

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter covers the background of the present research. It also defines the research questions which this research aims to answer. Furthermore, it clarifies the limitation of the study as well as the aims of study to frame the points of research. The research method by which the study was conducted is also mentioned here. Lastly, the organization of the paper is described in this chapter.

1.1 Background

Terrorism has been a global issue nowadays. It creates fear to people in many countries. There was an unforgettable incident hit the United States on September 11, 2001. Two hijacked planes crashed into the American's pride twin tower. The tragedy, which injured thousands of people, becomes a milestone when terrorism goes rampant worldwide. Osama bin Laden was accused to be the master mind of this havoc.

Another catastrophe occurred in Bali on October 12, 2002. Two bombs exploded in Legian and Kuta. Some investigations had revealed that the criminals are several Muslims who committed suicidal bomb due to be jihad. There has been an assumption that they linked with Osama bin Laden too.

While people in the world were shocked by this event, Muslim people in nonmuslim-majority country received different treatment from other people

surround them. Perhaps, those people think that all Muslims are mean. They even bullied Muslim people, either physically or verbally.

News related to this terror is published sensationally by many mass media. The incidents appeared to be a news commodity in a number of mass media worldwide. Each media reported the event in various points of view based on their ideology, and so does the Australian news websites.

Editorial takes part in shaping people's mindset about the events of the world, consists of opinion written by journalists (Fardianni, 2006). Gramsci (1971, as cited in Fardianni, 2006) views media as an instrument to lay out ideologies. Mass media even determines which events are important and need to be presented to the public. Bennet (as cited in Jinan, 2: 2008) argues that mass media leads us to see the reality in the way they want us to see through the socially articulated way in which they shape our point of view. To my understanding, it means that a piece of news does not always deliver reality. It is also a constructed reality. The way the Australian news websites construct the reality is very interesting to analyze.

The representation of muslim in the news websites is crucial. Wodak and Meyer assume:

“ language and the social are inextricably, and dialectally, linked. In other words, the way in which labels ... are used reflects social attitudes, perspectives, and categorizations. And the labels, in turn, shape the way in which social structures and relationships are perceived” (Wodak and Meyer, 2009: 123).

The writer would like to investigate how Muslims are depicted in the media, its collocation with and the ideology behind the representation. Previous study in the area of representation has been conducted. Similar study from Setyawati (2006) hopefully provides general understanding into the problems. Hardt-Mautner's (1995) conception on combining critical discourse analysis with corpus might be useful for analyzing this. Then Fairclough's (2003) notion of representation of social events is applied in investigating the representation of Muslim in Australian news websites and unmasking the ideology. The writer expects this study would reinforce the notion that corpus linguistics can apply on CDA (Critical Discourse Analysis) to analyze social and cultural phenomena.

1.2 Research Questions

The problem of the research is formulated in the following questions.

1. What does the word "Muslim(s)" collocate with?
2. What kind of representation can be inferred from the collocation?
3. What is the ideology behind the representation?

1.3 Reason for Choosing The Topic

There are two basic reasons in choosing the topic. First, the ideology of the newspaper or news websites can stimulate people's mindset. In other words,

Australian news websites can affect the way Australian citizens and other readers view Muslim. Second, in Bali bombing I, most victims came from Australia, and the Australian embassy for Indonesia were exploded by bomb too. Their emotion and their nationalism might influence their perception in delivering news. Hence, the writer would like to inspire people to be critical of all information being shared to them.

1.4 Scope of The Study

The present study focuses on the use of CDA and collocation in analyzing news texts related to terrorism published in Australia's news websites. Those texts were selected and were approached by Fairclough's and Gerlinde Mautner's model analysis. The first model analysis focused on the collocation of the word "Muslim(s)" and how the words are linked syntactically to adjectives or verbs. The second analysis was used to reveal the representation from the collocation finding.

This research does not discuss how Muslims or others engaged in terror events that happened around the world. Rather, it only utilizes some articles about terrorism published in Australian news websites namely The Australian, The Herald Sun, Adelaide Now, and News.com from year 2006 until February 2011 and unwrap how the news portays Muslim.

1.5 Aims of The Study

The present study aims at analyzing several texts about terrorism from articles published in Australian news websites. The data was used to investigate how Australian journalists view Muslim believers. This study mainly aims at finding answers to the research questions mentioned earlier as follow:

1. Discovering what words collocate with the word “Muslim(s)”;
2. Discovering how Muslim is represented in Australian news websites;
3. Discovering the ideology behind the text.

1.6 Methodology

The method of the present research is mainly qualitative, however, some descriptive quantification is employed. This research relies on the framework of Critical Discourse Analysis along with Corpus Linguistics. By using concordancer program, the writer analyzed the collocation of the word “Muslim(s)”. From this collocation we can find out which social attributes those words are associated with. The sentences that contain the word “Muslim” that are identified from the collocation were interpreted. Fairclough’s approach is also applied in this study. More elaboration about methodology will be explained in chapter three.

1.7 Organization of the Paper

This research paper is organized into five chapters. This introductory chapter provides information on the background of the study, research questions, aim of the study, research method, data collection, principle of data analysis, and organization of the paper.

Chapter 2 presents theoretical framework of the study. This chapter provides the description and some important concepts of CDA, collocation, the use of concordancers program, representation, ideology, transitivity, and nominalization theory.

Chapter 3 is devoted to outlining the methodology of the research. It would present the general framework, data collection, instruments, and steps of data analysis.

Chapter 4 contains the analysis of the research, findings and discussion.

The paper is rounded off by chapter 5, in which conclusions of the present study and suggestions for further research is presented.