Ester Maurizi

Critical Discourse Analysis and Identity Construction in the U.S. Magazine Good Housekeeping from the 1920s to the 1940s.

Abstract

This dissertation aims to investigate linguistic features and diachronic variations in a corpus created with texts selected from 1920s, 1930s and 1940s issues of *Good Housekeeping*, a massively distributed U.S. monthly women's magazine. In particular, this analysis will explore relevant variations in the use of linguistic strategies such as Gender Identity Construction and National Identity Construction in the transition from the years of peace between the Wars to Wartime, through the use of Critical Discourse Analysis and Corpus Analysis. The interpretation of the results will explore the functionality and intent behind the use of this Identity Construction, and whether we can see a diachronic progressivism in the use of language through the years.