

# "I have not finished!"

## Understanding perceived Western media's bias against China through interruption in BBC HARDtalk interviews

with Dr Yingnian Tao, Lancaster University



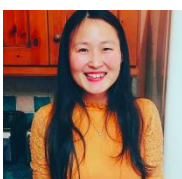
What explains interruptions in TV interviews? This paper compares interruptions in two interviews on BBC HARDtalk with prominent Hong Kong political figures: Ronny Tong and Nathan Law. Using conversational analysis, interruptions are analysed in relation to their position and composition. Findings reveal that interviewer and interviewee interrupt each other at similar frequency, while the interviewees' responses to being interrupted vary significantly. Tong's responses feature argumentation and resistance (e.g., claims of speaking rights violation, personal attacks on the interviewer), whereas Law's responses exhibit deference to interview norms. The interviewees' differential responses contribute to social media perceptions of media bias, further exacerbated by interviewer's pursuit of adversarial questioning.

**COS-County South B59**

**Tuesday 28 May 2024 12:00pm to 1:30pm**

**Refreshments Provided, RSVP by 22 May**

**Please RSVP to: [china.centre@lancaster.ac.uk](mailto:china.centre@lancaster.ac.uk)**



Senior Research Associated with the Department of Politics, Philosophy and Religion (PPR), Yingnian is interested in corpus-based social media discourse analysis. Her work has explored interruptions (overlapping speech) in everyday and institutional settings in Chinese, and apologies on social media in China.



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