818. In this analysis, collocations, semantic prosodies, and keywords are analyzed according to the data compiled from 200 news published in 2021. While analyzing the data, the corpus-based methodology is used and the analysis includes quantitative and qualitative data. For the data analysis, Sketch Engine which is a corpus application having various options such as word sketch, word lists, and collocation functions are used. The findings are classified according to certain themes. The analysis is made based on such key terms as “victimiser, victim, etc.”. The frequently used words and word patterns are examined and their possible correspondence with the targeted domains are analyzed. Preliminary findings indicate that the major factors behind the acts of violence against women were sexual and domestic as well as jealous or former husbands. Other relevant data (words and word combinations) are categorized in the form of tables. With this study, we aim to show what kind of language is used in the mainstream media related to violence against women and how this language use affects the perceptions and attitudes of the readers in due course.

Keywords: femicide, violence, Turkish Woman, corpus analysis, media discourse, Sketch Engine

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