



The language of road danger reporting

Thalia Verkade info@thaliaverkade.nl @tverka

- **The language of road safety:** how to be safe (wear hi-viz!)
- **The language of road danger:** how to remove the danger (drive slowly!)
- Or should I say: **street safety?**
- Or **danger in our public space?**



'A revolutionary view of mobility ... Gives us the tools
to campaign for something different.' *Lucy Siegle*

Movement

how to take back our streets
and transform our lives



Thalia Verkade &
Marco te Brömmelstroet



- Collision?
- Crash?
- Accident?
- Misfortune?
- System bug?
- System failure?

15:43 4G

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NEWS

Car crashes into barrier on busy road leaving woman in hospital

It was a busy weekend for the emergency services following reports of multiple collisions across Dublin and Wicklow

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BY AAKANKSHA SURVE
08:09, 21 FEB 2022 | UPDATED 08:13, 21 FEB 2022



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The junction of Drumfinn Road and Drumfinn Avenue, Ballyfermot.

Source: Google Street View

Two pedestrians hospitalised following collision in Dublin

The incident happened at around 8pm yesterday evening.

Sunday 6 March 2022 16:34
26,654 6

GARDAÍ ARE APPEALING for witnesses following a road traffic collision in Dublin last night that left two pedestrians hospitalised.

After 8.40pm, gardaí attended the scene of the collision involving two cars and

15:49 4G






rte.ie/news/courts/2022/02


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Suspended sentence for driver over Dublin fatal collision

Updated / Wednesday, 23 Feb 2022 19:40



At Dublin Circuit Criminal Court, Judge Greally said Mr Byrne was in no way responsible for the accident

A driver who drove through a red light and fatally knocked down a pedestrian has received a fully suspended sentence.

Lawyers for Letitia Barry, 22, told Dublin Circuit Criminal Court that there were unusual features at the pedestrian crossing at Whitestown Road, in

15:49 4G

google.com/amp/s/www.irishteen.com








Irish Mirror

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NEWS

Young woman, 20s, dies after horror crash in Co Mayo as gardai close road

The single-vehicle crash happened at around 11.15pm on St Patrick's Day

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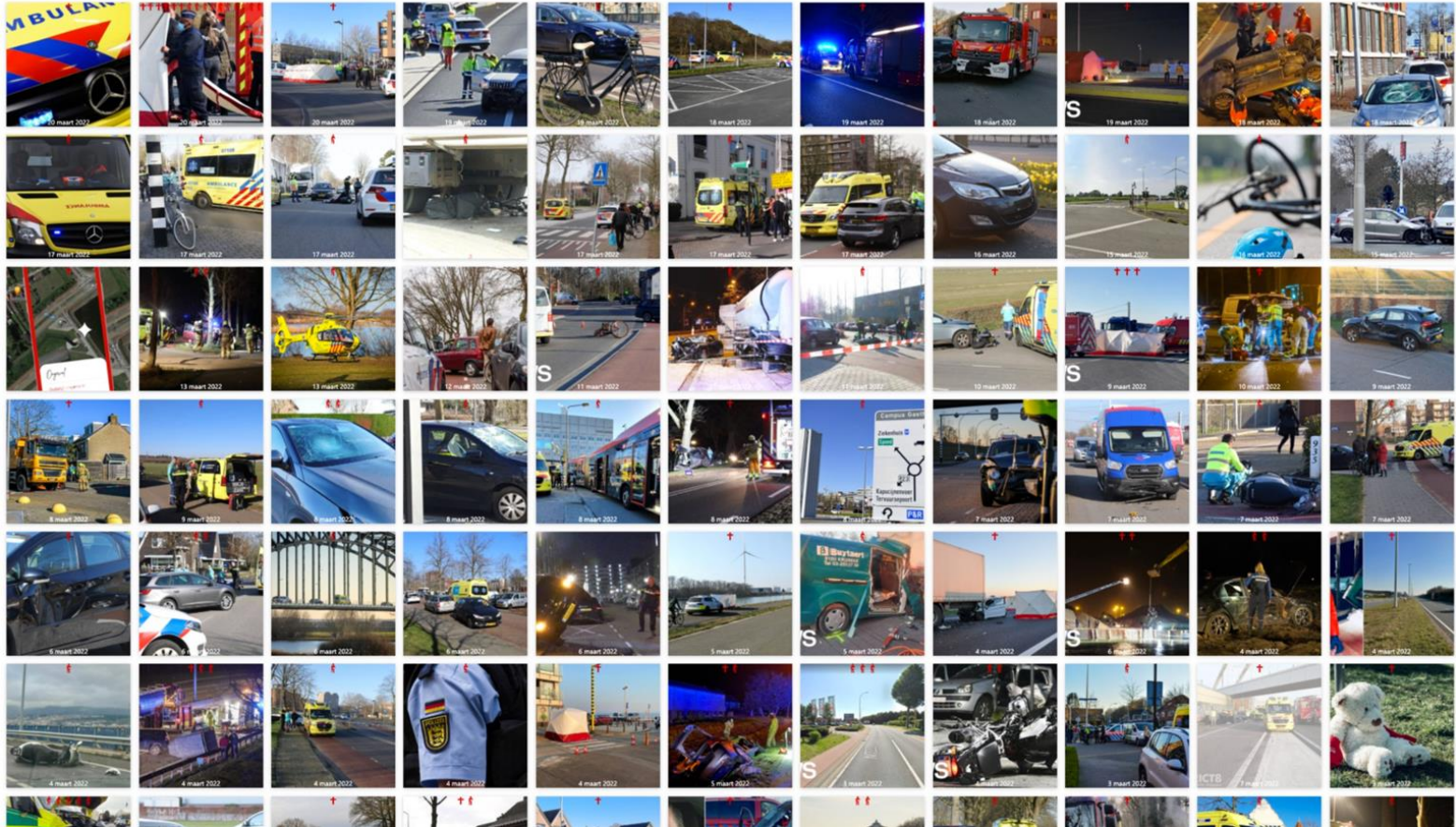
BY MARITA MOLONEY
17:37, 18 MAR 2022



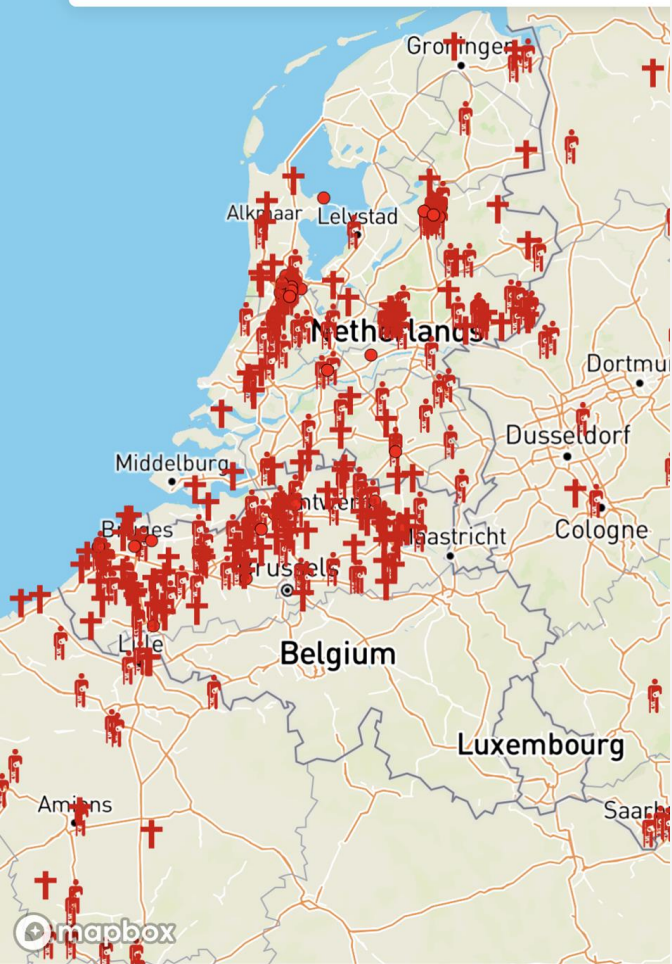
<http://roaddanger.org/mosaic>

Roaddanger.org | World

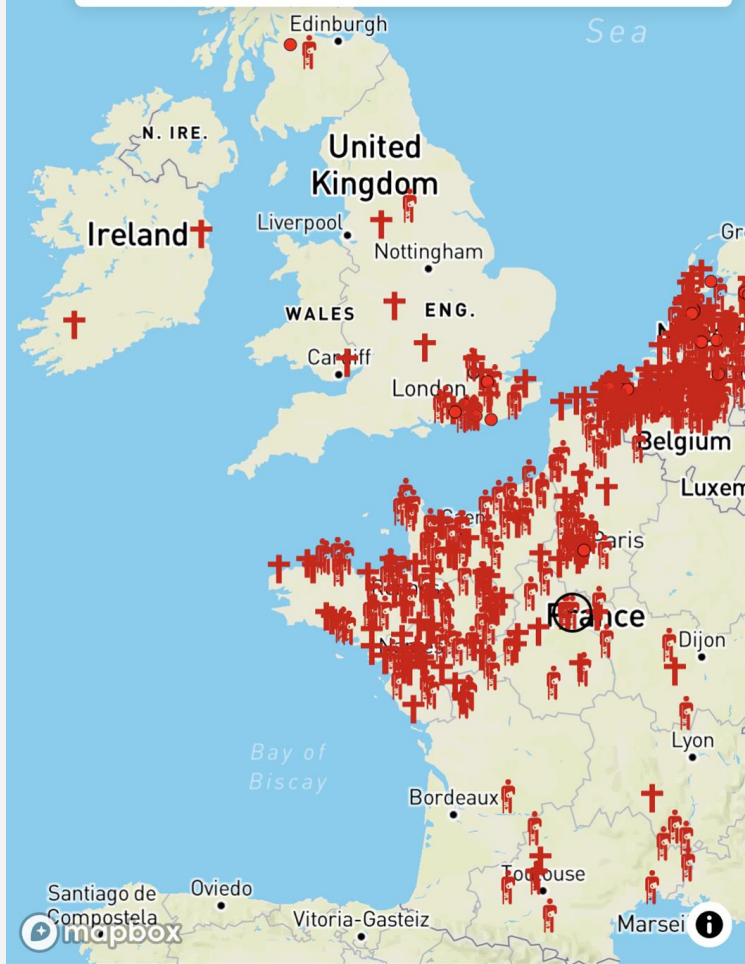
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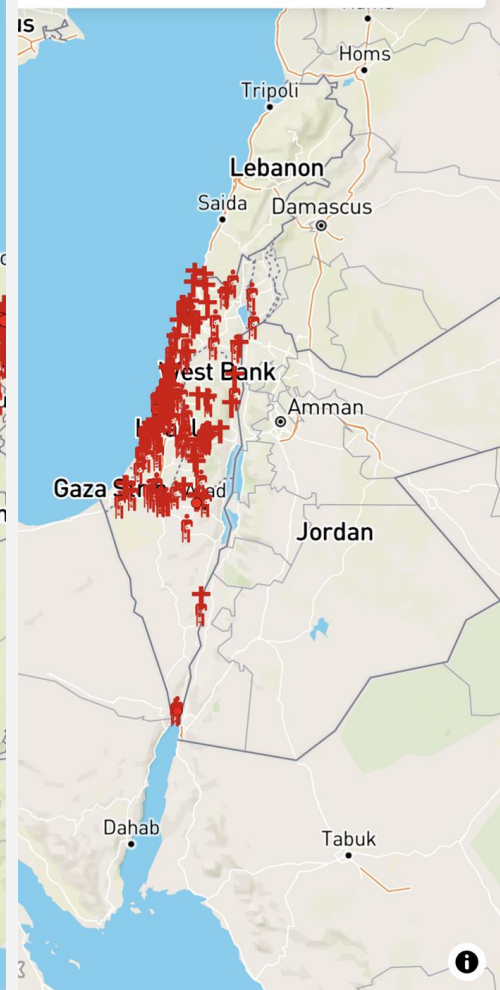
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Search



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Child deaths

[How you can help improve our data accuracy?](#)



2022

2 maart 2022	†	15-jarige fietsster op weg naar volleybaltraining verongelukt
15 februari 2022	†	Drama in Aarau: Knabe stirbt nach Unfall
10 februari 2022	†	Jongen (14) in levensgevaar na ongeval met bestelwagen in Be...
7 februari 2022	†	Kind overleden na aanrijding door trein in Antwerpen-Centraal
3 februari 2022	†	12-jarige jongen overleden na aanrijding bij het oversteken in ...
26 januari 2022	†	Scholiere (16) komt om bij ongeval met auto in Heemstede
8 januari 2022	†	Dood van Sam (17) uit Overveen kwam door ongeval

2021

25 december 2021	†	Muere niño de 6 años tras accidente en moto en Tacámbaro
25 december 2021	†††	Vater und zwei Kinder sterben: Neue Details zur Unfall-Tragödi...
7 december 2021	†	Tödlicher Unfall in in Hürth: 15-jähriger Schüler stirbt nach Zus...
1 december 2021	†	Joinville : un garçon de 13 ans décède à la suite d'une collision
29 november 2021	†	Meisje overleden na aanrijding met vrachtwagen op Amstelvee...
28 november 2021	†††	Sportclub rouwt om verlies jeugdlid (9) door ongeluk: 'We gaa...
28 november 2021	†††	Twee doden bij zwaar ongeluk op A325, kinderen gewond
28 november 2021	†	17-jarige jongen uit Raalte dood aangetroffen in sloot bij Dalfs...
21 november 2021	†	Meisje van 16 omgekomen bij botsing in Markelo
19 november 2021	††	Près de Bressuire. Un jeune Moncoutantais mort dans un accid...
14 november 2021	†††	Kleuter overleden bij ongeval A4, inzittenden andere auto aang...
14 november 2021	†††††	Drie jongens (15 en 16) omgekomen bij botsing met ambulance
13 november 2021	††	Loiret. Une jeune femme de 17 ans meurt dans un accident de ...
8 november 2021	††††	Tarn : une fillette de 7 ans décède dans un accident de la route ...



Framing systemic traffic violence: Media coverage of Dutch traffic crashes

Marco te Brömmelstroet

Professor in Urban Mobility Futures, Amsterdam Institute for Social Science Research, University of Amsterdam, Nieuwe Achtergracht 166, PO Box 15629, 1001 NC Amsterdam, Netherlands



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ABSTRACT

Traffic crashes undeniably levy a significant and detrimental toll on contemporary societies. They are a disruption of every-day traffic order, and the specifics of their coverage in the media offer insights into how a society frames and perceives this underlying order.

This study analysed the terms and frames that are used in 368 reports on traffic crashes in local Dutch newspapers. The coding is embedded in the larger debates about competing frames of mobility (efficiency versus justice), and informed by recent studies on traffic crash reporting. The study adds a novel geographical context to the Northern American focus of earlier work, and a broader scope of traffic crash types (including non-fatal crashes and all vehicle types). The reviewed articles support the previous findings that media coverage largely dehumanizes traffic crashes, presenting them more as glitches in the machine (efficiency) than human tragedies (justice). Crashes are presented as episodes instead of as part of a larger pattern, in a factual tone. Parties involved in a crash, and especially secondary parties are most often referred to as vehicles instead of persons and most often the headlines use a non-agentive grammar. However, the study also demonstrates that the way we currently study this coverage is limiting us in develop a full understanding of the complex nature of traffic crashes. To overcome this, we need to deploy mixed methods and a richer coding scheme that help us to get a better grip of the systemic violence of our contemporary traffic.

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1. Introduction

"Cyclist injured at crash in Overberg."¹

"Cars collide with each other on A50 near Ewijk."²

"Driver damages car and tree in Ede."³

Traffic crashes are all too common and have devastating impacts on contemporary societies. Global traffic fatalities reach up to 1.3 million per year, with a figure that is ten-times higher for severe injuries (Culver, 2018, p. 153). According to the World Health Organization (WHO, 2018), traffic crashes are the leading cause of death for young people around the world. However, we now relatively little of how these crashes are reported

in mainstream media. This study aims to add to an emerging body of empirical research on this, by studying local media coverage of all types of traffic crashes in the Netherlands.

1.1. An invisible catastrophe

Culver describes how "the regime of mobility predominant in most Western societies (and increasingly around the globe) that is characterized by the hegemony of the private automobile and its spaces" (Culver, 2018, p. 146) represents the largest threat to life and limb that most people in contemporary, automobility-based society experience on a daily basis. Since this violence occurs in our public spaces, Culver argues it is a form of violence that next to bodily harm, creating landscapes of fear and anxiety and putting everyone at risk as soon as they leave the house. When also considering the emotional toll among family and friends, and the trauma among all parties involved in traffic crashes (the other crash party, possible bystanders, emergency responders, etc.), this is the highest level of direct exposure to violence in our lives.

This systemic violence is created by us and we seem to have collectively accepted it as a tolerable price for automobility. "Considering both the magnitude of this violence and the relatively limited attention it receives, the violence of the car arguably constitutes something of a blind spot even within much of mobilities and transport scholarship" (Culver, 2018, p. 146). Also, the fact that "it is not a concentrated but a spatio-temporal diffuse

Highlights

- Media reporting on traffic crashes offers a potent lens to understand how we frame mobility
- I studied 368 news reports on all types of traffic crashes in Dutch local news media
- The study confirms the dehumanizing nature of reporting and a focus on an efficiency frame
- It also finds that current frameworks to study it might be too limited to cover the full complexity of traffic crashes
- We need more sensitivity in describing human agency vs. =systemic traffic violence inherent in a car based mobility system

¹ Email address: tebrommelstroe@uva.nl.
² <https://www.gelderland.nl/utrechtse-beuveling/fietser-gevoed-bij-aanrijding-in-overberg--aocDaak/>.
³ <https://www.gelderland.nl/beuningen/auto-s-botten-op-rikaar-op-a50-bij-ewijk--aef50896/>.
⁴ <https://www.gelderland.nl/ede/bestuuder-rijdt-auto-en-boom-in-de-vermicing-in-ede--a1c0d145/>.

ROAD COLLISION REPORTING GUIDELINES – TEN POINTS FOR PUBLISHERS

4. **Consider the impact on friends and relatives of publishing collision details.** People deal with grief differently, and publishers should check with families when publishing injury detail.
5. **Treat publication of photos with caution, including user generated footage or imagery.** Photos including number plates, or anything related to victims at the scene of a crash could cause distress to friends and relatives, particularly if they aren't yet aware of the collision. Be wary of publishing footage that could have been taken from behind the wheel, that may be seen to endorse mobile phone use while driving.
9. **Avoid portraying law-breaking or highway code contravention as acceptable, or perpetrators as victims.** An example of this is stories of speed camera use somehow 'targeting' road users, or causing danger on the roads. Speed is a major contributory factor in road collisions, serious injury and death on the roads and media attention for targeted enforcement of speeding, distracted driving, and impaired driving can increase awareness of—and support for—those efforts, research shows. Covering outcomes of investigations or prosecutions allows the public to see justice in action.



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ANALYSIS

When covering car
crashes, be careful
not to blame the
victim

Guidelines
Charter
Principles
Manifesto
?

Article questions

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Eva's humanization test

1) In de kop worden alle bij het ongeval betrokken partijen benoemd ⓘ ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ n.d.

2) ... als mensen, niet als voertuigen ⓘ ☒ Yes ☐ No ☐ n.d.

3) ... en het onderwerp van de zin is ook een mens ☐ Yes ☐ No ☐ n.d.

1) are all parties mentioned in the headline?

2) ...as people not as vehicles?

3) and is the subject of the sentence a human being?



The junction of Drumfinn Road and Drumfinn Avenue, Ballyfermot.

Source: Google Street View

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Sunday 6 March 2022 16:34

👁 26,654 💬 6

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BY AAKANKSHA SURVE
08:09, 21 FEB 2022 | UPDATED 08:13, 21 FEB 2022



Bechdel Test Movie List

/bech·del test/ *n.*

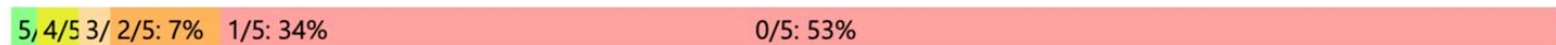
1. It has to have at least two [named] women in it
2. Who talk to each other
3. About something besides a man

Famous movies that do not pass the Bechdel test:

- The Lord of the Rings Trilogy
- Ratatouille
- Slumdog Millionaire
- Avatar
- The Social Network
- 21 Jump Street
- The Avengers
- The Imitation Game
- La La Land
- Toy Story 1 & 2
- Wall-E
- Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part II
- Monty Python and the Holy Grail
- Ghost Busters
- Back to the Future
- Dead Poets Society

An article passes this test if all questions below are answered 'Yes':

- 1) In de kop worden alle bij het ongeval betrokken partijen benoemd
- 2) ... als mensen, niet als voertuigen
- 3) ... en het onderwerp van de zin is ook een mens
- 4) En in het gehele bericht worden specifieke fysieke en/of mentale gevolgen voor alle betrokken partijen benoemd
- 5) ... en wordt het ongeval in een breder patroon geplaatst



Statistics

Questions answered with Yes: 0/5	156 (52.53)%
Questions answered with Yes: 1/5	101 (34.01)%
Questions answered with Yes: 2/5	21 (7.07)%
Questions answered with Yes: 3/5	6 (2.02)%
Questions answered with Yes: 4/5	8 (2.69)%
Questions answered with Yes: 5/5	5 (1.68)%
Not determinable	5

The Bechdel Test Over Time

How women are represented in movies

