

Journalistic Objectivity: Online Media Reporting on 3 Presidential Candidates 2024 Presidential Election Contestants

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ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the journalistic activities of online media in covering three candidates for the 2024 presidential election in Indonesia. Employing a qualitative research approach with qualitative data analysis software, the research draws data from reputable online media sources in Indonesia. Findings reveal that, based on nine indicators of journalistic objectivity, Detik.com and Kompas.com exhibit differing patterns. Detik.com scores highest in factuality, with a percentage of 18%, while Kompas.com reaches 16%. Conversely, Detik.com's lowest indicator is justice at 3%, and Kompas.com's is honesty at 6%. Notably, honesty scores relatively low across both platforms. Regarding coverage focus, Detik.com tends to prioritize Ganjar Pranowo, whereas Kompas.com allocates attention to Ganjar Pranowo and Prabowo Subianto. Additionally, Detik.com's news narrative predominantly emphasizes survey results, while Kompas.com delves more into the ideas, vision, and mission of the presidential candidates. These findings underscore variations in journalistic objectivity and coverage trends between Detik.com and Kompas.com in informing the public about the 2024 presidential election

Keywords: Online Media, Journalistic Objectivity, Election

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis aktivitas jurnalistik media online dalam pemberitaan 3 kandidat Pilpres 2024 di Indonesia. Dalam penelitian ini, metode yang digunakan adalah metode penelitian kualitatif dengan pendekatan Perangkat Lunak Analisis Data Kualitatif. Sumber data riset ini meliputi Media Online bereputasi di Indonesia. Temuan penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Detik.com dan Kompas.com dilihat dari 9 indikator objektivitas jurnalistik, persentase tertinggi adalah faktualitas, persentase Detik.com mencapai 18% dan Kompas.com mencapai 16%, sedangkan persentase terendah dalam Detik.com yaitu keadilan mencapai 3%, Kompas.com yaitu kejujuran, kejujuran dan keadilan masing-masing mencapai 6%. Persentase rendah pada kejujuran. Tren pemberitaan media online terhadap ketiga calon presiden tersebut, Detik.com cenderung memberikan fokus yang lebih besar kepada Ganjar Pranowo, sementara Kompas.com memberikan perhatian yang merata antara Ganjar Pranowo dan Prabowo Subianto. Kemudian, narasi berita di Detik.com lebih menekankan pada hasil survei, sedangkan Kompas.com lebih memperhatikan gagasan serta visi dan misi capres. Temuan tentang objektivitas jurnalistik dan tren pemberitaan media online menunjukkan variasi antara Detik.com dan Kompas.com dalam memberikan informasi kepada publik terkait Pilpres 2024.

Kata Kunci: Media Online, Objektivitas Jurnalistik, Pemilu

INTRODUCTION

The forthcoming 2024 presidential election in Indonesia has emerged as a pivotal subject extensively covered by mass media outlets. This heightened focus is evident in the proliferation of news articles dedicated to the election, as well as the establishment of specialized sections within online media platforms dedicated to presidential election coverage. The presence of such dedicated sections underscores the considerable news value attributed to this topic, as outlined by de Maeyer (2020), wherein news stories are deemed noteworthy based on criteria such as power elite, relevance, conflict, novelty, negativity, impact, proximity, and personalization (Giomelakis, 2023). Notable Indonesian online media outlets, including Detik.com, Kompas.com, Tempo.com, Tribuntimur.com, and cnnindonesia.com, have introduced dedicated sections or rubrics specifically catering to coverage of the 2024 presidential election. This concerted effort by online media platforms underscores the significance of the election within the public discourse.

The dissemination of information regarding the presidential election on social media platforms further amplifies its reach and impact. Social media serves as a primary source of news and political information for many individuals (Brigas et al., 2023). The discussions and debates sparked by political content on social media are often influenced by traditional mass media channels, including print, electronic, and online media. Mass media outlets, functioning as information hubs (Kim et al., 2023), primary sources of information (Anwar et al., 2020), and conduits of information (Damurski et al., 2023), wield significant influence over public opinion concerning the presidential election (McHale, 2019), shaping attitudes, mindsets, and opinions (Koivunen-Niemi & Masoodian, 2020).

The extent of online media coverage regarding the 2024 presidential election holds significant sway over the audience, potentially yielding both positive and negative outcomes. On one hand, such coverage serves as a vital conduit for disseminating information, enabling the public to make informed electoral decisions. However, it also carries the risk of fostering antagonism among supporters of different candidates. The impact of media reporting on an issue, whether beneficial or detrimental, hinges on various factors, including the media's ideological orientation, reporting objectives, and adherence to journalistic norms.

Media outlets' ideological inclinations and underlying purposes profoundly influence their coverage of the presidential election. Ethical considerations, as outlined in the Code of Journalistic Ethics, stipulate the necessity for balanced and factual reporting, devoid of bias or the mingling of fact and opinion (M. Romli, 2018). However, media entities may harbor ulterior motives, such as aligning with specific candidates due to ownership affiliations or financial interests. Moreover, the content of news articles can significantly shape their impact, with the absence of sensationalism being pivotal in averting societal discord.

The influence wielded by online media over its readership is substantial, underscoring the imperative for conscientious reporting practices. Upholding objectivity, as mandated by journalistic ethics, is paramount in ensuring the integrity and credibility of news coverage (Carlson, 2019). Objective reporting necessitates journalists' neutrality, impartiality, and commitment to accuracy. In essence, news content must adhere to stringent criteria of truth, encompassing relevance and comprehensiveness (Singer et al., 2023). Neutrality and impartiality represent universally recognized professional standards within journalistic cultures worldwide (Ojala, 2021), serving to engender fairness and balance in news dissemination (Benham, 2020). The centrality of objectivity in news reporting serves as a litmus test for evaluating the impartiality of online media coverage pertaining to the 2024 presidential election.

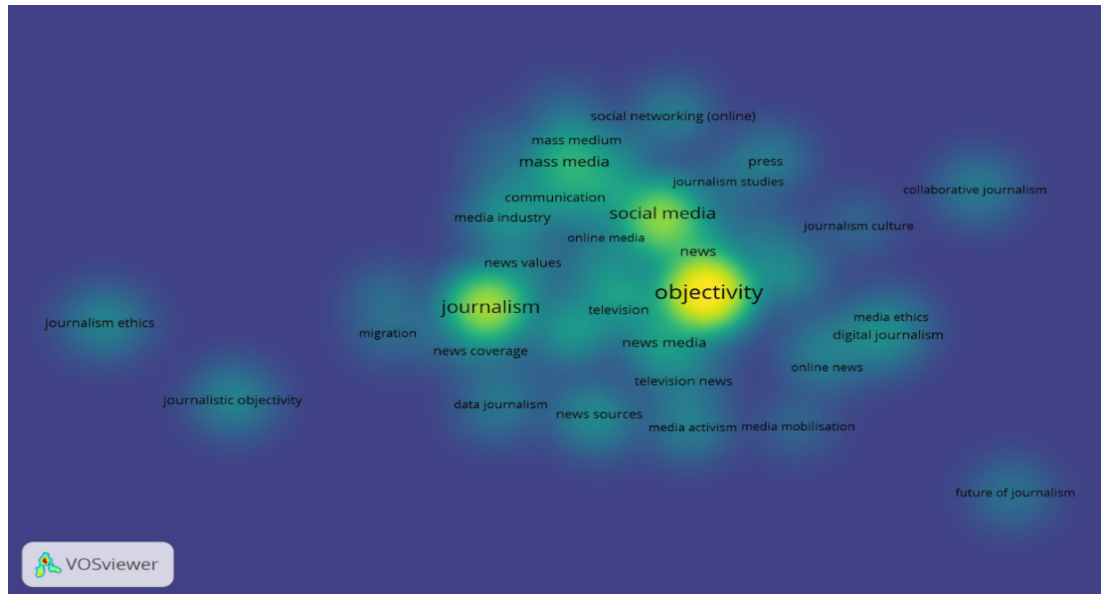


Figure 1: Novelty Research

Source: Processed Author Data Using VOSviewer (2023)

The illustration above underscores the continued need for research on journalistic objectivity, revealing a dearth of comprehensive reviews in this domain. Several studies have contributed to this discourse, shedding light on various facets of objectivity in journalism. Borger, van Hoof, and Sanders (2019) conducted research on objectivity and diversity in participatory journalism, revealing a notable absence of analysis on participatory journalism content. Their findings suggest that reporting tends to be subjective, with limited diversity in news sources and values. Furthermore, Mabrook (2021) examined objectivity in VR journalism, uncovering differing perspectives among VR content producers and a growing acceptance of VR as a subjective medium. Ojala (2021) explored the relationship between journalistic neutrality standards and audience trust in news media, revealing challenges faced by mainstream journalism in providing equal representation to all political organizations and viewpoints, particularly during periods of heightened ideological competition. Al-Rikabia and Kadhimb (2020) investigated impartiality and neutrality in broadcasting discourse on BBC News and Al-Jazeera English, finding deficiencies in objectivity and neutrality among reporters at these outlets.

On the other hand, Mont'Alverne et al. (2023) examined audience perceptions of justice and balance in news reporting across four countries, highlighting widespread acceptance and abstraction of balanced news knowledge among audiences. However, they noted a lack of consensus on what constitutes ineptitude in practice. The concept of journalistic objectivity has long been a subject of scrutiny. Despite ongoing debates, objectivity remains a fundamental value in journalism, particularly in the United States, where it is considered a key professional standard (Schmidt, 2023; Møller Hartley & Askanius, 2021). Journalists uphold norms of accuracy and impartiality by adhering to established resource practices and verifying data (Aitamurto et al., 2019). Objectivity, as Schmidt (2023) notes, involves employing investigative methods to ensure impartial and unbiased factual reporting. Ultimately, journalistic objectivity embodies a commitment to honesty and fairness, wherein journalists refrain from taking sides and strive to present facts impartially, irrespective of personal views or preferences (Lowery, 2020).

This collection of studies underscores the ongoing discourse surrounding journalistic objectivity, emphasizing its significance in maintaining the credibility and integrity of journalism. Objective journalism is balanced reporting, based on "facts", and "fair", taking context into account but excluding the journalist's own opinion.

Objective journalism, as characterized by Thomas (2022), embodies a commitment to facts and evidence, underpinned by journalist indifference. In the contemporary landscape marked by modernization and increasing societal divisions in politics, business, and journalism, it functions as a normative standard (Anderson & Schudson, 2019). Another pivotal role of journalistic objectivity lies

in its emphasis on the reality of events, guiding journalists throughout the news preparation, writing, and transmission process (Ezedike et al., 2019). Elliott (2020) delineates accuracy, completeness, and logical consistency as crucial criteria for assessing objectivity, while Panievsky (2021) identifies balance, impartiality, and fairness as its key components. According to B. et al. (2023), achieving journalistic objectivity necessitates adherence to standards encompassing accuracy, fairness, neutrality, detachment, balance, impartiality, honesty, factuality, and contextual framing.

Accuracy, the provision of precise and correct information, involves presenting facts such as numbers, names, and statements accurately and precisely. Justice requires fair treatment of all parties involved in a dispute, ensuring consistency in factors like word choice, fact usage, and source selection. Neutrality aims to present facts and issues devoid of subjective opinions or embellishments that may sway interpretations. Detachment seeks to avoid implying extraneous information not intrinsic to the facts.

Balance entails providing equitable and unbiased coverage to all stakeholders, even in conflict situations. Impartiality mandates the unbiased presentation of facts without favoring any party. Honesty entails earnestly stating known facts, while factuality demands presenting information without embellishment. Contextual framing establishes the relevance and significance of facts within a broader framework, providing a comprehensive understanding of pertinent issues (B. et al., 2023).

Cyber, internet, and web journalism represent the evolution of media into digital platforms, constituting a "new generation" following traditional broadcast and print journalism (M.Romli, 2018). Online or cyber journalism, as Sudhandradevi & Bhuvanewari (2022) describe, is the next iteration of internet journalism, where news content is produced and distributed through internet media platforms (Jusuf & Sari, 2023). Garifullin et al. (2018) note that online journalism encompasses the collection, compilation, and distribution of news content using digital platforms, leveraging internet connectivity to link computer networks and websites containing multimedia elements such as text, video, audio, and photos.

The first hallmark of online media is its multimodality, facilitating the simultaneous presentation of various forms of content such as text, voice, video, graphics, images, and news updates. Second, immediacy: Online media swiftly delivers real-time information, ensuring its timeliness and accessibility. Third, promptness: Content becomes instantly available to a global audience upon upload or publication. Fourth, Updateability: Editorial revisions, including the rectification of typographical or spelling errors, can be efficiently executed. Notably, errors are comparatively less frequent in Internet media than in print media. Additionally, information dissemination is continual. Fifth, extensive storage capacity: Online platforms can accommodate lengthy scripts and extensive data on web pages. Sixth, adaptability: Publication schedules and content can be modified at will, allowing for dynamic updates and editing. Seventh, universality: Online media caters to a diverse global audience with internet connectivity. Eighth, interactivity: Interactive features such as chat rooms and comment sections foster engagement with the content. All documented data are systematically archived in digital repositories, accessed through features such as search, related articles, and hyperlinks. This interconnectedness, or hyperlinked nature, ensures that material is linked to other relevant sources (M. Romli, 2018).

Online media offers several advantages: Firstly, it ensures up-to-date information dissemination, presenting news and information in a concise and accessible manner. Secondly, it provides real-time access to information, enabling the prompt conveyance of news as events unfold, directly to editorial desks. Thirdly, it offers valuable information accessible anytime and anywhere (Hutami & Sjafirah, 2019). Moreover, the remarkable benefits of internet-based media include expedited news delivery without temporal or spatial constraints (Firdous et al., 2022). The advent of online media has spurred significant changes, notably the convergence of print and electronic media (e.g., radio and television) into web platforms offering news services and visual content (Sudhandradevi & Bhuvanewari, 2022). In Indonesia, traditional print and electronic media outlets such as Kompas and Tribun Timur have transitioned from print formats to online platforms, including news portals, YouTube channels, social media, and e-papers, reflecting technological advancements and the ubiquity of the internet.

Due to the public trust inherent in media ownership, online journalism bears several responsibilities in reporting. Firstly, it holds a paramount social responsibility. Secondly, it must exercise self-regulation to uphold media freedom, ensuring that the press remains truthful, accurate, fair, factual, and relevant. Thirdly, adherence to a code of ethics and professional conduct is imperative. Lastly, governmental intervention may be warranted in the public interest under specific circumstances (Susanto et al., 2020). The responsibilities of online media, particularly in Indonesia, are delineated in Press Law No. 40 of 1999, the Code of Journalistic Ethics (KEJ), and cyber media guidelines.

An analysis of previous research indicates a predominant focus on objectivity and diversity in participatory journalism, the correlation between audience trust in the news media and journalistic neutrality, as well as audience distrust of the media. This underscores the challenges faced by mainstream media in ensuring fair representation of all political organizations and viewpoints amidst growing ideological competition. The novelty of this research lies in its examination of the journalistic objectivity of Detik.com and Kompas.com in their coverage of the 2024 presidential election, particularly through dedicated rubrics related to the election. The allocation of special space for this issue signifies its high news value. News value encompasses criteria used in journalism to evaluate the relevance of a story. This study aims to investigate: First, the extent of journalistic objectivity in reporting on the three presidential election candidates in 2024. Second, trends in online media reporting. Third, the narrative employed by online media in covering news events.

METHODS

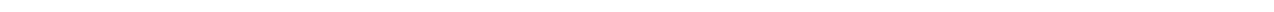
The research methodology employed in this study is qualitative, utilizing a QDAS (Qualitative Data Analysis Software) approach. The objective is to systematically, factually, and accurately describe the data obtained from news texts produced by the media. The data sources for this study comprise online media content and previous research pertaining to journalistic objectivity. Data collection is facilitated through the Ncapture feature integrated within Nvivo 12 Plus software. Ncapture is a web browser extension designed to capture various forms of web content, including website content, social media posts, scientific articles, and online articles. This enables the inclusion of media sources as data points in the study..

Table 1. Online Media

No.	News Name	Website	Total
1	Detik.com	https://www.detik.com/	50
2	Kompas.com	https://www.kompas.com/	50

(source: Processed Author Data, 2023)

The table above illustrates the author's analysis of two online media platforms. The selection of these platforms was based on their representation in research, as both are among the top 15 best online media outlets in Indonesia, as determined by a survey conducted by Alexa.com. Among the top 15 outlets, four were identified as discussing the three 2024 Presidential Candidates in Indonesia during the period of November 14, 2023, to December 20, 2023. Furthermore, the author chose these two specific online media platforms due to their dedicated rubric addressing the 2024 presidential election. The data analysis process conducted by the author is detailed as follows:



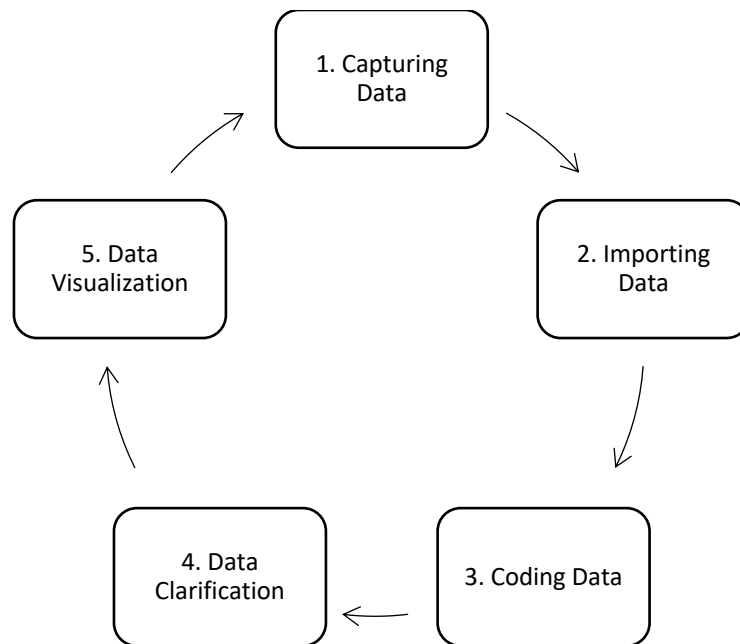


Figure 2. Stages of Data Analysis
Source: Processed Author Data, (2023)

The Data Analysis stage is carried out first by capturing data using the NCapture feature on the Nvivo12 Plus application in online media, then importing data into the Nvivo 12 Plus application. After the data has been entered in nvivo 12 plus, followed by data coding, the data coding results are calcified, and finally, the data is visualized for analysis.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Journalistic Objectivity in Reporting 3 Presidential Election 2024 Candidates

The 2024 presidential election in Indonesia stands as a focal point for the public, given the pivotal role of the head of state in executing state responsibilities (Murti & Rizkika, 2023). Amidst this fervent atmosphere, mass media plays a crucial role in disseminating information to the public (Tsymbal et al., 2020). However, the complexity of journalism raises a critical question regarding the preservation of journalistic objectivity in reporting on the three presidential candidates. Journalistic objectivity constitutes a foundational principle in the journalistic profession, mandating that journalists deliver news impartially, devoid of bias or personal inclinations (Mothes, 2017). Coverage of presidential candidates should embody a balanced representation of perspectives and information, empowering viewers to form informed opinions. This paper aims to scrutinize how journalistic objectivity manifests in the coverage of the three presidential candidates in the 2024 Presidential Election.

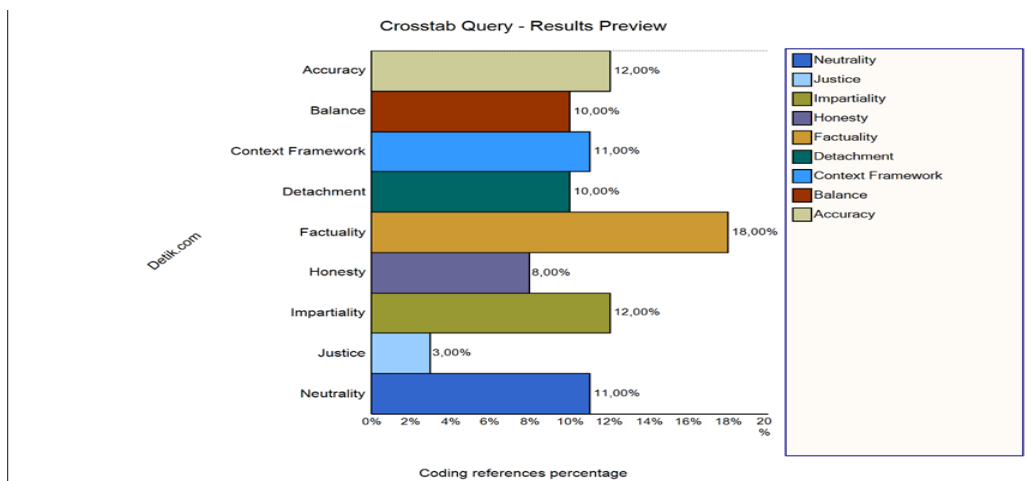


Figure 3: Overview of Media Objectivity in Detik.com
 Source: Processed Author Data Using Nvivo 12 Plus (2023)

The figure above illustrates the percentage distribution of each of the nine indicators utilized to evaluate objectivity in online media, specifically Detik.com. Notably, the highest proportion is attributed to factuality, accounting for 18%. This indicates that Detik.com's coverage of the three Presidential Candidates for the 2024 General Election predominantly presents factual data or narratives grounded in reality. Conversely, the indicator of justice exhibits the lowest percentage at approximately 3%, suggesting that Detik.com's news coverage of the three presidential candidates in the 2024 general election may not consistently afford each candidate the opportunity to address every issue or negative news they encounter.

This analysis underscores that while Detik.com tends to deliver fact-based reporting, there exists a potential imbalance in providing avenues for clarification, particularly regarding fairness indicators. Such imbalance could impede overall objectivity, as a report lacking in opportunities for clarification may engender an unbalanced perception of a presidential candidate. Hence, ongoing monitoring and assessment of various facets of objectivity in online media reporting remain imperative. Within the framework of democracy, the equilibrium between news reporting and the provision of clarification opportunities significantly influences public comprehension of presidential candidates (Hutchings, 2005). The diminished percentage on fairness indicators raises concerns regarding transparency and Detik.com's objectivity in affording equitable space to all involved parties.

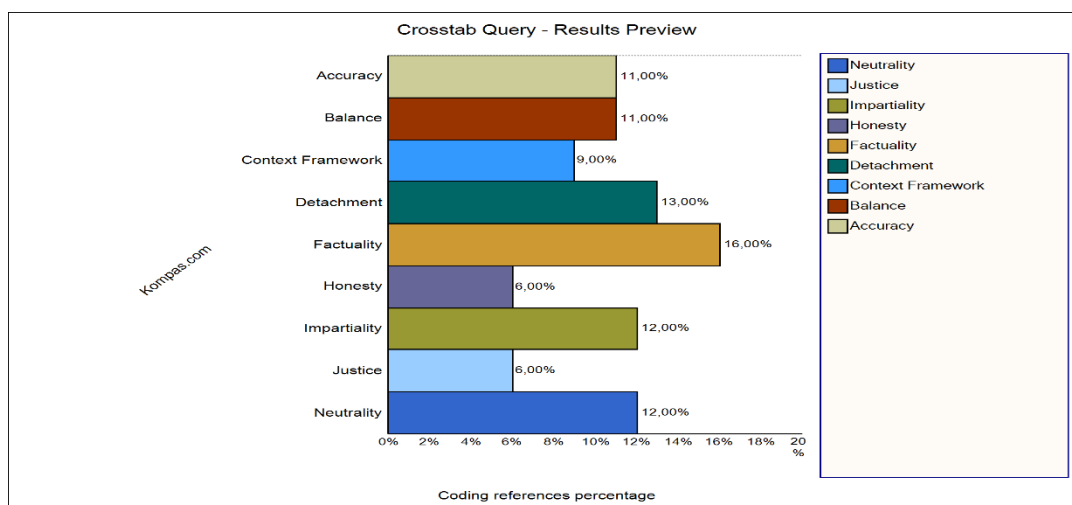


Figure 4: Overview of Meda Objectivity in Kompas.com
 Source: Processed Author Data Using Nvivo 12 Plus (2023)

In Figure 4, the data reveals that *kompas.com* exhibits the highest percentage in the Factual indicator, reaching 16%. Concurrently, Honestly and Justice indicators demonstrate the lowest percentages, each at 6%. This highlights that news related to the three presidential candidates for the 2024 General Election on *kompas.com* tends to be grounded in factual information reflecting reality. Such emphasis on factuality is commendable, given the significance of delivering accurate and accountable information to readers, particularly within a political landscape fraught with dynamism and sensitive issues (Giroux, 2018).

However, the prominence of factuality also suggests a potential under-prioritization of trending issues by *kompas.com*. Notably, the low percentages in the Honestly (6%) and Justice (6%) indicators are noteworthy. This may imply that *kompas.com* does not consistently prioritize addressing viral or controversial issues. The diminished percentage in Honestly suggests a possible lack of depth in engaging with honest viewpoints on matters of widespread concern. Furthermore, the reduced percentages in the Justice indicator indicate a potential inadequacy in providing presidential candidates with sufficient opportunities to address negative issues they encounter. This is crucial for upholding integrity and balance in political reporting.

Online Media Reporting Trends on 3 Presidential Candidates

The election of the President constitutes a pivotal moment in democratic governance, not only shaping the trajectory of state policy but also engendering intricate dynamics within the realm of media coverage (Perloff, 2021). Online media, serving as a significant conduit of information, wields considerable influence in shaping public opinion (Rice & Bucy, 2023). The 2024 General Election in Indonesia has garnered considerable attention, prompting an in-depth exploration of the trends in online media coverage surrounding the three presidential candidates vying for the presidency. Within the political landscape, online media functions not only as a purveyor of factual information but also as a determinant of public opinion (Jungherr et al., 2020). Political news trends in online media are frequently influenced by evolving social and political dynamics. The presidential election has been the focal point, with each candidate undergoing intense scrutiny from various quarters. Objective and balanced reporting serve as pivotal components in fostering a nuanced understanding amidst the intricacies of political discourse.

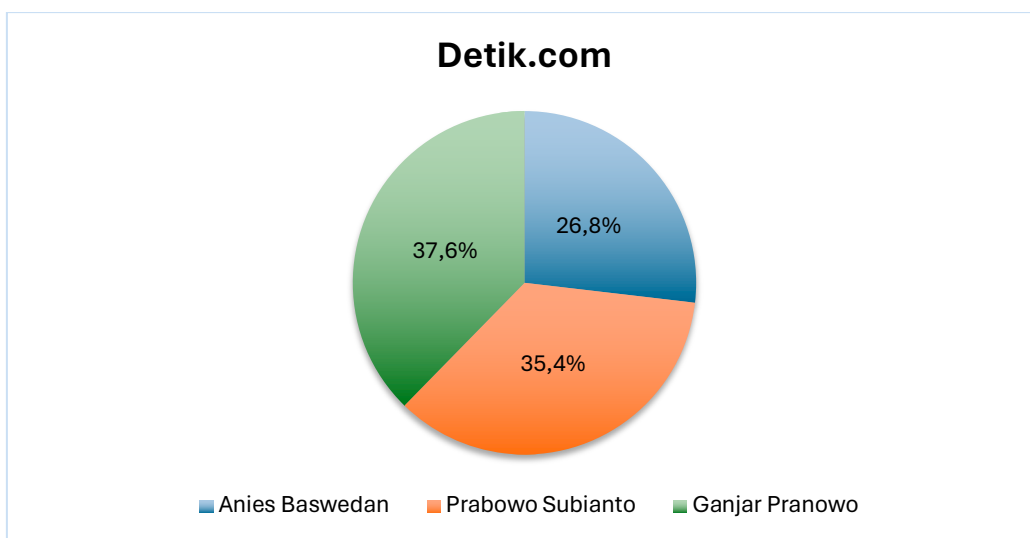


Figure 5: Percentage of news of three presidential candidates in Detik.com
Source: Processed Author Data Using Nvivo 12 Plus (2023)

In Figure 5, it is evident that *Detik.com* exhibits a tendency to report more on Presidential Candidate Ganjar Pranowo, comprising 37.6% of the coverage, followed by Prabowo Subianto at 35.4% and Anies Baswedan at 26.8%. Several issues discussed in *Detik.com* related to Ganjar Pranowo encompass the development of surveys over different periods and law enforcement issues in Indonesia. Concerning Anies Baswedan, topics discussed revolve around the first debate and survey results. Meanwhile,

coverage of Prabowo Subianto on Detik.com predominantly centers on the "one round" issue and the phenomenon referred to as "gemoy."

The high percentage of coverage dedicated to Ganjar Pranowo, particularly at 37.6%, suggests a media focus on developments and dynamics associated with this candidate. Coverage on Ganjar Pranowo encompasses crucial issues such as survey developments, indicating the media's intent to furnish current information regarding public sentiments towards Ganjar Pranowo. Additionally, the coverage addresses law enforcement matters in Indonesia, reflecting the media's interest in legal aspects relevant to the candidate.

Conversely, coverage of Anies Baswedan on Detik.com appears to concentrate more on the first debate and survey outcomes. This underscores the media's perception of the debate as a pivotal juncture in shaping public perceptions of Anies Baswedan. Moreover, survey results are highlighted, offering insights into the candidate's standing and support from the perspective of the community.

In the case of Prabowo Subianto, coverage revolves around the "one round" issue, reflecting debates surrounding the presidential election format. Additionally, the topic of "gemoy" pertains to specific phenomena or events capturing media attention.

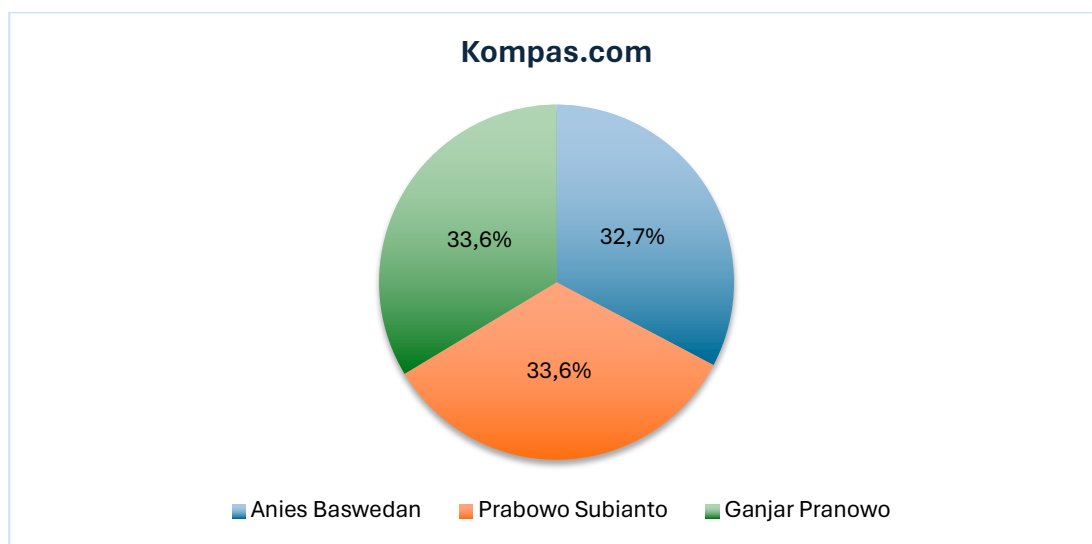


Figure 6: Percentage of news of three presidential candidates in Kompas.Com
Source: Processed Author Data Using Nvivo 12 Plus (2023)

In Figure 6, it is evident that Kompas.com tends to report equally on Presidential Candidates Ganjar Pranowo and Prabowo Subianto, each comprising 33.6% of the coverage, while Anies Baswedan's coverage stands at 26.8%. Various issues discussed on Kompas.com related to Ganjar Pranowo encompass his ideas, vision, and mission, whereas topics concerning Anies Baswedan pertain to the campaign period and the AMIN National Team. Conversely, coverage on Prabowo Subianto on Kompas.com predominantly revolves around the vice presidential candidates and debates.

The equal percentage of coverage dedicated to Ganjar Pranowo and Prabowo Subianto, both at 33.6%, indicates an evenly distributed focus of news coverage among the two main candidates. Ganjar Pranowo receives particular attention regarding his ideas, vision, and mission, offering readers a deeper understanding of his political platform and enabling them to form more substantial opinions regarding the programs he advocates.

Anies Baswedan's coverage, at 26.8%, emphasizes aspects of the campaign period and the AMIN National Team, highlighting the media's interest in the campaign process and the candidate's support base, as well as Anies Baswedan's involvement in social or national issues.

On the other hand, Prabowo Subianto, who receives the same percentage of coverage as Ganjar Pranowo, is the focal point of news related to vice presidential candidates and his participation in debates. Coverage of the vice presidential candidates is pivotal in understanding political dynamics, and reporting on Prabowo Subianto provides insights into his political structure and strategies.

Online Media News Narrative on 3 Presidential Candidates for the 2024 Presidential Election

The 2024 Presidential Election in Indonesia emerges as a central focal point, particularly within the realm of online media reporting narratives surrounding the three prominent presidential candidates: Ganjar Pranowo, Prabowo Subianto, and Anies Baswedan. In this era characterized by digital upheaval, online media assumes a pivotal role in shaping public opinion and orchestrating the dissemination of information (Scacco & Coe, 2021). Ganjar Pranowo, Prabowo Subianto, and Anies Baswedan each command substantial attention within online media reporting. The narratives constructed by online media coverage of these three presidential candidates mirror the intricate tapestry of Indonesia's political landscape leading up to the 2024 Presidential Election (Sumarni, 2023). Analyzing these narratives is imperative to ensure that the public is well-informed and equipped to formulate discerning and informed opinions (Sauyrbaeva et al., 2020).

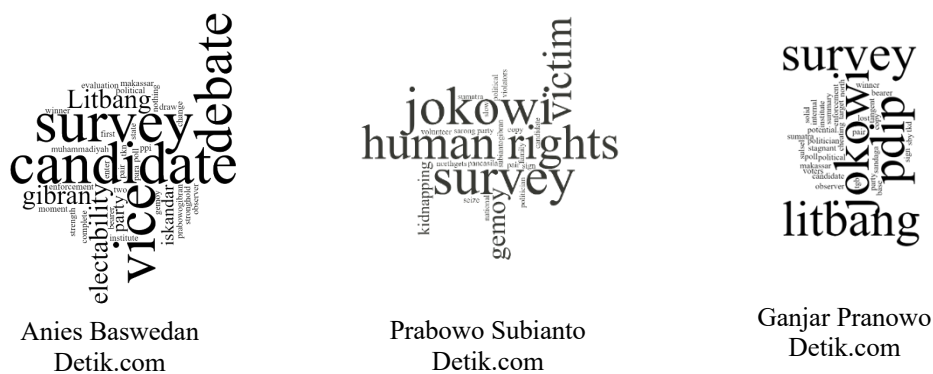


Figure 7: The most frequently discussed word frequency trends in Detik.com
Source: Processed Author Data Using Nvivo 12 Plus (2023)

The analysis of word frequencies in online media reports by Detik.com regarding the three presidential candidates—Anies Baswedan, Prabowo Subianto, and Ganjar Pranowo—reveals intriguing insights into the focus and narrative propagated by the media.

For Anies Baswedan, the most prevalent words include "Survey," "Vice," and "Candidate." The frequent appearance of "Survey" suggests extensive coverage of survey results pertaining to Anies Baswedan's popularity and support. "Vice" denotes discussions concerning vice presidential candidates, while "Candidate" underscores Anies Baswedan's status as a presidential contender.

In the narrative surrounding Prabowo Subianto, noteworthy words comprise "Jokowi," "Human Rights," and "Survey." Mentions of "Jokowi" allude to Prabowo Subianto's recurrent reference to Jokowi in his media narrative. "Human Rights" signifies media coverage of human rights issues associated with Prabowo Subianto, while "Survey" underscores the media's emphasis on data and statistics related to his popularity or electability.

In the discourse concerning Ganjar Pranowo, prominent words include "PDIP," "Survey," and "Jokowi." References to "PDIP" indicate discussions surrounding Ganjar Pranowo's affiliation with the PDIP political party. "Survey" underscores the media's focus on survey data reflecting Ganjar Pranowo's popularity, while "Jokowi" pertains to issues concerning Jokowi's withdrawal of support for Ganjar Pranowo as a Presidential Candidate.

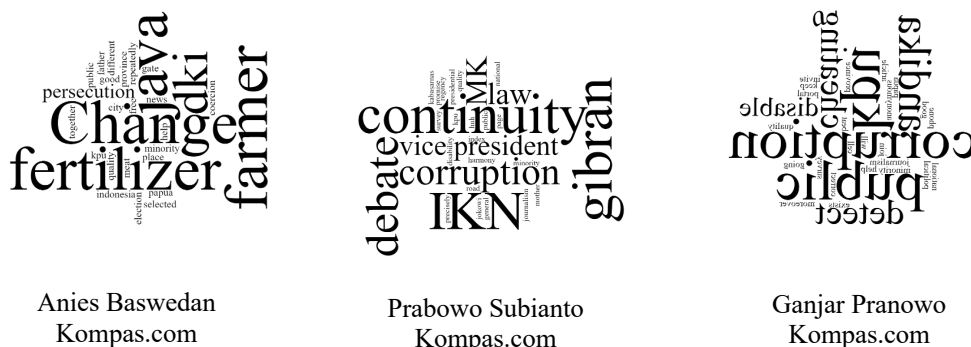


Figure 8: The most frequently discussed word frequency trends in Kompas.com
 Source: Processed Author Data Using Nvivo 12 Plus (2023)

The examination of word frequencies in online media reports by Kompas.com regarding the three presidential candidates—Anies Baswedan, Prabowo Subianto, and Ganjar Pranowo—offers valuable insights into the focal points and narrative presented by Kompas.com.

For Anies Baswedan, prominent words include "Change," "Fertilizer," and "Farmer." The recurrent appearance of "Change" underscores the emphasis on Anies Baswedan's platform promoting change. "Fertilizer" and "Farmer" indicate a focus on agricultural policies or issues related to farmers, which are central themes in coverage related to Anies Baswedan.

In the narrative surrounding Prabowo Subianto, significant words comprise "IKN" (National Capital), "Gibran," and "Continuity." Mentions of "IKN" suggest a focus on the issue of National Capital City Development, a program to be continued by Prabowo. "Gibran" pertains to relationships or issues involving Gibran Rakabuming, the son of President Joko Widodo. "Continuity" reflects media attention to Prabowo's concept of sustainability.

In the discourse concerning Ganjar Pranowo, prominent words include "Corruption," "KPU" (General Elections Commission), and "Public." References to "Corruption" highlight the emphasis on combating corruption, a key aspect of Pranowo's platform. "KPU" reflects concern for the neutrality of the General Elections Commission in the upcoming general elections, while "Public" may denote the expectation that the public will vigilantly observe the course of the forthcoming 2024 general elections.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, this study examined Detik.com and Kompas.com based on 9 indicators of journalistic objectivity, revealing that both platforms prioritize factuality in their reporting of the three presidential candidates, with Detik.com scoring 18% and Kompas.com 16%. However, shortcomings were observed, particularly in fairness and honesty, with Detik.com scoring lowest in fairness at 3% and Kompas.com recording 6% for both honesty and fairness. This indicates a lack of transparency and opportunities for candidates to clarify issues.

Regarding coverage trends, Detik.com focused more on Ganjar Pranowo, while Kompas.com provided equal attention to Ganjar Pranowo and Prabowo Subianto. Both platforms addressed issues such as surveys, law enforcement, debates, and candidate controversies.

Additionally, the news narrative presented distinct differences between the two platforms, with Detik.com emphasizing survey results and Kompas.com focusing more on candidates' ideas and visions. The frequency of dominant words further highlighted the coverage focus, with Detik.com frequently mentioning "Survey," "Vice," and "Candidate," while Kompas.com discussed "Change," "Fertilizer," and "Farmer" concerning Anies Baswedan.

The research's novelty lies in its focus on the journalistic objectivity of Detik.com and Kompas.com in reporting on the 2024 presidential election, analyzing special rubrics related to election coverage. However, limitations include the inclusion of only two national media sources and the lack of thorough examination of monthly events' impact on journalistic effectiveness. In the digital information era, it is crucial for online media to uphold journalistic principles of objectivity, balance, and provide opportunities for clarification to ensure accurate and informed public discourse.

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