

A Pragmatic Analysis of Selected Print Media Reports on Insurgency in Nigerian Newspapers

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Abstract : Insurgent reports in Nigeria have become a recurring focus in the media due to the significance of language choices. This paper investigates these reports with the aim of identifying various pragmatic practices and exploring the role of the media in shaping public perception of insurgency. Three Nigerian newspapers The Punch, This Day, and The Guardian were selected for analysis between December 2022 and January 2023. Five media reports were examined to uncover the pragmatic functions embedded in the discourse. The study reveals that the media employ implicit acts such as exposing, sensitizing, informing, castigating, reprimanding, and shaming to depict insurgent activities in the country. The analysis also highlights how the use of presupposed ideologies enhances the delivery and acceptance of information related to insurgent actions. The study concludes that the media's portrayal of insurgency is often biased, as reflected in the data analysis.

Keywords : insurgency, pragmatic acts, bias, framing, ideologies

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