



How a “crisis” is discursively constructed through social media conversations

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Understanding how language functions to construct social realities is especially relevant during times of crisis. In this plenary I will illustrate how the Paulus and Wise (2019) research design framework can be used to illustrate how a recent “crisis” is currently being constructed in social media conversations. I will start by identifying an object of interest, the underlying philosophical assumptions of what language in social media contexts represents, and generate key research questions that are aligned with those assumptions. Ethical considerations for when social media can be treated as a data source will be proposed alongside how to bound and extract an appropriate data corpus. Finally, discourse analysis methods useful for generating findings to the research questions will be illustrated.

Reference:

Paulus, T. and Wise, A. 2019. *Looking for insight, transformation and learning in online talk*. Routledge.