LINCOLN'S VS. OBAMA'S PRESIDENCIES:

A DIACHRONIC CORPUS BASED ANALYSIS OF THE ADJECTIVAL COLLOCATES OF [MAN] AND [WOMAN] IN THE AMERICAN ENGLISH

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ABSTRACT: A diachronic corpus based analysis has not been widely conducted due to the limitation in the number of adequate corpora available. The Corpus of Historical American English (COHA) is probably one of the very few diachronic corpora available and can be accessed for free. This corpus, together with the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA), are used in this article to analyze the adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] in the American English. The comparison focuses on two periods of time, they are Lincoln's presidency and Obama's presidency. The analysis shows that there are similarities and differences in the high frequency adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] in the American English both within the same period of time and across time. The corpus evidence shows that adjectives denoting age have always been associated with men and women over time. The corpus evidence also tells us that [man] and [woman] during Lincoln's presidency compared to [man] and [woman] during Obama's presidencies are different not only in terms of economic condition, but also in terms of skin colors, sexual orientation, and religion.

KEYWORDS: adjective; collocate; corpus linguistics; diachronic corpus.

1. INTRODUCTION

The adjectival collocates of a particular noun may change over time. This may depend on the situation and social condition in a certain period of time. For example, the social condition in the United States (U.S.) during Lincoln's presidency is significantly different from that during Obama's presidency. The U.S. has experienced a great improvement in various aspects of people's lives. This change affects the lexical choice that the American people use in speaking and writing. In linguistics, the changes in the lexical choice can be

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observed from a corpus. Bussmann (1996: 260) defines a corpus as "a finite set of concrete linguistic utterances that serves as an empirical basis for linguistic research." Based on this definition, a corpus becomes the main source to make analysis and interpretation in corpus linguistic research, including such research as the changes in the lexical choice.

The data of the article is a diachronic corpus. Hunston (2002:16) defines a diachronic corpus as "a corpus of texts from different periods of time. It is used to trace the development of aspects of a language over time." In order to cover the years during Lincoln's and Obama's presidencies, we use the Corpus of Historical American English (COHA) and the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA). Both COCA and COHA were created by Mark Davies of Brigham Young University in 2008, and have been updated regularly until now.

There are two articles that are quite closely related to our article, they are Romaine (2001) and Fuertes-Olivera (2007). Romaine (2001: 153-174) focuses on the lexical gender of British and American English. She draws attention primarily to the structural points at which gender distinctions are made in English. She identifies those sites in English grammar where gender is displayed or gender indexing occurs in order to discuss some of the reforms proposed and evaluate their comparative success or failure in a number of varieties of English. Fuertes-Olivera (2007: 219-234) investigates lexical gender in specialized communication. He analyses written Business English lexis that uses the notion of lexical gender to gain a clearer picture of the changes gender neutral language (i.e. language that is fair for men and women alike) have made in business texts.

The two articles mentioned above only focus on the use of lexical gender without discussing the adjectival collocates and the change in the lexical choice over time. In our article, we focus on the adjectival collocates for the nouns [man] and [woman] in two different periods of time. We use the square brackets between these two nouns to include their inflections; it means that when we write [man], it shall include *man* and *men*, and when we write [woman], it shall include *woman* and *women*. Our article aims at comparing the adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] during Lincoln's presidency and those during Obama's Presidency. We also want to find out the similarities and differences between the adjectives that have been used to modify [man] and [woman].

2. METHODOLOGY

In our article, we use the mixed method approach. According to Dörnyei (2007:163), a mixed method study involves the collection or analysis of both quantitative and qualitative data in a single study with some attempts to integrate the two approaches at one or more stages of the research process. The data collection also involves gathering both numeric information as well as text information so that the final database represents both quantitative and qualitative information (Creswell, 2003: 20). In our article, the quantitative part is the nature of computerized corpus linguistics where the collocations and their frequency are automatically calculated by a computer program embedded in the corpus tool. The computer program produces numeric information that should be interpreted further, and this requires some qualitative considerations when determining the most suitable adjectival collocates. Consequently, the adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] can only be determined correctly by combining the quantitative and qualitative paradigms in our article.

The population in this study consists of words that are available in the two corpora, i.e. the Corpus of Contemporary American English (COCA) and the Corpus of Historical American English (COHA). The data in the corpora are taken from real life data such as newspapers, magazines, television shows, academic journals, etc. From these corpora, we focus our analysis on the high frequency or the top ten adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] found during Lincoln's and Obama's presidencies. These two presidencies are 150 years apart. The period of time for Lincoln's presidency is 1861-1865. The period of time for Obama's presidency is from 2009, and for this analysis, we only include until 2010, as the complete corpus is only available until 2010 when our article is written.

3. ADJECTIVAL COLLOCATES OF [MAN] IN LINCOLN'S AND OBAMA'S PRESIDENCIES

The adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] during Lincoln's presidency can be obtained by using COHA, while those from Obama's presidency can be obtained by using COCA. To get the adjectival collocates of [man] for a particular period of time, we put the word [man] in the WORD(S) textbox. Then we choose the part of speech, which is adj.ALL that refers to all adjectives, in the POS LIST option. After that we choose number 1 for the number options in the COLLOCATES, which means that we search for one word before the noun [man]. Finally, we choose the range of time by blocking the particular years, and choose Frequency in the sorting part so that the most frequent adjectives appear first. Figure 1 shows

the search result of the adjectival collocates of [man] during Lincoln's presidency, from 1861 to 1865.
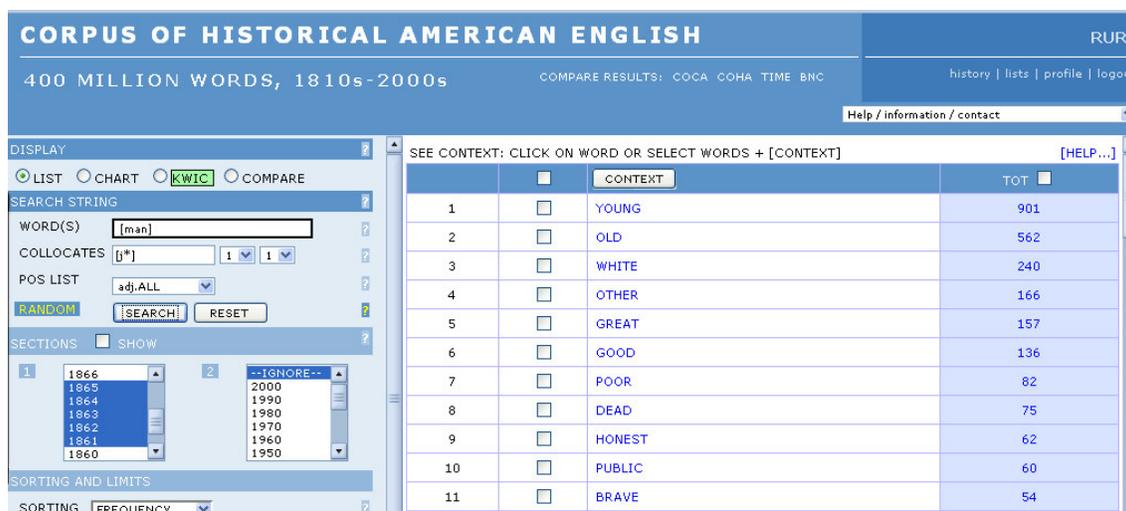

Figure 1: Adjectival Collocates of [man] from 1861 to 1865

Figure 1 presents the quantitative result, which needs to be analyzed further with a qualitative approach in order to obtain the correct top ten adjectives. This is because there are some of the adjectives produced automatically by the computer program, are not suitable for this article. For example, we exclude the adjective 'other' because it lacks the descriptive feature. The adjective 'other' is used to refer to people or things, so its function is mainly as a reference, instead of a description of the noun [man]. Therefore, the top ten adjectival collocates of [man] from 1861 to 1865 which we finally select are: young, old, white, great, good, poor, dead, honest, public, and brave.

Figure 2: Adjectival Collocates of [man] from 2009 to 2010

We ran the same process for the other period of time, but we use COCA instead COHA. The time range of the corpus available at COHA is from 1810 to 2000. Since Obama's presidency started in 2009, we cannot obtain the data from COHA. We can obtain the data we need from COCA which covers the time range from 1990 up to 2011. However, since the data for 2011 is not complete yet when we write this article, we only use the years 2009-2010. The adjectival collocates of [man] during Obama's presidency, from 2009 to 2010, can be seen in Figure 2.

The corpus result shown in Figure 2 needs to be analyzed further to select the right adjectival collocates. There are three adjectives in Figure 2 which we decide to exclude, i.e. 'unidentified', 'other', and 'older'. The adjective 'unidentified' is excluded because it is actually only a note written by the transcribers of the corpus to address a speaker in a court or in an interview, if the name of the speaker is not known. This is verified by the Keyword in Context (KWIC) as shown in Figure 3. The adjective 'other' is excluded because it lacks the descriptive meaning. Finally, the adjective 'older' is excluded because it is a grammatically conditioned variant or an inflection of the adjective 'old' which already in the top ten list.

CLICK FOR MORE CONTEXT			☐	[?]	SAVE LIST	CHOOSE LIST ▾ CREATE NEW LIST [?]	
1	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	, at noon, there was news. (Clock-ticking; -emp **Unidentified Man** 1: (In court) Please remain seated an
2	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	(In court) Mr. Foreperson, has the jury reached a verdict? **Unidentified Man** 2: (In court) Yes. MORRISO
3	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	the insurance decisions that are made on their behalf. (Rubin-in-radio-boo **Unidentified Man** 1: (Radio-b
4	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	? Mr-GANNON: He is deteriorating from a muscle structure point of view. **Unidentified Man** 2: (Therapy s
5	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	: (To-Rick) Irene. CURRY: (Voiceover) Friends visit. (In-Rick's-hospital **Unidentified Man** 3: (Baby walkil
6	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	; -flags; -p Ms-SARKISYAN: (Rally) I need to see Edward Hanway. **Unidentified Man** 4: (Rally) He's not ⸳
7	2010	SPOK	NBC_Dateline	A	B	C	Who is he to decide? Who is he to make a decision? **Unidentified Man** 5: (Rally) I know exactly how you
8	2010	SPOK	NPR_FreshAir	A	B	C	runs the organization is watching from behind closed glass. (Soundbite-of-TV-sh **Unidentified Man**: Sterl
9	2010	SPOK	NPR_FreshAir	A	B	C	Mr-H-JON-BENJAMIN-: (As Sterling Archer) What, your little go-cart battery? **Unidentified Man**: Golf cart
10	2010	SPOK	NPR_FreshAir	A	B	C	Archer) Whatever - would you pick an accent and stick with it? **Unidentified Man**: Listen here, you little.
11	2010	SPOK	NPR_FreshAir	A	B	C	Listen here, you little. **Unidentified** Woman: Son of a bitch. **Unidentified Man**: Now you did it. (Soundbi
12	2010	SPOK	NPR_FreshAir	A	B	C	) How can I? Between his lame accent and the go-cart battery... **Unidentified Man**: Golf cart. Mr-BENJAM
13	2010	SPOK	NPR_ATC	A	B	C	to Lhasa. Their journey, one says, will take six months. **Unidentified Man** 1: (Foreign Language Spoken)
14	2010	SPOK	NPR_ATC	A	B	C	they ask for it regularly at the high mountain passes on our way. **Unidentified Man** 2: (Foreign Language
15	2010	SPOK	NPR_ATC	A	B	C	Tibetan Mastiffs demand to know why we're here. (Soundbite-of-barki **Unidentified Man** 3: (Foreign Lang

Figure 3: A sample of KWIC for the phrase 'unidentified [man]' from 2009 to 2010

Table 1 presents the summary of the top ten adjectival collocates of the noun [man] during Lincoln's Presidency and Obama's Presidency. If we compare the data in Table 1 with the results from the corpus tools in Figures 1 and 2, it is clear that there are several differences. As explained previously, we cannot only rely on the quantitative result from the corpus program; we need to use the qualitative approach in order to get the most appropriate adjectives to be placed as the top ten adjectives in those periods of time.

From the corpus evidence in Table 1, we can see that there are five adjectives which occur in all periods of time, i.e. young, old, white, good, and dead. This corpus evidence tells us that men in the American English are often considered white, good, and dead, in addition to young and old. This shows that people often use the phrase 'good [man]' and seldom use the phrase 'bad [man]'. American people also use the phrase 'white [man]' more frequently over time than the phrase 'black [man]', as the adjective 'black' only occurs in the second period of time, while the adjective 'white' is frequently used in both periods of time.

Lincoln's Presidency (1861-1865)	Obama's Presidency (2009 - 2010)
1. young	1. young
2. old	2. old
3. white	3. black
4. great	4. white
5. good	5. big
6. poor	6. good
7. dead	7. dead
8. honest	8. mad
9. public	9. little
10. brave	10. gay

Table 1: Adjectival collocates of [man] during Lincoln's and Obama's Presidencies based on frequency

If we see further the comparison between the adjectives 'white' and 'black', we can notice that the phrase 'black [man]' takes over the position of 'white [man]' in the recent years. This may be due to the current president, Barrack Obama, who is the first American president, and who has a black skin color. Since corpus linguistics is the study of language based on examples of real life language use (McEnery and Wilson 2004: 1), we can consider that during Lincoln's presidency, people mostly only talked about white [man], while during Obama's presidency, both phrases—white [man] and black [man]—are frequently used by American people.

The corpus evidence also shows that men in the American English are often modified with the adjective 'dead', both during Lincoln's and Obama's presidencies. The Civil War occurred during Lincoln's presidency, which can be the reason for the phrase 'dead [man]' to have a high frequency. The phrase 'dead [man]' can be related to the soldiers who fought during the Civil War in which thousands of them were killed. During Obama's presidency, there is no war in the U.S. but still the phrase 'dead [man]' is frequently used by American people. This is probably due to the number of crime and violence in the U.S. as shown in the examples of the Keyword in Context (KWIC) from the corpus (See Figure 4).

	[?]	# [?]	○ DELETE ENTRIES ○ MOVE ENTRIES ○ EXPAND ENTRIES [?]
1	☐	COCA:2010:SPOK ABC_20/20	trying to murder her own daughter, Ashley, to frame her. Two **dead** **men**, two versions of the truth, from the mother and th
2	☐	COCA:2010:MAG Esquire	He sits at the table across from me, a new photograph of another **dead** **man** beside him, and my dad's chin is bleeding ac
3	☐	COCA:2010:SPOK CNN_News	. GRIFFIN-1on-camer: They killed your brother. MADISON: Yes. GRIFFIN-1voice-ov: Two **men** **dead** - Ronald Madison and
4	☐	COCA:2010:NEWS Denver	, a shootout at a house across the street from two students home left one **man** **dead**. # These third-graders have been cl
5	☐	COCA:2009:SPOK ABC_20/20	trying to murder her own daughter, Ashley, to frame her. Two **dead** **men**, two versions of the truth from the mother and th
6	☐	COCA:2009:SPOK NPR_TellMore	about the shooting Wednesday in Washington, D.C., an act that left an innocent **man** **dead**, the shooter badly wounded, th
7	☐	COCA:2009:MAG America	be a dybbuk, or malevolent spirit, which has taken possession of the **dead** **man**'s body. When the visitor arrives, she stab
8	☐	COCA:2009:NEWS SFC	fight that they say didn't involve him. # The relatives of the **dead** **man** angrily disagree. They say Villalona's towering rep

Figure 4: A sample of KWIC for the phrase 'dead [man]' from 2009 to 2010

If we focus on the particularities in each period of time, we can see that typical adjectives of the noun [man] during Lincoln's presidency are great, poor, honest, public and brave. The adjective 'great' can be related to Lincoln himself who is often called a great man and a great president. In addition, when the phrase 'great men' is used, it does not necessarily refer to male human beings, but it can refer to both genders or to human beings in general. As we can see in the KWIC in Figure 5, especially numbers 11 and 12, the phrase 'great men'

refer to both men and women. The same case can be said for the phrases 'public men', 'poor men', and 'honest men' which may refer to persons in general. The other adjective, brave, can be related to the soldiers who fought during the Civil War, i.e. these brave soldiers were considered brave men.

The adjectival collocates of the noun [man] which are frequently used during Obama's presidency, but not so frequent during Lincoln's presidency are black, big, mad, little, and gay. As explained previously, the high frequency of the phrase 'black [man]' can be related to the fact that Obama is an African American. Nevertheless, the phrase 'big [man]', which is more frequently during Obama's presidency than Lincoln's presidency is not related to the physical properties of these presidents. The corpus evidence shows that the phrase 'big [man]'are often referred to the players of the NFL (National Football League) and the NBA (National Basketball Association). The NFL games, especially the Super Bowl, have been the most-watched sporting events in the U. S. (Hibbert 2010). The NBA games have also been popular, and the 2010 NBA All-Star Game held at Cowboys Stadium was attended by the largest crowd ever, i.e. 108,713 spectators (MacMahon 2010).

Figure 5: A sample of KWIC for the phrase 'great [man]' from 1861 to 1865

By looking at the KWIC of the phrase 'little [man]', we can see that this phrase may refer to both adult men and young boys. This also means that American people show good attention to family life in 2009-2010, and they often use the phrase 'little men' to call their children. Another adjective that becomes the characteristics of 2009-2010 is 'mad'. We should not just assume that the phrase 'mad [man]' is frequent during Obama's presidency because there were a lot of men who were mad in 2009-2010. The KWIC tells us that it mostly refers to the popular television series in the U. S. called 'Mad Men'. This television

series have won several awards, such as Emmy and Golden Globe awards. It is also in the top ten primetime TV programs, second only to Battlestar Galactica (Hibbert 2010). In this case, we can see the influence of television in American society.

The other adjective which has a high frequency during Obama's presidency is 'gay'. The phrase 'gay men' has become popular since people have become more opened to sexual orientation during Obama's presidency than during Lincoln's presidency. American people who are gays have begun to struggle for their rights. Obama, in his first State of the Union Address in 2010, said "This year, I will work with Congress and our military to finally repeal the law that denies gay Americans the right to serve the country they love because of who they are." (CNN Politics, 27 January 2010). Thus, the word 'gay' is popular during Obama's presidency.

Oxford English Dictionary (2011) has the token of the adjective 'gay' as old as 1325. However, it is under the sense 'noble; beautiful; excellent, fine' and there is a note that it was chiefly used in poetry as a conventional epithet of praise for a woman. An entry for this word has been included in this dictionary since 1898. The sense 'of a person: homosexual' was first noted by *Oxford English Dictionary* in 1922. Therefore, it is reasonable that it did not exist during Lincoln's presidency.

4. ADJECTIVAL COLLOCATES OF [WOMAN] IN LINCOLN'S AND OBAMA'S PRESIDENCIES

The process for selecting the adjectival collocates of [woman] is the same as that in the case of [man]. We first obtain a quantitative result from the corpus programs. Then, we select the top ten adjectives by analyzing each of the adjectives qualitatively. The summary of the results and the adjectives which we include in the top ten adjectival collocates of [woman] are presented in Table 2.

Lincoln's Presidency (1861-1865)	Obama's Presidency (2009 - 2010)
1. old	1. young
2. young	2. old
3. good	3. black
4. poor	4. pregnant
5. black	5. beautiful
6. red	6. American
7. married	7. white
8. true	8. Muslim
9. American	9. married
10. little	10. single

Table 2: Adjectival collocates of [woman] during Lincoln's and Obama's Presidencies based on frequency

The corpus evidence in Table 2 shows that there are five adjectives which occur in all periods of time, i.e. old, young, black, married, and American. This corpus evidence tells us that in addition to age modifiers (i.e. 'young' and 'old'), color, marital status and nationality are also frequent modifiers for the noun [woman] over time. We discuss further these adjectives in the next section where we compare them with the adjectival collocates for the noun [man].

As shown in Table 2, there are several adjectives which are different between Lincoln's and Obama's presidencies. In Lincoln's Presidency, the unique adjectives are good, poor, red, true and little. These adjectives are mostly taken from fictions or literary works. Some of the examples from the KWIC are from novels, such as Henry Morford's *Shoulder-Straps: A Novel of New York and the Army* and Bayard Taylor's *Hannah Thurston: A Story of American Life*. Both literary works were popular among the American people in 1861-1865. Here we can see that there is a close connection between women and literary works in the American English.

The adjectives which are frequently found during Obama's presidency, but not in Lincoln's presidency are pregnant, beautiful, white, Muslim, and single. The adjectives 'pregnant', 'beautiful' and 'white' are mostly found in literary works. The phrase 'Muslim [woman] becomes a popular phrase during Obama's presidency due to the issues of gender equality which are related to Muslim women. Some people protested against the separation between the female and male *shaf* (row) during Muslim people's prayer. In addition, the issue about Muslim fashion becomes popular, especially about the use of *hijab* and *niqab* by some Muslim women. *Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary* (2010) defines *hijab* as "a head covering worn in public by some Muslim women", while *niqab* is defined as "a piece of cloth that covers the face but not usually the eyes, worn in public by some Muslim women".

According to Curtis IV (2009: 119) several thousand Muslims immigrated to the U. S from the 1880s to 1914. The word 'Muslim' itself was first noted by the Corpus of Historical American English, long before that, i.e. in 1859. However, not until the 1960s that the frequency has become more than 100 tokens (see Figure 6). The number increased to 1154 tokens in the corpus in 2010.
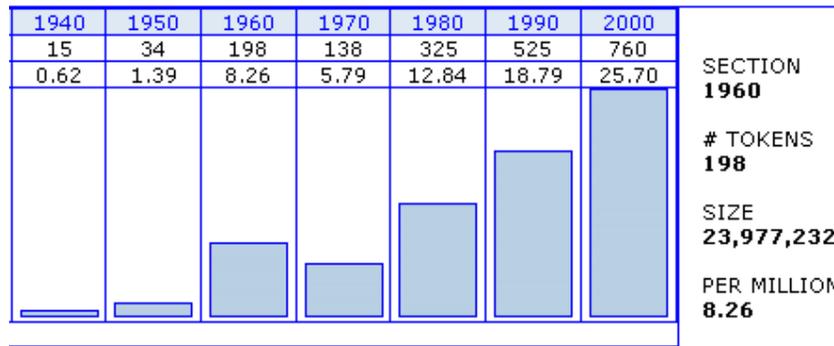
	1940	1950	1960	1970	1980	1990	2000
	15	34	198	138	325	525	760
	0.62	1.39	8.26	5.79	12.84	18.79	25.70

SECTION
1960

TOKENS
198

SIZE
23,977,232

PER MILLION
8.26

Figure 6: The frequency of the word 'Muslim'

The other adjective, single, has a high frequency in 2009-2010 as American women tended to prefer being single due to the rising awareness in career and the high rate of divorce that made them reluctant to get married. Consequently, the phrase 'single [woman]' becomes the feature of the last two periods of time, which include the recent Obama's presidency era. The KWIC shown in Figure 7 confirm the results that the phrase 'single [woman]' is not only high in frequency due to literary works or fiction, because the phrase can be found across genres.

1	2010	SPOK	NBC_Today	A	B	C	stable. So I think you -- it's not the fantasy of a **single woman** who's out there sleeping
2	2010	SPOK	ABC_Primetime	A	B	C	of helping out a woman in the pouring rain, be rejected by every **single woman** when he
3	2010	FIC	AmericanScholar	A	B	C	the Caledonia Star, the majority are couples; a few **single women** travel together; one
4	2010	FIC	Bk:BloodBorn	A	B	C	, she was obsessing a little over the pending visit. What sane, **single woman** of a certain
5	2010	MAG	Newsweek	A	B	C	will never live down its (false) prediction that 40-year-old **single women** were more likely
6	2010	MAG	USAToday	A	B	C	meant long trips up to Columbia and gin-breathed **single women** bearing long, boring
7	2010	ACAD	AnthropolQ	A	B	C	much less bound by the expectations of kin than are married women. A **single woman**
8	2010	ACAD	HealthSocialW	A	B	C	because of other intersecting marginalized identities (for example, as a **single woman** of
9	2009	MAG	Cosmopolitan	A	B	C	confronts everyone -- not just a semipublic figure -- and perhaps **single women** living
10	2009	MAG	MilitaryHist	A	B	C	reserves until age 51 (45 for direct combat veterans), and **single women** until age 24.
11	2009	MAG	RollingStone	A	B	C	three men obsessed with a **single woman** over the course of a great big bloody book.
12	2009	NEWS	Denver	A	B	C	There are now about 14.8 million **single women** between the ages of 35 and 54, up from
13	2009	NEWS	USA	A	B	C	# Of course, if one of the country's most famous and famously **single women** had really
14	2009	NEWS	WashPost	A	B	C	mind racing over the why. # " People keep talking about the black **single woman** in D.C.
15	2009	ACAD	SocialWork	A	B	C	majority of participants (79 percent) lived in households headed by **single women**, and

Figure 7: A sample of KWIC for the phrase 'single [woman]' from 2009 to 2010

5. COMPARISONS BETWEEN THE ADJECTIVAL COLLOCATES OF [MAN] AND [WOMAN] IN LINCOLN'S AND OBAMA'S PRESIDENCIES

If we combine the data in Tables 1 and 2, we can see that there are only two adjectives (i.e. young and old) which can be found in all of the top ten adjective lists. The recapitulation of the adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] during Lincoln's and Obama's presidencies is presented in Table 3. In the last row of Table 3, we can see that men and women in Lincoln's presidency were good but poor, whereas men and women in Obama's presidency are black and white. On the one hand, we can consider that the economic condition during Obama's presidency is better that that during Lincoln's presidency (cf. the adjective 'poor'). On the other hand, we can see that the segregation of skin colors has become more obvious and more frequently used in 2009-2010 compared to 1861-1865.

	Only in Lincoln's Presidency	Only in Obama's Presidency	Lincoln's and Obama's Presidencies
Only for [man]	brave great honest public	big gay little mad	dead good white
Only for [woman]	little red true	beautiful Muslim pregnant single	American black married
[man] and [woman]	good poor	black white	old young

Table 3: Recapitulation of adjectival collocates

If we focus on the last column of Table 3, we can see that the most frequent collocates for [man] over time are dead, good, and white. On the contrary, the noun [woman] are often modified with the adjectives American, black, and married. This shows significant differences between the phrases used with the noun [man] and [woman] over time. Men have been associated with violence, while women have been associated with family life (men are dead, while women are married). Men have been associated with value, while women have been associated with nationality (men are good, while women are American). Finally, men and women typically have had different skin colors (men are white, while women are black).

The corpus evidence which shows marital status is an important marker for a woman, but not for a man, can be connected with the terms of address, in which there is only one term for males (Mr.), whereas women can be addressed by three terms, they are Mrs. (she is

married), or Miss (she is single) and Ms. (no reference to her marital status). The term Ms. has actually been noted by *Oxford English Dictionary* since 1901. In addition, Holmes (2001: 119) stated that this term had become a preferable term of address in the 1970s to eliminate linguistic discrimination by providing a term for women which did not signal marital status. However, as we can see in the corpus evidence, both in 1861-1865 and in 2009-2010, the adjective 'married' was and is still a frequent marker for the noun [woman].

If we focus on the peculiarity in each gender in each presidency, we can see that the adjectival collocates that only belong to [man] in Lincoln's presidency are brave, great, honest, and public. On the contrary, the adjectives adjectival collocates that only belong to [man] in Obama's presidency are big, gay, little, and mad. One comparison which we can make from this corpus evidence is that during Lincoln's presidency there were brave men who fought in the Civil War, while during Obama's presidency there are gay men who fought for their rights.

Next, the adjectival collocates that only belong to [woman] in Lincoln's presidency are little, red, and true. On the contrary, the adjectives that only belong to [woman] in Obama's presidency are beautiful, Muslim, pregnant, single. As explained in the previous section, the adjectives which are collocated with the noun [woman] during Lincoln's presidency are mostly taken from literary works. The role of women in 2009-2010 is more ubiquitous since the collocations can be found across genres (cf. Figure 7).

6. CONCLUSION

This article has shown that there are similarities and differences between the adjectival collocates of [man] and [woman] during Lincoln's and Obama's presidencies. Men and women have always been modified with the adjectives that show their age, i.e. young and old. The noun [man] in both presidencies are often modified with the adjectives dead, good, and white; whereas, the noun [woman] in both presidencies are often collocated with the adjectives American, black, and married. The corpus evidence shows that the economic condition of the U.S. has improved during Obama's presidency compared to Lincoln's presidency because the phrases 'poor [man]' and 'poor [woman]' are only frequent in the corpus from 1861-1865, but not quite frequent in the 2009-2010 corpus. The corpus also tells us that the markers of skin color, sexual orientation, and religion are more obvious during Obama's presidency than during Lincoln's presidency. This is shown with the adjectives

black, gay and Muslim which are in the top ten most frequent adjectives in 2009-2010 but not in 1861-1865.

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RESUMO: Uma análise baseada em corpus diacrônico ainda não foi amplamente realizada devido às limitações na quantidade disponível de corpora adequados. O Corpus de Inglês Norte-Americano Histórico (COHA) é provavelmente um dos muito poucos corpora disponíveis e que pode ser acessado gratuitamente. Este corpus, juntamente com o corpus do Inglês Norte-Americano Contemporâneo (COCA), é usado neste trabalho para analisar os adjetivos que podem ocorrer em associação com [homem] e [mulher] no Inglês Norte-Americano. A comparação enfoca dois períodos de tempo: a presidência de Lincoln e a presidência de Obama. A análise mostra que há similaridades e diferenças nos adjetivos mais frequentemente associados a [homem] e a [mulher] no Inglês Norte-Americano seja dentro do mesmo período de tempo ou através do tempo. As evidências do corpus mostram que os adjetivos que denotam idade têm sido sempre associados ao homem e à mulher ao longo do tempo. As evidências do corpus também nos dizem que [homem] e [mulher] durante a presidência de Lincoln são diferentes se comparados a [homem] e [mulher] durante a presidência de Obama, não apenas em termos de condição econômica, mas também em termos de cor de pele, orientação sexual e religião.
PALAVRAS-CHAVE: adjetivo; associação; corpus linguístico; corpus diacrônico.