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## A Comprehensive Pragma-discoursal Analytic Structure of Racism in a Media Text Entitled "Terrorists are Always Muslim but Never White: At The Intersection of Critical Race Theory and Propaganda"

بنية تحليلية شاملة للخطاب التداولي للعنصرية في نص إعلامي بعنوان "الإرهابيون مسلمون دائماً ولكنهم ليسوا بيضاً أبداً : عند تقاطع نظرية العرق النقدية والدعاية"

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## Abstract:

This paper studies and analyses a popular problem that spread globally, viz, 'Racism' through a pragma-discoursal view point in a selected English media text . Racism can be defined as "A process by which people are defined according to differences of skin color or other attributes and positioned as different from the majority." (Longman Dictionary,2010:479).

The idea that terror is attributed to Muslims became a general negative idea which spread in the United States. Before 9/11 the sad day for America, anyone could say or claim the western world think that Arabs and Muslims are strange, uncivilized, and dangerous people . As a matter of fact Arabs are not necessarily Muslims as the two words are interchangeable terms as , in the America, it is possible to find most Arabs belong to non- Muslim sects and most Muslims belong to non- Arab sects. In spite of that, terrorists are claimed that they are related to a radicalized group nowadays named "Muslims," which contains Muslims these and Arabs or Middle Eastern people that are known as terrorists.

Muslims as the western world presume "inherently violent, alien, and inassimilable." Therefore Muslims are accused of violence and terror

Thus, Racism thought is based mainly on color, social factors , religious states , and cultural or linguistic rules within a society or between societies .

**Key words:** western world, interchangeable ,non-Muslim sects, non-Arab sects, terrorists, alien, and inassimilable.

## المخلص

تدرس هذه الورقة وتحلل مشكلة شائعة انتشرت عالمياً، ألا وهي «العنصرية»، وذلك من خلال منظور تداولي-خطابي في نصّ إعلاميّ إنجليزيّ مختار. ويمكن تعريف العنصرية بأنها: «عملية يُعرّف فيها الناس وفق اختلافات لون البشرة أو غيرها من السمات، ويُوضعون بوصفهم مختلفين عن الأغلبية» («قاموس لونغمان، 2010: 479).

لقد أصبحت فكرة ربط الإرهاب بالمسلمين فكرةً سلبيةً عامّةً انتشرت في الولايات المتحدة. وقبل أحداث 11 سبتمبر، ذلك اليوم الحزين بالنسبة لأمريكا، كان من الممكن لأي شخص أن يقول أو يدّعي أن العالم الغربي ينظر إلى العرب والمسلمين على أنهم أناس غرباء، غير متحضّرين، وخطرون. وفي الواقع، فإن العرب ليسوا بالضرورة مسلمين، كما أن المصطلحين غير قابلين للاستعمال على نحوٍ تبادلي؛ إذ من الممكن في الولايات المتحدة أن نجد معظم العرب ينتمون إلى طوائف غير مسلمة، كما أن معظم المسلمين ينتمون إلى طوائف غير عربية. وعلى الرغم من ذلك، يدّعى أن الإرهابيين مرتبطون في الوقت الحاضر بجماعة متطرّفة تُسمّى «المسلمين»، وهي جماعة تضم مسلمين وعرباً أو أشخاصاً من الشرق الأوسط يُعرفون بوصفهم إرهابيين.

ويُفترض في نظر العالم الغربي أن المسلمين «عنيفون بطبيعتهم، غرباء، وغير قابلين للاندماج». ولذلك يُنهم المسلمون بالعنف والإرهاب.

وعليه، فإن الفكر العنصري يقوم أساساً على اللون، والعوامل الاجتماعية، والانتماءات الدينية، والقواعد الثقافية أو اللغوية داخل المجتمع الواحد أو بين المجتمعات.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** العالم الغربي، قابلية الاستعمال التبادلي، طوائف غير مسلمة، طوائف غير عربية، إرهابيون، غرباء، غير قابلين للاندماج.

## Section (One)

### 1. Introduction

In fact, discourse analysis (D.A) principle is a wide domain of linguistics which includes different devices of linguistics like pragmatics. (D.A) is so essential in studying and analyzing Racism ( racialism) phenomenon that maybe defined as the belief that human beings can be divided into separate and various biological entities that are called races.

Discursive practices are very effective in ideologies so they are able to create different unequal power relationships between ,social classes ,like women and men and ethnic communities through the style in which they afford things and positions of people , (*Heyland & partridge 2011;40*).

Racism is can be applied according on religious , political, economic, and levels . within a society where race , racial inequalities, and discrimination are clear in skin color, social factors, wealth , health, education, religions ,education and other fields.

#### 1.1. Problem

This paper sets itself in analyzing pragma-discoursal ways which are used in racism ,therefore, it attempts to find the answers to the following questions:

- (1) Why do most racists employ the racial language in journalism devices ?
- (2) Is it possible to find any vital discoursal and pragmatic ways that are employed to actualizing and showing some racist aims?

#### 1.2. Aims of the Study

This work aims to:

- 1- Distinguish and define the discoursal and pragmatic composition of racism .
- 2- Decide the most important discoursal and pragmatic devices that are employed for triggering, maintaining and concluding racism.
- 3- Scrutinize the discoursal and pragmatic strategies that are utilized by racists to survey their racial aims.

#### 1.3. Hypotheses

Relying on the purposes of this paper , many points can be hypothesized that :

- 1- Cohesive styles form the discorsal framework of racism idea containing the lexical and grammatical structures , normalization and transparency which are almost used frequently in analyzing the racist discourse .
- 2- Pragmatic devices form the pragmatic structure of racism including many devices like speech acts, deixis, presupposition, cooperative principles and politeness.

#### 1.4. Procedures

To make a reality of the aims of this study and achieve its hypotheses, the following procedures are taken in consideration as following :

- 1- Inspecting in a brief way what is called the relevant literature on the discorsal as well as pragmatic are related to fields of racism.
- 2- Utilizing the eclectic model that is expands in through this work to analyzing and scrutinizing the racism.

#### 1.5. Importance of the Study

It is hopefully , i.e. this work will be important to people who are interested in studying racism relying more on the pragmatic and discorsal ways. Many results of this work are expected to be useful in the pedagogic , political and social fields .

#### 1.6. Scope and Delamination

This brief study includes a comprehensive pragma-discorsal analysis of racism in a media text that entitled " terrorist are always Muslims but never whites. The main selected subject in what was said by trump on current socio-political issues with the U.S society towards the minorities.

#### Section (Two)

##### **2-1 A selected English media text " Terrorists Are Always Muslim but Never White : At The Intersection of Critical Race Theory and Propaganda ."**

"Many speech acts are culture –specific .this is particularly so in the case of institutionalized speech acts ,which typically use standardized stereotyped formulae and are performed in public ceremonies.." *Huang (2007 :119)*.

There are two facts in lines above as most American have a wrong idea that " it always that (brown) Muslims are terrorists." Also they think that " white person cannot be never a terrorist. " Therefor the two claims above probably effected the idea that resulted the opening question , "the word 'terrorist

may remind you the Muslims , ' ,it does not mean a white person in the U.S.A , two common thoughts are false narratives about terrorists who attack America abound. It is usually to see them on television, in the movies, on the news, and nowadays , in the Trump administration. The first claim is that terrorists are always brown

Muslims, the second one is that white people are never terrorists in spite of that many whites have committed many genocides in many American States.

The idea that terror is attributed to Muslims became a general negative idea which spread in the United States. Before 9/11 the sad day for America , anyone could say or claim the western world think that Arabs and Muslims are strange , uncivilized, and dangerous people . As a matter of fact Arabs are not necessarily Muslims as the two words are interchangeable terms as , in the America, it is possible to find most Arabs belong to non- Muslim sects and most Muslims belong to non- Arab sects. In spite of that, terrorists are claimed that they are related to a radicalized group nowadays named "Muslims" which contains Muslims these and Arabs or Middle Eastern people that are known as terrorists. Muslims as the western world presume "inherently violent, alien, and inassimilable." Therefore Muslims are accused of violence and terror.

*Van Dijk (1993:17)* puts various traditions that include, ethnography conversations, social factors of text , pragmatics and talk that related to racism ,the leading elites in politics and ,the media between majority and minority ."

As president, Trump is going on to certify that terrorists are associated with Muslims. At his nomination , he assured to "unite the civilized world against Radical Islamic Terrorism" to be eradicated completely from the face of the Earth."

Actually , what is called discursive reproduction is probably not be participated equally by all white people. Elites may have access to the devices of mass media ,text books, propaganda etc.

In one of the American states a school teacher told violently her eleven-year-old student , a Muslim Somali refugee:" I cannot wait until Trump is elected. He is going to deport all you Muslims ,,,,,, Muslims should not be given visas. They will probably take away your visas and deport you . You are going to be the next terrorist, I will bet."

## 2-2 Analysis of the Text

This text shows a social event to achieve some of the most important aim aims of this study through the pragma-discoursal structure and strategies that based on the macro-strategy which is employed to realize the racist purposes that are sought by the speaker.

Pragmatics relies on how to do things with words as Austin (1962) put it to be important to study the social and convincing functions of the news language.

This study is based mainly on an eclectic model to be developed as follows The eclectic model of this paper refers to that racism is connected to a conversational activity that includes three steps : LRAS,MARAS,TRAS.

These steps are pragmatically related to certain styles to create the racist discourse. Anyway the opening step ,i.e., liras begins with one or more than speech acts of scorning, criticizing, insulting , warning, or accusing in every selected text ,whereas deixis forms the second pragmatic part including the personal ,spatial, and temporal deistical expressions .the second stage ,i.e. MRAS contains three complementary pragmatic elements ,viz, presupposition, conversational implicature , but this stage contains a violation of one or more than of Gricean maxims ,i.e. the quality ,quantity and manner in every selected text. Finally the last stage i.e., TRAS includes the assertive and expressive speech acts as support or challenge strategies in the racist discourse. In conclusion the racist discourse supported by the eclectic model in the current work showing that the pragmatic structure unifies many components ,viz, SAs, deixis, presupposition, conversational implicature and politeness divided in three stages above see figure no.1

The pragmatic notion of this study includes many fields such as the assertive (SAs) , deixis, presupposition, conversational implicature and Leech's politeness maxims, that are working side by side with the discoursal notions consisting of *the three stages* as explained as follows:

- The first one is **(L.R.A.S)** that consists two pragmatic parts ,that is , the **(S.A.s)** strategy that compromises (criticizing, insulting) and **(deixis)** (personal, temporal and spatial terms) as well as **(the discoursal cohesive devices)** ,viz., the grammatical and lexical devices or both.

This stage starts with two common false illocutionary **(S.A.s)** of insulting as in the first expression " *there is a claim that terrorists are always (Muslims)*", and the second claim is that "*white people cannot be terrorists.*" But this stage lacks the deixis and discoursal component and it includes false extremist racial claims.

- By the components of this stage there is a possibility to pave the way to the next stage, that is, the **(M.R.A.S)** which is shown in the following pragmatic fields, presupposition,

conversational implicature, Leech's politeness maxims and that are based on the **(G.C.D)** and **(L.C.D)**, which show the discursal part of the stage as the devices of the **(D.A)** in revealing and showing the racist discourse. The ideological connection and claims of power can be seen in the eclectic text.

Also, the second stage **(M.R.A.S)** is displayed in the illocutionary **(S.A.s)** of (insulting) towards the Arabs as well as Muslims as in saying that "*both Arabs and Muslims are strange, not civilized, and dangerous persons.*"

The usage of false claim in this extract presupposes as that terrorists are regularly linked to Muslims as well as Arab and Middle Eastern people and Islam itself is violent, alien and inassimilable. This (presupposition) creates implicature that gives an idea that the terrorists are Muslims. In this extract (the quality maxim) is violated as this extract is not truthful as many gangs in the west are not Muslims as well as it violates (the manner maxim) as it does not give the evidences about how all the terrorists are Muslims.

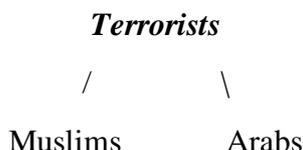
The implied hatred is revealed in the violation of the **(C.P)** to strengthen the racial ideologies, **(D.A)** and **(Cognitive Strategy)** that is due to Bara (2010:1) "the study of the mental states of people who are engaged in communication." to give reasons to the racial claims that become pervasive in the states. In this stage (the politeness maxims) are violated as follows: (the tact maxim) is violated as the text language attempts to convince that all the terrorists are Muslims and at the same time the text language breaks (the sympathy maxim) as it doesn't sympathize with the Muslims and Arabs. the text language breaches (the approbation maxim) as it insult Muslims and Arabs, and at last the text language violates (the modesty maxim) that is attributed to Leech (1983: 137) "*like the other maxims of politeness shows itself in asymmetries*" as the west ideas tend to be arrogant towards Muslims."

As a matter of fact, a pragma-discursal way plays a vital role in the relation between discourse, ideology, power that can be in the prejudice or racism phenomenon.

These pragmatic strategies correspond some **(discursal devices)** such as the **(G.C.D)** of **(the reference)** as in "*Now called Muslim which include ---.*", "*--- Muslims and those who appear Arab --*

- ." as well as **(the conjunction)** in " Arab and Muslims --- . --- Muslims and not Muslims --- Muslims as well as those --- . --- alien and inassimilable .

Also, this extract includes the **(L.C.D)** like **(the collocation)** as in " The United States" "radicalized group" " Middle Eastern " "responsible for". There is a clue in the current stage that refers to **(the hyponymy)** as terrorists due to the text can be divided into Muslims and Arabs.



Moreover ,the text language takes advantage of the transparency process to support the racial view as in " --- exotic ,uncivilized dangerous --- radicalized group --- inherently violent ,alien and inassimilable " as well " --- Muslims are always responsible for terrorist attacks ---- " Additionally, there is a normalization process in the text as " group ".

- The third and final stage that concludes this racist discourse ,i.e., the **(T.R.A.S)** This stage is started with an assertive speech act in the illocutionary act to expresses extremely the hatred ideology against Islam which appears clearly in the following extract when one school teacher talked to her eleven-year-old student, a Muslim Somali refugee:

“ I can't wait until Trump is elected. He's going to deport all you Muslims . . . . Muslims shouldn't be given visas. They'll probably take away your visa and deport you. You're going to be the next terrorist, I bet.” In this text the teacher expresses her hatred against the refugees by the underlined words and phrases in the aforesaid extract. The teacher makes use of the discorsal strategies in focusing on her racial language by the **(G.C.D)** like the reference as in " I can't --- She's going --- all you ----. They --- your visas --- deport you." " you --- "I bet." ,and the conjunction as in " ---- until --- . your visa. and deport you. " Also, this text includes the **( L.C.D)** like the collocation as in " wait until" " is going to" "are going to" " I bet " the teacher could show and justify her racist language against the refugees depending on her explicit racist sentiment against the Muslim refugees .

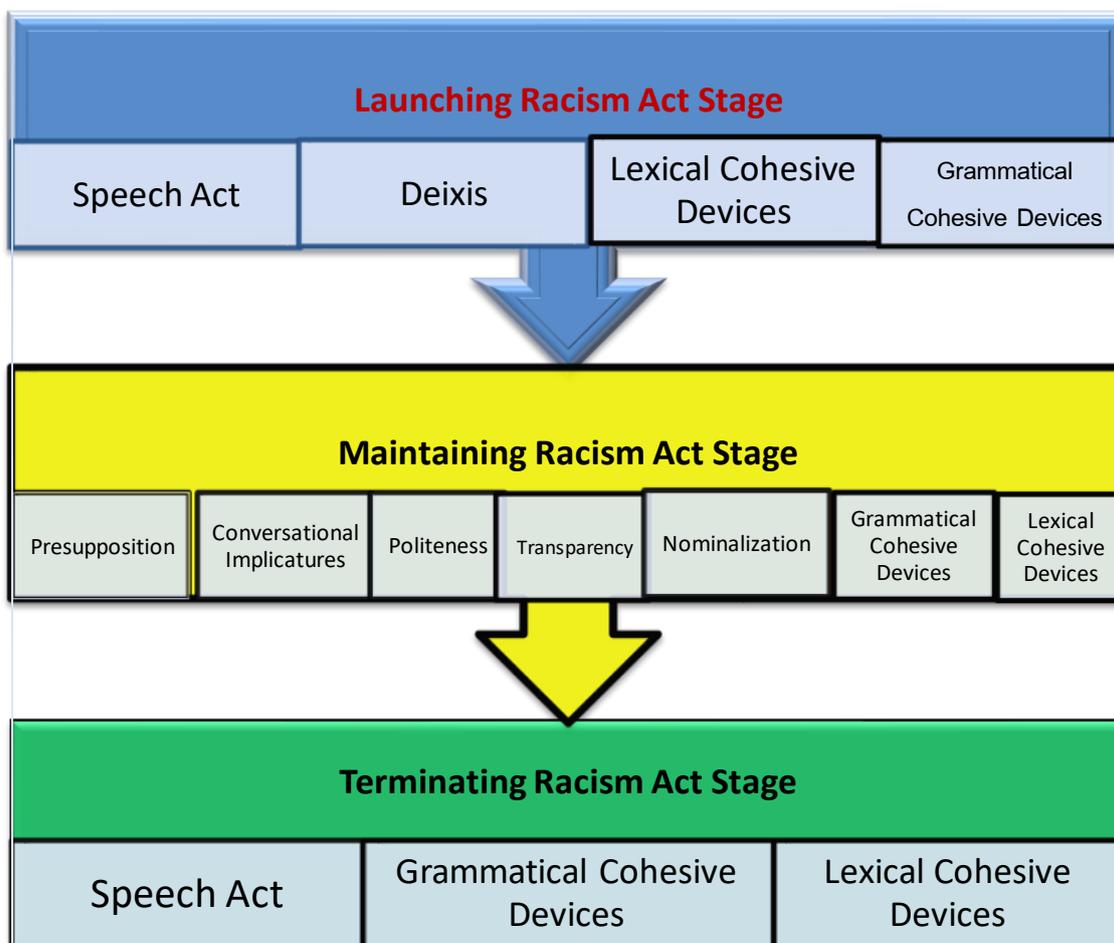
## Section (Three)

### 3.1. Conclusion

As racism has become an international phenomenon , this study tries to highlight it via a pragma-discorsal view point encompassing analyzing and studying mostly the social

interactional factors, and political implications, through the qualitative and quantitative studying and analyzing the cohesive devices.

- 1- This study has resulted the following conclusions :
- 2- Analyzing the **(D.A)** of the racist discourse via the cohesive devices hypothesis which shows how people can express their emotions feelings and ideas of racism towards minorities within their communities through media texts. This is a guide proves the first hypothesis of this study that says the cohesive ways that are composing what are the discursal structures of racism.
- 3- Racial discourse is possibly analyzed through the ideologies and speech by cohesive devices. This demonstrates the second hypothesis that is saying the cohesive devices are mainly utilized in triggering, maintaining and concluding racist discourse.
- 4- It can be racists may use pragma-discoursal strategies to support the 3<sup>rd</sup> hypothesis proves the most discursal devices that are frequently used in favor of racist discourse .



**Figure (1) The Pragma - discoursal Structure**

### Application of the Percentage Equation

This study mainly depends on the down formula in calculating its statistical results through multiplying process of the occurrence of every component that makes up the racial Pragma - discorsal structure under Study by 100 then dividing it by the total number of the

total frequencies of the components in each stage of the three stages that form this work as the following:

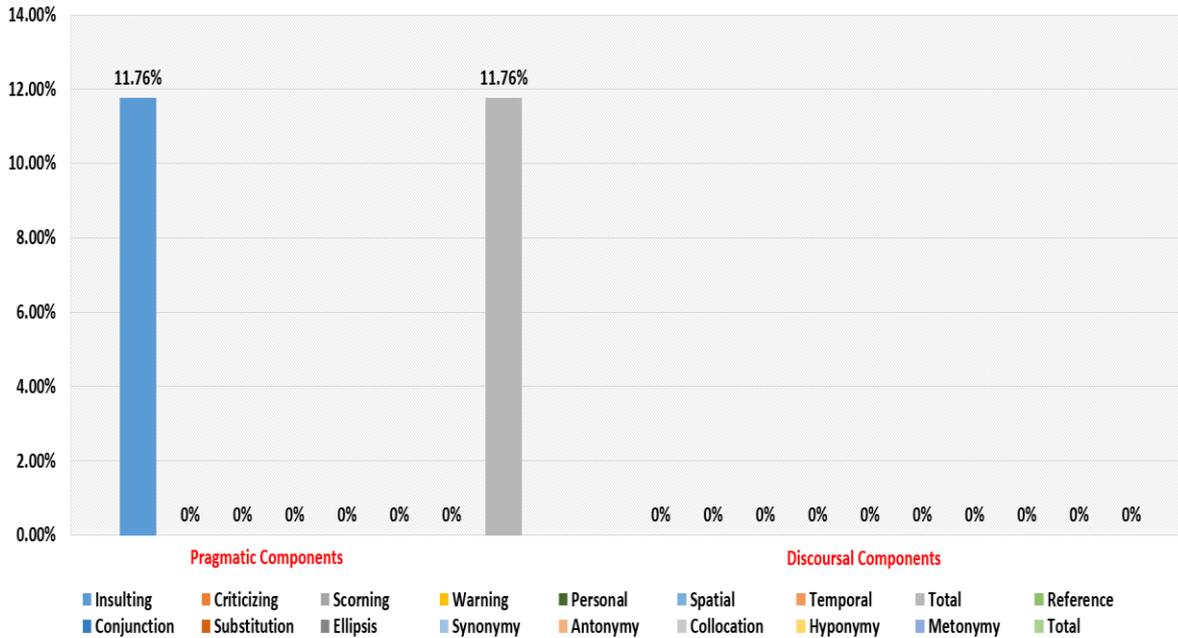
$$\text{Percentage} = \frac{\text{Occurrence of Each Component witin its Stage} \times (100)}{\text{The Total Number of the Pragma - discorsal Components in Each Stage of the Selected Texts}}$$

**Table (1)**

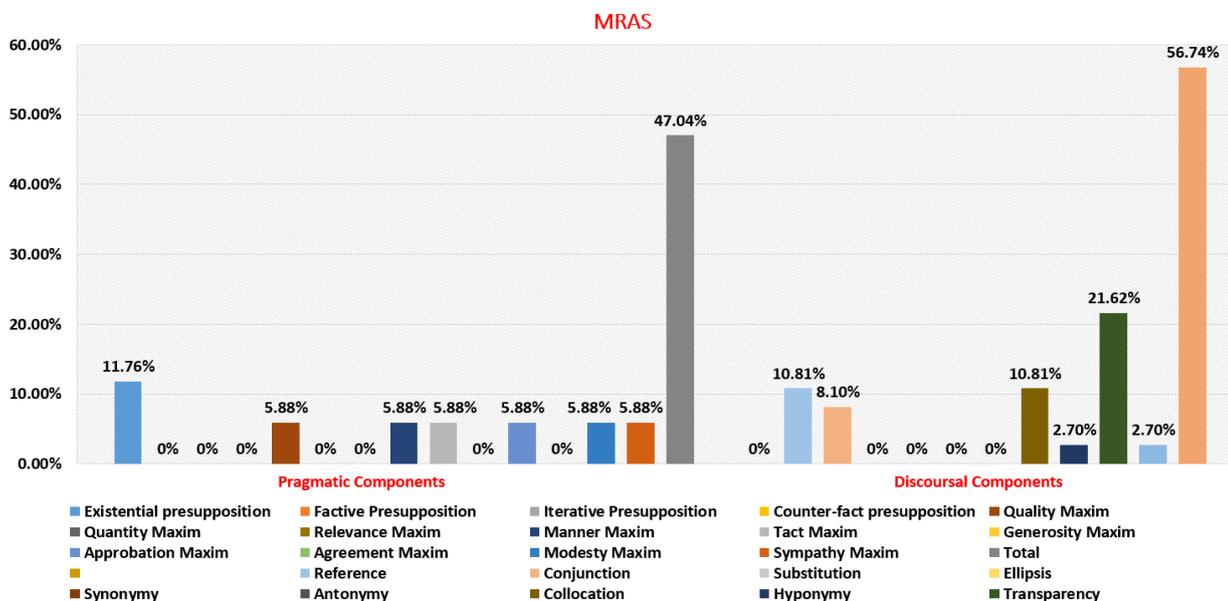
**The Overall Frequencies and Percentages of Occurrences of the Pragma - discorsal Devices Employed in "Terrorists are Always Muslim but Never White :At The Intersection of Critical Race Theory and Propaganda ." Text**

<b>Pragmatic Components</b>				<b>Discorsal Components</b>		
<i>Stage</i>	<i>S.As Strategy</i>	<i>Frq.</i>	<i>Per.</i>	<i>G.CD.</i>	<i>Frq.</i>	<i>Per.</i>
<b>L.R.A.S</b>	Insulting	2	11.76 %	Reference		
	Criticizing			Conjunction		
	Scorning			Substitution		
	Warning			Ellipsis		
	<i>Deictical Expression</i>			<i>L.C.D</i>		
	Personal			Synonymy		
	Spatial	0	0%	Antonymy		
	Temporal			Collocation		
	<i>Total</i>	2	11.76 %	Hyponymy	0	0 %
				Metonymy		
			<i>Total</i>		0 %	

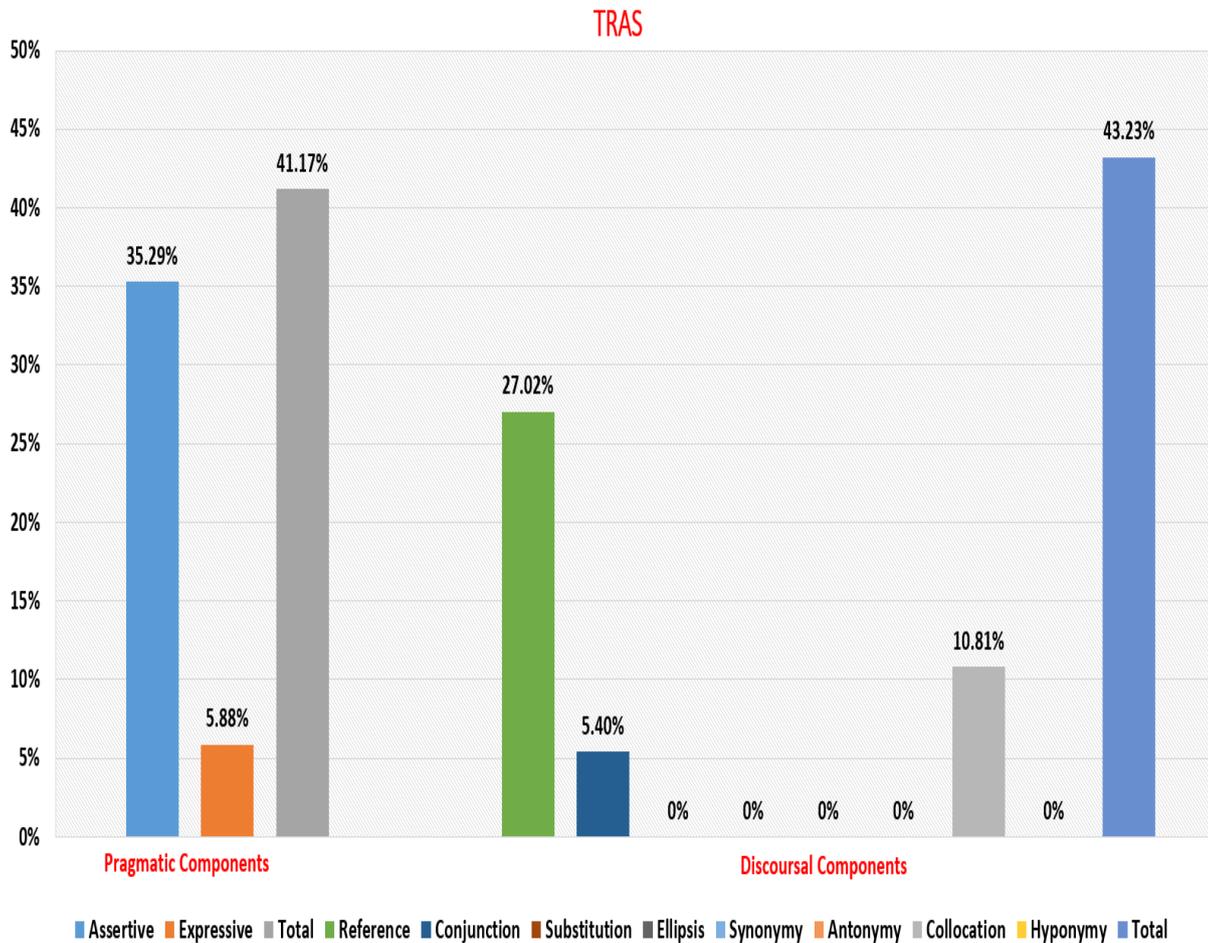
**LRAS**



<b>M.R.A.S</b>	<i>Presupposition</i>					
	Existential Presupposition	2	11.76 %			
	Factive Presupposition					
	Iterative Presupposition	0	0 %			
	Counter-Fact Presupposition					
	<i>Implicature(Gricean Maxims)</i>			<i>G.C.D</i>		
	Quality Maxim	1	5.88 %	Reference	4	10.81%
	Quantity Maxim			Conjunction	3	8.10%
	Relevance Maxim	0	%0	Substitution	0	0 %
	Manner Maxim	1	5.88 %	Ellipsis		
	<i>Politeness Maxim</i>			<i>L.C.D</i>		
	Tact Maxim	1	5.88 %	Synonymy		
	Generosity Maxim			Antonymy		
	Approbation Maxim	1	5.88 %	Collocation	4	10.81%
	Agreement Maxim			Hyponymy	1	2.70%
	Modesty Maxim	1	5.88 %	<i>Transparency</i>		
	Sympathy Maxim	1	5.88 %	8 21.62 %		
<i>Total</i>	8	47.04 %	<i>Nominalization</i>	1	2.70 %	
			<i>Total</i>	21	56.74 %	



<b>T.R.A.S</b>	<i>S.As</i>			<i>G.C.D</i>		
	Assertive	6	35.29 %	Reference	10	27.02 %
	Expressive	1	5.88 %	Conjunction	2	5.40 %
				Substitution		
				Ellipsis		
	<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>41.17 %</b>			
				<i>L.C.D</i>		
				Synonymy	0	0%
				Antonymy	0	0%
				Collocation	4	10.81 %
			Hyponymy	0	0%	
			<b>Total</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>43.23 %</b>	
	<b>Total number of Pragmatic Components</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>100 %</b>	<b>Total number of Discoursal Components</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>100%</b>



**Key Words :** Fr. =frequency , Per. =percentage, L.R.A.S = Launching Racism Act Speech M.R.A.S= Maintaining Racism Act Speech, T.R.A.S = Terminating Racism Act Speech, G.C.D = Grammatical Cohesive Devices, L.C.D = Lexical Cohesive Devices.

### 3-2 Recommendations :

It is recommended depending on what mentioned above that:

- 1- We need to study racism especially in the western communities to understand its negative results.
- 2- It is important thing that the U.N legislate national some laws and rules to reduce or prevent this bad phenomenon to let the world peoples live with each other peacefully.
- 3- It is advisable that the media do not deal with racism in their contents to reduce or prevent its effect in societies.

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