The Relationship of Exposure to Sexual Violence News in Online Media to Children with Parents’ Anxiety Level

Angel Paulina
Universitas Multimedia Nusantara, Tangerang
Email: angel57@student.umn.ac.id

Daniel Susilo
Universitas Multimedia Nusantara, Tangerang
Email: daniel.susilo@umn.ac.id

Abstract
The number of sexual violence against children in Indonesia continues to increase, this makes the media to be aggressive in reporting on these cases. Reports about sexual violence are often published through online media and each of these reports often has an impact on people who read the news, one of which is anxiety. In this study, the theory used is cultivation theory with the concepts of media exposure, sexual violence, and anxiety. This study uses a quantitative approach with an explanatory nature and a positivistic paradigm. The population in this study were 400 respondents with predetermined criteria. The data analysis technique used a normality test, correlation coefficient test, and simple linear regression analysis. The results showed that there was a relationship between exposure to news of sexual violence against children and the level of parental anxiety of 55.5%.

Keywords: anxiety level, news exposure, online media, sexual violence.
INTRODUCTION

The number of violence against children in Indonesia has increased every year, this statement is supported by data taken from the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia in 2021 which states that there are 7,134 children experiencing violence in Indonesia and the highest type of violence, namely sexual violence, is as many as 7,134 children. 4,406 people with the largest age range of children, namely 13-17 years old (Simfoni-PPA, 2021). From these data, it can be seen that children are considered innocent, weak, and always dependent on adults who cause sexual violence, so it will be easy for the perpetrators to carry out their actions. In "Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection Article 1 Number 1, a child is someone who is not yet 18 years old (eighteen years), including children who are still in the womb" (RI, 2014). The high rate of sexual violence against children has attracted the attention of journalists to raise cases of sexual violence as news in the media.

Reporting on sexual violence is one of the reports that is often judged by the media as interesting news, this is because news about sexual violence contains news that can increase news circulation, namely sex (Rossy & Wahid, 2015). Violence is also carried out through online media. Online media has flexible characteristics compared to other media, online media is also two-way in which it is not only journalists who can reveal visible sexual violence, but audiences who have experienced sexual violence can also tell the public online media. Some time ago there was news about the violence that befell three minors in East Luwu, where the three children were abused by their biological father. The incident occurred in early October 2019, when the eldest child of the parents felt pain in the vagina and told the woman's parents that she had been raped by her father (Purnamasari, 2021);(Susilo, 2021). News of simultaneous attacks by several online media, namely: Liputan 6 SCTV, Kompas.com, Merdeka.com, Tribunnews.com, and many more.

The number of reports of sexual violence in online media can trigger exposure. Media exposure can be understood as the activity of hearing, viewing, and spelling messages in the media or experiencing and paying attention to these messages that may occur to individuals or groups, so that media exposure can have an impact on the audience, namely the emergence of anxiety. The use of media can affect a person's behavior and feelings, one of which is the level of anxiety he has (anxiety). Anxiety will never escape from human life. Surely
all humans have experienced anxiety. This is also the case with reporting on cases of sexual violence against children, which is always there, making some people or especially parents anxious for the safety of their children and think that the life around them is starting to become unsafe. Anxiety has several levels according to the symptoms experienced by parents. According to Gail W. Stuart, the level of anxiety, namely normal, mild anxiety, moderate anxiety, severe anxiety, and panic (Anissa & Ifdil, 2016).

Every exposure faced by parents to news about sexual violence against children cannot be ascertained to be directly proportional to the level of parental anxiety. According to Fitria Kurnia Ningrum in the title "The Relationship of Exposure to Sexual Violence in Children with Housewives' Anxiety (Correlational Study of Sexual Violence Reporting on Children on Television with Housewives' Anxiety in Surabaya)" said that the exposure to the news had no relationship with anxiety levels. However, in other studies, there is a relationship between news exposure and anxiety levels. This is supported by a study entitled "The Relationship of Exposure to Criminal News "Liputan 6 SCTV" with Anxiety Levels of Parents in RT 61 Loa Bakung Sungai Kunjang Samarinda" which said that there was a relationship between exposure to criminal news conveyed by the mass media (Liputan 6 SCTV) with the level of parental anxiety. The two examples of previous research above conclude that media exposure does not always have an anxious effect on the audience, and it is not always that media exposure does not give an anxious effect on the audience. This shows that any media exposure experienced by the audience depends on the attitudes, thoughts, and actions of the audience.

This study relates to one of the theories of mass communication that is often used in researching television media, namely the theory of cultivation. Cultivation theory was first developed by George Gerbner and his colleagues, who focused their studies on violence on television. According to Akinyi (2016) along with the development of the era, cultivation theory is not only used in mass media, but also in online media which has a relationship with cultivation theory. The emergence of online media can cause changes in media consumption because online media can provide television content through video-on-demand platforms. This is since not many studies have discussed cultivation theory in online media. A study of media use and behavioral intentions noted that there is a strong relationship between online media use and behavioral intentions (Akinyi, 2016); (Michelle & Susilo, 2021).
The relationship between the Cultivation theory and this research is that the Cultivation theory which discusses violence is related to this research, namely examining sexual violence in online media. This cultivation theory also says that every media exposure that occurs affects the audience, this is also related to this research, namely the emergence of anxiety after news exposure.

As one of the most common types of violence every year, sexual violence against children is considered to influence readers, especially parents with children. From year to year, it can be seen that the number of sexual violence against children continues to increase, and these cases continue to be reported through the media, one of which is online media. Therefore, the researcher believes that the more news about sexual violence against children in online media, the more the impact received from the news exposure, one of which is the level of anxiety. However, every exposure to news faced by parents cannot be ascertained to be directly proportional to the level of parental anxiety. Therefore, the researcher wanted to find out whether exposure to news of sexual violence against children in online media had a significant relationship to the level of parental anxiety, and the researcher wanted to re-test the hypothesis regarding “The Relationship between News Exposure of Sexual Violence Against Children with Parental Anxiety Levels.”

The purpose of this research is to find out whether there is a relationship and how big is the relationship between exposure to news of sexual violence in online media on children and the level of parental anxiety.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research uses a quantitative approach with an explanatory nature and a positivistic paradigm. The data collection method in this research is a survey method with the research instrument in the form of a questionnaire. This research is associative which intends to complete the data of a study (Octaviana & Susilo, 2021). By using a survey, the researcher obtains information and data about the research and obtains a comprehensive description, and explains the relationship between variables, so that the final results of the study will provide a proving conclusion. The population in this study were parents in Banten Province with a sample of 400 respondents with predetermined criteria. The reason for choosing Banten province was because according to the chairman of the National LPA Commission (Rostanti, 2021) Banten province was the 9th of 34 provinces that had the highest number of
sexual violence cases and based on data taken through the Ministry of Women's
Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia, the victims of sexual
violence are mostly felt by children, which can be said to be children aged 0-17 years (Simfoni-
PPA, 2021).

The sampling method used in this research is non-probability sampling. Non-
probability sampling techniques generally aim to take samples from an infinite population or
a population whose number and identity are unknown). The non-probability sampling
method in this research is purposive sampling because the sample is selected based on certain
considerations which are usually based on the research objectives. In this study there are
certain criteria, namely as follows:

- Parents who live in the province of Banten
- Have children aged 0-17 years (maximum children aged 17 years)
- Actively viewing news on social media
- Actively playing social media

The population in this study is not known for certain, so the researchers took samples
using an infinite population calculation, namely by using the Isaac & Michael formula
(Sugiyono, 2013), as follows:

\[
S = \frac{\lambda^2 N P Q}{d^2 (N-1) + \lambda^2 P Q}
\]

Information:

s = number of samples

\(^2= \) with \(dk = 1\), error rate = 5%

N = population size

P = Q = 0.5

D = 0.05

Calculation of samples with an infinite or unknown population can also be seen
through the table for determining the number of samples that have been determined based
on the level of error used (1%, 5%, and 10%). If viewed using the table for determining the
number of samples from an infinite population with an error rate of 5%, the sample of this study was 400 respondents. However, before distributing the questionnaire to a predetermined sample, the researcher will do a pretest first by taking from 10% of the respondents, which is distributing the questionnaire to 40 respondents with predetermined criteria.

RESULT

This study has 2 variables, namely the independent variable (News Exposure) and the dependent (Anxiety Level) entitled "The Relationship of Sexual Violence News Exposure in Online Media Against Children with Parental Anxiety Levels" which has a research objective, namely to find out whether there is and how much there is a large relationship between exposure to news of sexual violence in online media on children and the level of anxiety of parents in Banten Province. This study uses a quantitative approach with an explanatory nature and a positivistic paradigm. The method used in data collection is a survey method, with a questionnaire research instrument distributed to 400 respondents with predetermined criteria, namely domiciled in Banten Province, has children aged 0-17 years, actively sees news in online media, and likes or has never seen news of sexual violence against children. The whole process of data analysis used the IBM SPSS Statistics 25 application. Before distributing the questionnaires to 400 respondents, the researcher conducted a pretest to 40 people to test the validity and reliability tests to find out whether the statements were valid and reliable or not. These variables consist of 27 statements which are divided into 9 statements for variable X and 18 statements for variable Y.

Normality test

A normality test is a test conducted to determine whether the data obtained can be said to be normally distributed or not. In this study, we will use graphical analysis to determine whether the data is normally distributed or not. In graph analysis, you can look at the P-Plot graph or probability plot and histogram as a reference in seeing whether the data is normally distributed or not. In the P-Plot graph, the data is declared to be normally distributed if the data is spread adjacent to the existing diagonal line, while the histogram is declared normal if the mode, mean, and median are in the center or the form of a bell-like pattern. The results of the normality test of research data using graphic analysis are as follows:
As seen from the picture above, shows that the histogram has a bell-like shape and is in the middle, not tilted to the left or right and almost all of the bars are inside the histogram line. While the picture on the P-Plot shows that the data is spread around the line and not far from the line. Based on the results of the normality test above, it can be concluded that the data are normally distributed and the research can be continued by using parametric tests.

**Correlation Coefficient Test**
Table 1. Pearson Product Moment Correlation Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source: Personal Data Process</th>
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Viewed from table 4.12, it is known that the value of the correlation coefficient between variables is 0.745 with a positive value. A positive correlation means that it is directly proportional, that is, if the first variable is high, the other variables will also be high. So with this, it can be concluded that there is a positive and directly proportional relationship between variable X (News Exposure) and variable Y (Anxiety Level).

The coefficient value obtained in the study is 0.745, it can be concluded that the correlation value of this study falls into the 0.71-0.90 category which has a strong meaning or level of relationship. Therefore, the level of relationship between exposure to news of sexual violence in online media for children and the level of parental anxiety can be categorized as very strong.

The results of the correlation test above also show a significance value of 0.000 (<0.05). Based on the decision-making basis for the probability of Pearson's Product Moment Correlation test, the News Exposure variable has a significant relationship with the Anxiety Level variable.

**Simple Linear Regression Test**

In addition to the normality test and correlation test, a regression test is needed to determine the effect of a variable on other variables, and want to know how much influence or relationship between variable X (news exposure) and variable Y (anxiety level). Judging from the magnitude of the relationship value (R), which is 0.745 and the coefficient of
determination (R2) is 0.555, it shows that exposure to news about sexual violence in online media on children has a considerable influence on the level of parental anxiety, which is 55.5%, while the rest is influenced by other variables (44.5%). Based on the regression test of each dimension of the X variable to the Y variable, it shows that the dimension that has the highest influence on the anxiety level variable is the attention dimension, which is 47.4%. This is influenced by the level of focus and attention given to the news about sexual violence against children in online media, in other words, parents have anxiety about their children as a result of paying more attention when reading or watching the news about sexual violence against children in online media.

Table 2. R-Square Test Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Model Summary</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Predictors: (Constant), Terpaan Berita

Source: Personal Data Process

Table 3. Simple Linear Regression Coefficient Test

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coefficients(^a)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Model</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 (Constant)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terpaan Berita</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

\(^a\) Dependent Variable: Tingkat Kecemasan

Source: Personal Data Process

There is a form of regression equation in this study, namely \( Y = 7.383 + 1.729(X) \). From the regression equation above, it can be concluded that the news exposure variable has an effect of 1,729 on the anxiety level variable. This value means that for every 1% addition of news exposure, the anxiety level variable will increase by 1,729. So with that, the higher the news of sexual violence against children, the higher the level of anxiety in parents. The results
of the simple regression test also show a t-count value of 22,274 with a significance value of 0.000<0.05, so according to the basis for making decisions, the news exposure variable has a significant effect on the anxiety level variable. That way it can be stated that H0 is rejected and H1 is accepted. Based on the explanation above, proves that the concept used in this study is in line with previous research taken from Musa Idah (2017) and Firda Meilita Wulandari (2021).

There is a relationship between exposure to news of sexual violence against children and the level of parental anxiety by Cultivation theory, where the theory states that when a person consumes media intensively, it can affect changes in a person's behavior, attitudes, views, and thoughts. This is the same as the results of the research described above. This is also in line with the research researched by Odhiambo Brenda Akinyi, entitled "Social Media and Youth Perception of Feminism in Kenya: The Case of Youth at The University of Nairobi", in the study of media use and behavioral intentions noted that there is a significant relationship strong relationship between online media use and behavioral intentions (Akinyi, 2016). In this case, exposure to news about sexual violence against children has an influence and relationship with the behavior and attitudes of the person, which can cause anxiety.

In addition, the results of the study prove that of the 3 instruments in the news exposure variable (X), namely frequency, duration, and attention, the dimension that has the most influence on the level of anxiety is attention. This can be seen from the R square value of 47.4%, which is the largest value compared to the value of other instruments (see table 4.19).

**Variable X Regression Test Against Variable Y**

Activities in reading news about sexual violence against children, especially in online media will provide new knowledge to the readers which will later have an impact to have an impact on acting in determining attitudes and impacts. This statement is following the data generated from this study contained in the anxiety level variable. The statement that has the highest mean is in the affective dimension, which is 3.45 with the majority of respondents answering strongly agree with the statement that there is an impact from reading news about sexual violence against children, namely feeling that the surrounding environment is starting to become unsafe for their children. From these results it can be concluded that the
continuous exposure to news about sexual violence against children in online media will have a negative impact, namely, the feeling of anxiety felt by parents and the presence of news exposure about sexual violence against children makes the majority of respondent’s worry for the safety of their children to make parents feel that the environment in which they are has begun to be unsafe for the safety of their children.

CONCLUSION

Results based on the research and discussion that has been done by distributing 400 respondents, can be said as follows. First, there is a significant relationship between exposure to news of sexual violence in online media and the level of parental anxiety. So it can be said that H1 is accepted. Second, there is a fairly high correlation with the level of parental anxiety, which is 55.5%, while the negative influence of other variables outside this study (44.5%). Third, there is a correlation significance value of 0.000 (<0.05). Based on the basic decision-making of the Pearson Product Moment Correlation probability test, it can be said that the News Exposure variable is significant with the Anxiety Level variable. Apart from the three conclusions above, the researcher also found the results of the study, namely that news exposure had an effect of 1,729 on the anxiety level variable. This value means that for every 1% addition of news exposure, the anxiety level variable will increase by 1,729. Thus, the higher the news of sexual violence against children, the higher the level of anxiety in parents.

In testing the hypothesis, the researcher used a simple linear regression test. Based on the results of a simple linear regression test, there is a t-count value of 22,274, where in the t table the sig value of 0.05 with a df of 400 is 1,966 or 22,274 > 1,966, and a significance value of 0.000 <0.05, it can be concluded that H1 is accepted and H0 is rejected.

All of the conclusions above, it has been answered from the formulation of the problem of this research which states that the high exposure to news of sexual violence in online media against children has a significant relationship with the level of anxiety of parents, so it can produce the essence of the conclusions of this study, namely "There is a Relationship Between Exposure News of Sexual Violence in Online Media Against Children with Parental Anxiety Levels".
Through this research, it is hoped that further research that wants to conduct similar research can explore more deeply the theories and concepts used, and can use different methodologies or variables so that they can find out the remaining amount of influence (44.5%) which is influenced by other variables outside of this study. This research can also be investigated qualitatively to find out more deeply and in detail about the level of anxiety felt by parents with news exposure about sexual violence against children in online media. Other researchers can also explore the factors that support the effect of anxiety levels on online media readers.

Based on the results of research and discussion that has been carried out in chapter 4, it can be seen that the dimension that has the highest influence on the anxiety level variable is the dimension of attention. The attention dimension is used to find out how much focus and attention parents give to the content of the news about sexual violence they consume. The content of information about sexual violence has a high influence on the response of the readers. Therefore, researchers provide input to news editors and journalists to continue to use good and correct journalistic rules so as not to cause excessive effects on the community and maintain the validity of the news, because the final impact received by readers is determined by the type of content given by journalists in providing news.

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