

The National Identity Scheme and the introduction of biometric ID Cards: the debate in the press

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BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY (1)

The social science research on IDs and the National Identity Scheme takes place as part of a

TEXT MINING FOR FRAME ANALYSIS PROJECT (TMFA)

The Research Team:

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Dr Sophia Ananiadou and Davy Weissenbachers , NaCTeM

Dr Farida Vis, CRESC

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BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY (2)

**FA: how texts are framed
to shape the perceptions/ opinions
to prioritise certain interventions.**

TM: processing large amounts of textual data

Although computer-assisted qualitative data analysis packages are available to manage and manipulate textual and/or multimedia data, this **project aims to explore the usefulness of text-mining techniques for the analysis of large media corpora.**

It builds on the Automatic Summarisation for Systematic Reviews using Text Mining (ASSERT) project.

The project (Feb 08- July 09/Nov 09) is funded by JISC.

THE DEBATE (1)

Nat Identity Scheme

**The controversy in parliament
2006 Legislation
Delievery Plan 2008
Heavy biometric component**

**Aim: investigate debate on national newspapers
explore the arguments mobilised to support/oppose the
introduction of the scheme/ID cards
carry out media content analysis using Frame Analysis (FA) as
the main methodology (aided by Atlas.ti software)**

**FA as multi-method approach
'frames' not only as cognitive schemata (perceive, organise and
communicate experience), but also
as devices used strategically (to cast 'events' in a certain light,
define 'the issues' that we ought to attend to, prioritise
some intervention over others)**

THE DEBATE (2)

- **Importance of Identity management and assurance (private & public)**
- **Financial and banking sectors took the lead – remote transactions, digitalisation of purchases, mobility of businesses**
- **Citizen mobility (border controls)**
- **Climate of heightened security (new ways of capturing and managing passengers' and citizens' identities)**
- **Digital trail (how we travel, what food we buy, how we use our mobile, how we access public/private services); from trail to profiling**
- **Blurring the difference between identity assurance and profiling**

=> many social, ethical, legal and political issues arise..

THE DEBATE (3)

- as covered on the UK national newspapers
- **Broadsheets (and their Sunday editions):**
The Daily Telegraph, The Telegraph on Sunday, The Guardian, The Observer, The independent, The Independent on Sunday, The Times, The Sunday Times
- **Tabloids (and their Sunday editions):**
The Daily Mail, The Mail on Sunday, The Mirror, The Sunday Mirror, The Sun
- **For a four months period:**
FEB - MAY 08 (launch of the Delivery Plan 2008)
- **Using LexisNexis (for academic purposes)**

SUMMING UP

- **Background of the study within the TMFA, its aims and those of the larger TMFA project**
- **Context of the NIS and ID cards debate**
- **Data collected for FA analysis**
- **Testing whether text mining tools may aid the process**

THANK YOU

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