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JOURNALISM AND DEMOCRACY: THE ROLE OF JOURNALISM TO IMPROVE THE QUALITY OF DEMOCRACY IN INDONESIA

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ABSTRACT

There is no doubt that Mass Media (journalism) have great impact on social life. The impact is greatly depended on who controls the media. This means the impact of media could be negative or positive. In the hand of good people mass media can be used to mobilize people toward constructive activities. In the contrary, in the hand of bad people, it can encourage destructive social movement. This study is trying to uncover the role of news television in improving the quality of democracy in Indonesia. To do it, two private televisions are chosen to be the sample of media, i.e. TvOne and MetroTV.

This research applies two approaches. First conducted contain analysis to describe the content of television news program. News broadcasted by, from November – December 2015, the two media were recorded. Second uses agenda-setting approach to determine the correlation between the media content and public opinion. For this reason, a survey was conducted to collect evidences to analyze the impact of agenda-media on agenda public.

The research provides enough evidence that the media have successfully encouraged public to get involved in any publicly dispute or discussion as a result of news broadcasting. Through framing strategy the media are able to influence public opinion. Moreover, the media have the power of streaming the public's aspiration toward social movement, sometime in the form of political protest.

Keywords: Media studies, media impact, Indonesia private television program, agenda-setting effect, freedom of the press, framing.

INTRODUCTION:

What is Journalism?

According to Robert Nile (cited from Robert Nile.com) journalism is defined as a form of writing that tells people about things that really happened, but that they might not have known about already. He then describes that journalism is a work of gathering, writing, editing, and publishing or disseminating news, as through newspapers and magazines or by radio and television. The key point of the definition is "reporting event", making it known publically, using mass media.

In line with the above definition (Adam, 1993), defines journalism as a form of expression used to report and comment in the public media on events and ideas.

The above definition implies news printed in newspaper or broadcasted in television/radio program are journalists' understanding about events or social realities. This means journalists and or media have the opportunity of creating events or reality as they wish, leading to the creation of public's understanding about an issue or social reality. Event/issue itself has no value. Through framing strategy journalist is able to put a value on it to encourage public interest. Journalism is the art of creating or constructing news.

News is one kind of journalism product. According to Mirriam-Webster Dictionary: news is information reported in a newspaper, magazine, television news program, etc. According to *Kurt Loder* "news is anything that's interesting, that relates to what's happening in the world, what is happening in areas of the culture that would be of interest to your audience"¹⁾. So, the basic element of news are interesting, factual, proximity, timely, and unsual.

News is what reporters, editors and producers decide as a news (Calvert, 2008). News is therefore a human product. Its advantage depends very much on who produce it.

In this context, the choice is laying on journalists' or media's whish. They hold the authority to do for good or bad manner.

The role and function of Journalism:

According to (Pickard, 1989) there are four rhetorical tradition in journalism practices that are: information, sensationalism, feature story, and didactic approaches. The journalist's choice will affect the meaning received by the audience. Journalists amplify, arbitrate, and create their own rhetoric about an event. Journalists gain audience's attention and convey messages about political violence, for example, by providing platform and amplification system by which this can be accomplished. This is part of rhetorical amplifier that can be played by journalists.

Journalism is a priceless profession in democratic countries. Thomas Jefferson, the third President of the United States says "a government without newspapers or newspapers without a government, I should not hesitate a moment to prefer the latter"²). This is Thomas Jefferson appreciation to the role of journalism to build a nation. Journalism is, as part of freedom of speech, an important key to the success of democratic nation.

Mass media (journalism) play significant role as the most powerful agents of social reality construction. The pressure the media place on the way we perceive and conceive reality, on the way we think and act is tremendous (DeFleur, 1999, In (Enache, 2016). As change agent, media are able to shape portrayals of reality in ways that may in turn shape audience perception of media content (Enache, 2016); see also (Altheide, 1985); (Boorstin, 1971); (Ettema & Whitney(Eds), 1984); (Meyrowitz, 1985); (Nimmo & Combs, 1983); (Postman, 1985); (Rogers & Dearing, 1987)).

Historically, the role of journalism develops according to the development of social and political awareness and involvement of public/community in the governmental policies, and government willingness to provide public sphere to the public.

So far, I have used the word democracy for several times. What is then meant by democracy? Democracy is "*a life form in which a collective will is formed bottom up*"(*need citation*). Democracy is a political process in which there is an idea exchange between government and public/society to create a common understanding about given topic/issue. Democracy is not a gift. It is more likely as a political compromise. According to Robert Dahl (1971: in (Hix & Whiting, 2012)) democracy should has the following features:

• free and fair elections

- universal suffrage
- the policies a government passes depend on the election result
- citizens have the right to stand as candidates

¹ http://www.thenewsmanual.net/Resources/what_is_news_00.htm ² Oll.libertyfund.org/quote/302

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- freedom of expression and information
- freedom of association.

It seems the political process mentioned in the above definition do not happen without the role of journalism. "Journalism and democracy" seem to be paired word (Anderson, Shirky, & Bell, 2014). The role is very clear, journalism/journalist should provide or report events, issues, and information that all people truly should know about. In fact, journalism or journalist does not only serve fact to the public, but he/she has to be able to play as facilitator and motivator for public discussion.

In its early history, journalism plays as propaganda tool (for political campaign). In this step, journalism (media) is used heavily to influence public opinion, mainly in the political votes. The function is to provoke political movement.

In accordance with the evolution of political and societal needs, journalism (media) enlarge its function to be a government watchdog.

Experienced by the impact of media (journalism) as being watchdog and in order to increase and improve public participation in political process, journalist (media) begins to realize that being watchdog is not always good for holding state. Its negative impact is sometime greater than its advantages. On the basis of this reason, journalist (media) begins to think how to develop journalism not only to be "watchdog" but more than that. In fact, journalist can play as an interpreter or mediator for both public and government instead of just being a watchdog.

McQuail (2000: 66) identifies, at least, six roles of mass media within social life:

- As knowledge windows of event; as an extension of our vision that makes us possible to know what is happening around us.
- As a mirror to bad or good events happening around us and outside. Even though the angle of the mirror is already prepared by other people (journalists) that limit our views.
- As a gatekeeper. Journalists or media are holding the authority of selecting certain parts of issues to be reported, to meet certain purposes.
- As a warning, sign or interpreter, showing the way for us and fix a puzzle to be a valuable event.
- As a platform for audience to present their opinion and idea as a feedback.
- As a good interlocutor or partner.
- And the main functions (McQuail, 2000: 73) are:
- To consolidate society
- To provide leadership or guideline for society.
- To create public sphere.
- To provide public space to exchange ideas between the leader and his/her constituent.
- To satisfy information needs.
- To be a mirror for the society themselves.
- To be a reference for the society

Good and bad Journalism:

Journalism is both science and art. As a science, journalism has general principles that should be held and obeyed by journalists. Being objectives, factual, balance, and honest are some of the key points of the general principles. However, each journalist tends to develop different strategy in the way of increasing news value. Each journalist has difference emphasis and angle in reporting the same issue or event. Each journalist develops his/her own style in order to get attention from his/her public. This is an art aspect of journalism.

As an art, journalism is a process of selecting, editing (manipulating), publishing/disseminating an event, issue, and or a social reality. Journalism is the way journalists (media) presenting ideas, events, or issues making them valuable in order to attract public attention.

Taking consideration the art of journalism and on the basis of the above definition, journalism (news) can yield good or bad impact on public or society. And journalists (media) have the power to stipulate the impacts.

RESEARCH METHOD:

Research Sample:

This study is trying to uncover the role of news television in improving the quality of democracy in Indonesia. To do it, two private televisions are chosen to be the sample of media, i.e. TvOne and MetroTV. The two media have the same characteristic. They are dedicated themselves as a news television. They are also becoming an

influencing media in Indonesia in terms of news sources.

This research applies two approaches (see fig.1). First conducted contain analysis to describe the content of television news program. News broadcasted by, from November – December 2015, the two media were recorded. Second uses agenda-setting approach to determine the correlation between the media content and public opinion. For this reason, a survey was conducted to collect evidences to analyze the impact of agenda-media on agenda public.

Focus of the study:

The following diagram is the focus of the research. The main objective of this study is to collect empirical evidences relating to the role of media (journalism) in constructing or affecting public opinion. To do this, Metro TV and TVOne are chosen as the media sample.



Figure 1: Focus of the Study

News broadcasted by the two media were analyze using contain analysis technique to identify which issues or events get more attention.

An agenda-setting technique is then used to look for relationship between media-agenda and public-agenda. On the basis of the focus of the study, the research question can be then formulated as follows:

- 1. Does journalism (television news) play a significant role to the quality improvement of democracy in Indonesia?
- 2. If so, in what way and how it works?

LITERATURE REVIEW:

Media Studies:

In the tradition of media studies, in which this study includes in, there should be distinguished between being focus on "media effect" and "media impact". Although they are overlapped to each other, they have different focus and direction. While there is certainly a substantial amount of overlap (see, e.g., (Leiserowitz, 2004)), the field of media effects can be characterized as having a strong micro orientation, in that the unit of analysis is typically the individual media user, and the focus is on the relatively narrow question of whether exposure to a particular media message impacted that user's attitudes, beliefs, cognitions, or behaviors. When we talk about media impact, on the other hand, the orientation can be characterized as a bit more macro, in that the concerns extend beyond whether individual media users had their attitudes, beliefs, cognitions, or behaviors affected, to also include broader systemic changes at the levels of organizations and institutions (Inagaki, 2007).

Media effects studies tend to examine effects of a short-term nature. This has often been due primarily to the methodological challenges associated with conducting long-term media effects research. Inherent in the notion of media impact, however, is the idea of more lasting change (Harmony Institute, 2011).

From an assessment standpoint, effect is typically defined in terms of the shorter-term outcomes that a public interest media project can have (such as reaching, informing, engaging, and mobilizing target audiences), whereas impacts can be seen as the longer-term, more far-reaching changes (such as changes in individuals' behaviors, or changes in public policy (Knight Foundation, 2011).

Chaffee (2005: 78) suggests a strategy to identify the possible effect of media, and media indicators effectiveness as follows:

• Different media has different effect. So. It is better to separate the effect that embeds in the media characteristic.

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- Grouping the effect according to its categories: cognitive (: understanding, acceptance etc.); behavioral (: changing in feeling, attitude, opinion, etc.); and affective (: willingness to act).
- Determine the focus of observation unit: think the possibility of effect occurrence. Remember that the effect does not happen to everyone; the effect might be occurred when someone has discussed with other people (indirect effect or mediated effect); or the effect is as a result of his/her position/status in a larger certain social system.

Freedom of the Press:

In order to be able to play their role, as above described, journalists (media) should hold "freedom of the press". This is a prescription. Journalists should feel free without feeling under pressured. The importance of freedom of the press, according to Zelezny (2001: 34 - 37) is based on two reasons i.e. *social reason and individualistic reason*: Social reason: this reason includes:

- 1. Seeking for truth: Freedom of the press is not a destination. Freedom of the press is a tool or vehicle to seek or reach the truth.
- 2. Participation in the process of democracy: as suggested by Alexander Meiklejohn that (In Zelezny, 2001: 35) in the United States of America, freedom of speech is protected not only as a vehicle to reach/seek the truth, but also as a medium for sharing the truth. The main objective is to ensure that every voter has the same opportunity to get involved in understanding and seeking for solution to any governmental and societal problems.
- 3. The need to control government policies: through freedom of the press people or media can control to the government from abusing power.
- 4. Social and political stability: It is assumed freedom of the press is able to guard social and political stabilities. Freedom of the press can create information flows making people possible to realize and understand about societal and political problems in better way and perspective so that they will be more rational in dealing the problems.

Individualistic Reason:

Freedom of the press is an individual right. It is not questionable right. Freedom of the press is one of human right. Therefore, government has no right to forbidden it.

On the basis of above explanation, it can be concluded that: freedom of speech, expressing ideas either in the form of written or oral, which are the spirit of freedom of the press, are valuable to be reached.

Freedom of the press contains universal values. Every country claims to have and develop freedom of the press. However, each country applies different criteria and spirit. This is because of different implementation applied in the respected country.

This issue should be understood carefully and proportionally. There are general principles about freedom of the press, but there is no concept of freedom of the press that can be applied generally. Each community or country tends to develop its own freedom of the press according to its own concept on the basis of its own social and cultural background.

Moral or ethical code of conduct is factors that differentiate the color of freedom of the press from country to country. Morale or ethic is cultural product of respective society. So, moral and ethics will explain why contain and coverage of freedom of the press differs from country to country. This implies the idea and function of freedom of the press to create better social life could be universal, but every society has the authority to define its content, direction and coverage of freedom of the press according to social and political norms applying in the respective state or society.

Freedom is an important tool to seek truth and justice. Through freedom of speech, we can compromise any differences. Morale or ethic, in this case, plays an important role to reach a compromise among difference ideas, opinion etc. This means there is no absolute freedom of the press. The execution of freedom the press should consider other human right.

Truth, honesty, and justice are some valuable parameters to develop freedom of the press. Truth is identic to fact. News or journalism should be constructed on the basis of fact. News should be factual and supported by accurate data. Therefore, truth is a fundamental value for freedom of the press practices.

The value of truth in journalism practices is at least based on three reasons (Day, 2000: 79-80): *Firstly*: decreasing journalists' integrity. It seems journalists are getting more interested in increasing his/her popularity instantly. In this situation, they are more interested in increasing news value by sacrificing their social responsibility.

The second reason is that journalists' commitment to the truth is a form of honor to the existence of other people. It is not good idea to treat other people or news resources as a news object. And *the third:* "truth" is an

essential factor for democracy processes.

Honesty is the next parameter for journalistic practices. "Honesty" has more complicated meaning is factual, but factual does not always mean honest. Framing strategy applied by journalist is a good example of the difference between truth and honest.

The third parameter is justice. Justice is a relationship between communication, democracy and human right (Christians, 1997: 160-161). Justice is an effort to serve what should be provided to other people. Justice emphasizes on providing human basic needs, either as an individual or as part of a group. Journalism or media holds social responsibility i.e developing political commitment to change the public to be more structured society and to be more participative in democratic processes, according to human basic needs individually, socially, and culturally.

This parameter also underline that freedom of the press is not just informing the fact and displaying data. Moreover, freedom of the press should maintain good relationship so that the press is able to enlighten the public.

Contain Analysis:

A technique for gathering and analyzing the content of text. The 'content' refers to words, meanings, pictures, symbols, ideas, themes, or any message that can be communicated. The 'text' is anything written, visual, or spoken that serves as a medium for communication'' (Neuman, 1997: 73);

Content analysis "... is a research technique that is based on measuring the amount of something (violence, negative portrayals of women, or whatever) in a representative sampling of some mass-mediated popular form of art" (Berger, 1991: 25);

"Content analysis is any research technique for making inferences by systematically and objectively identifying specified characteristics within text" (Stone, Dunphy, Smith & Ogilvie, 1996: 5);

"Content is a research method that uses a set of procedures to make valid inferences from text" (Weber, 1990: 9).

Agenda-Setting Theories:

Agenda-setting is the creation of public awareness and concern of salient issues by the news media. Two basis assumptions underlie most research on agenda-setting: (1) the press and the media do not reflect reality; they filter and shape it; (2) media concentration on a few issues and subjects leads the public to perceive those issues as more important than other issues. One of the most critical aspects in the concept of an agenda-setting role of mass communication is the time frame for this phenomenon. In addition, different media have different agenda-setting potential. Agenda-setting theory seems quite appropriate to help us understand the pervasive role of the media --for example on political communication systems (Rogers and Dearing, 1987; McCombs, Shaw, and Weaver, 2013; and (McCombs, 2014);).

Bernard Cohen (1963) stated: "The press may not be successful much of the time in telling people what to think, but it is stunningly successful in telling its readers what to think about."

Following in large part from Cohen's thesis, empirical agenda-setting research has demonstrated powerful links between media content and public concern across a wide variety of issues. Agenda-setting analysis and foreign policy research have only intermittently crossed paths, however. Public agenda- setting scholars have given limited attention to foreign policy (e.g.,Gonzenbach 1992; Huegel et al.1989; Iyengar and Simon 1993; Wanta and Hu 1993). The foreign policy literature, however, has steered clear of the open-ended public opinion measure central to agenda-setting analysis: "What do you think is the most important problem facing our country today?" (Media, Public Opinion, and Foreign Policy (Soroka, 2003))

Framing Theory:

Framing is a mean to achieve it and can be described as "the selection of elements within a particular issue." (McCombs, Shaw, & Weaver, 2013).

"Framing is a critical activity in the construction of social reality because it helps shape the perspectives through which people see the world" (Hallahan, 1999). The processes of sense-making in framing can be studied in many instances. Considering the fact that the point of view is on how to influence frames in the media through strategic PR, the media studies are relevant. Other framing studies include the individual micro-level, the organizational meso-level and decision-making (Schillemans & Jacobs, 2014).

The Dutch communication scholar de Vreese's view on frames includes sociological work by Goffman and his description of a frame as being "an arbitrary slice or cut from the stream of ongoing activity" (Goffman, 1974: 10 in (de Vreese, 2005). It suggests that a frame does not tell the whole story but chooses to show only some of it. Frames are "interpretive packages' that give meaning to an issue" (Gamson and Modigliani, 1989 in (de

Vreese, 2005). The basis of the packages is a certain idea that suggests what is at stake (Gamson and Modigliani, 1989: 3 in (de Vreese, 2005). Framing can then be built on this to put "an emphasis in salience of some aspects of a topic." (de Vreese, 2005). Of the two definitions, the latter covers a more complex spectrum of communication issues (de Vreese, 2005).

It is important to notice that framing is not about arguing and "strong frames should not be confused with intellectually or morally superior arguments." (Chong & Druckman, 2007a). Arguments strive to convince another partaker in a discussion by using for example facts. The use of framing in a discussion may already have achieved its objective by causing the discussion in the first place which looks at one perspective of an issue which can avoid or prevent discussing another perspective of it.

According to Entman who is a widely cited communication scholar in framing literature, framing is about making certain aspects of an issue more salient in communication than others (Entman, 1993). Chong and Druckman define it as a process of shaping connotations. It can involve both how people start to think about an issue and how they change their thinking about an issue (Chong & Druckman, 2007a).

In essence, the use of framing and its results can be summed up using a simple example. A study of a television show clearly showed different effects on how it was perceived corresponding to different ways of framing it (McCombs et al., 2013: 17). The same show was broadcasted on several channels each having their own commentators to commentate it. Apart from the commentators, the show was identical on each channel. As the commentators emphasized different elements of the show, the viewers had different thoughts about it afterwards depending on which channel they had been watching. Their perceptions of the event were thereby based on what the commentators highlighted regardless of whether this was intentionally or not. Different ways of framing the same issue resulted in different ways of perceiving it even while having the same information available.

Other experiments have proven the effects of framing too by showing that participants had different attitudes on questions and dilemmas depending on the wording used when they were presented with them (de Vreese, 2005). Both experiments prove that views on issues can be affected by emphasizing certain aspects of them.

Frames are most often used to promote a certain viewpoint on a topic such as a way of evaluating, defining or understanding it (Entman, 1993). Goffman defined frames from another perspective as a frame explains how we understand the world and are able to "locate, perceive, identify, and label" events when we interpret them (Goffmann, 1974: 21 in (de Vreese, 2005).

Framing deliberately focus on the communicative elements that evoke responses and rational deductions leaving the receivers to believe that the most logical interpretation was made (Bennett, 1993 in Darmon et al., 2008: 374). According to the definitions however, these decisions may only seem logic as long as not all parts of the relevant issue are emphasized.

Simple changes in the wording of a text can change people's attitudes towards the issue at hand. Words can serve as indirect hints about the preferable perspective to take and can have an impact on how much receivers consider the situation and whether they are for or against it (Bleiss et al., 1998 and Wang, 1996 in (de Vreese, 2005); (Chong & Druckman, 2007a).

Frames draw attention to elements and thereby activate some of the knowledge that individuals already have. This knowledge may be cultural norms, values etc. and by drawing attention to some elements and perhaps away from other elements, it stimulates specific parts of this knowledge and creates a context (de Vreese, 2005).

Besides this, they define problems (In terms of common cultural values), diagnose causes, make moral judgments (Evaluate these causes) and recommend remedies (Offer to solve problems, justifying it and foretell how this will probably work) (Darmon, Fitzpatrick, & Bronstein, 2008); (Entman, 1993). "Framing can help to define and solve problems, shape public opinion, increase the productivity of interpersonal negotiations, and serve as a foundation for public discourse, such as negotiation, on a mass-communication level." (Knight, 1999).

Public Opion Theories:

According to Wikipedia public opinion is defined as "the aggregate of individual attitudes or beliefs held by the adult population. Public opinion can also be defined as the complex collection of opinions of many different people and the sum of all their views.

The principle approaches to the study of public opinion may be divided into 4 categories:

1. Quantitative measurement of opinion distributions;

- 2. Investigation of the internal relationships among the individual opinions that make up public opinion on an issue;
- 3. Description or analysis of the public role of public opinion;
- 4. Study both of the communication media that disseminate the ideas on which opinions are based and of the uses that propagandists and other manipulators make of these media.

Mass media are the primary conduit between the public and policymakers. Policymakers follow media reports on public opinion, and the media are the public's chief source of information on what policymakers are doing. In addition, the media are the principal means by which the vast majority of individuals receive information about foreign affairs, an issue for which personal experience is unlikely to provide much useful information (Media, Public Opinion, and Foreign Policy (Soroka, 2003))

DATA DISPLAY AND DISCUSSION:

Redundancy Strategy:

Through contain analysis conducted from November to December 2015, it can be identified two dominant issues i.e. dispute about Freeport gratification and Ahok Vs. Abraham Lunggana. The following table shows the detail. The two media seem to blow up the issues. The following tables showing the evidence.

Time Period	TV One		Metro TV		Total
	News	Talk Show	News	Talk Show	Total
November	20	6	14	5	45
December	13	5	12	4	34
Total	33	11	26	9	79

Table	2: Abra	ham Lung	ggana V	s. Ahok

Time Period	TV One		Metro TV		Tatal
	News	Talk Show	News	Talk Show	Total
November	21	7	4	2	34
December	13	5	2	2	22
Total	34	12	6	4	56

The above tables show how deep the sample media gives attention to the two issues. On the basis of the fact, it can be concluded that the media have a specific intention why they did redundancy and spent so long time to broadcast the issues.

News Construction:

According to the theory developed above and the data collected, this research reveals that the media uses the following strategy to construct news



Fig. 2: News construction

The diagram shows that news is a framing product. The journalists have the authority to select which event (part of event) that want to be broadcasted, how, when and in what way.

The issue selection is affected by journalists' moral which is performed by the following factors:

- a. Educational background.
- b. Social commitment

- c. Journalists' awareness about social impact
- d. Journalists understanding about the concept freedom of the press understanding: whether they treat freedom of the press as an objective or as a vehicle.

Meanwhile, journalists' loyalty to morale conduct is deeply under pressured by who own the media's capital and political affiliation of the media owner.

News Sources:

I identify four news sources, related to Indonesia Television News program ie social media, government policies, public issues, and human interests. This diagram shows that news program encourage the raise of public issues, and in return the public issues can provide feedback to the news program.



Figure 3: News Sources

The survey reveals that media/journalists apply two strategies in constructing news.

First, they take an issue most discussed in social media as a trending topic. The issue is then framed in such a way to increase its attractiveness. When the issue is successfully getting public's attention, it is brought to a talk show program and or a discussion inviting some competence person. (See the agenda-setting effect figure: figure 5).

Second, the media/journalists take public opinion/issue, either in the form of human interest or government policy, as the trending topic. The media/journalists do redundancy technique to encourage public's attention. This strategy is also successfully attracting public discussion in social media.

It is also evidenced that news television, social media, and public opinion are connecting and influencing to each other.

Flows of communication:

Flows of communication is the major finding of this research.



Figure 4: Flows of communication

The impact of news program on public happens indirectly or mediated (first level framing). This is to say the news itself may not attract public's attention. The attractiveness of the news will increase after being filtered by gatekeeper (brought in a talk show program) or being added value by opinion leader (discussed among competence persons). It means, gatekeeper and opinion leader create the possibility of increasing the attractiveness of the issue significantly, leading to the occurrence of public agenda.

News content corresponds to public opinion and reflects political interest to whom the media affiliated to.

Agenda Setting Effect:

Indonesia Television picks one issue which that is mostly discussed in social media as a trending topic.



Figure 5: Agenda Setting Effect

When the media comes to a decision to create or to increase agenda-setting effect, the media will apply the following strategy:

- The chosen issues are linked to the most discussed issue in social media.
- The issue then broadcast several time (redundancy technique)
- The issue is deepened through talk show program, involving certain key speakers / sources and use special setting.
- Finally the issue is also discussed lively, inviting some chosen key persons.

The diagram also shows that there are two level of news framing. The first is when the journalist picks up issue from social media, then, constructed it to be a news product. And the second is when the issue is brought in talk show and/or discussion program.

The talk show and discussion are believed to amplify the impact of the news on public

CONCLUSION:

- 1. News television encourages public debate, inviting public to get involved in public discussion, providing variety of solution to an issue.
- 2. In the first issue: the dispute of Abraham Lunggana Vs Ahok, the television news program has succeeded to raise Ahok popularity as a good, clean and tuff governor.
- 3. In the second issue: the case of Freeport gratification, the television news program have caused Mr Setyo Novanto resigns as the chair of Indonesian Parliament.
- 4. Ignoring good or bad impact, the two controversial results are an evidence that journalism (television news program) has great impact on public (opinion).
- 5. On the basis of the above conclusion, I come to grand conclusion that television news program (journalism) can be used to promote public involvement in the social and political processes in such away, leading to the improvement of the quality of democracy process in Indonesia.

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