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SEXUAL VIOLENCE AND HARASSMENT IN ISLAMIC BOARDING SCHOOLS (PONDOK PESANTREN) IN THE CONSTRUCTION OF INDONESIAN MEDIA DISCOURSE

Sekar Putri

IAIN Syaikh Abdurrahman Siddik Bangka Belitung, sekarputriiainsasbabel@gmail.com

Yera Yulista

IAIN Syaikh Abdurrahman Siddik Bangka Belitung, yerabelajar@gmail.com

Achmad Syarifudin

UIN Raden Fatah Palembang Sumatera Selatan, achmadsyarifudin73@radenfatah.ac.id

Abstract

This research started from the problem of reporting about cases of violence and sexual harassment in Islamic boarding schools which were highlighted by the mass media which gave rise to various negative opinions from the public towards Islamic boarding schools. The aim of this research is to find out and analyze news in mainstream mass media regarding discourse on violence and sexual harassment in Islamic boarding schools. The method used is a qualitative method of critical discourse analysis using Teun A. Van Dijk's theory. The research results show that the Kompas.com media generally emphasizes the issues of sexual harassment committed by Islamic boarding school leaders, the news is more dominant about the actions taken by several individuals in handling and disclosing the case. Meanwhile, on kumparan.com media, reports questioned the performance, seriousness and understanding of the ministry of religion regarding the rise in cases of abuse in Islamic boarding schools. The news text further explains the many cases of sexual abuse committed by Islamic boarding school leaders or caregivers at Islamic boarding schools.

Keywords: *Sexual Harassment, Islamic Boarding School, Mass Media, Critical Discourse Analysis*

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bermula dari permasalahan pemberitaan tentang kasus kekerasan dan pelecehan seksual di Pondok Pesantren yang disorot media massa yang menimbulkan berbagai opini negatif dari masyarakat terhadap pondok pesantren. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mengetahui dan menganalisis berita di media massa mainstream mengenai wacana kekerasan dan pelecehan seksual di pondok pesantren. Metode yang digunakan adalah metode kualitatif jenis analisis wacana kritis menggunakan teori Teun A. Van Dijk. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan media Kompas.com secara umum menekankan pada isu pelecehan seksual yang dilakukan oleh pimpinan pondok pesantren, berita lebih dominan menceritakan tindakan-tindakan yang dilakukan beberapa oknum dalam menangani dan mengungkapkan kasus tersebut. Sedangkan pada media kumparan.com, pemberitaan

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mempertanyakan kinerja, kesungguhan dan pemahaman dari kementerian agama terkait maraknya kasus pelecehan di pondok pesantren. Teks berita lebih menjelaskan banyaknya kasus pencabulan yang dilakukan oleh pimpinan Pondok Pesantren ataupun pengasuh di pondok pesantren.

Kata kunci: Pelecehan Seksual, Pondok Pesantren, Media Massa, Analisis Wacana Kritis

A. Introduction

In 2022-2023, the issue of violence and abuse in Islamic boarding schools became a trending topic in the mass media. News reports about the case show how dire the state of education is in Indonesia. Previously, in 2021, a similar case also occurred at universities in Indonesia, which then became the focus of the mass media. According to KPAI records, Islamic boarding schools are the most common location for alleged sexual violence, accounting for 41.67%¹. This figure shows how ironic the field of education (Islamic boarding schools) is, which is supposed to be a place for learning, growing, and developing, but has become a threat to the future of children and women.

Media coverage highlighting cases of sexual violence and harassment in Islamic boarding schools causes concern,

anger, and fear among parents of students and the general public. The image of the pesantren is also at stake due to the news presented by the mass media regarding the case. Researchers observed a multitude of negative statements from the general public regarding the case. Here are the news headlines and statements that the researcher compiled from the comments of Indonesian netizens on the comment sections of mainstream online media outlets that highlighted the case.

News Headline	Netizen Comments
Pemilik Ponpes di Bandung Perkosa 12 Santrinya di Apartemen hingga Hotel kumparanNEWS	Ama Qa Saya sebagai orang tua jadi takut masukin anak ke pesantren 23 minggu Suka Balas
CNN Indonesia #CNNIndonesia Meski polisi sudah menetapkan dua orang tersangka kasus kekerasan di Pondok Pesantren Gontor, namun proses penyidikan masih akan terus berlanjut.	Dhenok Nugroho Hati hati yg punya rencana memondokkan anaknya, pilah2 pesantren ya

¹ sinpo.id, "No Title," 2022.

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Pimpinan Pondok Pesantren Cabuli Santri di Jambi Selama 3 ... KOMPAS.com - Regional Oct 4, 2022 ... JAMBI, KOMPAS.com - Ayah korban, YS, berharap polisi mengusut tuntas kasus kekerasan seksual yang dialami anaknya oleh Pimpinan Pondok ...	Zry Dira Andara Putri Pnya anak perempuan 2 jd takut klu mw dimasukin keponpes 23 minggu Suka Balas
Santri Pesantren di Kuningan Tewas Diduga Akibat Tindakan Kekerasan Senior Konten Media Partner ciremai today 21 November 2022 14:12 ... waktu baca 2 menit	Afif Karuyue lihat gini mikir dua kali deh anak dan keponakan saya masuk pondok..
detikcom 8 Okt ... Anak pimpinan Pondok Pesantren di Bontang, berinisial R (18) ditangkap polisi atas kasus pemerkosaan santrinya. R telah ditetapkan sebagai tersangka.	Vicky Berarti bangun Ponpes hanya kedok spy bisa gauli murid dong. 🤔🤔🤔
	Azam Jauhari Kalau mondok lihat2 dulu ustaznya
	Budi Sumanto Pilihlah dari pesantren*NU pak bu insyaallah aman
	Aisha AL Subechi Bikin orang tua jadi was² buat anaknya ke pesantren 23 minggu Suka Balas
	Dihyah Al-Qalbi Harus ekstra hati hati nih pilih buat anak...karna banyak pred berkedok ulama..

Table 1. News Headlines and Netizen Comments

Negative statements from the public about Islamic boarding schools originated from information obtained in the Indonesian mainstream media regarding the case. Mass media, as mass communication, provides new knowledge or information to society. The information obtained can change people's attitudes or behavior when exposed to

mass media, so the good or bad aspects of Islamic boarding schools cannot be denied due to the effect of the presence of mass media, which serves as an information provider to the public. Journalists essentially work for the public in their principles, speaking the truth no matter how bitter the events may be. The impact of this news coverage is clearly not just about the wider dissemination of information, but will also clearly affect public opinion in evaluating the information presented to them. Mass media, as a party with a moral responsibility to society, clearly feels it is important for the public to know this. It is from this information that society can learn to monitor what is happening around them, particularly from the numerous cases of sexual violence and harassment that occurred in several Islamic boarding schools throughout 2022. In this case, the media has its own perspective on social construction². The

² Fendi Setiawan, Ady Dwi Achmad Prasetya, and Surya Putra, "Analisis Wacana Kritis Model Teun Van Dijk Pada Pemberitaan Kasus

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news presented by the media is essentially a reconstruction of reality ³. This means that the reality presented by the media has already undergone a construction phase. The result of this construction ultimately shapes public opinion regarding the issues or problems presented by the media. In this case, the mass media is laden with various interests, conflicts, and diverse facts amidst social reality.⁴ The construction of reality contains bias, meaning the reporting is based on the journalist's subjectivity.⁵

Based on the background information presented above, the research question in this study is: How do mainstream mass media construct the discourse of violence and sexual harassment in Islamic boarding schools? The purpose of this study is to determine and analyze news in mainstream mass media regarding the discourse of violence and sexual harassment in Islamic boarding schools. Research on news analysis using Teun A. Van Dijk's theory has been conducted frequently, but researchers must introduce novelty into their studies. The following research, conducted by Nur Fauziyah, is titled "Discourse Analysis of News on the Sexual Harassment Case of Indonesian Broadcasting Commission Employees on Republika.Co.Id." The research problem in this study is the discourse analysis of the KPI employee sexual harassment case according to Van Dijk. This study uses the Van Dijk analysis

Pencabulan Santri Oleh Anak Kiai Jombang Dalam Media Online," *KEMBARA: Jurnal Keilmuan Bahasa, Sastra, Dan Pengajarannya* 8, no. 2 (2022): 224-37, <http://ejournal.umm.ac.id/index.php/kembara>.

³ Nur Wahyudi, Dadang S Anshori, and Jatmika Nurhadi, "Pemberitaan Tirto.Id Tentang Kekerasan Di Papua: Analisis Wacana Kritis Teun Van Dijk," *Jurnal Pesona* 7, no. 2 (2021): 122-36, <https://doi.org/10.52657/jp.v7i2.1504>.

⁴ Nurul Musyafa'ah, "Analisis Wacana Kritis Model Teun A. Van Dijk 'Siswa Berprestasi Jadi Pembunuh,'" *MODELING: Jurnal Program Studi PGMI* 4, no. 2 (2017): 192-202.

⁵ Afrinar Pramitasari and Ismiatun Khofifah, "Analisis Wacana Kritis Pendekatan Teun A Van Dijk Pada Pemberitaan 'PMK Mengancam, Ridwan Kamil Minta Pemda Waspada Hewan Ternak Jelang Idul Adha' Dalam Sindo News," *Jurnal Penelitian Inovatif* 2, no. 2

(2022): 307-16, <https://doi.org/10.54082/jupin.82>.

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method. The research results show that the news coverage of sexual harassment of KPI employees reported by republika.co.id already adheres to journalistic principles, as evidenced by the content of the news written by the journalists. Next, from a social cognition perspective, the news on republika.co.id regarding the sexual harassment of KPI employees had already gone thru several stages before being published online. From a social context perspective, republika.co.id sided with the victims and recognized that sexual harassment can be experienced by any gender. Republika.co.id, Sexual Harassment, KPI Employees.⁶

The similarity between this research and previous studies is that both use Van Dijk's analytical knife to dissect news coverage in the mass media related to violence and sexual harassment. However, what distinguishes this

research from previous studies is that the researcher analyzes two mainstream online media and analyzes two issues on the same object, namely physical violence and sexual harassment in Islamic boarding schools.

The news was analyzed using the theory of Taun A. Van Dijk's analysis. Critical discourse analysis is a multidisciplinary perspective on discourse studies that specifically focuses on the reproduction of discourse in the abuse of power, such as sexism, racism, and other forms of social inequality, as well as resistance to certain forms of domination.⁷ The overall meaning or essence of a news headline forms a specific discourse category that may reveal or convey ideological content.⁸

Critical discourse analysis research studies how the abuse of power

⁶ Nur Fauziyah, "Analisis Wacana Berita Kasus Pelecehan Seksual Pegawai Komisi Penyiaran Indonesia Pada Republika.Co.Id," *Fakultas Dakwah Dan Ilmu Komunikasi UIN Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta*, 2022.

⁷ Teun A Van Dijk, *Critical Discourse Analysis, The Handbook of Discourse Analysis* (Wiley Online Library, 2015).

⁸ Teun VanDijk, "Discourse Analysis as Ideology Analysis," *Language and Peace*, 1995, 17-33.

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and imposed inequalities are enforced, reproduced, legitimized, and resisted thru text and speech within social and political contexts.⁹

Teun Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis model not only focuses on text analysis but also considers social structures, power dynamics, and dominant groups in society.¹⁰ Van Dijk's discourse has three dimensions: text, social cognition, and context. Van Dijk's analysis combines these three dimensions into a single analytical unit. In the text dimension, Van Dijk investigates and attempts to interpret how the textual structure and linguistic discourse strategies, such as sentence form, word choice, metaphors used, and

others, are employed to emphasize a specific theme. Meanwhile, the social cognition aspect studies the process of producing news texts involving the individual cognition of journalists. At the context level, it studies the discourse structures that develop within a society.¹¹

Unlike other approaches, the CDA framework here not only connects social structures, but also does so thru a socio-cognitive lens that links mental representations of communicative and social situations and events with the cognitive structures underlying discourse. Power is conceptualized as control, for example, control over the context, text, or discourse structures, and thus indirectly confronts the human mind with language.¹²

⁹ Christoph A. Hafner, "Discourse Analysis/Critical Discourse Analysis," *The BERA/SAGE Handbook of Educational Research: Two Volume Set*, 2017, 812-29, <https://doi.org/10.4135/9781473983953.n41>.

¹⁰ Fasilatul Nur Ellya, Yarno Yarno, and Idhoofiyatul Fatin, "Pemberitaan Tragedi Kanjuruhan Dalam Tayangan Youtube Narasi Mata Najwa: Analisis Wacana Kritis Van Dijk," *Semantik* 12, no. 2 (2023): 203-20, <https://doi.org/10.22460/semantik.v12i2.p203-220>.

B. Methodology

This research uses a constructivist paradigm with a qualitative approach.

¹¹ Yoce Aliah Darma, *Analisis Wacana Kritis Dalam Multiperspektif* (Bandung: PT Refika Aditama, 2014).

¹² Dijk, *Critical Discourse Analysis*.

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This research aims to understand how mainstream media constructs the discourse of violence and sexual harassment in Islamic boarding schools. Based on the issues raised in this research, the researcher will apply qualitative research with Van Dijk's critical discourse analysis technique. Discourse analysis primarily aims to explain qualitative data rather than quantitative data.¹³

This critical study is used to delve into the content of news constructed by Kompas.com and Kumparan.com, which has generated various opinions from the public and parents of santri/santriwati regarding Islamic boarding schools. The data collection technique uses primary and secondary data. The primary data for this research is interviews with the informants who are the research subjects. The secondary data consists of news articles from kompas.com and

kumparan.com regarding sexual violence and harassment in Islamic boarding schools.

C. Critical Discourse Analysis of Mainstream Media in Constructing the Discourse of Sexual Violence and Harassment in Islamic Boarding Schools (Pondok Pesantren):

The following are news reports collected by the researcher from mainstream online media regarding cases of sexual violence and harassment in Islamic Boarding Schools (Pondok Pesantren). 1. "Head of Islamic Boarding School in Jambi Molests Student (Santri) for 3 Years" ¹⁴ 2. "Violence Repeats in Islamic Boarding Schools, Minister of Religious Affairs Highlights Caregiving Patterns"¹⁵ 3. "The Beginning of Alleged

¹³ Teun A. van Dijk, "Discourse Analysis: Its Development and Application to the Structure of News," *Journal of Communication* 33, no. 2 (1983): 20-43, <https://doi.org/10.1111/j.1460-2466.1983.tb02386.x>.

¹⁴ Kompas.com, "Pimpinan Pondok Pesantren Cabuli Santri Di Jambi Selama 3 Tahun," *Kompas.Com*, 2022, <https://regional.kompas.com/read/2022/10/04/234253378/pimpinan-pondok-pesantren-cabuli-santri-di-jambi-selama-3-tahun?page=all>.

¹⁵ kompas.com, "Kekerasan Di Pondok Pesantren Berulang, Menag Soroti Pola

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Adultery and Molestation by Jember Ponpes Caretaker Until 15 Female Students Undergo Visum”¹⁶ 4. “Four Cases of Sexual Violence by Boarding School Leaders in Jember and Lampung, Awaiting the Seriousness of the Ministry of Religious Affairs”¹⁷ 5. ““3 Molestation Cases by Ponpes Personnel in Lampung, Damar Requests Ministry of Religious Affairs to Evaluate Ponpes”¹⁸ 6. “Kiai Fahim Becomes Suspect in Sexual Violence Case””¹⁹.

The following are the results of the news analysis concerning violence and harassment in Islamic Boarding Schools (Pondok Pesantren). The analyzed reports include one sample from each media outlet.

News Text on Kompas.com:

1. “Head of Islamic Boarding School in Jambi Molests Student (Santri) for 3 Years”

The discourse concerning cases of sexual harassment and violence in an Islamic Boarding School (Pondok Pesantren) can be analyzed through several structural levels. At the macrostructure level, the main theme raised is the molestation case carried out by the head of the *ponpes* in Jambi against his female student (*santriwati*). This theme becomes the main focus of the news coverage, which is then elaborated in more detail in the subsequent section.

In terms of superstructure, the discourse is structured with a clear

Pengasuhan,” *Kompas.Com*, 2022, <https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2022/09/08/13135891/kekerasan-di-pondok-pesantren-berulang-menag-soroti-pola-pengasuhan>.

¹⁶ Kompas.com, “Awal Mula Dugaan Perselingkuhan Dan Pencabulan Pengasuh Ponpes Di Jember Hingga 15 Santriwati Divisum,” *Kompas.Com*, 2023, <https://surabaya.kompas.com/read/2023/01/09/142517478/awal-mula-dugaan-perselingkuhan-dan-pencabulan-pengasuh-ponpes-di-jember>.

¹⁷ (Kumparan.com, 2023b)

¹⁸ Kumparan.com, “3 Kasus Cabul Oleh Oknum Ponpes Di Lampung, Damar Minta Kemenag Evaluasi Ponpes,” *Kumparan.Com*, 2023, <https://kumparan.com/lampunggeh/3-kasus-cabul-oleh-oknum-ponpes-di-lampung-damar-minta-kemenag-evaluasi-ponpes-1zbZ4BObYLB>.

¹⁹ Kumparan.com, “Kiai Fahim Jadi Tersangka Kasus Kekerasan Seksual,” *Kumparan.Com*, 2023, [https://kumparan.com/kumparannews/kiai-](https://kumparan.com/kumparannews/kiai-fahim-jadi-tersangka-kasus-kekerasan-seksual-1zeaJpdKDBA)

[fahim-jadi-tersangka-kasus-kekerasan-seksual-1zeaJpdKDBA](https://kumparan.com/kumparannews/kiai-fahim-jadi-tersangka-kasus-kekerasan-seksual-1zeaJpdKDBA).

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schema. The *summary* section directly refers to the news title, highlighting the molestation carried out by the *ponpes* leader for three years. Subsequently, the *lead* element features the voice of the victim's father, who expresses his hope for justice for his daughter. The narrative then continues with an elaboration on the father's efforts to demand the truth and pursue the case until the police intervened to investigate the suspect. The news closure affirms the legal articles that will be imposed on the perpetrator.

At the microstructure level within the semantic aspect, several important elements can be found. The background element emphasizes the victim's father's hope to law enforcement officials and the government to provide protection and handle the case seriously. The detail element elaborates on the chronology of the molestation committed by the *ponpes* leader against both the female student (*santriwati*) and a staff member. The intention element implicitly describes the steps taken by the Muara Jambi Police

Chief (*Kapolres*) in uncovering this case. Meanwhile, the presupposition element indicates that without the involvement of the police, similar cases potentially continue unresolved.

From the syntactic side, the sentence pattern used is deductive, beginning with a general statement in the form of the victim's father's hope, which is then strengthened by witness testimony. Coherence in the discourse is evident from the relationship between the victim's and the witness' statements, which are mutually supportive. The use of pronouns such as "she/he" refers to the witness to avoid repetition.

In the stylistic aspect, no specific lexicon choices were found in this text. However, in the rhetorical aspect, a graphic element is present through the use of a press conference photograph featuring the Muara Jambi Police (*Polres*) alongside the suspect *pondok pesantren* leader, which strengthens the context that the case is undergoing legal proceedings. The metaphor element is

seen in the use of the term "influential person" (*orang yang berpengaruh*) to describe the position of the *ponpes* leader as a figure of power within his environment.

Overall, this discourse not only presents a mere criminal case but also carries moral and social messages, namely the importance of the role of law enforcement and the community in investigating and resolving sexual violence cases within religious-based educational institutions.

2. Violence Repeats in Islamic Boarding Schools (Pondok Pesantren), Minister of Religious Affairs Highlights Caregiving Patterns.

The discourse concerning cases of violence in *pondok pesantren* is analyzed through several structural levels. At the macrostructure level, the main theme raised is the case of sexual harassment and violence within the *pondok pesantren* environment. This case not only highlights the perpetrators but also draws attention from the Ministry of

Religious Affairs, particularly regarding the caregiving patterns applicable in the *pesantren*.

In terms of superstructure, the discourse has a clear schema. The *summary* element highlights the Minister of Religious Affairs' statement asserting that violence cases in *pesantren* recur due to weak caregiving patterns. The *lead* element contains further responses from the Minister of Religious Affairs regarding the need for better caregiving patterns to prevent cases of violence. Overall, the news content depicts the criticism conveyed by the Minister of Religious Affairs regarding *pesantren's* caregiving patterns, which were presented when he met with the media. The closing section reinforces that caregiving patterns are one of the crucial factors that must be addressed.

At the microstructure level, the semantic analysis reveals several key points. The background element illustrates that the main factor causing violence in *pesantren* is the weak

caregiving pattern. The detail element explains the existence of regulations and activities that have been created by the Ministry of Religious Affairs in the context of preventing and handling violence cases. The intention element implicitly indicates that the Ministry of Religious Affairs has actually taken various steps to prevent violence in the educational sphere, including *pesantren*, yet the caregiving pattern remains a weak point. Meanwhile, the presupposition element can be interpreted as a form of strong reprimand from the Ministry of Religious Affairs towards the management of caregiving patterns in *pesantren*.

From the syntactic side, this discourse employs a deductive sentence pattern, starting with the statement by the Minister of Religious Affairs, which is then clarified with examples of the sequence of violence cases that have occurred. The coherence element is evident in the repetition of the Minister of Religious Affairs' statement emphasizing

the importance of caregiving patterns. Furthermore, the use of a proper noun like "Yaquut" directly refers to the Minister of Religious Affairs to avoid the repetitive mention of the title.

In the stylistic aspect, an interesting lexical choice is the use of the word "intervensi" (intervention) as a substitute for the term "campur tangan" (interference). This word is chosen to emphasize a more formal and neutral impression. Meanwhile, in the rhetorical aspect, a graphic element is presented through a photograph of the Minister of Religious Affairs, Yaquut, giving comments to the media crew at the Presidential Palace complex. This strengthens the impression of authority and the legitimacy of the statement delivered. However, no metaphor elements were found in the discourse.

3. "The Beginning of Alleged Adultery and Molestation by Jember Ponpes Caretaker Until 15 Female Students (Santriwati) Undergo Visum"

The discourse concerning cases of sexual harassment and violence in *pondok pesantren* (Islamic boarding schools) once again became a public highlight, this time centered in Jember. At the macrostructure level, the theme raised is the alleged adultery and simultaneous molestation committed by a *pondok pesantren* caretaker. This case drew the attention of law enforcement, particularly the police, who subsequently conducted an in-depth investigation into the received reports. From the standpoint of superstructure, this discourse is systematically organized. In the *summary* section, the news coverage highlights the alleged cases of adultery and molestation involving the *pondok pesantren* caretaker in Jember.

The *lead* element features the action of the Jember Police Chief (*Kapolres*) who intervened to investigate the case further. The main body of the news then elaborates on the investigative steps taken by the police to trace the veracity of the reports, while the

conclusion presents a denial from the reported party, namely the *pesantren* caretaker suspected to be the perpetrator.

Within the microstructure through semantic analysis, the background element shows that the case originated from the report made by the *pesantren* caretaker's wife. The detail element then explains the alleged acts of adultery and molestation against the female student (*santriwati*). The intention element highlights the lewd behavior allegedly committed by a *kyai* (religious scholar/leader) against his female student, while the presupposition element confirms the possibility of many other victims involved in the molestation case.

Syntactically, the sentence structure in the news report follows a deductive pattern, starting with the depiction of the alleged case, then proceeding to the investigation process carried out by the authorities. However, in terms of coherence, there is an

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inconsistency between the statement of the reporter, namely the wife, and the denial provided by the reported party. Furthermore, the use of pronouns such as "his party" (*pihaknya*) and "we" (*kami*) are used as a representation of the Jember Police Chief (*Kapolres*) in conveying statements.

In the stylistic aspect, the use of lexicon demonstrates the presence of euphemism, for instance, the phrase "learning evaluation" (*evaluasi pembelajaran*) which is used as a softening term for "learning measurement or assessment." In addition, the phrase "main perempuan" (literally 'playing women') is interpreted as adultery, which constitutes an important part of the discourse.

Meanwhile, from a rhetorical perspective, a graphic element is presented through an illustration of a rape photograph. This visualization reinforces the focus of the discourse while simultaneously building public perception that the reported case is

closely related to indecent acts and sexual violence.

Overall, this discourse not only reveals the alleged molestation case within the *pesantren* environment but also demonstrates the dynamics between the report, law enforcement investigation, and denial from the accused party. This indicates that the issue of sexual violence in *pesantren* remains a serious problem that demands greater attention, both from law enforcement and the wider community.

News Text on Kumparan.com

1. "Four Cases of Sexual Violence by Boarding School Leaders in Jember and Lampung, Awaiting the Seriousness of the Ministry of Religious Affairs."

At the macrostructure level, the main theme raised is the case of sexual violence in the *pesantren* environment, which subsequently elicited responses from various parties, including child observer, Retno Listyarti.

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From the perspective of superstructure, this discourse has a systematic flow. The *summary* element highlights the news coverage of sexual violence cases involving *pesantren* leaders. The *lead* element features Retno Listyarti's statement that highlights the sequence of violence cases in the *pesantren* environment, especially concerning weak supervision and prevention patterns. Furthermore, the news content presents criticism regarding the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kementerian Agama), which is considered to have not fully understood and implemented Ministerial Regulation No. 73 of 2022 concerning the prevention and handling of sexual violence in educational units. The closing section of the news reinforces this criticism by reiterating several cases that occurred in other *pondok pesantren*, thereby strengthening the urgency of the problem.

At the microstructure level, from the semantic aspect, the background

element highlights the questioned understanding of the Ministry of Religious Affairs regarding the regulation. The detail element elaborates on the doubt concerning the Ministry's sincerity and comprehension in executing the rule. The implicit intention element is conveyed through Retno's statement, which questions the performance of the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kemenag), given that sexual violence cases continue to occur in *pesantren*, even involving the *pesantren* leaders themselves. The presupposition element indicates that the Ministerial Regulation is actually available, but its implementation has not been carried out effectively.

From the syntactic side, the sentence pattern used is deductive. The discourse begins with an explanation of the sequence of violence cases, which is then clarified with Retno's statement. Coherence is evident from the repetition of Retno's statements, which directs the focus of the discourse towards her criticism of the Ministry of Religious

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Affairs (Kemenag). Furthermore, the use of the pronoun "I" (*saya*) is employed to directly represent Retno's voice.

In the stylistic aspect, there is a certain selection of lexicon that is noteworthy. The word "seriousness" (*kesungguhan*) is used to describe the performance of the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kemenag), while the term "observer" (*pemerhati*) functions as a euphemism for the word "caring" (*peduli*), giving a more formal and professional impression.

In the rhetorical structure, the graphic element is presented through data from Komnas Perempuan (National Commission on Violence Against Women) which affirms the high number of sexual violence cases. Furthermore, a visualization in the form of a large banner photograph featuring an image of a bound woman accompanied by the text "freedom means freedom from sexual violence" strengthens the symbolic message that women have the right to be free from all forms of violence. No

metaphor elements were found in this discourse. Overall, this discourse demonstrates how sexual violence cases in *pesantren* not only highlight the perpetrators but also generate criticism toward state institutions, in this case the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kementerian Agama), which is considered suboptimal in executing existing regulations. The criticism delivered by Retno Listyarti also serves as a reminder of the importance of tangible implementation of sexual violence prevention policies in religious educational institutions. "Molestation Case by Ponpes Personnel in Lampung, Damar Requests Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kemenag) to Evaluate Islamic Boarding School (Pondok Pesantren)".

The discourse concerning cases of sexual harassment and violence in *pondok pesantren* (Islamic boarding schools) continues to be a public spotlight, including the molestation case involving a *pesantren* personnel in Lampung. At the macrostructure level,

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the main theme raised is the case of sexual violence in the *pesantren* environment, which subsequently triggered reactions from various parties, including the Damar Lampung Women's Advocacy Institution.

In the superstructure, this discourse is systematically structured. The *summary* element highlights the news coverage of the molestation case by a *pondok pesantren* personnel in Lampung. The *lead* element features the urging from the Damar Lampung Women's Advocacy Institution for the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kementerian Agama) to immediately formulate and evaluate the licensing standards for the establishment of educational institutions. Furthermore, the content of the news describes the push and pressure given to the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kemenag) to handle sexual violence cases in the *pesantren* environment more seriously. In the closing section, the statement by Ana, as the Executive Director of the Damar

Lampung Women's Advocacy Institution, reaffirms the necessity for strict qualification standards in establishing a *pesantren*, in order to prevent the recurrence of similar cases.

Within the microstructure through semantic analysis, the background element showcases the position of the Damar Lampung Women's Advocacy Institution, which actively pushes the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kemenag) to evaluate violence prevention in *pesantren*. The detail element indicates the institution's sharp criticism towards Kemenag, by bringing up previous cases of violence against students (*santri*) in several *pesantren*. The intention element asserts that this criticism fundamentally serves as a form of pressure for Kemenag to be more accountable, although it can also be interpreted as an effort to lower the institution's credibility. The presupposition element depicts that cases of violence in *pesantren* have been widely reported and are closely related to the weak implementation of Ministerial

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Regulation Number 73 of 2022, thus increasingly pressuring Kemenag's position.

From the syntactic side, the sentence pattern used is deductive. The discourse begins with the exposition of the violence case, which is then reinforced by the advocacy institution's response emphasizing the importance of policy evaluation. Coherence is evident from the link between the official report of the Lampung Police (*Polres*) and the statement of the Damar Lampung Women's Advocacy Institution. Meanwhile, the pronoun "its party" (*pihaknya*) is used as a representation of the institution in the quoted statement.

In the stylistic aspect, there is the use of a specific lexicon, such as the word "modus," which is understood as a form of slang, an abbreviation of "modal dusta" (a fraudulent asset/capital of lies), meaning a person who has a hidden intention that contradicts their actions. The choice of this word emphasizes the

fraud and manipulation carried out by the perpetrator.

In the rhetorical structure, the graphic elements reinforce the meaning of the discourse. Two photographs are presented: first, a visual illustration showing an adult's clenched hand forcibly grasping a child, which affirms the depiction of violence; second, a photograph of the expression of Ana, as the Executive Director of the Damar Lampung Women's Advocacy Institution, while giving a response, which adds an authoritative yet emotional impression to the news coverage. Overall, this discourse demonstrates how cases of sexual violence in *pesantren* are viewed not only as an individual problem but also address systemic weaknesses in regulation and supervision by the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kementerian Agama). The pressure from the women's advocacy institution indicates the urgency of a comprehensive evaluation, both towards the standards for establishing *pesantren* and the implementation of existing

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regulations, in order to create a safe religious educational space for students (*santri*).

2. "Kiai Fahim Becomes Suspect in Sexual Violence Case"

the macrostructure level, the theme raised is the involvement of Kyai Fahim, a *pesantren* leader, who allegedly committed molestation against female students (*santriwati*) and female teachers (*ustazah*) in his own *pondok pesantren*. From the perspective of superstructure, the news flow begins with a *summary* that emphasizes the fact that a *Kyai* (religious leader) has become a suspect in a sexual violence case. The *lead* element then explains the alleged molestation committed by Kyai Fahim against several female students and female teachers. The main body of the news describes in detail the molestation practices carried out by Kyai Fahim at his *pesantren*. Meanwhile, the news closure ends with Kyai Fahim's denial of the accusations leveled against him, which demonstrates a contradiction between the facts and his personal

statement. Within the microstructure, the semantic aspect reveals several important points.

The background element explains that the case emerged after Kyai Fahim's wife reported her husband to the authorities. The detail element highlights the fact that Kyai Fahim was officially named a suspect in the molestation case. The intention element implicitly criticizes the immoral behavior hidden behind the title "Kyai," a position that ought to be held in high regard. Meanwhile, the presupposition element reveals that there were 11 female students (*santriwati*) and 4 female teachers (*ustazah*) who became victims, with the molestation taking place in a special room utilizing *fingerprint* lock technology, which confirms the existence of planning and a designated space for the indecent acts.

From the syntactic side, the sentence pattern used in this discourse is deductive, beginning with the general presentation of the case before being

clarified with case details. However, the coherence element appears weak because the statement from Kyai Fahim's lawyer directly contradicts the denial conveyed by Fahim himself, thereby creating a contradiction. Furthermore, the pronouns used tend to directly mention the name "Fahim" without using honorifics. In the stylistic aspect, no prominent lexicon usage was found. However, in the rhetorical aspect, the graphic element reinforces the presentation of the discourse.

There are two main photographs: first, a photo of Kyai Fahim after being questioned by the police with a smiling expression, seemingly intended to show that he is innocent despite facing serious accusations; second, a photo of his wife giving a statement to the media while simultaneously reporting her husband as a suspect, which adds significant weight to the news coverage. No metaphor elements were found in this text.

Overall, this discourse showcases the paradox between the respected social

status of a Kyai (religious leader) and the alleged immoral actions he committed. The case also emphasizes that sexual violence within the *pesantren* environment not only impacts the victims but also shakes public trust in religious figures who are supposed to be moral role models.

D. Conclusion

The discourse analysis of various news reports concerning cases of sexual harassment and violence in *pondok pesantren* (Islamic boarding schools) indicates that this issue is not merely a problem of individual perpetrators, but is also closely related to weak supervision systems, caregiving patterns, and the implementation of regulations within religious-based educational environments.

1. From the perspective of theme (macrostructure), all texts highlight sexual violence cases in *pesantren* as the main problem. The perpetrators, who are ironically the *pesantren*

leaders or caretakers, demonstrate an abuse of power and authority.

At the schematic level (superstructure), news reports typically begin by highlighting the case or the perpetrator figure, followed by responses from the victims, law enforcement officials, or advocacy institutions, and then concluded with legal steps or criticism towards the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kementerian Agama). This pattern indicates the media's effort to not only report the case but also link it to institutional accountability.

In the semantic aspect (microstructure), the discourse portrays:

- a. Background: cases emerge from reports by victims, family members, or advocacy groups.
- b. Detail: the existence of the chronology of indecent acts, the number of victims, and the location where the case occurred
- c. Intention: criticism towards the perpetrator's immoral behavior as

well as the educational institution's failure to protect students (*santri*)

- d. Presupposition: without the intervention of authorities and the implementation of regulations, similar cases will continue to recur
2. From the syntactic side, the sentence pattern is predominantly deductive: the case is explained generally first and then elaborated with statements from witnesses, victims, or the authorities. However, coherence is often disrupted due to denials from the perpetrators that contradict the facts or the statements of the reporters. Furthermore, the use of pronouns often directly mentions the name or status without using honorifics.
3. In the stylistic aspect, several lexicons were found that emphasize certain meanings, such as the use of the words "intervention" (*intervensi*), "modus," or "observer" (*pemerhati*), which provide emphasis or euphemism. This indicates that word

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choice in the discourse plays a critical role in shaping public perception.

4. Rhetorically, graphics such as press conference photos, the perpetrator's facial expressions, or data from Komnas Perempuan (National Commission on Violence Against Women) or anti-sexual violence banners, are used to reinforce the text's meaning. This visualization provides emotional emphasis to increase public awareness of the issue.

The overall text reveals a pattern indicating that sexual violence cases in *pesantren* are not merely personal crimes but are a structural problem. The figure of the *kyai* or *pesantren* leader, who should be a role model, can instead become a perpetrator, and the weak implementation of regulations exacerbates the situation. The media and advocacy institutions play a crucial role in pressuring the Ministry of Religious Affairs (Kementerian Agama) to be firmer in supervision, evaluating licensing

standards, and enforcing existing regulations. Ultimately, this discourse builds public awareness that the protection of students (*santri*), especially female students, is an urgent matter that must not be ignored.

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