

The Real Voices of Holland: Digital Culture as a Stage for Social Change

A study on how memes are used to digitally iterate socio-political messages regarding The Voice of Holland's sexual violence discourse and how they conform to the process of social change that is politicized through the sexual misconduct bill in the Netherlands.



BA Thesis

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Abstract

While issues within the field of sexuality seem to increasingly manifest itself in research and politics, this study aims to dive deeper into the incident of The Voice of Holland and the sexual violence discourses it brought about in the digital culture. It analyzes memes and their politically humorous character to gain insight into the collective critique and the efforts for social change when it comes to sexual misconduct (policies). After collecting a dataset of TVOH memes, qualitative content analysis is used to categorize the memes according to their key messages. Following this, critical discourse analysis is used to connect the key messages of five categories to theories on power, normativity, and social change. User-generated content like TVOH memes serve as political humor, since they either challenge existing socio-political structures, or illustrate what a more desired future looks like. In the end, the extent to which the collective response (represented in the memes) resonates with the social change in which the sexual misconduct bill takes place is evaluated in the discussion. It becomes clear that when a meme's key message is critical of rape culture, it closely relates to the process of social change politicized by the sexual misconducts bill. Both the memes and the bill elicit more discussion on issues of sexual violence, call for accountability of perpetrators and policymakers, give voice to victims, recognize the normative workings of power, and on the whole, argue for a normalization of consent in sexual activity. At the moment a meme's key message is not critical of rape culture, but rather excuses it, its position in the process of social change depends on the uptake of the memes' audience.

Preface

Just like all my friends on the third Thursday of January 2022, my homework was put on hold to watch a YouTube video everyone was talking about. A few days prior, sexual violence allegations against the coaches within The Voice of Holland appeared in the news. A singing show that my family and I have devotedly watched for many years, suddenly disappeared from our television screen. Tim Hofman announced he would broadcast a YouTube video dedicated to the allegations. Everyone was talking about it, everyone had different opinions about it, and everyone was eagerly waiting for the video to appear. Regardless of the importance of the attention that would be put on such serious issues, it also felt somewhat strange to see everyone 'grab the popcorn to watch the juicy stories unfold'. It was not entertainment, or 'juicy', but rather a disturbing and saddening representation of what is undoubtedly the reality in many other domains of society.

Just like I could not listen to the victims' stories without a lump in my throat, I could not listen to the ending interview with John de Mol – the producer of the show – without any confusion or frustration. How could he not understand the restraints that may withhold a victim from accusing the man that obviously overpowers them, or even from coming to terms with the abuse itself? Well, it is rather clear why he does not. Even though I can somewhat understand de Mol's inability to put himself in the victims' shoes, it showed me the importance of letting the victims be the one to be given a voice. Tim Hofman, in the BOOS video, did exactly this. So even though I felt confusion and frustration in De Mol's words, I felt comfort and gratitude in those of Hofman.

After watching all the narratives unfold, my Instagram feed began to overflow with posts that resonated with the exact emotions I had felt during watching the episode. My thoughts on the victims, the perpetrators, John de Mol, and Tim Hofman, were in a way confirmed by the discourse on my phone screen. A few core messages seemed to dominate this discourse. It is not the women's fault. Focus on the perpetrator's accountability. Never abuse a position of power. Consent should always be present. These messages were expressed in concrete ways, such as in texts, but also in humorous and visual ways, such as in the many memes spread on Instagram. While scrolling through the memes that everyone (re)posted, I could only stop and wonder what this response to TVOH's incident tells us about a collective conception when it comes to sexual violence (policies). What are people's normative expectations of the parties involved in this specific incident and what does this say about broader socio-political structures in a certain context?

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1. Introduction

While various voices seek a platform to express their experience, the digital culture makes way for those voices to be heard. This study aims to dive deeper into the incident of The Voice of Holland and the sexual violence discourses it brought about in the digital culture while connecting it to concepts related to power, normativity, and social change. The analysis of this digital discourse – specifically memes and their potentially political humorous character – will give more insight into the collective critique and the efforts for social change when it comes to TVOH's incident and more general sexual misconduct policy measures. Before being able to do so, several necessary aspects that will be involved in this study must be introduced. Subsequently, the aim of this research will be further specified through the formulation of two research questions and several sub-questions (which are stated below), illustrating their societal relevance in the process. In the main, this study seeks to provide an understanding of a normative response to a real-time, recent, and relevant incident, placing it in a broader process of social change.

The Voice of Holland (TVOH) is one of the Netherlands' most famous singing talent shows and its concept has been adopted by many other countries. The show was initially produced by Talpa, with John de Mol at the top of the company, and brought together many well-known singers in the last 20 years. The show is divided into several phases. The first few episodes are dedicated to the 'blind auditions', in which the candidates audition in front of the backside of four chairs where the four jury members sit. When a jury member is pleased by the singing of the candidate, they can let them through to the next round by turning their chair around, after which they can also get a glimpse of the candidate's visual performance. When multiple jury members turn around, the candidates may choose one to coach them during the continuation of the show. The jury becomes a candidate's coach and guides them through the next phases of the show, therefore being in closer contact with them than in many other talent shows. This contact was used by several male coaches and employees as a means to abuse their power position toward female candidates, as was later disclosed in a video by BOOS, the Dutch YouTube channel that gave these female candidates a platform for their voices to be heard.

Reaching over 10 million views in just a few days, BOOS' YouTube video on The Voice of Holland on 20 January 2022 has been hard to miss in the Dutch news. The Dutch YouTube platform BOOS, hosted by Tim Hofman, has always been a well-known channel, but this episode exceeded all others. Hofman uses the platform to stand up for any 'angry' (*boos*) people who are

wronged in some way and wish for Hofman to help them reclaim their justice. In the episode of January 20th 2022¹, victims of sexual violence were given a platform to voice their harassment experiences with men working at TVOH, turning the world of the Dutch entertainment industry in (terms of sexual violence policies) upside down. After BOOS' video about the show was posted, TVOH was immediately taken off television. In June of 2022, BOOS was the first-ever YouTube series to ever receive a television award, while Tim Hofman was titled the most influential person in the Dutch media of 2022.

The YouTube video deals with several allegations against certain men within TVOH: Jeroen Rietbergen, Marco Borsato, and Ali B. The leader of the band, Jeroen Rietbergen, was accused of sexually intimidating dozens of women (including minors) that participated in the show. The victims anonymously described their experience with Rietbergen, which mainly included him sending them sexual messages, making inappropriate comments, asking them to come to his hotel, sending photos of his genitals, and other similar offensive behavior. In BOOS, Hofman regularly mentioned the powerful position that the bandleader had. Rietbergen might not be a coach, meaning that he has no direct say in a candidate's continuation in the show, but he is a big name in the music world of TVOH, determines the songs for candidates, and is the brotherin-law of the producer of the show, John de Mol. The second stream of allegations revolved around TVOH's coach Marco Borsato, who coached The Voice Kids as well and who was reported by a woman for sexually assaulting a minor, as she was 15 at the time. In BOOS, several more women came forward about Borsato's inappropriate contact with the candidates he was coaching. For example, he would have touched (underage) girls' bottoms during one of his TVOH barbecues. As mentioned, Borsato is a coach and therefore determines whether a candidate comes further in the show. This powerful position, especially how it is abused, is again very much emphasized by Hofman in the video. The third person being dealt with in BOOS, Ali B, is a coach as well and has perhaps the most serious allegations against him. In the video, we see a girl that finally recognizes her experience with Ali B as rape and goes to the police to officially report it. In BOOS, multiple victims described their experience with the coach, which mainly included how he oftentimes made inappropriate sexual comments, or how he pressured his (ex)candidates into having sex with him. They voice their perspective on the situation: how they feared him, how they understood his authority as normal, and how they thought the rape must have been their fault (BOOS, 2022).

¹ BOOS: THIS IS THE VOICE. (2022, January 20). [Video] YouTube.

After the first girl filed a report to the police, she describes how Ali B's behavior is technically not illegal. In the current Dutch sexual misconduct law, which includes assault and rape, a sexual misconduct is only prosecutable when violence can be proven. As one can imagine, this undermines many factors that can shape a victim's experience with assault or rape, such as certain fears that might stop them from 'fighting back'. The latter is taken more and more into consideration when it comes to contemporary debates on sexual violence, which will become apparent in the analysis (see chapter 4), and which is why the current law is bound to change.

On March 8, 2021, the Dutch Minister of Justice and Safety, Ferdinand Grappenhaus, declared to the Netherlands' House of Representatives (*Tweede Kamer*) that all forms of nonconsensual sex must be punished by the law. He proposed a bill in which sexual misconducts become prosecutable at the moment consent is absent, instead of when resistance is present. Also, acts that were not punishable before, such as sexual intimidation or sex chatting with minors, would be included in the law. The Council of State (*Raad van State*) dealt with the bill in the spring of 2022 and published their advice for it on June 13, in which they agreed with Grappenhaus to "change the penal code [*Wetboek van Strafrecht*] to modernize the criminalization of various forms of sexually aggressive behavior"² (Raad van State, 2022). However, they also declared that the actual prosecution of perpetrators will remain to be a complex matter when there is absence of proof – or limited capacity to accumulate this proof. In 2024, if all goes as planned, the change of the law will actually take place (Rijksoverheid, 2020).

The minister's bill was much applauded by (activist) individuals in the digital culture. The key messages of their digital discourse indicate a certain change in socio-political structures when it comes to sexual misconducts, which this study aims to explain. The appraisal of the change of the law seemed to align with the message that dominated in the digital discourse that revolved around BOOS' episode of TVOH. It will be interesting to see to what extent TVOH's incident and the discourse it evoked in the digital culture plays a role in the process towards a change of the sexual misconduct bill, in other words, to what extent the collective critique in the digital discourse of TVOH parallels with a collective desire to change this law. By noticing that memes make up a large part of this discourse, the following research questions came about:

² All translations of the Dutch government are the author's.

RQ1: How are memes used to digitally iterate socio-political messages regarding The Voice of Holland's sexual violence discourse?

RQ2: How do these memes and their socio-political critique on TVOH's incident conform to the process of social change that is politicized through The Netherlands' sexual misconduct bill?

These research questions will be gradually answered based on the following sub-questions:

SQ1: When can something be recognized as social change?

SQ2: What role do memes play in the spreading of socio-political messages?

SQ3: What do the memes about TVOH tell us about a collective critique on the show's sexual violence responses?

SQ4: How do the memes about TVOH contribute to a process of social change?

SQ5: To what extent does the collective critique on TVOH's incident correspond with the same social change enabled by the sexual misconduct bill?

Alongside the sexual misconduct bill put forward by Grappenhaus, other issues around sexuality seem to increasingly appear on the political agenda. Research within the field of sexuality has played an important role in the benchmarking of sexual practices (Gagnon, 1975), making it significantly influential in providing a general understanding of what is right and wrong about sexuality in society. While building on various research that has been done in the field of social change, rape culture, and political humor, this study aims to discover exactly those right and wrongs when it comes to the sexual violence in TVOH's incident. Insight into the normative response (in the digital culture) to this incident can be of great societal relevance for policymakers, future researchers, or – as became evident with the sexual misconduct bill – legislators.

In the following chapter, a theoretical framework will be established that demarcates several concepts, such as social change, memes as a political discourse, and their relation to sexual violence norms, answering both SQ1 and SQ2. After explaining how the memes were collected and according to what method they will be analyzed in chapter 3, the actual analysis will take place in chapter 4. Five categories will be described, being titled 'John de Mol's ignorance', 'John de

Mol's victim blaming', 'TVOH emblematic play', 'Tim Hofman's role in BOOS', and 'uncritical rape jokes'. Each category will give more insight into the digital discourse's key messages, answering SQ3, SQ4, and RQ1, after which each message will be compared with that of the sexual misconduct bill in chapter 5, answering SQ5 and thereby RQ2.

2. Theoretical framework

Before delving into the digital culture that provides us with all sorts of socio-political messages that this thesis is concerned with, a theoretical context is needed to strengthen our conceptual background on the issue. This chapter introduces crucial concepts and theories regarding social change, memes as a political discourse, and their relation to sexual violence norms that will guide this research. As the theoretical background for the analysis gradually develops, both SQ1 and SQ2 will be answered.

2.1 Social change and its normative aspects

Social change sounds like a straightforward solution, but what is it exactly and when do we know it occurs? Social change, often also known as social evolution, is the gradual alteration of societal orders and/or systems and is thus always on an institutional level (Ryder, 1965). Of course, change is always happening because no society constantly stays the same. The active role that individual agents of change take, often driven by a goal that challenges a socially problematic system, is what generally characterizes *social* change. The institutional aspect of social change makes the act of change extremely complex and tough but when done effectively, it is also exactly what makes social change so powerful.

When looking at the prevention of sexual violence in institutions such as TVOH as a matter of social change, it becomes evident that normative understandings of sexual assault and rape have a significant effect on the way we tolerate sexually offensive behavior. Norms and normalization processes have always been crucial in feminist studies, as many classical feminist scholars – such as Mary Wollstonecraft, Virginia Woolf, or Simone de Beauvoir – have attempted to unravel societal 'common senses' about gender and sexuality, and critique those which unjustly conform to heteropatriarchal standards (Spade & Willse, 2015). They are norms, constructed and enforced by powerful societal normalization processes. Feminist scholars such as Spade and Wille (2015) illustrate, being inspired by Foucault and his theories on the work of normalization and regulatory power, that power is not merely repressive – like a top-down oppression – but rather productive. Power presents society with a 'common sense' story that tells us which norms to conform to. This means that power works through the generation of knowledge about society that simultaneously shapes society, resulting in the production of norms that people use to regulate their own behavior. Power in this sense is thus regulatory, as certain norms define what is and what is not proper behavior, after which people are subject to disciplining themselves and others according to these norms (Foucault, 1990): "Feminist activists and scholars have accounted for the development of this kind of normalizing power, and how power works both through institutions and through the internalization of these norms within the subjects of those institutions" (Spade & Willse, 2015: 4).

A great deal of our current normative understandings of sexual violence are formed by expressions of the so-called *rape culture*, which is a system of beliefs that normalizes the toleration of sexually aggressive behavior. The term is often used by feminist scholars, such as Rentschler (2014), to explain behaviors that deny the severity of sexual violence and blame the victim in the process. The existence of such ideas mainly relies on the continuous production and reproduction of gender norms that govern sexual behavior. Discourses in popular media, amongst other things, "have the ability to produce and uphold these norms" (Spade & Willse, 2015: 4). In a rape culture, physical and emotional aggression toward women becomes the norm (Buchwald et al., 1993), which is oftentimes implicitly expressed by all sorts of popular media. Think about movies in which sexual assault is romanticized, songs in which sexual aggression is idealized, or tweets in which victim blaming is normalized. Of course, these do not come without a response. Norms that are formed by the rape culture have been contested by many on social media, who all wish to normalize a *consent culture*. This consent culture stands in opposition to rape culture, as it refers to a system that wishes to normalize the act of asking for consent for sexual interaction. The emerging dominance of this system points to a growing appreciation of having and sustaining bodily autonomy and setting individual boundaries.

Normalization of the consent culture's principles in institutions such as TVOH, which points to prevention and intolerance of sexually transgressive behavior, thus requires a social change in our normative system. At the same time, its conflicts are also exactly what can stimulate such a change. It has become evident that conflict within social systems - such as the incident of TVOH - can have a very functional role in the process of social change (Coser, 1957). In the case of TVOH, one could say that normative principles of rape culture and consent culture appear to clash. How this conflict will both stimulate and benefit from the normalization of consent culture – being a process of social change – will become clear in the analysis (see chapter 4).

2.2 The role of social change agents

In order to achieve such a product (and process) of social change, individuals or groups that set the shifting values in motion and act accordingly are crucial. The processes that social change entails are just as important to look into as the agents of change that are involved. To be an agent, in other words, to have agency, quite literally means to have the ability to act. However, the sole potentiality to act does not necessarily mean that action will follow. To be an agent of change, more specifically, refers to having the ability "to stimulate, facilitate and coordinate the change efforts" (Lunenburg, 2010: 1). Social change agents use their ability to act to establish a vision of social change, which oftentimes involves a shift of negative power dynamics and standing up against an oppressive system. The National Sexual Violence Resource Center (NSVRC) published an issue for youth activists on how to become an agent of social change, stating the following:

"Social change is the process of shifting attitudes, values, and actions to address social problems in a positive way. Anyone at any age can be an agent of social change. Being an agent of social change is an active way to create a safer, healthier future for you, your relationship, your community, and your world" (NSVRC, 2014: 1).

Many people can thus take on a role of a social change agent, in which they address, therefore respond, to a certain social phenomenon. This is why the ability to interfere in such phenomena is often analyzed through the extent of people's *response-ability* (Oliver, 2001): "[r]esponse-ability signifies the capacity to collectively respond to sexual violence and its cultures of racial, gendered and [sexual] harassment" (Rentschler, 2014: 68). As my study focuses on activities that are organized in digital culture, an agent's response-ability mainly depends on their digital affordances to respond as an act of activist engagement. For instance, Rentschler (2014) analyzed several events in which rape culture norms were very clear, and how the responses on social media to these events created a certain networked activist subjectivity. The way they used their response-ability in a digital culture produced and deployed the capacity to challenge the normalized rape culture. These responses ultimately built a much larger network of response-ability by those who would not have expressed themselves otherwise. It thus looks like feminist responses to rape culture are assembled both through digital networks of distribution and the solidarities that follow them. Instagram in this case, just like many social media, "serves as a key platform of communicative response-ability for anti-rape activism and feminist critiques" (Rentschler, 2014:

67). One of the ways through which agents of social change can use their response-ability in digital culture, is the production, reproduction, and distribution of memes.

2.3 Political humor in memes and its role as a persuasive discourse

Every user that participates in the digital culture has undoubtedly come across a meme, but perhaps not everyone has stopped scrolling to explicitly contemplate the socio-political value such an image can entail. The term meme, first coined by Dawkins (1976), is used to define a cultural symbol that is passed on and imitated (and can be further passed on and imitated) to eventually live a life of its own (Blackmore, 1994). It is a message, a piece of information, that is remixed with other pieces of information, and can be further remixed and spread on the internet. It provokes internet users to engage with the message, often in a comical manner, and serves therefore as an artifact of the participatory digital culture (Wiggens & Smith, 2014). After TVOH's incident became evident in Tim Hofman's BOOS episode, Dutch social media pages (next to other mediums) were flooded with memes. As mentioned, these memes are remixed pieces of information about TVOH, which are all designed to make its viewer at least grin a bit. However, comical messages often do not solely hold humorous content but are also designed to cast (political) judgment and criticism in some way. Because memes have significantly increased in prominence as a means of communicating information in a humorous way, they serve as a suitable strategy to make their viewers reconsider existing political and social orders. Memes as a form of humor in the media play a part in political discourse that attracts people who are interested and actively involved in politics. However, because memes are often an accessible and light-hearted way to convey a message, they can also attract people that are not active in political discussions (KulKarni, 2017). Memes thus utilize the power of humor in putting more attention to political issues and educating users of social platforms about them.

Political humor, which is a form of humor that challenges the existing political or social order, has been used to address criticism of institutions, norms, or policies for many centuries (Young, 2018). However, in the past thirty years, political humor has made an increasing appearance in popular culture. The rising digital culture has also increased the hybridity in forms of political information, which gave entertainment creators more room to experiment with political themes and spread their work across different platforms. The distinction between producers and consumers of content became blurry because every user of a social platform was given a place to

generate and distribute their content. That, with the deregulation of media that came with it, eventually lead to a peak in hybrid political entertainment genres (Young, 2014). Since then, different forms of political humor have taken various shapes. Usually, the term political humor is used to address politicians or institutions, but according to Young (2014), it can be any discourse dealing with social or political issues. TVOH's incident is undoubtedly a social issue, but it becomes political as soon as its discourse addresses a dimension of conflict between two or more parties. In this way, I take a Schmittian approach when it comes to the conceptualization of politics: an object itself, in this case, TVOH's incident is not political in itself, but the extrinsic discussion/discourse that derives from it is (Schmitt, 1970). Following this rationale, the political discourse that addresses the incident in a humorous way can also be classified as political humor (Schmitt, 1970; Young, 2014).

Using political humor to cast judgment is oftentimes done by presenting the current undesired reality in a somewhat ironic, sarcastic, or satirical way, while also giving the viewer a glimpse of what a better future should look like. In this way, the content can entail "the pleasure of an aesthetic experience coupled with the reasonable hope that a stable political order may be attainable" (Bloom & Bloom, 1979: 38). Irony and satire, in this context, function as the gap between what is expressed and what is actually meant, as well as the gap between how things are and how things should be. One of the forms in which political humor can use satire and irony to illustrate this gap is that of a parody. A parody, in this sense, selects the most outstanding and familiar aspects of political content and exaggerates them in a somewhat sarcastic way. The understanding of such humor thus greatly depends on the audience's prior knowledge of the original content (Young, 2014). Memes are often used to embody such a political parody.

As mentioned, the emergence of social platforms also blurred the distinction between creators and consumers of politically humorous content, which resulted in memes being more usergenerated content. Because memes are mainly produced, reproduced, and distributed by the users, citizens become encouraged to play an active part in political discussions in other ways than before. Because of this, the political humor in memes began to reflect the opinion of the masses and has therefore a bigger impact on the audience (Hajizada, 2010). Just like that, memes almost became a new form of civic participation. The audience became complicit in the creation of the content's meaning, which intensifies its persuasive ability. Also, it has been proven that conveying a message in a humorous way reduces the recipient's urge to establish a counter argumentation in response (Nabi *et al.*, 2007). Some scholars explain this through the audience's drain on cognitive resources, but others explain it through the audience's interpretation of the content as 'just a joke'. The role of political humor as a persuasive discourse is thus not entirely clear, but its exposure to the audience can definitely increase the attention and relevance of certain political issues. This did not go unnoticed by political campaigners, who have used memes to communicate with citizens in the digital culture. Just like satirical cartoons were used in World War One, memes are employed during elections to reinforce certain ideologies. The digital environment just gives them an extra participatory dimension, which plays a significant role in the shaping of politically informed, critical, and active users that can result in citizens with high political engagement (Plevriti, 2013).

3. Data and Methodology

Now that the framework used to look at the data is clear, I will elaborate on the methods for collecting, categorizing, and analyzing the data. Qualitative research will provide a truly in-depth comprehension of the content of the gathered data and its relation to the theoretical background.

3.1 Selecting the data through purposive procedures

Just like BOOS' YouTube video about TVOH served as the building block in forming the research questions in the first place, the collection of memes will serve as the building block in answering them. Before collecting an appropriate sample of memes that make up a large part of this study's data, I selected Instagram as the empirical setting. Instagram's reliance on image-based content and its multimodal character make it the perfect setting to study memes and the contextual relationship between image and text. I have searched hashtags that relate to TVOH's incident, such as #jeroenvanrietbergen, #marcoborsato, or #thevoiceofholland. After that, I created a purposive sample of memes (N = 86) that all involved at least one visual that referred to TVOH, either with or without textual additions.

What is perhaps even more interesting in the collection of memes, is the conceptualization of what one understands as a meme. What some might describe as a meme, might be a cartoon or image to others. As mentioned, a meme is a digital piece of discourse that can be remixed, duplicated, or distributed. Because each distribution of traditional cartoons on the internet gives the dataset a new context, due to the internet's complicated algorithmic nature, a cartoon in the digital culture in a way receives this reproducible character. For the purpose of this study, a political cartoon on the internet falls into the same category as a meme, simply giving it a more dynamic, effortless, and democratic dimension (Grygiel, 2019), therefore the term 'meme' will be used to refer to both memes and cartoons.

Besides the BOOS video and the sample of memes, also the sexual offenses bill proposed by Grappenhaus (available on the Dutch government website) was included in the data to compare it to the social change engendered by TVOH's incident (see chapter 5).

3.2 Coding the data through qualitative content analysis

In order to analyze the concepts in the memes and their relationship to the wider theoretical

background in a structured manner, qualitative coding was used to identify the memes' essential notions and categorize them accordingly. By doing this, I built on a framework developed by Tafesse *et al.* (2017) for categorizing social media posts. In their coding procedure, they interpret the content of a social medium by systematically recognizing and associating similar themes. This qualitative content analysis thus "extracts manifest and latent meanings following a systematic and transparent procedure for analyzing data" (Zhang& Wildemuth, 2009, as quoted in Tafesse *et al.*, 2017: 7) and was similarly used for the purpose of this research. This procedure begins with defining the dataset to be analyzed, which is described above.

After collecting the dataset of memes, the categorization of this dataset was done both through deductive and inductive ways. Firstly, following a deductive procedure, a literature review provided a constructive theoretical background (see chapter 2). This theoretical background can be used to look at the memes through a certain theoretical lens and guided me in the recognition of common themes. For instance, the theoretical background on social change agents (Lunenburg, 2010; NSVRC, 2014; Rentschler, 2014) helped recognize a similar message in the memes about Tim Hofman, leading to the construction of category 4. Also, the literature on rape culture (Buchwald, 1993; Rentschler, 2014) and the persuasiveness of political humor (Hajizada, 2010; Kulkarni, 2017; Nabi *et al.*, 2007; Pérez and Greene, 2016) helped determine which memes' key messages are socio-politically uncritical of rape culture and therefore belong to category 5.

Additionally, the sample of memes was inductively explored to identify repeated messages and connected to the theoretical background afterwards in order to allow "the categories to flow directly from the data" (Hseih & Shannon, as quoted in Tafesse *et al*, 2017: 9). When this inductive process reveals new common themes, a new category followed this association. For instance, many memes' messages included a reference to John de Mol's ignorance or John de Mol's victim blaming, which was subsequently connected to the literature on strategic ignorance (McGoey, 2019) and victim blaming (Bohner *et al*, 2009; Temkin & Krahé, 2008), forming the basis of categories 1 and 2. Also the memes in category 3 were mostly inductively analyzed, as their common message and the connection to the literature (Rodino-Colocino, 2018; Hajizada, 2010; KulKarni, 2017) were identified afterwards. When the meme's message corresponds with another deductive category, it was classified accordingly. Eventually, several categories of memes were identified and defined in order to analyze them through the method of critical discourse analysis.

3.3 Making meaning of the data through critical discourse analysis

To make meaning of the categories of memes, critical discourse analysis (CDA) was used to contextualize the data. CDA is used as an approach for "critically describing, interpreting, and explaining the ways in which discourses construct, maintain, and legitimize social inequalities" (Mullet, 2018: 116). It intends to assimilate theoretical insights within concepts of power and inequality in language into an empirical study of discourse. In this approach, discourse must be treated as a general mode of semiosis that exists in connection to social, cultural, political, and historical patterns. It refers to any act of communication, not just textual signs, but also visual signs and signs of language in action. Discourse never exists in isolation, which is why its social context is exactly what creates the meaning around it. Because this thesis analyzes discourse in digital culture, these digital infrastructures construct much of the context. It is not enough to look at what is said, but also at how the message is conveyed. Among other things, CDA focuses on *voice* and its role as a token of social inequalities, which is specifically interesting for this study. The concept of voice is defined by Blommaert as:

"[T]he ways in which people manage to make themselves understood or fail to do so. This capacity to make oneself understood, [...] is a capacity to generate an uptake of one's words as close as possible to one's desired contextualization. It is, in other words, the capacity to accomplish desired functions through language" (Blommaert, 2005: 68).

Voice thus refers to the capacity to attain one's desired functions through discourse in order to be understood according to one's intentions. Besides it being a linguistic issue, voice is a vastly social issue. Function is not universal or neutral in every setting, meaning that it is always affected by social values in a political sense. A piece of discourse might be valued differently in different social contexts. This thesis analyzes the functions and contextualization that TVOH's sexual violence discourse in the digital culture entails, giving us a deeper understanding of the voices in the process of social change and their relation to broader socio-political structures.

4. Analysis and results

This chapter will illustrate how each coding category has been developed and what its main message says about normative ideals in the digital culture on sexual violence policies, answering SQ3. This will leave us with a clear categorization of key themes that are of use in analyzing the role of memes in the process of social change – in which the change of law plays a large role – answering SQ4. This categorization encompasses the following five categories: 'John de Mol's ignorance', 'John de Mol's victim blaming', 'TVOH emblematic play', 'Tim Hofman's role in BOOS', and 'uncritical rape jokes', of which its key message – answering RQ1 - and the socio-political implication that come with it – answering RQ2 – are separately elaborated in the following sections.

4.1 Ignorance and its relation to power

Looking at the memes in the first category, it becomes clear how the public mocks the way John de Mol expressed his supposed unawareness of the allegations that were presented in the BOOS episode. Ignorance plays a big part in the collective critique on TVOH sexual assault policies, especially on the way John de Mol expressed to have handled it, which can be traced back to other studies of power and justice. Seeing how the critique on John de Mol's ignorance of TVOH's incident makes up the key message for the first category, it will be titled 'John de Mol's ignorance' (N = 18).





Figure 1: Meme category 1 – John de Mol's ignorance (@Vageinig, 2022)

Figure 2: Meme category 1 – John de Mol's ignorance (@wibo_cartoons, 2022)

Figures 1 and 2 are both memes that include a reference to ignorance in TVOH's sexual assault policy, revolving around John de Mol's interview in the BOOS episode. The meme's speech bubble in Figure 1 connected to John de Mol says, "*I know nothing!*³ *Women must learn how to talk! They find that difficult don't they, the little women*"⁴. In the background, we see Ali B, Jeroen van Rietbergen, and Marco Borsato, all the men who worked at TVOH and have been accused and reported for sexual assault. John de Mol looks the other way, while the text at the bottom of the image says: "As blind as a mole". This expression is both an idiom to express one's blindness/ignorance of a certain phenomenon and a reference to de Mol's last name, meaning "mole" in Dutch. Other memes in this category⁵, such as figure 2, illustrate a similar reference to his blindness, using symbols such as a blind guide stock, sunglasses, or the animal associated with blindness. The text balloon in figure 2 says: "I genuinely never saw any of it in all these years". The text above "what's in a name", once again refers to his last name – a mole – and its blind character. This depiction reveals that John de Mol is publicly mocked and held responsible for ignoring the show's sexual offenses.

Ignorance has in many studies been connected to power, as using the unknown has been found to be quite useful when it comes to gaining or maintaining power. Usually, the word ignorant is connected to an accidental incompleteness of understanding that can be repaired by filling up the gap of missing information (Bailey, 2007). However, ignorance also oftentimes plays an active role in social production. This is what McGoey (2019) describes as *strategic ignorance*, a tactic in which inconvenient/uncomfortable information is consciously avoided (by people in powerful positions) to keep it from spreading any further. Power positions of a person or group often function through strategic ignorance, "through the ability to select which voices and forms of evidence to acknowledge and which evidence to dismiss" (McGoey, 2019, para.7). The difficult, and rather ironic, part of strategic ignorance points to its ability to detect it. Powerful people that use strategic ignorance in a successful manner are not likely to be pointed out for withholding information. The fact that the memes in this category illustrate John de Mol's unconvincing ignorance of TVOH's sexual offenses shows that the tactics the memes accuse him of might not have been as successful.

³ The analysis of category 1 focuses on the first sentence. See 3.2 for the analysis of the rest of the meme.

⁴ All memes' translations are the author's.

⁵ See Appendix.

However, in his interview with BOOS, John de Mol expressed ignorance in more aspects. Besides claiming not to have noticed the sexual aggression towards women from the men working in his show, de Mol also discarded the fact that there was an unequal power relation between Rietbergen and his victims: "He has status [...], but a power position, I don't think so. [...] Jeroen has no influence on whether a candidate advances in the show"⁶ (BOOS, 2022, 58:05). His ignorance here, especially when looking through our theoretical framework, lies in the conceptualization of power position. The way John de Mol perceives and understands power is more of a power to make decisions or to put things on the agenda. However, the power that is perhaps the most significant in such issues, is the normative power described in chapter 2. For example, in terms of a patriarchal power system, a man in relation to a woman is already in a power position. Such a power position, enabled by gender, can be further enabled through other intersecting privileges, such as age, status, or an acquaintance with someone influential, as like in Rietbergen's case. Also, as soon as individuals in that environment have internalized some rape culture norms, this (re)production of such gender norms governs/regulates their sexual behavior and places men in a more powerful position. BOOS' interviews with the victims give us more insight into the workings of such internalized normative behavior (and why ignoring it will not contribute to the process of social change). When one victim was asked about her experience with Ali B, she declared the following:

"In that moment, I felt in such a position in which he was so powerful in relation to me, that I thought, everything that you want must now happen. So I let it come over me, what he planned to do. Then I sort of froze, and then he had sex with me." (Ex candidate, BOOS, 2022, 20:28)

In her case, Ali B is in a power position in de Mol's terms, because he influences his candidates' success in the show. However, we can also notice how normative power can work in regulatory ways, which de Mol seems to ignore. She continued with the following:

"I was 18 and he was 31. [...] He knows he has a big name in the music world and he knows what that does with girls who want to do something in music. [...] If I open my mouth, I am done. He

⁶ All quotes from the show have been translated by the author. The original video interview can be accessed at BOOS: THIS IS THE VOICE. (2022, 20 January). [Video] YouTube.

knows that very well. [...] Especially when you're so young, to speak up to such a grown man, about something that you think is your own fault. To me, it was not clear that this was abuse." (Ex candidate, BOOS, 2022, 20:44)

The victim describes the fear deriving from the different power positions herself and her coach were in. Her ideas on normativity, namely that she must give in to Ali B's wishes and not speak up about it, create a culture of fear and govern her behavior in that social context (Spade & Willse, 2015). She had internalized rape culture norms to such an extent that she did not recognize her experience as abuse at first. Only after talking to other people and thus encountering different ideas on normativity when it comes to sexual behavior in a certain setting, the victim recognize her experience as abnormal.



Figure 1: Meme category 1 – John de Mol's ignorance (@toscanabanana, 2022)

The text balloon in figure 3 says "*I do not recognize myself in a fear culture*...", while the text at the bottom translates to "*powerful white man*". The words in the text balloon refer to John de Mol and his interview with BOOS, while the text at the bottom refers to the privileged position of power he is in. The combination of these texts and the whole meme altogether indicate a critique on the fact that it would be quite easy for such a powerful man to ignore the oppressing norms because he has no reason to be fearful himself. Whether John de Mol's ignorance was a conscious strategy or not remains uncertain, but it becomes clear in these memes that this 'blindness' is not very welcome in the digital culture.

Certain injustices might be more difficult to comprehend in certain positions, but ignoring them can thus also be strategically used to maintain a position of power, which the memes in this category are satirically critical of. The memes serve as a humorous piece of information that stimulate its audience to form a judgment on John de Mol's ignorance of the incidents, or the norms that have the power to shape individuals' behavior in such incidents (whether strategic or not). As became evident in chapter 2, political humor is often used by presenting an undesired political reality in a satirical/sarcastic way (Young, 2014). The memes in this category depict John de Mol and his apparent undesired expressions in BOOS' interview, which - through the production, reproduction, and distribution of the memes – also depict the opinion of the masses. Such a discourse in the digital culture thus in a way serves as a collective critique to challenge an existing political or social order, while suggesting what a more desired future should look like. While the memes in this category criticize ignorance on certain matters, they indicate a desired understanding of the victim's voices. For example, the memes suggest that understanding issues of power would require giving voice to the oppressed, as only they would be able to provide a fuller understanding of the existing oppressive power relations. This would prevent ignorance, whether strategic or not, to have the ability to gain and maintain certain power relations: "Ignorance is bliss, especially for the powerful", as McGoey (2019, as quoted by Shackle, 2019) puts it.

4.2 Victim blaming: Women should learn how to speak up

In BOOS' interview, John de Mol placed a lot of emphasis on the victims needing to report the sexual assault to enable him to take action, which was highly criticized in the digital culture. *Victim blaming* was undoubtedly the biggest theme running throughout all digital discourse on TVOH, which are all based on John de Mol's interview in BOOS and his perspective on why such wrongdoing could have happened. In the interview, de Mol mainly expressed the necessity for victims to 'raise the alarm' when they experienced any sexual aggression, instead of focusing on the perpetrators and the consequences that they would face. This category – 'John de Mol's victim blaming' (N = 13) – includes all memes in which the focus on this necessity is mocked, which will reveal normative expectations that are formed in the digital culture when it comes to sexual prevention policies and the process of social change in general.

"There are certainly enough resources, for when something happens, to come to [...]. What I think we should work on is not so much changing the resources, but talking to the women to get them to raise the alarm when something happens" (John de Mol, BOOS, 2022, 1:03:50). These words of de Mol were not taken up very well by BOOS' audience, resulting in much critical discourse on the issue, in which memes played a significant role. This category is in various aspects related to category 1, as John de Mol is at the same time held responsible for ignoring some facts, while putting too much focus on others. For example, the memes in figures 4 and 5 can be coded in both categories, as John de Mol is at the same time held responsible for ignoring the perpetrators' sexually transgressive behavior, while putting too much focus on the victims being the cause of his unawareness.



Figure 4: Meme category 2 - John de Mol's victim blaming (@pluiscartoons, 2022)



Figure 5: Meme category 2 - John de Mol's victim blaming (@vageinig, 2022)

The meme in figure 4 displays a caricature of John de Mol with his arms in a shocked position. The text balloon reads "*They are allowed to participate in The Voice, and then don't open their mouth!*". The background shows a running girl on the right, chased by a mouth-watering man on the left. The combination of these semiotic devices reveals this meme's main message, which mocks de Mol for focusing so much on women needing to speak up. A similar focus or blame by the producer is shown in the meme in figure 5. The text balloon attached to de Mol says "*I know nothing! Women must learn how to talk! They find that difficult, don't they, the little women*⁷".

⁷ The analysis of category 2 focuses on the last two sentences. See section 3.1 for the analysis of the rest of the meme.

This meme similarly criticizes de Mol for blaming the victims for not having spoken up when the real problem might be right behind him. In both memes, the producer literally has his back turned to the reason why women are too fearful to report aggressive behavior, resulting in his misunderstanding of their silence. Through such depictions, it becomes clear that people in the digital culture criticize John de Mol for suggesting women's silence as both the problem and solution for the problem and would prefer him to focus on the perpetrators and their offensive behavior. The following is an extract from the interview between Tim Hofman and John de Mol (BOOS, 2022, 1:09:40 - 1:10:18).

Tim: "What would you say to the victims?"

John: "I hope that it does not have a big impact on their life, that they can find peace with it. And particularly, that they should be an example for the future, that if it ever happens again, that they hopefully learned to immediately raise the alarm, immediately report it, also because then the wrongdoers can be handled sooner."

Tim: "What would you say to the perpetrators?"

John: "Yeah, what does one say to perpetrators. Sorry, but I would not even know. Are you sick in your head?"

By putting so much focus on solutions for women after sexual assault has taken place, instead of preventing it in the first place, a perpetrator's accountability for their actions is in a way disregarded. The disregarding of a perpetrator's responsibility brushes aside their wrongdoing, almost normalizing their offensive behavior. As mentioned in category 1, normative beliefs about sexual behavior in certain situations thus affect people's decision-making process, but also the guilt assessment that comes with it (Bohner *et al*, 2009, Temkin & Krahé, 2008). Victim blaming is most probably one of the most prominent normative beliefs in a rape culture and thus has a significant effect on people's behavior and feelings. For example, as the victims in BOOS' video articulated, the internalization of guilt distorts conceptualizations of sexual assault, making it more difficult for victims to recognize or report it. As became apparent above, the girl that was raped by Ali B did not recognize her experience as abuse at first and felt guilty for not resisting him. She

was not the only one, almost all victims that came forward in the BOOS video explained how they thought the assault must have been their fault. This was highly emphasized - and also opposed - in BOOS' video, therefore in line with the collective opinion represented in the memes. Right after John de Mol's interview, which closed with him calling for women to speak up, the video ended with a sexuality expert saying: "The responsibility always lies with the person who crosses someone's boundaries, not with the one it happens to. Is that clear enough?" (Willy van Berlo, BOOS, 2022, 1:21:35). By placing these words right after John de Mol's interview, his expressions on women needing to raise the alarm are to a certain extent undermined, stimulating the audience's critique on victim blaming even more.

Both figures 4 and 5 serve thus as an exemplary digital discourse that illustrates the collective critique on such an undesired focus and simultaneously shows what a more desired focus (in sexual assault policies) should look like. They indicate that the silence of women was not the problem, which the portrayal of the producer in the foreground satirically suggests, but rather the perpetrators and their behavior, that are situated behind the producer's back.



Figure 2: Meme category 2 - John de Mol's victim blaming (@maaike.hartjes, 2022)

Another point of critique within this category refers to the moment John de Mol declared in the interview that when one victim actually had raised the alarm about Jeroen Rietbergen, the bandleader did not face any consequences. Similarly, when asked about the allegations regarding Marco Borsato in The Voice Kids, de Mol expressed his disbelief of Borsato being involved. Next to putting too much focus on raising the alarm, John de Mol was mocked in the digital discourse for contradicting himself. The meme in figure 6 serves as an example of this mockery. In the first

text balloon, referred to John de Mol, the character says "If people had opened their mouth, I would have shown all the perpetrators all the corners of the room!", whereas, in the text balloons in the image below, the character says "Yeah, but he deserved a second chance", "No, I can't imagine that he would do something like that!", and "I assumed that it was all good...". The juxtaposition shows a critique on de Mol's contradicting actions. Also, the image shown in the lower frame contradicts and therefore discards his victim blaming in the frame above, by referring to the fact that raising the alarm has not made a difference in the past anyway.

This category thus builds on the prior category that criticizes John de Mol's ignorance, by faulting him for unjustly putting the focus on the victims. The memes coded in this category all involve a mockery of John de Mol's focus on women needing to raise the alarm, either by ignoring other more important aspects or by showing that his former actions contradict it. They use humor to satirically show an unwanted reality formed by a certain social and political structure (e.g., rape culture norms), while suggesting that the focus must lie on regulating the perpetrators' behavior.

4.3 Emblematic play: The Abuse of Holland

Whereas the first two categories mainly revolved around a critique on John de Mol and his policy for sexual assault prevention/regulation, the third category is a reflection on the whole conflict in general. This category, 'TVOH emblematic play' (N = 25), is based on memes that use emblems⁸ associated with TVOH to make a reference to sexual assault illustrating both the severity of the issue and the correspondence with (other conflicts in) the process of social change.



Figure 3: Meme category 3 - TVOH emblematic play (@cartoonistmarec, 2022)

⁸ An emblem is a symbol used to represent a particular person, group, or idea.

TVOH's main symbol consists of a hand with two fingers in the air, gesturing a peace sign, with a microphone placed in the palm. This symbol was eagerly used in memes to remix it with other illustrations to give it a whole new context and meaning, for which figure 7 serves as an example: instead of holding a microphone, the hand holds a woman with a shocked facial expression. Once again, this shows the heteropatriarchal power relations that BOOS attempted to expose and digital culture seems to challenge. The hand both represents men, whose aggression is normalized in rape culture beliefs, and TVOH as an institution where these norms are internalized by its subjects.



Figure 4: Meme category 3 - TVOH emblematic play (@triknologi, 2022)

Next to emblematic plays that criticize the undesired situation that BOOS portrayed, other memes in this category served a more empowering function. The meme in figure 8 depicts the famous hand symbol, while placing the text "#Me" above it. The text and the hand – in which the latter also symbolizes the number two – together suggest a reference to the #MeToo movement in which similar issues of sexual assault became vocalized by victims. The concept of #MeToo is a movement based on empathy to counter sexual assault and empower victims to speak about their experiences (Rodin-Colocino, 2018). The fact that these memes make a connection between the #MeToo movement and TVOH incident, suggests a similarity between the two. Both concepts evoked a movement in the digital culture that challenged the rape culture and argued for a social change in which a consent culture should be normalized. In this way, the #MeToo movement represents an issue that fits right in the same process of social change in which BOOS' video takes place.



Figure 9: Meme category 3 - TVOH emblematic play (@dewithuispodcast, 2022)



Figure 10: Meme category 3 - TVOH emblematic play (@fotosjopjes, 2022)

Both memes in figure 9 and 10 utilize TVOH symbols and remix it to refer to the perpetrators and the severity of their actions. Instead of saying The Voice of Holland, figure 9 used the well-known hand symbol and changed the words to "*The Abuse Of Holland*". Pictures of all the three accused men working at TVOH are included in the remixed meme. In figure 10, this same hand symbol is remixed into the gesture of a middle finger, which is pointed towards the four famous chairs of the coaches. But instead of the names of the coaches, the names of the four men in BOOS' video are written on the chairs. John, Marco, Ali B, and Jeroen. Such a parody of TVOH's emblematic characteristics is used to put the accused perpetrators on the spot and illustrate this undesired reality in a satirical way. User-generated content of this sort is thus used as a strategy to make its audience reconsider existing structures. Because the conveying of the message is done in such a lighthearted way, it works well to engage people in the digital culture that are usually not involved in social or political discussions (KulKarni, 2017) – which increases its persuasive ability (Nabi *et al.*, 2007). Although the memes' viewers might not consciously stop and think about the impact of such a small piece of information, the humorous and dynamic way of transferring such a message has been proven to lead to new ways of civic participation (Hajizada, 2010).

4.4 BOOS as a social change facilitator

While it becomes clear that multiple parties in TVOH's incident have been exceedingly criticized, other parties seem to have been put on a pedestal. Tim Hofman, BOOS' host, stands on top of this

pedestal. The fourth category of memes is formed around memes that entail information on his role in the incident, while looking through our theoretical framework on social change and the role agents of social change play in this. Because of this, the category will be referred to as 'Tim Hofman's role in BOOS' (N = 8).



Figure 11: Meme category 4 - Tim Hofman's role in BOOS (@sarcasper_, 2022)

Figure 11 is a remix of two elements that together refer to Hofman's role in the process. The picture above is a software pop-up that reads: *"You are about to cancel Ali B, Marco Borsato, and Jeroen Rietbergen. Do you want to proceed?"*. The pop-up presents two options, in which the computer mouse is placed on the 'yes' button. The second element, the picture below the pop-up, shows Tim Hofman behind a laptop. The combination of these two images suggests a situation in which Tim Hofman is about to click on the button to cancel these men. This, of course, makes a reference to the BOOS video he presented – in which he talked about all three men working in TVOH and the allegations against them – and to the so-called cancel culture. *Cancel culture* has made a significant appearance in the digital culture and refers to the "ending of someone's career through the power of public backlash" (Romano, 2019). Tim Hofman uncovered institutional/normative structures that led to sexually aggressive and illegal behavior, which he revealed in the BOOS video. He was, and remains, the face of BOOS – that is to say the face of the exposure of such transgressive behavior – that is similarly portrayed in figure 12 below.

In the meme in figure 12, Tim Hofman's face is remixed into the word "BOOS", followed by "sssssssst". The intertwining of his face with the word BOOS quite literally illustrates him as

the face of the platform, while the exclamation to be silent that follows it refers to the voices (of the victims) that were unheard before. By putting more attention to such an undesired reality (namely the abuse of power and the ignorance and victim blaming that followed it) and presenting a more desired reality at the same time (namely the accountability of perpetrators), Hofman is involved in the stimulation, facilitation, and coordination of social change efforts (Lunenburg, 2010. Because of this, Hofman takes the role of a social change agent – and is acknowledged in digital discourse as such – in the process of changing negative power systems. As the caption of figure 12 reads: "It only takes one voice, at the right pitch, to start an avalanche" (Triknologie, 2022).



Figure 12: Meme category 4 - Tim Hofman's role in BOOS (@triknologi, 2022)

As stated in chapter 2, an agent of social change can be anyone who wishes to shift norms around a certain issue toward a 'more positive' future (NSVRC, 2014). While idealizing Tim Hofman as such an agent of social change in these memes, the (re)producers and distributors of the memes themselves are also stimulating, facilitating, and coordinating a change towards certain normative ideals. BOOS' video set an activist circulation of digital discourse in motion that all include a response to TVOH's incident. The individuals involved in this digital circulation can thus also in a way be classified as agents of social change, as they employ their *response-ability* (Oliver, 2001) in a certain network of activist subjectivity through the (re)production and distribution of memes. The memes in this category function as a humorous way to cast judgment on both Tim Hofman, who should be idolized, and on the social change Hofman is contributing to, in which BOOS' video would serve as a step in the right direction.

4.5 The power of 'just a joke'

All the above categories have shown how humor can function as a way to reveal, and simultaneously contradict and resist, certain structures of power. However, a lot of memes within the sampled data did reveal these power structures but used humor as means to excuse them rather than criticize them. The fifth category, titled 'uncritical rape jokes' (N = 27), includes all memes that make a 'rape joke', that is, a joke that justifies rape culture norms, which will be analyzed in terms of how they are framed and how they might reinforce patriarchal power structures.



Figure 13: Meme category 5 - The power of 'just a joke' (@9gag, 2022)

Rape culture norms are often implicitly embodied in various cultural practices that tolerate sexual violence against women. It is not about society explicitly promoting rape, it is about situations in which every form of sexual violence is ignored, normalized, or made into jokes (Ridgeway, 2014). Jokes that 'attack' women by devaluing them through the excuse of sexual violence, can thus reinforce and normalize gender inequality and the subordination of women to men (Bemilller & Schneider, 2010). To illustrate an example, figure 13 includes two pictures that are meant to show a phone conversation between Ali B in the picture above and Marco Borsato in the picture below. The text at the top reads "*Should we transfer to The Voice Kids?*", whereas the text at the bottom reads "*That's an arousing plan, mate*". The sexual undertone of the bottom text, which is supposed to come from Marco Borsato, refers to his wrongdoings toward the minors in The Voice Kids in a

joking way. All memes in this category can be classified as 'rape jokes', as they all send out a 'humorous' message that excuses sexual offenses. According to Pérez and Greene (2016), rape jokes are often formulated in what they call a 'dominant patriarchal frame'. Figure 13 is framed – meaning it is constructed to be collectively interpreted in a certain way – in a dominant patriarchal manner, due to the powerful and controlling positions the two coaches take. It refers to the sexual offenses of both coaches in a playful manner, trivializing their wrongdoings and the severity thereof.



Marco Borsato, Ali B. - Wie Zou Je Doen 4.7M views · 9 years ago

Figure 14: Meme category 5 (@R/cirkeltrek)



Figure 15: Meme category 5 - The power of 'just a joke' (@traliborsato, 2022)

Looking through the theoretical framework, it becomes clear that such a meme is never 'just a joke'. This piece of discourse is framed in a way in which laughter is expected, but can have real social and/or political consequences. In fact, the playfulness of jokes about rape can be exactly what gives it its political character (Kramer, 2011). This playfulness can also be seen in both figures 14 and 15, which are both remixed pieces of discourse drawn from the same content. Figures 14 includes a picture of Borsato and Ali B's song "*What would you do*", in which the text is changed to "*Who would you do*". Figure 15 includes an image from the same video, in which the two coaches fist-bump each other. The text above the image translates to "*Ali when he leaves a girl to Marco to be touched*". Again, the interplay between the two coaches about their sexual offenses towards the candidates shows their dominance over these victims, making these incidents into a joke. Even if the meme's impact might not be so explicit, such a discourse indirectly influences the way we collectively think about rape (Ridgeway, 2014). All memes in this category imply a certain superiority of men, without necessarily criticizing it, and are therefore not as

harmless as they might seem. Several scholars have found a relation between rape jokes and sexual harassment, discrimination, and sexual violence/rape toleration (Ford *et al.*, 2008, Romero-Sanchez *et al.*, 2010; Ryan & Kanjorski, 1998, Thomae & Viki, 2013). Whether this category – in other words, the overarching message of it – still contributes to the same process of social change as that of the sexual offenses bill, will be further elaborated on below.

5. Discussion

Now that the memes have been coded into several categories and analyzed through the theoretical framework, it will be interesting to analyze how this digital discourse reveals to what extent TVOH's incident is interrelated to the social change that comes with the sexual offenses bill (see chapter 1). This will place the results of this study as a relevant example into a broader change in socio-political structures. The table below conveys a summary of how the memes have been categorized in the preceding analysis and will be followed by a discussion on how their message contributes to the same process of social change in which Grappenhaus' sexual offenses bill takes place.

Category	Definition	Common themes	N.
John de Mol's	These memes display John de Mol and	John de Mol, ignorance,	189
ignorance	illustrate his unawareness of the incidents	blindness, a mole, beating around	
	described in BOOS' video on TVOH.	the bush, power relations	
John de Mol's	These memes display John de Mol and his	John de Mol, victim blaming,	14 ¹⁰
victim blaming	blame on victims' silence as the problem	wrong focus, raising the alarm	
	and his focus on victims raising the alarm		
	as the solution.		
ТVОН	These memes use TVOH emblems and	Hand symbol, reference to abuse,	2511
emblematic play	remix them to make a reference to the	oppression, #MeToo, power	
	incident and its place in the process of	relations	
	social change.		
Tim Hofman's	These memes include Tim Hofman and a	Tim Hofman, BOOS video,	8
role	reference to his involvement in BOOS'	popularity, cancel culture	
	video on TVOH.		
Uncritical rape	These memes include references to the	Ali B, Marco Borsato, minors,	25 ¹²
jokes	perpetrators in a 'rape joke', intended to	sexual assault, patriarchy,	
	cast laughter rather than judgment.	superiority	

Table 1: Coded categorization of TVOH memes through a qualitative content analysis

⁹ Three of the memes appear also in category 2.

¹⁰ Three of the memes appear also in category 1.

¹¹ One of the memes appears also in category 5.

¹² One of the memes appears also in category 3.

5.2 John de Mol's ignorance

As became clear, the memes in category 1 all involve a critique on unawareness or ignorance (in policies) of sexually aggressive behavior. This critique points to a certain correspondence with the social shift of normative ideals that the sexual misconduct bills put forward. Firstly, which applies to all five categories, discussion about changing the law creates more attention to the importance of consent culture (Rijksoverheid, 2022) that the memes seem to aim for (in sexual assault policies). Both the memes and the sexual misconduct bill create political discussion and awareness of the issue, inside and outside the digital culture, making it harder for individuals to ignore it. Secondly, shifting towards a sexual misconduct law that is more based on consent culture norms creates a culture in which certain rape culture norms are less tolerated as an excuse for unawareness or neglection of transgressive behavior. By criticizing John de Mol's ignorance, the memes in this category show that a rejection of unawareness or neglection of sexual assault is exactly what policies should aim for. Finally, a law that acknowledges certain power relations and their ability to regulate sexual behavior – by discarding a victim's need to 'fight back' – ceases to ignore normative power in the way that John de Mol is accused of doing in the memes.

5.3 John de Mol's victim blaming

The second category revealed a collective critique on the victim blaming in John de Mol's interview with BOOS, which is consistent with the social change of normative ideals that the sexual assault bill embodies. Expecting a victim to fight back in order to prosecute their perpetrator would put the responsibility on the victim and would therefore fail to acknowledge the way power can work through the regulation of one's behavior. On the contrary, the new law claims to not determine an offense's severity based on a victim's reaction. Any form of involuntary sex would be classified as rape, violence would no longer be necessary for the perpetrator to be prosecuted (Rijksoverheid, 2022). Despite the remaining complexity to prove such matters, it sends a message that recognizes the normative power that, for example, restrains victims from fighting back, putting less blame on the victim in the process. Creating a culture – where this sexual misconduct bill plays a large role – in which it is 'common sense' to disapprove of any sexual behavior that is not voluntary and equal, will allow consent culture norms to become more institutionalized.

Also, when putting forward his sexual offenses bill, Grappenhaus (2021) said the following:

"Sex should always be voluntary and equal. That is the norm. This should be anchored in the law. This way, we give a clear signal to potential perpetrators that sexually offensive behavior is unacceptable" (Grappenhaus, Rijksoverheid, 2021).

By saying this, the Dutch minister of Justice and Safety emphasized in various ways that the purpose of his sexual misconduct law is to protect people's safety and to send a message to potential perpetrators. This focus is much in line with the desired norm that the memes in the second category present, as they criticized John de Mol's lack of focus on TVOH perpetrators' misconducts and the consequences that should follow these. A social change aiming at focusing more on the perpetrators as the problem, rather than the victims (and their silence), is thus both articulated in the memes and the sexual offenses bill.

5.4 TVOH emblematic play

The third category offered the digital culture a humorous display of TVOH's incident's severity and its correspondence with other incidents in the process of social change. The severity of sexual assault and rape (and the importance of people's awareness of it) indicated in the memes is similarly suggested in Grappenhaus' bill, as it embodies more intolerance of sexually offensive behavior. Also, comparing TVOH's incident to other concepts, such as the #MeToo movement, suggests a similarity with other incidents that take place in a socio-political shift towards a normalization of consent culture, thereby positioning it in this same process of social change. All discourse in category 3 thus utilized a meme's main character of remixing, which requires some prior knowledge from the audience for full comprehension (Young, 2014), to either illustrate the severity of the issue, the male dominance of the incident, or the empowering phenomenon of female victims sharing their voice.

5.5 Tim Hofman's role in BOOS

By highlighting Tim Hofman's role in uncovering and revealing the sexual offenses in BOOS' video, the memes in category 4 implicitly acknowledge his contribution to the social change that – like the sexual misconduct bill – strives to normalize a consent culture. BOOS' video elicits more (political) discussion on the issue, creates more awareness of how normative power can regulate

behavior, discourages victim blaming, and gives voice to the victims. Because the memes in this category seem to applaud Hofman for facilitating this progress, their message is in line with the shift that the sexual misconduct law represents. The new law is designed to similarly create more awareness on how normative power can regulate one's behavior, discourages victim blaming, and gives voice to the victims, while the news on how the law develops creates more (political) discussion on the issue.

5.6 Uncritical rape jokes

Finally, category 5 shows how a joke not only functions as a means to criticize existing power structures, but also to excuse them. The sampled memes are thus never 'just a joke' but can have significant social or political consequences. What the consequence of a humorous discourse precisely is - thus how the memes contribute to the process of social change - depends on the uptake of its audience. "[T]he listener can either display laughter, signaling a certain degree of acceptance [...], or "unlaughter", a conscious withholding of laughter as a form of resistance" (Perez & Greene, 2016: 3). Also, other forms of resistance depend on an agent's response-ability, in which solely a collective response will suffice to interfere in social phenomena such as normalized rape culture ideals (Rentschler, 2014). The mentioned 'dominant patriarchal frame' that was used in this category's memes, is often criticized with discourse within an 'oppositional feminist counter-frame' (Pérez & Greene, 2016), which claims that uncritical rape jokes point to an acceptance of sexual violence and is thus a contribution to rape culture. Whether the uptake of the memes' audience is in line with that of social change agents within the process of social change of the sexual offenses bill, exceeds the scope of this study. Hypothetically, the memes' audience's mere laughter would indicate a form of acceptance of rape culture norms, whereas their resistance (stimulated by the rape jokes) would indicate an intention to counter rape culture norms and normalize consent norms, the latter thus contributing to this process of social change.

6. Conclusion

This study has explored the ways in which the incident of The Voice of Holland – was revealed in the video by BOOS – created a stream of discourse in the digital culture around issues of sexual assault. More specifically, it has analyzed memes within this discourse, ending with five categories of memes that each show us a collective outlook on the incident. Following this, the five categories were used to evaluate whether TVOH's incident's digital discourse aspires to the same normative values that are embodied by the sexual misconduct bill, using a theoretical approach to social change and the role political humor plays in this.

All memes individually give an indication of how the victims' voice – that was given a platform in BOOS – is socially valued. Following critical discourse analysis, the messages that were voiced in BOOS' video will be attained to their fullest extent when the uptake of their words is as close as possible to their desired contextualization (Blommaert, 2005). In the video, Tim Hofman emphasized the undesired ignorance and victim blaming of John de Mol, illustrated how power relations can regulate behavior, and overall advocated for a social change. This is a social change that is closely related to the sexual misconduct bill put forward by the minister of Justice and Safety, as he similarly argued for a future in which consent culture becomes more normalized. To a great extent, this same desired future was comparably communicated in the digital culture's response to BOOS' video. The key messages of the sampled memes, guiding the categorization, similarly pointed to a critique of the ignorance and victim blaming in TVOH's policy, the gendered power relations in the incident, the role that Tim Hofman took as a social change agent, and the remaining memes that made references to the power relations but failed to cast critical judgment about them. All memes used political humor to present and – apart from the last category – criticize an undesired social and political reality. Humor thus has the ability to either persuade its audience to rethink certain power relations (thereby contributing to the mentioned social change) or reinforce them (through a trivialization as evident in the last category).

When the memes function as a means to criticize TVOH's incident and argue for a normalization/institutionalization of consent culture, they resonate with the same desired functions of the sexual misconduct bill. They both elicit more discussion on issues of sexual assault, call for accountability of perpetrators (and policymakers), give voice to victims, recognize the normative workings of power, and on the whole, argue for a normalization of consent in sexual activity. When the memes function as a way to reinforce and excuse a normalization/institutionalization of rape

culture, their resonance with the sexual misconduct bill depends on the uptake of the audience (and potential counter-frames).

An additional analysis of the memes' uptake of their audience will thus provide a deeper understanding of the full consequences the digital discourse has on the process of social change. This is where the scope of this study comes to an end, putting some limitations on the full contextualization in analyzing the digital discourse. While this thesis focuses on the content of TVOH memes, implications for further research suggest a fuller contextualization of a smaller set of memes, considering a meme's caption, the user's profile, the comments, and more, giving more justice to the method of CDA. Also, because the developments of TVOH's incident and the sexual misconduct bill were very much still in progress during the course of this study, meaning that outcomes of perpetrators' prosecutions or the actualization of the new law could not be taken into consideration. In future research, it would be interesting to incorporate these outcomes, and the collective response to them, in the analysis of digital discourse regarding TVOH.

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misdrijven/#:%7E:text=De%20Afdeling%20advisering%20van%20de,vormen%20van%20seksu eel%20grensoverschrijdend%20gedrag.

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Appendix – sample of memes (N= 86)

Category 1 – John de Mol's ignorance (N =18¹³)

Sampled meme	Instagram caption	Translation caption ¹⁴	Meme's text	Translation text ¹⁵
	Iedereen kent wel iemand	Everyone knows	"Ik herken me niet in	"I dont' recognize
VILLIDKEN ME NIET IN	die slachtoffer is van	someone who is a victim	een angstcultuur"	myself in a fear
*K HERKEN Me Niet in een angstcultuur"	seksueel	of sexual assault or		culture'
	grensoverschrijdend	worse. If you can't see	- Machtige witte man	
	gedrag of erger. Als je dat	that, it probably means		- Powerful white
	niet ziet, betekent dat	that people do not feel		man
	waarschijnlijk dat mensen	comfortable enough with		
	zich niet comfortabel	you to share it. Do better.		
	genoeg voelen bij je om			
/ !\ \ 💆	dat te delen. Do better.	We also look at you,		
		Dutch legislation!!		
-machtige witte MAN	We kijken ook naar jou,	Because you still have to		
	Nederlandse Wetgeving!!	show that you resisted		
	Want nog steeds moet je	before you can report,		
	aantonen dat je je verzet	while 70% of the victims		
	voordat je aangifte kan	freeze.		
	doen, terwijl 70% van de			
	slachtoffers bevriest.	@boosbnnvara		
		@debroervanroos #boos		
	@boosbnnvara	# boosbnnvara		
	@debroervanroos #boos #	#thevoiceofholland		
	boosbnnvara	#sexualoffensivebehavior		
	#thevoiceofholland	#letstalkaboutyes		
	#seksueeloverschrijdend	@amnestynl		
	gedrag #letstalkaboutyes			
Source: @toscanabanana	@amnestynl			

¹³ 3 of the memes appears also in category 2.

¹⁴ All captions' translations are the author's.

¹⁵ All texts' translations are the author's.

	#humor #lachen #grapje	#humor #laughing #joke	What's in a name?	What's in a name?
WBO	#grappig	#funny #funnytexts		
Cartigons	#grappigeteksten	#funnyimages #cartoon	Ik heb er oprecht in al	I genuinely never
WHAT'S IN A NAME?	#grappigeplaatjes	#cartoons #strip #strips	die jaren nooit iets van	saw any of it in all
EE OPPOTT IN AL DAY JARCH NOOT IETS VAN	#cartoon #cartoons #strip	<pre>#comic #comics #wordart</pre>	gezien.	these years.
GEZIEN, GEZIEN,	<pre>#strips #comic #comics</pre>	#workjoke #drawing #art		
	#woordkunst #woordgrap	#thevoice		
	#tekenen #tekening	#thevoiceofholland		
A A Y TODE	#kunst #art #thevoice	#johndemol #talpa #alib		
	#thevoiceofholland	#jeroenrietbergen		
e Wildo	#johndemol #talpa #alib	#marcoborsato #news		
	#jeroenrietbergen	#actualiteit #metoo		
WIND CAR I DUNS	#marcoborsato #nieuws			
Source @wibo_cartoons	#actualiteit #metoo			
	#opmerkdingen #thevoice	#opmerkdingen #thevoice	" behalve De Mol,	" expect for De
	#boos #demol	#boos #demol	die hoeft nooit naar	Mol, he never goes
I behalve De Mel	#wieisdemol	#wieisdemol	huis"	home"
"behalve De Mol,	#televisieformats	#televisionformats		
die hoeft nooit	#verwardingen	#verwardingen	De Mol	The Mole
naar huis"	#behalvedemol	#expectdemol		
naarnuis	#diehoeftnooitnaarhuis	#henevergoeshome		
	#demolhoeftnooitnaarhuis	#demolnevergoeshome		
	#schandaligeuitspraken	#scandelousstatements		
	#machtsmisbruik	#powerabuse		
	#mannenmetmacht	#menwithpower		
	#topjevandeijsberg	#tipoftheiceberg		
	#johndemol	#johndemol		
	#hetligtnietaandevrouwen	#itsnotthewomen		
	#onbegrip	#incomprehension		
	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoiceofholland		
	#ikbenerstilvan	#makesmequiet		
	#maarwildeditnogeven	#butwantedtosharethis		
Source: @opmerkdingen	kwijt			

- John ook ernstig geschokt -	@telegraaf.nl #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #boos #misbruik #intimidatie #werkvloer #pluiscartoons	@telegraaf.nl #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #boos #abuse #intimidation #workfloor #pluiscartoons	- John ook ernstig geschokt – Mogen ze meedoen aan de voice, doen ze hun mond niet open!	- John also really shocked – There allowed to participate in the voice, and then don't open their mouth!
Source @pluiscartoons				
Rever niets bar vouwt jes Bo blind als de Mol	Zoals d' ollanders zoude zegge: Wat een kutzooi! #boos #timhofman #thevoice #thevoiceoholland #demol #johndemol #alib #jeroenrietbergen #marcoborsato #metoo #metoomovment #victimblaming #feminisme	Like Dutchies say: What a mess! #boos #timhofman #thevoice #thevoiceoholland #demol #johndemol #alib #jeroenrietbergen #marcoborsato #metoo #metoomovment #victimblaming #feminism	Ik weet niets! Vrouwen moeten leren praten! Dat vinden ze moeilijk he, de vrouwtjes	I know nothing! Women must learn how to talk! They find that difficult don't they, the little women
Source @vageinig				

Familie de Mol is ondergedoken	<pre>@linda_officeel @johnnydemoloffical @johny_de_mol @albertiwilleke waar zijn jullie? [emoticons] #marcoborsato #tvohgate #tvoh #jeroenrietbergen #alib #douwebob #waylon #anouk #chantaljansen #lilkleine</pre>	<pre>@linda_officeel @johnnydemoloffical @johny_de_mol @albertiwilleke where are you? [emoticons] #marcoborsato #tvohgate #tvoh #jeroenrietbergen #alib #douwebob #waylon #anouk #chantaljansen #lilkleine</pre>	Familie de Mol is ondergedoken	Family de Mol has gone underground
Source @caulowild	THE VOICE #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #tvoh #johndemol #demol #boos #timhofman #thevoice #alib #tvohgate #metoo #talpa #borsato #illustration #illustrate #drawing #draw #sketch #sketching #art #cartooning #luvane	THE VOICE #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #tvoh #johndemol #demol #boos #timhofman #thevoice #alib #tvohgate #metoo #talpa #borsato #illustration #illustrate #drawing #draw #sketch #sketching #art #cartooning #luvane	Juist, juist, meneer De Mol Dus in het nieuwe format draaien de stoelen niet om, maar eromheen? Verdraaid uw specialist in stoelen	Right, right, mister De Mol So in the new format the chairs don't turn, but prevaricate? Twisted your specialist in chairs

Dickpic vrijgegeven: With the second	Foto van een echte [emoticon aubergine] vrijgegeven #dickpic #johndemol #thevoice #boos	Photo of a real [emoticon aubergine] released #dickpic #johndemol #thevoice #boos	Dickpic vrijgegeven: "Ik kan het me gewoon niet voorstellen."	Dickpic relased: "I really cannot imagine it."
John de Mol: His Masters Voice	#johndemol #tvohschandaal #nieuwsvignet	#johndemol #tvohschadal #nieuwsvignet	John de Mol: His Masters Voice	John de Mol: His Masters Voice

John, WAT BEN JE AAN HET DOEN Nou gewoon, ik probeer mijn eigen straatje schoon te vegen Verk Net Cett, Geloof H. Heb je niet ergens een voerkleed waar ik dit onder kan vegen? Jelbechtoonist Source @jbtbcartoonist	<pre>#thevoice #thevoiceofholland #BOOS #johndemol #alib #marcoborsato #jeroenrietbergen</pre>	<pre>#thevoice #thevoiceofholland #BOOS #johndemol #alib #marcoborsato #jeroenrietbergen</pre>	John, wat ben je aan het doen? Nou gewoon, ik probeer mijn eigen straatje schoon te vegen. Lukt niet echt, geloof ik. Nee, ik geloof het ook niet. Heb je niet ergens een vloerkleed waar ik dit onder kan vegen?	John, what are you doing? Oh nothing, I am trying to clean my reputation. Not really working, I believe. No, I don't believe it either. Don't you have a carpet where I can sweep this under?
Als mensen hun mond hadden open gedaan had ik de daders persoonlijk alle hoeken van de kamer laten zien ! ijs maar hy verdiende n tweede kans1 nee, ik kan me ECHT niet vaorstellen dat hy zoiets zou doen !	I had to draw more about #boosbnnvara #thevoice For all non-dutchies: we're in the middle of a media storm about sexual harassment accusations at a talent show. Nearly as bad as the accusations was the interview with 'big boss' #johndemol who didn't recognize the power dynamics and shoved all responsibility to the victims 'who had to learn to speak up'. (second slide is in Dutch because it's about the media storm. It's another step in what we as a society tolerate when it	I had to draw more about #boosbnnvara #thevoice For all non-dutchies: we're in the middle of a media storm about sexual harassment accusations at a talent show. Nearly as bad as the accusations was the interview with 'big boss' #johndemol who didn't recognize the power dynamics and shoved all responsibility to the victims 'who had to learn to speak up'. (second slide is in Dutch because it's about the media storm. It's another step in what we as a society tolerate when it	Als mensen hun mond hadden open gedaan, had ik de dader persoonlijk alle hoeken van de kamer laten zien! Ja maar hij verdiende een tweede kans! Ik ging ervan uit dat t goed was Nee, ik kan me echt niet voorstellen dat hij zoiets zou doen!	If people would have opened their mouth, I would've personally showed the perpetrator every corner of the room! Yes, but he deserved a second chance! I assumed it was all good No, I really cannot imagine that he would do something like that

	comes to sexual	comes to sexual		
Source @maaike.hartjes	harassment [emoticon].	harassment [emoticon].		
- Advina	Hmmmmmm @MarkRutte geklemd wat vinden we hiervan?	Hmmmmmm @MarkRutte clamped what do we think?	#Rutte doet hier een John de Molletje als hem naar de zaak #demmink wordt	#Rutte pulls a John de Mol when asked about the case #demmink. He knew,
	Follow : <u>www.instagram.com/</u> <u>caulowil</u> d 	Follow : <u>www.instagram.com/</u> <u>caulowil</u> d 	gevraagd. Hij wist ervan, maar deed niks. #zwijgcultuur	but did nothing. #cultureofsilence
 Bente Zwaan - Moeder · 19 u ··· #Rutte doet hier een John de Molletje als hem naar de zaak #demmink wordt gevraagd. Hij wis* ervan, maar deed niets. #zwijgcult 	 DM for credicts // removal-verwijder request (no copyright intended) Contact ons ook voor collapse & inquiries.	DM for credicts // removal request (no copyright intended) Also contact us for collapse & inquiries.		
	<pre> #caulowild @clwtv #ikook #johnnydemol #johndemol #me2 #weed #wildshit #ignorance #lifestyle #tired #facts #news #democracy</pre>	<pre>#caulowild @clwtv #ikook #johnnydemol #johndemol #me2 #weed #wildshit #ignorance #lifestyle #tired #facts #news #democracy #markkutte #pvv #oprutte</pre>		
Source @caulowild	#markkutte #pvv #oprutte #pakoel #onzin #vvd #charlatans	#pakoel #bullshit #vvd #charlatans		

	niets te weten. #thevoice #thevoicegate @johndemol1 @talpanetwork	knows nothing. #thevoice #thevoicegate @johndemol1 @talpanetwork		
Source @marcjanjanssen				
The Voice of SileAce John Ac York Source @kurfcartoonist	#tvoh John de Mol #thevoice #voice	#tvoh John de Mol #thevoice #voice	The voice of silence John de Mol	The voice of silence John de Mol

ALS JE NIKS MELDT KAN IK OOK NIKS POEN!	#boos met #johndemol #thevoice #tvoh #cartoon	#boos with #johndemol #thevoice #tvoh #cartoon	Als je niks meldt kan ik ook niks doen! John	If you don't report anything I cannot act on it! John
WIE IS DIE MOL? Bill General Source @mwcartoons	Wie is de mol? #cartoon #kijknou #johndemol	Who is the mole? #cartoon #lookatit #johndemol	Wie is de mol? Meldt dat dan gewoon!	Who is the mole? Just report it!
Source @ hiweartoons	#thevoiceofholland #johndemol #thevoice #voice #cartoon #spotprent	#thevoiceofholland #johndemol #thevoice #voice #cartoon #spotprent	"Ik heb er echt nooit iets van gemerkt. Het ging allemaal achter mijn rug om."	"I genuinly didn't notice any of it. It all happened behind my back."

WAT HOOR IK NOU IS DE COMMUNICATIE SLECHT BINNEN MUN BEDRIJF?	#dagboekvaneensuri #johndemol #talpa #boos #slechtecommunicatie #johanderksen	#diaryofasuri #johndemol #talpa #boos #badcommunication #johanderksen	Wat hoor ik nou! Is de communicatie slecht binnen mijn bedrijf?	What am I hearing! Is the communication in my company bad?
HI HI VIET IK DAAR VIETS VAN Y	<pre>#vivavandaag #sbs6 #thevoiceofholland #seksueelgrensoverschrijd endgedrag #sexualabuse #drawing</pre>	#vivavandaag #sbs6 #thevoiceofholland #sexuallytransgressive behavior #sexualabuse #drawin	Waarom weet ik daar niets van! Hi hi hi	Why don't I know anything about it! Hi hi hi
Source @stevetoendang				

Sampled meme	Instagram caption	Translation caption	Meme's text	Translation text
- John ook ernstig geschokt -	@telegraaf.nl	@telegraaf.nl	- John ook ernstig	- John also really
MÖGEN ZE DEELNEMEN AAN DE VOICE, DOEN ZE HUN MÖND NIET OPEN!	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoiceofholland	geschokt –	shocked –
	#johndemol #boos	#johndemol #boos #abuse		771 11 1
	#misbruik #intimidatie	#intimidation #workfloor	Mogen ze meedoen aan	There allowed to
TTO IS	#werkvloer #pluiscartoons	#pluiscartoons	de voice, doen ze hun mond niet open!	participate in the voice, and then don't open
VELICIT S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S S	#pluiseartoons		mond met open	their mouth!
The second				
v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v v				
Source @pluiscartoons				
	Zoals d' ollanders zoude	Like Dutchies say:	Ik weet niets! Vrouwen	I know nothing!
Ik weet niets!	zegge:	What a mess!	moeten leren praten! Dat	Women must learn how
Vrouwen moeten leren praten! Pat vinden ze moeilijk, he de vrouwt jes	Wat een kutzooi!	what a mess!	vinden ze moeilijk he, de vrouwtjes	to talk! They find that difficult don't they, the
R B	wat cell Kutzool!	#boos #timhofman	de viouwijes	little women
	#boos #timhofman	#thevoice		
	#thevoice	#thevoiceoholland		
	#thevoiceoholland	#demol #johndemol #alib		
	#demol #johndemol #alib	#jeroenrietbergen		
	#jeroenrietbergen	#marcoborsato #metoo		
Zo blind als de Mol	#marcoborsato #metoo	#metoomovment		
	#metoomovment	#victimblaming #feminism		
Source @vageinig	#victimblaming	#iemmism		
Source @vageinig	#feminisme			

Category 2 – John de Mol's victim blaming (N =13¹⁶)

¹⁶ 3 of the memes appears also in category 1.

Als mensen hun mond hadden open gedaan had ik de daders persoonijk alle hoeken van de kamer iden zien i under vaner werdiende to tweede kansi hig werdiende to tweede kansi hig werdiende to tweede kansi hig solets our doen i Die bester to tweede to tweede t	I had to draw more about #boosbnnvara #thevoice For all non-dutchies: we're in the middle of a media storm about sexual harassment accusations at a talent show. Nearly as bad as the accusations was the interview with 'big boss' #johndemol who didn't recognize the power dynamics and shoved all responsibility to the victims 'who had to learn to speak up'. (second slide is in Dutch because it's about the media storm. It's another step in what we as a society tolerate when it comes to sexual harassment [emoticon].	I had to draw more about #boosbnnvara #thevoice For all non-dutchies: we're in the middle of a media storm about sexual harassment accusations at a talent show. Nearly as bad as the accusations was the interview with 'big boss' #johndemol who didn't recognize the power dynamics and shoved all responsibility to the victims 'who had to learn to speak up'. (second slide is in Dutch because it's about the media storm. It's another step in what we as a society tolerate when it comes to sexual harassment [emoticon].	Als mensen hun mond hadden open gedaan, had ik de dader persoonlijk alle hoeken van de kamer laten zien! Ja maar hij verdiende een tweede kans! Ik ging ervan uit dat t goed was Nee, ik kan me echt niet voorstellen dat hij zoiets zou doen!	If people would have opened their mouth, I would've personally showed the perpetrator every corner of the room! Yes, but he deserved a second chance! I assumed it was all good No, I really cannot imagine that he would do something like that
Image: Source @keesnuddeloog_	#vrouwenuitjebedrijf #johndemol #advertentieAD	#womenfromyour company #johndemol #advertisementAD	Beste John, Het ligt niet aan de vrouwen. Groet, de vrouwen uit je bedrijf.	Dear John, It is not the fault of the women. Greetings, the women from your company.

you'll tell me if I do anything thoremore reside. right? you should learn to be these things	I had to draw more about #boosbnnvara #thevoice For all non-dutchies: we're in the middle of a media storm about sexual harassment accusations at a talent show. Nearly as bad as the accusations was the interview with 'big boss' #johndemol who didn't recognize the power dynamics and shoved all responsibility to the victims 'who had to learn to speak up'. (second slide is in Dutch because it's about the media storm. It's another step in what we as a society tolerate when it comes to sexual	I had to draw more about #boosbnnvara #thevoice For all non-dutchies: we're in the middle of a media storm about sexual harassment accusations at a talent show. Nearly as bad as the accusations was the interview with 'big boss' #johndemol who didn't recognize the power dynamics and shoved all responsibility to the victims 'who had to learn to speak up'. (second slide is in Dutch because it's about the media storm. It's another step in what we as a society tolerate when it comes to sexual	You'll tell me if I do anything that makes you uncomfortable, right? You should learn to be open about these things.	You'll tell me if I do anything that makes you uncomfortable, right? You should learn to be open about these things.
Source @maaike.hartjes	harassment [emoticon]. #boos met #johndemol #thevoice #tvoh #cartoon	harassment [emoticon]. #boos with #johndemol #thevoice #tvoh #cartoon	Als je niks meldt kan ik ook niks doen! John	If you don't report anything I cannot act on it! John

<text><image/><text><text></text></text></text>	Ja kom op vrouwen, praat gewoon! Damn, ik ben boos [emoticon] #boos #victimblaming	Yes come on women, just talk! Damn, I am angry [emoticon] #boos #victimblaming	"Vrouwen hebben kennelijk een soort schaamte, ik weet niet wat het is. Ik kan het alleen maar verwoorden in een oproep: praat, zeg het." I present to you: de wijze woorden van John de Mol Victim blaming [emoticons vomiting]	"Women apparently have a sort of embarrassment, I don't know what it is. I can only put it this way: talk, say something." I present to you: the wise words of John de Mol Victim blaming [emoticons vomiting]
Source @yaeldaila	Boos.	Angry.	"Tja, meisje, je moet toch echt duidelijker van	"Well, little girl, you should let your voice be
"Tja meisje, je moet toch echt duidelijker van je laten horen."	#boos #timhofman #tvoh	#boos #timhofman #tvoh	je laten horen."	heard more clearly."
Source @marloesdevee				

BACK, BACK, BACK STABBER	#BOOS : unbelievable smh. #fyp #edit #xzybca #fy #boos #johndemol #voiceofholland #thevoice #backstabbers	#BOOS : unbelievable smh. #fyp #edit #xzybca #fy #boos #johndemol #voiceofholland #thevoice #backstabbers	Back, back, back stabber	Back, back, back stabber
Source @isabella.sva	Its not the womans fault!! #boos #timhofman	Its not the womans fault!! #boos #timhofman	John de mol: women should know when to tell people!!	John de mol: women should know when to tell people!!

TKTOK TTOK T	Victim blaming [emoticon glitter] #fy #boos #voice #thevoice #johndemol	Victim blaming [emoticon glitter] #fy #boos #voice #thevoice #johndemol	[emoticon glitter] John de Mol nadat hij de oplossing heeft gevonden voor r3pe door te zeggen dat vrouwen gewoon meer moeten praten [emoticon glitter]	[emoticon glitter] John de Mol after he found the solution for r3pe by saying that women just needs to talk more [emoticon glitter]
Source @yuhbestieslay				
zes vooral wat je dwars zit hè	Dus. Kennelijk was het binnen Ajax, het grensoverschrijdende gedrag van Marc Overmars, bekend. Maar werd hij hierop niet aangesproken. De enkeling die het durfde hogerop te zoeken, vond geen gehoor en signalen werden niet opgepakt. Besef dan even dat @omroepbnnvara met @boosbnnvara meer dan twee weken geleden met #voicegate naar buiten kwam. Dat Edwin van de Sar 5 dagen na de uitzending van #boos een	So. Apparently within Ajax, the offensive behavior of Marc Overmars was known. But he wasn't addressed about it. The single person who dared to this higher on, wasn't heard and signals weren't noticed. Realize that @omroepbnnvara with @boosbnnvara came out with #voicegate with more than two weeks ago. That Edwin van de Sar send an internal email five days after the episode of #boos and promised to handle sexual	Zeg vooral wat je dwars zit he	Feel free to say what is bothering you right

	interne mail uitstuurde en	transgressive behavior.		
	beloofde seksueel	And read, in all peace, the		
	grensoverschrijdend	statement from Marc		
	gedrag aan te pakken. En	Overmars [other case].		
	lees dan, in alle rust, het	Overmars [other case].		
	statement van Marc	#lekkerblijvenlikken		
	Overmars door: [other	#designactivism		
	case].	#seksuallytransgressive		
	casej.	behavior #sexualabuse		
	#lekkerblijvenlikken	#apenrost #roosterculture		
	#designactivisme	#sexualmisconduct		
	#seksueeloverschrijd	#powerabuse		
	endgedrag	#inappropriate #football		
	#seksueelgeweld	#ajax #behavior		
	#apenrost	#transgressive #culture		
	#haantjescultuur	#socialimpact #safety		
	#seksueelwangedrag	#powerrelations		
	#machtsmisbruik	#embarassment #power		
	#ongepast #voetbal #ajax	culture		
	#gedrag			
	#grensoverschrijdend			
	#cultuur #socialimpact			
	#veiligheid			
	#machtsverhouding			
	#schaamte			
Source @lekkerblijvenlikken	#machtscultuur			
WIE IS	Wie is de mol?	Who is the mole?	Wie is de mol?	Who is the mole?
DIE MOL?	#cartoon #kijknou	#cartoon #lookatit	Meldt dat dan gewoon	Just report it!
DAN GENCON!	#johndemol	#johndemol	server aut aut gewoon	
	J	J		
A CONTRACT OF A				
and a contract of the contract				
Source @mwcartoons				

Category	3-	Emblematic	play	$(N = 25^{17})$
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Sampled meme	Instagram caption	Translation caption	Meme's text	Translation text
	These images were	These images were made	The Voice of Women	The Voice of Women
	made to show my	to show my support for		
ADD	support for those women	those women affected by		
	affected by sexual	sexual harassment at The		
KI DOTA	harassment at The Voice	Voice Of Holland		
	Of Holland			
di inciti		#thevoice		
	#thevoice	#thevoiceofholland		
VIII	#thevoiceofholland	#sexualharrassment		
Veline	#sexualharrassment	<pre>#notdone #fuckedup</pre>		
	#notdone #fuckedup	<pre>#raiseyourvoice #support</pre>		
- A	#raiseyourvoice	#holland #showbiz #rtl		
	#support #holland	#handsoff #fist #boycot		
	#showbiz #rtl #handsoff	#johndemol #boos		
	#fist #boycot	#timhofman #woman		
	#johndemol #boos	#women #socialactivism		
	#timhofman #woman	#action #bnn #bnnvara		
	#women #socialactivism	#metoo #jeroenrietbergen		
	#actie #action #bnn	#alib		
	#bnnvara #metoo			
Source @robin_s_schrama	#jeroenrietbergen #alib			

¹⁷ 1 of the memes appears also in category 5.

VIII IIII IIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIIII	Chips. Nootjes. #BOOS! Welke juice heeft Tim Hofman over #TVOH? Check de aflevering via #linkinbio	Crisps. Nutss. #BOOS! What juice does Tim Hofman have about #TVOH? Check the episode via #linkinbio	The Vice of Holland	The Vice of Holland
Source @geenstijl				
	#thevoiceofholland #schandaal #alib #marcoborsato #jeroenrietbergen	#thevoiceofholland #scandal #alib #marcoborsato #jeroenrietbergen	The abuse of Holland	The Abuse of Holland
Source @dewithuispodcast				

THE VOICE OF HOLLAND	<pre>#thevoice #seksueleintimidatie #thevoiceofholland #holland #nederland #muziek #grensoverschrijdendged rag #marec #cartoon #cartoonist #presscartoon #nieuwsblad #cartooncafemarec</pre>	<pre>#thevoice #sexualintimidation #thevoiceofholland #holland #Netherlands #music #offensivebehavior #marec #cartoon #cartoonist #presscartoon #newspaper #cartooncafemarec</pre>	The Voice of Holland	The Voice of Holland
Source @fotosjopjes	De schuld ligt altijd bij degene die over de grens gaat, nooit bij degene die het overkomt! #tvoh #boos #johndemol #marcoborsato #alib #jeroenrietbergen #thevoiceofholland	The fault always lies with the person who crosses the boundary, never the person it happens to! #tvoh #boos #johndemol #marcoborsato #alib #jeroenrietbergen #thevoiceofholland	The Voice	The Voice

	TRIK 'Voice-over' (#metoo) "It only takes one voice, at the right pitch, to start an avalance." Cartoon for @drawingthetimes @debroervanroos #boos @omroepbnnvara #timhofman #baas #thevoiceofholland #wangedrag #metoo #thevoice #rtl #me #corruptebende #seksrel #jeroenrietbergen #alib #itv #talentenjacht #rtl4 #pleuriszooi #triknologi	TRIK 'Voice-over' (#metoo) "It only takes one voice, at the right pitch, to start an avalance." Cartoon for @ drawingthetimes @ debroervanroos #boos @ omroepbnnvara #timhofman #boss #thevoiceofholland #misconduct #metoo #thevoice #rtl #me #corruptgang #seksrel #jeroenrietbergen #alib #itv #talentshow #rtl4 #bullshit #triknologi #trik	#me	#me
Source @triknologi	#trik #poster #design #thesun This is the boys. #mansworld #thevoiceofholland #thevoice #metoo #cartoon #women	<pre>#poster #design #thesun This is the boys. #mansworld #thevoiceofholland #thevoice #metoo #cartoon #women</pre>	The Boys of Holland	The Boys of Holland

	<pre>#cartoon #thevoice #thevoicegate #jeroenrietbergen #alib #rtl #electrischestoel #gerritdejager #defamiliedoorzon</pre>	#cartoon #thevoice #thevoicegate #jeroenrietbergen #alib #rtl #electricchair #gerritdejager #familydoorzon		
Source @gerrit_de_jager	Check 'the Choice' op	Check 'the Choice' on	Joop	Joop
Joop• Q Inloggen	@omroepbnnvara!	@omroepbnnvara!		
The Choice of Holland	#thechoice #johndemol #studio #satire	#thechoice #johndemol #studio #satire	The Choice of Holland	The Choice of Holland
Source @studiosjaak				

	And since we're back,	And since we're back, I'll	The Voice of Holland	The Voice of Holland
J.	I'll start sharing other	start sharing other works		
	works again too. Here's	again too. Here's my		
	my weekly cartoon for	weekly cartoon for		
	@tubantia_nl from	@tubantia_nl from		
	today's paper.	today's paper.		
ATTER AND A DECIMAL OF A DECIMA	Yep, still doing those.	Yep, still doing those.		
	#cartoon #weekly	#cartoon #weekly		
	#column #TVOH	#column #TVOH		
	#thevoice	#thevoice		
	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoiceofholland		
	#media #mediarel	#media #mediarel		
	#scandal #abuse	#scandal #abuse		
	#drawing #illustration	#drawing #illustration		
	#ink #penandink #news	#ink #penandink #news		
	#newspaper	#newspaper #TCTubantia		
	#TCTubantia #tubantia	#tubantia #illustrator		
Source @gezienus_b	#illustrator			
Source @gezienus_0	[emoticons peace sign	[emoticons peace sign	The Voice of Holland	The Voice of Holland
	and microphone]	and microphone]	The voice of Hohand	The voice of Honand
	and interophone]	and interophone]		
	De redactie van het AD	The editors of AD found		
	vond mijn inzending	my submission for the		
JAN Some and the	voor de weekendbijlage	weekend appendix a little		
1 som	iets te gewaagd. Ben	too daring. Afraid that		
Villand	6 6	Instagram also deletes it.		
	bang dat Instragram het ook wel zal verwijderen.	I still didn't want to		
	0			
	Toch wilde ik hem jullie niet onthouden!	withhold it from you!		
	met onthouden!	Sharing allowed!		
00	Dalan magi	Sharing allowed!		
	Delen mag!	#boos #metoo		
		#thevoiceofholand		
		#thevoice #bnn		

Source @mathieuschellekens.art	#boos #metoo #thevoiceofholand #thevoice #bnn			
Source @kurfcartoonist	#tvoh de stoelen hebben oren #thevoice	#tvoh the chairs have ears #thevoice	Zo veel gezien! Zo veel gehoord! Maar waar zal ik beginnen?	Seen so much! Heard so much! But where shall I start?
Aucas Biotic traiparties Biotic traiparties Bource @kurfcartoonist	<pre>#tvoh alleen even voelen #beerput #beau #thevoiceofholland #thevoice #cartoon</pre>	#tvoh just feeling a bit #beerput #beau #thevoiceofholland #thevoice #cartoon	Alleen even voelen	Just feeling a bit

Source @roennes	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoiceofholland		
Source @sebastiaan_vos	#thevoiceofholland #vice	#thevoiceofholland #vice	Vice of Holland	Vice of Holland

Source @zohe01	#thevoiceofholland #villains #mafketels #alshetwaarisnatuurlijk #wordtlekkerrustigop deradiozo	<pre># thevoiceofholland #villain #crazypeople #ifitistrueofcourse #willbequietontheradio</pre>	The Villains of Holland	The Villains of Holland
Source @cartoonist_gal	#thevoiceofholland #metoomovement #jeroenrietbergen #alib #grensoverschrijdendged rag #editorial #editorialcartoon #nederland #lindademol #johndemol	#thevoiceofholland #metoomovement #jeroenrietbergen #alib #transgressivebehavior #editorial #editorialcartoon #Netherlands #lindademol #johndemol	The Voice of Holland	The Voice of Holland

	Outstand	D'a a man (1 - 1		
	Ontstemd.	Disgruntled.		
	Afgelopen week was	Last week, the		
	heel Nederland, inclusief	netherlands, including		
	ikzelf, in shock na de	myself, was in shock after		
	onthullingen in de	the revealing by the		
	uitzending van BOOS	episode of BOOS of		
	over seksueel	sexually transgressive		
	grensoverschrijdend	behavior and power abuse		
-	gedrag en	at the voice.		
	machtsmisbruik bij The	I was allowed to		
	Voice.	summarize that sentiment		
	Ik mocht dat sentiment	in an image of the week		
	samenvatten in een	for @redpersnl		
	beeld van de week voor			
	@redpersnl	#thevoiceofholland		
	-	#thevoice #boos		
	#thevoiceofholland	#photograpgy #redper		
	#thevoice #boos			
Source @anne.rosenberg	<pre>#photograpgy #redpers</pre>			
	Plan B: deelnemers the	Plan B: candidates of the	Deelnemers De Voice	Participants The Voice
Deelnemers the Voice briggen	voice krijgen voortaan	voice get a stop button	krijgen stop knop.	get a stop button.
Deelnemens the Voice brijgen Stop Knop.	een stopknop. #apentrots	#apentrots #thevoice	JO	6 1
	#thevoice	#thevoiceofholland	Plan B	Plan B
	#thevoiceofholland			
tot				
Contraction of the second				
PLAN B				
Source @nietzodruk.nl				

Source @podcastvanjewelste	THE VOICE SPECIAL! In deze speciale aflevering van podcast van jewelste bespreken Scottey, Donny, Jelmer en Raygin de reuring rondom the voice! Ook benieuwd? Link in bio! #netherlands #podcast #podcasting #thevoiceofholland #thevoice	THE VOICE SPECIAL! In this special episode of the podcast van jewelste, Scottey, Donny, Jelmer and Raygin discus the commotion regarding the voice! Became curious? Link in bio! #netherlands #podcast #podcasting #thevoiceofholland #thevoic	The Voice of Holland	The Voice of Holland
JOHN DE MOL REAGEERT JOHN DE MOL REAGEERT VERTIE	Neen john het ligt niet aan de vrouwen. #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #alib #marcoborsato	No john it is not the fault of the women. #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #alib #marcoborsat	John de Mol reageert The Voice of Holland	John de Mol reacts The Voice of Holland
	#sandermercx #visualart #visualizing #drawing #blackandwhite #voiceofholland #thevoiceofholland	#sandermercx #visualart #visualizing #drawing #blackandwhite #voiceofholland #thevoiceofholland	The Noise of Holland	The Noise of holland

Source @de_tegenbeweging				
fig.1 vertical of the second	[emoticon pencil] @thedailygorilla #thevoice #thevoiceofholland	[emoticon pencil] @thedailygorilla #thevoice #thevoiceofholland	Fig. 1 The Voice Gorilla The Voice Fig. 2	Fig. 1 The Voice Gorilla The Voice Fig. 2

	Was er sprake van een	Was there a cover up at	Ssssst	Ssssst
1/2	'doofpot' bij the voice of		555551	555551
	holland? Mannen met		The Vales	The Vaice
		Men with power can do	The Voice	The Voice
SSS ST	macht kunnen lang hun	their thing for a long		
	gang gaan, blijkt uit	time, appears in #metoo-	Trouw	Trouw
a state of the sta	andere #metoo-zaken.	cases. Sexually		
	Seksueel	transgressive behavior is		
	grensoverschrijdend	oftentimes condoned,		
	gedrag wordt vaak	hidden, or downplayed.		
(Clark)	vergoelijkt, verzwegen,	Even by the victims		
	of gebagatelliseerd. Ook	themselves.		
Trouw	door de slachtoffers zelf.			
		Iris Pronk and Rufus		
	Iris Pronk en Rufus Kain	Kain (@rufuskain) talked		
	(@rufuskain) spraken	to several experts on the		
	verschillende experts	matter. Read the article		
	over de zaak. Lees het			
		through the link in our		
	artikel via de link in	bio.		
	onze bio.			
		Illustration: Brechtje		
	Illustratie: Brechtje	Rood		
	Rood			
		#thevoiceofholland		
	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoice #metoo		
	#thevoice #metoo	#trialbymedia		
Source @trouw.deverdieping	#trialbymedia	-		

'VOULEZ-VOUS COUCHER AVEC MOI CE SOIR?' Lady Marwiske	I think #thevoiceofholland needs a new advertising	I think #thevoiceofholland needs a new advertising poster.	'Voulez-vous coucher avec moi ce soir? Lady Marmelade	'Voulez-vous coucher avec moi ce soir? Lady Marmelade
The J. Gelis Band	poster. And I think props to @anouk for making her voice heard! #tvoh	And I think props to @anouk for making her voice heard! #tvoh	'Heavy petting' The J. Geils Band	'Heavy petting' The J. Geils Band
Wetter (of last)			The Voice (of lust)	The Voice (of lust)
Source @cyclusion				

Sampled meme	Instagram caption	Translation caption	Meme's text	Translation text
Waarschuwing It waarschuwing <td>#BOOS</td> <td>#BOOS</td> <td>U staat op het punt Ali B, Marco Borsato en Jeroen Rietbergen te cancelen. Wilt u doorgaan? Ja Nee</td> <td>You are about to cancel ali B, Marco Borsato and Jeroen Rietbergen. Do you want to proceed? Yes No</td>	#BOOS	#BOOS	U staat op het punt Ali B, Marco Borsato en Jeroen Rietbergen te cancelen. Wilt u doorgaan? Ja Nee	You are about to cancel ali B, Marco Borsato and Jeroen Rietbergen. Do you want to proceed? Yes No
Source @sarcasper_				
	Trik 'Tim Hofman' "It only takes one voice, at the right pitch, to start an avalance." Portrait for Villamedia Magazine of @ villamedianieuws @ debroervanroos #boos @ omroepbnnvara #timhofman #baas #thevoiceofholland #wangedrag #thevoice #thevoice #rtl #courruptebende #seksrel #jeroenrietbergen #alib #itv #talentenjacht	Trik 'Tim Hofman' "It only takes one voice, at the right pitch, to start an avalance." Portrait for Villamedia Magazine of @villamedianieuws @debroervanroos #boos @omroepbnnvara #timhofman #boss #thevoiceofholland #misconduct #thevoice #rtl #corruptgang #sexrel #jeroenrietbergen #alib #itv #talentshow #rtl4 #bullshit #johndemol #journalistportraits #trik	BOOSssssssst	BOOSssssssst

Source @triknologi	 #rtl4 #pleuriszooi #johndemol #journalistiekeportrette n #trik Niet specifiek 'roze' nieuws, maar wel aanwezig in de media: de regen van aanklachten tegen medewerkers van het programma 'The Voice Of Holland' wegens vermeend seksueel 	Not specifically 'pink' news, but present in de media: the stream of allegations against employees within the show 'The Voice Of Holland' because of alleged sexual abuse.	Roze cartoon – ReinArt en voor we het wisten begon 'ie ons onwelvoeglijk te knuffelen Anonieme getuige	Pink cartoon – ReinArt and before we knew it he started obscenely hugging us Anonymous witness
ANONIEME GETUIGE	misbruik.			
Source @dixi normous	Staan jullie ook allemaal stipt klaar om 16:00??? #MarcoBdidnothingwr ong #boos #BOOS #timhofman #thevoice #fyp	Are you also ready at precisely 16:00??? #MarcoBdidnothing wrong #boos #BOOS #timhofman #thevoice #fyp	POV: Tim Hofman op donderdag om 16:00 nadat hij de best bekeken yt video van het jaar heeft geupload	POV: Tim Hofman on Thursday at 16:00 after he uploaded the best viewed yt video of the year

POV: je bent Tim Hofman en je canceled even heel TVOH en de carrières van verschillende machtspersonen	Programma BOOS [emoticon rising line] #fyp #boos #timhofman #tvoh	Program BOOS [emoticon rising line] #fyp #boos #timhofman #tvoh	POV: je bent Tim Hofman en je canceled even heel TVOH en de carrières van verschillende [emoticon glitter] machtspersonen [emoticon glitter]	POV: you are Tim Hofman and you cancel the whole TVOH and the careers of various [emoticon glitter] power persons [emoticon glitter]
Source @novadijk				
Source @blikvoer_	Nu al een kijkcijfer hit #TVOH	Already a hit #TVOH		

Tim Hofman is echt BOOS	[emoticons of	[emoticons of	Tim Hofman is echt	Tim Hofman is really
	applauding hands]	applauding hands]	BOOS	ANGRY
	#BOOS #timhofman	#BOOS #timhofman	[emoticons of	[emoticons of
	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoiceofholland	applauding hands]	applauding hands]
Bource @n.noksan	Wordt 100% meest geviewde YouTube video van t jaar van Nederland #BOOS #thevoice #nederland #timhofman	100% going to be the most viewed YouTube video of the year in the Netherlands #BOOS #thevoice #nederland #timhofman	Beseffen jullie hoeveel views de nieuwe aflevering van BOOS gaat krijgen Tim Hofman is the [emoticon goat]	Do you realize how much views the new episode of BOOS will get Tim Hofman is the [emoticon goat]

Sampled meme	Instagram caption	Translation	Meme's text	Translation text
	<pre>#humor #lachen #grapje #grappig #grappigeteksten #grappigeplaatjes #cartoon #cartoons #strip #strips #comic #comics #woordkunst #woordgrap #tekenen #tekening #kunst #art #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #talpa #alib #jeroenrietbergen #marcoborsato #nieuws #actualiteit #metoo</pre>	<pre>#humor #laughing #joke #funny #funnytexts #funnyimages #cartoon #cartoons #strip #strips #comic #comics #wordart #workjoke #drawing #art #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #talpa #alib #jeroenrietbergen #marcoborsato #news #actualiteit #metoo</pre>	The voice per direct van de buis, vanwege seksueel wangedrag. Shit! Ik zit er net lekker in.	The voice immedialty taken off television, because of sexual misconducts. Shit! I'm just getting the hang of it!

Category 5 – uncritical rape jokes (N = 27¹⁸)

¹⁸ 1 of the memes appears also in category 3.

TULLEN WE ANDERS OVERSTAPPEN NAAR THE VOICE KUDS? TO T	[emoticons angels]	[emoticons angels]	Zullen we anders overstappen naar de voice kids? Da's een geil plan maat	Shall we transfer to the voice kids? That's an arousing plan mate
CHECK (HOLF KIET MAAR HUIS VANNACHT 2.00 1.90 1.90 1.80 1.70 1.60 1.60 1.50 1.40 Source @hondjetoto	Doe de groeten aan Ridouan! #marcoborsato #marco #aangifte #gevangenis #rood #vandaagisrood #viespeuk #om #rechtszaak	Say hi to Ridouan! #marcoborsato #marco #report #jail #rood #vandaagisrood #pervert #om #lawsuit	Nee ik hoef niet naar huis vannacht Marco B.	No I am not going home tonight Marco B.

"Minder dan 15 lesweken nog tot je eindexamen hé" nog tot je eindexamen hé" 243 comments 243 comments e eerste drie woorden bevalt marco borsato wel Source @rutvarkenskut2	Hier mijn collectie marco memes #marcoborsato #voicekids #sluipschutters	Here is my collection marco memes #marcoborsato #voicekids #sluipschutters	"Minder dan 15 lesweken nog tot je eindexamen he" De eerste drie woorden bevalt marco borsato wel	"Less than 15 weeks before final exams right" The first three words will be liked by marco borsato
POV : Marco Borsato tijdens opnames van The Voice Kids	Hier mijn collectie marco memes #marcoborsato #voicekids #sluipschutters	Here is my collection marco memes #marcoborsato #voicekids #sluipschutters	POV: Marco Borsato tijdens de opnames van The Voice Kids	POV: Marco Borsato during the recordings of The Voice Kids

PATRICK KICKEN @KICKEN Mar goed dat Douwe Bob niet in de guy zat bij The Voice of Holland! #tvoh	#tvoh #thevoiceofholland #thevoice #delachspier	#tvoh #thevoiceofholland #thevoice #delachspier	PATRICK KICKEN @kicken Maar goed dat Douwe Bob niet in de jury zat bij The Voice of Holland #tvoh	PATRICK KICKEN @kicken Good thing that Douwe Bob wasn't a jury at The Voice of Holland #tvoh
	New book from the voice coach Ali B #thevoice #alib #sukkeltje	New book from the voice coach Ali B #thevoice #alib #loser	ALI B methode 12 tips om jonge meisjes origineel in het bed te dwingen	ALI B method 12 tips to originally force young girls into bed

				· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
With the second seco	Wie zouden Marco en Ali doen	Who would Marco and ali do	Marco Borsao, Ali B – Wie Zou Je Doen	Marco Borsao, Ali B – Who Would You Do
Source @r/cirkeltrek				
Ali wanneer hij een meisje voor Marco overlaat om te betasten	Sympathiek hoor #thevoice #thevoicekids #kinderenvoorkinderen #alib #marcoborsato	Sympathetic #thevoice #thevoicekids #kidsforkids #alib #marcoborsato	Ali B wanneer hij een meisje voor Marco overlaat om te betasten	Ali B when he leaves a girl for Marco to be touched
Course Qualitanada				
Source @traliborsato	#marcoborsato #bbq	#marcoborsato #bbq	Wanneer Marco beseft	When Marco realized
Wanneer Marco beseft dat er weer iemand mee kan naar de bbq		#Inarcoborsato #bbq	dat er weer iemand mee kan naar de bbq	that he can take someone to the bbq
Source @matthijs325				

Ook Roel van Velzen heeft toegegeven onder meerdere rokjes te hebben gekeken Source @dumpert	Ook Roel! #voice #meme #grap #roel #velzen #rokje #tvoh #voicegate	Also Roel! #voice #meme #joke #roel #velzen #skirt #tvoh #voicegate	Ook Roel van Velzen heeft toegegeven onder meerdere rokjes te hebben gekeken	Also Roel van Velzen admitted to looking under the skirts of different girls
FC METOO IK WIL IN PE SPITS!	#overmars dus ook #metoo #ajax #jekanereeneltfalmeema ken #fcmetoo #cartoon	#overmarch so also #metoo #ajax #youcanmakeateamoutof it #fcmetoo #cartoon	FC METOO Ik wil in de spits!	FC METOO I want to be a striker!
Jues R. Marie B. AL B. Marie C. Marie C				

DIMERREKEND***	BREEK: nieuw slachtoffer meldt zich na	BREAK: new victim reports himself after	***BREKEND***	***BREAKING***
'Nieuw Slachtoffer #AliB Meldt Zich' Minder heftige aantijgingen maar slachtoffer Max V. zegt "ernstig vocaal misbruikt te zijn"	misbruik!! #voicegate #tvoh	abuse!! #voicegate #tvoh	"Nieuw slachtoffer #AliB meldt zich"	"New victim #AliB comes forward"
door Ali B. na afloop van een evenement in Abu Dhabi.			Minder heftige aantijgingen maar slachtoffer Max V. zegt "ernstig vocaal misbruikt te zijn" door Ali B, na afloop van een evenement in Abu Dhabi.	Less serious allegations but victim Max V. says to have been "seriously vocally abused" by Ali B, after the end of an event in Abu Dhabi.
Source @dumpert				
Al die aanrandingen deed	@alibspec vs @aliexpress #alib #TVOHGATE #tvoh about last weekkkkk wat een weekje	@alibspec vs @aliexpress #alib #TVOHGATE #tvoh about last weekkkkk what a week	Al die aanrandingen deed AliExpress	All those assaults did AliExpress
AliExpress				
Source @caulowild				

Nu wil de vrouw van Ali B van hem af Dat wordt Ali Mentatie	Breghje wil zsm een goeie A L I M E N T A T I E @alibspec #alib #marcoborsato #jeroenrietbergen #rlt4 #TVOHGATE #tvoh #talpa	Breghje wants asap a A L I M O N Y @alibspec #alib #marcoborsato #jeroenrietbergen #rlt4 #TVOHGATE #tvoh #talp	Nu wil de vrouw van Ali B van hem af Dat wordt Ali Mentatie [emoticons laughter]	Now the wife of Ali B wants to get rid of him That will be Ali Mony [emoticons laughter]
Source @caulowild	Zouden er ook #TVOH babies zijn? Borsato #marcoborsato @alibspec @douwebob @official_waylon_musi c we need answers!!!! We kunnen niet wachten op een reünie. [emoticons laughter] #douwebob #jeroenrietbergen #alib #tvohgate	Would there be #TVOH babies? Borsato #marcoborsato @alibspec @douwebob @official_waylon_musi c we need answers!!!! We cannot wait for a reunion. [emoticons laughter] #douwebob #jeroenrietbergen #alib #tvohgate	The Voice reunion	The Voice reunion

MARCO MARCO Source @caulowild	Hij begon!!! Neeeeee jij!!! #markovermars [emoticons laughter] #marcoborsato Borsato #tvohgate #tvoh #rtl4	He started!!! Nooooo he did!!! #markovermars [emoticons laughter] #marcoborsato Borsato #tvohgate #tvoh #rtl4	NYPD Marco Marc O.	NYPD Marco Marc O.
	MWDHX #mevrouwdeheks #mwdhx #thevoice #mevrouwdeheksdoetalti jdiets geks #thevoiceofholland #mijnhumorishetniet #humor #cartoon #comicstripart #muziekles #musiceducation	MWDHX #missthewitch #mwdhx #thevoice #missthewitchalwaysdoe s somethingcrazy #thevoiceofholland #notmyhumor #humor #cartoon #comicstripart #musiceducation	MWDHX. Juffrouw de heks Wat moet dit voorstellen!! Kom hier! Ali B. Marco B. AAAAAAHH! Muziek-les!	MWDHX. Misses the witch What is this supposed to be!! Come here! Ali B. Marco B. AAAAAAHH! Music-class!
Source @4lexturk	#alib #thevoice #thevoiceofholland	#alib #thevoice #thevoiceofholland	Aangifte tegen Ali B wegens seksueel wangedrag bij The Voice The Voice? Integendeel! Ze moeten juist heel goed kunnen zwijgen!	Report against Ali B for sexual misconducts at The Voice The Voice? On the contrary! They must be able to be silent!

Source @larsmancartoons				
RADERSCHER Vrouwenakker gem. Nieuwkoop	Wat een vrouwenakker #naaistreek #alib #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #woordspeling #vrouwen #plaatsnamen #plaatsnaam #spelenmettaal #nietgrappig #johndemol #jeroenrietbergen #machtsmisbruik	What a womenfield #bullshit #alib #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #wordplay #women #placenames #placename #playingwithlanguage #notfunny #johndemol #jeroenrietbergen #powerabuse	Ali B is een Vrouwenakker Gem. Nieuwkoop	Ali B is a Womenfield Mun. Nieuwkoop
Source @woordgrapwebshop				
R. Spranna DD	#thevoiceofholland	#thevoiceofholland	Ik hoop dat rlt4 een punt achter the voice wil zetten. Wij kennen er genoeg die er een puntje aan kunnen zuigen.	I hope that rtl4 wants to put an end to the voice. We know enough that will suck an end to it.
Source @roy_spraakman_cartoons				

Opvolger AliB is inmidaels bekend	#thevoiceofholland #mindfuckerld #varel #tiktokroom #thevoice	#thevoiceofholland #mindfuckerld #varel #tiktokroom #thevoic	Opvolger AliB is inmiddels bekend	Successor AliB is revealed
	Ouwe snoepert	Good old foodie	Eerste marokkaan	First marrocan
EERSTE MAROKKAAN	[emoticon moon]	[emoticon moon]	Op de maan!	On the moon!
OP DE MAAN!	<pre>#thevoice #thevoiceofholland #alib #maan #marcoborsato #trending #voice #ikkiesjou #johndemol #voiceofholland #talentenjacht #schandaal #actueel #nieuws #topic #hot #rtl4 #shownieuws #albertverlinde #boos #timhofman #talpa #johndemol</pre>	<pre>#thevoice #thevoiceofholland #alib #maan #marcoborsato #trending #voice #ichooseyou #johndemol #voiceofholland #talentenjacht #scandal #actuality #news #topic #hot #rtl4 #shownieuws #albertverlinde #boos #timhofman #talpa #johndemol</pre>		
Source @hondjetoto				

	Want we weten nog niks	Because we dont know	The Voice of Holland	The Voice of Holland
	he! [emoticon annoyance]	anything right! [emoticon annoyance]	Doe anders ff een leuke	Why don't you do a
Doe anders if een leuke freestyle, dat kan je zo Wat ze ook roepen straks bij Boos,	unitoyuneej	[emotion annoyance]	freestyle, dat kan je zo	freestyle, you're good at
goed niemand zoog er aan mijn slinger.	#tvoh	#tvoh	goed	that
TER DO	#thevoiceofholland #freestyle #rap	#thevoiceofholland #freestyle #rap	Wat ze ook roepen	Whatever they say at
	#nederlandserap	#dutchrap #funnytexts	straks bij BOOS,	BOOS, no one sucked
lkzat ook niet	#grappigeteksten	#humor #memepages	niemand zoog er aan	my dingaling
aan een doos, ruik maar aan	#humor #memepages	#memes #meme	mijn slinger	T 1 1 1 1 1
	#memes #meme #memesdaily	#memesdaily #funnymemes	Ik zat ook niet aan een	I also didn't touch any vajayjay, smell my
	#funnymemes	#memepage #funny #lol	doos, ruik maar aan mijn	finger
	#memepage #funny #lol	#dailymemes #lmao	vinger	6
	#dailymemes #lmao	#memer #memez		
	#memer #memez #memedaily #jokes	#memedaily #jokes #funnymemes		
	#funnymemes	#dutchmeme		
Source @gewoon_dutch_memes	#dutchmemes			
	#tvoh #thevoiceofholland	#tvoh #thevoiceofholland	De Telegraaf	De Telegraaf
De Telearaaf	#thevoice #rtl4	#thevoice #rtl4	Oud deelneemster The	Old candidate The Voice
			Voice Senior Annie	Senior Annie (83), tells
Oud deelneemster The Voice Senior Annie (83), meld aan de Telegraaf dat			(83), meldt aan de	de Telegraaf that she
zij nooit last heeft gehad van Jeroen Rietbergen. "En ik had die dag nog			Telegraaf dat zij nooit last heeft gehad van	never got bothered by Jeroen Rietbergen. "And
zo'n geil slipje aangedaan"			Jeroen Rietbergen. "En	I still put on a hot
			ik had die dag nog zo'n	panties that day"
			geil slipje aangedaan"	
made with memotic				
Source @roeleveldmartin				

<image/>	<pre>#humor #lachen #grapje #grappig #grappigeteksten #grappigeplaatjes #cartoon #cartoons #strip #strips #comic #comics #woordkunst #woordgrap #tekenen #tekening #kunst #art \$thevoice #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #talpa #alib #jeroenrietbergen #marcoborsato #nieuws</pre>	<pre>#humor #laughing #joke #funny #funnytexts #funnyimages #cartoon #cartoons #strip #strips #comic #comics #wordart #workjoke #drawing #art #thevoice #thevoiceofholland #johndemol #talpa #alib #jeroenrietbergen #marcoborsato #news #actualiteit #metoo</pre>	The voice of holland, ja. Ongelofelijk toch? Ik heb drie keer meegedaan en ik heb niets gezien. Niet eens een dickpic van Jeroen gehad en ik droeg alleen maar geile broekjes!	The voice of holland, yes. Unbelievable right? I participated three times and saw nothing. Not even a dickpic from Jeroen and I only wore hot panties!
Source @wibo_cartoons Deelnemers the Voce brijgen Stop Krop.	#actualiteit #metoo Plan B: deelnemers the voice krijgen voortaan	Plan B: candidates of the voice get a stop button	Deelnemers De Voice krijgen stop knop.	Participants The Voice get a stop button.
Stop Krop.	een stopknop. #apentrots #thevoice #thevoiceofholland	#apentrots #thevoice #thevoiceofholland	Plan B	Plan B
Source @nietzodruk.nl				