Television Journalism on the Covid 19 Disaster in Indonesia: Conditions, Perceptions and Production Process

MUSFIALDY* State of Islamic University of Sultan Syarif Kasim, Indonesia

> DADANG RAHMAT HIDAYAT SITI KARLINAH UUD WAHYUDIN University of Padjadjaran, Indonesia

ABSTRACT

COVID-19 (Coronavirus Diseases 2019) is a group of viruses from the subfamily Orthocronavirinae in the Coronaviridae family and the order Nidovirales. In Indonesia, dozens of journalists and television editors were exposed to Covid-19, people were stressed, and some even died as a result. The Covid-19 pandemic also caused an increase in people's information needs at that time. This study aims to analyze the conditions, perceptions, and production processes of television journalism during the COVID-19 pandemic in Indonesia, especially on iNews TV, and Metro TV. This research uses an interpretive/subjective paradigm with a constructive approach. This research uses a qualitative case study research methodology. The conclusion of this study is that the condition of Television Journalism during the Covid-19 Pandemic in Indonesia experienced disruption and change. The condition of the television industry experienced a great and deadly disruption. The production process pattern has not changed, but the production process has experienced a very significant change. In the midst of the pros and cons of Covid-19 information, the perception of journalists and television editors remains on data findings in the field that are verified by valid and reliable sources. The positive impact of the Covid-19 pandemic is accelerating the process of convergence of information and communication technology for journalists and television editors. In addition, a journalist is required to have many skills.

Keywords: Conditions, perceptions, production, television journalists, COVID-19.

INTRODUCTION

The development of the pandemic coronavirus was discovered in Wuhan, Huabei Province, China in mid-December 2019. The flu disease, named by WHO as Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19), was caused by the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus-2 (SARS-CoV-2) (WHO, 2020). Coronavirus is an RNA virus with a particle size of 120-160 nm. Before the COVID-19 outbreak, there were 6 types of Coronaviruses that could infect humans, which are alphacoronavirus 229E, alphacoronavirus NL63, betacoronavirus OC43, betacoronavirus HKU1, Severe Acute Respiratory Illness Coronavirus (SARS-CoV), and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome Coronavirus (MERS-CoV). SARS-CoV-2 has the same subgenus as SARS-CoV and bat coronavirus (Gorbalenya et al., 2020). On this basis, the International Committee on Taxonomy of Viruses proposed the name SARS-CoV-2 (Susilo et al., 2020).

The Chinese government, through the Wuhan Municipal Health Committee, confirmed this coronavirus on January 7, 2020 (Hanoatubun, 2020). Furthermore, this virus spread to several regions in China, and even within a few months, this virus spread to various

countries around the world (WHO, 2020). With the spread of the virus and the number of people in the world being exposed to this virus, WHO announced on March 12, 2020, COVID-19 as a pandemic outbreak (WHO, 2020).

Before the outbreak of the COVID-19 disease, the coronavirus was first infected in the Guangdong area, China in November 2002 (Anderson et al., 2004). The virus outbreak was later dubbed severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS)-CoV, or Bird Flu (H5N1). This flu can cause respiratory tract infections and can lead to pneumonia. Outbreaks of this disease are very fast and can cause death. A total of more than 8000 people were infected, and 774 people died, with a mortality rate of 7% in China (Smith, 2006).

After the SAR-CoV outbreak, a new outbreak emerged called Middle East respiratory syndrome (MERS)-CoV. MERS was first detected in Saudi Arabia in 2012. The disease, MERS-Cov, infected 1364 people in Saudi Arabia and caused a death rate of 32.97% (Mackay & Arden, 2015). The virus then spread to 27 countries in Europe and Asia. A total of 27 countries were infected with MERS from 2014 to 2016. Since 2014 outside Saudi Arabia, there have been 2,494 cases and 858 people have died, with a death ratio of 34.4%. (Al-Omari et al., 2019).

Patients with COVID-19 were first announced in Indonesia on March 2, 2020. Patients with COVID from 29 to December 31, 2020, there were 743,198 people. The number of deaths had reached 22,138 people, and the people who had recovered were 611,097 people (Purnamasari et al., 2020). A significant increase in COVID-19 cases occurred in Indonesia in the second year of the pandemic. According to data from the Indonesian Ministry of Health, as of December 31, 2021, the number of COVID-19 sufferers had increased to 4,262,720 people. Meanwhile, 4,114,334 people have recovered and 144,094 people have died from this disease (Merdeka.com, 2021). This disease is spread in all provinces in Indonesia, as many as 34 provinces with 510 districts and cities.

News coverage of COVID-19 in the media is very important for society during a pandemic. People who are traumatized by the COVID-19 pandemic make information an important aspect for them. According to Morisan, information is important if it has influence and impact on society. In the book Journalism of Modern Television, Morissan explains that information is important because it involves human life, finances, the economy, and disturbances. Morissan (2010) stated that COVID-19 information is a tool that can help reduce uncertainty and anxiety for society. People rely on COVID information as their knowledge about disaster mitigation and adaptation processes. In addition, the media is one of the references that are needed during the interaction restrictions that occur (Morissan, 2010)

Television is unique in conveying information compared to other media. Morissan (2010) explained that there are several advantages to television when compared to other mass media. These advantages include the first television having a wide range. Television has very high stimulation power when compared to other media. In addition, information on television can be seen and heard directly if there is a broadcast at that time (Morissan 2010).

Metro TV is the first news television in Indonesia, launched on November 25, 2000. As the first news television in Indonesia, Metro TV has had more experience than other televisions. According to informant Kabul Indrawan, Metro TV News Manager said,

...Production Manager of Metro TV, one of which was that Metro TV was the first news television to cover the Tsunami Disaster in Aceh Province at the end of December 2004. (Informant Kabul Indrawan, 2022) Metro TV also strives for maximum coverage of the journalism process during this COVID-19 pandemic. According to informant Kabul Indrawan,

...Metro TV is the first television journalist to enter the isolation room for COVID-19 patients. At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, a lot of news about patient information came from abroad. To provide maximum information to the public. I made a breakthrough by covering directly the isolation place for COVID-19 patients in the hospital around April 2020. This effort became the first journalist and the first television broadcaster to cover the isolation room directly. Previously, no journalist crew in Indonesia dared to enter the isolation room for COVID-19 sufferers in hospitals. (Informant Kabul Indrawan, 2022)

Meanwhile, iNews is a news television that was established on April 6, 2015. iNews is a broadcasting industry that is part of the MNC Group. It is a networked television news portal consisting of national news portals and regional portals. The vision of iNews itself is to become an inspiring and informative national and regional news portal. And the mission of iNews itself is to present news and online features that are easy to read, in-depth, accurate, and attractive (multimedia basis), to inspire anyone, anywhere, and anytime. On its website, iNews tries to present a variety of content, including national news, including politics, law, economy, sports, lifestyle, automotive, technology, travel, megapolitan and events.

During the implementation of interaction restrictions by the PNPB COVID-19 Task Force in Indonesia from February 29 to May 30, 2020, iNews TV and Metro TV are very concerned about reporting. iNews TV during the first three months of the pandemic in Indonesia produced 1206 news stories, on COVID-19, around iNews Siang or 71% of the total of 1688 news stories. Only 482 news stories or 29% that were not related to COVID-19 were presented by Seputar iNews Siang during those 3 months (Table 1).

Table 1: News on COVID-19 on Seputar INEWS RCTT IN March – May 2020						
Aired	Total COVID-19 News	Percentage	Total Non-COVID- 19 News	Percentage	Number of News	Percentage
March	432	81%	102	19%	534	100%
April	408	76%	131	24%	539	100%
May	366	60%	249	40%	615	100%
Grand Total	1206	71%	482	29%	1688	100%

Table 1: News on COVID-19 on Seputar iNews RCTI in March – May 2020

Note: Processed Data in year 2020

Details on the three months, in March 2020 iNews through Seputar iNews Siang, RCTI reported 432 news stories or 81% of the total 534 news related to COVID-19. There were even 8 days of news of COVID-19 dominating the overall news. In April there were 408 news stories or 76% of the total of 539 news stories. Meanwhile, in May, there were 366 reports or 60% of the total 615 news stories (Table 1).

Television Journalism on the Covid 19 Disaster in Indonesia: Conditions, Perceptions and Production Process Musfialdy, Dadang Rahmat Hidayat, Siti Karlinah & Uud Wahyudin

Table 2: News on COVID-19 on Metro TV in March – May 2020						
Aired	Total COVID-19 News	Percentage	Total Non- COVID-19 News	Percentage	Number of News	Percentage
March	661	70%	281	30%	942	100%
April	446	62%	278	38%	724	100%
May	473	54%	399	46%	872	100%
Grand Total	1580	62%	958	38%	2538	100%

Note: Processed Data in year 2020

The incessant news of COVID-19 can be seen in the news on COVID-19 on the Metro TV program. One of the news programs featured by Metro TV is Metro TV. Metro TV is a news program that airs from 11.00 am to 1.00 pm. Refer to Table 2, 1580 news on COVID-19 or 62% of the total 2538 news on Metro TV during March to May 2020. In March 2020, news related to COVID-19 Metro TV, there were 661 reports or 70% of the total of 942 news. In April there were 446 news stories or 62% of the total 724 news stories. Meanwhile, in May there were 473 reports or 54% of the total 872 news stories (refer Table 2).

From the results of the reporting and field observations, it appears that television journalism in the COVID-19 pandemic that occurred was very different from other disasters. There are unique cases that are different from the COVID-19 disaster and natural disasters in general. The uniqueness of the COVID-19 disaster is based on:

- The COVID-19 pandemic is a non-natural disaster. This COVID pandemic has a fast and deadly rate of transmission. Based on the World Health Organization (WHO), the total number of coronavirus cases in 215 world countries as of September 30, 2021 was 286,715,568 people affected by this virus. More than 5.4 million people died and 253,090,588 recovered (Nugrahani, 2021).
- 2. At the beginning of the pandemic, many journalists or reporters were infected by this virus, and even 53 journalists died. In Indonesia, based on data from the Indonesian Television Journalistic Association (IJTI) in year 2020, as many as 93 television journalists in Indonesia were infected by the COVID-19 virus (IJTI CHANNEL, 2020).
- 3. The COVID-19 pandemic is a disaster that has a fairly wide area coverage. Most regions of the world have been affected by this pandemic. Usually disasters only occur in a certain area, but this COVID-19 pandemic outbreak occurs in almost all countries on earth simultaneously. The long COVID-19 pandemic, even today, is still happening. The COVID-19 pandemic is still ongoing today because the process of this pandemic cannot be predicted when it will end (Vellingiri et al., 2020)
- 4. The COVID-19 pandemic has a multidimensional impact. In natural disasters, the impact is usually more limited. The case of the COVID-19 pandemic that hit most areas in Indonesia had an impact on various aspects. The COVID-19 outbreak has not only had an impact on health issues but other fields such as social, economic, political, and various other fields (Triyoga, 2021). The number of problems it causes means that the news about COVID-19 is not only related to health problems, but several other fields also have a contribution due to its impact.
- 5. The COVID-19 pandemic is causing reports of non-physical natural disasters. The phenomenon of disasters in journalism has news value because of the unpredictable and very large timing of events. Through reporting on the COVID-19 pandemic, journalists and editors have a big role and responsibility in guarding and anticipating disasters. The process of disaster journalism in the COVID-19 pandemic is still being carried out. The process of disaster journalism has been carried out and is still ongoing. In natural

disasters, more journalistic processes are carried out after the disaster, namely prevention and recovery (Masduki, 2007).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Saptorini, Zhao and Jackson (2022) show the Disrupted Material Settings of Television News Making During COVID-19 in an Indonesian Broadcaster discusses exploring the setting of news-making material during a pandemic and the consequences of place-based realignment on journalistic practice, professionalism, and authority. The conclusion of this study is an important change in journalistic routine in favour of live field reports over pre-recorded packages or in-depth analysis.

Gong et al. (2021), The research in this article examines the relations between media attention, dependence, self-efficacy, and prosocial behaviour during the COVID-19 pandemic. The conclusion of the article that uses this literature review research method is that media dependence is correlated with self-efficacy. Media attention, dependence, and self-efficacy showed significant effects on prosocial attitudes and behaviours. Hoak (2021) state that the COVID-19 pandemic is forcing unprecedented changes on journalists in the United States. The Hoak article describes the situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to explore journalist stress and the role of support organizations in dealing with it. The conclusion of this article explains that organizational support greatly influences stress and performance among journalists in America (Hoak, 2021).

There are several definitions of journalism that are currently developing. First, journalism is an activity to find accurate information about an event, where the information obtained is packaged and then disseminated to the public (Shapiro, 2013). Second, according to Adinegoro, defines journalism as an activity to collect, process, and disseminate news to the widest possible audience as quickly as possible (Sumadiria & Rema, 2006).

Television journalism is a journalistic activity that develops along with the development of media technology, especially television. It is a process of delivering messages in audio-visual form via electromagnetic waves and receiving them through a monitor. The content of the message conveyed by television usually has very high power in influencing the mental, thoughts and actions of individuals. News coverage on television reaches its target not only locally, nationally and regionally, but internationally and globally. Differences in the physical properties of the media create the characteristics of broadcasting, especially television and radio journalism (Rijal, 2021).

According to communication experts, the advantage of television is that information obtained through television broadcasts can stay longer in human memory when compared to the same information obtained through reading. This is due to moving images/visualizations that function as additional informational support for writing a broadcaster's or reporter's narrative, having the ability to strengthen human memory. This reason is also strengthened because the information conveyed through television media is received by two senses simultaneously, which are the sense of hearing (audio) and the sense of sight (visual).

The history of television in Indonesia began with the broadcast of the first television station on August 17, 1962, by Televisi Republik Indonesia (TVRI). The TVRI broadcast was carried out from the Merdeka Palace in Jakarta during the 17th anniversary of Indonesian Independence. Then, on August 24, 1962, TVRI again broadcast a live broadcast of the opening of the fourth Asian Games from the Sports Arena Stadium (Gelora), Senayan, Jakarta.

After that, TVRI broadcast regularly until now. August 24, 1962, was then commemorated as the birthday of TVRI.

The development of television in Indonesia was marked by the establishment of Rajawali Citra Televisi Indonesia (RCTI), the first private television station on August 24, 1989, then followed by Surya Citar Televisi (SCTV) on August 24, 1990, ANTV on March 1, 1993 and Indosiar on January 11, 1995. Currently, there are dozens of televisions in Indonesia, both in Jakarta and private television in the regions.

No	Name	Owner	Operational
1	RCTI	MNC Media	24 August 1989
2	MNC TV	MNC Media	23 January 1991
3	GTV	MNC Media	08 October 2002
4	iNews	MNC Media	06 April 2015
5	SCTV	Surya Citra Media	24 August 1990
6	Indosiar	Surya Citra Media	11 January 1995
7	ANTV	Visi Media Asia	01 March 1993
8	TV One	Visi Media Asia	14 February 2008
9	Metro TV	Media Grup	25 November 2000
10	Trans 7	Trans Media & KG Grup	25 November 2001
11	Trans Media	Trans Media	15 Dicember 2001
12	Kompas TV	KG Media	9 September 2011
13	RTV	Rajawali Coorpora	03 May 2014
14	Mayapada TV	Mayapada Grup	01 February 2019
15	Jawa Pos TV	Jawa Pos Grup	17 August 2015
16	Net TV	Net Visi Media	26 May 2013

Table 3: National Private Television in Jakarta, Indonesia

Note: Processed from various literatures

METHODOLOGY

This research uses an interpretive-subjective paradigm with a constructive approach. Constructivism assumes that knowledge is the result of human construction. Patton argues that constructivist researchers seek to study the various realities that individuals construct and the implications of these constructs for their lives with others. The constructivism paradigm views each individual as having a unique experience. Thus, research with strategies like this suggests that every way an individual views the world is valid, and there needs to be a sense of respect for that view (Patton, 2014).

This study uses qualitative research methodology. This type of qualitative research aims to explain the phenomenon as deeply as possible through data collection. This type of research is used by researchers to facilitate the process of qualitative research that demands data from existing realities. According to Creswell, qualitative research (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 4) is an approach to exploring and understanding the meaning of what a number of individuals or groups perceive as a social or humanitarian problem. The application of a qualitative approach in this study aims to obtain a comprehensive and in-depth picture based on natural situations or conditions through interviews and observation processes related to "How is Disaster Journalism during a Pandemic in Broadcast Media, especially on iNews RCTI and Metro TV?"

This research uses the case study method. A case study is a descriptive and exploratory analysis of a person, group, or event. Case study research is research conducted by focus on certain cases to be observed and analysed carefully and thoroughly. A case study is based on an in-depth investigation of a single individual, group, or event to explore the underlying

causes of the principles. Case study research is conducted in a natural, holistic, and in-depth setting (Yin, 2011).

FINDINGS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Condition

Prior to COVID-19, the mass media had been affected by the disruption that hit the media industry. The COVID-19 pandemic adds to the crisis even more, destroying the media industry. So far, the media industry is faced with three problems that cause a shift in efforts to develop market share (Kovach & Roenstiel, 2007). The disruption that has hit the media so far is, first, the development of technology. Therefore, digital media provides more information than other media. Second, globalization. Globalization is when information is accessed and disseminated without regard to existing national boundaries. Third, conglomeration. Conglomeration allows the media to share production and can take advantage of the facilities owned by each media unit that is part of one company. After three disruptions faced by the media, the disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic adds new, more devastating problems that must be faced globally. Television industry, either directly or indirectly (Mulyana, 2021).

The COVID-19 pandemic has struck on the entire society, including television journalists. In addition to informing them about the development of COVID-19, employees and television leaders in Indonesia are also affected by this COVID-19. Several journalists and company staff were heavily exposed to the fast and deadly spread of the virus. According to Informant Widya Saputra who is the Manager of Public Relations Manager and Newscaster Metro TV, and Informant Apreyvita, have said that,

...When COVID-19 occurs, it is certain that almost all industries are affected, both health and other impacts. Even the number of sufferers on Metro TV has increased along with the increase in the number of COVID-19 sufferers in Indonesia. Explained Widya through an interview using Zoom. (Informant Widya Saputra)

...Until the end of 2021, only a dozen people have contracted COVID-19 at the iNews editor, and no one has died from the disease. (Informant Apreyvita, 2022)

During the Covid-19 Pandemic in Indonesia, Metro TV experienced dozens of employees contracting COVID-19 and some even died. According to data for 2021, 3 people have died from COVID-19 in the Metro Group. One of Metro TV's officials, Deputy Director Technical Support for Metro TV, Muhammad Islam, died on Tuesday, July 20, 2021 due to contracting COVID-19. In addition to the health effects, television journalists also experience psychological impacts. According to Informant Apreyvita,

...At the beginning (the COVID-19 pandemic occurred in Indonesia) the iNews editor was in shock. We know that all sectors, not only the television industry, are experiencing a shock situation. Before (the COVID-19 pandemic) iNwes had never been able to do WFH. Even though at this time it is usually done. (Informant Apreyvita, 2022)

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic that has struck the entire society and industry, reliable management is needed to overcome this crisis and disaster risk. Media management needs to make communication strategies and policies in the face of the epidemic that has also given up on the media industry. Media management is important in communicating about crises and risks because the media produce and disseminate information for crisis preparedness, crisis response, and crisis recovery (Yan & Austin, 2008). According to informant Widya Saputra,

...To anticipate the COVID-19 pandemic on Metro TV, management has created a task force in each unit of the company. The effort to build this task force is the alertness of the management based on the developing situation. (Informant Widya Saputra)

Perception

The information that develops about the COVID-19 Pandemic is categorized into two perspectives, which are the pros and cons. The pro perception of the COVID-19 pandemic information is the perception that COVID-19 is something that really exists and has real impact. Pandemic viruses in the world have a long history until COVID-19, which is currently developing in the world today. Meanwhile, the opposing perception of the COVID-19 Pandemic information views is that COVID-19 is something real but the result of engineering with impact that has been designed for a particular interest (Marcola & Cummins, 2021).

According to television journalists at Metro TV and iNews, COVID-19 is a real pandemic and exists. The first being based on aspects of scientific knowledge, there are several aspects that become a reference for the editorial crew. This knowledge is based on the literacy that has been read and the knowledge of events that have previously occurred. According to informant Latif Siregar, Deputy Editor-in-Chief of iNews,

...COVID-19 is a virus that scientifically and technologically research definitely exists. COVID is a kind of virus that has existed before. This Coronavirus already has the serial, it just happens to be the 2019 coronavirus that originated in China. COVID-19 is a virus that can be scientifically proven to exist. (Informant Latif Siregar)

The second aspect of the COVID-19 perspective is based on empirical experience. According to informant Nabil Basalamah, Production Manager of iNews, COVID-19,

...COVID 19 did not believe in the existence of COVID-19. (Informant Nabil Basalamah)

According to informant Kabul Indrawan, Metro TV News Manager said,

...To me it's something real and yet deadly. The COVID-19 outbreak has caused our space as journalists to no longer be as free as before. (Informant Kabul Indrawan)

The third aspect is information and current events. According to informant Yusrin Zata Lini,

...Metro TV Reporter, COVID-19 is a pandemic that has changed all of us in various ways, not only health aspects but also socio-economic and cultural aspects. Whether we like it or not, we have to adapt to the pandemic itself. More or less, this pandemic is changing behaviour, changing perspectives, and changing solutions to problems from various aspects of our lives so far. (Informant Yusrin Zata Lini)

The fourth aspect is attention. It means how the perception of COVID-19 is obtained from the attention factor in overcoming the COVID-19 problem. According to informant Apreyvita D. Wulansari, Chief Editor of iNews, explained,

...COVID-19 is a real and very serious event and must be handled together. I am concerned about the handling of COVID-19 because I am the representative of the MNC Group to be assigned to the BNPB task force. This is the point why I am very concerned about treatment issues about how we can escape and avoid the frisk (COVID-19). (Informant Apreyvita).

On the other hand, the media in general also believes that there is contradictory information about COVID-19. For example, they believe that COVID-19 is genetic engineering. And in this pandemic event, there are several groups who take advantage of the available opportunities. According to informant Nabil,

...I believe COVID-19 is a fabrication. It is impossible for the coronavirus variant to develop quickly from the first beta or delta variant to the current omnicron. This development does not happen (so rapidly) without human intervention. (Informant Nabil)

According to informant Kabul Indrawan, Metro TV News Manager said,

...I have often heard such opinions (pro and contra), but they are human. There are still people who feel there is no COVID-19. To them (society), COVID-19 is nothing more than a business model developed by a handful of people. Likewise, there are those who believe in (COVID-19) as a conspiracy theory. It's normal for me because it's a fact that until now it still exists. (Informant Kabul Indrawan)

Production Process

During the COVID-19 pandemic, changes were made to the news production process on television. Changes in the work pattern of journalists or television reporters also occurred on Metro TV and Inews. According to informant Kabul Indrawan,

...The disaster that occurred due to the COVID-19 pandemic has caused changes in the working pattern of the Metro TV editors as well. In addition, the COVID-19 pandemic has accelerated the convergence of mastery not only of technology but of other mastery in the reporting process. When the COVID-19 Pandemic occurs, a reporter must be able to master the existing communication technology, and reporters are also required to be able to make news and be a camera person when taking pictures of an event, as well as be able to edit news and pictures simply. A reporter should be able to make news, take pictures, and edit news and pictures. (Informant Kabul Indrawan)

Before the COVID-19 pandemic, the pattern of news production in television journalism began with news projections. The existing news projections are then discussed every day in a projection meeting, which is usually attended by all editors and several other related departments. The results of the editorial meeting are then used as the basis by reporters in covering news in the field. According to informant Kabul Indrawan,

...The results of the projection meeting or editorial meeting then become the basis for the coordinator of coverage to assign reporters in the field. (Informant Kabul Indrawan).

A reporter usually works with a cameraman when covering an event or news. A cameraman or camera person is in charge of taking audio-visuals of the news coverage that is happening. After the news is obtained in the field, it is submitted to the coverage coordinator or regional coordinator. The news manuscript is then submitted to the producer or news editor. The news producer then edits the script with other pertinent information. The edited manuscript is then submitted by the producer to the editor to mix and add background sound to it. Manuscripts and videos that have been edited by producers are brought to the video editor to make videos ready to be broadcast on news programs.





Source: Latief Sirega (personal communication, April 8, 2022)

The pattern of reporting during the COVID-19 pandemic in general is not changed. According to informant Latief Siregar,

...There were no changes in the flow or pattern of reporting. (Informant Latief Siregar)

The reporting pattern is still carried out with projection meetings, then data is collected by reporters and camera people. The news obtained in the field is submitted to the field coordinator or regional coordinator, the news is then submitted to the producer for the script editing with available images and sounds. The results of the news producers are then submitted to the editor to adjust (final editing) the editing of the news. And last, the news was aired in the studio by the program director.

	Table 4: News Reporting Process During the COVID-19 Pandemic				
No	Production Process	Before COVID-19 Pandemic	After COVID-19 Pandemic		
1	Issues Identification	Identification Information is taken from the results of events observation and news development.	 Information taken from events observation. Information taken from information that is viral on social media. 		
2	Projection Meeting	 Meetings are held in the editorial meeting room. The meeting is attended by all editors. 	 No longer done in one room. Done using Communication Technologies. 		
3	Field Coverage	 News reporting is managed by reporters and camera persons. Reporters are in charge of making scripts. Camera persons are in charge of taking pictures and audio. 	 News reporting is managed by reporters without camera person. Reporters are in charge of making scripts. Reporters are in charge of taking pictures and audio. 		
4	Editing	 The script editing is managed by producers. The script, pictures and audio editing is managed by editors. 	 The script editing is managed by reporters guided by producers. The script, pictures and audio editing is managed by reporters guided by producers. The script, pictures and audio final editing is managed by editors. 		
5	Live Broadcasting	It is broadcasted in studio and is attended by many audiences.	 It is broadcasted in studio but the audiences are limited. Must follow health protocol procedures during the broadcasting process. 		

Table 4: N	ews Reporting	Process Duri	ng the COVID-	19 Pandemic
10010 1111	c ii s ii c p oi t ii g	11000000 00011		10 1 0110 01110

Source: Latief Siregar (personal communication, April 8, 2022)

However, the implementation of the work framework has changed. Efforts made in adapting to the COVID-19 Pandemic disaster are changing the work rhythm in accordance with health protocols. Changes in the rhythm of work are carried out by television management both on Metro TV and iNews TV. First, Metro TV Management limits the number of participants in an editorial meeting or a projection meeting physically. Metro TV management's decision confirms that there will be no more face-to-face meetings at the office. According to informant Widya,

...For this reason, editorial meetings or projection meetings can be held anywhere by limiting the number of participants physically in certain rooms, while other participants can participate using digital-based communication technology such as Zoom, Skype, or Google meet. (Informant Widya).

Second, the COVID pandemic has changed the way of communication from direct communication to using-tools communication. When doing field reporting, there is a change in the pattern of interviews conducted by reporters and television editors. Interviews were

conducted face-to-face in the past. During the COVID-19 pandemic, communication was managed using internet-based communication tools such as Zoom, WhatsApp, Skype, and other communication tools. This effort was made to prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Third, before the COVID-19 pandemic, the news reporting was managed by reporters and camera people. The reporter in the field did the news reporting alone without a camera person. The television reporter doubled as a camera person. In addition to reporters collecting data and making news scripts, they must be able to take visuals and record pictures of events and interviews optimally. According to informant Kabul,

...Now in the field, we no longer use cameras for 100% of the reporting process because our reporters, beside making news scripts, must be able to operate their cellphones optimally to record events and statements of sources. In addition, they record the statements of sources in the dialogue process, which can be done with Zoom and others. (Informant Kabul Indrawan)

Fourth, during the COVID-19 pandemic, script writing, script editing, and combining scripts with images were managed by reporters in the field under the direction of producers in the newsroom or other places. Before COVID-19, script making, script editing, and combining scripts with images were managed by several people, such as reporters, producers, and editors. However, after the COVID-19 pandemic, the process was managed by the reporters themselves instead. In the process, television reporters during the COVID-19 pandemic concurrently became producers and editors.

On the fifth day of COVID-19, the editorial room was emptied. Reporters, coverage coordinators, and some producers and editors worked from home. Only a few editors and producers were on standby at the office. They usually did the final editing from the office. This means that the transportation of broadcast material delivery has been done conventionally and through Satellite News Gathering (SNG). Now it can be managed by using internet technology.

Manuscripts that have been sent by reporters from the field that have been edited and combined are then re-edited by the editor from the office as finalization for broadcast. Furthermore, it is ready to be broadcast and sent to the master control to be adjusted according to the script order that has been determined in the projection meeting. The finished manuscript is then read by the presenter in accordance with the order of the news. The reading of the news narration is done in the television news studio.

CONCLUSION

In this study, it can be concluded that television journalism during the COVID-19 Pandemic in Indonesia experienced disruptions and changes. Several disruptions occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic. First, there are health problems in television journals. There are thousands of journalists infected with the COVID-19 virus, and hundreds of journalists died during the pandemic, including television journalists. Several crew members of Metro TV and iNews TV were also infected, and several members of the media crew of Metro TV died. Another disturbance was several television journalists experiencing depression and shock at the beginning of the pandemic that occurred in Indonesia.

Second, the disruption will not only have an impact on health but also on the economy, where the media industry experienced a decline in opinion during the COVID-19 Pandemic (Hanoatubun, 2020). Another impact occurred in the form of a reduction in the

burden of costs such as termination of employment and employee housing. Even more extreme, the media stopped their activities. Metro TV and iNews TV also experienced the economic impact, but according to them, it was not too bad for their companies.

Third, there is a change in the social interaction of television journalists, both in the office and in the field. The implementation of health protocols causes restrictions on social interactions, such as maintaining distance, wearing masks, or using communication tools for interaction. In addition, the limitations of the newsroom force television journalists to work from home.

Fourth, although it does not change the pattern or mechanism of reporting, the technical field has undergone very significant changes. The reporting pattern from the identification of developing issues, projection meetings, field coverage, editing of scripts, and live broadcasts has not changed. However, the implementation in the field underwent a very big change. For example, the projection meeting is not in the office, the reporter's communication with the producer is no longer managed at the office, and the making of news scripts uses sophisticated technology.

Fifth, another change is the acceleration of mastery of communication technology and other broadcasting technologies. The COVID-19 pandemic causes a journalist to be accelerated in mastering information technology. A journalist used to only have one skill, but nowadays a journalist is required to have many skills (multitasking). For example, a journalist is not only required to be able to write, but he or she must be able to take pictures, edit pictures, and provide voiceovers for news. This effort is made to make it easier for journalists to adapt or adjust during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Sixth, the emergence of a new business model in the media industry, especially television. The COVID-19 pandemic occurs at a time when communication technology and other industrial technologies have developed. The COVID-19 pandemic has forced the media industry, especially television, to converge or move to use technology to operate their industry. The use of internet-based technology has now become an obligation in terms of the effectiveness and efficiency of work. In addition, the use of technology is an effort to adapt and adjust during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

The recommendation of this research is needed on the extent to which the transformation of television journalism affects news content from an objective paradigm. In addition, several studies with an objective paradigm can be carried out to follow up on the findings of this study, such as the relationship between technology use and news content during the COVID-19 pandemic. Research on the COVID-19 narrative can be done to see how far the impact of news coverage stretches. Narrative research such as framing analysis, content analysis, and discourse analysis can be carried out in order to exploit the extent of the impact of reporting during the COVID-19 pandemic on news coverage on television in Indonesia. Apart from the research side, due to the acceleration of change that occurred in journalistic work on television, A journalist no longer has to master one skill, such as news script writing, but must master several other skills (multitasking) such as camera person and editor as well. For this reason, it is recommended that a journalist who wants to work in television journalism needs to master other skills besides script writing. A television journalist must be able to write scripts, take pictures, and edit news scripts and visuals.

BIODATA

Musfialdy, is a PhD candidate at the Faculty of Communication Sciences, Universitas Padjadjaran. is an Associate Professor in Department of Communication at the Faculty of Dakwah and Communication. State of Islamic University of Sultan Syarif Kasim, Riau, Indonesia. Email: musfialdy@uin-suska.ac.id

Dadang Rahmat Hidayat, is a Dean of the Faculty of Communication Sciences, Universitas Padjadjaran, is an Associate Professor Associate Professor in Departement Jounalistic Studies at the Faculty of Communication Sciences, Universitas Padjadjaran, Indonesia. Email: dadang.rahmat@unpad.ac.id

Siti Karlinah, is an Associate Professor in Departement Jounalistic Studies at the Faculty of Communication Sciences, Universitas Padjadjaran. Email: siti.karlinah@unpad.ac.id

Uud Wahyudin, is an Associate Professor in Department of Communication Management at the Faculty of Communication Sciences, Universitas Padjadjaran, Indonesia. Email: uudwahyudin@yahoo.co.id

REFERENCES

- Al-Omari, A., Rabaan, A. A., Salih, S., Al-Tawfiq, J. A., & Memish, Z. A. (2019). MERS coronavirus outbreak: Implications for emerging viral infections. *Diagnostic Microbiology and Infectious Disease*, 93(3), 265-285. <u>https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/30413355/</u>
- Anderson, R. M., Fraser, C., Ghani, A. C., Donnelly, C. A., Riley, S., Ferguson, N. M., ... & Hedley, A. J. (2004). Epidemiology, transmission dynamics and control of SARS: The 2002–2003 epidemic. Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. *Series B: Biological Sciences*, 359(1447), 1091-1105. <u>https://doi.org/10.1098/rstb.2004.1490</u>
- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mix methods approaches* (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Gong, J., Zanuddin, H., Hou, W., & Xu, J. (2022). Media attention, dependency, self-efficacy, and prosocial behaviours during the outbreak of COVID-19: A constructive journalism perspective. *Global Media and China*, 7(1), 81-98. <u>https://doi.org/gkj2xb</u>
- Gorbalenya, A., Baker, S., Baric, R. S., de Groot, R., Drosten, C., Gulyaeva, A. A., ... & Ziebuhr, J. (2020). The species severe acute respiratory syndrome-related Coronavirus: Classifying 2019-nCoV and naming it SARS-CoV-2. *Nature Microbiology*, *5*(4), 536-544. <u>https://doi.org/10.1038/s41564-020-0695-z</u>
- Hanoatubun, S., (2020). Dampak COVID-19 terhadap perekonomian Indonesia. *EduPsyCouns: Journal of Education, Psychology and Counseling*, 2(1), 146-153. <u>https://ummaspul.e-journal.id/Edupsycouns/article/view/423</u>
- Hoak, G. (2021). Covering COVID: Journalists' stress and perceived organizational support while reporting on the pandemic. *Journalism & Mass Communication Quarterly*, 98(3) 854–874. <u>https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/10776990211015105</u>
- IJTI Channel. (2020, May 28). *Merumuskan pola baru jurnalisme TV di era new normal* [Video]. YouTube. <u>https://youtu.be/sfbEyECBR94</u>
- Kovach. B., & Rosenstiel T. (2007). *The elements of journalism: What newspeople should know and the public should expect.* New York: Three Rivers Press.
- Mackay I. M., & Arden K. E. (2015). MERS coronavirus: Diagnostics, epidemiology and transmission. *Virology Journal, 12,* 222. <u>https://doi.org/10.1186/s12985-015-0439-5</u>
- Marcola, J., & Cummins, R. (2021). *The truth about COVID-19, exposing, the grate reset, lock down, vaccine passport and the new normal.* Florida Health Publishing.
- Masduki. (2007). Wajah ganda media massa dalam advokasi bencana alam. Jumal UNISIA, 1(2), 97-188.
- Merdeka.com. (2021, Dec 31). Update kasus Covid-19 di Indonesia per 31 Desember 2021. <u>https://www.merdeka.com/peristiwa/update-kasus-COVID-19-di-indonesia-per-31-desember-2021.html</u>
- Morissan. (2010). Jurnalistik televisi muthahir. Jakarta: Kencana.
- Mulyana, D., Hidayat, D. R., Dida, S., Silvana, T., Karlinah, S., Suminar, J. R., & Suryana, A. (2020). The Personalistic System of Healthcare in Indonesia: A Case Study. *Jurnal Komunikasi Ikatan Sarjana Komunikasi Indonesia*, *5*(1), 1-9.
- Nugrahani, A. W. (2021, December 31). Update Covid-19 global 31 Desember 2021: Kasus baru bertambah 1.782.602. *Tribunnews.com.* <u>https://www.tribunnews.com/corona/2021/12/31/update-Covid-19-global-31-</u> <u>desember-2021-kasus-baru-bertambah-1782602</u>
- Patton, M. (2014). Qualitative research and evaluation methods (4th ed.). SAGE.

- Purnamasari, D. M., Yahya, A. N., Mashabi, S., & Galih, B. (2020, December 31). UPDATE: Bertambah 8.074, kini ada 743.198 kasus Covid-19 di Indonesia. *Kompas.com.* <u>https://nasional.kompas.com/read/2020/12/31/16073851/update-bertambah-8074-kini-ada-743198-kasus-covid-19-di-indonesia?page=all</u>
- Rijal, S. (2021). Jurnalistik: Pengelolaan bahasa dalam media. Mulawarman University Press. https://repository.unmul.ac.id/handle/123456789/37931
- Saptorini, E., Zhao, X., & Jackson, D. (2022). Place, power and the pandemic: The disrupted material settings of television news making during COVID-19 in an Indonesian broadcaster. *Journalism Studies*, 23(5-6), 611-628.
- Shapiro, I., Brin, C., Bédard-Brûlé, I., & Mychajlowycz, K. (2013). Verification as a strategic ritual: How journalists retrospectively describe processes for ensuring accuracy. *Journalism Practice*, 7(6), 657-673.
- Smith, R. D. (2006). Responding to global infectious disease outbreaks: Lessons from SARS on the role of risk perception, communication and management. *Social Science & Medicine*, *63*(12), 3113-3123.
- Sumadiria, A. S. H., & Rama, K. S. (2006). Jurnalistik Indonesia: Menulis berita dan feature, panduan praktis jurnalistik profesional. Jakarta: Simbiosa Rekatama Media. <u>https://lib.ui.ac.id/detail?id=33795&lokasi=lokal</u>
- Susilo, A., Rumende, C. M., Pitoyo, C. W., Santoso, W. D., Yulianti, M., Herikurniawan, H., ... & Yunihastuti, E. (2020). Coronavirus disease 2019: Tinjauan literatur terkini. Jurnal Penyakit dalam Indonesia, 7(1). <u>https://doi.org/10.7454/jpdi.v7i1.415</u>
- Triyoga, H., & Sodiq, F. (2021, March 31). Dampak pandemi COVID-19, belanja iklan televisi alami penurunan. *VIVA.co.id.* <u>https://www.viva.co.id/berita/nasional/1360752-dampak-pandemi-Covid-19-</u>

belanja-iklan-televisi-alami-penurunan

- Vellingiri, B., Jayaramayya, K., Iyer, M., Narayanasamy, A., Govindasamy, V., Giridharan, B., ...
 & Subramaniam, M. D. (2020). COVID-19: A promising cure for the global panic. Science of the Total Environment, 725, 138277. <u>https://doi.org/ggr2xs</u>
- World Health Organization. (2020, March 30). Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19): Situation report 70.

https://www.who.int/docs/default-source/coronaviruse/situationreports/20200330-sitrep-70-COVID-19.pdf?sfvrsn=7e0fe3f8_2

- Yan, J., & Austin, L. L. (2018). Social media and crisis communication. Routledge.
- Yin, R. K. (2011). Applications of case study research (3rd ed.). SAGE.