Terrorism Issues in American News Channels
A Comparative Analysis Study

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Introduction:

There are a lot of political changes and transitions that are going on in many countries alongside many terrorist attacks that are launched in different areas, regardless of the security precautions adopted there. Therefore, terrorism news has become at the top of most news programs aired at news channels locally and globally.

Terrorism has become one of the most difficult challenges that faces the whole world, especially during the last year, when the world witnessed a big number of terrorist attacks in USA, Europe and many other. However, terrorism is unpredictable. Unfortunately, winds blow counter to what ships desire. It always goes beyond our expectations.

There is no doubt that terrorism has dangerous consequences on both political and economic levels. However, the idea of suspecting some people of perpetrating those terrorist attacks due to their religious trends or ethnicity remains the most dangerous thing ever. International media, especially after 9/11 attacks, intends to negatively deform Islam by associating it with terrorism. Indeed, this is a clear evidence of the outrageous harassment, discrimination and hostility against Muslims in America, Europe and some other areas around the world.

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Media's treatment of the 9/11 Incident showed how media can form people's perception towards the critical issues, as it was clear that what the American people knew about terrorism is different from the reality of the situation. It was also clear how Muslims have been treated in a bad, prejudicial, and unjust way due to what the media is saying against them, although the extremist perpetrators of those crimes do not represent the majority of the Muslims who strongly refuse this kind of violent actions due to the Islamic teachings. However, those extremists misunderstood some verses from the Holly Quran and misused them to justify their outrageous acts in the name of Islam.

It is an undeniable fact that media has a significant and powerful role in affecting people's choices. Moreover, media has a higher impact on those who do not have time to follow up different information sources and their credibility, or have the ability to compare and analyze. They cannot keep themselves away from media polarization, sponsored by bias and unfair entities which have a hidden agenda.

Indisputably, the American media, especially when considering the highly popular channels in America and internationally, has affected and has gotten affected by the decision-making circles in the USA. Thus, as Arab researchers, we can see how the US decision makers, as well as the American people, regard the issues and the problems in the Arab and Islamic world. Actually, this is crucial since the USA is highly influential in most regional and global political scenes, and the common denominator in the majority of international issues.

ISIS, or "*Daesh,*" has appeared side by side with these ongoing circumstances to portray the worst image ever of Islam as an extremist terrorist religion. Chanting "Allahu Akbar", they use the label of Islam and God as a cover for their terrorist operations and killings. Muslims around the world know very well that this ugly group has nothing to do with Islam. On the contrary, the major problem is with those who do not have any idea about Islam and tend to gain their knowledge by chance from the media. Consequently, the majority of the news presents stories of suicidal operations committed, in the name of Islam, by misguided young Muslims who do not have enough knowledge about their religion. Meanwhile, all the Islamic teachings call for mercy for all humans regardless of race or religion, which is actually the crux of all religions.

Many young people with very troubled backgrounds were involved in the recent terror attacks in France, America and other countries. At the same time, they were struggling to define their Muslim identity with a very basic understanding of their faith. Events in their life may have given their self-esteem a knock and there was a strong urge to lash out. Domestic abuse, violent behavior and language are often noted among radicals[1].

CNN & Fox News:

According to the latest statistics, CNN has been considered the most- watched news channel over the last 8 years, since the TV Newser has said that the 3rd quarter of 2016 represents CNN's most-watched quarter in 8 years. The network finished the quarter as the No. 2 cable news network in the important A25-

54 demo, and as the No. 3 cable news network in total prime time viewers[2].

CNN also is one of the most trusted and well known news channels as it turns out by the Pew Research Center which has revealed that CNN comes at the top of a number of famous news channels in U.S such as ABC, CBS and NBC[3].

Likewise, both CNN and Fox news are major news channels and Fox news year-over-year improvement was given a boost by 2016 campaign which, in the last three months, included the Republican and Democratic National Conventions[4].

While considering ranking and viewership, we should pay attention to the frameworks the channels use in their news coverage especially when the Pew Research Center finds in a study that Americans watch Fox News Channel in more ideological terms than other television news networks. Although the public is evenly divided in its view of hosts of cable news shows who adopt strong political opinions, most of Fox News viewers see this as a blessing rather than a curse. Nearly half of Americans (47%) say they think of Fox News as "mostly conservative," 14% say it is "mostly liberal," and 24% say it has "no orientation in particular."[5]

Based on the aforementioned information, It is obvious that media has the ability to frame a sociopolitical issue in specific ways, which may have a considerable impact on the public's thoughts and perceptions regarding the issue.[6]

Problem Statement:

This study attempts to address the media portrayal and examine how it contextualizes some issues based on particular

agenda and private interests. It also tackles the channels policies through examining similarities and difference between both CNN & Fox News concerning their discourse strategies and production framework. In addition, the study aims at investigating how far each channel employs specific frames in the news coverage of terrorism issues locally and globally. Besides, it attempts to understand the relation between each channel and the nature of its coverage framework of certain issue according to the type of the channel and the established media strategies and professional standards.

Significance and Justification:

This study draws its justification from three following correlated perspectives:

1- Terror has become a global phenomenon and of the most important challenges we face nowadays. The combination of the Arab countries political changes and appearance of the fanatic religious groups is the mean reason of entering this worst period which is witnessing proximately hundreds of murders every day in various places no matter where. Hence, terrorism needs to be addressed from the media perspective.

2- These news channels have been chosen to be studied because of their fame and importance in U.S. and all over the world, moreover, the high rate of viewership in U.S. according to the number of statistics was declared by the research centers as mentioned at the beginning of the research. Furthermore, each channel adopts different perspective based on its political affiliation. For specific reasons, most of CNN news treatment

represents, in a way or another, the view of the Democratic Party, while Fox News treatment represents the view of the conservatives. This is supposed to give different findings and provide various results regarding the news coverage.

3- Timing Perspective: During the time frame of this study, there are too many terror incidents have taken place inside and outside U.S. more than ever. Over the last year and specially the timing of the current study, it is very difficult to find news coverage that does not directly or indirectly address terrorism and its outrageous consequences.

Review of Relevant Literature:

The general orientation in the studies that dealt with the methods of media framing on Islam and linking it to terrorism and violence proves that media is highly influencing the public. This is consistent with what was stated in the study of Sofia Hayati Yusof & Others (2013)[7]which revealed that the coverage of some specific international media showed that there were still some negative labeling made towards Islam in association with terrorism. This is clearly shown in the findings where most of the coverage on issues related to Islam revolved around 'war' and 'terrorism'. Most of the reported news has come from the Middle East countries, where Islam and Muslims are very dominant. (>>>>>>>>>>>>>>)

These findings were not too far from the study of Kumar (2008)[8] which found five negative discursive frames that have been employed to represent Muslims, Arabs and the Middle East post September 11. Such frames were revolved around the idea that Islam is a monolithic religion, inherently violent and spawning

terrorism. Considering the study of Shehata (2007)[9], it also investigated Swedish and American elite news coverage of cartoons that were portraying Prophet Muhammad. The study results indicated that the frame of intolerance was dominant in media coverage, and the official voices were frequently cited.

However, studies have confirmed that news coverage frameworks were not all in one form. Instead, they differed in terms of the policy and ownership of each channel. According to Xu Zhang (2016)[10], CNN has mainly adopted geopolitics frame focusing on the strategies of dealing with ISIS, while Al Jazeera English has used the dominant framework of existential threat .

There is no doubt that this kind of studies has become more urgent after the successive political developments in the Islamic and Arab countries. Hence, some studies with an interest in the image of Islamic currents have emerged in the American channels following the Arab revolutions. According to Glover, K. (2013)[11] , both CNN and Fox News has displayed a bias in portraying Muslim Brotherhood . However, Fox News reports have shown a higher frequency of exaggerated extremism, while CNN reporting has provided slightly more moderate comments and discussion through the opponents of the Islamic democracy.

Media becomes even more serious and important especially in the light of major incidents as terrorist attacks. Hence, following the professional standards and making balance in the news treatment are urgently needed. There are some studies that have discussed professional standards in U.S. media coverage of terrorism issues, including Wibishet, F. (2016)[12] which revealed that AJE and CNN stood on two extreme media poles even on the

issue of ISIS. It also indicated that both AJE and CNN have used 14 frames in their news about ISIS, which were further categorized into six umbrella frames: war, killing, outline, victim, intervention and protagonist frames.

Theoretical Framework:

This study is based on the description of the research problem in the light of the framing theory. Throughout the years, media have become trustworthy source of information for individuals around the world. It is the primary source for the public searches for information about events happening around the world. Thus, it is important to understand the different ways that media uses to frame prominent news information. The framing theory explains the media's influence on society[13].

According to *Entman* (1993), framing involves selection, and salience of the frame is to select some aspects of perceived reality and make them more salient in a communicating text, in such a way as to promote a definition of particular problem, causal explanation, moral evaluation, or treatment recommendation for the item described" (p. 52). Framing could have significant connotations, as frames highlight some aspects of reality while excluding other elements leading individuals to interpret issues differently[14].

Some researchers have taken a very narrow approach to framing and have experimentally manipulated the description of decision situations while holding the content of the message absolutely constant (*Kahneman & Tversky*, 1979, 1984)[15]. This, of course, gets at the very essence of what framing is and maximizes the internal validity of a study because it restricts framing very

narrowly to an effect of presentation and modality. As a result, it may also limit the external validity of the concept since the effects of messages in the real world are likely an outcome of both content and framing (*Scheufele*, 2000)[16].

According to this, it is highly important to highlight the vital role and the impact of mass media in this regard; it raises significant questions about how fare news coverage can meet journalistic standards of balance, truth and objectivity in case of extreme political conflict[17].

This research is concerned about the way of the news coverage more than the coverage itself, which side media is going to be with? Do media justify the terrorist operations and suicidal incidents or instead will be on the side of the community against this terrorism? What is the description used by the communicator and correspondent during the coverage? Do they tend to make a connection between Islam and terrorism as they did after September11 according to Kumar (2008)[18], in his content analysis study of western media found five negative discursive frames that have been employed to represent Muslims, Arabs and the Middle East post September 11. These frames were:

1) Islam is a monolithic religion.

2) Islam is a uniquely sexist religion.

3) The "Muslim mind" is incapable of rationality and science.

4) Islam is inherently violent.

5) The West spreads democracy, Islam spawns terrorism.

There for, the importance of this study comes from focusing on the media strategy in portraying the correlation between what happens and specific religion instead of paying the required effort of seeking the truth and objectivity.

Study Objectives:

The study aims at addressing and examining the research problem through some objectives as below:

- Identifying how far both channels pay attention to certain issues regarding terrorism and describing the differences between them.

- Employing the framing theory by studying the type of frames used by the selected channels while covering the news of terrorism issues.

- Trying to explain the differences and similarities between both channels based on their different coverage and explaining why specific frames were selected.

Research Questions:

In the view of the previous literature and through the clear understanding of the current research problem dimensions, the following questions are highlighted as follows:

Q1: What is the form and the nature of each channel coverage?

Q2: What are the types of terrorism issues that have been highlighted more in each channel?

Q3: What are the frameworks used in each channel?

Q4: What is the strategy of building the content in each channel?

Q5: What are the professional media standards and practices adopted in each channel regarding the coverage of the terrorism issues?

Research Hypotheses:

H1: There are significant differences in CNN& Fox News in the media framing used for the news coverage of terrorism.

H2: There are significant differences between CNN& Fox News channels in the professional media practices adopted in each channel for the news coverage of terrorism.

Methodology:

This study is a descriptive analysis that aims at describing and analyzing the representation of news in the American channels (CNN& Fox News) during the prime time of each channel. It mainly focuses on the news contents which treat the terrorism issues during the time frame of the study.

Content Analysis:

This study depends on the content analysis tool which is applied in a comparative way to determine the similarities and differences in the news coverage of both channels treatment regarding terrorism issues within the time frame of the current study. The study is conducted within three months during 2016, from the first of Jun until the end of August.

Sampling:

This research conducts a content analysis on the news coverage during the prime time (from 7-9 pm, Local Time) in CNN & Fox News within three months during 2016, from the first of Jun

until the end of August to find the differences and similarities of the frames employed in the news coverage of each channel, and the indications of the different framing strategies as well as the causes.

Data Gathering Tool: (Validity):

The researcher used the content analysis tool for data collection which was prepared after going through Peer review process by a specialist professors[19], moreover, the validity and credibility procedures have been done as well to make sure that the tool is valid and able to examine the problem and collect the data properly and accurately.

Inter-coder Reliability Test:

The researcher used the Krippendorff's alpha equation, 2M/N1+N2, to conduct the reliability test on the examined categories. The result of the equation was 95.3%, which is acceptable percentage to validate the categories of analysis according to (Krippendorff, 2011)[20].

Findings and Discussions:

- **Form of Coverage and Issues Addressed in Each Channel:**

Table (1) the number of segments dealing with terrorism issues in the two channels

Channel	N	%
CNN	58	52.7
Fox News	52	47.3
Total	110	100.0

The above table showed the increase in the number of news treatment for terrorism issues in the two channels under study. The number of news coverage for terrorism cases reached 110, with a

relatively slight difference between the two channels. Actually, this indicates the two channels interest in these issues during the period of the study. This also may be linked to the nature of the stage in which the analysis was conducted and the terrorist operations that took place inside and outside America, most notably the "Orlando " attack on June 13, 2016, which left 49 killed and 53 injured.

Table (2) the type of issues addressed by the two channels

ISUUE	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Attack Police	7	12.1%	1	1.9%	8	7.3%
Attack civilians	21	36.2%	25	48.1%	46	41.8%
Refugees and Terrorism	6	10.3%	5	9.6%	11	10.0%
Illegal immigration and terrorism	3	5.2%	0	.0%	3	2.7%
ISIS	18	31.0%	15	28.8%	33	30.0%
Gun law in USA	3	5.2%	6	11.5%	9	8.2%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 8.911   df=5   sig=0.113

Terrorism issues that have been the focus of the two studied channels have varied. Both channels have given a priority to "Attacking civilians" by a difference of 11.9% for Fox News, followed by the issue of "ISIS " by 2.2% in favor of CNN, while "Attacking police" came in the third ranking on CNN occupying the same position of "Gun law in America" in Fox News. The prominence of those issues in the two channels sounds logical for their priority in the political discourse on the one hand, as well as their association with the security and safety of states and individuals. The importance of such coverage was surely derived

from the nature of the terrorist events that occurred during the analysis period.

Table (3) the geographical location of the issue addressed by the segment in the two channels

LOCATION	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Inside America	28	48.3%	20	38.5%	48	43.6%
Europe	12	20.7%	17	32.7%	29	26.4%
Middle East	9	15.5%	11	21.2%	20	18.2%
Others	9	15.5%	4	7.7%	13	11.8%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 4.003   df=3   sig=0.261

The news coverage in both channels focused on terrorism issues within the United States of America, followed by issues related to the European countries. It was also noticeable that the order of interest to cover specific geographical areas was not different, although there was a difference in proportions. According to the data in the previous table, Percentages came out in favor of CNN regarding the coverage of terrorism cases in America, while Fox News has progressed in covering those issues in Europe.

Fox News has been interested in tackling terrorism issues in the Middle East more than CNN, perhaps due to the global importance of those countries and also the alliances into which some of them have entered with America against terrorism.

Furthermore, the audience of Fox News channel depended more on watching in the aim of knowing all news, while CNN's audience tended more to diversify into information sources. This can be explained under the study of Mitchell, Gottfried, Kiley & Matsa (2014)[21] , the researchers at PEW Institute, which was conducted on the American audience, and confirmed that most conservatives were receiving news from Fox News, while Democrats were receiving news from CNN and MSNBC.

CNN has also been more concerned with the coverage of terrorism issues in other parts of the world, such as incidents in Bangladesh, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait and elsewhere. This may reflect the external concerns of the United States and the interests and roles it plays in various regions of the world. However, this was criticized by The Republican Party, where the tendency was to be internally interested only and to uphold the direct interest of America.

Table (4) the form of coverage used in both channels

FORM OF COVERAGE	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
News	29	50.0%	25	48.1%	54	49.1%
Report	7	12.1%	4	7.7%	11	10.0%
Studio analysis	20	34.5%	14	26.9%	34	30.9%
Outside-studio intervention	2	3.4%	9	17.3%	11	10.0%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 13.436   df=4   sig=0.009

Contingency Coefficient=0.330

According to the data in the previous table, the news template was ranked first in the coverage of terrorism issues in both channels by a ratio of 49.1%, followed by the analysis template and commentary on the news from the studio by 30.9% through hosting an analyst Specialist in the subject matter of the debate. The difference in the proportions in both templates was in favor of CNN, while Fox News has progressed in relying on outside-studio interventions to discuss an issue or to comment on the news, while CNN relied on correspondents' reports.

Table (5) the duration of the segment in each channel

DURATION	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Less than 5 minutes	31	53.4%	37	71.2%	68	61.8%
5-10 minutes	18	31.0%	15	28.8%	33	30.0%
More than 10 minutes	9	15.5%	0	.0%	9	8.2%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 9.503   df=2   sig=0.009   Contingency Coefficient=0.282

Most of the news coverage of terrorism issues did not exceed five minutes in both channels, with a ratio of 61.8% compared to the duration of the remaining segments. Meanwhile, the coverage which ranged from 5-10 minutes came in second place. The analysis showed that Fox News has devoted a longer period of time than CNN for the segment dealing with terrorism issues, It may return to linking between terrorism issues and Islam and Muslims in Fox News. Such issues have taken longer time, according to Ghilan (2015)[22] study; where he indicated that the news helping in

the publication of "Islamophobia" in the American media, have taken a longer period of time compared to other topics.

This, most likely, returned to the nature of the treatment adopted by Fox News for terrorism issues in terms of making emphasis on their connection to other issues as causes or consequences, such as migration, refugees and others, as confirmed by the results of the study with regard to the actors and frameworks used in the two channels.

Table (6) the order of the segment in the news coverage

ORDER	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
At the beginning	34	58.6%	34	65.4%	68	61.8%
In the middle	15	25.9%	9	17.3%	24	21.8%
At the end	9	15.5%	9	17.3%	18	16.4%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 1.176   df=2   sig=0.55

The findings of the analysis concluded that both channels have prioritized the coverage of terrorism issues as they topped the beginnings of the news on prime time. This reflected the importance of those issues to the two channels and the viewer. Being related to the security and stability of states, 68.8% of terrorism news topped the coverage in both channels, while the ratio of 21.8% came in the middle of the coverage, then 16.4% came at the end, having the same order in both channels.

- **Media Frameworks Used in Each Channel:**

Table (7) media frameworks used in the two channels in addressing terrorism issues

FRAMEWORK		Channel		Total	Chi-Square	df	sig	Phi
		CNN	Fox News					
Responsibility	N	41	24	65	6.828	1	.009	.249
	%	70.7%	46.2%	59.1%				
Offering solutions	N	17	28	45	6.828	1	.009	.249
	%	29.3%	53.8%	40.9%				
Conflict	N	15	20	35	2.006	1	.157	
	%	25.9%	38.5%	31.8%				
Humanitarian interests	N	35	22	57	3.573	1	.050	.180
	%	60.3%	42.3%	51.8%				
Economic Consequences	N	17	5	22	6.647	1	.010	.246
	%	29.3%	9.6%	20.0%				
Islamophopia	N	0	35	35	57.256	1	.000	.721
	%	.0%	67.3%	31.8%				
Human Rights	N	9	5	14	.860	1	.354	
	%	15.5%	9.6%	12.7%				
Total	N	58	52	110				

The frameworks for addressing terrorism issues have varied in the two channels under study. Although they agreed to use "responsibility" framework at the front of all frameworks with a total ratio of 59.1%, there was a clear difference in framing the treatment in each channel according to the following:

The "humanitarian interests" framework and the repercussions of terrorist operations and their effects on people were at the forefront of CNN'S frameworks with a ratio of 60.3%, followed by

a framework of "economic consequences", since terrorism directly affects the economy of the state.

On the other hand, "Islamophobia" came at the forefront of all frameworks that addressed terrorism issues on Fox News, followed by the framework of "offering solutions" through extensive discussions to change immigration and asylum laws and others.

Example 1: In Jun 15 episode, in which CNN provided coverage titled" A history of attacks on gay nightclubs",[23] the perpetrators of the assault were introduced as they had a problem in their perception of homosexuals. The episode was dominated by sympathy for the victims and their relatives and did not relate the assaults to their Islamic origins.

On the contrary, the news treatment of Fox News on the same day and date, which came under the title: "Orlando shooter posted to social media during massacre" linked between the perpetrator of the attack and Islamic extremism. Moreover, the channel hosted the author of the book "Islamic Extremism "who was a former soldier with ISIS to confirm the fear of Islam concept "Islamophopia" [٢٤]

Example 2: In the news coverage of Jun 12 titled:"Terror In Orlando"[٢٥] , Fox News Channel criticized the speech of President Obama, in which he addressed the issue of "Orlando " in relation to the seriousness of the possession of weapons, and hadn't referred to the relationship with Islamic terrorism.

Table (8) the visual framing used in the two channels in tackling terrorism issues

VISUAL FRAMING		Channel		Total	Chi-Square	df	Sig	Phi
		CNN	Fox News					
Camera movement	N	18	4	22	9.337	1	.002	.291
	%	31.0%	7.7%	20.0%				
Related Video	N	17	34	51	14.348	1	.000	.361
	%	29.3%	65.4%	46.4%				
Repetition	N	18	32	50	10.290	1	.001	.306
	%	31.0%	61.5%	45.5%				
Iconic pic	N	24	19	43	.270	1	.603	
	%	41.4%	36.5%	39.1%				
Facial expression	N	32	34	66	1.191	1	.275	
	%	55.2%	65.4%	60.0%				
Total	N	58	52	110				

Table data indicated that visual framing in the treatment of the two channels is represented in the "facial expressions" which topped the visual frameworks used. This appeared most likely in the coverage of Fox News for terrorism issues by a ratio of 65. 4. The anchors and their guests deliberately used gestures and expressions that have specific indications whether negative or positive, that added unspoken connotations to the presented visual content.

In the coverage of "The O'Reilly Factor" program, the presenter used his hands remarkably to emphasize his expressions, in addition to gestures to approve what the presidential candidate Trump said in his intervention to comment on the terrorist incident in Nice, France.[26]

The table showed the differences between the two channels with regard to the use of an "iconographic picture" in relation to a particular terrorism issue as an indicative and expressive of that issue in order to draw the attention of the viewer. CNN adopted this visual framing at the second place, at a rate of 41.4%.

The Fox News Channel relied more on the display of "related videos" of the issue being addressed. The channel focused more on this visual framing by 65.4%. For example: the news coverage on Jun 13 titled: "Trump renews push for Muslim ban following Orlando shooting".[27]

- **Strategy for Building Content in Each Channel:**

Table (9) the actors engaged in the issues in both channels

ACTORS		Channel		Total	Chi-Square	df	Sig	Phi
		CNN	Fox News					
Terrorist Groups	N	35	38	73	1.991	1	.158	
	%	60.3%	73.1%	66.4%				
Police	N	25	23	48	.014	1	.905	
	%	43.1%	44.2%	43.6%				
Army	N	6	5	11	.016	1	.899	
	%	10.3%	9.6%	10.0%				
Media	N	14	28	42	10.252	1	.001	.305
	%	24.1%	53.8%	38.2%				
Refugees	N	11	19	30	4.269	1	.039	.197
	%	19.0%	36.5%	27.3%				
Immigrants	N	14	29	43	11.522	1	.001	.324
	%	24.1%	55.8%	39.1%				
Misled	N	19	9	28	3.450	1	.063	
	%	32.8%	17.3%	25.5%				
HR Org.	N	7	9	16	.605	1	.437	
	%	12.1%	17.3%	14.5%				
Governments	N	21	24	45	1.122	1	.289	
	%	36.2%	46.2%	40.9%				
Total	N	58	52	110				

"Terrorist groups" topped the list of actors engaged in terrorism cases that were covered by the two studied channels by a ratio of 66.4%. "Police" came in the second place as a common denominator in the cases of terrorism in terms of security, investigation and counter-terrorist operations by a ratio of 43. 6%. Then, the "Governments of States" followed, "immigrants" and "refugees" respectively.

The results in the table showed that there was a difference in the order of the actors between the two channels. Although they have agreed that "terrorist groups" were the main actors in terrorist incidents, but there were still some differences as described in the following: the findings of Fox News analysis dealt with the "Immigrants" file as an influential actor in terrorism cases with a ratio of 55.8%, followed by the "media" in the third place. CNN treatment contrarily focused on showing "police" and "governments" as powerful actors in the incidents of terrorism with a ratio of 43.2%, respectively.

This result was relatively consistent with the study of Xu Zhang (2016)[28], which stressed that government and official sources were the most prominent factors in U.S. media coverage of terrorism due to the reliability of the presented content, especially CNN.

Table (10) pathways of demonstration in the two channels

DEMONSTRATION PATHWAYS		Channel		Total	Chi-Square	Df	Sig	Phi
		CNN	Fox News					
Data & Statistics	N	27	18	45	1.616	1	.204	
	%	46.6%	34.6%	40.9%				
Historical incidents	N	19	24	43	2.066	1	.151	
	%	32.8%	46.2%	39.1%				
Remarks	N	35	29	64	.236	1	.627	
	%	60.3%	55.8%	58.2%				
Documents	N	7	0	7	6.702	1	.010	.247
	%	12.1%	.0%	6.4%				
Experts	N	5	24	29	19.896	1	.000	.425
	%	8.6%	46.2%	26.4%				
Records	N	14	9	23	.773	1	.379	
	%	24.1%	17.3%	20.9%				
Leaks	N	11	0	11	10.958	1	.001	.316
	%	19.0%	.0%	10.0%				
Total	**N**	58	52	110				

The "remarks" came at the forefront of the demonstration pathways adopted by the two channels in dealing with terrorism issues, at a rate of 58.2%. This was reasonable especially if that period has been characterized by numerous remarks about terrorism, whether by the presidential candidates during election campaigns or the leaders of terrorist organizations, or others. Remarks were considered among the strongest evidences that the channel can rely on in the news coverage. Both channels were not different in relying on remarks, and then data and statistics as the first pathways of demonstration.

Following the terrorist attacks in America, the news coverage of Fox News supported presidential candidate Trump's remark

about his intention to prevent Muslims from entering the United States. The channel also linked between banning Muslims from entry and the security and safety of the American citizens[29].

- **Professional Practices and Standards[30] Used During the Coverage of Terrorism Cases in both channels:**

Table (11) Linguistic choices in the treatment of the two channels for terrorism cases

Linguistic choices	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	26	44.8%	13	25.0%	39	35.5%
Medium	7	12.1%	11	21.2%	18	16.4%
High	25	43.1%	28	53.8%	53	48.2%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 5.080   df=2   sig=0.079

The formulation of the spoken content has clearly included specific words and phrases in dealing with terrorism issues in both channels at very high rates. Perhaps it was more obvious in Fox News Channel. It used words such as "Islamic State" instead of ISIS, and used "Islamic terrorism" to link terrorist operations to religion in accordance with the framework of Islamophobia, as illustrated in table 7. The channel also used over-exaggerated words as "World war" to describe the conflict with terrorism.

For example, Fox News Channel used the term "jihad'" to demonstrate that terrorism is an essential part of Islamic law. This is what happened sometimes through the anchor himself, and sometimes through analysts and experts hosted by the channel to

comment on the events, as in the coverage of Jun 13 titled: At least 73 killed, more than 100 injured in Nice, France.[31]

Table (12) the extent of attacking the other party in the treatment of the two channels for terrorism issues

Attack others	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	35	60.3%	7	13.5%	42	38.2%
Medium	17	29.3%	9	17.3%	26	23.6%
High	6	10.3%	36	69.2%	42	38.2%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 42.356   df=2   sig=0.000   Contingency Coefficient=0.527

The table data reflected a significant difference between the two channels in the dependency rate of "Attacking the other party" while dealing with terrorism cases. Such practice has infrequently appeared on CNN, a standard that reflected the relative commitment to the generally accepted rules of media professionalism. On the contrary, Fox News has frequently adopted the strategy of attacking and undermining others, whether by accusation or non-objective description.

For example, Fox News accused the Islamic sharia of not complying with western civilization, and that all Muslims who believe in sharia should be deported, as stated by its guest, Newt Gingrich, who worked as a former speaker of the House.[32]

On Jun 17, Fox News carried out a special coverage to blame the responsible for terrorism, accusing Obama of being responsible for not dealing seriously with Islamic terrorism.

Table (13) the extent of "focusing on propaganda" in the treatment

Propaganda	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	41	70.7%	3	5.8%	44	40.0%
Medium	14	24.1%	11	21.2%	25	22.7%
High	3	5.2%	38	73.1%	41	37.3%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 62.916   df=2   sig=0.000

Contingency Coefficient=0.603

The results of the analysis showed a general decline in the use of propaganda against or with a person or idea during the treatment of terrorism cases. The highest ratios came in favor of the minimum rate of propaganda by 40%. Comparing the two channels, the propaganda tendencies have characterized the treatment of Fox with a ratio of 73.1%, a huge and unprecedented percentage of the U.S. news media. As a result, it created a state of polarization and lack of objectivity. The analysis indicated that the channel has presented trump, the presidential candidate, as a powerful man who will put an end to the problem of terrorism and will also put a stop to the excessive tolerance in Obama's policy of which Hillary will be a continuation if she succeeds.

For example, Fox News hasn't only supported Trump in the presidential race against his Democratic rival Hillary Clinton, but also made room for his view and commentary on the events through various interventions. The channel introduced Trump as the president who is able to deal decisively with Islamic terrorism

through the coverage of "The O'Reilly Factor" for the events of Nice, France. "I am wondering why Obama does not use the term radical Islam?[33], said Trump in referring to the laxity of Obama and the Democratic Party in dealing with the threat of terrorism.

Table (14) the extent of "the coverage balance" in addressing terrorism issues in both channels.

Coverage balance	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	20	34.5%	28	53.8%	48	43.6%
Medium	14	24.1%	6	11.5%	20	18.2%
High	24	41.4%	18	34.6%	42	38.2%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 5.078   df=2   sig=0.079

According to the table data, there were differences between the two channels in the coverage balance in dealing with the terrorism issues. The keen interest in creating a relative balance in presenting views came by a ratio of 41.4%, for the high rate in balance, on CNN. Meanwhile, the balance was much less in Fox News, where the phrases and guests, invited to comment on the news, were selected to provide a similar view consistent with the channel's view and agenda.

The researcher noted that the imbalance in handling terrorism cases and linking them to Islam has created many misconceptions among the American people about Islam, especially among those who rely heavily on one source to form their opinions on an issue, as confirmed by the study of Mitchell, Gottfried, Kiley & Matsa (2014)[34].

Table (15) the extent of satisfying" the viewer's need for knowledge" in tackling terrorism issues in the two channels.

Information	Channel				Total	
	CNN		Fox News			
	N	%	N	%	N	%
Low	8	13.8%	28	53.8%	36	32.7%
Medium	20	34.5%	5	9.6%	25	22.7%
High	30	51.7%	19	36.5%	49	44.5%
Total	58	100.0%	52	100.0%	110	100.0%

Chi-Square= 22.320   df=2   sig=0.000   Contingency Coefficient=0.450

The analysis data showed that there were clear differences between the two channels in their interest in meeting the knowledge needs of the public, providing information free of views and framing in its different ways. CNN tried to keep the prime function of media which is providing news and information to the public. Although there were several biases noted, but the channel eventually achieved a higher degree of professionalism on this side. As for Fox News Channel, this function dropped down at the expense of focusing on other aspects such as propaganda, attacking others and directing voters, as reflected in tables (12) and (13).

- **Hypothesis Test Results:**

H 1: There were significant differences in CNN& Fox News in the frameworks used for the news coverage of terrorism.

According to Table (7), the hypothesis was partially correct in the two channels regarding the media frameworks used to cover

terrorism issues. Some differences were in favor of Fox News Channel with regard to the use of "conflict", "Islamophobia", and "solution-offering" frameworks. Meanwhile, the differences with regard to the use of "responsibility", "humanitarian interests" and "economic consequences" frameworks were in favor of CNN channel. Furthermore, the hypothesis of using the "conflict" and "human rights" frameworks was incorrect.

H2: There were significant differences between CNN& Fox News channels in practicing media professionalism in the news coverage of terrorism.

Table (16) differences between the two studied channels and the extent of compliance with professional standards.

Media Professionalism	Channel	N	Mean	Std. Deviation	T	Df	Sig
Language choices	CNN	58	1.9828	.94575	1.777	108	.078
	Fox News	52	2.2885	.84799			
Highlight specific aspects	CNN	58	2.1379	.94495	1.879	108	.063
	Fox News	52	2.4615	.85087			
Attack others	CNN	58	1.5000	.68184	7.882	108	.000
	Fox News	52	2.5577	.72527			
Propaganda	CNN	58	1.3448	.57892	11.956	108	.000
	Fox News	52	2.6731	.58481			
Coverage balance	CNN	58	2.0690	.87584	1.517	108	.132
	Fox News	52	1.8077	.92965			
Information	CNN	58	2.3793	.72129	3.469	108	.001
	Fox News	52	1.8269	.94394			

According to the data of the previous table, there were statistically significant differences between Fox News and CNN regarding their commitment to the professional practices and

standards. The differences in relation to the negative practices came in favor of Fox News such as "attacking other party" and the "predominance of propaganda". On the contrary, CNN has progressed in "meeting the needs of the viewers".

No statistically significant differences have been established with regard to "linguistic choices in coverage" and "focusing on specific aspects". Hence, the hypnosis is partly true.

The findings were explained in details in the commentary on the tables from table (11) to table (15).

Discussion & Conclusion:

Reviewing the most significant results of the study, it is clear that there were differences in the coverage of both CNN and Fox News due to the obvious difference in the policy and agenda of each channel. There was a convergence between them with regard to the form of coverage and focus on terrorism issues of concern, in terms of the order of the segment in the news coverage or the duration of the treatment, but the differences were evident in the essence of the treatment in terms of quality.

The "Islamophobia" framework emerged in the coverage of Fox News for terrorism issues, the channel that represents the Republican Party, the majority party in America. The channel deliberately presented the Islamic Sharia as the first enemy of the Western civilization, and that the solution to terrorism was to prevent the entry of Muslims into America and amend the immigration and asylum laws to limit the flow of people from selected countries that export terrorism. Despite the difference concerning the time of the study and the political circumstances,

the results of the study agreed with Kumar (2008)[35] in his content analysis study of Western media where he found negative discursive frames that have been employed to represent Muslims, Arabs and the Middle East, post September 11. Such frames introduced Islam as a monolithic religion, inherently violent and spawning terrorism.

CNN tried to stay away from embracing the "Islamophobia" framework in tackling terrorism issues. Instead, the channel focused on highlighting terrorism as a humanitarian crime that threatens community peace, and that it was unrelated to a specific religion. President Obama expressed the same view in his speech more than once in response to terrorism crimes. He avoided attacking Islam and linking it to extremism, which was criticized by Fox News more than once, as illustrated by the examples in the commentary on the tables of analysis.

There has been a clear difference between the two channels in using professional practices while covering terrorism cases. Although each channel has demonstrated some degree of bias to its point of view, CNN has appeared relatively more professional compared to Fox News. Dominated by propaganda, Fox News appeared as part of Trump's campaign, exploiting the terrorist events that took place in conveying a message to the public that the change in policy is urgent, especially in dealing with the causes of Islamic terrorism. In addition, it has presented Trump as the most appropriate choice to confront the threat of terrorism which was illustrated by examples of imbalance in treatment, linguistic choices, expressions, gestures and others from the findings of the analysis.

There is no doubt that the imbalance in treating hate speech creates further tension and violence, regardless of religion, as confirmed by CAIR report (2016)[36], which monitored the proportions of incidents against mosques and Islamic centers that recently increased due to the hate directed against Muslims. Actually, the American media has not equally highlighted this as compared to focusing on the link of violence to Muslims.

Limitations & Recommendation:

The current study addressed terrorism issues as reflected in the two most prominent channels in America since they largely mirror the two main political factions. However, the researcher sees that there is still an urgent need for subsequent field studies on the American public to explore his views and assessment towards the presented content through those channels, which the researcher has not done in his current study. The researcher also highlights the importance of conducting studies related to Islamophobia on a wider scale, especially after the use of digital platforms by terrorist groups aimed at marketing misconceptions about Islam.

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