

SUMMARIES OF THE ARTICLES

Laura Ahva & Mervi Pantti

The proximity of amateur news images: An exploration of audience and journalist perceptions

Proximity is a typical journalistic notion featured in commentaries and speeches pertaining to the role of journalism in the digital era. Proximity has become a journalistic strategy, which requires analysis. In this article, we will study the ways in which user-generated news visuals in the context of crisis coverage relate to this proximity strategy. The article offers empirical analysis on journalists' and audiences' interpretations of amateur images featured in crisis coverage of Finnish mainstream news media. This double exposure indicates that the spatio-temporal and emotional aspects of proximity legitimise the use of amateur imagery in the news. However, the way in which news media utilize these aspects in their organizational proximity strategies, remains highly contested by the audience.

Timo Harjuniemi, Juha Herkman & Markus Ojala

The politicization of the eurozone crisis in Finnish newspapers

The paper analyses how Finnish newspapers politicized the Euro Crisis in 2010–2012. By politicization we refer to the ways papers introduce alternative interpretations, solutions and public actors to the Crisis. The sample of the analysis consists of 971 journalistic articles discussing the Euro Crisis and was collected from *Helsingin Sanomat*, *Kauppalehti*, *Kaleva* and *Ilta-Sanomat*. The study is part of the comparative research project “The Euro Crisis, Media Coverage, and Perceptions of Europe within the EU” directed by the Reuters Institute at the University of Oxford. According to our analysis the Finnish newspapers discussed the Crisis mainly from an economic point of view. Therefore they politicized the Crisis primarily by introducing economic-political interpretations of the causes of and responses to the crisis. The dominant views in the press closely followed those of the European decision-making elite, and alternative views were uncommon. The infrequency of economic policy alternatives in the public discussion is primarily explained

by the public unanimity of European decision-makers' and their position as favored sources of the press. Also economists enjoyed a significant role as news sources, and they slightly diversified the public discussion on the Crisis. The role of local politicians and representatives of civic society was significantly smaller. The general newspapers echoed European policy-makers the most intimately, whereas the economic and the afternoon paper manifested a little more variety in their approaches. However, in general Finnish newspapers discussed the Crisis very uniformly and thus politicized it rather poorly.

Pekka Mertala

Third space and relations – Media references and the names of friends and family as indicators of communality in preschoolers' creative writing

Writing can be understood as an activity of expressing ideas, opinions and views in print. Still, childrens' writing is usually studied only in terms of accuracy and proficiency. This paper follows a different approach as it focuses on the variety of intersubjective relationships children express via creative writing. Relationships are discussed and described using the theoretical framework of third space – which is an identity-based shared space between institutional and non-institutional learning environment. The focus is on with whom children are connected to and how these relationships are expressed. Empirical data consists of the writings that 6–7-year-old preschoolers' wrote during a free play time in the context of kindergarten. Third space became visible in two ways as children recontextualized their families and friends as well as important media references in their writings. Choices were not random since they indicated different forms of affection – mutual or one-sided. Some children also mixed the roles of the real-life actors by depicting their own and their friends' parents as their peers. The intersubjective relations were expressed via copying media references whose shared themes mediate the relationships between its author and copier and – in broader sense – between participants in shared activities.