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**DECONSTRUCTING THE
OPPRESSIVE NARRATIVES**

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*Narrative is a logical, internally coherent report and interpretation of* ***connected events and characters****, that make sense to the reader/listener.*

The problem arises when all `small` stories tell the same `big` story and this is presented as the only narrative. When one narrative is presented as the only right or normal one, denying the alternatives or, in extreme cases, inciting violence against anyone who questions it – the problem begins.



**ANALYSE THE CONTENT, STRUCTURE AND TONE
OF THE OPPRESSIVE NARRATIVE**

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| **The Content***This refers to the main issues, debates or topics involved.*What are the issues at stake? What topics are mentioned? Which concepts seem to be central, repeated or debated about? |
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| **The Structure***This refers to how the narrative is organised in terms of 1. Initial situation, 2) a disruptive moment or conflict, and 3) a conclusion or end situation.*What is the underlying structure of the narrative? Was there an original situation that was disrupted by an event or conflict? What seems to be the conclusion or desired result after overcoming the conflict? |
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| **The tone***this refers to the manner or style in which an expression is made which may help indicate the aim of the narrative and its emotional dimensions.*• What type of language is used (for example, formal or informal)?• What is the tone used (for example, ironic, threatening, arrogant, violent, funny or abusive)? |
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**ANALYSE THE INTENT OF THE OPPRESSIVE NARRATIVE**

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| **Main Intention***What is the main intention of the narrative? What does it seek to do?* |
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| **Type***Does it encourage hateful behaviors towards the targeted group?* |
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| **Form***Is the oppressive narrative packaged in a form of stereotype, prejudice or racism?* |
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| **Possible reasons for the emergence/persistence of the oppressive narrative.***Why is the oppressive narrative produced? Why did it happen?* |
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**ANALYSE THE CONTEXT**

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| --- | --- |
| Social Context | Political context |
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| Economic Context | Cultural context |
|  |  |
| Geographical context | Media context |
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**ANALYSE THE TARGET(S)**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Individual | Group |
|  |  |



**ANALYSE THE MEDIA DISTRIBUTION**

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| **What types of mainstream media have covered the oppressive narrative?** (e.g. TV, newspaper, radio..) |
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| **What types of online media have covered the oppressive narrative?**(e.g. social media: Youtube, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, online portal/newspaper, online TV) |
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| **What levels has the distribution of oppressive narrative reached?**(e.g. local, national or international) |
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**ANALYSE THE GEOGRAPHICAL AND TEMPORAL DISTRIBUTION**

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| **Where does it come from?** *What is the hotspot of the oppressive narrative?* |
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| **When did it start?** |
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| What geographical areas the oppressive narrative is being distributed? |
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**VERIFY THE FACTS**

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| Check out what facts are used in the oppressive narrative, for example, historical, cultural, religious or (apparently) scientific. |
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| Verify where the facts are sourced from, for example, from governmental bodies, independent or scientific organisations or religious institutions. |
| **`** |
| Identify alternative facts from alternative sources. |
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**ANALISE THE IMPACT**

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| --- | --- |
| At the level of individuals or groups | At the national level |
|  |  |
| At the local level | At the international level |
|  |  |

 OPPRESSIVE NARRATIVE 1

“This is a question which makes one feel like joking, but I must avoid anything of that kind. I would propose anybody who makes public statements about this issue, do it carefully. This is a serious country. It is fundamentally based on traditional values. This is a tolerant country. Tolerance, however, does not mean that we should apply the same rules for people whose way of life is different from ours. We make a distinction between us and them. Tolerance means patience, tolerance means being able to co-exist, this is the foundation of this country’s Constitution which unmistakably differentiates between a conjugal relationship between a man and a woman and other forms of relationships. As I said earlier, we will preserve this. By the way, I am thankful to this country’s homosexual community. I thank them for not showing the offensive conduct as it has been the case in many European countries. Countries have to struggle with this and what happens in the end is that they achieve the opposite of what they want to accomplish. I truly think that here, despite the fact that the constitution clearly differentiates between marriage and other forms of relationships, the people with a style of life different from ours are safe. They receive respect. We respect their basic human dignity that they deserve. I believe that foreigners do not feel they are in a dangerous country. This is positive. This is the way we can live together. If we develop more rigorous rules or the community of homosexuals becomes more provocative, I believe the current peaceful, calm situation will not last. Who would benefit from this? We all gain if we can live together. I trust that as things are now, we can continue to live in peace.”

Victor Orbant

Prime Minister of Hungary,

Interview

 OPPRESSIVE NARRATIVE 2





SOS !!! Be careful and don’t leave your children without attendance!!! What was happening in Europe has started here as well. Yesterday illegal maniacs (Arabs) tried to rape a small kid in Varketili neighborhood of Tbilisi. Whole Varketili is now alarmed, police is mobilized! According to the information that we have, most of the illegals are suspected to be practicing pedophilia and other maniacal practices in their countries, they are not let in Europe and they come to Georgia. After this some traitor bastards will ask why we need “Georgian March”. 14th of July, 20:00 on Aghmashenebeli Avenue we will put an end to the rudeness this criminals!

Sandro Bregadze

Georgian Politician

Organiser of “Georgian March” - Nazi Rally

 Oppressive Narrative 3

"Of course women must earn less than men because they are weaker, they are smaller, they are less intelligent [than men]. They must earn less. That's all."

Janusz Korwin-Mikke, a right-wing Polish member of the European Parliament

Oppressive Narrative 4

"I don't even wait. And when you're a star, they let you do it, you can do anything ... grab them by the [pussy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pussy#Female_genitalia)".

On October 7, 2016, during the [2016 United States presidential election](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_United_States_presidential_election), [*The Washington Post*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Washington_Post) released a video and accompanying article about then presidential candidate [Donald Trump](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Donald_Trump) and television host [Billy Bush](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Billy_Bush) having "an extremely lewd conversation about women" in 2005. In the video, Trump indicated that he might start kissing a woman that he and Bush were about to meet during the filming of an episode of [*Access Hollywood*](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Access_Hollywood), a show owned by [NBCUniversal](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/NBCUniversal).

Oppressive Narrative 5

“Not to be sexist but, I can’t vote for the leader of the free world to be a woman. Just because, every other position that exists, I think a woman could do well. But the president? It’s kinda like, I just know that women make rash decisions emotionally – they make very permanent, cemented decisions – and then later, it’s kind of like it didn’t happen, or they didn’t mean for it to happen.

And I sure would hate to just set off a nuke. [Other leaders] will not be able to negotiate the right kinds of foreign policy; the world ain’t ready yet. I think you might be able to get the Lochness Monster elected before you could [get a woman].”

T.I.

Oppressive Narrative 6

“Girls don’t need to study so hard, I think they should concentrate on our country’s demographic problem”

Quote from the lecture speech;

Neurology Lecturer at the medical faculty in Tbilisi State Medical University
2015

Oppressive Narrative 7

*Undoubtedly, the majority of the Gypsy ethnicity lives far beyond any laws, rules or standards for common human behaviour. Laws do not apply to them. Taxes and charges are abstractions which they do not understand. Electricity and water bills as well as social and health insurances are replaced by the belief that they have only rights. They do not have any obligations or responsibilities. Robbery and thievery are the only ways they use in order to earn their livelihood. Violating the law is their standard behaviour. Childbirth is a profitable business at the expense of the state. According to them, the care for the offspring means to raise minors for begging and prostitution. They teach their children how to become thieves and how to sell drugs. The Gypsy barons are imposing a lifestyle which contradicts the legal standards of the Bulgarian society. Bulgaria is on the verge of an ethnic crisis. There are two irreconcilable societies in our anguishing country and they exclude each other. On one side we have the poor pensioners who pay their bills and hang themselves on improvised loops hooked up to the ceilings of their homes because they are ill and don't have money. On the other side we have aggressive thieves and rapists who are insanely drunk when they receive their monthly social benefits or the money that the state gives them to raise their children. The question is, what are the reasons that make part of the Gypsy ethnicity a force which is destroying our statehood and legislation? Why are the people who used to work and send their children to school and contribute to the creation of public goods during the socialism, just 25 years ago, now so arrogant, complacent and cruel humanoids? They are requiring to be paid without the obligation to work. They want health benefits even when they are not ill. They ask the state for money in order to raise their children and leave them to play with pigs in the streets. They want maternity benefits for women who have the instincts of street bitches. What created in our swarthy compatriots the belief that everything is allowed, that they are permitted to do whatever they want and everybody is obliged to feed them, dress them and treat them for free?"*

The leader of the ultranationalist party National Front for the Salvation of Bulgaria, Valeriy Simeonov

December 2014

Oppressive Narrative 8

'What the hell is going on with this country? Why is an official police site ... tweeting in Arabic? Did you mean to placate the barbaric, Muslim, gang-raping hordes of men?'

Beatrix Von Storch – AfD Deputy Leader – German Far-right Politician

January 2018

Oppressive Narrative 9

**Pegida female leader calls for refugees to be shot and the burqa to be banned**

[**http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/pegida-female-leader-calls-refugees-be-shot-burqa-be-banned-1544184**](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/pegida-female-leader-calls-refugees-be-shot-burqa-be-banned-1544184)

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*By*[*Tom Porter*](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/reporters/tom-porter)

*February 16, 2016 13:54 GMT*

The deputy leader of the European far-right Pegida movement called for refugees to be shot and for Europeans to "forget about decency" in fighting mass immigration.

"We don't have time for decency any more. If we don't grab our pitchforks and fight the Islamisation of Europe, we are lost", Tatjana Festerling[told MailOnline.](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3443786/Forget-decency-fight-sex-jihad-Femme-fatale-extremist-Pegida-group-accuses-Muslims-targeting-Western-women-gay-men-calls-public-grab-pitchforks.html) "The Muslim headscarf should be banned, and radical mosques should be closed. We need to make life uncomfortable for them.

"Migrants should be forced to register at police stations, and ultimately we need to look at deportation. If they keep crossing the border and you can't arrest them, shoot them."

Festerling then condoned physical violence of the type [seen in Cologne and other German cities](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/germany-far-right-violence-doubled-2015-according-govt-figures-1543301): "I can understand why a man becomes a hooligan. It's a rebellion against what I call 'nipple socialism', our feminised culture that promotes women and Muslims and wages war on white men. I like hooligans. Hooligans have my respect. They have protected Pegida rallies right from the beginning against the brutal leftists."

The comments echo those of anti-immigration AfD party leader Frauke Petry, who in January [attracted widespread criticism](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/germany-politician-says-border-police-should-shoot-migrants-last-resort-1541332) when she called for immigrants and refugees entering Germany illegally to be shot.

Pegida has attracted tens of thousands of supporters to its rallies in Dresden, east Germany, and has attempted to capitalise on growing concern about the refugee crisis and radical Islam by expanding to other countries in Europe.

Former [EDL leader Tommy Robinson](http://www.ibtimes.co.uk/pegida-uk-tommy-robinson-says-terrorist-epicentre-birmingham-will-be-location-far-right-march-1531890) led a rally by a new UK branch of the group in Birmingham on 6 February, which attracted only 200 supporters.

Oppressive Narrative 10

Case of Vejdeland and Others v. Sweden (ECtHR)

“Homosexual Propaganda (*Homosexpropaganda*)

In the course of a few decades society has swung from rejection of homosexuality and other sexual deviances (*avarter*) to embracing this deviant sexual proclivity (*böjelse*). Your anti-Swedish teachers know very well that homosexuality has a morally destructive effect on the substance of society (*folkkroppen*) and will willingly try to put it forward as something normal and good.

-- Tell them that HIV and AIDS appeared early with the homosexuals and that their promiscuous lifestyle was one of the main reasons for this modern-day plague gaining a foothold.

-- Tell them that homosexual lobby organisations are also trying to play down (*avdramatisera*) paedophilia, and ask if this sexual deviation (*sexuella avart*) should be legalised.”

Oppressive Narrative 11



Oppressive Narrative 12



Oppressive Narrative 13



Oppressive Narrative 14

Matteo Salvini, Secretary of far-right Italian Party “Lega Nord” and recently appointed Ministry of Interior, released a series of tweets, posts and interviews on immigrants, asylum seekers and generally minorities in Italy. On June 2018 he gave the following interview to a local tv:

<https://video.repubblica.it/politica/rom-salvini-faremo-un-censimento-quelli-italiani-purtroppo-ce-li-dobbiamo-tenere/308250/308881>

Translation of the interview:

 Interviewer: so what will you do on the “Roma issue”?

Salvini: first of all I have asked my staff to provide me a report on the question of Roma in Italy, because after the intervention of Maroni (a previous Ministry from Lega Nord) 5-6 years ago no one did anything. And we got back to the usual chaos. Today on the “Tempo” newspaper there are 13 local associations calling for my help, they ask me to go there because it’s a disaster. So I am asking to get a whole picture of the Roma situation across Italy. To know who they are, how, how many. I am not Batman, but we’ll figure out how to intervene, repeating what in the past was called  - and it sounded like to the end of the world to some – a census. So let’s call it differently then, registry office, we just want to get the big picture.. About expulsions: we are also working on the expulsions of all foreign prisoners detained in Italy but we need an agreement with the country that should get them back. (…) Unfortunately we will have to keep the Italian Roma because we can’t expel them.

Here an article from the Guardian with some background info on Salvini’s latest declarations: <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/jun/19/italy-coalition-rift-roma-register-matteo-salvini>