

This Master's degree thesis evaluates the change in medial presentation of violent sexual acts in the period between 1996 and 2011. The change is inspected using newspaper articles gathered from the Newton Media Search database. Theoretical work is based on the Theory of Construction of Social Reality and the Mechanism of News Construction (gatekeeping, agenda setting, news values and framing). The analysis was performed on 937 articles published in the period from 1996 to 2011. The change of discourse was analysed using two-phase research method. This discourse was evaluated based on many criteria, among them periodicity of articles that focus on violent sexual practices. Qualitative analysis was used for trimming the number of relevant articles with hypothesis further evaluated using quantitative discourse analysis.