CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a wide-ranging description of the study. It consists of the background, formulation of the problem, operational definitions, aim of the study, and significance of the study.

1.1 Background

Online newspaper articles are the highest part of digital media that is consumed by the public. Along with the rapid development of technology, there is a shift from conventional media to digital media, such as the transition from the printed version of news magazines, to online news articles, websites, social media, e-mail, e-books, blogs, and mobile apps, which are relatively new. According to Tewari in Nurjannah (2018), the reader can easily access updated news in this digital and technological era. Besides that, the internet offers many available information sources and channels and more significant opportunities for interaction and co-creation between the news consumers (Vermeer et al., 2020). Undoubtedly, technology has given researchers more opportunities for researchers to access various content, including news (Blatchford, 2020).

As the case of sexual violence in higher education in Indonesia keeps rising, it has become a massive report in online newspaper articles. Many victims have bravely started to speak out since the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology Regulation (Permendikbudristek) number 30 of 2021 regarding the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence (PPKS) in higher education was announced (CNN Indonesia, 2021). Due to the phenomena, some study in any kind of digital media has grown significantly in investigating sexual violence. Research in social media platforms like Tumblr and Twitter was examined by Mendes et al. (2019) that showed those platforms facilitate the emergence of "digitized narratives" of sexual violence To determine people's awareness of sexual violence in the media, the factors

influencing it, and how such awareness influences people's actions, Frentzen et al. (2022) carried out more studies from a psychological perspective. There is also research about sexual violence in a frame of journalistic conducted by Arzil & Fakhirah (2022), which explained the implementation of the Journalistic Code of Ethics in the news of sexual violence in the online media Tribunnews.com.

However, there is still a lack of investigation into sexual violence from an educational perspective. In this context, only little attention has been paid to investigating how sexual violence is discursively represented in Indonesian online newspaper articles. Sexual violence is a complex issue that is intertwined with ideology and power. Language shapes our perceptions of the world, thoughts, and social interactions (Montgomery, 2008), as linguistic choices are ideologically motivated and highly constructive (Fowler, 2013).

There is many previous research in online newspaper articles focused on sexual violence. Sacks et al. (2018) examined the presence of rape myths in local newspaper reporting of sexual assault in the United States using a content analysis approach to analyze the framing of sexual violence in local newspaper articles. The study found that local newspapers often contain rape myths in their reporting of sexual assault, which can potentially distort people's conceptions about crime. The study highlights the importance of unbiased and truthful reporting of sexual violence incidents and the need for further research on the influence of crime-related media discourses. Arzil & Fakhirah (2022) examined the implementation of the Journalistic Code of Ethics in Tribunnews.com, an online media outlet, regarding sexual violence against children. The study used a qualitative descriptive method and data analysis, focusing on Articles 3, 4, and 5. Results showed that Article 3 was not fully implemented, particularly in news and opinion writing. Article 4 was fully implemented, but Article 5 was not fully implemented due to the inclusion of victim's family and residence. Another research by Noetzel et al. (2022) looked at how reporters reported on sexual assault in the media and if there was a shift in these practices following the #metoo movement. The study examined news

stories from four US newspapers that were published between a year before and a year after the #metoo tweet. The results showed that after the #metoo movement, press coverage of sexual assault changed from simple single-incident stories to more comprehensive conversations. It also became more prevalent to frame sexual violence as a social and cultural issue.

Apart from previous research, there have also been relevant studies related to sexual violence using critical discourse analysis. Evayani & Rido (2019) revealed how social actors are represented in news reporting by using van Leuween's social actor theory. Another research had been conducted by Pekkarinen et al. (2016) showed how some news reports in the US represented the victims and perpetrators of sexual violence by using Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model. The research showed that the online newspaper articles represented any perspectives toward sexual violence. Research by Risdaneva (2018) examines and contrasts how women are portrayed in news reports about incidents involving sexual violence against women from two distinct cultural newspapers, The Jakarta Post and The Guardian. This study investigated how the primary news players were represented by selecting lexical words by applying the social actor analysis.

Therefore, to fill the gap, the present study on sexual violence uses Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) since it offers an interdisciplinary, adaptable analytical framework for critically examining texts and discourse (Mullet, 2018). As the sexual violence in education has been massively reported in online newspaper articles, finding out the representation could reveal the abandonment to the issue that is caused by any factors such as social, political, and cultural factors. It leads to the urgency of using CDA as a tool in analyzing media in this study, which helps in giving a better perception ideologically to the overcoming of sexual violence issues. Hopefully, after conducting this research, people or the readers are expected to raise their awareness of how urgent the sexual violence issues are that is not only breaking the Indonesian's regulation but also human rights.

1.2 Formulation of the Problem

Based on the background above, this research will answer the question, "How is sexual violence discursively represented in online newspaper articles?"

1.3 Operational Definitions

To avoid misinterpretation of this research, here are the operational definitions of each keyword:

1.3.1 Indonesian Online Newspaper Articles	:	A collection of written information in digital form created by Indonesian news media. In this study, there are three news articles obtained from jakartaglobe.id, TheJakartaPost, and Benar News.
1.3.2 Sexual Violence	:	Any form of action or urgent phenomenon that is currently happening in higher education which causes polemics in overcoming it.
1.3.3 Digital Media	:	The center of all information platforms in this era. It is the home of online newspapers, the most widely used and highly accelerated tool for information distribution.
1.3.4 Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA)	:	It is an approach of analysis that correlate the language with social context. In this study, the representation of sexual violence will be revealed by examining language in the three online newspaper articles using Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model.

1.4 Aim of the Study

This study will reveal how sexual violence is discursively represented in Indonesian online newspaper articles using Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model of CDA.

1.5 Significances of the Study

    1.5.1 Theoretical Uses

        This study complements the previous studies in analyzing online newspaper articles using Critical Discourse Analysis, specifically Fairclough's Three-Dimensional Model.

    1.5.2 Practical Uses

        This study's results are used to criticize sexual violence cases and raise people's awareness in preventing and addressing sexual violence, especially in the educational sector.

    1.5.3 Empirical Uses

        This study provides empirical insights for researchers into how sexual violence is discursively represented in Indonesian online newspaper articles.