Manifestation of Political Agenda Behind Covid-19 Reports in Indonesia

Teisar Arkida*, Djatmika, Riyadi Santosa

Magister Programme of Linguistics, Faculty of Cultural Science, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta 57126, Indonesia
semiotei@gmail.com*

Abstract: Alongside health workers, media crew also bears the heavy burden of conveying information during the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic. In conveying information, media constructs framing by encouraging certain parts so that the highlighted information has influence on conclusions drawing and personal judgments of readers. We argue that Covid-19 news text carries political messages which illustrates media's hidden agenda. Accordingly, this study examines framing in COVID-19 news text to understand the use of evaluation language in building the images of Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo as presidential candidates for 2024. Descriptive-qualitative research in kompas.com was carried out through content analysis using SFL approach and attitude framework. The findings reveal that journalists use every aspect of attitude to build positive impression in the news text. However, behind this positive impression a political framing was formed. Anies is potrayed as ambitious formed through +valuation, +impact, -propriety, while Ganjar is depicted as persistent and sincere utilizing +tenacity, +inclination, and +security. Finally, pandemic news report on kompas.com contains bias that is detrimental to Anies but favorable to Ganjar. This bias has the potential to turn into new social values that can affect the political situation in 2024.

Keywords—sfl; attitude; covid-19 framing; online news text

1. INTRODUCTION

The Covid-19 pandemic has forced all nation in the world to be involved in efforts to save every inhabitant. With the world in upheaval over Covid-19 as a biological disaster, many aspects of life have been impacted, including social conditions.[1] In addition, governments must implement adaptation strategies in the face of a health crisis. Therefore, effectively spreading information about the development of Covid-19 plays a key role in saving human lives.[2] In Indonesia, the government's delay in responding to the crisis and the dissemination of unclear and inconsistent information and unclear decisions has been costly for the health of the population. Beside the health condition, new normal adaptations including the school closures policy also became the most discussed topic in media. Later when the vaccine has been deployed to the public in 2021, the topic began to shift in various directions such as government's vaccination program including the socio-political issue it entails.

In such conditions, media plays a vital role in expressing social thoughts and national agendas built in the form of national discourse on social interaction through news texts. In addition, news texts are the result of conscious formation of considerations, motives, as well as ideological, economic, idealism and practical political agendas.[5–9] Thus, various reactions have arisen in the society toward various political figures who has the responsibility of dealing with the pandemic. Such situation was created as the result of a social process built by the media utilizing information on Covid-19 handling. The use of COVID-19 information as a means of building public images of such political figures is a form of a journalistic text organization strategy called framing.

Framing involves placing information in a special context to focus on certain parts of an issue. Therefore, the highlighted information can strongly influence people's conclusions and judgments.[10] From a linguistic point of view, thoughts and social values in a cultural context formed through texts are considered as a form of social process. It is structured by taking into account the selection of certain linguistic elements specifically and systematically as a social semiotic system.[11] The system allows the author, in this case the journalist, to carry out linguistic social process by choosing relevant linguistic options according to the objectives of the interaction. They can also emphasize a specific perspective to further reinforce the social reality they built. Such process is a reflection of the function of language as a system of social interaction which is called as interpersonal function as part of Systemic Functional Linguistics.[12] Halliday states that Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) models language in accordance to function (ideational, interpersonal, textual), namely the function of language is theorized, described, and analyzed according to the context where language used or operated as social semiotics system.[12] Language in the concept of social semiotics have role as sign or symbol system that expresses cultural values and norms of certain society in a linguistic social process.[11] In relation to framing, interpersonal functions in news texts are realized by utilizing elements of interpersonal language called as appraisal system.[13]

Briefly, appraisal traverses the language of evaluation, the emotional strength of the attitudes negotiated in the discourse, as well as various ways to express these values to the interlocutor and the reader.[14] The apraisal system uses a research framework to anayze the form of positive and negative evaluation in text, otherwise known as attitude framework.[14] As a language research framework, attitude framework studies

attitudinal and evaluative (values) language. In addition, attitude works on the meaning system at the discourse level without neglecting the semantic elements at the lexicogrammatical and phonological or graphological levels.[11] In this way, the attitude framework becomes a comprehensive and principled discourse evaluation model as a way to map implicit and explicit attitudes in the use of evaluative language when communicators position themselves with their own arguments. [15] Furthermore, the analysis of the use of attitude frameworks in news texts provides insight beyond the words journalists use.

Attitude is a semantic resource used to express feelings, judgments, and appreciation. Traditionally, attitude is related to three semantic areas, namely emotion, ethics and aesthetics.[13] Technically, it is divided into three types: expressing emotions; assessing character; and appreciating the value of things. The type of evaluation of feelings is called affect, the type of character assessment is called judgement, and the type of assessment of objects is called appreciation.[14] Thus, it can be summarized that affect is an emotional assessment, judgment is a moral evaluation about human behavior in general, and appreciation is a functional or aesthetic assessment.[16] In the formation of framing in news texts, attitude has an important role in building positive and negative images of certain political figures by attracting the emergence of various types of evaluative reactions from its readers based on culturally agreed values.

In the news, journalists use attitude framework to not only express their attitudes implicitly or explicitly on certain issues, but also establish and negotiate social relations or positions in the sense of creating and expressing viewpoints on everything, as well as influencing and changing the reader's social viewpoints.[17] Based on this explanation, it is possible that COVID-19 news not only relays information about COVID-19, but also contains political value being used as a frame to give positive or negative images of certain political figures. Therefore, media framing in the pandemic era is important to study considering that linguistic social interaction has a major role in forming social reality. In addition, the linguistic behavior of attiude in forming framing needs to be analyzed by taking into account the point of view and ideology of the media so as to produce an explanation of variations in patterns, behaviors and forms of different language universes.

Furthermore, attitude research in general from the last decade has been investigated to examine various aspects of political discourse. The most popular topic in research in this field is the attempt to uncover media ideology.[18–25] In addition, several researchers have also tried to detect interpersonal attitudes of journalists in compiling news texts.[26–30] Moreover, attitude framework is also processed to compare journalists' positions as well as different media ideologies.[31–34] These studies have succeeded in providing an overview of the use of evaluation language in news texts. In addition, the findings can explain the use of evaluation language and its persuasive point of view in detail as linguistic evidence

that represents media ideology. Unfortunately, these studies have not reconstructed their findings to find specific patterns of language behavior that form the hidden framing found in certain discourses.

Meanwhile, mass media draws public attention to certain issues and builds pictures of political figures by presenting suggestions that form public opinion regarded as correct, including what they think, know, and feel.[35] In other words, the way mass media portrays political figures deserves serious and important attention. However, previous research has focused more on the attitude of journalists towards the issues that cause pro and con reactions. Not many have raised issues with a neutral tendency as well as researching the use of the evaluation language in processing the issue as a framing builder about certain political figures in society. Therefore, the evaluations found need to be reconstructed as a language building that represents descriptions about the figures who become the source of the news. Hence, this condition leaves research gap in the form of the realization and implication of the evaluation language in forming the framing of figures with different political positions in the pandemic era.

Accordingly, this study seeks to investigate the implementation of attitude framework in shaping political framing or public images of Anis Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo in the COVID-19 news text on kompas.com. Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo are considered to have balanced power and chance as the candidate of 2024 Indonesian presidential election.[36] Kompas.com selected as source of data because the online media becomes most visited Indonesian news in 2021 according to Similarweb.[37] Besides, kompas.com also has the highest social engagement in Indonesia according to Alexa.[38] These aspects are urgent because the number of social media users in Indonesia continue to experience enhancement every year. It was recorded that in 2021 there were 21 million new users, adding to the total social media users in Indonesia to 191.4 million in January 2022 based on the DataReportal.[39]

2. METHODOLOGY

To investigate the framing arrangement of Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo in the news text on kompas.com, this study adopted a descriptive-qualitative type of research. Descriptive includes the development of concepts that produce conceptual patterns of a certain cultural phenomenon based on the results of observations, classifications, and interpretations of inter-category relationships so that the phenomenon under study can be described in a systematic, systemic, and holistic manner.[40] Besides, qualitative linguistic research has the belief that meaning is socially shaped so it focuses on how participants experience and interact with a certain phenomenon in a certain time and context. [41]

Then the Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) approach was chosen in this study by utilizing attitude framework that acts as an interpersonal system at the level of sematic discourse.

Attitude concentrates on trying to explain the subjective presence of journalists in news texts based on feelings and evaluations in order to build social values, especially in the form of framing, on what is negotiated with their communication partners. Thus, the framing of the COVID-19 crisis management in kompas.com can be explained by presenting detailed and structured linguistic evidence. In this study, the main aspect of appraisal theory called attitude is used as a reference for the research framework.

Furthermore, by paying attention to the "focus-determined boundary", this research uses media research boundaries.[40,42] That is, the research location in this study is the online media kompas.com along with the COVID-19 news text. In connection with that, the source of data in this study is the news text of the development of the handling of COVID-19 in DKI Jakarta and Central Java from kompas.com. The selected news text is news published after the peak of the daily transmission trend on July 15, 2021. Moreover, the news should be prominent, important and influential in the society, measured through citizen engagement through news pages and social media. Thus, the data in this study are all vocabularies, word groups, and clauses that contain interaction domains within the attitude framework, namely affect, judgement, and appreciation. The data is collected from data sources using total sampling technique and identified according to the need for categorization by document analysis or content analysis methods. In addition, the data is validated by using triangulation of sources in the form of documents.[40]

Then, the data analysis in this study used Spradley's content analysis stage[43] which consisted of domain, taxonomy, componential, and cultural theme analysis.[40] Furthermore, analysis of domains, taxonomies, componentials, and cultural themes can help find common threads or patterns of relationships based on findings in the context of language in use as a whole.[40] Content analysis is used to digest the form, meaning, function of social behavior in the context of a large document including coding and categorization. The domain analysis on the COVID-19 handling news text is arranged based on the type of domain (included term) namely kompas.com and the part (covered term) namely Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo. Taxonomic analysis is carried out by organizing the data by compiling a classification of forms and meanings based on attitude framework which is divided into affect, judgment, and appreciation. The third is componential analysis, which is an analysis that connects all domain and taxonomy categories into one matrix.[40] In this step, the pattern of reporting and depiction or framing of political figures in the Covid-19 news on Kompas.com will be revealed.

After all the types of analysis previously mentioned (domain, taxonomy, componential) are complete, the last step is to carry out a cultural theme analysis. This analysis is a step in finding common threads or patterns of relationships based on previous analyzes of the complete context of language use.[40]

As a result, the use of evaluation language in forming framing can be proven linguistically by paying attention to the cultural context so that language behavior and linguistic social processes that occur can be described logically, scientifically, systematically, and holistically.

3. RESULTS

The results of the analysis of evaluation language in use to form the framing of Anies Baswedan and Ganjar Pranowo in the COVID-19 news on Kompas.com show that journalists use all aspects of attitude, namely affect, judgment, and appreciation. Furthermore, these findings will be described in detail one by one starting with Anies Baswedan, followed by Ganjar Pranowo, and closed with a discussion to compare the results of the framing analysis of the two. The findings are described to explain the framing role as a new form of social values created by kompas.com journalists that have the potential to influence Indonesia's political situation in 2024. In addition, the discussion section also explains the behavior of the evaluation language by comparing it with other research contexts.

3.1 MEDIA FRAMING FOR ANIES BASWEDAN

Based on the analysis of three COVID-19 news texts with news source Anies Baswedan, 75 data on attitudes were found from 57 clauses. The data consists of affect, judgement, and appreciation, positive or negative. In other words, all aspects of attitudes were used in forming the framing of Anies. Complete distribution of the data can be seen in table 1.

The number of attitudes that far exceeds the number of clauses make up the text indicates high intensity of evaluation language use. From the three analyzed texts, it can be seen that all of them have a higher number of attitudes than the number of clauses. The high intensity of evaluation language has the potential to cause the news text composition less balanced.[18]

Meanwhile, the attitude that composes the framing of Anies is dominated by appreciation as much as 42 data (56%), followed by judgement as much as 25 data (33%), and lastly affect is only used 8 times (11%). More specifically, positive appreciation is the most frequently used evaluation language feature (32 data) followed by negative judgment (14 data), positive judgment (11 data), negative appreciation (10 data), positive affect (7 data), and the least is negative affect (1 data).

Table 1: Attitude distribution on Anies Baswedan framing

Data source		Clause	Attitude	Affect		Judgement		Appreciation	
				+	-	+	-	+	-
Anies	text 1	10	14	3	0	3	2	4	2
	text 2	21	31	4	0	8	9	7	3
	text 3	26	30	0	1	0	3	21	5
	∑	57	75	7	1	11	14	32	10
				9%	1%	15%	19%	43%	13%
				8		25		42	
				11%		33%		56%	

A total of 75 attitudes data were found consisting of 50 positive attitudes (67%) and 25 negative attitudes (33%). This means that, in general, news texts reporting on Anies' performance tend to have a positive nuance. This illustrates the condition of the development on the pandemic handling which is increasingly showing a positive trend after passing the peak of positive cases in mid-July 2021. However, these positive nuances do not always represent the framing depiction aimed at Anies. Therefore, it is necessary to pay close attention to the distribution of each aspect of attitudes and their features. [44]

The first is affect, which is the attitude aspect that shows an assessment of people's feelings. It is composed of 7 positive affect and 1 negative affect. In more detail, the findings of affect consist of +satisfaction (3 data), +security (3 data), +inclination (1 datum) features, -inclination (1 datum). The highest number of affect features only consists of +satisfaction and +security with 3 data each. This number is not strong enough to represent the framing depiction in the 3 analyzed texts. Thus, it can be stated that affect is not dominantly used to build Anis' image. Besides, affect is seldom used in non-fiction text since emotional reaction is considered biased and unproductive.[45]

Furthermore, in the analysis of the second type of attitude, namely judgement, relating to the assessment of a person's behavior, it was found that as many as 25 data consisted of 11 positive judgements and 14 negative judgements. In detail, the judgement features found are +veracity (8 data), -veracity (8 data), -propriety (5 data), +capacity (2 data), +tenacity (1 datum), -capacity (1 datum). From these findings, it can be seen that the dominant feature is -propriety. Veracity is not considered dominant because the negative and positive features are balanced. Thus, the dominance of negative propriety features implies an impression of being impolite or unethical.[13]

The last one is appreciation. The most dominant attitude aspect that describes Anies' image was used 42 times with details of 32 positive appreciations and 10 negative appreciations. The overwhelming number of appreciations was built on +valuation (15 data), +impact (14 data), -quality (3 data), -valuation (3 data), -impact (2 data), +quality (2 data), -balance (1 datum), +complexity (1 datum), -complexity (1 datum). From these details, it can be seen that the appreciation aspect building is dominated by positive valuation and positive impact. These features make positive impressions in the form of evaluations of ideational worth and attention-grabbing benefits oriented to interpersonal significance.[13]

Thus, the overall impressions of Anies Baswedan built up in the COVID-19 news text on kompas.com are, in order of the most dominant, consisting of +valuation, +impact, and -propriety. In other words, the framing built by kompas.com for Anies took advantage of the types of attitudes namely judgement and appreciation. The analysis evidence of these attitude features is presented as follows:

+valuation: *bahkan beberapa kali kita **di atas 30 kali standar WHO**," ucapnya.* (even several times we are **above 30 times the WHO standard**," he said.) (ANI/T03/18c/app.+val)

+impact: *"Perkembangan terbaru, tadi barusan kami lihat sama-sama, IGD-IGD sekarang ruangannya **banyak yang kosong**,* ("The latest development, we just saw it together, the emergency rooms **now have a lot of empty rooms**,) (ANI/T03/04a/app.+imp)

-propriety: *Gubernur DKI Jakarta Anies Baswedan **mengeklaim** bahwa dunia tercengang melihat penanganan Covid-19 di Indonesia.* (DKI Jakarta Governor Anies Baswedan **claimed** that the world was astonished to see the handling of Covid-19 in Indonesia.) (ANI/T01/02/jdg.-pro)

The positive impressions built through valuation and impact illustrate Anies' achievement for his success in leading Jakarta through the peak period of positive COVID-19 cases. This can be seen from the example of the analysis above. It is stated that Jakarta has 30 times the number of Covid testing above the

WHO standard and the latest developments show that many IGD rooms are empty. However, the existence of a negative impression in the form of -propriety is vital because this feature is included in the judgement aspect which is an assessment of Anies' behavior. That is to say, Jakarta's success in going through the peak period of the COVID-19 crisis is assessed as Anies' own claim. By using the constituent "claimed", Anies seems to want to get recognition for his success. In conditions of a pandemic that has not ended, of course this is something inappropriate. Therefore, it appears that Anies is framed as a political figure who is unethical because he tends to highlight his success even though the pandemic condition has not completely ended.

3.2 MEDIA FRAMING FOR GANJAR PRANOWO

The analysis of three COVID-19 news texts with the news source Ganjar Pranowo resulted in 60 attitudes data from 62 clauses. The data consists of affect, judgment, and appreciation. All types of positive evaluations were found and all types of negative evaluations appeared except for negative affect. The complete distribution of the data can be seen in table 2.

In contrast to the findings for Anies, the number of attitudes in the COVID-19 news text with news source Ganjar Pranowo looks more balanced.

Table 1: Attitude distribution on Ganjar Pranowo framing

Data source		Clause	Attitude	Affect		Judgement		Appreciation	
				+	-	+	-	+	-
Ganjar	text 1	18	20	3	0	8	3	3	3
	text 2	24	22	6	0	14	0	0	2
	text 3	20	18	7	0	4	0	6	1
	Σ	62	60	16	0	26	3	9	6
				27%	0%	43%	5%	15%	10%
				16		29		15	
				27%		48%		25%	

From the three analyzed texts, it can be seen that only text 1 has a number of attitudes exceeding the number of clauses that make up the text by a thin margin. Hence, it is known that the texts tend to be balanced.[18]

Meanwhile, the attitudes that are structured to form the framing of Ganjar Pranowo are dominated by judgment as much as 29 data (48%), followed by affect as much as 16 data (27%) which is almost offset by appreciation as much as 15 data (25%). In a more specific division, positive judgment is the most frequently used evaluation language feature (26 data) followed by positive affect (16 data), positive appreciation (9 data), negative appreciation (6 data), and negative judgment (3 data).

Furthermore, as many as 60 data attitudes were found consisting of 42 positive attitudes (70%) and 18 negative attitudes (30%). Thus, in general, news texts reporting on Ganjar's leadership in dealing with the pandemic tend to be positive. This is in line with the development situation in handling the pandemic which is increasingly showing a positive trend after passing the peak of positive cases in mid-

July 2021. However, in order to provide a more specific image, it is necessary to pay close attention to the distribution of each attitude aspect and their features.[44]

The first is affect which is an assessment of people's feelings. This aspect is composed of 16 positive affect and 0 negative affect. In more detail, the findings of affect shows that it consists of the features +inclination (8 data), +security (7 data), and +happiness (1 datum). Thus, it is known that the affect forming Ganjar's image is built on the positive features of inclination and security. These features indicate the involvement of attention and a sense of security concerned with ecosocial well-being in the development of the pandemic handling.[13]

The second type of evaluation language relates to the assessment of a person's behavior, namely judgement. The results of the analysis show that there are 29 data findings consisting of 26 positive judgements and 3 negative judgements. The abundance of judgements is composed of the features of +tenacity (18 data), +propriety (5 data), +capacity (2 data), -propriety (2 data), and -tenacity (1 datum). From these findings, the +tenacity feature looks abundant and very

dominant. Propriety features are not considered as dominant because they are few in number after deducting by the negative types. Thus, the dominance of such positive tenacity features implies a strong impression of a firm, loyal, and resolute.[13]

The last one is appreciation. The attitude aspect that the least describes Ganjar's image was found 15 times with details of 9 positive appreciations and 6 negative appreciations. The data of appreciation consist of +impact (5 data), -impact (3 data), +quality (2 data), +valuation (2 data), -quality (1 datum), -balance (1 datum), and -valuation (1 datum). From these details, by considering the positive and negative evaluations, it can be seen that this type of appreciation evaluation is not dominated by certain features. This means that this feature is not taken into consideration by journalists in shaping Ganjar's image.

Based on these findings, overall impressions built on Ganjar in the COVID-19 news text on Kompas.com are in order of the most dominant consisting of +tenacity, +inclination, and +security. In other words, kompas.com framing building for Ganjar utilizes two types of attitudes namely judgement and affect. Evidence of the analysis of these attitude features is presented as follows:

+tenacity: *Baliho Tokoh Politik Mulai Bertebaran, Ganjar **Pilih "Ngurusi"** Covid-19* (Billboards of Political Figures Begin to Spread, Ganjar **Choose to "Take Care"** of Covid-19) (GAN/T01/01/jdg.+ten)
+inclination: "Saya **ingin merasakan** semangat mereka (tenaga kesehatan) saja. ("I just **want to feel** their spirit (health workers).) (GAN/T02/08/aff.+inc)
+security: *"Covid belum selesai.* (**"Covid is not over yet.**) (GAN/T03/05/aff.+sec)

It can be seen that the attitude features used by journalists as described above all have a positive impression. The positive impressions built through this feature illustrate the focus highlighted by journalists in portraying the figure of Ganjar. This focus is illustrated in the persistent nature of Ganjar while leading Central Java in the face of the peak of the pandemic. For example, this persistence is proven through the constituents of "choose to 'take care of' Covid-19". In addition, the positive inclination feature illustrates that the persistence is carried out on the basis of sincerity and closeness to the community as Ganjar stated that he wanted to feel the spirit of the health workers. Furthermore, the positive security feature is a complement which implies that apart from being persistent and sincere, Ganjar is also caring by always reminding the public that "covid is not over yet". Thus, Ganjar is framed as a leader who cares and is loyal to fight with the community in the face of a pandemic in order to realize shared security.

4. DISCUSSION

COVID-19 news texts reporting pandemic handling by Anies and Ganjar are generally built with positive impression.

This is in contrast to previous studies.[22,28,32] These differences in findings are most likely influenced by the differences in news text characteristic studied. Aforementioned previous studies discussed the pros and cons issues, while in this study the news texts used as data sources discussed neutral issue, namely the Covid-19 pandemic. In addition, the data source context is also important because the news texts analyzed in this study were deliberately chosen in a timeframe where the circulation of information was filled with positive news related to the development of pandemic handling. Therefore, this research does not only focus on the issues discussed in news text, but also strives to detect linguistic behavior towards certain political figures behind it.

The positive impression or atmosphere on the findings of this study illustrates the development condition of the pandemic handling which shows positive trend in the last six-month period of 2021. However, from a detailed analysis on composition and distribution of the attitude features, it was found that there were differences in the way of conveying the image or framing of the two governors. This can be used to detect the message behind the news text.[46] In addition, this hidden message needs to be exposed because social process conducted by the journalist have the potential to build new cultural values.[47]

The framing for Anies was composed of appreciation and judgement, while the framing for Ganjar was dominated by judgment followed by affect. From here the difference in framing is still vague. In a more detailed explanation, Anies is described with +valuation, +impact, -propriety, while Ganjar is described with +tenacity, +inclination, and +security. With this description, the framing direction that Kompas.com journalists tried to sneak into the public began to unraveled.

The finding of negative features in the framing composition for Anies has the potential to make Anies' image worsen. While the dominance of positive features in the framing building for Ganjar makes the negative image minimally formed. As mentioned in the previous section, the composition and distribution of such attitudes implies that Anies is described as an ambitious political figure, while Ganjar is described as a persistent and sincere political figure. This signifies tendency for kompas.com to give Anies a bad image while at the same time respecting and praising Ganjar's character. Such an imbalance indicates bias in the news text.[23,48]

In other words, Covid-19 news on kompas.com contains bias that is detrimental to Anies but favorable to Ganjar. This suggests the existence of certain agenda compiled by kompas.com in welcoming the 2024 political year—as after the peak of the pandemic in Indonesia passed, many parties linked the success of political figures in dealing with the pandemic with the potential to become presidential candidates in 2024. As stated by Lakoff, invoking certain frame repeatedly and consistently substantially influences discussion and perception of an issue.[49]

Furthermore, these findings were only known after carrying out an in-depth analysis of the arrangement and distribution of the attitude features. This indicates possibility that general public will only grasp these news texts as carriers of positive information related to the government's success in dealing with the pandemic peak in mid-July 2021. What public may unaware of, this information is also subtly used by journalists to shape political narratives that have the potential to affect the political scene in 2024. Meanwhile, society are naturally drawn to and influenced by framing, both psychologically and emotionally.[50]

The framing might be insignificive for the development of the pandemic handling in Indonesia. However, framing is a powerful tool to make sense of certain discourse, define experiences and catalogue past experiences for future use.[50] Thus, the slightest framing will be meaningful because it has strong potential to be taken as a starting point not only for public, but also for the media itself to appraise these political figures in the future.

5. CONCLUSION

COVID-19 news framing on kompas.com contains bias that is detrimental to Anies but favorable to Ganjar. The political narratives built potentially turn into cultural values that can affect the political situation in 2024. The framing was formed subtly through the arrangement and distribution of specific attitudes features hidden behind positive information about Covid-19 handling. Thus, beside accustomed of critical thinking, the public must also remain vigilant and wise in consuming and disseminating news and information through various media.

Political narratives and frames behind Covid-19 information are not only instigated from online news but also various social media platform, podcast, even advertisement. Framing findings can also be strengthened by including society reception. All of this will be a good foundation of discussion on political discourse from linguistics perspective—by taking into account the use of other parts of appraisal theory such as graduation and engagement—for a later time, for other researchers.

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