



**Paper: “Autobiographical narrations of sexual harassment on online blogs as tools for Egyptian women’s empowerment: a linguistic and critical analysis”**

**Submitted: 14 October 2024**

**Accepted: 31 January 2025**

**Published: 31 January 2025**

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Doi: 10.19044/esj.2025.v21n2p1

Peer review:

Reviewer 1: Nino Kemertelidze  
Grigol Robakidze University, Georgia

Reviewer 2: Blinded

### ESJ Manuscript Evaluation Form 2024

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| Reviewer Name: Nino Kemertelidze   |  |
| University/Country: Independent researcher / Georgia   |  |
| Date Manuscript Received: October 17, 2024   | Date Review Report Submitted: October 20, 2024 |
| Manuscript Title:  |  |
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#### Evaluation Criteria:

Please give each evaluation item a numeric rating on a 5-point scale, along with a thorough explanation for each point rating.

| Questions  | Rating Result<br>[Poor] 1-5 [Excellent] |
|--|---|
| <b>1. The title is clear and it is adequate to the content of the article.</b>   | <b>5</b>                                |
| The title clearly reflects the article's focus. It captures the central theme of using autobiographical storytelling as a means for empowerment, specifically for Egyptian women who share their experiences of sexual harassment online. The title effectively sets the expectation that the article will explore the intersection of personal narratives, digital platforms, and feminist activism, while also signaling a broader discussion on the social and linguistic impact of these narrations. |   |
| <b>2. The abstract presents objects, methods, and results.</b>   | <b>5</b>                                |
| The abstract effectively outlines the key components of the study by presenting the objects, methods, and anticipated results. It introduces the main focus on Egyptian  |   |

women's use of blogs to share experiences of sexual harassment, highlighting the role of autobiographical narration in challenging societal norms. The methods are clearly defined, mentioning Halliday's Functional Grammar and (Feminist) Critical Discourse Analysis as analytical frameworks. While the abstract does not provide specific findings, it suggests that the study will demonstrate how these narratives contribute to empowerment and the performance of female identities, indicating the expected significance of the results.

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|---|----------|
| <b>3. There are a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes in this article.</b> | <b>4</b> |
|---|----------|

The language in the article is generally clear and effective, conveying complex ideas in a structured manner. However, a few grammatical errors and spelling mistakes could detract from its overall professionalism and readability. Here are some specific points to consider for improvement:

1. **Spelling and Typographical Errors:**
  - Ensure correct spelling of terms, such as "convictions" instead of "convintions."
  - Use consistent spelling (e.g., "autobiographical" instead of "autobiographical narrations").
2. **Grammar:**
  - Review subject-verb agreement and sentence structure for clarity. For instance, consider revising sentences to enhance flow and coherence.
  - Pay attention to punctuation to improve readability.
3. **Clarity and Conciseness:**
  - While the content is rich, some sentences could be more concise. For instance, simplifying complex phrases may help maintain reader engagement.

Overall, while the article effectively communicates its main arguments, addressing these grammatical and spelling issues would enhance its professionalism and impact. A thorough proofreading would likely resolve these issues, resulting in a polished final piece.

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| <b>4. The study methods are explained clearly.</b> | <b>5</b> |
|--|----------|

The study methods are articulated clearly and systematically, allowing readers to understand the research design and rationale behind the chosen approach. By detailing the selection process of testimonies from the *Speak Up* blog and specifying the linguistic frameworks used for analysis, the methods provide a solid foundation for the study. The focus on both Halliday's functional grammar and Feminist Critical Discourse Analysis demonstrates a comprehensive approach to exploring the complexities of language and power dynamics in the narratives. This clarity in methodology enhances the study's credibility and facilitates the replication of the research, contributing to its overall rigor and scholarly value.

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| <b>5. The results are clear and do not contain errors.</b> | <b>5</b> |
|--|----------|

The results provide a compelling analysis of the narratives, effectively highlighting the linguistic strategies used by women to express their experiences of harassment. The contrast between active and passive verb forms underscores the power dynamics at play, portraying women as victims while simultaneously allowing them to assert agency through their reactions. The emphasis on vivid memories and the emotional weight conveyed through verb choices fosters empathy in readers. Additionally, the detailed descriptions of the cyclical nature of abuse and the settings in which it occurs enhance the urgency of the narratives. Overall, the

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| analysis successfully reveals how language shapes the portrayal of victimhood and agency, ultimately empowering the narrators while condemning the abusers.  |          |
| <b>6. The conclusions or summary are accurate and supported by the content.</b>  | <b>5</b> |
| The conclusions presented effectively encapsulate the key findings of the article, emphasizing the growing voices of Egyptian women confronting sexual assault. The recognition of autobiographical narratives on online platforms as vital tools for resistance highlights the transformative potential of sharing personal experiences. By drawing on Halliday's functional grammar and Critical Discourse Analysis, the study illustrates how linguistic choices serve not only to convey individual experiences but also to challenge societal norms and power dynamics. The focus on specific linguistic strategies, such as verb tense and mood, underscores the complexity of these narratives in framing both victimization and empowerment. Overall, the conclusions powerfully affirm the article's argument about the significance of these narratives in promoting awareness and fostering social change, while also emphasizing the importance of language in shaping the discourse around gender-based violence. |          |
| <b>7. The references are comprehensive and appropriate.</b>  | <b>5</b> |
| The bibliography is really very rich. It comprises contemporary researches as well as a couple of XX century. It includes 54 references what is even more than enough for an article. The references are listed in alphabetic order.   |          |

**Overall Recommendation** (mark an X with your recommendation) :

|  |          |
|--|----------|
| Accepted, no revision needed               |          |
| Accepted, minor revision needed            | <b>X</b> |
| Return for major revision and resubmission |          |
| Reject                                     |          |

**Comments and Suggestions to the Author(s):**

Here are some comments and suggestions to the author:

**Clarity and Conciseness:** While the article presents important insights, some sentences could be restructured for better clarity and flow. For example, consider breaking down longer sentences into shorter ones to enhance readability.

**Proofreading for Grammar and Spelling:** A thorough proofreading is recommended to correct minor grammatical errors and spelling mistakes. Pay attention to subject-verb agreement and punctuation to improve overall language quality.

Overall, your work makes a significant contribution to the discussion of women's voices in Egypt. With these minor revisions, it will be even more impactful.

**Comments and Suggestions to the Editors Only:**