

A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF THE USE OF PICTURES IN SELECTED NEWSPAPERS

OTTAH, GABRIEL ALHASSAN (PhD)
Department of Mass communication
Kogi State University, Anyigba, Nigeria
+2348056931686, +2348061160298
ottahgabvoice@yahoo.com
ottahgabvoice@gmail.com

Abstract

Every newspaper house today uses pictures to either complement stories or stand to give news independently. This practice has given photojournalism a critical place in the print media of mass communication. The study sought to content-analyse the use of pictures in two newspapers, the Graphic and Daily Sun. The aim was to among other things, ascertain the frequency of the use of photographs in the newspapers and identify the various types of photographs used in them. It also identified the sources of the pictures used in the newspapers. Out of a population of 105 editions of the newspapers cutting across all Tuesdays in the months of May, June and July 2014, 26 editions were studied using purposive sampling method. Coding sheet was used to analyse the newspaper photos. It was found out that both the Graphic and the Daily Sun used photographs in all the pages of the editions; and the aware pictures dominated the newspapers with 64% while the candid pictures followed with 21% and the semi-aware picture 15%. Most of the pictures were relevant to the stories, but the Graphic newspapers had more of negative pictures (75%), than Daily Sun with 25%. Most of the pictures (60.6%) used were sourced from photojournalists as against other sources. Based on the findings, it was concluded that the newspapers had adopted extensive use of pictures in news reporting. I recommended that newspapers should give prominence to the use of candid pictures as it is capable of showing the reader the action in the event and story without any pretence as is often the case with aware photographs. Since pictures play significant roles in complementing newspaper stories, print media houses should sustain their usage with modern professional touch to keep readers glued to the print contents.

Key words: photojournalism, *Graphic, Daily Sun*, and photography.

Introduction

The primary assignment of every journalist is to inform, educate and entertain the public adequately and accurately. The modus operandi of the information dissemination may differ from one media station to the other, but the aim is the same. Audiences utilize their senses of light, sound, taste, touch and smell to appreciate the message put across by the media. The print uses texts to glue readers to the pages of newspapers and magazines. While doing so, media experts are wary of the fact that wide pages of texts in newspapers or magazines without pictures to complement stories and break the monotony of paragraphs would result in speedy diminishing of interest for reading, no matter how interesting a story is. This aspect of news reporting is photojournalism. The saying “one

picture is worth a thousand words” demonstrates the power of pictures and the information they can convey. It is a known fact that people tend to believe their sense of sight more than other sensory organs based on the popular saying, “I’ll believe it when I see it.”

Okoro & Nnadiukwu (2000 p.73) define photojournalism as communication through pictures. They also add that it is the use of photographs in the narration, description, explanation or illustration of what has happened, is happening, or about to happen. Based on the power of photographs, words are secondary to pictures in reporting news events in this field of journalism. Okoro (2002, p.15) sees it as “information, education, communication and entertainment through pictures.” It means the visual presentation of happenings of the day with the help of the camera. Photojournalism is a sub-discipline of photography, which involves capturing of images to help tell a story. In a number of cases, these individuals are hired by newspapers or magazines. Asemah & Ottah (2015) say that “The newspaper reporter primarily uses his pen. The radio reporter needs a midget; the television reporter uses a video camera. The photojournalist uses the still camera.” This explanation suggests the tool for photojournalism, which is the camera. Use of pictures has been a topical issue. While some academic efforts tend to loud the complementary role of photojournalism, others cry out against its manipulation and deliberate lie through computer possibilities in recent times. For instance, in the study of Malizu (2011, p. 133), she expresses the growing concern over the debate on whether pictures lie or not. She says “that the camera cannot lie is true only in the sense that the images it captures must have existed in one form or another at some particular time, but it is not always clear if those images have been manipulated in some way to alter or to stage an event which never happened.” Malizu argues further that photography was never innocent from its beginning. Liu, Yao & Liu (2004) corroborate the claim when they affirm that “Even some of the most vulnerable news organizations of the world have had their reputations corroded by allowing these tampered photos to be published.”

However, photography has come to stay, considering its roles in meeting audience needs. Pictures serve the purposes of complementing stories in newspapers; presenting pictorial sequence of events, standing alone for news; and acting the story in form of feature photo (Asemah & Ottah, 2015)

The *Graphic* newspaper is a weekly newspaper owned by the Government of Kogi State, Nigeria. It was established in August 1992 after the creation of the state in 1991. It has its Headquarters in Lokoja the state capital. This newspaper circulates in Kogi State and neighbouring states and its editions are released every Tuesday. The slogan of the newspaper is *Towards a New Horizon*. It is published by Kogi Printing and Publishing Corporation located in the state capital. The *Graphic* newspaper is targeted at satisfying the readership pleasure of newspaper audiences in Kogi State. It is published in English language.

Daily Sun newspaper is a daily Nigerian newspaper founded in Ikeja, Lagos, Nigeria. It is one of the largest selling newspapers in Nigeria. Incorporated on 29th March, 2001 *Daily Sun* is published by the Sun Publishing Limited. It started producing as a weekly on 18th January 2003 and as daily on 16th June 2003. *Daily Sun* newspaper is targeted at satisfying the readership pleasure of the young and old Nigerians. The paper attempts to offer quality information.

Statement of the Problem

It is no longer news that the use of photographs in newspapers occupies a very significant position in the industry. This is because it is effectively used to accompany a news story and tell the news better. But there are no adequate literatures on the frequencies and uses of pictures in newspapers. Also, studies on the various types of photographs used in newspapers are in short supply. Analyses on the relevance of pictures used in newspapers in general and the two selected newspapers in particular have suffered what one may call academic neglect. There is the need to understand in specific terms the frequency of the use of photographs in newspapers and how it enhances readership and understanding of news. Associated with this research problem is that there are divergent views on the functions of news photos in newspapers, more so that in recent decades, the use of computer has questioned the veracity of the claim that pictures do not lie. There is therefore the need to analyse the pictures used in newspapers to ascertain the level of editing and the extent to which such editing tampers with the natural (original) look of the pictures; as well as the sources of those pictures and whether they actually relate to stories featured. This work therefore, specifically seeks to find out the use of photographs in the *Graphic* and *Daily Sun* newspapers and to use them to find research solutions to the issues raised above.

Objectives of the Study

1. To ascertain the frequency of the use of photographs in *The Graphic* and *Daily Sun* newspapers.
2. To identify the various types of photographs used in them.
3. To ascertain the relevant functions of the pictures used in *The Graphics* and *Daily Sun* newspapers to the news stories.
4. To identify the sources of the pictures used in the newspapers.

Research Questions

The research questions to guide this study include the following:

1. How frequent are photographs used in *The Graphics* and *Daily Sun* newspapers?
2. What are the various types of photographs used in the newspapers?
3. How relevant to the news stories are the pictures used in the *Graphic* and *Daily Sun* newspapers?
4. What are the sources of the pictures used in the newspapers?

Concept of Photography and its Historical Development

Photography is an aspect of science and art, and both aspects are inseparably linked through its astonishing rise from a substitute for skill of hand to an independent form. Okoro and Nnadiukwu (2000, p.34) note that photography is a product of Physics and Chemistry, adding that the functional mechanism of the camera capturing photographs is essentially an optical phenomenon. Hasan (2013, p.722) notes that the most common process of photography is through mechanical, chemical and digital device known as the camera. The aesthetic aspect of photography, coupled with its appeal to the sense of light in terms of physical appreciation makes it an art. The study of colour and its separation for beauty, framing and organizational aspect of photography are aspects of arts and humanities in the business.

Thus, photojournalism involves using ones presence at the scene of events; instinct on when to take shots and preparation for the coverage with the proper mental attitude and

physical equipment; to produce meaningful picture materials for news. According to Bittner (1989, p.128):

We may not always think of photography as being a mass medium. After all, our snapshots of the last campus holiday or a family picnic may be seen by only a few close friends. But when we consider that a news photo may travel around the world on a picture wire and appear in hundreds of newspapers that are read by millions of people, we can see that photographs and the work of the photojournalist quickly become mass communication.

Photography is the process of forming stable or permanent visible images directly or indirectly by the action of light or other forms of reflection on sensitive surface. Okoro and Nnadiukwu (2000, p.1) also defined photography as the making, by an optical-cum-chemical process, with tools especially designed for the purpose of visual reproduction. Photography which can be described to be an image of somebody, something or a place was coined from two Greek words: “photos” which mean light and “graphos” which means drawing. Therefore, photography literally means drawing with light. The term *photo* is an abbreviation of photographs while many people call it *pictures*. In digital photography, the term *image* has begun to replace photography.

Pictorial communication which is generally known as photojournalism is the aspect of journalism that makes use of pictures to report news events. This was defined by Agoro (2003, p. 1) as a particular form of journalism (the collection, editing, and presentation of that news material for publication or broadcasting) that creates images in order to tell stories. According to Osho (2001, p. 139) photojournalism is the account of events through pictures; such pictures must be newsworthy. This again is stressed by Rothstein, (1979) that, “powerful photographic images are fixed in the mind more readily than words; the photograph needs no interpreter.” Hasan (2013, p.722), identifies two aspects of photojournalism as follows:

The first type of photojournalism is where an image is used to illustrate a story. Many features journalist work closely with photographs and commission them to produce images that will be published with their articles. There is no limit to how many images used. This is usually the photo editor’s decision. The second is where an image is used to tell a story without any word. One single image may be used or as many as ten images may be used in magazine.

The first type of photojournalism is used by photojournalists in the newspapers. This is because of the power that pictures have in making a written news story factual, believable, and real.

Photojournalism is the most universal form of mass communication. Writing and speaking both require the knowledge of a specific language, but the visual image can in many instances be understood by anyone. Facial expressions, emotions, movement and body posture as well as composition, light and shadow can tell a story in the same way that words can. Height (2011) in Asemah & Ottah (2015) avers that on the most basic level, photojournalism is telling stories with photographs, but on top of that, the stories created must follow the rules of journalism; they must be true stories and the journalist must try to tell the story in the most fair, balanced and unbiased way possible. A photojournalist can take many forms, but in general, you find them at newspapers, magazines, news stations and websites and a growing number are found working at other, traditionally non-visual news mediums, like radio stations which have expanded their coverage to the internet.

Photojournalism is different from other types of photography such as architecture, commercial photography, industrial photography, documentary photography, social documentary photography, street photography and celebrity photography. Hasan (2013, p.722) identifies some qualities that make photojournalism different from other types of photography as:

1. **Timeliness:** The image has meaning in the context of a published chronological record of event.
2. **Objectivity:** The situation implied by the images is a fair and accurate representation of the event they depict.
3. **Narrative:** The images combine with other news elements, to inform and give insight to the viewer or reader.

There are many accounts surrounding the emergence and development of photography and photojournalism in the world in general and Nigeria in particular. One school of thought says photography was used to capture news-worthy events soon after in the 1830s. English photographer, Roger Fenton, documented British troops during the civil war (1853-1856) in Europe. Another photographer, Matthew Brandy, photographed battle scenes during the American Civil War (1861-1865). As at then, photography was expensive and time consuming.

In his account, Fasheke (2004, p. 1) holds that on 4 March, 1880, the first half-tone reproduction of a photograph was published in the New York *Daily Graphic*. He adds that in 1894, the British *Daily Mirror* became the first newspaper to start using photographs exclusively as the basis for its illustrated supplement.

One may also say that the growth of photojournalism can be traced back to one major factor that occurred near the end of the 19th century. This is the technical innovation. This includes the innovation of roll film, smaller cameras, faster lens and the perfection of the half tone process of printing photographs as a series of light and dark dots which allowed newspaper publishers to reproduce photos quickly and inexpensively.

In Nigeria, the practice of pictorial communication in the print media traces its origin from the colonial era. According to Okoro and Nnadiukwu (2000, p. 97), this practice of photojournalism was made possible with the establishment of newspapers in the country. Pictorial communication has long been in existence before we had contact with the Whiteman. This was the time of painting on walls and drawings. This paved way for quick mastery of modern method of photojournalism.

As time went on, the editors in newspaper houses started demanding pictures that depicted story-points by giving some guidelines to photographers before they went out to take pictures. Earlier before the era of modern photojournalism, the first newspaper *Iwe Irohin* (1859) had scanty illustrations and this enabled other newspapers to have attention grabbing illustrations on their newspapers.

Another publication spectrum which has seen pronounced development and innovations in Nigeria photojournalism is that of magazine. Most of them are however generalist in nature and this influences their photo-focus. While publications like *Newswatch*, *Tell*, *The News* and *The Source* go for serious stuffs and pictures with a lot of human interest, others such as *The Hint* zero in on pictures with romantic motives and appeals to illustration that ply up the fantasies.

Today in Nigeria, there is no newspaper either online or hard copy that does not have numerous pictures on them. Aside the power of telling stories better than words, the

newspaper houses use them to grab and hold the attention of readers in this face of completion.

Use of Photographs in Nigerian Newspapers

The advent of photographs mechanically printed into newspaper opened up market for press photography. According to Okoro and Nnadiukwu (200, p.140), Newspaper photography was the first means whereby the Man in the street came into direct visual contact with the world in which he lived. Pictures were mostly taken for their actions and content rather than any aesthetic consideration. Today, they are used in the newspaper for different reasons.

Photojournalism is all about news, information, education, mobilization, and entertainment. Therefore, Photographs in journalism inform, educate, entertain and enlighten readers about current issues and also reflect on the past as well. Photographs in newspaper enhance the credibility of the stories. As they reflect reality, they also furnish evidence to show the authenticity of a news story to give proof of an event that occurred. News pictures in newspapers as well help bring out the subject matter of the story and ease our understanding of it. It also allows readers to see exactly what a person, place or event look like without having to infer from just a word description. These views are authenticated in the work of Asemah & Ottah (2015, p. 5) with these doses of rhetorical questions:

...a photojournalist does not deviate from the original. The aim of a photojournalist is to tell the truth in pictorial form. The truth therefore lies in the nature of the picture. How did president Good luck Jonathan appear at the scene of the Dana Plane crash in Lagos? How did he appear at the scene of the United Nations building bombed by the Boko Haram sect? What about when Edo State Governor, Adams Oshiomole, kissed his late wife in the coffin shortly before her burial? What about the commotion that ensued on the floor of the House of Representatives on 22 June, 2010? How many members had their shirts torn and how many of them stood on the tables instead of sitting on the chairs? Obviously, the photojournalist would like to take these shots. The photographer certainly, may not take these shots, if he is privileged to be at those scenes as none of the personalities involved in the drama would like the pictures.

However, based on the fact that a photograph in a newspaper speaks more than words, it is pertinent to note that formal education is not required to understand picture. Okoro and Nnadiukwu (2000, p.140), noted that one obvious power of pictures is its ability to overcome the barriers of illiteracy. Photographs are therefore able to break through literacy barrier to effectively communicate a message. Picture is a universal language that does not discriminate ones ethnicity or educational background. The most learned and the most illiterate person(s) on earth can understand a striking dramatic picture. This is why the photojournalists in the field go for candid shots that reveal the real action in the story.

The aesthetic value of photographs also services as a tool to attract reader's attention and breaks the monotony of news content. Thus, photographs enhance the beautification of pages of a newspaper. The eye is a pleasure loving sensory organ that finds pleasure in catchy pictures. This is why all newspapers use them both in the front page and other parts of the newspapers in Nigeria. A reader can decide to buy a newspaper just because of the

pictures it has. Comparing a newspaper without pictures and a newspaper with pictures, we will understand that people will love to buy and read a newspaper with pictures over that without pictures even though it has informative, educative and entertaining contents. Pictures in newspapers remove monotony in printed works especially in newspapers' content. It gives the reader a sense of pleasure while reading and it also add beauty to the story and the newspaper at large.

Empirical Review

In the study by Malizu (2011) titled, Re-Examining the Credibility of Photojournalism in the Digital Photography and Editorial Era, the researcher examined the excessive and unethical photojournalism practices following the advent of digital photography and editing, the use of photo manipulation in Nigeria print media and to also assess how the audience perceive authenticity and integrity of print media content in this digital photography and editing era. Using a textual analysis and an explorative analysis, the researcher found out that digital technology allows photographers to improve the technical quality of their pictures when shot under less-than-perfect lighting conditions. The technology also gives editors more flexibility and credibility with page layout. The researcher equally found out that this powerful technology can potentially damage its credibility in the eyes of the public when left in careless hands. The researcher went further to recommend that addressing issues of public perception is one of the key solutions if photographers and news media outfits want to improve credibility with public. The researcher further recommended that photographers and their editors must let the public know that even though altering photographs is a simple process, it is not a widely accepted practice in the industry.

The above reviewed work laid a foundation for understanding the digitalization of photojournalism. It also aided in the research method and gave an insight on how to achieve an acceptable textual analysis. As important and detailed as the reviewed work is, it did not reveal the relevance, types and frequency of photographs usage in the print media, hence, the need for the current study as her emphasis was more on the digitalization of photojournalism.

In another study by Jennifer (2008) titled Usage of News Pictures in Newspaper: A Content Analysis of Front-Page Photographs in the *Guardian* and the *Punch* newspapers, the writer examines how news pictures are used in newspapers, how front photographs serve the function of information dissemination; and identifies the various types of photographs that appear on the front-page. It equally determines the importance of photographs in the newspaper that goes beyond page-filling or aesthetics, which enables it to make recommendations based on findings. The research is based on among others the agenda setting theory. The researcher uses content analysis to study *The Guardian* and *Punch* newspapers. The research found out that the front page pictures are mostly political events and press conferences and the messages communicated were unexciting. The researcher also found out that the picture used in the front-page are based on prominence. Based on the findings of the research, the researcher recommended that based on the power of the use of front-page pictures in newspapers, the editors should pay special attention in selecting news worthy pictures for the front page, the newspapers should use variety of photographs that go beyond portraits of prominent personalities. Nigerian newspapers should expand their coverage and use of front-page photographs to allow more than one dominant picture on the front-page. The researcher recommended that photojournalists

should apply creativity and other outstanding compositional elements when taking pictures without disrupting the message they want to communicate or report.

The above reviewed work gave an insight on how the agenda setting theory is related to this study. It served as a guide in the research methodology due to the fact that it made use of content analysis as its research methodology. Nevertheless, this does not mean both works are the same as Jennifer's (2008) work focuses on national newspapers only whereas this work focuses on both local and national newspapers so as to achieve greater understanding on the use of photographs in newspapers.

Theoretical Framework

The theory adopted for this study was the media dependency theory. Proponents of the theory, Sandra Ball-Rokeach & Melvin Defleur (1976) in Asemah (2011) believe that the more dependent one is on the media for having his needs fulfilled, the more important the media will be to the person. The key idea behind the theory, according to Asemah (2011, p. 178), is that audiences depend on media information to meet their needs and goals and that social institutions and media systems interact with audience to create needs, interests and motivate the person.

The theory suggests that people depend more on the media that meet their needs and less on those that do not meet their needs. Bringing it home therefore, since pictures complement wide stories and add credence to them (as it makes readers beat imaginative creation and come to terms with reality), it becomes possible for the print media to meet more of the media needs of the audience. The use of photographs in news reportage helps both the educated and the illiterate to understand the news better, thereby creating more dependency room for the audience.

Methodology

The design adopted for this research was content analysis. Content analysis is a simple, effective means of studying communication content and measuring change. It shows in raw number and in pattern of coverage, the news value of newspapers and their focus. It also reveals if the information disseminated contradicts its stated value. The content analysis method is chosen based on the nature of this research as content analysis usually gives room for an effective research on textual analysis.

The population for this research is all the editions of the newspapers between May and July 2014. There were 105 editions of the newspapers. While the *Graphic* had 13 editions within the period, *Daily Sun* had 92. The reason for the variation in the figures of the editions of the selected newspapers is that one (*Graphic*) is a weekly newspaper while the other (the *Sun*) is a daily newspaper.

Purposive sampling method was adopted to provide equal opportunities for both papers. One day of the week was chosen purposively; the reason being that the *Graphic* newspapers is published every Tuesday. So, to give an equal and careful textual analysis, Tuesday edition of the papers were analyzed. 13 newspaper editions from each of the selected newspapers were studied and this amounted to 26 newspaper editions as seen in the table below.

MAY	JUNE	JULY
6	3	1
13	10	8

20	17	15
27	24	22
		29

The calendar above clearly indicates that only the month of July has five (5) Tuesdays (ten editions) while the month of May and June have four (4) Tuesdays (sixteen editions). Therefore, the calendar produces twenty six (26) newspaper editions for the study. Coding sheet was the research instrument adopted. The choice of coding sheet is because it is valid and the only instrument that will aid an effective textual analysis.

Content Category

- 1. Newspaper Category**
 - a. The *Graphic* Newspapers
 - b. *Daily Sun* Newspapers
- 2. Picture Placement**
 - a. Front Page
 - b. Inside Page
 - c. Back Page
- 3. Nature of the Picture**
 - a. Positive Picture
 - b. Negative Picture
- 4. Types of Picture**
 - a. Candid picture
 - b. Aware Picture
 - c. Semi-Aware Picture
- 5. Sources of Picture**
 - a. Events
 - b. News Agency
 - c. Photojournalists
 - d. Interviews
- 6. Picture Category**
 - a. Independent Picture
 - b. News Picture
 - c. Feature Picture
 - d. Advert Picture
 - e. Editorial Picture
 - f. Article Picture
 - g. Cartoons
 - h. Others
- 7. Unit of Measurement/ Coding Sheet**

Data Presentation and Analysis

The collected data for this study are presented and analyzed under the following tables.

Table 1: Newspaper Category

Newspaper Category	No of publication	Frequency
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Graphic	13	50%
Daily Sun	13	50%
Total	26	100%

Table 2: Picture Placement

Picture Placement	Frequency		Total	Percentage
	Graphic	Daily Sun		
Front page	30	37	67	2.9%
Inside page	894	1395	2289	93.8%
Back page	40	42	82	3.3%
Total	964	1474	2438	100%

Table 3: Nature of the Pictures

Nature of the picture	Frequency		Total	Percentage
	Graphic	Daily Sun		
Positive	838	1432	2270	93.1%
Negative	126	42	168	6.9%
Total	964	1474	2438	100%

Table 4: Type of Pictures

Type of pictures	Frequency		Total	Percentage
	Graphic	Daily Sun		
Candid	223	291	514	21%
Aware	611	952	1563	64%
Semi-aware	130	231	361	15%
Total	964	1474	2438	100%

Table 5: Sources of Pictures

Sources of the picture	Frequency		Total	Percentage
	Graphic	Daily Sun		
Event	368	310	678	28%
News agency	121	91	212	8.6%
Photojournalist	462	1016	1478	60.6%
Interview	13	57	70	2.8%
Total	964	1474	2438	100%

Table 6: Picture Category

Picture Category	Frequency		Total	Percentage
	Graphic	Daily Sun		
Independent	207	229	436	18%
News	396	636	1032	42.3%
Feature	137	202	339	14%

Advert	-	176	176	7.2%
Editorial	-	13	13	0.5%
Article	116	117	233	9.5%
Cartons	11	14	25	1%
Others	97	87	184	7.5
Total	964	1474	2438	100%

Discussion

Research Question 1: How frequent are photographs used in the selected newspapers

In studying the frequency of photographs used in the selected newspapers as seen in table 2, it was found that the newspapers used photographs in all the pages of their newspapers during the period under review. However, most of the pictures, 93.8%, were concentrated inside the pages. The front page which is the attention grabbing page (Jennifer, 2008, p. 10) had only 2.9% while the back page had 3.3% of the photographs published within the period.

In comparing the *Daily Sun* and *Graphic* newspapers, the study revealed that, *Daily Sun* newspapers made use of more pictures than the *Graphic* newspaper (see table 2). This could be due to the fact that *Daily Sun* newspaper has more pages than the *Graphic* newspaper. On the front page of the newspapers, *Graphic* had a total of 44.8% photographs placed while *Daily Sun* used 55.2% photographs. In comparing the inside pages, the *Daily Sun* dominated as it had total of 60.9% photographs in the inside page while *Graphic* had 39.1% photographs. The back page is not left out as *Daily Sun* newspaper tops the frequency with 51.2% with the *Graphic* having 48.8%.

By using pictures in all the pages of the newspapers despite variations in the types and placements, we conclude that there is a high frequency in photo usage in newspapers in Nigeria. This agrees with the position held by Fasheke (2004) that photography has come to shape the scientific, social and political economy of the developed countries; and it is obviously shaping the Nigerian journalism development.

Research Question 2: What are the various types of photographs used in the *Graphic* and *Daily Sun*?

Photographs are classified into various categories by different scholars. However, for a more effective textual analysis, we categorized the type of photograph into the candid, aware, and semi-aware pictures as given by Okoro and Nnadiukwu (2000, p.104).

Information on Table 4 shows that the selected newspapers gave prominence to the use of aware picture as against candid picture which is factual, real, natural, and objective (Okoro and Nnadiukwu, 2000, p.104). The aware pictures dominated the newspapers with 64% while the candid pictures followed with 21% and the semi-aware picture had 15%.

Based on the findings, it could be said that the selected newspapers did not use more of the candid pictures that would give the newspaper reader a sense of reality and objectivity in the news story. This perhaps could be as a result of the lack of professionalism on the side of the photojournalist because, most of the pictures used in the newspaper were sourced from the photojournalists (see table 4).

In comparing the selected newspaper, table 4 clearly shows that there is no much difference between the newspapers in the type of photographs they use. Both newspapers by implication are guilty of reporting most of their news stories with aware instead of the candid pictures. The difference is in the frequency and not the types of photographs being

used. It makes us to beam searchlight on the attitude of Nigerian journalists to investigative reporting which is usually supported with candid photographs.

Research Question 3: How relevant are the photographs used in the *Graphic* and *Daily Sun* newspapers to the news story?

Photojournalism is broadly divided into two aspects. One aspect is the type of photojournalism that pictures are used to illustrate stories while the other aspect uses only images to tell story (Seema 2019, p.722). Therefore, we sought to study the first aspect.

In analyzing and coding the category that aided the study of picture relevance, it was discovered (as seen in table 3) that the selected newspapers made use of pictures that were relevant to the story more than the pictures that were not. The positive pictures (relevant pictures) topped the frequency with 93.1% while the negative pictures (irrelevant pictures).

However, in comparison of both works, the *Graphic* newspaper had the highest number of negative pictures as it amounted to 75% while *Daily Sun* newspaper had 25% negative pictures.

On the other hand, *Daily Sun* newspaper makes use of the positive pictures as the positive pictures in the editions were 97.1% of all the pictures used in the newspapers.

This implies that the use of pictures that relate to stories should be taken seriously by the management and reporters of the *Graphic* just as it is done in the *Daily Sun*.

Research Question 4: What are the sources of the pictures used in the newspapers?

From the data on Table 5 it is obvious that the newspapers got more of their pictures from the photojournalists. The photographs gotten from the photojournalists were 60.6%, while the events pictures were 28%. The photographs sourced from news agencies constituted 8.6%, and interview pictures had 2.8. The *Graphic* newspapers got more pictures from news agency than *Daily Sun* newspapers. This could be as a result of the fact that *Graphic* gave prominence to foreign news and events as against local news.

Apart from the fact that *Graphic* newspaper had a higher frequency in the source of pictures under the news agency category, there is no much difference between the two newspapers in the sources of picture. This brings us to the conclusion that Nigerian newspapers rely more heavily on pictures locally obtained to tell the photo news story. One may term this a welcome development and advocate for more in this direction.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The place of photographs in journalism cannot be overemphasized as it could be said to be the only aspect of journalism that breaks the barrier of illiteracy. However, the act of reporting news with photographs needs to be professionally done so that the media house will not be found guilty of misinformation. A well used picture in a newspaper can make the news. So also, a badly used picture can mar the whole story and the newspaper in general. The following conclusions were reached based on the findings of the study:

1. The newspapers make use of photographs on the front, back and inside pages.
2. The newspapers make use of more pictures on the inside pages.
3. *Daily Sun* newspapers make use of more pictures than the *Graphic* newspapers due to the fact that *Daily Sun* has more pages than the *Graphic* newspapers.
4. The selected newspapers gave prominence to the use of aware pictures as against candid pictures which is factual, real, natural, and objective.
5. The selected newspapers do not use more of the type of pictures that give the viewer a sense of reality and objectivity in the news story (candid).

6. The selected newspapers make use of more pictures that are relevant to the story than the pictures that are not relevant to the story.
7. The *Graphic* has the highest number of negative picture.
8. The newspapers get more of their pictures from the photojournalists.

The following recommendations became imperative, gauging from the findings:

1. The media house should appropriately train their photojournalists in line with the requirements of photojournalism and the journalists in turn should have sense of responsibility and professionalism in quest of their duty.
2. *Graphic* newspapers should place their independent pictures in such a way that it will not contradict the news stories placed around it.
3. The newspapers should give prominence to the use of candid pictures as it is capable of showing the reader the action in the event and story.
4. *Graphic* newspapers sustain the reporting of more local news than foreign news as this will go a long way in reducing the level of internet pictures used in the newspaper.

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