



The Resistance against Racism: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Anti-Asian Racism relating to Covid-19 Outbreak

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Abstract

This study is aimed to find out (1) the discourse topics and (2) the discourse strategies from the utterances produced by Asian-Americans as the victim of the racist attack during the Covid-19 outbreak to reveal how they voice their ideologies in defending themselves and maintaining their existence in society. The researcher employs a qualitative method considering the data are in the form of written-text and also analyse the humanities and social sciences. Specifically, the researcher analysed the discourses presented in several videos from YouTube that being transcribed into written discourses. This study focuses on how Asian-Americans portray themselves and others in their discourses based on their beliefs. From seven videos being analysed, the researcher has collected 80 data that consist of the Positive-Self and Negative-Others presentation. By utilizing Van Dijk's Ideological Square, the researcher found out there are 16 discourse topics implied in Asian-Americans' utterances, such as 'We are also Americans', 'Anti-Asian-Americans is terrifying', etc. Furthermore, there are 22 discourse strategies used by Asian-Americans in defending themselves. The study reveals Asian-Americans as the racist-victim attempt to emphasize the Anti-racism movement. Moreover, the researcher has found that several discourses consist of negative-attitude towards majorities or Americans society.

Key words: Asian-American, Ideological Square, Discourse Topics, Discourse Strategies

A. INTRODUCTION

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is one of analytical tools in linguistics and social studies to uncover social and political issues related to power, social inequality, domination, and discrimination in spoken and written discourses. It is also able to reveal how minority individuals or communities are presented negatively in discourses by dominant groups and how the minority community defend themselves through discourses. According to (Van Dijk, 1996), "Domination is seldom absolute; it is often gradual, and may be met by more or less resistance or counter power by dominated groups". It means in analysing any social issue, we should see from both sides; the dominant and the dominated.

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However, there are many unbalanced understandings between the dominant and dominated found in reality. The minorities' voices tend not to be heard. It causes there is not much attention in CDA studies relating to the resistance discourses produced by minorities. It can be said that we have a very little understanding of the minorities and their discussion.

In practice, minority community or the dominated actually start having the courage to defend themselves through several media such as videos on YouTube, Twitter threads, Instagram stories, etc. It is different with the era before social media appeared, probably before 2010 when iPad still did not appear (Zhaksybaeva, 2015), minority community cannot defend themselves since the media existed in the past is only print media. It is written for a mass audience and it tends to have the tendency to majority community. It makes the minority community's voice tends to be silenced. In line with (Yan, 2021), before the existence of social media, people cannot voice their opinions freely. They are passive and just accept information from government. However, after the electronic media appear, the resistance discourses of minorities are spread over the social media. As stated by Yan (2021), the dominated finally can obtain and access information easier that has given them opportunity and power to promote the social movement and control the information.

Resistance in CDA is seen as the ways certain individuals or groups struggle over signs and meaning in order to change the way people think about the social world on those who have been defined as being racially or ethnically different. In fact, the resistance discourses are analysed not as much as discriminatory discourses. In point of fact, it is important to identify how the resistance discourse is used by minority community to know their ideologies by finding the discourse topics and strategies used by them to have understanding of the minorities and their discussion so that we can raise the awareness, achieve social improvements and develop our worldviews to fight against any acts of racism. Generally, discourse topic is the theme or central idea to answer 'who' and 'what' the discourses are about. Whereas, discourse strategies are the ways used by minorities to utter their perspective about an issue.

One of the issues relating to resistance can be identified in the discourses presented by Asian-American community that is portrayed negatively. This negative portrayal is triggered by the emergence of Covid-19 virus that was firstly found in Wuhan, China. It leads the white community to call the corona virus as "Chinese Virus" and finally influences the other community to start prejudicing and treat people with Asian background unfairly. The vulnerability of Asian-American, who are considered as foreigners in their birthplace, has increased during the outbreak. According to Stop AAPI HATE forum on December 31st 2021, a total of 10,905 hate incidents against Asian-American were reported to Stop AAPI Hate and verbal harassment reaches 63% of the total incidents reported. Thus, the researcher intends to analyse this case to reveal the ideology of the Asian-Americans in order to build awareness for the readers of this racist-issue.

It was found that the previous studies mostly analysed the discriminatory discourses produced by majorities or elite parties instead of the resistance

discourses produced by minorities. Compared with the previous studies analysing the resistance produced by minorities, there are few studies found in analysing the discourse topics. Regardless of the several studies, the present study aims to examine the ideologies conveyed in the minorities' discourses by investigating the discourse topic and strategies used by the minorities, especially Asian-American in facing the Anti-Asian racism since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic. It is conducted since the researcher thinks the investigation about this issue still cannot be found yet. Therefore, this study is conducted to have understanding about minorities and show that their discourses need to be highlighted so that there is a balanced understanding about discourses both in dominant and dominated viewpoints.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The method used in this research is qualitative research considering that this study is related to the social phenomena. It is in line with Sumathipala and Siribaddana (2003) who stated that qualitative research attempts to understand the complexities of human behaviour to explore various phenomena such as thoughts, feelings, and human interactions. This method is used to describe, interpret the data, explain the social phenomena, and draw the conclusions.

The data used for this study are the utterances containing the resistance discourses produced by Asian-American that were transcribed from seven videos that can be listened and watched on YouTube. The videos used are chosen from several categories, such as 1) the video creators should be the Asian-American, and 2) the topic discussed in the video is related to the Anti-Asian racism during Covid-19 Pandemic in which the majorities blame China for spreading the virus. The transcripts of these videos are chosen as the sources of the data in this study since the speakers or discourse producers are the Asian-American who express their self-defence as being the racist victims during the Covid-19 outbreak. Then, the researcher classified the positive-self and negative-others presentation using the following table.

Table 1. Positive-self and Negative-others Table Indicator

No.	Data		POSITIVE	NEGATIVE	Conclusion
	The utterances produced by Asian-American.	Us	Accentuate our positives	Minimize our negatives	Positive-Self/ Negative- Others Presentation
		Them	Minimize their positives	Accentuate their negatives	

Then the researcher analysed the discourse topic of each data based on the findings from the positive-self and negative-others table indicator by concentrating on the main idea and repetition of the discourse presentations.

Subsequently, the researcher analysed the discourse strategies which constructed the discourse topics using Van Dijk's discursive strategies. Finally, the researcher found out the discourse topics and discourse strategies used by Asian-Americans in defending themselves against the racist undermining them.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Research Finding (tentative)

1.1 Discourse Topics

After classifying the positive-self and negative others presentation of the discourses presented by Asian-Americans, the researcher has found 16 discourse topics of entire utterances uttered by Asian-American in defending themselves and fighting against the racism undermining them. The findings of discourse topics are demonstrated in the following table.

Table 1. The percentage of the findings of the discourse topics

No.	Discourse Topics	Frequency	Percentage
1.	'Anti-Asian Racism is Terrifying'	23	22.1%
2.	'Don't Blame Asians for the Virus'	16	15.3%
3.	'Asians are not the Virus'	11	10.5%
4.	'We are also Americans'	10	9.6%
5.	'The real virus is racism'	7	6.7%
6.	'We fight the racism together'	7	6.7%
7.	'Stop Stereotyping Asians'	6	5.7%
8.	'Anti-Asian Racism is not New'	5	4.8%
9.	'This is a priority issue'	5	4.8%
10.	'I don't get the racist motivation'	4	3.8%
11.	'We are all the same'	3	2.8%
12.	'Our voices were not heard'	2	1.9%
13.	'Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians'	1	0.9%
14.	'There are no excuses for racism'	1	0.9%
15.	'You choose the wrong one!'	1	0.9%
16.	'Immigrant versus native born conflict'	1	0.9%
TOTAL		104	

Based on the table above, it can be seen that the researcher found 16 discourse topics and the most used discourse topics is the 'Anti-Asian Racism is Terrifying'. Moreover, it is found there are more than one discourse topics can be found in one discourse presentation. The discourse topics found can be explained as follow.

a. 'Anti-Asian Racism is Terrifying'

In some discourse presentations containing the Positive-Self and Negative-Others Presentation, Asian-Americans tend to create a negative image for others or majorities. They created some discourses that emphasized how they felt and experienced during the hard times by telling the evidences that they experienced by themselves. For example, Victor Yang (2021) in his video stated that his life was always threatened due to the racism during the Covid-19 pandemic. It was

done to present majorities and power holders as the ones who always attack Asians:

“My life was threatened because of the way that I looked. And, for me that's unacceptable. No one in America should be in a situation where they are discriminated upon, but to also feel threatened because of the way that you look, that is just something that is so concerning and so terrible. I remember after that incident, I was psychologically fighting in my head thinking to myself, ‘Should I go outside?’ Because I was so spooked by that incident”.

b. ‘Don’t Blame Asians for the Virus’

Due to the first case of Covid-19 virus occurred in Wuhan, China, people started blaming and judging every Asian for the outbreak. The perpetrators had attacked Asians directly physically and verbally by taunting their victims with declarations ‘*You have the Chinese Virus! Go back to your country!*’ On the other hand, Asian-Americans who did not nothing wrong felt unfair for these intolerable attacks. They attempted to defend themselves and maintain their existence by invoking the majorities and power holders to stop blaming Asians for the Covid-19 outbreak. Overall, the researcher found 16 utterances out of the whole selected data employing this discourse topic. One of them was found in the following discourse presentation.

“This is why I plead with the public. We need to change the narrative. We cannot continue to blame Chinese people and Chinese-Americans for the virus”.

c. ‘Asians are not the Virus’

This discourse topic was done to attract the sympathy from the audiences. However, mostly, the majorities were not willing to listen to the minorities’ points of view. Instead, they became worse. They had started seeing Asians as the virus. They made a show of keeping away from Asians, avoiding, prohibiting their kids to stand close to Asians, and feeling scared to Asians. They already consider the Asians as the virus. To be precise, the datum below talks about the experience of an Asian-American who was avoided and considered as the virus.

*“When I got in, a lady said, I quote **“I’m not getting this coronavirus [__] and pulled her daughter out of the Elevator. It was shocking to me I had never been discriminated like that before. I had never seen something so blatant where it was just like, ‘oh my goodness’ like ‘you’re Asian’. Therefore, ‘you must have the Corona Virus. I need to get out of here”.***

The Asian-American defend themselves by emphasizing that even though they have the Asian ancestry, it does not mean they are the virus who should be avoided. This discourse topic was employed to gain awareness and cooperation from the audiences and majorities to stop stereotyping that every Asian has the virus.

d. ‘We are also Americans’

This discourse topic was initiated by Asian-Americans to include themselves in American society. This action is called the social inclusion. In CDA, the social

inclusion is used by the marginalised groups who are stunted to get a better life due to the social exclusion done by the power holders and majorities. This social exclusion removes the dignity, opportunity, and even the security of the marginalised groups. This social exclusion removes the dignity, opportunity, and even the security of the marginalised groups. It is in line with Paltridge (2017) who stated that the social inclusion discourses work as a basis for marginalised social groups to reinforce existing social structures, deny difference, and distract attention from existing inequalities amongst those already considered 'included'. Thus, the discourse topic 'We are also Americans' was used to reassure and emphasize that Asian-Americans are also the American society who should get the equal rights as the other Americans.

This discourse topic was made based on the fear Asian-Americans feel in the American society, during the outbreak, who are not counted as the society and treated unfairly. This discourse topic implicitly represents the Americans or the majorities negatively as the people who do not treat the others equally:

"My life was threatened because of the way that I looked. And, for me that's unacceptable. No one in America should be in a situation where they are discriminated upon, but to also feel threatened because of the way that you look, that is just something that is so concerning and so terrible".

e. 'The real virus is racism'

The feeling of injustice felt by Asian-Americans made them worrying about the racism much more instead of worrying about the viruses. It happened since combating the people with the racist attitudes is much more difficult than the virus which can be combated by the vaccine. It was shown in one of discourse presentations:

"I also felt that no matter what I'd say, she wouldn't care, or listen, or understand. Even if I said I was living with an 80-year-old, and this mask was for protection. Even if I said I wasn't sick, even if I said I wasn't from China, nothing would have changed the racist sentiment she already believed to be true. That moment, I realized, we're battling more than a virus right now".

From these discourse presentations, it can be concluded that the discourse producers would like to emphasize how bad the racist attitude that also can be spread to all over the world, just as the real virus. Thus, this kind of discourse topic aims to make the audiences become more aware, empathize to Asians, and help to combat the racism together.

f. 'We fight the racism together'

Compared from the previous discourse topics which tend to portray the *others* negatively, this discourse topic was used by Asian-Americans to give messages and share the positivity for the *in-group* members. This discourse topic was intended to foster the solidarity and agreement among the *in-group* which is Asian-Americans living in the United States to unite their communities to face and combat the racism together. Unintentionally, this move will portray the *in-group* or Asian-Americans positively. The discourse topic 'We fight the racist together'

was obtained from the positive words such as “spreading love, positivity, and together”.

“For now, I feel like we have to work through it. And I think that the best thing that we can do is try to really spread love and spread positivity because I know a lot of this is born out of hatred and out of racism”.

g. ‘Stop Stereotyping Asians’

In this case, white people or majorities have the negative stereotypes towards Asians and it makes the majorities ignore the fact that things about people might be different. On the other side, Asians, who are stereotyped negatively, feel so harmed since those stereotypes are so objectionable and unacceptable of a particular group or social category. Consequently, Asians implicitly ask the audiences, majorities and power holders to stop stereotyping Asians, as stated in these discourse presentations:

“It’s started in China. Yes, we know. But we also currently have a race as president and he like likes to say things like it’s the China virus, it is kung flu, it’s perpetuating, like the stereotype that like Asian people are like unsanitary or they’re sick or um-. And people hear that, and like not everybody obviously like resonates with it. But, like the people that are obviously racist, feel more empowered and emboldened to speak up”.

The discourse topic ‘Stop stereotyping Asians’ was obtained from the narrative of the stereotypes that leads to the racism produced by the Asian-Americans. The presented data above demonstrated that if one had a negative stereotype towards Asians, and then the other people who had racist attitudes listened to the negative stereotypes, they would feel more empowered and emboldened to speak up and finally led to the racism. Therefore, Asian-Americans as the racist victim attempted to influence the audiences to stop stereotyping Asians.

h. ‘This is a priority issue’

This discourse topic was obtained from the discourse presentations produced by Asian-Americans who explained how the Anti-Asian racism were just considered trivial and being ignored.

“If you still think this is no big deal, read credible news sources. Talk to your Asian friends. Talk to your family. Because this is happening everywhere. And it’s getting worse. When it happened to me, I wanted people to know that even in a very diverse community which includes Asian and Filipino residents and businesses in a space I feel safe in, this can happen”.

From the use of lexical item “big deal”, the discourse topic ‘This is a priority issue’ can be obtained. Asian-Americans in their discourses attempted to emphasize that this racist issue should be considered as the priority issue since it already happened everywhere, even in the safe places. This discourse topic was used by the Asian-Americans to make the audiences become more aware and help to combat this Anti-Asian racism issue.

i. 'I don't get the racist motivation'

The discourse topics can be obtained from the repetition which is based on the notion of sequential topic that is repeated in a discourse to refer to certain discourse referents. The repetition of particular lexical items cohesively can link the sentences within a discourse and reflect the discourse organization and lead to uncover the ideology of the discourse producer. It was shown in one of the discourse presentations:

"The point of this is that the fact that we even have to think it that if there is a negative experience with someone. Is it because of this? Like how is this now part of the daily thinking? You know- Wait a second. I have to be extra careful. I have to walk on the eggshells like why? I didn't do anything wrong. Just because of the colour of my skin and this sounds completely ignorant and naïve, right? And maybe a child speaking, but I don't get it. I don't get the racist motivation. What's- I don't understand it. I don't understand why anybody wants to separate racist. It makes no sense to me".

By repeating 'I don't get it' several times, it shows that the discourse producer attempted to emphasize his ironic feeling towards the reality he faced. The racism that existed due to the race and skin colour just does not make sense to him. Therefore, he emphasized the clause "I don't get the racist motivation" by repeating it several times so that the audience can get his point.

j. 'Anti-Asian Racism is not New'

As the Corona virus spread, the dreadful wave of attacks towards Asian-Americans has increased drastically. In facing this racist attitude during the outbreak, some of Asians spoke up that the racism towards Asian-American had already existed since a long time ago, even before the covid-19 existed. It implicitly portrays majorities or power holders negatively that they had harmed Asians for a long time:

"I've never seen anything like this. I've read about it. Right. We have these historical examples where it was very much the case with like this kind of sentiment and violence was very real, and very out in the open. But this is the first time in my lifetime where it feels like this is 'oh' this is like one of those moments is history. And I don't like though. I don't like the feeling of living through it honestly."

k. 'There are no excuses for racism'

This discourse topic was obtained from the narrative made by the Asians as the racist victim. The pronoun 'you' used in the datum showed that the speaker considered the audiences and the majorities as the 'others' that should not do racist things to particular community. It was shown in:

"First of all, as of now that we're talking there hasn't been any confirmed cases of any Asian person in New York City that's confirmed to have Covid-19. Let's just say there were. There was a couple. It doesn't give you a right to be racist towards the Jewish guy, the Asian person, if a white or Spanish or black or yellow or green purple I don't care. It doesn't even make sense because anyone can have it".

l. 'Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians'

It can be said that the pandemic time was the hard time for Asians living in the United States. They were not only stressed due to the self-quarantine, but they were also stressed because they were attacked and treated differently from the other communities. Being treated differently and unfairly because of the race can negatively affect their mental health. Therefore, they expressed their thoughts and feelings to public to attract the sympathy from the audiences by letting the audiences imagine how if they were the racist-victim. The discourse topic 'Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians' was obtained in the following discourse presentation.

"Just imagine adding that on to your everyday life and just let it like sit with you for a second, and actually make an attempt to understand and empathize with people that are going through these struggles".

This discourse topic was used by the minorities because the Anti-Asian racist considered trivial and not crucial since the racism is 'subtle' for some people and hard for them to notice. To make people become aware, and can help to combat the racism, the discourse producer attempted to let the audiences imagine how they felt if they were the ones in that position.

m. 'We are all the same'

This discourse topic was obtained from the utterances made by Asian-Americans to emphasize that we are all human that can infect the corona virus. It does not mean Asians are the only one who got the virus. It is shown in one of the discourse presentations: *"I don't understand why people can't comprehend that all humans are multifaceted. We all look different, but at the end of the day, we are all the same. We all feel emotions. We all are literally just human. And some people are just so small brained that they can't comprehend that".*

n. 'You choose the wrong one!'

The discourse producer repeated a clause several times to emphasize that the majorities (*others*) have done something wrong by attacking Asians. It is found in one of the discourse presentations: *"A lot of these people, especially Asian people you and I know only we grew up around them, they look unassuming as hell. But some of them just, 'I would not mess with some of these people'. You gonna choose the wrong one, and the last thing that you're going to be worrying about the Corona Virus after that. You choose the wrong one and you get marked. It's a wrap for you man. They may not get you right then and there. Or they might get you and then they might get the people you care about too. I'm telling you. You choose the wrong one.*

o. 'Immigrant versus native born conflict'

This discourse topic was obtained from the conclusion of the discourse presentation shown below.

"I'm sure they can tell that I'm American. But, I think just cause you're American doesn't shield you from racism, like racism happens to other Americans all the

time, for instance black Americans, Latino Americans. So, I don't think racism is solely, you know, immigrant versus native born conflict”.

He started his discourse by emphasizing that ‘they’ which refers to majorities can stop the racism towards Asian-Americans, but in reality, Americans always be racist to the immigrants. This discourse topic was performed by highlighting negative words such as ‘versus’ and ‘conflict’. This was done to construct the audience’s perception to believe in *their* negative things. However, even though the discourse presentation seems so negative, but it also works to perform the positive things of *us* who are perceived as strong and able to get through the hard and challenging times.

p. ‘Our voices were not heard’

Asians as the racist victim during the pandemic attempted to portray majorities or power holders negatively by saying that their voices had never been heard from a long time ago. It was shown in the use of ‘very very’ which means emphasizing the duration of time Asians are ignored.

“But, because Asian-American voices have not been heard for a very very long time, it's not being prioritized as much”.

1.2 Discourse Strategies

After knowing the discourse topics of Asian-Americans’ utterances, the researcher analysed the discourse strategies of all the discourse topics found. There are 22 discourse strategies used by the Asian-American in defending themselves to fight against the racism. These strategies are analysed to find out how minority discursively resist the discrimination and regain the equality from the discourse topics found. The following table will show the percentage of the discourse strategies found.

Table 2. The percentage of the findings of the discourse strategies

No.	Discourse Strategies	Percentage
1.	Actor Description	1.4%
2.	Authority	1.8%
3.	Categorization and Polarization	0.9%
4.	Comparison	2.8%
5.	Consensus	5.2%
6.	Counterfactuals	1.4%
7.	Disclaimer	3.3%
8.	Distancing	3.3%
9.	Evidentiality and illustration	12.7%
10.	Explanation and situation description	2.8%
11.	Generalization	0.4%
12.	Hyperbole and Dramatization	4.2%
13.	Implication	5.6%

14.	Ironic Expression and Contradiction	7.1%
15.	Metaphor	0.4%
16.	Naming tactics	1.4%
17.	Negative-Others	0.4%
18.	Norm Expression	2.3%
19.	Number game	0.9%
20.	Presupposition	9%
21.	Repetition	7.5%
22.	Victimization	23.6%

Based on the table above, it can be seen that there are 22 discourse strategies used by Asian-Americans in defending themselves and maintain their existence. The explanation of each discourse strategy will be explained as follow.

1. Actor description

Actor Description provides detailed information about the way ‘actors’ referring to a person or group of people who are described in the discourse either positively or negatively. According to Van Dijk (2000), “the actor descriptions are never neutral, but they have semantic, rhetorical, and argumentative functions in the expression of opinions and standpoints”. In this analysis, this strategy was employed in several discourse topics, and one of them was ‘I don’t get the racist motivation’ discourse topic. The use of the actor description strategy was shown in “*Or are there **evil people out there** that just **want to separate us** because I don’t get it. I don’t get why are we now blaming for somebody or something, right? And now, **a racist** was going to be responsible for this*”. Moreover, this discourse strategy was also used in the following discourse topics.

- Stop stereotyping Asians
- The real virus is racism
- Don’t blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue
- We are all the same

2. Authority

Authority is the discourse strategy that can influence the discourse producer’s argumentation. It happens since this discourse strategy employs the discourse proposed by the experts, scholars, and any recognized public actors who related to certain field. According to Rashidi & Souzandehfar (2010), this strategy is used to convince the audiences by indicating the discourse producer’s employment of deductive reasoning (logic). The use of this discourse strategy was found in discourse topic ‘Don’t blame Asians for the virus’ which was illustrated below.

“By the way, in 2015, the World Health Organization actually issued best practices for the naming of new infectious diseases which discouraged the use of naming them after geographic locations. The new guidelines aimed to quote minimize negative impact on trade travel tourism or animal welfare, and to

quote avoid causing offence to any cultural social national regional professional or ethnic groups.”

In this analysis, it was not only found in ‘Don’t blame Asians for the virus’ discourse topic, but it was also shown in:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- This is a priority issue

3. Categorization and Polarization

Categorization and Polarization strategy is the best strategy to present the accentuation of the positive thing about *us* and bad things about *others* by putting the exact opposite attitudes gradually in a sentence. As stated by Van Dijk (2000), the categorization strategy is used by the discourse producer to divide people in *ingroup* and *outgroup* and give the ‘good’ and ‘bad’ categories of the *outgroup*. In this study, Asian-Americans as the racist victim used the categorization strategy to define majorities as the whole community into particular categories based on their viewpoints. The analysis has shown that the categorization or polarization strategy were used in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- Don’t blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue

4. Comparison

The comparison strategy is employed in a discourse to compare several conditions that minorities experience with the other minorities or even the majorities to emphasize the negative attribute about the majorities. It is in line with Van Dijk (2000), “In racist talk, such comparisons typically imply the negative score of the outgroup on the criteria of the comparison, as in the typical everyday argument”. This strategy was found in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- We are also Americans
- Asian-American Racism is not new
- Don’t blame Asians for the virus
- Immigrant versus native born conflict
- Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians

For example, it was shown in discourse topic ‘We are also Americans’, *“When it comes to Asia-Americans, especially in American society now, I think for a lot of people non-Asians, Asians are the other”*. It clearly showed that Asian-Americans attempted to compare a condition between ingroup (Asian-American) and outgroup (non-Asians) in which Asians were always being excluded from the society.

5. Consensus

Consensus strategy is employed in a discourse to foster the solidarity and agreement among the in-group members to fight against ‘them’ (majorities and power holders) to get the justice and peace. According to Van Dijk (2000), this strategy is always used to win over the opposition in arguments. From the analysis, the consensus strategy can be found in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- We are also Americans
- We fight this together
- Don’t blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue
- I don’t get the racist motivation
- There are no excuses for racism
- We are all the same

6. Counterfactuals

The counterfactual strategy is employed in a discourse to influence the audience’s empathy by letting them imagine how if something happened or not happened. It is in line with Van Dijk (2000). He stated that this counterfactuals strategy is used as a warning and advice to show what would happen if we let something happen without any measures and formulate policies or law. Moreover, this strategy can also function as the tool to let the audiences know what the minorities experience and feel during the racism. For example, it can be found in the discourse topic ‘Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians’, *“Also if you're not a person of colour, how would you feel if you could be killed at any time just on the basis of your skin? How would you feel if you had to worry about your family every single day? If you had to spend the rest of your life with this...”*

In this analysis, the counterfactual strategy was also employed in several discourse topics:

- Don’t blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue
- There are no excuses for racism

7. Disclaimer

The disclaimer strategy is used by minorities in defending themselves to fight against the negative discourses undermining them by breaking the negative discourses from majorities (*them*) and mentioning positive thing about *us*. It is in line with Van Dijk (2000) who wrote that this discourse strategy is used to save face of the *ingroup* members by emphasizing negative things about others and positive things about them. In this analysis, the disclaimer strategy was employed in several discourse topics:

- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- We fight this together
- Don’t blame Asians for the virus
- I don’t get the racist motive

- We are all the same
- Immigrant versus native born conflict

8. Distancing

According to Van Dijk (2000), the distancing strategy is used to show and emphasize the distance between the ingroup and outgroup by using pronoun such as 'them' and 'those people'. In this analysis, the distancing strategy can be found in:

- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- The real virus is racism
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- I don't get the racist motive
- Our voices were not heard

9. Evidentially and Illustration

This evidentially and illustration strategy is employed in a discourse to make the discourses comprehensible and trustworthy so that the audiences believe to the discourse producer's utterances. It is in line with Van Dijk (2000) who stated that this strategy is used to show how or where the discourse producers get the information to convey reliability, objectivity, and credibility. This strategy is employed in a discourse by providing factual or fictional short stories and experiences related to the issue discussed. In this analysis, this strategy was employed in:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- I don't get the racist motive
- Our voices were not heard

10. Explanation and Situation Description

This strategy is employed to give a description of situations, actions, and experiences surrounding the events accurately to let the audiences understand how bad the racism and the consequences of the racism was. According to Van Dijk (2000), the explanation strategy works as the argumentation to emphasize the empathetic feeling from the explanation. Moreover, this strategy also aims to emphasize how bad the *out-group* is from the explanation of inherent negative acts of *out-group* members. In this analysis, this strategy can be found in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new

- Don't blame Asians for the virus

11. Generalization

The generalization strategy is used to put the attribution of negative aspects of small-part of community to a larger population (majority) that makes a claim become general. It is in line with Darweesh & Muzhir (2016) who stated that it is the attribution of positive and negative aspects of a person or small community to a larger population. In this analysis, the generalization strategy can be found in 'Don't blame Asians for the virus'.

12. Hyperbole and dramatization

The hyperbole and dramatization strategy are used in a discourse to exaggerate a meaning behind the actual reality aiming to emphasize something, for example; the feeling of the discourse producers. According to Van Dijk (2000), hyperbole strategy is employed to enhance the meaning of the discourses. In this analysis, the hyperbole and dramatization can be found in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- I don't get the racist motivation
- You choose the wrong one

13. Implication

The implication strategy is employed in a discourse to share the implicit information to avoid more conflicts from the majorities (*others*). It is in line with Van Dijk (2000) who stated that this strategy conveys the mental modes that one already has known as the knowledge. It is used by showing the half-part of the whole information to give the 'implied' meaning in the discourse.

This implication strategy was employed in these discourses to implicitly present the negative things about others that the racism has been started from a long time ago and it has not been stopped yet. In this analysis, it can be found in:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- We fight this together
- The real virus is racism
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue

14. Ironic expression and contradiction

According to Shakoury (2018), "Irony is the deliberate contrast between what is said and what the speaker intends to convey through language use, often humorously". It is in line with Van Dijk (2000) who stated that the irony expression is employed in a discourse by constructing the praises for the majorities to deliver the opposite meaning to give the emphatic feeling in a

discourse. Based on the analysis, the ironic expression can be found in several discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue
- I don't get the racist motive
- There are no excuses for racism
- We are all the same
- Our voices were not heard

15. Metaphor

The metaphor strategy is applied in a discourse by employing the figurative words to carry the emotional, social, and aesthetic values. According to Shakoury (2018), "it is the comparison of two things or phenomena which bear no resemblance to assign the attributes of one to another". In compliance with Van Dijk (2000), metaphor strategy conveys the abstract, complex, unfamiliar, and emotional meaning to persuade the audiences to give the more concrete feeling. In this analysis, the metaphor strategy was only employed in a discourse topic which is 'I don't get the racist motive' which was shown in the discourse presentation, "*I have to walk on the eggshells like why? I didn't do anything wrong*".

16. Naming Tactics

This strategy is used to 'name' social action carried out by dominant groups that has negatively impacted on the condition of minorities to let the hearers, readers, and audiences to evaluate the action done by majorities in a different way. This strategy functions to reveal the deviant actions of majorities and power holders. In this analysis, the naming tactic strategy was used in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- We are also Americans
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus

17. Negative-Others

According to Van Dijk (2000), this strategy is used by attaching negative impressions of the *out-group* by showing and emphasizing their bad deeds. The Negative-Others strategy can be found in discourse topic 'Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying'. One of the discourse presentations which contains the discourse topic 'negative others' sounds "*People are stupid. I mean, it sucks*".

18. Norm Expression

Norm expression strategy is employed in a discourse to invite and remind the audiences about how human beings should treat other human beings and respect the human rights. It is in accordance with Van Dijk (2000), the norm expression consists of the strong normative attitude towards the racism, discrimination, and the other inequality from the power holders. In this analysis, the norm expression can be found in several discourse topics which are:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- We are also Americans
- We fight this together
- Anti-Asian racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- We are all the same

19. Number game

The number game strategy is used by providing the statistical data and numbers to emphasize the objectivity to support a claim-discourse. It is in compliance with Van Dijk (2000) who stated that this strategy is the primary means to show the objectivity persuasively. In this analysis, the number game strategy was employed in several discourse topics which are:

- Asians are not the virus
- The real virus is racism

20. Presupposition

The presupposition strategy is employed to show the discourse producer's assumptions about the world or background belief relating to an utterance whose truth is taken for granted. According to Van Dijk (2000), the presupposition strategy conveys the controversial beliefs and opinions about the opposite. It is in compliance with Jones and Peccei (2004, cited in Darweesh & Muzhir, 2016), presupposition is an idea or proposition inserted in a discourse without any proof. This strategy is found in several data analysed. They are:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- I don't get the racist motive
- There are no excuses for racism
- We are all the same
- Immigrant versus native born conflict

21. Repetition

According to Hsieh (2011:163 cited in Rabab'ah & Abuseileek, 2012), repetition functions as the emphasis to do persuasions and convince the audiences. In this analysis, the repetition strategy can be discovered in these discourse topics:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue
- I don't get the racist motive
- You choose the wrong one
- We are all the same
- Our voices were not heard

22. Victimization

The victimization strategy has the highest percentage of discourse strategies among the other discourse strategies which reaches 23.6%. This strategy used by explaining unpleasant stories as the impact of the *out-group's* racial attacks towards the in-group. In compliance with Van Dijk (2000), the victimization strategy functions as a tool to represent the negative terms about the others and emphasize that the *ingroup* members as the victims of such a treat. Although it is quite similar with evidentially or explanation; however, this strategy tends to emphasize the effect of the racial discrimination done by the majorities towards the minorities. These are several discourse topics that contain the victimization strategy examples of victimization strategy used by Asian-American in defending themselves from the analysis:

- Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying
- Asians are not the virus
- Stop stereotyping Asians
- We are also Americans
- We fight this together
- The real virus is racism
- Anti-Asian Racism is not new
- Don't blame Asians for the virus
- This is a priority issue
- I don't get the racist motive
- We are all the same
- Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians
- Our voices were not heard

2. Discussion

The findings of the analysis on seven videos of Asian-Americans utterances containing the resistance showed that Asian-Americans tend to emphasize the negative things about *others* and de-emphasize bad things about *them*. Moreover, it was also found that discourse topics used in the utterances were various such as ‘Anti-Asian Racism is Terrifying’, ‘Don’t Blame Asians for the Virus’, ‘Asians are not the Virus’, ‘We are also Americans’, etc. Asians-Americans tend to explain and portray the unpleasant stories as the impact of the majorities’ racial attacks towards the Asians to attract the sympathy from the audiences. They produce discourses to persuade the audiences to help them get out from the racism undermining them.

In addition, the analysis revealed that various discourse strategies, such as *victimization*, *evidentially*, *explanation*, and many more were used in defending minority groups to create positive-self and negative-others presentations. It proves that these discourse strategies not only can be used by the majorities, but also the minorities as the powerless or the discriminated groups to defend themselves and maintain their existence.

To sum up, the analysis of discourses produced by Asian-Americans as the discourse producer showed that Asian-Americans portrayed Americans or the majorities as the *others* or *out-group members*. Moreover, Asian-Americans also believed that they are also Americans who should not experience the racism just because the Covid-19 virus was firstly found in China. Furthermore, Asian-Americans also emphasized that there are no excuses for racism towards them.

The findings of this study gave a new insight and knowledge in the case of Anti-Asian Racism issue. The voices and ideologies of Asians in facing the racism which initially were not heard, now it was presented in the discourse topics in the previous chapter. Asian-Americans as the racist-victim during the Covid-19 outbreak tend to reject the prejudice against them and integrate themselves as the Americans society in general. Furthermore, the use of the discourse strategies made the discourses produced by Asian-Americans become more reasonable and moral in dealing with the racism and injustice. The use of the discourse strategies also leads the audiences to get to know to the core idea or the ideology of the discourse producers and influences the audiences to agree with the presented statements and shape their awareness towards the racist issue. To sum up, the discourse topics presented are the acts of resistance of minorities against the majorities’ ideologies during the Covid-19 outbreak. Those discourse topics which were constructed from several discourse strategies functions to get the justice and equal social treatment among the American society.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

From the analysis of discourse topics and strategies produced by Asian-Americans as the racist victim resulting of Covid-19 outbreak, the researcher concludes that CDA is one of linguistic and social approaches that can identify how minorities voice their ideologies and attempt to argue against the racial discrimination undermining them. It is shown in the discourse topics presented by

Asian-Americans. In this analysis, the researcher has found there are 16 discourse topics such as ‘Anti-Asian Racism is terrifying’, ‘the real virus is racism’, ‘we are all the same’, ‘our voices were not heard’, etc.

Moreover, in conducting a discourse topic, the discourse producers used one or more discourse strategies. From the analysis, it is found that there are 22 discourse strategies, and the most used strategy is the victimization. It has shown that Asian-Americans tend to emphasize the negative deeds about *others* and positive things about *them*. The positive-self presentation is used by minorities as a tool so that they can be accepted by the audiences and considered as an inclusive part of the majorities. From this conclusion, it can be seen how Asian-Americans’ efforts to maintain their existence.

Based on the research questions, the researcher has answered the questions. There are various discourse topics used by Asian-American in defending themselves to fight against the Anti-Asian racist, such as:

- Anti-Asian Racism is Terrifying’
- ‘Stop Stereotyping Asians’
- ‘I don’t get the racist motivation’
- ‘The real virus is racism’
- ‘Make an attempt to understand and empathize with Asians’
- ‘We are all the same’
- ‘We fight the racism together’
- ‘Asians are not the Virus’
- ‘We are also Americans’
- ‘Anti-Asian Racism is not New’
- ‘Don’t Blame Asians for the Virus’
- ‘This is a priority issue’
- ‘There are no excuses for racism’
- ‘You choose the wrong one!’
- ‘Immigrant versus native born conflict’
- ‘Our voices were not heard’

Although there are various discourse topics found from Asian-Americans’ utterances, it can be concluded that Asian-Americans want to be recognized as Americans and be given the same rights and opportunities to live their life freely without being discriminated.

The researcher also has found the discourse strategies used by Asian-Americans in defending themselves to fight against Anti-Asian racism. From the analysis, the researcher found that there are 22 discourse strategies used by the Asian-American in defending themselves. Those are Actor Description (1.4%), Authority (1.8%), Categorization and Polarization (0.9%), Comparison (2.8%), Consensus (5.2%), Counterfactuals (1.4%), Disclaimer (3.3%), Distancing (3.3%), Evidentiality and illustration (12.7%), Explanation and situation description (2.8%), Generalization (0.4%), Hyperbole and Dramatization (4.2%), Implication (5.6%), Ironic Expression and Contradiction (7.1%), Metaphor (0.4%), Naming tactics (1.4%), Negative-Others (0.4%), Norm Expression (2.3%), Number game (0.9%), Presupposition (9%), Repetition (7.5%), and Victimization (23.6%).

The investigation of resistance discourse of Asian-Americans' utterances in defending themselves contributes theoretically to the study of CDA. Moreover, the use of CDA also contributes significantly in understanding the Anti-Asian Racism issue during the Covid-19 outbreak. It also enlarges the study of CDA in analysing the resistance discourses produced by minorities since there is not much attention in CDA studies relating to the resistance discourses produced by minorities that finally leads to the very little understanding of the minorities and their discussion.

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