

The Imbalance Attitude of the Journalists in Chemical Castration Texts: An SFL Critical Discourse Analysis

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates how journalists behave in texts. The analysis focuses on the exploitation of attitudinal lexis. This is qualitatively explored through attitude and graduation. The data sources were columns of news, taken from an online version of The Jakarta Post on June sixth 2016. Having been selected using criterion-based sampling technique, the sources of data resulted in six chemical castration texts. The procedure of investigation consists of domain, taxonomic, componential, and cultural value analysis. The result shows that journalists are subjective in reporting news by unbalancing the pros and cons, inconsistent in work from delivering news to criticizing government officials, and provocative by up-scaling critical evaluations against the government policy on sex offenders.

Keywords: *attitude, graduation, chemical castration, journalists, evaluations*

INTRODUCTION

The attitude of journalists is embodied in attitudinal lexis. This evaluative lexis spreads over a text. The evaluation may come from journalists or other participants they included in the texts. Both journalists and participants can either negatively or positively evaluate the issue. Nevertheless, the decision of which and who to include and to dominate rests with the journalists. This evaluation or ideology is then transferred to readers. In turn, the readers may accept or reject it. Such journalists-readers interaction reflects an interpersonal metafunction (Santosa, 2003: 21).

The main reason for conducting this research is that journalists of two-sided texts have more space to show particular inclinations to be or to do something for certain purposes. Such inclinations could likely to lead to serious impacts on both government and public. Those tendencies are also opposite to the job as a journalist because 'ideal'

journalism rejects any bias. On the contrary, objectivity is highly praised since it deals with delivering facts to the people (Maras, 2013: 204). Facts could be deflected away from the people by journalists if they surrender to 'temptation'. In this case, a huge amount of money or other appealing sorts of bribes could possibly be difficult for them to resist. Even a journalist of the highest integrity, as Burrows said, still have to deal with another barrier, that is determining which facts to put or to leave out (as cited in Applegate, 1996: 39). Therefore, objectivity is not only a challenge but also a burden to them.

In relation to chemical castration, the integrity of journalists is tested on reporting such news. On the one hand, they should convey the voice of the public to fight against the sentence, but on the other a journalist's code of ethics demands them to be neutral. Ideally, they should voice the people's aspiration without weighing one of

the two sides, either pros or cons. Both pros and cons seem to be more difficult to be made equal since the issue of chemical castration deals with human right. This sentence merely breaches the fundamental right of the perpetrator as chemical castration has potential to threaten his or her life. In other words, this is against democracy. How democracy upholds human rights has been implied by Lincoln's repetitive *people* in part of his speech "*the government of the people, by the people, for the people*" (Chapman & Nuttal, 2011: 15). Lincoln's quote implies that in a democratic country, the government plays the servant while the public act as a king.

There are several reviews of past research from which the researchers found a gap. They are mentioned as follows. O'Hallaron et al. (2015) investigated the attitude of academic writers while Moore and Schleppegrell (2014) and Horarik et al. (2015) decided on that of novelists for the topic of the research. In addition, Yasuda (2014) probed for students' attitude and their perception as well. Despite exploiting appraisal, prior studies by Santosa, Priyanto, Nuraeni, and Dzakiria (2016) and Santosa, Priyanto, and Nuraeni (2014) did not research the attitude. The former explored the language of mass street protests in Indonesia while the latter investigated the register of antagonist.

This research aims at identifying the attitude of journalists that manifests in an appraisal system. The system of appraisal consists of (1) attitude that is concerned with types of evaluations addressed to the news topic, chemical castration, and (2) graduation that deals with scales of evaluations. Both attitude and graduation were coined by Martin and White (2005). Their explanation is given below.

Evaluations can be about human feelings (affect) and behavior (judgment), and things (appreciation) which include natural phenomena and semiosis (Martin & White, 2005: 35-6). These three types of attitudinal lingual units may be up- or down-scaled. Both up- and down-scaling has to do with 'strength' and 'accuracy'. Scaling evaluation based on strength is termed force while focus is another term of accuracy-based grading evaluation. Evaluative lexis is delivered using various means such as projecting source, modality, and concession when the source of attitude is other

than writer. Meanwhile, a writer has no means of conveying evaluation (Martin & Rose, 2007: 42-58).

The sources of data are columns of news. They come from an online version of *The Jakarta Post*. All of them were collected on June the sixth 2016. Then, they were selected using criterion-based sampling technique. As cited in Santosa (2014: 54), Lincoln and Guba argued that a qualitative research needed particular criteria used to avoid any deviations that could distance the research from its purpose. The criteria are as follows:

- (1) The texts are about chemical castration
- (2) The texts were published on the columns of news
- (3) The texts provide lots of attitudinal lexis

Through the criteria above, the selection of data sources resulted in six texts. They are *Chemical Castration 'Would Violate Human Rights of Sex Offenders'*, *Chemical Castration May Lead to Sadistic Personality: Psychologist*, *Proposed Chemical Castration Debate Continues*, *Castration for Rapiſts of Kids*, *Minister Supports Castration for Child Sex Offenders*, and *Govt Issues Perppu on Sexual Violence against Children*.

Based on the appraisal system, content analysis was carried out to identify the journalists' attitude. In this analysis, the data were classified according to their domains and taxonomy. One by one, the data filled each category of the domains and taxonomy. Afterwards, componential analysis showed the total data from all classifications in a matrix. This matrix would display none other than patterns used to interpret the theme of soft culture, that is to say the way *The Jakarta Post* journalists behave in chemical castration two-sided texts (Spradley, 1980).

This research explores the journalists' attitude realized in attitudinal lexis. Within the system of appraisal, all the evaluative lexis is further investigated. Types of evaluations are probed with attitude while their scales are analyzed through graduation.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Attitude

The exploration of attitude resulted in 59 data and nothing was categorized into affect. The data grouped as judgment are 23 while those classified into appreciation amount to 36. Both 23 data of judgment and 36 data of appreciation occupy each slot of their specific features. These narrow features will be able to show evaluations conveying the journalists' disagreement over and agreement to chemical castration.

In general, the positive feature (+) represents the journalists' agreement to chemical castration

while the negative one (-) reflects their disagreement. However, 2 of the 36 negative evaluations show the journalist's agreement to the punishment. Therefore, the final total of the data implying journalists' disagreement is 34. These 34 negative evaluations manifest in -normality, -capacity, -quality, -complexity, and -valuation. Meanwhile, there are 25 evaluations conveying the journalists' agreement to the sentence. They disperse over texts through -propriety, -tenacity, +capacity, +quality, +balance, and +valuation. All the data distribution is given in the table 1 as follows.

Table 1
Componential Analysis of Judgment & Appreciation

JUDGMENT												Σ	
A p s r	A p s d	Social Esteem				Social Sanction				Σ			
		Nor		Cap		Ten		Ver			Pro		
		+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-		+		-
A G O	Pun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Cri	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	
	AGO	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	4	
Σ		-	1	2	1	-	1	-	-	-	1	6	
N A G O	Pun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Cri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	AGO	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
Σ		-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	
O T H E R S	Pun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Cri	-	6	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	
	AGO	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	
Σ		-	6	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-	16	
J R N L T	Pun	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	Cri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
	AGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Σ		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	

APPRECIATION												Σ
A p s r	A p s d	Reaction				Composition				Val	Σ	
		Imp		Qua		Bal		Comp				
		+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-			
A G O	Pun	-	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	10
	Cri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	AGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Σ		-	-	6	-	1	-	-	-	3	-	10
N A G O	Pun	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	5
	Cri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	AGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Σ		-	-	2	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	5
O T H E R S	Pun	-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	2	4	12
	Cri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	AGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Σ		-	-	1	5	-	-	-	-	2	4	12
J R N L T	Pun	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	4	-	9
	Cri	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	AGO	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Σ		-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	4	-	9

Note: Apsr = appraiser; Apsd = appraised; AGO = authoritative governmental officials; NAGO = non-authoritative governmental officials; JRNL T = journalists; Pun = punishment; Cri = criminals; Nor = normality; Cap = capacity; Ten = tenacity; Ver = veracity; Pro = propriety; Imp = impact; Qua = quality; Bal = balance; Comp = complexity; Val = valuation; (+) = positive; (-) = negative

- Evaluations showing disagreement over chemical castration
- Evaluations showing agreement to chemical castration

Judgment: –Normality

AGO exploited only 1 –normality to evaluate Cri while OTHERS used this type of evaluation 6 times to judge the same participant. Thus, the whole data categorized as –normality are 7. The example of –normality analysis is presented below.

it may create a more *sadistic* person, a psychologist has said. (TJP/N/J2/jdg/–nor/23)

The clause above shows that the source of the evaluation falls on a *psychologist* that uses *epithet* to appraise *person*. This judgment manifests in *sadistic* which, based on attitude, is classified into *judgment: –normality*.

Within attitude perspective, the word *sadistic* is categorized into judgment because the object of appraisal *person* is human that refers to the sex offender. Since the normality of the perpetrator is assessed negatively by a *psychologist*, –normality becomes the next specification. Such a *psychologist's* negative reaction to chemical castration expresses the disagreement of journalists over the sentence.

Judgment: +Capacity

The appraised AGO received 2 assessments of +capacity from the appraiser AGO. In addition, NAGO also participated in judging AGO with just 1 +capacity. So, +capacity comprises 3 data. How +capacity reflects the journalists' agreement to chemical castration is illustrated with an example below.

The House *could* even suggest extra stipulations, Firman continued, to provide more deterrents for rapists should the regulation made by the State Palace be deemed not to provide enough protection for children and women. (TJP/N/J4/jdg/+cap/80)

In the above clause, *Firman* is the evaluator who appraises *the House* with *modality: ability*. The lingual unit used to judge is *could* while the type of the appraisal is *judgment: +capacity*.

The evaluative lexis *could* belongs to *judgment* because the thing which is assessed *the House* is human. *The House* covers authoritative governmental officials who are in charge of the constitution as to chemical castration. *The House's* capacity is judged positively (+capacity) by *Firman* as he thinks they are capable of suggesting extra stipulations (“*The House could even suggest extra stipulations,*”) if chemical castration is perceived of as less effective to deter the suspects of sexual crimes (“*to provide more deterrents for rapists...*”) and insufficient to protect women and children (... *should the regulation be made by the State Palace be deemed not to provide sufficient protection for children and women*). The pro nuances of *Firman's* evaluation to authoritative governmental officials above represent the journalists' agreement to the punishment.

Appreciation: +Valuation

AGO gave 3 +valuations to Pun while there is only 1 +valuation addressed by NAGO and 2 by OTHERS to Pun. Meanwhile, JOURNALISTS assessed this appraised participant with +valuation 4 times. As a result, the total data of +valuation are 10. The example as follows would help the readers understand the investigation.

However, Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) chairman Asrorun Niam Sholeh insisted that chemical castration was a *viable solution* to curb the country's rampant sexual abuse of children. (TJP/N/J1/apc/+val/17)

In the clause above, it is mentioned that *Asrorun Niam Sholeh* plays as the appraiser who exploits *attribute* to appreciate *chemical castration*. His evaluation is embodied in *viable solution* while the classification of his assessment is *appreciation: +valuation*.

The ‘thing’ (*head* in traditional grammar perspective) of the nominal group appraised, *chemical castration*, is *castration*. *Castration* is categorized as material (non-human). Therefore, the specification of attitude of *viable solution* is appreciation. In this case, *viable solution* comes from a notion that chemical castration is believed

to be a solution that can overcome sexual crimes. In other words, *viable solution* contains positive value and, thus, it is labeled as +valuation. *Asrorun Niam Sholeh's* assessing *chemical castration* as *viable solution* represents the journalist's agreement to the punishment.

Appreciation: –Complexity

NAGO selected –complexity to appreciate Pun. No one used -complexity to appraise Pun other than NAGO. In other words, –complexity merely collected 1 datum. The following is the example of the analysis.

“There are several additional punishments. They [sex offenders] could be either chemically castrated or given chip implants, or *probably* both,” he went on, adding that the chemical castration would only be carried out on adult sex offenders. (ebf) (TJP/N/J6/apc/–com/cpl/95)

Based on the above clauses, the one who evaluates is *Yasonna* as *he* in *he went on* refers to him. She chooses *probably* which is an *adverbial group* as attitudinal lexis to appraise *the status of giving additional punishments for sexual criminals*. The type of appraisal belongs to *appreciation: composition: –complexity*.

Since the thing appreciated is *the status of giving additional punishments for sexual offenders* which is not human, appreciation becomes the type of appraisal. The types of additional punishments for sex violence perpetrators are difficult to determine. This is due to the complexities surrounding the process of sexual crimes investigation. On the one hand, sexual violence victims and perpetrators are sometimes equally underage, but on the other the victims are much younger than the sex offenders. Underage perpetrators have different physiological conditions from adult offenders so that if the chip installation becomes an option of punishment, thorough observation is needed for the sake of their life. So intricate is the process of investigation that it leads to the use of –complexity. Such complexity makes *Yasonna* decide on the lexis *probably* for the assessment.

By using lexis *probably*, if it turns out that the type of additional penalty is chemical castration, or chip implant, or both, *Yasonna* will not have to bear the consequences. Since the evaluation is negatively addressed to additional punishments for chemical castration, *Yasonna* implies the journalists' disagreement over the sentence.

Appreciation: –Quality

OTHERS appreciated Pun 5 times and they all are –*quality*. To the same appraised participant, 5 –*qualities* were also delivered by JOURNALISTS. So, the total data of –*quality* amount to 10. Below is the example of the analysis.

The government should consider many aspects before using chemical castration as punishment for child molesters as it may *create* a more sadistic person, a psychologist has said. (TJP/N/J1/apc/–rea/qua/22)

The sentence above demonstrates that a *psychologist* plays as an evaluator who appraises *chemical castration*. *Create* which is a *process* becomes the constituent to assess the punishment and this appraisal is categorized into *appreciation: reaction: –quality*.

Appreciation becomes the specification of the evaluative lexis *create* since *it* as the appraised participant refers to *chemical castration* which is not human. *It* is responded negatively by the following *may create a more sadistic person*. *May create a more sadistic person* holds the nuance of dislike to chemical castration. Because of such dislike, *appreciation* is specified to be *reaction: –quality*. To test *quality* for positive or negative, a question *did I like it?* is used (Martin & White, 2005: 56). If the related evaluation implies *I liked it*, it will be categorized as +*quality*. However, if the concerned appreciation conveys *I did not like it*, –*quality* will be the next category. So far a *psychologist's* appreciation has demonstrated the disagreement of journalists over chemical castration.

The matrix in the table of componential analysis belonging to either judgment or appreciation above expresses a pattern that is interpreted into two attitudes. First, the journalists

are not objective in reporting chemical castration. Their subjectivity has been proven through domination of negative evaluations (cons) over the positive ones (pros) (Martin & Rose, 2007). On the contrary, journalism upholds objectivity because it plays a vital role in reporting facts to readers (Maras, 2013: 204). Profit allegedly becomes the factor in journalists' subjectivity. Chronologically, the mass media concerned managed to voice the people's wishes by unbalancing pros and cons. As a result, the public sided with that mass media against the government. In other words, it has successfully won the hearts of the people. Therefore, the revenue could increase drastically as the public are none other than news consumers. In harmony with such argument, Henry Wickham Steed (as cited in Bromley & O'Malley, 1997: 118-20), stated that the board of mass media businessmen took the advantage of today's chaotic newspaper production **to reap the benefits and beat their rivals even before they knew how to do that. Their success would depend on their ability to read the wishes of the public, voice their wish, and guide them to that wish**, of course, if they knew the way. Other than this research, the imbalance between negative evaluations and positive evaluations is also found in one-sided texts as what has been explored by Santosa et al. (2014). This emphasizes that journalistic objectivity is in crisis at least in both one and two-sided texts from those two investigations.

Secondly, the journalists are not consistent in work from delivering news to criticizing government. The inconsistency of journalists can be seen within the highest exploitation of judgment: –capacity found in the six texts among other elements of attitude (Martin & White, 2005). Very close to the first case above, the motive behind the journalists' inconsistency is supposedly commercialism. First, the related mass media tried to attract the people by conveying the incapability of government officials. This has been detected through the analysis of attitudinal lexis which resulted in judgment: –capacity as the most-exploited sub category of attitude. Judgment: –capacity refers to any negative evaluation that refers to the human's ability (Martin & White, 2005: 52). Those whose ability was poorly judged are authoritative governmental officials (AGO in

the domain of the table above). Such sensational news could, of course, work up the people's enthusiasm. In line with this argument, Mindich (as cited in Chapman & Nuttal, 2011: 223) satirized in a question "*Why talk to half the town with party slogans, reasoned the editors, when you can reach them all with **sensationalism** and/or balanced reports?*". By sensationalism, the mass media could hold the public's interests. When it had them in hand, this would dramatically extend its earnings. News is merely a commodity with which the people contribute much of the mass media's income (Herbert, 2001: 59).

Graduation

The number of the data belonging to graduation does not match that of attitude as not every attitudinal lingual unit contains or is flanked by elements of graduation. In the table below, there are 21 data of graduation that follow or precede the evaluations against chemical castration. These negative evaluations are either up- or down-scaled by 14 data of intensifying, 3 data of softening, and 4 data of sharpening. Meanwhile, 15 data of graduation accompany evaluations expressing the agreement to the punishment. These data scale the positive evaluations in the form of 12 intensifyings, 2 softenings, and 1 sharpening. The table of componential analysis (table 2) presents the distribution of the data.

Force: Intensifying: Isolation

AGO got 5 –evaluations with intensifying: isolation attached to them. Such negative evaluations come from OTHERS. For the second time, OTHERS used intensifying: isolation to scale 4 –evaluations that fall on Cri. With the similar graduation technique, 1 negative assessment addressed to Cri was given by AGO. Thus, all intensifyings: isolations which accompany negative evaluations amount to 10. To understand the way intensifying: isolation works, an example is presented below.

more sadistic person (TJP/N/J2/gra/for/int/iso/23)

In the above phrase, *more* stands as the grade of evaluation. This belongs to *force: intensifying: isolation*.

Table 2
Componential Analysis of Graduation

GRADUATION														Σ												
Force										Focus																
Intensifying					Quantifying					Sof	Sha															
Rep	Inf	Iso	Inf	Iso	Inf	Iso	Inf	Iso	Inf			Iso														
+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-	+	-													
A A P S r d	P	-	-	2	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6												
	u	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
A G r i O	C	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1												
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
A G O	A	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	3												
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
Σ													-	-	2	-	6	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10
P u n	P	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2											
	u	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-											
N A G O	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
A G O	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-												
Σ													-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	2	

O T H E R S	P	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	-	2	7									
	u	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
A G O	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	6									
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
A G O	A	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5									
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
Σ													-	-	1	1	-	9	-	-	-	2	3	-	2	18
J R N L T	P	-	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7									
	u	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
A G O	C	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
	r	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-									
Σ													-	-	2	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	7

Note: Apsr = appraiser; Apsd = appraised; AGO = authoritative governmental officials; NAGO = non-authoritative governmental officials; JRNL T = journalists; Pun = punishment; Cri = criminals; Rep = repetition; Inf = infusion; Iso = isolation; Sof = softening; Sha = sharpening; (+) = positive; (-) = negative

- Graduation accompanying evaluations showing disagreement over chemical castration
- Graduation accompanying evaluations showing agreement to chemical castration

More is a lingual unit of graduation that accompanies an evaluative word *sadistic*. Since *more* scales the ‘power’ of *sadistic*, *force* becomes the next classification. *Force* is then specified to be *intensifying* because the power does not relate to ‘accuracy’, but ‘strength-weakness’. *More* does not merge with attitudinal lexis and, thus, the next classification becomes *isolation*.

Focus: Softening

OTHERS exploited 1 softening as an amplifying technique for a negative appraisal which is addressed to Pun. Another appraised participant

that received softening is Cri. From OTHERS, Cri got 2 –assessments accompanied by this type of graduation. Thus, the total number of softening attached to negative evaluations is 3. The example of the investigation is given as follows.

Chemical castration *may* lead to sadistic personality: Psychologist (TJP/N/J2/gra/foc/sof/19)

In the above clause, the constituent that indicates the scale of evaluation is *may* while the

type of that scaling technique is *focus: softening*.

The lexis of graduation *may* is classified into focus because the grade aimed at the evaluative lexis refers to accuracy. Focus is then specified to be softening because of its weak accuracy. The weakness is evident from the meaning of that scaling word *may*, 'perhaps'. In connection with this, something which is appreciated by *perhaps* feels 'vague' and, therefore, the level of accuracy is low.

Focus: Sharpening

Journalists (JRNL) used 1 sharpening to amplify a –appreciation directed at Pun. Pun also received 2 –appreciations that are scaled with sharpening by OTHERS and 1 –appreciation from NAGO. On the other hand, the appraised AGO was once judged negatively by the appraiser AGO who scaled their judgment with sharpening. So, the total data belonging to sharpening that accompanies negative assessments are 5. Below is the example of the analysis.

Chemical castration '*would* violate human rights of sex offenders' (TJP/N/J1/gra/foc/sha/1)

From the clause above, it is evident that *would* stands as the scaling constituent while the type of such scaling technique is *focus: sharpening*.

Would which plays as lexis of graduation precedes the attitudinal lexis *violate*. That scaling word refers to 'accuracy' and, therefore, focus becomes the specification of graduation. Focus is then specified to be sharpening since *would* in this context means future which, based on English perspective, certainly happens. In other words, the level of accuracy is 'high'.

The matrix in the componential analysis table above implies that journalists managed to stimulate the public to oppose the government. Such a motive has been discovered through the domination of intensifying: isolation over other graduation sub categories (Martin & White, 2005). This provocative action is supposed to uphold democracy. Chronologically, journalists had the right to challenge the government to the public (Applegate, 1996: 114). The challenge was that the

issue of chemical castration only violates human rights of sex offenders while democracy, as the form of Indonesian government, upholds humanity. This corresponds with what has been implied in Lincoln's quote "*The government of the people, by the people, for the people*" (as cited in Chapman & Nuttal, 2011: 15). Unfortunately, not all elements of society fully understand democracy. However, since humanity is everything to democracy, the notion about chemical castration should have been opposed. The mass media then played its role to voice opposition through amplifying critical evaluations against the government policy. To up-scale those evaluations, they predominantly exploited graduation: force: intensifying: isolation.

CONCLUSION

This section provides the outlines of what has been discussed. First, journalists are not objective in reporting news of chemical castration. Such subjectivity is evident from the exploitation of negative appraisals that defeat the positive ones. Reputedly, the mass media concerned tries to make a big profit from reporting more cons than pros of chemical castration. First, journalists present a 'democratic' voice, that chemical castration violates the human rights of sex offenders. This is none other than to hook the people as news consumers. When the mass media have successfully grasped the public, their income rises dramatically.

Secondly, journalists are not tenacious in carrying out the duty to only report the news of chemical castration. Instead, they predominantly highlight the government figures engaged in it. This has been revealed through the discovery of judgment: -capacity that outperforms other attitude elements. This non-tenacious trait is supposed to aim for 'commercialism'. To wage this motive, the mass media needs to win the hearts of the public by voicing their wishes. To boost the people's voice, journalists breach 'objectivity' as a journalist's code of ethics through giving more portions to cons by criticizing the government officials involved in creating regulation for sex offenders.

Thirdly, journalists are persuasive to the public. They attempt to get the people to be engaged in opposing the government by up-

scaling critical evaluations against the government policy on sex offenders. The highest occurrence of intensifying: isolation among other sub categories of graduation is the proof. The reason behind the journalists' provocation is democracy. Democracy upholds humanity which goes against the chemical castration. Since it is against the principle of democracy, the policy needs to be opposed. To fight against chemical castration, the journalists throw critical appraisals which are amplified by various reinforcing lexis. With this amplifying lingual unit, negative evaluations could be more effective to provoke the people to go against the government policy on sex perpetrators.

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