A REVIEW ON MOUNT SEMERU ERUPTION WARNING ARTICLE: A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

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ABSTRACT

Mount Semeru had erupted three times in 2021. The last eruption caused many victims. The fact that there were many death toll and citizens affected by the eruption, many people started to blame the PVMBG, as the responsible government agency to the disaster since their duties are to monitor the volcano activities and to give prior warning to the citizens who lived near the volcano. A news article was written a few days after the mount erupted. This article contains many explanations and clarifications from the PVMBG. Therefore, this current study aims to review a news article entitled "Mount Semeru eruption warning issued on Dec 1, PVMBG claims". There are two problems addressed in this study; 1) "What social wrong does Tempo's text reveal in the Mount Semeru eruption warning article?"; and 2) "What ideology does Tempo's text reflect in the Mount Semeru eruption warning article?". In answering these problems, the writer employed critical discourse analysis as the research method. Furthermore, Fairclough's four stages and three dimensions approach of CDA were used. The sentences which show the social wrong are chosen and analyzed by using the transitivity. The findings show that the social wrong is the PVMBG insists that they are not responsible for the numbers of victims caused by the eruption. The PVMBG needs the social wrong since they try to keep their good image and professionalism. The solutions to the problem are related to the involvement of the citizens in the group message and the improvement of the geological mitigation programs.
Keywords: Mount Semeru news article; critical discourse analysis; transitivity

ABSTRAK

Gunung Semeru Meletus sebanyak tiga kali sepanjang tahun 2021. Letusan terakhir mengakibatkan banyak korban. Berdasarkan fakta bahwa banyaknya korban jiwa dan warga yang terdampak, banyak pihak yang mulai menyalahkan PVMBG, sebagai instansi yang bertanggung jawab atas bencana tersebut, dikarenakan tugas mereka yaitu memantau aktivitas vulkanik dan memberikan peringatan dini kepada para warga yang tinggal di sekitar gunung berapi tersebut. Sebuah artikel berita dibuat beberapa hari setelah gunung tersebut Meletus. Artikel tersebut berisikan penjelasan dan klarifikasi pihak PVMBG. Oleh karena itu, makalah ini bertujuan untuk meninjau sebuah artikel berita yang berjudul "Peringatan Gunung Api Semeru diterbitkan pada 1 Desember, klaim PVMBG". Terdapat dua masalah di dalam makalah ini; 1) "Apa ketidakberesan social yang ada pada teks Tempo di dalam artikel peringatan letusan Gunung Semeru?"; dan 2) Ideologi apa yang dicerminkan Tempo di dalam artikel peringatan letusan Gunung Semeru?". Dalam menjawab rumusan masalah tersebut, penulis menggunakan analisis wacana kritis sebagai metode penelitian. Lebih lanjut, empat tahapan dan pendekatan tiga dimensi AWK oleh Fairclough digunakan pada makalah ini. Kalimat-kalimat yang menunjukkan ketidakberesan sosial dipilih dan dianalisis menggunakan konsep transitivitas. Temuan menunjukkan bahwa ketidakberesan sosial yang terdapat pada teks tersebut adalah PVMBG bersikeras bahwa mereka tidak bertanggungjawab atas jumlah korban yang disebabkan oleh letusan gunung. PVMBG membutuhkan ketidakberesan sosial karena mereka mencoba mempertahankan kesan baik dan profesionalisme mereka. Solusi untuk membereskan permasalahan tersebut berkaitan dengan pengikutsertaan warga ke dalam chat grup dan peningkatan program mitigasi geologi.
Kata Kunci: *artikel berita Gunung Semeru; analisis wacana kritis; transitivitas*

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INTRODUCTION

Mount Semeru is one of the active volcanoes in Java Island. It is also the highest mountain on Java Island. Furthermore, Mount Semeru is one of the most famous hiking destinations in Indonesia. In 2021, Mount Semeru erupted three times. The first eruption was on January 16th 2021. The second and the third eruption were on 4th and 6th of December 2021.

Responding to the disaster, a number of news articles were written. For instance, a news article entitled "Semeru Volcano Erupts, People Warned to Stay Away" was published by *The Jakarta Post*. The article focuses on giving information that the citizens were warned not to conduct any activities within the area of the volcano after the disaster. Another article was published by *CNN*, focuses on describing the numbers of victims caused by the eruption. *Tempo.co* also responds by publishing a news article regarding the issue. The title of the text analyzed in this study is "Mount Semeru Eruption Warning Issued on Dec. 1, PVMBG Claims." The article is written by Ricky Mohammad Nugraha, and edited by Petir Garda Bhwana. The article tells about how the PVMBG, as the responsible agency of volcano eruption, had issued an early warning four days prior to the eruption of Mount Semeru. The article also informs the total affected people by the eruption. This article is suitable to be analyzed by using the CDA approach since the text shows a social wrong in the society.

In responding to any volcanology activity signs, the PVMBG (Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation) has the duty to monitor and to give initial warnings. As retrieved from Kompas.com, PVMBG's functions are as follows; 1) preparing the technical policies, norms, standards, procedures, and criteria, as well as plans and programs in the field of volcanology and geological disaster mitigation, 2) conducting research, investigation, engineering, thematic mapping, determination of the status of volcanic activity levels, early warning of volcanic activity and potential ground movements, as well as providing technical recommendations for geological disaster mitigation, 3) developing functional positions of volcano observers, 4) Monitoring, evaluating and reporting the implementation of research, investigations, engineering, thematic mapping, early warning of volcanic activity and potential ground movements, providing technical recommendations for geological disaster mitigation, and disseminating information, and 5) Implementing administration of the Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation.

This paper aims at revealing the ideology and messages of Tempo's text on Mount Semeru Eruption Warning. Furthermore, this study also aims to examine the ideology of Tempo's text reflected in the Mount Semeru eruption warning article. Therefore, the writer applies Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) as the tool to examine the text. According to Chen (2018), CDA is proven as an effective tool in conducting news discourse analysis.

From the background of the paper, this research has two research questions; 1) "What social wrong does Tempo's text reveal in the Mount Semeru eruption warning article?" and "What ideology does Tempo's text reflect in the Mount Semeru eruption warning article?"

The selection of the text in this study is based on several considerations. Firstly, Tempo.co is one of the biggest online news portals in Indonesia. Secondly, Tempo.co provides readers with events occurring in the world, specifically in Indonesia. Therefore, the news articles are actual. Thirdly, the news article entitled "*Mount Semeru Eruption Warning Issued On Dec 1, PVMBG Claims*" was proven to be a popular issue, considering the numbers of victims caused by the disaster. Therefore, the researcher was interested in revealing the social wrong in the text as well as the ideology behind the text.

There are several previous studies conducted by other researchers. The studies are related to mass media and disaster. Those

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studies are written by Paul Solman, Lesley Henderson (2018), Pratiwi et al. (2020), Nasution et al. (2021), Easteal et al (2018), and Pratiwi and Setiawan (2021).

The first study is conducted by Solman and Henderson in 2018. The title of the study is "Flood Disasters in the United Kingdom and India: A Critical Discourse Analysis of Media Reporting. The results of this study show that the global dominant media in the Western emphasize the difference between people in the developed and developing world. Furthermore, the media present flooding in the United Kingdom as exceptional and flooding in India as normalized. Based on these findings, the authors believe that the findings have important implications in the context of globalization and also increasing migration.

The second study is conducted by Pratiwi et al. in 2020. The title of the study is "News Text on Kompas.com Media of Covid-19 and the Underlying Conspiracy Theory: A Teun Van Dijk's Critical Discourse Analysis". This study applies the news scheme framework proposed by Van Dijk to analyze the news report. The results of this study show that COVID-19 news had been used and politicized for ideological purposes. The authors suggest that pandemic should not be politicized by any party and media. Instead, all of the citizens must work together to support the government and media so that they can work effectively in this pandemic.

The next study is conducted by Nasution et al. (2021). The title of the study is "A Critical Discourse Analysis of Jakarta Massive Flood News in Kompas.Com. This study aims at analyzing the headline news of Kompas.com which is about a massive 2019 flood in Jakarta through critical discourse analysis' perspective. This study employed qualitative descriptive research. Furthermore, this study uses a framework proposed by Van Dijk which consists of three dimensions: macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure. The findings show that Kompas.com uses direct diction to present the text. Kompas.com takes a stand in opposition to the policy of Jakarta Government implicitly

from the sentences and paragraphs. The writers conclude that the news provides information to readers and spreads thoughts of the ideology which is adopted by the journalists.

The fourth study is conducted by Easteal et al (2018). The title of the study is "Australian Media Messages: Critical Discourse Analysis of Two Intimate Homicides Involving Domestic Violence". The study applies critical discourse analysis to review news reports about intimate partner violence in Australia. The results show that the reports omit social context, sensationalizes, and also acts to shift blame in ways which do not increase the understanding of the public related to the nature of violence in domestic areas. The findings are used as international findings and the evidence about media reports of violence against women.

The fifth study is conducted by Pratiwi and Setiawan in 2021. The title of the study is "The Implementation of PSBB during the Covid-19 through Online Media News Text: A Critical Discourse Analysis." The results of the study show that infringements of the PSBB implementation during Covid-19 pandemic have been happening. The infractions are not wearing masks and not maintaining social distance. Furthermore, the discussions reveal that the news sources and journalists use utilization of social cognition and access to influence the readers through discourse. It is done in order to build public awareness regarding the implementation of PSBB. The findings are shown in the use of suggestions and persuasive sentences in the media.

The prior studies mentioned above focus on analyzing the news media reports about various types of disaster by using Critical Discourse Analysis as the theoretical basis. In critical discourse analysis, mass media are never neutral (Pratiwi, 2021). It is considered as the subject to construct reality, complete with its own points of view, bias and sides. Hence, research on news reports are necessary to see the intentions and ideology behind the text. However, there have not been any critical discourse analysis studies conducted regarding the news reports of the

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eruption of Mount Semeru. Therefore, this current study focuses on revealing the social wrong and ideology of one of the news articles about the eruption of Mount Semeru.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Fairclough (2010) develops a three-dimensional approach; text, interpretation, and explanation. Text dimensional approach includes the exploration of linguistic features of a text. Interpretation is concerned with the relationship between texts and other factors such as speech act and intertextuality. Hence, interpretation focuses on the context of the text. Explanation is concerned with the interaction and social context of texts.

This study also applies four stages of Critical Discourse Analysis. Norman Faiclough proposes an approach to CDA. The approach is formulated in four stages; Stage 1 is focusing upon a social wrong, in its semiotic aspect, stage 2 is identifying obstacles to addressing the social wrong, stage 3 is considering whether the social order 'needs' the social wrong, stage 4 is identifying possible ways past the obstacles.

In analyzing the sentences in the text, the writer uses Systemic Grammar Functions. Systemic Functional Grammar (SFG) is used as the linguistic aspect to support the findings in this study. Systemic Functional Grammar is used as a concrete tool in analyzing discourses (Chen, 2018).

This paper applies systemic functional grammar as the tool in analyzing the sentences, particularly transitivity. Transitivity refers to a grammatical system enabling a language speaker to interpret the world of experience into a process type (Halliday, 2014). Furthermore, transitivity is realized in a clause. The world of experience of a speaker is understood as an action or event, process, or state. Transitivity focuses on how language users interpret versions of reality in discourses. In other words, humans can convey experiences differently through employing a wide range of syntactic structures and resorting to specific choices of vocabulary,

indicating ideological position (Bartley & Tenorio, 2015).

According to Nurhayati (2018), analyzing the transitivity system of texts informs us the way the narrator represents the world and the ideological values which frames the representation. Transitivity gives a way to analyze how the writer of a text represents reality and beliefs.

According to Halliday (2014), there are six types of transitivity. The six types of transitivity are the material process, the behavioral process, the mental process, the verbal process, the relational process, and the existential process. Firstly, the material process involves observable objects as the doers of the actions. Furthermore, the material process involves physical actions (Kuswoyo & Rido, 2019). The examples of material processes are run, sing, etc. Secondly, behavioral process refers to the process of an action which a participant does subconsciously. The mental process is a process which involves perception, emotion, cognition, or desire which a participant undergoes or which comes to the participant's consciousness. This process involves sensers, which are realized by humans or least conscious participants, a phenomenon, which is realized by nominal groups or embedded clauses which sum up what the thoughts, wants, likes or dislikes are (Kuswoyo & Rido, 2019). After that, the verbal process refers to the process of transferring verbal information or messages of a speaker. This process must be interpreted as symbolic exchange (Zhang, 2017). The verbal process involves a sayer, who says the message, receiver, the one to whom the saying is directed to, and a verbiage, which corresponds to what is said (Zhang, 2017). Fifth, the relational process expresses the relations of objects. This process deals with the process of being, meaning that relations are being set up between two entities, without any suggestions of affections between these two entities (Zhang, 2017). Furthermore, the relational process contains an attributive and identifying. The last process in transitivity is on the borderline between the relational and material process (Darani, 2014). This process

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is called as the existential process. The existential process is concerned with the existence, the existential, by which all phenomena are recognized to be, to exist, or to happen (Darani, 2014). Furthermore, the existential process which is the process that is marked with the introductory "there" and a verb like be, seem, and appear.

METHODOLOGY

In this study, the researcher used the critical discourse analysis approach proposed by Fairclough (2010). Critical discourse analysis is suitable for this study since it can be used to reveal the ideology and messages of the text. According to Mullet (2018), CDA is used as a critical approach in describing, interpreting, and explaining the ways in which discourses construct, maintain, and legitimaze social inequalities.

The data were collected from Tempo. The article is derived from https://en.tempo.co/read/1536292/mount-semeru-eruption-warning-issued-on-dec-1-pvmbg-claims. The text contains 263 words. The article was published on December 6th 2021.

In gathering the data, several sentences which show the social wrong were collected. After being collected, the sentences were analyzed. The data analysis was done by identifying the sentences which show the social wrong. Firstly, the writer identifies the structure of the text. Secondly, the writer discusses the findings by using the four stages of critical discourse analysis proposed by Fairclough. The first stage is focusing upon a social wrong in its semiotic aspect. In this stage, the writer focuses on finding the social wrong of the text by analyzing the sentences using the systemic functional grammar, particularly transitivity. The second stage is identifying obstacles to addressing the social wrong. In this stage, the writer focuses on finding the obstacles to address the social wrong in the text. The third stage is considering whether the social order needs the social wrong. In this stage, the writer figures out whether the order of the society needs the social wrong. The last stage is identifying possible ways past the obstacles. In this stage, the writer focuses on finding the possible ways to solve the obstacle in the text.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

As mentioned earlier, this study applies the four stages of critical discourse analysis proposed by Fairclough (2010). However, the writer analyzes the text structure of the text. The text structure of the text is as follows: 1) The article starts with the data from the head of PVMBG 2) To whom the warning was sent, 3) What the warning was based on, 4) The announcement of the death toll, 5) The summary of the disaster, 6) The injured people and affected lives. All the data in the text are from two agencies, which are the head of PVBMG and the data center and information acting-head. From the premises of the text structure and the data collection of the article, it can be concluded that the article's position is on the PVMBG's side.

This study applies Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA). Furthermore, this study applied the four stages of CDA proposed by Norman Fairclough (2010); 1) focus upon a social wrong in its semiotic aspects, 2) identify obstacles to addressing the social wrong, 3) consider whether the social order needs the social wrong, and 4) identify possible ways past the obstacles.

The first stage of critical discourse analysis is focusing upon a social wrong in its semiotic aspect. The followings are the sentences which show the social wrong of the text;

1. *The Head of the Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (PVMBG), Andini, on Monday said the agency had already issued an early warning four days prior to the Mount Semeru eruption on Saturday, December 4.*

2. *"On December 1 [the PVMBG] had sent warnings via Whatsapp group on incandescent lava at Semeru's slope.*

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The group message has local administrations, regional disaster mitigation agencies (BPBD), volunteers, and volcanic mountain observers," Andini wrote in a text message to Tempo on Monday."

3. *"Andini even said mountain observers on December 2 had warned people not to enter nearby areas and expect lava from Semeru's crater."*

4. *"The PVMBG's early warning is based on the monitoring devices that visually monitor volcanic activities, which is also installed across 69 locations where active volcanic mountains exist."*

The first sentence shows a verbal process. The sayer is Andini, the head of the Center for Volcanology and Geological Hazard Mitigation (PVMBG). The receiver is not mentioned. However, from the sentence, it can be concluded that the receiver is the mass media. The verbiage is "the agency had already issued an early warning four days prior to the Mount Semeru eruption on Saturday, December 4. The predicate "said" indicates that the speaker delivers information to other people. This sentence shows how the PVMBG had sent an early warning a few days before the volcano erupted. This sentence also shows that through this sentence, the agency shows an act of defense. Furthermore, by giving this information, the agency tries to clarify that they had done their job.

The second sentence contains a verbal process. The sayer is "Andini". The verbiage is "On December 1 [the PVMBG] had sent warnings via Whatsapp group on incandescent lava at Semeru's slope. The group message has local administrations, regional disaster mitigation agencies (BPBD), volunteers, and volcanic mountain observers." The verbal process is done through a written text. The verbiage is the descriptions of how the agency had sent warning to the group message, which consists of other disaster-responsible agencies. This sentence indicates that PVMBG had sent warnings to other-responsible agencies. Furthermore, by giving this information,

PVMBG tries to involve other responsible agencies to support them.

The third sentence also contains a verbal process. The sayer is "Andini", the verbal process is "said", and the veiage is "mountain observers on December 2 had warned people not to enter nearby areas and expect lava from Semeru's crater". The agency gives information related to the date and how the observers had warned people who live near the volcano. Based on the finding, it can be concluded that the agency gives additional information of how the citizens had been warned days before the volcano eruption.

The fourth sentence contains a relational process. Furthermore, the sentence identifies what the early warning was based on. The token is "The PVMBG's early warning", and the value is "based on the monitoring devices that visually monitor volcanic activities, which is also installed across 69 locations where active volcanic mountains exist." This sentence is used in order to show that the agency uses advanced technology when doing their jobs. It is also used to show their professionalism.

The writer found that the use of several phrases in the text also support the claims that the article is indexed to side with the PVMBG. The use of "had issued" and "early warning" indicates that the PVMBG has done their job by issuing an early warning. In fact, PVMBG's duty is not only issuing an early warning, but also preparing the technical policies, norms, standards, procedures, and criteria, as well as plans and programs in the field of volcanology and geological disaster mitigation. Based on the data of the casualties, PVMBG has failed.

The phrase "Sudden eruption" is used to depict how the volcano suddenly erupted, whereas the head of PVMBG herself claimed that they had issued an early warning four days prior. It indicates that the eruption was not a "sudden" disaster since the PVMBG had already known the fact that the volcano was going to erupt.

"The group message" describes the agencies which were notified by the PVMBG. The text wants to show that the early warning

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had been sent to all the responsible agencies to the issue. However, from the text itself, there were no citizens involved in the group message.

The social wrong of the text is that the agency insists that they are not responsible for the numbers of victims caused by the volcano eruption. It means that the mistake is on the citizens who live near the volcano. Furthermore, they do not want to be responsible for the victims. Moreover, the partiality of the writer of the text is also indicated from the absence of the data from the citizens in this article.

The second stage of critical discourse analysis is identifying obstacles to addressing the social wrong. The obstacle to addressing the social wrong is the numbers of victims caused by the volcano eruption. The argument is based on the finding in the following text:

1. *The BNPB report reveals that the eruption injured 56 people and affected 5,205 lives in the volcanic mountain's vicinity. It is estimated that 1,300 people are spread in refugee camps.*

The sentence shows the information of the numbers of victims caused by the eruption. Furthermore, the sentence above shows the numbers of affected lives caused by the eruption. The numbers of victims caused by the eruption is the obstacle to address the social wrong since it can affect the image of the PVMBG.

The third stage of critical discourse analysis is considering whether the social order 'needs' the social wrong. From the text, it can be concluded that the social order needs the social wrong. The PVMBG insists that they are not responsible for the numbers of victims. The first sentence used to insist is

1. *"The PVMBG's early warning is based on the monitoring devices…"*

The sentence above shows that the PVMBG uses an advanced technology device to monitor the volcano. By saying this information, the agency tries to convince the readers that they have done their jobs professionally.

The PVMBG tries to show that they are not the only agency to blame for the disaster. The sentence "The group message has local administrations, regional disaster mitigation agencies (BPBD), volunteers, and volcanic mountain observers," is used to tell the media about the other agencies which were also responsible for the number of victims.

The article also tries to keep the good image of the PVMBG. It is shown by the absence of the data gathered from the citizens, who were directly affected by the eruption. Instead, the article describes the numbers of victims caused by the disaster gathered from the The National Disaster Mitigation Agency (BNPB). It indicates that the article considers the great numbers of victims as something reasonable.

The fourth stage of critical discourse analysis is identifying possible ways past the obstacles. The possible way to solve the obstacle is involving the representatives of the citizens in the group message. By inviting the representatives of the citizens, the PVMBG will be able to send a direct message to the citizens. Hence, it can save more lives.

By knowing the fact that there were still many injured and dead people caused by the natural disaster, it means that the programs made by the agencies were not effective enough. PVMBG is the agency which is responsible to provide the technical recommendations for geological mitigation. PVMBG should consider revising or improving the technical programs for geological mitigation to save more people in the future. In the process of conducting the programs, the PVMBG can also involve citizens. Therefore, the programs can be more effective.

The discussions above lead to a conclusion that the writer of the article tends to take side on the PVMBG since the information written is based on the PVMBG side. Thus, the ideology behind the text is social discrimination, where the citizens, who were in fact directly affected by the disaster are victimized to the numbers of victims.

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CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion

Based on the findings, there are several conclusions which can be derived from the analysis. The following are the conclusions of this paper: 1) the PVBMG do not want to be responsible for the numbers of victims and death toll, 2) the problems is is the numbers of victims caused by the volcano eruption, 3) the PVMBG needs the social wrong since they want to keep their good image and to show their professionalism, and 4) the solutions are related to the involvement of the representatives of the citizens in the group message and improving the geological mitigation programs.

Suggestions

This study focuses on revealing the hidden messages and ideologies of a news article. The article is about a disaster causing many victims. The writer suggests future researcher to employ other approaches to analyze discourses, such as deconstruction. This study can also be useful for future researchers who are interested in conducting studies related to critical discourse analysis on news reports.

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