A Pragma Stylistic Analysis of Aggression in Hillary Clinton's Speech on Trump

Taif Hatam Shardaghly[a]* iD

[a] University of Babylon / College of Education for Human Sciences / Department of English, Iraq. Email: hum481.tyf.hatam@uobabylon.edu.iq

Abstract
Being ubiquitous, language is essential to our everyday existence. Human language is seen to be a traditional field that depends on using words in accordance with intricate standards. In this study, the idea of aggressiveness is investigated from a pragmatic viewpoint. The goals of this research are to identify the aggressive techniques that Clinton uses in her speeches, to show the impoliteness tactics that she mostly uses to accomplish her goals, and to expose the pragma-rhetorical tropes that are mostly mentioned in her speeches. The research proposes that in her presentations, Clinton utilizes indirect verbal passive aggression, mostly negative impoliteness techniques, and often metaphor as the main rhetorical device. The study's results validate that Clinton utilizes indirect verbal passive aggression, mostly employs negative impoliteness techniques, and emphasizes overstatement as the main rhetorical device in her hostile speeches. Clinton's speeches are analyzed pragmatically to find rhetorical devices, aggressive messages, and rudeness tactics. The research admits several limitations, namely the subjectivity that might lead to interpretive biases in pragma-stylistic analysis. Notwithstanding these drawbacks, this research provides important new information on the aggressive language used by public authorities to shape public opinion.

Introduction

Scholars in the subject of stylistics have lately paid close attention to pragmatics, often known as pragma-stylistics, expanding the scope of the discipline beyond the study of language utterance patterns. This approach is not only for conventionally examining speech activity. Instead, its purpose is to illuminate the connections between pragmatic interpretation and linguistic forms, explore how communication styles evolve as speakers aid listeners in deciphering their words, and examine the interplay between implicit and explicit meanings (Yassir & Al-Sieedy, 1990). Pragma-stylistics combines stylistics, the disciplinary study of meaning formation through linguistic means in various texts, including literary and linguistic (Hamel, 2011), with pragmatics, which is crucial for understanding language use in context and provides a foundational basis for comprehending language interactions. This study aims to analyse the concept of aggression from a pragma-stylistic perspective, defining aggression as a form of social conduct. It employs measurement strategies that provide data at the behavioural level in Clinton's speech on Trump (Krahé, 2020) Bullying is typically defined as aggressive behaviour in which an individual targets another person in a one-on-one context, characterized by an unequal distribution of power. In the realm of politics, leaders and candidates frequently employ bullying tactics to undermine their opponents and enhance their own reputations (Al-Hindawi, Saffah, & Raheem, 2021). Despite its prevalence, this issue has not been

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adequately addressed from a pragmatic perspective. According to Jassim et al. (2023), pragmatics views language as significantly influenced by its context, striving to comprehend the underlying meaning of words by analysing systematic patterns in language use. Al-Hindawi et al. (2021) argue that the perceived intentionality of a negative act and the anticipated adverse outcomes are crucial in determining the significance of intent in bullying. The versatility of the English language, with its numerous methods of describing various aspects, is one of its most valuable features. For instance, words can be used straightforwardly to convey technical, literal, indirect, or nonliteral meanings depending on the addressors. Hassoun (2018) discusses reliable methods for deriving meaning, while Crystal demonstrates that distinct facets of sense and nonsensical language exist within different types of communication. Ultimately, a broader context of communication or interaction is essential for transmitting any intended message and receiving information accurately.

An expositional application of pragmatics will guide our study of the diverse channels of interaction and the impact of these preferences on others, particularly in the context of political discourse. Politics, as an aspect of language and linguistics, is influenced by numerous general social laws that shape the pragma-expository variety of formal political speeches and other language genres. These constraints limit the ways in which individuals communicate both verbally and in writing (Zhao, Wu, & Zhang, 2020). However, the competence-performance relationship and the prevalence of civility and cooperation components vary significantly. Many scholars have shown interest in analysing candidates' language as an individual factor. For example, Savoy (2018) compared the oratory and writing styles of Clinton and Trump, focusing on their rhetoric. His research found a significant distinction between the two, noting that Trump, as a candidate, often exhibited a more forthright communication style compared to Clinton. It addresses these specific questions:

1. Which forms of aggression does Clinton employ in her speech?
2. What types of impoliteness strategies are predominantly utilized by Clinton to achieve her aims?
3. What types of tropes does she primarily indicate in her speech?

comprehending notable persons' aggression-expressing language is essential to comprehending political discourse. Pragma-stylistic examination of Hillary Clinton's speeches shows antagonism, impoliteness, and rhetorical strategies, especially in her statements against Donald Trump. Despite the popularity of such conversation, linguistic features study is scarce. This research examines Clinton's aggressive language in Trump's speeches pragmatically and stylistically to fill this gap. Political speeches, particularly emotional ones, use strong words to persuade. Through pragma-stylistic analysis of Clinton's expressions, verbal violence is better understood, helping us comprehend political communication. Examining prominent personalities' speech helps understand political discourse's power dynamics and persuasive techniques.

This study examines Hillary Clinton's speech against Donald Trump for harsh words, unpleasant approaches, and rhetorical strategies. Pragma-stylistics analyzes political aggression's language. This work contributes to political communication and language studies. This research contributes to pragma-stylistics by illuminating aggressive language in political discourse and providing practical insights for scholars, politicians, and the public on how language affects political perceptions and outcomes. The pragma-stylistic aspects of Clinton's Trump speeches illuminate these dynamics.

Literature Review

Impoliteness Theory

Impoliteness is a negative assessment of certain actions in specific settings (Culpeper, 2011). It examines how people use language to offend or violate social norms. Impoliteness includes both uncivil and purposeful activities that challenge social norms and customs (Culpeper, 2021; Djalilova, 2023), unlike politeness theories, which promote social concord and rapport. Direct insults, sarcasm, and disdainful statements are stressed in academic speech. These methods address self-esteem and social identities. Impolite behavior might be "on-record," suggesting an intentional purpose to offend, or "off-record," making it harder to repudiate. Since rudeness meanings differ by culture and social group, context is crucial to comprehending it. Power dynamics between speakers are also explored, with dominant speakers commonly using impoliteness to emphasize and retain their positions. Such objectives are achieved through various summarized strategies:

- **Bold on Record Impoliteness:** The face-threatening act is executed directly, overtly, unequivocally, and succinctly in situations where it is deemed irrelevant (Culpeper, 2016).
- **Positive Impoliteness:** Actions are deliberately undertaken to undermine the recipient's positive social desires. These may include acts such as ignoring or disregarding others, excluding individuals from activities, refusing to find common ground, displaying disinterest or lack of sympathy. Additionally, employing improper identity markers, such as addressing someone by their title and surname despite a close relationship, or using obscure language to confuse the interlocutor with technical jargon, are common tactics. Furthermore, deliberately inducing discomfort through silence is another strategy employed. Lastly, resorting to the use of taboo words, profanity, or derogatory names

when addressing others is also observed (Ifechelobi & Okpokiri, 2021).

Negative Impoliteness

This strategy is designed to undermine the recipient's negative face desires through various sub-strategies. These sub-strategies include:

1. Frightening: Creating a belief that actions detrimental to the recipient will occur.
2. Condescending, Scorning, or Ridiculing: Emphasizing one's relative power and authority while treating the recipient with contempt and not seriously.
3. Belittling Others: Minimizing the importance or worth of the recipient.
4. Invading the Other's Space: This can be done literally by positioning oneself closer to the recipient than the relationship permits, or metaphorically by seeking or discussing overly intimate information.
5. Explicitly Associating Others with Negative Aspects: Personalizing interactions using pronouns like "I" and "you" to attribute negative characteristics.
6. Putting the Recipient's Indebtedness on Record: Reminding the recipient of favours or obligations owed.
7. Interrupting the Conversation: Disrupting the flow of dialogue.

Impoliteness theory utilizes the concept of "negative impoliteness," which refers to actions intended to harm someone's "negative face," or their desire for independence and autonomy. This disrespectful behaviour aims to control, intimidate, or embarrass the target through threats, dismissive remarks, direct criticism, and insults (Faisol & Rahmat, 2021). In contrast, positive impoliteness seeks to enhance social acceptance, while negative impoliteness aims to instil feelings of inferiority. It serves as an effective tool for social aggression, allowing the speaker to assert superiority, exert control, or compel a response from the audience.

- **Off-Record Impoliteness:** A face-threatening act is carried out through implicature, wherein one intention surpasses others (ibid.).
- **Withhold Politeness**: It entails the abandonment of expected courteous behaviour in situations where it is deemed appropriate. For example, "neglecting to express gratitude for a gift may be interpreted as intentional rudeness" (ibid.).

Pragma-Rhetorical Tropes

Quinn (2006) expounds that tropes denote the deviation of a word's meaning from its literal content. McQuarrie & Phillips (2014) acknowledge destabilization and substitution as types of tropes. The former entails the utilization of the following devices:

- **Metaphor**: Metaphor is a rhetorical device wherein one thing is represented or understood as another (Mikics, 2008).
- **Pun**: It is a comical manipulation of language, typically involving two simultaneous meanings.
- **Irony**: A literary device entails the juxtaposition between what is stated and the intended meaning behind the statement (Quinn, 2006).
- While the latter incorporates these devices:
- **Overstatement**: As for Leech (2016), it involves exaggerating something beyond its actual state.
- **An Understatement**: In this rhetorical device, the speaker deliberately downplays the significance of a situation or another entity (Source 2, web).
- **Rhetorical Question**: Rhetorical question: Sort of question does not demand a reply since it is equivalent to forceful statements. For Example: "Haven't you eyes? "Surely you have eyes." (Source 2, web).

Concept of Aggression

Aggression is a response characterized by conveying harmful intentions towards another individual. Buss (1961) augments this definition by stipulating two additional elements: the aggressor deliberately inflicts harm on the victim using harmful stimuli, and there is an expectation that the harmful intention will achieve its desired impact. Aggressive behaviour manifests in various forms and types. Buss categorizes acts of human aggression into three dichotomous variables: physical versus verbal, direct versus indirect, and active versus passive (Bushman & Anderson, 1998).

Physical aggression inflicts pain and injury upon the victim through the use of harmful physical force, whereas verbal aggression entails inducing feelings of rejection and threat in the victim using similar means (Neuner, 2023).

In direct aggression, the assailant is readily identifiable by the victim, whereas in indirect aggression, the assailant is not easily identified by the victim. Indirect aggressive acts can manifest in two ways. Firstly, the victim is absent, and harmful intentions are conveyed through the negative reactions of others. Secondly, the victim may not be physically harmed or intimidated, but their belongings are stolen or damaged.

The aggressor in indirect aggression employs specific behaviours such as excluding others from social groups, spreading malicious rumours, breaking confidences, and inciting others to dislike a person (Makarova, Makarova, & Maximets, 2020; Noor, Faisal, & Ahmed, 2022).

Active aggression encompasses behaviours such as shouting, cursing, threatening, or physically attacking someone, and is executed in a direct, overt, and conspicuous manner. In contrast, passive aggression is characterized by indirect, covert, and subtle actions, including spreading rumours, gossiping, ignoring someone, or refusing to cooperate.
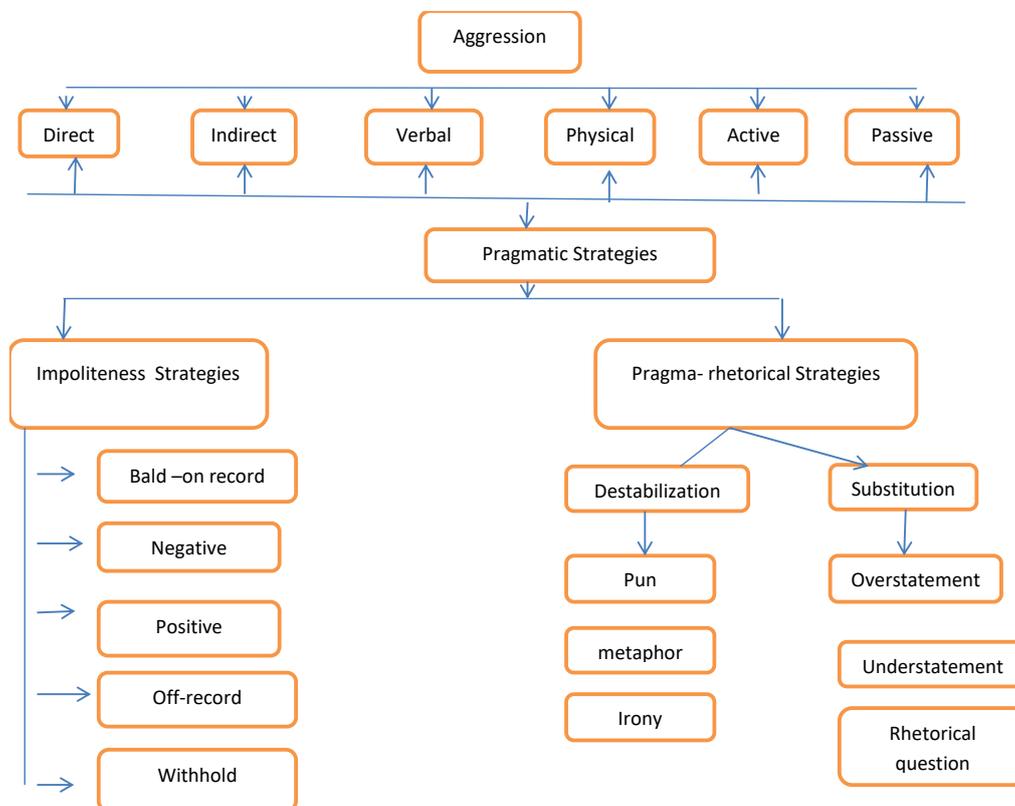

Figure 1: *The Selective Analysis Modal.*

Pragma-Stylistic Analysis

The researcher identifies types of aggression in Clinton's speech about Trump and subsequently employs pragmatic strategies to discern Clinton's style.

Text 1

"Donald Trump's ideas aren't just different – they are dangerously incoherent," she said. "They're not even really ideas – just a series of bizarre rants, personal feuds, and outright lies."(Web Source 5).

Analysis

Clinton deliberately harms Trump through her choice of words, avoiding face-to-face conflict by employing indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

Clinton derides and diminishes Trump's ideas by employing negative impoliteness to highlight his personality's weaknesses and unsuitability for the presidency.

Tropes

Clinton employs overstatement to exaggerate her depiction of Trump's thoughts, conveying the notion that he lacks any qualities that would qualify him for the presidency.

Text 2

"He is not just unprepared – he is temperamentally unfit to hold an office that requires knowledge, stability and immense responsibility".

Analysis

Clinton utilizes indirect verbal passive aggression to criticize her Republican opponent, Trump, with the intention of undermining his political standing.

Impoliteness Strategies

Clinton critiques Trump's situation and qualifications for the presidency through the use of positive impoliteness, aiming to exclude him and elevate her own position in the electoral landscape. Additionally, in her speech, she diminishes his worthwhile bolstering her own electoral standing.

Tropes

Overstatement is apparent in the speech where she asserts that Trump lacks the requisite knowledge and wisdom for leadership.

Text 3

"This is not someone who should ever have the nuclear codes – because it's not hard to imagine Donald Trump leading us into a war just because somebody got under his very thin skin".

Analysis

Clinton elucidates her disdain for Trump's leadership capabilities by employing indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

As a tactic of impoliteness, Clinton utilizes negative impoliteness to critique Trump's suitability for assuming responsibility for America. She contends that he should not be entrusted with the nuclear codes due to his propensity for recklessness and inclination to initiate wars for frivolous reasons. Concurrently, she employs a positive strategy by merely stating Donald Trump's name, which serves as a subtle form of derogation.

Tropes

Clinton employs overstatement to emphasize that Trump lacks the competence required by US law to hold the position of American president and have access to the nuclear codes, citing concerns about his temperament and propensity to initiate conflicts for dubious reasons.

Text 4

"We cannot put the security of our children and grandchildren in Donald Trump's hands. We cannot let him roll the dice with America".

Analysis

Clinton expresses her scepticism regarding Trump's suitability for the presidency through the use of indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

Clinton utilizes positive impoliteness to articulate her rejection of Trump's national security strategy. Additionally, she employs the same strategy to disqualify Trump from an American state administration, characterizing him as unsuitable for such a role. Furthermore, as a form of derogation, she employs positive impoliteness by merely stating Trump's name.

Tropes

In the aforementioned speech, Clinton amplifies her critique and animosity towards Trump's personality and dissatisfaction with the presidency of America through the use of overstatement. She leverages overstatement to elucidate Trump's dearth of political experience, rendering him ill-equipped for the presidency.

Text 5

"That's why – even if I weren't in this race – I'd be doing everything I could to make sure Donald Trump never becomes President – because I believe he will take our country down a truly dangerous path" (ibid.).

Analysis

Clinton resorts to indirect verbal passive aggression as she expresses her reluctance regarding Trump's suitability for the presidency.

Impoliteness Strategies

Through the use of positive impoliteness, Clinton articulates her opposition to Trump assuming the presidency for several reasons, including his advocacy for countries to acquire weapons of mass destruction, his bellicose inclination toward war, and his handling of the American economy, likening it to the management of one of his casinos. Furthermore, she employs the same strategy by merely mentioning Trump's name, serving as a form of derogation.

Tropes

Clinton amplifies her stance towards Trump by asserting that despite not being a candidate in the current campaign election, she rejects him.

Text 6

"He has no ideas on education. No ideas on innovation. He has a lot of ideas about who to blame, but no clue about what to do. None of what Donald Trump is offering will make America stronger at home. And that would make us weaker in the world" (ibid.).

Analysis

Clinton persists in critiquing Trump's personality through the utilization of indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

Clinton indirectly disparages Trump on various fronts, including education and politics, asserting that he lacks the qualifications for the presidency. Consequently, she employs negative impoliteness to diminish Trump's worth. Moreover, she employs positive impoliteness as a form of derogatory behaviour, particularly by using Trump's name alone in her speech.

Tropes

Clinton amplifies her negative assessment of Trump by asserting that he is uncultured and predicts that his leadership would diminish America's status as a superpower and nation.

Text 7

"We all know the tools Donald Trump brings to the table – bragging, mocking, composing nasty tweets – I'm willing to bet he's writing a few right now" (ibid.).

Analysis

Clinton employs indirect verbal passive aggression to convey her dissatisfaction with Trump's future policy.

Impoliteness Strategies

Through the utilization of negative impoliteness, Clinton resorts to ridiculing Trump's cultural background through social networking sites. In essence, she elucidates her disdain for Trump's remarks, which she deems trivial. Furthermore, she employs positive impoliteness by employing profane language such as "composing nasty tweets." Additionally, she reaffirms her unfavourable opinion of Trump by mentioning his name without employing any markers of politeness.

Tropes

Clinton employs overstatement to highlight Trump's misuse of words on social media, portraying him as someone unworthy of attention from others.

Text 8

"He has no sense of what it takes to deal with multiple countries with competing interests and reaching a solution that everyone can get behind. In fact, he is downright contemptuous of that work. And that means he's much more likely to end up leading us into conflict".

Analysis

Clinton conveys her negative impression of Trump's opinions through the use of indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

Clinton employs negative impoliteness to underscore Trump's deficient diplomacy, particularly evident in his dealings with other countries.

Tropes

Clinton utilizes overstatement to exaggerate her depiction of Trump and his relationships with neighbouring countries, thereby affirming his ineptitude for the presidency.

Text 9

"What's Trump's? Well, he won't say. He is literally keeping it a secret. The secret, of course, is he has no idea what he'd do to stop ISIS". (ibid.).

Analysis

Clinton reiterates her characterization of Trump's stance on various issues, such as the Islamic State, employing indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

After outlining her plan to address terrorism in Iraq and Syria and end the civil war, Clinton uses negative impoliteness to suggest that Trump lacks logical solutions and is incapable of resolving these issues wisely. Additionally, she employs positive strategy by simply stating his name, intending to diminish his standing.

Tropes

Clinton employs a rhetorical question, "what's Trump," to suggest that Trump lacks value. Subsequently, she utilizes overstatement to exaggerate Trump's narcissistic and unbalanced personality.

Text 10

"It takes a real plan, real experience and real leadership. Donald Trump lacks all three".

Analysis

Once more, Clinton communicates her disapproval of Trump by implicitly criticizing his poor management of political issues through indirect verbal passive aggression.

Impoliteness Strategies

Through sarcastic portrayal, Clinton utilizes negative impoliteness to amplify her criticisms of Trump's character in political matters and his deficiency in experience and acumen for leading the country. Additionally, she employs positive impoliteness by referring to Trump without any markers of politeness, serving as a form of derogation.

Tropes

Overstatement is evident in her speech, emphasizing Trump's perceived weakness and incompetence to hold the presidency.

Table 1 illustrates that Clinton predominantly utilizes indirect aggression (33.333%) over direct aggression (0%), indicating her tendency to criticize Trump indirectly through various behaviours such as speaking negatively about him and diminishing his worth among others. Additionally, she employs verbal aggression (33.333%) more frequently than physical aggression (0%), employing tactics such as insults and intentional harsh remarks to cause emotional distress. Moreover, she employs passive aggression (-33.333%) more than active aggression (0%), indicating her harbouring of negative feelings towards Trump.

Table 1: *Types of Aggression's Frequency and Percentages as Utilized by Clinton in Her Speech.*

Types of Aggression	Frequency	Percentages
Direct	0	05
Indirect	25	33.333%
Verbal	25	33.333%
Physical	0	0%
Active	0	0%
Passive	25	33.333%
Total	75	

Table 2 reveals that negative impoliteness accounts for 53.846% of the total, while positive impoliteness comprises 46.153%. In contrast, the strategies of bald-on-record, off-record, and withhold achieve 0% each. Notably, negative impoliteness attains the highest percentage, suggesting several implications. Firstly, Clinton harbours animosity towards Trump due to their rivalry in the elections. Additionally, she employs sarcastic expressions about his personality and capabilities as a means to undermine his political standing.

Table 2: *Frequencies and Percentages of Impoliteness Strategies Employed by Clinton in Her Speech.*

Impoliteness Strategies	Output Strategies	Frequency	Percentage
Bald on-Record Impoliteness	A face-threatening act is achieved directly, clearly, unambiguously, and concisely.	0	0%
	Ignoring or snubbing others	0	
	Eliminating people from activities.	4	
	Denying common ground.	0	
	Being disintegrated, unconcerned and unsympathetic	0	46.153%
Positive Impoliteness	Using improper identity markers.	0	
	Using selective language.	0	
	Seeking disagreement.	0	
	Make the other feel uncomfortably.	0	
	Employing profane language.	1	
	Calling others with derogatory names.	7	
	Frighten others.	0	
	Condensed and ridicule others.	14	
	Denying common ground.	0	
	Being contemptuous.	0	
	Don't treat the others seriously	0	53.846%
Negative Impoliteness	Belittling others.	0	
	Invading others pace literally or metaphorically.	0	
	Associating others explicitly with negative.	0	
	Put the other's indebtedness on record.	0	
	Interrupting the structure of conversation	0	
Off Record Impoliteness	A face threatening act is done via an implication.	0	0%
Withhold Politeness	The absence of politeness work where it would anticipate.	0	0%
Total		26	

Table 3 indicates that overstatement attains a percentage of 94.736%, while rhetorical questions account for 5.263%. Conversely, pun, metaphor, irony, and understatement each achieve a percentage of 0%. Notably, overstatement emerges as the predominant rhetorical device in Clinton's speech. She employs exaggeration in her discourse about Trump to reaffirm her unfavourable opinion of her opponent in the election campaign.

Table 3: *Frequency and Percentages of Pragma-Rhetorical Tropes as Utilized by Clinton in Her Speech.*

Pragma-Rhetorical Tropes	Frequency		Percentages
Destabilization	Pun		0%
	Metaphor		0%
	Irony		0%
Substitution	Overstatement	8	94.736%
	Understatement		0%
	Rhetorical question		5.263%
	19		

Discussion

An analysis of Clinton's critique of Trump's speech reveals a nuanced utilization of political rhetoric, particularly regarding violence and impoliteness. Tables 1, 2, and 3 elucidate Clinton's strategic deployment of language to criticize Trump and articulate her political stance. These findings will be examined within the context of pragma-rhetorical tropes, negative impoliteness, and various forms of aggression, including indirect, verbal, and passive aggression, aimed at influencing voters and shaping public perception.

Table 1 illustrates that Clinton employs indirect aggression 33.333% of the time, while direct assault is absent. Indirect aggression entails degrading or criticizing another person in their absence. Clinton may undermine Trump's reputation through indirect aggression without appearing confrontational, which could alienate voters who perceive explicit attacks as disrespectful or unprofessional. Moreover, Clinton eschews physical aggression in favour of Vocal aggression (33.333%), employing insults and harsh language to assail

Trump's ideas and character, a common technique in political rhetoric where physical force is prohibited.

Clinton portrays herself as a robust candidate by using strong language while maintaining political decorum, demonstrating proper etiquette. The negative frequency of passive aggression (-33.333%) in Clinton's speech suggests her disapproval of Trump, with passive aggression encompassing sarcasm and avoidance of topics to degrade the target without direct confrontation. This strategy enables Clinton to maintain civility while making forceful criticisms of her opponent.

Table 2 reveals that 53.846% of Clinton's speeches employ negative impoliteness, comprising overt or covert threats and insults that undermine the target's autonomy and self-worth. Clinton utilizes negative impoliteness to undercut Trump's qualifications for state and federal government roles, employing sarcasm and critical language to diminish his political standing and popularity. Positive impoliteness, accounting for 46.153% of Clinton's speech, involves criticizing, insulting, or ignoring others to undermine their goodwill. Clinton may evaluate Trump's leadership skills using constructive criticism and constructive harshness to diminish his competence and social desirability.

Table 3 indicates that rhetorical questions are used moderately (5.263%), while overstatement is prevalent (94.736%). However, understatement, metaphors, irony, and puns are absent. Clinton relies on exaggeration to make her accusations against Trump more memorable and persuasive, aiding in conveying the gravity of her claims and establishing a negative depiction of him. Selectively using rhetorical questions, she engages the audience and guides them to her conclusions, strengthening her arguments without sounding preachy. Additionally, a study by Yenikeyev (2021) highlights Trump's and Biden's linguistic personalities regarding verbal hostility expression, noting differences in communication methods. While aggressive speech is common, it's just one approach to conveying a point.

Implications and Limitations of Study

This study provides a critical examination of pragma-stylistic political discourse, particularly through an analysis of Hillary Clinton's speeches, shedding light on the use of unpleasant and hostile language in political rhetoric. The findings indicate Clinton's frequent utilization of negative impoliteness and indirect verbal passive aggression, showcasing the intricacies of political speech and the strategic deployment of language by politicians to undermine opponents while maintaining a façade of politeness. Additionally, Clinton's reliance on overstatement as a significant rhetorical device challenges the notion that metaphor dominates political communication, necessitating a re-evaluation of the most effective rhetorical strategies.

This study may help political strategists, speechwriters, and public relations experts create more powerful messages by determining what rudeness and hostility their audience responds to. Emphasizing subtle verbal and passive aggressiveness allows for convincing remarks without overt antagonism, which is vital for popular acceptance. Knowing how exaggeration works might help you make memorable political comments.

The research provides useful insights, but its pragma-stylistic approach may be biased, skewing perceptions and compromising results. It's limited to Clinton's speeches, making it hard to generalize about political rhetoric's aggression. Its textual analysis ignores non-verbal clues and live speech's dynamic character, which affects hostile perceptions. Although the research contributed theoretically and practically to political debate, these methodological limitations must be considered when assessing its conclusions. Diversifying the sample, using more objective analytical tools, and studying non-verbal aggressiveness might address these problems.

Conclusion

In conclusion, Clinton uses rhetorical questions, overstatement, positive and negative impoliteness, verbal and latent violence, and other language devices to purposefully weaken her opponent and strengthen her political position. These strategies emphasise how complexly language and political power interact. More precisely, Clinton uses vocal aggression via unfair criticism, passive aggression through behaviors like gossiping, and indirect aggression by talking badly about Trump while he is away. Overall, to support her claims and express her contempt for Trump, she mostly depends on overstatement and rudeness.

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