

## **SAME EVENT; DIFFERENT STORIES: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF TWO KENYAN DAILIES REPORTING ON MURDER**

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### **ABSTRACT**

On the basis of Lexical Choices as a Linguistic device, this study examines headlines and introductory paragraphs of articles on a murder story that was covered in different Kenyan Dailies in the year 2018. The current paper argues that since every instance of language use is imbued with meaning and purpose in relation to its user, the language used in different newspapers covering the same event will be different. Apart from using language to bring out the reality of the situation to the news consumers, news reporters also struggle to use it to reflect the positions they take in relation to their reports. It is through this struggle that different constructions of the same murder event are realized. This study will qualitatively examine the language use in two different newspapers in Kenya i.e the Daily Nation and the Standard in relation to the representation of murder story revolving around a slain university student and a county chief who is the perceived perpetrator. Analyses of the articles by the help of the Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) theory revealed that the same murder event reported in the DN is represented differently in the STD through the use of a more biased lexemes and that ideology is the driving force in these representations.

**Keywords:** Ideology, Representation, Lexical Choices.