
12. januar 2023 kl. 14:42 Syklist påkjørt Politiet har fått melding om at en jente på sykkel er blitt påkjørt i Ryfylkegata i Haugesund. Bilen som var involvert i ulykken, har kjørt fra stedet. Hun vil bli sjekket av helse.
26. september 2023 kl. 16:08 Sammenstøt mellom barn og bil
– Ting tyder på at gutten har kommet brått ut i overgangsfeltet, men det skal ha vært lav hastighet ved treffet, sier Johannessen.
– Vi vet ikke om det er en ulykke, et illebefinnende eller om mannen er påkjørt, sier Dahl-Michelsen til avisen.
Politiet fikk melding om ulykken klokken 19.48.
To ulykker i samme gate på ett døgn: – Bilist så ikke syklisten
Bilisten blir anmeldt for vikepliktsbrudd etter å ha kollidert med en syklist.
En syklende syklist er påkjørt i et gangfelt i Molde.
Crashing Together: Representations of Cyclist-Involved Road Traffic Collisions in Norwegian Newspapers
Jarvis Suslowicz
IAP, NTNU
@hjargis.bsky.social
9. februar 2023 kl. 16:49 Bilist anmeldt etter påkjørsel Politiet har beslaglagt førerkortet til føreren av bilen som kjørte på en bil og en syklist på Lierstranda i ettermiddag. Syklisten er kjørt
Bilen skal ha kjørt i lav hastighet.
27. juni 2023 kl. 12:53 Syklist påkøyrt av bilførar Ein syklist skal vere påkøyrt av ein bil
ein bil rygga på ein el-syklist ved rådhuset på Stord.
Bil skal ha rygget på barn på sykkel
4. november 2023 kl. 16:05 Syklist påkøyrd av rusa bilførar
– Bilen som var involvert var ikke der da vi kom frem, og opplysninger vi har fått tyder på at den stakk fra stedet.
24. april 2023 kl. 09:17 Syklist påkjørt av bil
et sammenstøt mellom en bil og et barn på sykkel i forbindelse med at bilen rygget.
20. april 2023 kl. 09:50 Sykkel og bil i fotgjengarfelt Rundt klokka 08 var det eit trafikkuhell mellom ein sykkel og ein bil. Samanstøyten skjedde i eit fotgjengarfelt ved Lerstad skule. Guten blei sendt til legevakta for sjekk. Politiet opprettar sak og etterforskar hendinga.
Alt tyder på at kvinnen har havnet oppå bilens panser, og deretter rullet ned på bakken. En syklist og en bil skal ha hatt et sammenstøt.
25. mai 2023 kl. 15:21 Barn involvert i ulykke i Færder
En bil har kollidert med en gutt på sykkel
Barn påkjørt av bil i Trondheim – to personer siktet
Kunnskap for en bedre verden
NTNU

Background

Hei!

I am…

- A PhD student at the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (NTNU) in Trondheim, Norway.

  Project topic: using tactical urbanism as a municipal planning tool to facilitate walking and cycling (this paper is NOT part of this).

- Leader of the Trondheim chapter of the Norwegian Cyclists' Association (*Syklistenes landsforening*).
- An owner of 4 bicycles (n+1?).

Happy to chat later about these things, which led to the development of this paper…

What's the problem?

- Perceived and experienced safety remain a barrier to cycling on a level of physical concern.
- Phenomenon of 'bikelash' or anti-cycling rhetoric contributes to anti-cycling actions and a social-cultural stigmatisation.
- Obscuring the systematic causes diminishes public support for solutions – accepted as a natural trade-off for convenience of driving.
- **How do people most frequently engage with these issues? Through news media, when something goes wrong.**
  - Reports of collisions, deaths and injuries in traffic.
  - Not a universal or homogenous occurrence, with strong regional differences alongside clear commonalities…

Mange drepte på norske veier i sommer – verst i Vestland

I løpet av sommermånedene har 48 personer mistet livet på norske veier. Flest omkom i Vestland.



En mann i 40-årene omkom i en ATV-ulykke på Voss i august. Det var en av fire dødsulykker med ATV i sommermånedene.
FOTO: VIDAR HERRE / AVISA HORDALAND



Dina Gjertine Svendal Kleiven
Journalist

Publisert i dag kl. 07:12
Oppdatert for 3 timer siden

Research Context

Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives
Volume 3, December 2019, 100073

Does news coverage of traffic crashes affect perceived blame and preferred solutions? Evidence from an experiment

Tara Goddard [a], Kelcie Ralph [b], Calvin G. Thigpen [b], Evan Iacobucci [b]

Show more

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Articles

Rogue drivers, typical cyclists, and tragic pedestrians: a Critical Discourse Analysis of media reporting of fatal road traffic collisions

David Fevyer & Rachel Aldred

Pages 759-779 | Published online: 18 Jan 2022

Cite this article | https://doi.org/10.1080/17450101.2021.1981117

Injury Prevention • Open Access • Volume 10, Issue 3, Pages 149 - 153 • June 2004

Newspaper framing of fatal motor vehicle crashes in four Midwestern cities in the United States, 1999-2000

Connor S.M. [a, b] ;
Wesolowski K. [c]

Save all to author list

Transportation Research Record: Journal of the Transportation Research Board

Impact Factor
5-Year Impact Factor

Available access | Research article | First published online February 8, 2019

Editorial Patterns in Bicyclist and Pedestrian Crash Reporting

Kelcie Ralph, Evan Iacobucci, [...], and Tara Goddard (+1) View all authors and affiliations

Home > Discourses of Cycling, Road Users and Sustainability > Chapter

Stigmatisation in Newspapers

Chapter | First Online: 08 May 2020

pp 51–74 | Cite this chapter

Access provided by Norwegian University of Science & Technology



Transportation Research Interdisciplinary Perspectives
Volume 5, May 2020, 100109

Framing systemic traffic violence: Media coverage of Dutch traffic crashes

Marco te Brömmelstroet

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If You Want to Get Away with Murder, Use Your Car

A Discursive Content Analysis of Pedestrian Traffic Fatalities in News Headlines

Heather Magusin

MacEwan University

DOI: https://doi.org/10.31542/j.ecj.1229



TRR

People

Editorial Patterns in Bicyclist and Pedestrian Crash Reporting

Kelcie Ralph[1], Evan Iacobucci[1], Calvin G. Thigpen[2], and Tara Goddard[3]

Transportation Research Record
2019, Vol. 2673(2) 663–671
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Means of Measurement



Specific phrasing: what words are used to describe the act itself?

Accident, collision, crash, incident, event, incident… How do they communicate different **assumptions about blame and responsibility**?



Foregrounding: what events are presented? At what stage?

How soon after the event is a report made? Are **follow-up reports** made when new information and developments are available?



Overall framing of the article: episodic vs. thematic

Are cases presented as **discrete occurrences** (episodic framing), or part of a **systemic pattern** (thematic framing)?



Voice used: active vs. passive voice

Language describing actors: **human**- vs. **object-based** (Ralph et al., 2019)

- «A driver hit a cyclist» vs. «A car hit a cyclist»



Agentive vs. Non-agentive language:

Language which can **obscure the presence of a human actor** other than the victim:

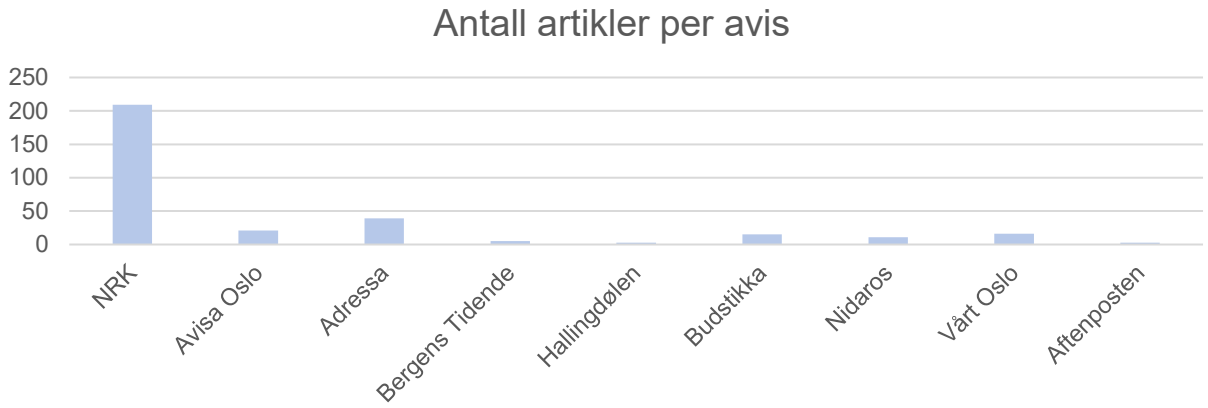
«A driver hit a cyclist» vs. «A cyclist was hit»

Aims and Methods

- Provide an analysis from the **Norwegian context** that considers how articles are constructed, the impact of differences in **newspaper formatting/style**, and the new **role of journalists** in an age of online news.
- Answered through a mixed-methods approach based in critical discourse analysis and GIS.
  - Mapping reporting rate against official statistics to measure regional differences in foregrounding between local reporting desks of the Norwegian state broadcaster (NRK).
  - Measuring quantifiable characteristics against framing and format.

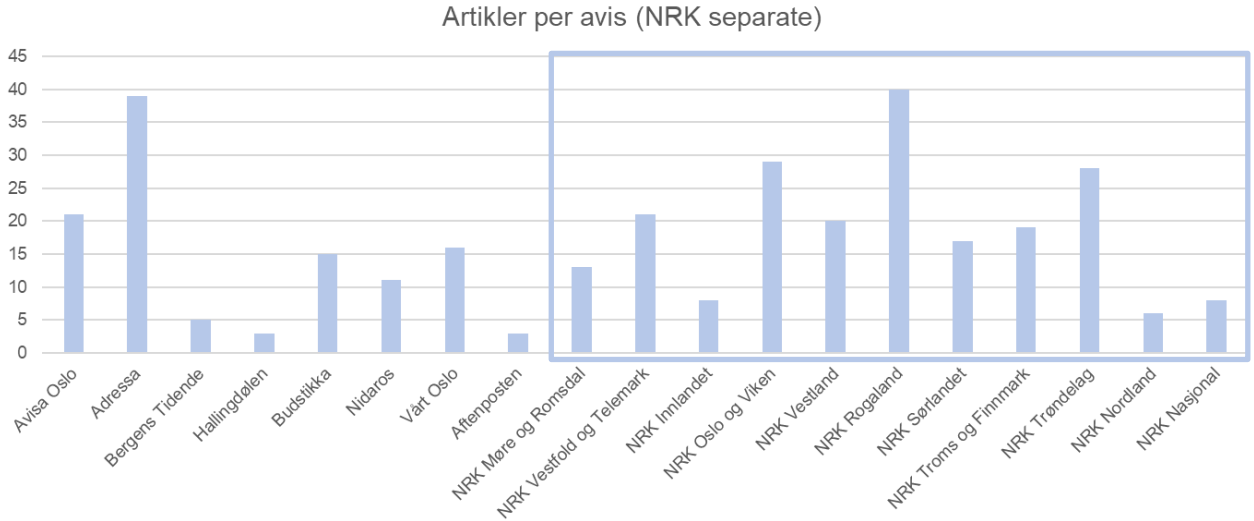
Sample

- Purposive sampling of newspapers
  - Mixture of local/regional/national reporting
  - Mixture of media company parent-owned and independent
  - Mixture of business models (state-funded, unrestricted with advertising, paywalled, frequence-based metred model)
  - Representing larger urban areas and smaller communities
- Search using Atekst/**Retriever**: Nordic media specific database
  - Search string: (syklist OR sykkel) AND (sammenstø* OR samanstø* OR *ulykke OR *ulukke OR *kollisjon OR *uhell OR krasj* OR påkjør* OR påkøyr*)
- Articles published online in 2023 (1st January-31st December).



321 articles in final sample

209 articles (65.1% of whole sample) from NRK



Geographic Variation of NRK Reports

- Need to be aware that collisions involving VRUs are widely **underreported**.
  - BUT there's *some* evidence that in Norway, underreporting is at least relatively geographically consistent (Veisten et al., 2007 – comparison of hospital reports with official statistics, **minor/no injury cases** still not represented).
- Police as source… News reports pull from the same source as the stats. Rare in this context that a journalist will report on an incident unknown to police.

Geographic share of NRK articles (district reporting index)

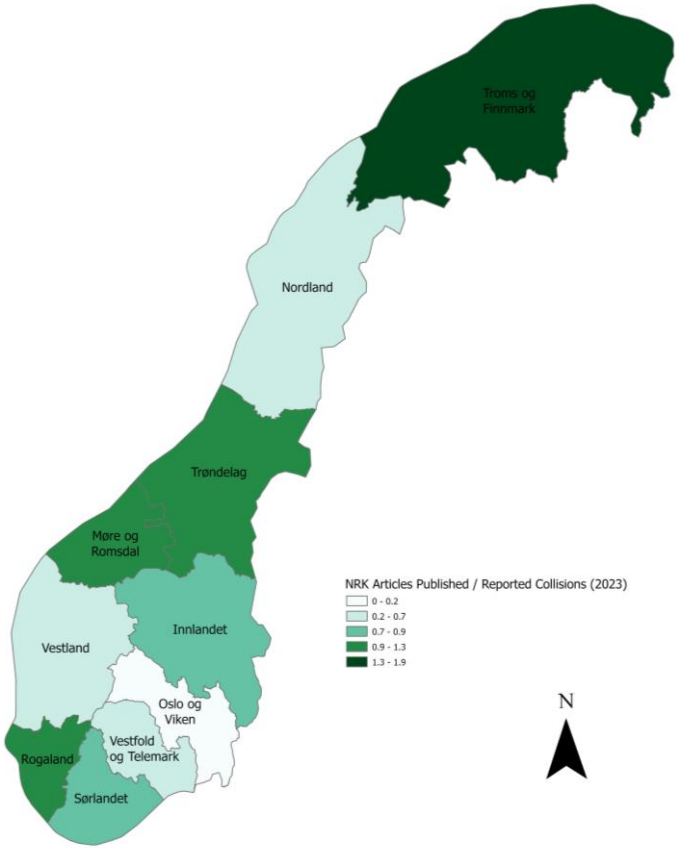
Figure over 1 indicates ‘overreporting’ (more articles than official reports), while underreporting is any region under 1.

‘Overreporting’ NRK districts:

- Troms og Finnmark (biggest overreporter, 1.9)
- Trøndelag (1.12)
- Møre og Romsdal (1.33)
- Rogaland (1.25)

‘Underreporting’ NRK districts:

- Oslo og Viken (biggest underreporter, 0.2)
- Nordland (0.5)
- Vestland (0.67)
- Innlandet (0.88)
- Sørlandet (0.85
- Vestfold og Telemark (0.7)



Most Reported Individual Cases

245 individual cases across 321 reports…

- #18 (6 reports): Female cyclist killed by lorry driver in Oslo in 2022.
  - Court cases in 2023 followed by newspapers beyond Oslo.
  - Led to debates about blind zones on large vehicles.
- #198 (6 reports) Serious injury from driver crossing bike lane while turning right on Ensjøveien, Oslo.
  - Large debate over time in Avisa Oslo, due to repeated incidents in Ensjøveien.
  - Updates from politicians/agencies in Oslo kommune.
- #203 (6 reports): 13-year-old cyclist killed on Byåsen, Trondheim.
  - Initial reports of serious injury, followed days later with reports of death.
- #65 (4 reports) Serious hit and run in Slitu.
  - Reports across multiple sources, calling for information, updating when driver found.
- #135 (4 reports): 6-year-old cyclist killed on Senja (Troms).
  - Reported by Aftenposten, NRK and Adressa.

Specific Styles of Norwegian Reporting



Full reports (76)

- Traditional online news articles.
- Dedicated webpage, journalist named, typically a header image.
- Can be quite short if the newspaper doesn't have a 'kortmelding' section, e.g. Vårt Oslo.
- Where more investigative journalism is found, but frequently behind a paywall.



Live blog/'kortmelding' (241)

- Style used for the vast majority of reports, particularly by NRK.
- Quick to publish, typically as part of a rolling series of reports through the day.
- Journalist not named, often reports of police and fire logs.



Debate posts/'kronikker' (4)

- In this sample, specific recent cases are used as a jumping off point for discussing a wider issue.
- Can be written by anyone, most often not a journalist.
- Usually more emotive reporting is kept within this section, unlike in contexts like the UK (e.g. Caimotto, 2023).

Active vs. Passive Voice

- **Passive** voice overwhelmingly used…
  - Places emphasis on the victim rather than perpetrator (the person who ‘did’ the action which led to the collision).
  - Accompanied by non-agentive language in the ‘driverless vehicle’ trope. Often a driver is not mentioned and instead it is reported that ‘a car’ did the act…
    - In other cases, the other party is not mentioned at all, only the cyclist!



«A cyclist is run over» By who?





Cyclist hit by a driver who overtook too closely and hit a cyclist with their wing mirror… but the driver is not mentioned at all!

«The car that was involved…»



Object- vs. Human-based Language in Headlines

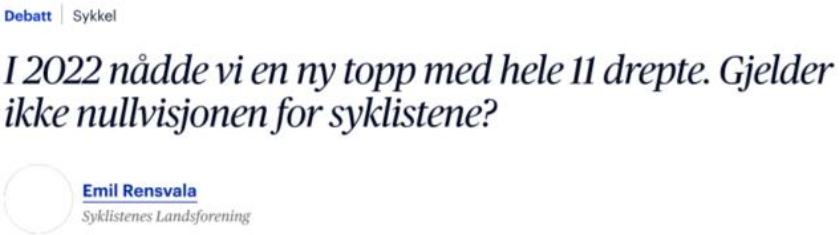
- Most common (as % of articles):
  - Syklist + [none]: 20% (64 cases)
  - Syklist + bil: 17% (56 cases)
  - [none] + [none]: 15.6% (50 cases)
  - Sykkel + bil: 8.4% (27 cases)
  - Syklist + bilist: 4% (13 cases)
    - «bilist» only mentioned as actor in 20 cases (6.2%), «(bil)fører/(bil)førar» in 7 (2.1%).
- Overwhelmingly **object-based language** when referring to **vehicle drivers**, while cyclists are discussed using human-based language (te Brömmelstroet, 2020).

Episodic vs. Thematic Reporting

- Reporting was **almost entirely** (96.9% of articles) **episodic** (consistent with earlier research e.g. from Ralph et al., 2019). Influenced by:
  - Kortmelding style of reporting as standard, especially by NRK
  - Police as the primary (and often only) source.







- Thematic reports only found in some (3.1%)
  - Calling on **additional sources**: researchers, NGOs (Trygg Trafikk, Syklistenes landsforening), politicians, civil servants.
  - Problematising **beyond individual behaviour**
  - **Citing research** and official statistics, making connections to previous events.
  - Largely written with a **call for change** as a goal.
  - **Avisa Oslo** produced the most **thematic reports, <u>but were entirely behind a paywall</u>**

Police as exclusive sources?

- Police reports are made after the event, **rarely are there follow-up reports** made in the news, the exception being for serious cases being followed by journalists.
- Police are largely not concerned with **systemic issues** which lead these events to occur e.g. street design, vehicle design, mobility cultures.
  - The police **individualise road crime**. Incidents are reported as episodic occurrances, not elements in a larger pattern.
- Reports that quote or cite police sources do so uncritically. **Is this journalism?**

Ifølge politiet skjedde ulykken da bilen svingte til venstre. Syklisten kom i kjørefeltet i motgående retning.

Operasjonsleder Viola Elvrum opplyser at det så langt ikke er gjort førerkortbeslag i saken.

– Politiet er kjent med at dette er et utfordrende kryss og syklisten hadde høy fart, sier hun.

- Description of event clearly shows the driver broke the yielding rule to turn across the bike path on the opposite side of the road.
- Police operation leader states «this is a challenging intersection» and the cyclist had «high speed».

Presentation of Child Victims

Typically, news reports of RTCs with child victims are presented both as a **tragedy**, but also something they (or their parent) are blamed for, as they are presented as **unpredictable in traffic** (Caplan et al., 2023).

- Presented as **unavoidable** tragedy:
  - Of all articles where the victim is reported as a child cyclist (n = 52), their **age/youth** is mentioned in the headline 53.8% (n = 28) of the time.
  - Systemic context not offered, invidualised blame. **Counterfactuals** used.
- Consistent with literature. Magusin (2019): more coverage/rhetorical attention to the «**ideal victim**»: «unusually old, young, or female».
  - Gender less clear. When stated (32.7% of articles), the cyclist victim was female 10.9% of the time, male 21.8%.
  - Helmets usually mentioned **when used** than not, ideal victim…

Conclusions

- Used a purposive sample of 321 online newspaper articles published by Norwegian news outlets to understand how **meta-characteristics of online journalism and article construction** connect with communication of cyclist-involved RTCs.
- Norwegian reporting varies greatly depending on **article format**:
  - Live-blog format is the preferred style, but limits elements that distinguish thematic reporting from episodic style, limiting potential to **inspire demand of transformative change**.
  - Full-length articles were more common for serious incidents, used more sources and had a more investigative, thematic focus, but also tended to be **paywalled**.
- Reporting by the state broadcaster NRK varies geographically:
  - Slips down in priority in Oslo, up in less-populated regions.

Limitations & Further Research

- Article doesn't evaluate exactly how news is actually **engaged with** online, specifically on social media where people are far more likely to just read the headline/ingress
  - Further research could bring in content analysis of **social media comments**, to understand more on how news is consumed and responded to. Role in **inflaming culture wars/'bikelash'**. Is this something journalists can mitigate?
- Article presents just the start of what could be done with geographic analysis of reporting, **more data** could be applied.
- Could be developed into **concrete guidelines** for Norwegian newspapers, similar to the RCRG but with attention to Norwegian language, reporting standards and styles.
  - Done in the UK (RCRG) but limited in scope.

