

VICTIM CULTURE- BLAMING AND THE MARGINALIZATION OF WOMEN IN NEWS TEXT ONLINE MEDIA DETIK.COM: DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES SARA MILLS

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Abstract

Digital platforms are media that are now popular, especially in providing access to news services quickly, precisely, and accurately. This includes online news platforms, but behind its rapid development, it is not uncommon for the news to intersect with incidents of gender-based violence. Violence or harassment is not uncommon for listeners or readers to blame-victim the victim. By applying critical discourse analysis, this research seeks to understand what factors contribute to the blaming-victim and marginalization of women found in the media. This research uses Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis approach and the marginalization of women in cases of gender-based violence that have been published in online media issues March 2, 2022, October 7, 2022, and November 17, 2022. These findings highlight gender bias in online journalistic practices as a contributing factor to the blaming-victim culture in the media that news consumers often don't realize. The stereotypes and values of journalism practices and ideologies contained in the news are not victim-friendly and certainly see the need for gender awareness that is aligned and fair, of course, the news that is built is objective and protects victims.

Keywords: Blaming Victim, Marginalization of women, Online Media, Critical Discourse Analysis

Abstrak

Platform digital merupakan suatu media yang kini digemari terutama dalam memberikan akses layanan pemberitaan secara cepat, tepat, dan akurat. Termasuk di dalamnya platform pemberitaan online namun dibalik perkembangannya yang pesat, tidak jarang pemberitaan tersebut bersinggungan dengan insiden kekerasan berbasis gender. Peristiwa kekerasan ataupun pelecehan tersebut tidak jarang membuat pendengar atau pembaca melakukan blaming-victim terhadap korban. Dengan menerapkan analisis wacana kritis, penelitian ini berupaya memahami faktor-faktor apa saja yang berkontribusi terhadap blaming-victim dan marginalisasi wanita yang ditemukan di media. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan analisis wacana kritis Sara Mills dan marginalisasi wanita dalam kasus kekerasan berbasis gender yang telah dipublikasikan di media online Detik.com edisi 2 Maret 2022, 7 Oktober 2022, dan 17 November 2022. Temuan ini menyoroti bias gender dalam praktik jurnalistik online sebagai faktor penyebab budaya blaming-victim pada media yang kerap tidak disadari oleh pengonsumsi berita. Ketimpangan stereotip dan nilai-nilai praktik jurnalisisme serta ideologi yang terkandung di dalam pemberitaan tersebut tidak ramah pada korban dan tentu memandang perlu adanya kesadaran gender yang selaras dan adil tentu sejatinya pemberitaan yang dibangun betul-betul objektif dan melindungi korban.

Kata Kunci: Blaming Victim, Marginalisasi Wanita, Media Online, Analisis Wacana Kritis

INTRODUCTION

The rapid development of technology and the ease of accessing information with such a wide reach has made social media in great demand. The intensity of using digital platforms is increasing by a fantastic number. The growth of new crimes that take advantage of technological developments, such as Online Gender-Based Violence, is influenced by the rise of this digital platform, despite the many positive impacts (Salamoer et al., 2020: 491). The mass media shape individuals' perceptions of the world and, in turn, shape how their communities react to the social realities they witness. Therefore, it is only natural that the media must present reliable information based on verifiable facts. In general, there are three distinct types of mass media: print publications, television and radio broadcasts, and the Internet. Internet access is required to view online media, which are usually presented as websites. Online media certainly allows the dissemination of information to a wider audience and its use at any time and from any location as long as the user has access to the internet (Yusman, 2017: 16).

Each news platform uses its own methodologies and techniques to spread data about current events. Some of the people who produce news often change data by adding it, taking it, or ignoring it. In the context of how journalists choose what to cover, this is a method used to frame or develop a topic for reporting. There are two ways of looking at how the media reflects the construction of reality. In the first place, the media are not passive observers; instead, he actively constructs the message, giving the impression that it does not reflect reality. Second, the media is seen as a passive object, meaning that the media is not directly related to constructing a message but only as a distributor of the actual message (Yusman, 2017: 18). From the above explanation, the media is an objective source that presents facts as they are. However, it should be remembered that the language of the media is an integral part of the media itself. Because language is very influential in shaping responses and setting the context in media coverage, it is important to remember this when compiling information or framing in news.

Komnas Perempuan classifies seven forms of gender-based media violence (1) deceptive activities (Cyber Grooming), (2) online harassment (cyber harassment), (3) hacking, (4) illegal content, (5) violation of privacy (infringement of privacy), (6) threats of distribution of personal photos/videos (malicious distribution), (7) defamation (online

defamation), (8) online recruitment (Kusuma and Arum, 2019: 5). Victims of survivors can experience various kinds of violence or even a combination, of course this should be of particular concern to news providers.

In a patriarchal culture, it gives birth to a subordination view that women are the opposite of men, and judges that men are more dominant than women. In a patriarchal culture, denial of the rights obtained by women can arise and inequality can occur between men and women (Purwanti, 2020:32). With the rapid growth of digital media platforms, this means an increased potential for marginalization and gender based violence.

Victim-blaming is an integral part of the culture of sexual violence, which places the burden of responsibility for any crime or act of violence on the victim. Violence and criminal behavior is an accepted way of life, according to another definition of victim blaming. When women become the focus of discriminatory practices (Thacker, 2017:91). When the topic of violence against women is raised in the media, it is often discussed from a victim-blaming perspective. Victims are often cornered (victim blaming) shows sexism. Information about gender crimes and violence is often presented in a dramatic way, isolating victims and making them feel ashamed and cornered. Exposure in the media has conditioned society to place more blame on the victim and sympathize with the attacker, which is often able to corner the victim with a number of factors. The language used in the news often depicts victims as powerless and powerless over speakers. When society does not isolate the perpetrator, change their world view, or influence public opinion, victim-blaming behavior can make the perpetrator feel justified in his actions. This is what is detrimental to victims, because it prevents them from exercising their legal rights (Restikawati, 2019:19).

There is still a lot of sexism in the media, and it often manifests itself in the way the sentences are chosen to be reported. Replacing rape vocabulary with unfriendly sentences and phrases such as 'stripping', or 'harassing', and so on. Beyond that, women are often portrayed as having their honor damaged because of the mirror of their own actions. Online media are now also writing news with potentially divisive headlines. This title presents information that is not sympathetic to women as victims and creates its own frame so that it leads the reader to have a different perspective from reality. In the media, victims are often reproduced in the role of victims (revictimization) (Curchin, 2019). As a form of

reporting, the victim's objectification and sexual imagination as well as the reader's empathy are presented in its entirety. The aim of the media is to increase the reader's capacity to empathize, but victims themselves rarely get this impression (Najib et al., 2016). Because victims are often portrayed as complicit or catalysts for the abuse, news coverage of the incident tends to justify the treatment the victim receives.

There is a general tendency to describe victims by their outward appearance, physical characteristics, and defects. There is a general belief that victims of sexual violence are targeted because their actions attract the attention of the opposite sex. Even the negative stigma of women such as enjoying sexual violence on themselves often becomes a soft frame in presenting news in the mass media. Of course this cannot be separated from how the diction and language are packaged so nicely that the reader often does not realize that there is a lot of marginalization of women and gender violence hiding behind it.

Various surveys have been conducted on victims of gender violence, one of which was conducted by Lentera Sintas Indonesia, and the online petition site Change.org revealed that no less than 90% of victims of sexual violence in Indonesia choose to remain silent because of the shame that often arises from the effects of social pressure. This is none other than because the news often blames the victim (blaming the victim) and even indicates that the victim is not symbolically experiencing gender violence but rather "likes and likes". Of course this is seen as far from fairness when viewed from a gender perspective.

Sara Mills' perspective examines the textual representation of the character's role. A person's position in a story determines who is the subject and who is the object, which in turn influences the overall structure of the story and the reader's interpretation of the meaning of the story (Eriyanto, 2001: 200). Sara Mills also considers the portrayal of the reader and writer in the text. Sara Mills examines the process of collaboration between consumers and the media to create media text products used in news content.

Meanwhile, Sara Mills' analysis includes; (1) The position of the subject and object in the news. By examining the actions and motivations of the characters, this analysis reveals the role of ideology in the text. There is ideological weight to the decision to make someone a subject or an object. The position (subject and object) in a discourse also places

how an event is reported from a feminist perspective. (2) The position of readers (listeners), according to the theory put forward by Sara Mills, the media and their audiences are involved in negotiations that ultimately result in the creation of texts (readers). Research reveals how the position of readers in the media, both in terms of cultural codes and cultural values used when interpreting a text in the media. This is important because the position and role of the reader is very influential and has a position to be reckoned with in the production of a text. (3) The position of the media, the media is not only a facilitator of information sources and news production, the media also constructs various realities, complete with their views, as well as their alignment with a role in events which is reflected in news texts in a meaningful form. The same thing was expressed by Tony Bennett that the media is projected as an agent of social construction that defines a reality according to certain purposes and interests (Eriyanto, 2001:36). In a media, ideology has many roles in determining the direction of news delivery and the interests it aims to achieve. The mass media use a number of strategies to shape the way people speak and think, including the invention of new words and their associated meanings; expansion of the meaning of existing terms; replacement of one meaning with another; and reinforcement of existing conventions of meaning.

Based on the foregoing, this research focuses on three separate issues in the online news media Detikcom, namely the 02 March 2022, 07 October 2022, and 11 November 2022 editions, and applies Sara Mills' theory to all three. Much of the news focuses on women as targets of sexual harassment, which illustrates the prevalence of victim-blaming and the marginalization of women. As stated by Eriyanto (2012: 199), Sara Mills has written extensively on the topic of discourse theory, making her critical discourse analysis theory the most relevant to the topic discussed because of her emphasis on a feminist perspective. Unfortunately, women are often portrayed in literature as antagonists or afterthoughts. The main focus of the media is to highlight injustice and negative stereotypes about women. Micro-analysis of online reporting involves describing subjects, objects, and readers from these perspectives rather than drawing connections to social reality.

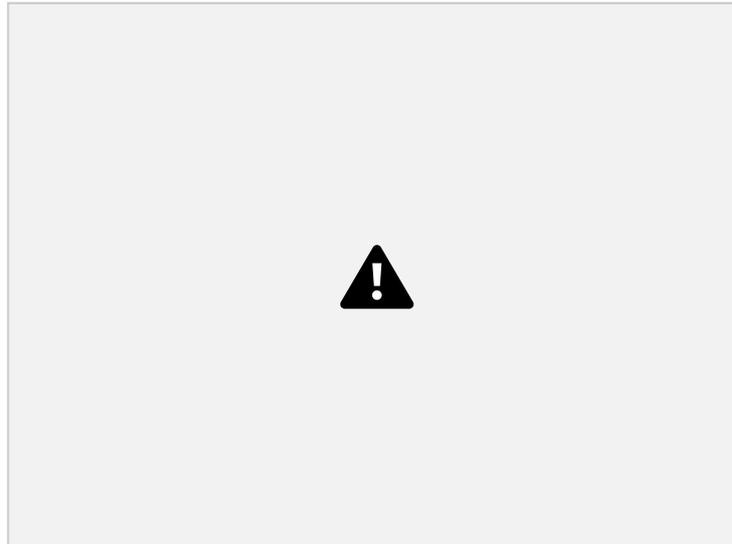


Figure 1. Research Analysis Framework

Previous research that has been conducted regarding victims and the marginalization of women is entitled "Blaming the Victim: Gender Alienation in Online Media" (Nurjanah, 2019). The use of the Entman framing content analysis model is used to test the prevalence of victim blaming in media coverage of rape cases. The results of the research found that articles on sexual violence on Suaramerdeka.com took a victim-blaming attitude and displayed other symptoms of gender alienation. Explanations from victims of sexual violence or parties who defend victims who are ignored by the news are examples of gender alienation that permeates online news. Blaming the Victim is also a term that appears in the context of reporting on rape due to the availability of various dictionaries. A form of cyber-based symbolic violence.

In this research, the violence that occurs online is due to the language used by the media to describe it as symbolic cyber violence. Other research related to blaming the victim is Syarifullah Nuzulliah's research entitled "Gender-Based Violence in Victim-Blaming in Harassment Cases published by Online Media" (Ihsani, 2021). The research findings highlight the importance of online media in perpetuating the mentality of blaming the victim, which is largely due to gender bias in online journalism. Online media often perpetuates stereotypes about victims due to the use of biased media language. Lack of empathy, lack of awareness, and lack of education lead to victim blaming in the context of sexual harassment. Another factor that contributes to an individual's tendency to blame

others is wrong attribution. According to previous studies, gender bias in journalistic practices on the Internet contributes to the spread of victim blaming.

The purpose of this research is to analyze and describe (a) Victim blaming and marginalization of women as subjects in online news, (b) Victim blaming and marginalization of women as objects in online news, (c) Victim blaming and marginalization of women by Detikcom online newsreaders , namely the 02 March 2022, 07 October 2022, and 17 November 2022 editions.

METHODS

This research uses Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis approach and the marginalization of women in cases of gender-based violence that have been published in online media. Looking for various data from various sources in the form of words, phrases, and sentences that are examined separately from the surrounding context to draw conclusions. The data sources for this research include news discourse, including the online news Detik.com, March 2, 2022 edition with the news title "Sadistic! 2 Youths in Jepara Cheeky Miras-Perkosa ABG", October 7 2022 edition with the news title "Treatment Mode, Men in Pidie Suspected of Rapes 5 Women", and 17 November 2022 with the news title, "Polda Metro Calls the Case of the Pinang Police Chief Likes and Likes". The research phase began with the collection of materials in the form of three online media texts regarding blaming the victim and the marginalization of women, then they were analyzed using Sara Mills' perspective, namely examining texts that raised the attitude of blaming victims and the marginalization of women in the roles of subjects, objects, and news consumers.

The method of collecting data reference sources on detik.com online media uses the direct literacy viewing method with reading and note-taking techniques. Reading techniques with literacy are carried out carefully and thoroughly in everything related to victim blaming and marginalization of women. After the literacy activities are carried out, then records are made in the data table which are categorized as Defined problems (determination of problems), and Diagnosis Causes (causes of events). Data analysis techniques are carried out with several concrete steps including; (1) completion of data, namely in the form of online news contained in Detikcom which specifically presents news

related to blaming-victim. (2) Make records on data sources with the aim of facilitating grouping data based on the issues raised. (3) Analysis of research results from the perspective of a feminist, as stated by Sara Mills, and a description of the selected data sources by grouping them based on the position of the subject, object, and reader.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Detikcom's online news articles for the 02 March 2022, 07 October 2022, and 17 November 2022 editions which contributed to blaming victims and marginalizing women are the focus of this analysis. The researcher chose the three news articles because they were considered to have the highest levels of victim embarrassment and marginalization. Below, the researcher uses text analysis tables to identify cases of victim error across three media sources.

Table 1. Analysis of the News Text blaming the victim in Detikcom

	News 1	News 2	News 3
Problem Context	Problem Sexual violence	Problem Sexual violence	Problem Sexual violence
Penyebab Peristiwa	Victim actors are women with a weak economy, far from their husbands. As a sex object under the guise of treatment mode. Victim actors feel curious about the treatment they are seeking and abuse occurs because the victim obeys the perpetrator's orders.	The reason for rape is that the victim actor has been tricked by the perpetrator actor by being force-fed with liquor, the beauty of the victim's body that only uses a jarik cloth is the reason for the perpetrator to commit an immoral act.	Aktor korban merasa dirinya telah mengalami pemerkosaan. Namun aktor korban dituding dibayar untuk melayani pelaku dan memiliki hubungan suka sama suka (<i>sexual consent</i>).
Evaluate news sources	LBH actors stated that victims did not dare to report rape cases because they received threats and many of the victims were already married. Actors: Stating that the victim is the choice of the waliyullah with various modes of perpetrators to trick the victim into unconsciousness and commit harassment, not rape.	Police actor: The suspect's modus operandi invited the victim to drink alcohol until he was drunk. The victim fell into the trap of the perpetrator actor until he was helpless due to heavy drunkenness. Actors: Stating that the perpetrator committed the immoral act because he was attracted to the beauty of the body of the victim actor who only used cloth and forced the victim to get drunk until he was powerless.	Police actor: That events occur because of a consensual background. And the perpetrators have violated the police code of ethics. Actors: Events do not just happen once. The perpetrator actor has given a sum of money to the victim actor after intercourse
Evaluation of news sources	LBH actors stated that victims did not dare to report rape cases because they received threats and many of the victims were already married. Actors:	Police actor: The suspect's modus operandi invited the victim to drink alcohol until he was drunk. The victim fell into the trap of the perpetrator	Police actor: That events occur because of a consensual background. And the perpetrators have

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The analysis in the table focuses on reports of sexual violence from a victim-blaming perspective. By definition, sexual violence is any act of sexual coercion where the victim is unwilling or unable to give consent. This is in line with what Carol Hensell said: rape is any form of sexual contact without consent, even in the context of marriage (Carol Hensell, 2011: 115). Based on the information presented in the table above, it seems that the victims or those who support the victim actors were not consulted as resource persons. Community leaders and law enforcers are institutions that are usually relied upon as authoritative sources. They are considered to have used a strategy of symbolic domination in favor of the ruler's perspective, which is seen as a symbol of the perspective of society in general. The public has lost all avenues of direct attack on this authority.

News containing victim blaming spreads through societal myths, which often hide in the moral judgments of community leaders. That there will be no violence or sexual harassment, only a relationship based on mutual attraction and trust. That women are not strong and easily deceived. Furthermore, the news media themselves often use defensive and symbolic violence in presenting their news. Ignoring the point of view of the victim actor in an incident can lead to victim blaming; in this case the victim of sexual violence. Actors subject to abuse are rarely given a prominent voice in the media. Furthermore, this shows that violence has been perpetrated by a news construct, both as a news subject and as a party that controls news production. Victims of violence or sexual harassment are doubly harmed by news coverage that treats the offender as a subject and not as a victim. Reporting on gender-based violence online is of interest to the news media, as evidenced by several studies detailing the mistakes of victims that occurred in the creation of online media. The media provides a window for the general public to gain exposure and understanding of gender-related phenomena, reflections and facts. Media content which is

a construction of reality uses language not only to generate news but also to depict reliefs about a social reality that influences the meaning of the news.

Marginalization of Women as News Subjects

The marginalization of women as the subject of sexual violence news in the Detikcom media based on a review of the news headlines for the 2 March 2022, 7 October 2022 and 9 September 2022 editions, women are often depicted in these roles as victims. Therefore, news about women (victims) tends to dominate more than men (perpetrators). On the other hand, he is known as a suspect in cases of violence and sexual harassment against women, which makes it easier to track him down (if he has not been caught) so that it can provide a deterrent effect and at the same time act as a deterrent for other potential perpetrators. Although women are presented as news subjects, they are often ignored or misinterpreted because journalists' questions often contain the wishes of the news editors themselves. When an assessment of women is not fully obtained from other parties because there is a reality that is often ignored in an event, women (victims) are still given the opportunity to present themselves in a news story.

Reports of sexual violence and other forms of abuse against women usually portray victims as passive bystanders. In fact, being a news subject can benefit the actor because he is free to tell his own version of events and give his own interpretation of the parts that make up the whole. Nonetheless, there are still a number of barriers that make it difficult for women (as victims) to tell their own stories. Here is some supporting evidence for the statement below.

"When he came to the victim's house, the perpetrator rubbed the victim's head and the victim immediately became unconscious. The victim was pulled and abused." (07/10/22)

"I didn't dare to report it because I was threatened, if I reported the disease would get worse, and I already have a husband." (07/10/22)

"Rozi said the two suspects entered the room where the victim was sleeping. The suspect was tempted after seeing the victim only wearing a cloth. Then DR molested the victim, then DR opened the cloth and the victim's underwear and tried to have sex with the victim. However, this was not possible because the suspect DR was heavily drunk, then MF ordered the suspect DR to leave the room, and the suspect MF immediately raped the victim while threatening" (02/03/22)

No statements were found that cornered the perpetrators from any of the news data above. The position of victim actors (women) who act as subjects is marginalized for various reasons, including: victim actors (women) are the main topic of discussion in the news; there are statements that corner the victim; and the story of this rape incident focuses on the victim, not on the perpetrator, who should have raised more about his identity.

Marginalization of Women as Reporting Objects

The lack of representation of women in reporting on sexual harassment in online media after analyzing the data, Detikcom found that women are disproportionately represented as news subjects (victim actors). Not only are women often belittled in the headlines, but this trend continues throughout news itself. Actors who commit acts of violence or sexual harassment against women often have their words and actions misinterpreted by the media, revealing every detail of their lives. News reports rarely presented images of the actual victims, relying instead on accounts from bystanders to paint images of victims (which were almost always women). As a result, the perpetrators of harassment are still considered righteous and victims (usually women) are viewed negatively. This further proves that the role of women as objects of sexual harassment is degraded in the media. Here is some supporting evidence for this statement below.

“As the Head of Public Relations of Polda Metro Jaya Kombes Endra Zulpan said to journalists, Thursday (17/11/2022), “The results of our preliminary examination, the relationship they have is consensual because after each relationship the woman gets compensation or money from the former police chief, yes.” (17/11/22)

The average victim is a housewife whose husband works outside the city. victims from the lower classes usually go to the practice for help. A 27-year-old woman expressed her complaint about the stomach pain she experienced as a victim. A victim who is interested in visiting the perpetrator's practice is invited for treatment. The first and second treatments involved giving water to the victim who had something read aloud.” (07/10/22)

As a result of not being able to position themselves as objects in the media, victims are in a disadvantageous position. Otherwise, if someone else reports their presence, the

details of that person's description will be entirely at the discretion of the narrator or the third party providing the information; this prevents the victim from speaking from their own perspective and direct experience. The events may not have happened in the order described by the narrator. Because he was the one who was directly affected by the incident and who benefited the most from telling her story from her perspective. Therefore, it can be said that the victims experienced stigmatization and suffered emotional and psychological losses.

Sara Mills' Feminist Perspective

There are gender differences in how men and women interpret the same text. Consequently, the reader's position plays an important role in shaping the reader's mental evaluation of an event described in the text. According to Detikcom, the marginalization of women by online media due to the reporting of stories of violence or sexual harassment, the audience is always made to feel that they are an important part of the story. Here are some data that refer to the opinion above.

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According to Rozi, the suspect DR tried to have sexual intercourse with the victim, but was unsuccessful. While the victim was lying on the floor, the suspect MF threatened her and had sexual intercourse with her. (02/04/22)

“According to Farah, every time BT wants to treat a 'patient', he changes his clothes to an all-green uniform, from the turban to the robe. After several treatments, BT called the victim. In the conversation, the perpetrator explained that the victim was Waliyullah's choice and had to become Waliyullah's invisible wife. Victims are also said to be asked to follow the sentences spoken by the perpetrator.

After that, the perpetrator said that the victim had legally become waliyullah so he asked her to have sex.” (07/10/22)

The news snippet above makes the reader dominant over the text, so that the reader can position himself either as a man or a woman, or even the writer stigmatizes the reader as a man then as a woman, and vice versa. Readers who are made to feel they are participants in the conflict tend not to have high expectations, with what is the goal of news writers. Undeniably, this results in gender bias and marginalization of women. Based on this data, it is clear that readers are swayed to side with the perpetrators and blame the women in the story for trusting their male characters too much. Several factors, such as the victim's educational level, social environment, and emotional state, can contribute to this. Based on the analysis of the data, it shows that readers are more likely to be male than female, which reinforces gender stereotypes that portray women as less powerful than men and contributes to the perception that women are guilty when they are portrayed as victims of violence or sexual harassment in the media.

News that is disseminated to the public through the media is more complicated than just a collection of facts arranged logically and readers who are capable of critical discourse analysis must be able to appreciate this. In terms of digesting news, the mass media represent a unique synthesis of group effort and public performance. Staff members at news organizations make decisions collectively in the interests and interests of the agency for which news is produced.

CONCLUSION

There are a number of different causes that contribute to a culture of victim blaming. Cases of violence or sexual harassment often make society blame the victim more than the perpetrator. In addition, one of the reasons for victim blaming is due to individual attribution errors or mistakes. Previous research has shown that gender bias in journalistic practices on the internet contributes to a culture of victim blaming. Language that stigmatizes victims encourages readers to believe generalizations are made about them in online media, which in turn encourages more victim shaming. The media as a whole needs to be more gender conscious. Press or media institutions are highly valued for their potential to maintain idealism. As an additional step towards achieving this goal, a

feminist view of journalists or feminist literacy in media news publishing can be developed, allowing for greater balance and equality of both parties in the news production process.

Marginalization of women as a subject of news in the online media Detik.com. refers to a stigma that women are always in the spotlight (victims). Because of this, the news is more likely to focus on women (as victims) than men (as perpetrators). In fact, it is important to pay more attention to perpetrators of sexual harassment so that the public can recognize who they are; this will make tracking the perpetrator easier (if not already caught) and serves as a deterrent to future harassment as the perpetrator will be more widely known as a suspect. Although women are presented as subjects in the news, they are often overlooked or misinterpreted because of the questions they are asked or the preferences of the people writing the stories. When assessing women, other parties do not get a complete picture because women (victims) are given limited space to present themselves in the news. This is further evidence of the oppression of women.

Detikcom's online sexual harassment newsreader marginalizes women by casting them into the roles of actors who must follow a predetermined story trajectory. According to the data, every headline portrays male readers as the aggressors in sexual harassment cases, which can provoke male defense. This is further evidence that sexual harassment in the news has a significant impact on the representation of women in the media. Analysis of the data shows that readers are more likely to be male than female, which reinforces gender stereotypes that portray women as less powerful than men and contributes to the perception that women are at fault when they are portrayed as victims of violence or sexual harassment in the media.

Based on the data presented above, it can be concluded that women (victims) appear in the news more often than men. The marginalization of women can be seen in several news content, and not only seen in the choice of words used for headlines. The life story of the victim (woman) is revealed by the words of the perpetrator of sexual harassment and/or the journalist's interpretation of those words. This report only provides an overview of the female victim based on the testimony of eyewitnesses; no description of the woman herself is shown. Because of this, it is often assumed that the perpetrator of

abuse is right and the victim (usually a woman) is wrong. This is further evidence of women being sidelined as news sources.

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