Language and Social Issue Relationship: Journal and Speeches on the South China Sea Dispute

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Abstract

The paper made use of published journals, and some speeches, which can relate to the language's relationship with social issues, as depicted by some correspondents that schooled former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte in contrast to lots of appreciation by some others due to his stance dumping former President Aguino's lawfare confrontational approach against China on the South China Sea dispute; criticisms on his independent foreign policy by distancing from the USA; and criticisms on his alleged ruthless anti-criminality campaigns specifically on the war on drugs. Chapter 1 of the paper details how the social issues of the Philippines-China dispute on the South China Sea began. In Chapter 2, some notable speeches of former President Duterte and some government's past prominent figures are incorporated into related literature. All said social issues and speeches from the published articles were analyzed using both lenses of the Language of Peace and and Media Content theories as reflected in subsections 2.7 and 2.8 of this paper. The analysis reveals that the language used in both published articles was predominantly integral to violence such that under the journal there were 83% violent social issues and integral to peace with only 17%, and under the speeches, there were 79% % violent social issues and integral to peace with only 21%. On the other hand, as regards PH-China South China Sea disputes, as many as 58% of social issues favored Pro-peace Advocacy or preferred bilateral negotiation in contrast to only 33% favoring Pro-Confrontational Advocacy, or legal offensive as with the Hague and with the UNCLOS.

Keywords: Language of peace, Speeches, Published articles, Social issues, China

1. Introduction

The Philippines started claiming the Spratly islands way back in the 1950s after discovering them uninhabited, thus, prompting its government to promulgate the inclusion of said islands into its exclusive economic zone (EEZ). Later in 2009, the Philippines invoked the "regime of island principle" and had said islands documented under the UN Convention of the Law of the Sea. Other littoral nations sharing the spans of SCS followed the Philippines' smart advances, also claiming islands nearer their homelands, but only the Phillippines purportedly so far was aggressively protesting before the Hague tribunal against China's dash-line claim which encompasses the PH-claimed Exclusive Economic Zone, while all the rest of the claimants were silent (Maria Ortouste (2013). On June 15, 2015, the Philippines' ambassador to the UN Lourdes Yparranguirre, speaking before the annual meeting of State Parties at the UN Convention on

the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) that China's aggressive action in the South China Sea is a growing threat, and further argued that, if bilateral consultation or diplomatic negotiation is futile and one-sided, then the arbitration mechanism of UNCLOS for settling disputes shall apply.

On July 16, 2016, the Inquirer Net re-echoed the Washington news coverage about the Hague's arbitral ruling favoring the Philippines over China's nine-dash claim in the South China Sea, which China boycotted by arguing that the Hague has no jurisdiction to decide over the SCS, and for that matter would ignore the arbitral decision. The news report further stated that although the said ruling is considered binding, it had not provided a provision specifying an enforcement mechanism to execute the ruling. China's rejection of the Hague's ruling had instantly drawn both positive and negative opinions from international journal writers; criticizing as well former President Duterte for the alleged non-essential independent foreign policy and for downplaying former President Aquino's confrontational stance against China as claimed by some politicians opposing his administration.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

The imputations against President Duterte could be the reactions to his speeches concerning the protracted Philippines' South China Sea dispute, his preference for independent foreign policy, and his decisive anti-criminality campaigns as depicted in said journals, or social media. Hence, this implies that the language used was either for good or balanced reporting had there been any, false balance reporting, and reporting unsubstantiated critical issues. Contrasting opinions were observable which can have their premeditated purposes that have to be examined to uncover their relatedness to the language of peace by answering the following question, as follows:

1. Which social issues in the journal and speeches are considered integral to peace or violence?
2. As with peace, which articles and speeches are negative and positive about peace? and
3. As with violence, which articles and speeches are personal or structurally distinguished in terms of violence?

1.3 Theoretical Framework

The paper employed the language of peace theory, and since it involves analyzing the journals and speeches, a media content theory is adopted to complement the overall analysis. Researcher refers to the adoption of Galtung's (1969) language of peace theory, whose ideas were complemented by the peace-related theories of Gorsevski (2015) on peacebuilding, Ellis, et al. (2010) on bilateral negotiation, Freidrich (200) on positive peace, Copeland (1999) on arbitration, Reagan (2021) on the difference of language, Magalhaes on the importance of speeches, Ryan (2014) on language, and Meehan (2018) on his idea about the spoilers; Lou (2019), on media content theory, and Wark (2015) proposes delimitation of the roles of media, respectively.
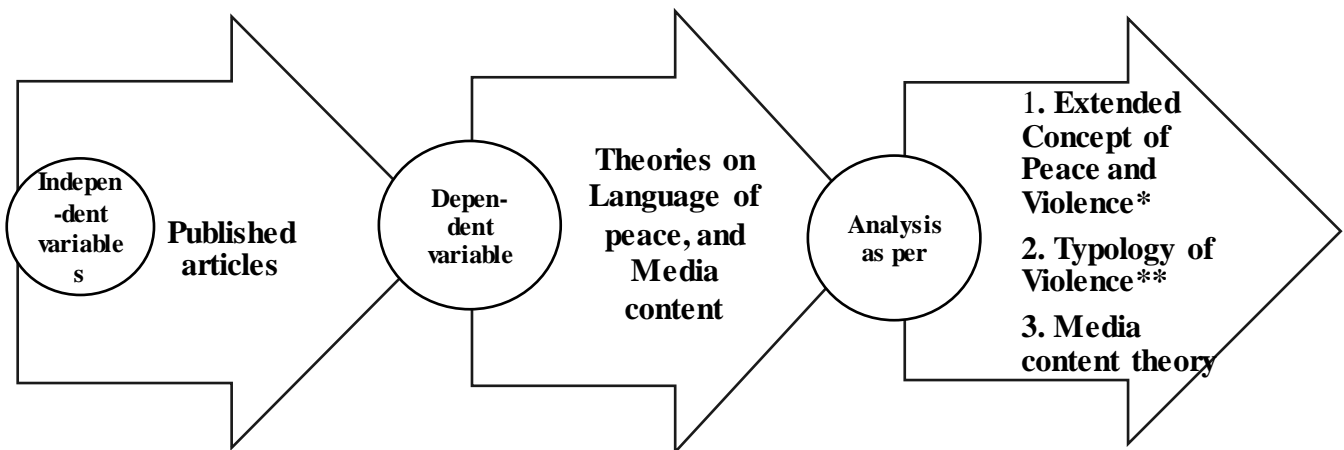
1.4 Conceptual Framework

1) Thesis Statement: Following Bandhari's (2020) theoretical idea on qualitative research, the researcher made use of Thomas et al. (2017) Convenience sampling method which is compatible with Kothari's (1985) collection of published data from the websites. After this, collected data were codified and analyzed with Galtung's (1969) Language of Peace and underpinning of Lou's (2019) Media Content theories. The above combined analytical lenses on the language of peace and media content theories can be a crucial tool for analyzing the published articles' use of language, whether they may be intended for achieving or hindering the social goals of peace, can be discriminated under the Extended Concept of Peace and Violence, and Typology of Violence; can defuse volatile tensions on the occasion of a meddling dispute as in peace negotiation and as means for counterbalancing critical issues against any potential targeted

entities or personalities. Likewise, regardless of the use of language which may be extensively critical and destructive, they can be however made ineffectual or abolished as with the Concept of Sufficiency and Necessity of personal and structural violence, which are for abolishing intended and latent personal or structural violence as with the time-tested incumbency of former President Duterte who managed to overcome impending dangers ousting him from office but had remained in power up to the last minute tenure of his office on June 30, 2022, as President of the Republic of the Philippines.

2) The published articles were designated as the Independent variables that served as the corpora, likewise herein labeled as the Dependent variables which are the object for the analysis with the use of the combined analytical lenses of Laguage of Peace and its Extended Concept of Peace and Violence, Typology of Violence and underpinning of the Media Content analysis, which can be graphically illustrated as in Figure 1 below:

Figure 1. Relationship between language and social issues and analysis

Legend:
1. Extended Concept of Peace and Violence: Negative and Positive Peace (referred to as social justice); Personal and Structural violence (referred to as social injustice).
2. Typology of Violence: Personal violence, either physical or psychological (intended/not intended), and Structural violence, either physical or psychological (manifest and latent).

1.5 Scope and Limitation of Study

The paper focuses only on analyzing the use of language in social issues and speeches in
the journals to uncover their functional interrelationship with the language of peace or violence.

1.6 Significance of the Study

1. Give insights to heads of governmental and private institutions about the importance of the use of language in conflict management such as for defusing tensions, counterbalancing critical social issues, and achieving success in peace negotiation;
2. Acquaint readers that mass media personalities normally weaponize language to influence value judgment on critical issues, inflict somatic or mental incapacitation on target government policymakers, or make use of the suspected spoilers to derail the success of peace negotiation;
3. Serve as a complementing idea to students pursuing the same nature of the study that the use of langua-

ge can affect intended social goals of peacemaking for attaining social justice as with language of peace, or getting familiar with injustices which normally is inherent with personal and structural violence.

2. Review of Related Literature
2.1 Language of Peace Theory

Johan Galtung (1969) says that the precise terms drawn from one conflict group but excluded from the terms of the opponent group, may cause dissent and lead to manifest conflict. He introduced the three principles relating to the idea of peace such as:

1. The term peace is for social goals verbally agreeable to the many.
2. The social goals may be difficult but are attainable.
3. Peace is the absence of violence shall be retained to be valid.

He also mentioned the Violence and Peace Extended Concepts such that.

1) Violence can be both personal (direct) and structural (indirect), which is referred to as social injustice, while

2) Peace is split into positive peace and negative peace, i.e., referred to as social justice. He explains that:

(1) Even in the absence of personal violence, if a combination of structural violence is felt, then personal violence would just be around the corner, and

(2) Reversely in the absence of structural violence but if a combination of personal violence exists, then structural violence could also be just around the corner.

He explains further that in groups such as in the feudal system, structural violence is sufficiently possible. to abolish personal violence because the leadership has nothing to fear, and the structural is not necessary to abolish the personal, which ceases to function the moment preference has been made not to practice it, after all, it is the belief that an objective has been achieved through violence, it can also be achievable by employing structural violence. Additionally, personal violence can be sufficient as it can also be necessary for abolishing structural violence such that as regards its sufficiency when violence against the top dogs no longer exists, the feudal structure becomes dysfunctional, which goes along also with the structural violence die-out, or abolished between groups.

Ellen W. Gorsevski (2015) mentioned the author Rebecca R. Oxford as having provided an expansive overview that understanding the nature of violence can be a basis to promote peacebuilding in a variety of approaches from interpersonal relationships up to the level of interethnic communities, subject to knowing the background of the conflict whether from the local to an international setting. This could relate to the idea of Professor E. Wertheim (n.d.) who opined that managing conflict is not suppressing and not letting conflict escalate or become out of control. Negotiation per se is an aspect of creativity and motivation, making both disagreeing parties feel they won. As observed, Wertheim's (n.d.) idea can allude to Carla S. Copeland's (1999) view that each opposing party in a territorial conflict must have in their minds a modicum of trust and willingness to accept each one may have to win or lose. Territorial disputes can only succeed if and when both parties are willing to resolve the dispute arbitrarily, but if the issue involves vital national importance, such a commitment is unlikely. Therefore, imposing the arbitration agreement upon them will not work. In some other situations, democratic countries resolve issues through bilateral negotiations of their own when issues have not been militarized, more salient, especially when nations involved face equal adversaries while others usually conform to third-party management. Democratic states are not like their authoritarian counterparts, which are most inclined to militarize when there is little

or imbalanced armed conflict relationship (Glynn Ellis et al., 2010).

Stephen Ryan (2014) says language can be used to reduce conflict and cites that the use of critical discourse analysis (CDA) is most central in Oxford's work which can play a crucial role in exploring how language can lead to miscommunication, misunderstanding, and contributes harmony since language is integral to peace and conflict. Additionally, Patricia Friedrich (2007) says that the English language can be an enhancer in teaching linguistic peace education, and its relationship with language must be encouraged and practiced for all languages with the belief that linguistic peace is achievable by accepting varieties of English as in bilingualism for communication. She argues that positive peace is not only the absence and avoidance of war but also can serve as the basis for creating fairness in every social institution and that English as a lingua franca should not be regarded as a threat but as an opportunity for global understanding in pursuit of achieving positive peace across all nations of the world. , Patricia Friedrich's (2007) idea about linguistic peace education can allude to Johan Galtung's (2012) notion of the effect that language has its distinction between semantics and syntax as such, words and sentences have their hidden meaning on whether they stand for peace or, the reverse, denoting hostilities or war; also as with Timothy Reagan (2021) stating that different languages frequently cause conflict between other groups such that if language is unique to humanity, conflict is most certainly not; and also complementing thereto, Ewandro Magalhaes' (2018) speech on YouTube video presentation on the occasion of Kudo: Multilingual Meetings Reinvented, featured Atwood's quotation "War can happen when language fails" and that of Mandela's "when one talks to a man in his language, it goes to his heart and mind." Magalhaes also mentioned the importance of interpretation in the occasion of historical trials of German war criminals of the WII, which can allude to Jeremy Munday (2008) explaining that changing text from one language to another is done in two different ways. One is intended for the written text, which is termed translation or translating, while the other is for the oral verbal language, commonly called interpreting or interpretation.

2.2 Media Content Theory

Amy Luo (2019) states that media content analysis is used as a method in research for identifying patterns of words, phrases, and concepts which could be either in written, visual, or oral forms of communication; it can be used both in qualitative and quantitative for analyzing media content or texts under study in other fields of discipline, its purpose, effects of communication, and goals: finding relationships and patterns of communication, intentions, propaganda, and biases, and consequences of content.McKenzie Wark (2015) says critical media theory examines a series of key texts that can elicit critical thinking about media. It aims to configure the limitation of media function and explore the potential for what media could be. **2.3**

2.3 Qualitative Research Method

Pritha Bandhari (2020) says that qualitative research involves collecting non-numerical data for analyzing opinions and experiences and understanding concepts for a certain phenomenon that the researcher intends to study.

2.4 Convenience Sampling Method

Edgar Thomas, et al. (2017) state that convenience sampling is a common form of nonprobabilistic sampling, a method for the collection of samples that are conveniently located in a particular location or from the internet service.

2.5 Data Collection Method

C.R. Kothari (1985) emphasizes that it is important to distinguish between primary data which is collected for the first time, and those collected data already published are to be regarded as secondary data such as those sources taken from books, published journals, magazines, thesis, dissertations, online portals, etc.

2.6 Historical Accounts of the Americans-Spanish War and Americans-Japanese Wars in the Philippines

Lee Ann Potter et al.(1998) say that the defamation remarks by the Spanish Minister, Enrique Depuy de Lome against US President McKinley on February 9, 1898, and the explosion of a US Navy boat in Cuba on February 15, 1898, triggered the US declaring war in April 1898 against Spain. As a result, Assistant Secretary of the Navy, Theodore Roosevelt ordered Commodore George Dewey in Hong Kong to attack the Spaniards in Manila which destroyed all ten of the Spanish Navy vessels on April 30, 1898. On the other.

Lahia Marie Ellingson (2007) states that, just hours after attacking the United States fleet at Pearl Harbor on December 8, 1941, the Japanese army directed their attention toward the next American stronghold forces stationed in the Philippines. They attacked Clark Field, an American airbase on the island of Luzon which resulted in the surrender of the US forces known as the worst defeat and source of national humiliation.

2.7 Extracted Salient Texts from Journals – Related Concept of Peace Issues and Preliminary Analyses

Under this subsection, analysis for each of the extracted texts of the journal listed below has been facilitated following the language of peace theory and Extended Concepts of Peace and Violence, and Typology of Violence, of Johan Galtung (1969) and Amy Luo's (2019) Media Content analysis, as follows:

1) The Aquino administration's elevating the SCS dispute to Hague is felt by China as an outright challenge prompting the latter to respond with assertive steps in the South China Sea. The Duterte administration concludes the Philippine strategy confronting China in the instance of lawfare under the Aquino administration had probably escalated China's assertiveness to pursue power ambitions on the South China Sea more drastically. Due to this, President Duterte revived the strategy of former President Arroyo's de-escalating the conflict with diplomatic approaches to enhance economic relations as a form of conflict management mechanism for reducing tense foreign relations with China (Peter Kreuzer,2018).

Table 1. SCS dispute at Hague

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The article uncovers manifest structural-psychological violence to be inflicted upon the former Aquinos' administration; (2) Category and classification in 1) shift to positive peace type resulting from Duterte's administration employing the structural violence sufficiency for abolishing impending latent personal or structural violence.	**(1) Language use was to persuade the audience to re-evaluate the real facts of the issue and what is not; (2) Motive, which indicates moral concern about the beneficial effects of resolving disputes with bilateral negotiation than the previous lawfare approach; (3) Language context is pro-government; and (4) Just, fair, and a balanced piece of reporting.**

2) Bruno Hendler (2018) asserts his hypothesis that, despite disparities in the asymmetrical relationship between the Philippines and China, negotiations relating to South China Sea disputes could lead to mutual concessions geopolitically and economically that would serve the interests of both parties. That quoting (The Guardian 2016a), the reasons for Duterte's indifference to the USA are not so clear, but it might be

his biography learning through history about the abuses of American military forces during the colonial period from 1898 to 1946, and offended by Obama's criticism about his war on drugs.

Table 2. Hypothesis on PH-SCS prospect of negotiation and former Pres. Duterte indifference to the USA

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The article is a negative peace type; (2) Negative peace indicates progressing into a positive peace type as soon the prospect of bilateral negotiation becomes successful; (3) Historical abuses of the Americans and Obama's criticism were presumed to have inflicted latent structural-psychological violence against President Duterte.	(1) Language use was to ensure the audience that mutual bilateral talks on SCS were likely possible regardless of the Philippines' and China's asymmetrical resources; (2) Writer's motive shows empathetic concern towards the Philippines' territorial dispute and fairness with President Duterte; (3) Language context is pro-government, and (4) Journal is fair, just and balance writing.

3) The Duterte administration had strained bilateral relations with the US despite the latter's fulfilled obligations under the Mutual Defense Treaty due to the former's independent foreign policy. Accordingly, the policy is not proactive but reactionary, which could alienate a potential strategic ally that does not substantiate the essence of a foreign policy (Julio Amador and Deryk Baladjay, 2020).

Table 3. Critics against former Pres. Duterte's stance of MDT

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The article is tantamount to inflicting intended personal-psychological violence upon the person of President Duterte; (2) also implies conveying a message presuming President Duterte's infliction of latent structural violence against the US; and (3) criticizes President Duterte for marginalizing the MDT and ungratefulness despite US' military assistance which could inflict manifest structural-psychological violence of social injustice to Filipino opposition groups against the Duterte's administration.	(1) Language use is to persuade people to condemn President Duterte; (2) the motive is to discredit President Duterte's statesmanship and incite people to mass actions; (3) the relationship of the authors to the US is palpably strongly connected; (4) writer's precepts, unmindful of the consequential after-effects of prejudging unverified vital issues and high profile state policies; (5) Language context is anti-government; (6) Journal is seen one-sided, unjust, unfair, and false balance writing.

4) President Rodrigo Duterte acquiesced with China's demanding withdrawal of government vessels patrolling in the disputed South China Sea and refrained from criticizing the Chinese government instead, reiterated maintaining friendship owing to a debt of gratitude with the latter's donating free coronavirus vaccines to the Philipines. That, despite President Duterte's assertion not to forsake sovereignty, "I'll tell China, we do not want trouble, we do not want war. But if you tell us to leave – no," which is not convincing enough for Filipinos but

instead are diverging from their president due to the continued friendship that prompted people in social media to call him a traitor (Nick Aspinwall, 2021).

Table 4. Former Pres. Duterte's inaction on China's prohibition of PH patrol on disputed SCS

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The article unveils a hidden intended personal-psychological violence to be inflicted upon the person of President Duterte; (2) the paper tries to portray that President Duterte's friendship with China has created manifest structural-psychological violence upon the Filipino people; (3) The media people as mentioned likewise reveals their built-in intended personal-psychological violence inflicted upon the person of President Duterte.	**(1) Language use is to persuade the target audience that President Duterte's friendship initiative with China could be wrong; (2) Motive is to incite people's mass action against President Duterte, and strategize the mention of the mass media to hide ownself's intention; (3) Relationship with the other media people could be palpably strong; (4) Language context (5) Journal is seen one-sided, unfair, unjust and false balance journal writing.**

5) Danilo Andres Reyes (2016) argues that the Duterte administration is humiliating such that killing criminals under the spectacle of violence, politicizing their lives, is to intimidate others., although in the process, citizens feel safe, politicizing life is placing criminals deprived of the benefit of state protection.

Table 5. Critic against former Pres. Duterte's alleged EJK

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The article uncovers the intended personal-psychological violence to be inflicted against President Duterte; (2) It intends to portray that President Duterte is employing manifest structural-psychological violence as a form of a political strategy to warn the would-be criminal; and also (3) intends to portray that killing criminals would be President Duterte's sign of intended personal -physical violence (social injustice) infliction against the criminals.	**(1) Language use is to influence the target audience that killing is unlawful; (2) Motive is to incite people, especially relatives of killed criminals to stage protest action against President Duterte; employing strategy by twisting facts that criminals were killed without valid causes; (3) Language context is anti-government, and (4) Journal writing is seen one-sided, unfair, unjust and false balance written form of communication.**

6) President Duterte's foreign policy with China is puzzling because announcing the Philippines' separation from the United States despite the US military aid and maritime security commitment against the Chinese threat seems to contradict Duterte's-friendly foreign policy; that, together with his rhetoric had not only sparked international issue but is also confusing for untangling his administration from Aquino's geopolitical confrontational policy and describing the Hague's arbitration award as a piece of trash paper (Brenda Tan, 2021).

Table 6. Critic against former Pres. Duterte's Foreign policy

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The article reveals intended personal-psychological violence to be inflicted against President Duterte; (2) it intends to portray that President Duterte's separating from the US is tied to his manifest structural-psychological violence, which is possible to inflict the US; and (3) infliction of his latent structural-psychological violence upon the Hague and to former Aquino administration.	**(1) Language use is to influence the target audience that President Duterte could be a sign of ungratefulness and short of vision for compromising the importance of the US commitments; (2) Motive is to incite people to protest against President Duterte; (3) Relationship or collaboration with US strategic interest is palpable; (4) Language context is anti-government, and (5) Journal is one-sided, unfair, unjust and false balance writing.**

2.8 Extracted Speech-Related Concept of Peace Issues and Preliminary Analysis

The language of peace and media content analysis theories were simultaneously used side by side to analyze the speeches by ferreting out their contextual meaning. Analysis of data is to be determined from the frequencies of issues under each self-structured code labeled as Pro-peace advocacy, Pro-confrontational advocacy, and Neutral, respectively.

1) President Duterte's speech, "I'll tell China, we do not want trouble, we do not want war. But if you tell us to leave – no." (Nick Aspinwall, 2021).

Table 7. Former Pres. Duterte's speech

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The utterance denotes the essence of negative peace; (2) Assurances that violence in any form is never an option; (3) President Duterte employs structural violence sufficiency to abolish the emergence of impending threats of personal violence from China;	**(1) "I'll tell China" is an assertive stance brushing aside the essence of asymmetrical relationship; (2) "we do not" conveys low profile argument and true message due to unequal power resources, (3) and the word "no" is something that implies preventing saying "yes" (maybe because for certain rights or legal basis), and as if enticing an offer for possible bilateral talks where the issue can be clarified and the possible question "why?" can be answered; (4) Language context could be pro-peace advocacy.**

2) Former DFA Secretary Albert del Rosario "There are some who could not believe that the Arbitral Tribunal would have the courage to apply the law to a country like China. Some think the rule of law in international relations does not apply to the Great Powers. We reject that view. [...] Those who think "might make right" have it backward. It is exactly the opposite, in that right makes might. That is why, in

January 2013, we confidently put our fate in the hands of this Tribunal and the compulsory dispute resolution mechanisms of UNCLOS." (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:11).

Table 8. Extracted Speech of Former DFA Speaker del Rosario

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The utterance reveals the speaker's latent structural violence can be inflicted against China; (2) Insists that the operation of law can be effective such a tool as could be equated with the manifest structural-psychological violence that could render China yield with the mandates of the law.	**(1) Speaker addresses to belied someone else's idea that the Arbitral Tribunal cannot hold great powers answerable or yield to the majesty of international law, and (2) keeps relying on that the Tribunal and the UNCLOS can make China obey and subservient to the legal demands of the law; (2) Language context could be pro-confrontational advocacy.**

3) (Inquirer.net 2009) Philippine National Security Adviser Norberto Gonzales claimed that this "should remind us that [...] there will always be nations that will show might and threaten perceived weak nations like us" (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:6).

Table 9. Extracted Speech of former Philippine National Security Adviser

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The speaker unveils personal opinion implying that the aspect of either personal or structural violence normally outwits the aspects of peace; (2) presupposes that either personal or structural is tied with those in power that can hardly be repulsed by the powerless' employment of either personal or structural violence sufficiency.	**(1) The message conveys meaning about the disadvantages of weaker nations competing with great nations, and (2) concludes that great nations could be around preying over weak nations, and the Philippines could be one; the Language context could be neutral.**

4) President Aquino's 2011 State of the Nation Address contended: "Speaking of security, does enhanced security not also enhance our national pride? [...] Now, our message to the world is clear: What is ours is ours; setting foot on Recto Bank is no different from setting foot on Recto Avenue" (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:8).

Table 10. Extracted Speech of former President Benigno Aquino

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The speaker uncovers personal opinion conveying meaning that stability of security can be such a tool equated with structural violence sufficiency to abolish either future	**(1) The message conveys the meaning that security measures have been upgraded and that, as they become more capable of repulsing external threats, it can also uplift the morale of**

personal or structural violence; and (2) asserts that stability of security can ward off either personal or structural violence to divest Philippines' resources.	the Filipinos; (2) conveys the meaning that the rightful possession of Recto Bank has been established, and metaphorically compared with Recto Avenue; and Language context could be pro-confrontational advocacy.

5) On the occasion of the first anniversary of the ruling, former DFA Secretary Albert del Rosario stated in mid-2017: "We should be proud of our country's leadership on this issue. […] We must protest what is unlawful, coercive, and contrary to the correct principles that govern relations between states. We should seek cooperation from like-minded states. We should be ready to approach the UN General Assembly to appeal to the global village of nations." (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:14).

Table 11. Extracted Speech of DFA Secretary Albert del Rosario

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
The utterance uncovers a perceived desire to make use of the UN as a tool to accomplish a contemplated plan, the process of which would imply the future employment of manifest structural-psychological violence, expecting China may be pressured and become compliant.	(1) The message conveys meaning that the Arbitral Tribunal is ineffectual in compelling China to adhere to the mandates of international law; (2) constrained to do forum shopping using this time the UN to enforce the Arbitral ruling against China; (3) Language context could be pro-confrontational advocacy.

6) Former DFA Secretary Yasay, for example in 2016, argued that "the provoking and inflexible tack taken by the previous administration in resolving the dispute has led to the completion by China of facilities that are inherently designed for military purposes in some of the rock features within our EEZ, while we stand completely helpless with our ally and traditional partners." (Kreuzer, 2018, p.15). Philippine "military reliance and dependence on America" "promoted [Chinese; P.K.] distrust and suspicion […] In turn, this has impelled China to dig in and take on a hard-line position on its territorial claims" (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:14).

Table 12. Extracted Speech of former DFA Perfecto Yasay

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The utterance uncovers the speaker's opinion indicating an intended personal-psychological violence infliction upon the previous administration, and (2) a latent structural-psychological infliction as well against the U.S.	(1) The message conveys the meaning that the previous administration is blamed for inducing China's assertiveness; (2) reliance on America proves futile; and (3) the Philippines' dependency on America enraged China and became more intransigent on the ruling; (4) Language context could be pro-peace advocacy.

7) Duterte quoted in Rappler 2016a) In early February 2016, Duterte had already made clear that "we cannot defeat you (China). We will be pulverized if we go to war. So I will just tell them, 'If you want to talk, let's talk. Or you might just want to open this as a mutual corridor, and I will be willing to talk to you if there is oil and gas. Let us do it joint exploration." (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:16).

Table 13. Extracted Speech of Philippine National Security Adviser

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The message is reflective of the speaker's negative peace approach; (2) foresees adverse consequences from the emergence of personal violence the moment the peace approach fails, negative shifts to personal and structural violence; and (3) negative peace possibly shifts into positive peace once an offer of bilateral talk prospers.	**(1) The message conveys the meaning of the speaker's low profile and sincere estimate of not winning a war; (2) to preempt escalation of untoward incidents, bilateral talks are offered, and (3) proposes mutual joint economic venture in the disputed area; Language context could be pro-peace advocacy.**

8) China Ministry of Foreign Affairs 2018). Chinese government spokeswoman Hua Chunying said: "The trust between China and ASEAN countries is so precious, and the stability in the South China Sea is a hard-won outcome. […] China stands ready to continue to work with relevant parties to vigorously advance the consultation on the Code of Conduct in the South China Sea (COC) and maritime practical cooperation and commit ourselves to uphold peace, stability, prosperity, and development in the South China Sea" (Peter Kreuzer, 2018:23).

Table 14. Extracted Speech of Philippine National Security Adviser

Language Peace Theory	Media Content Theory
(1) The utterance uncovers China's stance opting negative peace approach; (2) openness to bilateral talks that would signal the abolition of personal or structural violence; and (3) evokes meaning that aside from the latent structural-psychological violence that could be inflicted on whosoever entities intervening in the SCS dispute, they also cannot alter the interest of China.	**(1) The message conveys the meaning of the maintenance of harmonious relations and cooperation between China and ASEAN countries; (2) the willingness of China to discuss overlapping territorial claims with ASEAN; (3) conveys the meaning that China rejects interventions of Western/European countries, and is deemed understood that the resolution of SCS disputes shall be confined among ASEAN and China only which are sharing boarders in the SC; (4) Language context could be pro-peace advocacy.**

3. Methodology

The researcher employed qualitative research (Bandhari, 2020) which does not involve numerical data, and made use of the Convenience method of data collection (Thomas et al., 2017) which was downloaded from website portals hence, all data are to be regarded as secondary (Kothari, 1985). Collected data were deconstructed and analyzed using the combined analytical lenses of Galtung's (1969) Language of Peace

and the Media Content analysis theories of Lou (2019). In addition to the employment of the above-mentioned combined analytical lenses, formulated self-structured word group titles as in Table 18 hereof, were used and labeled under the journal as Pro-government which is to imply integral to peace, Anti-government means integral to violence, and in like manner under the speeches, Pro-peace Advocacy also means integral to peace, Pro-Confrontational Advocacy means integral to violence, and Neutral if and when issues are neither integral to peace nor integral to violence.

3.1 Data Gathering Procedure

Data were internet-accessed from different website portals with the use of a cellphone. A total of eight (6) salient texts relating to peace and violence were extracted from said journals and eight (8) speeches from published articles and were reduced to hard copies using a portable printer machine.

3.2 Data Analysis

The analysis was facilitated using a combined Language of Peace, and Media Content theories for analyzing the extracted salient texts from the journal and speeches-related peace extracted from published articles.

3.3 Configured combined Preliminary Findings of the salient texts and Speeches extracted from the published articles.

There were six (6) extracted texts from the journals and a total of eight (8) speeches from published articles. The data sorted out from the journal were counted as to the frequency of issues under each of the researcher's self-structured coded abbreviations labeled as "Anti-government", Pro-government, and Neutral. Likewise, the frequency of issues sorted out of the speeches was counted under each of the self-structured coded abbreviations as "Pro-peace advocacy", Pro- confrontational advocacy, and "Neutral", as follows:

Table 15. Matrix of Preliminary analysis of journals and speeches

PUBLISHED JOURNAL				SPEECHES			
Category/Classification of Peace and Violence	Code*			Category/Classification of Peace and Violence	Code**		
	PPG	AAG	nN		PPPA	PPCA	nN
Journal #1				**Speech #1**			
Manifest Structural-Psychological violence	1	11		**Negative peace**	11		
Positive peace type	11	1		**Structural violence sufficiency**	11		
Structural violence sufficiency	11						
Journal #2				**Speech #2**			
Negative peace	11			**Latent structural violence**	1	11	
Positive peace	11			**Manifest structural-Psychological violence**		11	
Latent structural-Psychological violence		11		**Speech #3**			

Journal #3				**Either Personal or Structural violence**		12	1
Intended Personal-Psychological violence		11		**Speech #4**			1
Latent structural violence		11		**Structural violence sufficiency**	11		
Manifest structural-Psychological violence		11		**Either Personal or structural violence**		11	
Journal #4				**Speech #5**			1
Intended personal-Psychological violence		12		**Manifest structural-Psychological violence**		11	
Manifest structural-Psychological violence		11		**Speech #6**			1
Journal #5				**Intended personal-Psychological violence**		11	
Intended personal-Psychological violence		22		**Latent structural-Psychological violence**	1	11	
Manifest structural-Psychological violence		11		**Speech #7**	1		
Journal #6				**Negative peace**	11		
Intended personal-Psychological violence		11		**Speech #8**	1 1		
Manifest structural-Psychological violence		11		**Negative peace**	1 11		
Latent structural-Psychological violence		1 1		**Latent structural-Psychological violence**	1	11	
Total	44	114	00	**Total**	5 5	9 9	0

Legend:

* "PG" -Pro-government "AG" - Anti-government, and "N" - Neutral

** "PPA" - Pro-peace advocacy, "PCA" – Pro-confrontational advocacy, and "N" – Neutral

3.4 Summary of the Preliminary Findings for both Journals and Speeches

The analyzed texts from the extracted journals and speeches generated the following preliminary findings as follows:

1) The Preliminary findings from the analyzed extracted salient texts and speeches reveal that out of the eighteen (18) issues sorted out from the journal, four (4) were Integral to Peace and labeled as Pro-government, fourteen (14) were Integral to Violence and labeled as Anti-government, and zero for Neutral, while under the Speeches, five (5) were Integral to Peace or labeled as Pro-Peace Advocacy, nine (9)

Integral to Violence labeled as Pro-Confrontational Advocacy, and zero (0) for Neutral. This answers the RQ No. 1.

Table 16. Preliminary Findings on Contrasting Issues under the Journal and Speeches

Journal				Speeches			
Pro-government	Anti-government	Neutral	Total	Pro-Peace Advocacy	Pro-Confrontational Advocacy	Neutral	Total
4	14	0	18	5	9	0	14

2) A breakdown of issues Integral to Peace in the journal shows two 2) issues were for Positive Peace, and one (1) issue for Negative Peace, while under speeches, zero (0) issues were for Positive Peace, and three (3) for Negative Peace – this answers the RQ Number 2.

Table 17. Frequency of Issues Integral with Peace

Type Articles	Positive Peace	Negative Peace	Total
Journal	2	1	3/18 (17%)
Speeches	0	3	3/14 (21%)

3) A breakdown of issues integral to violence in the journal shows five (5) are Manifest structural-psychological violence, six (5) are Intended personal-psychological violence, two (2) issues are Latent structural-psychological violence, and one (1) Latent structural violence, and one (1) Structural Violence Sufficiency or a total of fifteen (15) violent issues; while under speeches one(1) issue is Latent structural violence, two (2) are Latent structural-psychological violence, two (2) issues are Structural violence sufficiency, two (2) issues are Manifest structural-psychological violence, one (1) issue is Intended personal-psychological violence, and three (3) Either Personal or Structural Violence or a total of eleven (11) violent issues – this answers the RQ Number 3.

Table 18. Frequency of Issues Integral with Violence

Type of Article	Manifest Structural-Psychological violence	Intended personal-psychological violence	Latent structural-psychological violence	Latent structural violence	Structural violence sufficiency	Either Personal or Structural violence	Total & %
Journal	5	6	2	1	1	0	15/18 (83%)

Speeches	**2**	**1**	**2**	**1**	**2**	**3**	**11/14 (79%)**

3.5 Result and Discussion

The analyses of the extracted texts and speeches from the published articles have so far provided results sufficient enough to generate a comprehensive understanding of the relationship of language with social issues as would relate to the aspect of peace, and violence which is the main focus of the objective of this paper. In particular, the extracted salient texts and speeches gave us clues about how language is frequently and viciously used to defame former President Duterte's responses as pertains to the South China Sea dispute issues, his preferred Philippines' independent foreign policy, and his war on drugs, where the language of peace and violence emerged as repeated discursive topics in said articles.

Table 16, shows that under the journal, violence is greater than Peace issues by 71 %, likewise under the speeches, issues integral to violence are also greater than integral to peace issues by 44 % indicating that the majority of the opinion favors the lawfare approach and possibly rely on MDT's support and the intervention of the UNCLOS rather than bilateral talks which China prefers exclusively only among Aseans as manifested in Table 14 hereof. Overall, issues integral to violence show dominance and significance as shown in Table 18 hereof. Regardless as found out in context, language use is more pervasive than is rare, as would indicate that the authors are aloof in the totality of the issues, albeit, it however, substantially provided answers to the statement of the problems of the paper.

3.6 Conclusion

The result of the analysis shows that the use of language in social issues in both deconstructed published articles was significantly integral to violence, indicating that attaining peace with such kind of language use during tense relationships with neighboring countries or successful negotiation as with the South China Sea dispute is calculated to be stark and remote. The fact as viewed, speeches reveal that the former President Aquino administration's lawfare approach could never prosper unless either one of the parties accepts defeat as per the idea of Copeland (1999) but, this did not happen so much so, that the very Haque's ruling was rejected by China. This could imply that resolving the SCS dispute peacefully based on the Hagues ruling appears to be hopeless, and the Philippines' insistence on said ruling could be a waste of money, time, and efforts as hinted by China's spokesperson Hua Chunying in Table 14, that contestation between any ASEAN countries and China could be hardly winnable, unless the latter voluntarily relinquish ownership, or by a game of war wherein China is expected to prevail because of greater combat resources while the Philippines would be at a lose if by adhering to Glynn Ellis et al., (2010) theoretical view. The matter of the Philippines' dependency poses lots of problems as could be discerned from the Speech of former DFA Secretary Yasay in Speech No. 4 could be infallible as factors inducing the assertiveness of China in the SCS and as seen, the tension between the Philippines and China was worsening had it not been reduced to a manageable level by former President Duterte, who was constrained opting for a friendly diplomatic approach to revive the looming staggering diplomatic relations that by whose action as observed was compatible with the ideas of the proponents of peace as with Johan Galtung (1969, 2012), Glynn Ellis, et als (2010) that the negotiation may prosper meantime the issues have not been militarized which indeed was fruitful; as with Professor E. Wertheim (n.d.) that negotiation is creativity that might influence each disagreeing parties feel they won, and also as with Stephen Ryan's (2014) idea that diplomatic language can be used to reduce conflict, among others.

Additionally, former President Duterte opting for his independent foreign policy by distancing himself from the US could mean defusing the heightening tensions evidenced by his statement in Speech No. 7 "We cannot defeat you (China). We will be pulverized if we go to war," which can be interpreted that he would be losing the warfighting alone for absolutely discounting, nor seek help from other outside nations in case of war. The same statement could simultaneously imply that former President Duterte was apprehensive that the existence of the Mutual Defense Treaty enrages China and that, in the event of war, the Philippines would suffer the consequences because it could not be spared from China's target due to the presence of the Americans, a scenario which could be likened to the Americans attacking the Philippines in 1898 due to the Spaniard's presence in the country as per the historical accounts of Lee Ann Potter, et al. (1998), and again in like manner for the Americans attacking the Philippines in 1941due to the presence of the Japanese in the Philippines as per Lahia Marie Ellingson's (2007) historical accounts. As regards former President Duterte'anti-criminality campaign-related war on drugs, has resulted in storms of mounting critical issues from his political adversaries and allied correspondent personalities and to the extent of elevating their black propaganda to the ICC and hoping it may trigger his ousting from power, but former President Duterte ably ran his administration smoothly and unscathed and continued his war on drugs. It shows, that former President Duterte's political adversaries have their manifest structural violence against former President Duterte has just died out due to the latter's vision to suppress and eradicate the menace to society in pursuit of enhancing peace, which gained a high approval rating from the Filipino people, and support of the security forces which all serve as an effective tool to complement his counterbalancing with his personal violence sufficiency to abolish the structural violence that ultimately rendered his political adversaries efforts' trampled insignificantly.

Indeed as observed, the use of language was ostensively abused to criticize, humiliate, intimidate, obstruct justice, or inflict somatic incapacitation on others, e.g., on several challenging statements as in Tables 8, 10, and 11 which runs counter to the principles of the language of peace of Johan Galtung (1969), Stephen Ryan (2014), and Ewandro Magalhaes (2018), among others. Irresponsible and profane use of language as in Tables 4, 5, and 6, can be among the hindering factors to development, or even destructive and inimical to government policies of eradicating the menace in the society which could be just around lurking to victimize the weak, the oppressed, innocent, and peace-loving general public, but unconsciously launched their media platforms to criticize with halfbaked sources of information, without substantial factual basis or prior thorough verifications for what reasons why such government policies were of utmost necessity that had to be implemented.

Due to this, there is a compelling reason to infer that the government may find it necessary to enact laws to delineate the contextual meaning of freedom of speech and provide its limitation which can allude to McKenzie Wark (2015) stating, among others, "that critical media theory also aims to configure limitation of media function and to explore the potential for what media could be."

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