



## Gender Issues: a Critical Discourse on Articles in Online Media Magdalene. Co

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### Abstract

This study aims to determine how the discourse formation of articles on the issue of violence against women in the online media Magdalene.co which appeared from June to December 2021. This research uses descriptive qualitative research methods, the research subject is the author of articles on violence against women in Magdalene.co media and the object of research is articles on violence against women. The data collection techniques used in the research are documentation and interviews with parties related to the research theme. The data analysis method uses the Van Dijk model which consists of three dimensions, namely Text, Social Cognition, and Social Context. The data validity test uses triangulation techniques. The results of the research at the text level show that the discourse in the article on violence against women in the online media Magdalene.co. in the content of the article emphasizes the condition of women as victims of violence and some sentences show how the perpetrators of violence behave. Judging from the level of social cognition, Magdalene.co journalists in their articles emphasize the condition of women as victims of violence. Judging from the level of social context, information about women's harassment will always be a taboo issue for society. This issue will continue to be discussed in the community considering the number of victims of violence against women is quite large, so this will continue to be an issue that will be published in the mass media.

**Keywords:** Gender Issue, Critical Discourse Analysis, Women Violence, Magdalene. co

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## INTRODUCTION

The 2020 Annual Record (CATAHU) noted that there were 431,471 cases of violence against women reported and handled throughout 2019, which increased by 6% from the previous year and decreased in CATAHU 2021 by 31%. (Komnasperempuan.go.id). However, the decrease in the number of cases cannot be said to be a reduction in cases of violence against women.

The results of the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) survey on the dynamics of Violence Against Women (VAW) during the pandemic, the decline in the number of cases was due to victims not daring to report because they were close to the perpetrators during the pandemic (PSBB). Victims tend to complain to their families or remain silent, technological literacy issues, and complaint service models that are not ready for pandemic conditions (have not adapted to changing complaints to online).

Based on the number of VAW cases throughout 2020 amounting to 299,911 cases. This data was compiled from 3 sources, from the religious courts a total of 291,677 cases, from the National Commission on Violence Against Women partner service institutions a total of 8,234 cases, from the service and referral unit (UPR), a unit deliberately formed by the National Commission on Violence Against Women, to receive direct complaints from victims, a total of 2,389 cases, with a record of 2,134 cases being gender-based cases and 255 cases of which were non-gender-based cases or providing information.

Cases and sexual crimes against women have been widely featured in the mass media. The existence of mass media in the life of society cannot be separated, because mass media is a component that exists in society. If the mass media takes its place in society and becomes part of a whole system of society. The making of news and articles about cases of sexual harassment against women itself attracts quite a lot of public attention. Given that the discussion of violence against women is one of the sensitive themes to be discussed, this is because the object of the crime is a woman who is sometimes portrayed as inappropriate in the news. One of the cases of violence against women is the case of sexual harassment that occurred in the pesantren environment.



**Figure 1.1**  
**Source: Magdalene.co**

The above is one of the articles about violence against women published in the Magdalene.co media. Mainstream media and online media also discuss a lot about reporting on cases of crimes against women. But in making cases of violence against women, Magdalene.co media is a media that discusses how the victim's position in the case of abuse she experienced. Making news and articles in online media requires the formation of a discourse in presenting the news text that will be delivered to the audience. In this writing, discourse analysis is interpreted as an effort made to reveal certain intentions and meanings that exist in society behind the text of news content.

The existence of the press, as the fourth pillar of democracy in addition to the legislative, exclusive, and judicial branches, plays a very important role in the lives of people today. As the fourth pillar, print, electronic and even online mass media can be utilized as shapers of public opinion, channelers of people's aspirations, tools that can influence state political policies, and defenders of truth and justice. Magdalene is a for-profit online publication with the website [www.Magdalene.co](http://www.Magdalene.co). With its slogan "A lanted guide to women and issues", Magdalene aims to voice more universal issues related to humanity, but focuses more on gender issues, gender equality, and feminism.

Many issues of violence against women are discussed in Magdalene.co articles. One article that is quite interesting is about rape committed by police officers in North Maluku. With the title of the article "Police Rapist, To Whom Else Women Seek Help". The article was written by Purnama Ayu Rizki and uploaded in 2021. This article is an example of how difficult it is for women to seek protection against the harassment they experience. The official website describes Magdalene as follows:

"Magdalene is a women-focused publication that provides content and perspectives that are inclusive, critical, empowering and entertaining. We channel the voices of feminists, pluralists and progressive group. We believe in inclusive, diverse and solution journalism, and we want to be a safe space for you to be you. Come and share yout stories and throught with us".  
(Magdalene.co)

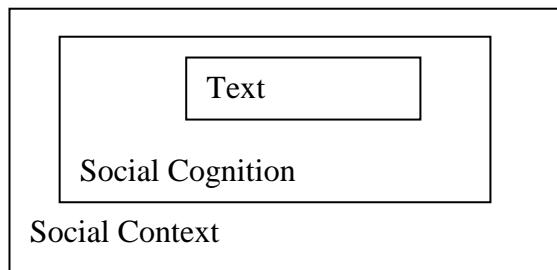
In this description, it can be understood that magdalene is an online media publication, offering new perspectives on distinctive gender and cultural issues, channeling feminist, pluralist and progressive voices. Magdalene.co is one of the different media where there are still many mass media that exploit and make women as objects in their news. Magdalene.co is present as a women's advocacy media, where this media can be a space for women to convey opinions or thoughts to audiences and readers that have been difficult to convey through mass media. (Magdalene.co).

Magdalene.co was founded by a journalist who had not found satisfaction in writing, besides that the biggest reason was that at that time she saw that there were not many media in Indonesia that discussed gender issues sharply and in depth. Magdalene is present as a media that voices the idea of managing public space from a woman's perspective. (Magdalene.co).

As one of the network-based mass media, magdalene.co is a form of creative effort that fights for women's issues through journalistic performance. Magdalene.co is one of the media that offers a new perspective by informing women's issues using a gender perspective with the aim of reconstructing news of sexual violence against women.

The model used by Teun A Van Dijk is often referred to as "social cognition". This term is actually adopted from the field approach of social psychology, especially to explain the structure and formation process of a text. However, this kind of approach cannot be separated from the characteristics of the approach introduced by Van Dijk. According to Van Dijk, research on discourse is not sufficiently based on analysis or text alone, because text is only the result of a production practice that must also be observed.

Van Dijk's discourse analysis is described as having three dimensions: text, social congress, and social context. The core of Van Dijk's analysis is combining analysis. Van Dijk's analysis connects textual analysis. Van Dijk's analysis connects textual analysis towards a comprehensive analysis of how news text analysis is produced, both in relation to individual journalists and from society. This research limits the use of Van Dijk's analysis only to unpacking the text to find the real meaning, which does not go as far as criticizing the resulting meaning. This is because this research aims to dissect the text to find out the meaning behind the text. (Eriyanto, 2011).



## 1. Text

Van Dijk sees a text as consisting of several structures/levels, each of which supports the other. He divided it into three levels. First, the macro structure. This is the global or general meaning of a text that can be observed by looking at the topic or theme put forward in a news story. Second, superstructure. This is the discourse structure that relates to the framework of a text, how the parts of the text are arranged into the news as a whole. Third, microstructure. This is the meaning of discourse that can be observed from small parts of a text, namely words, sentences, propositions, clauses, paraphrases and images.

**Table 2.1**  
**Van Dijk's Analysis Structure**

<b>Macro Structure</b> The global meaning of a text that can be observed from the topic/theme raised by a text.
<b>Superstructure</b> The skeleton of a text, such as the introduction, body, conclusion, and conclusion.
<b>Microstructure</b> The local meaning of a text that can be observed from the choice of words, sentences, and style used by a text.

## 2. Social Cognition

Van Dijk argues that to find out the ideology and hidden meaning, it is not enough to only observe the structure of the text. However, it is necessary to take a cognitive approach to see the consciousness of the media, the news maker who gives meaning to the news written. According to Van Dijk, research is needed on the representation of cognition and journalists' strategies in producing news.

### **3. Social Context**

The third dimension of Van Dijk's analysis is social context. Discourse is part of the discourse that develops in society, so to examine the text, intellectual analysis needs to be done by examining how discourse about a matter is produced and constructed in society.

#### **Violence to Women**

Violence in the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) is defined as the actions of a person or group of people that cause injury, death of others or cause physical damage and other people's property. This definition is then used in the context of women, namely actions or attacks against a person which can then injure them physically, psychologically, and mentally and cause suffering and misery. Women or men have the potential to commit acts of violence, which have a negative impact, both physically and non-physically, which can result in their potential not being able to actualize it in community life.

#### **Online Media**

Online media is a product of online journalism or cyber journalism which is defined as "reporting of facts or events produced and distributed via the internet". Online media is a communication medium whose utilization uses internet devices. Therefore, online media is classified as a typical media. The peculiarity of this media lies in the necessity to have an information technology network using computer devices, in addition to knowledge of computer programs to access information or news.

Asep Samsul M. Romli in his book entitled online journalism: A Guide to Managing Online Media (2012) defines online media as telecommunications and multimedia-based media (computers and the internet). Some categories of online media are portals, websites (websites, including social media and blogs), online radio, online TV, and email. Media Siber (Cyber Media)

#### **Cyber media**

Cyber media is also called online media, digital media, virtual media, e-media, network media, new media, web media and so on. All mentions of cyber media actually still refer to media devices related to internet networks.

The characteristics of new media or commonly called cyber media can be seen from the emergence of networks. In the form of an internet connection via a computer. Unlike other media such as electronic media or print media. Cyber media uses the internet which allows audiences to determine or select the information or content they want to see. The existence of new media makes audiences more active because technology causes interaction in the media to occur. The interaction that occurs is not only one-way but two-way.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research uses a qualitative research approach. A qualitative approach is an approach that intends to understand what the research subject is interested in, behavior, perceptions, motivations, actions and others holistically. Described in the form of words descriptively by utilizing various scientific methods. (Lexy J Moleong, 2016)

This research aims to capture various facts through observation. Then analyze and try to reflect the results of the analysis in a descriptive way. Researchers use a qualitative approach to get an understanding obtained after analyzing the research problem. The use of this method is because the author analyzes and explains in detail related to the writing and delivery of an article.

In this research, the analysis model used is Teun Van Dijk. This research analyzes how the discourse of articles in the online media Magdalene.co. Based on the main purpose of this research, namely critical discourse analysis, the use of qualitative approach methods is relevant to this research.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Researchers will describe the results of the research that have been found in the analysis process. The formulation of the problem in this study is how the events of violence against women are constructed in the Magdalene.co media. Researchers used documentation techniques from six articles on the Magdalene.co online media site. In addition, researchers also conducted interviews with contributing writers (journalists) in Magdalene media.

The data analysis technique used in this research is using the Teun A. Van Djik model as a technique used in the analysis process. The results of this study obtained five articles about violence against women in magdalene.co media. The results of this study obtained six news about violence against women in magdalene media which will be analyzed in the following table:

**Table 5.1 List of Articles Analyzed**

No.	Article Title	Date of Publication	News Link
1	Polisi pemeriksa, kepada siapa lagi perempuan cari pertolongan	25 Juni 2021	<a href="https://magdalene.co/story/polisi-pemeriksa-maluku-utara">https://magdalene.co/story/polisi-pemeriksa-maluku-utara</a>
2	Setahun Setelah Pandemi, Beban Perempuan Korban Kekerasan kian Berat.	04 Juni 2021	<a href="https://magdalene.co/story/kasus-kdrt-meningkat-tapi-sulit-diselesaikan-selama-pandemi">https://magdalene.co/story/kasus-kdrt-meningkat-tapi-sulit-diselesaikan-selama-pandemi</a>
3	Atas Nama Pesantren, Kekerasan Seksual Dipinggirkan	27 Juli 2021	<a href="https://magdalene.co/story/kekerasan-seksual-di-pesantren">https://magdalene.co/story/kekerasan-seksual-di-pesantren</a>
4	Kekerasan Seksual di Kandang Kiai : Lima Alternatif Solusi	13 Desember 2021	<a href="https://magdalene.co/story/kekerasan-seksual-di-kandang-kiai-lima-alternatif-solusi">https://magdalene.co/story/kekerasan-seksual-di-kandang-kiai-lima-alternatif-solusi</a>
5	Komnas Perempuan : Kasus Kekerasan NWR Adalah Femisida	08 Desember 2021	<a href="https://magdalene.co/story/komnas-perempuan-kasus-kekerasan-nwr-adalah-femisida">https://magdalene.co/story/komnas-perempuan-kasus-kekerasan-nwr-adalah-femisida</a>

Critical discourse research is not sufficiently based on text analysis alone, because text is only the result of a production practice that must be observed. In Van Dijk's discourse analysis, to see a discourse depicted in a news story, an in-depth analysis is needed. Van Dijk's discourse analysis is divided into three dimensions, namely: Text, social cognition, social context. At the text level, what is studied is how a text can emphasize a certain theme. At the second level, the social cognition discussed is about how a news text, in this case an article, is produced which certainly involves journalists or reporters as article writers.

The third aspect, namely the social context, studies how discourse develops in society on a problem. Van Dijk's analysis does not only focus on text analysis but also connects the three dimensions of text, social cognition, and social context. In terms of seeing how a text is produced, the relationship with individual journalists and society.

Seen from the text level, the five articles that have been researched are about violence against women. The discourse built in Magdalene.co media can be seen from the sentences in the article. In the articles published in the article, the conditions of women victims of violence are highlighted, which in the writing use words and sentences that are qualified with meaning. The meaning in question is how the condition of the victim and the behavior of the perpetrator is very disgraceful, so this leads the reader's empathy to participate in feeling what the victim is experiencing. This can be seen in the choice of title, the theme raised, the source or the content of the article presented and emphasized in the article.

At the social cognition level, as women's media, Magdalene.co journalists not only provide information about how crimes occur but also highlight victims of violence. Furthermore, the articles published also provide space for several parties to clarify the contents of the articles in the Magdalene.co media.

At the third level, namely the social context, in general, news or articles about violence against women will always be information that is discussed by the community. The issue of violence against women will become a national issue that will continue to be reported in the media. Violence against women is one of the crimes that is very frightening for the community, especially women. So the media wants to raise the issue of violence against women because it is felt to be able to build empathy, curiosity and public awareness of women's violence that occurs around us and does not corner the victim.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis that researchers have carried out regarding violence against women in the June to December 2021 edition of Magdalene.co media, which aims to determine the level of text, social congestion and social context when it is concluded that Magdalene.co media makes articles with interesting issues that are always discussed in the community. Articles about violence against women are considered an important theme to be discussed in Magdalene.co media. Based on the results of the analysis obtained by researchers, Magdalene.co media emphasizes how the conditions of victims of violence they get and of course the fears experienced by victims in dealing with the violence they get.

Articles about violence experienced by women in Magdalene.co online media are described from different perspectives, this is so that the audience is more concerned with the issue of violence. As a women's advocacy media, Magdalene media tries to fulfill the need for information about women, one of the issues is women's violence. The results that researchers get through Van Dijk's analysis with three levels, namely text, social cognition and social context are as follows:

### 1. Text

At the first level, namely the text level, articles written in Magdalene.co media lead to an emphasis on the conditions of victims of violence against women. The articles raised in Magdalene.co online media emphasize the condition of victims. This happens when readers see them (victims) from a different perspective. Even in the articles published in the media, there are implicit sentences highlighted by journalists as an expression of women's violence which aims to make readers emotionally carried away into the content of the article. Of the 5 news articles that researchers have analyzed related to violence against women, the author of the article is against the violence that occurs to women. It is found that there are implicit sentences about violence against women and this makes readers think the same as the author of the article.

In addition, the discourse in the article on violence against women in Magdalene.co media in the choice of words and the emphasis on the meaning of the sentence that is highlighted supports victims of violence against women. This can be seen from the title, the theme raised by the journalist, the source or the content of the article that is highlighted and emphasized.

## 2. Social Cognition

At the social cognition level, journalists from magdalene.co themselves have an attitude that wants to emphasize that being a woman victim of violence is not easy, especially in an environment that still does not care about this issue. In his article, besides seeing the event from different sides, the journalist also seemed to direct readers to care about violence against women.

## 3. Social Context

Seen at the social context level, the news about violence against women is one of the sensitive issues that are of concern to society. Violence against women is one of the crimes feared by society, especially women, this is because the perpetrators can be anyone even the closest people. So in addition to inviting to see victims of violence from the victim's point of view, readers are also invited to be more aware of the existing environment related to violence against women.

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