

Bachelor thesis

*Is Dutch crime news getting more
subjective over time (1950-2014)?*

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Summary

In several studies of English data, researchers observed a trend of informalization: a shift towards a more conversational style in written discourse. This trend is directly related to subjectivity. The aim of this investigation was to find out if the trend of informalization is also applicable to Dutch crime news. In general, it is expected that crime news is an objective genre in which no false assumptions are made. Therefore, a closer look at Dutch crime news could provide new insights. The prediction in this investigation was that the subjectivity of the journalist would decrease, while the proportion and features of subjectivity of quotations would increase. Dutch crime articles of 1950 and 2014 were compared through the list of indicators of subjectivity as provided by Vis (2011) and counting the direct quotations. The results showed that there were not any significant differences within the subjectivity of the journalist, the proportion and features of subjectivity of quotations in general. Meanwhile, the subjective element subjective coherence relations used by the journalist revealed a significant decrease. This could mean crime news is a specific genre, in which objectivity is probably valued higher than in other genres.

Introduction

Since a couple of years, a distinction between traditional media and new media can be made. Newspapers and news programs are not the only possible way to keep abreast of news anymore. Television and internet are becoming more important. The new media affect the function of printed journalism (Vis, 2011). The supply of information is increasing. The abundance of information requires selection and interpretation of reliable intermediates. In this development, subjectivity is a constantly returning concept. In everyday conversation, *'subjectivity usually refers to the situation of being influenced by personal opinion, or existing in the mind or imagination, often with a negative connotation'* (Davidse, Vandelanotte & Cuyckens, 2010, p. 1).

In scientific context, there are various definitions of the concept subjectivity. From a diachronical perspective, *'subjectification is a pragmatic-semantic process whereby meanings become increasingly based in speaker's beliefs and attitudes'* (Traugott, 1989, p. 35). A statement of the speaker is considered subjective when for its interpretation reference to the speaker is necessary. Another perspective, the framework of cognitive grammar, defines subjectivity and objectivity in terms of *'a viewing arrangement between a perceiver and an object of perception'* (Langacker, 1990, p. 5). A distinction is made between an implicit and an explicit focus, in which an implicit focus refers to subjectivity and an explicit to objectivity.

Subjectivity in news articles can be treated differently by various cultures. Comparing the reporters' voice in English and Italian news, Martin and White (2005) demonstrate that Italian reporters show a deeper involvement, while English reporters maintain distance. However, subjectivity is not only the subject of intercultural investigations. A different perspective on subjectivity is the specific view of readers objectivity and bias evaluations of English news articles, in order to understand the process by which readers make these kind of judgements and the evidence on which they base them. It seems that readers find objectivity in articles lacking stance markers and subjectivity in articles with stance markers (Cramer & Eisenhart, 2014).

In several studies of English data multiple researchers observed a trend of informalization, which implies *'the shift of stylistic preferences in public written discourse towards a more conversational style'* (Vis, Sanders & Spooren, 2012, p. 95). The question remained if this trend of informalization also would be valid for other languages, such as Dutch. Recent evidence suggests that subjectivity in Dutch newspapers has increased (Vis, Sanders & Spooren, 2012). However, the increasing subjectivity is not primarily caused by journalists who express themselves and their private states more. More specifically, the increasing subjectivity observed in quotations from other speakers imbedded in the newspapers articles. The use of direct quotations has almost doubled, and the subjectivity expressed in the quotations has increased as well.

So far, very little attention has been paid to the possible influence of genres on the informalization thesis. A distinction between hard news, opinion and background news did not show a clear indication of informalization in the entire texts (Vis & Spooren, 2016). Although subgenre was involved in various interactions with year of publication, the pattern was too irregular to draw conclusions. Some features showed an increase over time, whereas others stayed the same. Only some newspapers and subgenres show the trend of informatization, others do not. The trend is even more mixed in the expression of subjective elements of the journalist. However, there is an overall increase of subjectivity elements in the direct quotations.

The list of indicators of subjectivity as provided by Vis (2011) was used in various investigations about subjectivity (Vis, Sanders & Spooren; 2012, Vis & Spooren, 2016). The three main concepts of this table are interpretation and presentation in the expression of opinion, attitudes and beliefs (modal adverbials adverbs, modal adverbials particles, modal verbs, modal functions of imperative, modal functions of subjunctive, intensifiers, cognitive verbs, exclamations, subjective coherence relations), the representation of the self of the writing subject (first person pronouns, deictic elements) and the interaction with the addressee (second person pronouns, questions). The strength of the table was in combining different levels of analysis, such as the lexicogrammatical level, the textual level and the discourse coherence.

Through combining the diachronical perspective (Traugott, 1989) and the framework of cognitive grammar (Langacker, 1990), this study provides new insights into the subjectivity in Dutch newspapers. Although Vis and Spooren (2016) used a more specific approach by investigating three different genres, their genres still are quite comprehensive. Therefore, the aim of this investigation is to focus on a more specific genre, namely crime news. This investigation could show if crime news is as objective as we expect it to be and if there are any changes over time in subjectivity. The list of subjective elements as provided by Vis (2011) is used to analyse Dutch crime articles from 1950/1960 and 2013/2014.

Because this is the first investigation with a specific focus on subjectivity in crime news, the hypotheses are based on the results of an investigation with a more general focus (Vis, Sanders & Spooren, 2012). The prediction in this investigation is that the frequency of the speech of the journalist is decreasing, the proportion of direct quotations of other speakers is increasing and the frequency of subjectivity of the direct quotations is increasing. In general, the expectation is that the informalization thesis is correct and that the news sources have become more central as speakers during time. This directs to the following research question and hypotheses.

Is Dutch crime news getting more subjective over time (1950-2014)?

H1: The frequency of features of subjectivity in the speech of the journalist is decreasing.

H2: The proportion of direct quotations of other speakers is increasing.

H3: The frequency of features of subjectivity of the direct quotations is increasing.

Method

Materials

The corpus consisted of articles in Dutch national and local newspapers, specifically targeted for crime news. The articles in the corpus belonged to the period of 2013/2014 and 1950/1960. The corpus of 2013/2014 (Rafiee, in preparation) consisted of crime articles, specifically hard news, from *Algemeen Dagblad*, *NRC Handelsblad*, *Volkskrant* and *Telegraaf*. These four newspapers are national oriented. *Algemeen Dagblad* and *Telegraaf* have a right-wing political orientation, while *NRC Handelsblad* and *Volkskrant* have a left-wing political orientation. The articles were selected through the key words *kindermisbruik* (child abuse), *verkrachting* (rape), *moord* (murder), *misdrijf* (crime) and *ontvoering* (kidnapping).

The Corpus of 1950/1960 (Van Krieken, 2015) consisted of crime articles, both hard news and background news, from *De Tijd*, *Nieuwsblad Noorden*, *Telegraaf*, *Het Vrije Volk*, *Gereformeerd Gezinsblad*, *Friese Koerier* and *Limburgs Dagblad*. *De Tijd*, *Telegraaf*, *Het Vrije Volk*, *Gereformeerd Gezinsblad* are national oriented. *Nieuwsblad Noorden*, *Friese Koerier* and *Limburgs Dagblad* are local oriented. *De Tijd*, *Nieuwsblad Noorden*, *Telegraaf*, *Gereformeerd Gezinsblad* and *Limburgs Dagblad* have a right-wing political orientation, while *Het Vrije Volk* and *Friese Koerier* have a left-wing political orientation. The articles were selected through the key words *moord* (murder) and *vermoord* (murdered). The distribution of all the articles in newspapers can be found in table 1.

Table 1: Distribution of selected articles in newspapers

Newspaper	1950-1960	2013-2014	Total
<i>De Tijd</i>	3	0	3
<i>Nieuwsblad Noorden</i>	3	0	3
<i>Telegraaf</i>	4	6	10
<i>Het Vrije Volk</i>	1	0	1
<i>Gereformeerd Gezinsblad</i>	3	0	3
<i>Friese Koerier</i>	3	0	3
<i>Limburgs Dagblad</i>	3	0	3
<i>Algemeen Dagblad</i>	0	6	6
<i>NRC Handelsblad</i>	0	4	4
<i>Volkskrant</i>	0	4	4
Total:	20	20	40

The whole corpus of forty articles was selected for this study. Twenty articles were selected from each corpus (Rafiee, 2016; Van Krieken, 2015); fifteen of these articles referred to national news and five articles to foreign news. The unit of analysis was the number of words.

Procedure

The first and third hypotheses were investigated through the list of indicators as presented by Vis (2011), which can be found in Appendix 1. In order to test the second hypothesis, the quantity of direct quotations was counted. An example of an article (in Dutch and translated in English) adapted by this method can be found in appendix 2. The inter-rater reliability of the subjective elements was very unreliable: $\kappa = -.04$, $p = .52$, because the second coder determined more subjective elements (16) than the first coder (4) in the articles. However, both coders agreed in encoding in 88.37% of all cases. After discussing the part of the cases the coders disagreed on, the decision of the first coder was accepted.

Statistical treatment

The frequencies of the subjective elements of the journalist and the quotations were calculated separately. The corpus of 1950/1960 (Van Krieken, 2015) and the corpus of 2013/2014 (Rafiee, in preparation) were compared through an independent T-test. In this comparison, a distinction is made between the subjective elements of the entire corpus, the subjective elements of the speaker and the subjective elements of the quotation.

An independent T-test for the quantity of words with the factor time in which the crime articles were published revealed a significant difference between the quantity of words of crime articles in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t(38) = 4.34$, $p = .000$). The articles of the corpus of 1950/1960 consisted of more words ($M = 338.25$, $SD = 194.63$) than the articles of the corpus of 2013/2014 ($M = 136.40$, $SD = 74.00$). Therefore, the subjective elements in the articles were standardized per 100 words, in order to prevent the influence of difference in quantity of words in the results.

Results

Total subjectivity in articles

An independent T-test for the total subjectivity with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the total subjectivity of crime articles in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t(34.76) = 0.24$, $p = .816$), equal variances not assumed. There were no significant differences in total subjectivity between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 6.72$, $SD = 1.52$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 6.86$, $SD = 2.09$).

Subjective elements of the journalist

The first hypothesis assumed that the frequency of features of subjectivity in the speech of the journalist is decreasing. An independent T-test for subjective elements of the journalist with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjectivity of the journalist of crime articles in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t(35.38) = 0.47$, $p = .643$), equal variances not assumed. No significant differences were found with regard to the use of subjective elements by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 6.54$, $SD = 1.56$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 6.81$, $SD = 2.06$). Overall, these results suggest that the first hypothesis could be rejected.

Through looking at the subjective elements separately, modal functions of imperative, modal functions of subjunctive, exclamations and second person pronouns did not occur in the corpus that was part of the subjectivity of the journalist. The subjective elements that did occur in the corpus will be treated in the next section. Table 2 presents an overview of the subjective elements used by the journalist.

Table 2: Subjective elements used by the journalist (per 100 words)

Subjective elements	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>
Modal adverbials adverbs	1.44	.158
Modal adverbials particles	1.12	.269
Modal verbs	0.36	.723
Intensifiers	0.89	.380
Cognitive verbs	0.20	.840
Subjective coherence relations	2.67	.011
First person pronouns	1.00	.324
Deictic elements	0.01	.989
Questions	1.75	.088

Modal adverbials adverbs

An independent T-test for modal adverbials adverbs with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the subjective element modal adverbials adverbs in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 1.44, p = .158$). There were no significant differences in the use of modal adverbials adverbs by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.40, SD = 0.73$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.15, SD = 0.27$).

Modal adverbials particles

An independent T-test for modal adverbials particles with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element modal adverbials particles in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (32.59) 1.12, p = .269$), equal variances not assumed. No significant differences were found in the use of modal adverbials particles by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.69, SD = 0.75$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.46, SD = 0.49$).

Modal verbs

An independent T-test for modal verbs with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the subjective element modal verbs in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t (35.86) = 0.36, p = .723$), equal variances not assumed. There were no significant differences in the use of modal verbs by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.38, SD = 0.66$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.45, SD = 0.51$).

Intensifiers

An independent T-test for intensifiers with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element intensifiers in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t (37.64) = 0.89, p = .380$), equal variances not assumed. No significant differences were found in the use of intensifiers by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.93, SD = 0.84$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 1.15, SD = 0.76$).

Cognitive verbs

An independent T-test for cognitive verbs with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the subjective element cognitive verbs in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (34.71) 0.20, p = .840$), equal variances not assumed. There were no significant differences in the use of cognitive verbs by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.16, SD = 0.32$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.17, SD = 0.24$).

Subjective coherence relations

An independent T-test for subjective coherence relations with the factor time in which the crime articles were published revealed a significant difference between the subjective element subjective coherence relations in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t(37,97) = 2.67, p = .011$), equal variances not assumed. The journalist used less subjective coherence relations in the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.15, SD = 0.42$) than in the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.50, SD = 0.41$).

First person pronouns

An independent T-test for first person pronouns with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the subjective element first person pronouns in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 1.00, p = .324$). No significant differences were found in the use of first person pronouns by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.00, SD = 0.00$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.05, SD = 0.22$).

Deictic elements

An independent T-test for deictic elements with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element deictic elements in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t(37.98) = 0.01, p = .989$), equal variances not assumed. There were no significant differences in the use of deictic elements by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 3.83, SD = 1.46$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 3.83, SD = 1.43$).

Questions

An independent T-test for questions with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the subjective element questions in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 1.75, p = .088$). No significant differences were found in the use of questions by the journalist between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.00, SD = 0.00$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.05, SD = 0.12$).

Subjective elements of direct quotations

The second hypothesis assumed that the proportion of direct quotations of other speakers is increasing. An independent T-test for proportion of direct quotations with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the proportion of direct quotations 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t (38) = 1.38, p = .176$). There were no significant differences in the quantity of direct quotations between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.17, SD = 0.36$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.06, SD = 0.12$). Table 3 shows the distribution of the quotation in the corpus. Overall, these results indicate that the second hypothesis could be rejected.

Table 3: Distribution quotations in corpus

Corpus	No quotation	One quotation	Two quotations
1950-1960	16	4	0
2013-2014	15	4	1

The third hypothesis assumed that the features of subjectivity of the direct quotations are increasing. An independent T-test for features of direct quotations with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not show a significant difference between the features of direct quotations 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t (20.29) = 0.95, p = .352$), equal variances not assumed. No significant differences were found in the subjectivity of the quotations between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.17, SD = 0.61$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.05, SD = 0.11$). Overall, these results suggest that the third hypothesis could be rejected as well.

Through looking at the subjective elements separately, modal adverbials adverbs, modal functions of imperative, modal functions of subjunctive, intensifiers, cognitive verbs, exclamations, second person pronouns and questions did not occur in the corpus connected to the subjectivity of quotations. The subjective elements that did occur in the corpus will be treated in the next section. Table 4 presents an overview of the subjective elements used by quotations.

Table 4: Subjective elements used in quotations (per 100 words)

Subjective elements	<i>t</i>	<i>p</i>
Modal adverbials particles	1,45	.154
Modal verbs	1.00	.324
Subjective coherence relations	1.00	.324
First person pronouns	0.61	.547
Deictic elements	1.00	.324

Modal adverbials particles

An independent T-test for modal adverbials particles with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element modal adverbials particles in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 1.45, p = .154$). There were no significant differences in the use of modal adverbials particles by quotations between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.00, SD = 0.00$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.04, SD = 0.11$).

Modal verbs

An independent T-test for modal verbs with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element modal verbs in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) .00, p = .324$). No significant differences were found in the use of modal verbs by quotations between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.07, SD = 0.31$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.00, SD = 0.00$).

Subjective coherence relations

An independent T-test for subjective coherence relations with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element subjective coherence relations in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 1.00, p = .324$). There was no difference between the use of subjective coherence relations by quotations in the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0,01, SD = 0.06$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0,00, SD = 0,00$).

First person pronouns

An independent T-test for first person pronouns with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element first person pronouns in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 0.61$, $p = .547$). No significant differences were found in the use of first person pronouns by quotations between the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.03$, $SD = 0.13$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.01$, $SD = 0.05$).

Deictic elements

An independent T-test for deictic elements with the factor time in which the crime articles were published did not reveal a significant difference between the subjective element deictic elements in 1950/1960 and 2013/2014 ($t = (38) 1.00$, $p = .324$). There was no difference between the use of deictic elements by quotations in the crime articles of 2013/2014 ($M = 0.07$, $SD = 0.31$) and the crime articles of 1950/1960 ($M = 0.00$, $SD = 0.00$).

Conclusion and discussion

Conclusion

This study set out to determine whether Dutch crime news has become more subjective over 1950/1960 and 2013/2014. The first hypothesis expected that the frequency of features of subjectivity in the speech of the journalist decreased. This hypothesis could be rejected. Meanwhile, the subjective coherence relations used by the journalist revealed a significant decrease. This subjective element could be found more frequently in the crime articles of 1950/1960 than in the crime articles of 2013/2014.

The second and third hypotheses had a connection with the direct quotations, in which the second referred to the expectation that the proportion of direct quotations increased and the third hypothesis to the frequency of features of subjectivity of direct quotations increased. Both hypotheses could be rejected. There was no significant difference found between the amount of direct quotations and the features of subjectivity in these quotations in the crime articles of 2013/2014 and the crime articles of 1950/1960. Looking at the subjective elements separately, there were not any significant differences either. Returning to the research question Dutch crime news did not become more subjective between 1950/1960 and 2013/2014.

Discussion

The results of this investigation do not correspond to the investigations focused on general articles (Vis, Sanders & Spooren, 2012), which results show that the subjectivity of the journalist decreased, while the proportion of quotations and the feature of subjective elements in quotations of other speakers increased in Dutch newspapers over time (1950-2002). An alternative explanation could be that crime articles are a specific topic which do not correspond with the informalization thesis. This would be consistent with the statements of investigation that distinguished different topics (Vis and Spooren, 2016), which results show the influence of the newspaper and subgenre on the trend of informalization. Only some newspapers and subgenres show this trend, others do not. This could mean that crime articles belong to the last group.

Furthermore, the presumption of innocence applies in the contemporary Dutch society: people are innocent until proven guilty. In this way, Dutch people are protected for incorrect assumptions and prejudices. Probably, these standards were less important in the sixties and now increased emphasis. This could be a possible explanation for the decline in use of the subjective coherence relations in the crime articles of 2013/2014. In subjective coherence relations the journalist presents presentational relations which are not supported by facts. In the corpus of 1950/1960, more statements could be found as: *'There is a possibility that an older conflict is the reason for the murder'* and *'Interpol – the international police, determined that he usually spent visits in London during the weekends and thereby probably met miss Eileen Hill'*. These strong assumptions hardly could not be found in the corpus of 2013/2014.

There are a number of limitations to this study. The first limitation is the access to a small corpus. A bigger corpus could show more conclusive results. The second limitation is the difference in quantity of words in both corpus. The articles of the corpus of 1950/1960 consisted of more words than the corpus of 2013/2014. Despite through standardization the difference in quantity of words is settled, future research could search a corpus with a similar amount of words. The third limitation is the alternation in national and local newspapers. National and local newspapers have their own targets, which makes both corpus less comparable. The fourth limitation are the slightly different themes of both corpus. Although both corpus show a clear interface, the themes of the corpus of 2013/2014 are more comprehensive than the themes of the corpus of 1950/1960. Future research could take into account these limitations.

The analyses presented here compared one newspaper corpus to a newspapers corpus from another period, and only takes into account crime news. There are still many unanswered questions about how subgenres influence the subjectivity in articles of newspapers. The results of this research and previous research (Vis & Spooren, 2016) seem to indicate that the subjectivity of the articles depend on the topic of the articles and the character of the newspaper. Future research could focus on different genres, what would provide more insight about the influence of genre on the trend of informalization.

In contemporary society, the supply of information is increasing. The abundance of information requires selection and interpretation of reliable intermediates. This combination of findings provides support for the premise that Dutch crime news did not get more subjective over 1950/1960 and 2013/2014. These findings raise questions regarding the nature of subjectivity in Dutch crime articles in other news sources, as television and internet. To develop a full picture of reliability of news sources, additional studies may compare the nature of subjectivity in these news sources.

Appendix

Appendix 1: Indicators of subjectivity (Vis, 2011).

Indicators of subjectivity	Examples
Presentation and interpretation	
Modal adverbials	Modal adverbs Mogelijk, zeker, eigenlijk, hopelijk (possibly, definitely, actually, hopefully)
	Model particles Nog, al, pas (still, already, only/just)
Modal verbs	Kunnen, moeten, blijken, schijnen (can, must, appear to, seem to)
Modal functions of imperative	Kom hier! (Come here!)
Modal functions of subjunctive	Moge onze regering het goede voorbeeld geven (May our government set a good example)
Intensifiers	Nogal, erg, bijna, nauwelijks (quite, very, almost, hardly)
Cognitive verbs	Zeggen, denken, hopen, verwachten (say, think, hope, expect)
Exclamations	Wat mooi! (How beautiful!)
Subjective coherence relations (presentational relations)	The neighbours are not at home, because their lights are out.
Representation of self	
First person pronouns	Ik, mijn, wij, onze (I, my, we, our)
Deictic elements (time and place adverbials)	Nu, hier, gisteren (now, here, yesterday)
Interactivity with the addressee	
Second person pronouns	Jij, jullie, jouw (you, you, your)
Questions	Hoe nu deze crisis te verklaren? (How to explain this crisis?)

Appendix 2: Example article adapted by method Vis (2011)

Presentation and interpretation: modal adverbials adverbs (MAA), modal adverbials particles (MAP) modal verbs (MV), modal functions of imperative (MFI), modal functions of subjunctive (MFS), intensifiers (I), cognitive verbs (CV), exclamations (E) and subjective coherence relations (SCR)

Representation of self: first person pronouns (FPP) and deictic elements (DE).

Interactivity with the addressee: second persons pronouns (SPP) and questions (Q).

09-05-1950 De Tijd: godsdienstig-staatkundig dagblad

Moord in woonwagenkamp

(Van onze correspondent) In het woonwagenkamp te Sevenum(DE) heeft Zondagavond(DE) de 20-jarige J. J. een mede-bewoner, de 39-jarige J. J. R., met een zeis aangevallen en zo(I) toegetakeld, dat de man enige uren later(DE) In het ziekenhuis te Venlo(DE) is overleden. De dader is door de politie gearresteerd en naar het huis van bewaring te Roermond(DE) overgebracht. J. J. en R. hadden de avond(DE) samen doorgebracht en stevig(I) gedronken. In het kamp(DE) zei(CV) R. tegen J., dat hij met zijn broer nog(MMP) iets uit te vechten had, waarop J. zijn broer wekte en een vechtpartij ontstond(SCR). Intussen(DE) haalde J. een zeis, ging in het donker naar de vechtenden en trof R. zo(I) hard. dat de zeis wel(I) tien centimeter tussen zijn ribben drong. De aanleiding tot deze moord vormt een reeds(MAA) enige tijd bestaande onenigheid omtrent de uitspraak over een der kampbewoners(SCR), die indertijd(DE) door de rechtbank te Roermond van de beschuldiging van doodslag was vrijgesproken.

Geen directe citaten.

09-05-1950: De Tijd: godsdienstig-staatkundig dagblad

Murder in trailer park

(From our correspondent) In the trailer park in Sevenum (DE) Sunday evening (DE), the 20 year old J.J., attacked a fellow resident, the 39 year old inmate R., with a scythe and mauled so (I) badly, that the man died several hours later (DE) in the hospital in Venlo (DE). The perpetrator was arrested by the police and transferred to the remand prison in Roermond (DE). J.J. and R. had spent drinking solidly (I) together in the evening (DE). In the camp (DE) R. told J. that he and his brother still (MMP) had something to fight about, in which J. woke up his brother and began a fight (SCR). Meanwhile (DE) J. took a scythe, went in the dark to the combatants and R. struck so (I) hard, the scythe certainly (I) urged tens of centimetres between his ribs. The reason for this murder has been an already (MAA) existing disagreement about the ruling on one of the inmates (SCR), which at the time (DE) was acquitted on the charge of manslaughter by the court in Roermond (DE).

No direct quotations.

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