The Representation of *Orlando Shooting* in Online News Articles of Fox News and Al Jazeera: A Critical Discourse Analysis

Hengki Agus Rifa'i[1], Hermawati Syarif[2], Leni Marlina[3]

English Department

Faculty of Languages and Arts

Universitas Negeri Padang

email: inbox.hengki@gmail.com

Abstract

This study specifically discusses the representation of *Orlando shooting*, the deadliest mass shooting in the modern U.S. history taking place on June 11, 2016 in Florida, including the portrayal of the Muslim offender and the similarities and differences in contents of the shooting coverage in online news articles of two media, *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*. Online news articles about the shooting from *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera* were selected as the data in this study. Social Actor Representation of Van Leeuwen (2008), *News Schemata* of Van Dijk (1986), and the analysis of socio-cultural practices of Fairclough (1995) were used to analyze data. The results of analysis showed that there were eight representational categories used by both media to portray the offender. In addition, both media provided similar coverage about the details and chronology of the shooting, the previous investigations on the offender, and comments from witnesses and the owner of the club, but differed in presenting the offender's personal details and his association to ISIS terrorist group. Lastly, there were three socio-cultural practices – institutional context, situational context, and societal context – that explained the shooting and its different coverage in both media.

Key words: *Orlando Shooting, Representation, Offender, Muslim*

A. INTRODUCTION

It is undeniable that news media hold fundamental role in the life of society as people constantly rely on them to get information. With their control over information, particularly in the use of language, news media have capacity not only to inform but also to influence the knowledge of society about what is going on in the world. What is reported by media will be consumed by, and therefore affect,

---

[1] English ELLSP of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang graduated on September 2017

[2] Lecturer of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang

[3] Lecturer of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang

large number of people in society. Hart (2010:16) contends that the understanding of social realities is shaped more by texts exposed to us rather than our hands-on experiences. This implies that what is informed by media matters to our conception of realities – how we understand social events covered in the media. Therefore, media have power capable of shaping the conception of society about the reported events.

However, news media sometimes abuse this power of information they own. Although they are expected to report things objectively, many have said that news media sometimes misuse the power. News has been claimed to report an event from certain points of view and thus is not neutral (Fowler, 1991 in Sivandi Nasab & Dowlatabadi, 2016:92). In other words, media occasionally put their own perspective in news article in order to shape the understanding of society about a given issue. Sustained by centers of power, news is said to be "the best shelter" to conceal ideology (Kabgani, 2013:58).

The issue of social power and its abuse by individuals or institutions has been a concern of Critical Discourse Analysis (henceforth CDA). CDA studies the relationship between discourse and power. Linguists have long believed that the structuring of language in a discourse is not ideologically-empty. Instead, it is believed to embody an ideology, a political goal meant to influence its consumers. Linguists have consequently been drawn to study the power existing in discourse and how it helps manufacture and shape the social relations. Hamzah and Ningsih (2015), for example, in their study about the practice of power and domination by teachers in classroom seen from the pedagogical discourse structure, concludes that teachers are still dominating classroom interaction and thus acquire power over their student.

The power of media and its abuse in form of news bias has been the incentive to study this study. This study analyzed the case of *Orlando shooting*, a mass shooting taking place in *Pulse*, one of gay night clubs in Orlando, Florida on June 11, 2016. With 50 deaths and 53 injured, making it the deadliest mass shooting in the modern U.S. history (Ellis, 2016), the event has drawn not only domestic but also International media attention. The offender was identified as Omar Sheddique Mateen, a U.S. citizen born in New York of Afghan origin. As the event has taken unprecedented number of casualties, there has been a fierce discussion over the details of the offender as a Muslim and the motivation behind the shooting in just hours after the event. This study specifically sought to, 1) analyze the types of representational categories used by two media, *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*, in portraying the offender, 2) find the similarities and differences of contents in the coverage of the event from both media, and 3) provide the socio-cultural practices that explain the differences in the coverage.

Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA henceforth) was used for analyzing the news articles in both *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*. *Fox News* was chosen since its news practices are deemed to supply foundation for Islam's negative image (Vultee, 2009). Moreover, *Fox News* has been one among U.S. Islamophobia networks' outer core (Council on American-Islamic Relations, 2016). *Al Jazeera,* on the other hand, was sometimes compared to western media because its discourses often countered its western media counterparts' (Alhumaidi, 2013:22). This study was

therefore important to see if both media have certain tendency leading to bias in reporting the *Orlando shooting*, especially the representation of the offender.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

The data in this study were four relevant news articles about *Orlando shooting*, two from each outlet, taken from the official websites of both *Fox News* (http://foxnews.com) and *Al Jazeera* (http://aljazeera.com). The four articles were chosen as they have satisfied the indicators for data worthiness. Firstly, the data have contained a substantial number of categories from 23 representational categories as offered by Van Leeuwen (2008). The data have also contained more than half of 5 *News Schemata* items as offered by Van Dijk (1986): *Summary*, *Main Events*, *Backgrounds*, *Consequences*, and *Comments*. Lastly, the data from both media have related to socio-cultural practices surrounding the coverage as proposed by Fairclough (1995).

The first two news articles were firstly analyzed per clause to get the answer for the types of representational categories used to portray the offender and the similarities and differences in the coverage contents. The clauses were obtained after using Clause Boundary. Each clause was assigned as a datum. There were 218 clauses in total. 144 clauses (datum 1-datum 144) were taken from *Fox News*, and 74 clauses (datum 145-datum 218) from *Al Jazeera*. As the analysis was thoroughly comparative in nature, the clauses were put one after another in the analysis. The other two news articles were analyzed per paragraph to satisfy the answer for the socio-cultural practice.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Research Finding

After analyzing the two news articles, the researcher found eight categories or groups of representational categories about the offender. They were Activation/Passivation, Association, Functionalization, Classification, Appraisement, Formalization, Semiformalization, and Detitulation. Table 1 shows all of the representational categories found. From Table 1, one can see that the offender was represented in more detail in *Fox News* than in *Al Jazeera*, proven by the higher number of clauses in *Fox News* as opposed to in *Al Jazeera*.

Table 1. The Representation of the Offender in Two News Articles

No	Category	Sub-category	*Fox News*	*Al Jazeera*
1.	a. Activation	-	28	7
	b. Passivation	Subjection	4	5
3.	Association	-	9	3
4.	Functionalization	-	1	0
5.	Identification	Classification	4	1
6.	Appraisement	-	4	1
7.	Formalization	-	13	4
8.	Semiformalization	-	1	1
9.	Detitulation	-	15	5

Of all the categories, Association and Classification deserve special attention as they had a lot to tell about the differences in the way *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera* represented the offender.

Association

Association, in a simple term, occurs when social actors are linked to other social actors or groups of social actors, while Dissociation is the absence of Association in a discourse. The inclusion or exclusion of Association is usually triggered by an assumed *cause* or *reason* for something to happen. It was found that *Fox News* wrote 9 clauses Association, while there were only 3 Association clauses in *Al Jazeera*. The most notable association found was between the offender and ISIS group. Table 2 presents the Association clauses from both media in which the offender was associated with ISIS group.

Table 2. The Association Clauses in *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*

Datum	*Fox News*	Datum	*Al Jazeera*
1	A gunman **who pledged allegiance to ISIS** opened fire early Sunday morning in a packed Orlando nightclub,….	159	and (Mateen) **referred to the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant** (ISIL also known as ISIS) group.
5	an "**Islamic State fighter**" carried out the assault		
25	and – if accurate – that according to local law enforcement **the shooter declared his allegiance to ISIS**,		
31	The gunman, Omar Mir Seddique Mateen, was heard **shouting "Allah Akbar"** while engaging officers,		
33	Mateen also called 911 during the shooting to **pledge allegiance to ISIS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi**,		

Datum 1 from *Fox News* is Association since the offender, labeled as 'the gunman', was associated with ISIS through the noun clause, "who pledged allegiance to ISIS". This association is supported by datum 5 (through the phrase "Islamic State fighter"), datum 25 (through the phrase "declared his allegiance to ISIS"), and datum 33 (through the phrase "to pledge allegiance to ISIS leader"). Comparatively, *Al Jazeera* only gave 1 clause signaling the association, which is datum 159. Datum 159 is Association since the offender, Mateen, was associated with ISIS through the use of verb "referred to". While both media suggested there might be association between the offender and ISIS, the offender was more actively associated with ISIS group in *Fox News* than in *Al Jazeera*. It can be seen from the presence of 5 Association clauses to ISIS in *Fox News* as opposed to 1 Association clause to ISIS in *Al Jazeera*.

Classification

Classification occurs when social actors are referred to in terms of their social class, for example, age, gender, provenance, and nationality. *Fox News* was found to present 4 Classification clauses, while *Al Jazeera* presented only 1 clause. Table 3 shows the Classification clauses in both *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*.

Table 3. The Classification Clauses in *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*

Datum	*Fox News*	Datum	*Al Jazeera*
49	Mateen was **a U.S. citizen**,		

54	and (he) was **a Muslim**,	148	Authorities identified the shooter on Sunday as Omar Mateen, a **29-year –old man born in New York with Afghan origins.**
60	the **ex-wife** told Washington Post.		
66	Mateen also **had 3-year-old son**.		

Datum 49 in Table 3 is Classification because it informed about the offender's nationality, who is "a U.S. citizen". Datum 54 is Classification as it told about the offender's religion, labeled as *he*, who is "a Muslim". Datum 60 is Classification as it told about the marital status of the offender, a widower (shown from the use of noun "the ex-wife"). Lastly, datum 66 is Classification as it told about the role of the offender as a father (shown from the phrase "had a 3-year-old son"). Comparatively, there was only one Classification clause found in *Al Jazeera*, which is datum 148. Datum 148 is Classification since it told about the age (29-years-old), nationality (U.S. citizen), and provenance (originally from Afghanistan) of the offender, Omar Mateen, at once through the phrase "a 29-year-old man born in New York with Afghan origins".

An important point here was that *Fox News* attempted to link the action of the offender to his religion. There were at least two proofs in support of this finding. Firstly, in datum 53 to 55, it was stated "*He was born in New York to parents of Afghan origin and was a Muslim, **Fox News confirmed**."* In this case, *Fox News* used reporting verb "confirmed". The use of such verb to signal the offender's religion signified that the action may have something to do with his religion. Secondly, in datum 31 (see Table 2), the offender was reported shouting "Allah Akbar", the popular remark for praising Lord in Islam. This kind of religious affiliation did not exist in *Al Jazeera*. This finding also reinforced the idea of the offender-ISIS association since ISIS claims to represent Islamic value.

After analyzing the articles to reveal the similarities and differences in the contents of *Orlando shooting* coverage, only the last component, *Comments*, was not found in the articles. The significant components necessary to look at are *Summary* and *Main Events*. Table 4 presents the results of the analysis about the similarities and differences of coverage contents about *Orlando shooting*.

Table 4. Similarities and Differences in Coverage Contents of *Orlando shooting*

No.	News Schemata	Similarities	Differences
1.	Summary	1. The description of the shooting event in the club. 2. Victims' details	1. Possible cause of the shooting 2. Comment from influential party 3. Time of occurrence
2.	Main Events	1. The chronology of the shooting 2. The details about the club	1. The details about the shooter 2. Alleged association of the offender
3.	Backgrounds	1. Previous investigation on the offender	1. The backgrounds of the offender 2. Previous Event related to the shooting

4.	Consequences	1. The Governor and Obama speech 2. Police victim 3. The story of witness' and the club owner's	1. Reaction 2. The evaluation of the offender
5.	Comments	-	-

Similarities and Differences in *Summary* Part

In news article, Summary involves Headline and Lead because these two parts are where the key points of the news are usually placed. Table 5 displays the phrases and clauses that constitute the Headline and Lead part of the news articles from both *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*.

Table 5. *Summary* in the Articles of *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*

Parts	*Fox News*	*Al Jazeera*
Headline	49 killed in shooting at Florida nightclub in possible act of Islamic terror	Orlando: Scores dead in gay nightclub shooting
Lead	A gunman who pledged allegiance to ISIS opened fire early Sunday morning in a packed Orlando nightclub, killing 50 people and wounding at least 53 in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history.	President Obama calls attack on gay nightclub in Orlando "an act of terror and an act of hate".
		Fifty people have been killed, including the assailant, and at least 53 injured in an attack inside a gay nightclub in the US state of Florida, authorities said, in the worst mass shooting in US history.

There are two similarities between the Summary in the articles. Firstly, both media mentioned the main event, which is the shooting in an Orlando nightclub. This was apparent from the phrase "opened fire early Sunday morning in a packed Orlando nightclub" in *Fox News* and the phrase "in an attack inside a gay nightclub in the US state of Florida" in *Al Jazeera*. In addition, they also mutually referred to the incident as the most fatal mass shooting in the U.S. history through the phrase "in the deadliest mass shooting in modern U.S. history" in *Fox News* and "in the worst mass shooting in US history" in *Al Jazeera*. Secondly, both media also highlighted the similar details on the victims. The exact number of 50 deaths and at least 53 injuries can be clearly noticed in the Lead.

However, there are three differences in Summary in the articles. Firstly, *Fox News* introduced a contentious cause of the shooting in its Headline, which is "an Islamic terror". The foregrounding of this cause was apparent in form of a prepositional phrase, "in possible act of Islamic terror" in Headline. This case did not exist in the Summary part in *Al Jazeera*. Secondly, *Al Jazeera* in turn directly showed a speech from President Obama with regard to the shooting in its Lead. The remark from Obama, calling the shooting "an act of terror and an act of hate", appeared in bigger print precisely under the Headline. This speech did not exist in the Summary part in *Fox News*. Thirdly, *Fox News* included the information about the time of the incident in its Lead part, clearly observable in the phrase "opened fire early Sunday morning". However, this information was not included in the

Summary, either Headline or Lead, in the *Al Jazeera*'s article. Thus, the Lead in *Fox News* can be said to have more complete information than that in *Al Jazeera*.

Similarities and Differences in *Main Events* Part

   There were at least 5 paragraphs in *Fox News*'s article and 4 paragraphs in *Al Jazeera*'s article featuring *Main Events*. Table 6 highlights all of the paragraphs that constitute *Main Events* from the articles of both media.

Table 6. *Main Events* in the Articles of *Fox News* and *Al Jazeera*

Parts	Fox News	Al Jazeera
Main Events	ISIS claimed responsibility for the attack Sunday afternoon via its Amaq news agency, Reuters reported. Amaq said "an Islamic state fighter" carried out the assault. It was not clear, however, if the shooting was actually directed by the terror group or only inspired by it.	Authorities identified the shooter on Sunday as Omar Mateen, a 29-year-old man born in New York with Afghan origins.
	The attack in Orlando at Pulse, which bills itself as "the hottest gay bar" in the city and was packed with more than 300 people for "Latin Night," was reported minutes after 2 a.m. Sunday.	Mateen, who was armed with an assault-type rifle and a handgun, was killed in a shootout with at least 11 police officers inside the Pulse nightclub in Orlando.
	It ended hours later when police stormed the building and killed the shooter.	
	Dozens of partygoers remained hostage in the club for several hours after the initial shooting, prompting SWAT teams to rush inside. Shortly after 6 a.m. local time, Orlando police tweeted that the gunman had been killed. Authorities said there was not believed to be any further threat to the area.	Around 5am, authorities sent in a SWAT team to rescue the hostages.
	Chief John Mina of the Orlando Police Department said officers were initially engaged in a gun battle outside the club before the suspect, armed with a handgun and "assault-type rifle," went back into building, where most shots were fired. He said the gunman took several hostages.	The suspect exchanged gunfire with a police officer working at the club, which had more than 300 people inside. The gunman then went back inside and took hostages, Mina said.

   The identified common grounds between the two articles are the chronology of the shooting and the details of the club where the shooting took place. In terms of shooting chronology, it can be understood that the offender firstly exchanged fire with a police officer outside the club at around 2 a.m., and later went inside the club taking hostages. It then prompts SWAT team to enter the building before finally killing him at around 6 a.m. In terms of club's detail, both media suggested that the

club was filled with more than 300 partygoers, most of whom were Latino and people of color.

However, there are also at least two differences to note from the *Main Events*. Firstly, it was only *Al Jazeera* who directly provided information about the identity of the shooter, including his age, nationality, and provenance, by taking a description from authorities in the paragraph "Authorities identified the shooter on Sunday as Omar Mateen, a 29-year-old man born in New York with Afghan origins". This detail exists only in the later part of the article in *Fox News*. Secondly, *Fox News*, supporting its initial assertion in the Summary, presented unconfirmed information about the connection between the offender and ISIS by relying on the Amaq's claim as apparent in the paragraph "Amaq said "an Islamic state fighter" carried out the assault. It was not clear, however, if the shooting was actually directed by the terror group or only inspired by it". The introduction of the possible shooting cause is absent in the *Fox News*'s Main Events.

The finding in the former analysis suggests both media adopted opposite view regarding the possible motive of terrorism. An investigation revealed that both media produced completely contrasting news report reinforcing the finding, the news about call transcript between the offender and 911 office. The analysis on Headline and Lead of these two texts showed the opposite stances from both media with regard to the finding. Table 7 shows the Headline and Lead part:

Table 7. The Headline and Lead of News about Offender's Call Transcript

Fox News	*Al Jazeera*
Transcripts of Orlando shooter's conversation with police **reveal ISIS influence** (Headline)	Orlando shooting: Omar Mateen call transcripts released (Headline)
	FBI says no proof Omar Mateen was directed by foreign armed group as it releases suspect's first conversation with 911 (Lead)

From the Headline in *Fox News* and Lead of *Al Jazeera*, it is visible that the articles exhibited contrasting content. While *Fox News* told the shooting was influenced by ISIS, *Al Jazeera* told its opposite. In reporting the news, *Al Jazeera* relied solely on the comment made by Ronald Hopper, a FBI assistant special agent by reporting his remark following the transcript's release: *"However, there is no evidence that Mateen, who was born in the United States to Afghan immigrants, was directed by a foreign armed group, **Hopper said**"*. On the contrary, *Fox News* tried to warrant the offender-ISIS association in its article without providing other related information. This is noticeable from the sentences presented in Table 8. However, *Fox News* did not offer any comment by authority pertaining to the event. The only remark taken was the indirect one, but it was less credible as *Fox News* only mentioned 'counterterrorism expert' without specifically revealing the source of the statement. In sum, the two news articles supported finding that both media have different opinions about the issue of terrorist association. While the offender was linked to ISIS in *Fox News*, he is not treated the same in *Al Jazeera*.

Table 8. The Terrorist Association in News about Offender's Call Transcript

Fox News

> He specifically **singled out the death of Abu Wahib**, one of the more visible leaders of the terror group, **as one of the main motivations for his attack**.

> The new details of the conversations, released by Orlando Police last week, show Mateen had more than a passing interest in Islamic State, **counterterrorism expert** said.

Orlando Shooting and Islamophobia

Mass shooting case is not something uncommon in the USA these days. In 2016 alone, Gun Violence Archive has counted that there were more than 380 cases of mass shooting throughout the country. This fact infers that there was at least 1 mass shooting taking place every single day in the country last year and thus four or more people were killed every day. This number has not included the cases of non-mass shooting cases where less than four people were dead as there were more than 15.000 people were shot dead and/or killed in 2016 or 40 people in average were killed daily. In one year back before *Orlando shooting*, Gun Violence Archive records that there were at least five other mass shooting cases committed by both Muslim and non-Muslim offenders, all of which in total killed no more than 43 people. They were *Kalamazo shooting* (February 2016, 6 deaths), *San Bernardino mass shooting* (December 2015, 14 deaths), *Umpqua Community College shooting* (October 2015, 9 deaths), *Chattanooga shooting* (July 2015, 5 deaths), and *Charleston Church shooting* (June 2015, 9 deaths).

However, *Orlando shooting* was an impossibly exceptional incident. It drew massive national and international media attention the day after the shooting. There were three possible explanations for this. Firstly, *Orlando shooting* resulted in the most deaths unprecedented in the history of the US. Secondly, the offender was reported to support ISIS terrorist group. Thirdly, the shooting was targeted at LGBT community. Therefore, not only did its number of casualties lead to extensive coverage, the issue about the target of the shooting had also attracted attention. LGBT community has still been facing oppositions in many states in the US, although there has also been progressive movement supporting their existence and rights followed by legal acceptance. It was not surprising that media had fierce debate and discussion over the motive of the shooting, whether it was a terrorist attack (as the offender was a Muslim and mentioned ISIS) or a hate crime to LGBT community (as what had been stated in *Al Jazeera*'s articles).

In relation to *Orlando shooting* as the ISIS-claimed attack, news media worldwide have informed about a series of attacks claimed by ISIS as their own. For example, in January 2015, an ISIS-claimed attack hit a satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo in France, killing 17 journalists working there. Ten month afterwards, a series of attacks took place in a number of public sites in downtown Paris, killing up to 130 citizens. In all of the accidents, the perpetrators have been said to be radicalized, have been trained by, or fight with, Islamic State (Telegraph, 2016). Moreover, in the U.S. soil alone, about 6 attacks taking place from 2015-2016 were reportedly linked to ISIS, although authorities said that the attacks appeared to be inspired, instead of directed, by ISIS (Ibtimes, 2016). All of these attacks may have lead to the increasing coverage linking Muslim-committed shootings to ISIS terrorism.

In sum, the extensive yet different coverage of *Orlando shooting* was mainly due to three reasons. They are the incredibly high number of victims, the controversial story about the offender's allegiance to ISIS, and the target of the heinous shooting. Moreover, the association between the shooting with ISIS in the coverage may be resulted from previous attacks reportedly linked to the group.

Gun Laws in the United States of America

As *Orlando shooting* would not have been possible without the possession and misuse of guns, it is important to look at how gun laws looked like in the US. Gun laws regulate the sale, possession, and use of firearms and ammunition. They vary significantly across states in terms of form, content, and level of restrictions in USA. States have different regulations about gun control. The regulations of gun laws are enforced by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF). Generally, the right to keep and bear arms is protected by the Second Amendment to the United States Constitution (Gun Laws, 2017).

As many other States, Florida allows people to keep and bear arms. The gun control law in Florida is regulated in Code Section 790.001, et seq. To request for possessing guns in Florida, one needs to wait for 3 days after sending official request to the State government, excluding weekends and legal holidays. However, short-barreled rifle or shotgun and machine gun are illegalized in Florida. Moreover, minors (under 21), convicted felon, and some other groups of people are barred access to gun (Florida Gun Control Laws, 2017). The law also prohibits the use of firearms on or near school grounds.

Looking at the regulations above, it was no wonder that the offender could possess guns used to commit the crime. Mateen was over 21 years old at the time of the shooting, never commits crimes before (as stated in the *Fox News*'a article), and did not meet any criteria for people disallowed to possess and use gun. Consequently, Mateen was able to use gun during the shooting as it is legal in Florida. This supports what was stated in the *Fox News*'s article that Mateen purchased guns legally during the week before the shooting, according to an ATF official. The legal possession and use of the guns enables him to do the shooting.

In conclusion, while gun law in Florida is not the only cause and thus cannot be solely blamed for the occurrence of the shooting, the legal possession and use of guns in Orlando has been one of the contributing factors to the shooting. The free use of guns in Florida and many other States in US has made mass shooting cases more possible.

2. Discussion

There are some findings necessary to discuss in this study. Firstly, the fact that *Fox News* outnumbers Al Jazeera in almost all categories of representation, especially in Activation, signifies different degree of interest of both media in portraying the offender. In this case, *Fox News* has more interest to portray the offender in more detail than *Al Jazeera* has because *Fox News* made more clauses explaining the offender than *Al Jazeera* did. This is especially true if we take a look at the differences in Classification clauses. While Fox News clarified the nationality

(US citizen), the marital status (widower), and the role of the offender (father), *Al Jazeera* only presented details of age (29) and nationality (US citizen).

However, the difference in the portrayal of the offender in both media was not only in the matter of personal details. It can be seen from the first two news articles that both media differ greatly in discussing the issue of offender's religion. While *Fox News* viewed the offender's religion as a significant issue to be reported, *Al Jazeera* viewed it as insignificant. This finding, therefore, supports the argument from Fowler (1991, in Sivandi Nasab & Dowlatabadi, 2016:92) that news contains a certain perspective.

Furthermore, the most notable difference in the representation of the offender in this study was the issue of association between the offender and ISIS. In the two news articles, *Fox News* actively attempted to show the association between the offender and, more than Al Jazeera did. The fact that *Fox News* has more clauses than *Al Jazeera* about the offender-ISIS association was the evidence for such finding. This attitude on the issue of association aligns with the account that the description of events in news articles inevitably has a point of view of media (Van Dijk, 1988). While *Fox News* negatively represented the Muslim offender of Orlando shooting by association with terrorism, *Al Jazeera* tried to combat such narrative. This finding is substantiated by the finding in two other news articles about the offender's call transcript with the 911 office.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

A number of conclusions can be drawn from this study. Firstly, the analysis on the offender's representation showed that both media have similarities and differences in portraying the offender. While they shared similarities about the offender's details including his age and nationality, only *Fox News* bringing the religious identity of the offender. Moreover, *Fox News* actively attempted to associate the offender action to ISIS, while *Al Jazeera* tried to counter this idea and told that the shooting was more a hate crime than a terrorist action.

Secondly, the analysis on the similarities and differences in coverage contents showed that both media were similar but are also different in some contents. Both media were found to present information about the chronology of the shooting, the comments from influential parties (President Obama and Florida Governor), and the testimonies from witnesses and the club's owner during and about the shooting. However, both media differed in terms of presenting details about the offender's identity, as it was found in the research results.

Lastly, the analysis on the socio-cultural practices revealed that there are three possible explanations. Firstly, the institutional practices showed that the news articles from both media support one another regarding their perspective in reporting *Orlando shooting*. In terms of situational context, the exceptionality of *Orlando shooting* and the presence of previous ISIS-claimed attacks in some countries have led to extensive report about the incident and especially quite Islamophobic coverage in *Fox News*. Lastly, in terms of societal context, it was also found that the legality of gun possession and use in Florida is one of the contributing factors making it possible for the offender to commit the massacre.

There has been limitation in this research in terms of the amount of news articles featuring the representation of the offender. While it could be proven that Muslim offender was negatively portrayed in *Fox News*, other shooting cases may need to be taken into account for producing a more comprehensive study result. Moreover, deeper researches that involve more prominent western and eastern media are needed to get more generalization with respect to the attitude of media in representing Muslim offender in crime news.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Alhumaidi, Majid. (2013). *A Critical Discourse Analysis of Al-Ahram and Aljazeera's Online Coverage of Egypt's 2011 Revolution.* (Doctoral dissertation, University of Florida, 2013). Retrieved from: http://ufdc.ufl.edu/

Council on American-Islamic Relations. (2016). *Confronting Fear: Islamophobia and its Impact in the United States*. Retrieved from: http://islamophobia.org/

Ellis, Ralph, *et al*. (2016). *Orlando shooting: 49 killed, shooter pledged ISIS*. Retrieved from: http://edition.cnn.com/2016/06/12/us/orlando-nightclub-shooting/

Fairclough, N. (1995). *Media Discourse*. London: Arnold.

Florida Gun Control Laws. (n.d.). Retrieved from: http://statelaws.findlaw.com/florida-law/florida-gun-control-laws.html

Gun Laws. (n.d.). Retrieved from: http://injury.findlaw.com/product-liability/gun-laws.html

Hamzah & Ningsih, Kurnia. (2015). Praktek Kekuasaan dan Dominasi Guru di Dalam Kelas Ditinjau dari Struktur Wacana Pedagogik Pembelajaran Bahasa Inggris. *Lingua Didaktika*, *9*(1), 19-29.

Hart, Christopher. (2010). *Critical Discourse Analysis and Cognitive Science: New Perspectives on Immigration Discourse*. New York: Palgrave MacMillan.

Ibtimes. (2016). *ISIS Attacks in U.S: Full List of Incidents Related to Islamic State Group*. Retrieved from: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/11996120/Paris-attack-what-we-know-about-the-suspects.html

Kabgani, Sajad. (2013). The Representation of Muslim Women in Non-Islamic Media. *International Journal of Women's Research*, *5*(1), 57-78.

Sivandi Nasab, Zohre & Dowlatabadi, Hamid Reza. 2016. A Critical Discourse Analysis on Newspaper: The Case Study of Nuclear Program of Iran. *International Journal of Research Studies in Education*, *5*(2), 93-103.

Telegraph. (2016). *Who is Abdeslam and who were the Paris terrorists? Everything we know about the ISIL attackers*. Retrieved from: http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/worldnews/europe/france/11996120/Paris-attack-what-we-know-about-the-suspects.html

Van Dijk, T. A. (1986). News Schemata. In S. Greenbaum and Cooper (eds), *Studying Writing: Linguistic Approaches* (pp. 155-186). Beverly Hills: Sage.

Van Dijk, T. A. (1988). *News as Discourse*. Hillsdale, New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates.

Van Leeuwen, Theo. (2008). *Discourse and Practice: New Tools for Critical Discourse Analysis.* New York: Oxford University Press.

Vultee, Fred. (2009). Jump Back Jack, Mohammed's Here, *Journalism Studies,* 10(5), 623-638.