

ABSTRACT

The process of stigmatization in mass media encompasses the organization of news production. The journalistic routines of hunting, editing, and writing facts underlies the process of stigmatization. Researcher applies critical discourse analysis using three models of analysis—text, social cognition, and social context—from Teun van Dijk. Researcher puts analysis on news about terrorism taken from *Kompas*, July-October 2009.

Kompas releases news on terrorism in Indonesia in various concepts that evolve as substance of the news. It comprises terrorism and its correlation between general election and religion, terrorism as public enemy, state sponsored terrorism, effective strategy of counter-terrorism, and effects of terrorism. It presents as news manifested in headline news, highlight news, feature, polling, photo, local news, and editorial. The research leads to the stigmatization found in news about terrorism that concerns practice in using language considered as the label of stigmatization.

Stigma comes in three forms. Firstly, “abominations of the body” that are associated with the physical appearance of individuals or group that supposes as suspected terrorists. It is acceptable that the physical appearance of the suspected terrorists—bearded man, Moslem robes, Moslem women and their veils, and pants over one’s ankle—attached to the suspected terrorists. Then, those appearances are added to the terrorist’s name, such as “Ahmad Jenggot”. Secondly, “blemishes of individual character” that are deemed to constitute a deviation from what is perceived to be normative behaviour. It is generally understood that terrorist suspicion towards individuals who get a respect from their society as prominent figure, religious leader, and noble man followed by statements that support the assumption. Thirdly, “tribal stigmas” that label Central Java as terrorist’s hiding place, terrorist’s relatives as individuals who have contributions on terrorism. These tribal stigmas dominates news releases on terrorism in *Kompas*.

Kompas news discourse on terrorism, characteristics of terrorist, and description of the terrorist’s relatives is a reflection that comes from the facts and a representation of the given reality. Mass media plays a role as an arena that represents social facts relying on its newsmaking construction. In representing those social facts, mass media does not work autonomously. It depends on the economical, political, and social interests and publisher intervention. It is about how to select sources, facts, and facts presentation manifested in text to put emphasis on assumption that framework in news production integrates with its vested interests.