



Critical Discourse Analysis in the Reporting of the NTT Governor's School Entry Hours Policy Controversy

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A B S T R A C T

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This essay discusses the construction of the news about implementing school entry rules for Senior High Schools (SMA), issued by the Governor of East Nusa Tenggara (NTT), Viktor Laiskodat, on kompas.com. This study uses a descriptive-qualitative approach with Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis model. To conclude from the research that has been conducted, kompas.com highlights the controversy arising due to such a policy implemented by the Governor of NTT regarding school entry time rules. In addition, kompas.com also compiles its news neutrally by presenting various viewpoints with pros and cons. The problem context highlighted by kompas.com is processed through a text writing strategy that uses a light and short language structure appropriate to social reality and accessible for the public to understand. Kompas.com also describes assorted realities that emerge with various titles but retain the same theme about the reported problem.

Introduction

NTT Governor Victor Laiskodat, in early 2023, issued a policy that sparked pros and cons in society. Victor issued a regulation that requires all high school students in NTT to enter school at 05.00 WITA. This policy was criticized by many because it was considered optional for educational progress. The technical readiness to support this policy was also considered inadequate. In addition, the latent impact that could arise due to the regulation is feared to disrupt harmonious relations between religious communities in NTT. This is because the distance between entering the school at 05.00 in the morning and the Muslim ritual for Subuh Prayer is relatively close.

Fahmy Alaydroes, a member of the Indonesian House of Representatives Commission X who handles education, sports, and history from the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) faction, is one of the figures concerned about the above. According to Fahmy, the NTT Governor's policy could disrupt the opportunity for Muslim students to perform Subuh Prayer at the mosque. For him, every policy that will be implemented needs to be studied comprehensively and in-depth so that it does not burden, bother, and cause a commotion for many parties, especially parents of students (Shafira, 2023). Many parents of students also protested this policy. The policy damages students' concentration because teaching and learning activities at 05.00 in the morning reduce students' break time, especially if students live far from the school environment. This policy is also considered ineffective in encouraging discipline from an early age. This is evident from the many students who still come even though this policy has been implemented (Apul, 2022). Although criticized by many groups, this policy is still running. The NTT government continues to enforce the rule that high school students should enter school at 05.00 in the morning.

Research that examines the controversy over the 05.00 am school entry rule issued by Victor Laiskodat in NTT has yet to be widely conducted. The various existing studies focus only on examining Victor's figure as a politician or highlighting other policies he has issued rather than specifically examining the 05.00 am school entry rule. In addition, various existing journals do not focus on controversial policies issued by Victor as Governor. Instead, they review the controversy over regulations issued by other regional heads.

First, a study conducted by Frederik Masri Gasas entitled *Critical Discourse Analysis of Norman Fairclough on Viktor Laiskodat's Controversial Statement* (2019) was published in the *Journal of Social Sciences Research*. This study aims to analyze the rhetoric delivered by Viktor Laiskodat in his speech in one of the online media. The results of Gasas's research show that Viktor Laiskodat's way of persuading the people of NTT is through three ways: logos, pathos, and ethos, which are packaged as harsh and controversial statements (Gasas, 2019). Gasas's research is similar to the research that the researcher will work on, namely, both studying Viktor Laiskodat and using Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis as a theory. The significant difference between Gasas's research and the researcher's research lies in the object of the research. Gasas's research analyzes Viktor Laiskodat's rhetoric in his speech to persuade the public. Meanwhile, this study focuses on the news published on *kompas.com* regarding the policy of starting school at 05.00 am issued by the Governor of NTT, Victor Laiskodat.

Second, the research conducted by Ian Pasaribu entitled *Simultaneous Regional Elections and Political Law: Controversy of Central Government Policy related to Legal Decisions on the Simalungun Regency Regional Elections, North Sumatra in 2015* (2017). This research was published in the *Politika Journal* in 2017. Pasaribu's research focuses on the controversy of policies issued by the central government regarding legal decisions in the Simalungun Regency Regional Elections, North Sumatra, in 2015. In this study, Pasaribu clearly describes various problems that accompany the policies issued by the central government, such as inconsistent regulations, swelling Pilkada budgets, and problems that arose during the inauguration of JR. Saragih as Regent of Simalungun Regency (Pasaribu, 2017). The similarities between Pasaribu's research and this research are in the research objects, which examine policy controversies. The fundamental difference between Pasaribu's research and this research lies in the research subject. Pasaribu's research uses the central government as the research subject, while the research subject in this study is Victor Laiskodat.

Third, research was conducted by Niken Ayu Hestina and Dea Melinda, entitled *Controversial Policy on the 2021 BOS Fund* (2022). This research was published in the *Journal of Elementary Education and Teacher Training* in 2022. Hestina and Melinda's research aims to find out about implementing the 2021 BOS Fund policy and highlight the controversy that arose from the policy as a

derivative policy of the concept of independent learning. This study concludes that the BOS Fund was implemented to assist schools to free and reduce education costs (Hestina & Melinda, 2022). Although both highlight the controversy over the policy, Niken's and Ayu's research does not highlight the controversy over the policy caused by the Governor of NTT, Victor Laiskodat. Niken and Ayu's research focuses on the controversy that arose from the BOS Fund policy.

Fourth, Muhammad Makhfudz's research entitled *Controversy over the Implementation of Regional Autonomy* (2019) was published in *Adil: Jurnal Hukum* (2019). The conclusion of this study states that the implementation of autonomy must be carried out by the concept of autonomy, which is interpreted as the transfer of central government affairs to the regions, except for the five powers used for the continuity of national life (Makhfudz, 2019). Between Makhfudz's research and the research, there are significant differences in the research object. Makhfudz examines the controversy surrounding the practice of regional autonomy in several regions. Meanwhile, this study highlights the policy controversy that arose due to the implementation of the 05.00 am school entry regulation by the NTT Government.

Fifth, a study entitled *Controversy of the Indonesian G20 Presidency Spokesperson: A Study of Sara Mills' Critical Discourse Analysis* (2023) was written by Tesalonika Hasugian and Patricia Robin. This research was published in *Mukasi: Journal of Communication Science* in 2023. This research aims to answer the problem of writing a critical discourse analysis of Sara Mills in the Bloomberg media text regarding the controversy of the Indonesian G20 presidency spokesperson. This study concluded that the international media, Bloomberg, focuses on the global economic rubric (Hasugian & Robin, 2023). Hasugian and Robin's research analyzes the news coverage of the controversy related to the spokesperson for the Indonesian G20 presidency on Bloomberg. Meanwhile, this study tries to explain the controversy that arose when the Governor of NTT issued the policy of starting school at 05.00 am. This study uses *kompas.com* as the subject, while Hasugian and Robin use Bloomberg as the subject. That is the main difference between Hasugian and Robin's research and this study.

There are significant differences between the studies described above. This study tries to show how the policy controversy arose due to the enactment of regulations requiring students in NTT to start teaching and learning activities at

05.00 am. Using the critical discourse analysis model of Norman Fairclough, the researcher attempts to dismantle the various discourses that emerged around the policy discursively. In addition, this study aims to understand the perspective of *kompas.com* in presenting news to the public, whether it sides with one party or not. *Kompas.com*, a media subsidiary of the Kompas Gramedia company, is one of the largest national media in Indonesia. The news delivered by *kompas.com* plays a significant role in shaping public opinion on various issues, including the controversy over the 5:00 am school entry policy in NTT. Therefore, this study is novel, with various studies that have been explained previously, because none specifically discuss the controversy over the 5:00 am school entry policy issued by the Governor of NTT, Victor Laiskodat, on *kompas.com*.

Method

This research is a media research that focuses on social and cultural issues. The method used in this study is qualitative-descriptive using Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis model. Fairclough tries to integrate language with social change, focusing on the role of language in reflecting certain aspects (Saraswati, 2017). This approach aims to develop a discourse analysis through discursive practices that consider the role of language in social and cultural studies (Fairclough, 1993).

In this study, the researcher uses a critical discourse analysis theory approach according to Norman Fairclough, which includes dimensions of microstructural analysis (text analysis related to diction), mesostructural (text production and consumption), and macrostructural (analysis of socio-cultural practices related to situational, institutional and social) (Eriyanto, 2001). Critical discourse analysis is a study of discourse or text, speech, and photos or visual images to represent society's intended meaning and social structures and ideologies (Fairclough, 1989). Discourse analysis uses a critical approach, meaning there is a dialectic regarding the actualization of power and the work of ideology (Setiawan, 2011).

Norman Fairclough connects micro-discourse with the broader community. He developed an analysis model that plays a vital role in social analysis, thus combining analysis based on text that views language from a more macro perspective (Ayatullah, 2014). The most crucial focus of Fairclough's analysis is to place language as a determinant of social change. Fairclough's analysis focuses on

the formation of language and certain social relations and contexts (Fauzan, 2013). This approach is carried out to analyze the discourse that emerges or accompanies the NTT Provincial Government's policy to require high school students to start learning at 05.00 in the morning.

The data source in this study is the news text published by *kompas.com* in the education column regarding the controversy over the NTT Provincial Government's policy requiring high school students to start teaching and learning activities at 05.00 in the morning, edition of February 28-March 9, 2023. During that period, four news items were used as analysis material. The researcher analyzed this news using Norman Fairclough's approach, which saw that to explore the understanding of the application, phenomena, and growth of texts, it is necessary to understand the relationship between power and the preservation of authority that influences it (Ambar, 2017). In this study, the data collection technique used was documentation, namely by collecting every news item published by *kompas.com* during a predetermined period related to the controversy of entering the school at 05.00 in the morning.

Results and Discussion

Norman Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis model is often called the social change model. This model analyzes a text or discourse based on linguistic aspects and a socio-political understanding of the social change that occurs. According to Norman Fairclough, language is interpreted as a social practice in which, in its application, discourse is a representation of action; someone applies language as a form of representation of reality (Fairclough, 2003). The language used in writing news on *kompas.com* regarding the policy of entering school at 05.00 in the morning represents a reality that occurs in NTT so that the wider community can know it. Norman Fairclough's analysis in this study is used to analyze the language structure used in writing news on *kompas.com* and analyze social practices in its application.

The aspect examined in this study is microstructural analysis. Fairclough observes "language as a social implementation," including how the media presents and reconstructs news in news texts (Cenderamata & Darmayanti, 2019), discourse production analysis (mesostructural) and socio-cultural practical aspects (macrostructural) in the form of macro-level analysis based on the scope

of society that is not in the media influences the text in the press (Mandarani, Vidya Suwarta, 2017). The analysis of socio-cultural practices includes three things, namely economic, political (especially in the context of power and ideology), and cultural (especially in the aspects of customs and identity), which can influence media institutions and their content. The explanation of socio-cultural practices involves three factors, namely situational, institutional, and social (Farizh, 2018). To facilitate analysis, the list of objects used for the study is written in tabular form to make it easier for researchers to analyze the data collected. The following is a data table in this study (Maghvira, 2017). The following are the Title and Page of the news that is the source of the data.

Table 1

News Data on kompas.com

No	Data	Date/Time	Rubric	Topic	News Title
1	News 1	Tuesday/28-2-2023	Education	Controversy	Controversy Over NTT Students Entering School at 5 AM, Head of Education Office Says It's Still a Trial.
2	News 2	Wednesday/1-3-2023	Education	Controversy	Pros and Cons of School Starting at 5 AM in NTT, Governor Viktor's Reasons to the Ombudsman Flooded with Complaints.
3	News 3	Thursday/2-3-2023	Education	KPAI's response	KPAI Highlights 5 AM School Start Policy in NTT, Asks for Consideration of Children's Rights.
4	News 4	Saturday/4-3-2023	Education	Government policy	NTT Governor Says Those Against 5:30 AM School Start Policy Do Not Have Sufficient Information.

News 1

NTT Students Enter School at 5 am Controversy, Head of Education Office Says It's Still a Trial.

Published on Tuesday, February 28, 2023, at 17:57 WIB.

Written by Sigiranus Marutho Bere, a contributor from Kupang.

Edited by Pythag Kurniati, editor. (Bere, 2023b)

Microstructural Analysis

In News 1, in the news title, there is the diction “controversy,” which can be interpreted as a social dispute or debate often related to conflicting perspectives or points of view. The word is a euphemism for the impact of the policy implemented by the NTT provincial government (Cenderamata & Darmayanti, 2019).

The expression of controversy contained in the news title implicitly informs the negative angle of the NTT provincial government’s policy. The word shows two opposing sides, namely the Governor of NTT as the figure who determines the implementation of regulations in his region implements a policy that all parties do not accept, and students and guardians feel disadvantaged by the policy of starting school at 5 am. The news was uploaded on February 28, 2023, and the controversy between students and guardians and the NTT provincial government was revealed. This news shows that the public still needs to fully approve the policy of starting school at 05.00 am. In addition, from the contents of the news, the following sentence meaning relations were obtained:

1. The legal basis for this policy, said Linus,
2. Namely, the performance agreement between the Education Office and the Principal

The sentence above shows the meaning relations between sentences that support each other. The phrase “performance agreement” overlaps with the words “legal basis (legal basis for policy).” Through the news, *kompas.com* shows the trial of the implementation of the 5 am school entry policy at schools in Kupang City, marked by a statement by the Head of the NTT Education and Culture Office, which was then reinforced with information regarding the work agreement between the Education Office and the Principal which was officially carried out at SMAN 3 Kupang.

Discourse Practice Analysis (Mesostructural)

In this dimension, Fairclough focuses on producing and consuming texts or discourses. Kompas.com, when building a new discourse containing issues about the school entry time policy issued by the NTT government, adjusted it to the data obtained from contributors in the area. On the kompas.com news page, an editorial team of two people is shown: the writer (contributor) and the editor. In addition to the writer, the editor also plays a role in the discourse production process because they also edit or perfect the understanding between the writer and editor in the news text that will be published (Haryadi Mujianto, Heri Hendrawan, 2023). The work patterns of writers in their environment also influence the discourse production process, especially from the data obtained. Meanwhile, based on the consumption of reader texts, readers should have left comments on the official kompas.com page. Even so, the development of the digital world and current media flows also influence the pattern of discourse consumption, primarily through digital platforms that are faster and easier to reach the public.

Analysis of Socio-Cultural Practices (Macrostructural)

Socio-cultural practices involve explanations of the implementation of discourse creation. Every discourse in the text is caused by various factors, such as economics, politics (power and ideology), and culture (values and identity) that influence media institutions. Fairclough developed three levels of analysis in socio-cultural practices (Annas & Fitriawan, 2018):

1. Situational

All means of communication can represent events or phenomena that have news value. Of course, the information presented is fundamental because it is worthy of being presented to the public. For example, events or phenomena that have news value include news that discusses conflicts or extraordinary events in everyday life. Fairclough views every text as generally born from a social context. The controversy over the policy of starting school at 05.00 in the morning is a necessary background that makes kompas.com view the controversy as a news topic worthy of being presented to the public.

2. Institutional

The news source places representatives of the government and schools as

sources, namely Linus Lusi as the Head of the NTT Education and Culture Office and the Principal of SMAN 3 Kupang. With informants or sources in the text, kompas.com wants to inform readers that the rule of starting school at 05.00 am is a policy that originates from an agreement/contract between the government and the school. This news also implicitly shows that kompas.com tends to interpret the government and the school as being of one mind in the policy.

3. Social

The experiment of implementing the policy of starting school at 05.00 am pays little attention to child protection and human rights. Starting lessons at 05.00 am is considered ineffective because it burdens students who go to school. The government has a responsibility to fulfill the educational rights of its citizens, including children's rights. The government must protect every child as a form of activity to secure their rights to grow according to human dignity (Annas & Fitriawan, 2018). Starting from this situation, kompas.com wants to give the impression that, as a mass media outlet, kompas.com also follows the development of social conflicts in Indonesia. Kompas.com also believes this policy can attract readers' focus and increase profits from advertising due to the large number of readers who access the Kompas.com page.

News 2

Pros and Cons of School Starting at 5 am in NTT, Governor Viktor's Reasons to the Ombudsman Flooded with Complaints.

Published: Wednesday, March 1, 2023, 05:00 WIB

Editor Michael Hangga Wismabrata (Wismabrata, 2023)

Microstructural Analysis

Fairclough's critical discourse analysis model focuses on applying text as an arena for societal discourse battles. Therefore, language occupies an important position if someone wants to study the discourse dynamics in society. Comprehensive learning is needed to monitor language use with a specific understanding score (Benmetan & Setyowibowo, 2021). Language socially has many dimensions about the structure of society (Zainuddin et al., 2021). In news 2, kompas.com contains opinions from representatives of the Ombudsman and statements from

the Governor of NTT as policymakers, as follows:

1. Viktor did not deny that the policy would give rise to pros and cons.
2. However, Viktor said the policy was necessary for the progress of the education system in NTT.

The news of the Governor's statement displays the meaning relationship between contradictory or antonymous sentences, namely the phrases "pro-contra" and "important." The formation of this discourse leads to the depiction of the NTT Governor, who remains firm with his policy. In news 2, there is also a contradictory statement because it contains the opinion of the pro camp against the policy, namely from the NTT Education Office. The reason why the NTT Education Office supports the policy is to train students to be more disciplined. Meanwhile, the opposing side is represented by the Ombudsman, who received many complaints from the public regarding the policy issued by Victor Laiskodat, Governor of NTT. Many parents feel disadvantaged because their children's sleep hours are reduced, and teachers, especially those who are married, do not have time to take care of housework before going to teach.

In the title of News 2, there is a euphemistic expression in the form of "flood," which is associated with the statement of the NTT Ombudsman, which states that the policy issued by the NTT provincial government has reaped a flood of complaints from the public. A flood is a phenomenon that occurs, like a flood current that submerges land. The expression flood in the sentence implicitly provides an opposing side of the impact of implementing the 05.00 am school entry policy, namely the Ombudsman flood of complaints from various community groups. In this case, the word flood means that many people complained to the Ombudsman regarding the stipulation of the NTT Governor's policy.

Discourse Practice Analysis (Mesostructural)

Kompas.com in making this news, Kompas.com reported it from the news broadcast by Tribune News. In the news, Viktor, as the Governor of NTT, is accompanied by the Head of the NTT Education and Culture Office, Linus Lusi, who was interviewed by several people saying, "This is to train the discipline of NTT children." Kompas.com also reported from the tribunnews.com page that

Viktor knew about the pros and cons of the policy he had set. This shows that one of the characteristics of online media is offering speed of information by launching from other platforms that have reported it first (Nonia Dewinta Anggi Ritonga, 2023). In addition, it is known from the *kompas.com* index that the author of this news is a regional content writer who is also featured as an assistant editor, not an editorial team consisting of editors and writers. Meanwhile, regarding discourse consumption, this news has received many comments from readers on their official page, reaching 42 comments. The comments given by the readers were dominated by negative comments regarding the policy of entering the school at 05.00 in the morning. They were also addressed personally by the Governor of NTT.

Socio-Cultural Practice Analysis (Macrostructural)

The macrostructural analysis begins with the understanding that social aspects not visible in the media can influence the text in the press. Socio-cultural practices, situational, institutional, and social levels, impact media institutions and their content. The situational level relates to the context and creation of the situation. The institutional level relates to the internal and external of the institution being studied. The social level relates to the broader context, such as politics, economics, and society's culture (Kartika, 2020). The macrostructural dimension can be identified through the institutional structure that has the purpose of government institutions. In this case, the governor and the Education Office are involved with the media *kompas.com*, and society as a social structure has a vital role in forming rules that come from the lives of the community itself. Cultural elements also play a role as a system of rules that influence the daily lives of the community, including in the context of news texts (Kartikawati & Indrawati, 2018).

1. Situational

In News 2, the topicalization of the discourse focuses on the pros and cons of the policy of starting school at 05.00 in the morning. On the one hand, *kompas.com* published a statement from NTT Governor Victor Laiskodat. On the other hand, *kompas.com* also raised information about many people who complained to the Ombudsman because they felt disadvantaged by the policy. This NTT provincial government policy could make junior high school students reluctant to continue their education to high school because they object to the policy of

starting school at 05.00 am.

2. Institutional

The pros and cons of implementing school starting at 05.00 am in NTT have given rise to pros and cons involving Viktor Laiskodat as the decision maker, Head of the Education and Culture Office Linus Lusi, and the representative of the NTT Ombudsman Darius Beda Daton as a representative of the NTT community who are generally guardians of students affected by the policy. With this policy, the community seems wrong in choosing Victor Laiskodat as Governor of NTT. As a result, if Viktor runs for Governor of NTT again in 2024, the public will no longer trust him, and Viktor will lose the support of the votes obtained in the upcoming election.

3. Social

The social sphere prioritizes the perspective of the situation when the discourse is made. Based on the decision initiated by Viktor Laiskodat in implementing socio-cultural practices for high school students, he enforced a policy of entering the school at 05.00 in the morning for the sake of discipline for the younger generation. Viktor's decision was considered unreasonable and inappropriate for society, forcing teenagers to follow the policy.

News 3

KPAI Highlights 5 am School Start Policy in NTT, Asks for Consideration of Children's Rights.

Published: Thursday, March 2, 2023, 07.37 WIB

Editor: Maya Citra R (Rosa, 2023)

Microstructural analysis

The linguistic structure used to study the discourse represented in language can be reviewed through vocabulary and diction (choice of formal and informal vocabulary, use of euphemistic expressions), grammar, syntax function, and sentence models used (Erawati et al., 2022).

In news 3, in the title, there is a euphemistic expression indirectly directed at Viktor Laiskodat, marked by the word "Soroti." Soroti comes from the root word "sorot," which means light or bright. If added with the affix me-i, the word

highlight means supervising or observing. The phrase “soroti” implicitly reports the negative side of the policy of starting school at 05.00 in the morning. There are two opposing sides to the policy, namely, the Governor of NTT does not consider the safety of children, and the Governor of NTT does not consider the human rights of children.

1. KPAI highlights and asks the NTT government to review the policy.
2. It asks for information from the NTT Provincial Education and Culture Office regarding the clarity of the policy.

The relationship of meaning between sentences published by *kompas.com* implies the manifestation of intertextuality in the form of irony that shows doubt. In addition, the syntactic function of the statement “ask to consider children’s rights” represents the oddity KPAI feels as an independent institution that works on children’s issues. According to KPAI, the policy of starting school at 05.00 in the morning violates child protection, children’s rights, and children’s learning comfort. Children need to know their feelings about whether or not they are ready to participate in learning at the time that has been determined.

This form of news is a situation where *kompas.com* aims to inform the public about the KPAI’s response to the policy of entering schools at 5 am. KPAI officially responded to the NTT Education and Culture Office and related parties. *Kompas.com* wants to show that KPAI cares about children’s security, safety, and rights.

Discourse Practice Analysis (Mesostructural)

The discourse production process of this news was written by someone other than a *kompas.com* contributor who was placed at a particular desk or area but by a content writer. A content writer is a writer who provides material or writing that is usually published on a website; all written results from content writers are their responsibility (Nonia Dewinta Anggi Ritonga, 2023). In addition, based on the *kompas.com* index, the writer in News 3 is a content writer who is presented in the news as an editor, not an editorial team consisting of two people, namely the writer and the editor. So, just like News 2, the creation of discourse from News 3 does not go through the same stages as the editorial stage.

Based on the consumption of discourse by news readers delivered in the comments column on the official *kompas.com* page. Readers are pretty critical in

responding to the news that has been published, one of them from Rofinus BaroBitan, who said, “Many state schools in NTT still have thatched roofs, bamboo walls. That’s what needs to be taken care of first. School facilities are not ready yet.”

Analysis of Socio-Cultural Practices (Macrostructural)

The macrostructural analysis is a dimension of socio-cultural practices that begins with the assumption that the actual social scope influences the published news text. Socio-cultural practices, such as situational, institutional, and social levels, influence media institutions and their discourses (Syartanti, 2021).

1. Situational

At the situational level, socio-cultural practices related to the creation and context of the situation are found in the implementation of the 05.00 am school entry policy, which has been in effect since February 27, 2023, which has attracted the attention of the KPAI to defend the interests of students who feel disadvantaged. This is indicated by the word “soroti,” which means that the KPAI criticizes and disagrees with the policy. The KPAI also asks for justice for children, which is indicated by the phrase “ask to consider children’s rights.”

The news sentence is “the policy that was previously conveyed in a meeting with a number of teachers and principals of high schools and vocational schools in Kupang City.” This sentence means that the controversial policy was not determined unilaterally by the Governor of NTT alone but based on agreements made with teachers and principals of high schools and vocational schools in Kupang City.

2. Institutional

At the institutional level, socio-cultural practices are related to the influence of institutions both internally and externally, and they are displayed by using the word “KPAI” in the news title. KPAI is an abbreviation for the Indonesian Child Protection Commission, which works on the issue of protecting Indonesian children. In the context of news about the rule of starting school at 05.00 am, KPAI expects the Governor of NTT to re-evaluate the policy of starting learning at 05.00 am by focusing on the safety and security aspects of children. In the structure of the Indonesian government, those who play a role in this policy are the Governor of NTT, Viktor Laiskodat, and the NTT Education and Culture Office, which supports the policy.

3. Social

Social factors influence the text in the news. According to Fairclough, the discourse in the news is formed through changes that occur in society. Social factors focus on macro aspects, such as economic systems, politics, and the entire cultural system (Samsuri et al., 2022).

Fairclough suggests that critical discourse analysis is created based on the correlation of micro texts with macro society (Indah et al., 2017). Socio-cultural practices at the social level are related to macro conditions in the political system. In the first paragraph of the news, the words “Governor of NTT” and “NTT Education and Culture Office” are used. This can be interpreted as part of the political system because it involves the government sector, in this case, the Governor of NTT, who implemented the policy of entering school at 05.00 in the morning, and the NTT Education and Culture Office, which is responsible for implementing all policies related to the world of education in Kupang City.

News 4

NTT Governor Says Those Against 5:30 am School Entry Policy Need more Information.

Published on Saturday, March 4, 2023.

Written by Sigiranus Marutho Bere, contributor from Kupang.

Edited by Pythag Kurniati, editor.

Location: Kupang (Bere, 2023a).

Microstructural analysis

The news title has a euphemistic expression in the statement, “cannot get enough information.” A euphemistic expression is a refinement of words from their true meaning. The phrase “not enough information” represents the actual meaning intended to be conveyed, namely not following the development of widely circulated information or, commonly called “not up to date/kudet”. Kudet is usually identical to rural communities, which are considered to lack the latest information about everything. In this news, two sentences can be studied in the microstructural aspect, namely:

1. Viktor also admitted that he did not hate those who opposed his decision.

2. The reason is that this is a form of attention that can help NTT to improve.

The sentence shows a relation of conflicting meanings, namely in the word “hate,” which has a negative connotation, and “form of attention,” which tends to have a positive connotation. However, the news writer makes the meaning of the relationship into a division so that “hate” is part of a “form of attention.” The relationship of the meaning of the words indicates that Viktor, as the Governor of NTT, tends to ignore parties who disagree with his policies.

Kompas.com uses direct sentences to quote Viktor Laiskodat’s statement without changing the words conveyed during the interview. There are words in the statement that are not refined, namely in the sentence “even marriage has pros and cons.” The word “even marriage” should be refined to marriage and, if included in the news sentence, can be changed to an indirect sentence, namely “Viktor said that even marriage has pros and cons.”

Discourse Practice Analysis (Mesostructural)

The author of News 4, a contributor to kompas.com in Kupang, had previously written news on the same issue on February 28, 2023. This has implications for a situation where the contributor has followed the development of the case from the beginning of the issue circulating until this news was published. This certainly makes the contributor more proficient in the problem and understands the character of the source, namely the Governor of NTT. The contributor’s work pattern greatly influences the news writing produced.

In News 4, kompas.com reviews the statement of the Governor of NTT. The highlighted statement tends to raise questions for its readers. The statement in question is “for those who are pro and con; we say thank you because, without pros and cons, it certainly won’t happen.” The sentence “Of course, it won’t happen” raises an ambiguous meaning. Does the phrase “it won’t happen” here mean “it won’t be human” as a possibility arising from the statement? Meanwhile, the human in this section is intended to be a human who is printed as superior and can continue his studies at the desired university. It could also be “the policy of starting school at 5 am will not be implemented”, or it could also be interpreted as “it certainly will not be in the media spotlight.”

From the perspective of text consumption (news), there are several responses

from the public as readers who are both pro and con to the reasons for the policy. They wrote it directly through the comments column on the official *kompas.com* page; although there were only four comments, this shows the process of text consumption and also the feedback given by readers as a response to the discourse conveyed.

Analysis of Socio-Cultural Practices (Macrostructural)

Fairclough emphasized that social structures determine social practices and become products of social practices. Social structures determine discourse and are products of discourse (Fairclough, 1995). In this context, social structures play a crucial role in social practices, including in aspects such as situational, institutional, and social systems (Hasibuan & Khairani, 2021).

1. Situational

Viktor states, “We should not assume that people who think crookedly are bad. No. They don’t get enough information.” From this statement, there is a situation where many people are not up to date with information, creating negative thoughts about the policy of starting school at 05.00 in the morning. The negative thoughts created are aimed at the many cons because parents are concerned about their children.

The policy implemented by the Governor of NTT aims to make schools in Kupang City superior schools, marked by the sentence, “The most important thing is that children who graduate later are not unemployed.” His efforts are to prepare good teaching and learning activities, namely starting teaching and learning activities earlier than usual.

2. Institutional

The agency in the news of the policy requiring the school to start at 05.00 in the morning involves the NTT regional government, namely Viktor Laiskodat as Governor. The Governor of NTT, in collaboration with the NTT Education and Culture Office, will provide funds to high schools that implement the policy so that they become superior schools. Here, the Governor of NTT seems unfair to other schools because the funds given for the continuity of teaching and learning activities are only for schools that implement the new policy from the Governor of NTT.

3. Social

The cultural and economic situation of the community is one of the factors that oppose the policy; considering the recent situation in 2022, there have been many criminal acts regardless of age. Parents are worried about their children's safety if they have to leave early because they are prone to criminal acts. The policy also only provides maximum results for students. It could even be a hefty burden when students' sleep hours are reduced, and they are forced to start teaching and learning activities at dawn.

Conclusion

From the research conducted, *kompas.com* wants to convey the controversy over the policy implemented by the Governor of NTT regarding school entry rules for high school students. In reporting information about Victor Laiskodat's policy, *kompas.com* delivers its news neutrally and does not side with anyone. *Kompas.com* presents the government's point of view by explaining the reasons for the policy being implemented, as well as showing the reasons for the opposing parties, starting from the community, the Ombudsman, and the KPAI.

In its approach, each media report is analyzed using Norman Fairclough's critical discourse analysis, which highlights language from both microstructural and macrostructural perspectives. The phenomena that occur are processed using specific language strategies to produce news that is presented to the audience. The language used in the news text is composed briefly, lightly, in accordance with social reality, and easily understood by the public. *Kompas* presents various realities that emerge with multiple titles but remain in the same corridor in the realm of reporting on the controversy of entering the school at 05.00 in the morning.

If observed from Norman Fairclough's analysis theory, the policy of starting school at 5 am, which is the main object of the news on *kompas.com*, is considered inappropriate based on the aspect of children's safety, which is threatened because they have to go to school when the streets are still dark. *Kompas.com* also emphasizes parents' concerns about the ineffectiveness of learning because it starts too early.

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