

APPLICATION OF THE JOURNALISTIC CODE OF ETHICS ON THE PROTECTION OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE NEWS SOURCE AT “LIPUTAN6.COM”

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Abstract

This article is a research article related to the application of a journalistic code of ethics to sexual violence news sources at "Liputan6.com." The purpose of this study was to determine the quality of reporting on Liputan6.com and to determine the application of the Journalism Professional Code of Ethics on the online media news portal Liputan6.com. The method used in this study is a qualitative method, where this method emphasizes the application of writing online news on the Liputan6.com port. This study concludes that Liputan6.com has implemented a code of ethics for the journalistic profession and has displayed news of sexual violence correctly by the press council's professional code of ethics.

Keywords: *Journalistik, Code Ethics, News, Liputan6.com*

Abstrak

Artikel ini merupakan artikel penelitian terkait penerapan kode etik jurnalistik pada narasumber berita kekerasan seksual di "Liputan6.com." Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui kualitas pemberitaan di Liputan6.com, dan untuk mengetahui penerapan Kode Etik Profesi Jurnalisik pada portal berita media online Liputan6.com. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif, dimana metode ini lebih menekankan pada penerapan dalam menulis berita online pada porta Liputan6.com. Adapun kesimpulan dari penelitian ini adalah Liputan6.com sudah menerapkan kode etik profesi jurnalistik serta sudah menampilkan berita – berita kekerasan seksual dengan benar sesuai dengan kode etik profesi dewan pers.

Kata Kunci: *Jurnalistik, Kode etik, Berita, Liputan6.com*

INTRODUCTION

Previous research related to the title application of the journalistic code of ethics on the protection of sexual violence news sources at 'Liputan6 .com'. First, according to Fitriyani and Junaidi (2020), the results of the study stated that Liputan6.com had implemented the Journalistic Code of Ethics, although there was still some news that did not meet the element of balance. Second, according to Aji (2020) from the news content studied, it was found that there was a violation of the right to privacy and the principle of the presumption of innocence by reporting without censoring the identity of the suspect where the suspect's face was displayed. Third, according to Yanti (2020), the results of the study showed that there was a violation of the code of ethics article 5 "in the news on Tribunnews.com.

Furthermore, research - research that is also related to the topic. Fourth, according to Pahlevi (2021) the results of the research that the news portal Liputan6.com has strongly implemented the journalistic code of ethics articles 1, 3, and 4. Fifth, according to Nuzuli, et al (2021) the results of the study indicate that East Java .tribunnews.com violates the ethics of journalism, especially in terms of loading the identity of women involved in sexual crime cases. Sixth, according to Winora, Hidayat, and Besman (2021), the results of the study show that Infobekasi. co has made efforts to implement a journalistic code of ethics to maintain the reputation of the media, although there are still some that are not by the journalistic code of ethics.

Furthermore. Seventh, according to Andung, Qorib, and Ghofur (2021) the study shows that the application of the journalistic code of ethics in Post Kupang.com and Timor Ekspres.com media still contains violations in article 4, article 5, and article 8 regarding articles related to sexual harassment. Eighth, according to Haryani (2021) the results of the study show that the West Java Tribune has implemented a journalistic code of ethics by 84% and committed violations by 13% which is not in line with the code of ethics in the article 3.

Furthermore. Ninth, according to Iskandar (2022) the results of the study were fact checks to commodify content to produce the facts by clarifying content. The commodification of fact-check audiences on Liputan6.com relates to the ratings received from media content. Tenth, according to Astuti (2022) the results of the study show that Detik.com still has not implemented articles of the journalistic code of ethics.

So, this research is different from the news exposure above. First, this study emphasizes more on how to deliver sexual violence news contained in the online news portal Liputan6.com. Second, this difference uses a qualitative approach, researchers make observations on the news website Liputan6.com.

The reasons for choosing the subject Protection of Sexual Violence News Sources are as follows. First, the protection of sources of sexual violence is included in the article of the Journalistic Code of Ethics regulations of the Press Council. Second, because there are still sources of sexual violence that are not properly protected by journalists, so the masses will judge themselves. Fourth, there are still many employees who reveal the identity of the perpetrators of crimes and photographs of victims of crime, especially on television news.

The reasons for choosing Liputan6.com are as follows. First, Liputan6 is a news portal that is registered and verified by the Indonesian Press Council. Second, Liputan6 is included in the ranks of the 5 biggest portals. Third, because it has many news channels. Fourth, the coverage site6 is one of the online news sites that is very fast in updating the latest news. The International International Fact-

Checking Network (IFCN). IFCN verification is only given to media organizations that regularly publish non-partisan news reports involving public figures, major institutions, and the accuracy of statements disseminated in the community. Verification is carried out through a long process, including through external parties. Fifth, Liputan6.com has many readers, so its influence in society is also getting bigger.

The basic theories that support this research are the theory of sexual violence, the theory of the journalistic code of ethics, and the theory of the protection of sources. Theories regarding sexual violence are as follows. First, according to Winarsunu (2008), sexual harassment is in all kinds of forms with sexual connotations that are carried out unilaterally and are not desired by the victim. Second, according to Collier (1998), sexual harassment is any behavior of a sexual nature that can occur by all women and unwanted events. Third, according to Rubenstein (in Collier, 1998), sexual harassment is sexual behavior that can offend the recipient.

The theory of the journalistic code of ethics is as follows. First, according to Wibowo (2008), journalism ethics regulates the reporting and publishing process, starting from idea discovery, information gathering, writing, and editing to publishing journalistic works. Second, according to Barus (2010), the code of ethics is a moral and work ethic guide set by professional organizations to prevent professional organization member from carrying out practices that are detrimental to the profession and society. Third, Santana in the book *Contemporary Journalism* (2017), defines a journalistic code of ethics as a set of moral principles that reflect the rules that all journalists must obey.

The theory regarding the protection of sources is as follows. First, according to Belsey and Chadwick (1992), the availability of an anonymous status option is accompanied by the right to refuse journalists revealing the source's identity to the public and the law. Second, according to Harsono (2010), the identity of the informant will be kept secret by the press until the informant opens it himself or there is an intentional dissemination of wrong information by the informant. Third, according to Septiawan (2018) in the context of news sources, anonymity occurs because the informant does not refer to himself as a certain person.

This study also uses the basic theory from the book *Indonesian Journalism Writing News and Features* (2014) AS Haris Sumadiria said "The Press Council for the 2000-2003 term has set a code of practice for press media. The press media's code of practice regulates accuracy, privacy, pornography, discrimination, unjustified methods, confidential sources, coverage of crimes, and the right to answer and rebuttal. The following is a description of the scope of the Professional Code of Ethics.

a. Accuracy. According to Budiwanto (2012: 43) "accuracy or accuracy is the ability of a person to direct a movement to a target by the goal or make a move without making a mistake." In disseminating information, the press is obliged to place the public interest above the interests of

individuals or groups. The press does not publish information that is less accurate, misleading, or distorted; This provision also applies to photos and images. If it is found that the information published or broadcast is found to be inaccurate, misleading, or distorted, then correction must be made immediately if necessary accompanied by a policy. The press is obliged to distinguish between comments, allegations, and facts. The press broadcasts in a balanced and accurate manner all matters concerning disputes involving two parties. The press is critical of news sources and studies the facts carefully.

b. Privacy. According to Dibyo Hartono (1986), privacy is a level of interaction or openness to other people desired by someone in certain situations or conditions. Everyone has the right to respect their privacy as well as their family, household, health, and confidentiality of their letters. The press must be careful and refrain from publishing or broadcasting information that can be categorized as violating privacy unless it is in the public interest. Editors must ensure that their journalists comply with all these provisions and do not publish material from sources that do not meet these requirements.

c. Pornography. According to Wirjono Prodjodikoro (2010:71), pornography is a word in the form of porn which means violating decency or obscene, and graph means that writing also includes images. So pornographic writing or pictures depicting something that can offend the moral sense of people who see or read it. The press does not broadcast information and visual products that are known to insult or harass women.

d. Discrimination. According to Brigham (1991), discrimination is treated differently because of membership in a certain ethnic group. The press avoids prejudice or demeaning attitudes based on race, color, religion, gender, or sexual inclination, and against physical and mental weaknesses or persons with disabilities. The press avoids writing in detail about a person's race, color, religion, sexual tendencies, physical and mental disabilities, or persons with disabilities unless it is directly related to the news.

e. Crime Coverage. The theory of crime according to Abdulsyani (1987) is an act that can cause problems and unrest in life in society. While the theory of coverage or news according to Dean M. Lyle Spencer from the University of Washington (1917) says the news is an event, idea, or opinion which at the time is important or affects many people in society. So crime coverage is reporting actions that can cause problems - problems of public unrest. The press avoids identifying family or friends accused or suspected of committing crimes without their permission. Special consideration should be given to cases of children who are witnesses or victims of crimes. The press may not identify children under the age of 16 who are involved in sexual assault cases, either as victims or witnesses.

f. Confidential Sources The Press has a moral obligation to protect sources of confidential or confidential information.

g. Right of Reply and Denial. The right to reply to inaccurate news must be respected. Errors and inaccuracies must be corrected immediately. Corrections and objections must be issued immediately (Sumadiria, 2014: 242-245).

From the above theory, the researcher concludes that a journalist must have such a scope, and the researcher takes one of the scopes according to Haris Sumadiria, namely, crime coverage as a research instrument in the observation of the online media portal liputan6.com.

1. Has Liputan6.com implemented the scope of the journalistic professional code of ethics?
2. Has Liputan6.com delivered news of sexual violence according to the scope of the journalistic professional code of ethics?

In line with the formulation of the problem, the research objectives of this study are as follows:

1. To determine the quality of reporting on Liputan6.com
2. To determine the application of the Journalism Professional Code of Ethics on the online media news portal Liputan6.com.

METODE

The research method used by the researcher is a qualitative approach. For data collection, researchers used observation. Researchers made observations on the online media news portal Liputan6.com by taking 12 articles in a year. Article retrieval starts from November 2021 to October 2022. Observations are made on one article per month. The articles used for observation are articles about sexual violence. Then, the researcher observed the articles according to the selected basic theory, namely "Criminal Coverage". The researcher took the article by screenshotting the article page, then placing it on the observation table. Observations were made at their respective homes on October 4, 2022 - October 11, 2022.

According to Bogdan and Taylor quoted by Lexy.J. Moleong, a qualitative approach is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words. Qualitative methods emphasize phenomena that occur with words or sentences that can give or have a strong influence. Therefore, Basri (2014) concludes that the focus of qualitative research is on the process and the meaning of the results. The attention of qualitative research is more focused on human elements,

objects, and institutions, as well as the relationship or interaction between these elements, to understand an event, behavior, or phenomenon (Mohamed, Abdul Majid & Ahmad, 2010). The reason why researchers choose qualitative methods, according to Soffaer (1999) qualitative research not only fulfills the researcher's desire to get an overview/explanation but also helps to get a deeper explanation. Researchers also want to know and prove in the form of a description.

To collect data on the topic to be studied, Gill et. al. (2008) suggested that there are several types of data collection methods in qualitative research, namely observation, visual analysis, literature study, and interviews (individual or group). Researchers use one method according to Gill et. al. Observation that is, observation. According to Nawawi and Martini, observation is an activity of observing, which is followed by sequential recording. It consists of several elements that appear in the phenomenon in the object under study. The results of the process are reported in a systematic report and in accordance with applicable rules. Prof. Heru also conveyed that observation is an observation that is a case study or learning that is carried out intentionally, directed, sequentially, and in accordance with its objectives.

The recording of the observation activity is referred to as the result of the observation. The results of these observations are described in detail, precise, accurate, thorough, objective, and useful. The type of observation used by the researcher is systematic observation. According to Riyanto (2010: 98-100) Systematic observation is when the observer uses guidelines as an instrument of observation.

RESULT

The results of the study through the collection of observational data are as follows. Researchers observed the content of sexual violence news published by Liputan6.com. Observations were made to see how sexual violence news was presented, in the period November 2021 to October 2022. Because the number of news published by Liputan6.com was different every day, observations were made on one news per month.

The researcher observed 12 articles, the first article entitled "Tatkala Kekerasan Seksual Anak Marak di 'Kota Layak Anak' Padang" which was published on November 21, 2020. In this article, the scope of the Professional Code of Ethics "Criminal Coverage" is interpreted from "Criminal Coverage" must not identify children under the age of 16 who are involved in sexual assault cases, either as victims or witnesses and avoid identifying family or friends who are accused or suspected of committing crimes without their consent. The author did not identify the name of the child of the victim of sexual violence. The author also did not mention the names of the perpetrators of sexual violence. The second article, "Komnas Perempuan: Kasus Novia Widyasari Alarm Keras Kekerasan Seksual" was published on December 8, 2021. In that article the author violated one of the scopes of the professional code of ethics, namely "Criminal Coverage" and "Secret Source" The author mentions the full name of the victim sexual violence, it can even be seen from the title of the article, the author also mentions the full name of the perpetrator of sexual violence. The author also displays photos of perpetrators of sexual violence. Furthermore, the third article, "Unesa Usut Dugaan Dosen Lakukan Kekerasan Seksual Saat Bimbingan Skripsi" was published on January 10, 2022. In that article the author has applied the professional code of ethics "Criminal Coverage" by only providing the initials of the lecturer who is the perpetrator of sexual violence, the author also does not mention the identity 'Awalnya, dosen berinisial H menjadi dosen pemimbing skripsi (DPS) bagi korban A pada awal 2020.' In the article there is also no identity of the perpetrator-victim in the form of photos. The fourth article, "Komnas PA Sebut Ada Kejanggalan Kasus Kekerasan Seksual Terhadap Anak di Malang" was published on February 16, 2022. The author has kept the names of the perpetrators and victims a secret, in that article there are also no photos of the victims or perpetrators.

Furthermore, the fifth article, published on March 18, 2022, entitled “Pelecehan Seksual kepada Balita di Sulsel Bikin Geram Waketum PPLIPI” in the article the author only includes the initials of the perpetrators, victims who are underage also only include their initials. “pelecehan seksual yang dilakukan seorang kakek berinisial HA terhadap cucunya sendiri yang masih berusia 15 bulan di Kabupaten Jenepono, Sulawesi Selatan, memantik kecaman dari berbagai pihak.’ ‘Lebih lanjut dia menyatakan bahwa PPLIPI sangat prihatin dengan adanya kasus pencabulan terhadap bayi AI dan berharap pelaku di hukum seberat-beratnya agar menjadi efek jera.’ The sixth article, “Guru Ngaji di Bandung Lakukan Kekerasan Seksual Sesama Jenis Terhadap 12 Siswa SD” published on April 19, 2020. In this article the author only mentions that the perpetrator of sexual violence with the initials seorang guru ngaji berinisial S di Bandung ditangkap karena melakukan kekerasan seksual terhadap muridnya ' The author also did not identify the names of the victims who were minors in the article.

Next, the seventh article, “Anak Korban Penculikan di Jakarta Selatan Sempat Dapat Pelecehan Seksual dari Pelaku” was published on May 13, 2022. The author disguises the perpetrators of sexual abuse by only giving initials. ‘Pria berinisial ARA (28) ditangkap tim gabungan Polres Metro Jaksel dan Polres Bogor karena melakukan penculikan anak di Jakarta Selatan. Anak korban penculikan itu juga sempat menjadi korban pelecehan seksual yang dilakukan ARA..’ The author also did not identify the name of the child of the sexual abuse victim. ‘Sebelumnya, dua anak diduga menjadi korban penculikan di kawasan Jakarta Selatan. Namun, salah seorang korban inisial F ditinggal di sekitaran Rumah Sakit Fatmawati, Cilandak, Jakarta Selatan ' The eighth article entitled “Polisi Pastikan Usut Dugaan Pemerkosaan di Jakbar yang Libatkan WN Tiongkok”, which was published on June 22, 2022. The author has kept the names of the perpetrators and victims of the rape a secret. It's just that in this article there is an inconsistency regarding the initials of the victim given which makes the reader confused, in the first sentence of the article it says ‘Korban berinisial LK (30) telah melaporkan kasus pemerkosaan ini ke Polda Metro Jaya pada 2 April 2022.’ But nearing the last sentence, LK's initials changed to ‘Sebelumnya, KL menceritakan awal pertemuannya dengan WN Tiongkok inisial K sampai terjadinya pemerkosaan.’

The next article will be published on July 21, 2022 entitled “Tegas! Wali Kota Kediri Pecat Oknum Guru SD Pelaku Seksual Anak " In this article, the author has kept the perpetrators of child sexual abuse a secret. ‘Sebelumnya, seorang oknum guru SD berinisial IM (57) di Kota Kediri melakukan pelecehan seksual terhadap 8 siswinya yang duduk di kelas VI.’ No victim was mentioned, either his initials or his full name. The tenth article “Kemensos Bantu Anak Korban Kekerasan Seksual di Tenggarong” which was published on August 1, 2022. In this article, the author only displays the initials of victims of sexual violence, as well as blurring the faces of child victims in the photo. The perpetrator in the article also shows only his initials, ‘AD menjadi korban kekerasan seksual oleh pamannya sendiri B’

The next article entitled "Viral, Hotman Paris Minta Polri Usut Dugaan Kasus Kekerasan Seksual Anak oleh Polisi di Cirebon" was published on September 20, 2022. In that article the author did not identify the victim, nor did the author show the initials of the victim or perpetrator. But the author only uses the word 'victim'. The last article "Musisi Rex Orange Country Dituding Lakukan Pelecehan Seksual 6 Kali" which was published on October 11, 2022. This article still contains only allegations, therefore the identity of the perpetrator in this accusation is still being disclosed.

Based on the research observations above, the researcher can conclude that Liputan6.com has implemented the scope of the professional code in "Criminal Coverage" it can be seen in the delivery of news about sexual violence, where the author does not reveal the identity of the victims or perpetrators of sexual violence. However, from the 12 articles observed, the researcher found that there was 1 news article that did not apply the professional code of ethics in the December 2021 period, it can be seen from the author who presents photos of perpetrators of sexual violence and does not keep the identity of the victim or perpetrator a secret. In fact, it is strictly prohibited to present criminal news, especially sexual violence. The violation also violates one of the scopes of other professional code of ethics, namely, "Secret Source" which is interpreted that the press has a moral obligation to protect confidential or confidential information sources.

The researcher also found that there was an inconsistency in the delivery of the victim's initials in the period of June 2022, the author conveyed 2 different initials even though there was only 1 victim in the incident. At first the author said 'Korban berinisial LK (30) telah melaporkan kasus pemerkosaan ini ke Polda Metro Jaya pada 2 April 2022.' But nearing the last sentence, LK's initials changed to 'Sebelumnya, KL menceritakan awal pertemuannya dengan WN Tiongkok inisial K sampai terjadinya pemerkosaan.'

However, from the above observations, it can be compared with the theory of "Criminal Coverage" according to the 2002-2003 Press Service Council, that it turns out that the results of this study support the theory. It can be proven that the researcher did not find more than 1 error or violation of the scope of the professional code of ethics in news articles published by Liputan6.com.

Therefore, the online news portal Liputan6.com has succeeded in implementing the scope of the Professional Press Council's 2002-2003 code of ethics. It can also be interpreted that Liputan6.com already understands how to write the correct way of conveying sexual violence news. The online news portal Liputan6.com has also succeeded in producing quality news by minimizing errors

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of observational studies that have been carried out by researchers, the conclusions obtained are that Liputan6.com has implemented the scope of the journalistic professional code of

ethics. Liputan6.com has also delivered news on sexual violence in accordance with the scope of the journalistic code of ethics, in particular “Criminal Coverage” which explains that the names of perpetrators and victims of violence should not be included in the article. In the articles that have been observed these errors can hardly be found.

In addition, the articles uploaded on the online news portal Liputan6.com have followed the theory of the press council for the 2000-2003 tenure which is in accordance with Haris Sumadiria's book *Indonesian Journalism Writing News and Features* (2014). These things concern the obligations of journalism, namely, avoiding the identification of family or friends who are accused or suspected of committing crimes without their permission, special considerations must be paid to the case of children who are witnesses or victims of crimes, must not identify children under the age of 16 years involved in sexual assault cases, both as victims and witnesses. If readers know the name of the perpetrator in a crime, especially sexual violence, they will judge the perpetrator in an inhumane way and the law cannot work.

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