

## DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF VAN DIJK ON ONLINE NEWS TEXT OF REYNHARD SINAGA CASE ON CNN INDONESIA NEWS

Ni Luh Eka Candra Yulika  
Universitas Warmadewa  
[candrayulika@gmail.com](mailto:candrayulika@gmail.com)

### ABSTRACT

In early 2020, the world was shocked by the case of Reynhard Sinaga, an Indonesian citizen who had committed a crime that earned him the nickname of the biggest sex predator in British history. This study examines the critical discourse analysis proposed by Van Dijk. The data is taken from online news texts reported by CNN Indonesia with a focus on the Reynhard Sinaga case. The data is taken as many as six news stories with different headlines. The results of the study found that CNN Indonesia in reporting news is informative and factual without taking sides with any party. Five of the six news stories have the same topic. News writing tends to use a deductive pattern, namely from general to specific descriptions.

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Information and news are things that are very closely related to social life. Today a lot of news and information can be accessed anytime and

anywhere. The public can access information and news both domestically and abroad through one hand. The development of very advanced technology makes the development of the dissemination of information and news very easy to do. The public does not need to wait two to three

days to find out the latest news and news that is very viral, not only in Indonesia, but also in international news. News and information can be accessed anytime and anywhere without day and night restrictions. The public can access any news and information through information provider platforms such as social media, official websites, YouTube and so on.

In the past, to be able to read news, people needed to buy a newspaper first, but with the help of technological developments we can read news online because many news media have opened website channels that can help readers access any news anywhere and anytime. With a smartphone in the palm of our hand, we can access all the news with one click of a button. There are many types of news and information that can be accessed, starting from the latest news, current trends, lifestyle, food and beverages, even information about news and information about what is happening in foreign countries. One of the online news platforms that is close to the Indonesian people is CCN Indonesia. Not only racing on online websites to read, CNN Indonesia also has other media to convey the latest information and news to the public, namely through official YouTube and television news broadcasting. This research focuses on online news texts that can be accessed through the official CNN Indonesia website.

Cable News Network Indonesia or CNN Indonesia is a television station and news site owned by Trans Media in collaboration with Turner International. This channel was broadcast for the first time on Monday, August 17, 2015. Its main launch took place on December 15, 2015 to commemorate Trans Media's 14th anniversary. Broadcasting in Indonesian from the Trans Media studio, the CNN Indonesia channel presents local and international content, with a focus on on general news, business, sports, technology and entertainment. Meanwhile, the news site CNN Indonesia.com was launched on October 20, 2014 with Yusuf Arifin as chief editor.

Currently, CNN Indonesia is broadcasting 24 hours a day and can be watched on pay television channels Transvision, UseeTV and live streaming on CNN Indonesia.com. In addition to pay TV, you can also watch CNN Indonesia shows on Digital Antenna in Jakarta 40 and 42 UHF and in Surabaya 35 UHF, in addition, viewers who use regular or analog antennas can watch CNN Indonesia shows through Trans TV and Trans 7. CNN Indonesia and CNN International are two different and separate organizations. They are independent of each other, but can work together and help each other in big news coverage. CNN Indonesia is part of CNN International Commercial's Content Sales and Partnerships Group strategy which seeks to reach more audiences by collaborating with local media organizations. In addition to Indonesia, similar cooperation has also been established on CNN Philippines, CNN Turkey and CNN Chile.

One of the stories presented on CNN Indonesia in early 2020 was the case of one of the students from Indonesia, Reynhard Sinaga, who was sentenced to life in prison for the rape of 48 men in Manchester, England. It all started on June 2 2017, when Reynhard sexually assaulted a man in his Manchester city center apartment. This man was previously sedated by Reynhard. Reynhard is believed to have administered the suspected drug GHB (gamma hydroxybutyrate), an anesthetic that attacks the nervous system. Reynhard then started a sexual assault on the man who was in an unconscious state. But unlike other victims, this man who is a sportsman suddenly woke up when Reynhard was doing his stunts. The two got into a fight, which left Reynhard badly injured in the head. The man who had fought Reynhard called the emergency services. On this call, she said that Reynhard tried to rape her. He also explained that he had to hit Reynhard several times to prevent Reynhard from doing what he did. Shortly thereafter, the medical team arrived at Reynhard's apartment and Reynhard was taken to the hospital, while the man was detained by the police, on suspicion of physical assault. When he was about to be handcuffed, this man handed over Reynhard's cell phone, which he had previously taken out of confusion. The police cannot directly access the

contents of the mobile phone. Several times, Reynhard gave the wrong code. But the police did not give up and finally Reynhard gave the correct code. When the police checked Reynhard's cell phone, they found video footage showing Reynhard raping the victims. It was from this incident that Reynhard's crimes were uncovered. The police then officially detained Reynhard on charges of rape and sexual assault. The police built the case based on data from two mobile phones, a laptop and a hard disk found in Reynhard's apartment. Police also found the victim's belongings in Reynhard's apartment, such as a wallet, watch, cell phone, student card, and a driver's license. From mobile phone data, laptops, and hard disks, it is known that Reynhard raped and sexually assaulted men who were unconscious, 70 of whom so far have not been identified. Due to the large number of victims and the evidence obtained, the trial was divided into four, and Reynhard had his first trial in May 2018. The police said that if there was no video evidence, it could be that Reynhard's crimes were never revealed.

## II. METHOD

In this study, the type of data used by the author uses primary data and secondary data. The primary data type is obtained directly by the author through an online news portal that can be accessed online on the CNN Indonesia online news portal and the data used as data focuses on reporting on Reynhard Sinaga. The type of secondary data which is additional data included by the author in this study sourced from books, articles, journals and other supporting data for analysis in deepening and enriching research on critical discourse analysis using Van Dijk's theory in analyzing the data that has been obtained. The population is a generalization area or the whole of something that is being studied its characteristics. The sample is part of the population. So the sample is part of the overall object to be studied or evaluated that has certain characteristics of a population. The method of determining the sample is called the sampling technique or sampling technique. In this study, the author focuses on unit

Through this information presented by CNN Indonesia, the public knows about foreign news which turns out to be reporting about an Indonesian citizen. Apart from being a forum for providing information, indirectly the way of delivering news through this online news portal site can lead the public to have free opinions regarding the Reynhard Sinaga case. The discourse presented by CNN Indonesia can indirectly influence public opinion regarding the Reynhard Sinaga case because the way news is delivered can implicitly assume other things.

Through this explanation, the author makes a research analysis on critical discourse analysis using Van Dijk's theory in analyzing the data. The data will focus on the news presented by CNN Indonesia, namely the case of an Indonesian citizen named Reynhard Sinaga who was sentenced to life imprisonment for the rape of 48 men in Manchester, England. The purpose of this study is to reveal the use of discourse in news about Reynhard Sinagara sourced on the CNN Indonesia news portal site.

sample research taken on CNN Indonesia online news with six different news headlines reporting the case of Reynhard Sinaga on January 7 to February 4, 2020. In this study, data collection focuses on collecting documentation on online news texts. Regarding the case of one of the students from Indonesia, namely Reynhard Sinaga who stumbled upon a case in England, the news comes from the online news source CNN Indonesia with six news headlines with news time intervals, namely January 7 to February 04 2020. This study discusses the study of critical discourse analysis according to Teun. A. Van Dijk. This research is also assisted by a technique that uses the M.A.K Halliday analysis technique as an analytical tool in enriching the results of this study. Halliday developed a framework that makes it possible to dissect the interaction between text and situation (context) based on three concepts, namely the field of discourse that refers to social actions that are happening or being discussed, activities, in which the actors are involved in them, and the practices

that occur. seen in context. The second is that the Discourse Engagers identify the parties to the discussion, as well as their positions and relationships. And the last is the mode of discourse which refers to the language choice of each medium including whether the language style used is explanatory, descriptive, persuasive, hyperbole and others, and how it affects it.

In Halliday's view, the text is interpreted dynamically. Text is a language that is carrying out certain tasks in the context of a situation (Halliday & Hasan, 1992:13). Texts are examples of linguistic interactions where people actually use language; anything said or written; in an operational context as distinguished from a citation context, such as words listed in a dictionary (Halliday, 1978:109). Texts are related to what people actually do, mean and say in real situations.

Situation is the environment in which the text operates. The context of the situation is the whole environment, both the speech environment (verbal) and the environment in which the text is produced (spoken or written). To understand the text as well as possible, it is necessary to understand the context of the situation and its cultural context. In Halliday's view (1978: 110), the context of the situation consists of three elements, namely (i) the field of discourse, (ii) the involvement of the discourse, and (iii) the mode of discourse.

### III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In this study, the analyzed data focuses on news regarding the case of Reynhard Sinaga, an Indonesian student who stumbled upon a harassment case in England that was reported by CNN Indonesia through its online news portal. Researchers found 6 news stories with different news headlines that support research on critical discourse analysis focusing on the theory proposed by Van Dijk. The six news stories were published on January 7, 2020 to February 4, 2020. The news headlines and the date they were published on CNN Indonesia's online news portal are

1. Data 1: Kronologi Aksi Predator Seks

Reynhard Sinaga Terungkap (CNN Indonesia Selasa, 07/01/2020 11:24 WIB)

2. Data 2: Kasus Reynhard Sinaga dan Aturan Meliput Pengadilan Inggris (CNN Indonesia | Selasa, 07/01/2020 19:30 WIB)

3. Data 3: KBRI Klaim Dampingi WNI Terlibat Pemerkosaan di Inggris (CNN Indonesia | Selasa, 07/01/2020 05:48 WIB)

4. Data 4: Jaksa Inggris Minta Vonis Reynhard Sinaga Diperberat (CNN Indonesia | Kamis, 16/01/2020 18:37 WIB)

5. Data 5: Renhard Sinaga Dikirim ke Penjara Paling Keras di Inggris (CNN Indonesia | Senin, 20/04/2020 13:33 WIB)

6. Data 6: Universitas di Inggris Cabut 2 Gelar Magister Reynhard Sinaga (CNN Indonesia | Selasa, 04/02/2020 15:25 WIB)

From the six news obtained by the researchers in making this research, it can then be analyzed using the theory of critical discourse analysis by Van Dijk. Here are the results of the analysis:

#### 3.1 Macro Structure

The micro structure includes thematics, namely the themes/topics that are put forward in a news story. After careful analysis of the data, it was found that five of the six news stories about Reynhard Sinaga which were reported online by CNN Indonesia had the same topic, namely Reynhard Sinaga was found guilty of what he had done and was sentenced to life in prison on charges of raping and sexually assaulting dozens of people. men in England. The evidence from the analysis is *“Reynhard Sinaga (36) divonis hukuman penjara seumur hidup karena memperkosa puluhan pria di Inggris.”* A different topic is found in the fifth data with the headline 'Reynhard Sinaga Sent to the Hardest Jail in England' because the topic that was put forward was the transfer of Reynhard Sinaga from Strangeways Penitentiary to Wakefield Prison in West Yorkshire. Wakefield Prison is dubbed the “Monster Castle” because most of the inmates held there are violent and dangerous criminals. Evidence can be seen from the following news quotes *“Aparat keamanan Inggris memutuskan memindahkan narapidana kasus pemerkosaan asal Indonesia, Reynhard Sinaga (36), ke penjara*

yang khusus menampung para penjahat kelas kakap dan berbahaya.” The fifth data has a different topic, but if we look further, the topic was raised because the residents and victims asked that Reynhard Sinaga be punished as severely as possible so that the life sentence was not severe enough, so they asked Reynhard to be punished as severely as possible, therefore a new topic emerged, namely transferring Reynhard Sinaga to Wakefield Prison where dangerous criminals are held.

### 3.2 Superstructure

The superstructure contains a schematic, namely how the parts and sequences of the news are schematized in the whole news text. In this study, after careful scrutiny of the schematic pattern used by CNN Indonesia in reporting the Reynhard Sinaga case, it uses a deductive pattern, namely general to specific. It can be seen that in the six data, it starts with a general pattern regarding the Reynhard Sinaga case which will then refer to a specific pattern according to the headlines of the six news stories. The general pattern found in the online news of the Reynhard Sinaga case is that it starts with Who Reynhard Sinaga is, then the verdict that Reynhard Sinaga got and what crime was committed to get the sentence. As an example in the second data with the headline 'The Reynhard Sinaga Case and Rules for Covering British Courts', we can see that the pattern used is general to specific. Evidence can be seen in the following quote “*Pengadilan Manchester, Inggris, menjatuhkan vonis penjara seumur hidup kepada seorang warga Indonesia, Reynhard Sinaga, usai terbukti bersalah memperkosa 48 lelaki dalam kurun waktu 2,5 tahun.*” Then the news refers to a special pattern according to the headline listed on the online news. Evidence can be seen in the following quote “*Seperti dilansir Manchester Evening News, Selasa (7/1), saat perkara Reynhard mulai disidangkan, pengadilan setempat sudah menerbitkan peringatan melarang jurnalis meliput persidangan Reynhard.*” The use of deductive patterns in news can help readers understand a story because it starts with general

information about the news then news ideas will be developed further.

### 3.3 Micro Structure 1

Microstructure 1 contains semantics, which is the meaning that you want to emphasize in the online news text. In this study, it can be seen that the semantic meaning that we want to emphasize in the six online news about Reynhard Sinaga reported by CNN Indonesia is that Reynhard Sinaga deserves punishment for the crime he committed. In the news we can see that Reynhard Sinaga even earned the nickname “the biggest sex predator in British history.” It can be seen in the following quotation evidence “*Hakim Pengadilan Manchester, Suzanne Goddard menggambarkan Reynhard sebagai sosok predator seks terbesar dalam sejarah Inggris.*” Through this article, we can see that CNN Indonesia added this information to the news to emphasize that the sexual crime case committed by Reynhard Sinaga was completely unjustified. CNN Indonesia is open by adding a denial made by Reynhard Sinaga. Can be seen from the proof of the quote “*Selama sidang, Reynhard sendiri berkeras hubungan seksual tersebut dilakukan atas dasar suka sama suka. Ia mengklaim para korban menikmati fantasi seksual yang dilakukan di tempat tinggalnya. Berbeda dengan ucapan Rey, para korban mengaku menjadi korban perkosaan setelah dibawa ke apartemen dan meminum minuman alkohol yang telah diberi obat bius.*” From this quote, we can see that even though Reynhard Sinaga was proven guilty, CNN Indonesia was open by adding a disclaimer given by Reynhard Sinaga so that the news did not appear to favor any party and provided informative and factual information.

### 3.4 Micro Structure 2

In microstructure 2 the syntax contains how sentences are formed and selected. In this study, after careful review, it can be seen that the six news stories are presented with third person pronouns because the nature of the news is to convey information or news about something. We can see the evidence in the following quote “*Hakim Pengadilan Manchester, Suzanne Goddard*

menggambarkan Reynhard sebagai sosok predator seks terbesar dalam sejarah Inggris. Dikutip dari *Manchester Evening News*, Selasa (7/1), Reynhard pertama kali diadili pada Mei 2018, kurang dari setahun setelah ia ditetapkan menjadi tersangka.” Sentences are also formed and tend to be formal considering the nature of the news tends to be formal.

### 3.5 Micro Structure 3

Microstructure 3 contains stylistics, namely how the choice of words is used in online news texts. In the online news text made by CNN Indonesia in reporting the case of Reynhard Sinaga, the target readership is set at teenagers to adults from various circles considering Reynhard Sinaga's status is a student and an Indonesian citizen who is continuing his education in England. Reynhard Sinaga's background is a benchmark that the case is suitable for reporting at the age of young readers to adults. As in the analysis of microstructure 2 regarding syntax, it can be seen that the language used tends to be formal but considering the target readers are still teenagers, namely students, the choice of words used is easy to understand. Evidence can be seen from the following quote “*Korban diinterogasi oleh polisi dan ditangkap karena dicurigai melakukan penyerangan. Ketika perkelahian terjadi, korban sempat mengambil ponsel Rey. Dari situlah kemudian tabir itu terkuak.*” In the quote, we can see the words interrogation and veil, these words are usually understood by teenagers and the choice of words is formal but still understandable.

### 3.6 Micro Structure 4

Microstructure 4 contains rhetoric, namely how and in what way the emphasis is placed on the presentation of news. In the six news stories about Reynhard Sinaga quoted from CNN Indonesia, five of the six news stories used as data in this study used Reynhard Sinaga's photo as a supporting picture. Only the third data uses an illustration of a victim who is depressed due to Reynhard Sinaga's criminal behavior towards the victim. The choice of the photo was used because of the news that an Indonesian citizen was

threatened with life imprisonment for a crime he had committed. The selection of photos is based on so that readers know who Reynhard Sinaga is. The addition of illustrations of victims who become depressed helps in developing the opinion that what Reynhard Sinaga did is a crime and is very disgraceful and has an impact on the victim's mentality to become depressed.

## IV. CONCLUSION

The results of data analysis regarding the Reynhard Sinaga case reported by CNN Indonesia using critical discourse analysis by Van Dijk presents the results of an in-depth analysis. The results of the analysis reveal that the themes used in presenting the news tend to be the same, namely about Reynhard Sinaga being sentenced to life in prison for the crime of sexual violence. The pattern used in the online news text is a deductive pattern, namely general to specific which starts from general information about who Reynhard is and the verdict he got and the crimes he committed to get a life sentence. In the six CNN Indonesia news stories that are used as data, the language used tends to be formal but still understandable and the target readers of this news are teenagers to adults because of Reynhard Sinaga's background. In presenting the news, CNN Indonesia tries not to take sides with any side and remains in the position that the news must be informative and factual. Providing information in the form of photos containing more photos of Reynhard Sinaga as a medicine to answer public questions about who Reynhard Sinaga is, is very helpful for readers regarding this information.

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