

## A Textual Analysis of Graduation on Issue of LGBT in the Newsweek Magazine

Suswanto Ismadi Megah S.<sup>1</sup>, Qomariyah<sup>2</sup>

*University of Riau Kepulauan, Indonesia)*

<sup>1</sup>*megah76@yahoo.co.id*, <sup>2</sup>*qomariyah.aries@gmail.com*

### **Abstract**

*This study was aimed to identify the textual meaning of the issue of LGBT published in the Newsweek Magazine. This study employed theory of Appraisal introduced by martin and Rose (2005). More specific, this study focused on the graduation of the issue of LGBT. This theory was initiated previous theory, discourse analysis. The data consists of primary data and secondary data. The primary data of this study is from some headlines column contained of appraisal system on the Newsweek online Magazine. The finding is there were two categories force and focus based on table above appear force has 82.4% with 14 utterance, while Focus 17.6% with only 3 utterance, there force stand higher than focus. Hence, journalist Newsweek online magazine n issue of used the words in which evaluated based on issue of issue of LGBT more dominantly weak in evaluating LGBT issue news due to force from the low category is used more often than force strength to evaluate this issue.*

**Keywords:** *Text, LGBT and Graduation*

### **INTRODUCTION**

Language is the medium of communication for human being, it is crucially used to convey message to others. Therefore, the role of language is very important in communication, besides language is also formed by social process, thus language contains aspects of dialogue, (Martin & White, 2005; White & Sano, 2006). In addition, (2002) says “a language is a system of arbitrary verbal symbol which is used by the members of a speech community as a mean of communication to interact and express their ideas, feelings and thoughts.” So, language can be categorized as system. It enables language arranged systematically. This system may convey ideas, feelings and thoughts in a speech community.

Besides, language is way for sending message that need of communication. The main goal of communication is to convey information. Hence, in the communication people can expressing negative and positive opinion. Halliday (1994) uses “Systematic Functional Grammar” it is used to digest a language in

which is used in interaction. This is used for functional approach of language. The grammar is used to state relationship situation and text emerged.

Furthermore, the linguistics is developed in systemic functional linguistics. This is used to analyze appraisal helps to evaluate or appraise something or someone, express feelings toward something or some issue. Martin & Rose (2003) define that appraisal is a system of interpersonal meaning which concern with evaluation of attitude that are negotiate in a text, how the people express their strength of feelings and the ways in which values are construed in other words, by appraisal theory we can tell the readers or other person about our attitudes and feeling toward something or someone.

Similarly, Martin & White (2005), cited by Prasetyo, (2011: 8) states that appraisal concerns with the interpersonal in language, with subjective presence of writer/speaker in the texts as they adopt stances toward both the material they present and those with whom they communicate. Moreover, as stated by Hope and Read (2008) appraisal theory is concerned with the linguistic formulation of conveying emotions and opinions, how writer align their authorial personae with the stance of others, and how the manipulate their writings to convey a greater or lesser degree of strength and convention in their proposition.

In text of the opinion can be analyzed by using evaluative language, theory about that is appraisal system. According to Martin (2003) quoted by Wiedarti (2006: 1) Appraisal system has three category first attitude there are affect, judgment, appreciation, second graduation and the last engagement. This issues discussed about the problem of LGBT's controversy that leads into the series of violence attacks among the followers of LGBT. This study particularly analyzes the issue of LGBT viewed from Graduation of Appraisal analysis of Martin (2003)

This study employs appraisal theory developed by Martin and Rose (2003) in which the theory is extended of linguistic theory by (Halliday 1994) in Systemic Functional Grammar in term of interpersonal meaning.

### **Systematics-Functional Linguistics (SFL)**

Halliday used term of 'Systemic Functional Grammar' to explain language use based on its function in the social interaction. This theory also is known as systemic functional linguistics. Prasetyo (2011: 150) explains that "Systematics-Functional Linguistics (SFL) is a theory of language focused on the concept of language function". While SFL accounts for the syntactic structure of language, it places the function of language as central (what language does, and how it does it), in preference to more structural approaches, which place the elements of language and their combinations as central. SFL starts at social context and looks at how language both acts upon, and is constrained by, this social context (adapted from Matthiessen & Halliday in <http://www.isfla.org/systemics/>). While Suherman (2008: 15) interpersonal is between in another meaning (ideational and textual) in the usage of language. In systemic functional linguistics, if someone uses language, thus, they use three metafunctions simultaneously as stated by Eggins (1994) "Language is structured to make three main kinds of meanings simultaneously. This semantic complexity, which allows **experiential**, **interpersonal**, and **textual** meanings to be fused together in linguistic units, is possible because language is a semiotic system: a conventionalized coding system, organized as sets of choices"..

Prasetyo (2011) explains Systemic Functional Linguistics is concerned with functions of language in conveying meaning. The functions are called as metafunctions, which are ideational, Interpersonal, and Textual, Ideational is to interpret reality meaning or to express the Speaker's experience. Interpersonal is the meaning to express social and personal relation. Evaluations and appraisal. Textual is the combination from both, realization of ideational and interpersonal. Meanwhile, what will be discussed in this research is the interpersonal function. In interpersonal meaning the social relation between the participants and social interaction can be realized through intonation, tone, lexis used, modality, and also text structure as a whole.

## **Appraisal**

Martin (1994) “Appraisal is concerned with linguistics formulations of conveying emotions and opinions, how writers align their authorial personae with the stance of others, and how they manipulate their writings to convey a greater or lesser degree of strength and conviction in their proposition.” Based on that excerpt appraisal is a process formation of linguistic to expression opinion and emotion.

Ideational meaning is the representation of experience; our experience of the world that lies about us, and also inside us, the world of our imagination. It is the kinds of meaning that people have in their mind (or in the other hand, it is meaning on the senses of context). The ideational meaning is divided into two: Experiential and logical metafunctions. The experiential metafunction employs the experience of participants. The other side, the logical metafunction employs the reasoning on the basis of experiences. Interpersonal meaning is meaning as a form of action: the speaker or writer doing something to the listener or reader by means of language. Textual meaning is relevance to the context: both preceding (and following) text and the context of situation. The textual function of the clause is that of construction a message.

This set of notes explores the Appraisal framework, a particular approach to exploring, describing and explaining the way language is used to evaluate, to adopt stances, to construct textual personas and to manage interpersonal positionings and relationships. According to Martin and Rose (2003: 19) appraisal is a system of interpersonal meaning. Appraisal is concerned with the evaluation the kinds of attitudes that are negotiated in a text, the strength of the feeling involved, and the ways in which values are sourced and readers aligned.

## **Graduation**

White (2001) highlights “ graduation is concerned with values Which act to provide grading or scaling, either in terms of the preciseness or sharpness of focus with which an item exemplifies as value relationship. These two dimensions are variously labeled ‘Force’ (variable scaling of intensity) and ‘focus’ (sharpening or blurring of category boundaries)”. The graduation value concerns with the scaling

system of meaning. Martin and White (2005: 137) say that the graduation system operates in two ways of scalability: grading system according to the intensity or amount (force) and grading system according to prototypicality and the preciseness by which category boundaries are drawn (focus). There are two categories of force system, they are intensification and quantification while focus is concerned with sharpening and softening.

## **METHODOLOGY**

This study uses qualitative research. Creswell (2009: 4) explains, qualitative research is a means for exploring and understanding the meaning individuals or groups ascribe to a social or human problem. Therefore, this study uses qualitative. While Arikunto (1998: 291) states that a descriptive research is not used to test the hypothesis but only to describe what is being seen, faced, observed and known. The data consists of primary data and secondary data. The primary data of this study is from some headlines column contained of appraisal system on the Newsweek online Magazine. The secondary data of this study is the references that help and support of the primary data source to make this study clearly, such as Systemic functional grammar books and an introductory Course in Appraisal Analysis.

## **FINDINGS**

The data findings shows that graduation / amplification used Newsweek online magazine in LGBT issue, Graduation /amplification is how the expression is applied to evaluate something. There are two categories of force system, rise and low of intensification and quantification while focus is concerned with sharpening and softening. Force is used to strengthen and weaken evaluation. While Focus is used to sharpen and soften the evaluation to the topic being discussed, and how the attitude applied Newsweek online magazine in preaching LGBT issue, whether strong or weak in using the word to evaluate the topic being discussed and how the use of words to evaluate sharp or soft can be seen in the following table:

*Table 1. The Frequency of the Graduation*

| NO | TYPES | FREQUENCY | PERCENTAGE |
|----|-------|-----------|------------|
| 1  | FORCE | 14        | 82.4%      |
| 2  | FOCUS | 3         | 17.6%      |
|    | TOTAL | 17        | 100%       |

Based on the table graduation above the writer finding data type of graduation in text LGBT on *Newsweek* online magazine graduation is type appraisal that divide two categories force and focus based on table above appear force has 82.4% with 14 utterance, while Focus 17.6% with only 3 utterance, there force stand higher than focus. Journalist *Newsweek* online magazine use the word to evaluate the issue of LGBT more dominantly weak in evaluating LGBT issue news due to force from the low category is used more often than force strength to evaluate this topic.

Graduation / amplification is a level, strength / weak and sharp soft utterance used to evaluating. Graduation divide two categories there are: two categories of force system, they are intensification and quantification while focus is concerned with sharpening and softening.

### **Force**

Force is rise and low evaluation grade used by evaluator.

### **Data 1**

Ireland's Ryan O'Shaughnessy performs "Together" **next to two male dancers during** the Semi-Final 1 for Eurovision Song Contest 2018 at the Altice Arena hall in Lisbon, Portugal,

In the data 1 there are several phases of a wide range of categories include **next to, two male dancers, during**. "Next to" is a type of force quantification scale of place cause "next to" refer to the position between Ryan O'Shaughnessy and dancers. **Two male dancers** include Force quantification of amount. Two male refer to how many Dancers "during" is

used to describe the size of how long the duration of Irish Ryan O'Shaughnessy performs.

### **Data 2**

China decriminalized homosexuality in 1997 and removed it from a list of mental illnesses in 2001, but the country's LGBT community still faces discrimination. A 2016 U.N. report titled "A National Survey on Social Attitudes Towards Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression (SOGIE)" found that only 5 percent of China's LGBT community is publicly gay. *The country has also yet to outlaw [forced gay conversion therapy](#).*

It based the data 2 the statement "found that only 5 percent of China's LGBT community is publicly gay" this clause can be categorized type force intensity scale of amount, based on the clause it is clear that "only 5 percent" is the sum of the China LGBT communities that belong to Gay.

### **Data 3**

A child holds a Human Rights Campaign Equality Flag at the #ResistMarch during the 47th annual LA Pride Festival on June 11, 2017, in the Hollywood section of Los Angeles and West Hollywood, California. LGBT couples could be denied adoption on religious grounds under new bills approved in Kansas and Oklahoma on May 3, 2018. David McNew/Getty Images.

It is based the data 3 that the next type of intensity scale force of time, on this data marked a time "on June 11, 2017" meaningful when the time when the incident occurred, in the context above that time is used to explain when the event occurred.

### **Data 4**

The bill would allow adoption agencies in Kansas, where around 7,500 children need a home, to keep receiving state contracts and grants even if they refuse to place children within LGBT households or other families that don't reflect their religious beliefs, [The Associated Press](#) reported.

The Data 4 shows that there is a phrase where around 7,500 children, "around" followed by nominal, it belongs to the type force intensity of scale. In that context it means that the number of children needs a place to live.

#### **Data 5**

Perkasa, a group **with about 700,000 members** that campaigns for the rights of ethnic Malay Muslims, said it agreed with calls this week by Muhammadiyah, Indonesia's second-largest Muslim group, for a boycott of Starbucks over its pro-LGBT stand.

In the data 5 shows that there are phrase with about 700,000 members. The explanation also includes the type force of intensity scale number because, words of "about" followed by the number represents some amounts which refer to the number of members of the Malay Muslim ethnic campaign to boycott the pro LGBT starbucks.

#### **Focus**

Focus is sharp/soft evaluation grade used by evaluator

#### **Data 6**

Ethan has been living with his family in the U.S. on a tourist visa, but because it has now expired, he will be undocumented and his parents will need to secure a green card for him.

It is based on the data 6 that there is a statement "he will be undocumented" it includes the focus of soften why is that because, of "will be" the emphasis of the word is not too sharp.

### **CONCLUSION**

The study shows the type of graduation used in issue of LGBT consists of , force 14 expression 82.4% and focus 3 expression 17.6%. Therefore, the issue of LGBT can be concluded more dominantly weak in evaluating LGBT issue news due to force from the low category is used more often than force strength to evaluate this topic published online of the Newsweek Magazine.



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