***Figure 1 Schema: the mediation of the confrontation between atheism and Christianity***

Discursive Form of Newspaper Item

Slant Atheism Christianity Both Atheism Christianity Both Atheism Christianity Both

Tone Positive Negative Neutral

Descriptive Form of Newspaper Item

Slant Atheism Christianity Both Atheism Christianity Both Atheism Christianity Both

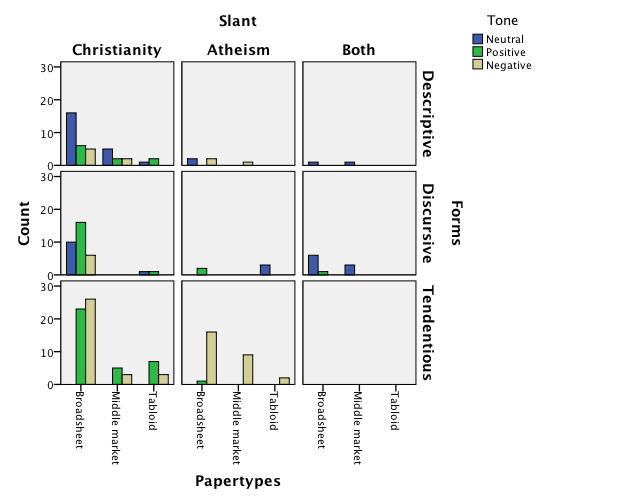
Tone Positive Negative Neutral

Tendentious Form of Newspaper Item**[[1]](#footnote-1)**

Slant Atheism Christianity Both Atheism Christianity Both

Tone Positive Negative

***Figure 2: Slant, Tone and Form of Broadsheet, Middle Market Tabloid and Tabloid Newspaper Items***



***Figure 3: news form of each newspaper item***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Newspaper Items | Discursive News Form | Descriptive News Form | Tendentious News Form | Total |
| News Story | 21 | 36 | 22 | 79 |
| Editorial | 4 | - | 11 | 15 |
| Opinion Piece | 15 | 3 | 32 | 50 |
| Letter | 9 | 1 | 26 | 36 |
| NIBS | - | 4 | 3 | 7 |
| Other | - | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| TOTAL | 49 | 46 | 95 | 190 |

***Figure 4: the tendentious news form of newspaper items in the broadsheets, middle market tabloid and tabloid Newspapers***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | CHRISTIANITY SLANT AND  POSITIVE TONE | CHRISTIANITY SLANT AND NEGATIVE TONE | ATHIESM SLANT AND POSITIVE TONE | ATHEISM SLANT AND NEGATIVE TONE |
| BROADSHEET | 23 (24.2%) | 26 (27.3%) | 1 (1.1%) | 16 (16.8%) |
| MIDDLE MARKET TABLOID | 5 (5.3%) | 3 (3.2%) | - | 9 (9.5%) |
| TABLOID | 7 (7.4%) | 3 (3.2%) | - | 2 (2.1%) |
| TOTAL | 35 (36.8%) | 32 (33.7%) | 1 (1.1%) | 27 (28.4%) |

***Figure 5: the news forms, slant and tone of readers’ letters***

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | NEWS FORM | SLANT | TONE | TOTAL |
| Independent | Discursive (N=1)  Tendentious (N=8) | Atheism (N=1)  Christian (N=8) | Negative (N=9) | 9 |
| Daily  Telegraph | Discursive (N=2)  Tendentious (N=7) | Christian (N=4)  Atheism (N=5) | Positive (N=4)  Negative (N=5) | 9 |
| Guardian | Discursive (N=3)  Tendentious (N=5) | Atheism (N=1)  Both (N=2)  Christian (N=5) | Neutral (N=1)  Positive (N=4)  Negative (N=3) | 8 |
| The Times | Tendentious (N=3) | Atheism (N=3) | Negative (N=3) | 3 |
| Express | Discursive (N=2)  Descriptive (N=1) | Both (N=2)  Atheism (N=1) | Neutral (N=2)  Negative (N=1) | 3 |
| Sunday Telegraph | Discursive (N=1)  Tendentious (N=1) | Christianity (N=2) | Positive (N=1)  Negative (N=1) | 2 |
| Daily Mail | Tendentious (N=1) | Atheism (N=1) | Negative (N=1) | 1 |
| The Sun | Tendentious (N=1) | Christianity (N=1) | Negative (N=1) | 1 |
| TOTAL | 36 | 36 | 36 | 36 |

***Appendix 1: Tone of each type of Newspaper Item***

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | Neutral Christian | +ve  Christian | -ve  Christian | Neutral  Atheist | +ve Atheist | -ve  Atheist | Neutral Both | +ve Both | -ve Both |
| News Story | 25 | 25 | 16 | 3 | - | 7 | 3 | - | - |
| Editorial | 1 | 6 | 1 | - | - | 5 | 2 | - | - |
| Opinion Piece | 3 | 23 | 12 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | - | - |
| Letter | 3 | 6 | 14 | - | 2 | 10 |  | 1 | - |
| NIBS | - | - | 2 | - | - | 2 | 3 | - | - |
| Other | 1 | 1 | - | - | - | 1 | - | - | - |
| TOTAL | 33 | 62 | 45 | 5 | 3 | 30 | 11 | 1 | - |

1. Where a newspaper is coded as tendentious then by definition it cannot be neutral. Also see Figure 2. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)