

UNDERGRADUATE THESIS

**EUPHEMISM AND DYSPEMISM IN NEWS ARTICLES OF COVID-19
IN INDONESIA FOUND IN THE JAKARTA POST ONLINE
NEWSPAPER**



By:

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
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SURABAYA**

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Abdika Taslih Amrullah

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This thesis is dedicated to:

My beloved parents, brothers, and precious one
who supports me always

APPROVAL SHEET

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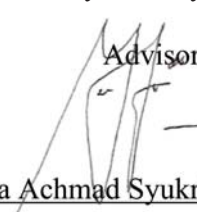
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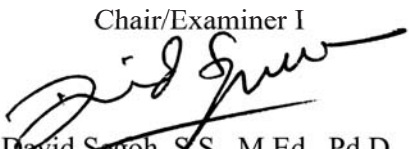
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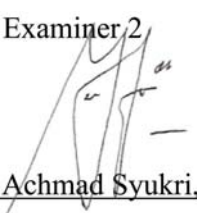
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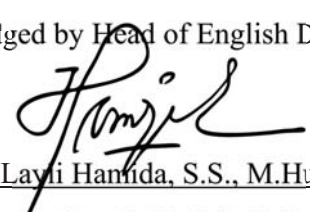
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Surabaya, 11 July 2022

Abdika Taslih Amrullah

Everyone's standard of being perfect is different,
so no one can be perfect.

– Wendy

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ABSTRACT

Euphemism and dysphemism are effective language devices in the media as means to determine people's knowledge and perspective on specific issues. Thus, the use of euphemism and dysphemism in discussing COVID-19 is inevitable concerning that the situation has a massive impact on society. This study is aimed to analyse the types and functions of euphemism and dysphemism in the COVID-19 news articles in *The Jakarta Post*. The theoretical basis to analyse euphemism is the classification of euphemism types by Allan (2012) and theory of functions of euphemism by Burrige (2012). Regarding the analysis of dysphemism, the study relies on the theory by Allan and Burrige (2006) to analyse the types and functions of dysphemism. The research is conducted based on a qualitative approach. The research data is taken from 12 news articles from *The Jakarta Post* online newspaper about COVID-19. The results show that the types of euphemism found are verbal play, substitution, circumlocution, colour-based metaphor, and appearance-based metaphor. These euphemisms function as protective, provocative, underhand, cohesive, and uplifting. Meanwhile, the types of dysphemism are hyperbole, one-for-one substitution, dysphemistic insult or epithets, idiom, and circumlocution. Dysphemism found in the study function to represent the bad situation, emphasise a state, characterise identity, downgrade, and show anger. The study found that euphemism mainly to protect the denotatum and readers from unpleasant facts about COVID-19 by concealment and upgrade. Meanwhile, dysphemism mainly aimed to criticise and alarm about the bad situation during the pandemic.

Keywords: *euphemism, dysphemism, COVID-19, The Jakarta Post*

ABSTRAK

Eufemisme dan disfemisme merupakan ekspresi bahasa yang efektif digunakan pada media sebagai sarana untuk menentukan pengetahuan dan perspektif pembaca mengenai isu tertentu. Sehingga, penggunaan eufemisme dan disfemisme dalam membahas mengenai COVID-19 tidak dapat dihindari mengingat bahwa situasi tersebut berdampak sangat besar bagi masyarakat. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis tipe dan fungsi dari eufemisme dan disfemisme pada artikel berita COVID -19 di *The Jakarta Post*. Dasar teori yang digunakan untuk menganalisis eufemisme adalah klasifikasi tipe eufemisme oleh Allan (2012) dan teori tentang fungsi eufemisme oleh Burridge (2012). Mengenai analisis disfemisme, penelitian ini bertumpu pada teori dari Allan dan Burridge (2006) untuk menganalisis tipe dan fungsi dari disfemisme. Penelitian ini dilaksanakan berdasarkan pendekatan kualitatif. Data penelitian dikumpulkan dari 12 artikel berita yang diakses dari surat kabar daring *The Jakarta Post* yang membahas mengenai COVID -19. Hasil menunjukkan bahwa jenis eufemisme yang ditemukan adalah *verbal play*, *substitution*, *circumlocution*, *colour-based metaphor*, dan *appearance-based metaphor*, yang mana fungsi dari eufemisme-eufemisme tersebut adalah *protective*, *provocative*, *underhand*, *cohesive*, dan *uplifting*. Sedangkan, jenis disfemisme yang ditemukan adalah *hyperbole*, *one-for-one substitution*, *dysphemistic insult or epithets*, *idiom*, dan *circumlocution*. Disfemisme yang ditemukan berfungsi untuk merepresentasikan buruknya situasi, menegaskan suatu situasi, menandai karakter identitas suatu kelompok, merendahkan, dan menunjukkan amarah. Penelitian menemukan bahwa eufemisme banyak digunakan untuk melindungi *denotatum* dan pembaca dari fakta yang tidak baik tentang COVID -19 baik melalui penyamaran maupun memoles fakta. Sementara itu, disfemisme banyak digunakan untuk mengkritik dan mengingatkan tentang buruknya situasi selama pandemi.

Kata kunci: *eufemisme, disfemisme, COVID-19, The Jakarta Post*