

## Analyzing the Concept of Evil in Marxist and Freudian Context through the News on the Webpages of the Newspapers

*Marksist ve Freudyen Bağlamda Kötülük Kavramının Gazetelerin İnternet Sayfalarına Yansıyan Haberler Üzerinden İncelenmesi*

### Abstract

The positive or negative impact of media content on individuals and society is a matter of much debate, but it has been the subject of many studies from the past to the present. The main debate on this issue is the size of this effect rather than the influence of the media. News and content in the media, whether positive or negative, inevitably affect individuals or society in some way. Setting aside the positive impact, it is possible to say that a significant portion of content in the media negatively affects individuals, either directly or indirectly. This is because it's a known fact that the media is more inclined and eager to publish negative content. In particular, news related to societal events, referred to as "third-page news", frequently finds a place in the media. Third-page news predominantly consists of negative stories. It causes exposure to negative content in many ways. Considering that these negativities reach people of all ages, levels of education, and status, negative social reflections can be observed, especially in the medium to long term. The detailed presentation of news that may set a negative example (evil) in the media, and especially in the new media, can set an example for other people and cause the evil to spread systematically. This study aims to examine the news published on the internet news sites of the most followed newspapers in Turkey, through the concept of evil in the Marxist and Freudian context. For this purpose, news texts were examined from macro and micro perspectives using the discourse analysis method. According to the main findings obtained from the study, parallel results were obtained with the thesis that evil manifests itself more based on economic reasons, which is dominant in Marxist thought. On the other hand, the findings showing that there is a high number of incidents involving individuals committing evil for trivial reasons lead to the belief that the Freudian perspective of evil is prevalent in society.

**Keywords:** Communication, Newspaper News, Evil, Individual, Freud, Marx

### Öz

Medya içeriklerinin bireyler ve toplum üzerindeki olumlu veya olumsuz etkisi çok tartışılan bir husus olmakla birlikte geçmişten günümüze pek çok çalışmaya konu edilmiştir. Aslında bu konuda asıl tartışılan şey medyanın etkisinden ziyade bu etkinin boyutudur. Medyada yer alan haberler ve içerikler ister olumlu ister olumsuz olsun bireyleri veya toplumu bir şekilde etkilemektedir. Olumlu etkiyi bir kenara bırakırsak, medyada yer alan pek çok içeriğin bireyleri çoğunlukla doğrudan veya dolaylı olarak olumsuz etkilediğini söylemek mümkündür. Çünkü medyanın olumsuz içerikleri yayınlamaya daha istekli ve daha meyilli olduğu bilinen bir gerçektir. Özellikle üçüncü sayfa haberi olarak adlandırılan ve toplumsal olayları konu alan haberler medyada sıklıkla yer bulmaktadır. Üçüncü sayfa haberleri çoğunlukla olumsuz haberlerden oluşur. Bu olumsuzlukların her yaşta, her eğitim seviyesinden, her statüden insana ulaştığı düşünüldüğünde özellikle orta ve uzun vadede olumsuz toplumsal yansımaları gözlemlenebilecektir. Medyada ve özellikle yeni medyada olumsuz örnek oluşturabilecek (kötülük içerikli) haberlerin detaylı bir şekilde sunulması, diğer insanlara örnek teşkil ederek kötülüğün sistematik biçimde yayılmasına sebep olabilmektedir. Bu çalışmada, Türkiye’de en çok takip edilen gazetelerin internet haber sitelerinde yayınlanan haberlerin, Marksist ve Freudyen bağlamda kötülük kavramı üzerinden incelenmesi amaçlanmıştır. Bunun için söylem analizi yöntemi ile haber metinleri makro ve mikro yönden incelenmiştir. Çalışmadan elde edilen temel bulgulara göre, Marksist düşüncede hâkim olan ‘kötülüğün ekonomik nedenlere dayalı olarak kendini daha fazla gösterdiği’ tezine paralel sonuçlar elde edilmiştir. Öte yandan inceleme sonucu elde edilen bulgularda, ‘sudan sebeplerle’ kötülük yapan insanlara ilişkin olayların sayısının oldukça fazla olması da Freudyen kötülük yaklaşımının toplumda yaygın olduğu kanaatinin oluşmasına neden olmaktadır.

**Anahtar Kelimeler:** İletişim, Gazete Haberleri, Kötülük, Birey, Freud, Marx

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## Introduction

The method followed by the media, which has very different functions while performing the function of providing news and information, has made the media and media content controversial. The fact that media organizations act with the understanding that interesting and negative news is followed (read, watched, clicked) more has caused the content to be shaped in this context. For this reason, media organizations try to attract the attention of viewers and readers by exaggerating and constantly repeating bad events.

This situation may cause people to think that there is more violence, crime, and evil in society. In addition, the constant presentation of such news may cause people to increase their anxiety and anxiety levels and weaken their sense of security. More importantly, such news makes negative events ordinary and can almost normalize evil.

The constant and systematic presence of evil in the media and news has also caused discussions in society. It is a well-known fact that this situation can affect people's moods, thoughts, and behaviors by constantly presenting such news as well as informing people about what is going on in the world.

Based on the evaluation of Marx and Freud on the emergence of evil, it is possible to say that the media's frequent publication of news about evil may trigger the evil tendency in people. The effect of negative news, especially on children, may lead to traumatic results in the long run and may lead to a tendency toward evil. In this context, Freud stated that the traumatic events experienced in childhood of the person may also cause bad behaviors, and he stated that bad experiences in childhood may cause a person to exhibit bad behaviors in the future.

According to Karl Marx, the social structure is based on class struggle and develops historically as a result of the struggle of the exploited against the exploiters. Class struggle causes inequalities in society, and these inequalities are also the source of evils and injustices. People who consider adapting that event or situation to their own lives without knowing the full details of the events in the news may tend to do evil by being inspired by that event. It should never be ignored that they may be inclined to do evil, especially when they think they have been wronged or believe that injustice prevails, as in the philosophy of Marxism.

When the event is viewed from the media side, if it is necessary to include evil in the news, it is extremely important to provide explanatory information about the causes and consequences of this, to raise awareness in society, and to offer solutions. This study aims to examine the news published in the media through the concept of evil in the Marxist and Freudian context. For this purpose, the news in Hürriyet and Sözcü newspapers, which are among the top three newspapers with the highest circulation in Turkey and stand out with their public order and murder news, were discussed (medyaradar. com).

### 1. Evil, Individual, and Society

The concepts of good and evil can be interpreted in different ways, and there is no consensus in this sense. Evil rather than good can mean different things from person to person. Historically, the problem of evil has always existed and found a place in the social agenda as a controversial issue (Taşabat, 2021, p. 441). The problem of evil continues to exist today and can lead to different interpretations. For example, Russell (1999, pp. 11-18) states that the essence of evil “is the hurting of a sentient being, that is, of a being that can feel pain.” The important thing, according to Russell, is the pain itself. Evil is directly grasped by the mind and is also felt directly. Pain is felt when it is deliberately created. No other proof is needed for the existence of evil. In such a situation, the idea that

"evil will cause me pain" prevails. Painful evil leads to senseless, causeless destruction. Evil is not constructive but rather destroys and shreds, does not mend, and binds. He is constantly trying to destroy. The real problem of evil is to invade all beings and turn them into nothing.

According to Sartre, evil tries to construct nothingness with dizzying speed. The individual suddenly breaks away from himself and starts to go like an arrow, the phenomenon of speed grabs the individual by the neck and increases with each passing second. For the individual, this occurs with an irresistible desire. The individual in this feeling wants to move forward by destroying what is in front of him. He doesn't even think about pressing the brakes. It also quickly fends off any obstacles that may come its way. Karen Horney says, "about her desire to destroy, we are humiliated, abused or heard about them because we want to defend our safety or happiness or what looks like this" (Sartre, 2009, p. 151), Horney speaks in a way that one will take on the form of reactive behavior in the face of evil done to him (Marcuse, 1998, p. 190). Therefore, the evil problem will always be in social life and will be explained in different ways.

"There are four different traditional explanations for the source of evil: (1) People are possessed or seduced by a supernatural force. (2) People are innately predisposed to evil. (3) People are influenced by their environment and tend to behave badly. (4) People choose to behave badly through their free will. They consciously prefer evil" (Svendsen, 2018, pp. 14-15). Various classifications have also been made about the types and origins of evil. One can speak of a traditional distinction between "natural evil" and "moral evil". Apart from these, both internal and external causes can be shown as the causes of evil.

Natural evils; natural events are those that occur due to common and deadly diseases. Such causes can result in evil. In some sources, natural evil and metaphysical evil are discussed together. Metaphysical evils are associated with the universe being imperfect. However, there is a difference of opinion as to what metaphysical evil means. Moral evil can arise at the will of a human or other being with the power of thought. But this distinction fades when the individual begins to think seriously about God. In a way, God is a power that can invoke and feel pain in sentient beings (Russell, 1999, p. 18).

Some thinkers may find it objectionable to classify and define the concept of evil in different ways as above. Eagleton (2011, p. 87) states that "there are dangers in broadening the definition of evil." Eagleton states that Kant uses concepts such as evil, meanness, and corruption; however, liberals define this point of view as mildly immoral. Kant attributes evil to man's deviation from moral rules.

In the social order, people can go beyond the limits of morality, turn to evil or resist to avoid evil. However, resistance is not easy. According to Nietzsche, man is like a polluted river. To remain clean, it must be able to form a sea that can absorb this polluted river and make it clear. What is meant by this sea analogy is the 'Superman' who has adopted moral behavior. The 'superman' is a person who has managed to remain clear without being affected by all the corruption and decay, who shines like a light, and who can make peace with himself by integrating with himself (Nietzsche, 2000, p. 51). In a sense, this person is a person who does not deviate from negative paths with expectations and expectations.

Another thinker who commits social evil is Derrida. According to him, the course of the world is bad. His painting is extremely dark. Derrida said, "What is so bad in today's world? It would be appropriate to preserve the impersonal, neutral form of this vulgar title so that it would avoid speaking of the extremely inadequate concept

of depression, as well as between evil as crime or injustice and evil as suffering. It will also be avoided to make a decision". (Derrida, 2007).

The constant deterioration of life and the fact that evil covers the agenda can be a factor in the fact that goodness is remembered from time to time. Evils that hurt a person deeply require him to need help that can occur through goodness. In this sense, goodness can take on the role of medicine for the wound caused by evil. However, goodness can become worthless when the wound inflicted by evil is healed, aside from the disease. When the disease is over, the drug is left aside. Here is this situation for good, it can attribute value to it with evil (as cited in Derrida, 2014, s. 71). But the main point where goodness differs from evil is its consequences. Evil can end in death. The worst feared death is death, and people fear death the most. Nothing else can interest and excite one as much as the impending danger to another's life. Execution is a terrible end for man. Being so afraid of death and having a strong commitment to life is not a situation based on the intensity of thought or knowledge. A commitment to knowledge and contemplation can be called stupidity. Because the objective value of life is extremely uncertain, and the issue of preferring existence to non-existence seems hazy. Moreover, if contemplation and experience manifest themselves completely, non-existence can win. Man's close commitment to life cannot be interpreted as a source of knowledge and contemplation (Schopenhauer, 2012, p. 53).

The association of evil with death has made the relationship between the two more problematic. The interconnectedness between the two leads, in many cases, to be referred to together. One of these fields is art. Artists reflect the good and bad in their daily lives through their works. In some cases, it imitates the evil outside. Aristotle (1987, pp.13-14) draws the conclusion that artists who imitate according to evil position people who act as good or bad. Considering that people are divided into good and bad in terms of character, all moral characteristics turn around and reach the opposition of good and evil. In this case, the poets in society imitate the average person or those who are better or worse than the average person in their works. The same is true for painters. Polygnotos does better than the average man; Pauha tended to imitate the wicked and Dionysios the righteous.

## 2. Marxism and Evil

The number of those who interpret the problem of evil through economic reductionism is not small at all. Among them, the collectivists believe that they have found the solution to get rid of evil. Accordingly, man is a good being and has goodwill towards his neighbor. What makes people bad is the basis of private property. Man's natural Good is blunted by private property. The acquisition of private property can cause the person to see himself as strong and to treat his neighbor worse. The individual who does not see goodness may take reactive actions against those who treat him badly. In the opinion of the collectivists, if private property could be abolished, conflicts and hostilities between people would also decrease. Since the needs of all individuals in society will be met, no one will tend to position another as an enemy. In such an order, labor sharing is done voluntarily among people. Freud collectively says that the system ignores economic critique. He also states that he will not investigate whether the prohibition of private property will have a positive effect as intended. However, he also says that he will not hold back by supporting the psychological hypothesis based on the collective system. Freud welcomes the idea that the prohibition of private property should eliminate one of the sources of human violence. But Freud argues that only the prohibition of private property is not the solution to the eradication of evil. He thinks that the distinctions between force and influence used for aggression will not completely disappear. He does not believe in the idea

that aggression can be eliminated. Freud shows as an example for this thesis that aggression existed when there was no concept of property in human history (as cited in Freud, 2000, p. 96). Freud does not read evil in terms of economic reductionism.

Contrary to Freud, Marx, and Engels think that social peace can be achieved in the case of adopting a communal lifestyle by reading evil through the economy. These thinkers argue that if the exploitation of labor is eliminated, the world can be a peaceful place. They express this idea with the following expressions: "To the extent that the exploitation of man by man is eliminated, the exploitation of a nation by another nation will also be eliminated. To the extent that the enmity between the classes within the nation disappears, the enmity of one nation to another will also disappear." (Marx and Engels, 1976, p. 50).

According to Giddens, thoughts parallel to those of Marx and Engels can also be found in the communist works of Plato and Campanella. At the core of these utopian ideas is the idea that private property is the root of all social problems. In communist literature, there is a lot of talk about the need to control the acquisition of material wealth. In communist theory, the political field and the economic field are separated from each other. For example, in Plato's ideal society, rulers do not interfere with the productive activities of laborers and artisans. In particular, workers have the right to direct the behavior of the government (Giddens, 2010, p. 162.)

As conveyed through the expressions above, private property has a devastating effect in all areas. In particular, Marxist ideology complains that the negative impact of the capitalist and imperialist structure is not only on the individual but also on the whole society. He mentions that both can build negativities that will lead to internal unrest and wars (Martin, 2018, pp. 1-2). Marx thinks that capitalism alienates the individual from the idea of common humanity. In his opinion, seeing labor as a commodity alone poses major problems (Fuller, 2008, pp. 50-55).

The individual's alienation from others and nature should be prevented as soon as possible. According to Marx, socialism can prevent people's alienation and return them to their essence and open the way for reconciliation with themselves and other people, and then with nature (as cited in Fromm, 2004, pp. 6-7). In other words, the way to become one is to eliminate class distinctions. The division and polarization of society into individuals are already due to this distorted order called economy. Commodification is becoming more and more widespread in the economic order. As a result, in a society where everything is seen as an object that is sold, the society assumes a dual structure: Since everything is sold, the labors of all individuals are also 'thing' and reduced to the status of goods (Lefebvre, 1996, p. 86).

The masses, reduced to the level of goods, become open to exploitation. This brings some consequences. Marx thinks that social development cannot escape from the contradictory structure, since human civilization is fundamentally tied to the exploitation of one group by another. Progress and improvement in production lead to more oppression than to bring prosperity for the oppressed classes. While a part of the society gains from this situation, another part of the society suffers from it. The emancipation of one class leads to the disaster of another class. Even in barbarian societies, the obligations of different classes are not mentioned. Thus, favoritism and injustice between classes come to light (Engels and Marx, 2013, p.36). According to Marx and Engels, it is not very possible for those who hold all the rights and those who are assigned duties to live in unity and peace. They emphasize that the situation is the same today as it was in feudal society.

Marx and Engels (1976, pp. 29-30) draw attention to the fact that the bourgeois society that emerged after the collapsed feudal structure did not abolish the conflicts. The system dominated by the bourgeoisie continues to be evil and conflict. Within the capitalist system, the members of the society show hostility to each other and continue the exploitation. Tolerance between people is disappearing. This structure harms all areas of life. At the same time, the bourgeois structure degenerated the innocence of the family and made even the relationship there related to material interests.

“I discovered that oppressive parents and superiors mistreat their subordinates, be treated unfairly, secretly punished, and are among the root causes of the desperation that drives nervous, over-excited, passionate people with deep emotions to seek death.” These evils, condemned for their arbitrary authority, continue to exist in ordinary families and cause crises as in revolutions (Marx, 2006).

The capitalist structure has infected family life as well as in almost all areas. Factory working order has increased the evils even more (Marx, 2010, p. 453). Keeping financial power and money at the forefront has brought along problems among people because of money. Exploitation was built on money, and the way was opened for people to harm each other. Prioritizing materiality has eliminated all virtues (McBride, 2016, pp. 3-5). In an environment where evil and immorality are almost considered virtues, it becomes difficult for ordinary people to live, let alone stay well. So much so that people may even turn to suicide as the last resort to getting rid of the evils in life (Marx, 2006, pp. 52-53).

From time to time, Marx's thoughts and Freud's thoughts show parallelism. According to Freud, it is useful to consider Western civilization when talking about the mass. It is characteristic of 'Western' civilization that a psychic structure that is especially rooted in the subconscious element and continues to remain unconscious about the universal nature of man, as well as his self-determination based on it.

This distinctiveness separates him from his true nature and can alienate and barbarize him against the whole of humanity. As an effect of this unconscious motivation, personality in modern times continues to be unfamiliar to an important component that makes up the human being, the presence of the emotion factor in interpersonal relationships. This situation constitutes the historical-spiritual condition that makes possible the enlightenment and renewal of deism, with all its modernist consequences, by approaching beliefs and values with the greatest possible suspicion. However, it necessarily creates the condition that destines this to anger and makes it impossible for him to recognize and live the concepts of freedom and love within real value judgments. In such a mentality, the formations of hatred that refute the concept of civilization, Bolshevism and Nazism, cubism and positivism, and monstrosities such as banks and nuclear bombs can find the most suitable ground for their growth (Freud, 2000, p. 13).

### **3. Freud and Evil**

Freud has a weighty influence on the theory of evil, and this concept is based on the idea of the death instinct (Eagleton, 2011, p. 21). Even if a person cannot get pleasure from life due to his instinct to live, he can somehow turn it into a feeling of pleasure. He does not acquire this behavior over time, this tendency is an innate characteristic of him. In human instinct, there is no innate malfunction or contradiction. In this respect, a thought like desiring death would be absurd. Although it does not seem that humans build houses based on instincts, birds can build nests with their instincts. In this respect, animals are instinctively more capable than humans. Naturally,

this is the case. But the determination of man is focused on being spiritually free and reaching universal thought, the most obvious aspect of the instinct is that it has a sensory and in a sense individual, singular, personal, closed, exclusionary, abstraction point where there is no communication. Instinct can reach more analytical results than an analytical thinker. Instinct is an incapable concentration of individuality on the universal. On the other hand, it gives the measure and meaning of this personal instinct's distance from reason, which is the ability of the universals. Contrary to modern history, classical history expresses a process that does not include the concept of instinct in its composition (Freud, 2000, p. 12).

Due to marginalizing and subjective instincts, it seems very difficult for individuals to set aside their tendency to aggression. Without this feeling, they cannot feel comfortable and safe. When viewed, it cannot be considered insignificant that those who are considered minorities in society have established superiority over others due to their aggressive nature. It is not very difficult to keep a large number of people together on the axis of love, as long as they do not deprive them of another audience to show their aggression and satisfaction. Even state communities that are close to each other in terms of race and similarity in the world can harbor an unbelievable grudge against each other (Freud, 2000, p. 97). In other words, these evils will always exist.

Freud (2011, p. 81) reveals human evil in these words:

"The existence of an original, so to speak, natural ability to distinguish between good and evil is unacceptable. Bad is not usually something harmful or dangerous to me; on the contrary, what I desire is something that gives him pleasure. So there is an alien influence here; it determines what should be considered good and bad. One must have a reason to succumb to this alien influence since one's feelings will not lead one to this path. We find this reason easily in his helplessness and dependence on others. We can best describe it as the anxiety of losing love. When a person loses the love of another to whom he is dependent, his security in the face of certain dangers is also lost; in particular, he is exposed to the danger that the stronger person will prove his superiority through punishment. So in the beginning, bad is what threatens to lose love; Because of this fear of loss, evil must be avoided. Therefore, there is no difference between having done evil and not having done it yet. So everyone has this urge in some way. This drive is also related to the death drive."

On the other hand, Havi Carel, who has researched Freud's death phenomenon, argues that his death instinct cannot be considered the basis of evil. Carel refers to this, without assuming that life and death are in the form of opposing forces, and refers to the fact that he immediately exposes life to death and draws attention to his acceptance of "life as a mortal process, a specific, concrete meaning that can be understood with death" (Uysal, 2018, p. 76).

In Freud's thought, the death drive (such as being able to control nature) sadistically goes beyond the goals that should be made at his disposal. The so-called death drive is like an unreliable servant that everyone knows, who is expected to leave the individual at any minute. Freud speaks of the violence in Hitler's time as being either simply an end in itself or disproportionate to its purpose. When he discusses the Holocaust, which he defines as irrational, he states that it is not just the murder of people of a certain ethnic origin. Under the fact that such Jews are seen as threats, the presence of a danger directed toward the German race stands in the middle. In this respect, the Nazis were able to set up death camps based on this justification and their fears. At the same time, the thoughts of the Nazis paralleled other fundamentalist ideas. He experiences the ugly pleasure of torturing and brutalizing the other and can prove to you that you exist as a fully strong individual (Eagleton, 2011, pp. 89-90). Sadism can be a part of life for him.

The sadistic individual both violates the sine qua non of human dignity and feeds the idea of an ideal image consisting of strict and inaccessible moral standards. This individual is aware of the fact that the high standards he dreams of will never be reached, and he harbors evil thoughts as much as possible. By succeeding in being evil, he can sink into the pool of evil. However, with the realization of this, the gap between the ideal idea in his head and the realization will become deeper and deeper. At this point, he begins to believe that his evil cannot be easily corrected and forgiven. In these hopeless feelings, he takes on the callous mood of a person who has lost everything. As long as this judgment in his head continues, it will be harder for him to try to correct himself. Any move to fix it will end up getting bogged down even more (Horney, 1991, p. 162).

Unfortunately, the sense of denial constructed by the unconscious does not reveal itself in a paranoid personality. Paranoia results in the replacement of internal perceptions and emotions with external ones. Thus, the phrase "I hate him" is projected into another phrase. "He hates me (he will do me harm), which justifies my hating him." In this way, a situation is created as if the unconscious provoking emotion emerges as a result of an external perception: "I don't love him- I hate him because he wants to do me harm (Freud, 2012, p. 95). Such reflected emotions can always find a place in society. Mutual enmity feelings of individuals in society are common. One of the main factors leading to hostility is jealousy (Freud, 2000, p. 275). This feeling of jealous enmity may emerge more intensely in the mass. Today, many cases of emotion-based violence, especially jealousy, are reflected in media content. In the context of this study, such news will be examined from Freudian and Marxist perspectives.

#### 4. Method

In this study, the discourse analysis method was used. Discourse analysis aims to analyze the language in the social context. In other words, discourse analysis is the study of language. However, what is meant by this analysis is based on examining the meaning and content beyond, rather than the formal properties of words and words. As it is known, the discourse analysis method is a type of analysis used in social sciences to examine the structures of texts and to reveal the meanings, ideas, and ideologies in the structures of texts. (Kılıçaslan and Çalışır, 2018, pp. 469- 470). Discourse analysts also conduct written discourse analysis along with oral discourse analysis (McCarthy, Christian & Slade, 2019, p. 55). Discourse analysis draws on different disciplinary insights from linguistics, anthropology, psychology, sociology, communication studies, and educational research. Discourse analysts take care to use naturally occurring, authentic language data. There are two main ways to study discourse: Why are some other linguistic forms used while others are not used for certain situations, and what are the linguistic resources used to perform various emotional, social, and cognitive actions and interactions? Discourse analysts focus on communication motivation, which is effective in the choice of linguistic form (Weiyun He, 2017, p. 445).

By its nature, discourse analysis has an interdisciplinary feature. Apart from semiotics, ethnomethodology, and speech act theory, it has been shaped by the studies of poststructuralist theorists such as Jacques Derrida, Michel Foucault, and Ludwig Wittgenstein over time. Discourse analysis is important in terms of understanding human relations since it centers on interaction. It can help to reveal how people talk to each other, what kind of relationships they develop, and in what ways they differ (Wiggins, 2009, p. 427). Van Dijk argues that discourse cannot be limited to the structural field. According to him, discourse is related to the psychology of processing and the cognitive foundations of understanding, and citation to texts is important in terms of mass communication research (van Dijk, 1983, p. 21).



#### 4.1. Universe and Sample

The internet sites of traditional newspapers published in Turkey constitute the universe of the research. The sample of the research consists of the most followed newspapers Sözcü and Hürriyet. In this study, in which the purposeful sampling method was used, the news published between 15.11.2022 and 20.11.2022 in the two newspapers (websites) that were the subject of the study and containing evil (theme) were examined. In this context, while the news about murder and violence was examined in general, the news about the background of the event was included in the research. If the news in one newspaper was also published in the other newspaper, the analysis of that news was not done again. In the research, 24 news from Sözcü newspaper and 23 news from Hürriyet newspaper were analyzed. Considering the number of news examined and containing negative content, it is observed that there is a balanced distribution.

**Table 1:** Number of news in Hürriyet and Sözcü newspapers (subject and analysis)

	Number of news reviewed	Number of news with negative content	Ratio of news with negative content to general news (%)
<b>Sözcü</b>	370	24	6,48
<b>Hürriyet</b>	288	23	7,98

#### 4.2. Analysis of the News

On November 15, 2022, Sözcü newspaper published an article titled "After killing his wife and dumping her body in the forest, he filed a missing person complaint". In the news release, it was determined that the woman whose body was found stabbed to death in the forest in Muğla on October 23 was S. Ç., the mother of two children. It was determined that the suspect in S. Ç.'s murder was her husband Ö. Ç. confessed that he killed his wife during the discussion because he did not take care of them and constantly made videos and shared them on Tik Tok. In the body of the news, Ö. Ç.'s words about how he killed his wife are given. In the news, it was emphasized that the woman who was killed constantly used Tik Tok. Considering Ö. Ç.'s statements, a common social media practice is shown as the cause of jealousy. According to the information obtained from the news, it is understood that the incident that caused controversy and ultimately resulted in murder is not insoluble but can be eliminated with various initiatives. It is possible to evaluate that the point to be emphasized here is that the 'evil' that is passively present in human beings sometimes manifests itself at the first opportunity and that if it cannot be controlled, it can lead to irreparable results.

Sözcü newspaper, dated 16 November 2022, featured an article entitled "The police officer who learned that his family had been stabbed fired bullets". The news is conveyed with the following expressions in the opening of the title: A police officer who was informed that his parents, who were arguing with their neighbors, were stabbed in Istanbul Ataşehir, fired at random after the incident. As a result of the bullets from the police officer's gun, 6 people were injured, one of them seriously. The numerical data used in the news is intended to strengthen the rhetoric of violence. In the details of the news, it is understood that the mother and father of the police officer who shot around had an argument with their neighbors over the parking lot and they were injured with a knife during the argument. It is stated that the police officer, who learned the situation, shot around with his gun. When the

allegations in the news are analyzed, it is understood that the incident is not caused by economic reasons, but rather by the feeling of individual violence and revenge. Here, it is possible to evaluate that the person who is the subject of the news committed this (violent) act due to his personality characteristics rather than the magnitude of the effect of the event. Because under normal conditions, a person is expected to first understand what the event is, evaluate it, and reflect its reaction on this scale. However, the fact that the person shoots right and left without aiming instead of learning about the event and targets other people by seeing them as enemies can be considered a reflection of an existing evil idea. In addition, in this case, it can be said that the perpetrator can do the act of evil more easily if there is a suitable environment to do evil or if there is easy access to the means (gun) that will facilitate violence.

On the same date, another news titled "The number of dead in the gunfight in Batman increased to 5" was included. In the news, it was stated that an armed fight broke out between the two families due to drilling a water well in the field and 5 people died. In the detail of the news, it was emphasized that Y. A., one of the 5 people who died, was shot as a result of the bullets while trying to separate the parties. As can be understood from this event, it is understood that the act of killing, which is one of the highest evils that a person can do, can manifest itself even because of a simple event. Loss of control, especially due to anger, paves the way for a person to commit evil at the highest level.

On November 16, 2022, there was a news titled "5 Afghans were drugged and killed". In the details of the news, it was stated that the lifeless bodies of 5 Afghan nationals were found in the same house in Ankara. In the body of the news, it was stated that 5 people were stabbed to death after being drugged by Afghan M.O.Y. In the last part of the news, it was stated that "5 people who were killed had previously given money to M.O.Y to deliver them to their families, but the murder suspect did not send this money to Afghanistan". As can be understood from the news, the murder was committed for economic reasons. It is understood that the person who was entrusted with money to take it to Afghanistan confiscated this money for other than its purpose. However, as in other news, it is seen that in this incident (according to the news), the reactions of the victim or persons were excessive, and it emerged as a result of the transformation of some instinctive feelings, far from a solution, into behavior.

In another news article from Sözcü newspaper titled "After killing his brother-in-law, he asked his sister for blessing", it is understood that the person named H. Y. had a problem and had an argument with his wife, and as a result of the argument, his brothers R. K. and O. K. were involved in the incident. It was reported that R. K. shot at H. Y. with a pistol, and H. Y. shot R. K. in the chest with a pistol. In the details of the news, it is stated that O. K., who fled the scene, later called his sister and said, "Let your children be orphaned, but I had to do this". There was no emphasis on any economic problem in the news. It is understood that domestic discord is at the forefront. In this news, it is understood that while people have the potential to do extreme evil and tend to use it easily, on the other hand, they try to relieve their conscience with some emotional expressions to cover this evil.

Sözcü newspaper, dated 17.10.2022, featured an article titled "He shot his wife with a rifle, cried near her, then tried to commit suicide". In the opening of the title of the news; It was reported that a person named A. A. followed his wife at the stage of divorce and then shot her in the chest with a shotgun, and his wife, who was injured from it, cried for a while and then turned the barrel of the rifle towards himself. In the news, it was also emphasized that the health status of the Alkan couple remained serious. A situation similar to the one in the news above is also encountered here. It is understood that the person who is stuck in the trilogy of doing evil, feeling pity and

conscience makes his choice in favor of evil first, but later regrets it. The newspaper bases the theme of the news on emotion.

Another news of the newspaper Sözcü on the same date was titled "Neighbors' noisy fight ended badly". When we look at the subject of this news, it is understood that both sides prefer to do "evil", which is easier but more costly, instead of attempting to find a solution in the face of events and problems.

In the newspaper Sözcü, dated 19.10.22, there was news titled "Horrible incident in Kahramanmaraş! He sold the gun with which he was killed to his killer himself". In the news, it is stated that M. D. killed H. A. because of money. In the details of the news, it was underlined that M. D. purchased the weapon he used in the murder from H. A. for 6 thousand liras 1.5 months before the incident. Although money and interesting details are mentioned in the event, it is seen that people tend to do evil and any reason can trigger this tendency.

On the same day, another news titled "He killed his boss, he got 25 years for prison" was included. At the beginning of the news, there are the following statements: "O. Ö. (42), who worked as a waiter in a nightclub in Ankara, killed his boss Ş. G. (43) because he did not give his money." In the body of the news, O. Ö., who works as a waiter in the nightclub, becomes a partner in the nightclub where he works, who gave 450 thousand liras to Ş.G. and gave up the partnership after a while. It was reported that Ş. G. dismissed Özdemir and gave a car worth 260 thousand liras for his 25 percent share. O. Ö. who want to take the remaining Money, was beaten by Ş. G., then he took the gun from his waist and shot 9 times and killed his boss. It is understood that the incident reported in this news was also due to financial reasons. It is possible to explain the connection of the event with our subject as that a person does not hesitate to end the life of another person, and you have the potential to do this most brutally (by shooting 9 shots).

On 19 November 2022, in Sözcü newspaper, in another news titled "The young man was killed by his girlfriend in Aydın", it was reported that O. Ç. was stabbed to death in the heart by his foreign national lover G. Ü., with whom he lived, in Kuşadası district of Aydın. In the details of the news, it was stated that when O. Ç's lover got angry with her for talking to her mother on the phone, they had an argument and during the argument, his lover attacked him with the knife she held and stabbed him in the heart. It is possible to evaluate that the tendency to do evil in human behavior emerges more rapidly in cases where the thought of the other party's right is dominant. In addition, it is possible to state that being vulnerable or weak (the thought that the evildoer will get away with it) is also effective in the emergence of evil. In another report of the same date, Sözcü newspaper included another article entitled "She was arrested and released in a murder case... Wanted as a suspect in a mortal fight". In the body of the news, it was stated that there was an argument between 2 people in the Konak district of Izmir because of the children's fight, the lies of the parties also participated in the discussion and the discussion turned into an armed fight. It was also stated that C. K., who was injured after the incident, died in the hospital where he was treated, and that M.D.'s life was still in danger. As it is understood from the information in this news, it is understood that the execution practices of the modern world are insufficient to reform people and that people do not refrain from committing evil even if they are partially or completely sentenced. It should not be ignored that awareness-raising activities in eliminating evil can be more negative than the modern world's methods of execution in preventing violence and evil.

On 19 November 2022, there was another news titled "The fight over debt in the car gallery: 1 dead, 1 injured. In a gallery in Burdur, there was an argument between the two groups over the debt issue, and the owner of the

gallery, O. Ç., shot his gun during the discussion. It was reported that he shot at Ş. B. and Ş. A. and that Ş. B. lost his life. From a macro perspective, the headline and subheading of the news emphasize that economic reasons lead to murder.

On November 20, 2022, there was a news titled "He stabbed his grandmother because she did not give him money". The following statements are included in the expansion of the news: "In Kayseri, İ. D. (20) fled after stabbing and wounding his grandmother, N. D. (65), with whom he was arguing because she did not give him money." In the body of the news, it is stated that there was an argument between them when the person named İ. D. asked for money from his grandmother, N. D., his grandmother would not give it, and İ. D. later injured his grandmother with a knife he took from the kitchen. As in these two news stories, most of the news on the news sites evaluated within the scope of the research reveals that the act of malice stemming from financial reasons took place. This situation shows us that people generally commit acts of evil within the framework of their material interests.

On November 21, 2022, there was a news titled "He killed his brother, aunt, and nephew, the requested punishment became clear". The opening of the news is as follows: "A lawsuit was filed against the accused who killed his elder brother, aunt, and nephew in Serdivan district of Sakarya on April 5, demanding aggravated life imprisonment, twice life imprisonment, and imprisonment from 6 months to 2 years." The details of the news are as follows: "On April 5, in Kemalpaşa Mahallesi Gündoğan Sokak, Ç. G. (54) killed his elder brother B.G. (65), his aunt D.G. (59), and his nephew T.G., the other child of the family, B.G., escaped the attack by hiding on the balcony." This news is a striking example that shows that people's urge to do evil is uncontrollable and that this feeling can sometimes reach murderousness. So much so that in the incident that is the subject of the news, it is seen that the person does not hesitate to take the life of not only his interlocutor but also innocent people (children) who are innocent because of the issue of title deed and therefore receivables.

On November 21, 2022, there is a news titled "Confessed to killing the young woman: 1 detention". In the description of the headline of the news, there are the following statements: "28-year-old Ö. G. was found dead in his house in the Bergama district of İzmir. The person alleged to have had relations with Ö. G. choked his throat, and he left the house when he collapsed on the ground, after a while he returned to control. It was stated that he confessed that he had escaped when he realized that he had died and was taken into custody. In the body of the news, it was reported that the incident broke out of jealousy, with the following statements: "In his first statement, it was learned that the suspect had a love affair with Ö. G. before, that they had not met for a while, that he went to his house on the day of the incident, and that there was an argument between them due to jealousy."

Freud states that people can love and hate each other at the same time. People experience opposing emotions together at the same time. The news above confirms this, and the person who committed the murder claims that he committed this act because he was jealous of the woman he loved (Fromm, 1978, 51-52).

On November 15, 2022, Hürriyet newspaper covered an article with the headline "He went to the company where he left his job in Erzurum for the money he would receive and attacked the employees with a knife". The title of the news contains the following statements: "In Erzurum, a person named A.Y. injured 2 employees with a knife because of the debt issue at the water company he left his job." When we look at the news in general, it is seen that it is due to an economic reason. When the news is examined thematically which is a step of macro analysis, it is understood that the subject covered is parallel to the Marxist approach.

Another news of the same date was quoted with the headline "The crypto money debate in Pendik ended bloody". In the news, it was stated that there was an argument between two friends in Pendik, Istanbul due to cryptocurrency trading, one of the parties rained bullets on the other and later injured himself with the same gun. It was also reported in the news that the lives of two people were still in danger. In the two news stories above, it is understood that evil manifests itself for financial reasons. People seem to be more ruthless about the things they put at the center of their lives. It is understood that people have the potential to show cruelty about their most important values. In the modern world, it is seen that this center is usually shaped by economic events or situations.

On 16 November 2022, another news titled "Organized evil! Objection to Gamze file from the ministry and family" was published. In the translation of the headline of the news, there is the following information: "Both the Ministry of Family and Social Services and the young girl's family objected to the decision in the case regarding the murder of G. A. (17) by being thrown from a balcony after being sexually abused in a hotel. "All of the defendants were asked to be punished." In the opening of the title of the news, it was emphasized that G. A. was abused and killed by being thrown from the balcony.

On 17 November 2022, an article entitled "He killed 7 people from the same family in Konya... The decision has been made" was featured in the *Hürriyet* newspaper. The article contains information about the case of M. A., who killed 7 members of the bear family in the Meram district of Konya on 30 July 2021. In the details of the news, it was emphasized that the two families were hostile.

As seen in the news above, people can sometimes produce murderous tendencies by producing various reasons according to themselves. It is much easier to direct murderous tendencies toward others than to direct them at yourself. For this situation, Freud (2019, 57) uses the expression "Our subconscious does not allow the idea of our death, it feeds murderous tendencies towards strangers".

On November 18, 2022, there was another news titled "The discussion at the Okey table ended with a disastrous end". In the details of the news, it was emphasized that S. A. in Istanbul complained that the person he had discussed at the okay table had his car set on fire. It was also stated in the news that the arson footage of the vehicle was reflected on the camera. When the news is looked at thematically, it is understood that the argument between the parties at the hockey table caused this event, not because of the debts. As seen in this news, people can show their aggressive tendencies in almost any environment. This negativity may occur, including the activities they have done with their friends to evaluate their spare time and pass time. The pleasure of being aggressive towards people can be much more satisfying than other activities. Freud (2018, 65), emphasizes that aggression provides people with an indispensable sense of satisfaction. According to him, "People cannot feel comfortable without it." In addition, Freud emphasizes that people do not only show aggression towards strangers but also people who have neighbors and close relations with each other can feel the feeling of mutual hatred.

On 19 November 2022, there was an article titled "The horrifying incident in Konya! He was strangled in the 'exorcism' session". In the news, a person named H. A. drowned in the "exorcism" session and İ. E. Hac Ali, who was doing the exorcism session, was featured. It was emphasized that he was taken into custody. Another news of the same date was titled "The beating that put the courier in hospital in Başakşehir". In the news, it was written that the car driver in Istanbul Başakşehir beat a courier until he was hospitalized due to the issue of giving way. It is understood that he is almost ready to do evil, and when he finds any reason, he can easily resort to evil.

On November 20, 2022, it is included in another news titled "Crowd fight at the taxi station: 2 injured". In the opening of the headline of the news, the following statements are given: "A fight broke out when a person who came to the taxi stand in Istanbul, Kadıköy wanted to take a taxi even though it was not his turn. While 2 people were injured in the fight, the person who allegedly started the fight was detained. The moments of the fight were reflected on mobile phone cameras. ". As can be seen in the content of the news, it is understood that the fight was not of economic origin.

It is not easy to give up the pleasure of aggression. People feel comfortable in their social life thanks to their aggressive tendencies (Freud, 2018, 65). That's why people come up with various excuses to attack others. The above news also confirms these words of Freud. On November 20, 2022, there was a news titled "He shot a stray dog with a rifle in Maltepe". In the details of the news, it was emphasized that a person shot a stray dog with a rifle and the attacker was taken into custody after this incident. This news shows us that if a person feeds evil in himself, it can be done not only against other people but also against defenseless animals, nature, and the person themselves.

A person's subconscious can perform the killing process for even the most insignificant things. The best example of this is the code of law of the ancient Athenian Draco. There is no other punishment method other than death in this law. While explaining this situation, Freud emphasizes that people's subconscious still works like primitive people. According to him, people are nothing but driven by killers (Freud, 2019, 55). Another article titled "Terrifying moments in Istanbul on camera! They stabbed and extorted his money" was featured on November 20, 2022. In the news, it was stated that 3 people in Beyoğlu, Istanbul, first beat a mentally disabled young man, whom they thought was teasing them, and stabbed him in the legs, and then they extorted the young man's money.

On 20 November 2022, another news titled "He came in a wheelchair in Cihangir and stole the injured man's phone" was published. In the opening of the headline of the news, he gave the following statements: "The man who fell a stone on his head while walking on the road in the Cihangir district of Beyoğlu district of Istanbul was injured and fell to the ground. A woman in a wheelchair approached the injured man while he was waiting for help, after stealing the man's mobile phone and saying, "Get well soon" and running away. While the moments of the theft were captured on the cameras, the police caught the woman thief and the person next to her through the ornament on the wheelchair. When we look at the information given in this news, we can see a striking example of how evil can enslave a person. It shows that when evil takes a person prisoner, it can occur at every opportunity without the need for a situation that will anger the person or be a victim.

On November 21, 2022, there was a news titled "He killed his wife by stabbing him in 32 places! He appeared before a judge". It is understood in the details of the news that a fight broke out between the spouses over the issue of cheating.

On November 21, 2022, Hürriyet newspaper covered an article with the headline "Antagonized families fought, 3 children playing in the street were shot". The statements in the details of the news are as follows: "While 2 hostile families were fighting in Gaziantep, 3 children playing in the street were injured when the pellets from the rifle were hit." The news also included the following statements: "Police and medical teams were sent to the scene with a report. After the first intervention, the three injured children were taken to hospitals in the city. It was stated that the health condition of S. Ç., one of the children who was taken into treatment, was severe. The police tried to

catch the suspects who had fled. started work." Again, in this news, as observed in other news, proof of how dangerous a person who is captive to evil can be without aiming or making a sound assessment is presented.

The person who was enraged in the incident that was the subject of the news caused the victimization of children who were not related to the incident.

### **Conclusion and Evaluation**

According to Marxist thought, the economic system based on private property can be effective in the emergence of social problems and malfunctions. According to this, preferring a communal lifestyle instead of private property may prevent the emergence of financial-based problems. The news published in Sözcü newspaper with the headline "He killed his boss, he got 25 years prison punishment" can be considered in this context. In the details of the news, it is understood that there was a discussion about receivables and payables between the employee and his boss, and as a result of this discussion, the employee killed his boss with a gun. There may be such cases that result in death due to financial reasons. Again, there was an article in the Sözcü newspaper that one person died in the auto gallery due to a fight about receivables and payables, and another person was injured from it. In another news, it is seen that a person shot and killed his brother and aunt due to a title deed dispute. It is observed that the common point of the above news is due to the events related to commodity contention and private property acquisition. The fact that the social structure is established on a commodity basis can trigger the formation of evil.

Marx mentions that the individual who positions himself as powerful can also engage in evil. According to a report in Sözcü newspaper, the police officer, who learned that his family had been stabbed, fired bullets at his hostile with his gun without even needing to be informed about the issue. As can be seen here, feeling strong because of the opportunities one has as a person can also lead to evil. In another news report, it is reported that the person in question killed his grandmother, who did not respond positively to his request for money. A person may attempt to act more daringly towards the person whom he sees as weak. In another news report, it was stated that 3 people stabbed a mentally disabled young person whom they abused and extorted his money.

As it can be understood from this news, a person can be extremely cruel to a person whom he sees as weaker than himself. In another news, it was reported that the phone of a person who was walking on the road in a wheelchair and who was injured as a result of a stone falling on his head was ironically stolen by another disabled person. Looking at the examples in this news, it is understood that the person may turn towards evil against the person whom he sees as disadvantaged and weak. The reason for the bad behavior of the individual is that he sees himself as stronger than the other and not being afraid of him.

Marx also mentions that arbitrary practices and pressures arising from the capitalist economic order can push people to behave badly. When the text of the news published in the Hürriyet newspaper on November 15, 2022, with the subheading "He went to Erzurum for the money he would receive from the company he left, attacked the employees with a knife.", is examined, it is understood that some bosses may act arbitrarily at the point of paying the wages of the employees, and as a result, the people who have been suffering injustice can resort to evil. Arbitrary behavior and pressures fed by power can cause people who are exposed to this situation to attempt a negative behavior.

Freud tends to explain evil as instinctive and pleasure-based. According to him, aggressive emotions are at the core of the individual. The news in the Hürriyet newspaper states that one person killed 7 people from the same

family. This situation is too pathological to be explained by the material reasons that Marx stated. In another report, it was written that a person shot and killed a stray dog. The murder of a stray dog without any compelling reason reflects a pleasure-based point of view that Freud also mentioned. Again, in an article in Sözcü newspaper, it is mentioned that the person who shot and killed his wife with a rifle cried over her head and attempted suicide. The mood of the murderer can also be considered as an instinctive killing behavior. As seen in the news above, the individual can sometimes show murderous tendencies by presenting various reasons. The death urge, which is located in the subconscious of the individual, can sometimes reveal itself through actions performed on others.

Freud does not state that people can attempt evil due to the pressures stemming from the social structure in which they live. In Sözcü newspaper, the sentences of the person who killed his brother-in-law he used towards his sister, in the news, reveal this situation. The murderer explains this situation with the phrase "Forgive me. I leave your children orphaned, but I had to do this". He mentions that he had to act in such a way towards his brother-in-law against his behavior towards his sister because of the social structure. In another article in the newspaper, it is written that a woman was killed by her husband due to spending too much time on social media. It can also be interpreted that the killing behavior here is the result of the suppression of social norms on the person. A male individual who grows up in an environment with a male-dominated society may consider such behaviors of his wife as a factor of social condemnation. The excessive influence of society on the person can lead to such behaviors.

Freud emphasizes that the individual who feels lonely and powerless when he is alone can turn into a brave and aggressive being through mass psychology. The individual, who takes the power of the mass behind him, can act more courageously for bad behavior. In the news of Sözcü newspaper on November 16, 2022, there is information that there was an argument between two families due to the discussion of drilling a water well in the field and 5 people lost their lives. As observed in this news, it can be seen that individuals who cannot find enough courage when they are alone can behave much more courageously and aggressively in a crowd.

Seeing a person as stuck in crime can also be effective in evil behavior. According to Freud, individuals who reach a certain crime threshold are more willing than other individuals to commit other evils. There are traces of this kind of behavior in the news that was reflected in the newspaper "He was arrested and released in the murder case... as a suspect in the mortal fight...".

Freud mentions that people can have feelings of love and hatred toward each other at the same time. "A 28-year-old Ö. G. was found dead in her home. It was stated that the person alleged to have had previous relations with Ö.G. He confessed that he had strangled her throat, that he left the house when she collapsed, that he returned after a while to check it, that he had escaped when he realized that he had died. He was taken into custody". Based on the news reflected on the newspaper page in this way, it is understood that even people with love among themselves can have a feeling of hatred that will feed behaviors that lead to death. Freud also states that hostile attitudes can target not only strangers but also those who spend time with each other as close friends or friends. The news titled "The discussion at the Okey Table ended badly." can be seen as an example of this situation that Freud mentioned. Freud mentions that it is difficult for a person to lead an independent life with a tendency to aggression.

The perception of threat can also lead the individual to evil. Freud says that people can get worse due to the fear of death and threats to their life from others. On November 21, 2022, Hürriyet newspaper covered an article titled "Families who were angry at each other had a fight, 3 children playing in the street were shot". As observed in this news, opponents who have a conflict in their past always tend to perceive the other as a threat, which triggers new conflicts.



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### Structured Abstract

Based on the evaluation of Marx and Freud on the emergence of evil, it is possible to say that the media's frequent publication of news about evil may trigger the evil tendency in people. The effect of negative news, especially on children, may lead to traumatic results in the long run and may lead to a tendency toward evil. In this context, Freud stated that the traumatic events experienced in childhood of the person may also cause bad behaviors, and he stated that bad experiences in childhood may cause a person to exhibit bad behaviors in the future.

The number of those who interpret the problem of evil through economic reductionism is not small at all. Among them, the collectivists believe that they have found the solution to get rid of evil. Accordingly, man is a good being and has goodwill towards his neighbor. What makes people bad is the basis of private property. Man's natural Good is blunted by private property. The acquisition of private property can cause the person to see himself as strong and to treat his neighbor worse. The individual who does not see goodness may take reactive actions against those who treat him badly. In the opinion of the collectivists, if private property could be abolished, conflicts and hostilities between people would also decrease. Since the needs of all individuals in society will be met, no one will tend to position another as an enemy. In such an order, labor sharing is done voluntarily among people. Freud collectively says that the system ignores economic critique. He also states that he will not investigate whether the prohibition of private property will have a positive effect as intended. However, he also says that he will not hold back by supporting the psychological hypothesis based on the collective system. Freud welcomes the idea that the prohibition of private property should eliminate one of the sources of human violence. But Freud argues that only the prohibition of private property is not the solution to the eradication of evil. He thinks that the distinctions between force and influence used for aggression will not completely disappear. He does not believe in the idea that aggression can be eliminated. Freud shows as an example for this thesis that aggression existed when there was no concept of property in human history (as cited in Freud, 2000, p. 96). Freud does not read evil in terms of economic reductionism.

Contrary to Freud, Marx, and Engels think that social peace can be achieved in the case of adopting a communal lifestyle by reading evil through the economy. These thinkers argue that if the exploitation of labor is eliminated, the world can be a peaceful place. They express this idea with the following expressions: "To the extent that the exploitation of man by man is eliminated, the exploitation of a nation by another nation will also be eliminated. To the extent that the enmity between the classes within the nation disappears, the enmity of one nation to another will also disappear." (Marx and Engels, 1976, p. 50).

In this study, the discourse analysis method was used. Discourse analysis aims to analyze the language in the social context. In other words, discourse analysis is the study of language. However, what is meant by this analysis is based on examining the meaning and content beyond, rather than the formal properties of words and words (Kılıçaslan and Çalışır, 2018, pp. 469- 470).

The internet sites of traditional newspapers published in Turkey constitute the universe of the research. The sample of the research consists of the most followed newspapers *Sözcü* and *Hürriyet*. In this study, in which the purposeful sampling method was used, the news published between 15.11.2022 and 20.11.2022 in the two newspapers (websites) that were the subject of the study and containing evil (theme) were examined.

This study aims to examine the news published on the internet news sites of the most followed newspapers in Turkey, through the concept of evil in the Marxist and Freudian context. According to the main findings obtained from the study, parallel results were obtained with the thesis that 'evil manifests itself more based on economic reasons', which is dominant in Marxist thought. On the other hand, in the findings obtained as a result of the examination, the fact that the number of events related to people committing evil for 'absurd reasons' is quite high, leads to the opinion that the Freudian evil approach is widespread in society.