Analyzing Ideological Polarization Strategies in Chinese Newspaper Articles during the Outbreak of COVID-19

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Abstract

Following the COVID-19 breakout, the turbulence in Sino-US relations begins to agitate once more. This is the outcome of the interchangeable accusations made by each of them. The articles in the newspapers have reflected this.

This study is intended to analyze the ideological polarization strategies used in Chinese newspaper articles. Two articles from well – known Chinese newspapers are chosen to be the data of this study. The newspapers are English-based. Dijk's (1998) ideological square is used to qualitatively analyze the data. The data are also analyzed quantitatively by means of frequencies, parentage and the Chi-Square.
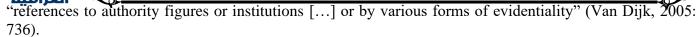
The analysis reveals that a good number of ideological strategies are used as polarization strategies. They are mainly used to negatively describe America in general and Trump and his administration in particular. Besides, certain strategies are used to glorify China.

Van Dijk's Model of Ideological Square

It is apparent that the core of the ideological theory is group relations. Accordingly, people are grouped into two groups; those who share the same attitudes, beliefs and social values are said to belong to in-group and those who have different attitudes, beliefs and social values are considered to be members of an out-group. Based on this division, the "Other" are usually negatively depicted. There is definitely an assertion on their bad things and a deliberate suppression of any of their good deeds. On the contrary, there is a permanent positive depiction of "Us" accompanied by an emphasis on our good things. Such dichotomy of positive – self presentation and negative – other presentation is the gist of Van Dijk's ideological square. The main reason behind such a presentation is the social struggle between social groups which is related to terms of resistance, domination, conflict and competition.

In addition to the abovementioned strategies, Van Dijk (2006: 735) adds the following ideological strategies (henceforth IDSs) that protrude the polarization of "self-positive- representation" and "other-negative-representation". He (2005: 735) admits that these strategies are "general strategies of ideological discourse production and also a handy discovery or recognition procedure for ideological analysis of political discourse". These are:

(i) **Actor description:** means to elaborate on the information of an entity such as a person, a thing or a place. Accordingly, when describing, discourse producer resort to "mitigate negative descriptions of members of our own group and emphasize the attributed negative characteristics of Others" (Van Dijk, 2005: 735).

(ii) The authority: Van Dijk (Ibid) states that authorities are "organizations or people who are above the fray of party politics, or who are generally recognized experts or moral leaders. International organizations (such as the United Nations or Amnesty International), scholars, the media, the church or the courts". Reference to an authority is a persuasive means to touch people feelings and hence direct their attitudes in the way the discourse producer like.

(iii) Burden or imposition: it means to mention the burden (whether financial or human loses) that will be borne if the action of the "Others" is to be taken (Ibid).

(iv) Categorization: it refers to the tendency of discourse producers to group or categorize people involved in the topic of discourse according to their religious or political viewpoints and acts.

(v) Comparison: it is to put forward the similarities and differences (comparison) between the in-group and the out-group. When comparing, "outgroups are compared negatively, and in-groups positively" by discourse producers (Ibid.).

(vi) Consensus: it refers to "an agreement or decision taken by certain parties submitted to strengthen an opinion or information" (Syadlili, 2021: 32).

(vii) Counterfactuals: discourse producers lead the targeted people to imagine what would happen if certain conditions are not created. Van Dijk (2005: 736) considers counterfactual as "a persuasive argumentative move that is also related to the move of asking for empathy".

(viii) Disclaimers: it is to state or to demonstrate positive attributes and then introducing a denial of those attributes by using the coordinator conjunction "but". For Van Dijk (2005:736) disclaimers save face "by mentioning Our positive characteristics, but then focus rather exclusively on Their negative attributes".

(ix) Euphemism: it is to avoid the use of harsh, direct or derogatory terms and recline to using mild and indulgent terms and thus reduce negative self- portrayal (Syadlili, 2021: 34).

(x) Evidentiality: it is an important strategy of objectivity, reliability and credibility. It is a strategy of providing evidence or proof by discourse producers to back up their own opinion which can happen through

"references to authority figures or institutions […] or by various forms of evidentiality" (Van Dijk, 2005: 736).

(xi) Example/Illustration: discourse producers put forward concrete example in the form of a vignette or short story, and in this way it will be more assimilated by the targeted people (Ibid: 737).

(xii) Generalization: this strategy is intended to ascribe certain attribution of a person or small group (whether positive or negative) to a larger group or category (Van Dijk, 1995:155).

(xiii) Hyperbole: semantically it is a rhetorical device. It refers to the deliberate usage of exaggerated language for the purpose of enhancing meaning which can be either for negative - other presentation or positive – self presentation (Van Dijk, 2005:737).

(xiv) Implication: it refers to the recipients' induction of what is not explicitly expressed in the discourse, recipients' recline to the shared knowledge "social knowledge, as well as from the mental models constructed during understanding" (Van Dijk, 1993:256). Some issues need to be implicit especially if they contradict self – positive portrayal or the negative – other portrayal (Hezaveh, 2016: 360).

(xv) Irony: generally, irony means to deliberately say something opposite to what is intended. In this respect, Van Dijk (2005: 737) contends that accusing others may be more effective "when they are not made point blank (which may violate face constraints), but in apparently lighter forms of irony".

(xvi) Lexicalization: it means to make use of the semantic features to positively or negatively portray something or someone (Ibid, 2005: 738).

(xvii) Metaphor: means to compare two incompatible things by using imaginative and figurative words and thus making a new, unfamiliar, complex or emotional meaning.

(xviii) National self-glorification: this is done by means of glorying one's own country by different means such as referring to its positive history, traditions and principles (Ibid).

(xix) Norm expression: these expressions are used to demonstrate the way in which something should or should not done. Moreover, they specify what someone should or should not do (Ibid).

(xx) Number game: according to Van Dijk (Ibid: 738), "numbers and statistics are the primary means in our culture to persuasively display objectivity, and they routinely characterize news reports in the press". Discourse producers use number and statistics as quantitative facts to raise the truthfulness of their own opinion.

(xxi) Polarization: a strategy of dichotomizing parties into: in – group with positive peculiarities and out – group with negative peculiarities (Van Dijk, 2006: 80).

(xxii) Populism: Hezaveh (2016: 361) clarifies that populism means to favor the elite by contrasting them with people in sociopolitical changes.

(xxiii) Vagueness: discourse producers use expressions that have no "well-defined referents, or which refer to fuzzy sets" (Ibid: 739). They tend to use this strategy so as not to provide the listeners with enough information about positive self-presentation or a negative other-presentation.

(xxiv) Victimization: it is to depict the "Us" as a victim of the unfair treatment of the "Other" (Ibid).

(xxv) Illegality: is to illegalize "Other's" actions and therefore they are depicted as criminals or law-breakers (Hezaveh, 2016: 360).

(xxvi) Repetition: this strategy is used to highlight our good things and similarly to concentrate on their bad things (Ibid).

(xxvii) Derogation: unlike euphemism, derogation means showing discourteous or critical attitude towards others (Ibid).

Data Analysis and Discussion

In this study, two articles from the Global Times and China Daily, two English-language daily newspapers, are used as the data. These articles are published following the outbreak of COVID-19 in America. Undoubtedly, both these newspapers represent the Chinese communist party's ideologies and agendas. As such they are chosen to investigate and analyze the ideologies used to polarize America and China as two opposing poles. For reading the whole articles, click: https://www.globaltimes.cn/content/1182873.shtml. And: https://global.chinadaily.com.cn/a/202003/24/WS5e7953d6a310128217281683.html.

As for the qualitative analysis, Van Dijk's ideological strategies are used to examine the data. On the other hand, Chi-Square analysis and frequency counting are used to complete the quantitative analysis.

The qualitative study of the two articles, is presented in the following:

The Qualitative Analysis of Article 1 (GT): "Trump's tweet infuriate China"

The article uses a number of ideological strategies in a clear and consistent manner, which can be explained as follows:

1. Actor description: It is a semantic strategy. China is the in-group and Trump is the out-group.

"US President Donald Trump using the term "Chinese Virus" to refer to the COVID-19 in his tweet is an act of inability and irresponsibility, as he wants to make Americans to blame China and cover his own administration's terrible response to the predictable outbreak and his failure to ease panic in the US stock market, said Chinese experts on Tuesday, adding that hyping up racism and anti-China sentiment won't help the US deal with the pandemic at all."

This example characterizes Trump and his administration. There are references to his failure in a variety of areas, including his inability to address and contain the COVID-19 pandemic, unemployment, and low economic performance.

2. National self-glorification: It is a semantic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group. It is used to highlight China's constructive attitudes and initiatives in halting the spread of COVID-19.

"China has been open, transparent, and responsible in sharing information about COVID-19 with the WHO and other countries, including the United States, and these prevention and control measures adopted by the Chinese government have bought time for global prevention and control work."

The assistance China provides to other countries throughout the pandemic is also highlighted. China, as a global power, thereby plays a beneficial role that strengthens its authority and responsibilities.

3. Burden: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"by arrogantly provoking China at this juncture, the situation that the US and many other countries are being confronted with will get worse, especially the stock market."

"Trump's irresponsible tweet that offended China seriously is likely to trigger a "circuit breaker" for the stock market again."

These themes illustrate the potential repercussions that the world, generally, and America, specifically, might experience if the provocative behavior persists.

4. Evidentiality: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"Serbia's President .... praised China instead, saying it was the only country that would help."

In this instance, the president of Serbia commends China for its assistance during the pandemic. It is intended to show that China played a significant, beneficial role during the pandemic, a role that China is claimed to have assumed and a role that America consistently denies.

5. Generalization: It is a semantic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"He branded European solidarity a "fairytale.""

The president of Serbia condemns the European assistance and describes it as a "fairy tale". It is an evidence that hint to the negative participation of America during the pandemic.

6. Number game: It is a rhetoric strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group. The statistics used in the first instance refers to the failure of the American administration during Trump's period.

"Volatility in US stocks surged to a record after benchmark indexes suffered the biggest rout since 1987, Bloomberg reported on Tuesday."

The last instances highlight China's advantageous contributions.

"Chinese pharmaceutical companies have supplied more than 90 percent of US antibiotics, vitamin C, ibuprofen and hydrocortisone, as well as 70 percent of acetaminophen and 40 to 45 percent of heparin in recent years,"

7. Victimization: It is a semantic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"as he wants to make Americans to blame China."

"hyping up racism and anti-China sentiment."

With these instances, China is shown to be a victim of American activity.

8. Illegality: It is a pragmatic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"The World Health Organization and the international community are clearly opposed to linking viruses to specific countries and regions and to stigmatizing them."

"despite the WHO formally naming it COVID-19 to avoid discrimination."

The decision by the WHO to name the corona virus is mentioned in the article. It is meant to convey that what Americans do is illegal.

9. Example: It is a semantic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"Because the flu season in America started in September, and in October, the US military delegation came to Wuhan for the Military World Games, so it is totally possible that US military personnel unintentionally brought the virus to China, since at that time, no one in China knew the existence of COVID-19 if it really originated in the US."

The history of the Military World Games, which are hosted in China and to which a US military group traveled before the outbreak, provides an explanation for the potential that COVID-19 could arise in America.

10. Comparison: It is a semantic strategy. Zhao is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"the wrong conspiracy theory" **similar to** *what US politicians use to smear China."*

"Zhao's question for the US was neither an accusation nor a rumor, but a reasonable query that is totally different from US politicians' groundless rumors and insults against China."

In first example, Zhao tweet is considered similar to that of Trump and it might thus infuriate the Americans. In the second example, Jin Canrong disputes this assertion, arguing that the tweet poses a logical question that demands an immediate response.

11. Metaphor: It is a rhetoric strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"it seems US people aren't buying Trump's tactics to distract their attention."

In first instance, Trump's strategy is contrasted with consumable goods. The journalist aims to convey through the use of this metaphor that Trump is attempting to trick American voters who have grown tired of his lies by accusing China.

"this is the wrong prescription that may harm many more ordinary Americans."

Another usage of metaphor is made by Geng, a spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Ministry, who calls Peter Navarro's recommendation to stop importing medical equipment from China "wrong prescription". Geng compares Navarro's idea to a doctor's prescription, but it is incorrect, proving that America already has a health problem and will only become worse if it follows this advice. There is a reference to Trump's administration failure.

12. Repetition: It is a rhetoric strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

*"he wants to make Americans to **blame** China"*

*"the pandemic urgently need cooperation rather than being **blamed**"*

*"Trump could also further **blame** China on many other issues,"*

*"So how dare the Trump administration **blame** us?"*

*"More countries like Spain, Serbia and the Philippines are also seeking help from China as they trust China's experiences and credibility..... so when asked who is the more responsible global power, who should be thanked and who should be **blamed**, people around the world know the answer clearly, said Chinese experts."* *"Pompeo conveyed strong US objections to China's "efforts to shift **blame** for COVID-19 to the United States.""*

*"they **blame** Zhao for "infuriating" the US."*

*"this is not the time to **blame** Zhao"*

The verb "blame" is repeated 8 times, yet 5 of them are used in reference to Trump action. Orizu and He (2016: 4124) define the verb "blame" as "to blame an entity is to hold that entity morally responsible for doing something of a negative outcome." In this sense, Trump negative act of blaming is emphasized to give more excuses to the Chinese reaction. In addition, "blame" is also used to mark the "blame shifting" game into which both powers involved. One uses of this is used by Pompeo to reject the act, Repetition in these instances is intended to emphasize the American's negative act of blaming. Quoting Pompeo's speech is intended to later justify Zhao's question of transparency. The word "blame" is used twice in the article to indicate that Zhao is held accountable by Chinese experts for his tweet, but the reporter also finds other defenses for Zhao, arguing that now is not the time to assign blame and that Zhao's tweet is merely a "question" or "query" rather than an accusation.

13. Hyperbole: It is a rhetoric strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"China banned the export of drugs, "the US would sink into the hell of a novel coronavirus epidemic,"

This overstated statement is meant to serve as a warning to the US that if China forbids the export of medications to America, the results will be catastrophic.

The Qualitative Analysis of Article 2 (CD): "US blame game puts innocent people at risk"

The article uses a number of ideological strategies in a clear and consistent manner, which can be explained as follows:

1. Derogation: It is a rhetorical strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"With factories and stores closing down, lights being dimmed from Broadway to Las Vegas, and hospitals overwhelmed with critically ill patients, the American mood is confused, resentful and laced with fear."

"Lockdowns of hard-hit areas and shelter-in-place orders for major cities are essential to contain the outbreak but add to the growing psychological stress."

The two examples are used to allude to America's terrible and awful position after getting infected with the virus. It is designed to discredit Trump's earlier treatment of the virus. It also seeks to demonstrate that America is no better than China in dealing with the epidemic, and that such a situation horrifies Americans.

2. Implication: It is a pragmatic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"Sadly for the human record, scapegoating often emerges from reaction to disaster."

To illustrate the implications of blaming others, the writer outlines its history and then gives two well-known examples to help his reader connect what is occurring or what can happen later to the Chinese as a result of the American blame of the Chinese.

3. Metaphor: It is a pragmatic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"A stealthy, highly contagious virus has caused a precipitous drop in the United States' stock market and sent shudders down the spine of a stalled economy."

"Thousands of planes have been idled, trains run empty and highways are free of cars, while the world's great tourist sites have turned into ghost towns."

The first and second occurrences are both meant to showcase the terrible American scenario during the epidemic in order to educate the world that America, which is supposed to be magnificent in every way, seems to be not as it collapses after the first pandemic hit. In the first scenario, the American economy is likened to a human body whose spine is shuddering. Such a comparison indicates that the virus has a significant impact on the American economy. This metaphor is designed to demonstrate the magnitude of the virus's impact on the already halted economy. The second instance discusses the effect of lockdowns and quarantine on communities, and towns are compared to ghost towns to represent emptiness.

4. Victimization: It is a semantic strategy. Wuhan people is the in-group and other Chinese people is the out-group.

"Yet the regrettable human tendency to discriminate quickly gelled and took root, and the initial reaction of some people in China was to be wary of compatriots from Wuhan."

In this case, the reporter shows how Wuhan residents were harmed by other Chinese citizens following the virus's breakout in Wuhan. This victimization is the outcome of some people's limited thinking. The reporter aims to state that prejudice is a natural human propensity that practically everyone possesses.

5. Burden: It is a pragmatic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"Politicians have their own agendas and prejudices"

"A virus carries no passport ─scientists and medical doctors know that better than anyone else ─ but politicians have their own agendas, and popular prejudice cannot be waved away with a magic wand."

These two examples demonstrate the burden placed on the Chinese as a result of American politicians' agendas and prejudices towards China, which are difficult to correct.

6. Norm expression: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"There is hardly a nation on earth that has not been hit with the novel coronavirus, so international cooperation is essential."

"It is racist, it is wrong and ruling US politicians owe us all an apology."

Instead of blame, the preceding examples indicate what should be followed or done to cope with the virus. The first uses is a plea for nations to work together. The second example demonstrates that accusing in order to gain popular support is dishonest and racist, and hence America should apologize to China.

7. Victimization: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"US blame game puts innocent people"

"However, far from China's shores, other names were being concocted to describe the perilous pathogen, and terms such as "Wuhan flu" and "Wuhan coronavirus" (which was used by The New York Times) began to be bandied about."

The examples above show how attempts are made to depict American actions that are thought to victimize Chinese people. Among these efforts is the labeling of the virus by some American politicians, which encourages anti-Asian violence and jeopardizes the American-Chinese community.

8. Populism: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"Manipulative populism and playing to the hidden prejudice of a conservative political base came into play."

"It was no longer loud-mouth radio hosts and redneck politicians talking that way, and as such could not be easily dismissed."

The examples demonstrate how American politicians influence people's attitudes by influencing their brains. The instances demonstrate how successful populism is, as it drives many politicians, including Trump, who a Chinese defender at times, to join others who criticize China.

9. Actor description: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"Unwilling to take blame, Trump found it useful to deflect criticism away from his own negligence by making withering use of the term "foreign virus"."

This scenario aims to portray Trump as a deft dodger who blames China to avoid criticism after first dismissing the virus as a common flu.

10. Repetition: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"US Senator Tom Cotton from Arkansas throughout the crisis has made statements designed to inflame and arouse anti-China sentiment by blaming China for the virus."

"Although Cotton's hatred for China predates the outbreak and is rooted in a rigid anti-communist worldview, he has exploited the epidemic by conflating his political enemy with the hated virus."

"Anti-Asian abuse and violence on the rise"

"Around the same time, reports on social media and elsewhere described an uptick in anti-Asian abuse and violence."

The American politicians' hostility toward the Chinese is stressed. The Chinese are referred to as Asian, China, and communist throughout the article, but in all of these allusions, the particle anti is included to accentuate this animosity and antagonism.

11. Evidentiality: It is a syntactic strategy. China is the in-group and America is the out-group.

"The US president, for reasons best known to him, has been a credible defender of China on certain policy points and has generally resisted the vocal deprecations used by intemperate political advisers such as Stephen Miller, Peter Navarro, and Steve Bannon."

The above uses demonstrate the influence of populism on Trump. Trump's shift from defender to blamer of China reinforces this impact.

The Quantitative Analysis of the Two Articles

The primary ideologies in these article, which primarily aim to mobilize Americans against Trump's government, are implied through the use of thirteen ideological strategies. The first place goes to repetition, which had 46 occurrences and a 41.82% percent. In this article, several terms are used repeatedly to accuse and denounce the Other's (in this case, America) various acts that are depicted as being damaging to the Chinese. Actor description strategies are being used to highlight this ideology more and more, with 13 occurrences and 11.82% percent being used to characterize Trump as having various undesirable traits that exclude him from serving as US president. According to its frequency, victimization and national self-glorification tied for third place. Each of which records 12 occurrences with 10.91% percent. However, national self-glorification technique is used to glorify the various acts that China performs during the pandemic while victimization technique is used to portray China as a victim to all the discriminatory and racist acts done by the American politicians, especially Trump.

Burden, which is repeated 8 times with 7.27% percent, is the fourth-ranked strategy. The purpose of all these examples is to illustrate the possible consequences that the world, in general, and America, in particular, may encounter if the provocative behavior of Trump and his fellow politicians continues. Metaphor, which has 6 occurrences and a 5.45% percent, is the fifth-ranked strategy. These are mostly employed to denounce the adverse actions of American politicians and to highlight China's significant

role as the world's economic controller. A full breakdown of the frequency and percentage of the ideological strategies employed in this article is provided in the table below.

The number game strategy, which records 5 occurrences with 4.55% percent, takes sixth rank. These examples are aimed to illustrate the shortcomings of the American government under Trump and to draw attention to China's valuable contributions. Both comparison and illegality strategies with 2 occurrences and 1.82% percent for each is placed next to this. The two instances of comparison are meant to elevate Zhoa Lijian's charge against America by equating it to Trump's accusatory conduct and treating it like a simple query. Illegality strategies, on the other hand, are meant to present Trump's act of naming the virus to be illegal.

Four strategies, namely evidentiality, generalization, example, and hyperbole make up the final rank. Each of which happens just once with 0.91% percent. Evidentiality is meant to support China's positive portrayal, generalization is meant to discredit all European nations for their negative role in the pandemic, the example is primarily meant to raise the possibility that America is the virus's possible source, and hyperbole is meant to draw attention to China's significant economic position and how it will negatively impact America if relations with China deteriorate. As a result, it serves as a warning to Americans to stay out of China's good graces.

The frequencies and percentages of the ideological strategies used in the two articles.

Ideological strategies	Global Times		China Daily	
	Frequencies	**Percentage**	**Frequency**	**Percentage**
Actor description (Trump)	13	11.82%	1	1.69%
National self-glorification	12	10.90%	0	0 %
Burden	8	7.27%	2	3.39%
Evidentiality	1	0.91%	1	1.69%
Generalization	1	0.91%	0	0 %
Number game	5	4.55%	0	0 %
Victimization	12	10.91%	16	27.12%
Illegality	2	1.82%	0	0 %
Example	1	0.91%	0	0 %
Comparison	2	1.82%	0	0 %
Metaphor	6	5.45%	5	8.48%
Repetition	46	41.82%	11	18.64%
Hyperbole	1	0.91%	0	0 %
Implication	0	0 %	4	6.79%
Derogation	0	0 %	2	3.39%
Norm expression	0	0 %	8	13.56%
Populism	0	0 %	9	15.25%
Total	110	100%	59	100%

The second article employs ten techniques to polarize the Other on ideological grounds. Victimization is ranked highest with 16 occurrences and 27.12% percent. These incidents serve to portray China as a victim of American acts of bigotry that endanger the lives of Asian Americans. Repetition is ranked second with 11 occurrences and 18.64% percent. The unfavorable actions of American politicians against China are emphasized by using specific terms or expressions repeatedly. Third on the list, with 9 instances and 15.25% percent, is populism. These incidents show how American politicians use this strategy to influence and rally the populace against China. The norm expression technique, with 8 instances and 13.56%, comes to hold the fourth rank. The examples given demonstrate the wisdom and norm-respecting behavior of Chinese leaders. Metaphor ranks fifth in terms of strategy. There are 5 occurrences and 8.48% percent. The examples are mostly used to illustrate the dire state of the American economy and to denounce racial prejudice and discrimination towards Chinese people.

The next strategy, implication, has 4 instances and 6.79% percent of the total. These examples demonstrate that there is frequently a purpose behind attributing a calamity on a certain group of individuals. With 2 incidents and 3.39% percent for each, derogation and burden are tied for eighth place. Derogation is used to suggest that America is in a dreadful and horrific position as a consequence of contracting the virus, whereas burden is used to highlight the weight that American officials have imposed on the Chinese as a result of their difficult-to-change agendas and biases toward China. With 1 incidence and 1.69% percent for each, actor description and evidentiality are last on the list. The actor description is used to disparage Trump, whose position on China has been modified to serve his interests. While evidence shows that Trump was influenced by populism. This effect is amplified by Trump's switch from China's supporter to critic. The table below provides a detailed analysis of the frequency and percentage of ideological strategies used in this article:

Relationship between Items and Articles according to Ideological strategies using Chi-square (X^2) statistical test. (Chinese articles)

Items	Articles		
	GT	CD	P-Value
Number game	5	0	
National self-glorification	12	0	
Victimization	12	20	
Actor description	13	1	
illegality	2	0	
generalization	1	0	**
Metaphor	6	5	Pearson Chi-Square = 77.413
Repetition	46	11	
derogation	0	2	P-Value = 0.00006
Implication	0	4	
Evidentiality	1	1	
norm expression	0	8	
example	1	0	
burden	8	2	
comparison	2	0	
hyperbole	1	0	
populism	0	9	
Total	**110**	**63**	
Mean	**12.22**	**7.00**	

The articles show a high significance in the use of ideological strategies (Pearson Chi-Square = 77.413 and P-Value = 0.00006). This suggests that the both articles highly depend on ideological strategies to polarize China and America using their respective ideologies.

Conclusion

Out of Van Dijk's twenty seven strategies, seventeen of them are utilized in these two Chinese newspaper articles. Besides, the frequencies of each of the used ideological strategies is high which asserts the persistence of these articles to set their ideologies against America. Almost all the strategies are used to polarize the two powers with great emphasis on presenting the Other negatively. However, certain strategies are used to glorify China.

Repetition occurs frequently in these Chinese articles. It places emphasis on American aggression towards China. Victimization also records a high frequency. It portrays China as a target of American stigmatization. Actor description which lists many unfavorable characteristics of Trump and his administration comes third. By employing the technique of national self-glorification, Chinese publications likewise exalt their country. The other strategies are used with somehow not that many frequencies which all of them negatively describe America.

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