

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents a background of the study that has motivated me to do this research. This chapter also provides statement of the problems, aims of the study, research method, data collection and data analysis. Last, organization of the paper presents a general description of the paper.

#### 1.1 Background

In reforms era, we appear to be better informed about the issue that arises in the society. As public consumption, we usually believe that news reflects the reality. However, Eriyanto (2001:34) argues, that news is the reflection of the dominant interest. There are many concerns and interests that are incorporated into mass media. The ideology of the journalist, media, and public influence them in selecting particular words and sentence patterns in reporting the events. However, the ideologies underlie the texts often tend to be hidden.

According to Kress (1985), a sexist discourse exists in our social lives. It means that the language used to represent women differs from the language used about men. He describes that women in the text are characterized by “assigning differing attributes to women, depending on either their sexual potency (women as sex object) or their role as part of their (reproductive) labor force” (Kress, 1985:39).

The different language uses as mentioned before also can be seen in media reporting sexual violence against women. However, Adampa (1999:2) argues that there are many texts concerning the violence against woman, such as rape or domestic violence, are often uninvestigated. He assumes that the violence against women is still a taboo issue for the contemporary societies.

The research by Signorelli (1990, cited in Spears, 1993:1) shows that in mass media, women as the victim are portrayed disproportionately. Beside that, the violence against woman is often sexual in nature and the perpetrator is often deleted. The result of Clark's research (1999, cited in Eriyanto, 2001:161-162) entitled "The Linguistics of Blame: Representation of Woman in The Sun Reporting of Crimes of Sexual Violence" supports Signorelli's research. The research shows that women are often portrayed badly by using particular words which described their sexual potency. Moreover, most sentence forms in such news are in a passive form. This form permits agent deletion, so it is possible to fail to specify the cause of the event. Within passive form, man as the actor is covered. Thus, we can conclude that there is a tendency for media to marginalize women in reporting crimes of violence against them.

Considering the facts above, a critical discourse analysis (CDA) is needed to uncover the ideology behind the text. This study analyzes two articles concerning the sexual violence against women which are taken from a column named "*Malu-Maluin*" in a local newspaper, *Galamedia*. This study tries to find how the victims and the perpetrators are represented in the text and tries to reveal the ideology underlies the representation.

## 1.2 Statement of the Problems

In the present study the problems are formulated in the following questions:

- a. How are the victims and the perpetrators represented in the texts?
- b. What is the ideology behind the representation?

## 1.3 Aims of the Study

Considering the background and the statement of problems above, this study aims to:

- a. find how the victims and perpetrators are represented in the texts.
- b. find the ideology behind the texts.

## 1.4 Research Method

The present study is largely qualitative; however, some descriptive quantification is employed. This study applies critical discourse analysis (CDA) as the analytical framework for discussing how the social actors are represented in the texts and revealing the ideology behind the representation. As Fairclough and Wodak (1997, cited in Paltridge, 2000:156) described, this study “goes beyond description and is both interpretative and explanatory” in nature to reveal the hidden meaning in the text.

The data of this study included two articles taken from a column named “*Malu-Maluin*” in a local newspaper, *Galamedia*. These articles report the sexual violence against women. The first article is entitled *Korban “Tabrak Lari”* which

was published on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2007. The second article is entitled *Tertusuk Duri Tetangga* which was published on 5<sup>th</sup> July 2007.

The data are analyzed using the three stages of analysis, whose approach is proposed by Fairclough (1995). These stages are description, interpretation, and explanation. In the description stage, this study applies Halliday's Systemic Functional Grammar in analyzing the texts. The present study focuses on four units of analysis, namely thematization, transitivity, passivization, and lexical choice analysis.

### **1.5 Organization of the Paper**

The paper is organized into five chapters. Chapter I is the introduction, which discusses the background of the study, statement of the problems, aims of the study, a brief account of research methodology, and organization of the paper. Chapter II consists of some theories of critical discourse analysis which are served as the basis for analyzing the data. Chapter III is the research method, including formulation of the problems, general framework, data collection, and data analysis. Chapter V presents the conclusions and offers the suggestions.

