

A Critical Sociolinguistic Study of Amendment in The Newspapers Reports of Iraqi Personal Law

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Abstract

This study approaches amendments proposed on Iraqi personal law concerning women as they are portrayed in news reports (the Time and The Guardian) from a critical sociolinguistics. The work aims to shed light on the hidden ideologies in such reports via employing Mesthrie & Deumert(2000) concept of power ,the constituents of situational context ,and Van Leeuwen's(2008) social practices. The study comes out with the social variables as religion , age ,education ,and position in the chosen data . Certain ideologies in the reports are seen as domination , legitimization , suppression , dissimilation, and freedom. It also comes up with two kinds of power which are influential and instrumental ones. Various social constituents are also seen as euphemism, dysphemism, mystification, and hedging. In addition to various social practices as reactions, participants, intertextuality, eligibility conditions, and evaluation, and etc.

Keywords: social variables, constituents, practices, Iraqi law, ideology