UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE MILANO

Dottorato Internazionale in Criminologia
International Ph.D. in Criminology

Cycle XXV
S.S.D: SPS/12 – IUS/17 – SPS/08

PH.D. THESIS

ANTI-TRAFFICKING MEASURES AND PRESS TREATMENT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ITALY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM:
AN EXPLANATORY STUDY

Tesi di Dottorato di: Serena Bressan
Matricola: 3810879

Academic Year 2011/2012
UNIVERSITÀ CATTOLICA DEL SACRO CUORE MILANO

Dottorato Internazionale in Criminologia
International Ph.D. in Criminology

Ciclo XXV
S.S.D: SPS/12 – IUS/17 – SPS/08

PH.D. THESIS

ANTI-TRAFFICKING MEASURES AND PRESS TREATMENT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING IN ITALY AND THE UNITED KINGDOM:
AN EXPLANATORY STUDY

Coordinatore: Ch.mo Prof. Ernesto Ugo Savona
Tutor: Ch.mo Prof. Marco Lombardi
Tesi di Dottorato di: Serena Bressan
Matricola: 3810879

Anno Accademico 2011/2012
# Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS 1

INTRODUCTION 3

CHAPTER 1 - THE LACK OF LITERATURE ON THE MEDIA COVERAGE AND REPRESENTATION OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING 9

1. Human trafficking, law and media: an overview 9
   1.1 Human trafficking and the legislative panorama 11
   1.2 Media cases on human trafficking 16

2. Literature review on media research in the field of study 19
   2.1 Extant media research on crime and criminal justice 20
   2.2 Extant media research on human trafficking 27

3. Lack of literature and need for further research 32

CHAPTER 2 - AIM AND METHODOLOGY OF THE RESEARCH 37

1. Aim 37

2. Hypotheses 38

3. Territorial and temporal dimensions 40
   3.1 Territorial dimension: Italy and the United Kingdom 40
   3.2 Temporal dimension: from 2000 to 2010 42

4. Methodology 43
   4.1 The national anti-trafficking measures as the independent variable 43
   4.2 How to measure variations in the dependent variables 47

5. Limitations of this methodological approach 60

CHAPTER 3 - THE DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF PRESS ON HUMAN TRAFFICKING 63

1. The census of the news items on human trafficking 64

2. The accuracy of the language used in news items on human trafficking 67

3. The exploitation sectors in the news items on human trafficking 72

4. The tone of news items on human trafficking 79

5. The salience of news items on human trafficking 86
CHAPTER 4 – THE FINDINGS OF THE DATA ANALYSIS: ANTI-TRAFFICKING MEASURES
AND PRESS TREATMENT OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING

1. Introduction to the data analysis

2. Anti-trafficking measures and the press coverage of human trafficking (Testing hypothesis 1)
   2.1 The press coverage of human trafficking in Italy
   2.2 The press coverage of human trafficking in the UK
   2.3 Conclusions

3. Anti-trafficking measures and the press coverage of exploitation sectors (Testing hypothesis 2)
   3.1 The exploitation sectors covered by newspapers in Italy
   3.2 The exploitation sectors covered by newspapers in the UK
   3.3 Conclusions

4. Anti-trafficking measures and the accuracy of the technical language of journalists (Testing hypothesis 3)
   4.1 The accuracy of the technical language on human trafficking in Italy
   4.2 The accuracy of the technical language on human trafficking in the UK
   4.3 Conclusions

5. Anti-trafficking measures and the tone of news items (Testing hypothesis 4)
   5.1 The tone of news items on human trafficking in Italy
   5.2 The tone of news items on human trafficking in the UK
   5.3 Conclusions

6. Anti-trafficking measures and the conservative or liberal orientations of national newspapers
   (Testing hypothesis 5)
   6.1 The validity of H1, H2, H3, and H4 independently from the conservative or liberal orientations of newspapers in Italy
   6.2 The validity of H1, H2, H3, and H4 independently from the conservative or liberal orientations of newspapers in the UK
   6.3 Conclusions

7. Anti-trafficking measures and the different models of journalism (Testing hypothesis 6)
   7.1 The validity of H1, H2, H3, and H4 independently from the different models of journalism:
       comparing the conservative newspapers of Italy and the UK
   7.2 The validity of H1, H2, H3, and H4 independently from the different models of journalism:
       comparing the liberal newspapers of Italy and the UK

4
CHAPTER 5 - CONCLUSIONS

1. Comments on the findings of the data analysis
   1.1 Summary of the findings of the data analysis
   1.2 Limitations of data analysis

2. Recommendations for future research, policy and practice
   2.1 Recommendations for future research
   2.2 Recommendations for future policy and practice

BIBLIOGRAPHY
WEBLIOGRAPHY
LEGISLATION
NEWSPAPER ARTICLES
EXHIBITS
ANNEX I