



Dysphemism in the Comments Column of the @democrazymedia News Account on Application X

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ABSTRACT

This study was motivated by the increasingly unrestrained use of language on social media, which has led to the frequent use of profanity that creates a negative impression, particularly in the comment sections of news accounts on the X app. The purpose of this study is to analyze the forms and functions of dysphemism in the comment sections of the @democrazymedia news account on the X app. This study was conducted on the X social media platform by collecting data from the account's comment section during the period from November to December 2025. This is a qualitative study using a descriptive method, aimed at providing an in-depth description of linguistic phenomena based on the collected data. The dataset consists of 20 utterances containing dysphemisms. The research instrument used was the researcher themselves, employing a read-and-record technique during data collection. The results indicate the presence of 15 forms of dysphemism: figurative expressions, metaphors, re-modeling, circumlocution, clipping, ellipsis, abbreviations, acronyms, one word replacing another, general-to-specific forms, part-for-whole, hyperbole, meaning beyond the statement, jargon, and colloquialisms. Based on the findings, dysphemism in these comment sections serves various functions, including conveying topics considered taboo or indecent, describing situations in a negative light, delivering sharp criticism, expressing emotions such as anger and hatred, and serving as a means to belittle, insult, and mock certain parties.

Keywords: dysphemism, comment column, news account

Disfemisme pada Kolom Komentar Akun Berita @democrazymedia di Aplikasi X

ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini dilatarbelakangi oleh penggunaan bahasa di media sosial yang semakin bebas, sehingga sering ditemukan kata-kata kasar yang menimbulkan kesan negatif, khususnya dalam kolom komentar akun berita di aplikasi X. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis bentuk dan fungsi disfemisme pada kolom komentar akun berita @democrazymedia di aplikasi X. Penelitian ini dilakukan pada platform media sosial X dengan mengambil data dari kolom komentar akun tersebut pada periode November hingga Desember 2025. Jenis penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif dengan metode deskriptif, yang bertujuan untuk menggambarkan fenomena kebahasaan secara mendalam berdasarkan data yang ditemukan. Data dalam penelitian ini berjumlah 20 ujaran yang mengandung disfemisme. Instrumen penelitian yang digunakan adalah peneliti sendiri dengan teknik baca dan catat dalam proses pengumpulan data. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa terdapat 15 bentuk disfemisme, yaitu ekspresi figuratif, metafora, pemodelan kembali, sirkumlokusi, klipng, pelepasan, singkatan, akronim, satu kata menggantikan kata lain, bentuk umum menjadi khusus, sebagian untuk keseluruhan, hiperbola, makna di luar pernyataan, jargon, dan kolokial. Berdasarkan hasil temuan, disfemisme dalam kolom komentar tersebut memiliki berbagai fungsi, antara lain untuk menyampaikan hal-hal yang dianggap tabu atau tidak senonoh, menggambarkan keadaan secara negatif, menyampaikan kritik secara tajam, mengekspresikan emosi seperti kemarahan dan kebencian, serta sebagai sarana untuk merendahkan, menghina, dan mengolok-olok pihak tertentu.

Kata kunci: disfemisme, kolom komentar, akun berita

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INTRODUCTION

Language serves as a communication tool used to convey ideas, thoughts, and feelings in social life. This is in line with Maghfiroh's (2022) opinion, which states that language functions as a communication tool used to convey thoughts, intentions, and goals to others. Based on its use, language serves not only to convey information but also to capture the attention of listeners or readers so that it can be conveyed and understood properly. Communication methods are divided into two: verbal and nonverbal. Verbal communication is used both orally and in writing. Meanwhile, nonverbal communication does not use words, but rather gestures, symbols, and signs, such as facial expressions, body movements, and traffic signs, whose meanings are understood by humans.

Humans are inextricably linked to the use of language as a communication tool. Language is not only used to convey ideas, thoughts, and feelings but also plays a vital role in fostering interpersonal interactions. Chaerunisya & Wijana (2023) argue that with the passage of time, the use of language has become increasingly widespread. Advances in science and technology (IPTEK) encourage the widespread use of language. Social media is used as a means to exchange messages and convey information. Social media has a significant influence in shaping public opinion on a subject.

Social media has become an essential part of life. People use it not only as a source of information but also as a place to share their personal lives. Today, many people are freer to comment, expressing their thoughts, judging others, and even using harsh language, both verbally and in writing (Ramadhani et al., 2021). Therefore, over time, the function of language has evolved. Using language in a non-verbal form can cause discomfort and offend others. According to Purwanto (2021), the rapid development of technology has made it easier to access information from various digital platforms, including social media. Social media is not only used to access information but also to respond to information and

provide comments for users. The comment feature makes it easier for users to express responses, opinions, and criticisms of news content, enabling social media to serve as a discussion forum. Furthermore, responses such as comments, opinions, and criticisms can influence how others think about a topic.

With the development of social media, news accounts and online media portals are increasingly emerging, providing easy access to information through apps. People can read news quickly and conveniently without having to wait for print media or television news programs. The presence of news accounts on digital platforms facilitates the dissemination of information to the public. Furthermore, the comment feature available on each news post provides a space for users to provide direct responses to the information presented. One such social media platform is the X app, formerly known as Twitter. This app features various news accounts that provide information related to events or issues currently popular among the public. One example is online news, such as @democrazymedia, an account that actively presents news information related to political issues. News related to political issues often becomes a hot topic and triggers various user reactions. The comment section provides a forum for the public to respond to news and even criticize it, often resulting in both pros and cons. People often become emotional in their responses to news and often use harsh language. Indonesia is indeed a democratic country that allows people to express their opinions freely, even on social media. According to Dewi & Alber (2023), people find it easier to express their opinions, ideas, and aspirations, freely expressing what they want to say. However, it's not uncommon for people to be too free in their responses, leading to offensive and hateful actions. People often take information at face value and are provoked, leading to provocative language. Criticism that should be constructive can instead become harsh, insulting expressions. Harsh, negative expressions are known as dysphemisms.



Dysphemism is an object of study in the field of semantics that refers to changes in meaning. Dysphemism is the opposite of euphemism. According to Sutanto & Gallant (2022), freedom of online commenting must be accompanied by attention to etiquette. The phenomenon of dysphemism is common on social media because freedom of speech encourages people to express themselves freely through language. Fitri (2019) states that dysphemism is a negative expression that can cause feelings of hurt, offense, or anger in the person being spoken to. The expressions used typically include harsh, taboo, and inappropriate language. According to Heryana (2019), the function of dysphemism is related to the purpose or background of its use in a speech. Dysphemism is an expression with negative connotations used to convey things considered taboo or indecent, show dislike or disapproval, and describe a situation negatively. Furthermore, dysphemism also functions as a means to express anger or irritation, curse or insult, and show disrespect or demeaning attitudes toward others.

This research is expected to provide theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, this research is expected to contribute to the development of semantic studies, particularly regarding dysphemism. Practically, this research is expected to provide benefits to readers, namely by providing understanding and enabling them to be more prudent in using language, especially when commenting on social media. For teachers, this research can be used as information that can be used as a reference for learning materials related to the use of dysphemism on social media. For other researchers, this research can serve as a reference for further research in conducting relevant research.

This research classifies forms of dysphemism, referring to the theory of Allan and Burridge (1999) and other supporting research by Puspita (2021). Devi & Bakdal (2021), namely (1) figurative expression, (2) metaphor, (3) remodeling, (4) flippancies, (5) circumlocutions, (6) abbreviations, (7) clippings, (8) omissions, (9) acronyms, (10)

one word replaces, (11) general form becomes a specific word, (12) part for the whole, (13) hyperbole, (14) meaning beyond the statement, (15) jargon, (16) colloquial. According to Ayu et al., (2021) dysphemism has functions in its use, namely: (1) conveying things considered taboo, (2) markers of dislike, hatred, and disrespect, (3) expressing annoyance or anger, (4) a form of negative depiction of a situation (5) a means to belittle, insult, and ridicule (6) to convey criticism, (7) to exaggerate something or a situation and curse, (8) indicating something that is considered low. Based on the description, the problem formulation in this study includes what are the forms of dysphemism in the comments column of the @democrazymedia news account on application X? What are the functions of dysphemism in the comments column of the @democrazymedia news account on application X? In line with the problem formulation, this study aims to analyze the forms and functions of dysphemism by classifying the forms of rude expressions and the purpose of their use. Therefore, this study is important to conduct to determine how the use of dysphemism in the comments column, especially on news accounts. This is important because the use of rude language and containing negative meanings can influence people's way of thinking and cause misunderstandings and conflicts. In addition, the @democrazymedia news account presents information related to political issues that tend to trigger various responses from the public. This condition causes the emergence of negative comments, because political topics often give rise to differences of opinion. As a result, criticism that should be constructive turns into expressions that are slanderous or insulting.

This research is also relevant to previous research conducted by Puspita (2021) which discussed the forms of dysphemism. The results of the study showed that there are twelve types or forms of dysphemism, namely (1) figurative expressions, (2) metaphors, (3) clippings, (4) acronyms, (5) omissions, (6) one word replacing another word, (7) part for the whole, (8) jargon,

(9) colloquialism, (10) hyperbole, (11) flippancies, (12) remodeling. Meanwhile, research by Devi & Bakdal (2021) based on the results of their data findings, there are forms of dysphemism, namely (1) figurative expressions, (2) flippancies, (3) remodelings, (4) clippings, (5) acronyms, (6) abbreviations, (7) omissions, (8) one word replacing another word or one for one substitutions, hyperbole, meaning outside the statement or understatement, jargon, colloquialism, borrowing. Furthermore, this research is also relevant to Ayu et al. (2021), who examined the functions of dysphemism, namely: (1) things considered taboo or indecent, (2) feelings of dislike or hatred and disrespect, (3) expressing anger or irritation, (4) a form of negative depiction of a situation, (5) a means of insulting and mocking, (6) a means of conveying criticism, (7) as an exaggeration and insult, (8) indicating something of low value.

METHODS

Qualitative research methods are research approaches that do not use numbers or statistics, but rather produce findings based on collected data, such as interviews and analysis of documents or other data (Sulistiyo, 2023; Razak, 2017; Balaka, 2020). Qualitative research as a research method that aims to understand a phenomenon in depth based on data in the form of words or text, not numbers, and is analyzed inductively from the specific to the general. In research, researchers are directly involved in the field with the aim of understanding the views and experiences of the research subjects (Fraenkel et al., 2012; Creswell, 2008, Darusalam & Hussin, 2016; Nilamsari, 2014).

The techniques used include interviews, documentation, and observation. The method used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method. The object of this study is the comments column on a news account in application X, which is a response commented by users. The data source in this study is the comments column on the news account @democrazymedia in

application X. The subject of this study is the form and function of dysphemism.

According to Sarosa (2021), qualitative data focuses on events or phenomena that occur naturally in their natural environment. This data describes actual conditions without being converted into numbers, unlike data in quantitative research. The data used in this study consisted of words, phrases, and sentences containing dysphemism. The data collection technique employed documentation based on reading and note-taking techniques. Data analysis in this study involved several steps: reading, note-taking, and data analysis. The reading technique involved reading all comments on the @democrazymedia news account on the X application and examining each comment containing dysphemism. Next, note-taking techniques were used to record the data found and categorize comments that included dysphemism. The final stage was data analysis, which involved analyzing the collected data by classifying them based on the form and function of dysphemism, then relating them to the theory used, and drawing conclusions from the analysis.

Data validity is a way to ensure that the data in the research is accurate and reliable. During research, the accuracy of the information obtained is of paramount importance, not the number of participants or the amount of data. Essentially, data validity is related to validity and reliability. However, the method for assessing validity and reliability in qualitative research differs from that in quantitative research. In qualitative research, data validity emphasizes the depth and accuracy of information, rather than numbers or statistical calculations (Husnullail et al., 2024). The technique for testing data validity in research uses triangulation. According to Nurfajriani et al., (2024), triangulation is an approach that uses various methods, such as comparing data from different sources, using different theories, or involving more than one researcher. The goal is to understand the phenomenon being studied more fully and to make the research results more accurate. By viewing a phenomenon from various



perspectives, the truth of the data obtained will be stronger and more reliable. The triangulation used is source triangulation, theory triangulation, and researcher triangulation. Source triangulation is used to check the validity of data from various sources, theory triangulation is used to test the data's suitability to the theory used, while researcher triangulation is used to ensure the validity of the data based on the views of relevant experts or researchers.

RESULTS

1. Form of Dysphemism

The following is an explanation of the forms of dysphemism found in this study. These variations include the use of words, phrases, or expressions that change their meaning to a more offensive or negative one.

1.1 Figurative Expressions

Figurative expressions are forms of linguistic expression that use figures of speech or similes, thus implying an implied meaning.

Data 1

"A greedy leader is just talking nonsense, but he makes a lot of noise, Professor. He's fierce in front of the microphone but weak in front of Jokowi's gang, destroying the nation, causing floods, etc."

The phrase "empty barrel makes a lot of noise" is a figurative expression. This phrase is a figure of speech or proverb used to criticize someone. This expression describes the person in question as talking a lot and not having the content or ability to match what they say. This phrase is used to criticize leaders who are perceived as only daring to speak publicly but not demonstrating real action or courage in certain situations. This expression appears in comments discussing the leader's performance on political issues. The function of this expression is both a form of criticism and a sign of dislike for the object being discussed.

Data 2

"Is our leader's way of looking good this badly?"

The phrase "looking good" is a figurative expression. It is a figurative expression not taken literally but rather used to satirize someone's behavior. This expression describes someone trying to seek attention, praise, or sympathy from others in a way that is considered insincere or excessive. In the context of this utterance, this phrase is used to criticize a leader who is perceived as prioritizing image over concrete actions. This expression appears in comments discussing the leader's attitudes and behavior in the public sphere.

1.2 Metaphor

A metaphor is a form of linguistic expression that uses an indirect comparison between two dissimilar things. Metaphors are often used to describe something indirectly by giving a negative assessment of the object being discussed.

Data 3

"Face and behavior are both like dogs."

In this data, the word "dog" is found to be a metaphor. This expression indirectly compares humans to animals to describe traits or behaviors that are considered negative. In this context, the word "dog" is used to mock and demean someone, both in terms of their appearance and behavior. This expression is considered dysphemism because it uses a harsh and negative word to describe someone. This metaphorical use serves as an insult and indicates dislike or hatred for the person being discussed.

Data 4

"Licking dog."

The phrase "licking dog" is a metaphor. This expression uses an indirect comparison between humans and animals, namely dogs, to describe traits considered lowly or

despicable. The word "dog" is not taken literally, but rather used as a symbol of bad behavior, while "licker" refers to someone who likes to curry favor or is excessively submissive to certain parties.

Data 5

"You dog... you bunch of devils!!"

The use of the phrases "dog" and "bunch of devils" are metaphors. The word "dog" is used as an indirect comparison to demean someone by equating humans with animals considered despicable. Meanwhile, the phrase "bunch of devils" is also a metaphor that describes a group of people as evil or bad. Both expressions are used to negatively evaluate the object being discussed.

1.3 Remodeling

Remodeling is a form of expression that involves changing or modifying a word or term to give it a new meaning that tends to be negative or demeaning.

Data 6

"The modus operandi of the PKI is "Jokodok mafia." The con artist is "PKI" is "sycophant hypocrite."

The data revealed the use of the word "Jokodok," a re-branding of Jokowi's name, combined with the word "kodok." This combination conveys negative connotations because the word "kodok" is often associated with something bad or derogatory. This re-branding aims to mock and demean the figure in question. Furthermore, the use of the words "mafia," "con artist," "sycophant," and "munafik" carry negative connotations. These expressions are considered dysphemisms because they contain harsh words and negative connotations. The re-branding function in this data is as a form of insult and a sign of dislike or hatred for the person in question.

Data 7

"Jokontol is the real culprit."

The word "Jokontol" is a re-branding derived from combining Jokowi's name with the word "dick." The word "dick" refers to the male genitalia and is considered a taboo term in everyday language. This combination produces a new form with very negative connotations and is used to demean the figure in question.

Through this re-branding, the original name is altered by adding vulgar elements, thus conveying an insulting connotation.

1.4 Circumlocution

Circumlocution is a form of expression used to convey a meaning indirectly or in a roundabout way, usually by using several words or phrases that replace the direct statement.

Data 8

"Bastard child of a terrorist, your father and mother's birth certificate is fake."

The phrases "bastard child" and "bastard's birth certificate is fake" are used to convey an indirect meaning, namely accusing someone of having unclear ancestry or belittling their family background. These expressions do not state the facts directly, but use a sequence of words that employs sarcastic and derogatory language. These expressions are circumlocutions because they do not convey meaning directly, but rather through a sequence of words that insinuate a person's origins and identity.

1.5 Clipping

Clipping is a form of shortening a word by cutting out some elements of a word without changing its basic meaning.

Data 9

"You idiot, don't keep a monkey!! You monkey has become even more stupid since you became a termul!!"



The data shows the use of the word "nyet," a clipping of the word "monkey." This shortening retains the original meaning, but is used in a shorter and more informal form. The use of the words "nyet" and "monkey" in this context has negative connotations because they are used to equate someone with an animal considered inferior. This expression is considered a dysphemism because it contains offensive language intended to demean and insult someone.

1.6 Omission

Omission is the removal or obscuration of some letters in a word, but the meaning of the word is still recognizable. Omission is usually done by replacing several letters with certain marks, such as dots or symbols, with the aim of disguising words that are considered offensive or inappropriate.

Data 10

"H?M? D*NGU!!!"

The words H?M? and DNGU* have omitted letters.

Although some letters are omitted or obscured using symbols, the meaning of the words is still understandable to the reader. These words are a form of offensive language used to insult or demean someone. This omission is usually done so that the offensive word can still be conveyed without being written out in full. However, the negative meaning of the word remains clear and can offend others. Therefore, this expression is considered a dysphemism because it contains an offensive and negative connotation.

1.7 Abbreviations

An abbreviation is a shortened form of a word or combination of words formed from the initial letters of each word and read letter by letter.

Data 11

"Can someone with mental disorders really be a witness?"

The abbreviation "ODGJ" stands for "Orang Dengan Kurang Jiwa" (People with Mental

Disorders). This abbreviation refers to someone with a mental disorder. The abbreviation "jd" also stands for "jadi" (became). In this context, the term "ODGJ" is used with a negative connotation, demeaning or questioning someone's ability to act as a witness. This expression is considered dysphemism because it uses a term that should be neutral but is used to insult and ridicule.

1.8 Acronyms

An acronym is an abbreviation formed by combining the initial letters or syllables of several words, then read as one complete word.

Data 12

"If fellow lapau call him BRGD AK (BaRuak GaDang Anjiang Kurok)"

The acronym BRGD AK, which stands for BaRuak GaDang Anjiang Kurok, was found to be used. This acronym is formed by combining the initial letters of several words and is used as a specific term. In this context, the acronym has a negative connotation because it consists of words with offensive meanings and is used to mock and demean someone. The use of this acronym makes the offensive expression more subtle, but its meaning is still understandable to the reader.

1.9 One Word for Another

One word for another is the use of a particular word to replace another word, usually with the aim of conveying a more negative or derogatory meaning.

Data 13

"I'm sick of seeing this peot creature."

Based on this data, the word creature is used to replace the word person or human. The use of this word conveys a derogatory impression because it equates humans with something nonspecific or worthless. Furthermore, the word "peot" reinforces its negative connotation because it refers to a physical condition considered poor.

1.10 General to Specific Form

General to Specific Form is the use of a general word, then directed or directed at a specific individual, so that the meaning becomes more specific and tends to be negative.

Data 14

"Thank God you still remember Allah, @RajaJuliAntoni. Yesterday, you were a tough guy who acted as if power belonged to Jokowi, the world's most corrupt finalist, an evil creature destroying and dividing the Republic of Indonesia."

The phrase "evil creature destroying and dividing the Republic of Indonesia" is a general term, but it is directed at a specific individual, namely the figure discussed in the comment. The use of the general word "creature" is then narrowed down to a specific term for someone by adding a negative characteristic.

1.11 Part for the Whole

Part for the whole is an expression that uses a particular element or characteristic to represent an entire individual or group.

Data 15

"Batak Anjing (dog-eating Batak) really like eating dogs, in your area, don't let Batak people lead an institution, otherwise you'll be a thief and eat their dogs."

The Batak word refers to an ethnic group. However, in this context, the word is used to represent all individuals within the group, conveying a negative assessment. Furthermore, expressions like "maling" (thief) and "maung anjing" (dog-eating) are used to describe all members of a group based on some of the stereotypes attached to them. Using a portion of a group to represent the entire group is considered a form of "part for whole." This expression also constitutes dysphemism because it contains harsh words, negative connotations, and is derogatory toward a particular group.

1.12 Hyperbole

Hyperbole is a form of expression used to exaggerate something.

Data 16

"He shouldn't be deactivated yet, but rather tell the prison warden to eat dog poop until he's full, then deactivate him."

The expression "eat dog poop first until he's full" is a form of hyperbole. This expression exaggerates an action that is actually impossible to do, with the aim of expressing excessive anger or dislike.

1.13 Off-Statement Meaning

Off-statement meaning is a form of expression whose meaning does not correspond to the literal meaning of the words used, but rather has an implied meaning.

Data 17

"Congor jokodok minta di amplas."

The expression minta di amplas is not interpreted literally as the act of smoothing something using sandpaper. This expression has an implied meaning, namely as a form of threat or an expression of annoyance directed at someone. The word "congor" is also used as a rude term for "mouth," thus reinforcing the negative impression of the utterance. This expression is considered dysphemism because it uses harsh words with negative connotations. The function of the off-statement meaning in this data is as a form of insult, threat, and a sign of anger or dislike toward the person being spoken about.

1.14 Jargon

Jargon is the use of specific words or terms that are typically used within a particular group and have specific meanings in certain contexts.

Data 18

"Jokowi is the most stupid president, he has no vision, so he's easy to control. He's an official, corrupt, greedy, oligarchic, and a



foreigner who freely exploits natural resources recklessly! One of his strengths is deceiving his own people with lies!"

The data reveals the use of terms like "oligarchy" and "sDA," which are specific terms in the political and economic spheres. The term "oligarchy" refers to a system of power controlled by a particular group, while "sDA" is an abbreviation for "natural resources." The use of these terms indicates the use of jargon in speech. However, in this context, the terms are used alongside negative words like "stupid," "corrupt," "greedy," and "ngibuli," thus reinforcing the insulting meaning of the utterance.

1.15 Colloquialism

Colloquialism is a form of language used in everyday conversation and is informal. Typically, this form uses more casual, non-standard words and is often used on social media.

Data 19

"Where's the term 'ngentot' that likes to shout 'NKRI is non-negotiable?' In fact, it's the one who makes NKRI non-negotiable."

The word 'ngentot' is found to be non-standard and colloquial. This word has a rude and taboo meaning because it refers to sexual activity, so in the context of speech, it is used as a form of insult or insult.

Data 20

"A stupid and idiotic minister like Zulhas @zul_hasan even slapped him with a sack of rice."

The words 'tolol' and 'goblok' are colloquial. These words are non-standard language often used in everyday conversation and have a rude connotation. These words are used to belittle someone's abilities, thus carrying negative connotations. Furthermore, the entire utterance is used as a form of insult, a sign of dislike, and an expression of the speaker's anger toward the person being discussed.

2. Functions of Dysphemism

This section examines the functions of dysphemism found in the research data, including the various purposes for which dysphemisms are used in the comments section of the @democrazymedia news account on the X application.

2.1 Matters Considered Taboo or Indecent

This function refers to something inappropriate to say or write; the words used violate norms or are taboo.

Data 7

"Jokowi is the real culprit."

The phrase "Jokowi is a dick" contains the word "dick," which refers to the male genitalia and is considered taboo and indecent in everyday language. This word is inappropriate to write, and its use not only conveys taboo content but is also used to demean and insult the person being spoken about. Therefore, this utterance is considered dysphemism because it contains elements of indecency and negative connotations directed at a specific individual.

Data 19

"Where's the one who's always yelling 'NKRI is non-negotiable?' In fact, it's the one who makes NKRI non-negotiable."

This statement uses the word "ngentot," which refers to sexual activity and is considered taboo and indecent in everyday language. This word is not meant literally, but rather as a harsh insult. Furthermore, the word "budug" is also used to label negatively. This statement is delivered in an emotional tone and is intended to attack and demean the person being discussed. Therefore, this statement is considered dysphemism because it contains elements of indecency and negative connotations and is used as a form of insult.

2.2 Forms of Negative Depiction of a Situation

This function is used to describe a situation in a bad or negative way, thus creating a negative impression of the situation being discussed.

Data 18

"Jokowi is the most stupid president, he has no vision, so he's easy to control. He's an official, corrupt, greedy, an oligarch, and a foreigner who freely exploits natural resources recklessly! One of his strengths is deceiving his own people with lies!"

This statement describes the figure discussed with various negative labels, such as the most stupid, visionless, corrupt, greedy, and deceitful. Furthermore, the use of terms like oligarchy and natural resources reinforces the context of criticism in the political and economic spheres, while still being accompanied by a very negative assessment. Overall, this statement constructs a negative image of leadership deemed incompetent and detrimental. This statement not only conveys an opinion but also repeatedly emphasizes the negative image. Therefore, this statement is considered dysphemism because it is used to describe the situation and the person being discussed negatively.

2.3 Means of Delivering Criticism

Criticism is usually not expressed directly and neutrally, but rather uses harsh words, figures of speech, or sarcasm aimed at emphasizing the shortcomings or mistakes of the object being discussed.

Data 1

"A greedy leader is just talking nonsense, but he makes a lot of noise, Professor. He's fierce in front of the microphone but weak in front of Jokowi's gang, destroying the nation, causing floods, etc."

This utterance functions as a dysphemism as a means of conveying criticism. The phrase "tong kosong nyaring bunyinya" is a figurative expression used to satirize someone who talks a lot but lacks the ability or actions to match their words. In this context, the expression is directed at a leader who is perceived as only daring to speak publicly but not demonstrating concrete action. This utterance appears in comments discussing the leader's performance on political issues. The use

of this expression serves as indirect criticism, but still carries a negative connotation toward the object being discussed.

Data 2

"Is this how bad our leaders' efforts to curry favor have gotten?"

This utterance is used to criticize the behavior of a leader who is perceived as prioritizing image over sincere actions. The phrase "cari wajah" (showing off face) is a figurative expression with a negative connotation and is used to satirize attitudes perceived as dishonest or excessive in seeking attention. This utterance not only conveys dislike, but also emphasizes criticism of leadership styles deemed inadequate.

2.4 Forms of Demeaning and Mocking

This utterance functions as a means of insulting, demeaning, or ridiculing others using harsh words.

Data 3

"Face and behavior both look like dogs."

This utterance functions as a dysphemism as a means of demeaning, insulting, and mocking. The word "dog" is used not in its literal sense, but rather as a symbol to describe traits considered bad and despicable. In this context, the speaker attacks both appearance and behavior, thus conveying a comprehensive negative assessment of the individual being discussed. The use of this harsh word is intended to demean and demean, not simply to criticize. Therefore, this utterance is a dysphemism because it carries a negative connotation and is used as a direct form of insult.

Data 4

"Smoking dog."

This expression is used to demean someone by comparing them to a dog, referring to an animal considered despicable. The addition of the word "smoking" refers to the trait of seeking favor or excessive subservience. The combination of these two words creates a very negative meaning and



attacks the person's character. This utterance is not intended to criticize, but rather to insult and demean. Therefore, this expression is considered a dysphemism because it is used as a form of direct mockery and insult.

Data 5

“You dog... you devil group!!”

This utterance uses the word "dog" and the phrase "devil group" as a direct insult. These two words are not meant literally, but are used to describe something bad and evil. In this context, the speaker wants to demean and put down the person or group being discussed. This utterance is delivered emotionally and is not intended to criticize, but rather to insult. Therefore, this utterance is considered dysphemism because it carries a negative connotation and is used as a form of mockery and insult.

Data 6

“Modus termul PKI Jokodok mafia. Penipu PKI pencilit sycophant hypocrite.”

This utterance uses various negative words such as Jokodok, mafia, fraudster, sycophant, and hypocrite to attack and demean the person being discussed. The word "Jokodok" is a re-modeling of the person's name, combined with a word with negative connotations, thus reinforcing the impression of insult. Furthermore, the use of other negative words further emphasizes that this utterance is intended to demean and label them negatively. This utterance does not contain constructive criticism, but rather is delivered as an insult with an emotional tone. Therefore, this utterance is considered dysphemism because it is used as a form of insult and indicates dislike of the object being discussed.

Data 8

"Bastard child of a terrorist, your father and mother's birth certificate is fake."

The phrase "bastard child" and the word "terrorist" are highly negative and inappropriate expressions. The term "bastard child" refers to a

birth status considered socially illegitimate, making it taboo and derogatory, while the word "terrorist" is used as a label that associates someone with acts of violence and serious crime. The use of both terms indicates an attempt to attack personal identity and paint a negative image of the person being discussed. Furthermore, the phrase "bastard child of your father and mother's birth certificate is fake" further reinforces the insult by addressing the legitimacy of someone's family origins. This utterance does not contain constructive criticism, but is delivered as an insult with an emotional tone aimed at degrading dignity. Therefore, this utterance clearly constitutes dysphemism because it is used as a form of insult, demeaning, and mocking, while also indicating dislike of the object being discussed.

Data 9

"You idiot, don't keep a monkey!! You've been getting stupider since you became a monkey!!"

This utterance contains negative words like "stupid" and "monkey," which are used to attack and demean the person being spoken to. "Stupid" is an insult to someone's thinking ability, while "monkey" is a metaphor that equates humans with animals. This utterance does not contain constructive criticism, but rather is delivered as an insult aimed at putting down and humiliating the person being addressed. Therefore, this utterance is considered dysphemism because it contains elements of insult, condescension, and dislike.

Data 10

"H?M? D*NGU!!!"

This utterance contains the words "homo" and "dumb." Although written with disguised symbols, the expression still has negative connotations and is used to attack the individual being spoken of. "Homo" in this context is used derogatorily, referring to sexual orientation, making it an inappropriate and stigmatizing form of speech. Meanwhile, "dumb" is an insult to someone's intellectual ability. This utterance is considered

dysphemism because it functions as a form of verbal attack that demeans and worsens the image of the party being discussed.

Data 11

"Can someone with mental disorders really be a witness?"

This statement serves to demean and insult. The word "ODGJ" is actually an official term referring to people with mental disorders, but in this context, it is used with a dismissive tone. This statement seems to question a person's abilities solely based on their mental condition, thus creating a condescending impression and creating a negative stigma. Although delivered as a question, the intended meaning remains insulting and indicates a negative assessment of the person being discussed. Therefore, this statement is considered dysphemism because it is used to demean someone through the use of a term that should be neutral.

Data 12

"If fellow lapau call him BRGDAK (BaRuak GaDang Anjiang Kurok)"

This statement uses the acronym BRGDAK, which is an abbreviation of a series of abusive words. Although disguised as an acronym, the meaning of the statement still carries an element of insult. The use of this acronym is intended to indirectly label someone with a negative label, but it is still understandable to those who know the acronym. In this context, the statement is used to demean and ridicule the person being discussed. Therefore, this utterance is considered a dysphemism because it carries a negative connotation and is used as a form of mockery and insult.

Data 13

"I'm sick of seeing this crippled creature."

This utterance uses the word "creature" to replace the word "person," thus appearing demeaning because it doesn't consider the individual a complete human being. Furthermore,

the word "peot" is used to describe a perceived physical condition. The combination of these two words conveys a negative connotation and directly attacks the person being spoken about. This utterance conveys dislike and is used to insult, not to criticize. Therefore, this utterance is considered a dysphemism because it is used as a form of mockery and demeanor.

Data 15

"Batak Anjing (dog-eating) people in your area don't let Batak people lead an institution; if they're not thieves, they eat their dogs."

This utterance uses the words "dog" and "maling" to negatively label a particular group. Furthermore, the term "Batak" is used to represent all members of the group in a negative light. This expression not only demeans individuals but also insults the group as a whole by applying an excessively negative assessment. This utterance conveys strong dislike and is delivered in a mocking manner. Therefore, this utterance is considered a dysphemism because it is used to insult and demean the group being discussed.

Data 17

"Congor jokodok minta di amplas."

This utterance uses the word "congor" as a rude term for "mouth." The word "jokodok" is a re-modeling of the word "kodok" (frog), which has a negative connotation. The phrase "tanya di amplas" (toad) is not taken literally but is used as a rude expression to express annoyance. Overall, this utterance is delivered with an emotional tone and is intended to demean and insult the person being discussed. Therefore, this utterance is considered a dysphemism because it carries a negative connotation and is used as a direct form of mockery and insult.

Data 20

"A stupid and idiotic minister like Zulhas @zul_hasan just slapped someone with a sack of rice."



The statement uses the words "tolol" and "goblok," which are harsh terms used to belittle someone's abilities. These words directly convey a negative assessment of the person being spoken about. Furthermore, the phrase "stabok aja pakai karung beras" reinforces the sense of ridicule and conveys a harsh emotion. This statement is not intended to be constructive criticism, but rather to insult and demean. Therefore, this statement is considered dysphemism because it is used as a direct form of insult and mockery.

Data 14

"Thank God you still remember Allah, @RajaJuliAntoni. Yesterday, you were a stubborn and arrogant challenger, as if power belonged to Jokowi, the world's most corrupt finalist, an evil creature destroying and dividing the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia."

The statement uses various negative terms such as "world's most corrupt finalist," "evil creature destroying," and "dividing the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia" to attack and demean the person being spoken about. Furthermore, the word "creature" conveys a derogatory impression because it doesn't refer to a complete human being. The phrase "petangan petenteng" also alludes to an attitude perceived as arrogant. Overall, this utterance is delivered negatively and aims to put someone down and label them negatively, rather than simply criticize them. Therefore, this utterance is considered dysphemism because it is used as a form of insult and indicates dislike for the object being discussed.

2.5 Exaggeration and Insults

This tool serves to exaggerate a situation or hyperbole and uses harsh words or insults to express anger.

Data 16

"He shouldn't have been deactivated yet, but had this prison warden eat dog feces until he was full, then deactivate him."

This utterance uses the phrase "eat dog feces until he is full," which is a form of hyperbole because it is highly exaggerated and impossible to achieve. This expression is used to express anger or annoyance in an exaggerated manner. Furthermore, the use of these words also functions as a rude and disgusting insult. Thus, the main focus is on exaggeration to emphasize the speaker's emotions. Therefore, this utterance is considered dysphemism because it is used to exaggerate a situation while simultaneously hurling insults.

DISCUSSION

Based on the research results, various forms of dysphemism were found in the comments section of the @democracyberita news account on application X, with a total of 20 items. These forms of dysphemism include figurative expressions (2 items), metaphors (3 items), remodeling (2 items), circumlocutions (1 item), clipping (1 item), omission (1 item), abbreviations (1 item), acronyms (1 item), one word replacing another (1 item), general forms becoming specific (1 item), part for the whole (1 item), hyperbole (1 item), meaning beyond the statement (1 item), jargon (1 item), and colloquialism (1 item). No flippant data was found in this study because there was no use of expressions that conveyed insults indirectly through subtle innuendo or play on meaning, but rather dominated by direct and assertive forms of expression. According to Puspita (2021), flippant forms are rarely found in dysphemism research. This indicates that dysphemisms tend to be conveyed more directly than through implied expressions or play on meaning.

The functions of dysphemism found include things that are considered taboo or indecent (2 data), a form of negative depiction of a situation (1 data), a means to convey criticism (2 data), a form of belittling and mocking (14 data), and a form of exaggerating the situation and throwing insults (1 data). Based on these data, the most dominant function of dysphemism is as a form of belittling and mocking, which shows that speech in the comment column tends to be used to attack

and demean others directly. Based on these data, the function of dysphemism is more prominent and dominant as a form of belittling, insulting, and mocking, indicating that speech in the comment column tends to be used to attack and demean others directly. In addition, several functions of dysphemism were not found in the results of this study, namely markers of dislike, hatred, and disrespect, expressing annoyance or anger, and indicating something that is considered low. This occurs because the speech analyzed is more often delivered directly and clearly in the form of insults. Therefore, there were not many expressions that conveyed emotions indirectly or used more subtle methods. According to Ramadhani et al. (2021), the function of dysphemism generally emerged as a form of insult toward someone in the public spotlight. This indicates a feeling of dislike expressed through the use of negative language. Furthermore, dysphemism is also used to express hatred through impolite speech. The phenomenon of dysphemism use on social media is inseparable from people's linguistic behavior in interactions. The use of dysphemism is manifested in the form of words, phrases, and expressions.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion, it can be concluded that the use of dysphemism in the comments section of the @democrazyberita news account on application X identified 20 forms and functions of dysphemism. The forms of dysphemism found were figurative expressions, metaphors, remodeling, circumlocutions, clippings, omissions, abbreviations, acronyms, one word substituting for another, general forms becoming specific, part for whole, hyperbole, meaning beyond the statement, jargon, and colloquialism. The functions of dysphemism found include taboo or indecent language, negative depictions of situations, means of conveying criticism, forms of belittling and mocking, and exaggeration and insults. Overall, the use of dysphemism in the comments section indicates that

speakers tend to convey negative assessments directly and firmly. Speakers often use harsh and offensive language, while they should convey criticism more politely, respectfully, and constructively.

CONCLUSION

First, the mean pre-test of the ability to understand news texts of grade XI students of SMA Negeri 1 Tanjung Morawa was categorized as low. Second, the mean post-test of the ability to understand news texts of grade XI students of SMA Negeri 1 Tanjung Morawa was categorized as high. Third, the Mentimeter media significantly influenced the learning of the ability to understand news texts for grade XI students of SMA Negeri 1 Tanjung Morawa. That is the conclusion of the study using a one-group pretest-posttest design.

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