



## Revealing the Ideology of Documentary Film Dirty Vote: Critical Discourse Analysis with Transitivity Perspective

Atsani Wulansari<sup>1\*</sup>, Sukron Mazid<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Doctoral Student of Linguistics, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, Indonesia

<sup>2</sup>Doctoral Student of Civic Education, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, Indonesia

<sup>1,2</sup>FKIP Universitas Tidar, Magelang, Indonesia

<sup>1</sup>atsaniwulansari@upi.edu

<sup>2</sup>sukronmazid@upi.edu

\*corresponding author

### History

*Received*  
7 April 2024

*Revised*  
13 May 2024

*Accepted*  
13 May 2024

*Published*  
29 May, 2024

### Abstract

The Dirty Vote documentary movie attempted to depict the ambiance of Indonesia's general election. Movies inherently reflect the viewpoints and ideology of particular groups; therefore, it led us to research the film further by using Critical Discourse Analysis. Film as one of the discourses has its linguistics characteristic which brings the ideological orientations. This research aims to reveal the ideology of Dirty Vote from transitivity perspective. Transitivity is the ideational function that can show what happens in a text as it is related to a series of context in which participants, processes, and circumstance must be used in a discourse. In addition, this research uses Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis to reveal ideological assumptions in discourse. The data is taken from the utterance of one of the constitutional law experts, namely Zainal Arifin Mochtar (ZAM). Fairclough's CDA model: description, interpretation and explanation are used to analyze the data. This study found that the processes in opening of the film are relational attributive process, material process and behavioral process. Meanwhile, the processes perceived in the content of the movie are material, relational attributive, relational identifying, behavioral, verbal, mental, and existential process. The transitivity analysis in the film produces representation of general election reflected in the ZAM's speech and create the ideology of the film.

**Keywords:** *Critical discourse analysis, Dirty Vote, documentary film, Transitivity, Systemic Functional Linguistic, ideology*

**DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.31002/metathesis.v8i1.1441>



## INTRODUCTION

The election reflects a big idea for the sustainability of the nation and state. General election is an important foundation of democratic systems in various parts of the world. In the context of democracy, the government gets its power and authority from the community. The electoral process is a mechanism by which citizens can voice their preferences to elect leaders and determine the course of state policy.

Democracy has become a term that is frequently glorified in the history of human thought about the ideal socio-political order (Nurtjahjo, 2008). Democracy is a system of government in which all citizens participate in government through their representatives, which bases the core of democracy on the principle of government originating from the people, implemented by the people, and in the interests of the people (Juniar, 2021; Muhtar et al., 2023; Santoso, 2019). In Indonesia, democracy is realized through a general election process which is held every five years.

Documentary film is non-fiction works that capture real-world events, people, and places, often emphasizing social and political issues (Gbambu et al., 2023). *Dirty Vote* documentary attempted to depict Indonesia's general election ambiance. After being uploaded on YouTube, this documentary film sparked a variety of responses from the public. Some supported this film because it provided detailed viewpoints on unethical practices in politics. However, some people opposed this film since they thought that the film favored one of the candidates ahead of the presidential and vice-presidential elections. Furthermore, the opposing party also said that this film presented biased information related to the presidential election.

Film as one of the discourses has its linguistics characteristic which brings the ideological orientations. As Lehtonen (2000: 48) mentioned that the term of text encompasses various forms of representation, including writings, photographs, movies, newspapers and magazines, advertisements and commercials; essentially, all forms of human signification practices. Movie, as visual representations, emerges from human culture and encapsulate the values, perspectives, and ideologies of specific groups (Goziyah et al., 2018). As a result, movies inherently reflect the viewpoints and ideologies of particular groups.

Critical Discourse Analysis is one of the ways to see the ideology behind the film. Ideology here refers to (1) a belief system held by a specific group or class, (2) a fabricated concept and a form of false consciousness, particularly when utilized by dominant groups to exert control over non-dominant groups and (3) the broader process of generating meanings and ideas within society (Goziyah et al., 2018). Critical discourse analysis (CDA) explores language with a critical approach, not just seeing it as a language text as in descriptive discourse analysis. CDA interprets discourse not only as a study of language but also as an analysis of its context. In CDA, language is seen as an object of research, in addition, language is also seen as a tool for understanding certain goals and practices, including in the context of power. Fairclough in Munfarida (2014) defines discourse in three different ways. First, discourse is understood as the use of language in social practice. Second, discourse is defined as the type of language used in a particular domain, such as political discourse or scientific discourse. Third, discourse refers to a way of speaking that gives meaning to experience from a certain point of view, such as feminist discourse or neoliberal discourse.

Two important assumptions in Fairclough's critical discourse analysis are that language is socially constituted and socially determined. Fairclough (Sumarti, 2010) developed his ideas based on multifunctional linguistic theory in systemic functional linguistics, where each text has an ideational function through representing experience and the world, an interpersonal function in producing social interactions, and a textual function as part of a component unit in a situational context. The ideational function concerns a certain representation that are intended to be displayed in the text, which generally carries a certain ideological content. Hence, this paper tries to reveal the ideology of *Dirty Vote* from a transitivity perspective.

Transitivity as one part of the ideational function observes clauses as grammatical units that



can show what happens in a text. Transitivity analysis is one of the tools used to conduct critical discourse analysis. Halliday & Matthiessen (2014) define transitivity as a system that expresses people's experiences of the external world and also the internal world through clauses. As stated by Eggins (2004), transitivity relates to a series of contexts in which participants, processes, and circumstances must be used in a discourse. These sections build a frame of reference for interpreting experiences regarding happening, doing, sensing, meaning, being, and becoming. The transitivity system classifies processes into 6 types: (i) material processes, (ii) mental processes, (iii) verbal processes, (iv) behavioral processes, (v) relational processes, and (vi) existential processes.

Transitivity as one of study in CDA to reveal previous researchers had widely observed ideology. Transitivity had been applied analyze the speech (Anggraini et al., 2018; Megah S, 2019; Puspita & Antoni, 2019; Shi & Gu, 2022), news (Dewi & Citraresmana, 2021; Kadek et al., 2023; Liu & Jia, 2019; Shi & Fan, 2019; Sukiman et al., 2023), testament (Gunawan et al., 2023), movie (Goziyah et al., 2018) and poetry (Wulansari & Waluyo, 2016). However, some of the previous researchers have not applied CDA for analysis and only some researchers such as Anggraini et al., 2018; Dewi & Citraresmana, (2021); Gunawan et al., (2023); Liu & Jia, (2019); Shi & Fan, (2019) and Goziyah et.al (2018) have applied CDA in transitivity analysis. Although they have applied CDA in translation analysis, none of the previous research analyzes the documentary film that reap the pros and cons of the general election in Indonesia. Moreover, CDA has been applied in analyzing the movie such as the research by Kristianto & Wahyuni, (2022); Melina & Irawan, (2023); and Rozzaq & Ratnadewi, (2016). Those researches focus on using Van Dijk's theory to reveal the ideology and analyze the identity crisis and power relation in the movie. Therefore, to fill the vacancy, this present study tries to examine the *Dirty Vote* from the CDA and Transitivity perspective. Critical discourse analysis views language as a social practice and aims to increase human consciousness. Fairclough builds a model that integrates linguistic-based discourse analysis and socio-political thinking, which is generally related to social change. This model is often referred to as a model of social change. Another important concept from Fairclough is intertextuality, which highlights the relationship between texts and discourses in a text. This shows the existence of situational effects where text production is influenced by previous or contemporary texts or discourses, which can produce ideological effects such as structuration and restructuring of existing discourse orders. Thus, this study will answer the question: How does the transitivity reveal the ideology of the documentary film *Dirty Vote*?

## METHOD

### Research Design

This research used Fairclough's Critical Discourse Analysis to reveal ideological assumptions in discourse. According to Fairclough, every text simultaneously has three functions, namely a representation function, a relationship function, and an identity function. Apart from that, in the CDA perspective, ideology is the main domain so CDA is used to analyze the relationship between language, power, and ideology. Fairclough in Kristina (2020), identification of ideology can be done through the use of the types of processes and participants that are dominant in the text. Consequently, the transitivity theory is also used in this research.

### Data Collection

This research used documentation techniques from the documentary film *Dirty Vote*. The data was taken from the opening and content presentation about election conditions in Indonesia by one constitutional law expert, namely Zainal Arifin Mochtar (ZAM). Data was taken using purposive sampling from the minute of 0.07 to 24.07. The utterance from ZAM is chosen because he is dominant in presenting the material in documentary film.



## Data Analysis

Data were analyzed using the Fairclough model to examine the dialectical relationship between language and society. Fairclough's CDA model is known as a three-dimensional model, namely description, interpretation, and explanation. The description stage is carried out by analyzing the linguistic characteristics used by constitutional law experts in the documentary film *Dirty Vote*. The linguistic unit in ZAM utterance is analyzed by using transitivity analysis by Halliday and Matthiessen (2014). The Interpretation is used to reveal the representation of the general election in Indonesia behind documentary filmmaking which is identified through transitivity so that it can clarify language as a discursive practice. Then, the explanation stage is used to connect text with social context. This stage serves to explore the social effects and social determinants of the *Dirty Vote* documentary by considering situational, institutional, and socio-cultural aspects. Below is the diagram explaining the data analysis.

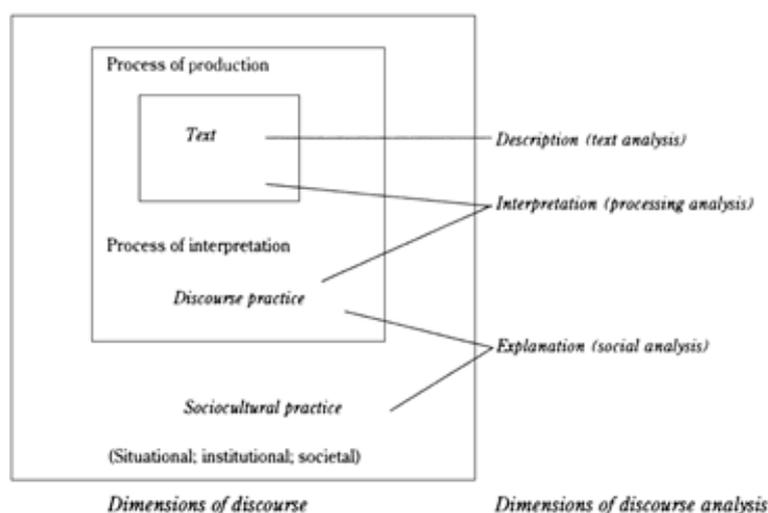


Figure 1. Fairclough' model of CDA

## Data Analysis Procedure

The data analysis procedure was conducted with the following steps: (1) selecting Zainal Arifin Mochtar's utterances in the *Dirty Vote* as the data unit, (2) sorting the data and determining the type of process based on the concept of transitivity (3) counting the percentage of process types to get the dominant pattern, (4) analyzing the type of transitivity process, (5) interpreting the data based on the type of transitivity process (6) performing data explanation based on the type of transitivity process and (7) drawing conclusions. (Adapted from Gunawan et al., (2023).

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Finding

#### Transitivity Analysis

##### 1. Transitivity Analysis of ZAM's utterance at the opening of the film

This research analyzes the transitivity system in the documentary film *Dirty Vote* which is divided into opening from three constitutional law experts, content, and closing. The documentary film *Dirty Vote* was directed by Dandhy Laksono and casted by three constitutional law experts, namely Zainal Arifin Mochtar, Feri Amsari, and Bivitri Susanti. This documentary film was launched on February 11 2024, which is two days before the election. This film has been watched by millions of people and can be watched via the YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=y-HX7N-gcvhQ&t=551s>

In the opening, three constitutional law experts expressed their opinions about the documentary



film and their reasons for being involved in this film. This study only analyzes the utterance of Zainal Arifin Mochtar (ZAM). ZAM's opening consists of 7 clauses with 3 different processes. Transitivity analysis in the opening of this film is used to reveal ZAM's representation of his involvement in the Dirty Vote documentary film. ZAM's speech is dominated by the relational attributive process. The following is the relational process found in ZAM's statement.

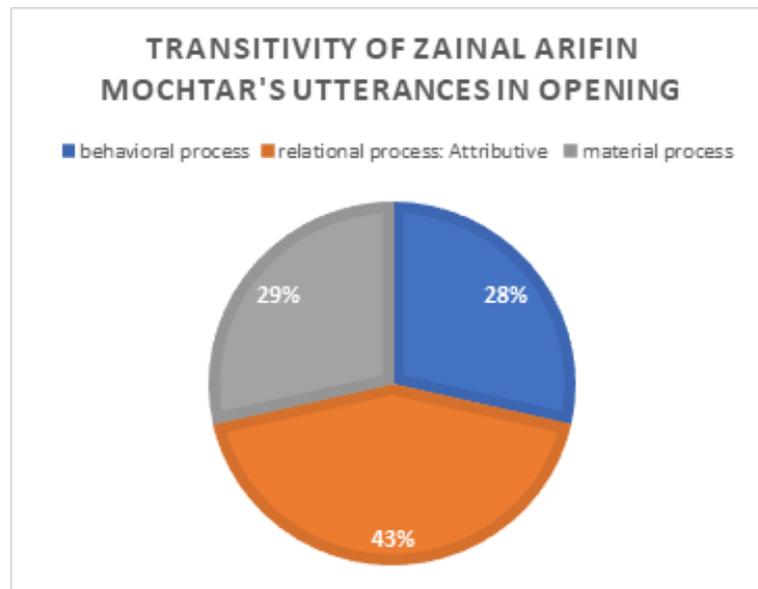


Figure 2. Transitivity of ZAM's Utterances in Opening of the film

### 1.1. Relational Attributive Process in Opening

The following are the example of relational process found in Zainal Arifin Mochtar's speech.

**Data 12**

*Saya **punya** pesan sederhana (I **have** a simple message)*

**Data 14**

*Film ini **adalah** monumen yang akan kita ingat (this film **is** a monument that we will remember)*

**Data 15**

*bahwa kita **punya** peranan besar (that we **had** a big role)  
melahirkan orang yang Bernama Jokowi. (in bearing the person named Jokowi).*

The relational attributive process above shows a representation of the relationship between the film and the facts on the field regarding the elections in Indonesia.

### 1.2. Behavioral Process

Behavioral process describes human physiological and psychological behavior. Below is the example of behavioral process in the film.

**Data 11**

*Jika anda **nonton** film ini (If you **watch** this film)*

**Data 17**

*melahirkan orang yang bernama Jokowi. (in **bearing** the person named Jokowi).*

If it is combined with the sentences that precede and follow the behavioral process in data 11



and 17, Zainal Arifin Mochtar advised the viewers of the *Dirty Vote* who might also be voters in the election to make the film a reminder that they also had a big role in the previous election which won Jokowi. These remarks were then followed by a video showing Jokowi stating that Gibran was not ready to enter politics, but at the end of the video, Gibran joined Prabowo as vice president. This shows that the behavioral process of the word ‘bearing’ has an impact on the 2024 presidential and vice-presidential elections.

### 1.3. Material Process

Material process is also found in Zainal Arifin Mochtar’s utterance at the opening of the documentary film *Dirty Vote*. The data is as follows.

#### Data 13

*Satu, tolong jadikan film ini sebagai landasan* (One, please **use** this film as a basis)

#### Data 14

*untuk Anda melakukan penghukuman* (for you **to carry out** judgment)

Material process reveals physical actions or processes that occur either intentionally or unintentionally. The material process in the data above shows a message from Zainal Arifin Mochtar to *Dirty Vote* viewers that they can assess the process and methods of elections in Indonesia after watching the film.

## 2. Transitivity Analysis of ZAM’s utterance at the content of the film

ZAM uses verbs that show different transitivity in his explanation of elections in Indonesia in documentary film content. The transitivity of ZAM’s speech can be seen in the following diagram.

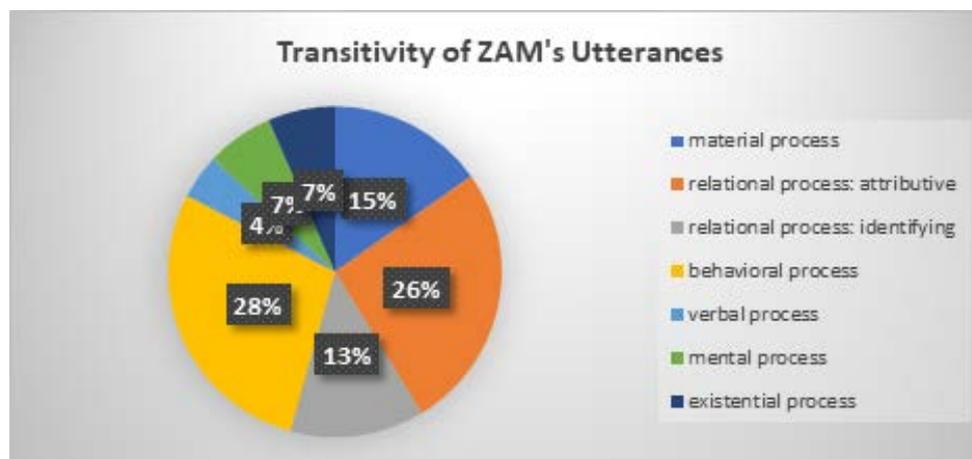


Figure 3. Transitivity of ZAM’s Utterance in the Content of the Film

In the diagram above, it is explained that relational attributive processes and behavioral processes dominate Zainal Arifin Mochtar’s utterance in the content of *Dirty Vote*. The relational attributive process found are relational attributive: intensive and relational attributive: possession. The following are examples of data from these two relational processes.

### 2.1. Relational Attributive Process: Intensive

The intensive relational process explains that a participant entity, namely the ‘carrier’, is part of a group that has certain characteristics (attributes). Below are the examples of intensive relational



process.

**Data 01/relational-attributive**

*Khusus pemilu presiden, pertanyaan paling menariknya untuk tahun 2024 **adalah** apakah pemilu 2024 akan satu putaran?* (Specifically for the presidential election, the most interesting question for 2024 **is** whether the 2024 election will be one round?)

**Data 03/relational-attributive**

*tetapi yang terjadi **adalah** putaran kedua keadaan tersebut berbalik* (but the thing happened **is** that in the second round the situation reversed)

**Data 08/relational-attributive**

*dan sangat mungkin diterjemahkan itu **adalah** bagian dari upaya memobilisasi birokrasi* (and it **is** very possible to be translated as part of an effort to mobilize the bureaucracy)

**2.2. Relational Attributive Process: Possession**

This process shows ownership which is marked with have/has. There is one data that shows the relational attributive process of possession.

**Data 05/relational-attributive**

*Anies dan AHY seakan-akan **memiliki** angka penjumlahan antara jumlah suara Anies dan AHY pada saat itu.* (Anies and AHY seemed to **have** the total number of votes between Anies and AHY at that time.)

The context of this statement is about the regional general election in DKI Jakarta when Anies Baswedan, who is currently a presidential candidate, and Agus Harimurti Yudhoyono (AHY) are the candidates for governor of Jakarta. The attributive relational process in the utterance above represents the ownership of the number of regional election votes owned by Anies and AHY.

**2.3. Behavioral Process**

The second process that dominates ZAM's speech is the behavioral process. ZAM uses a behavioral process to ask the audience to take conscious action as seen in the use of the word 'lihat' (look at) in the following data.

**Data 01/behavioural process**

*Kalau kita **lihat** angka yang ada* (If we **look at** the existing numbers)

**Data 03/behavioural process**

*Kalau Anda **lihat** pilkada DKI Jakarta* (If you **look at** the DKI Jakarta Regional Election

**Data 05/behavioural process**

*Kalau kita **lihat** hasil putaran pertama* (If we **look at** the results of the first round)

Moreover, behavioral processes can also be seen in the use of the words 'melahirkan' (bear), 'memenangkan' (win), 'kalah' (lose), and 'menunjukkan' (show). Below is the data for each word.

**Data 02/behavioural process**

*bahwa pertarungan pemilu itu **sering melahirkan** dikotomi, antara pro status quo dan pro perubahan, antara orang yang jualannya melanjutkan yang terdahulu dengan orang yang jualannya ingin melakukan perubahan atau perbaikan secara mendasar* (that election battles **often bear** a dichotomy, between pro status quo and pro change, between people who



want to continue the previous ones and people who want to make fundamental changes or improvements)

#### Data 07/behavioural process

menurut data survei, secara konstan sebenarnya, pasangan Ahok dan Djarot, yang kita ketahui didukung juga oleh presiden Jokowi kala itu, senantiasa secara konstan **memenangkan** posisi paling atas dari semua survey (According to survey, Ahok and Djarot, who we know were also supported by President Jokowi at that time, consistently **won** the top position in all surveys)

#### Data 08/behavioural process

Itu sebabnya kemudian pasangan, lagi lagi yang didukung oleh presiden Jokowi yaitu Ahok dan Djarot **harus kalah** (That's why the candidate, supported by President Jokowi, Ahok and Djarot, **had to lose**)

#### Data 10/behavioural process

bagaimana Bobi sebagai seorang kepala daerah di Medan itu **menunjukkan** sikap yang sebenarnya tidak netral (how Bobi as a regional head in Medan **shows** an attitude that is not actually neutral)

### 2.4. Material Process

Material processes describe the process of 'doing something'. This process expresses the idea that an entity 'does' something that may also be done 'to' another entity. In his speech, ZAM uses several verbs that indicate material processes as follows.

#### Data 01/material-process

*Pemilu sebentar lagi akan **dimulai**.* (Election **will start** soon).

#### Data 03/material-process

*Dua putaran itu **membuat** resiko kekalahan bagi orang yang sedang memimpin itu menjadi besar* (These two rounds **make** the risk of defeat greater for the person who is leading)

#### Data 07/material-process

*... yang izinnya **mendadak** dicabut oleh Pemda* (which permits **are** suddenly **revoked** by the regional government)

### 2.5. Relational Identifying Process

The relational identification process explains the overall identity of a participant, namely an entity (token) that defines another entity (value), and its position can be exchanged in clauses or it can be changed into passive. In ZAM's speech, there are 6 relational identification processes. The following is an example of the data.

#### Data 02/relational-identifying

*Pertanyaannya sebenarnya **adalah** Apakah syarat satu putaran hanya sekadar soal 50% + 1?* (The real question **is**: Is the requirement for one round just a matter of 50% + 1?)

#### Data 04/relational-identifying

*yang pertama dan yang paling penting tentu saja **adalah** soal mobilisasi birokrasi* (the first and the most important thing **is** indeed the question of bureaucratic mobilization)

#### Data 05/relational-identifying

*yang kedua (**adalah**) bicara soal izin lokasi kampanye* (the second (**is**) talking about cam-



paign location permits)

#### **Data 06/relational-identifying**

*dan yang ketiga adalah khususnya memberikan sanksi atau membiarkan kepala daerah yang tidak netral itu tetap menjabat (and the third is imposing sanctions or allowing regional heads who are not neutral to remain in office)*

### **2.6. Existential Process**

The existential process explains something that exists. The existential process found here reflects the conditions of elections in Indonesia related to the presence or absence of something. The data found shows that the emergence of the existential process reached almost the lowest percentage because only 3 data were found on ZAM's utterances in the Dirty Vote documentary. This means that ZAM's speech rarely describes the presence or absence of something. The following is the example of existential process.

#### **Data 01/existential-process and mental process**

*Ada lagi yang harus Anda ingat (There is something else you should keep in mind)*

The data above consists of 2 processes: existential and mental process. The mental process is signed with the word 'ingat' (keep in mind). The existential process is shown in the use of the word 'ada' (there is) to show the audience the existence of something they should remember in the elections in Indonesia.

#### **Data 02/existential-process**

*bahwa ada yang namanya "Empat Jari" (that there is such a thing called "Four Fingers")*

#### **Data 03/existential-process and material process**

*ada enam kampanye Anis yang izinnya mendadak dicabut oleh Pemda (there are six Anis' campaigns which permits suddenly revoked by the regional government)*

### **2.7. Mental Process**

Mental process as sensory process is used by ZAM to express and invite the audience to see, hear, feel, and think about what is happening in the elections in Indonesia. Mental process describes psychological actions that involve perceptual processes. There are 3 data that use mental process in ZAM's utterances.

#### **Data 01/mental process**

*.....mereka mau satu putaran (they want one round)*

The word 'they' refers to the presidential candidate number 2, Prabowo and Gibran. The mental process here shows the desire of presidential candidate to win in one round. This remark is then followed by the campaign video of Probowo – Gibran.

#### **Data 03/ mental process**

*karena kemudian sangat mungkin dipikirkan mana yang boleh berkampanye dan tidak (because it is very possible to think about who is allowed to campaign and who is not)*

### **2.8. Verbal Process**

The verbal process as a speech process conveys ZAM's verbal actions. In his speech, verbal clauses were not only used to show ZAM's own statements, but also used to show Prabowo's statement



as one of the presidential candidates. There are two verbal process data as follows:

**Data 01/verbal process**

*untuk berkata mereka mau satu putaran (to say they want one round)*

**Data 02/verbal process**

*Sebenarnya secara ilmu politik dan hukum ketatanegaraan, kita dapat berbicara bahwa ..... (In fact, from political science and constitutional law, we can say that .....)*

## DISCUSSION

This part discusses about the ideology of *Dirty Vote* observed from ZAM utterance, the interpretative stage and the explanation phase of critical discourse analysis.

### Ideology of *Dirty Vote*

Van Dijk (2006) mentioned that ideologies serve as foundational beliefs that shape the identity and actions of social groups, providing coherence and stability while also being subject to gradual change and integration into mainstream societal attitudes. Thus, ideology shapes our worldview, influences our choices, and plays a significant role in how we perceive and interact with society. In relation to documentary film, the previous research from Goziyah et al., (2018) has examined that movie was designed to communicate an ideology that could influence viewers through both written and spoken languages, as well as visual imagery. The ideology in the movie can be observed from the use of language. Fairclough stated that ideology identification could be seen from the use of the dominant process and participant (Kristina, 2020). Hence, transitivity is one of the tools to reveal the ideology in a movie.

The transitivity analysis of ZAM utterance in *Dirty Vote* is divided into two: the opening of film and the content of the film. In short ZAM's utterances in opening and content of film are dominated with relational attributive process and behavioral process. Relational attributive process represents relationships between different entities and builds relationships between different actions, facts and objects. On the other hand, this relational process is applied to describe, define, identify, and even symbolize something related to the election situation in Indonesia in *Dirty Vote*. Relational attributive process is divided into three: intensive, possession and circumstantial. The intensive relational process explains that a participant entity, namely 'carrier' is part of a group that has certain characteristics (attributes). The relational attributive of possession describes the characteristics of the bearer in relation to the ownership of something which is typically marked by the verb has/have. The relational attributive process circumstantial shows relations that express information about place, time, cause, problem or other situational elements.

In data 12 "*Saya punya pesan sederhana (I have a simple message)*" and Data 15 "*bahwa kita punya peranan besar (that we had a big role)*" show relational process of attributive possession. It has a meaning that 'x has y', therefore, it means that ZAM has a message to the viewers of the film. He wants the viewers understand the value given by the documentary film. Moreover, in data 15, ZAM wants to show to the public that Indonesian people actually have the big role to create the situation of general election. Through the attribute of the relational process, we know that the ideology of this documentary movie observed from ZAM utterance in opening is to inform the public about the condition before general election 2024. Then, in data 14 "*Film ini adalah monumen yang akan kita ingat (this film is a monument that we will remember)*" shows the relational attributive intensive. Apriliani & Himmawati (2017) clarified that relational attributive intensive has a meaning 'x is a member of the class a'. Consequently, it means that the film is a kind of reminder for all the Indonesian people about their previous general election.

There are three data which use relational attributive process in the content of the film. Those data explain that carrier is the part of the attribute. In data 01/relational-attributive, the words 'whether



the 2024 election will be one round' is an attribute of the word 'the most interesting question'. It represents the most frequently asked question in the minds of political observers regarding the presidential election in Indonesia which featured three candidates. Then in data 03/relational-attributive, the words 'second round the situation reversed' is an attribute of the carrier 'the thing that happened'. In this statement, ZAM tries to explain what will happen if the election run two rounds by referring to data from previous election cases. The context that accompanies this statement is the DKI Jakarta Regional Election which took place in two rounds. Data 08/relational-attributive also shows that 'part of an effort to mobilize the bureaucracy' is an attribute of 'itu/that' The word 'itu/that' refers to the previous sentence which uses a behavioral process regarding regional heads who show a non-neutral attitude. In short, the relational process as a tangible process is applied to describe, define, and even symbolize things related to election conditions from regional elections to presidential elections in Indonesia. By using this process, ZAM tries to describe the election situation and show data related to elections in Indonesia.

Additionally, the behavioral process found in the finding represents ZAM's request to the Indonesian people as viewers of Dirty Vote to see the data that has been presented. It can be seen from the word 'look at'. Besides, the behavioral process in ZAM's utterances shows the psychological behavior of Ahok, Djarot, and Bobi in the general elections in Indonesia. It can be seen in data 08/behavioral process and data 10/behavioral process. On the other hand, the behavioral process also represents the consequences of the election battle as seen in data 02 'bahwa pertarungan pemilu itu sering melahirkan dikotomi, antara pro status quo dan pro perubahan, antara orang yang jualannya melanjutkan yang terdahulu dengan orang yang jualannya ingin melakukan perubahan atau perbaikan secara mendasar (that election battles often bear a dichotomy, between pro status quo and pro change, between people who want to continue the previous ones and people who want to make fundamental changes or improvements)'.

### Interpretation Stage

This section examines the discursive representation of the Dirty Vote making from the perspective of constitutional law experts. In this section, the interpretation stage is carried out by linking the linguistic characteristics of transitivity analysis in the film to interactions that produce representation of general election reflected in the ZAM's speech. Zainal Arifin Mochtar (ZAM) at minutes 5.19 – 9.11 tries to reveal facts about the election by displaying data in the form of video, presidential candidate electability surveys, and data on the 2017 DKI Jakarta regional election results. The use of relational processes attributive in ZAM's utterances defines and symbolizes things related to elections such as one-round elections and the four-finger movement.

The use of relational processes as in the finding shows the relationship between one entity and another entity in ZAM's speech. This process is a crucial transitivity process in ZAM's speech which is then followed by behavioral processes and material processes which continuously explain what happened in the election process in Indonesia. This is also reinforced by relevant video publishers as data sources. Furthermore, at minute 24.07, ZAM develops a theme about the non-neutrality of regional heads in elections in Indonesia. The behavioral process dominates ZAM's speech on this theme. The behavioral process used is imperative. It means that asking the public to look at the data presented regarding the non-neutrality of regional heads.

To sum up, one-round election, four-fingers movement, and non-neutrality of regional head represent the general election of Indonesia in 2024. The four-fingers movement is a movement that invites the public to choose between presidential candidate number 1 or number 3 in the 2024 presidential election.

### Explanation Stage

Based on Fairclough (2003), explanation stage in CDA is the final step in analyzing a discourse



which includes situational, institutional and socio-cultural aspects.

### ***Situational aspect***

The differences in text may arise according to unique and specific situations. By examining the social practices that occur in the context of the text, which is influenced by individuals interacting directly with society, we can understand the context and events related to the situation. *Dirty Vote*, has a series of texts that indicate a situational relationship. As ZAM's opinion stated that interpreting *Dirty Vote* is a clear form of political literacy. Political literacy is vital since it will determine the success of general election. As Sibarani (2016) urged that momentum in the general election process in Indonesia is very important because its success will determine the future direction of the country. If the election does not go smoothly, there is a risk that a leader who is not in line with the wishes of the people will be elected, which could result in political conflict and dissatisfaction between groups. Therefore, maintaining quality and integrity in the implementation of elections is crucial.

Some of the statements uttered by ZAM also refer to the dynamics that are currently occurring, especially the chaotic democratic system in the 2024 general election. The attributive relational process that dominates ZAM's speech regarding the elections in Indonesia is the excitement from the flow of the presidential and vice-presidential candidates to the regional elections. In a political system, this statement '*Kembali pertanyaannya (adalah) soal mengapa satu putaran?*' (Again, the question (is) about why one round?)' is a maneuver to ensure greater victory. In addition, the statement is used to influence the social order so that the general election runs quickly, economically and the declaration of victory becomes the goal.

The next analysis is the statement '*Dua putaran itu membuat resiko kekalahan bagi orang yang sedang memimpin itu menjadi besar.*' (two rounds create a large risk of defeat for the person who is leading)'. The statement could become an issue, so that members of the public are enlightened about the situation. Political literacy and awareness are needed to know the regime who currently led the country. Therefore, in this film, ZAM invites citizens to be critically to see the sustainability of the nation's democracy. As a result, the voice used by the public will be participatory, not just a formal legal thing.

### ***Institutional aspect***

The institutional aspect studies how institutional organization influences the way discourse is produced. The institutions involved may originate from society, so that society's ideology plays a role in the way discourse is put into practice. A paradigm built by society is how to position the political situation in Indonesia without following an issue that has been developed. Currently, critical discourse on politics is very open and worthy of criticism. This is the presence of young intellectuals who are opening up their minds about how to build a civilized nation.

The ZAM's statement '*jika anda nonton film ini saya punya pesan sederhana. Satu, tolong, jadikan film ini sebagai landasan untuk anda melakukan penghukuman.* (If you watch this film, I have a simple message. One, please use this film as a basis for you to carry out judgement)' means that *Dirty Vote* is a film that is full of messages, especially regarding the chaotic process of selecting presidential and vice-presidential candidates. The regime is tough in regulating aspects of national and state life. This film conveys the message that sharp criticism will have the impact of punishing a regime that seems to be playing with existing mechanisms and laws.

In fact, the power used by the ruling regime is for the benefit and continuity of governing the country. Apart from that, this documentary film conveys the message that people believe in President Jokowi, but in reality, Jokowi is considered to be interfering in determining the political stance, for instance, in determining the presidential and vice-presidential candidates. It reflects in ZAM's utterance '*Film ini adalah monumen, tagihan, monumen yang akan kita ingat bahwa kita*



*punya peranan besar melahirkan orang yang bernama Jokowi* (this film is a monument that we will remember in bearing the person named Jokowi)'.

The statement put forward by ZAM in the institutional realm is actually a form of collaboration so that members of the public really remember when two periods ago the figure of President Jokowi was born. However, in reality, Jokowi is taking part in regulating the existing political order. Through this film, the deepest message is that leader and citizen is unity and inseparable. Thus, through the constitution and democracy, a leader becomes an extension of the people. It must not be totalitarian and doctrinaire in the people's interests.

### ***Socio-cultural aspect***

From a social perspective, societal culture has an influence on the evolution of creating discourse. Currently, social aspects related to social components in the micro environment can be economic, critical-oriented, or political issues. In this way, the significant impact of political dynamics in Indonesia affects the social and cultural behavior in society. However, society will feel the direct or indirect impact of political decision. The existence of pros and cons in society will build an image of position and opposition in the realm of power. The significant impact is that the hierarchy of the constitution is damaged, thereby changing the mindset of politically literate society. Consequently, Crick in Mazid & Hadji (2019) clarified that political education begins with the fundamental understanding that politics revolves around the interaction between the governing authority or administration and its society, or between the state and its citizens. Moreover, Crick elucidates the relationship model between government and society as a means to grasp the foundational concept of political education. From this framework, several fundamental concepts emerge that citizens need to comprehend in order to attain political literacy.

The situation of social stratification also changes the thinking style of bigotry and apathy in existing politics. Socio-cultural aspect will be placed on crucial matters because it directly touches the lower classes. However, the silence of intellectuals will result in indifference. In fact, in a country that has an advanced democracy, criticism is a control so that the authorities in making decisions can be pro and neutral towards the people. The policies developed are also for the benefit of the people. Therefore, the socio-cultural aspect is underlined that political power will influence the policy order in governance, implementation and administration.

Based on the analysis statement of the three aspects above (situational, institutional, and socio-cultural), it can be analyzed that the election system in Indonesia always experiences dynamics. The maneuvers and strategies of political friends and opponents always reveal deep meaning. Instead of being able to save constitutional democracy, the flow of contestation always benefits those in power. This can be seen with the presence of the film *Dirty Vote* which causally provides an in-depth message analysis of how legal dynamics surround the Indonesian general election process. This film has a message to beginners and citizens to be aware of existing politics in order to maintain the spirit of democracy.

Indeed, democracy can be saved if the elites unite and set an example of democratic practice. The spirit of a good governance system is upholding the pillars of democracy. Unity can create a dignified government structure. Prosperity and tranquility are the forerunners of a developed country. Thus, as citizens, we should be intelligent, competent and aware of politics. Hence, sustainability in national and state life, policies and decisions are born from politics.

## **CONCLUSION AND IMPLICATION**

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, it is evident that the application of transitivity analysis could reveal the ideology in a documentary film. The dominant processes found in ZAM's utterance are relational attributive



process and behavioral process. It means that ZAM endeavors to depict the electoral landscape and present data concerning elections in Indonesia. Furthermore, ZAM's statements illustrates the psychological conduct of Ahok, Djarot, and Bobi during the general elections in Indonesia. In addition, transitivity analysis uncovers the intricate ways in which language constructs and symbolizes the Indonesian electoral landscape.

The critical discourse analysis of *Dirty Vote* provides valuable insights into the discursive representations in *Dirty Vote*. The interpretation stage elucidates the broader societal implications of *Dirty Vote* as discourse, particularly in shaping perceptions and representation. From this stage, it is found that one-round election, four-fingers movement, and non-neutrality of regional head represent the general election of Indonesia in 2024. Meanwhile, explanation stage delves into the situational, institutional, and socio-cultural aspects, emphasizing the fluid interaction between politics, media, and society. It emphasizes the significance of understanding political literacy, institutional impact, and socio-cultural forces in shaping the democratic idea in Indonesia's general election.

### Implication

Through a thorough examination of the underlying ideas of *Dirty Vote* and an appreciation of its consequences, interested parties can endeavour to advance openness, responsibility, and knowledgeable civic engagement. Moreover, the transitivity system perspective, as used in this research provides a framework for examining grammatical choices and rhetorical devices that influence meaning in discourse. English language educators can employ this perspective to enhance students' comprehension of how language constructs reality and reflects socio-political ideologies and fostering language awareness.

This research only applies transitivity analysis to reveal the hidden meaning in the documentary film *Dirty Vote*. Because of this, Further research is needed to explore more about the content of *Dirty Vote*. Other researchers can apply another theory of language other than Systemic Functional Linguistics to analyse the hidden ideology or the hidden meaning of the documentary film.

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We express our gratitude to Beasiswa Pendidikan Indonesia, Ministry of Research, Technology and Higher Education.

### REFERENCES

- Anggraini, N., Sahnaz, A., Fathonah, E. L., Rizal, M., Farisi, A., Fidiyanti, M., Sunan, U., & Surabaya, A. (2018). Transitivity Process and Ideological Construction of Donald Trumps's Speeches. *NOBEL: Journal of Literature and Language*, 9(1).
- Apriliani, L. R., & Himmawati, D. R. (2017). Transitivity for Revealing Ideology of English University Tagline in Indonesia. *Language Horizon*, 5(1).
- Dewi, O. C., & Citraesmana, E. (2021). Transitivity System on Prabowo's Representation in British Online Article: A Critical Discourse Analysis Approach. *METAHUMANIORA*, 11(2), 236–246.
- Eggs, S. (2004). *An introduction to systemic functional linguistics* (2nd ed.). Continuum International Publishing Group.
- Gbambu, A. R., Dramani, J. S., & Adegunle, M. O. (2023). A Contextual Analysis of Documentary Film as a Product and Tool for Academic Exercise. *European Journal of Communication and Media Studies*, 2(4), 25–35. <https://doi.org/10.24018/ejmedia.2023.2.4.22>
- Goziyah, G., Sunendar, D., & Rasyid, Y. (2018). A Meso-levels Critical Discourse Analysis of the Movie Rudy Habibie. *Theory and Practice in Language Studies*, 8(11), 1559. <https://doi.org/10.17507/tpls.0811.25>
- Gunawan, F., Kuraedah, S., Amir, A. M., Ubaidillah, M. F., & Boulahnane, S. (2023). Transitivity



- and Critical Discourse Analysis on a Testament: A Woman's Involvement in Jihad. *Studies in English Language and Education*, 10(1), 517–536. <https://doi.org/10.24815/siele.v10i1.26330>
- Halliday, M. A. K., & Matthiessen, C. (2014). *Halliday's Introduction to Functional Grammar* (4th Edition).
- Juniar, A. (2021). Redesain Demokrasi Internal Partai Politik: Upaya Mencegah Oligarki dan Korupsi Partai Politik. *Jurnal Politikom Indonesiana: Kajian Ilmu Pemerintahan, Ilmu Politik Dan Ilmu Komunikasi*, 6(1).
- Kadek, N., Lastari, H., & Bali, P. N. (2023). Transitivity Analysis of Indonesian Online-News Headlines on Education Issue: Full Day School. In *JOSELT (Journal on Studies in English Language Teaching)* (Vol. 4, Issue 1).
- Kristianto, I. I., & Wahyuni, A. K. (2022). The Representation of Identity Crisis in Minari: A Critical Discourse Analysis. *Humanities : Journal of Language and Literature*, 8(2), 339–352. <https://doi.org/10.30812/humanitatis.v8i2.1893>
- Kristina, D. (2020). *Analisis Wacana Kritis: Pengantar Praktis*. Pustaka Pelajar.
- Lehtonen, M. (2000). *The Cultural Analysis of Texts*. Sage Publication.
- Liu, Y., & Jia, W. (2019). Critical Analysis and Identity Construction of Chinese News Media from Transitivity Perspective. *International Education Studies*, 13(1), 84. <https://doi.org/10.5539/ies.v13n1p84>
- Mazid, S., & Hadji, K. (2019). Model Komunikasi Politik Anggota Dprd Dalam Upaya Penguasaan Civic Skills Masyarakat. *Jurnal Komunikasi Dan Kajian. Media*, 3(1).
- Megah S, S. I. (2019). A Systemic Functional Linguistic Analysis of the Transitivity in Jokowi's New Vision Speech. *CAHAYA PENDIDIKAN*, 4(2), 51–61.
- Melina, F., & Irawan, A. M. (2023). Discriminatory Discourses against African American in When They See Us Movie Series: A Critical Discourse Study. *E-Journal of English Language and Literature*, 12(1). <http://ejournal.unp.ac.id/index.php/jell>
- Muhtar, S., Pratidina, G., Sugiawan Putri, Y., Novando, N., Azhara, S., Ivnan Saepullah, P., Ardika, M., Ramadhan, A., Siti Dwi Julia, A., Sartika, I., Syarifa Rifda Rahani, H., & Maulinda, W. (2023). Peran Penting Pemilih Pemula Dalam Pemilu 2024. *DEVOSI*, 4(2), 145–155. <https://doi.org/10.33558/devosi.v4i2.7388>
- Munfarida, E. (2014). Analisis Wacana Kritis dalam Perspektif Norman Fairclough. *KOMUNIKA: Jurnal Dakwah Dan Komunikasi*, 8(1).
- Nurtjahjo, H. (2008). *Filsafat Demokrasi*. Bumi Aksara.
- Puspita, R., & Antoni, C. (2019). Transitivity and Critical Discourse Analysis on Emma Watson's Speech at the Launching of UN Women "HeForShe" Campaign. *1st International Conferences on Applied Economics and Social Science 2019*.
- Rozzaq, A. C., & Ratnadewi, D. (2016). Critical Discourse Analysis Related to Power Relation in Film "The Judge." *Tell Journal*, 4(1).
- Santoso, R. (2019). Peran Komisi Pemilihan Umum dan Partai Politik dalam Mewujudkan Demokrasi Berintegritas. *Nizham: Jurnal Studi Keislaman*, 7(2).
- Shi, W., & Fan, M. (2019). Critical Discourse Analysis of News Texts from Transitivity Perspective. *EAS Journal of Humanities and Cultural Studies*, 1(5). <https://doi.org/10.36349/EASJHCS.2019.v01i05.008>
- Shi, W., & Gu, Z. (2022). A Transitivity Analysis of the British Queen's Parliament Speech. *Scholars International Journal of Linguistics and Literature*, 5(11), 409–415. <https://doi.org/10.36348/sijll.2022.v05i11.007>
- Sibarani, S. (2016). Dinamika Pemilihan Legislatif (Legislative Elections Dynamics). *Jurnal Legislasi Indonesia*, 13(1). <http://febriamartasiska.blogspot.com>,



- Sukiman, S., Santoso, A., & Taufiqurrahman, F. (2023). Sistem Transitivitas dalam Wacana Berita Tragedi Kanjuruhan Malang. *Stilistika: Jurnal Pendidikan Bahasa Dan Sastra*, 16(2), 215. <https://doi.org/10.30651/st.v16i2.16184>
- Sumarti, E. (2010). Analisis Wacana Kritis: Metode Analisis Dalam Perspektif Norman Fairclough. *Lingua Scientia*, 2(2). <http://www.linguistik-online.de/helfl>
- Van Dijk, T. A. (2006). Ideology and discourse analysis. *Journal of Political Ideologies*, 11(2), 115–140. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13569310600687908>
- Wulansari, A., & Waluyo, S. (2016). Meaning Behind The Poem: An Analysis Of Transitivity Of Poems In Romanticism Period. *International Seminar Prasasti III: Current Research in Linguistics*.

