

CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This chapter comprises the methodology applied to investigate how Indonesia's newspapers report attacking news by using appraisal strategies to construct meanings on readers. This section takes into account the research design, data collection, and data analysis.

1.1 Research Design

The primary research design for the study takes the form of descriptive – qualitative study. Qualitative research is supposed to be the approach that fits the study of social sciences as it “involves an interpretive, naturalistic approach to its subject matter” (Hughes, 1997, p.1). Furthermore, interpretative research seeks to present accurate interpretations as well as description of observations of a phenomenon. Therefore, qualitative design is employed in the research due to the need to gather an in-depth understanding regarding the issue, which involves a further understanding on the approaches employed by local media in delivering global issue of attacking and terrorism incidents.

1.2 Data Collection

In collecting the data, selective data collection of news articles on attacking incidents was conducted from two major local news companies in Indonesia: *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post*. *Pikiran Rakyat* was chosen due to its representation of local newspaper in local scale, while *Jakarta Post* was selected due to its international scale. By providing Indonesia's newspapers in both local and international scale, the study is supposed to give equal representation of newspapers to prevalent audiences. News coverage on intense and small attacking incidents was assembled in the period of 2017-2018. More specific process of data collection is explained as follows.

1. Offline referencing

The data was assembled from offline/physical newspapers of *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post*. This method is quite restrained due to limited resources of accessing old archives. Nevertheless, the data collection was performed by accessing archives from physical newspapers from the period of 2017-2018.

2. Online referencing

As both newspaper companies have expanded their approach in order to reach wider public readers, *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post* have established online newspapers. They are accessible through URLs: <http://www.pikiran-rakyat.com> for *Pikiran Rakyat* and <http://www.thejakartapost.com> for *The Jakarta Post*. Due to easier access of online newspapers, the amount of data collected is increased. Referencing online allows the researcher to retrieve certain news reports by figuring on keywords related to attacking and terrorism incidents.

Data selection was further categorized using the strategy of criterion-based sampling to be analyzed further through textual analysis and interpretation of potential meanings.

1.3 Data Analysis

In order to give a clear outline in analyzing the data, a main schema is provided as follows.

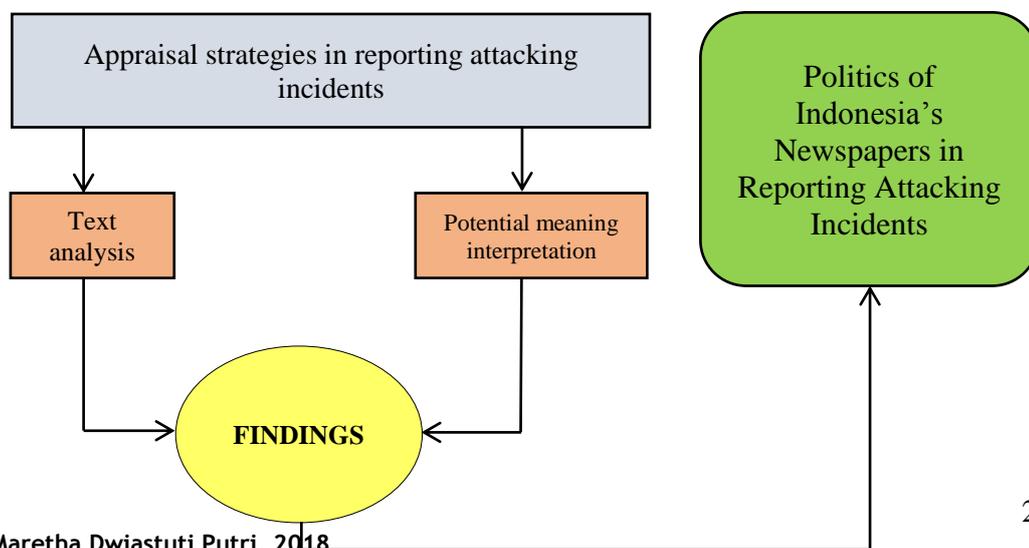


Figure 3.1 *The general schema of the study organization*

The procedure of the research is conducted into two main stages of analysis and is applied to both news articles from *Pikiran Rakyat* and *Jakarta Post*.

1. Text analysis

This stage is conducted to examine the news articles through all major and minor clauses by applying mood system. Text analysis includes two specific procedures:

1. Reading

Close reading is required in order to find lexical items that carry evaluations in the texts. While reading, it involves one's sensitivity to grasp the "mood" of the texts in order to assess its attitude.

2. Marking

Marking is applied to separate lexicogrammatical items (words, phrases, or clauses) which simply report the particular attacking incidents with lexicogrammatical items which, explicitly or implicitly, enclose value and evaluations through texts. Therefore, close reading is deeply required to sort the words, phrases, and clauses by involving the sensitivity to assess "mood" of the text.

3. Categorizing

After marking, the selected lexicogrammatical items are categorized into a form of table using the convention of Appraisal System proposed by White and Martin (2005) to figure out the positioning, attitude, and engagement through *affect*, *judgment*, and *appreciation*. Categorization involves the *appraising items* (lexical items that carry evaluations), *appraiser* (the person giving evaluations in the text), *types of attitude*, and *appraised* (the person/thing/phenomenon/behavior being appraised). By categorizing each word, phrase, or clause, it creates certain pattern leading to some meaning

potentials. This also takes into account the degree of meaning relies upon victims, actors/perpetrators, or process of attacking themselves. The example of table form can be seen as follows.

<i>Pikiran Rakyat</i>					
Event: Manchester attack in Ariana's concert (22/5/2017)					
Appraising items	Appraiser	Type of Attitude			Appraised
		<i>Affect</i>	<i>Judgement</i>	<i>Appreciation</i>	
<i>Menyebabkan kepanikan</i>	Majid	(-) sec			Suara
	Khan				ledakan
	(saksi mata)				

Table 3.1 The Form of Data Sheet of Analysis of Attitude in Indonesia's Local Newspapers *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post*

2. Potential meaning interpretation

This stage of analysis is intended to analyze the meaning potentials from the pattern incurred from previous steps of analysis. It takes into account the discourse effect in order to decipher the style of reporting of *Pikiran Rakyat* and *The Jakarta Post* by examining the relations between trend of *attitude* strategies and tendency of meaning by taking into account the context. The texts are analyzed and categorized based on their organizations: *description*, *causation*, *problem/solution*, and *comparison*. This step also aims to answer the research question regarding the contribution of interpersonal strategies to reader's meaning potentials.

The result from three processes will further be accumulated to present the politics of Indonesia's newspapers in reporting global attacking incidents.

Maretha Dwiastuti Putri, 2018

*AN APPRAISAL ANALYSIS OF NEWS REPORTS ON ATTACKING INCIDENTS IN INDONESIA'S
NEWSPAPERS: A CASE OF PIKIRAN RAKYAT AND THE JAKARTA POST*

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia | repository.upi.edu | perpustakaan.upi.edu