

Radicalism as Issued in Online Media: A Discourse Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This is the discourse analysis of the text of radicalism. The analysis is aimed at how the texts issue radicalism. The data are obtained from the internet. They were analyzed by applying the theory of relevance developed by Sperber and Wilson. The research shows that the texts contain explicature, higher-level explicature, and implicature. The research shows that the texts implied the accusing Islam the religion of radicalism and that Muslims are a radical group of people.

Keywords: Discourse analysis; radicalism; relevance; explicature; higher-level explicature; implicature

INTRODUCTION

Discourse analysis is defined as the analysis of how language is used in a context. In this sense, Locke (2004) says that discourse analysis is generally defined as the study of the use of language in context. This definition suggests that context is a very important aspect of language use. Regarding the discourse of radicalism and the above definition of radicalism, the researcher investigated the discourse of the radicalism issue. It is the study of how the use of language in discussing radicalism. The result will hopefully increase our knowledge of the role of language use in affecting the readers' mind in intending the news being published. To be more specific, this research is aimed revealing the reflection of radicalism in online text.

Choosing radicalism issues is based on the nowadays phenomenon. The phenomenon of the issues of radicalism have been spread all over Indonesia since the Indonesian Presidential Election and the FPI's (Front of Islamic Defender) action protesting the current Christian governor of Jakarta, Basuki Cahaya Purnama of insulting the Islamic Holy Book, the Quran. It was the time when the discourse of radicalism started to spread all over Indonesia. This inspired the writer to do the discourse analysis on the text of the radicalism issues. This is based on several reasons. First, discourse analysis is concerned with the study of language in a certain context. Context, as discussed in chapter II, determines the meaning of an utterance. One of the aspects of context is the topic of discussion. Hence, the topic is also one aspect that determines the meaning of words.

Second, context determines the word selection. The word selection determines the way the reader or the listeners infer the text. For example, the use of metaphor virus to metaphorize radicalism. The reader can infer that radicalism is dangerous as a virus. The writer's attitude to the topic being discussed can be inferred through discourse. It is reflected by the word choice, linguistic form, and the structure of information in a text. The metaphor of the virus of radicalism

indicates the writer's attitude. In terms of the information structure, the theme and thematization indicate the writers' attitude. The attitude leads to bias in information.

Through this discussion, the writer decides to apply the Theory of Relevance introduced by Sperber and Wilson (1985). This theory says there are three kinds of utterance meaning, i.e. explicature, higher-level explicature, and implicature. In this research, the researcher focuses on explicature, higher-level explicature, and implicature. This is based on the reason that the writer needs to reveal the articles writer's attitude to radicalism. After analyzing the attitude the researcher reveals the bias that the writers imply. However, since the discourse cannot be separated from the speakers'/writers' attitudes, there will be a bias implied. Bias is the side meaning of an utterance. Thus the higher-level explicature reflects the writers' or speakers' bias toward radicalism.

The writer found only one previous relevant study. It is entitled *Discourse Analysis On International Online News Reports of Manchester Bombing* written by Nizmi, et all (2018). It is an analysis of how the mass media discourse on the Manchester bombing. The research found the Washington Post tends to bias the bombing on the Islamic issues. Aljazeera, on the hand, tends to be more objective, going inside from the Moslems' perspective. Unlike this research, this research focuses on the discourse analysis of radicalism issues in Indonesia in general terms. It is not focused on specific radical action as in the above article. Hence, the conclusion is more general than the above research.

The present research is focused on the analysis of how radicalism is reflected in the online discourse. The analysis started with the text theme, the explicature, and higher-level explicature. Finally, the research comes to the bias of the discourse.

LITERATURE REVIEW

THE NATURE OF DISCOURSE ANALYSIS

To do the discourse analysis, we must understand the nature of discourse analysis. The knowledge of the nature of discourse analysis is the guideline to analyze a discourse. Locke (2004) defines discourse analysis as the study of the use of language in a certain context. The keywords are language use and context. The language used here means communication. Hence, language use means the language used to communicate in context.

What about context? Context is a non-linguistic aspect that affects the linguistic form and the meaning. A speaker will consider the context to produce the linguistic form of the utterance and, as well, the diction. The hearer also considers the context to convey the speaker's utterance. Therefore, a speaker will use different linguistic forms and different words in a different context. In terms of meaning, the same utterance will have different meanings in a different context. Therefore, when inferring an utterance, the hearer must consider the context.

This leads us to the discussion of contextualization. Contextualization is the process of relating an utterance to the context of background knowledge and presupposition (Luzion, 2013). This process is conducted due to the problem of inferring the utterance on the bases of grammar and lexicon only. It consists of physical context, personnel context, and cognitive context (Simpson, as cited in Katili, 2007).

Physical context refers to the setting of the utterance. it is the time, the place, and the situation. Personnel contexts refer to the persons involved in a communication. Cognitive context is the shared background knowledge of the communication participants.

Hymes (Hymes & Gumperz, 1972) elaborated on the context in the acronym SPEAKING. The meaning of the acronym is as follows:

S stands for setting and scenery. Setting refers to the time and place as the physical context of the utterance. Scenery refers to the situation in which the communication takes place.

P stands for the participants, i.e. the persons who are participating in the communication.

E stands for ends, i.e. the expected goal of the communication

A stands for act sequence, i.e. the actual form and what is said. It is the precise words used, how they are used, and the relationship between the words and the topic.

K stands for key, i.e. the tone or spirit in which the message is encoded; light-hearted, sadness, anger, etc.

I stands for instrumentalities, i.e. the channel being used: oral or written text, dialect, language, code.

N stands for norms, i.e. the norms of certain behavior attached to the interaction, it may be gaze, loudness, silence, etc.

G stands for the genre, i.e. what genre or type of utterance is applied in the communication, it may be a speech, sermon, poem, dialogue, etc.

In this research, the writer applies the contextualization issued by Hymes due to its completeness and elaboration.

THEME AND THEMATISATION

Theme and thematization are the terms discussed by Brown and Yule (1996). Theme refers to the starting point of discourse and is usually placed at the beginning of a text. Therefore in a written text, it can be the title, and in a paragraph, it is the first sentence. It is the starting point function to frame the readers/listeners' thought.

Thematization refers to the way the writer/speaker's method of thematizing the information s/he wants to convey in the text. The method might be the linguistic form and the choice of the words of a title. Brown and Yule (1996) say that title is the best way of thematization since it is a reader will read it first and s/he. The title will read him/her to predict the content of the body of the text. The thematic structure is the structure of the theme in the discourse. The title is the theme of a text and then is elaborate in the body of the text. The theme in the body of the text is structured and so it is more elaborated. To conclude, the theme is the starting point of discourse. It functions to frame the listener/readers' mind. This frame will lead the listener/reader to infer the content of the text.

SPERBER AND WILSON'S THEORY OF RELEVANCE

The theory of relevance was proposed by Sperber and Wilson (1995). This theory says that a speaker/writer, when saying something is trying to be relevant to the hearer's reader's contextual resource. The hearer/reader, on the other hand, is making an effort to be relevant to the hearer/writer's intended meaning. The intended meaning was in explicature, high-level explicature, and implicature.

Explicature is what the speaker/ writer says in the utterance. So, when a speaker says *I reading a book*, s/he says that s/he is reading a book. There is propositional content in the explicature. High-level explicature is the speaker's propositional attitude and it is highly contextual. The utterance *I am reading a book* should be interpreted by taking the context into

account. The implicature is the implied meaning of the utterance and it is inferred by taking the context into account and by applying the deductive logic. The following dialogue is an example:

A: Will you drive this Mercedes Benz?

B: Sorry, I don't drive an expensive car.

By considering the context of B's utterance and applying deductive logic, we can have the conclusion that B does not drive a Mercedes Benz since it is an expensive car. To conclude this, it is restated that relevance is a model of interpreting the utterance. This theory says that both the speaker/writer attempt to be relevant. The speaker/writer attempts to be relevant to the hearer/reader's contextual resource. The hearer/reader attempts to infer the most relevant meaning of the utterance.

METHOD

The research was designed with a qualitative research methodology. The data was the text in a natural setting and cannot be converted into numbers. The data was obtained from the internet. The data was the words discussing radicalism. The data was analyzed to find the theme and thematization. This leads the writer to explicature, higher-level explicature, and biased meaning. To control the data interpretation, the writer applied the discourse principles that were proposed by Yule and Brown (1996): Local Interpretation., i.e. the method to limit the context of discourse to obtain relevant interpretation; Analogy, i.e. the discourse analyst applies the knowledge of the topic being discussed in a conversation.

The trustworthiness of this research is obtained through four criteria proposed by Guba and Lincoln (1981), namely (1) credibility (2), transferability (3) dependability, and (4) confirmability. Credibility is the credible truth the research findings obtained through the following techniques: (1) prolonged engagement, (2) persistent observation, (3) triangulation, (4) peer describing, (5) negative case analysis), and (7) member checking (Denzin, 2018)

To establish this research credibility, the researcher applied some techniques. First, triangulation. This technique consists of (a) data triangulation, (b) investigator triangulation (c) methodological triangulation, and (d) theoretical triangulation. Second, data triangulation. Data were obtained from several sources. In this study, the data were obtained from four classes. Third, theoretical triangulation. This is used by applying more than one theory to explain various phenomena.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

FINDINGS

The writer has found seven data of texts on radicalism. Data one was entitled *Radical Islam in Indonesia*. The body of the text initiates with the statement that Indonesia has been at the headlines of the global issues for the terrorist attack and the presence of the terrorists' network connected to the militant Sunni Islamic Alqaeda group. The second paragraph says that Indonesia is the home of the largest population of Muslims in the world and hence the influence of Islamic principles and ethics. The second data is an abstract of an article. It initiated with the statement that Indonesian national education Islamic education is compulsory for all formal education. And hence it is potentially strategic in responding to main issues in religious life

including radicalism. Radical Islam is a prominent problem through the program of de-radicalization and, hence, it is urgent to promote the program through education.

The third data, like the second one, is the abstract of an article. It initiated the statement that technology interacts with political and cultural struggles. The technology of information has been the focal point of power contests. To be specific, the text empathizes that the technology has been the vehicle of Islamic radicalism dissemination in Indonesia. The data presents two cases of this, the first one is the use of the internet by the Laskar Jihad which is the militant group involved in the Maluku conflict. The second one is the use of the internet for dissemination of the 9/11 tragedy was the consequence of the USA and Israel conspiring against Islam.

The second paragraph of this data says that the internet has been used to deploy the concept of identity politics, identity politics, meta-narratives, and collective action of Islamic radical fundamentalists, both individuals, and groups. The third paragraph insists that Islamic fundamentalism radical has shown that the internet has the potential to facilitate identity formation such as a global fundamentalist movement that is not territory bound. The fourth and fifth paragraphs discuss the Indonesian condition. Most population is not yet connected to the internet. Hence, the internet must be explicitly linked to other media to extend its influence. The fourth data initiated the discussion with the statement of the Board of Management of the Ansor Youth Movement (GP Ansor) in paragraph one. He stated that there was a possibility that one of the presidential candidates was infiltrated by an Islamic radical group.

The second paragraph contains the chairman's re-statement of the possibility of the radicalism of one of the presidential election candidates, and that the movement of the radical group was spread all over Indonesia. The third paragraph is the chairman's statement about the danger of the movement, i.e., the supporting group's mission is to establish the Islamic State Caliphate or to establish the Unitary State of Indonesia with sharia law. The fourth paragraph was the information on the chairman's behavior to refuse to mention the name of the candidate to the president. The chairman said that he informed the president and the president was pleased.. he also informed that the State Civil Apparatus (ASN) allegedly had been infiltrated by the radical group. In the next paragraph, the head of the Presidential Office, Moeldoko reminds everybody not to take advantage of radical groups to gain support in the presidential election.

The fifth was initiated with the title that says that Indonesia's education system is the incubator for extremists. The body of the text says that Islamic schools and universities in Indonesia have been accused of producing militant Islamic extremists. The Bali bomb was an example of how radicalism was affected by the Islamic schools and universities. The sixth data is entitled "Indonesia targets 'virus' of religious radicalization". The body of the text is initiated with the vice president, Ma'ruf Amin concerned with the former Indonesian Daesh member who wants to go home. It is followed by the next statement of President Jokowi that says that the Indonesian government decided not to repatriate hundreds of citizens who joined Daesh. This is elaborated by the next paragraph that informs Jokowi who says that the government was prioritizing the security of its 260 million population by reducing their exposure to terrorist attacks from those who had fought for Daesh.

The seventh data was initiated with the title "Millennials are very easy to be infiltrated by radical understanding, Yudian says.." The body of the text was the statement of the Chancellor State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga, Prof. Yudian Wahyudi that the moderation in religion. It is done by targeting the dawa to the millennial.

DISCUSSION

Almost all of the data found in this research thematized radicalism in connection with Islam. Data one started with the title *Radical Islam in Indonesia*. It is clear that this theme related radicalism to Islam. The writer did not entitle it, for example, *Radical Religion in Indonesia*. In Terms of Hymes' context, its end is to lead the reader that Islam has something to do with radicalism. In terms of Sperber and Wilson's terms explicature it explicates that there is radical Islam in Indonesia. The body of the text explicates that the population of Indonesian Muslims is the largest in the world and hence, it biased that the largest Muslim population is potential for the birth of radicalism.

The same thing is also happening in the second data. This data explicates that the Indonesian Islamic education system is potentially developing radical Islamic radicalism. It, in terms of higher-level explicature, recommended the program of de-radicalization through education. Furthermore, it implicates that the end of this text is to urge that Islamic Education should be controlled to prevent the learners from the radical ideology. In terms of Hymes' end, it aimed at provoking the Indonesian people to prevent the learners from radical Islam. Hence, it is biased that only the Islamic Education is the potency of the growth of radicalism.

The third data is concerning the misuse of ICT to spread the radical ideology of the radical Muslims in Indonesia. It explicates that the radical Muslims Group has been misusing ICT to disseminate the radicalism ideology to the millennial generation. Hence, in terms of higher-level explicature it proposes the control over the content of the internet to prevent the millennial Muslims' radicalism ideology. The end of this text is to provoke the policymaker to make a policy to prevent the effects of the radical content on the millennial generation. However, it is biased that only Muslims misuse the internet to spread radical ideology through the internet.

The fifth data explicates that Indonesia's education system is the incubator for extremists. The metaphor incubator is to mean that education is the potency for radicalism to grow. In terms of higher-level explicature, it urges the importance of paying attention to Indonesia's education system. In terms of Hymes' end, it is aimed at provoking the persons who may concern to protect the learners from the radicalism. And since it connects radicalism with Islam it biases Islam as the radical religion.

The sixth data thermalizes Indonesia as a target of the virus of religious radicalization. The title uses the metaphor virus to indicate the danger of radicalization. The word *Indonesia* is placed in the beginning means to warn the Indonesian people. The phrase *religious radicalization* drives the readers' curiosity and questions about *what religion is?* this question is answered in the body of the text that it is Islam as indicated by the word *Daesh*. Daesh refers to ISIS, i.e. an Islamic radical movement. The body of the text informs that President Jokowi has decided not to repatriate the Indonesian former member of this movement.

This data, in terms of explicature, explicates that Indonesia has been the target of religious radicalization. In terms of higher-level explicature, it warns the Indonesians to be aware of this radical movement. In terms of Hymes' end, it is aimed at building the people's awareness of the dangers of religious radicalization. In terms of biased news, it biases that Muslims are potency to radicalization and seems to ignore the other religious groups or ideologies such as communism.

The seventh data was thematized in the title "Millennials are very easy to be infiltrated by radical understanding, Yudian says.." This theme seems to attract the reader to the awareness of the millennial that is said to be easily infiltrated by radical thought, the body of the text contains the statement of the Chancellor of the Islamic State University of Sunan Kalijaga about the importance of dawa to the millennial to moderate the religion.

The data explicates the Indonesian millennials who are easy to be infiltrated by radical understanding. In terms of higher level-explicature, it proposed the importance of targeting dawa to the millennials to prevent them from radical thought. In terms of Hymes' end, it is aimed at preventing the Indonesian millennial from radical thought. However, since it is the statement of the Islamic State University of Sunan Kalijaga, it is biased that the radical thought in the Islamic thought, not others.

CONCLUSION

There are some conclusions from this article. First, all of the data related radicalism to Islam. The title of the text explicates that radicalism is related to Islam. Therefore, the theme or the starting point of the discourse is Islam and radicalism. It drives a bias that Islam is the only religion that is related to radicalism. Radical Islam is spread out all over Indonesia through education and the internet. This explicates Islamic education. In terms of higher-level explicature, the data contain information that the Indonesian people should be aware the radical Islam. Hence, it is drive the text to the end, in Hymes' terms that Indonesia should be clean from radical Islam. In short, all the data analyzed explicate that radicalism arises from the group of Islam. This implies that the readers should be aware of the Islamic group.

Finally, there are some suggestions related to this analysis. First, so far, the discourse analysis has shown that in terms of higher-level explicature, there is a bias in the discussion of radicalism. Radicalism has been defined as the violence done by the Islamic group of Indonesia. Therefore, it suggested that the writers of the articles or news be balanced in their articles. Secondly, it suggested that the writers of the articles to aware of the use of language. It is wise to avoid the use of diction or linguistic form that biases the unwise message. The terms such as the use of metaphor virus suggest the dangers of radicalism. However, since radicalism is related to Islam, this can lead the writer to think that Islam is dangerous. As shown by this discourse analysis, the online media potent bias to control the readers' thoughts. The above analysis shows how the language used to control the readers' minds to perceive that radicalism is closely related to Islam. Therefore, it is suggested that the writers of the media reduce the bias.

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