

## REPRESENTATION OF SHOOTING IN CNN: A CORPUS-BASED CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

*Representasi Penembakan dalam Cnn: Analisis Wacana Kritis Berbasis Korpus*

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**Abstract:** Nowadays, mass shootings have become a major problem in the United States. The media, especially CNN, plays an important role in shaping ideologies and perceptions of this case. This study aims to analyze CNN's role in representing shooting incidents in the United States from October to November 2023. This research applied a descriptive qualitative method, focusing on corpus-based Critical Discourse Analysis using Fairclough's (2013) theory. The results found that the collocation and concordance of the word "Shooting" are often associated with verbs and adjectives with negative connotations. Discourse practice analysis indicates CNN's tendency as a "left-wing" media. Furthermore, socio-cultural practice analysis shows that the shooting incident is related to the international political situation and poor government response. In addition, social factors reflect the ideology, culture, politics, and economic aspects of this shooting case. Thus, CNN's ideology aligns with the left-wing groups, or liberals, in reporting mass shooting cases in the United States.

**Keywords:** Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Corpus, Shooting, CNN

**Abstrak:** Kasus penembakan massal masih menjadi permasalahan utama di Amerika Serikat hingga saat ini. Media, khususnya CNN, memainkan peran penting dalam membentuk ideologi dan persepsi terhadap kasus ini. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bagaimana peran CNN dalam menggambarkan insiden penembakan di Amerika Serikat pada bulan Oktober hingga November 2023. Metode penelitian yang digunakan adalah deskriptif kualitatif dengan fokus analisis wacana kritis berbasis korpus menggunakan teori Fairclough (2013). Hasil analisis kolokasi dan konkordansi menunjukkan bahwa kata "Shooting" kerap dikaitkan dengan kata kerja dan kata sifat berkonotasi negatif. Analisis wacana mengindikasikan kecenderungan CNN sebagai media penganut "left wing". Selanjutnya, analisis praktik sosial budaya menunjukkan bahwa insiden penembakan berkaitan dengan situasi politik internasional dan lemahnya respon pemerintah. Selain itu, terdapat faktor sosial yang mencakup ideologi, budaya, politik, dan ekonomi dalam kasus penembakan ini.

Kesimpulannya, CNN cenderung memiliki kesamaan ideologi dengan kelompok left-wing, atau disebut liberal, dalam pemberitaan kasus penembakan massal di Amerika Serikat.

**Kata kunci:** Analisis Wacana Kritis (AWK), Korpus, Penembakan, CNN

## INTRODUCTION

The United States of America is a country that has the highest gun ownership in the world. According to Ingraham (2018), this country produces 393 million guns, which is far more than the number of US citizens, since this country has 326 million people. This creates a problem because it means people can have more than one weapon, which is the result of the fact that this country has more guns than people (Lancaster et al., 2025). Not only does this mean people can have more than one gun, but people who should not have a gun can also access it, considering it is easy to access guns in the United States. This is dangerous because there are chances that people who should not have a weapon, such as children or people with mental health problems, will not correctly use that gun. One of the best examples of the gun problem in the United States is the shooting case.

Shooting is one of the biggest problems in the United States because a lot of people have died in this incident. According to Alfonseca (2023), there have been 632 shooting cases in the United States in 2023, with 597 people dead and 2,380 people injured. Generally, if we include the number of victims of all gun-related violence, the number of dead people has reached 40,167, which means that 118 people have died per day in the United States. Not only do adults become the victims, but children and teenagers can also be victims in shooting incidents. Alfosenca (2023) also argues that 276 children have died and 1,306 teenagers have died due to gun-related violence in the United States.

The shooting case created a lot of reaction from all people, especially the media. According to Schildkraut et al (2018), shooting cases will attract media attention because shooting news will get a lot of attention from people. Furthermore, the media will always make news related to violence or crime as a headline. Gruenewald et al (2009) explain that violence of crime, particularly homicide, is always considered 'newsworthy' because people will always react to it more than other topics. This shows that the media prioritizes news that might be getting people's attention. One of the shooting cases that got incredible attention from the American people in 2023 is the shooting case in Lewiston, Maine.

According to Helmore et al (2023), the shooting case in Lewiston is one of the deadliest shooting cases in the United States this year since there were 18 people dead and 13 people injured in this incident. This shooting incident attracted a lot of American people because the person who committed this horrible crime was a U.S. Army reservist, a person who should be protecting American citizens, called Robert Card. He shoots two places, a bowling alley, and a restaurant. The brutality of this incident makes it the most talked about news in October 2023 on media, both U.S. media and international media.

Based on the explanation above, the writers conduct research on how the media represented the shooting incidents in the United States from October 2023 to November 2023, which also includes the shooting incident in Lewiston, Maine. In this research, the writers choose to analyze how the shooting incidents in the United States from October 2023 to November 2023 are represented by one of American media, CNN.

The writers chose CNN because it is the most popular online media in the United States. According to the University of Oxford (2023), seventeen percent of American people read CNN per three days. This datum shows that CNN is the most-read online media in the United States. Not only is CNN read by American people, but non-American people also access it. According to CNN Press Room (2016), thirty percent of people in the world have accessed CNN. This makes CNN the most popular media in the world, and it is more popular than other famous media like BBC, Sky News, or Bloomberg. Being the most popular media in the world means that CNN can influence the opinion of its readers, particularly their opinion on the shooting case in the United States.

Furthermore, several studies have been conducted regarding the shooting incident. Rifa'i et. al. (2020) in their study analyzed the representation of the Orlando Shooting on Fox News and Al Jazeera through Critical Discourse Analysis. They found that both media have similarities in sharing the offender's detailed information, the chronology of the shooting, and many other aspects. Moreover, the socio-cultural analysis in their study covers the institutional practices, situational context, and societal context. In addition, the other study conducted by Hashemi & Na (2021) also analyzed the news report in The Guardian regarding the mass shooting in Christchurch, New Zealand. The study employed Critical Discourse Analysis focused on Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar to explore the linguistic features and ideology. As a result of the study, Hashemi

& Na (2021) found that the Guardian's news report on the shootings at two mosques in Christchurch did not remain unbiased in reporting on the shooting issues.

Based on the previous studies above, the media have important roles in spreading information, values, and perspectives, creating and framing events and narratives to fit societal standards, perspectives, and ideologies (Carmichael et al., 2021; Celik et al., 2021; Flynn et al., 2017). This shows that understanding the representation in the media is important, considering their narration will shape people's opinions on some events, including the shooting cases. There have not been any studies that covered the discussion of the term "Shooting" in CNN Media by focusing on the Corpus Linguistics Critical Discourse Analysis (CLCDA). Therefore, the writers analyze how CNN represents the shooting case from October 2023 to November 2023 in the United States. To analyze it, the writers collect data from CNN, which reports shooting incidents in the United States in October 2023 and November 2023. The writers use corpus-based critical discourse analysis to analyze how shooting is represented in CNN. To analyze the depiction of the shooting case in CNN Media, the researchers determined two research problems. The first problem statement is the collocation and concordance pattern of "Shooting" in CNN News in October - November 2023. The second problem statement is how the shooting incident is represented in CNN News.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

This research applies the theory of Critical Discourse Analysis proposed by Norman Fairclough (2013) and Corpus Linguistics Critical Discourse Analysis (CLCDA) as follows:

### **1. Critical Discourse Analysis**

Critical discourse analysis is an approach to analyzing the linguistic and social context. It is related to "language and power", aiming to investigate social inequality marked by the use of language or discourse (Wodak & Meyer, 2001). In addition, Van Dijk (1993) argues that critical discourse analysis is concerned with social issues in society that aim to bring change through critical understanding. Therefore, this research focuses on analyzing the issue of shootings in the social context, especially in the United States.

Norman Fairclough divides Critical Discourse Analysis into three dimensions: text, discourse practices, and socio-culture (Fairclough, 2013). The first dimension of Fairclough's (2013) theory is the text dimension. This dimension focuses on analyzing the linguistic features in the text that cover vocabulary, grammar, and text structure. Fairclough (2013) divides ideology in the text into three aspects: experiential, relational, and expressive. In this study, the text dimension is analyzed by focusing on collocations and concordances in the corpus, especially in verbs and adjectives.

The second dimension is discourse practice. This dimension involves the interpretation of texts in the form of text production and text consumption. Text production focuses on all aspects related to the process of text formation, such as the author, the media that produces a text, and other aspects. In contrast to text production, text consumption is associated with the reader's impression of a particular text (Pramadya & Rahmanhadi, 2011).

The last dimension is the socio-cultural dimension. This dimension discusses the social context of the text. According to Rasool, Ali & Khan (2022), social context consists of socio-cultural, socio-political, and socio-economic in the text. Fairclough (2013) argues that there are three levels of analysis in the socio-cultural dimension, including situational, institutional, and social. The situational level focuses on the context in which the discourse being analyzed occurs. The institutional level relates to the institutions associated with the discourse. On the other hand, the social level focuses on mapping social relations such as politics, economics, culture, and ideology to the discourse.

## **2. Corpus Linguistics Critical Discourse Analysis (CLCDA)**

According to Mautner (2007), CLCDA is the approach of critical discourse analysis combined with corpus linguistics. CLCDA has four advantages in its approach method. Baker (2023) explains that the four advantages are that the author can avoid cognitive bias. This happens because CLCDA uses a large corpus. The author can start from large words, thus reducing cognitive bias, which means that the author only chooses data that is in line with the researcher's intentions. The second advantage is that using a corpus can make it possible to investigate language as a repetitive and patterned practice, especially in collocation and concordance corpus analysis. This pattern can be seen from the repetition of certain words. It indicates that the repetition of the word has a certain

meaning. The next advantage is that CLCDA research can discover discourse change and resistance due to the large collection of data. The last advantage is that the author can verify from different data sources. In the beginning, the author conducted a data analysis process, such as the number of words, collocations, keywords, and many more. The results of the data analysis are then critically re-analyzed to have better-quality research results.

CLCDA is used to reduce the weakness of critical discourse analysis. Even though this method was considered a deep analysis, critical discourse analysis was still imperfect because it could only analyze small-scale texts, and the representativeness of the data is limited, which became a problem for this study (Hu, 2023). To deal with this problem, corpus linguistics was employed as a method for critical discourse analysis (Fu and Wang, 2022). The combination of critical discourse analysis and corpus linguistics can recognize more representativeness in the texts and incite a dialogue between quantitative and qualitative approaches (Hu, 2023). Using CLCDA can analyze the representativeness of the word “Shooting” in CNN, which helps to uncover the hidden meanings in the news coverage of that case in the media.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research uses a qualitative method approach. According to Aspers & Corte (2019), a qualitative approach is a method for obtaining, interpreting, and describing research data. This research applies the theory of Corpus Linguistic Critical Discourse Analysis (CLCDA), which focuses on collocation and concordance analysis. The data source in this study is a collection of news texts from CNN (<https://edition.cnn.com/>) containing the word "shooting" in the range of October - November 2023. The data was collected in a specific corpus software called AntCont 3.4.4w, a free corpus toolkit developed by Laurence Anthony (Liu, 2024). It was chosen due to being the most popular software to examine and create corpora (Association of Translators and Interpreters Ireland, 2022).

In forming the specific corpus, the researchers took the following steps. First, the researchers searched for news articles related to the term “shooting” on the CNN online news portal. Second, the researchers limited news articles that appeared in October-

November 2023, and there were 59 news texts collected. Next, the researchers converted the format of the news texts that had been collected into .txt. From the conversion results, the researchers processed the .txt data using AntCont 3.0 software by searching the collocations with the keyword or node "shooting", using a range of 5L-5R, selecting the sort by frequency setting, and pressing "start". Then, the researcher downloaded the collocation results that have been processed from the AntCon 3.4.4w software.

Furthermore, to identify the micro and macro linguistic aspects, further analysis is needed by classifying the collocation results of "shooting" that have been obtained into two groups of words, verbs and adjectives. The data taken are each 5 verbs and adjectives that appear first in the collocation results. The researchers focused on verbs to find out how "shooting" was reported with the action obtained from the verb itself, while adjectives were obtained to find out the portrayal of the CNN media portal. Furthermore, the researchers analyzed collocation by focusing on the frequency analysis of each word that appears. In addition, the researchers also analyzed the concordance of each verb and adjective. The last step is to interpret the representation of the word "shooting" on the CNN news portal using Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis theory (2013) regarding the analysis of discourse and socio-cultural practices.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Text Analysis

#### *Collocates Analysis of "Shooting"*

The writers analyze collocates of adjectival and verbal words that follow the word "shooting". Collocation examines the words that frequently appear and their statistical significance (Ridgway, 2023). Understanding collocational patterns can uncover the semantic preferences of words, increasing the chance to understand the meaning of words in certain contexts (Chałupnik & Brookes, 2021). The data below is the analysis of verbal collocates that follow the word "shooting".

**Table 1.**  
**Verbal Words Which Collocate with "Shooting"**

Rank	Collocate	Frequency	Frequency (L)	Frequency (R)	Stat
1	Said	28	11	17	2.82682

2	Killed	17	11	6	5.01582
3	Injured	13	6	7	5.72191
4	Left	11	0	11	5.92836
5	Happened	11	0	11	6.16540

The table 1 shows five verbs that frequently collocate with the word "Shooting" in the corpus of shooting in CNN. Those five verbal words found are said, killed, injured, left, and happened. The datum above shows that the verbal words that often collocate with the word "shooting" are said. It can be proven by the high frequency of the word said which collocates with the word "shooting" in the corpus of shooting in CNN, which is 28 times. The second verb that has collocation with the word "shooting" is killed, which appears 17 times. In third place, the word injured appears 13 times. Furthermore, the word left appears 11 times, and the last verbal word is happened which appears 11 times.

Based on the data findings from the table above, the word "Shooting" is often followed by verbs that have negative contexts, such as killed, injured, and left. Meanwhile, the verbs said and happened have neutral connotations. The word killed indicates the act of "shooting", which causes the death of the victim; the word injured signifies that the victims suffer from injuries; the word left indicates a negative context, where "shooting" killed various victims.

Then, the adjective collocations are also analyzed. Understanding adjective words is valuable, considering they are strong tools to increase vocabulary and extend conceptual understanding of the words (Davies et al., 2022). In addition, adjectives are important for this study, reflecting that they bring depth, clarity, and detailed information to the words (Reed, 2022). The finding about adjective collocations shows that they are mostly negative-connoted words, which are seen in table 2.



**Table 2.**  
**Adjective Words Which Collocate with “Shooting”**

Rank	Collocate	Frequency	Frequency (L)	Frequency (R)	Stat
1	Old	10	5	5	4.28066
2	Dead	9	0	9	4.82527
3	Deadliest	8	7	1	7.34340
4	Homeless	3	0	3	6.77636
5	Guilty	3	1	2	5.19140

Table 2 shows five adjectives that frequently collocate with the word "Shooting" in the corpus of shooting in CNN. These five adjectives that can follow “shooting” are old, dead, deadliest, homeless, and guilty. The data above shows that the adjective words that mostly collocate with the word "Shooting" are old. This is shown by the high frequency of the word old found, which collocates with the word "Shooting" in the news on CNN, which is 10 times. The second adjective that collocates with the word "Shooting" is dead which appears 9 times. Furthermore, the word deadliest is the third most frequent adjective with a frequency of 8 times. The next adjective that collocates with the word "Shooting" is new which appears 3 times. The last adjective that collocates with the word "Shooting" is the word homeless which also appears 3 times.

Based on the data findings from the table above, the word "Shooting" mostly collocates with adjectives that have negative contexts, such as dead, deadliest, homeless, and guilty. Meanwhile, the word old is neutral. The words dead and deadliest indicate that the word "shooting" results in someone's death; the word homeless refers to the victim of a certain shooting incident; the word guilty indicates that the person doing the "shooting" activity is found guilty.

#### *Concordance Analysis of “Shooting”*

Concordance analyzes language patterns, which might reflect social attitudes, values, or behaviors, meaning it could analyze what things are characteristically revealed to be doing or what characteristics are attached to them (Gillings and Mautner, 2023). Thus, the writers analyze concordances of adjectival and verbal words that follow the word “shooting” because they contain characteristics that follow the collocations. The data below is the analysis of adjectival concordances of the word “shooting”.

**Table 3.**  
**The Concordance of “Old”**

had access to his firearms before the shooting, the brother told authorities. Card’s br  
An 11-year-old accused of shooting 2 teens at a football  
in Nebraska is facing charges after accidentally shooting his 12-year-old grandson during the cerem  
had access to his firearms before the shooting, the brother told authorities. Police di  
Father of 11-year-old boy killed in a shooting that left 4  
Fairfax County Adult Detention Center in the shooting death of his 22-year-old colleague, Jesse  
others wounded in a Texas flea market shooting. A 19-year-old suspect is in custody  
Mayor Jason Levesque lost friends in the shooting, he told “CNN This Morning.” A teenager  
-old nephew Aaron were killed in the shooting, told CNN this was the ideal outcome. “  
22-year-old charged in Tampa shooting that killed 2 and  
Asselin, who was separated from her 10-year-old daughter as the shooting began at the  
brother and nephew were killed in the shooting, told CNN this was the ideal outcome  
nothing less.” Child loses both parents in shooting A 13-year-old lost both of her  
connection with the wellness check. The 40-year-old went on two shooting rampages in Lewiston,  
walked into a bowling alley and started shooting. A 14-year-old boy playing with his

Based on table 3, the writers find 15 concordance lines of the word old which collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. Since the word told has almost the same writing as the word old, the word told also automatically appears in the data about old, so the writers exclude the word told because it is not the word the writers are looking for. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (2023), the word old has two meanings, indicating that humans or living things have lived for a long time or the age of a person or object. In lines 2, 3, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 15, the word old has the meaning of indicating the age of the perpetrator or victim of the shooting that occurred in the United States.

This analysis shows that when CNN media discusses the use of the word old in "shooting", the writers find out that the word "shooting" displays the fact that most of the shooting victims in the United States are children and teenagers, between the ages of 10 and 19. It can be seen from lines 2, 3, 5, 11, and 15. These data mention that there are always children or teenagers being victims in every shooting incident in the United States. Although children and teenagers are always portrayed as victims in shootings, this does not rule out the possibility that children or teenagers can also be perpetrators of shootings. An example that underage people can be perpetrators in shootings can be seen in the second line, which mentions that an 11-year-old child is suspected of being the perpetrator of the shooting of two of his friends in Florida. The data in the seventh line also shows that a 19-year-old is suspected of being the perpetrator of a shooting that killed a 10-year-

old child and injured several people in Texas. Meanwhile, the data in lines 10 and 14 mentions that the shooters were adults aged 22 and 40 years old.

The next datum the writers analyze is the word dead which collocates with the word “shooting”.

Table 4.  
The Concordance of “Dead”

not have a weapon’ months before the	shooting rampage that left 18 dead	New details ar
	Shooting leaves 2 dead,	3 wounded in Tacoma, Washi
Suspect in Colorado mass	shooting that left 3 dead	has been arrested, sheri
a catastrophe? Last month, after a mass	shooting in Maine left 18 dead,	author Stephen Kin
Suspect in Maine	shooting rampage is dead	from apparent self-inflic
were lost emerge. The suspect in the	shooting rampage that left 18 people dead	and 13 o
Days after the nation’s deadliest mass	shooting of the year left 18 dead	and the
before 3 a.m. Sunday, authorities said. The	shooting left two people dead	and injured 16 other
. After the suspect in Maine’s mass	shooting was found dead	Friday, President Joe Bide

Based on table 4 above, the authors find 9 concordance lines of the word dead which collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (2023), the word dead means a living being that has lost its life because the vital organs are no longer working. In those nine concordance lines, the word dead means that the victim or perpetrator can lose their life in shooting incidents in the United States.

This finding shows that when CNN discusses the word dead in "shooting", the writers find that the word "shooting" refers to the number of deaths of victims or perpetrators in shooting incidents. In lines 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8, it can be seen that the word dead refers to the number of casualties in each shooting incident that occurs in the United States because the word dead is always followed by a number indicating how many casualties have died in the various incidents. Although the word dead always refers to the death toll in a shooting, the word dead is also used when the perpetrator of the shooting is killed. This can be seen from the ninth line when CNN uses the word dead to report the death of the gunman in the shooting incident in Maine. This shows that the adjective dead has a negative meaning because this word indicates the number of victims or perpetrators killed in shooting incidents in the United States.

In the next datum, the researchers analyze the word deadliest which collocates with the word “shooting”

Table 5.  
The Concordance of “Deadliest”

authorities said. The violence – which marked the deadliest mass shooting in the United States this  
of 18, the rampage appears to be the deadliest mass shooting of the year in the  
ir search procedures Friday. Wednesday evening’s shooting was the deadliest US mass shooting since  
bowling with his father. It is the deadliest mass shooting in the United States this  
reservist who authorities say carried out the deadliest mass shooting in the United States this  
remembered for.” Wednesday’s rampage is the deadliest mass shooting in the United States this  
dozens wounded Days after the nation’s deadliest mass shooting of the year left 18 dead

The authors found 7 concordance lines of the word deadliest which collocates with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (2023), the word deadliest is the superlative form of the word dead. Deadliest means something that causes death or severe injury. In the seven concordance lines, the word deadliest means that mass shootings are the main cause of death for many people.

Based on the concordance data above, when CNN media discusses the use of the word deadliest in "shooting", the authors find that the word "shooting" refers to an extraordinary incident in the United States that caused the death of many people. In the nine lines above, we can see that the word deadliest refers to how many people died in shooting incidents that occurred in the United States. If we examine the nine lines above, we can conclude that the word deadliest is always followed by the word Maine, one of the states in the United States. It can be seen from all the lines when CNN used the word deadliest to report the shooting incident in Maine. This shows that the shooting in the state of Maine that occurred in October 2023 is described as the deadliest shooting incident that occurred in the United States this year because the shooting incident killed 18 people and injured 13 people, showing the large number of people who became victims in this shooting incident.

Next, the authors examined the concordance of the adjective homeless collocated with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article.

Table 6.  
The Concordance of “Homeless”

with voluntary manslaughter after filming himself shooting a homeless man, authorities say A Southe  
say A Southern California man accused of shooting and killing a homeless man he woke  
boy faces first-degree murder charge in shooting of a homeless man A 15-year-old

Based on table 6 above, the authors found 3 concordance lines of the word homeless collocated with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to

the Oxford English Dictionary (2023), the word homeless means someone who has no permanent place of residence. In the three concordance lines, the word homeless is described as a person who does not have a safe place to live and who is the victim of a shooting.

Based on the concordance data above, when CNN media discusses the use of the word homeless in "shooting", the authors find that the word "shooting" refers to the shooting incident of a homeless person that happened in California, United States which killed the homeless person. In the three lines above, we can see that the word homeless refers to a shooting victim in Southern California who was homeless. If we read the three lines above, we can conclude that the word homeless is followed by the words California and Pennsylvania, two states in the United States. This can be seen from all the lines when CNN uses the word homeless to report on shooting incidents in these two states. In addition, when reporting on these homeless shootings, the word charge is always found in the three concordance lines of the word homeless, which indicates that the perpetrators of the shootings in California and Pennsylvania have received punishment from the authorities.

**Table 7.**  
**The Concordance of "Guilty"**

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Father of Highland Park shooting suspect pleads guilty to misdemeanor reck  
four of his classmates in the mass shooting. Ethan Crumbley has pleaded guilty to mur  
19-year-old Michigan man pleads guilty to threatening a mass shooting targeting Je

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Based on table 7 above, the authors found 3 concordance lines of the word "guilty" that collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to the Oxford English Dictionary (2023), the word "guilty" means someone who has done something wrong or criminal. In the three concordance lines, the word guilty is described as a person who has been proven to have committed a criminal act.

Based on the concordance data above, when CNN media discusses the use of the word guilty in "shooting", the writers find that the word "shooting" refers to the criminals who admit that they committed the criminal act. In the three lines above, we can see that the word guilty in lines 1 and 2 refers to the parents of a New York shooter who admitted that they confessed to being careless by giving a gun to their son, Ethan Crumbley, who used the gun to commit a mass shooting. Then, when we examine the third line, the data

refers to a 19-year-old boy from Michigan who confessed that he threatened to shoot Jews. The perpetrator terrorized Jewish people with messages on social media. Based on the three concordance lines above, the word guilty is always followed by a word that indicates an acknowledgment of guilt, in this case, pleads or has pleaded. This shows that these shooters and shooting threats in New York and Michigan admitted that they carried out shootings or threatened to carry out shootings in their cities.

Next, the authors examined the concordance of the verb “said” which collocates with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article.

**Table 8.**  
**The Concordance of “Said”**

of Maine people,” Maine Gov. Janet Mills <b>said Monday</b> . The mass shooting upended life in
lies, friends and school community,” the district <b>said</b> . The shooting happened around 9:20 p.m. Frid
of interest” at the scene of the shooting, Galveston Police <b>said</b> in a news release
other were in the apartment when the shooting happened, police <b>said</b> . Authorities respon
inia State Police, the Chesterfield County Police <b>said the shooting</b> occurred at about 1:34 a.m.
-old man were “innocent bystanders in the shooting,” police <b>have said</b> . Officers in Pearland
. Sunday after authorities received calls about a shooting, the Pearland Police Department <b>said Mond</b>
are caught and brought to justice,” he <b>said</b> . The shooting is another example of the
Police Department spokesman Christopher Williams <b>said</b> . The other shooting, nearly 13 miles away on
Orange County Sheriff’s Department when the shooting happened. Authorities <b>said</b> in the releas

Table 8 shows the concordance results of the verb "Said". There are 10 concordances of the word "Said" that collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to Dictionary.com (2023), the word said means saying in the past tense. From the results of all the concordances in the figure above, the verb "said" refers to the words spoken by the subject in the news. The first line shows that the word "said" refers to something that was said at a certain time, when Jane Mills, as the Governor of Maine, opened her voice on Monday regarding the shooting case in Maine. The second line contains a concordance that reveals the sentence said by the local district attorney in the news of the shooting in Cincinnati. In the third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, and ninth lines, the concordance of the word "said" shows that the police on duty always give information related to the ongoing shooting issue. For example, the third line refers to a statement from Galveston police; the fourth, fifth, and sixth lines refer to a statement from Virginia police; the seventh line refers to a statement from Pearland police; and the ninth line refers to a statement from Memphis police.



Furthermore, in the eighth line, the verb "said" refers to the words of the Governor of Texas, Greg Abbott, who expressed his condolences to the victims of the shooting at a local market in Texas. The last line in the concordance refers to the verb "said", where the authorities, namely the public prosecutor from the Orange County sheriff's department, opened up about the murder video recorded by Elliot, a man from southern California. From the concordance explanation above, it can be concluded that the word "said" refers to the words or information from local authorities regarding the issue of shootings in the United States, such as police, governors, local district attorneys, and public prosecutors.

Furthermore, the authors examined the concordance of the verb killed which collocates with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article.

Table 9.  
The Concordance of "Killed"

hunt for the suspect	Eighteen people were	killed in a mass shooting	at two locations
, to pay their respects after	18 people were	killed there in a mass shooting	last week. "
t Monterey Park, California, where	11 people were	killed in a mass shooting	at a dance
grieving Lewiston, Maine, to mourn the	18 people	killed in a mass shooting	last week, expressing
Father of 11-year-old boy		killed in a shooting	that left 4 children injured
Security guard		killed in New Hampshire hospital shooting,	and a
		1 killed and 8 wounded in mass shooting	at community
Archive define a mass shooting as a		shooting that injured or killed	four or more
During manhunt for suspect in Maine		shooting that killed	18, authorities twice converg
at a restaurant in Lewiston, Maine. The		shooting killed	18 people and injured 13 others, G

The table above shows the concordance results of the verb "Killed". There are 10 concordances of the word "Killed" that collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to Dictionary.com (2023), the word killed means to cause death or take life in the past tense. From the results of all the concordances in the figure above, the verb "killed" refers to the news of the murder and its victims that occurred in the United States in October-November 2023. The first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, ninth, and tenth lines show that the word "killed" refers to a victim or a group of victims who were killed in a shooting event. Meanwhile, the fifth line shows that the word "killed" refers to the act of murder by shooting committed by the suspect. In the first, second, fourth, ninth, and tenth lines, the verb "killed" indicates that there were 18 victims killed in the Maine shooting. In the third line, the verb "killed" indicates that there were 11 victims killed in the shooting in Monterey Park, California. In the fifth line, the verb "killed" indicates that a father killed an 11-year-old boy and injured four other children

in Cincinnati. In the sixth line, the verb "killed" indicates that a security guard was killed in a New Hampshire hospital. In the seventh line, the verb "killed" indicates that a 22-year-old man was killed and nine others were injured in a shooting in Indiana, Pennsylvania. In the eighth line, the verb "killed" refers to the definition of mass shooting provided by CNN and the Gun Violence Archive. From the explanation of the concordance above, it can be concluded that the context of the verb "killed" shows the news of murder by shooting in the United States.

Furthermore, the authors examine the concordance of the verb injured that collocates with the word "Shooting" in CNN's online articles.

Table 10.  
The Concordance of "Injured"

of 11-year-old boy killed in a shooting that left 4 children injured asks: 'How m
-old man has been arrested in a shooting that injured six people during a motorcyc
spoke with all four students who were injured in the shooting, all of whom remain
-old man died and eight others were injured in a mass shooting at a party
the Gun Violence Archive define a mass shooting as a shooting that injured or killed
than 1 shooter involved Two 19-year-olds were injured in a shooting at Bowie State University
at a restaurant in Lewiston, Maine. The shooting killed 18 people and injured 13 others, G
22-year-old charged in Tampa shooting that killed 2 and injured 16 A 22-year-o
morning, leaving two people dead and 16 others injured, authorities said. The shooting started a
atement said. Police said earlier 18 people were injured in the shooting. Bercaw clarified two peop

The table above shows the concordance results of the verb "Injured". There are 10 concordances of the word "Injured" that collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to Dictionary.com (2023), the word injured means to cause injury or hurt in any form. From the results of all the concordances in the figure above, the verb "injured" refers to the news about the victims who were injured in the shooting incident in the United States in October - November 2023. The first, second, third, fourth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth, and tenth lines show that there were shooting victims who experienced injuries. In the first line, the word "injured" indicates that there were four victims injured in the shooting in Cincinnati by the victim's biological father. In the second line, the word "injured" indicates that there were six victims injured in a shooting in Galveston, Texas by a 20-year-old man. The third line, the word "injured" explains the condition of the four students who were injured in the shooting at Morgan State University. In the fourth line, the word "injured" indicates that there were eight shooting victims who were injured in the shooting in Indiana, Pennsylvania. In the fifth line, the



word "injured" refers to the definition of mass shooting provided by CNN and the Gun Violence Archive. In the sixth line, the word "injured" refers to the two victims injured in the shooting at Bowie University in Maryland. In the seventh line, the word "injured" refers to 13 people who were injured in the shooting in Maine. In the eighth, ninth, and tenth lines, the verb "injured" refers to 16 victims who were injured in the Tampa shooting. From the concordance above, it can be concluded that the verb "injured" means the victims who were injured in a shooting incident in the United States.

Next, the authors examined the concordance of the verb left that collocates with the word "Shooting" in CNN's online articles.

**Table 11.**  
**The Concordance of “Left”**

not have a weapon' months before the shooting rampage that left 18 dead	New details ar
of 11-year-old boy killed in a shooting that left 4 children injured asks: 'How m	
Man arrested after shooting during a motorcycle rally left 6 injured	
National School Walkout after the Parkland mass shooting. Then she left America	Lane Murdock som
Suspect in Colorado mass shooting that left 3 dead has been arrested, sheri	
a catastrophe? Last month, after a mass shooting in Maine left 18 dead, author Stephen Kin	
national school walkout after the Parkland mass shooting of 2018, has left the country. Burned out	
were lost emerge. The suspect in the shooting rampage that left 18 people dead and 13 o	
fathers who leave behind young children. The shooting rampage left 13 others injured, officials	
Days after the nation's deadliest mass shooting of the year left 18 dead and the	

The table above shows the concordance results of the verb "Left". There are 10 concordances of the word "Left" that collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to Dictionary.com (2023), the word left means to leave, go, or ignore. Although it has such a literal meaning, when looking at the context of this news, the word "left" means to cause death or injury due to shooting cases in the concordance context of the first, second, third, fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth, and tenth lines. For example, the first line, sixth line, eighth line, and tenth line show that the verb "left" refers to a shooting incident that caused the death of 18 victims in Maine; the second line refers to a shooting incident that caused the death of 4 victims in Cincinnati; the third line refers to a shooting incident that caused injuries to 6 victims in Galveston; the fifth line refers to a mass shooting incident that caused the death of 3 victims in Colorado; and the ninth line refers to a shooting incident that caused injuries to 13 victims in Maine. Meanwhile, in the fourth and seventh lines, the verb "left" has the literal meaning of to leave, go, or ignore. For example, in the fourth and seventh lines, the verb "left" indicates that Lane Murdock, a student who initiated the school strike after the mass shooting in Parkland,

has left America. From the concordance analysis above, it can be concluded that the verb "left" has two meanings, first, to cause death & injury, and second, to leave a place.

Furthermore, the authors examined the concordance of the verb happened which collocates with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article.

Table 12.  
The Concordance of "Happened"

and school community," the district said. The shooting happened around 9:20 p.m. Friday, a news
other were in the apartment when the shooting happened, police said. Authorities respon
believed to be a factor in the shooting." What happened is "an awful, tragic, ho
. A suspect is in custody in the shooting, which happened around 2:24 p.m., when a
's director of communications, told CNN the shooting happened at the Islamic Center of Rhode
the clock to catch him." The mass shooting happened around 1 p.m. Monday when the
from the Gun Violence Archive shows. The shooting happened in a remote part of Custer
't know where the shooter was. The shooting happened in a wooded area, and so
Orange County Sheriff's Department when the shooting happened. Authorities said in the releas
, the Morgan community and our city." The shooting happened as a popular homecoming week eve

The table above shows the concordance results of the verb "Happened". There are 10 concordances of the word "Happened" that collocate with the word "Shooting" in the CNN online article. According to Dictionary.com (2023), the word happened means to take place or happen. From the concordance results of the verb "happened" above, it can be concluded that the word "happened" refers to the news of a shooting incident that occurred in the United States from October to November 2023. In the first, fourth, and sixth lines, the verb "happened" refers to the information about the shooting incident followed by the time of the incident. For example, in the first line, the verb "happened" refers to the information of a shooting in Cincinnati at 9:20 pm released by the Cincinnati Police Department. In the second line, the verb "happened" refers to the information of a shooting in Nashville at 2:24 p.m. released by the police. In the sixth line, the verb "happened" refers to the information about the mass shooting in Colorado at 1:00 p.m., which was reported by Smith, a local police officer. Furthermore, in the second, fifth, seventh, and eighth lines, the verb "happened" refers to the description of the shooting incident followed by the description of the place or location of the incident. For example, in the second line, the verb "happened" refers to the information about a shooting in Virginia where four people were in an apartment when the shooting occurred. In the fifth line, the verb "happened" refers to the information of a shooting in Rhode Island which

was located at an Islamic Center of Rhode Island. In the seventh and eighth lines, the verb "happened" refers to the information that the shooting occurred in Custer County, near the Fremont County border. Furthermore, in the third line, the verb "happened" refers to the additional information about the accidental shooting of a United States park police officer, where the suspect states that the incident was a tragic mistake. In the ninth line, the verb "happened" refers to additional information about the suspect of the murder incident in California, where the suspect is claimed to have a license to carry a firearm that is still active. In the last line, the verb "happened" indicates that the mass shooting incident at Morgan State University is one of the most popular shooting incidents this year. From the concordance analysis above, it can be concluded that the verb "happened" refers to the incident of a mass shooting in the United States.

### **Discourse Practice Analysis**

Discourse practice analysis is one of the three-dimensional frameworks from Fairclough (2013), which discusses text production and text interpretation. In discourse practice analysis, the writers describe the ideology of CNN, the media that the writers analyze to understand the representation of shootings in the United States between October 2023 and November 2023. Based on the analysis, the writers find out that CNN is a left-wing media, where it believes in freedom, gender and racial equality, and anything related to equality. Left-wing people or media always believe that the only way to reduce the number of gun violence in the United States is by tightening the gun ownership rules, and CNN, in its article written by Jen Christensen on 5 October 2017 titled "Why the US Has the Most Mass Shooting", also agrees that one of the solutions to reduce gun violence in the United States is to tighten the gun control.

In addition, in an article titled "Representation of Mental Illness on Fox and CNN: The Parkland Shooting" by Miranda Melici of Bolton University, she argues that right-wing media mostly believe that gun violence happens in the United States because the gunmen have mental illness. This means that right-wing media blame mental illness as the main reason why gun violence in the United States occurs. On the other hand, left-wing media focuses more on how people can buy guns in the United States easily.

### **Socio-Cultural Practice Analysis**

The writers find out three levels of analysis in the socio-cultural dimension. They are situational analysis, institutional analysis, and social analysis. The first level of analysis that the writers analyze is situational analysis. There are two results of situational analysis that the writers find. The first situation is the global political situation.

One of the shooting incidents that happened in the United States is influenced by the ongoing political war between Israel and Palestine. In the CNN article titled “1 of 3 Palestinian Students Shot in Vermont May Never Walk Again after Bullet Hit His Spine, His Mother Says”, the gunman shoots three Brown University students from Palestine in Vermont. The families of the students say that the gunman should have been punished for his action because it can be categorized as a hate crime due to the rising hatred towards Muslim and Arab people since the war between Israel and Hamas broke out. Then, the shooting in the United States mostly happens in the situation when people celebrate certain events, like homecoming or Halloween. There have been seven incidents of shooting that occurred in the parties between October and November 2023. The first example is the shooting happening at Morgan State University, which injured five people. Then, these three examples are the shooting cases during Halloween. The first example of a shooting case on Halloween is the shooting case in Chicago wounding fifteen people. Then, the shooting case in Indianapolis kills one person and injures nine other victims. After that, a twenty-one-year-old woman from Delaware is hit and shot in the basement while she attends a Halloween party. The next cases are shooting cases which happen in the regular party. There is a shooting case in Louisiana that wounded six people aged fifteen to nineteen. Then, a thirteen-year-old child loses his both parents after they are shot at a party in San Antonio. The next case is three people murdered and the other three people injured in a shooting incident in Texarkana, Texas. Finally, there is one person murdered, and eight other people injured in a shooting case during a community party in Pennsylvania.

The second level of analysis that the writers examine is institutional analysis. Institutional analysis displays the influence of CNN as the media reporting. In 1980, CNN was founded by Ted Turner (CNN, 2020). Furthermore, in the United States, the media is generally seen as an independent press and it has evolved as a private institution (Jung &

Kim, 2011). Media companies in the United States have the right to seek profits as private entities. As a result, in September 1995, Time Warner Inc. (the company of Warner Bros) and Turner Broadcasting System Inc. (the company of CNN) have merged to form CNN as the world's largest media company at the time (Jung & Kim, 2011). Jung & Kim (2011) argues that their ownership affects the media content. Therefore, both corporations influence CNN's editorial direction. CNN as the profit-driven media institution tends to publish news that align with its values.

With CNN's core values as stated on CNN's official website, the institutional mission is "to inform, engage, and empower the world" (CNN, n.d.). CNN emphasizes the mission of "truth-seekers and storytellers" who aim not only to report, but also to explain why it happened and what it means. These core missions are reflected in the way CNN presents the issue of shooting violence in the article titled "She Led the National School Walkout after the Parkland Mass Shooting. Then She Left America". In the article, a CNN interviewee named Lane Murdock explains that the U.S. Government does not do anything to stop the gun violence in that country. She explains further that this is different from what the United Kingdom Government has been doing, tightening gun ownership, which results in the rare occasion of gun violence in the United Kingdom. She wishes that the U.S. Government would do what the United Kingdom has done by implementing the gun tightening law.

CNN's decision to emphasize the comparison between the U.K. and U.S. Government reflects CNN's dedication to empower audiences and encourage well-informed discussion. The article goes beyond reporting an event, but also to foster audience engagement with the shooting issues in the U.S. Moreover, the emphasis on public issues and governmental critique, as demonstrated in the article, reflects not only from the news author principles but also from the market-oriented consideration to meet what the audience expects to read in the news. By publishing the news titled "She Led the National School Walkout after the Parkland Mass Shooting. Then She Left America", CNN gives attention to the voices that oppose the current issues. These acts are frequently central to the left-leaning ideologies that emphasize government oversight and progressive change. Furthermore, from the perspective of power relations, CNN constructs a counter-narrative to the usual pro-gun arguments in the U.S. CNN uses its

influence to shape opinions, which strengthens their role as a powerful institution to critique the U.S. Government.

In addition to countering the narratives from the pro-gun supporters, CNN occasionally distributed its news report based on the story of the victims, aiming to touch its readers' emotions, which could be found in a headline *People are struggling... it's going to be a long healing process.*, *'Why did you do this?'* Grieving Maine families grapple with unanswered questions after man accused of killing 18 people is found dead. Using a headline of families losing their loved ones will certainly generate the readers' emotions, which will bring sympathy to people affected by the shooting incident.

The last level of analysis is social analysis. Fairclough (2013) argues that social analysis focuses on four aspects. Those aspects are politics, economy, culture, and ideology of the discourse. In terms of economy, it is found that people who engage in gun violence are mostly from people with struggling economies. Research shows that twenty percent of the parents whose children commit gun violence live in poverty. The second aspect is culture which relates to politics. U.S. residents have always been living with guns since the middle of the twentieth century. However, the main difference between now and then is the guns used by people in the past are shotguns and rifles to hunt down animals. There is even research explaining that six out of ten people in the United States refused handguns in 1959. Things started to change around the 1980s after Ronald Reagan passed the law on handguns for self-protection in the middle of the Cold War. The situation of gun ownership got worse when the Governor of Florida at that time, Bob Graham, said that people are allowed to bring guns into public places, such as shopping centers, theatres, or even schools. In the present day, the policy passed by Ronald Reagan and Bob Graham is the main reason why American people seem to care more about their guns than public safety, with twenty-seven states allowing their citizens to own guns without permits. The last aspect is ideology. Some American people seem to believe that owning guns is a patriotic act, which polarizes society (Jouet, 2019). This contradicts what CNN believes in since it favors stricter gun controls, which can be seen from negative connotations of guns, resulting in shooting accidents in the United States. In addition, since the media was considered left-wing, this aligned with the beliefs of left-

wing supporters, or simply called liberals, who think there must be restrictions on people who can buy and bring guns (Losee et al., 2020).

## CONCLUSION

This study explains how CNN in the United States portrays the word "shooting" between October 2023 and November 2023. The writers find out that the word "shooting" is followed by verbs and adjectives that tend to have negative connotations. The collocations of verbs on the word "shooting" are said, killed, injured, left, and happened. Meanwhile, the collocations of adjectives in the word "shooting" are old, dead, deadliest, homeless, and guilty. After the writers find out the collocations of the word "shooting", they analyze the concordances of the verbs and adjectives that follow the collocation of the word "shooting". The writers find out that the concordances of the verbs and adjectives that follow the word "shooting" tend to have negative meanings.

From the results of the discourse practice analysis, the writers conclude that CNN is a left-wing media where it believes in things such as freedom of speech, gender equality, racial equality, and other things related to equality. Media who believe in "left-wing" ideology, such as CNN, usually believe that the solution to reducing the number of shootings in the United States is to tighten gun ownership.

After they analyze discourse practice analysis, the writers examine socio-cultural practice analysis. When they analyze situational analysis, they find out that shootings in the United States can occur due to the influence of international political situations, such as the shooting case in Vermont that injured 3 people from Palestine, where the shooting incident is based on the political situation between Israel and Palestine. Shootings can also occur at certain events, such as Halloween parties, homecoming parties, or community parties. The writers also conduct an institutional analysis of the rise of shooting cases in the United States. They find out that shooting incidents always occur in the United States because government institutions have never done anything to stop these shooting cases. In the social analysis, they figured out that based on an economic perspective, the perpetrators mostly come from lower economic groups. Then, US citizens themselves have been familiar with guns even though handguns were only popularly used during the Cold War from a cultural and political perspective, and US



citizens consider owning a gun to be a form of patriotism from an ideological perspective.

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