

Cyber-sexism

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Abstract:

Violence against women has practically become the norm in modern Turkey. According to the Bianet Report, "In the last ten months, males killed 327 women, and harassed 100 women" (Kepenek, 2024). It was recently discovered that, some of the perpetrators had connections to incel groups that were organizing on the social media platforms (BBC Turkish, 9 October 2024).

Globalisation appears to facilitate the development of common strategies and the implementation of action by such groups, as well as their ability to influence one another and gain courage. I will attempt to demonstrate how particular instances from X (Twitter) users' posts are used to express sexist and hateful comments by the group members, linked to incels (involuntary celibates).

The data was collected by executing an X search for communities, using the hashtag #inceller, #sadece erkekler, and #erkek adam.[Translated: #incels, #onlymen, #realmen]. Anon Primat Teşkilatı (Anon Primat Organisation) was chosen for analysis due to its large following and long history. The method employed in this study is Multimodal Critical Discourse Studies (MCDS). Discourses are models of the world that show "what view of the world is being communicated through semiotic resources" (Abousnoug & Machin 2010: 139). Because of its multimodal character, MCDS is an ideal tool for analysing social media. According to Machin and Mayr (2012), MCDS is a useful tool for demonstrating how each mode, with its own specific "affordances," and in conjunction with other modes, generate discourses for the purpose of communication.

Keywords: cyber sexism, Turkey, CDA, incels, hate speech

