Abstract

The Relationship Among Government, PT Lapindo, and The Victims of The Mud Flood In The Frame of The Mud Flood News in Sidoarjo

The study is focused on media mediation between the relation of government, market, and civil society. Started from the reality of the mud flood phenomenon in Sidoarjo involving political, economical, governmental, and civil society power, and the emergence of several studies indicating political disaster, this study intends to explore the relation of three government domain in news framing construction. Based on the stated argument the research question are formulated dealing with how did Kompas, Jawa Pos, and Surya, in their news, frame the causal factor of the mud flood, cash and carry penalty clause, and resettlement? Is there any framing change in different period of time? How do government, PT Lapindo, and the victims of the mud flood try hegemonizing, and dominating the mud flood news, and the way they present themselves as media in their interrelation? Are Kompas, Jawa Pos, and Surya as corporate media capable of running its balance function as communitarian media?

By making use of double framing strategy method, and content analysis, mediation relation on macro, meso, and micro levels shows the weak point of press system theory on capitalistic communitarian press approach. Moreover this approach can not answer the existence of partial media strategy. Every medium is free to conduct press activities without being generalized as media activity. Each medium has its own characteristics in running mediation function. Therefore its hegemony as well as domination through journalistic construction can undergo changes in line with economic deterministic changes from its economic milieu.

The press reorientation results in first, the loss of government power control on journalistic activities, even the existence of state through government is treated as pendulum dealing with corporate, and public interest. Secondly, the emergence of capitalist's domination, and hegemony on press activities. The third, press is treated as a commodity based on consumers' style, so that the journalistic activities depend on competition intensity in giving revenue to press as corporate. The fourth, journalistic skills is dominated by promotion, and public relation works. The fifth, journalistic activities will be treated as bargaining position to attract capitalists. The sixth, the loss of main media term generally becomes decentralized, and undergoes the process of journalistic democratization in fulfilling the customers' satisfaction as stakeholders. The seventh, media extra power will be as strong as press corporate even stronger through collaboration with non media business in the form of conglomerates.

Key words: Good governance, domination, hegemony, mediation, source media revenue, state, market, civil society.