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Bin Laden on Twitter

Andrew Ewing*

Bryan Hill†

Ahmed Hassanein‡

*University of Iowa, andrew-ewing@uiowa.edu

†University of Iowa, bryan-hill@uiowa.edu

‡University of Iowa, ahmed-Hassanein@uiowa.edu

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Bin Laden on Twitter.

The purpose of this research started with an observation. Twitter is a valuable tool in global communication regarding politics amongst international users. This in turn begged the question, how many tweets are in languages other than English, what are those languages? And how much of the data is political and how much are jests.

To find the answer to those questions groups were assigned data pre-captured from twitter regarding particular search subjects that are related to global politics. It was then determined that each group will dissect the data in order to quantify the English vs. non English tweets, furthermore the English tweets were divided to jokes and non jokes.

Procedure

The data was acquired from a drop box account shared by all members of the project. From there the data was exported to Google documents in order to take advantage of the linguistic tools in the Google arsenal. Once in Google, the language tool was utilized in order to provide us with the used language of each tweet. From there a manual scan was required to further divide the English tweets into jokes vs. non jokes. A tally of all the other languages used was also noted by the group members. Once all data was analyzed, a chart was made to report on it.

English Tweets	724	34%
Jokes	330	45%
Non jokes	394	55%

Other languages

Eo- 16

ES- 106

Gu- 2

Id- 24

It-8

Ju-2

Ms- 72

De- 210

Pt- 874

Conclusion

The conclusion that can be gathered from this report is the abundance of non english users on twitter. Only thirty-four percent of all tweets were in english making in the minority vs the sixty-six percent of tweets in other languages. Another observation that was to be made is the number of tweets that were in Portuguese. The reason it is strange to have that many portuguese tweets is because the language is only spoken in Brazil and Portugal making the number of global speakers very few. The second half of the question regards the percent of jokes vs non jokes within the english tweets. Although the non jokes won at 55% it is still a very close figure to the 45% of joke tweets. The data may then be interpreted to conclude that people use twitter

for political jests just as much as they use it for serious political issues and figures. Finally the one joke that was most prevalent within the English tweets was the one that calls for shooting Justin Bieber twice should the person be in a room with Hitler, Osama, and Bieber. A close second was a constant reference to the South Park episode featuring Osama.