

PROSTITUTION IN PRINT MEDIA

Themes and language used to describe women's
situations to the general public

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INTRODUCTION

- ∂ Prostitutes are highly marginalized
- ∂ Serves as a means for segregation
- ∂ Normalizes violence
- ∂ Lack of access to resources
- ∂ Homelessness
- ∂ Substance abuse and addiction

WHY PRINT MEDIA?

- ∂ Engagement is translated through and influenced by
- ∂ Gaps in perspective and experience
- ∂ Biased understanding

PURPOSE

- ∂ Understand discursive thematic framework
- ∂ How media communicates women's situations
- ∂ Critically examine main information venue

METHODS

- ∂ Downloaded 340 newspaper articles from the Denver Post (prostitut*)
- ∂ Corpus analysis (themes & terms)
- ∂ Tracked in an excel spreadsheet

LITERATURE

- Social Construct Theory
- Cultivation Theory
- Illusion of Knowing
- Third Person Effect
- In Group Bias
- Priming

THEME CORPUS

- ∂ Legal cases peripherally involving sex-workers
- ∂ Local Community
- ∂ Peripherally mentions prostitutes
- ∂ Trafficking minors
- ∂ Violence against women who exchange sex for money or drugs
- ∂ Prostituting minors/law enforcement role in mitigation
- ∂ In-depth coverage of trafficking
- ∂ In-depth coverage of individual sex-worker

WORD CORPUS

- ∂ Sex
- ∂ Prostitut*
- ∂ Police/Cop/Law Enforcement
- ∂ Arrest
- ∂ Pimp
- ∂ Victim
- ∂ Drug
- ∂ Crime

COLFAX



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IMPLICATIONS

- ∂ Myopic Perspective
- ∂ Victim vs. Criminal
- ∂ Helping or Harming

QUESTIONS

