A Trends in Chilean Reference Newspapers: The Framing of News Items and News Sources in Politics and the Government

Abstract

The study analyses whether, in the context of Chile's concentrated media ownership, the press shows trends towards a uniform journalistic framing in news about the actions of the government, political parties or civil society. A content analysis considering the news items plus the isolated contributions of each of the sources regarding the framing of their quotes, permits to establish the tendency of framing politics of six reference papers, especially the two leading newspapers, El Mercurio and La Tercera. Methodologically, the study also allows to test if the generic frames proposed by Semetko & Valkenburg (2000) serve the purpose of empirically analysing Chilean media. The analysis of the data shows that when dealing with political news in Chile, journalists mainly use the frames of attribution of responsibility and conflict.