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### CROSS-GENDER VICTIMS' NAMING IN SEXUAL VIOLENCE NEWS IN PAKISTANI NEWSPAPERS: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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**Index Terms - Critical Discourse Analysis, Theo Van Leeuwen's Inclusion Strategy, Social Actor Network, Sexual Crimes.**

#### ABSTRACT

The present study attempts to unravel social actors' naming (male and female) used by means of language. It explores and compares opposite genders as a victim in sexual offence news from Pakistani English newspapers. Accordingly, this research is qualitative in its nature. To achieve the set objectives, total 16 news samples are taken from four English newspapers i.e. The Express-Tribune, Dawn, Daily Times and Daily Pakistan. The textual data are retrieved from January 20, 2018 to September 09, 2022. The male and female's data are categorized according to the legal terms as incest, sodomy and rape. For this purpose, Theo Van Leeuwen's inclusion strategy in social actor network (2008) is used to investigate gender stereotypes via Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). This research draws conclusion that cross-gender victims are foregrounded and placed on active position in distal relations but are on passive in proximal relations. Furthermore, male victims are described with relational, national, age classifications and through appraisal while female victims' names are labelled with physical identity, age and gender classifications.

#### INTRODUCTION

The primary purpose of this research is to analyze construal of male and female genders as a victim in sexual abuse reports. The secondary objective is to explore power, dominance and marginalization of social actors in sexual offences' news from Pakistani local English newspapers. This research contains textual data and offers frequencies of each strategy used in adapted Van

Leeuwen's model (2008). As this issue is available in any mass-media as on internet, television, magazines etc. but Pakistani local print papers were taken for the detection of media discourse. For this resolution, natural sexual offences especially rape and incest news and from unnatural sexual offences especially sodomy related news are taken according to legal terms. This research draws on adapted model of Van Leeuwen model (Leeuwen, 2008) for discourse of sexual violence news. As, Van Leeuwen's model in discourse analysis is used to identify marginalized position of an individual or a group (Patalia, 2020). The central dichotomy in this theory is inclusion vs exclusion but researchers' interest is towards inclusion strategy to compare nominals of cross-genders as a victim and how social actors are referred in sexual crime reports. Along with that, this research provides insight about the construction strategy used by selected newspapers. The comparative results provide information about social actors' role as victims and offenders in news reports.

The next section discusses some preceding researches related to genders' construction in sexual crimes periodicals from the standpoint of critical discourse analysis.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

The former researches related to the topic are mentioned below:

Ahmed et al. (2020) analyzed stylistics and linguistic construction of offender and victim used in Zainab case (2018 to 2019) via news stories. The results show that only proper nouns are used for offender (Erwin-Tripp, 1969, Richardson, 2007) and offender is in subjective position. Furthermore, dominant groups give names and labels that give dominant ideology in codes/code words (Mills, 2005). While in linguistic construction of victim, nouns provide information about victim's relation with the offender. Victim's names are only mentioned in passive voice and on object position. Additionally, proper noun (Zainab) is mentioned to depict her biological sex but in majority cases name was not mentioned that led to a confusion.

Evayani, Rido (2019) analyzed social actors through sexual abuse by employing Van Leeuwen theory of social actor-network (Leeuwen, 2008). The data for analysis had taken from two newspapers i.e. "The New York Times" and "The Jakarta Post". After that, the results of inclusion strategy show that perpetrators are presented on active and victim on passive position. 'The Jakarta Post' uses assimilation strategy in which social actors are represented as a group of people as well as through their occupation. Moreover, nomination, formalization and informalization strategies are used. Whereas "The New York Times" presents actors by means of their names as individual and by providing occupation or achievements for specific information. It mostly classifies according to their age and gender. This news also uses semi-formalization, honorification and formalization strategies for social actors.

Risdaneva (2018) analyzed news reporting from sexual violence crimes via critical discourse analysis. 'Naming' as an analytical tool was used to explore portrayal of social roles (men and women) in particular context from 'The Jakarta Post (JP)' and 'The Guardian (TG)' (Leeuwen, 2003). The results display that

men are referred through 'functionalization' and 60% of 91 occurrences are of function in JP. Moreover, the 'suspect' word frequency is 44 times out of 63 occurrences for men while men are referred in terms of their jobs are only 31% of 28 occurrences in the JP. The distribution shows that JP does not functionalize men with their occupations but JP newspaper construct women via their position in the legal world. Moreover, three types of words and many tokens are used for women particularly for the word 'victim' are used 50% of all occurrences. While in TG, frequency of functionalization is not significant for perpetrators and victims. It occurred only 12 and 9 times respectively. For men, 'different terms as 'suspect', 'rapist', etc. are used but for female, only one type of word is used for victim. Pekkarinen (2016) represented social actors (victims and perpetrators) in selected US sexual violence news articles. For critical discourse analysis, the data were collected from United States namely 'Los Angeles Times', 'Washington Post', and 'The New York Times'. The selected articles were published in 2014 or 2015 and arranged from latest to oldest. Fairclough model was used for vocabulary analysis via textual analysis.

Tehseem (2016) investigated rape victim's character construal in Pakistani news reporting. For this investigation, news editorials and reports were collected from 'Dawn' and 'The News' Pakistani English newspapers from sexual violence news stories. For frequency analysis, UAM corpus tool was used. (O'Donnell, 2011). Three analytical tools were used, among that naming analysis is included via Van Leeuwen for discourse analysis. The results conclude that both newspapers represented social actors with slight difference in functionalization naming category and used most common naming strategy with equal distribution in classification category for both social actors. Additionally, it depends on the newspapers to portray offender as active agent. Moreover 'Dawn' projects the crime from males' viewpoint. Whereas, 'The News' portrays from victim's perspective.

Musa and Waseem (2015) collected news columns from September, 2014 to February, 2015 from Dawn, to discover the differences in the representation of women in media discourse. In each corpus, there were 24774 tokens and analyzed through corpus linguistics and critical discourse analysis is used to increase the objectivity of the research (Mahmood, 2004). The corpora were interpreted via AntConc. 3.4.1 and keynes technique i.e., woman/women, girl/girls and 'she' pronoun are used through semantic roles and associated social roles.

Saleem et al. (2014) analyzed rape reports through language and discourse from Urdu and English newspapers. Language of the rape reports were analyzed via headings, subheadings, labeling, naming, adjectives are used for victims. News reports are analyzed via reasons given for the crime, exercise of power, troubles for the family, role of law in these cases. In conclusion, the results show that conscious choices of words are used in headlines. After that, it was discussed that victims' names are presented with the first letter for females' name or describes by her male kin relation. The victim's name is concealed or hidden but other particulars and specification are presented in details that identifies the victim. The purpose of reporting is to show dominance on female sexuality and shows her as less powerful in rape reports Tabbert (2013) analyzed and

compared the construction of offenders and victims through language. For corpus linguistics analysis, the data were collected from German and British newspaper articles and analyzed via Wordsmith Tools software package (Scott, 2004).

After close reading of previous researches on sexual violence news, the researchers found a research gap that all sexual types as incest, sodomy, rape etc. are analyzed under the same category. As victims and offenders (proximal and distal relations) are positioned differently. Secondly, the research took Zainab news report (Ahmed, 2020) for name analysis of social actors that results are not applicable in all cases. Thirdly, previous researchers are comparing male offenders and female victims' perspective (Tehseem, 2016) within a news report but this study is focusing on male and female genders as a victim across news reports. That is why, the researchers observed a research gap at methodological and analytical level.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This section sheds light on data collection method, sampling technique, nature of data, sample and demographics being used in conducting this study. In data collection method, qualitative descriptive approach is fitted in this research because data are taken from secondary sources especially from English newspapers related to sexual offence news. The nature of data is non-numerical, based on written text (news) in the form of words and sentences for analysis. This public document has been collected from four leading English newspapers of Pakistan i.e. "The Express-Tribune" (henceforth ET), "Dawn" (henceforth DN), "Daily Times" (henceforth DT) and "Daily Pakistan" (henceforth DP) through manual probing and by applying filter on Google Chrome as the access to each newspaper via online official website was relatively convenient.

### ***Ethical Consideration***

The researchers considered these ethical guidelines during this research: Firstly, anonymity and confidentiality of participants are taken into consideration in crime news. Secondly, deceptive or misleading practices are avoided. Thirdly, psychological harm to individuals is evaded.

### ***Sample and Demographics***

In this study, systematic random sampling technique is used for selection of sexual news. The data have been designed by considering nature of rape offences and relationship between offender and victim. The data are collected and classified the actors (male and female victims) according to typology of sexual offence as sodomy, rape, incest in legal terms. The first category contains male victims while other contains female victims. Then, the data are narrowed down in which the female data are classified into rape cases in which strangers are involved with females. In incest sexual crime news, proximal relations made a sexual relation with females. For male representation, sodomy related news data are taken in which male social actors are victims of his own proximal relations vs. in impersonal relations, sodomy (strangers) associated news data were taken for Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA).

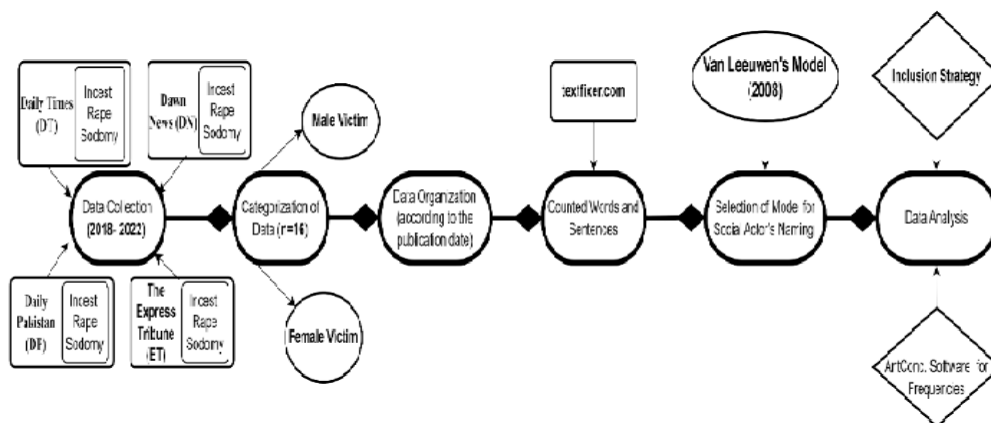
The relevant data were taken from four i.e DP, DT, ET, DN local English newspapers, published from January, 2018 to September, 2022. During the data collection process, it was kept in mind to take all data from identical newspapers correlated with raped cases. The data contain eight female rape and incest news and eight sodomized male victim news. The total data contain 3319 words, based upon 16 texts (news). The word and sentence counts were checked through free online sentence counter tool i.e., textfixer.com. The number of words collected from Dawn News, The Express Tribune, Daily Times and Daily Pakistan were 678, 994, 756 and 891 words respectively. The sample of incest news are organized according to the publication date. The distribution of rape (incest) news over different newspapers are: DP, DT, ET, DN contain words count i.e., 291, 264, 224, 98 and have 19, 16, 14, 6 sentences respectively. In DP and DN father-daughter relations are discussed and in DT and ET have girl-brother-in-law and girl-relative (unnamed) are reported. The sum consists of (n=877). Likewise, rape news in which offenders and victims are strangers, are taken from similar newspapers. The distribution of rape (strangers) news over different newspapers are: ET, DP, DN, DT have 260, 149, 272, 215 word counts and contain 11, 7, 11, 12 sentences respectively. The newspapers reported woman-kidnappers, woman-stuffers of Bahauddin Zakariya Express train, woman-robbers, woman - 2 constables and 3 others. The sum of rape news is n=896. The total sum of female news data (rape and incest) is n=1773. While sodomized (male victim) reports were also selected in which proximal relations are depicted and are also organized according to the publication date. The sample of sodomy (proximal relation) text consists of (n=748) words. The distribution of sodomy (proximal relation) news in selected newspapers are: ET, DN, DP, DT have word counts i.e., 322, 156, 187, 83 with 18, 8, 11, 6 sentences count respectively. A list of victims and offenders' relations was created, to consider all possible relations. ET news reported man-nephew DN have boy-relative, DP consists of siblings (brother-brother) relation, and DT share man - cousin relation. While sodomy (strangers) reported news, consists of (n=798) words. In addition, the division of sodomy (strangers) news from chosen newspapers i.e., ET, DN, DP, DT, have 188, 152, 264, 194 words count and sentence counts are 10, 8, 11, 8 respectively. In above mentioned newspapers, boy- Mansoor rapist, boy - Nadeem Aslam rapist, man - 18 roommates as rapists and Arshad Ahmed - boy as victims and offenders are reported. The sum of male sodomized cases is (n=1546).

It was observed that female data are more in number as compared to male news and selected female news articles have a greater number of words as compared to male. Still the researchers did not remove words/ sentences from female news to equalize both data. As this research is focusing on nominals/ naming of both genders in sexual crimes news so unequal word tokens did not effect on the research. The purpose of this categorization was to look both genders' naming as a victim used by newsreporters.

#### **ANALYSIS PROCEDURE:**

The data are analyzed through numerous steps: (1) read all collected articles multiple times and highlighted naming and positioning of agents (2) categorize news data according to the Van Leeuwen's theory (3) For activation and

passivation, the researchers manually analyzed each sentence for both social agent's positioning and their frequencies (4) converted word (Doc) files into XML format by using online convertor and saved files by adding extension (.txt) at the end of files (5) loaded XML files by clicking on 'corpus database' in AntConc. Software (version 4.0.10) from Laurence Anthony's website (6) extract the frequencies (8) conclude the findings. The procedure of data collection and analysis are mentioned via flowchart (3.3.1) for better understanding of the procedure.



**Figure 3.3** Data Collection and Analyzing Procedure

**Theory and Model**

The depiction of social actors is discussed by Van Leeuwen's model (2008). This social actor network approach or socio-semantic framework (Nursya'bani, 2014) presents that how social actors are positioned in an unsuitable place and others on foregrounded position text (Evayani, 2019). The researchers adopted this model for explanation of nominal terms through sexual violence data.

**Analytical Tool**

The social actors' naming in sexual crime news are analyzed through inclusion strategy namely role allocation and its subcategories as activation, passivation. Then personalization has determination category which is further sub-classified as categorization, nomination. Firstly, categorization includes functionalization, appraisal, identification. In identification, classification is further isolated into five categories: age, gender, provenance, class, ethnicity, nationality while identification has further two sub-classes as relational and physical identification. Secondly, nomination include formalization, informalization, semi-formalization, obscuration, and titular.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

This section tinted data from sexual offences news, by focusing on construal of cross- genders' naming in four Pakistani newspapers. It also compares social actor's identity and power hidden in media discourse. To get appropriate results, Social Actor Network by Theo Van Leeuwen's model (2008) was used that contains two categories namely inclusion and exclusion (Evayani, 2019). When social actors are omitted for particular purpose from the events or activity is

called **exclusion** (Nursya'bani, 2014). It has two subcategories: suppression (no reference related to the social actors) and backgrounding (social actors are excluded but mentioned in another sentence in a text). But this research is directing only on **inclusion**. It foregrounds the actor in an action within discourse (Leeuwen, 2008). It is further separated into three sub-categories i.e., role allocation, the ways social actors are involved in the roles, personalization and impersonalization of the social actors.

### *Role Allocation*

Firstly, role allocation emphasizes the type of role as active or passive. It has further two subclasses: activation (henceforth A) and Passivation (henceforth P) (Leeuwen, 2008). In **activation strategy**, social actor is presented in active position in an activity. The aim is to present the social actor as foregrounded for the reader (Qanitat, 2015). While in **passivation strategy**, social actor is represented at the receiving end (Qanitat, 2015) or shown as the static force (Nursya'bani, 2014). Secondly, activation and passivation are apprehended through social actors' involvement to the roles.

### *Female Victim*

In incest news especially in father–daughter relation, female victims are on passive position and male offenders are on active position. It follows the same pattern in intertextuality. It confirms power and dominance of father as a rapist over the victimized daughter.

### ***Excerpt 1: Father held for repeatedly raping 15-year-old girl in Rawalpindi (Daily Pakistan, January 20, 2018)***

While, social actors (rapist and victim) mostly originated in same sentence with 5 and 4 ratios (26%, 66%) in DP and DN but DT and ET news have less ratio with the occurrence of 1 and 4 (6%, 28%) Whereas, **female victims** are on passive position with same ratio as male offenders have in DP and DN newspaper as occurrences 5 and 4 (26%, 66%) but in DT and ET have 0 or 4 (0% and 28%). Additionally, in incest news (far relations), **female victims** mostly arise on active position and male offenders are on passive place. The **female victims** mostly arise with the occurrences of 6 and 5 as 37% and 31% in DT and ET but DP and DN have less ratio 2 and 1 as 10% and 16% in active position and **male offenders** are on passive with the occurrence of 4 in both DT and ET as percentages are 25% and 28% and DP and DN have less value as 5 and 2 with the percentages of 26% and 33%.

### ***Excerpt 2: Girl alleges was gang-raped by brother-in-law, accomplices (Daily Times, June 19, 2021)***

The rape news in which victim and offenders are strangers. The results demonstrate that **female victims** are on active and subject position with the value of 5, 5, 4, 5 and percentages of 71%, 41%, 36%, 45% in DP, DT, ET and DN news Whereas, **male offenders** are frequently on object position with 4, 2,

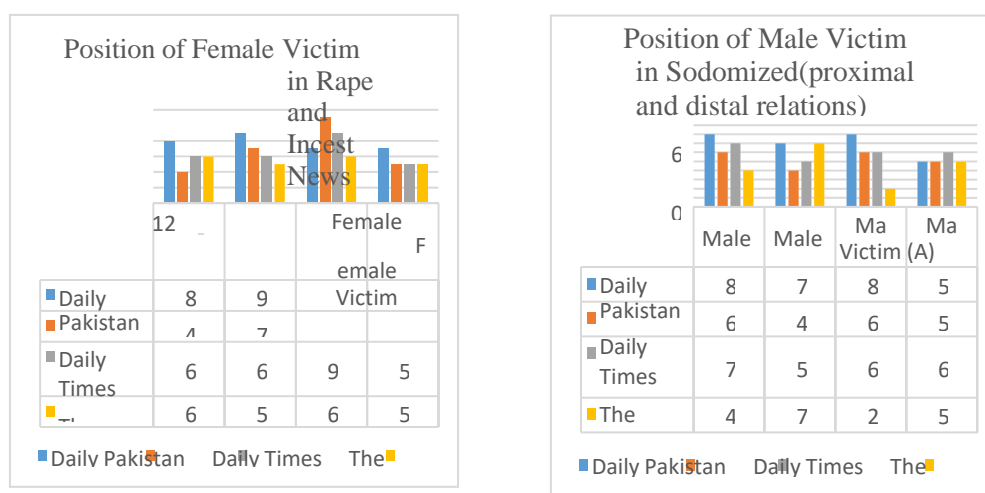
3 occurrences with 57%, 18% and 27% ratio but DT has 3 with the percentage of 25%.

*Excerpt 3: A married woman was kidnapped and then gang-raped at gunpoint (The Express Tribune, May 21, 2022).*

*Excerpt 4: During the hearing, the investigating officer told the court that the victim was also filmed during the heinous crime by the suspects (Daily Pakistan, June 11, 2022)*

The picture of female victim’s positioning in rape and incest news are mentioned in figure 4.1.1

The complete depiction of male victim’s positioning in sodomized news are mentioned in figure 4.1.2.



**Figure 4.1.1:** Position of Female Victim in Rape and Incest News

The overall segment of male offenders on active position are shown with the proportion of 30%, 14%, 24%, 35% and as passive is 34%, 25%, 24%, 29%. As female victims on active position have 26%, 39%, 36%, 35% ratio but as passive is 26%, 17%, 20%, 29%. As in DP, DT, ET, DN respectively in rape and incest news. Consequently, the result’s peak shows that female victims are shown mostly on active position and male offenders on passive position in rape (female) cases. It proves that the purpose of media is to present the female victim as foregrounded of the readers (Qanit, 2015).

**Male Victim**

In sodomy news (proximal relation), male victims are on marginalized with the ratio of 3,3,4,2 (27%, 50%, 22%, 25%) and male offenders are frequently on active with the ratio of 5, 3, 6, 0 (45%, 50%, 33%, 0%) in DP, DT, ET and DN print papers.



***Excerpt 5: A man allegedly tried to rape his nephew in Burewala, Express News reported (The Express Tribune, April 9, 2019).***

Generally, in sodomy (strangers' relation), male victims are on active or subjective agents, but not always as 5, 5, 4, 0 (45%, 62%, 44%, and 0%). While male offenders are sometimes on passive position as 7, 3, 2, 4 (63%, 37%, 22%, and 50%).

***Excerpt 6: The victim was originally said to be resident of Rohri town of Sukkur and came to Khanpur tehsil of Shikarpur to meet his elder sister on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr (Daily Times, June 20, 2018).***

**Figure 4.1.2** Position of Male Victim in Sodomized (Proximal and Distal Relations) News

The complete description of social actors in sodomy cases is that male offenders are characterized on active position with the relation of 36%, 42%, 25%, 25% and as passive is 31%, 28%, 17%, 43% in DP, DT, ET, DN newspapers. However, male victims are revealed on active place with the section of 36%, 42%, 21%, 13% and on passive is 22%, 35%, 21%, 31%. The peaks show that male victims and male offenders both are on active position in sodomy (male cases) related news. The results depict dominance and power remains equal for both social actors (male offenders and male victims) regardless of proximal and far relations.

#### ***Intertextuality:***

In 1980, intertextuality was coined by Julia Kristeva. It is the transformation of a text into another text (Williandani, 2020). In female raped news, majority cases (5) have intertextuality. While in male victim's news, four news do not have and four reports have intertextuality.

***Excerpt 7: A married woman was kidnapped and then gang-raped at gunpoint while in a separate incident an eight-year-old child was raped as well (The Express Tribune, May 21, 2022)***

Infrequently, the news reporter also discussed the victims of street and murder crimes via intertextuality.

***Excerpt 8: Meanwhile, as many as 70 cases of street crime in which victims were deprived of 21 motorcycles, 38 mobile phones, gold jewelry worth over Rs5 million, and cash by unidentified culprits (Dawn, August 8, 2022).***

***Excerpt 9: This incident was reported in Rawalpindi, a father multiple times heartlessly raped his 15-year-old daughter who is a 7th grader. (Daily Pakistan, January 20, 2018)***

**Excerpt 11:** *Railway police chief earlier revealed that the mother of two children was on board the train when she was lured to an empty compartment by a ticket checker and three men sexually assaulted her. (Daily Pakistan, June 11, 2022).*

It was observed that intertextuality contains typically female sexual violence cases even in male victim's cases, only two cases were found related to male in entire selected newspapers. Sometimes, gender is not revealed and mentioned as 'child' but use of pronouns expresses the gender (she/ her).

### **Personalization**

When social actors are presented as human being is called personalization. It has two kinds: determination and Indetermination (Nursya'bani, 2014).

### **Determination**

The social actors are portrayed a specified individual. It has three types namely categorization, nomination and association. In the writing, when social actors' group are never labeled is known as association. In nomination and categorization, identity is used to examine the social actors.

### **Categorization:**

When social actors are denoted via identities and functions. This division has subdivisions in nominal group as: 1) functionalization 2) identification 3) appraisalment.

### **Functionalization:**

It tells about the role of a social actor in a society. (Evayani, 2019) or can be labeled based on their occupation (Risdanaeva, 2018).

In incest and rape news, **female victims** are described hardly by their occupation as 7<sup>th</sup> grader.

In sodomy reports (proximal and far relations), male victims are also hardly described by their profession as first grade, paper collector and recycler.

**Excerpt 13:** *The 21-year-old victim, who was living with the men in the same house in Istanbul's Bahçelievler district, has been trying to get by through paper collecting and recycling on the streets, according to Hurriyet Daily News (Daily Pakistan, April 3, 2018).*

Whereas, male offenders are rarely with occupation as only Ali's shop word is used to show the owner of a shop.

**Excerpt 14:** *He stated that during the search, one of the locals told them that he saw the boy at Ali's shop.*

In short, functionalization strategy in both male and female victim's cases show that male offender's dominance is only publicized in female cases and male perpetrator are mostly described with powerful professions as policemen, cops etc.

***Identification:***

In identification, it talks about social actors in relations to what they are. (Evayani, 2019). This term is further extricated into three types: physical identification, relational identification and classification (based on age, gender, class, ethnicity, wealth, provenance, nationality) (Leeuwen, 1996).

***Physical Identification:***

When social actors are uniquely classified in terms of physical characteristics in a given situation. (Leeuwen, 2008) as in female cases, teenager, teenage, young are used in physical identification.

***Excerpt 15: Just in January a similar case came forth, where the police arrested six suspects in a gang-rape of a young woman. (Daily Times, June 19, 2021)***

In another case, a street crime's victim is described with her occupation in intertextuality as

***Excerpt 10: A lady doctor who was shopping was also robbed of gold jewelry worth Rs200,000 (Dawn, August 8, 2022).***

While **male offenders** are more described with their profession as compared to female victims as cops, policemen, police constable, owns a shop, ticket checker, staffers of coach

Though, **male offenders** are rarely mentioned with physical identification as six armed men.

***Excerpt 16: Six armed men broke into their house and gang-raped the young girl, while they injured her brother, by cutting off a body part.***

The discourse shows that female victim is described with physical beauty and male offender are labelled with power that shows dominance over female victims. While in male victim's reports, they are hardly described with physical identification as disabled child.

***Excerpt 17: The victim was a disabled child (Daily Pakistan, January 9, 2021).***

For male offenders, the lexical choices to refer them are: teenage

***Excerpt 18: A teenage boy sexually assaulted and killed his eight-year-old minor brother whose body was recovered from a drain in Nishtar Colony on Friday (Daily Pakistan, January 9, 2021).***

***Relational Identification:***

When social actors are described in terms of their personal, work, kinship relations, and is realized by a closed set of nouns denoting such relations as friend, colleague etc. (Van Leeuwen, 2008) as mentioned in female victim's news: daughter, mother of two children.

***Excerpt 19: Railway police chief earlier revealed that the mother of two children was on board the train when she was lured to an empty compartment by a ticket checker and three men sexually assaulted her (Daily Pakistan, June 11, 2022).***

Although, the relational identifications for male offender are also revealed as father, brother-in-law, husband, acquaintance, friend etc.

***Excerpt 20: This is not the first case of a father raping his own daughter as there have been multiple cases which came forward after the culprits were caught (Daily Pakistan, January 20, 2018).***

In male reports, male victims are denoted as nephew, son, sibling, brother and for male offenders, relative, brother, husband's brother, roommates are used to refer the offender.

***Excerpt 21: The woman added that her husband's brother, Abdul Rasheed, would often visit their house to meet them (The Express Tribune, April 09, 2019).***

It is detected that male offenders and male victims are explained mostly with relational identification with vast variety of relational words but female victims are described with limited relational vocabulary.

***Classification:***

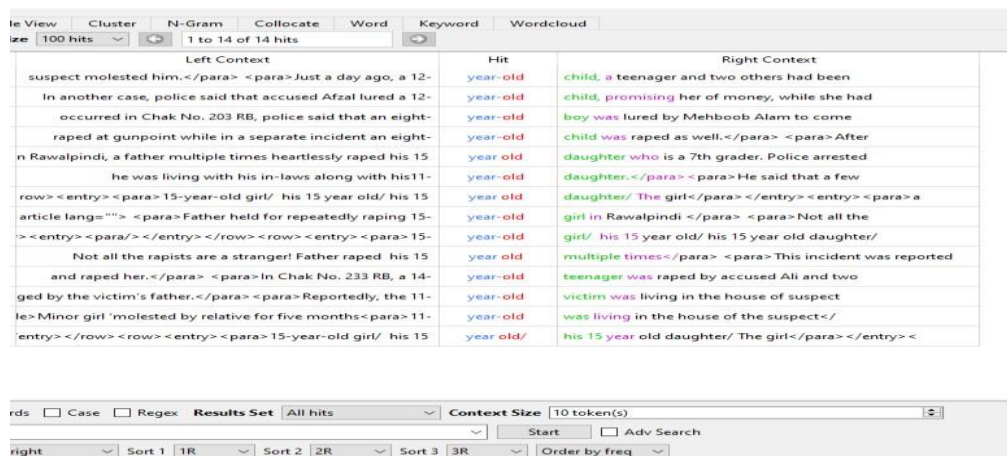
The social roles are classified in relation to their class, age, gender, wealth, provenance, nationality, sexual orientation, race, religion (Leeuwen, 2003).

***Age:***

Female victims are represented through classification by age as eight-year-old,

12-year-old, 11-year-old, 15-year-old, 11-year-old, 14-year-old words. The frequencies are also identified by using AntConc software as shown in figure 4.2.2.2. But male offenders are never denoted with classification via age in any newspaper.

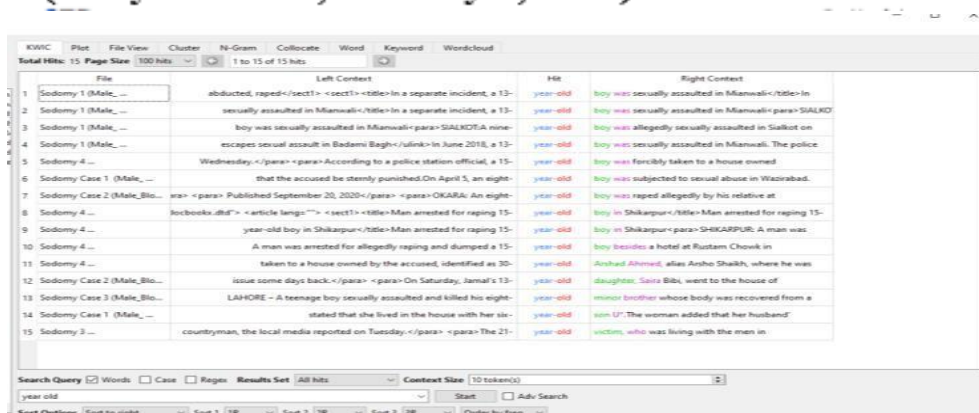
**Excerpt 22: Father raped his 15-year-old multiple times (Daily Pakistan, January 20, 2018)**



**Figure 4.2.2.2** Representation of Age (classification) for Female Victim in AntConc

In male victim’s reports, male victims are also referred through their age as a 13-year-old, nine- year-old, a three old, an eight year, six-year-old etc. The occurrences are also mentioned by using AntConc software as shown in figure 4.2.2.3. Nevertheless, male offenders are also referred with classification via age in any newspaper as 16, 30- year-old. These instances are very rare for male offenders.

**Excerpt 23: Police on Friday found clues that the suspect, Faizan 16, was a serial paedophile killer (Daily Pakistan, January 9, 2021).**



**Figure 4.2.2.3** Representation of Age (classification) for Male Victim in AntConc

### *Gender:*

In classification via gender, the words used for female victims are girl, lady, woman but relational identification words are also included in this category that makes a mix boundary as daughter, mother, sister, sister-in-law words.

**Excerpt 24:** *A girl was allegedly gang raped in Sanghar on Saturday. (Daily Times, June 19, 2021)*

For male offenders, 'man, men' words are used. Similarly, for male offenders, father, brother-in-law, husband, are used that also creates mix boundary with relational identification.

**Excerpt 25:** *The Cantonment police on Wednesday arrested a man for raping his daughter at Kot Shahan village.*

In male victims' news, man, men, boy are also used for male offender but relational identification words are also come in this category. So, the words for male offender are husband's brother, brother etc. and for male victims are cousin, nephew, brother son. Then for male victims, boy are mentioned.

### *Provenance:*

Female victims and male offenders both are described with provenance (place or thing) as shown with place in excerpts.

**Excerpt 26:** *According to the police report, a married woman, a resident of 53 GB, was abducted by three accused, including Atif, at gunpoint while she had been on her way to get some work done (The Express Tribune, May 21, 2022).*

For male offenders, place is also used for classification.

**Excerpt 27:** *The two police constables Ahmed Ali and Arsalan, who are respectively residents of Shamkay Bhattian and Phoolnagar Kasur are in Police custody (Daily Times, September 9, 2022).*

In male victim reports, male victim is described with the place but male offenders are not mentioned.

**Excerpt 28:** *The victim was originally said to be resident of Rohri town of Sukkur and came to Khanpur tehsil of Shikarpur to meet his elder sister on the occasion of Eid-ul-Fitr (Daily Times, June 20, 2018)*

### ***Nationality:***

In all reports, nationality is not used for male offenders as well as for female victims. In male reports, male victims have only one instance in a local English newspaper.

***Excerpt 29: Pakistani man 'raped 50 times by 18 roommates' in Turkey (Daily Pakistan, April 3, 2018)***

### ***Religion:***

In both female victim's cases, religion identification words are used with male rapists as Qari, Muhammad word is used in male raped news reports but religious words are not used with female victims. The word 'Muhammad' is used for street crimes male victims in intertextuality.

### ***Appraisalment:***

When social actors are appraised as negative or positive. This is gained with sets of nouns. Appraisements are used for female victims in rape and incest news as victim, survivor, rape victim, minor victim, minor but for male offenders, 'rapist/rapists, culprit, predator/predators, suspect, accuse' and in intertextuality street crime reports, robbers, thieves, burglar/burglars', words are mentioned in appraisalment.

***Excerpt 30: Reportedly, the 11-year-old victim was living in the house of suspect Riaz. (The Express Tribune, January 10, 2022)***

In male sexual abuse reports, appraisalment words for female victims are minor, murdered, victim, deceased however, words for male offenders are suspect/suspects, accuse, serial pedophile killer.

### ***Nomination:***

Social actors are revealed with proper nouns. It is further isolated into formalization (surname/ family name), semi-formalization (first and a given name), informalization (forename), letter or numbers are used in obscuration, and titular. Titular is further divided into two classes: honorification (titles or ranks) and affiliation.

### ***Informalization:***

It was observed that female victim's name is not represented with first, last, letter, numbers or with the given name in any newspaper. Whereas, male rapists are cited with initial names as Riaz, Atif etc.

***Excerpt 31:*** They said that complainant *Shaukat Ali* told *Razaabad Police Station* that accused *Owais* allegedly tricked his daughter into visiting *Kaleem Shaheed Colony* from where he took her to a house and sexually abused her at gunpoint (*The Express Tribune, May 21, 2022*).

For male offenders, the reporters used initial names as Rehman, Faizan etc. For male victims, informalization is not used by any news reporters.

#### ***Formalization:***

Formalization means refer to social actors with full name (Sherif, 2021) or given name and surname (Leeuwen, 1996). In female victims' rape cases, female victims are not represented with full name except Zainab Ansari in intertextuality. As male offenders are shown with their full names as Khizar Hayat, Allah Datta etc. In male victims' reports, Rapists are also mentioned with their names as Abdul Rasheed, Ali Hassan etc. but male victims are not mentioned with their proper names. It was noticed that Zainab Ansari's name is mentioned in intertextuality but Imran (rapist) name is not mentioned that shows male as dominant and hiding male's identity.

***Excerpt 32:*** This year started with the heartbreaking sexual abuse and murder of the innocent *Zainab Ansari*. (*Daily Pakistan, January 20, 2018*)

#### ***Obscuration:***

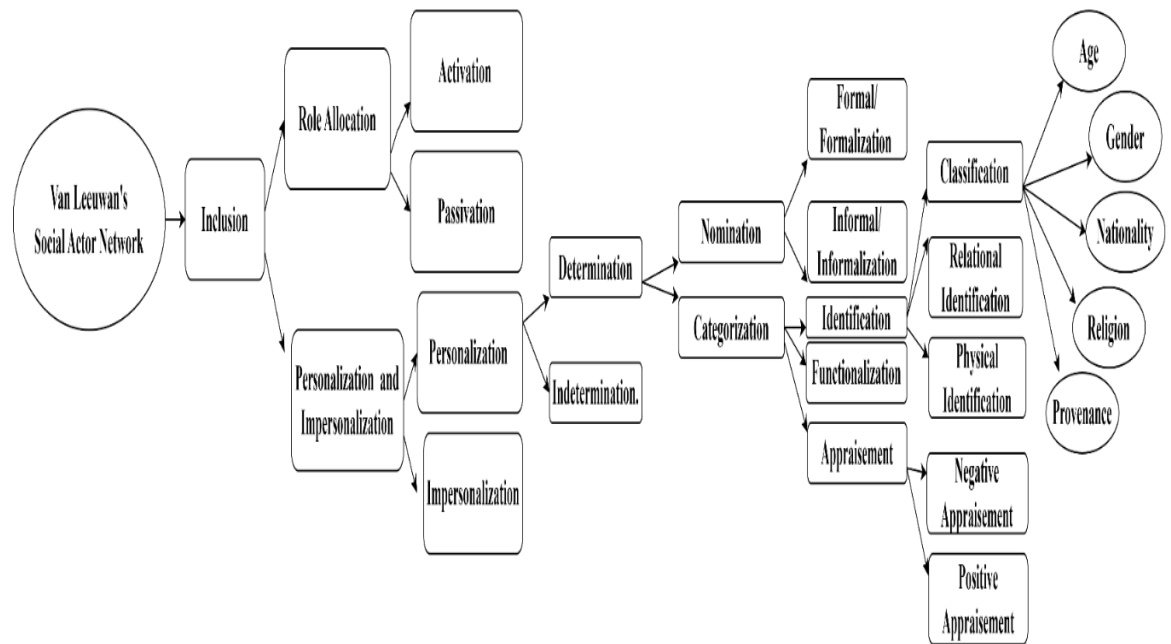
When social actors are realized with the use of letter or number. In male victims' news, **male offenders** are also referred through numbers as 18 men, two of the roommates are exercised but not letter. While, male offenders in female victims' reports are mentioned with numbers as two police constables, five men, two persons etc. are used. Besides, male victims are named with the use of initial letters of their names as S\*, U\*, I\* but not used for female victims. The discourse shows that male members consider it as an insult and hide their names. Along with that, it also shows dominance of male in a society due to which they are represented with numbers.

#### ***Indetermination:***

The social actors are presented as unidentified individuals or in a group is called indetermination. For female and male victims, child word is used whereas, for male offenders in female reports, persons, people, stranger are used but not used for male offenders in male victims' reports.

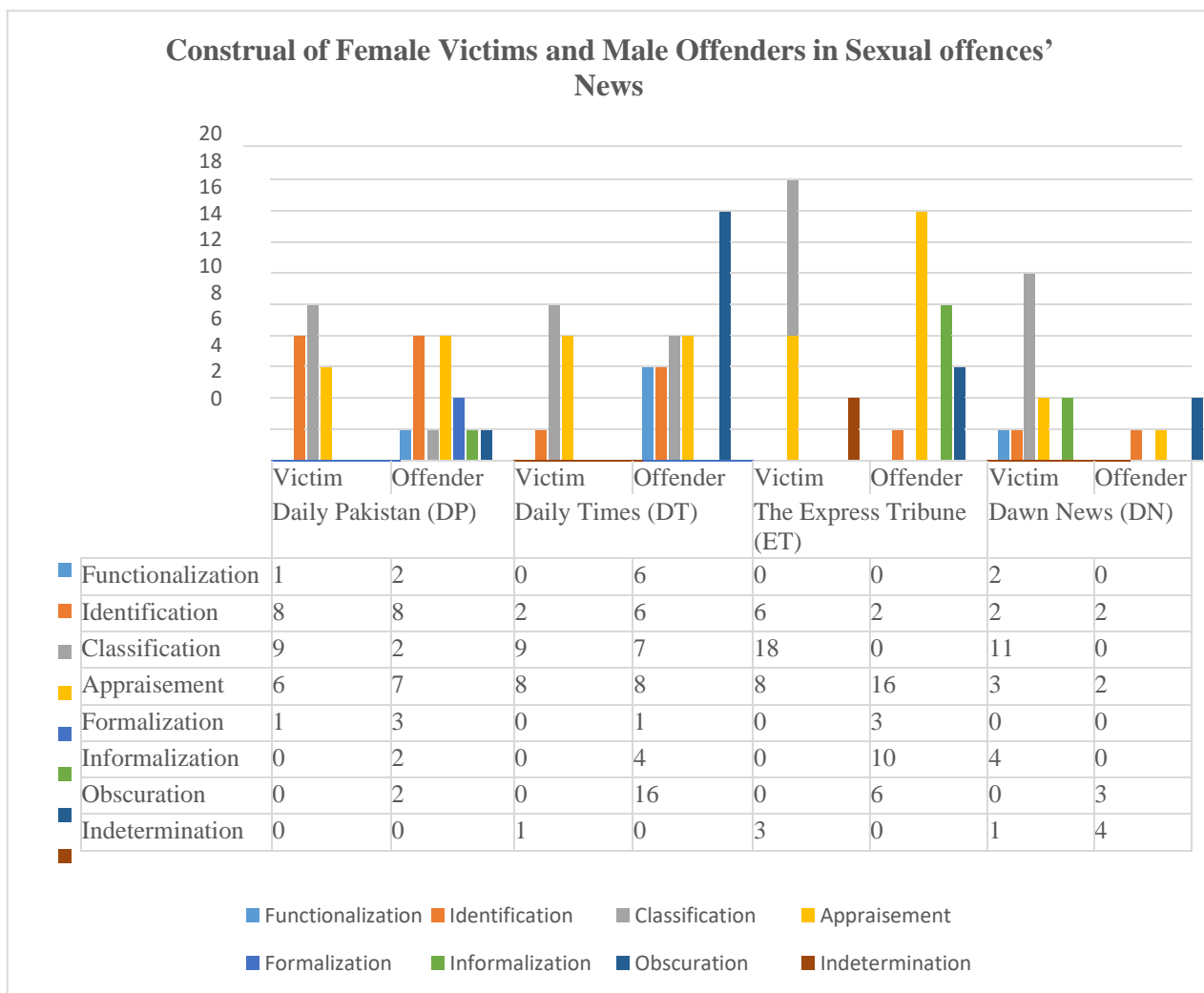
The representation of pertinent categories in the data by using Van Leeuwen's inclusion strategy to refer names of social actors (female and male victims and offenders) in sexual violence news. This diagram is drawn by using online app. diagram.net. (See figure 4.2.4.1)





**Figure 4.2.4.1** Social Actor Network by Van Leeuwen

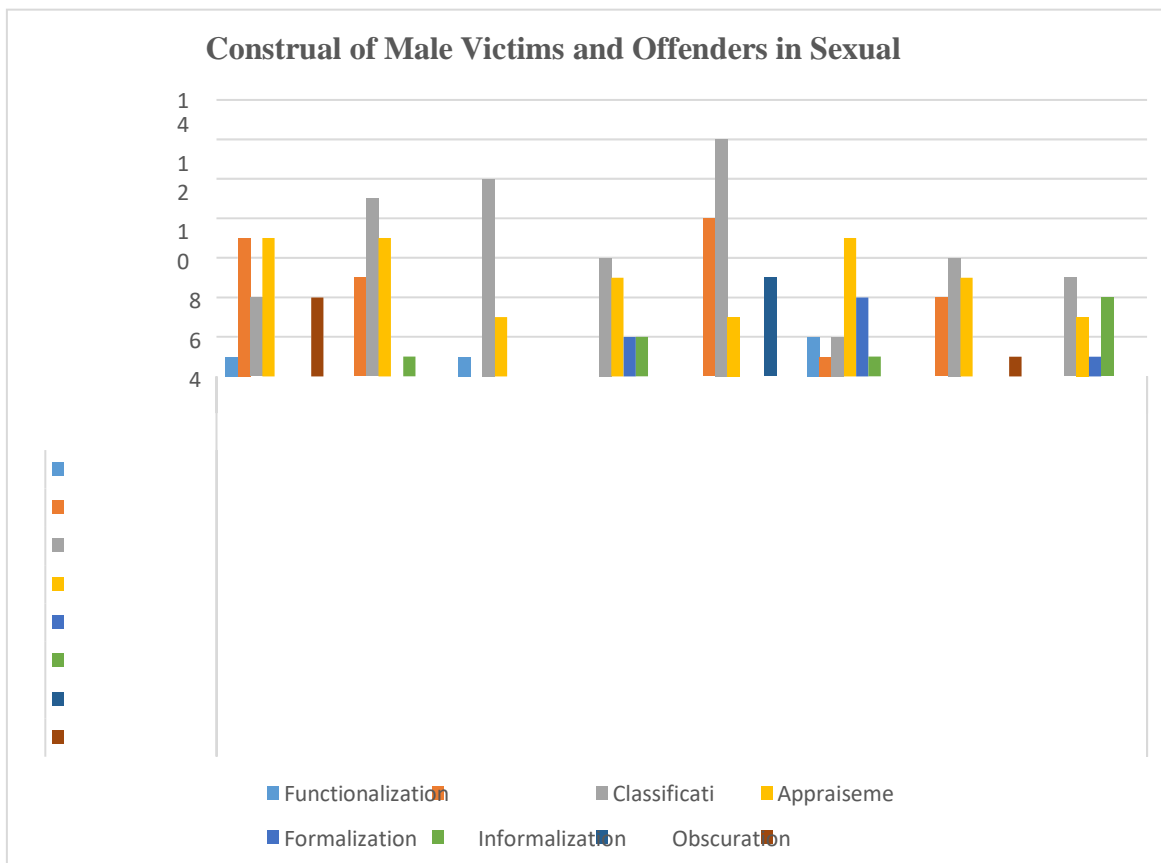
In selected newspapers, frequencies of female prey are with the ratio of 1, 0, 0, 2 in DP, DT, ET and DN respectively. It is also observed that female victims are scarcely shown with functionalization but marginalized position is given to her when represented with the work. In a report, where victims' profession is described as lady doctor, was a street crime case. For male perpetrator, ratio is 2, 6, 0, 0 in DP, DT, ET and DN. So, it exhibits that male offenders are mostly described with functionalization in which power and dominant overfemale is vibrant. The relational and physical identification conclude that female victims are shown with the frequency of 8, 2, 6, 2 in DP, DT, ET and DN. Additionally, female victims are also classified through age, gender, provenance with the frequency of 9, 9, 18, 11 in DP, DT, ET and DN in selected newspapers. In appraisalment, the frequency results show that female victims are appraised in DP, DT, ET and DN newspapers with the occurrences of 6, 8, 8, 3. While, in nomination, they are formalized with the number of 1, 0, 0, 0 and informalized with 0, 0, 0, 4 in DP, DT, ET and DN. But females are not referred with obscurity as 0, 0, 0, 0 occurrences are found in nominated newspapers. It shows that females' name identities are not revealed with given alphabets, letters, initial and with family names. In indetermination, female social actors are referred with the existences of 0, 1, 3, 1 in above mentioned English newspapers. The frequencies of these strategies are counted via AntConc software for both social actors (male offenders and female victims).



Male victims' names are referred with functionalization with the amounts of 1, 1, 0, 0 then relational and physical identifications are presented as 7, 0, 8, 4 rates. After that classification strategy that includes age, gender, provenance, religious, nationality have ratio of 4, 10, 12, 6 and appraisal strategy has 7, 3, 3, 5 number of occurrences in DP DT, ET and DN newspapers. In nomination strategy, male victims' names are characterized with full name or last name and their occurrences are 0,0, 0, 0 but in obscuration strategy, male victims are mentioned with alphabets with the frequency of 0, 0, 5, and indetermination have 4, 0, 0, 1

Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender	Victim	Offender
	Daily Pakistan (DP)	Daily Times (DT)	Daily Times	The Express Tribune (ET)	The Express	Dawn News (DN)	Dawn News (DN)
Functionalization	1	0	1	0	2	0	0
Identification	7	5	0	0	8	4	0
Classification	4	9	10	6	12	6	5

Appraisalment	7	7	3	5	3	7	5	3
Formalization	0	0	0	2	0	4	0	1
Informalization	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	4
Obscuration	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	0
Indetermination	4	0	0	0	0	0	1	0



**Issues and Challenges:**

The hitches faced during this study are revealed as: Firstly, it was tough to find sexual offences news according to the legal terms as incest, sodomy etc. because media is mostly using “Rape” word for all sexual violences. Secondly, it was observed that males reported cases are lesser than females. That is why, finding news within selected time frame i.e., 2018–2022 from selected 4 newspapers was a challenging task. Thirdly, when sentences were counted through online software, software did not count those sentences which do not have terminal markers like full stop. For this reason, mostly sentence counts varied when it was analyzed manually. Subsequently, intertextuality cases also contain street crimes news, murder cases for this reason, researchers confronted difficulty in analysis of news. Lastly, the researchers calculated the frequencies through AntConc. software, some words contextual meaning was different while using AntConc. frequencies were manually counted by close reading as victim’s mother, heirs of the victim.

**Excerpt 33: The judge also imposed a fine of Rs150,000 on the convict and also directed him to pay a compensation of Rs300,000 to the heirs of the victim. (Dawn, February 5, 2022)**

Thereafter, while analyzing functionalization in reports, synonyms were also used for same offenders. That's why AntConc software did not work for finding frequencies. Then manual list for each category was created.

### **CONCLUSION:**

The researchers found that victims and offenders' construction depend on each other (Christie, 1986). By conducting close analysis, it is concluded that male and female victims are on active position because media foregrounds victims when distal relations are involved in rape crime. However, victims (male and female) are on passive position in proximal relations, to show the dominance and power over victims. Next, naming of social actors (victims and offenders) demonstrates that functionalization is frequently used for male offenders and in identification, female victims are typically described with physical identification in female raped reports. While male offenders and male victims are habitually described with relational identification. In classification, victims (male and female) are regularly described with age. For gender classification, three gender based words are used for cross gender offenders and victims. In provenance classification, only male offender is not described with their place in male reports. Finally, the appraisal words for offenders in both reports have suspect, accuse as mutual. In nomination and formalization category, only offenders are denoted with their initial names and with their full names and offenders are also shown with numbers and male victims are revealed with initial letters in obscurity. Finally, indeterminacy, victims are referred with child in common and for male offender people, person, stranger are used in female raped reports.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Future research could be possible on cross-comparisons of sexual violence news with foreign news. Moreover, analysis of meta-functioning by using Van Leeuwen's model of sexual assault news could be possible or on cyber sexual violence. Moreover, a lexico-grammatical study of noun phrases in sexual violence news could also be workable.

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