

A Critical Discourse Analysis of Trolling in Iraqi Political Tweets

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تحليل خطاب نقدي للتصيد في التغريدات السياسية العراقية

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Abstract

Trolling refers to a particular type of cruel online behavior, intended to disrupt interactions, aggravate interactional partners and lure them into fruitless argumentation. This qualitative paper aims at identifying van Dijk's ideological strategies and investigates the significance of context (i.e., background and historical knowledge) in analyzing Iraqi political tweet. It also aims to discover how trolls is handled on social media. Based on three tweets taken from Dr. Souad Al-Qisie, Ahmed Althawwaq and Wessen Al-sheikhly, the presents study examines

trolling in Iraqi political tweets with much focus on van Dijk's ideological strategies. Additionally, it tackles the social function of language practice and power in political discourse. The findings of the study reveals that context is the most significant and effective factor in creating trolling in Iraqi political tweets. van Dijk's ideological square in its two aspects micro and macro analysis has proved to be useful in conducting a critical discourse analysis of trolling.

Key Words: Trolling, CDA, CDA Approaches, Ideological Square

الخلاصة

وسن الشخلى. الدراسة الحالية هي تحليل خطاب نقدي للتصيد في التغريدات السياسية العراقية من خلال التركيز على الاستراتيجيات الفكرية (الأيدولوجية) لفان دايك. وتظهر نتائج هذه الدراسة ان السياق هو العامل الاكثر فعالية وأهمية في خلق التصيد في التغريدات السياسية العراقية.

الكلمات المفتاحية: التصيد- تحليل خطاب نقدي- نظريات الخطاب النقدي- المربع الأيدولوجي

التصيد يشير الى نوع خاص من السلوك القاسي على الانترنت، حيث يميل الى عرقلة التفاعلات، إثارة غضب الاشخاص المتفاعلين و اغوائهم الى جدال غير مثمر. تهدف هذه الدراسة الى تحديد الاستراتيجيات (الأيدولوجية) لفان دايك وكذلك البحث عن أهمية السياق (بمعنى اخر الخلفية والمعرفة التاريخية) في تحليل التغريدات العراقية. اكتشاف كيف يتم معالجة رسائل التصيد في مواقع التواصل الاجتماعي. اعتمادا على تغريدتين مأخوذتين من سعاد القيسي و

1. Introduction

Internet trolling is seen as one of the fastest spreading pieces of computer jargon of the 21st century. In USA, trolling comes to the forefront much earlier with the suicide of YouTube user Megan Meier in 2006, and in Canada it follows the suicide of Amanda Todd in 2012, whom abuses on YouTube, even after her death. In these two tragic instances, trolling was taken to great extremes. The harassment of these individuals was constant and carried out by many different trolls even after their deaths (Bishop, 2014a: 7-24). Furthermore, trolling occurs in each place of the World

Wide Web; anyplace from a forum, chat, or comments section.

Trolling can be originated from a shape of fishing as a baited line sets in the water and drags gradually by a boat to persuade the fish to bite (Herring et al., 2002: 371-384; Cambria et al., 2010; Binns, 2012: 547-562 ; Griffiths, 2014: 85-87 ; Bishop, 2014a: 7-24; Golf-Papez and Veer, 2017: 1336-1354). Another suggested origin of trolling is offered by Bishop (2014a: 7-24) when he writes that US Navy pilots have utilized the term, "trolling for MiGs" through the 1960s in Vietnam for the practice of annoying the enemy fighter pilots. It is at

the present, it depicts the mythological creature derived from Scandinavian folklore, that conceals beneath a bridge and traps citizens that pass by (Herring et al., 2002: 371-384 ; Binns, 2012: 547-562).

2.Theoretical Background

2.1 Comparing Trolling to Flaming

In relation to Golf-Papez and Veer (2017: 1336-1354), trolling means to provoke, while flaming is a reaction to provocation. Both behaviors frequently integrate, since trolling and flaming intend to interrupt conversations, this will lead to provoked opinions (Herring et al., 2002) and they participate the perform of baiting for replies (Manivannan, 2013). Flaming is utilized to convey humor, disagreement and dissimilar opinions (McCosker, 2014a) .

2.2 Trolling Compared to Cyberbullying

It is noteworthy that cyberbullying refers to a repetitive action and its purpose is to provoke damage at particular individuals, not like trolling which is consisted of larger diversity of behaviors and can be one-time thing, unplanned or undirected (Cheng et al.,2017; Golf-Papez

and Veer, 2017). Cyberbullies target people who do not able to simply protect themselves and therefore there exists a power of unevenness, this power do not necessarily include in trolling (Golf-Papez and Veer, 2017). In addition, both trolling and cyberbullying share a number of aspects, such as being forms of cyberharassment, and they affect by anonymity and online disinhibition (Zezulka and Seigfried-Spellar, 2016).

2.3 Why Do They Troll

2.3.1 Reasons for Humans to Troll

It is worth mentioning that motivations and reasons that frequently exhibit in public discourse are entertainment, attention and boredom. Attention frequently considers as one of the major reasons designed for trolling, together in media and academic investigations. The general advice of “do not feed the troll” predicates on the supposition that trolls wish for attention and when starved of it, they depart. Shachaf and Hara (2010) study trolling in Wikipedia and suggest that the frequent reasons to troll are boredom, seeking attention and revenge.

2.3.2 Effect of Computer-Mediated Communication

In accordance with Hardaker (2015), CMC relates to communication that is between individuals, but is arbitrated during a device, supplying rapid communication further up space and time. Although CMC provides many compensation, it as well accompanies by negative characteristics like dehumanization, disinhibition, shortened capacity to interpret intentions in addition to the harmful effects bring by anonymity (ibid.). Anonymity is allowed people to feel safe while discussing receptive, unsuitable and unsafe subjects (Herring et al., 2002). The compensations of anonymity are essential to oppressed minority groups.

2.4 Dealing With Trolls

2.4.1 How to Deal with Trolls

Hardaker (2015:23) identifies various responses to trolling: engage in a serious response; neglecting the trolling effort covertly or overtly; the troller is exposed to the rest of the group; critiquing the troller effectiveness, success, or quality; reciprocating in kind by trolling the troller; parodying or mocking the trolling attempt.

3. CDA and its Approaches

CDA is defined as an interdisciplinary approach which, as affirmed by Bloor and Bloor (2007), utilized by professionals from a diversity of backgrounds for example, historians, business institutions, lawyers, etc., to examine social difficulties relating to their work. Regardless of the fact that all the approaches to CDA have the notions of ideology, critique, and power in common, they classify into four major ones with respect to the dissimilarities in their hypothetical foundations and investigating tools. These approaches are van Dijk Socio-Cognitive Model, Wodak Sociological and Historical Approach, Fairclough Dialectical Relational Approach and van Leeuwen Sociological Categories of Actor Representation. The model adopted for this analysis is van Dijk's ideological square.

3.1 van Dijk Socio-Cognitive Model

Teun van Dijk (2006a: 735) recognizes discourse as a form of social practice. Nevertheless, it does not concentrate on discursive practice. He to a certain extent focuses on social cognition as the mediating part among text and society. In his paper "Politics, Ideology,

and Discourse”, he introduces four principles for the analysis of ideology, which he calls “ideological square” i.e., the macro level of analysis which consists of four aspects (emphasize positive things about Us, emphasize negative things about Them, de-emphasize negative things about Us, de-emphasize positive things about Them) and the micro level of analysis which consists "twenty-seven" ideological strategies, among which the basic dichotomy of “positive-self representation” and “negative other- representation” shows up. Ideological square contributes to polarization of in-groups versus out-groups to represent "Us" favorably but "Them" unfavorably. These strategies are:

-Authority: Stating authorities to hold up one's argument.

-Actor description: The explanation of outgroup as negative and ingroup as positive.

-Categorization: Categorizing people to a variety of groups and connecting them negative or positive individuality.

-Lexicalization: The expression of lexical items shaping a largely ideological strategy for negative other-presentation.

-Polarization: Categorizing people into ingroup and outgroup and identifying bad attributes to Them and good attributes to Us.

-Vagueness: Utilizing fuzzy expressions which do not contain exact statements.

Victimization: Confirming the “bad” nature of outgroup by informing awful stories about them.

-Consensus: Is a “national” tool to protect a country against exterior threats.

-Counterfactuals: Persuasive strategy that utilizes to the move of requesting for pity.

-Disclaimer: It is found in the terms like, yet, but or however.

-Evidentiality: Presenting facts by speaker that sustain her/his own beliefs, opinions or any information.

-Illustration/Example: The speaker presents truthful examples that compose his/her report extra credible.

-Comparison: Compare ingroups positively and outgroups negatively.

-Generalizations: The affection of negative with positive features of an accurate person such as, lawyers are tough workers.

-Hyperbole: Means the exaggeration of the language and extra strain on something.

-Implication: The speaker constantly tries to deduct facts.

-Irony: Difference among what is thought and what the speaker attempts to convey, often hilariously.

-Metaphor: Contrast or comparison of two objects that have no likeness.

-National self-glorification: Generates a positive illustration of an accurate nation during definite positive suggestions, similar to history and culture.

-Norm expression: Express the norms of how something must not or must be accomplished.

-Number game: The speaker employs numbers and statistics.

-Populism: Speaker needs to increase further and further popularity via interjecting her/his political thoughts and policies.

-Presupposition: Speaker utilizes language with no proof or evidence.

-Euphemism: Speaker tries to use less cruel words such as "decease" in place of

"death" and no one be able to take it negatively.

-Burden (Topos): Financial loss of a accurate group either little or as large as a homeland.

-Positive self-presentation: Ingroup are represented positively.

-Negative other-presentation: Outgroup are represented negatively (Ibid.).

4. Methodology and Data Analysis

The appropriate method for achieving the purpose of the study is to be dealt with qualitatively rather than a quantitatively since the data to be analyzed are texts rather than numbers. the data chosen involves three tweets on the current political events (demonstrations) in Iraq during the period between 2019 to 2020. Three tweets have been chosen from Dr. Souad Al-Qisie, Ahmed Althawwaq and Wessen Alsheikhly Twitter pages and their tweets deals with sensitive issues and they are the subject for hot discussions and receive a great debate. The model adopted for this analysis is van Dijk's ideological square (2006a).

5. Analysis and Discussion

In this section three tweets are analyzed critically and the reason behind choosing

Tweet (1)



this model is to examine the ideological analysis of trolling in Iraqi political tweets based on CDA.

Translation: The most beautiful and preferable thing that especially happened today in #Iraq is that all listened to Friday sermon(represented by top cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani's) in #Karbala

(Politicians _ protesters)

(Muslims, atheists ,polytheists, and Christians)

all 🙌😂😂😂

#Top-cleric-represent-me.

#Top-cleric-is the-voice-of-homeland

Figure (1): A tweet by Souad_alQisie, (2019, Nov 29), retrieved from: <http://twitter.com/Souad18/status/12003627684084082444/s=20>.

Overview

The occasion in trolling figure (1) was Friday sermon (khutba Al- Jumu'ah) after the killing of Iraqi protesters in Karbala, **Al-Marjani (2019, Nov 28)**.

The semantic model entailed that this tweet was about Friday sermon. Top cleric (Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani) warned on

Friday against an explosion of civil strife and tyranny.He also urged government forces to stop killing protesters and told demonstrators to reject all violence. Top cleric appealed for restraint from both sides after security forces killed more than 40 protesters on Thursday during a

crackdown ordered by Abdul Mahdi Al-Karbalai.

The mental model was another essential concept of van Dijk's theory and it referred to people's experience and their knowledge about the world. Consequently, Dr. Souad here depicted her knowledge, experience and point of view about top cleric. Dr. Souad represented top cleric as the only man obeyed by Iraqi people.

The “**October Revolution**” began on 1st October, 2019. Prime minister (hereafter PM) Adel Abdul Mahdi took office just over a year, promising reformation that had not been materialized. Young Iraqis angered by his failure to tackle high unemployment, endemic corruption and poor public services were carried to the streets of Baghdad for the first time. In Arabic, the uprising knew as “Thawrat Tishreen,” largely involved youth from the southern cities and towns of Iraq.

For **Al-Rubaye (2019 Nov, 27)**, the Iraqi government used live bullets, hot water, marksmen, hot pepper gas and tear gas against protesters, leading to many deaths and injuries. Latest statistics of **Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights** on the violence committed against protestors

showed that the death toll had reached **500** demonstrators killed and **25,000** injured.

van Dijk's Strategies

Actor description is employed in trolling figure (1). Dr. Souad depicts seven characters (politicians, protesters, Muslims, atheists, polytheists and Christians). Therefore, Dr. Souad employs the ideological strategy of consensus.

Hyperbole is recognizable too and it is quite apparent in the phrase “beautiful and preferable” /أحلى واجمل/. Hyperbole is extremely significant because it exaggerates the meaning of the idea.

Scalar implicature is displayed as well and it is clear in the word “all”. Scalar implicature is defined as an implicature that attributes an implicit meaning beyond the explicit or literal meaning of an utterance (Hansen et al., 2008).

Evidently, Dr. Souad relies upon the religion as higher authority during the use of hashtags "cleric top" /المرجعية الدينية/ and "cleric top represents me" /المرجعية تمثلني/. The hashtags are helpful in instantaneously determining the perceptions of people. We can witness her directness in the language use, she appears to be extremely self confident and convincing. She uses the hashtags "top cleric represent me" in order

to focus on his role. Therefore, she adheres positive attribute to top cleric, top cleric followers and protesters.

Inferring evidentiality (result) is applied in trolling figure (1) because Dr. Souad speaks to all Iraqi sects when she says "politicians, protesters, Muslims, atheists, polytheists and Christians".

As shown in trolling figure (1), Dr. Souad uses number game to trigger trolling and it can be found in the word all /الجميع/.

Another strategy is categorization in which Dr. Souad categorizes people into different groups such as politicians, protesters, Muslims, atheists, polytheists and Christians. The strategy of example/ illustration are employed in the phrase "all" /الجميع/ as Dr. Souad wants to show that all Iraqi sects listen to Friday sermon.

Generalization and factive presupposition are occurred in the phrase "top cleric is the voice of homeland" /المرجعية صوت الوطن/. Structural presupposition is noticeable in the word "Karbala" because it is a part of Iraq. Structural presupposition is associated with the use of certain words and phrase and is assumed to be true. Another type of presupposition is lexical which is utilized in the words "beautiful and preferable" /احلى واجمل/. Top cleric and protesters are presented positively (positive self-presentation). Comparison is obvious in trolling figure (1). Dr. Souad is comparing today sermons with previous sermons for the reason that all Iraqi sects are listened to Friday sermon. Burden (topos) is available in the phrase "top cleric is the voice of homeland" /المرجعية /صوت الوطن/.

Discursive strategies	Explanation
Counterfactual	Not found in the text.
Disclaimer	Not found in the text.
Euphemism	Not found in the text.
Irony	Not found in the text.
Lexicalization	Not found in the text.
Metaphor	Not found in the text.
National self-glorification	Not found in the text.
Negative other-presentation	Not found in the text.
Norm-expression	Not found in the text.
Polarization	Not found in the text.
Populism	Not found in the text.
Vagueness	Not found in the text.
Victimization	Not found in the text.

Table (1): The Discursive Strategies Which are not Used in Tweet (1)

Tweet (2)



Translation: I wanted to admit

when I saw protesters were slaughtering a child
and he was no more 12 years old and they were
applauding, chanting and taking photo



and thousands of protesters were
taking a photos for him and shouting

" long live Iraq long live homeland!"

From that hour I washed off my hand from all
demonstrations in Iraq..!!

Figure (2): A tweet by alshayakhliu1,(2020, May 31), retrieved from:
<https://twitter.com/alshayakhliu1/status/1267033865899642880?s=20>.

Overview

The occasion in trolling figure (2) was the killing of the teenager (Haythem Ali) and the hanging of his dead body in Al-Wathba square in Baghdad, **Vincent (2019, Dec 12)**.

In relation to **Vincent (2019, Dec 12)**, Haythem Ali was 12 years old. Some protesters stabbed him 17 times, hanged him by his ankles from a traffic light pole and cut his throat. In videos of the scene, people in police uniforms saw in the midst of the mob, seemingly allowing the attack to take place. The **Iraqi High Commission for Human Rights** condemned the police behavior as well as the lack of any effort by citizens to stop the violence.

According to **Vincent (2019, Dec 12)**, the bloodshed began when the young gunman opened fire in Baghdad's Wathba Square, killing two shop owners and four protesters. Security officials initiated that the teenager was wanted by police on drug-related charges and was running from security forces at the time. Furthermore, dozens of people pointed their mobile phones at the body dangling high above them in a city centre square after he was dragged across the street.

Concerning the semantic model, Wessen saw that these demonstrations aimed to ruin and kill.

With Respect to the mental model, Wessen exhibited that protesters changed the real picture of demonstrations. She also showed that these demonstrations were supported by external sides in order overthrow the system.

van Dijk's Strategies

Victimization is utilized in tweet (2). Wessen addresses the teenager Haythem Ali /هيثم علي/ as a victim.

Positive self-presentation is employed. Wessen presents the teenager Haythem Ali positively. On the other hand, protesters are negatively presented (negative other presentation).

As shown in tweet (2), Wessen displays polarization to activate trolling between Him (the teenager Haythem Ali; ingroup) vs Them (Iraqi protesters; outgroup).

Evidentiality is employed. Wessen provides an evidence which found in the phrase " when I saw protesters slaughtering a child and he was no more than 12 years old / من شفت الجماعة شانقين طفل عمرة ميتجاوز / ١٢سنة

Actor description is operated. The two actors are described differently; Haythem Ali is presented as a victim and protesters as killers. Lexicalization is used as well. Wessen in trolling figure (2) shows that protesters are responsible of killing the teenager "Haythem Ali". Categorization is applied in tweet (2). Characters are categorizes into ingroup (Haythem Ali) and protesters (outgroup). Generalization is recognizable. Wessen refers to the participated protesters in trolling figure (2) as killers.

Scalar implicature is identifiable and it appears in the word "all /الجميع/". /Number game is obvious in the words "thousands /الالاف/ and all /الجميع/". This is the number of the protesters who are participated in demonstrations. Disclaimer is recognizable in trolling figure (2). Wessen presents protesters negatively "out-group; focusing on their negative features". She accuses them of killing the teenager Haythem Ali.

Discursive strategies	Explanation
Authority	Not found in the text.
Burden (topos)	Not found in the text.
Comparison	Not found in the text.
Consensus	Not found in the text.
counterfactual	Not found in the text.
Euphemism	Not found in the text.
Illustration/example	Not found in the text.
Irony	Not found in the text.
Metaphor	Not found in the text.
National self-glorification	Not found in the text.
Norm expression	Not found in the text.
Populism	Not found in the text.
Presupposition	Not found in the text.
Vagueness	Not found in the text.

Table (2). The Discursive Strategies Which are not Used in Tweet (2).

Tweet (٣)



Translation: Protesters demand is very simple, they want a noble man who lives in Iraq with his family, never living in another country, never having any other citizenship and must not be a parliamentary member or a minister. Is this difficult? **#When-you-demonstrate**

Figure (3): A tweet by Al-thawaq, (2019, Dec 19), retrieved from: https://twitter.com/Al_thawaq/status/1207749635613319169?s=20

Overview

The occasion in trolling figure (3) is when political parties nominate some figures for the Prime minister position, **Msalha (2019, Dec 18)**.

As for the semantic model, certain figures are nominated by political parties to preoccupy the prime minster position. These controversial figures do not conform with protesters impreciseness. They are Asad AlEdani, Qusay Al-Suhail and Mohammed Shiaa Al-Sudani. Peaceful protesters ask for their rights of living peacefully. They want a figure who lives in

Iraq and does not have any other citizenship. He must feel of these poor people, **Msalha (2019, Dec 18)**.

Prime minister should promise that he is not going to run in the next elections and should comply with the demands of the revolutionaries. Also, his decision should purely be Iraqi and independent and should not be obliged by outside interventions and the political blocs. He should be strong and transparent and should not be involved in corruption.

Concerning the mental model, it is difficult for political parties to accept these simple

conditions because they stole in one day a millions of dollars that returned to their private accounts, **Msalha (2019, Dec 18)**.

van Dijk's Strategies

The strategy of positive self-presentation is utilized. Iraqi protesters are presented positively. This denotes the first feature of the ideological square model that is to emphasize positive things about us "Iraqi protesters".

The second strategy is negative other-presentation as Ahmed Al-thawwaq creates a bad image of the other (parties). He describes them as tyrants who imposes their views on the other, by hook or by crook, Msalha (2019, Dec 18). This reflects the second feature of the model which is to emphasize negative things about "Them", because Ahmed Al-thawwaq has exclusively negatively portrays political parties.

The strategy of categorization is obvious too. Ahmed Al-thawwaq categorizes characters into ingroup (Iraqi protesters) and outgroup (parties). Categorization leads to another strategy which is called polarization between Us vs Them.

As for actor description, two characters in trolling figure (3) are mentioned Iraqi protesters (ingroup) and parties (outgroup).

Generalization is applied in trolling figure (3). All Iraqi protesters want a Prime minister who has only Iraqi citizenship, he should be independent and should not belong to any party and have not been a minister, governor, or parliament member before.

Factive presupposition is also employed in tweet (3) as Ahmed Althawwaq shows that Iraqi protesters want to see their leaders hold their positions to account for corruption, as well as new electoral laws. Protesters do not only call for the resignation of the country's political leadership, including the Prime minister, but also for the entire political system of sectarianism to be overthrown. They want a system of government that represented them, Msalha (2019, Dec 18).

Lexicalization is recognizable, too. Ahmed Al-thawwaq demonstrates that political parties are involved in some bad acts such oppression, torture, crush and abuse.

Victimization is also applicable. Ahmed Al-thawwaq refers to Iraqi protesters as victims.

Evidentiality is quite clear in trolling tweet (3). Ahmed Al-thawwaq views that Iraqi Protesters demand for a government that is radically different from those they have before in order to have a homeland that houses everyone, but political parties fail to nominate someone who is supported by the protestors. Perhaps, politicians want to nominate the old faces and deceive the people.

Scalar implicature is obviously utilized in trolling figure (3) and it is found in the modal verb "must not / ما جان / and the conjunction "and / و /".

Comparison is made between ingroup (Iraqi protesters) and outgroup (parties). This comparison thus leads to national self-glorification and hyperbole because it emphasizes on the positive features of ingroup and negative of the outgroup. This trolling can clearly show who is the outgroup i.e., those who live in another country / عایش / بالخارج.

As for example/ illustration, Ahmed Al-thawwaq gives us an example when he says " they want a noble man who lives in Iraq with his family, never living in another country / يردون واحد عایش بالعراق هو وعائلته / وما جان عایش بالخارج

Discursive strategies	Explanation
Authority	Not found in the text
Burden (topos)	Not found in the text
Consensus	Not found in the text
Counterfactual	Not found in the text
Disclaimer	Not found in the text
Euphemism	Not found in the text
Irony	Not found in the text
Metaphor	Not found in the text
Norm expression	Not found in the text
Populism	Not found in the text
Vagueness	Not found in the text

Table (٧): The Discursive Strategies which are not Used in Tweet (3).

6.Conclusions

The following conclusions have been arrived at:

- 1.Trolling has other meaning than provoke a reaction. It may express insult, manipulation, anger, hatred, mocking and harsh criticism.
2. Furthermore, trolls can be handled through certain steps. First, ignore them. Second, do not delete their posts for the reason that can escalate their bad behavior.

Third, build a supportive, friendly community through making them (trolls) your friend. Fourth, block them, most of the time, trolls are annoying and frequently not dangerous.

- 3.There are twenty-seven ideological strategies such as actor description, categorization, disclaimer, evidentiality, hyperbole, implication, irony, lexicalization, national self glorification, number game, polarization, and vagueness,

etc. have the main role in creating trolling in Iraqi political tweets.

4.The most dominant strategies that used in Iraqi political tweets are evidentiality, polarization , presupposition, hyperbole, actor description , positive self-presentation, negative other-presentation, number game, lexicalization, authority, irony, counterfactual, and categorization. Nearly, all van Dijk's ideological strategies are observed in the data.

5.Contexts play an important role in Iraqi political tweets since without context and without giving a detailed overview of each tweet, ideas and references will not be fully comprehended and functionalized. The overview is extremely ideological and is based on Dr. Souad Al-Qisie ((القيسي سعاد), Al-thawwaq (احمد الذواق) and Wessen Al-sheikhly (وسن الشيخلي) beliefs and attitudes. They, therefore, tend to categorizes characters into groups to show the difference between them. This categorization permits them to create in- and out-groups where he or she attributes the good characteristics to his or her own group and the bad ones to the other group.

6. In contrast to Dr. Souad Al-Qisie (سعاد الذواق) and Ahmed Al-thawwaq (احمد القيسي)

,it is noteworthy that Wessen Al-sheikhly (الشيخلي وسن) presents the opposite opinion since she presents protesters negatively in her tweets. Dr. Souad Al-Qisie ((القيسي سعاد) and Ahmed Al-thawwaq (الذواق احمد) presents protesters either positively or sometimes in a neutral way.

7. It can be noted that trolling can have a bad effect or they can have a good effect. One has to know how to deal with trolls. In addition, staying on the offense is important, along with knowing how to respond to a troll's comments and criticism.

8.Unlike Wessen Al-sheikhly, Dr. Souad Al-Qisie and Ahmed Al-thawwaq depend on religion in their tweets. Religion utilizes as a ethical police and a means to provoke meticulous feelings in the public.

9. It is noteworthy that Wessen Al-sheikhly presents the opposite opinion since she presents protesters negatively in her tweets. Dr. Souad Al-Qisie presents protesters either positively or sometimes in a neutral way.

10.Contrary to Ahmed Al-thawwaq and Wessen Al-sheikhly ,Dr. Souad Al-Qisie relies deeply on emotive language. Consequently, emotive language is

intended to cause an effect on the audience. Emotive language is a type of diction that can be used to persuade the audience should be used purposefully and mindfully.

11. It has been noticed that the negative acts of the out-group have exaggerated by hyperboles by all speakers. On the other hand, the positive acts of the in-group have emphasized and overstated by national self-glorification, authority and positive self-presentation.

12. With regard to the micro level of analysis, all van Dijk ideological strategies are take place in Iraqi political tweets.

13.van Dijk's ideological square, in its two stages i.e., macro and micro analysis, has proved to be useful in conducting a critical discourse analysis of trolling. It is worth mentioning that political discourse is tremendously important discourse for supplying socio-cognitive insights from a critical viewpoint.

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