

Illustrating news bias towards Islam and Muslims in Malaysia and Indonesia by *Wall Street Journal* and *The Telegraph*

ABSTRACT

This article attempts to look at how two international newspapers, *Wall Street Journal* (*WSJ*) and *The Telegraph* (*TT*), have reported on Islam and Muslims in Malaysia and Indonesia from 2012 to 2014. The study explores the demography of the news articles, including the article frequency, number of paragraphs, news focus and lastly the news sources. A total of 420 news paragraphs from a collection of 20 news articles from *WSJ* and 10 articles from *TT* were analyzed. The researchers used the SPSS program to analyze the demography of the news and the news sources used. In assessing the extent of news bias, the researchers used a qualitative content analysis tool (QSR NVivo 11). The findings revealed that a majority of the news articles studied had reported negatively on Islam and Muslim issues in Malaysia and Indonesia. Based on this fact, it can be seen that Islam in Southeast Asian countries is still receiving negative reporting from the Western media.

Keyword: Religion and media; Islam; Muslims; Malaysia; Indonesia; Media bias