

The Perceptions of Tribun Jabar Journalists Regarding Obstacles in Covering Political News

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Abstract

The world of journalism often faces problems, especially in covering political news, but every challenge and obstacle will offer an opportunity for journalists to properly increase the value of their news. This paper aims to determine the selection and reactions of journalists from the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar in facing obstacles to covering political news. This study uses a qualitative descriptive method using primary data through observation, interviews, and documentation. The approach used in this research is qualitative. The results of the study show that first, the selection process carried out by the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar journalists is by selecting sources who are considered credible and competent in their fields so that the news will be made into interesting news. The interpretation carried out by the journalists of the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar is by reading the information obtained through the five senses, then interpreting it based on understanding and experience, then providing an assessment of the political news. Third, journalist reactions arise when there are obstacles and challenges in covering political news. Journalists are expected to be able to overcome obstacles to covering political news, so that the political information written can have a good impact on the public.

Keywords: coverage barriers; journalists; perception; reaction; selection

Abstrak

Duniaewartawanan sering menghadapi permasalahan, terutama dalam peliputan berita politik, namun dalam setiap tantangan dan hambatan akan menawarkan sebuah peluang bagi wartawan untuk meningkatkan nilai beritanya dengan benar. Tulisan ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui seleksi dan reaksi wartawan Harian Umum Tribun Jabar dalam menghadapi hambatan peliputan berita politik. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif dengan menggunakan data primer melalui observasi, wawancara, dan dokumentasi. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah kualitatif. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pertama, proses seleksi yang dilakukan wartawan Harian Pagi Tribun Jabar adalah dengan menyeleksi narasumber yang dianggap kredibel dan kompeten dalam bidangnya sehingga berita yang akan dibuat menjadi berita yang menarik. Interpretasi yang dilakukan wartawan Harian Pagi Tribun Jabar yaitu dengan membaca informasi yang didapat melalui panca indra, kemudian diinterpretasikan berdasarkan pemahaman dan pengalaman, kemudian memberikan penilaian terhadap berita politik tersebut. Ketiga, reaksi wartawan muncul ketika ada hambatan, kendala dan tantangan dalam peliputan berita politik. Wartawan diharapkan bisa mengatasi hambatan peliputan berita politik, sehingga berita politik yang ditulis bisa memberikan dampak yang baik bagi khalayak pembaca.

Kata kunci: hambatan peliputan; persepsi; reaksi; seleksi; wartawan

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INTRODUCTION

Journalism is a strategic profession because journalists are considered critical and sharp, able to disclose detailed information, skilled at covering news, and able to influence others (Solihin, Wibawa, & Darsono, 2018). However, journalism needs are beset by many problems, mainly political news coverage. In contrast, political news is an issue the public has been waiting for because it has a lot to do with public policy and information that is eagerly awaited.

This study is essential to research, discovering the obstacles that will be passed, both from sources and journalists. The mass media has an important function: broadcasting information, educating, entertaining, and influencing (Muhtadi, 2016). One that belongs to the mass media includes print media, or the press, which cannot be denied as one of the tools of the struggle to seize Indonesian independence. The press became a platform for fighters to express their political ideas about national independence. Therefore, the press has played an important role in achieving independence from the past until now.

In this modern era, print media still exist; for example, the *Harian Umum Tribun Jabar* is one of the newspapers with many loyal followers and readers, as well as being included in the top 10 best Indonesian-language print media. Of course, the resulting news product must be connected to the clever hands of journalists in carrying out their duties to cover political news.

Several similar studies related to the perceptions of journalists have been carried out, including from Praceka and Handaningtias (2017), by examining the Perceptions of Journalists and Public Relations of the Banten Provincial Government on the Relationship between the Two. This research explains that journalists and government public relations should be mutually beneficial. However, this relationship often only works as expected because there is a conflict with the PR function related to positive publications.

Rahayu (2015), researched the Relationship between Perceptions of Justice and Compensation Satisfaction with the Performance of Journalists in the *Bernas Daily Newspaper* in Yogyakarta. This research explains that strong journalists must obtain warm, fast, and quality news.

Robianes, AS, and Tresnawaty's (2021) research, examines Journalists Perceptions of the Use of Clickbait on News Titles in Cyber Media. This research reveals that journalists make headlines using clickbait but pay attention to the edit code and remain by the title and content of the news.

Several researchers, including those regarding, also researched political news coverage; by examining the Implementation of Prophetic Journalism in Identity Political News Coverage. This study describes the implementation of the elements of prophetic journalism, including humanization, liberation, and transcendence, by journalists who are alumni of Journalistic Communication Studies at the Sunan Gunung Djati State Islamic University, Bandung, in reporting on identity politics.

Manggolo, Siswanto, and Musthofa (2020) researched the news coverage strategy of *Suluh Magazine* journalists; this study regretted a coverage strategy that was considered unique, namely a report or news whose material was taken from a literature study linked to a reality that occurred in society.

Triyono (2018), researched political communication regarding Online Media Coverage of Indonesian Political Policy Against the Qatar Crisis to Support International Diplomacy. This study aims to find out how online mass media reports on RI policies in addressing the Qatar conflict in the Middle East.

Research by Praceka and Handaningtias (2017); Rahayu (2015); Robianes et al. (2021) examines journalists perceptions of various reporting activities, which are associated with

satisfaction, and performance, thus encouraging an increase in the quality of journalists coverage. The second research category intends to explain the various political news coverage journalists carry. At the same time, this study focuses more on studying the Perceptions of Tribun Jabar Journalists Regarding Obstacles to Political News Coverage.

RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted in Bandung, precisely at the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar office on Jalan Sekelimus Utara No. 2-4, Batununggal Bandung Kidul, West Java. This study uses the constructivism paradigm, the antithetical paradigm of understanding that places observation and objectivity in discovering a reality or science. Meanwhile, the research approach uses a qualitative approach, by observing the subject directly, collecting data by observation, going directly to the field, conducting in-depth interviews, and documentation to obtain data related to the Perceptions of Journalists of the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar Regarding Obstacles to Covering Political News.

This study uses a constructivist paradigm, which is a paradigm that is almost the antithesis of the notion that places objectivity and observation in discovering a reality or science (Hidayat, 2003). The approach used is qualitative because it focuses on social phenomena and gives voice to the feelings and perceptions of the participants in the study.

The research method used is descriptive qualitative. The descriptive method aims to accurately and factually describe the facts, their characteristics and their relationship to the phenomenon to be investigated, thoroughly explaining how the journalists of Tribun Jabar perceive obstacles in covering political news according to their experiences.

The study uses primary and secondary data, where primary data is obtained from interviews with informants, while secondary data sources include documents, newspapers, books, articles and other relevant sources. Data collection uses interview and observation techniques to obtain and clarify essential information from informants.

Table 1 Informant Profiles

Name	Gender	Origin
Mumu Mujahidin	Male	Bandung
Nazmi Abdurrahman	Male	Bandung
Muhamad Nandri Prilatama	Male	Bogor
Cipta Permana	Male	Bandung
Muhamad Syarif	Male	Bandung

Source: Informant Interview

The first informant, Mumu Mujahidin, graduated from Unpad, majoring in Sundanese literature in 2015. He worked at Tribun Jabar as a journalist for political news; he was born on June 16, 1990, and has worked at Tribun Jabar since 2015 until now. He is still active in the field as a political journalist.

The second informant, Nazmi Abdurrahman, is an alumnus of the Department of Journalism at Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung State Islamic University, who graduated in 2015. He was born in Garut on April 13, 1992. He has worked as a journalist at Tribun Jabar since 2015 and is still active in the field.

The third informant, Nandri Prilatama, is a graduate of the Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta, majoring in Journalism. He was born in Bogor on April 8, 1992. He has become a journalist at the Tribun Jabar, and has worked as a journalist at Tribun Jabar

since 2015.

Muhamad Syarif, the fourth informant, graduated from Padjadjaran University, Department of German Literature, in 2010. He has been a journalist at the Tribun Jabar for nine years and is still active today. Currently, he is assigned to report to the Provincial Government of West Java. Furthermore, the fifth informant, named Cipta Permana, 29 years old, born on September 24, 1990, in Bandung, lives in the Riung Bandung Complex. He works as a journalist at Tribun Jabar.

According to Creswell (1998), the number of informants in qualitative research is a person or several who can reasonably explain up to 10 people. Thus, data were collected from five journalists from the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar using direct interview techniques. Informants in this study are journalists who cover news on political momentum and events. Moreover, all journalists come from the same media, namely Tribun Jabar.

Observations are made by observing individual behaviour, phenomena, and the surrounding environment. Documentation is done by collecting several documentation from journalists as additional evidence and support from other sources such as interviews.

The technique of determining the validity of the data is carried out using a triangulation technique, namely by collecting data that is combined from various data collection techniques and existing data sources. Merging data sources can be done based on primary and secondary data sources to obtain more robust data. Data analysis was carried out by reducing data, presenting data and drawing conclusions supported by valid evidence.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Metro Bandung newspaper was established on February 23, 2003. Metro Bandung is engaged in printing or publishing newspapers with appeal in advertising. Metro Bandung is a publication of the Bandung Media Graphic publishing company. Bandung Media Graphic was established in 1999 as a company engaged explicitly in newspaper publishing. Metro Bandung is one of the newspapers published by the Bandung Media Graphic company (Tribun Jabar journalist).

After two years of running the Metro Bandung newspaper, its name was changed to the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar. Tribun Jabar is a daily newspaper published in West Java, Indonesia. Tribun Jabar is also a group of Kompas Gramedia Group; Kompas Gramedia is the parent of newspapers that are members of Indopresda Prima media.

The Indonesia Prima media group has around sixteen newspapers spread across several regions in Indonesia, including the following: Tribun Jabar, Prohada Aceh, Radio Serambi FM Aceh, Banjarmasin Pos, Tribun Batam, Sriwijaya Post/Palembang Daily, Tribun Kaltim Daily, Bangka Pos, Sriwijaya Pos, Riau Tribune, Kupang Pos, Eastern Tribune, Serambi Indonesia, Medan Tribune, Pekanbaru Tribune, Jambi Tribune, Lampung Tribune, Manado Tribune, Jogja Tribune, South Sumatra Tribune, Bali Tribune.

Indonesia Prima media's presence in society fulfils the public's need for news and information. With the positioning "Spirit of the New Generation" in its old age, this newspaper has become an alternative, especially for the people of West Java who want to escape from the old-fashioned culture of the prominent newspapers that existed before. The new way of packaging news is very supportive, not just a communication solution but also easy-reading and entertaining.

The use of lifestyle power is extreme in selecting topics, rubrics, news presentations, and facial expressions. With a unique distribution network, Tribun Jabar is the morning newspaper that arrives in the hands of the citizens of Bandung and surrounding cities.

Tribun Jabar is also a newspaper that focuses on advertising. Of course, without neglecting news or anything else, advertising is the main attraction for people who promote anything through the Tribun Jabar newspaper. Many companies and agencies have collaborated with Tribun Jabar to market their products, including cigarettes, cars, motorbikes, hotels, traditional medicine, elite housing, vacant land, building materials, and travel (Japan tribune journalist).

The vision and mission of Tribun Jabar are to become the most extensive regional newspaper publishing, online media and printing business group in Indonesia, through the provision of reliable information to provide a new spirit and encourage the creation of democracy in the region by running an ethical, efficient and profitable business (Tribun Jabar journalist).

After discussing the media profile of Tribun Jabar, the author will discuss the profile of political news journalists from the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar. The informants in this study amounted to five political news journalists from the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar. The same for all genders. All informants interviewed were male. The author interviewed five informants directly or via WA (Whatsapp).

The selection of several journalists as informants in this study was based on the considerations of those who had met the criteria and requirements as informants in a study, namely, those who master or understand something through the civilization process so that something is not only known but also internalized, they are classified as still being involved with the matter being researched, those who are willing and have time to be asked for information, those who are initially relatively unfamiliar with researchers, so that it is more exciting to be a kind of teacher and resource person.

As for the additional criteria for informants to match the research theme that the author adopted, political news journalists at the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar are still working at Tribun Jabar as journalists who already have much experience covering political events and momentum.

Some of the informants that the researchers determined were people who were fully involved in the scope of the Tribun Jabar journalists, especially in political news coverage. Besides that, they influence the Tribun Jabar company and the process of running journalistic activities on political events and momentum. Thus, the informants in this study are by what is suggested.

Selection of Journalists on Barriers to Coverage of Political News

Based on the theory of perception put forward by an expert, that “perception is a person’s process of organizing and translating sensory messages to pay attention to their environment” (Robbins, 2015). In the context of this research, it describes the perception of journalists, which is a way to see views, or individual opinions, and responses to a situation happening around or the surrounding environment based on experiences and things journalists feel when covering political news in the field.

Before an object is responded to by an individual in the process of perception or response, especially when the individual carries out the selection process, the selection process is the process of filtering information or an object that the five senses will respond to both in terms of type and intensity. While selection is an act of paying attention to certain stimuli in the environment. This refers to messages sent to the brain through sight, hearing, and during the process of filtering information (Sobur, 2014).

The selection process in this research begins with the stimulation of the obstacles journalists encounter when covering news or political events in the field, which affect the five

senses and are then sent to the brain. It is called sensation. Journalists often encounter obstacles in every reporting activity and must be allowed.

The knowledge and individual attention to the object influence the selection process. Several indicators are obtained related to how the informants pay more attention to political news coverage, which focuses on the obstacles. Most informants admitted that they pay more attention to the obstacles in covering political news because they can affect the reporting process and make exclusive news by the code of ethics. This means that the attention of the informants is divided.

In addition, Rahmat wrote, "Human perception is divided into two, perception of objects or the physical environment and perception of humans. The perception that occurs in humans is complex because humans are dynamic and can change" (Rakhmat, 2015). This section will discuss the selection of journalists for the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar, starting with being marked by several critical indicators, namely knowledge and attention, and the benefits of obstacles to covering political news.

Based on field data, as the authors have described, the results of the study show that the attention of the journalists of the Harian Umum Tribun Jabar appears when there are stimuli accompanied by the awareness of an object that they see, in this case, it can be known what factors lead them to then realize and pay more attention to barriers to news coverage. Besides that, this dimension of knowledge and attention is also influenced by the existence of memory, namely the ability of a person to remember and store an event or event that he experienced; in this case, journalists begin to realize and pay attention to the obstacle itself.

The attention of journalists from the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar is marked by several indicators related to the obstacles to covering political news itself, including the process of covering political news, sources, data and issues. In this case, the informants recalled their experiences while covering political news.

As stated by the third informant as follows: "Political news is something different, different from other coverage, because politics itself, in my opinion, is more thought-provoking because we have to be able to read politics in Indonesia, then from the political parties themselves, then from the characters, and when we already know what politics is about, for example, journalists, it is easier for them to play political news themselves" (Prilatama, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24).

In addition, if the process of covering political news has different techniques, the method of reporting is the same as other news. It is just different from the structure; the third informant added that "Maybe from a structural point of view, for other news, we do not need to go directly to the chairman, or something, from politics, we can either come from political observers or can come from political figures" (Prilatama, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24).

Meanwhile, this dimension of knowledge and attention can also be seen from Nazmi's statement, who knows precisely the obstacles or obstacles when covering news or political events, along with the filtering process for these obstacles, based on his experience. According to him, in covering various obstacles found, one was from sources. As a journalist, you are required to select and find sources who are competent in their fields. "In covering political news, there are many obstacles or obstacles, such as hard-to-find sources and the issue of information disclosure when interviewed".

Using multiple news sources for political news is sometimes confusing and misleading and creates uncertainty for the public. This condition results in press demands to be more credible in representing news with a political dimension (Wiendijarti, 2008).

"In the process of covering political events, usually before conducting interviews, I do a

little research to explore the issues to be covered, then map which is suitable for my news material later. This is the selection process; we cannot just randomly interview sources. Usually, I look for competent people who can answer questions that will become my new material later” (Abdurrahman, Personal Interview. 2019, April 23).

Meanwhile, another informant, Cipta Permana, was concerned with knowing the truth of the issues to be covered in the process of covering political news. His narrative follows: “When reporting in the field, we must be able to sort out valuable facts that can be accounted for later. Moreover, like this year, a political year, we cannot carelessly believe the news that is circulating like on social media without having to trace the truth first” (Permana, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24).

It can be seen that an individual’s attention arises when there are stimuli or stimuli which are then processed so that a response appears to the object he sees and feels. Based on the theory of perception put forward by one expert, that “Perception is a person’s process of organizing and translating sensory messages to pay attention to their environment” (Robbins, 2015). This theory illustrates that perception is a way to see an individual’s views or opinions on a situation around him based on things that he feels.

In forming perceptions, there needs to be a dimension of knowledge and attention as a preparatory action to form the perception itself. This shows that the individual is not exposed to just one stimulus but various stimuli that arise from the surrounding circumstances. However, not all stimuli receive a response and are perceived by every individual. However, it depends on the individual’s knowledge and attention to the object he sees.

Perception cannot occur suddenly but through a specific process. There are three conditions for the process of perception, one of which is attention. According to him, attention is needed to realize and hold perceptions, namely as the first step in preparation to hold perceptions. “Attention is a mental process when a stimulus or series of stimuli becomes prominent in consciousness when other stimuli weaken” (Rakhmat, 2015).

Regarding journalist attention to obstacles in covering political news, it is attention that comes suddenly and is not spontaneous. Spontaneous attention arises by itself, while attention is not spontaneous and is caused intentionally (Walgito, 2010).

Based on the description of the selection process above, the journalist selection process has relatively moderate obstacles to political news coverage, arising along with the factors of knowledge, attention and experience. The attention given is divided in nature after the attention of journalists begins to have a certain urge which they refer to as one of the steps to benefit from existing obstacles if they are successfully resolved. The role of journalists and their actual actions is very much needed, but in the reporting process, journalists face technical obstacles (Iqbal, Saefullah, & Muchtar, 2020).

This perceptual process begins with knowledge and attention, namely the concentration of all individual activities aimed at something or a group of objects (Walgito, 2010). Subsequently, their attention will impact their knowledge of the object of concern, namely regarding obstacles in covering political news on *Tribun Jabar*. In addition to the attention, journalists are urged to obtain what they need from these obstacles. After attention and encouragement, the intensity factor became one of the aspects that influenced this selection process.

In terms of the interpretation of *Tribun Jabar* journalists regarding obstacles to political news coverage, with referring to the theory of perception put forward by Sobur, this section discusses the interpretation of the Morning Daily Reporters of *Tribun Jabar* regarding obstacles in covering political news, which is marked by three essential indicators, namely, understanding, views and impressions of journalists on obstacles to covering political news at *Tribun Jabar*.

Based on the data obtained in the field described in the research results, journalist

interpretations of obstacles in covering political news are very positive and good. This is known as previously described regarding the informants understanding, views and impressions.

The first dimension, namely understanding, in this interpretation process is an understanding of the informants regarding the obstacles in covering political news in the *Tribun Jabar*. Understanding itself is an effort or act of understanding an issue after something is known and remembered. In other words, understanding is knowing about something and seeing it from various angles.

In the context of this research is an understanding of political news coverage in the *Tribun Jabar* media, what political news is like, and how journalists interpret obstacles in reporting the news itself. Political news is news related to government affairs, political obstacles or obstacles arise when meeting sources, and searching for data from a distance and time perspective, is easily accessible and not very influential (Mujahidin, Personal Interview. 2021, April 23).

Almost the same thing was said by another informant, Nazmi Abdurrahman, who said that political news is very influential for society; therefore, when reporting, journalists must be able to correctly interpret the information they obtain in the field. "So sometimes political news, some issues can be susceptible, the media or journalists can be a tool for propaganda by the political elite to influence society, usually during interviews, sources convey much information so that things that are not important for the news are also conveyed. When a source provides much information, and the information is multi-interpretable, we as journalists have the right to interpret the intent of the source's words. However, in interpreting this information, journalists must remain by the facts and not be mistaken" (Prilatama, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24). The editorial policy criteria in publishing news are fulfilling the accuracy of the news with completeness 5W + 1H, having transparent, accurate sources, and the location of the coverage must also be precise (Bahrin, 2019).

The same thing was said by another informant, Muhamad Nandri Prilatama, who said that "in writing news, political news must be balanced, that he considered what made political news different from other news, but it was the same as sports news, which the continuation was always looking forward to. Political news is the same as sports news; that is, the news is always looked forward to, and political news is also reviewed or followed up" (Prilatama, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24).

The political news relates to general elections, presidential elections, legislative elections, regent elections and others (Syarif, Personal Interview. 2019, April 23). In contrast to sports news coverage, it is more relaxed, while political news coverage or political events is not so calm because there will be much unexpected news (Abdurrahman, Personal Interview. 2019, April 23).

Based on field data, as the reserachers have described above, the views and understanding of journalists regarding political news emerge after knowledge of the objects they see and feel; in this case, all components are related to the political news of the Morning Daily *Tribun Jabar*. The aspect or component that stands out the most here is their understanding and views on the differences between political news and other news; after journalists understand political news, they realize what obstacles they encounter when covering political news in the field. The study results show that most informants consider political news full of sensitive issues. However, the presentation method remains the same as other news, such as crime and lifestyle news.

Covering political news is commonplace because every job has its obstacles. Out of the five informants, most of them, namely three people, thought that the obstacles in covering political news were used as a separate motivation to try to do better in covering political events. While two other informants had a slightly different opinion; according to him, "Obstacles in

news coverage exist when they are not organized, or this is their destiny. Therefore, political news coverage must always be neutral and balanced” (Syarif, Personal Interview. 2019, April 23).

“Do not easily believe, when in the field when covering the news, the presidential election or other political events, we should not be easily fooled by the many statements from various parties. Journalists are not required to take sides anywhere for any reason; they must be able to find facts from the many opinions” (Permana, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24).

Based on the field data described in the research results shows that the presentation of political news by Tribun Jabar journalists must be balanced and not tendentious. In addition, it must be accurate, informative and have a significant impact on the audience. This means that the news deserves to be known by the wider community.

In covering the May 22 riots, for example, journalists must prioritize humanism. Even though in their reporting activities, they experienced obstacles, intimidation and discrimination (Nurpadillah, Saepullah, & Muchtar, 2020).

Based on the explanation of the interpretation process above, the interpretation process begins with understanding, namely the ability of a person to understand something after something is known and remembered. More clearly, understanding is knowing about something and seeing it from various angles. Understanding in the context of this research is the understanding of journalists regarding obstacles in covering political news in the Tribun Jabar media. How to present the news, the difference between political news and other news.

After understanding journalist political news and the obstacles when reporting, journalist trust is more directed at evaluating political news and its obstacles, the way the news is presented and the difference with other news in the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar. After understanding and trusting journalists, they begin to give an impression, namely what they feel and think after seeing and feeling something; in this case, the news presented is the Morning Daily of Tribun Jabar. The impression given is positive. That is, they consider that obstacles in covering political news are used as a challenge in covering political news or political events to motivate them to try even harder so that existing obstacles can be overcome properly. In addition, political news in the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar is presented with exciting and balanced news content, not one-sided and not tendentious. Journalists observe, provide assessments, and utilize online information for investigative reporting, characterized by complex and plural interaction patterns (Larsen, 2017). The potential of the media to construct reality cannot be ignored; changes in the democratic political system and media liberalization are not directly proportional to changes in media attitudes expected to be impartial in representing political news (Hadiati, 2018).

Journalists Reaction to Barriers to Political News Coverage

This reaction stage is marked by essential indicators, namely, patterns of behaviour and their experience of seeing the consequences of these obstacles in journalists. According to Sobur, “Interpretation and perception are translated into behaviour as a reaction. So the process of perception is a process of filtering, interpreting or interpreting and rounding up the information that arrives.

Everyone efficiently uses their five senses: hearing, seeing, feeling, and touching. It should have existed. However, the information obtained needs to be organized and interpreted before being understood. That is the crucial point of perception or response. In addition, the selection is a stage of filtering information; Interpretation is a process of organizing incoming information through a filtering or selection process; then, the reaction is the result that arises

from the response process.

The results of the interview related to the first reaction were that it did not change the behaviour of the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar journalists. In the context of this study, the informant's behavioural patterns and experiences saw the negative impacts that arise from the obstacles that arise when the process of covering political events. Based on the results of the interviews, the five informants expressed their reactions when they encountered obstacles in the field when covering political news; the answers were almost the same; the following are the results of the interviews:

The first informant stated, "It is normal because in every job there must be obstacles. It is impossible just to go smoothly" (Mujahidin, Personal Interview. 2021, April 23). While the second informant responded to this question and answered with, "It is expected, at best, if these obstacles are not resolved. It is more about self-introspection, what is it that you feel is not optimal, and use it as motivation to try harder in reporting. If the obstacles are overcome, the reaction is proud and happy to see personal achievements" (Abdurrahman, Personal Interview. 2019, April 23).

The third informant, Muhamad Nandri Prilatama, said that "The reaction is normal, yes, when there are obstacles related to political news coverage, we must first know what the obstacles are, for example, if the obstacles come from sources, it means that the reaction is that we have to look for other sources who are competent for the issues we are discussing" (Prilatama, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24).

Furthermore, the fourth informant said, "Just slow down because it is normal. Every job has its obstacles" (Permana, Personal Interview. 2019, April 24). The last informant said, "Obstacles will arise when everything is not organized, or that is how it is. Should it be Yuuzhan when the source does not want to talk because he hates our media? It could be; that is why it must always be neutral in political coverage. Do not report too much on one faction; for example, it must be balanced" (Syarif, Personal Interview. 2019, April 23).

Based on the interviews with the five informants above, the stages of selection, interpretation, and reactions that arise as a result of the obstacles encountered when covering political events in the field can be seen. From the three formulations of the problem above, it can be seen that the five informants used obstacles as motivation to try to do better in reporting. They do not use obstacles as obstacles; they only serve as challenges when covering political events. Investigative journalism related to political discourse is still a risky venture; even lawsuits and death threats are a danger faced by investigative journalists, especially journalists covering political news. Therefore it needs institutional support and increased collaboration between various interests (Bisilki & Opoku, 2019).

Journalists understand ordinary and practical journalism and its activities, but not all journalists prefer investigative journalistic activities. Journalists are motivated to carry out investigative journalistic activities because they receive support from the publishing company and feel satisfied in carrying out their activities (Dirgahayu, 2015).

CONCLUSION

Most informants from the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar journalists have a relatively high intensity in understanding the barriers to covering political news because political news is challenging and different from other news. The most crucial selection process is the selection of sources, as journalists must be able to sort out credible and competent sources in their fields so that the news that will be made into the news is interesting, complete and sound.

In terms of the interpretation of Morning Daily journalists of Tribun Jabar regarding

obstacles in political news coverage, at this stage, the information obtained is translated through the five senses; it is known that the interpretation process begins with understanding, namely the ability of a person to understand something after something is known and remembered. Understanding in the context of this research is the understanding of journalists regarding obstacles in covering political news in the Tribun Jabar media. After the journalists understanding of political news and the obstacles when covering it, journalists trust is more directed towards evaluating political news and its obstacles, the way the news is presented, and the difference with other news in the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar is, and after understanding and trusting journalists, they begin to give the impression is what is felt and thought after seeing and feeling something, in this case, the news presented is the news in the Morning Daily of Tribun Jabar. The impression given is positive. That is, they consider that obstacles in covering political news are used as a challenge in covering political news or political events to motivate them to try even harder so that existing obstacles can be overcome properly. Besides that, political news in the Morning Daily of Tribun Jabar is presented with exciting and balanced news content, not one-sided and not tendentious.

The reaction of journalists from the Morning Daily of Tribun Jabar, regarding obstacles in political news coverage in this reaction process is marked by two critical indicators: the benefits and satisfaction of informants against obstacles in covering political news. As the last process in the formation of perception. The reaction obtained in this study was positive. Based on the research results, obstacles in covering political news are an interesting obstacle or challenge for journalists of the Morning Daily Tribun Jabar. Therefore, the obstacles journalists encounter when covering news in the field must be adequately overcome, so political news written by journalists can positively influence the general public.

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