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# The construction of news values in online media sexual violence' discourse

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**Abstract** News values refer to a set of criteria intended to evaluate the newsworthiness of an event, hence determining its suitability for publication. For instance, a case of sexual violence in Indonesia received significant attention and is considered noteworthy, warranting its reporting. This study aims to discover the significance of news articles pertaining to sexual violence and determine the linguistic construction of news value within the context of online media platform detik.com. The researchers collected headlines and lead paragraphs from all 27 online news articles published throughout July 2022 that were selected since July had the highest number of sexual violence incidents. The articles were qualitatively analysed through discursive news value analysis technique (DNVA) which examines the connotations of diction choices and the impact on readers' understanding. The study revealed that six out of the 10 news values were present in reports on sexual violence in Indonesia. These news values include personalisation, proximity, eliteness, positivity, unexpectedness, and timeliness. This study also shows that news articles share an emphasis on personalisation and proximity. Research limitation includes the process of defining news values and subjectively evaluating sources based on the definitions.

**Keywords**: discursive news values analysis; linguistic resources; news values; online media; sexual violence

#### INTRODUCTION

News has a significant role in the realm of mass media (Gunawan, 2020). The primary responsibility of a journalist is to engage in the process of reporting, which encompasses activities ranging from conducting research to disseminating information. According to Rannu and Kunni (2019), news pertains to recent occurrences and is characterised by its adherence to factual accuracy and credibility. News intends to capture the public's interest.

Newsworthiness is a key determinant of news credibility. According to Caple and Bednarek (2017), the concept of news value encompasses a range of characteristics that can be utilised to assess the probability of an occurrence being considered newsworthy. Several news values can be identified including appropriation, impact, negativity, elitism, timeliness, among others.

Every news company attempts to ensure that the news they distribute is credible. This is because credibility determines the impacts, as well as perceptions and assessment of the news (Tsfati, 2003). Several factors influence trust in media including the selectivity of the topics covered, accuracy of the information presented, the depiction of events by the media, and the practice of journalistic judgement by mass media outlets (Kohring & Matthes, 2007). In addition, contemporary online media exhibits a relatively elevated degree of credibility in comparison to alternative media platforms, such as print newspapers. The phenomenon described can be observed through a poll on public confidence in mainstream media, which was done by the Press Council in collaboration with Universitas Dr. Moestopo Beragama. The findings indicate that a significant proportion of participants, specifically 42.3 percent, express trust in online

media due to the presence of statistics and information (Astungkoro, 2021) is cited as the source of information.

Along with the widely used phrase in media discourse, "bad news is good news," a notable attribute of news reporting is the inclusion of criminal incidents and cases of misconduct. Their negativity is inherently interesting to the readers (Bell, 1991). According to Conboy (2004), crime and misconduct have been central topics in news writing since the early 17th century. Therefore, an important field of study exists that examines criminal acts from several angles.

Cases of sexual violence are quite prevalent within Indonesian society. According to the findings of the Gender Barometer Survey conducted in 2020 by the Indonesia Judicial Research Society (IJRS) and the International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID), 71.8% of respondents reported cases of sexual violence. These violences were experienced by the respondents personally, their families, and individuals within their social circles. The study presented data on the proportion of respondents who had encountered sexual violence, categorised by gender. According to Wicaksana et al. (2020), 66.7% of victims were identified as female, while the remaining victims were identified as male.

The study titled 'Reflection of the Treatment of Sexual Violence in Indonesia' was conducted by the IJRS (Budiarti, et al., 2020). This study revealed that 99.5% of the sexual violence cases that were settled in the court system were female victims, while 99% of the perpetrators were male. However, it is important to acknowledge that men, who are often identified as the primary perpetrators of sexual violence, can also be susceptible to being victims themselves. According to a study conducted by Beltera Sintas et al. in 2016, an estimated 12,389 males have encountered cases of sexual violence. These acts included various forms such as verbal and physical abuse, forced exposure to pornographic material, as well as intimidation or threats to engage in sexual acts or rape. However, it frequently fails to manifest itself in cases of sexual violence endured by women. The phenomenon at hand can be attributed to the concept of toxic masculinity, which refers to an amplified or exaggerated manifestation of male traits that has gained acceptance within certain cultural contexts. Toxic masculinity encompasses various traits exhibited by males, such as a tendency towards low empathy, a persistent desire for dominance and control over others, and a consistent focus on sexual intercourse, among other characteristics. This cultural context contributes to the underreporting and dismissal of sexual violence suffered by men (Ashila & Barus 2021).

Sexual violence occurs due to several factors, including cultural and institutional factors in Indonesia according to Arnez and Nisa (2024). Wismayanti et al (2021) also emphasised that patriarchal culture contributes to cases of sexual violence in Indonesia. Although Indonesia already has a Sexual Violence Bill, which passed into law on April 12, 2012, the punishment given to perpetrators is still considered insufficient to provide a deterrent effect.

Iqbal and Cyprien (2021) explain that there has been an increase in cases of violence on social media, which is better known as online gender-based violence (OGBV). Iqbal and Cyprien emphasised the importance of online media regulations that can protect women from violence in online media. The study also revealed that cases of sexual violence were triggered by regulatory factors and social factors that have been cultivated in Indonesia.

One of the efforts that can be made to overcome the problem of OGBV is through campaigns on social media. Ratnasari et al (2021) confirmed that social media has an important role in digital activism in campaigns against OGBV. In line with these findings is research conducted by V.N.L Dewi et al (2021) which explains that there are four (4) categories of media that can be used in cases of child sexual abuse (CSA). The four media are- online platforms, attractive information materials, simple media and taboo management.

The online media, which has garnered a significant degree of popular trust, portrays sexual violence as a phenomenon that women are expected to tolerate. The findings of the study conducted by Indainanto (2020) indicate that online media platforms, such as Tribune News, Viva, and Cover 6, tend to normalise cases of sexual violence. This normalisation occurs due to their failure to prioritise the core issue of sexual violence and instead placing unnecessary emphasis on the victim's identification. Furthermore, news sexual published in three online media tends to blame the victim and consider it to be the cause of the problem. Some studies show that women are often depicted as sexual object and blamed for sexual crimes (Andreasen, 2020; Aroustamiyan, 2020; Burnay et al, 2021; Morrison et al 2020). The dissemination of inaccurate or misleading information can potentially exert negative impacts on the general

population, since those who place their trust in news sources may unintentionally contribute to the process of normalising sexual violence. The prevalence of rape culture is increasingly perceived as a societal value, contributing to the normalisation and acceptance of sexual violence. This research is diverse in terms of methodology. The previous research used framing analysis while this research uses the DNVA analysis.

Based on the previously discussed analysis, it is evident that the dissemination of information pertaining to sexual violence holds significant relevance for Indonesian society, encompassing all genders. This study aims to examine the significance of news value, specifically in relation to news credibility within the context of sexual violence cases reported on detik.com. The researchers selected detik.com as the news portal to analyse in this study due to its status as the highly visited news site in Indonesia. According to real-time statistics from Similarweb in December 2022, detik.com has the top position in the News and Media Publisher category, attracting a substantial audience of 175.1 million visitors. Detik.com, as the pre-eminent news portal, wields significant influence in the dissemination of event coverage due to its extensive reach among Internet users. Therefore, a comprehensive examination of the significance of news coverage on sexual violence cases in Indonesia might provide insights into the perspective of detik.com, thereby justifying its newsworthiness.

Monika Bednarek and Helen Caple (2017) developed the Discursive News Value Analysis (DNVA) technique that is employed in this study. According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), this method places greater emphasis on the 'how' aspect rather than the 'why' in terms of considering the value of news as constructed in news texts. The field of Discourse, News, and Visual Analysis (DNVA) investigates the mechanisms by which news credibility is established through the utilisation of linguistic and visual resources. Bednarek and Caple (2012) find that the utilisation of DNVA presents a valuable means of systematically examining the construction of news values through the analysis of different textual devices employed in the process of news generation. The aim is to determine the stressed values within news articles and analyse the language construction of each value (Potts, Bednarek & Caple, 2015).

Bednarek and Caple (2017) presented the concept of DNVA, drawing upon the theoretical frameworks of constructivism and realism. The DNVA theory posits that the media has a significant role in determining the value of news in an event by selectively emphasising or downplaying specific news values. Furthermore, the potential news value of an event is contingent upon the socio-cultural system in which it occurs, allowing for the assignment of value. In essence, an event is formulated as news, and the newsworthiness of these events is either artificial or intrinsic (Makki, 2019).

#### **METHODOLOGY**

The researchers employed a content analysis toward news articles related to cases of sexual violence in Indonesia, sourced from the online news portal detik.com. Detik.com was selected due to its recognition as the largest and most reputable online site in Indonesia, as indicated in Similarweb. This platform holds the top position in terms of visitor count within the news and media publisher category. Detik.com is widely regarded as highly influential due to its extensive readership.

The study was undertaken in July 2022, taking consideration of the month's highest count of publications with 27 articles on the topic of sexual violence during the year. The compilation of news stories pertaining to cases of sexual violence in Indonesia commenced by inputting the keyword 'sexual violence' into the search field of the news portal detik.com. The articles that have been gathered only consist of news items, whereas materials that do not fall under the category of news such as opinion articles, have been excluded from the collection. The researchers excluded in-depth reporting and treated articles as singular cases.

This analysis focused on the introductory section, the headline, and the lead of the news article, since these two components have the ability to encompass the substance of any news article (Van Dijk, 1988). The inclusion of headlines and leads in news articles is a topic of interest among linguists who research news discourse (El Seidi, 2019).

The data that were collected were entered into the frequency table and manually encoded. The analytical unit for encoding involves determining the quantitative value of the information contained inside an individual news story. Regarding the data inputted into the frequency table, namely headlines, leads, and news values, the utilisation of news values was facilitated through

the assignment of a numerical code to each news value. Table 1 displays a compilation of 10 Bednarek and Caple news values from the year 2017.

Table 1. Bednarek and Caple News Values (2017)					
No.	News Value	Linguistic Resource	Example		
1	Consonance	<u>Distinctive</u>	'Distinctive', 'famous for',		
		Refer to commonly held traits or biases; evaluations based	'again', 'once again', 'typical		
		on specific expectations or criteria; parallels with historical	style', 'very similar to', etc.		
		events or patterns; explicit allusions to widely accepted or			
2	Eliteness	conventional knowledge, and so on (famous). Prestige or Fame	'Dr., Ir. Soekarno,' 'expert,'		
۷	Eliteriess	News actors, specialised terminology sources, and technical	'Chelsea Islan,' 'This band		
		accents of high status or sociolects (particularly in televised	has sold millions of records		
		news) employ a range of status indicators. These indications	in a year', 'Agnes Monica		
		encompass role designations, status-indicating adjectives,	has won many awards', etc.		
		known names, and descriptions of achievement or fame.	,		
3	Impact	Significant Effects or Consequences	'historical ', 'shocked the		
		Penilaian signifikansi; The evaluation of importance;	world', 'left a scene of		
		depiction of noteworthy and pertinent tangible or intangible	destruction', etc.		
		outcomes, encompassing abstract, material, or psychological			
		impacts.			
4	Negativity	Referring to negative emotions and attitudes; negative	'Confusion',		
		evaluative language; negative lexis; negative behavioural	'condemnation', 'fear,'		
		descriptions.	'conflict', 'death', 'norm		
5	Positivity	Referring to positive emotions and attitudes; positive	violation', etc. 'Joy', 'celebration',		
3	FOSILIVILY	evaluative language; positive lexis; positive behavioural	'brilliance', 'success',		
		descriptions.	'victory', etc.		
6	Personalization	The Presence of an Individual or the 'Face' of a Human	"But one of the victims		
		Being,	cried", 'Ani then said, "My		
		Referring to ordinary people, their emotions, experiences;	punishment has just		
		utilised by news anchors/sources in spoken language,	begun'', etc.		
		accents, and everyday sociolects (especially in news			
		broadcasts).			
7	Proximity	Proximity in Terms of Geography or Culture.	'Indonesia', 'Javanese		
		Explicit references to places or nationalities near the target	youth', 'here', "the capital of		
		community; references to a nation/community through	the country", "our national		
		deixis, references to public places, adjectives; inclusive plural pronouns; used by news anchors/sources with	leaders", 'Batak', 'Dayak', 'Toraja, 'Asmat', etc.		
		accents/dialects (geographic), especially in broadcast news;	Toraja, Asmac, etc.		
		cultural references.			
8	Superlativeness	High Intensity or Wide Scope.	'Severe', 'millions',		
		Amplifiers, measurers; intensive lexis; metaphors and	'dramatic', 'large', "like the		
		similes; comparisons; repetitions; growth-related lexis;	battles of World War II",		
		only/just/alone/already + time/distance or related lexis.	"the largest drug network in		
			history", "building after		
			building razed", "the list of		
			victims continues to grow",		
9	Timedia	About to Homeo Currently Occurring or high Homeoned or	"only a few hours later", etc.		
9	Timeliness	About to Happen, Currently Occurring, or Just Happened, or Seasonal. Temporary references; present and present	'today', 'yesterday', ''in a few days'', ''right now,''		
		perfect; implicit time references through lexis; referring to	'ongoing', "currently		
		current trends, seasons, changes/newness.	happening", "has already		
		current trends, sedsons, enanges, newness.	begun", "for the first time",		
			etc.		
10	Unexpectedness	Evaluation of unexpected things, references to	'different', 'amazing',		
	,	surprises/hopes; comparisons indicating oddity; references	'strange', "people are		
		to unusual events.	extremely incredulous",		
			"the first time since 1945",		
			"a young man survives after		
			falling from the 4th floor",		
		Common Data Danasasas dibas Airab an (2024)	etc.		

Source: Data Processed by Aiuthor (2024)

The DNVA framework, as proposed by Bednarek and Caple (2017), serves as a tool for discerning the prevalent news values found in narratives of sexual violence in Indonesia, while also examining the manner in which these news values are formed. The process of data analysis encompasses three distinct steps. The initial step involves the examination of news values present in headlines and lead paragraphs, which have been organised in a tabular format. The analysis is conducted utilising numerical codes, as previously explained. The initial phase of this study aims to determine the news values that are evident in the headlines and lead paragraphs of sexual violence cases reported in Indonesia. Furthermore, the news values extracted from all

news stories are gathered in order to discover the frequency of recurrence for each respective news value. During the second phase, the analysis of the data yielded insights on the prevalence and association of news values in reports of sexual violence in Indonesia as covered by detik.com. The linguistic resource analysis of each news value is ultimately carried out by offering a selection of news stories as illustrative examples of such analysis. Makki (2019) investigates the potential impact of sociocultural elements on the formation of news values in the context of sexual violence issues in Indonesia.

Several factors should be considered throughout the data analysis phase. The exclusion of the negative news value from this analysis is based on its classification as a 'basic news value' (Bell, 1991), which has been in practice since the topic of sexual assault was chosen. Furthermore, the exclusion of negative news value has been implemented in the study in order to reduce any ambiguity. Certain linguistic resources have the capacity to incorporate several news values. For instance, the term 'attacking' exhibits two news values, namely 'negative' and 'superlative', due to its dual nature as both a negative and intensive lexical item.

#### **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The frequency table serves as a tool for obtaining insights into the research questions or problem formulations addressed in this study. The findings of the analysis conducted using the frequency table revealed that the headlines and lead paragraphs of sexual violence cases reported by detik.com in the July edition consistently exhibited same news values. Furthermore, each news piece exhibited additional iterations of news values that were produced through diverse language resources. In the July edition, the headlines and lead paragraphs of sexual violence incidents in Indonesia exhibited a presence of six out of the ten news values. The aforementioned news values encompass Elitism, Positivity, Personalisation, Proximity, Timeliness, and Unpredictability. Several news values were not observed in the given context, namely Appropriateness, Impact, Superlative, and Negative (with certain exceptions).

The frequency of occurrence of the six news values is calculated after analysing each news value in all the headlines and lead news. This disparity arises due to the varying frequencies at which each news value manifests. Consequently, the news values of Personalisation and Proximity are the news values that are incorporated into all headlines and lead news articles. These two news values, as frequently linked to cases of sexual violence in Indonesia by detik.com, can be identified as the predominant factors. Subsequently, the frequency of incidence is succeeded by the news values of Elite, Positivity, Unpredictability, and Timeliness, accompanied with the subsequent particulars (Table 2).

**Table 2.** Frequency of News Value Occurrence

No	News Value	Amount	Percentage
1.	Personalization	27	28.4%
2.	Proximity	27	28.4%
3.	Eliteness	17	17.9%
4.	Positivity	16	16.8%
5.	Unexpectedness	5	5.3%
6.	Timeliness	3	3.2%

Source: Data Processed by Aiuthor (2024)

#### **Personalisation**

According to Bednarek (2015), news items that portray an individual who is not often associated with criminal behaviour engaging in illegal actions might be categorised as cases of Personalisation, as defined by Makki (2019). Personalisation is a news value that pertains to the inclusion of individuals or human faces in news coverage. The linguistic resources employed in the context of news value pertain to the utilisation of vernacular language, emotional expressions, diverse viewpoints, and the lived experiences of individuals included in news coverage. The utilisation of personalisation is also observed among news actors or those who serve as the primary sources of news (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). The findings of the investigation indicate that the news value of Personalisation in headlines and leads is established through the utilisation of language resources, such as the inclusion of perpetrators, victims, and/or individuals associated with cases of sexual violence.

The news value of Personalisation encompasses various linguistic resources that pertain to both perpetrators and victims. These resources include the professional background, gender,

age, hometown, and the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim. The language resources utilised by those involved in reporting sexual violence incidents include the police officers responsible for investigating the case, the parents of the victim, and various other parties. The following cases highlight recent cases of sexual violence in Indonesia, which exhibit the news value of Personalisation:

# 1. (1/7) Sensational! A Madrasah Teacher in Magelang Suspected of Sending Lewd Messages to a Student

<u>A teacher from Madrasah Aliyah (MA)</u> in Magelang Regency, <u>referred to as R</u>, is under suspicion for engaging in inappropriate communication of a sexual nature with a student. The existence of this case has been officially confirmed by <u>the police authorities</u>, hence generating comments on various social media sites.

# 2. (1/7) Heartbreaking! Sukabumi Child Taken by Unknown Person: Phone Seized - Genitals Assaulted

<u>A nine-year-old child</u> from Gunungpuyuh, Sukabumi City, experienced violence when taken <u>by an unknown person on</u> Friday (1/7/2022) afternoon. <u>The police</u> mentioned that the <u>elementary school student</u> sustained injuries in the genital area.

# 3. (7/7) Heartbreaking! No One Cares When Female Employee Gets Groped on Tebet Public Transportation

<u>An employee, identified by the letters AF,</u> experiences an unfortunate incident of sexual harassment during their commute on the Tebet-Kuningan public transportation route. <u>The family of the victim</u> has furnished a detailed account of the sequence of events pertaining to the harassment, which is presently gaining widespread attention on various social media platforms.

The initial news report highlights several language resources that contribute to the construction of the value of Personalisation in the news. These resources include terms such as "Madrasah Teacher," "Student," "A Madrasah Aliyah (MA) teacher," "their student," and "police." Based on the aforementioned linguistic resources, it is evident that the concept of Personalisation in news pertains to the occupation of the offender, the position of the victim, and the profession of the party concerned. The culprit in question has been identified as a teacher at Madrasah Aliyah, while the victim involved in the incident is a student under the tutelage of said teacher. Additionally, the police, as a relevant party, also plays a significant role in this particular news event.

The second news story utilises several language resources to establish the significance of Personalisation in the news, including terms such as 'Child', 'Nine-year-old child', 'Unknown person', 'police', and 'the child who attends elementary school'. Based on the aforementioned language resources, it is evident that the concept of Personalisation in news pertains to the age of the victim and the profession of the person engaged. In the present scenario, the individual responsible for the act remains unidentified, thereby warranting the designation of an unknown entity. The perpetrator's name remains undisclosed, while the victim is a minor of nine years. Additionally, the police, as a relevant party, also plays a significant role in this news.

The third news piece highlights several linguistic resources that contribute to the construction of the concept of Personalisation within the news. These resources include references to a 'female employee', an individual identified as 'female employee with the initials AF', and the involvement of 'the victim's family'. Based on the aforementioned language resources, it is evident that the concept of Personalisation in news pertains to the characterisation of the victim's occupation and the involvement of the associated party. The victim has been identified as a female employee, and it has been established that the individual involved in the incident is a member of the victim's family.

In certain cases, the designation of performers is conjoined with a geographical location. In such cases, the identity not only encompasses the attribute of Personalisation within the realm of news but also tends to align with the attribute of Proximity. According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), linguistic resources pertaining to the Proximity value in news articles involve clear mentions of a certain location or nationality that is closely associated with the community being discussed. Therefore, it can be argued that the linguistic resources employed in news articles have a pivotal role in shaping the significance attributed to Proximity, as opposed to Personalisation.

#### **Proximity**

Proximity is defined as the arrangement of events that take place in close geographical or cultural proximity to the intended audience (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Makki, 2019). This news value pertains to the proximity, either geographical or cultural, that is considered significant in the context of news reporting. Linguistic resources pertaining to Proximity encompass explicit mentions of nearby locations or nationalities in relation to the target population, references to nations or communities through deixis, allusions to shared locations, and cultural allusions. According to Bednarek and Caple (2017), proximity linguistic resources are employed in the context of adjectives, inclusive first-person plural pronouns, and by news actors or sources who possess accents or dialects, particularly in the domain of broadcast news.

The news value of Proximity holds significant importance in determining its inclusion in headlines and lead news. This study examines news coverage pertaining to incidents of sexual violence taking place in Indonesia. Hence, each city or place referenced in news reports inside the Indonesian territory can be regarded as linguistic resources that play a role in shaping the Proximity news value. Based on the analysis findings, it can be concluded that the linguistic elements contributing to the construction of the Proximity news value include the depiction of the incident's location (TKP) as well as the identification of the offender or victim's place of origin. The following language resources pertain to the Proximity news value as it relates to the headlines and lead news of sexual violence:

# 1. (1/7) Sensational! A Madrasah Teacher in Magelang Suspected of Sending Lewd Messages to a Student

A teacher from Madrasah Aliyah (MA) in <u>Magelang Regency</u>, referred to as R, is under suspicion for engaging in inappropriate communication of a sexual nature with a student. The existence of this case has been officially confirmed by the police authorities, hence generating comments on various social media sites.

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Based on the mentioned news stories, it is evident that the language resources that contribute to the construction of the Proximity news value in the coverage of sexual violence cases can be identified in the first and third pieces. In the initial article, language resources such as "di Magelang" (in Magelang) and 'di Kabupaten Magelang' (in Magelang Regency) are utilised to convey the concept of Proximity. In the third story, the use of terms such as 'di Angkot Tebet' (on an Angkot vehicle in Tebet) and 'angkutan kota jurusan Tebet-Kuningan' (public transportation route from Tebet to Kuningan) enhances the news value of Proximity. The second piece effectively demonstrates the news value of Proximity by incorporating specific references to the victim's location, such as 'Child from Sukabumi' and 'Child... from Gunungpuyuh, Sukabumi City'. The incorporation of the Proximity news value in these stories fosters a sense of geographical proximity among viewers of detik.com across various regions in Indonesia. The geographical location of the incident (TKP) and the perpetrator/victim's hometown, as mentioned in news articles pertaining to cases of sexual violence, are significant factors in terms of Proximity. These details offer contextual information regarding the location, enabling the audience to assess the proximity of the events to their own geographical positions (Bednarek & Caple, 2017; Makki, 2019).

The news articles on sexual violence cases in July 2022, as reported by detik.com, demonstrate a discernible discrepancy in the level of specificity when mentioning certain

locations. Some sites are referred to in a more precise manner, with the inclusion of village names, whereas others are stated in a more general manner, with city names being used. The news pieces pertaining to sexual violence in Indonesia continue to exhibit the Proximity news value, whether explicitly or implicitly, by the inclusion of particular or general references to the locations involved. The inclusion of these places in the discussion is attributed to their status as integral components of Indonesia, hence fostering a sense of proximity with the intended audience.

#### **Eliteness**

The concept of news value pertaining to Elitism is a construct that is shaped through discourse, namely through the perception of high social standing, recognition, or popularity by the audience (Potts, Bednarek, & Caple, 2015). The concept of prestige is not solely limited to the elevated social standing and renown of individuals, but can also extend to include organisations, institutions, countries, and other entities. According to the findings of Bednarek and Caple (2017), it is evident that the determination of news value is dependent upon the prevailing public opinion. Moreover, the concept of Elitism as a news value, which is linked to particular professions and organisations/institutions, can be objectively acknowledged from both a national and cultural standpoint (El-Seidi, 2019). Therefore, occupations associated with the events being reported are regarded as possessing the news value of elitism. The police department in Indonesia is one of the professional fields involved in addressing situations of sexual violence. The following linguistic resources provide an expression of the Elitism news value in the headlines and lead news on incidents of sexual violence:

# 1. (1/7) Sensational! A Madrasah Teacher in Magelang Suspected of Sending Lewd Messages to a Student

A teacher from Madrasah Aliyah (MA) in Magelang Regency, referred to as R, is under suspicion for engaging in inappropriate communication of a sexual nature with a student. The existence of this case has been officially confirmed by <u>Police authorities</u>, hence generating comments on various social media sites.

### 2. (11/7) The Director of Solo's Water Utility Company (PDAM) Detained as a Suspect in Child Molestation Case

Police have named the <u>Technical Director of the Toya Wening Regional Water Utility Company (PDAM Solo)</u>, identified by the initials TAS, as a suspect in a case of child molestation involving a minor. The suspect has been in custody since last week.

# 3. (20/7) Shock Over the Actions of <u>'Habib'</u> Involved in Sexual Misconduct in West Bandung, Carrying a 'Jenglot'

Muhammad Aung Saputra (40) sentenced to prison. This unemployed man from Garut was heartless in sexually assaulting a young girl in West Bandung Regency (KBB) after posing as a shaman to deceive the victim.

The above examples illustrate that numerous news pieces pertaining to sexual violence exhibit the news value of Elitism. This statement alludes to the discussion of individuals of elevated social standing, public recognition, and occupations associated with cases of sexual violence. Using the initial news report as a case study, it becomes evident that linguistic resources are employed to establish the news value of Elitism, specifically through the inclusion of the police. The police serve as a linguistic resource within the context of their professional role in relation to reported events. In this particular scenario, the police force represents a professional occupation that bears the responsibility of upholding public safety and preserving societal order.

The linguistic resource of "PDAM Director" in the second news piece contributes to the construction of the news value of Elitism, mostly owing to their elevated social position. As per the Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), the designation 'director' encompasses two distinct meanings. Firstly, it denotes the individual occupying the highest hierarchical position within an organisation. Secondly, it signifies an individual entrusted with the responsibility of offering guidance, direction, advice, aid, enlightenment, and similar forms of support. Hence, it can be comprehended that a director is an individual occupying a profession of elevated prestige, thereby contributing to the formation of the news value of Elitism. In contrast to the initial news piece, the occupation of a director possesses the news value of Elitism due to its elevated social

standing, while the profession of the police also exhibits the news value of Elitism as it pertains to a case of sexual violence.

The linguistic resource emphasised in the recent news piece is 'Habib'. This linguistic resource might be characterised as a prestigious and renowned designation rather than a vocation. Upon conducting a more detailed analysis, it is observed that the term 'Habib' within the article is enclosed between single quote marks. The individual identified as 'Habib' in the media does not hold the authentic religious leadership role associated with the title 'Habib', but rather is an ordinary individual who has committed acts of sexual violence. The individual in question has been designated as 'Habib' due to his fraudulent assertions of possessing curative powers and engaging in mystical practices, thereby assuming the role of a conventional healer or shaman, as explained in the news report.

The utilisation of the term 'Habib' in one of the aforementioned news items can be attributed to the effect of the socio-cultural setting of Indonesia within the framework of the Elitism news value. According to Aditya (2022), the term 'Habib' is used frequently throughout Indonesian Muslim communities to refer to those who are held in high regard. The term 'Habib' is an honorific title exclusively granted to male individuals who can trace their lineage back to the Prophet Muhammad. Indonesia, being a nation mostly inhabited by adherents of Islam, the inclusion of this terminology within a news story can potentially contribute to the formation of the news value known as Elitism. This is due to the perception of the Indonesian audience, who are readers of the news portal detik.com, regarding the term as possessing elevated status.

#### **Positivity**

The Positive news value, which stands in contrast to the Negative news value, was not included in the scope of this research investigation. The concept of positive news value pertains to the favourable elements inherent in a news narrative. Linguistic resources pertaining to this news value mostly centre around positive feelings and attitudes, positive evaluative language, positive lexicon, and depictions of positive behaviour. The positive news value primarily focused on crime management, which included capturing those involved in illegal activities and the subsequent restoration of order (Feez et al., 2008; White, 1997; Makki, 2019). Additionally, it encompasses favourable evaluations of the police, the judiciary, and other governing bodies. Also, the positive news value can be enhanced by incorporating alternative positive viewpoints, which can be achieved by employing language choices such as 'forgiving' and 'forgiveness', among others.

A number of language materials included here are derived from endeavours aimed at upholding public safety and maintaining societal order, predominantly executed by the police agencies. The activities encompass the apprehension of individuals who have committed offenses, regardless of whether they are incarcerated or not. The manner in which the Indonesian police handle cases of sexual violence constitute a significant aspect of the Positive news value. The following linguistic tools provide an effective means of conveying the Positive news value in both the headlines and lead news pertaining to sexual violence:

- 1. (7/7) Shocking Sexual Harassment at Yogyakarta's Point Zero: <u>Police Take Action</u>
  Sexual Harassment Case Occurs During Art Performance at Point Zero Kilometer Area,
  Yogyakarta City: <u>Police Take Action</u>
- 2. (9/7) Suspected of Molesting 3 Children, Man in Kediri Arrested
  A man in Kediri has been detained by the police. He is suspected of committing sexual violence against three children while they were playing in front of his house.
- 4. (11/7) The Director of Solo's Water Utility Company (PDAM) Detained as a Suspect in Child Molestation Case

<u>Police</u> have named the <u>Technical Director of the Toya Wening Regional Water Utility Company (PDAM Solo),</u> identified by the initials TAS, as a suspect in a case of child molestation involving a minor. The suspect has been in custody since last week.

The high presence of the Positive news value in the news articles on sexual violence in Indonesia by detik.com in the July edition indicates that cases of sexual violence have been addressed by the police or local authorities. In this news value, the socio-cultural context of Indonesia has also influenced the choice of words used in the news. This is evident through the frequent use of linguistic resources such as the police authority, which generally directs the news

perspective towards 'recovery and stabilisation of order' or 'solved crimes' (Chibnall, 1977; Feez et al., 2008; Makki, 2019). The use of these linguistic resources also allows the audience to know that the cases of sexual violence have been handled by the authorities. In the news articles on sexual violence in Indonesia in the July edition, lexical items such as "the police have named the perpetrator as a suspect", "the police have arrested", "the police have detained", "the perpetrator has been apprehended", "the perpetrator is in prison", "the police have apprehended the perpetrator", and "the case is now being handled by the police and local Social Services" were found, with a positive evaluation of the police officers and their actions.

#### Unexpectedness

The news value of unexpectedness is predicated on events that deviate from the norm or are characterised by unpredictability. The linguistic resources associated with the news value under consideration pertain to the assessment of unforeseen events, allusions to elements of surprise, analogies that denote peculiarity, and mentions of unusual cases (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). Below are several language resources that effectively convey the news value of Unexpectedness in both headlines and lead news articles pertaining to sexual violence:

# 1. (1/7) Sensational! A Madrasah Teacher in Magelang Suspected of Sending Lewd Messages to a Student

A teacher from Madrasah Aliyah (MA) in Magelang Regency, referred to as R, is under suspicion for engaging in inappropriate communication of a sexual nature with a student. The existence of this case has been officially confirmed by Police authorities, hence generating comments on various social media sites.

2. (7/7) Shocking Sexual Harassment at Yogyakarta's Point Zero: Police Take Action Sexual Harassment Case Occurs During Art Performance at Point Zero Kilometer Area, Yogyakarta City: Police Take Action

# 3. (15/7) <u>Viral!</u> Apartment Security in West Jakarta Forcibly Kisses Female Expedition Employee

Seorang sekuriti sebuah apartemen di Cengkareng, Jakarta Barat An apartment security guard in Cengkareng, West Jakarta (Jakbar), with the initials K (48), forcibly kissed and hugged a female expedition employee in his office. This incident was recorded by CCTV cameras.

The previously mentioned headlines show an interesting connotation associated with each initial word. The utilisation of these terms is what subsequently forms the news worth of Unexpectedness. According to the Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (KBBI), the terms used in the headlines exhibit synonymous connotations, except for the term 'viral'.

The term 'heboh' denotes a state characterised by a high level of noise, disorder, and commotion. In contrast, the term 'geger' refers to a state of disorderly uproar, agitation, sensation, and tumult. In contrast to the semantic connotations of 'heboh' and 'geger', the term 'viral' first denoted a connection to viruses and characterised the extensive and quick dissemination of a phenomenon, akin to the behaviour of a virus. Nevertheless, the semantic connotation of the term "viral" has experienced a shift as a result of its pervasive utilisation inside the realm of social media. Originally, the term 'viral' denoted a highly contagious sickness, aligning with its description as stated in the KBBI (Indonesian Dictionary). As the passage of time and advancements in technology have occurred, the term 'viral' has acquired a connotation that refers to a particular moment or occurrence that is presently being discussed and has garnered widespread public interest (Aditya, 2021). Hence, it can be argued that the utilisation of these three terms has the capacity to embody the news value of Unexpectedness in the context of reporting on cases of sexual violence.

#### **Timeliness**

The news value of Timeliness is related to time references, such as events that have just happened, are currently happening, or will happen. This news value can also be used for events that occur periodically. Some linguistic resources that can construct the Timeliness news value include temporary references, current conditions, implicit time references through lexicon, reference to current trends, seasonality, time changes, and novelty (Bednarek & Caple, 2017). The analysis results reveal that the Timeliness news value is constructed by linguistic resources

that provide time references that have already passed, thus indicating events that have occurred. Here are some linguistic resources that convey the Timeliness news value in the headlines and lead news of sexual violence:

#### (1/7) Heartbreaking! Sukabumi Child Taken by Unknown Person: Phone Seized -Genitals Assaulted

A nine-year-old child from Gunungpuyuh, Sukabumi City, experienced violence when taken by an unknown person on <u>Friday (1/7/2022) afternoon</u>. The police mentioned that the elementary school student sustained injuries in the genital area.

# 2. (11/7) The Director of Solo's Water Utility Company (PDAM) Detained as a Suspect in Child Molestation Case

Police have named the Technical Director of the Toya Wening Regional Water Utility Company (PDAM Solo), identified by the initials TAS, as a suspect in a case of child molestation involving a minor. The suspect has been in custody since <u>last week</u>.

# (26/7) Elementary School Student in Denpasar Suspected of Being Sexually Assaulted by Facebook Acquaintance

A 6th-grade elementary school student (SD) with the initials NKKAP (13) is suspected of experiencing sexual violence or being sexually assaulted by an acquaintance from the social media platform Facebook (FB). The incident occurred on <u>Saturday (16/7) at around 17:31 Wita</u> in a boarding house located in the South Denpasar District, Denpasar City.

The presence of time-related phrases can be observed in the lead news, as evidenced by the three aforementioned news stories. The linguistic resources that are emphasised include the temporal expressions "Friday (1/7/2022) afternoon", "since last week", and "Saturday (16/7) at around 17:31 Wita'. Based on an examination of the publication dates of the news articles, it can be determined that the initial news report was disseminated on the day of the occurrence itself, specifically in the afternoon. The second news piece employs the linguistic device "since last week" to communicate the occurrence of the detention of the perpetrator of sexual violence, which had been in progress since the preceding week. In contrast, the temporal proximity between the publication time of the third news piece and the actual occurrence of the event is a mere 10 days. It can be inferred that the time references have the potential to contribute to the news value of Timeliness.

This finding reinforces the premise of Shoemaker (1993) that it is difficult to expect the media to be objective because the media has a construction in describing reality. Media content is influenced by many elements, including editorial politics, ideology, capital owners, press system, media routine, and social system.

#### **CONCLUSION**

The findings of the investigation indicate that within news coverage related to sexual violence, internet media continues to inflict emotional distress upon victims and overly exploit the individuals responsible for these acts. This research further substantiates the notion that online media journalism in Indonesia lacks a specific emphasis on addressing the challenges of violence faced by vulnerable populations, including women and children. In essence, the media has been unable to effectively carry out its function as the fourth estate in a society. The utilisation of DNVA in the research additionally demonstrates a pronounced inclination to explicitly identify the location of an event. This finding substantiates the hypothesis that there is a lack of initiative in safeguarding the individuals affected. In the realm of Journalism, there exists a robust set of ethical guidelines that firmly discourage the divulgence of the specific geographical details pertaining to cases of sexual violence. One potential weakness of this study is the exclusive focus on analysing headlines and leading news items. A potential avenue for future scholarly investigation involves doing a comprehensive analysis of news articles in their entirety. A single news piece has the potential to encompass a broader range of news values that can be further examined. Consequently, scholars would be afforded the opportunity to direct their attention on the substantive aspects of the news piece.

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