

A CRITICAL DISCOURSE ANALYSIS OF ISLAMOPHOBIA ON NEWS:

**“A LECTURER SHOWED A PAINTING OF THE PROPHET
MUHAMMAD. SHE LOST HER JOB.”**

A GRADUATION PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for Gaining the Bachelor's

Degree in English Literature



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MOTTO

“I got into accidents, but I still made it then”

(AknaF AR)



DEDICATION

I dedicate this graduation thesis to myself and my family. Thank you for believing
and always supporting me all the time.



NOTA DINAS



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kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang Munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas perhatiannya, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

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FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or finding included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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ABSTRACT

The phenomenon of Islamophobia has been around for a long time. It is a serious issue that can lead to hate crimes, prejudice, and discrimination. Dr. Lopez, as an art history lecturer displayed a forbidden painting of Prophet Muhammad in her class, warning students to leave if they did not want to see it. However, she was fired for committing Islamophobia. This research presents two problem statement; the representation of Islamophobia in text analysis and the use of ideology to highlight Islamophobia. To address these formulations, reseracher employs the theory of Critical Discourse Analysis from Teun A. van Dijk through the use of qualitative method. The result of this study showed that the representation of Islamophobia in the news text is seen from the construction of passive sentences used by journalist in narrating the problem of Dr. Lopez. In this case, it means that Dr. Lopez is a victim or object in the issue. This can be seen from the text analysis. Social cognition discusses the examination of ideology. The ideology in this news is the ideology of libelarism, this can be seen from the form of support from the American PEN organization and freedom of opinion groups. The social context that emerged showed that journalists succeeded in shaping public opinion to protest the university's decision to expel Dr. Lopez.

Keywords: *Critical Discourse Analysis, Ideology, Islamophobia, van Dijk.*

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ABSTRAK

Fenomena Islamofobia telah ada sejak lama. Islamofobia merupakan masalah serius yang dapat menyebabkan kejahatan kebencian, prasangka, dan diskriminasi. Sebagai dosen sejarah seni, Dr. Lopez menampilkan lukisan Nabi Muhammad di kelasnya. Dia memberi peringatan kepada para mahasiswa untuk dapat meninggalkan kelas jika tidak ingin melihat lukisan tersebut. Tetapi setelah kejadian tersebut, dia dipecat karena dianggap melakukan tindakan Islamofobia. Penelitian ini menyajikan dua rumusan masalah, yaitu representasi Islamofobia dalam analisis teks dan penggunaan ideologi untuk menyoroti Islamofobia dalam teks berita tersebut. Peneliti menggunakan teori Analisis Wacana Kritis dari Teun A. van Dijk dengan menggunakan metode kualitatif. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa representasi islamofobia dalam teks berita dilihat dari konstruksi kalimat pasif yang digunakan oleh jurnalis dalam menarasikan permasalahan Dr. Lopez. Dalam hal ini berarti Dr. Lopez merupakan korban atau objek dalam masalah. Ini dapat dilihat melalui analisis teks. Kognisi sosial membahas tentang ideologi. Ideologi yang terkandung dalam berita ini adalah ideologi libelarisme, hal ini dapat dilihat dari bentuk dukungan PEN Amerika dan kelompok kebebasan berpendapat terkait masalah Islamofobia dalam teks berita tersebut. Konteks sosial yang muncul menunjukkan bahwa jurnalis berhasil membentuk opini publik untuk memprotes keputusan universitas yang telah mengeluarkan Dr. Lopez.

Kata kunci: *Analisis Wacana Kritis, Ideologi, Islamofobia, van Dijk.*

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

In the field of linguistics, Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) is simply an attempt to examine a meaning that exists in both oral and written language. Macrostructures are higher level semantic or conceptual structures that organize the local microstructures of discourse, interaction, and their cognitive processing (Van Dijk, 1980, p. 9). They play a crucial role in shaping how we understand and interpret language at a global level. Macrostructures emerge as a result of reducing or summarizing cognitive activity. Van Dijk proposes a theoretical framework for understanding macrostructures. He investigates how these structures operate across different domains, including discourse, interaction, and cognition (Van Dijk, 1980, p. 9). Macrorules guide our comprehension and production of discourse. They help us identify salient information, infer connections, and construct coherent mental representations. Understanding macrostructures contributes to our overall cognitive processing of language.

Macrostructure and microstructure are distinguished from a text, power, domination, and inequality between social groups are considered as macro-level, while language use, discourse, verbal interaction, and communication are considered as micro-level. Social structure is connected to discourse through individuals and their cognitive systems. According to

(Van Dijk, 1988, p. 108) social groups are defined by various factors such as social functions, roles, positions, class, gender, age, or ethnic group membership. These factors play a significant role in shaping the social cognitions of the individuals within the group. Furthermore, the use of attitudes in discourse which can be considered a social practice, is also influenced by these defining characteristics of the group. Racial and ethnic relations are one of the areas in which rhetoric plays an essential role in the continuation of inequality.

Discourse analysis seeks to uncover the ways in which texts structure relations of power and ideology. The use of ideology in news text makes it seem more instrumental in building theories that emphasize how the acceptance of the dominant group takes place in a peaceful process, without violence. In western media, it is important to distinguish between facts and opinions. However, it is crucial to analyse ideologies when claims emphasize the separation of ideology. The intended audience and the reach of public discourses make them more significant in perpetuating ideologies compared to everyday conversations. Public discourses, especially in politics and the media, involve influential figures who can shape the prevailing ideological consensus (Van Dijk, 1998, p. 265).

Power is prevalent in CDA. The control of power within discourse revolves around influential individuals regulating and limiting the input of less influential participants. It is beneficial to categorize these constraints

into three main types: contents, relations, and subjects (Fairclough, 2013b, p. 46). It is impossible for any language to be neutral or objective, and any discourse is inevitably imbued with power dynamics. Language does not generate power, but it may be employed to analyze power and give a precisely an accurate framework for power inequalities in social hierarchical institutions. Power is no longer the product of conscious people collaborating and opposing one another through force and coercion, however rather of many unconscious social influences and ideological concealing aspects. Understanding power behind discourse helps reveal hidden biases, ideologies, and unequal power distribution.

The mass media plays a significant role in shaping societal ideologies (Van Dijk, 1998, p. 265). A journalist uses language to show which ideology he believes in. The aim of ideology itself is to form an identity of a certain group. In the news entitled “A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job”, the researcher will investigate and reveal the form of islamophobia contained in it. This incident took place at the University of Hamline in the United States. The conflict originated from an online lecture delivered by Dr. Lopez in October 6, 2022. Dr. Lopez had notified the students in advance that they would be examining artwork related to prophet Muhammad, both in the course syllabus and through a two-minute trigger warning at the beginning of the class. Despite this, not a single student chose to leave the lecture.

The following day, Dr. Lopez was informed via email by the university that she was being terminated due to allegations of disrespect and Islamophobia. It appears that a student named Aram Wedatalla lodged a complaint with the university administration, claiming that Dr. Lopez had offended Muslims by displaying an image of the prophet Muhammad. Following this incident, Dr. Lopez received significant support from scholars at various institutions and several freedoms of speech organizations. To this day, the incident continues to spark controversy and debate among academics and the general public.

Islamophobia is the irrational fear of, aversion to, or discrimination against Islam or Muslims (Hakim, 2023). It is a serious issue that can lead to hate crimes, prejudice, and discrimination. It is important to educate people about the true nature of Islam and to combat Islamophobia in all its forms. Islamophobia has become increasingly prevalent due to various factors. First, global terrorism perpetrated by extremist Muslim groups has played a role. The 9/11 attacks, for example, created a negative image of Islam, even though the majority of Muslims reject extremism. Moreover, the mass media also contributed to the spread of Islamophobia. Socio-political factors contribute to the rise of Islamophobia, as sensationalist reporting often highlights extreme acts and obscures the true picture of Islam and Muslims. Nationalist-chauvinist, liberal-secular/radical, and atheist groups are responsible for the development of Islamophobia.

The researcher analyses the news by using Van Dijk's Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) concept. The aim of this study is to identify how the journalist uses language to make ideology in the news text. CDA investigates the connection between individuals who use language, specifically in the context of news consumption, and the unequal power dynamics that exist. The term "critical" in CDA highlights and explains the concealed association between language, power, and ideology. In addition, CDA serves as a potent instrument for dissecting texts to examine the intended ideological portrayals. Van Dijk's discourse analysis concept has three dimensions: text, social cognition, and social context. The analysis of the text focuses on the utilization of text structure and discourse strategy to convey a specific theme. Researchers will analyse the news article using Van Dijk's news discourse structure model. Van Dijk (1987, p. 17) categorizes discourse structures into three distinct parts: macrostructures, microstructures, and superstructures.

From the several statements above, the objective of news text is to gain public acceptance, and power ideology play a role in it. The researcher will analyze the news article titled "A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job," which includes a space for anti-Islamic ideologies. The article was authored by Vimel Patel and Published on January 8,(2023), in *The New York Times*. The researcher aims to investigate whether Vimel Patel has utilized ideology to promote Islamophobia in his news article. The selection of this article is based on its

provocative title and potential for controversy. The researcher believes it is imperative to conduct a thorough investigation to determine how ideology influences news reporting. There are three reasons why this study can be conducted. Firstly, *The New York Times* is the largest mass media outlet in the United States. In addition, the news articles published by *The New York Times* are often controversial and based on ideological positions. At last, the power of mass media in shaping public perception and spreading liberal ideology is evidenced by the discourse generated by news organizations like *The New York Times*.

The researcher will utilize Van Dijk's Critical Discourse Analysis theory to identify ideological perspectives conveyed within the news article titled "A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job." Teun Van Dijk's framework was selected due to its specific focus on the social relations of ideology, aligning with the research's objectives.

1.2 Research Question

1. How Islamophobia is represented in the news text analysis "A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost His Job."?
2. How is ideology used to highlight Islamophobia in the news "A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job."?

1.3 Objectives of Study

1. To describe the representation of islamophobia in the news text through text analysis consisting of macrostructure, superstructure, and microstructure.
2. To analyse ideology in the news text with social cognition and social context analysis.

1.4 Scope of Study

The scope of this study focused on Critical Discourse Analysis by Teun Van Dijk. Critical Discourse Analysis is based on comprehending the ideological structures and social power relations involved in discourse. There is a proposition that dominant power controls news text. The study focuses on one of the studies in Critical Discourse Analysis that is the writer's ideology. Numerous ideologies are present in news text, including persuasive power grounded in knowledge, information, or authority, such as the power held by parents, professors, or journalist.

1.5 Significances of Study

The primary goal of the research is to identify the ideology through analysing the macrostructures (thematic), superstructures (schemata), and microstructures contained in the news. In addition, researcher also analyses the social cognition and social context of the news. The study is expected to be beneficial to readers, especially the students who learn Critical Discourse Analysis. The study is intended to identify Islamophobic that exists in the

news. Then, it is presumed that the result of this study will hopefully expand the understanding of Critical Discourse analysis, particularly for linguistics students. Moreover, the researcher expects that this study can help the other researcher to get more information on how to identify ideology contained in the news using CDA theory.

1.6 Literature Review

Literature review encompasses the theoretical frameworks or explanations associated with the research topic. Researcher will analyse the ideology in the news article entitled “A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job” from *The New York Times*. Researcher found some previous research related to this study that explains Critical Discourse Analysis. Below are some studies relevant to the discussion in this paper. Those are:

Recently research was conducted by Mukhlis (2020) and his four friends. Van Dijk’s Critical Discourse Analysis was utilized by researchers to examine news using microstructure, macrostructure, and superstructure approaches. The study found that the news contained three dimensions of text based on van Dijk’s theory: superstructure, microstructure, and macrostructure. The text discusses the coherence and structure of the superstructure dimension, as well as the thematic or topic of the macrostructure dimension. The latter evaluates the implementation of the distance learning policy launched by the Minister of Education and Culter of the Republic of Indonesia. The microstructure dimension includes

elements such as background, details, intent, presumption, sentence from (passive and active), coherence, pronouns, lexicon, graphics, and metaphors.

The difference between this research and the previous research is the subject matter under examination, namely analysing the representation of Islamophobia. Another point of differentiation is the methodology employed, which employs social cognitive and social context to analyse the ideology of journalist. While the similarity lies in the analysis of text dimensions by Van Dijk.

Furthermore, a journal article published by Putriyanti, Rustono, and Subyanto (2020). The “Ayat-Ayat Cinta” novel by Habiburrahman El Shirazy, which explores the theme of polygamy, requires the application of CDA theory. The research approach utilized in this study is CDA van Dijk, which involves uncovering the text’s structure and utilizing advanced techniques for analysis. The objective of the research was to identify the macrostructures, superstructures, and microstructures within the novel. The research findings revealed the presence of a macrostructures related to polygamous marriage, a superstructure depicting the first wife’s request for her husband to remarry, and a microstructure that include: a) a semantic structure highlighting the first wife’s feelings of jealousy, and b) a stylistic analysis showcasing the use of pronouns such as “brother” and “sister” to emphasize the friendly relationship between the wives. In conclusion, the

study highlights the importance of polygamous marriage and the need for sincerity within such relationships.

This study has similarities with the previous studies related to the application of van Dijk's text structure theory. However, a distinguishing feature of this study lies in its research subject. The data utilized in this analysis is derived from online news article that address the topic of Islamophobia. Furthermore, this study employs van Dijk's theory, which remains pertinent to the analysis of text structure, specifically focusing on social cognition and social context.

The following article examines the macrostructure of online news texts. This article was written by Huda, Hidayat, and Alek (2020). This research aims to analyze the structure of a tempo.com news article that discusses the Indonesian governments' plan to relocate the capital city. The study implements the Van Dijk approach. This study found that journalists from tempo.com portrayed negative public opinion in their news reporting. The result of the study shows that the news analysed contains both ideology and capitalist strategies.

The current research is similar to previous research, which examines the use of ideology and power by journalist in the news text. Nevertheless, there are still differences between the two, specifically in regard to the analysis of the representation of Islamophobia and the analysis of social cognition and social context employed to examine the ideology of journalist.

The last previous studies, a journal was written by Mardikantoro, Siroj, and Utami (2020). The objective of this study is to determine the conclusion of news articles in newspapers, specifically focusing on the macrostructure and superstructure dimensions. The analysis of Teun van Dijk's CDA was utilized, specifically examining the dimensions of the text. The findings revealed that when reporting corruption cases in Suara Merdeka, Republika, Kompas, and Jawa Pos newspapers, journalist constructed the news by emphasizing ongoing corruption as the main theme. Additionally, in the superstructure dimension, various categories of news schemes were formulated to create a cohesive story. This includes a summary consisting of two elements: the title and lead, as well as the overall news content from introduction to conclusion.

The similarity between this research and previous research is the object of research. Additionally, the use of text dimensions analysis by Van Dijk's is a point of comparison. However, the key distinction lies in the analysis of social cognition and social context, which is still relevant to the aspect of the analysis of text structure.

1.7 Theoretical Approach

Teun Van Dijk's Critical Discourse Analysis will be used in this research. Wherefore this research aims to find the representation of Islamophobic of news texts on *The New York Times*. Teun Van Dijk is one of the founding fathers of Critical Discourse Analysis. There are several books that he has published. Van Dijk has examined Critical Discourse

Analysis from the perspective of recognizing the ideology. Ideologies might influence all aspects of text or speech, and they can be conveyed explicitly or implicitly in the discourse structure.

Van Dijk assumes that every concise definition of ideology notes that its function is to legitimize power and inequality. Likewise, ideologies are thought to obscure the truth, reality, and even the objective material conditions of existence, as well as the interests of social formations. Besides the negative functions of ideology, it must be noted that ideologies also have a positive role in empowering oppressed groups, fostering solidarity, organizing resistance, and sustaining opposition. Furthermore, ideologies serve to safeguard interests and resources, whether they are unfair privileges or necessary conditions of existence Van Dijk (Van Dijk, 1998, p. 5).

The social dimension of ideology, as identified by (Van Dijk, 1998, p. 138), entails the role of racism as a concrete instance of a set of ideologies that contribute significantly to the reproduction of ethnicity or ethnic and racial inequality in “Western” society. In this context, encompasses political factors and includes prejudice and discrimination against ethnic and racial minority groups, anti-Semitism, ethnocentrism, and xenophobia. It is a multifaceted system of oppression that requires examination across various societal domains, including cognition, discourse, group relations, organization, and culture.

Moreover, researcher analyses the news article to highlight the ideology that represent Islamophobia using Van Dijk’s news discourse

analysis. It suggests that news analysis holds significant social, political, or ideological relevance in conveying implied or indirect meanings or functions of news reports. From critical perspective, what is not explicitly stated or intended may even be more important than what is. The researcher will reference Van Dijk's 1987 book, "News Analysis", to conduct the research, to demonstrate ideological bias, the researcher will analyse microstructures, macrostructures, and superstructures using Van Dijk's discourse structure. Bierwisch and Van Dijk (1977, p. 7) assumed that macrostructure to be the semantic structure of speech, with meaning and reference defined in terms of the meaning of its parts. The meaning of the macrostructure is a function of the meaning and propositional reference of its constituents, much as the values of a sentence is a result of its predicates, arguments, and operators. The intuitive concept of the global meaning, subject, or topic of a text or a part of a text is defined by macrostructure. The use of individual sentence or sequential meanings to define such meaning systems is insufficient. The use of macro-level rules is necessary to determine the most important, obvious, or relevant component of a speech section. Because macro-propositions do not require explicit representation, it must use mapping rules to derive the macro-structure of the discourse from the micro-structure or methods to change one proposition sequence into another at a different level of description. This is the type of semantic modification as a macro-rule.

Speaking of ideology, Van Dijk in his book entitled “News Analysis” discusses the analysis of news as discourse. He identifies his analysis into three parts, namely, macrostructures, superstructures, and microstructures. The concept of semantic macrostructures by Van Dijk (1987, p. 13) was introduced to encompass a crucial element of discourse and discourse processing. It outlines the main topics or themes of a text while establishing the overall coherence and essence. These macrostructures are formulated from sentence meanings through a series of roles within a linguistic theory, using operations like selection, generalization, and construction. In cognitive theory, these rules function as provisional yet efficient strategies that help readers extract the topic from a series of sentences.

The schematic superstructure fulfils the form for organizing the overall meaning of the text as a whole. A schema is established through a collection of defining categories and a set of guidelines or methods that determine the sequence of these categories. In the absence of macrostructures and microstructures, we would be compelled to interpret and create consistency at the microlevel and devise higher-level frameworks. Therefore, overarching structures, encompassing both thematic content and schematic form, are essential for theoretical examination and for the effective creation and comprehension of a text (Van Dijk, 1977, pp. 14–15).

Focus on textual structures in news reports, with attention also given to the phonological aspect in spoken news reports. This aspect helps in understanding intonation patterns that convey semantic or rhetorical functions. Analysing reported speech in news interviews requires a deeper level of dialogue analysis, including rules related to turn distribution, pausing, repairs, and other properties of speech. However, practical analysis has limitations, especially when dealing with extensive data sets. While main topics can be extracted from many news reports, identifying all syntactic, stylistic, and semantic structures present can be challenging (Van Dijk, 1977, pp. 17–18). The analysis of discourse goes beyond text and dialogues to include the processing and utilization of discourses in social and communicative contexts. This integrated approach considers the links between text and context, focusing on how societal macro properties manifest in news reports at a microlevel. For example, it explores how economic conditions impact the structures of news reports, and how journalists' characteristics influence the properties of news discourse. Conversely, it also examines how news text analysis can infer macro dimensions reliably (Van Dijk, 1977, p. 18).

From the statement above, this theory is relevant to the problem as the researcher wants to explain the Islamophobic that is involved in news texts, “A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job.” It proves how ideology of writer affect society. Researcher chose

Teun Van Dijk theory because his theory explains the social relation of power and ideology more specifically, which is the aim of this study.

1.8 Research Method

1.8.1 Type of Research

This study uses descriptive qualitative research approaches for solving the problem state. According to J. Creswell, qualitative research is a method to collect data, analyze, and report writing disagreeing with the conventional (Creswell & Guetterman, 2018, p. 2). On the other hand, this study employs a strategy to analyze the item, collect data, and analyze and report and conclude the data results. The method is relevant for this study as the researcher intends to analyze and identify the ideology of the news article. The researcher uses a descriptive qualitative to identify the Islamophobia through ideology with Van Dijk's theory on news discourse analysis.

1.8.2 Data Source

The data source of this research is based on a news article titled "A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job", published in *The New York Times* on January 8, 2023, and written by Vimel Patel, a reporter for the same organization. The news article reports on an incident at Hamline University where a lecturer was fired for displaying a painting of the Prophet Muhammad. The researcher believes that the news illustrates Islamophobia. Due to the comprehensive nature of Van Dijk's

CDA theory, the researcher incorporated an additional data source from the comment section of *The New York Times* and press release from PEN America's media online.

1.8.3 Data Collection Technique

The primary objective of research is to obtain data, making data collection techniques the most crucial step in the research process (Purba, 2016, p. 50). In this particular study, specifically in the form of news article published by online media. The focus of the research is on Islamophobia issues at Hamline University. Therefore, this study uses the documentation to collect the data. A document refers to any written or recorded material, excluding records that are specifically requested by a researcher (Alwasilah, 2002). The documentation utilized in this study is in the form of news distributed by The New York Times. The data collection techniques employed through documentation are most relevant because researcher is engaged in ideological research on news pertaining to Islamophobia. Documentation is conducted through the analysis of the content of the news, with the objective of identifying patterns, themes, and crucial information that supports the research objectives.

1.8.4 Data Analysis Technique

The analysis process was conducted in several systematic steps. First, the researcher categorized the data obtained through documentation into text analysis, which includes macrostructure, superstructure, and

microstructure. Additionally, the researcher employed social cognition and social context analysis to identify ideology within the data. The next step, the researcher interpreted the data in relation to the research questions and provided comprehensive explanations in the form of structured narratives regarding all components of text analysis, social cognition, and social context. The final stage is the process of drawing conclusions from the data that has been analyzed using the Van Dijk approach. In order to guarantee the accuracy and reliability of the conclusions drawn, the researcher triangulates by utilizing a variety of data sources, including comments from the public in the comment section of *The New York Times* and the PEN America's perspective on the issue raised in this study, in order to validate the consistency of the results.

1.9 Paper Organization

This study is divided into four chapters. The background of study, research question, objectives of study, scope of study, significance of study, literature review, theoretical approach, and the research method are component of the first chapter. The second chapter will describe the theoretical framework that will be used to illustrate the idea in greater detail. This study uses Critical Discourse Analysis by Van Dijk as the main theory. The next section is the findings and discussion, in which researcher will explain the data findings from the news text. The final chapter is conclusion

and suggestions, which describe this researcher's conclusion as well as suggestions for future researchers.



CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1 Conclusion

This study utilizes Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) theory developed by Teun A. van Dijk to analyze the news article titled “A Lecturer Showed a Painting of the Prophet Muhammad. She Lost Her Job” written by Vimal Patel. The research is centered on examining representation of Islamophobia and journalist’s ideology through text analysis, social cognition, and social context. The data for this research is derived from a news article published in *The New York Times*. The analysis leads to the following conclusion.

The representation of Islamophobia in the news text can be seen from the text analysis that Dr. Lopez refers as a victim or object marked by the use of passive sentence construction. Other findings indicates that Vimal Patel attempts to influence public opinion through his news articles by incorporating direct quotes from various sources. Specifically, Patel highlights the viewpoints of scientists who believe that the dismissal incident at Hamline University is fraudulent. This controversy serves to mobilize public sentiment in opposition to the allegations of Islamophobia made by Dr. Lopez. Consequently, readers are prompted to perceive the university as an institution that fails to uphold the principles of academic

freedom. Ultimately, the public is encouraged to become more aware of issues surrounding academic freedom, educations, and the arts.

The following section will address the dimension of social cognition and social context. The findings of this study indicate that Vimal Patel's viewpoints influence public opinion by contrasting the perspective of supporters of academic freedom with those who view the depiction of the prophet Muhammad as representation of Islamophobia. It can be concluded that the text is strategically constructed to persuade the public that the depiction of the prophet Muhammad is not an Islamophobia. Patel employs a liberal ideology in his news article, as evidenced by his alignment with the non-profit organization PEN America and various free speech groups that have endorsed a petition in defense of Dr. Lopez. The social context further explores how academic freedom serves as an expression of power within the discourse, while also examining public reactions to the events unfolding at Hamline University.

4.2 Suggestion

Based on the findings of the study, future researchers are advised to broaden their exploration of discourse and examine additional Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) studies, widening the scope of their research. This approach may facilitate a more comprehensive understanding of discourse.

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