Critical Discourse Network Analysis on Ferdy Sambo News in Online Media Using Agenda Setting Theory

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Abstract - This research aims to analyze the Critical Discourse Network Analysis of the news of the Ferdy Sambo Case on Online Media Portals through Agenda Setting Theory. The research employed a social networking analysis method that combines two elements of methods, namely qualitative content analysis and quantitative social network analysis, to analyze the news using Discourse Network Analysis (DNA) and network visualization using the Visone software application. Qualitative method was also employed to analyze the tendency of Kompas.com in framing the Ferdy Sambo case in the period of August 2022 to February 2023. The data analyzed covered 14 news reports. Based on Agenda Setting Theory, through Media Agenda analysis, Kompas.com emphasized the Ferdy Sambo case has become a cause for concern among the Indonesian people. This was reinforced by the convergence between mainstream mass media and social media; in terms of Public Agenda, Sambo’s news, both through mainstream media such as Kompas.com and social media. The Ferdy Sambo case is very popular on social media; in terms of Policy Agenda. The death penalty meted out to Sambo is expected by the majority of Indonesian people. Meanwhile, the DNA test shows that there are 14 news articles with 80 statements from 12 actors. The 14 news articles are categorized into information, statements, decisions and laws, with 29 positive statements and 51 negative statements. This research used Mix Method to analyze the news of the Ferdy Sambo case using Agenda Setting Theory and Discourse Network Analysis (DNA).

Keywords: Critical Discourse Network Analysis; Ferdy Sambo; Agenda Setting; Media Portal, Kompas.com

Introduction

Digital era which started in 1990-2000 (Permata Sari, 2018), has long been predicted by Marshal McLuhan, through his books The Gutenberg Galaxy: The Making of Typographic Man (1962), and Understanding Media: The Extensions of Man. McLuhan has provided a new perspective on Mass Communication, as well as the development of future ways of communicating. He predicted that the transition of technology from the era of mechanical technology to the era of electronic technology, also brings about a transition in the function of technology as an extension of human reach in a wider space. He called an extension of the human nervous system (McLuhan, 1964).

McLuhan stated that the medium is the massage. Media enters the mass era, meaning that we are currently living in a unique era in the history of human civilization, namely the era of mass media. Media has actually influenced the way humans think, feel and behave. The revolution of society into a mass society is due to the presence of mass media. The digital era, which began in the 1980s (Suwartno, 2022), is associated with the existence of the internet as a communication and information network, and
now it becomes part of the life of the world community (CNBC Indonesia, 2022). Internet is a connection between Personal Computer, either at home, company, or government institution. Internet is also a global information source utilizing a collection of computer networks as a medium (Unair Vokasi, 2023). The internet makes people easy to access information (UNIB, 2023). In addition, people can also use the internet for working, socializing, and shopping. Based on data from internet world stats, Indonesia has the third largest number of internet users in Asia, reaching 212.9 million as of January 2023.

The ease of accessing information leads to various trends in public interest through various news platforms, especially citizen journalism through various media platforms (Lindawati, 2014), which can then be followed by mainstream media coverage, or social media follows mainstream media coverage (Mudjianto & Dunan, 2020), due to the tendency of some people to verify social media information through mainstream media (KPU Bogor, 2022). The news of the Ferdy Sambo case has been one of the most searched information since July 2022 as can be seen in the following data:

![Figure 1: Histogram Chart of Ferdy Sambo’s Key Words](Source: Google Trends Ferdy Sambo 2023)

In Figure 1, it is known that the highest number of people accessing information about the Ferdy Sambo case is on August 14-20, 2022. The case where Ferdy Sambo, former Police Propam Cadre, allegedly committed premeditated murder of his adjutant, Brigadier J began to be widely discussed on online news media since July 9, 2022. In press conference, Polri initially stated that Ferdy Sambo's adjutant was killed in a firefight with fellow policemen. After going through a lot of trials, it was revealed that Brigadier J was deliberately killed and the mastermind of the murder was Ferdy Sambo, who was at that time the Police's Head of Profession and Security. From various confessions, the case surfaced following a complaint from Putri Candrawathi, Ferdy Sambo's wife, about harassment by Brigadier J when she was in Magelang (Tempo.co, 2023).

Ferdy Sambo was found guilty of plotting to murder Brigadier J. The judge sentenced Sambo to death. In particular, the public prosecutor stated that Sambo was involved in obstructing the judicial process or investigation into the death of Brigadier J, charged with violating Article 49 of the ITE Law in conjunction with Article 55 of the Criminal Code and sentenced to life imprisonment. Phenomena related to news on the internet media are very important to analyze.

After a comprehensive comparison with several online news portals related to the news of the Ferdy Sambo case, Kompas.com consistently uploaded the news about it. In addition, Kompas is also known by the Indonesian people as one of the neutral and proportional media in reporting (Poentarie, 2014; Amir & Hasrum, 2013).

Analysis was conducted through Agenda Setting Theory, and uses Discourse Network Analysis (DNA) software version 1.31, a JAVA-based software developed by Philip Liefeld (2012), by selecting online news on the Kompas.com website. The news items taken from October 17, 2022 to February 13, 2023, were selected based on the topic of Plotting the Murder of Brigadier J by Ferdy Sambo, until the final Court verdict for Ferdy Sambo.

**Theoretical Framework**

**Agenda Setting Theory**

Agenda Setting theory was initiated in 1968 when a research on the US presidential election
campaign took place (Ritonga, 2018). The scientists who first tested this theory were Maxwell McCombs and Donald L. Shaw in 1973 with their first publication of “The Agenda Setting Function of the Mass Media”. It assumes that the media does not always succeed in telling public what they think, but it succeeds in telling them what to think about (Flora, 2014). Therefore, media has the ability to select and direct people’s attention to certain ideas or events. Media organizes what we should see and which figures we should support.

Littlejohn (in Ritonga, 2018) stated that Agenda Setting Theory is divided into three parts: [1] media agenda must have a format, meaning that this process will tell the problem of how the media agenda can first occur. [2] the media agenda will influence the public agenda or the importance of certain issues to the public. This statement will show how much power the media has to influence the public agenda. [3], the public agenda will influence the policy agenda (Efendi, et al., 2023).

McCombs (2014) stated that audiences will consider a case is important if the mass media packages it through agenda setting. The Watergate case is a perfect example of the agenda-setting function through the mass media (McCombs & Shaw, 1972). Until now, Agenda Setting Theory is associated with the power of the mass media in determining the agenda in the news, and in the end, it will influence the public agenda (Shabira, et al., 2021). The perspective of Agenda Setting Theory which emphasizes the news constructed by the media, has an influence on voters as in the research of Bernard R. Belelson, Paul Lazarsfeld and William N. McPhee (1954), and becomes a reference in deepening the construction of Agenda Setting Theory (McCombs & Shaw, 1972). Tamburaka (2013), states that the mass media will accentuate the content, issue or topic by presenting it continuously to attract public attention until finally the public accepts the issue and considers it something important so that public opinion is formed through agenda setting. This is because the media tries to build public opinion through the agenda (Tamburaka, 2013). Media also emphasizes the presentation of information based on ideological considerations (Agustina, 2017) and does not fully present reality.

Mass media also only focuses on certain issues and ignores the others that are considered not to have a profit impact for the company. Agenda setting is organized through three stages: First, the media selects news topics that will be presented to the public and then begins to process and present them. Second, the media agenda begins to be presented to the public as an effort to form public opinion. Third, the public are influenced and accept the media agenda by making it highlighted in every public opinion (Prabowo, 2016), and considered important by society (Littlejohn, 2022). The idea of framing is a perspective that determines the parts to be emphasized by the media (Eriyanto, 2007).

According to Dearing, J. W., & Rogers (1996), media agenda has been determined by a period of time which is compiled on the basis of the interests of power in it on issues. Media agenda consists of several aspects such as actors, events, and opinions, formed by utilizing space and publications to be conveyed to the audience (Merheim, 1986). McCombs & Shaw (1972) stated that media agenda can be seen from various aspects such as the existence of politics or ideology in mass media companies that influence the formation of news. The news produced is a form of subjective interpretation of the mass media transmitted through its workers. Editors, journalists, and media managers have full control to form an agenda and frame an issue. It will have an impact on cognitive changes in society through the formation of thoughts, thus it shows that the mass media has a mental impact in organizing and organizing the lives of audiences (Morissan, 2013).

Budhirianto et al, (2008) stated that agenda setting in the mass media covers three parts: (1) Media Agenda; (2) Public Agenda; and (3) Policy Agenda. The Agenda Setting process in the audience is described by Albalawi and Sixsmith (2015) as follows:
Figure 2 shows that agenda setting is done through the process of gatekeepers from the media, meaning that there is selection and filtering of news and influential media. The next process is in individual personal experience and interpersonal communication. Media agenda provides reinforcement to the public agenda, and will eventually become a policy agenda, and in the context of a larger case, is a real-world indicator.

**Media Agenda.** Media agenda is very important in determining the direction of people's opinions or thoughts through ongoing social construction. The media agenda includes three dimensions in its application, namely visibility, relevance and valence. Visibility is the quantity of news displayed to the audience. Relevance relates to the relationship between news content and public phenomena and community needs. Meanwhile, valence is the way news is delivered about an event (Cindoswari & Abidin, 2019).

**Public Agenda.** There are three dimensions that encompass the Public Agenda (Cindoswari & Abidin, 2019), first, familiarity which relates to audience’s awareness of certain topics; second, personal prominence, which is the relationship between individual interests and other individuals; and third, pleasure, which is the consideration that arises in the audience regarding whether or not to accept information.

**Policy Agenda.** Budhirianto (2018) stated that the policy agenda is the making of public policies that are considered important to the public. The policy agenda is part of the political agenda that is under the active and serious consideration of wise decision makers. Issues on the policy agenda are subject to substantive action on the part of policymakers, including the allocation and reallocation of government resources (Dekker, 2017).

**Discourse Network Analysis.** Discourse Network Analysis (DNA) is a technique to visualize discourse, either political or socio-cultural discourse into a network. DNA is a combination of category-based content analysis and social network analysis (Leifeld, 2017). This method allows an individual to systematically identify discourse structures in various textual documents, such as newspaper articles, print media, or transcripts of debates in parliament. It is a JAVA-based software developed by Philip Leifeled from the Swiss Federal Institute of Aquatic Science and Technology.

Leifeld and Haunss (2012) stated that this discourse network model has been implemented into a software called Discourse Networking Analysis (DNA) [hereinafter DNA] which aims to provide categories and actors that can then be visualized into a structured network.

**Material and Methodology**

This type of research is Mix Method (Creswell & Clark, 2017), which is defined as a method that combines Quantitative and Qualitative Methods (Samatan, 2018), using a Sequential Transformative Strategy (Creswell & Clark, 2017). The researcher uses a theoretical perspective to shape certain procedures in the research. The researcher may choose to use one of the two methods in
the first stage, and the weight can be given to one of the two or distributed equally to each stage of the research (Creswell, in Samatan, 2017). This research gives equal proportion, qualitative and quantitative data. The object of research is a set of elements that can be people, organizations, or goods to be studied (Samatan, 2018). The object of this research is the coverage of the Ferdy Sambo case on the Kompas.com. Research subject, according to Sugiyono (2013), is an attribute or trait or value of a person. The research subjects were a number of news articles identified using the keyword Ferdy Sambo, collected from March 25, 2023 to August 31, 2023, and the researcher found 14 articles posted online from August 07, 2022 to February 13, 2023.

According to Samatan (2018) and Sugiyono (2013), framework is a way of looking at and understanding the complexity of the real world. The framework used in this research is the Constructivist paradigm. The constructivist paradigm is a paradigm that is the antithesis of an understanding that places observation and objectivity in finding a reality or science (Samatan, 2018).

The data collected in this research are primary data and secondary data. Primary data were collected through the collection of news related to the Ferdy Sambo case from the Kompas.com website in the period of August 07, 2022 to February 2023. During the period of time, there were 14 news reports which have a tendency to carry "Agenda Setting". The news reports were then analyzed through Agenda Setting Theory for qualitative analysis, using DNA to analyze quantitative and qualitative data. The DNA software is version 1.31, a JAVA-based software to identify which party agrees or disagrees by analyzing the concept of statements defined on news or articles on the Kompas.com news site. There are 4 basic types of discourse networks generated by Discourse Network Analysis (DNA) software, namely: [1] Affiliation Networks, [2] Actor Congruence Networks, [3] Conflict Networks, and [4] Concept Congruence Networks.

Result and Discussion

The Ferdy Sambo case has become a trending topic for months, both in the mass media and social media, since he reported the death of Brigadier J on July 8, 2022 (Republika.com). The case was later found to be premeditated murder of the adjutant (NUOnline, 2022). It began with the report of Putri Candrawathi, Sambo's wife, who claimed to have been harassed by Brigadier J (Kompas.com, 2022). At that time Brigadier J was allegedly killed at Sambo's company residence. Sambo reported that there was a firefight between Brigadier E and Brigadier J. Sambo then made two reports, namely Brigadier J harassed Putri Candrawathi and attempted to murder Bharada E. Ferdy Sambo's scenario began to unfold when Bharada E admitted that there was no firefight, but, Bharada E shot Brigadier J on the order of [Ferdy Sambo] (CNN Indonesia, 2022).

Research and analysis were carried out until the court issued a final decision on the Ferdy Sambo case, February 13, 2023 (Kompas.com, 2023). The first news from Kompas.com on August 07, 2022, explained the sequence of cases of Brigadier J's death, starting from Brigadier J who allegedly committed sexual harassment against Sambo's wife to the shootout of Bharada E at Sambo's official residence. The second news, on September 30, 2022, reported that Vice President Ma'ruf Amin hopes that the murder case of Brigadier J involving Sambo will be immediately brought to trial. The third news, on October 17, 2022, explained that Sambo's attorney will read a memorandum of objection or exception against the public prosecutor's indictment. The fourth news, on October 20, 2022, discussed the public prosecutor rejecting all arguments for the exception of the defendant Sambo's legal counsel. The public prosecutor stated that the indictment had fulfilled the formal and material elements of the case. The fifth news on October 26, 2022, discussed the interlocutory decision hearing. The judge stated that the indictment against the defendant prepared by the public prosecutor was systematic and firm. The judge rejected the entire memorandum of objection submitted by Ferdy Sambo and his legal counsel.

The sixth news regarding the trial held on November 08, 2022, presented 10 witnesses consisting of domestic helpers at Sambo's house on Saguling Street, Duren Tiga, and Bangka roads as well as adjutants and drivers to testify at the trial. The seventh news, on November 01, 2022, the public prosecutor he presented Susi, Sambo's domestic helper, as a witness in the trial. Susi gave a convoluted statement and lied a lot, so the Judge threatened to process Susi if she gave false testimony.

The eighth news, on December 15, 2022, the trial presented 6 expert witnesses. However, only the testimonies of 2 witnesses were broadcast publicly. In the trial, polygraphist Aji Febrianto revealed the results of the polygraph test of the defendant Ferdy Sambo. The ninth news on January 17, 2023:
showed the results of the prosecution trial against Sambo, where the defendant was involved in obstruction of justice or obstructing the investigation into the death of Brigadier J and was charged with violating Article 49 in conjunction with Article 33 in lieu of Article 48 Paragraph (1) in conjunction with Article 32 Paragraph (1) of the ITE Law Number 19 of 2016 and Article 233 of the Criminal Code in lieu of Article 221 Paragraph (1) to 2 in conjunction with Article 55 of the Criminal Code.

The tenth news is about the trial held on January 25, 2023 to give Sambo the opportunity to submit a memorandum of defense. Sambo felt that he was not given space to present his defense, even though he faced numerous accusations before the panel of judges decided the case. Through his lawyer, Sambo asked the judge to declare his innocence in this case. In the 11th news, on January 31, 2023, the public prosecutor gave a response to Sambo’s plea. The public prosecutors considered that Sambo was trying to shift the blame to Richard E. because Sambo did not admit ordering Richard to shoot Brigadier J. Sambo also denied taking part in shooting Brigadier J. News 12 on January 31, 2023, Sambo's attorney gave a response or duplicates that the prosecutor had no evidence that Sambo ordered Richard to shoot or take part in killing Brigadier J with bullets. According to Sambo's attorney, the answer was only based on the testimony of Richard or Bharada E.

The trial on February 13, 2023 resulted in a death sentence meted out to the defendant Ferdy Sambo. The judge stated that Sambo was legally and convincingly proven guilty of violating Article 340 subsidiary to Article 338 in conjunction with Article 55 Paragraph (1) of the Criminal Code. On February 13, 2023, members of the House of Representatives considered that the sentence given to Ferdy Sambo had met the expectations of the public.

Analysis Based on Agenda Setting Theory

First, in terms of Media Agenda, the mainstream media reports information that is widely uploaded by social media, as stated in Astari's research (2021), which examines social media as a supporter of mass media in the rise of new media in the Agenda Setting process, in supporting the campaign process that occurs in almost all countries studied (including: Norway, Malaysia and the United States), showing information published on social media states that political campaigns (in the case of the United States) expand the scope of application of Agenda Setting theory and Issue Ownership Theory.

The results found the potential of Twitter (X) to set the public agenda with or without news media as a support or information gateway (Permalee, 2014). People prefer social media over mainstream media (AyoBandung.com, 2024), although Mudjianto and Dunan (2020), stated that social media still makes mainstream media a reference, for it still has very strict rules in the news process (Mudjianto and Dunan, 2020). The analysis shows that Kompas.com has emphasized that the Ferdy Sambo case, which has become a cause for public concern made it keep up with the progress of the case. The case has become the media agenda, which is reinforced by the convergence between mainstream mass media and social media (Purba, 2022).

Second, in terms of the Public Agenda, in the research of McCombs and Shaw (1972), there is a relation between media agenda and public agenda. In the Ferdy Sambo case, some people followed the case (Caritau.com, 2022), like a serial soap opera, until Chief of the National Police (Polri) General Listyo Sigit Prabowo thanked the public for their support (Detik.com, 2022). Various perspectives are seen in several essays on the Ferdy Sambo case, including those analyzed by Mutiah, et al (2023), on Personal Branding and the death sentence which is the maximum penalty imposed on Sambo for premeditated murder of his own man. The analysis presented by Purba (2022), stated that the public agenda was also strengthened through various information channels, when mainstream media such as Kompas.com, carried out news through social media channels, in this case the youtube channel. The Ferdy Sambo case is very popular on social media (Kompas.id, August 23, 2022). The results of the LSI’s survey reported by Tempo.co on August 31, 2023, found that 77% of respondents followed the course of the Sambo case (LSI, in Tempo.co, 2022). It means that the public follows the media agenda until it turns into the public agenda.

Third is the policy agenda. Based on the results of the LSI survey, Djayadi Hanan found that 50.3% of those who knew the case, responded that the most proportionate punishment for the perpetrators, including Ferdy Sambo, was the death penalty, and 37% who knew the case answered that they wanted life imprisonment (LSI, in Tempo.co, August 31, 2022). The judge found Sambo legally guilty of violating Article 340 subsidiary to Article 338 in conjunction with Article 55
Paragraph (1) to 1 of the Criminal Code. This verdict aligns with the will of most people, who want Ferdy Sambo to be sentenced to death, the heaviest punishment given for premeditated murder, of which Ferdy Sambo is proven guilty. This shows that there is a correlation among media agenda, public agenda and policy agenda. Although, in the cassation on August 8, 2023, the judge decided to accept the appeal of former Head of the Police Propam Division Ferdy Sambo, to reduce his sentence from death penalty to life imprisonment, and the cassation verdict became inkracht or legally binding (VOA, August 2023). The reason is that Indonesia itself is going towards a moratorium on death penalty, by reducing death penalty to life imprisonment (Nella Sumika Putri, in VOA, August 2023).

Analysis Based on DNA

The DNA that has been carried out in the Information category has an aspect, information about news of the Ferdy Sambo case with a total of 24 statements. Most of the actors, who gave the statements came from the police, and this can be understood because the police officers who were present at the trials conveyed how the chronology of the incident occurred.

DNA on News of the Ferdy Sambo Case in Kompas.com. The research found that 14 news articles are related to the media coverage of the Ferdy Sambo case. From 14 news articles, there are 80 statements, 12 actors, and 4 categories based on the concept of statements that are widely reported, namely information, statements, decisions and laws.

DNA Information Category of News of the Ferdy Sambo Case on Kompas.com. DNA of the information category of news of the Ferdy Sambo case on Kompas.com, found as many as 24 statements on the visualization aspect of network patterns between actors on the information aspect made on various information found from the statements of various actors which are then visualized using Visone as can be seen in Figure 3 below:

Figure 3. Category Network by Actor on Ferdy Sambo's News Information Statement
(Source: Researcher’s data processing results, 2023)

Figure 3 shows the connecting lines among white rhombus nodes. Green line means the actor responded positively to the statement on news of the Ferdy Sambo case. There are six actors giving positive statements in this category: (1) Wahyu Iman Sentosa, (2) Aji Febrianto Ar Rasyid, (3) Susi, (4) Arman Hanis, (5) Ma'ruf Amin, and (6) Trimedya Panjaitan. Blue line means that the actor responded neutrally to the statement on news of the Ferdy Sambo case. There are three actors giving negative statements: (1) Ahmad Ramadhan, (2) Ahmad Aron Muhtaram, and (3) Bobby Rahmad.

The visualization of the organizational network is represented by a white circle as can be seen in Figure 4:
Figure 4. Category Network by Organization on Information Statement Regarding News of the Ferdy Sambo Case
Source: Results of Researcher Analysis, 2023

Figure 4 shows the number of white circles, which symbolize the organization is 6. The number is different from that of the actors because there are two actors in the same organization. This is because the actors come from different organizations, meaning that news of the Ferdy Sambo case is responded to by many parties, most of whom come from the police. The frequency of statements given by the actors can be seen in the following graph:

Figure 5. Frequency Chart of Person Type of Actor Statement
(Source: Researcher Data Results, 2023)

Figure 5 shows the actors who gave the most statements in this category are Susi, Ferdy Sambo's domestic helper and Ahmad Aron, the prosecutor, who gave 5 statements each. Susi testified as a witness about what happened at the time of Brigadier J's murder. During the trial, Susi gave a number of testimonies about Sambo and Putri's household, including the events that occurred at the house in Magelang the day before the shooting of Brigadier J occurred. However, during the trial, the Chief Justice was repeatedly confused because Susi's testimony changed and lied a lot. One of the things revealed by Susi was during Sambo and Putri's wedding anniversary celebration two days before the incident. Susi saw that there was no commotion. Susi admitted that she did not know anything about the shooting that occurred at Ferdy Sambo's house in the Duren Tiga, South Jakarta.

The judge asked the prosecutor to present Susi in every trial process because Susi was considered important to explore the motive behind the murder of Brigadier J. The judge also threatened to process Susi criminally if she was proven to have given false testimony. Another statement was delivered by
Ahmad Aron regarding the exception hearing of objection that discussed the premeditated murder committed by Sambo. The prosecutor briefly described the premeditated murder committed by Richard, Ricky, Sambo and Putri. Statements in this information category are mostly found in Kompas.com on October 17, 2022 with Headlines: Lawyer Mentions Ferdy Sambo Immediately Reads Exception to Prosecutor's Indictment.

**DNA Categories of statements considered ineffective from news coverage of the Ferdy Sambo case on Kompas.com.** The second category is statements considered ineffective. DNA analysis conducted by researchers from the 'Statement' category: There are 29 statements on the aspect of visualizing network patterns between actors on the aspect of statements rated ineffective, as shown in Figure 6.

![Person x Category Network](image)

**Figure 6.** Category Network According to Actors on Statements Rated Ineffective  
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

There are 7 connecting lines between white rhombus nodes that symbolize actors, the red color means that the actor responds negatively to news of the Fredy Sambo case. The actors are: (1) Arman Hanis, (2) Bobby Rahmad, (3) Susi, (4) Wahyu Iman Sentosa, (5) Irwan Irawan, (6) Ahmad Aron, (7) Sarmauli Simangunsong, and (8) Ferdy Sambo. The visualization of the organizational network is shown as a white circle as can be seen in Figure 7:

![Organizational Category Network](image)

**Figure 7.** Organizational Category Network on Statements Rated Ineffective  
(Source: Researcher's data, 2023)

Figure 7 shows the number of white circles representing 6 circles of organizations. The number is different from that of actors, because there are two actors in the same organization. There are several actors from various organizations, meaning that news of the Ferdy Sambo case was responded to by
many parties and most of them came from the police. The frequency of statements given by the actors is shown in the following graph:

**Figure 8.** Graph of Frequency of Statements Rated Ineffective Person Type of Actor
(Source: Researcher's data, 2023)

Figure 8 shows that the actor who gave the most statements in this category was Sambo with 13 statements, mostly about self-defense for the alleged premeditated murder of Brigadier J. In the pledoi hearing, Sambo felt that he had been judged from various accusations, as if he was the biggest criminal in history before the judges decided. Sambo felt that he has no slightest space to present a defense. Sambo almost lost his right as a defendant to an objective examination. Sambo admitted that he was involved in the killing of Brigadier J, but the killing was brief due to emotion. In this pledoi hearing, Sambo asked the judges to acquit himself of all charges in the alleged murder of Brigadier J. Through his lawyer Arman Hanis, Sambo asked the judges to declare his innocence.

This category statement is mostly found in the Kompas.com on January 25, 2023 with the Headline: "Futile Defense", When Sambo Desperately Accused of Being the Greatest Criminal in History. Through DNA analysis, there is one aspect in it, the statements that are considered ineffective, delivered by actors related to news of the Ferdy Sambo case with a total of 28 statements. As many as 7 statements represent the counter and 1 statement is neutral.

**DNA Categories of Decisions to Follow Up on the News Coverage of the Ferdy Sambo Case.**
The third is the decisions Followed up. DNA analysis conducted by researchers for the 'Decision' category, there are 16 statements that will visualize the network patterns among actors in the aspect of decisions conveyed related to news of the Ferdy Sambo case through Visone as in Figure 9:

**Figure 9.** Category Network by Actor on Decision Statements Related to the News Coverage of the Ferdy Sambo Case
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

There are 3 actors giving positive statements, symbolized by green lines: (1) Dedi Prasetyo, (2) Ahmad Ramadhan, and (3) Ahmad Aron. There are also 2 connecting lines between white rhombus nodes symbolizing actors responding to statements neutrally, meaning that these actors provide
different agreements in several statements: (1) Andi Rian and (2) Wahyu Iman Sentosa. Organizational Network Visualization is denoted by a white circle, as shown in Figure 10.

**Figure 10.** Category Network Towards the Organization on Decision Statements Regarding News Coverage of Ferdy Sambo Case  
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

Figure 10, White circles representing organizations, there are 5 circles, which are the same as the number of actors. Judging from the organizational origin of the actors who gave this 'decision' statement, most of them came from the police. Frequency of decision statements given by the actors can be seen in the following chart:

**Figure 11.** Frequency Chart of Person of Type Decision Statement  
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

In Figure 11, the actor who made the most statements in this category was Wahyu Iman Sentosa, the Chief Justice, with 8 statements, regarding the indictment prepared by the prosecutor against the defendant for premeditated murder. Sambo objected to the indictment. According to Judge Wahyu, the prosecutor had described in detail the crime scene. The indictment against Sambo clearly outlined the crime committed by the defendant, when and where the crime was committed, and the motivation that drove the defendant to commit the crime. Judge Wahyu rejected all of the memorandum of objections submitted by Sambo and his legal counsel.

Statements in this category are mostly found on Kompas.com news on October 26, 2022 with Headlines: Ferdy Sambo's Interim Verdict: Indictment is Systematic and Clear, Exception Waived.

**DNA on Law Category of News Coverage of Ferdy Sambo Case on Kompas.com.** Article 340 of the Criminal Code provides death penalty for the crime of terrorism. The article stipulates that anybody who intentionally and with coercion commits an act that causes great harm to the state or society is subject to death penalty. The death penalty in article 340 of the Criminal Code is only applied to any
act committed intentionally, with coercion and with clear evidence through a fair and proper court process.

Based on DNA analysis of the 'Law' category as shown in Figure 12, there are 9 statements on this aspect with a visualization of the network pattern between actors on the aspect of Punishment given to the suspect, visualized using Visone as shown in Figure 12 below:

![Person x Category Network](image1.png)

**Figure 12.** Category Network According to Actors on the Statement Punishment given to suspects (Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

In Figure 12: all connecting lines between rhombus nodes are white. green lines mean that the actor responded positively to the statements in news of the Ferdy Sambo case, namely Aji Febrianto. There are 3 rhombus nodes with red lines, which means that the actors responded negatively to the statements in this category, namely: (1) Wahyu Iman Sentosa, (2) Dedi Prasetyo, and (3) Ahmad Aron. The visualization of the organizational network is expressed in white circle, as seen in Figure 13 below:

![Organization x Category Network](image2.png)

**Figure 13.** Category Network by Organization on the Statement Punishment given to suspects (Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

Figure 13, the number of white circles representing the organization is 4, which is equal to the number of actors. the actors come from the police, trying to explain the punishment that will be meted out to the defendant. The frequency of statements given by the actors can be seen in the following chart:
In this category there were nine statements. The actor who gave the most statements in this category was Ahmad Aron, the Public Prosecutor, with five statements, with the category: premeditated murder committed by Eliezer, Sambo, Putri, Ricky, and Kuat who allegedly violated Article 340 of the Criminal Code subsidiary to Article 338 of the Criminal Code jo Article 55 Paragraph (1) to the 1st Criminal Code jo Article 56 to the 1st Criminal Code, a crime punishable by up to death penalty. life imprisonment or 20 years in prison. However, the prosecutor specifically accused Sambo of being involved in obstruction of justice, and charged him with violating Article 48 in conjunction with Article 33 in subsidiary to Article 48 Paragraph (1) in conjunction with Article 32 Paragraph (1) of the ITE Law Number 19 of 2016 and Article 233 of the Criminal Code in subsidiary to Article 221 Paragraph (1) to 2 in conjunction with Article 55 of the Criminal Code. Statements in this category are mostly published on Kompas.com on November 08, 2022 with Headline; Trial of Ferdy Sambo and Putri Candrawathi, 10 Witnesses Presented. DNA results that have been carried out in the Punishment category resulted in 9 statements, including 1 pro statement and 3 counter statements.

Network Patterns of the News Coverage of the Ferdy Sambo Case on Kompas.com from DNA using Visone. Visone analysis allows visualization and analysis of the network structure of a network data set as exported from DNA software. Visualization analysis using visone is divided into 3 parts, namely Agreement, Disagreement, and Combined. Agreement or statements with an agree/positive tone from the actors, as shown in the following visualization:

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**Figure 14.** Frequency Chart of Person Type of Actor Statement
(Source: Results of Researchers, 2023)
The network of statements that agree/positive with the reporting of the Ferdy Sambo case is denoted by a green line. There are 3 light blue square nodes, meaning there are 3 categories of positive statements, namely: (1) the following up decision, (2) Information about news of the Ferdy Sambo case and (3) Punishment to the defendant. Meanwhile, the form of the statement can be seen in Figure 16:

Figure 15. Category Network of Agreement Statements from Personal and Network Categories (Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>id</th>
<th>statement</th>
<th>type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahmad Aron</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmad Ramadhan</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aji Febrianto</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andi Rian</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arman Hanis</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobby Rahmad</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedi Prasetyo</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ma'ruf Amin</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susi</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trimedya Panjaitan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wahyu Iman Sentosa</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 16. Atribute Manager Table Data on Visone (Agreement) (Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results 2023)

The most positive statements came from Wahyu Iman Sentosa as the Chief Justice with 6 statements. The second statement Disagreement from the actors, is shown in Figure 17 below:
Figure 17. Disagreement Statement Category Network
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

Figure 17 shows the network of disapproving statements on the reporting of the Ferdy Sambo case, as symbolized by a red line. There are 4 light blue square nodes, meaning that there are 4 categories of disagreement with the news coverage of the Ferdy Sambo case. The statement categories are: (1) Information about news of the Ferdy Sambo case, (2) follow up decision, (3) Punishment given to the defendant, and (4) ineffective statement.

The data from Visone's Atribute Manager shows the actors, who gave negative statements and the number of statements as shown in figure 18:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>id</th>
<th>class</th>
<th>statement/frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>id</td>
<td>class</td>
<td>statement/frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>id</td>
<td>class</td>
<td>statement/frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>id</td>
<td>class</td>
<td>statement/frequency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>id</td>
<td>class</td>
<td>statement/frequency</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 18. Attribute Manager Table Data on Visone (Disagreement)
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results 2023)
Figure 18: there are 11 actors giving negative statements: (1) Ahmad Aron with 13 statements; (2) Ahmad Ramadhan with 3 statements; (3) Andi Rian with 1 statement; (4) Arman Hanis with 2 statements; (5) Bobby Rahmad with 3 statements; (6) Dedi Prasetyo with 2 statements; (7) Ferdy Sambo with 14 statements; (8) Irwan Irawan with 1 statement; (9) Sarmauli Simangunsong with 3 statements; (10) Susi with 3 statements; and (11) Wahyu Iman Sentosa with 6 statements.

The third network visualization is a combination of sentiments about news of the Ferdy Sambo case. Categories are denoted by light blue square nodes, actors are denoted by white rhombus nodes, and organizations are denoted by white circle nodes, as follows:

Figure 19. Combined Statement Category Network
(Source: Researcher's Result, 2023)

Figure 19 shows the category network pattern by actor (person x category) and the category network by organization (organization x category) have almost the same pattern. The green line represents a positive statement, the red line represents a negative statement, and the blue line represents a neutral statement. There are 14 actor nodes, 13 organization nodes, and 4 aspect statement nodes.

Data taken from the Attribute Manager Visoe table shows actors who gave neutral statements as shown in Figure 20:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actor</th>
<th>Statement Frequency</th>
<th>Type</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ahmad Aron Multaram</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmad Ramadhan</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aji Febrianto Ar Rasyid</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andi Rian</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arman Hanis</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bobby Rahmad</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedi Prasetyo</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ferdy Sambo</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Irwan Irawan</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ma'ruf Arif</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarmauli Simangunsong</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Susi</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wahyu Iman Sentosa</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>(no value)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Figure 20. Attribute Manager Data on Visone (Combined)
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

Figure 20, 14 actors gave negative statements, namely: (1) Ahmad Aron with 17 statements; (2) Ahmad Ramadhan with 5 statements; (3) Aji Febrianto with 5 statements; (4) Andi Rian with 2 statements; (5) Arman Hanis with 3 statements; (6) Bobby Rahmad with 4 statements; (7) Dedi Prasetyo with 4 statements; (8) Sambo with 14 statements; (9) Irwan Irawan with 1 statement; (10) Sarmauli Simangunsong with 3 statements; (11) Susi with 8 statements; (12) Wahyu Iman Sentosa with 12 statements; (13) Ma'ruf Amin with 1 statement; and (14) Trimedya Panjaitan with 1 statement. On the
positive side, there were 11 actors giving statements with a total of 29 statements and on the negative side there were 11 actors giving statements with a total of 51 statements. The comparison is visualized in Figure 21:

![Figure 21. The comparison Sentiment](Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results 2023)

In Figure 21, the blue circle side represents the positive statement side which makes up 35% of total statements, while the red circle represents the negative statement which makes up 65%. From this visualization, it can be understood that Negative statements regarding news of the Ferdy Sambo case is more dominant than Positive statements.

All actors in the news of the Ferdy Sambo case on the Kompas.com online are Ahmad Ramadhan, Ahmad Aron, Aji Febrianto, Andi Rian, Arman Hanis, Bobby Rahmad, Dedi Prasetyo, Ferdy Sambo, Irwan Irawan, Sarmauli Simangunsong, Susi, and Wahyu Iman. In the network pattern of actors by organization, there are 14 actors symbolized by rhombus nodes providing statements related to news of the Ferdy Sambo case as shown in Figure 22 below:

![Figure 22. Actor Network by Organization](Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

In Figure 22, the visualization of the actor network by organization comes in the form of a straight line, meaning that the actors giving statements about news of the Ferdy Sambo case came from the Police, so it is believed that their statements are based on knowledge and evidence. The frequency graph of the Person type of actor statement shows the actor who gave the most statements is shown in Figure 23:
Figure 23. Frequency Chart of Person of Type (General) Statement  
(Source: Researcher's Data Processing Results, 2023)

Figure 23 shows the actors who gave the most statements were Ahmad Aron Muhtaram as the Public Prosecutor with 17 statements, Sambo with 14 statements and Wahyu Iman Sentosa with 12 statements. The number of actor nodes is different from that of organizational nodes because there are two actors in the same organization. This means that news of the Ferdy Sambo case triggered many organizations to respond to and have opinions on the case.

Conclusion
The results of the research based on Agenda Setting Theory, through Media Agenda analysis, show that Kompas.com has emphasized the Ferdy Sambo case, which has become a cause for concern among the Indonesian people. This is reinforced by the convergence between mainstream mass media and social media. Mass media becomes a reference after social media coverage due to the role of gatekeepers; from the Public Agenda side, news of the Ferdy Sambo case, both through mainstream media such as Kompas. The Ferdy Sambo case is very popular in social media and mass media; from the Policy Agenda side. The majority of the Indonesian people expected that Sambo would be sentenced to death, however, the sentence was commuted to life imprisonment after Sambo decided to appeal for the cassation of trial. The verdict against Sambo shows the correlation among media agenda, public agenda and policy agenda.

DNA analysis showed that there were 14 news articles with 80 statements from 12 actors. From the 14 news, there are categories of information, statements, decisions and laws, with 29 positive statements and 51 negative statements. Network visualization using Visone found that the actors giving the most statements were Ahmad Aron Muhtaram as the Public Prosecutor with 17 statements, Sambo with 14 statements, and Chief Justice Wahyu Iman Santoso with 12 statements.

References


Efendi, Erwan; Taufiqurrohman, Abdilah; Supriadi, Tris; & Kuswananda, Eki. 2023. ‘Teori Agenda Setting’, *Jurnal Pendidikan Tambusai*, 7(1), 1715-1718. DOI: https://doi.org/10.31004/jptam.v7i1.6050


