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An Analysis of News Construction in Online Media

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Abstract: This study aims to analyze the news construction of the Constitutional Court's (MK) ruling on the acid attack against Novel Baswedan--a senior KPK investigator--perpetrated by unknown individuals, on Detik.com. The analysis was conducted using Robert N. Entman's model, focusing on four dimensions: defining problems, diagnosing causes, making moral judgments, and treatment recommendations. This study employs a qualitative method within a constructivism paradigm. Data collection was conducted through the observation of news coverage on Detik.com regarding the trial proceedings of the perpetrators of the acid attack on Novel Baswedan. Out of the numerous news reports, four articles were selected as representative to portray the trial process and the judge's verdict on the perpetrators. The results demonstrate that Entman views framing in two major dimensions: issue selection and the emphasis or salience of specific aspects of reality and issues. Furthermore, the analysis reveals that Detik.com's news framing sided with Novel Baswedan, as evidenced by the news content which was predominantly presented from the perspective of Novel Baswedan's defenders.

Keywords: News Construction, Framing, Robert N. Entman, Detik.Com.

INTRODUCTION

Online media is essentially a shift from printed mass media, transforming from print-based to internet-based platforms (Umayyah, 2025). Online media refers to mass media available online on internet websites and constitutes a product of online journalism. Online journalism, also known as cyber journalism (Ashari, 2019), is defined as the reporting of facts or events that are produced and distributed via the internet. The presence of online media allows information or news to be disseminated much faster, making it accessible anytime and anywhere by the public through an internet connection. Furthermore, news in online media is presented as engagingly as possible, incorporating audio-visual elements similar to television.

As reported by several media outlets, including DetikNews (2017), precisely on Tuesday, April 11th, 2017, the public was shocked by the news of an acid attack against Novel Baswedan by unknown individuals. The incident occurred near his residence in the Pegangsaan Dua area, Kelapa Gading, North Jakarta, as Novel was returning home from the mosque after performing

the dawn (*subuh*) prayer in congregation at around 05:10 AM WIB. Various conventional and online media outlets made the event their headline news, as the attack severely damaged the vision of the senior KPK investigator.

The search for the perpetrators spanned over two years until they were finally apprehended on December 27, 2019. This was reported by detik.com (2019) and stated by Listyo Sigit Prabowo, who was serving as the Head of the Criminal Investigation Agency (Kabareskrim) of the Indonesian National Police at the time. This development sparked pros and cons within society regarding the police's performance in investigating and arresting the perpetrators of the acid attack that left Novel Baswedan permanently visually impaired. After two and a half years since the incident occurred, it was only in December 2019 that the police announced they had identified the attackers. Consequently, they detained two suspects with the initials RB and RM, both of whom were active police officers. The two rogue officers were subsequently named suspects (VoAIndonesia, 2019).

Novel Baswedan initially received medical treatment at a hospital in Jakarta before being referred to Singapore. After undergoing treatment in the Lion City for ten months, Novel returned to Indonesia. However, his vision was permanently damaged; his left eye was reported to be no longer functional due to the acid exposure. Novel returned to work at the KPK on July 27, 2018. The author is interested in discussing this matter because despite the trial having concluded and a verdict being delivered, numerous irregularities remain in this case. One major controversy was the lenient sentence requested for the defendants, as the prosecutor claimed that splashing acid onto Novel Baswedan's face was "unintentional." This statement garnered significant public and online attention, leading to the phrase "ga sengaja" (unintentional) and the hashtag #NovelBaswedan becoming trending topics on Twitter. Netray (2020) conducted an analysis of the trending hashtag, which is represented in Figure 1 below:



Figure 1: Topic Trends for Novel Baswedan.

Source: Netray, 2020

The topic regarding the 2017 acid attack case only went to trial in 2020. By June 2020, the Twitter trend peaked at 12,000 tweets on June 16, 2020 (Netray, 2020). This trend subsequently declined to around 1,000 tweets per day by June 22, 2020. This study will discuss Detikcom's online media construction regarding the acid attack on Novel Baswedan using Robert N. Entman's model. This case is intentionally brought back to light because, as previously anticipated, similar incidents are bound to recur if perpetrators receive extremely lenient sentences and the masterminds remain unrevealed, as will be analyzed in the following sections.

CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

Framing is an approach used to understand the perspective or viewpoint employed by journalists when selecting issues and writing news. This perspective ultimately determines which facts are selected, which parts are emphasized or omitted, and the direction in which the

news is steered. In Entman's conception, framing essentially refers to the presentation of definitions, explanations, evaluations, and recommendations within a discourse to emphasize a specific framework regarding the event being discussed.

Robert N. Entman, through his work "Toward Clarification of a Fractured Paradigm" (1993), explains media framing. According to Entman, framing is a process of selecting various aspects of social reality and subsequently emphasizing those aspects within the news text to make them more visible, meaningful, and memorable to the audience. In doing so, the media indirectly guides the public's perspective on an issue. Robert N. Entman is one of the scholars who laid the foundation for framing analysis in media content studies (Nurhadi, 2015). Entman's concept of framing is used to describe the media's process of selecting and emphasizing specific aspects of reality. Entman views framing in two major dimensions: issue selection and the emphasis or salience of specific aspects of reality/issues. Salience is the process of making information more meaningful, engaging, significant, or memorable to the audience. A reality presented prominently or conspicuously has a greater likelihood of being noticed and influencing the audience's perception of that reality (Eriyanto, 2009). The initial stage of framing is not performed by the media. Humans possess the ability to interpret the reality occurring around them based on their own *frame of reference* and *field of experience*. A *frame of reference* is the knowledge or understanding used as a baseline to interpret messages, whereas a *field of experience* refers to the collection of experiences stored in one's memory. Both *field of experience* and *frame of reference* are functional factors that influence perception. Functional factors originate from needs, past experiences, and other elements categorized as personal factors (Rakhmat, 2005). There are four things humans do when constructing their own frame of reality, namely:

- 1) Classification: Humans realize that the world consists of various things; thus, psychologically, they separate these things into several categories to ease the understanding process. Humans attach certain characteristics to a specific category, allowing the differences among occurring events to be clearly visible.
- 2) Generalization: Classification helps humans identify the characteristics of events or individuals. Generalization is a continuation of this process, which ultimately limits or groups adjacent or similar characteristics based on the traits obtained during classification. This process can potentially yield prejudice.
- 3) Simplification: Humans tend to view all events through a simple framework of thinking, aligned with their cognitive capacity. As age, knowledge, and experience increase, humans will view the world in a more diverse manner. Nevertheless, the process of understanding reality will still be carried out simplistically.
- 4) Association: An event is not only identified or understood but is subsequently connected to other events. The diversity of the world is perceived as having interconnectedness with one another.

In Entman's conception, framing essentially refers to the presentation of definitions, explanations, evaluations, and recommendations within a discourse to emphasize a specific framework regarding the event being discussed. According to Entman (Qodari, 2000), framing in news is conducted in four ways: first, problem identification, where an event is viewed as what it is and with what positive or negative values; second, causal interpretation; third, moral evaluation, which is the assessment of the cause of the problem; and fourth, treatment recommendation, which offers a way to handle the problem and sometimes predicts its outcome.

METHOD

This study is qualitative in nature, employing a constructivism paradigm--a paradigm that focuses on the understanding that knowledge and truth are not objective but are instead the

results of individual construction (Samatan, 2017). The study was conducted by observing online media construction, which in this research refers to the construction carried out by Detik.com using Robert N. Entman's framing model. The research was carried out throughout 2022, during the period when the acid attack case against Novel Baswedan was being tried, even though the judge eventually delivered a verdict on the case.

The framing scheme developed by Entman is presented in Table 1 below:

Table 1. Robert N. Entman's Framing Model Scheme:

Define Problems	How is an event or issue perceived? What is it viewed as? What kind of problem is it identified as?
Diagnose Cause	What is the cause of the event or issue? What is perceived as the source of the problem? Who (which actor) is deemed responsible for the problem?
Make Moral Judgment	What moral values are presented to explain the problem? What moral values are used to legitimate or delegitimize an action?
Treatment Recommendation	What solutions are offered to resolve the problem or issue? What kind of path is proposed or needs to be taken to overcome the problem or issue?

Source: Entman, in Khoerunisa, 2024.

This study analyzes four news articles published by Detik.com throughout 2022. The selected representations of the news were chosen based on the study's orientation, under the assumption that Detik.com was highly concerned with framing the news regarding the acid attack on Novel Baswedan, an active KPK investigator. The coverage of this case's trial had previously become a trending topic on Twitter in June 2020.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Results

The acid attack case against KPK investigator Novel Baswedan, the judges' verdict, and the trial process triggered harsh criticism from the public and the Victim's Advocacy Team. They considered the final outcome and the judicial process to be full of irregularities, leaving the impression of a "mockery of justice" (or "miscarriage of justice"). This acid attack case was officially decided by the Judgement Panel of the North Jakarta District Court on July 16, 2020 (BBC News, 2020; Detiknews.com, 2020). In the sentencing hearing, the judge handed down verdicts to the two defendants: Rahmat Kadir Mahulette was sentenced to 2 years in prison, and Ronny Bugis was sentenced to 1.5 years in prison. The sentences handed down in mid-2020 were slightly higher than the sentences requested by the Public Prosecutor (JPU), who had previously only sought 1 year in prison. However, they still triggered a wave of severe criticism from the public, as they were deemed far too lenient given the permanent injuries suffered by the victim.

Based on various analyses, several major irregularities highlighted following the verdict and the series of trials include:

- 1) **Sentences Deemed Extremely Lenient:** Both defendants (Rahmat Kadir Mahulette and Ronny Bugis) were only given very low sentences (around 1 to 2 years in prison). This was considered highly ironic and disproportionate to the severe physical damage suffered by the victim, in which Novel permanently lost his sight.
- 2) **Intellectual Actors Left Unrevealed:** The judges' verdict and the prosecutors' demand stopped short at the field perpetrators (two active police officers). The trial was considered a failure or deliberately designed not to uncover the mastermind or the intellectual actor behind the systematic attack.

- 3) **Charged Only with Ordinary Assault:** The prosecutors and judges adopted the construction that the action was an assault that accidentally hit the eyes (deemed without intent to injure the eyes, or merely ordinary/premeditated assault). This indictment ignored the fact that throwing acid at the face area is potentially life-threatening or can cause permanent disability.
- 4) **Disregard for Facts Linking to Corruption Cases:** The framing of the case at trial stated that the perpetrators' motive was purely personal sentiment (considering Novel a traitor to the institution). The trial ignored the findings of the Fact-Finding Team (TPF) and the National Commission on Human Rights (Komnas HAM), which stated that the attack was closely linked to high-profile corruption cases Novel Baswedan was handling at the KPK.
- 5) **Issues with the Evidence Presented:** The advocacy team highlighted oddities regarding the evidence presented in court. For instance, the clothes Novel wore during the incident were found partially cut at the front, leading to suspicions that the original traces of the acid attack had been destroyed. Furthermore, there was a unilateral claim stating that the liquid was merely battery fluid, despite its extremely destructive impact.
- 6) **Key Witnesses Not Brought Forward:** Several important and key witnesses who were aware of the sequence of events before and after the attack were not fully summoned to testify before the court, leading to the assessment that the panel of judges was passive in seeking material truth.

This controversy triggered various speculations circulating in public and voiced by the media; in this paper, the focus is on the news coverage by Detik.com on July 16–17, 2020. Detik.com was selected because it is considered a highly accessible media outlet that provides rapid news updates and continues to thrive amidst the digital wave to this day (Kompasiana, 2025). Furthermore, as a media outlet whose emergence was once overshadowed by the prominent name of Kompas, but which can now stand alongside its greatness, this is an achievement that deserves appreciation. The analyzed news articles are presented in Table 2 below:

Table 2: Analyzed Detik.com News Articles, Period of July 16–17, 2020

No	Periode	News Title
1	July, 16 th 2020	Dituntut 1 Tahun Bui, 2 Penyerang Novel Baswedan Hadapi Vonis Hari Ini
2	July, 16 th 2020	Geger Tuntutan Ringan Penyerang Novel Baswedan yang Segera Diputuskan
3	July, 17 th 2020	Saat Hakim Amini 'Tak Ada Niat' Penyerang Bikin Novel Baswedan Luka Berat
4	July, 17 th 2020	Penyerang Novel Baswedan Divonis 2 dan 1,5 Tahun Bui, KPK: Preseden Buruk

Source: Detik.com, 2020

The selection of these four news articles is considered representative for analyzing the acid attack experienced by Novel Baswedan. This news is deemed highly relevant, as a similar incident recently befell Andrei Yunus, a KontraS activist who experienced a similar attack (Kompas.com, 2026). In terms of chronology, the acid attack on Novel Baswedan occurred nearly a decade ago; yet, a similar incident recurred in 2026, once again involving the country's security apparatus.

Discussion

Framing of the News Article: “Dituntut 1 Tahun Bui, 2 Penyerang Novel Baswedan Hadapi Vonis Hari Ini” (Sentenced to 1 Year in Prison sought, 2 Attackers of Novel Baswedan Face Verdict Today) – July 16th, 2020 Edition

The follow-up hearing for the alleged acid attack against Novel Baswedan is being held today. The agenda of the hearing is the reading of the verdict for the defendants, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir. The Public Relations Officer of the North Jakarta District Court, Djuyamto, stated that the defendants would attend the hearing via teleconference. According to him, the trial is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM (WIB).

For context, the prosecutors have sought a 1-year prison sentence for the two attackers of Novel Baswedan, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir. Prosecutors believe both are guilty of committing severe physical abuse against Novel Baswedan. Both have been proven to have committed the criminal act as charged under the subsidiary indictment. The prosecutors believe Ronny and Rahmat are guilty of violating Article 353 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code (KUHP) in conjunction with Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (KUHP).

The prosecutors emphasized that the elements of severe physical abuse in this case have been met. The two threw sulfuric acid at Novel near his residence, an action carried out after Novel performed the dawn prayer (*Subuh*) in congregation at a mosque near his house. The prosecutors stated that the two had planned the attack on Novel.

Table 2: News Article “Dituntut 1 Tahun Bui, 2 Penyerang Novel Baswedan Hadapi Vonis Hari Ini” (Sentenced to 1 Year in Prison sought, 2 Attackers of Novel Baswedan Face Verdict Today) – July 16th, 2020 Edition

Define Problem	The Public Relations Officer of the North Jakarta District Court announced that the sentencing hearing will be held via teleconference today
Diagnoses Causes	Both defendants committed severe physical abuse against Novel Baswedan
Make Moral Judgement	The prosecutors sought a one-year prison sentence for both defendants, arguing that the sentence was in accordance with the applied article, as the attack was not intended to injure Novel's face.
Treatment Recommendation	Both defendants were proven to have committed a criminal act violating Article 353 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code (KUHP) in conjunction with Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (KUHP).

Source: Detik.com., 2020

Define Problem:

In this news article published by Detik.com on July 16, 2020, it is apparent that Detik.com defines the problem as follows:

“The follow-up hearing for the alleged acid attack against Novel Baswedan is being held today. The agenda of the hearing is the reading of the verdict for the defendants, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir. The Public Relations Officer of the North Jakarta District Court, Djuyamto, stated that the defendants would attend the hearing via teleconference. According to him, the trial is scheduled to begin at 10:00 AM WIB. “Yes (the hearing will be held today). Teleconference,” Djuyamto told reporters on Wednesday (July 15, 2020). Article excerpt from Detik.com.

Diagnoses Causes:

Two attackers of Novel Baswedan, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir, have had a one-year prison sentence sought against them by the public prosecutors. The prosecutors believe both are guilty of committing severe physical abuse against Novel Baswedan. Both have been proven to have committed the criminal act as charged under the subsidiary indictment. The prosecutors believe Ronny and Rahmat are guilty of violating Article 353 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*) in conjunction with Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*). Excerpt from Detik.com.

Make Moral Judgement:

The prosecutors provided an explanation regarding the one-year prison sentence sought for both individuals. The prosecutors argued that the sentence aligned with the charges applied, as they believed the two defendants did not initially intend to target and injure Novel's face. 'Based on the facts presented in the trial, the defendants never desired to commit severe physical abuse. The defendants only intended to teach the witness, Novel Baswedan, a lesson by splashing acid onto Novel Baswedan's body. However, it hit the victim's head. As a result of the defendants' actions, the witness Novel Baswedan suffered a permanent disability, leaving his left eye non-functional,' the prosecutor stated while reading the sentencing request. Article excerpt from Detik.com.

Treatment Recommendation

The prosecutors believe both are guilty of committing severe physical abuse against Novel Baswedan. Both have been proven to have committed the criminal act as charged under the subsidiary indictment. The prosecutors believe Ronny and Rahmat are guilty of violating Article 353 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*) in conjunction with Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*). 'We request that the panel of judges of the North Jakarta District Court examining and trying this case rule and declare the defendants legally and convincingly proven guilty of committing premeditated physical abuse resulting in severe injuries,' the prosecutor stated while reading the indictment at the North Jakarta District Court, Gajah Mada Street, North Petojo, Gambir, Central Jakarta, on Thursday (June 11th 2020). Article excerpt from Detik.com.

News Framing: “Geger Tuntutan Ringan Penyerang Novel Baswedan yang Segera Diputuskan” (*Uproar Over the Lenient Sentence Sought for Novel Baswedan's Attackers, Verdict Imminent*) – July 16th, 2020 Edition.

The lenient one-year prison sentence sought for the two attackers of KPK investigator Novel Baswedan has caused an uproar and sparked controversy. Now, the end of the journey for the acid attack case against Novel will soon be determined through the verdict hearing held today. The two attackers of Novel, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir, were previously believed by the public prosecutors to be guilty of committing severe physical abuse against Novel. Both were also believed to be guilty of violating Article 353 paragraph (2) of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*) in conjunction with (*Jo*) Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*), with a recommended sentence of one year in prison. The sentence sought by the prosecutors subsequently caused a stir. Novel Baswedan himself spoke out regarding the matter. Novel admitted he had long predicted this would happen, stating that the decay of the system was being shown in a vulgar manner.

Meanwhile, the Chairman of the Indonesian Prosecution Commission (*KKRI*), Barita Simanjuntak, hoped for justice in the acid attack case against Novel Baswedan. According to him, law enforcement officers must be provided with maximum protection. The uproar over the lenient sentence sought for Novel's attackers also, as it turned out, did not only occur among

law enforcement officers and anti-corruption activists. Stand-up comedian Bintang Emon even went as far as making a short video containing satire about the one-year prison sentence. Support also continued to pour in for Novel Baswedan, with several prominent figures visiting the senior KPK investigator's residence.

Among the figures who visited Novel Baswedan were Said Didu, Refly Harun, Bambang Widjojanto, and Rocky Gerung. The meeting was held behind closed doors. Refly assessed that the one-year sentence sought for the two attackers of Novel demeaned and insulted the law. Yet, according to him, the acid attack on Novel had met four key elements: intent, the weapon used, the consequences, and the fact that the victim was an on-duty officer.

Table 3: “Uproar: Light Sentences for Novel Baswedan's Attackers to Be Decided Soon”, July 16th, 2020 Edition

Define Problem	The light one-year prison sentence demand for Novel Baswedan's two attackers caused an uproar and sparked controversy
Diagnoses Causes	The defendant was only sentenced to one year in prison
Make Moral Judgement	The one-year sentence demand for Novel's two attackers is considered an insult and an affront to the law
Treatment Recommendation	The KPK hopes that the panel of judges will hand down a fair verdict

Source: Detik.com., 2020

Define Problem

The light one-year prison sentence demand for the two attackers of KPK investigator Novel Baswedan caused an uproar and sparked controversy. The demand presented by the prosecutor subsequently created a stir. Novel Baswedan himself also spoke out regarding the matter. 'Today we see what I have been saying--that the trial for the attack against me is merely a formality. It proves the perception they want to form and that the perpetrators are given light sentences,' Novel said through his Twitter account @nazaqistsha on Thursday (June 11th 2020). According to an article quoted from detik.com, Novel admitted he had predicted long ago that this would happen. He stated that the decay was being displayed in a vulgar manner. 'Indeed, I have suspected this for a long time, even when it was still in the investigation stage and at the beginning of the trial. Although it is indeed outrageous because it is a decay put on display so vulgarly, without any hesitation or shame,' he said. 'Aside from being angry, I am also deeply saddened because this serves as a measure of the fact that the law in Indonesia is so broken. How then can the public achieve justice? Meanwhile, the government's voice is never heard (neglectful),' he added, as quoted from the Detik.com article.

The uproar over the light sentence demand for Novel's attackers apparently did not only occur among law enforcers and anti-corruption activists. Comedian Bintang Emon even made a short video containing satire about the one-year prison demand. In the viral video, Bintang Emon expressed his bewilderment over the claim that the two attackers 'accidentally' threw acid at Novel Baswedan's head. 'They said it was accidental, but how on earth did it hit his face? We live on Earth, after all. Gravity definitely goes down. If you splash someone's body, it's impossible to miss and hit their face--unless Mr. Novel Baswedan was actually walking on a handstand, then you could complain,' Bintang Emon said, as quoted from a detik.com article. 'Your Honor, my intention was to splash his body. But because of his cheeky way of walking, it hit his face. Sure, that makes sense,' he continued, in another quote from the Detik.com article.

Diagnoses Causes

The two attackers of Novel, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir, were previously believed by the public prosecutors to be guilty of committing severe assault against Novel. Both were also believed to be guilty of violating Article 353 Paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code (KUHP) in conjunction with Article 55 Paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (KUHP). 'We demand that the panel of judges of the North Jakarta District Court examining and adjudicating this case rule and declare the defendant proven legally and convincingly guilty of committing planned assault resulting in grievous bodily harm,' the prosecutor said while reading the sentencing demand at the North Jakarta District Court, Gajah Mada Street, North Petojo, Gambir, Central Jakarta, Thursday (June 11). 'To sentence the defendant to a prison term of 1 year,' the prosecutor added, as quoted from a Detik.com article.

Make Moral Judgement

Refly Harun, a prominent lawyer, assesses that the 1-year sentence demand against Novel's two attacker's insults and degrades the law. In fact, according to him, the acid attack incident on Novel met four elements: intent, weapon used, consequence, and the victim's status as an officer. "How could the demand be only 1 year when it feels like the intent was there, the weapon used was dangerous, the consequence caused was extraordinary—blindness--and it was carried out against an officer? This must be related to Mas Novel's position as a KPK investigator. Since those 4 elements have been met, why is the demand only 1 year? This is like insulting the public's common sense," Refly said. Article quote from Detik.com.

Treatment Recommendation

The KPK also spoke out regarding the sentence demand against Novel's two attackers. The KPK hopes that the panel of judges will eventually hand down a fair verdict. "Therefore, the KPK hopes that the panel of judges will rule as justly as possible by imposing the maximum sentence in accordance with the proven guilt and actions, while also considering the public's sense of justice, including Novel Baswedan's position as a victim who suffered a severe assault while carrying out his duties in handling corruption cases," said the Acting KPK Spokesperson, Ali Fikri, to reporters, Friday (June, 12th 2020). Article quote from Detik.com.

News Framing: “Saat Hakim Amini 'Tak Ada Niat' Penyerang Bikin Novel Baswedan Luka Berat” (When Judges Agree Attackers 'Had No Intend' to Cause Severe Injuries to Novel Baswedan). July 17th, 2020 Edition.

Edition The panel of judges at the North Jakarta District Court stated that Novel Baswedan's two attackers did not intend for Novel to suffer severe injuries resulting in a permanent disability, as is currently the case in the acid attack incident. This was revealed by the North Jakarta District Court panel of judges while reading the judicial considerations in the verdict of Rahmat Kadir and Ronny Bugis on Thursday (16/7/2020). The judges believed that the two defendants did not have the intention to inflict severe injuries on Novel. Djuyanto stated that the defendants' confession of splashing Novel with battery acid mixed with water was consistent with expert testimonies. Additionally, the defendants' statements also matched the findings of the Indonesian National Police Forensic Laboratory Center.

Table 4: News Article “Saat Hakim Amini 'Tak Ada Niat' Penyerang Bikin Novel Baswedan Luka Berat” (When Judges Agree Attackers 'Had No Intend' to Cause Severe Injuries to Novel Baswedan). July 17th, 2020.

Define Problem	The panel of judges at the North Jakarta District Court stated that Novel Baswedan's two attackers did not intentionally cause Novel to suffer severe injuries resulting in a permanent disability, as is currently the case.
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Diagnoses Causes	According to the judge, the defendant's confession was consistent with the laboratory results from the Indonesian National Police Forensic Laboratory Center.
Make Moral Judgement	The judge stated that both defendants, particularly Rahmat Kadir, had no intent to inflict severe injuries upon Novel Baswedan.
Treatment Recommendation	The defendant was sentenced to prison.

Source: Detik.com., 2020

Define Problem\

The Panel of Judges of the North Jakarta District Court stated that the two attackers of Novel Baswedan did not intend for Novel to suffer severe injuries resulting in permanent disability as he does now in the acid attack case. This was revealed by the North Jakarta District Court panel of judges when reading the considerations in the sentencing of Rahmat Kadir and Ronny Bugis on Thursday (July 16, 2020). The judges believed that the two defendants had no intention of causing severe bodily harm to Novel.

"If linked to the fact that battery water contains 33.5% sulfuric acid, it aligns with the defendant's statement of having mixed the battery water into a mug they had filled with water. This was also explained by a witness, who stated that standard battery water has a sulfuric acid pH level of around 35%, while based on forensic laboratory tests, the sulfuric acid pH level in the mug was 16%, which means the sulfuric acid carried by the defendant had been diluted with water," said Chief Judge Djuyamto. *Article excerpt from Detik.com*

Diagnoses Causes

Djuyamto stated that the defendant's confession of splashing Novel with battery water mixed with water aligned with the expert testimonies. In addition, the defendant's statement was also consistent with the laboratory results from the National Police Forensic Laboratory (Puslabfor).

"Considering that as proven in the trial, based on Puslabfor report number lab 1375/KTF/2017 dated April 18, 2017, as well as the testimony of expert witness Dr. Reinard I Made Gaga and witness Dr. Reinard Budiawan, it is explained through literature study that sulfuric acid (H_2SO_4) is a type of strong sulfuric acid liquid that is colorless, odorless, water-soluble, and corrosive. If direct contact occurs with the skin, it can cause burns, inflammation, and skin tissue damage," he explained. *Article excerpt from Detik.com*.

Make Moral Judgement

The judge stated that the two defendants, particularly Rahmat Kadir, had no intention of causing severe bodily harm to Novel. This was because, according to the judge, if the defendant had wanted or intended to severely injure Novel, they would not have needed to mix the battery water with regular water.

"Considering that, in the panel of judges' view, the defendant's action of adding or mixing water into the mug containing battery water represents a state of mind, or *mens rea*, reflected in the execution of the act, which actually did not intend to cause severe injury to the victim, witness Novel Baswedan," Judge Djuyamto stated. *Article excerpt from Detik.com*.

"Because if indeed the defendant's intention, purpose, state of mind, or *mens rea* was to cause severe injury, the defendant certainly would not have needed to add water to the mug they had filled with battery water, which is a corrosive liquid. Or they could have used other methods, given that the defendant is a member of the Brimob (Mobile Brigade) force, especially since the defendant is a Brimob member trained in physical attacks," he added. *Article excerpt from Detik.com*.

Treatment Recommendation

The perpetrator who splashed battery water on Novel, Rahmat Kadir, was sentenced by the judge to 2 years in prison. Meanwhile, Ronny Bugis was sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison.

News Framing: “Penyerang Novel Baswedan Divonis 2 dan 1,5 Tahun Bui, KPK: Preseden Buruk” (*Novel Baswedan's Attackers Sentenced to 2 and 1.5 Years in Prison, KPK: A Bad Precedent*). July 17th, 2020 Edition.

Responding to the sentences of 2 years and 1.5 years handed down to the two attackers of Novel Baswedan, the Acting Spokesperson for the KPK (Anti-Corruption Commission), Ali Fikri, admitted that he understood the disappointment of Novel Baswedan and the public over the verdict. This is because Novel Baswedan's case serves as a reminder of how crucial protection is for anti-corruption fighters. With that verdict, Ali assessed that it would set a bad precedent for future crime victims, particularly law enforcement officers carrying out corruption eradication duties.

Table 5: News Title “Penyerang Novel Baswedan Divonis 2 dan 1,5 Tahun Bui, KPK: Preseden Buruk” (Novel Baswedan's Attackers Sentenced to 2 and 1.5 Years in Prison, KPK: A Bad Precedent). July 17th, 2020 Edition.

Define Problem	The verdict in the Novel Baswedan acid attack case will set a bad precedent for future crime victims.
Diagnoses Causes	The two defendants who attacked Novel Baswedan were sentenced to 1 year 6 months and 2 years in prison.
Make Moral Judgement	Novel assessed that although the sentences handed down were higher, the judges' considerations in the verdict were the same as the prosecutor's demands.
Treatment Recommendation	Ali, Spokesperson for the KPK, hopes there will be concrete efforts from the government to provide protection for law enforcers, particularly anti-corruption fighters.

Source: Detik.com., 2020

Define Problem

Ali Fikri, as the acting Spokesperson for the KPK, stated that Novel Baswedan's case serves as a reminder of how crucial protection is for anti-corruption fighters. With that verdict, Ali assessed that it would set a bad precedent for future crime victims, particularly law enforcement officers carrying out corruption eradication duties. "This is because it sets a bad precedent for future crime victims. Especially for law enforcement officers carrying out duties to eradicate corruption," Ali said. *Article excerpt from Detik.com.*

Diagnoses Causes

The panel of judges handed down different sentences to Ronny and Rahmat, the two defendants who attacked Novel Baswedan. Ronny was sentenced to 1 year and 6 months in prison, while Rahmat was sentenced to 2 years in prison. The judges declared Ronny and Rahmat guilty of committing the crime of severe physical assault against Novel Baswedan. Both were proven guilty of violating Article 353 paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*) *juncto* Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (*KUHP*).

"Adjudicating, declaring that the defendant has been proven legally and convincingly guilty of jointly committing premeditated physical assault resulting in severe injury," said Chief Judge Djuyamto while reading the verdict at the North Jakarta District Court, Gajah Mada Street, Petojo Utara, North Jakarta, Thursday (July 16th, 2020). *Article excerpt from Detik.com.*

Make Moral Judgement

Novel Baswedan has responded to the sentences handed down to his two attackers. Novel assessed that although the sentences were higher, the judges' considerations in the verdict were the same as the prosecutor's demands. "After the verdict was read, I was contacted by several friends who told me that the considerations in the judges' verdict were the same as the public prosecutor's demands, with the only difference being the severity of the sentence," Novel told reporters on Thursday (July 16). *Article excerpt from Detik.com* "Because a deviation so far from the actual facts has ultimately received justification from the judges' ruling," he added. *Article excerpt from Detik.com*.

Treatment Recommendation

Ali stated that Novel Baswedan's case must receive serious attention. He hopes there will be concrete efforts from the government to provide protection for law enforcers, particularly anti-corruption fighters. "We hope this issue becomes a shared concern and that there are concrete efforts from the state to provide protection for law enforcers, especially those carrying out duties to eradicate corruption," he said. *Article excerpt from Detik.com*

News Framing Elements of the Verdict in Novel Baswedan's Acid Attack Case on Detik.com

- (1) Based on "Define Problems": After a long manhunt, the perpetrators, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat Kadir, were finally captured. Both are rogue police officers who committed physical assault against KPK senior investigator Novel Baswedan by throwing acid on his face, resulting in permanent disability to his eyes. For their actions, they were brought to justice in court, with the sentencing hearing held on July 16, 2020.
- (2) Based on "Diagnose Causes": Based on the available evidence, the two perpetrators, Ronny Bugis and Rahmat, were proven to have assaulted Novel Baswedan by splashing sulfuric acid H₂SO₄ onto Novel Baswedan's face.
- (3) Based on "Make Moral Judgment": Both perpetrators admitted to their actions; however, according to their confession, they did not intend to permanently disable Novel Baswedan, a claim which was accepted by the judge.
- (4) Based on "Treatment Recommendation": Following the trial, with the evidence and witness testimonies presented, the verdict sentenced Rahmat Kadir to 2 years in prison and Ronny Bugis to 1 year and 6 months in prison. They were charged under Article 353 paragraph 2 of the Criminal Code (KUHP) *juncto* Article 55 paragraph (1) 1st of the Criminal Code (KUHP).

Media coverage analysis, as posited by Gans (2003), states that news is essentially a written reconstruction of an existing reality. No reality is objective, because it is created through specific constructions and perspectives. Reality can vary depending on how it is conceptualized and understood by journalists who hold differing views

Shoemaker and Reese's (1996) perspective explains how news is influenced by individual media workers, media routines, organizational structures, ideology, and extra-media factors. The existence of these factors proves that mass media, including Detik.com, is not a neutral channel that provides information as it is to reflect reality. This is because both Detik.com and other media outlets have their own rules, interests, ideologies, and perspectives in constructing a reality.

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The reality referred to here concerns the court verdict in the acid attack case against Novel Baswedan by two unidentified individuals. As is well known, in constructing a reality, the media engages in framing, which involves two aspects: the selection of facts and the presentation (writing) of facts.

In the aspect of fact selection, this can be explained as the process where the media selects a particular fact by highlighting certain aspects while omitting others. This process depends on the media's angle in viewing an event, meaning the perspective of one media outlet may differ from another. The selection of facts is also inseparable from the media routine level, where each media outlet has its own editorial policy in determining its news headlines. The second aspect is the presentation of facts, which is the process concerning how the selected facts are then presented to the audience through media framing.

CONCLUSION

The results of the framing analysis on the news coverage of the court verdict in Novel Baswedan's acid attack case on the online media outlet Detik.com, based on Entman's four framing devices, are as follows:

First, in the Define Problems device, Detik.com frames the issue by explaining that Novel Baswedan's advocacy team worries that future terror cases against anti-corruption activists will be difficult to uncover. Furthermore, there are concerns that the verdict in this case will set a bad precedent or example for future crime victims.

The second framing device, Diagnose Causes, framed by the online media Detik.com, is that the prison sentences of only 1 year 6 months and 2 years for Novel Baswedan's two attackers benefit the defendants.

In the third framing device, Make Moral Judgment, Detik.com frames Novel's perspective that the court verdict is highly ironic, as the irregularities that occurred during the trial ultimately received justification from the judges' ruling. Additionally, Novel considers the sentences handed down to the defendants to be an insult and an affront to justice.

Finally, the fourth framing device, Treatment Recommendation, framed by Detik.com, shows that the KPK hopes the panel of judges will deliver a fair verdict, and hopes for concrete efforts from the government to provide protection for law enforcers, particularly anti-corruption fighters.

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