

FRAMING THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT: A STUDY OF FRAMES USED BY THREE AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS

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ABSTRACT

This paper explored how three U.S. newspapers' covered the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, following two peak incidents—Israeli leader Ariel Sharon's 2000 visit to Jerusalem's Temple Mount and 2002's Passover Massacre—by identifying and analyzing the frames used. This study examined theories of conflict resolution and peace journalism, while looking to see how the frames used may help to inflame or calm the conflict and how the ideas of peace journalism could clash with the realities of the news business. It analyzed newspapers stories from *The New York Times*, *Christian Science Monitor* and *St. Louis Post Dispatch* in both a quantitative and qualitative manner by examining what language was used, the sources included and the context provided. It was found that the dominant frame of the 2000 coverage overall was the Israeli government's quest for security frame, while in the 2002 coverage, the frame most used was the Israelis as military strong bullies frame. The *Monitor* mostly used the thematic and balanced look frames and its coverage was most in line with peace journalism concepts, the *Times* was mixed in its use of frames and the *Post-Dispatch* mainly used the episodic frame.