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A Review of Media and Extremism with Special Reference to Controlling Terrorists Attack

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Abstract- The media works as the messenger between the incidents and the public. This may include many events such as social events as festivals, political, economic, techno events, technologies, etc., and crime as well. This study considers the news media, social media, and internet websites for this study. An exploratory type of research is conducted. The study is concerned with the terrorism, extremism and the roles and responsibilities of media. This study concentrated on improving the situation in the context of terrorism by identifying the causes of initiation and spread of extremist thoughts and bringing control over terrorists' attacks through suggesting ways. This study proposed the changes in the media ownership pattern to curb the terrorists' and like attacks.

Keywords: media, terrorism, violence, communication, social media ethics, media policy, media strategies.

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A Review of Media and Extremism with Special Reference to Controlling Terrorists Attack

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Abstract- The media works as the messenger between the incidents and the public. This may include many events such as social events as festivals, political, economic, techno events, technologies, etc., and crime as well. This study considers the news media, social media, and internet websites for this study. An exploratory type of research is conducted. The study is concerned with the terrorism, extremism and the roles and responsibilities of media. This study concentrated on improving the situation in the context of terrorism by identifying the causes of initiation and spread of extremist thoughts and bringing control over terrorists' attacks through suggesting ways. This study proposed the changes in the media ownership pattern to curb the terrorists' and like attacks.

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Research objectives:

- To find out the ways to report news of terrorists attack
- To identify ways to bring control over terrorists attack

Research Method: This study utilized exploratory type of research design that helped researcher to examine the past and secondary type of data. Researcher study the published researcher in view of the terrorism, extremism, news media, social media, and internet webs related to terrorists groups.

I. Introduction

Responsibility and authority go hand in hand. One can does not say that one has full authority without fulfilling any duty. It, in practice, comes automatically with later. So is the case with media. Media itself signifies that it is a medium. There is a general perception that the media is responsible for the terrorism. In many cases looking at the media reports, news, videos, and the breaking news prima facie all other stakeholders, hold media responsible for such mis-happenings. If it is not done by media, again the media is hold responsible for not sharing the information it has. It is a vital point to look at through both the lenses; media, and other stakeholders.

II. Identification and Discussion

It became important for journalists, and media to report the terrorists' activities that they might happen, or happened. While doing this job media and journalists should follow ethics. Sometimes it becomes impossible to adhere to ethics and report the news. In such situations how the reporters, or media, or social-media, or social media users should behave that become important. It is important to verify, as identified by many authors (Media Smarts, 2019), the information received and to be shared further. Researchers,(Alinizi & Altabeiri, 2017) considered, social media as a threat as it can be used easily to spread of rumors and to fight with information crimes, in 2016, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia responded with new law to fight the information technologies crime.

Curiosity leads people to read news. They want to know in general what is happening in the world they live. The messages, information, videos, reported about terrorist activities attract people to read and see it because of not only curiosity but the fear factor too. People are concerned about the safety of themselves and their relatives, and friends. Knowing such information in advance, they want to be safe and want to make aware people they know and care.

Many evidences put forth by the author about terrorists' attacks in the prepared statement for the senate member (Watts, 2018). This urge for safety makes people attached such information and the same push them to share. In this fast pace people have no time to identify the truth behind the information they received and they about to share.

Ministry of Culture, Ontario published a report on media and terrorism that is also named as handbook of journalists mentioned the dos and don'ts for the journalists (Marthoz, 2017). Researcher (Weimann, 2014) urged strategic thinkers to identify solutions for not abusing tools developed in this segment that are inevitably invented to catch the pace in to live in the race by social media organizations and information technology companies.

Social media companies want to run their businesses, so they are providing platforms to share the information. Nevertheless, they even the part of the world they are doing business in, hence the ethical responsibilities. So, they also should be prepared to sort out fake, harmful information and stop it there itself from spreading further. Recently many governments from different nations brought in the laws to ensure stop terrorism, crime related information. As suggested by the author, "Social media companies should move

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aggressively to thwart terrorists and authoritarians exploiting their systems not only because it's what is best for their users and society, but because it's good for business as well." (Watts, 2018). Further, he suggested people involved that they themselves need to care for the information they read and spread. There are some good initiatives for example:

> "It can be tough to tell what's true and what's "fake news" just by looking at a headline. But it's easy to do a quick check and get the real facts when something doesn't look right online. We want you to help us Break the Fake by stopping the spread of false info and getting Canadians to check before sharing!" (Media Smarts, 2019)

Terrorists prefer social media, as it is available free, easy to use and widespread (Awan, 2017) , can reach many within clicks. These abilities of the social media plus likes (Awan, 2017) and forwards abilities are utilized by terrorists. Further, (Awan, 2017), added that it is very difficult to identify the messages from terrorists' groups, further making it very complex.

Authors, (Ines , Reding, Edwards , & Gribbon, 013), categorized their study into four parts terrorist and extremist websites, what is being posted, birth of extremist ideas into the individual mind, planning, and execution of attacks. Further, these authors beautifully identified five themes from the literature about radicalization. Internet websites from extremists group and social media has provided opportunities for initiation of radicalization, and its spread. These categories may help in dividing this type of study in such smaller parts and will help researchers, thinkers to focus on a particular area.

Researcher (Beckett, 2016) opined in a study that the news media report terror events in a way that can spread fear and confusion. Researcher would like to propose a thought in this regard, governments throughout the world should ban using videos and photographs of terror attacks, or association media should ethically consider reporting a single photograph that would be used for reporting the news by any media. It will stop the struggle among journalists (Beckett, 2016). Even the journalists themselves do not want to struggle so much to take photos and videos but the peer pressure works here to force media management to press further. In this struggle real journalism is missed, the real journalist's role the journalists may have perceived while selecting it as job is missing. The efforts should be taken to reinstate by restricting media ownership to nonprofit organizations. This will stop the publicity the terrorist seeks as identified by (Beckett, 2016).

III. Conclusion

As identified and concluded by the researcher, (Rourke, 2010), there is requirement of training to the involved to control such incidents. These incidents involve crime, terrorism and like activities that are happening may be in same or similar period. This give rise to stress to the working people for the cause. Further, there exists tremendous information on media platforms such as YouTube, Facebook, Instagram, etc. that further makes almost impossible for the officials to identify the relevant information. Each official person working may not be so competent to do data mining for the cause. To have better control over the situation researcher agrees with (Rourke, 2010) to provide training for the investigating, and/or controlling officials and the media persons.

Creating awareness among public is very important so that the information that is harmful to nation can be stopped from spreading. Researcher, (Ramakrishna, 2010), suggested creation two immune systems: theological and ideological that will help people to keep themselves away from such extremists' thoughts. Researcher suggested protecting the integrity of the social media (Watts, 2018).

Journalists should be given freedom for the work to be done provided they should be using some guidelines adhering to the rules and regulations laid by the government for media companies. Social media companies also should follow the guidelines strictly and ethically to safeguard the society they work in and work for the society. While deployment of the policy guidelines it should be seen that the freedom for the opinion of the journalists and their suggestions should remain untouched. Journalist should be transparent even at the time of broadcasting breaking news and/or developing a story regarding such sensitive issues: crime, violence, terrorists' attacks, etc.

Journalists need to understand the exceptional situations where restrictions are imposed, and the same moment it is mentioned in the report that they, the journalists, have the full right to investigate and report the event(Media Smarts, 2019). When journalists would be transparent, it would bring trust to media as mentioned by (Beckett, 2016).

Media has become the messenger in this context of extremism and terrorism and/or violence. Media has been seen carrying the threatening messages of the extremists to the concerned i.e. in most of the cases government. However, this is not the true job of the media, and media should limit itself to its prime duties in such cases. This is true for the news media: print, television, and radio. However, in case of social media: Twitter, You tube, Facebook, etc. should take the responsibility to first identify and then stop such terror messages from spreading, reporting these messages to the concerned.

IV. Future Research

The research can be taken further to identify the strategies or to develop in absence to aware people

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about terrorism and media connections, limitations for media, shouldering the social responsibility contributing to curb terrorism by not spreading the untruthful and harmful information. Further, these studies could identify the ways for restricting media ownership to nonprofit version.

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