

**A. LAPORAN HASIL PENELITIAN**

**ABSTRACT**

This study challenged the thesis of Habermas and his supporters about the relation between Internet and democracy which said that Internet does not support deliberative democracy. This thesis was built with propositions: Internet made bloggers become parasite, fragmented, and isolated; it was effective to break authoritarian regimes, to create egalite relationship but it failed as deliberative medium. This study used concept of public sphere and deliberative democracy of Habermas. It also explored 2.0 qualitative methods with hacking analysis perspective. Moreover, it gained data from Internet by using technological advance of 2.0 Web and virtual community. It focused not only on discursive construction, but also the non-discursive one. It hacked active bloggers for the cause of supporting Bibit-Chandra and reclaiming identity of Indonesia-Malaysia in Facebook and YouTube.

This research resulted in: First, Internet did not make bloggers parasite to mainstream media, in fact, it encouraged them to be creative in organizing and making virtual public sphere (blogosphere) alive, either nationally or globally. Secondly, virtual public sphere did not make bloggers be fragmented, instead, they were integrated virtually through algorithm aggregation (online tool). Thirdly, bloggers in blogosphere were not isolated, instead they created virtual community connected with online tools. Fourthly, Internet created online life which was more egalite, cross-age, gender, ethnic, group, religion, education and economic strata.

Fifth, virtual blogosphere could break digital division through free and cheap Internet access. Sixth, Internet made easier bloggers' political involvement with e-participation which resulted in breaking democracy gap. Seventh, blogosphere became a medium of blogger deliberation by that of online. Eighth, public opinion built by bloggers had power to influence political policy by enlarging mass basis and public consent. Thus, this study rejected the thesis of Habermas as only one proposition is relevant with it that Internet creates open, while the others, seven propositions, are against the results of this study.

Keywords: Bloggers, blogosphere, deliberative democracy, hacking analysis

## ABSTRAK

Studi ini mencabar tesis Habermas dan pendukungnya tentang relasi Internet dan demokrasi. Tesis yang dicabar, Internet tidak mendorong demokrasi deliberatif. Tesis ini dibangun dengan proposisi: Internet membuat *blogger* parasit, terfragmentasi dan terisolasi; Internet efektif menjatuhkan rejim otoriter, menciptakan hubungan yang egaliter tetapi gagal menjadi medium deliberasi. Studi ini menggunakan konsep ruang publik dan demokrasi deliberatif Habermas. Studi ini mengeksplorasi metode kualitatif 2.0 dengan perspektif analisis hacking. Studi ini memperoleh data melalui Internet dengan memanfaatkan perkembangan teknologi Web 2.0 dan komunitas virtual. Studi ini tidak hanya fokus pada konstruksi diskursif tetapi juga konstruksi non diskursif. Studi ini meretas blogger yang aktif dalam gerakan mendukung Bibit-Chandra dan *reclaiming* identitas Indonesia-Malaysia di Facebook dan YouTube.

Studi ini menghasilkan: Pertama, Internet tidak membuat *blogger* parasit terhadap media mainstream, justru sebaliknya mendorong *blogger* kreatif dalam mengorganisir dan menghidupkan ruang publik virtual (*blogosphere*) baik nasional maupun global. Kedua, ruang publik virtual tidak membuat blogger terfragmentasi tetapi terintegrasi secara virtual melalui agregasi algoritma (online tool). Ketiga, *blogger* di *blogosphere* tidak terisolasi tetapi membentuk sebuah komunitas virtual yang dihubungkan oleh *online tool*. Keempat, Internet menciptakan kehidupan *online* yang lebih egaliter, lintas umur, gender, etnis, kelompok, agama, pendidikan, strata ekonomi.

Kelima, ruang publik virtual dapat mencairkan *digital divide* melalui akses Internet gratis dan murah. Keenam, Internet memudahkan keterlibatan politik blogger melalui e-partisipasi sehingga mencairkan kesenjangan demokrasi. Ketujuh, *blogosphere* menjadi medium deliberasi *blogger* melalui *online deliberation*. Kedelapan, opini publik yang dibangun *blogger* memiliki kekuatan untuk mempengaruhi kebijakan politik dengan memperluas basis massa dan *public consent*. Dengan demikian, studi ini menolak tesis Habermas karena hanya satu proposisi yang relevan dengan studi ini, yakni Internet menciptakan keterbukaan, sementara tujuh proposisi bertentangan dengan hasil studi ini.

Kata kunci: *Blogger*, *blogosphere*, demokrasi deliberatif, analisis *hacking*