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### ANALYSIS OF ONLINE NEWS MEDIA FRAMING ON WEST JAVA PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT POLICIES IN MANAGING COVID-19

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#### Abstract

*The objective of this research is to ascertain the framing utilized in online media coverage of the Covid-19 handling policies of the West Java Provincial Government, with a particular focus on the online media platforms Tirto.id, Tempo.co, and Republika.id. The present investigation employs a qualitative descriptive methodology. Several data points were gathered through the utilization of observation and documentation methodologies. The Robert N. Entman model of framing analysis was utilized to analyze the data, which involved defining problems, diagnosing causes, making moral judgments, and providing treatment recommendations. The study revealed that a particular informant was the dominant source of news for the selection of news sources and reports from Tirto.id and Tempo.co media. The media outlet Republika.co.id has presented a range of sources; however, it is notable that the majority of these sources originate from the government. Thus, the findings of this study indicate that the media possesses the capability to offer a wider range of sources and depict different factions that either endorse or oppose government policies.*

**Keywords:** *media framing, online media, Covid-19 policy, framing analysis*

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#### Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui framing pemberitaan media online terhadap kebijakan Pemerintah Provinsi Jawa Barat dalam penanganan Covid-19 khususnya pada media online Tirto.id, Tempo.co, dan Republika.id. Penelitian ini menggunakan jenis pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif. Sejumlah data dikumpulkan dengan menggunakan teknik observasi dan dokumentasi. Data dianalisis dengan menggunakan metode analisis *framing* model Robert N. Entman dengan unsur-unsur antara lain *define problems* (menentukan masalah), *diagnose causes* (memperkirakan penyebab masalah), *make moral judgement* (membuat keputusan moral), dan *treatment recommendation* (memberikan saran penyelesaian). Hasil penelitian menunjukkan ketiga media yang diteliti memiliki kecenderungan untuk melakukan framing. Berbeda dengan Republika.co.id, Tirto.id dan

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Tempo.co cenderung minim narasumber dalam setiap pemberitaannya dan penyajiannya cenderung tanpa opini dari jurnalisnya. Sebaliknya, Republika.co.id walaupun jumlah informan lebih banyak, akan tetapi sebagian besar berasal dari pihak pemerintah sehingga dianggap tidak menampilkan pandangan alternatif. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini menyarankan agar media mampu menghadirkan narasumber yang lebih beragam dan merupakan representasi dari berbagai golongan baik yang mendukung maupun menolak kebijakan yang dikeluarkan pemerintah.

**Kata kunci:** framing media, media online, kebijakan Covid-19, analisis framing

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## INTRODUCTION

The media plays a significant role in the implementation of democracy in Indonesia, both as a conduit for the government to communicate its policies and programs to the public and as a channel for the public to convey its messages and aspirations to the government (Nuh, 2020: 4). In the context of the media as a bridge, the manner in which the writer presents the news will have a significant impact on the comprehension of the news content. Furthermore, the press or mass media have their own interests. The mass media is frequently utilized by various parties to advance their economic and political objectives (Page, 1996).

Framing and the news conveyed by the media are inseparable. According to Anggoro (2014), news is presented through framing. Framing is also a strategy used by the media to influence readers' opinions in accordance with the news writer's perspective. Framing is used to subtly divert facts so that there is a process of selecting information, emphasizing certain aspects, selecting words, and omitting necessary information. Framing is not prohibited as long as it adheres to the journalistic code of ethics and principles. As desired by the media, framing is used to produce a particular image or impression. Framing exists because each media outlet's editorial policy determines the type of news that will be conveyed to the public. The policy is contingent on the ideology adopted by the

media, such as peace journalism, yellow journalism, etc. The tone used reveals how the media frames the news.

Research conducted by Insan (2020) on three distinct television stations reveals variations in the presentation of data regarding the 2019 presidential and vice-presidential candidates. It was discovered that the three television stations were generally neutral in their coverage of the 2019 presidential and vice-presidential candidates, but TV M emphasized the negative side of the news more than the positive, whereas RCTI presented more positive news than negative.

Not only do the media use framing in their coverage of presidential and vice presidential candidates, but also in every news story they produce, such as when discussing government policies and the Covid-19 pandemic. The use of framing will influence the level of public support for government policies during the pandemic. This is consistent with research conducted by Lee and Basnyat in Fahrimal et al (2020), which examined the influence of framing the news of the H1N1 pandemic in Singapore's mass media in an effort to increase positive support for government policies.

This pandemic has affected nearly every region of the globe, including Indonesia, making Covid-19 a trending topic over the past few years. Government policy is most frequently highlighted as an effort to combat the spread and management of

Covid-19, particularly in online news media.

Each region in Indonesia responds to the Covid-19 pandemic in a distinct manner. The provincial government of West Java is regarded as one of the regions that is best at resolving this issue. According to a study conducted by Drone, the West Java Provincial Government's response to the COVID-19 issue is superior to that of the national government. Analysis of online news articles and social media networks from March 9<sup>th</sup> to April 9<sup>th</sup> led to the conclusion. More than 150,000 tweets, 2,000 Facebook views, 6,000 Instagram views, 1,400 YouTube views, and 34,000 online media articles, mostly positive, reflect the public sentiment on the publication page (Maulana, 2020).

In the meantime, the selected news media are online media outlets that are at the top of the ranking according to Remotivi's 2020 Inclusive Media Index (IMI) ranking. Based on the evaluation, there are ten online news outlets in Indonesia with the highest online journalism report cards for inclusive reporting. The leading three websites are Tirto.id, Tempo.co, and Republika.co.id. Tirto.id received 7.14 points, Tempo.co received 6.75 points, and Republika.co.id scored 6.67 points on a scale from 0 to 10 for two aspects of assessment: journalism standards and media affirmation (Remotivi, 2021). The ranking of 2020 Inclusive Media Index Score is shown in Table 1 below:

**Table 1**  
**Index Score Rating**  
**Inclusive Media 2020**

Rank	Media	Score
1.	Tirto.id	7,14
2.	Tempo.co	6,75
3.	Republika.co.id	6,67
4.	CNNIndonesia.com	6,51

5.	Kompas.com	6,4
6.	Liputan6.com	6,34
7.	Suara.com	6,22
8.	Detik.com	6,07
9.	Okezone.com	5,86
10.	Tribunnews.com	5,77

Source: Inclusive Media Index Research Report 2020 (Remotivi, 2021)

According to the ranking, this research looks at the framework of online media coverage, in this case the top three media in the inclusive media index, such as Tirto.id, Tempo.co, and Republika.co.id.

Tirto.id is an online news site published on August 3, 2016 by Atmaji Sapto Anggoro as the founder as well as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and editor-in-chief. Tirto, which can also be interpreted as water, has the slogan "Clear, Flowing, Enlightening". Tirto.id defines the philosophy of water as something that is always required, flowing, clear and filling up to the deepest cracks. To support these ideals, Tirto.id offers news that is straightforward, enlightening, insightful, contextual, factual, with in-depth investigations, and strengthened by data that can be accounted for. In presenting its news, Tirto.id is equipped with tiMeter (sentiment measurement) from the results of an overall analysis of mass media in Indonesia on certain figures and phenomena that are presently being discussed. In 2016, Tirto.id received an award as Feature Articles and Photo Story from the International Labor Organization which also collaborates with the Alliance of Independent Journalists (AJI). Tirto.id also won an award in the "ID Website Awards 2016" organized by the Indonesian Internet Domain Name Manager (PANDI) as the best news and media page and won an award as the most innovative

cyber media in the Adinegoro Journalistic Award organized by the Indonesian Journalists Association (PWI) in 2018.

Meanwhile, Tempo.co is a subsidiary of PT Tempo Inti Media Tbk. which is engaged in online journalism in Indonesia. Before expanding as it is today, TEMPO was a magazine that was first published on March 6, 1971 with the idea of Goenawan Mohamad, Harjoko Trisnadi, Fikri Jufri, Cristianto Wibisono, and Lukman Setiawan. TEMPO Magazine is one of the magazines that was vocal in criticizing the policies issued during the New Order government. In 1982 the magazine's right to publish was revoked for publishing the Golkar Party Campaign riot in Banteng Square, Central Jakarta and on June 21, 1994, TEMPO magazine was again barred from publication due to its coverage of the purchase of used warships from East Germany. So, to fill the void, tempointeraktif.com was founded on March 6, 1996 with the slogan "good to read and trustworthy". After the end of the New Order government, TEMPO magazine was published one more time. The company effectively expanded its business by launching other news media products such as TEMPO newspaper in 2001 and TEMPO media application that can be downloaded on Play Store and Apple Store and launched Tempo Channel in 2015. Tempointeraktif.com became one of the pioneers of online news media at that time. In 2011, tempointeraktif.com changed its name to Tempo.co which has encountered many developments. In the same year, Tempo.co won the Silver Award from the Asia Digital Media Award as "The Best Mobile Media in 2011". Tempo.co also claimed the world title at the hackathon media competition held in Vienna, Austria by the Global Editors Network Association on June 17, 2016. Today, Tempo.co has more than 10 channels that discuss numerous news

issues ranging from national, world, business, technology, fashion and so on.

While Republika.co.id or known as Republika Online (ROL) is an online news site developed by PT Abdi Bangsa Tbk. In the past, Republika was a national publication published on January 4, 1993 in the midst of the Indonesian Muslim Community. Republika adopts the ideology of Nationality, Democracy and Islamicity. The support of the Association of Muslim Scholars throughout Indonesia (ICMI) has brought Republika to become a forum for aspirations for the people and increase the diversity of information among the community. Therefore, in line with its mission to develop the people, Republika newspaper also received a lot of support from the Muslim community in Indonesia. Two years after the publication of Republika newspaper, precisely in 1995, Republika Online (ROL) was formed with the address [www.republika.co.id](http://www.republika.co.id). Republika Online was formed with the objective of simplifying the publication of news for readers who cannot be reached by printed newspapers or readers who come from abroad. At first, this site only displayed a copy of the news that had been printed in the Republika newspaper in complete. At the end of 2000, Republika's share ownership was under Mahaka Media which made Erick Thohir the predominant shareholder at that time. Then in 2004, PT Republika Media Mandiri as a subsidiary of PT Abdi Bangsa Tbk, took administration of Republika. Now, Republika Online has experienced many developments that make it a community-based multimedia web portal that not only presents news but also presents e-commerce and social media in its content. Republika has also garnered several awards including as a pioneer of online newspaper media at the Adinegoro Journalistic Award at the 2018 National Press Day anniversary. In addition, Republika.co.id won first place as

the finest online news media in the use of Indonesian language at the peak of the 2021 Language and Literature Month event organized by the Ministry of Education and Culture.

Due to their diverse historical contexts and accomplishments, the three online media are the three most inclusive media. This study aims to determine the narrative tendencies of the three media regarding the West Java Provincial Government's Covid-19 policy..

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **1. News Media**

The term media is frequently associated with the press. Based on their respective definitions, the media refers to a forum for journalistic activities involving the expression of an opinion, whereas the term press refers to individuals or organizations that engage in journalistic and broadcasting activities (Romli, 2020). In order for us to comprehend that the media is a means and the press is an institution.

The news, meanwhile, is the result of a complex process of categorizing and selecting certain events and topics into a single category (Eriyanto, 2002). In the meantime, Schudson (2002) asserts that news is the result of the creation of social values, which always entails particular perspectives and elements, such that the understanding of the existing reality is contingent on how the facts are perceived and interpreted. Consequently, news can be understood as the result of information processing when certain perspectives are taken into account.

The media also contributes to the formation of the reality depicted in the news (Muslim, 2013). Communicators use the media to convey messages to audiences. In this context, mass media refers to the use of

mechanical communication technologies such as newspapers, radio, film, and television to convey these messages to the audience (Cangara, 2010).

With the development of ever-more-advanced technologies, the dissemination of information to the public no longer relies solely on newspapers, radio, or television, but also on online or internet-based technologies. According to Romli (2018), online media is defined as media that is accessed online via a website. Online media is also an internet-based journalistic product that is produced and disseminated online.

### **1. Framing media**

The media are associated with the term framing. According to Eriyanto (2002), framing is a technique used to determine how the media presents an event. Entman (1993) defines frame as the process of selecting and emphasizing certain aspects of perceived reality, as well as emphasizing interpretations and evaluations of that reality. In addition, Eriyanto (2002) explains that framing analysis is an examination of how the media construct reality and how an event is interpreted and packaged by the media. In the meantime, according to Sobur (2006), framing analysis is conducted by observing strategies for selecting, emphasizing, and linking news facts to make them more fascinating and memorable in order to influence public opinion in accordance with the desired viewpoint.

Robert N. Entman is one of the individuals who employs details in framing analysis as a method for examining media content. Robert N. Entman defines framing as the process of selecting and emphasizing particular aspects of reality by the media. Framing positions messages in a context so that certain issues receive more space than others. According to (Entman, 1993), highlighting is a technique that makes events

appear more engaging, significant, and memorable to the audience. Technically, media framing organizes information by excluding other issues and accentuating certain aspects through the use of images, prominent discourse placement, repetition, and the application of figurative language when describing the individuals or events being reported.

Eriyanto (2002) explains further that the framing procedure is a component of how media personnel construct reality. Framing is related to the process of editing, which entails all editorial department employees. This is demonstrated by the strategies employed by reporters in the field when deciding whom to interview and whom not to, what questions to ask and what not to ask, and which photographs and illustrations to use as news accents.

Entman (1993) argues that there are two levels of news contexts. First, the conception of comprehension used in information processing and as a distinguishing characteristic of a news text, such as the anti-military perspective used to analyze information about demonstrations and riots. Second, the elements of the news text that are used to interpret an event, such as the use of metaphors, keywords, and emphasis on images and images in the news text. According to Entman (1993), there are four elements used to determine the framing employed by the media: define problems (identifying problems), diagnose causes (estimating the causes of problems), make moral judgments (making moral decisions), and provide treatment recommendations (providing settlement suggestions). The following are the specific components of Robert N. Entman's framing analysis:

**Table 2**  
**Element of *Framing* by Robert N. Entman**

<i>Define problems</i>	What event is the subject matter? Or what issue is
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	being discussed?
<i>Diagnose causes</i>	Why did the event or problem occur? Who is considered to be the cause of the problem?
<i>Make moral judgement</i>	Why did the event or problem occur? Who is considered to be the cause of the problem?
<i>Treatment recommendation</i>	How can the problem be solved? What solutions are offered to solve a problem?

Source: processed by the author from Entman (1993)

Frequently, the ideology embraced cannot be separated from media coverage. For instance, research conducted by Kaiser and Kleinen-von Konigslow (2016) on online news about the Euro crisis in Spain and Germany revealed that nearly half of all articles contained ideologically motivated framing.

In addition, there are studies that demonstrate governments' use of the media for propaganda purposes. For instance, Ogbeni (2019) identified the propaganda framing techniques utilized by the Federal Government of Nigeria (FGN) to address resource control conflicts in the Niger Delta. The research demonstrates the connection between framing, propaganda, and media narratives. Framing is used as a propaganda tactic to influence public opinion, attitudes, beliefs, and actions, and frames can be identified in newspaper reports (Ogbeni, 2019). Understanding media framing will also assist us in comprehending the intricate relationships between news media, political change, and social movements. (Carragee, 2019).

## **METHOD**

This study was conducted using a qualitative descriptive approach and the framing analysis technique. The author attempts to characterize how online news media shape reality from the media's

perspective in reporting on the West Java government's policy regarding Covid-19. Consequently, this research is descriptive, as the conclusions reached cannot be translated into numbers or other formats.

The authors' primary data sources are the online news outlets Tirto.id, Tempo.co, and Republika.co.id, which contain all articles about the West Java Provincial Government's policy regarding Covid-19. In contrast, secondary data consists of journals, theses, dissertation abstracts, legislative documents, and other scientific research results that are used to supplement primary data.

In qualitative research, the researcher himself serves as the research instrument. Validity as a research instrument is contingent upon the researcher's academic and logistical preparedness, as well as their command of the field under investigation. Researchers are responsible for selecting data sources, acquiring data, analyzing data, and drawing conclusions from research results.

This investigation employs Robert N. Entman's framing analysis model for data analysis. Selecting and emphasizing particular aspects constitutes the process of framing analysis. The purpose of framing analysis is to determine which portions of the news are edited. In this study, the authors conducted an analysis to ascertain the framing of online news media regarding the West Java Provincial Government's Covid-19 policy, focusing on Tirto.id, Tempo.co, and Republika.co.id. All news articles examined were published between 1 December 2021 and 31 January 2022.

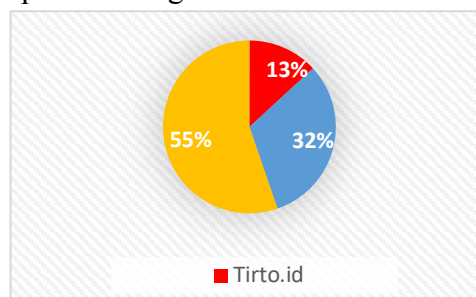
## RESULT & DISCUSSION

### Result

#### 1. Composition of News Media Coverage in the Three Media

Based on the findings of a study

conducted between 1 December 2021 and 31 January 2022, it was determined that the news coverage of the West Java Provincial Government's stance on Covid-19 differs between the three media outlets. In the same period of time, the number of news stories reported by the three media outlets differs significantly. The news portal Republika.co.id is the media outlet that produces the most news, with twenty-one news stories in two months. Tempo.co ranks second with 12 (twelve) news articles, while Tirto.id rates third with 5 (five) news articles related to the policy of the West Java Provincial Government regarding Covid-19. The news content of the three media outlets is depicted in Figure 1 below:



**Figure 1**

#### Composition of News Media Coverage in the Three Media

Source: processed by the Author (2022)

Based on the context of the news theme, Republika.co.id displays more diversity than the other two media. Some of the policy issues raised by the three media generally discuss Face-to-Face Learning (PTM), Child Vaccination, Expired Vaccines, Local Transmission, Christmas and New Year Holiday Policy, PeduliLindungi, Omicron, and other issues with a total of 38 news reports. Meanwhile, 16 news articles discussed the Government's policy in facing the Christmas and New Year Holidays, 6 news articles discussed Face-to-Face Learning (PTM), 4 news articles discussed child vaccination, 3 news articles

discussed vaccines that were about to expire, 3 news articles about the Omicron case, 2 news articles about local transmission, 2 news articles discussed the use of the PeduliLindungi application, and the rest discussed vaccination obstacles and the West Java Provincial Government's vaccination target. The percentage can be seen in the following figure:

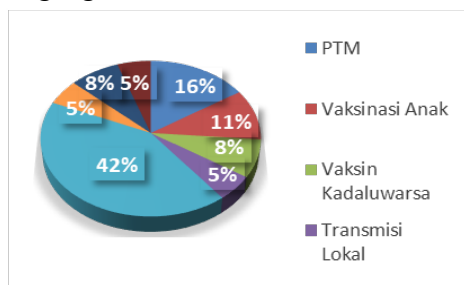


Figure 3

### Context of Coverage on the Three Media

Source: processed by the Author (2022)

Based on observations of the issues raised in December 2021 and January 2022, there are differences in the context of the news published. In December, the news was dominated by issues surrounding the Government's policies in facing the Christmas and New Year Holidays, while at the beginning of the year the news was dominated by the Government's scenario in implementing Face-to-Face Learning and expanding vaccinations, especially for children to face the Face-to-Face Learning.

## 2. Frame Third Media Coverage

### Frame Tirto.id

Tirto.id has published five news articles about the West Java Provincial Government's policy regarding Covid-19. The five news reports are a form of reportage news, with four of them originating from Antara News and the remaining two being the work of Tirto.id journalists. These are the five news titles:

- 1) Ridwan Kamil Submits 100 Percent Face-to-Face Learning Policies to Regency/City Governments;
- 2) BIN West Java aims to vaccinate elementary school children against COVID-19 to prevent NCDs;
- 3) West Java Police Chief Ensures No Road Closures during Christmas & New Year Holidays;
- 4) Covid Vaccine Info for Children 6-11 Years in West Java December 2021;
- 5) Ridwan Kamil allows Bogor City to stop Face-to-Face Learning as COVID Cases Rise.

Based on the results of an analysis conducted by the author using Robert N. Entman's framing analysis theory, it was determined that Tirto.id does not vary in its use of perspectives from various sources when responding to government-issued policies, particularly regarding the handling of Covid-19 in West Java Province. In addition, Tirto.id journalists did not contribute their opinions to the news, so that the news was merely a report of what the sources conveyed. This is evident from the following Tirto.id news items:

Table 3

### Research Results of Tirto.id News Articles

**News Title:** Ridwan Kamil allows Bogor City to stop Face-to-Face Learning as COVID cases rise

**Date:** January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022

Element	Evidence
<i>Define problems</i>	This article discusses the importance of the Governor of West Java's decision to temporarily close Face-to-Face Learning in Bogor City. Face-to-Face Learning is, in fact, one of the primary focuses of current government policy.
<i>Diagnose causes</i>	The temporary suspension of Face-to-Face Learning was prompted by a report from the mayor of Bogor, Bima Arya, to the governor of West



	Java, Ridwan Kamil, regarding the rise in Covid-19 cases in school settings.
<b><i>Make moral judgement</i></b>	Journalists convey no opinion when making moral decisions; they merely quote the Governor's interview, which justifies the decision on the premises that Bogor, Depok, and Bekasi are hotspots for the discovery of Covid-19 cases, so situational policies can be implemented in these areas.
<b><i>Treatment recommendation</i></b>	In the daily report, journalists cited Ridwan Kamil's statement as the Governor of West Java Province, who asked all ranks of Regents or Mayors in West Java and regional heads to continue to monitor the development of Covid-19 cases, particularly in the school environment.

Source: processed by the Author (2022)

#### ***Frame: Tempo's.co***

Based on the findings of a study of the news media on Tempo.co, two of twelve news articles were derived from news quotations published by Antara News Agency, while the remaining ten news articles were the work of Tempo.co journalists. The twelve headlines are as follows:

- 1) In February 2022, face-to-face schools will be held in West Java;
- 2) West Java Police: No Roadblocks and Closures on Year-End Holiday;
- 3) P2G Appreciates Schools in West Java Postpone 100 Percent Face-to-Face Learning;
- 4) Ridwan Kamil Says 180 Thousand Doses of Vaccines in West Java Are Expired;
- 5) All squares in West Java must close during Christmas and New Year holidays;
- 6) 20 Residents with West Java ID Cards Affected by Omicron, Ridwan Kamil: No Local Transmission;
- 7) New Year's Eve, West Java Police Chief: No Peak Area Closure;

- 8) Ridwan Kamil reveals the constraints of vaccination: Residents Believe Covid-19 is Over;
- 9) Business and Tourism Entrepreneurs in West Java Asked to Apply Care and Protect;
- 10) Ridwan Kamil Asked to Care for Protecting Apps Not Just Talking about it;
- 11) Bogor, Depok and Bekasi Asked to Postpone 100 Percent Face-to-Face Learning Until End of January;
- 12) West Java Police to Apply Odd-Even Method in Bogor City During Nataru Holiday.

Similar to Tirto.id, Tempo.co tends to base each of its news stories on a limited number of sources. This is supported by the composition of sources, which tend to be singular and lead to a single point of view, but are not seasoned with journalistic argumentation. Another reason is journalists' dearth of a critical attitude when reporting the news. There are, in fact, major problems in the news that should be able to explain their causes, such as the example in the news article titled "Ridwan Kamil Says 180,000 Doses of Vaccines in West Java Are Threatened with Expiration," which should be analyzed to diagnose causes or estimate the cause of the problem. In the news article titled "Full Face-to-Face Education to Be Implemented in West Java in February 2022, Provided That...", the inferred solution suggestions demonstrate the journalists' neutral stance. The results of Tempo.co's news analysis using Robert N. Entman's framing elements are provided below:

**Table 4**

#### **Tempo.co News Article Research Results**

**Title:** All squares in West Java must be closed during Christmas and New Year holidays

**Date:** 23 Desember 2021

<b>Element</b>	<b>Evidence</b>
<b><i>Define problems</i></b>	The focal topic of this news article pertains to the declaration made by Ridwan Kamil, which entails the closure of all public squares in West Java during the Christmas and New Year festivities. Furthermore, the government of West Java Province will undertake measures to ensure the safety of tourist destinations and curtail New Year's festivities.
<b><i>Diagnose causes</i></b>	This measure was implemented in order to mitigate the potential for large gatherings, which could exacerbate the likelihood of Covid-19 transmission.
<b><i>Make moral judgement</i></b>	Ridwan Kamil's decision was informed by Minister of Home Affairs Instruction Number 66 of 2021, which pertains to the prevention and mitigation of COVID-19 during the Christmas and New Year period.
<b><i>Treatment recommendation</i></b>	Despite the absence of recommendations from journalists, Ridwan Kamil has expressed his commitment to ensuring the safety of the community, particularly Christians who will be attending worship services. This will be achieved through the provision of security measures at strategic locations, as evidenced by interview quotes obtained from Antara News.

Source: processed by the Author (2022)

### **Frame Republika.co.id**

In comparison to other media outlets, Republika.co.id offers a greater range of plural and diverse sources in its news narration, with a particular emphasis on sources from government circles at both the central and regional levels. The news content presented is solely authored by journalists from Republika.co.id and does not comprise any direct quotations from external sources or news outlets. Republika.co.id presents news content from a favorable perspective and is furnished with a more extensive legal framework and data in comparison to the other two news outlets. Several news headlines were mentioned, including the following:

- 1) Omicron Local Transmissions in West Java to Eight People;
- 2) West Java Provincial Government Improves Supervision at Tourist Attractions;
- 3) Omicron enters West Java, face-to-face learning continues;
- 4) No New Year's Eve Party in West Java Region;
- 5) West Java targets 75 percent of its citizens to get the first dose of vaccine before the end of the year;
- 6) Ridwan Kamil closes all squares in West Java during Christmas and New Year's Eve;
- 7) Transportation Minister Says West Java Ready for Nataru Holiday as Health Minister Announces Omicron's First Case;
- 8) West Java Ready to Vaccinate Children;
- 9) West Java Provincial Government Requests SiManis Application to be Utilized During Christmas and New Year's Eve;
- 10) Surveillance of Mobility in West Java during Christmas and New Year's Eve will be Intensive;
- 11) 20 West Java residents are exposed to Omicron;
- 12) West Java to Randomly Check Tourist Visitors;
- 13) Ridwan Kamil Mentioned Omicron Case Has Not Been Found in West Java;
- 14) Ridwan Kamil Welcomes New Year 2022 with Optimism;
- 15) Ridwan Kamil: 180 Thousand Vaccines in West Java will Expire;
- 16) 180,000 Covid-19 Vaccines in West Java Almost Expired;
- 17) Ridwan Kamil believes 2022 is full of optimism;
- 18) West Java Police Chief urges people to stay at home on New Year's Eve;

- 19) Ridwan Kamil threatens to sanction West Java civil servants who take leave during Christmas and New Year holidays;
- 20) Omicron Enter Indonesia, Ridwan Kamil: The Key Remains the Health Protocol;
- 21) West Java Provincial Government Ready to Vaccinate 6-11-Year-Old Children.

Republika.co.id has demonstrated its endorsement of the West Java Provincial Government by featuring additional speakers who espouse a favorable stance towards the government's pronouncements and measures in addressing the Covid-19 pandemic. Several instances of news can be cited as examples:

**Table 5**  
**Research Results of Republika.co.id News Articles**

**Title:** Omicron enters West Java, PTM keeps running  
**Date:** January, 12 2022

Element	Evidence
<i>Define problems</i>	The primary subject matter of this news article pertains to the statement made by Ridwan Kamil, wherein he underscores the continued implementation of Face-to-Face Learning, despite the detection of Omicron-positive cases among West Java residents. The news report prioritized the government's decisive measures in policy-making rather than emphasizing the incidence of Omicron's infiltration in West Java.
<i>Diagnose causes</i>	During the interview, Ridwan Kamil asserted that Face-to-Face Learning remains a viable option, given that the incidence of Omicron cases in West Java is currently manageable.
<i>Make moral judgement</i>	The Governor of West Java's statement was corroborated by Mayor Bogor, Bima Arya Sugiarto, who expounded that the discovery of Omicron cases in Bogor City and the increase in Covid-19 cases were being closely monitored and have

	thus far remained relatively stable.
<i>Treatment recommendation</i>	In order to bolster the policy, it is imperative for the government to implement a 3T initiative and enhance surveillance measures on individuals who are traveling internationally.

Source: processed by the Author (2022)

### Discussion

The findings of the aforementioned study validate the notion that the media engages in framing by selectively choosing information and accentuating particular facets of news coverage. The omission of pertinent information, including sources and the discerning approach of journalists in evaluating the origins of issues, serves as a means for the media to establish its stance or inclination towards governmental policies. The news disseminated by Tirto.id and Tempo.co exhibits a tendency to rely on a solitary source, devoid of any subjective commentary or discourse from journalists. The absence of source composition renders both media incapable of ascertaining their stance on government policies. In contrast, with respect to the emphasis placed on specific facets of the news, Republika.co.id presents a greater quantity of sources, albeit lacking in a multiplicity of perspectives. The selected sources exhibit diversity and originate from the government, encompassing both central and regional levels.

Vinanda and Ahmad (2022) argue that the constrained capacity for journalists resulting from the pandemic has contributed to the dearth of varied perspectives in online media. Given the high degree of mobility required in the journalism profession, the implementation of a work from home (WFH) policy is an integral aspect of the field. The constraint on mobility impedes the ability of a journalist to directly access the source. In the meantime, sources frequently do not provide optimal responses when interviewed through online means.

Furthermore, while refraining from explicitly conveying personal viewpoints, journalists wield influence over public sentiment through their coverage of current events. By featuring affirmative remarks from government-affiliated sources that endorse policy decisions, journalists can shape public opinion. Additionally, the language employed in news headlines can also indicate a media bias. He and Zhou (2015) posit that the lexical selection employed by the media is a means of reflecting this phenomenon. The language employed in *Republika.co.id*'s news headlines indicates a pro-government stance, as evidenced by the use of the term "optimistic" in the headline "Ridwan Kamil Welcomes New Year 2022 Full of Optimism," and the term "ready" in the headline "Minister of Transportation Says West Java Ready to Face Christmas and New Year Holidays as Minister of Health Announces First Case of Omicron." The online news media *Republika.co.id*, which has a majority stake owned by the Minister of State-Owned Enterprises of the Republic of Indonesia, Erick Thohir, exhibits a favorable inclination towards the policies implemented by the government, specifically the West Java Provincial Government, in managing the Covid-19 pandemic.

## CONCLUSION

The media's framing of news cannot be deemed inherently erroneous. Frames are an essential tool for arranging information in a coherent and engaging manner, while also providing a specific perspective. It is important for journalists to consider the proportional use of frames. The findings of a study on the three most comprehensive online media outlets indicate that *Republika.co.id* was the primary source of news related to Covid-19 in West Java Province from December 1, 2021 to January

31, 2022, accounting for 55 percent of the coverage. *Tempo.co* and *Tirto.id* followed with 32 percent and 13 percent, respectively. Moreover, an observation of news sources selection reveals that the media coverage of *Tirto.id* and *Tempo.co* is predominantly reliant on individual sources. The media outlet *Republika.co.id* has provided a variety of sources, however, it is notable that a majority of these sources originate from the government. Thus, the findings of this study indicate that the media ought to be capable of presenting a wider range of sources and depicting diverse groups that hold both supportive and opposing views towards government policies.

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