

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

The sovereignty of Indonesia over Papua has been disputed ever since the Indonesian independence (Chauvel & Bhakti, 2004). It was initially started by the Netherlands Indies that refused to include Papua as one of the regions that would be transferred into the Indonesian government in 1949. Instead, they wanted to assist and prepare Papua to have its own independence (Chauvel & Bhakti, 2004). After the U.N interfered in this matter through New York Agreement in 1962, the Netherlands agreed to transfer its authority (Brundige et al., 2004). Under U.N supervision, Indonesian government conducted a referendum called “the Act of Free Choice” that was to give the people of Papua a chance to decide their own fate, whether they wanted to remain as a part of the Republic of Indonesia or had their own independence (Brundige et al., 2004). Surprisingly, the result of the referendum had even been predicted before it was conducted in some documents in Australia, Netherlands, and Washington (Penders, 2002). Thus, it was considered as a farce by the international community since the result did not democratically and accurately represent the will of Papuan to be a part of Indonesia; nevertheless, U.N still proceeded the result (MacLeod, 2011). Despite this, the conflict in Papua remains unresolved. It is grouped into four main issues: 1.) Marginalization and discrimination, 2.) Failure of development, 3.) A contradiction between Jakarta and Papua, 4.) Accountability for past state violence against Indonesian in Papua (Widjojo et al., 2008). Moreover, according to Widjojo et al. (2008), the conflict

between the central government and Papua became the main spotlight in the new order's regime. Although Papua is rich in terms of natural resources, it is still left behind in every aspect as compared to other regions in Indonesia (Sari, 2016). In 1965, the Free Papua Movement was established in response to the Indonesian annexation of Papua and to promote self-determination and independence (Cook, 2010). Since then, there have been countless conflicts between the Indonesian government and the Free Papua Movement that resulted in many death tolls of both sides and attracted the attention of the international community to interfere. In point of fact, Papuan are different from other races living in Indonesia. Papuans belong to Melanesian rather than Javanese or any other tribes that become the majority of the Indonesian population (Brundige et al., 2004). Therefore, according to Kirsch (2010), the attitude of Papuan toward Indonesian has been shaped by racialized discourse against them.

To follow up on this conflict, there have been many media ranging from national to international presses that try to highlight the conflict in their own platform. One of the international media that has been continuously reporting the conflict since 1999 is *The Guardian*, a British daily newspaper founded in 1821. According to Jigsaw research (2019), *The Guardian* is the most widely-read digital newspaper in the United Kingdom, and the vast majority of its readers rate it highly with 80% for high quality. In order to make sure the independence of *The Guardian* not to be influenced and intervened by any commercial and political party, Scott Trust Limited has become the sole shareholder since 1936 that ensures the independence of the journalism. Nevertheless, according to Baron (2004), it cannot be denied that mass media is widely viewed as biased. It is also supported by Van Dijk that argues

“media are not a neutral, common-sensed, or rational mediator of social events, but essentially help reproduce preformulated ideologies” (1988b, p.11)

Mass media, especially newspapers, indeed, has such a significant role within society. It is used as a medium to express and deliver someone’s ideas (Mardhyarini & Ariyanti, 2016). Moreover, it enables us to recontextualize and transform other social practices where it can contribute to the shaping of how we live and give meaning to our lives (Silverstone, 1999, cited in Fairclough, 2004). In the last few decades, there has been a new transformation in the mass media company in delivering their news along with the development of technology. They shift from traditional print newspapers to online newspapers to fulfill the demand of the readers and reach a greater number of readers around the world (Flavian & Guerra, 2006). The language employed in the newspaper cannot be overgeneralized and considered without having any intention to convey something beyond that. As asserted by Wodak and Meyer (2001), language is seen as a medium of domination and social power; therefore, language is a considerable means to unmask any hidden ideologies intended to construct social norms and values (Fairclough, 1995; Van Dijk, 2001).

To reveal a particular representation and hidden ideologies in the news, the researcher applies Critical Discourse Analysis since it enables the researcher to analyze the discourse around the word Papua. According to Van Dijk (1998), Critical discourse analysis makes a connection between the textual analysis of language and the social practice analysis. The study also applies the three-dimensional model developed by Fairclough that allows the researcher to have an in-depth analysis that reveals the discursive practice construction (Utami, 2018).

However, in conducting research with a huge amount of information from media like newspaper consisting of thousands or even millions of language data, it is impossible for the researchers to analyze them manually. Thus, to get a comprehensive analysis of language use, recently researchers start combining corpus linguistic tool and CDA to solve issues related to the data of analysis (Xu et al., 2017). Moreover, the usage of corpus linguistics is able to improve the objectivity of critical discourse analysis research (Baker, 2012).

Although some studies have been conducted to reveal certain representations in newspapers, only a few studies conducted to address the issue of Papua and one of them was conducted by Sari in 2016. It was concerning the economic news of Papua in three national Indonesian newspapers, the result showed that Papua is left behind compared to other regions in Indonesia although it is rich in term of natural resources. Moreover, the conflict in Papua has remained unsolved since the proclamation of Indonesia Independence until now. Therefore, based on the background of study, it drives the researcher to conduct a study related to the representation of Papua in *The Guardian news* as one of the international media that puts concern on the issue of Papua.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study that has been explained, the researcher makes the formulation of the possible question as follows:

1. How is Papua represented in *The Guardian newspaper*?

1.3 Research Objective

The result of the research question is expected to provide the researcher with the following research objective:

1. To comprehend the representational meanings of the adjectival, noun, and verbal collocates used by The Guardian Newspaper in reporting the issues in Papua and exposing the underlying ideology behind the representation.

1.4 Uses of the Study

The result of this study is expected to give some advantages to those people who put interest in conducting research related to CDA and Corpus Linguistics. The uses of this research also involve both theoretical and practical uses as follow:

1.4.1 Theoretical Uses

Theoretically, in the academic field, this research is expected to be a reference for other researchers who will conduct the research under the same topic. Besides, it is also to give more understanding and knowledge upon CDA proposed by Norman Fairclough known as three-dimensional model as combined with corpus as a means to get the data.

1.4.2 Practical Uses

Practically, this research will be useful for some parties ranging from readers, students to lecturers. For readers, it will give them more insight regarding how specific issues are being represented in various media with different points of view that can lead them to have critical language awareness (Dar et al., 2010). For

students, especially those who put interest in conducting research under the same topic, it can be their guidance to see how critical discourse analysis is applied with combining corpus linguistics tools to improve the objectivity of the research (Baker, 2012). Last but not least, for the lecturers or linguists, the research can broaden their insight pertaining to critical discourse analysis.

1.5 Scope of the Study

The study will focus on examining the representation of Papua published in *The Guardian News*, ranging from 1999 to 2019, in which the data in the form of collocation (adjective, noun, verb) and concordance (passive and active voice) taken from *The Guardian newspapers* official website. Moreover, this research applies a three-dimensional framework developed by Fairclough and uses Corpus Linguistics tool namely Sketch Engine to help the researcher get the data of analysis.