

The role of fake news on media channels in evoking of emotions with a sample of Algerian students

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Abstract:

The aim of this study is to investigate about the role of fake news on media channels in evoking of emotions with a sample of Algerian Students.

we build a new tool for measure emotions that evoked by fake news on media channels, and we define it in specify situation (politic, religion, language, relate animals, relate nature). We calculate the validity with factorial analysis, reliability with Cronbach's and McDonald's. the sample of the study is concluding 102 students in psychology department, Tlemcen University in the study year 2023/2024.

the results show that the fake news on media channels contribute in arise and evoke of emotions, especially the negative emotions, like anger that evoking by fake news that effects social identity (politic, religion, language), more than neutral situation (relate animals and nature).

Keywords: emotions, fake news, media channels, social identity.

Introduction

The Media take a special place in the world, by the different channels, and by the time the producer star to care by the content and audiences. many studies examined the relation between journalists, journalistic content and their audiences (in: Orgeret, 2020).

Human like to listening to the news and know that is going in the world and surround it, but sometimes he listening to many categories of news, for example the negative news is making people feel unhappy, and less experience positive emotion during listening these news (de Hoog & Verboon, 2020), because people tend to watch media channels of feel relief and fanny, for this reason they feel unhappy when they watch a lot of negative news.

Some news they are not just negative, but more that, they are fake. the fake news is a kind of misinformation about one subject but look like a fact (Corbu et al, 2021). This news is fabricated and continent laying information's about people, or place, or facts in generally. fake news is feel of real news (Siddiqui &Gupta, 2022), you mast do an effort for can detect it. the differences between fake news and news are that fake news has no reference (Palczemski, 2017), there is a deformation of the truth.

The term fake news reveals six types of definition: news satire, news parody, fabrication, manipulation, advertising, and propaganda (Tandoc et al, 2018), and this explain that there are many researches about this subject, and several readings. there are many categories of fake news like hoaxes, propagandas, clickbait's and satires. Each of them in different context like TV, internet...ect (Ghanem et al, 2018). fake news led to manipulate opinions about subject in the mind of listeners (Ghanem et al, 2018). In study of (Manalu et al, 2018), people in the age group 15-30 years have higher risk to exposed and believe in fake news more than elderly.

Emotions are conceptualized as a psychological construct, happening by subjective experience in situations. The human perceives and evaluate these situations in subjective way, when arise emotion as a result for this process (wirth &Schranm, 2005). Many emotions can be expressed in media like empathy, suspense, humor, or fear and sadness (Bartsh& Reinhold, 2010). These emotions relate with the way that people understand and evaluate events, by product ideas about these events. From this perspective, fake news can push people to experience a kind of emotion in media channels, **what are these emotions that appear like a reaction of aware by fake news? And what are his intensity?**

The aim of this study is to investigate about the role of fake news on media channels in evoking of emotions with a sample of Algerian Students.

This study is the first study in Algeria from a psychological perspective.

Literature Review

Fake news :

The concept of 'fake news' encompasses a broad spectrum of definitions within academic discourse. Often, it is associated with terms like misinformation, disinformation, or rumor. Misinformation is typically understood as:

"the presence of or belief in objectively incorrect information" (Bodex and Vraga, 2015). On the other hand, UNESCO defines disinformation as:

"information that is false and deliberately created to harm a person, social

group, organization, or country”.

In this study, the definition of 'fake news' adheres to that provided by Allcott and Gentzkow (2017), a widely recognized academic paper in the field. According to their definition, 'fake news' refers to news articles that are intentionally and verifiably false and have the potential to mislead readers (Allcott and Gentzkow, 2017). Adopting this definition allows for the examination of various cases within the scope of this research.

Emotions:

Emotions are complex psychological states that involve a subjective experience, physiological arousal, expressive behaviors, and cognitive processes. They are typically triggered by specific events or stimuli and are characterized by feelings such as joy, sadness, anger, fear, or surprise. Emotions play a crucial role in human social interactions, decision-making, and overall well-being (Feldman & al,2016).

Methods and Materials

The aim of this study is to investigate about the role of fake news on media channels in evoking of emotions with a sample of Algerian Students.

This study is the first study in Algeria from a psychological perspective..

Participants

There are 102 students from psychology department, university of Tlemcen that participate in this study, in the study year 2023/2024, and we select this sample by simple random method.

Research instruments

We build a new tool for measure emotions that evoked by fake news on media channels, and we define it in specify situation (politic, religion, language, relate animals, relate nature). This tool are scenarios contains fake news about specific situation. We ask the participants about the emotion (absence of emotion; anger; hate; boredom; pleasure; and happiness) that can evoke by these scenarios, and that we ask about the intensity of this emotion.

- **Politic:** Karim watch the TV, and suddenly listen to fake news that Algeria is not a democratic country and limits of freedoms.

What is the emotion that can Karim feel it? (absence of emotion; anger; hate; boredom; pleasure; and happiness).

What is the intensity of this emotion on scale from 1 to 6.

- **Religion:** Salma watch a religion session on TV, and she observe that there is a fake news about Islam as religion and doubt about the moderation view of El Imam Malik.

What is the emotion that can Salma feel it? (absence of emotion; anger; hate; boredom; pleasure; and happiness).

What is the intensity of this emotion on scale from 1 to 6.

- **Language:** Sami Listen to a media man talk about Arabic as language, but he gives the listeners a few fake information's about the root of Arabic language.

What is the emotion that can Sami feel it? (absence of emotion; anger; hate; boredom; pleasure; and happiness).

What is the intensity of this emotion on scale from 1 to 6.

- **Animals:** Ali and His sister Marwa watch a session about animals about homeless dogs, but there is many fake news about dogs.

What is the emotion that can Ali and his sister feel it? (absence of emotion; anger; hate; boredom; pleasure; and happiness).

What is the intensity of this emotion on scale from 1 to 6.

- **Nature:** the Global Warming is result of Toxic Gas emissions from factories in the big industrial countries, but Fatima listens to an analyst that fake some information's about this subject. He says that North African countries are the responsible number one in this Toxic Gas emissions.

What is the emotion that can Fatima feel it? (absence of emotion; anger; hate; boredom; pleasure; and happiness).

What is the intensity of this emotion on scale from 1 to 6.

After build this tool, we calculate validity of this tool by using factorial analysis. we calculate KIMO and Bartlett for Assumption Checks so that we can do Exploratory Factor Analysis.

The result show that KIMO is appreciate (0.70), and bartletts is significant.

The exploratory Factor Analysis show a great result:

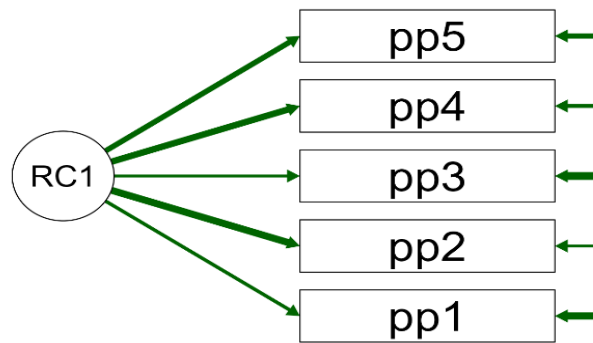


Figure 1. show diagram of the exploratory Factor Analysis of emotion evoke by fake news tool.

The Loadings of Factor are between (0.49-0.70), and we Applied rotation method promax, by minimal residuals method. The tables are in Material supplementary (see index).

Then, we calculate the reliability of this tool:

Table 1. Scale Reliability Statistics

Estimate	McDonald's ω	Cronbach's α
Point estimate	0.744	0.739
95% CI lower bound	0.665	0.647
95% CI upper bound	0.822	0.811

From this table we see that Cronbach's α is 0.73 in good confidence intervals (between 0.64 and 0.81), and McDonald's ω is 0.74 in good confidence intervals (between 0.66 and 0.82).

Research Procedures

We calculate descriptive statistics of emotions that evoke by fake news in Media channels, and of the intensity of this emotions by using JASP software. The results Table are in Material supplementary (see index).

Results

1- emotions that evoke by fake news in Media channels:

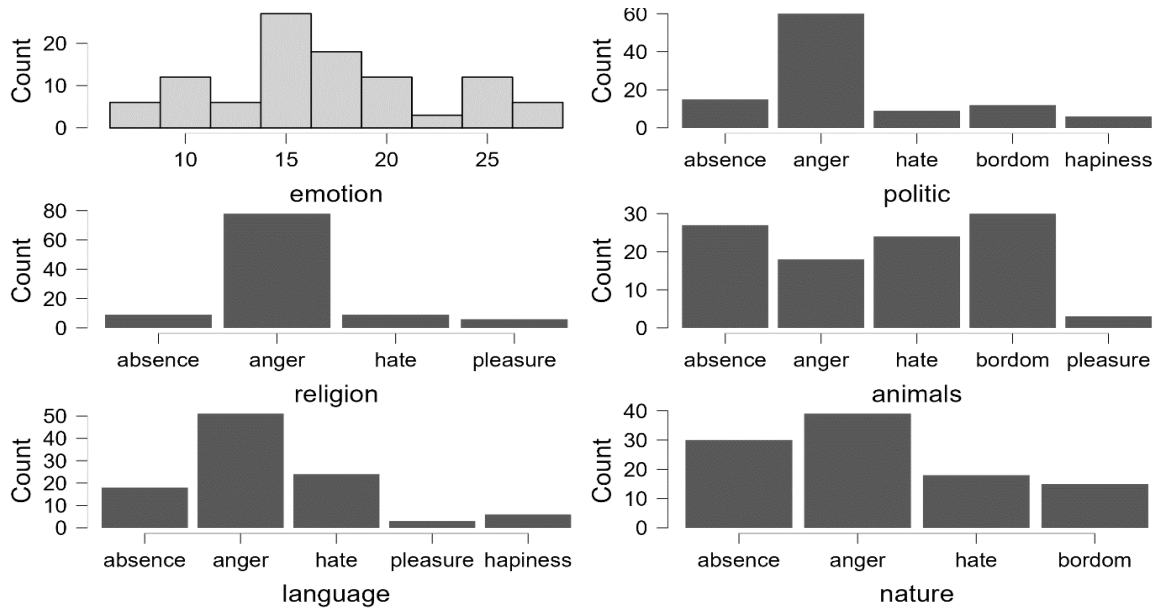


Figure 2. Bar plot for emotions in specify situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels

From this figure, we see that there are many emotions (positive and negative) that evoking by fake news, but the negative emotions are the more frequent, especially anger in politics and religion and language and nature position. But absence of emotion or feel boredom are more frequent in animal's position.

2- The intensity of emotions in specify situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels:

- Politic situations:**

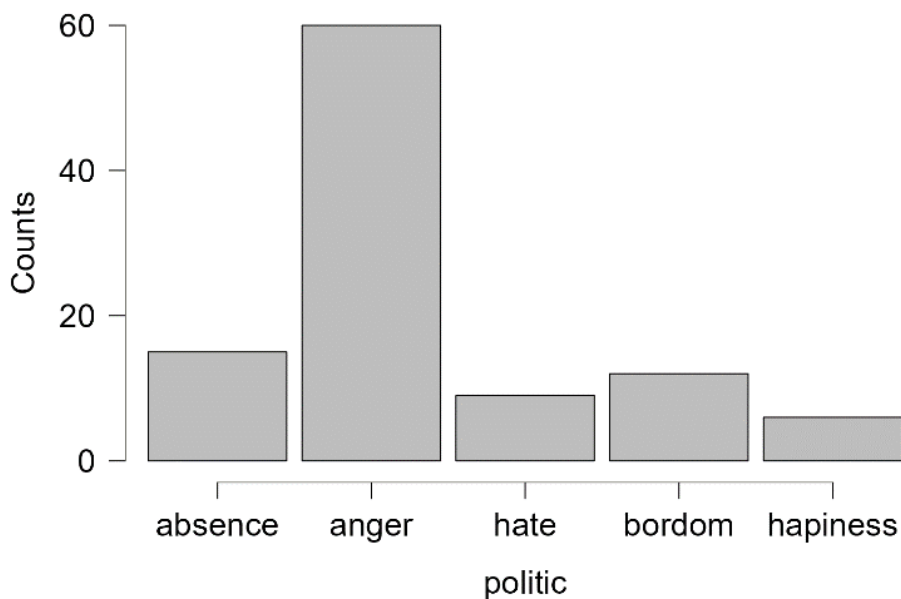


Figure 3. The intensity of emotions in politic situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels

There are 04 emotions arise in politic situations, one positive emotion and 03 negative emotion, but the anger is the more frequent emotion in this position.

- **Religion situations:**

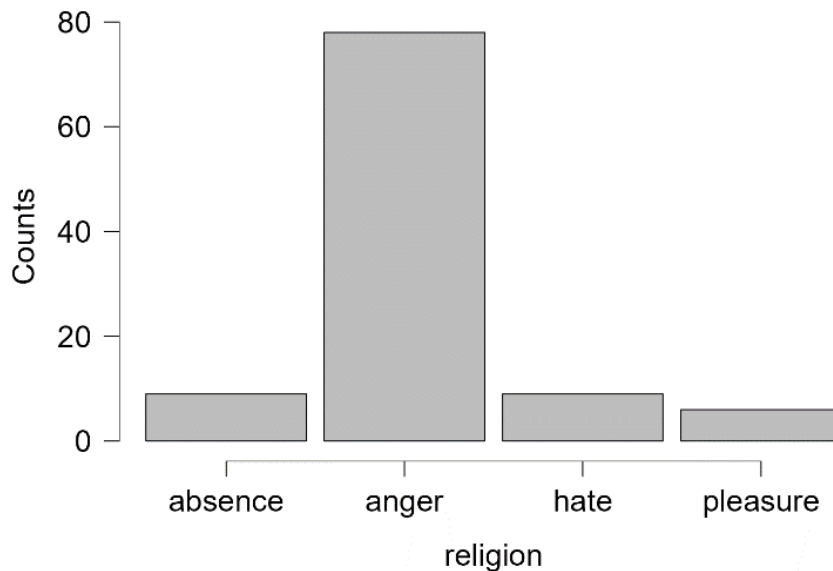


Figure 4: The intensity of emotions in religion situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels

There are 03 emotions arise in religion situations, one positive emotion and 02 negative emotion, but the anger is the more frequent emotion in this position.

- **Language situations:**



Figure 5: The intensity of emotions in language situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels

There are 04 emotions arise in language situations, 02 positive emotion and 02 negative emotion, but the anger is the more frequent emotion in this position.

- **Animals' situations:**

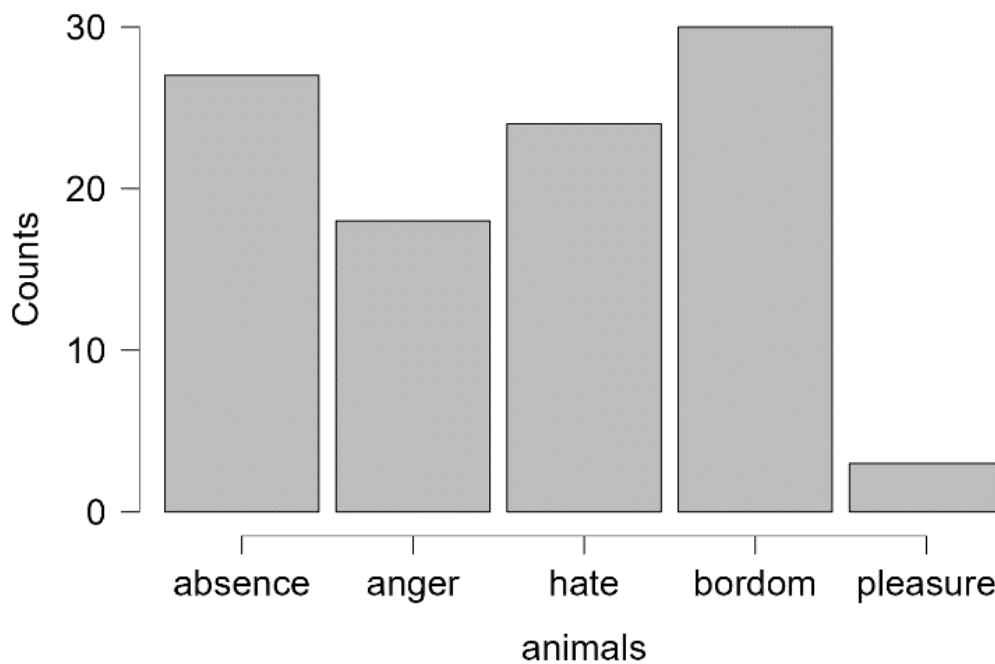


Figure 6. The intensity of emotions in animals' situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels

There are 04 emotions arise in animals' situations, one positive emotion and 03 negative emotion, but the boredom is the more frequent emotion in this position. And the absence of emotion is frequent to.

- **Nature situations:**

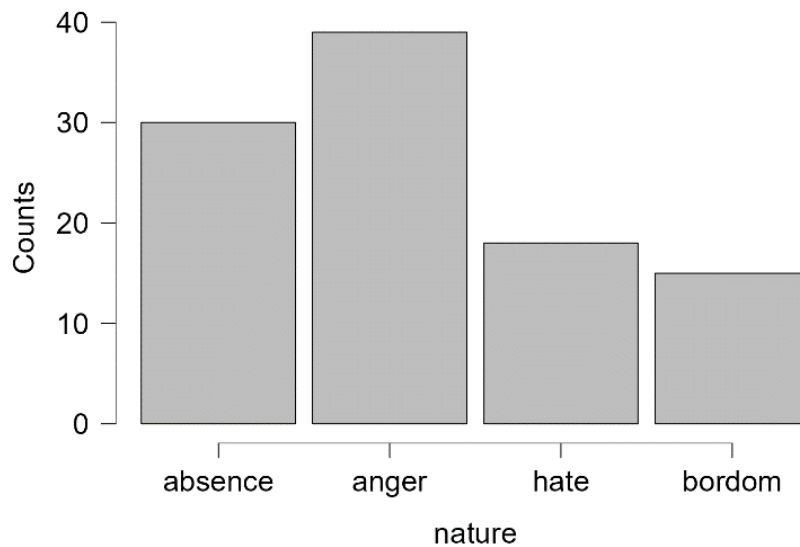


Figure 7. The intensity of emotions in nature situations that evoking by fake news in Media channels

There are 03 emotions arise in politic situations, all emotions are negative, but the anger is the more frequent emotion in this position.

Discussion

The results show that the fake news on media channels contribute in arise and evoke of emotions, especially the negative emotions, like anger that evoking by fake news that effects social identity (politic, religion, language), more than neutral situation (relate animals and nature). the negative emotion leads to share the fake news that excitement (Corbu et al, 2021).

These results are similar to the study of (Zhang et al, 2021) who finds that fake news can evokes dual emotion, and social emotion that have relation with crowd, and publisher emotion that have a relation with public facts. Backett in 2015 describe this relation: we have event, by professional process do it by journalists, they produce an

affective narrative, evoke a specific emotion on audience, and this outcome emotion lead to arise a new event (in: Orgeret, 2020). The same results in social media on internet, the fake news that shared on internet between users excited a negative emotions impact on cognitive process like perception (Scheibenzuber et al, 2022). from a protection perspective, people with high levels of emotional intelligence are less affected by fake news (Preston et al, 2021), so all people who lose emotional control are the more affected by fake news.

Pedagogical Implications

This section contributes widely to the research field through which the author can provide new teaching approaches and methods, activities, and solutions, etc.

Conclusion

Fake news is a way of evoke Emotions in media cannels. The core observation that the negative emotions relate with the social identity. Students don't like how talk in negative way about they identity component like the country and language and religion. We need a specific way to isolate fake news like a prevention perspective from who want the negative intention to the country.

Materiels supplementary:

https://osf.io/ky4ea/?view_only=d8463624d6e64b5aa24e0cc50064cc3c

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