

**CONSTRUCTION OF ONLINE MEDIA COVERAGE OF EARTHQUAKE,
LIQUEFACTION, AND TSUNAMI IN PASIGALA SEPTEMBER 28 2018
(Framing Analysis on Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id)**

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ABSTRACT

This research seeks to answer how Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id constructed news coverage of the PASIGALA earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami (Palu, Sigi and Donggala) September 28 2018 based on Robert M. Entman's Framing Analysis. The aim is to find out the construction of reporting on the Palu-Sigi-Donggala earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami on September 28 2018 on the online news sites Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id. based on Robert M. Entman's Framing Analysis using descriptive qualitative research methods. The results of this study indicate that both Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id both highlight socio-economic aspects in reporting on the PASIGALA earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami on September 28 2018. However, Kompas.com does not highlight socio-political aspects as well as reporting on Mercusuar.web.id.

Keywords: Framing, News, Online, Pasigala.

1. INTRODUCTION

The power of the media since its emergence until now cannot be denied. Technological developments basically provide alternative spaces for new media, which even now makes new media much more attractive and popular. Because it is more efficient in shortening distance, space and time. Until now, the media has proven capable of changing human attitudes towards audiences, the public, or what is now the new media called netizens. This is as proven in previous research by Valentika and Septia Winduwati entitled Framing Analysis of LGBT News on the January 2019 Edition of the SEJUK Media Website which shows that media balance is able to make people hear alternative voices from those who are intolerant and respectful (Valentika and Winduwati, 2019).

The role of the media in influencing public attitudes and opinions is so large, that the media is able to control or guide public opinion, as explained in Alna Hanana and Arif Mulizar's research entitled Media in the Reporting of Tanjung Balai Asahan (Framing Analysis Study of Riots Tanjung Balai Asahandi Republika.co.id). The results of this research state that the media has the ability to construct reality. One way is by framing the news by the media. This research was conducted to find out how Republika.co.id frames reporting on SARA issues in allowing Tanjung Balai Asahan, North Sumatra. This research uses qualitative methods with framing model analysis by Robert M. Entman. The results of this research show that Republika.co.id sides with Islam and does not provide news that contains opinions from other people's points of view (Hanana and Mulizar, 2017).

Reporting in online media always presents different perspectives and can influence readers' minds. On the other hand, the news released cannot be separated from situations or issues developing in society. Therefore, researchers are interested in analyzing the reconstruction of the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami that hit Palu, Sigi and Donggala on September 28 2018. Apart

from this being a devastating event, it is also because these three events occurred at the same time and are a rare and extraordinary event, so it was reported on almost all news portals in Indonesia, even on international news portals. However, this research focuses on construction carried out by two online news portals, namely Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id.

Researchers chose Kompas.com as the subject of this research, because it is the most popular online news platform based on the number of visits to its site. Based on data from sameweb – a digital intelligence provider for enterprise and small to medium business customers. This platform provides web service analysis and offers its users information about the web traffic and performance of their clients and competitors – the Indonesian online news site, Kompas.com is in first place with the most visitors as of December 22 2021, reaching 187.4 million visits, followed by second .com 152.5 million, tribunnews.com 146.9 million, Mindrakyat.com 80.4 million, and Suara.com 76.3 million visits (Similarweb.com, 2022). This shows that Kompas.com is an online news system that is popular in Indonesia and is the most widely read. Kompas.com was one of the pioneers of online media in Indonesia when it first appeared on the Internet on September 14 1995 under the name Kompas Online. Initially, Kompas Online or KOL which was accessed at kompas.co.id only displayed replicas of Kompas daily news published that day. Then in 1996 Kompas Online rebranded to Kompas.com until today. Kompas.com's long journey is also a separate consideration for researchers, so this research focuses on the construction of reporting on the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami events of PASIGALA (Palu-Sigi-Donggala) through Kompas.com.

Although Kompas.com experienced ups and downs in the ranking carried out by Sameweb in the News & Media Publishers category in the Indonesian region, based on the latest data update (1 March 2023) it is again in first place after detik.com which was in second place, tribunnews.com in third position, Pikiran-rakyat.com in fourth position, and Suara.com in fifth position (Similarweb, 2023).

Meanwhile, this research chose a local online news portal, namely Mercusuar.web.id, as the research subject because of the background of this portal, which is the oldest public daily in Central Sulawesi. [Mercusuar General Daily](http://Mercusuar.com) was first published on September 1, 1962 by H. Rusdy Toana. The lighthouse that was originally established was called Soeara Ra'jat, which is the old spelling of Suara Rakyat. Lighthouse is one of the newspapers in Central Sulawesi and Eastern Indonesia that is able to survive amidst the onslaught of media under the auspices of the group ([Mercusuar](http://Mercusuar.com), 2022).

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. News Value

News value is a guideline used by a journalist to determine whether an event has news value or not, in an event there are elements of clarity, surprise, proximity, impact and conflict (Febriana, 2022). Apart from proxymity, impact and conflict, Anggrayni et al. states that timeliness, prominence, significance, magnitude, human interest, unusualness, and sex can also be taken into consideration when reporting news (Anggrayni et al. 2023).

There are ten aspects that cause an event to be reported, including conflict, innovation, disaster, impact, famous, closeness, unique, humanitarian, actual and criminal (Latif, 2023). Meanwhile Sambo mentions novelty, strangeness or uniqueness, conflict, drama, consequences, prominence, human fate and closeness (Sambo, 2019). Andrew Boyd explains in more detail the

elements that must be contained in news that has news value, namely proximity, relevance, immediacy, interest, drama, entertainment (Halim, 2021).

Another thing that influences whether a piece of news is suitable to be presented is the anatomy of the news. News anatomy consists of five things: (1) title (headline); (2) date line; (3) news core (lead); (4) body of news (body); and (5) news legs (legs). This is like the concept of an inverted pyramid.

The title is a reflection of the content of the news. The news title (new title, headline) is the most important part of a news story. The title serves to provoke or attract readers. Apart from that, the title must also be able to attract them to read the content and be satisfied with the information they get. A good title can arouse readers' feelings (empathy) and be fun (creative).

Because it is the most important part, this part is also the most difficult in the news writing process. The ideal word count is between 5-7 words. The structure of the title, subject, predicate or other elements. Subjects and predicates cannot be separated by commas. If placed in front of the subject. This is intended to emphasize the role of the predicate which is considered to have attractiveness and is more assertive than the subject. For such a composition a comma is required after the predicate. The words in the title must be written correctly, both spelling and word class. Regarding word classes, conjunctions (conjunctions/particles) in the title are written in lower case. There are two forms of rewriting words in the title. The word pure repeat is written using a capital letter at the beginning of each word. Meanwhile, the word repeated partially, the word repeated has an affix, and the word repeated changes only the first letter of the word repeated is written in capital.

Diction or the right choice of words in the title really determines the accuracy of the meaning. Inaccurate words can result in an illogical title. Foreign or regional words in the title are not written in italics. For foreign words that have affixes, they are written with a hyphen (-) with the initial letter of the foreign word written in capital. Title efficiency can be implemented by eliminating words that have the same meaning. The articles *si* and *sang* are written in lower case, except for nicknames. A good title must be polite, not in the form of incitement or harsh words.

2.2 Online Media

Online media can be said to be the third generation of media after print media and electronic media. Online media is a product of online journalism. There are five basic principles of online journalism according to Paul Bradshaw (Romli, 2018). including brevity, adaptability, scannability, interactivity, community and conversation.

First, brevity means that online media is concise to adapt to human life and increasingly high levels of busyness. Second, adaptability means that journalists are required to be able to adapt to the needs and preferences of the public. Third, scannability means that online media must be able to be scanned so that readers do not need to feel forced to read information or news.

Fourth, interactivity means that readers or reviewers are allowed to become users. This is important because the more the audience feels involved, the more the audience will feel appreciated and enjoy reading the news. Lastly, community and conversation means that the role of online media is greater than print media or other conventional media because of its role as a community provider.

When viewed from a constructivist perspective, the media is seen as a reflection of ideological struggles between groups that exist in society (Nasrullah, 2018). Here, the media is not only a means of presenting information to the public, but depends on the groups and ideologies

that dominate it (Anggrayni et al., 2023). In this way, every post published by a media is the result of a representation of the media's own ideology.

Determining whether it is important to differentiate facts from reality clearly shows that media operations are very open to the possibility of an element of objectivity and at the institutional level are strongly influenced by media ideology. It can be said that media institutions are inseparable from various interests, ranging from sensational posts that increase income or ratings, advertising to editorial interests in producing information. Sometimes, pressure and demands can come from the community, owners, shareholders, advertisers, social and political group partners, and the government (Nasrullah 2019).

2.3 Disaster and Framing

Disasters are events or series of events that threaten and disrupt people's lives and livelihoods caused by either natural factors and/or non-natural factors or human factors, resulting in human casualties, environmental damage, property loss and psychological impacts. Disasters are divided into disasters. natural and non-natural disasters (BNPB, 2022).

Natural disasters are disasters caused by events or a series of events caused by nature, including earthquakes, tsunamis, volcanic eruptions, floods, droughts, hurricanes and landslides. Meanwhile, non-natural disasters are disasters caused by non-natural events or series of events, including technological failure, modernization failure, epidemics and disease outbreaks (BNPB, 2022).

Apart from these two disaster categories, there is another category, namely social disasters. Social disasters are disasters caused by events or a series of events caused by humans which include social conflicts between groups or between communities, and terror (BNPB, 2022).

The role of media literacy is very effective in training disaster mitigation skills because it can reach a wider target population. Media literacy is not just reading and understanding media messages. More than that, media literacy is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate and communicate media message content (Suprayitno et al., 2021). Disaster visualization can be done in the form of images or videos to arouse people's feelings to make changes to behavior that can affect the environment (Pezzullo and Cox 2018).

The framing of disaster news in Indonesia is often linked to politics and economics. Complaints about the government's slowness in dealing with disasters often become a news perspective. Environmental problems arising from industry are also often in the spotlight, related to the damage they cause.

2.4 Public Sphere

Regarding public space, Habermas provides what he calls institutional criteria; a character that can lead us to understand what Habermas means by public space (Nasrullah, 2019). These criteria are:

- 1) Disregard of status, or more precisely, staying away from critical discussions about status. Public space is not a question of wanting equal status with the ruling authority, but of having equal opportunities to express or criticize a reality. Nor is it an attempt to create equal publics in cafes, salons, or among members of associations. The public sphere emphasizes the existence of ideas that are institutionalized and gain claims objectively so that they can be accepted by the public at large; which if not realized, at least the idea will stick consciously in the minds of the public.

- 2) Domain of common concern, that historical reality places the existence of several domains whose interpretation is only controlled by the ruling authorities and/or by the church. Even though this domain can be discussed and involve the public more widely. Philosophy, art and literature, which were claimed to only be subject to interpretation and were the exclusive authority in terms of publicity by ecclesiastical circles, became something that could be accessed by the public. These works no longer need to be accessible, but have become commodities traded by industry. It is the distribution of these works that becomes material for critical discussions that occur in the public space. Interpretations become more diverse and can come from anyone in the public space.
- 3) Inclusive (inclusivity). That no matter how exclusive the public is in a particular case, in the public sphere it is part of that small group. The ideas that emerge in their particular debate are basically not the absolute property of members of the public sphere, but when they are disseminated through the media the public can also access them. Also, the issues raised as discussion material become more public because everyone can access sources related to the issue. Basically, every person in the public space finds himself not as the public itself, but as if he is a spokesperson and perhaps even a teacher of what is said to be the public itself, which according to Habermas is a representative or new form of bourgeois representation.

2.6 Framing Analysis Theory

The term frame or framing becomes a conceptual structure that organizes political views, discourse and policies and provides standard categories for appreciating a reality (Rahmaniar, 2023). Framing is a method used to see how to tell something or what is called story telling by the media about an event that occurred. Erving Goffman then developed the concept of framing further in 1974, making frames a behavior that guides a person or individual in reading reality or truth. This is reflected in the way of seeing a reality or truth that is used as news.

Each media has an editorial policy that determines what kind of news is presented to the public. This editorial policy can be based on media ideology, or can be based on interests. Interests can be seen by analyzing media reports and ultimately it is media reports that influence political communication. The packaging of news by the media can influence the political situation, political views, political participation, as well as other things discussed in the framing approach (R. I. Yusuf 2022).

Framing Analysis Theory is a text analysis method that is in the constructionist research category. This paradigm views the reality of social life as not a natural reality, but the result of construction (A. M. Yusuf, 2014).

Robert M Entman's framing elements consist of four things, namely define problems, diagnose causes, make moral judgments, and treatment recommendations (Hanif et al., 2021).

- 1) Define problem is the main element of framing which emphasizes how events are understood by journalists. The same event can be understood differently. Different frames will cause different realities to be formed.
- 2) Diagnosis causes is a framing element to frame who the actor or cause of an event is. The cause here could be what (what) or who (who).
- 3) Making moral judgment is an element of providing arguments or justifications that will support the definition and causes of a problem.
- 4) Treatment recommendation, this element summarizes the solution the journalist wants by looking at who is causing the problem and what the incident would like to see.

Furthermore, Entman (Entman, 1993) also explains that texts can make pieces of information more prominent by placement or repetition, or by associating them with familiar cultural symbols. However, even a single non-illustrative display of an idea in an obscure part of the text can be very salient, if it fits the existing schema in the recipient's belief system. In the same way, an idea emphasized in a text can be difficult for the recipient to notice, interpret, or remember because of existing schemata (Iskandar, 2021).

3. METHODS

This research uses a constructivist paradigm which holds that facts or reality are not something that remains, exists, and is material for the news. Guba stated that philosophers of science believe that facts only exist within the framework of theory. The basis for finding "something that really exists" and "really works" is non-existent. Reality only exists in the context of a mental framework (construct) for thinking about that reality (Eriyanto, 2015).

Researchers analyze directly the object of their study. Therefore, the things analyzed or explored in this research are news related to the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami that occurred in Palu-Sigi-Donggala on 28 September 2018. The researcher used framing analysis to explore this. Meanwhile, this research uses Robert M. Entman's framing analysis model. As is known, research using this model emphasizes four aspects in reporting. The four aspect model, among others; define problems, diagnose problems, make moral judgments, and treatment recommendations.

The basis of this research is text study. Text study is basically data analysis that examines texts in depth both regarding their content and meaning as well as structure and discourse (Rosyidah and Fijra 2021). This research focuses on news texts collected from Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id in the first two weeks after the earthquake, namely since the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami from September 28 to October 11 2018.

This research is limited by several conceptual definitions, as follows:

- 1) The earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami referred to in this research are the events of 28 September 2018 in Central Sulawesi, specifically Palu, Sigi and Donggala.
- 2) Pasigala is an acronym for Palu City, Sigi Regency and Donggala Regency in Central Sulawesi, Indonesia.
- 3) The news referred to in this research is all types of information posted via the online news sites Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id including text.

The object of this research is the construction of reporting on the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami that occurred in Palu-Sigi-Donggala on 28 September 2018. The subjects of this research are Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id.

The unit of analysis refers to the object that interests us and that we want to measure and research (Rassel et al., 2021). The unit of analysis in this research is the news text published on the online media Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id in the first two weeks after the earthquake, tsunami and liquefaction disaster that occurred in Palu-Sigi-Donggala on September 28 2018. Researchers have create a news mapping list on each online news portal by using the same keywords in the searches available on their respective websites. The keywords used by researchers are "EARTHQUAKE 28 SEPTEMBER 2018".

The news that has been collected and sorted based on the first week and the second week is then further divided based on the type of news. Broadly speaking, news is divided into straight news or hard news and features (Herman, 2018). The type of news used as the unit of analysis in

this research is straight news or hard news. News that has gone through a selection process is then analyzed based on Robert M. Entman's framing analysis theory. The findings from this research were analyzed based on Robert M. Entman's version of the framing analysis concept. There are four framing analysis tools, including define problems, diagnose causes, make moral judgments, and treatment recommendations (Iskandar, 2021).

4. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The tendency for issue selection and emphasis on certain aspects of each online media, both Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id, is different from each other. The differences between one media report and another cannot be separated from the ideology of the media itself (Muthaqin et al., 2021). Ideology is also a factor in media bias in reporting.

News writing uses journalistic language for various reasons. First, the events or realities that are often the main field of observation for journalists in making news are not simple. Events or reality are so complex, complicated, sometimes even abstract. Therefore, it requires the use of special language to explain it. Economic events such as stock price movements from various countries with their various uses of terms, natural phenomena (or space phenomena) which are sometimes shrouded in chemical and physical terms, need to be explained specifically (in terms of language practice) to understood by society. Moreover, people are not very familiar with such realities.

Second, the community which is the main target for news writing and other journalistic works is different demographically, especially in terms of their level of education and understanding. Such complex, intricate or abstract events must be able to be explained well by journalists, so that they can be understood by more and more people, across demographic boundaries. In Indonesia, the education level of the majority of people (who are potential readers/viewers) is still low. This means that journalists must also think about them in explaining events in the news.

This is not only in the interests of society itself so that people can understand the reality or event well, but is also ultimately related to the interests of the media. From an economic perspective, readers, viewers or listeners are the main consumers, while news is the product that is sold. As a company (Press Law No. 40 of 1999 places mass media or the press as a legal entity in the form of a company), the media certainly wants a large number of readers, viewers, listeners or traffic. Because, increasing the number of readers, viewers, listeners or traffic can bring in a lot of money, especially advertising.

Third, journalistic language is also an answer to the limitations that surround mass media today. Newspapers are limited by space, television is limited by duration, while online media is limited by reader characteristics and other technical matters that are mobile in nature.

Journalistic language includes writing rules, rules for using punctuation marks, rules for choosing words, rules for writing sentences, paragraphs, and so on. The goal of these regulations is so that the public can understand the information explained correctly, completely and completely. Apart from that, journalistic language is also a strategy, which is related to how to attract as many readers, viewers, visitors and listeners as possible. Strategy concerns how to present as many events as possible in the media space, amidst existing limitations (Mony 2020).

Kompas.com and Mercusuar.web.id use diction which is also quite different. Based on the results of the researcher's analysis, the researcher found that Kompas.com applied euphemisms in the news which was the unit of analysis for this research, while Mercusuar.web.id did not. Based

on language review, euphemism comes from the word euphemizein which in Greek means good words. Meanwhile, according to terminology, euphemism can be interpreted as a figure of speech or subtle expression that is used as a word that is considered harsh (Mappanganro 2020). Kompas.com refers to those affected by the disaster while Mercusuar.web.id directly uses the word disaster victims. However, there are also Kompas.com news stories that mention the word victim but alternately with the word affected. Meanwhile, Mercusuar does not use the word affected at all.

Based on the results of this research, it can be seen that Kompas.com as a national online news portal tends to focus more on the social and economic impacts resulting from the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami that occurred on 28 September 2018. Kompas.com as national media those who are not affected by the disaster, are able to report on the condition of the affected areas right after the disaster occurs, so it is important to present the news as objectively as possible and not cause noise or various speculations. Especially the circulation of false information outside the affected areas that there will be subsequent disasters. Clarification of fake news is very important so as not to cause chaos in society.

Mercusuar.web.id as a local online news portal is able to frame the news of the earthquake, liquefaction and tsunami that occurred on 28 September 2018 into social, economic and political aspects. Mercusuar.web.id tends to emphasize that there is clarification or response from the Regional Government of Central Sulawesi Province to various assumptions circulating regarding the performance of the Provincial Government which is considered inadequate in post-disaster handling.

Apart from that, this can also direct the public's views in this case to conclude for themselves that the government's attitude seems anti-criticism and even gives an appeal to stop making negative comments towards the government. However, the reality behind this framing is that the provincial government was in Tojo Unauna when the earthquake, tsunami and liquefaction occurred.

This makes it risky for various parties to accuse the absence or absence of the provincial government in the community when a disaster occurs as a bad thing. Without finding out further what the provincial government was actually doing at that time. Politically, this will be very detrimental to the provincial government, as well as beneficial for parties at odds with the provincial government.

5. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research conducted by researchers, several things can be concluded, including: (1) Kompas.com in carrying out news construction selected social and economic issues including the impact of the earthquake, the losses incurred and information about the latest developments after the disaster. The trend in Kompas.com's reporting can be seen from the headlines of its reports which discuss topics including electricity outages, communication network breakdowns, ship crossings, closure of airport operations, lifting of tsunami warnings by BMKG, thousands of houses heavily damaged, housing collapses, and the rise of hoax issues; (2) Mercusuar.web.id in carrying out news construction selects social, economic and political issues, namely post-disaster impacts, the situation of the community's economic revival, as well as the provincial government's perspective on issues that are cornering the provincial government. This can be seen from the news that appears, including the market returning to operation, hundreds of traders enlivening the market, the increase in prices of basic necessities, work accident insurance

for disaster victims, and the Governor's clarification regarding post-disaster collapse and his response regarding the opinion that the provincial government did nothing after the disaster that occurred.

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