

A STUDY OF LEXICAL STYLE WHICH IS USED BY DETIK FORUM PARTICIPANTS IN DESCRIBING MAYANG SARI, BAMBANG TRIHATMODJO, AND HALIMAH

Pertiwi, Astari Arum P

KKB KK-2 FS BE 56 08 Ast s

Pembimbing : Pembimbing : Lusvita Fitri Nuzuliyanti.S.S., M.App,Ling

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Abstract

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This study is conducted to investigate how the participants in detikforum.com describe the image of Mayang Sari, Bambang Trihatmodjo, Halimah and react towards the love affair case between Mayang and Bambang. Thus, this study is intended to find how the participants in detikforum describe the image of Mayang Sari, Bambang Trihatmodjo, and Halimah, and also, to find the lexical style of forum participants when describing the three actors. In order to analyze the words choice that is used by the participants in detikforum.com, Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) proposed by Teun van Dijk is used as the analytical tool. The theory of polygamy in general is also put in order to extend the analysis of the problem.

After observing the comments that are posted by the participants, the writer found that the choice of words which are used by the participants is unique and explicit enough in describing the three actors. Furthermore, the writer found that there are some differences of how the participants portray the image of those three actors. Mayang Sari is prominently described in negative manners such as being materialistic, using black magic and physical appearance to attract man's attention, and the intruder of family. In contrast to Mayang Sari's profile, Halimah is described in positive manners such as the victim of the love affair, protecting her children, a very beautiful and polite woman and also brought up by decent family. Bambang Trihatmodjo is described in two different manners. In one side, he is portrayed as the victim of Mayang Sari's attraction, while in the other side he is portrayed as a playboy and having weak belief in God and moral values.

The different portrayal of the three actors can be related to the common perception or belief about the system of marriage and polygamy in Indonesia that are shared by the participants in this forum. It can be inferred that the social cognition here influence the participants' point of view in describing the image of Mayang, Bambang, and Halimah. Thus, regarding to their common perception towards the marriage and polygamy in this country, the participants describe Mayang Sari negatively while Halimah is described in a very positive manner. Also in describing Bambang, the participants give two different sides to depict his image, both in good and bad perceptions about him.

*Keywords: Forum, Polygamy, Lexical style, Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), Social Cognition*