

## State News Agency Frames on Terrorist Attack : Study in TVNZ New Zealand and news.lk Sri Lanka

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**Abstract:** *Many of the global mass media tend to deliver a particular news frame in a terrorism case, especially linkage terrorism with certain religions, races, at so on. The global mass media is influenced by Western media. The news frame will be different from the news agency level. This article aims to discuss news frame by the national news agencies in New Zealand (TVNZ) and Sri Lanka (news.lk) in a terrorism case, using the Robert N. Entman frame model. The result shows TVNZ defines the problem as an unprecedented action and creates a dark history in the country, the cause of the problem is terrorists from outside New Zealand, moral judgments in the form of evidence that New Zealand society remains united, the victims are also part of the New Zealand family regardless of their background, so the recommended resolution of the problem is that the government guarantees the safety of Muslim communities. Differently, news.lk defines the problem as the motive of the attack as revenge with religious sentiment. Meanwhile, the security forces are not aware of the threat, that define the cause of the problem as the perpetrator is an organized group and an indication of religious sentiment. This media makes moral judgments by revealing the fact that Muslims not guilty, the government facilitates representatives of the religious community in Sri Lanka to express their opinions to find solutions for reconciliation and maintaining peace. The recommended resolution is that the government is ready to fight terrorism without foreign intervention, improve the performance of the security forces, and reveal the active role of the different Sri Lankan people's ethnicity and religion.*

**Keywords:** *frame analysis, New Zealand, Sri Lanka, state news agency, terrorism news.*

### INTRODUCTION

Mass media tend to deliver the news related to terrorism in high quantity, high pace, and continuously. It happens because there is a “co-incidence” connection between the needs of the parties involved in terrorism and the media. The parties, whether it is the government or terrorist group, want to rule the information flow (Junaedi, 2017; Sukarno, 2011). On the other side, mass media wants to gain audiences as much as possible. News about terrorism may attract many audiences, so that mass media try to publish the news as interest as possible. The more the audiences, mean the media have more opportunities to gain profit from the advertisement

(Fikri, M, 2016).

Talk broader about the news frame the terrorism news frame is dominated by the Western media –the supplier information for global audiences by far – who tend to associate terrorism with Islam and Muslim. Western media lean to use a double standard in the news frame: when the assailant is Muslim, there is a big problem. Meanwhile, when the assailant is not Muslim, the actor is an “individual who has own problems” (Powell, 2018; Yusof et al., 2013; von Sikorski et al., 2017). Western Media content usually shows negative frames toward Islam that is primitive, fundamentalists, extremists, intolerance, authoritarian, militant, do not respect women's rights, radical,

aggressive, conservative, tyranny, and do not have a desire to reform themselves (Quraishy, 2005). On the other hand, news about reconciliation efforts between the West and Islam relatively rare (Sultan, 2016; Yusof et al., 2013).

How about the terrorism news in the state news agency? In nature, state news agencies should keep their government's interest, so there will be different news frames between private news companies and state news agencies in terrorism coverage. State news agency will never published statement from the group/person whose claiming responsibility for the terrorism act (Junaedi, 2017)..

This article aims to find out about how is the frame of terrorist attack news in state news agency. The case is a terrorist attack in New Zealand (written with NZ hereafter) known as "Christchurch Mosque Attack" (March 2019) and Sri Lanka, known as "Easter Sunday Attack" (April 2019). There is a presumption that the two incidents related to the terrorist attack in Sri Lanka as the response to what happened in NZ a month before. In the "Christchurch Mosque Attack", a guy shot the gun to the mosque in Christchurch and killed dozens. Most of the victims are Muslim. Meanwhile, the Easter Sunday Attack hit several churches in several cities in Sri Lanka. These two incidents also placed the Muslim in two opposite positions, as a victim in NZ and as the perpetrator in Sri Lanka.

Government use the state news agency to support their interests and as a counterbalance for news from foreign media in covering terrorism or political conflict issue. For example, what the Russian government did in conflict with Ukraine. The Russian government uses the state news agency ITAR TASS in conflict with Ukraine. ITAR TASS being used to provide information for foreign media and as the bypass pieces of information from the foreign media correspondent

– who generally deliver the negative frame about the Russian government – in Moscow. ITAR TASS news frames are negative tones about Ukraine and show the positive aspects of Russia by using statements from the Western country leaders. By using Western country leaders as news sources instead of Russian officials, ITAR TASS expected their information considered to have higher news values and make the Western media interest to cite it. The use of ITAR TASS in conflict shows the example of how a country uses a non-military way to gain military goals (Watanabe, 2017).

Another example is research about state-owned television CCTV (China). CCTV news frame about the attack in Kunming rail-station, China, is a terrorist attack. As a comparison, news on CNN – a private-Western media which tends to support the United States of America (USA) government policy – frame the attack caused by separatism and China's domestic conflict. How about the CCTV frame the news about the deadly attack in the USA? CCTV news did not get into a debate about the relations between Islam and the Western in the news about the Boston bombing attack. In conclusion, the news frame influenced by the political system in each country and the diplomatic relations between China and the USA (Du & Li, 2017).

In Australia, there are differences between two state-news media in covering terrorism issues, ABC and SBS. ABC tends to be more neutral than SBS in news coverage about the clash between police and terrorism convicted in Indonesia. The focus of ABC news is about the casualties of the clash, meanwhile, the SBS focuses on the actor, and labeled them with "Islam militant". The neutral frame by ABC because this media is directly owned by the Australian government. Although the SBS media is also owned by the Australian government, they have a

different audience target from ABC. This makes SBS news is more straightforward than ABC Satriani (2018).

**METHOD**

This article using frame analysis Robert N. Entman’s model. This model explains frame as the media activity in selecting particular aspects from an issue/event and give salience to it. After select to focus on a particular aspect and overlook other aspects, the media then give salience with repetition, association with cultural symbols, simplification, generalization, etc. (Eriyanto, 2002). In a crisis, mass media frame have a huge influence on public perception about who must take responsibility. Mass media frame formed through news, opinion, editorial notes, and advertisement (Kriyantono, 2014). Entman framing model uses four components: definite problem, defining causes, making a moral judgment, and treatment recommendation. For details, see TABLE 1.

The data are taken from the news in TVNZ (NZ state news agency) and news.lk (Sri Lanka state news agency) that published within a week (seven days) after the terrorist attack (for TVNZ: March 15, 2019 – March 22, 2019; for news.lk : April 21, 2019 – April 28, 2019). The sample was taken by random sampling with loose categorization. Authors select the news that covers the first reaction from the government, what they will do next, and how the government said about The Muslim community.

There are four news from TVNZ and six news from the news.lk. See TABLE 2 for details.

**RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

**State News Agency : A Short Brief**

The challenge is defining what is “state news agency” is because there are several terms such as “state-owned news agency”, “state-run news agency” or “national news agency”. The study about state news agency highlight how government delivers the information to support the authority interest. Based on ownership, national news media include media organizations owned by the government, so the government can fully control the media content and operations. In general, this practice is happening in the country with communist ideology (Junaedi, 2017). Another source said that whatever the country ideology, the function of state news agency relatively the same: deliver the dominant political narration for the public, disregard the alternative or different opinion with government. The national news media has become the rulers’ tool to silence the criticism of the government (Walker & Orttung, 2014). In this article, the author chooses to use the term “state news agency” because the national news agency is too general (not only state but also private media company could include in it).

How about the practice of state news agency? In Indonesia, ANTARA state news agency’s purpose is to deliver

TABLE 1. Entman Framing Components

|                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| Define problem           | How the event or issue being viewed? As what problem?  |
| Defining causes          | What or who causes the issue or event?   |
| Making moral judgement   | What is moral judgement that being delivered as a justification or delegitimation for an action? |
| Treatment recommendation | What is the solution(s) that being offered to solve the issue or problems?                       |

(Source : Eriyanto, 2002: 188-189)

TABLE 2. Entman Framing Components

| Title   | Date Issued    | Media (Country)     |
|---|----------------|---------------------|
| [NZ-1] This is one of New Zealand's darkest days' - Prime Minister's message after Christchurch mass shooting           | March 15, 2019 | TVNZ (New Zealand)  |
| [NZ-2] Ardern, Bridges unite to support Muslim community in Christchurch  | March 16, 2019 | TVNZ (New Zealand)  |
| [NZ-3] It's been a beautiful thing' - Christchurch's Muslim community return to their mosques after darkest day         | March 18, 2019 | TVNZ (New Zealand)  |
| [NZ-4] Full speech: 'Our loss is a gain to NZ's unity and strength,' says Muslim leader and survivor of mosque shooting | March 22, 2019 | TVNZ (New Zealand)  |
| [SL-1] PM, political leaders condemn bomb attacks, urge the nation to unite   | April 21, 2019 | news.lk (Sri Lanka) |
| [SL-2] PM Promises Stern Action Against Culprits  | April 22, 2019 | news.lk (Sri Lanka) |
| [SL-3] Muslims do not condone terror attacks – PM   | April 24, 2019 | news.lk (Sri Lanka) |
| [SL-4] Security Apparatus To Be Restructured – President  | April 24, 2019 | news.lk (Sri Lanka) |
| [SL-5] All Religious Committee gathered   | April 27, 2019 | news.lk (Sri Lanka) |
| [SL-6] NTJ, JMI terrorist outfits banned  | April 28, 2019 | news.lk (Sri Lanka) |

(Source: Source : resumed from the data)

information that can educate Indonesian people and enrich the rich of the nation (Primayanti, 2015). News from the state television media in China television, CCTV, being influenced by the policy of the government. The research held between 2010 – 2015 shows the balance of positive tone and negative tone in CCTV news about Western countries. Since Xi Jinping becomes the China president in 2012, the tone about Western countries become more negative, because Xi Jinping's foreign policy is more critical to the Western country (Zhang & Boukes, 2019).

The interesting findings are in several European counties, the media ownership by the state become the

common things. There are several factors. First, government interest to make sure that the message can be delivered to the people in domestic and international, especially in war and conflict context; second, the ownership by the government will ensure in keeping the national interest above the political party interest or political faction interest; third, the government support to national news agency is the support to media diversity. Several European countries have their long history of supporting the national news agency for a different purpose, such as keep the authoritarian regime interest or national interest to giving information and empowering people (Rantanen et al., 2019).

### News Frame Analysis on TVNZ

The first news of TVNZ was published on the same day, several hours after the terrorist attack. The frame, in general, is the victims are part of NZ, while the perpetrator is not. The define problem component describes the attack as “the extraordinary event that never been happened before” and it leads “the darkest day in NZ history”. In the defining causes, this news report PM Ardern statement, who said: “The person who has perpetuated this violence against us, is not.”. This statement was written after PM Ardern’s statement that said the victims are part of the NZ, although their backgrounds are not NZ native. This framing technique shows “the labelling to describe person or issue” (Eriyanto, 2002), where this particular label refers to a non-New Zealand perpetrator.

For making moral judgement components, this news coverage state from the opposition party that gives their support and sympathy to the society. This news tends to show the NZ political party is unified in responding to this attack. While in treatment recommendation, the news show the PM Ardern statement about the NZ police has identified the suspected perpetrator and ask the NZ people to stay at home until the situation is safe

The second news, publish a day after the attack, contains a general frame about the government and opposition support for the NZ Muslim community. In define problem component, this news informed that the attack will arouse questions around how the NZ government to ensure people’s livelihoods, to ensure they can meet day to day needs when they have lost often what will be primary breadwinners. On the defining causes component, this news named the actor as “terrorist”.

In the moral judgement, this news frames the statement from the government

and opposition in a relative balance portion. It tends to expose that political leaders are uniting to solve the problem. The news also contains information about the leader from different parties attended the parliamentary session. Related to the treatment recommendation component, the news contains PM Ardern’s statement about the three roles that would be done by NZ to solve the problem. The roles bring the message of love and support the grief of the NZ people; ensure the safety and freedom for NZ people in expressing culture and worship activities; and ensure the Muslim community has the space to grieve.

The general frame for the third news (publication date: March 18, 2019) is the NZ people are uniting. In define problem components, the news focuses on the unity of New Zealand society that has not been shaken by terrorist acts. In defining causes component, the news frame is the concern about the mosque attack that led hate and feud in the NZ community. Opposite the concern, the NZ community from different ethnicities and religions choose to stand together against hate.

Information about support from Maori ethnic (the native ethnic in NZ) and Coptic Christians becomes the moral judgement frame. The salience of this news shows in the use word “our” to show the unity among NZ people, amount of people who attend the sympathetic rally (hundreds attendance), and the support are written with a direct quotation. For the treatment recommendation, this news expose the statement from Muslim representatives that said NZ people need to build a mutual understanding to avoid a similar incident in the future.

The fourth news from TVNZ (published on March 22, 2019) gives salience to the speech delivered by representatives from the Muslim community (by an Al Noor Mosque Imam, Gamal Fouda) in Christchurch’s Hagley

Park for a Call to Prayer and two minutes of silence. To define problem component, this news exposes the terrorist attack as an awakening for NZ and humanity. The defining cause element appear with the word “terrorist” on the news.

The treatment recommendation component contains information about the need for unity after the tragedy. As written in the text: “[O]ur assembly here with all the shades of our diversity is a testament of our joint humanity, we are here in our hundreds and thousands, unified for one purpose”. For the moral judgement component, this news draws on the Imam’s statement that the victim has been a savior for Islam and New Zealand and that terrorist acts will not divide the country. Another fact for the moral judgement component is the information about the presence of PM Ardern at that event.

#### **News Frame Analysis on news.lk**

The first news from the news.lk published on the same day with the attack. The general frame is the government and opposition are one voice: condemning the terrorism. In define problem components, the news frame of the attack would not be shaken Sri Lanka as it was before. For information, Sri Lanka has experienced sectarian conflict with religious sentiment. The attack labelled as a “cowardly attack”, “barbaric violence”, “coordinated bomb attack”, and “act of terrorism”. In defining causes, this news does not inform detailed information about whose the perpetrator.

As the moral judgement component, the news display statement from government and opposition is relatively balance in portion. The opposition representatives’ statements also condemn the terrorist attack. The purpose is showing the Sri Lanka political leader are united to face this problem. For the treatment recommendation component,

the news informs about what the government will do, and a statement from both government and opposition asks Sri Lanka people to keep their unity and do not trust the unconfirmed information.

The second news was published a day after the attack. The general frame is a statement from Sri Lanka PM about the security apparatus inadvertency towards intelligence reports about the possibility of attack, then followed by information about what the government will do to bring the country to normalcy. To define problem frame, the media cite the PM Statement who said: it has been revealed that intelligence units had informed relevant authorities about a probable terror attack. But necessary attention had not been drawn to that information. The defining causes describe as “terror attack” and the presumption of an “international link” behind the attack.

The condolence and sympathy from several world leaders to Sri Lanka -- in the news mention countries such as India, Pakistan, and Nepal—become the moral judgement component. It tended to show that Sri Lanka gains support, at least from the regional scope (South Asian). For the treatment, the recommendation is information about what the government will do, such as ensuring the safety of people. Written in direct quotation such as: “Many measures taken to strengthen law and order”; “ Schools will be closed for two days while universities will be closed until further notice”; and “a curfew was imposed”

The third news uses Sri Lanka PM as news sources. The presumption attack perpetrator becomes the about the involvement of Muslim behind the attack, the motive of the attack is religious sentiment, and Sri Lanka on the global terrorism attack, become the define problem component. Information related to defining causes components is the perpetrators are skilled, and the attack

is planned for a long time before.

In the moral judgement component, the frame is Islam and Muslims are against terrorism and violent and destructive act. Another, to give an accentuation, the news presents the PM statement indirect quotation. The information on the moral judgement is Sri Lanka had experienced a much bigger problem in the past: the conflict between government and Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), but the problem can be resolved. For the treatment recommendation component, the news report of the emergency law is enacted, so the security apparatus have full authority to arrest suspected people. Another fact is Sri Lanka gained support from international countries.

The general frame for the fourth news is the Sri Lanka president's plans to take immediate corrective action in the security apparatus body. In the defined problem component presents information about the president's plans to change the structure and officials in the police department, tri-forces, and another state security institution. Implementation of the plan will be taken as soon as possible as written in the text. The change of officials will be taken "within 24 hours" and the restructuration will be taken "within a week". For the defining causes, the component is the statement about security apparatus ignored the intelligent report, so the terrorist attack can not be anticipated.

Related to treatment recommendation component present information Sri Lanka has received assistance offers from eight countries to improve the country's skill in technology and intelligence to anticipate the terrorist attack, and the government will discuss with the inter-religion representatives and inter-political parties leaders to get the solution. For making moral judgment component, the news gives salience for two aspects. First, the president's statement about the

attack "was caused by a small group of extremists and the Muslim community as a whole should not be blamed for the incident". Second, the president's statement regarding the enforcement of emergency law. The president guarantees the law purpose only for anticipating the possibility of further terror, and not to restrict the freedom of speech and democracy. The president also ingratiates that in the last ten years, the Sri Lanka people live in a peaceful and democratic situation.

The fifth news informs the meeting of interfaith leaders initiated by the Sri Lankan government. As the defined problem, the meeting held because Sri Lanka should build reconciliation among its people and the religious leader have an important role to reach the goal. For define causes component, there was the possibility of an uncertain situation after the attack, and it could trigger religious sentiment in society.

In the moral judgement component, the news shows statements/views from all religious representatives. The highlight are: (1) The Islamic representative declares they have detected the possibility of terror with religious sentiment motives since 2014 and report it to the authorities but did not get an appropriate response. The Islamic representative also said that the entire Muslim community has inconvenienced due to the savage action taken by a very small number of people, (2) The critics for Muslim community from another religion representatives, such as "the dress of Muslim women which joined newly to the tradition of Sri Lanka should be changed for the security of the country as well as the entire population", and (3) Support for the Muslim community from another religion representatives.

For the treatment recommendation, the news frame is government promises to use all the advices from religious

representatives as the consideration in war against terrorism. Government also claimed Sri Lanka gained many supports from many parties such as international community. On the other hand, president ensure Sri Lanka will not involve foreign armed forces in war against terrorism

campaign.

The sixth news was published a week after the attack. This news informs about the government has taken action against groups proven to be responsible for acts of terror. In define problem component, the news presents the Sri

TABLE 3. Framing TVNZ dan news.lk

| Framing component        | TVNZ   | News.lk   |
|--------------------------|--|---|
| Define problem           | Terrorist attack, the unexpected and unpredicted attack, the darkest day in NZ history   | Terrorist attack, assumed with religious sentiment motives and retaliation for what happen in NZ in previous month  |
| Defining causes          | Terrorist, very cruel attack, the perpetrator came from outside New Zealand, and there is mention about the origin of perpetrator (Australia)  | The attack performed by “coward” and “organized group”. The inadvertence of Sri Lanka security apparatus also cause the attack  |
| Moral judgement          | New Zealand people and political leader unite. The casualties are part of New Zealand family, whether their background are immigrants. The victims do not die in vain, they become the martyrdom for Islam and New Zealand | Opinion from non-Muslim representatives, said Islam not to be blame The Muslim community said they are uncomfortable with the reckless act of a small group of Muslims. Government gain support from opposition and offering assistance from foreign countries<br>Government involved inter-religious leaders to give their say, opinion, as the effort to resolve the problems.  |
| Treatment recommendation | Government guarantee the safety of Muslim community  | The government is ready to fight terrorism and this requires global cooperation. Even so, the government guarantees that there will be no intervention from other countries<br>The government plans to overhaul the security apparatus<br>Domestically, the government believes religious leaders can help build peace in society<br>There is criticism of Muslims because they are considered exclusive<br>There has been criticism of the government’s actions because intelligence is considered weak and the current law is not suitable for handling terrorism cases |

(Source : data resume)



Lanka president decision to banned two Islamic organizations named National Thahweed Jamaah (NTJ) and Jamatheh Millathu Ibraheem (JMI). For the defining causes, the two organizations labelled as “homegrown terrorist group”. Previously, the government supposes the perpetrator is an international terrorist group.

As the moral judgement, the frame is the Islam community did not support the groups. To affirm the media frame, the news highlight statement from clerics in Polonnaruwa who have sent a letter to the local authority about the need to ban the NTJ. The news also contains information there is three NTJ mosque in Polonnaruwa. For the treatment recommendation component, this news informs the government plan to use their authorities as regulated on security law and propose a draft regulation in a banned extremist organization. Another recommendation is reaffirmation from the Sri Lanka president about the involvement of officials from foreign armed forces, only the officials and only for the investigation process. It answers the speculation about the intervention of the foreign military in the war against terrorism in Sri Lanka. It is worth noting, this news also present critics from Sri Lanka PM – although only get a small portion in the text. PM said the need to revised Sri Lanka law because it is out of date and could not deal with nowadays challenge related to terrorism. To summed up, the TVNZ and news.lk frame, see TABLE 3.

### Discussion

Official authorities (such as a head of state, the head of government) become the dominant news sources in both media on the first week after the attack. These findings quite similar to previous research and literature that explains the function of state news agencies is to deliver government political messages domestically and globally, to maintain

the country’s national interest. State news agency content is being influenced by government policy, so that the coverage will support the government’s interest (Du & Li, 2017; Primayanti, 2015; Rantanen et al., 2019; Watanabe, 2017; Zhang & Boukes, 2019). In terrorism, the state news agency will never cover the news or statement from the group/person whose claiming responsibility for the terrorism act (Junaedi, 2017), it makes the objectivity become the rare things in terrorism news (Sukarno, 2011)

The target audiences also influences the state news agency news frame (Satriani, 2018). In order to know the general view about the audiences of both state news agencies, the authors use a literature review about the social-political condition in NZ and Sri Lanka. According to Ozdeser et al., (2019) wrote, NZ is the country with no experience facing terrorism. The last shooting incident that killed and injured dozens of people happened in 1990, and the problem is personal, not related to any ideology or religion. So, that TVNZ uses the term “unexpected and unpredicted attack”, “terrorist attack” and “the darkest day in NZ history” as the frame in the defined problem.

Meanwhile, news.lk defining the problem as “attack” with “assumption of religious sentiment motives and revenge action for what happened in NZ”. Why religious sentiment motives become prevision, because Sri Lanka has experienced long history in conflict with religious sentiment nuances, Islam or Muslim community did not involve in the conflict at that time (Aliff, 2015; Devotta, 2018).

In defining causes, TVNZ mentions the origin of the perpetrator, Australia. The gunman in Christchurch Attack in NZ is not Muslim and white. Meanwhile news.lk labelled the attacker as a “coward”, without mention the religion or

origin. Both the state news media shows different than global narration offered by the Western media whose tend to linked terrorism with Islam. When the assailant is Islam or Muslim, Western media lean to associate Islam with terrorism. While the assailant is non-Muslim and white people, Western media labelled his/her act as a “crime”. The unfair frame towards Islam also happened when Islam people become the victims of the terrorist attack (Powell, 2018; Quraishy, 2005; von Sikorski et al., 2017; Yusof et al., 2013).

The condition of Islam and the Muslim community in NZ and Sri Lanka used to discuss the moral judgement component. Both TVNZ and news.lk highlight the importance of unity in society, showing the entity between political leaders (government and opposition), do not blame the Muslim community or Islam, and giving sympathy for Islam and the Muslim community. It is because both countries have a conflict or at least a potential conflict with Islam. Ward et al. (2019) research shows NZ are a country ranks well in multiculturalism, but there is a problem relate with Islam. Recent survey show 64 percent respondents – they are NZ native—said the Islamic holiday should be respected; but the same survey result show around 50 percent respondents thinks Islamic values did not suitable with NZ society values. Another 45 percent respondents reveal they are disagree with mosque in their residence and burqa clothes should be forbidden.

In Sri Lanka, Islam has good relations with other religions, including Buddha as the majority, in the early 20th century. In the conflict between the government (from majority ethnic Sinhala and the religion is Buddha) and LTTE (from ethnic Tamil and the religion is Hindu), Islam’s position was against the LTTE, which made many Muslims killed by LTTE and thousands forced to leave

their residences. The Muslim situation changed –worsen-- since 2012, around three years after the peace agreement between the government and LTTE. The hostility towards Islam has increased. Hate speech, physical attack, boycott for a business run by Muslim, and labelling Muslim as a foreign, separatist, involve in drugs trafficking, exclusive – because only want to make a business only with Muslim, intolerance, are some examples of inconveniences experienced by Muslim (Aliff, 2015, Devotta, 2018).

In treatment recommendation, both TVNZ and news.lk presents information about government effort to recover the condition and prevent further attack. One interesting finding from the news.lk contains critics and advice to government and Islam. On one side, our findings are different from the literature that said state news agency will never publish the critics or alternative opinion to the governments (Walker & Orttung, 2014). But on a wider view, presenting different opinions in state news media is part of government interests: show to the public the government’s seriousness in resolving the problem by involving different parties.

## CONCLUSION

The result shows TVNZ defines the problem as an unprecedented action and creates a dark history in the country; the cause of the problem is terrorists from outside New Zealand; moral judgments in the form of evidence that New Zealand society remains united; victims are also part of the New Zealand family regardless of their background; the recommended resolution of the problem is that the government guarantees the safety of Muslim communities.

News.lk defines the problem the motives of the attack is revenge with religious sentiment, on the other side the security apparatus is unaware with the threat; defining the cause of the problem

is the culprits are organized groups and indications of religious sentiment; making moral judgments by exposing the fact that Muslims are innocent, the government facilitates the representative community of religions in Sri Lanka to express their opinions to find solutions for reconciliation and maintain peace; the recommended resolution is that the government be ready to fight terrorism without foreign intervention; repair the performance of security apparatus; and expose on the active role of the Sri Lanka people who have different ethnicity and religion.

To sum up, TVNZ and news.lk frame highlight the need for unity and what the government does to resolve the problem. Both media did not come into the debate about the religions. On several occasions, the news also contains critics of the government. On the other side, the presence of dissimilar opinion is a part of the government's interests: show openness to everyone, to build unity among the people and trust in the government. The authors admit there are several limitations in this article, such as in the method, data sampling, and time frame. For further researches, the author advises on research in the state news agency news frame in terrorism on particular topics (e.g. international relations, domestic social-political impact). If possible, it will be interesting to research the editorial policy from a state news agency in a terrorism case, because the news frame is being produced by the editorial policy.

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