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Actions during the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest

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Abstract:

A demonstration took place during the 389th anniversary of Tangerang Regency on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at the Tangerang Regency Government Center in Tigaraksa. This protest attracted public attention and sparked widespread discussion. The reason was a widely circulated video on online media showing a police officer using repressive actions against a demonstrator. Various media outlets sought to provide the latest information, particularly online-based media, which often incorporate their perspectives when presenting news. However, each media outlet naturally has its own point of view in delivering information. This study aims to examine how Kompas.com and Tempo.co, as online media platforms, frame the news regarding the Police Repressive Actions During the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest. This research employs a qualitative approach because the issue needs to be analyzed clearly and comprehensively using Robert N. Entman's framing model, which focuses on issue selection and the emphasis on specific aspects. Data collection techniques include documentation, by gathering news articles, and literature studies, by reviewing books related to the research. The findings of this study indicate that Kompas.com and Tempo.co have differences in problem definition and the solutions they propose regarding the reporting of police repressive actions during the protest. Kompas.com tends to emphasize the police officers' misconduct in carrying out their duties in a manner that does not comply with procedures. In contrast, Tempo.co highlights that the police's repressive actions during the protest do not reflect a humanistic approach. Additionally, Tempo.co stresses that the Chief of the National Police (Kapolri) has not sufficiently evaluated the police force's vision regarding their personnel.

Keywords: Framing, Robert N. Entman, Repressive police action, Online Media, Kompas.com, Tempo.co.

Introduction:

The act of expressing opinions, known as demonstration, is a form of mass protest presented in public as an expression of dissatisfaction regarding issues considered unfair, whether in economic, political, social, or other aspects. However, demonstrations are often accompanied by anarchic behavior and radicalism, creating a tense atmosphere in public spaces. The causes of anarchic demonstrations typically include unmet demands of the protesters, provocation, lack of knowledge about demonstration procedures, and weak crowd control management. Effective handling of demonstrations should be based on a non-hostile approach between demonstrators and law enforcement authorities.

A demonstration took place during the 389th anniversary of Tangerang Regency on Wednesday, October 13, 2021, at the Tangerang Regency Government Center in Tigaraksa. The protest was led by the Tangerang Student Association (Himata), whose primary demands were directed at Tangerang Regent Zaki Iskandar. They raised three major concerns: (1) unresolved industrial waste issues in Tangerang Regency, (2) the misalignment of duties and functions of COVID-19 volunteers, and (3) infrastructure problems in the region.

This demonstration attracted public attention and became widely discussed in online media due to a viral video showing a police officer using repressive force against a demonstrator. The video, which spread rapidly across online platforms, captured a police officer in full black uniform choking, lifting, and slamming a protester onto the pavement. The impact was severe, as a loud thud could be heard in the footage. After being slammed, the protester lay on the ground, experiencing convulsions, while other police officers surrounded him.

The incident began when students attempted to enter the regent's office but were blocked by security forces, leading to chaos. A physical confrontation between the demonstrators and the police ensued, with officers attempting to detain protesters. During this altercation, one police officer forcibly restrained a demonstrator, slammed him onto the pavement, and left him in distress.

This case underscores the need for law enforcement agencies to develop new strategies for managing, regulating, and ensuring the security of demonstrators. Police officers handling protests require adequate knowledge of crowd management and human rights (HAM). The actions of the police officer, identified as Brigadier NP, in slamming the demonstrator during the Tangerang Regency anniversary protest clearly violated standard operating procedures (SOPs) for handling demonstrations.

Brigadier NP's actions constituted a violation of SOPs in crowd control. His use of excessive force against a protester is also a breach of the right to freedom of expression and the right to public assembly. Protesters should be treated humanely—they must not be subjected to physical abuse, dragged, humiliated, or mistreated in any way. Therefore, any violations, including Brigadier NP's actions, must be addressed in accordance with existing regulations.

Following the circulation of the viral video highlighting police repressive actions, multiple media outlets sought to provide real-time updates, particularly online news platforms, which could quickly reach the public. On the same day the video went viral, news reports began appearing on major news portals, notably Kompas.com and Tempo.co. These two media outlets played a critical role in informing the public about the police brutality incident during the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest.

Both Kompas.com and Tempo.co had similar headlines, focusing on the police officer slamming a student during the demonstration. However, despite reporting on the same event, each media outlet presented different perspectives in their coverage.

Between October 13 and October 16, 2021, Kompas.com and Tempo.co continuously and intensively reported on the police brutality case, making them the primary objects of analysis in this study. Given these differences in coverage, this study seeks to examine how these two media outlets emphasize certain aspects while downplaying others when framing their news reports. Since every media

organization has a unique perception and experience in interpreting reality, the framing of the same event can vary significantly between different media platforms.

Framing as a Media Construct

Framing is an approach used to understand how reality is shaped and constructed by the media. The result of this construction is that certain aspects of reality become more prominent and easily recognizable, while other aspects may be omitted, overlooked, or even forgotten by the audience (Eriyanto, 2011:77).

Based on this theoretical perspective, framing refers to a journalistic process in which the media selects, structures, and presents news narratives to the public. This is the central focus of the present study, which aims to analyze how Kompas.com and Tempo.co framed their main news reports on this case using the framing model developed by Robert N. Entman.

Robert N. Entman's Framing Model

Robert N. Entman (Eriyanto, 2011:223-224) outlines four key elements in framing analysis:

Define Problems – Identifying and defining the main issue in the news.

Diagnose Causes – Determining the causes of the problem.

Make Moral Judgment – Evaluating the issue based on ethical considerations.

Treatment Recommendation – Proposing solutions or resolutions to the problem.

This study applies Entman's framing model to analyze the news framing strategies used by Kompas.com and Tempo.co in their coverage of police repressive actions during the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest. Entman's framing method is particularly relevant as it explains how media outlets selectively highlight certain aspects of reality while downplaying others.

Research Methodology:

This study employs a qualitative approach aimed at analyzing the issue in a clear and comprehensive manner. Through this research, the objective is to gain a deeper understanding of how Kompas.com and Tempo.co frame their news coverage, which needs to be analyzed descriptively.

Definition of Qualitative Research Methodology

A qualitative research method is based on the philosophy of post-positivism or interpretivism and is used to study objects in natural settings, where the researcher serves as the key instrument. Data collection is conducted through triangulation (a combination of observations, interviews, and documentation). The data obtained is predominantly qualitative, and data analysis follows an inductive approach. The primary goal of qualitative research is to understand meanings, uncover uniqueness, construct phenomena, and generate hypotheses (Sugiyono, 2021:9-10).

The Constructivist Paradigm in News Framing

In this study, the news framing by Kompas.com and Tempo.co is analyzed based on the constructivist paradigm. This paradigm has its own perspective on how reality is perceived. The meaning of a text or news report is inherently polysemic, meaning it has multiple possible interpretations. Consequently, each individual may interpret the same text differently.

Based on this explanation, the use of a qualitative approach is expected to produce a comprehensive analysis of how Kompas.com and Tempo.co frame their news. This framing needs to be examined in depth to provide a clear conclusion on how different perspectives shape the construction of the news.

Data Collection Techniques

In this study, data is collected from various sources related to how media frame their news. From a methodological perspective, data collection techniques in this research include:

1. Documentation – Gathering relevant news articles and media reports.
2. Literature Study – Reviewing books and academic sources related to media framing.
3. Data Analysis Techniques

The data analysis process is conducted throughout the

research period, starting from the fieldwork when data is collected. This process is not linear or sequential but rather simultaneous and interactive, allowing for continuous refinement of analysis.

Ensuring Data Credibility

To ensure the validity and credibility of the data, credibility testing or internal validation is performed using the triangulation technique. Triangulation is a method of verifying data validity through multiple approaches by cross-checking data from different sources and time periods.

In this study, the researcher applies source triangulation as a technique for verifying data accuracy. According to Lexy and Moleong (2012:330), triangulation by source involves comparing and cross-checking the reliability of information obtained at different times and through different instruments within qualitative research.

Results:

Framing Analysis of News Coverage on Police Repressive Actions During the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest

In this chapter, the researcher presents the results of a framing analysis of news coverage by Kompas.com and Tempo.co regarding the police repressive actions during the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest. The study examines how these two media outlets identify the problem, determine the cause, make moral judgments, and propose solutions in their news coverage between October 13 and 16, 2021.

Define Problem

Kompas.com identifies the police repressive actions during the protest as an issue of police misconduct against students. The media outlet frames the incident as a mistake by the police officers in carrying out their duties, emphasizing that the officers failed to follow proper procedures in handling the protest.

Similarly, Tempo.co defines the issue as police misconduct against students. However, its coverage highlights that the incident reflects a lack of humanism within the police force. Tempo.co criticizes the police's failure to implement the "Presisi" concept (Predictive, Responsibility, and Transparency with Justice) in law enforcement practices.

Diagnose Cause

Regarding the cause of the problem, Kompas.com attributes the issue to the police officer responsible for the repressive act, specifically Brigadier NP, who forcefully slammed Muhamad Fariz Amrullah (MFA), a student protester. Kompas.com positions MFA as the victim and Brigadier NP as the perpetrator, framing the event as a violent action by law enforcement.

On the other hand, Tempo.co also identifies Brigadier NP’s actions as excessive and inhumane use of force. Additionally, Tempo.co expands the scope of responsibility, attributing the issue to the Chief of the National Police (Kapolri) for failing to evaluate and reinforce the police force’s vision and conduct.

Make Moral Judgment

Regarding moral judgment, Kompas.com focuses on criticizing the failure to follow standard procedures in handling protests. The media outlet emphasizes that Brigadier NP’s actions were outside the established protocols for securing demonstrations, which led to police misconduct against the student protester.

Meanwhile, Tempo.co takes a stronger stance, asserting that the police repressive actions in the protest violated both Kapolri's directives and national laws. Tempo.co also highlights that the incident was a human rights violation, as it obstructed citizens’ right to express their opinions publicly. Furthermore, Tempo.co argues that the officer’s actions could result in criminal charges for restricting freedom of expression.

Treatment Recommendation

In terms of problem resolution, Kompas.com suggests that the police conduct an internal investigation into Brigadier NP for violating procedures and recommends sanctions against the responsible individuals.

Conversely, Tempo.co presents a stronger recommendation, featuring statements from various

sources calling for strict legal action against Brigadier NP. Tempo.co advocates for multiple legal charges to be imposed on the officer, ensuring a firm response to the act of violence.

Based on the framing comparison between Kompas.com and Tempo.co, the discussion above illustrates the media's role in constructing and shaping reality. Despite reporting on the same incident, the two media outlets interpret and define the event differently.

This study applies Robert N. Entman's framing analysis model, which examines two main dimensions: issue selection and the emphasis on specific aspects of the issue. The findings indicate that Kompas.com and Tempo.co highlight different aspects of the police repressive actions during the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest, demonstrating how media framing influences public perception.

Conclusion:

Based on the data analysis conducted regarding the news coverage of Police Repressive Actions During the Tangerang Regency Anniversary Protest, as reported by Kompas.com and Tempo.co between October 13–16, 2021, using Robert N. Entman's framing analysis model, this study concludes that the process of selection and emphasis on certain aspects of the news coverage resulted in differing perceptions.

Kompas.com tends to frame the issue as a failure of the police officers to perform their duties according to procedures, emphasizing that the incident occurred due to police misconduct. In contrast, Tempo.co highlights that the police repressive actions during the protest did not reflect a humanitarian approach. Furthermore, Tempo.co emphasizes that the Chief of the National Police (Kapolri) failed to properly evaluate the police force's vision regarding their personnel.

Key Findings Based on Framing Elements

1. Define Problem (Problem Identification)

- Kompas.com defines the issue as police misconduct against students. Additionally, it highlights that the incident resulted from law enforcement officers failing to carry out their duties properly, which led to a victim being harmed.
- Tempo.co, however, defines the incident as a violation of humanistic values within the police force, emphasizing that the police officers' actions did not align with the "Presisi" vision (Predictive, Responsibility, and Transparency with Justice).

2. Diagnose Cause (Identifying the Cause of the Problem)

- Kompas.com identifies the individual police officer involved in the repressive act as the main cause of the issue. The media positions the student protester, Muhamad Fariz Amrullah (MFA), as the victim, while Brigadier NP is framed as the perpetrator of violence.
- Tempo.co, on the other hand, describes Brigadier NP's actions as an excessive and inhumane use of force. Additionally, Tempo.co highlights the Chief of the National Police's failure to properly evaluate and reinforce the police force's vision, which contributed to the recurrence of repressive actions against student protesters.

3. Make Moral Judgment (Moral Evaluation)

- Kompas.com uses its news coverage to critique and remind law enforcement about standard procedures for handling protests. The media outlet points out that Brigadier NP's actions were not in accordance with security protocols, leading to uncontrolled police violence against students.
- Tempo.co, on the other hand, takes a stronger moral stance, asserting that the police's repressive actions violated Kapolri's instructions and national laws. Additionally, Tempo.co highlights that the police failed to protect human rights (HAM), emphasizing that such acts of violence could lead to criminal charges for obstructing citizens' rights to express their opinions publicly.

4. Treatment Recommendation (Proposed Solutions)

- Kompas.com suggests that the issue be resolved through an internal investigation into Brigadier NP,

examining alleged violations of procedures and sanctioning those responsible for the incident.

- Tempo.co, however, presents a more severe recommendation, featuring statements from various sources advocating for legal action against Brigadier NP. Tempo.co calls for multiple criminal charges to be imposed on the officer in response to his violent actions.

This analysis demonstrates how Kompas.com and Tempo.co framed the same event differently through the process of selecting and emphasizing specific aspects of the issue. The findings confirm that media framing plays a crucial role in shaping public perception, as news coverage of the same incident can result in varying interpretations based on the framing choices made by each media outlet.

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