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Expression of Indonesian People's Partiality in Protest News Uploads on Instagram @bbcindonesia

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Abstract

This study aims to describe the form and function of expressive speech used by the public in responding to protest news discourse on Instagram (@bbcindonesia). This research is a qualitative descriptive research. The data source is from the Instagram comment column of @bbcindonesia, related to the news of the labor protest on August 28, 2025, in Jakarta. It found 30 samples of data taken from screenshots in the Instagram comment column @bbcindonesia. This study employs a theoretical approach based on pragmatic theory, specifically examining the function of speech actions. The study's results identified seven forms of expressive speech used by the community in responding to labor protest news discourse, namely expressive forms of sadness, concern, disappointment, swearing, enthusiasm, appreciation, and prayer and hope. Furthermore, in this study, expressive speech serves two primary functions: demonstrating solidarity and expressing the community's partiality. The results of the study show that the form of expressive speech aligns with its function as a means of solidarity and support, revealing a position of partisanship. Based on the results of this research, social media users tend to align with the community or the people themselves. This research is expected to enhance readers' knowledge, particularly in the pragmatic field related to the role of speech actions in the digital realm and their impact on the dynamics of people's language, especially in addressing social issues prevalent in Indonesia.

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INTRODUCTION

In daily life, people use language as a tool to communicate and express ideas, thoughts, and feelings. The function of language expression can be directly manifested through speech or writing. Human expressions take various forms, namely sad, happy, disappointed, angry, and so on. The form of expression will appear when a person responds to an interaction or event that occurs. One form of communication through writing is interaction on social media, particularly in the comment section of Instagram. The comment column is one of the features on Instagram social media that allows users to comment or interact with an upload. The comment column generally contains responses related to the content of a post. In addition to writing, Instagram users can send emojis and moving images, also known as *Graphics Interchange Format (GIF)*.

Recently, news on Indonesian social media has been abuzz with reports related to the protests carried out by the Indonesian people. Protests took place in several areas, including Jakarta, Pati, Jogja, Makassar, and other locations. The demonstrations of the Indonesian people were triggered by various political issues, including an increase in the work allowance of the House of Representatives (DPR) and a significant tax increase. The public considers that the salary increase is not proportional to the performance results, and the very high tax increase further squeezes people. The situation became even more heated when some council members answered questions during the interview session by failing to show sympathy for the community. Protests in Indonesia, which took place in front of the House of Representatives, were inevitable.

News broadcasting media are intensively reporting protests in various regions, including the BBC News. The BBC, or British Broadcasting Corporation, is the world's largest news broadcasting institution, based in London, England. BBC News offers international and domestic news coverage across various platforms, including television, the internet, radio, and its official website. BBC News also has a news broadcasting branch in Indonesia, known as BBC News Indonesia. BBC News is an independent and trusted news broadcaster. This is evidenced by the courage to broadcast news of massive protests in Jakarta and various other regions, as not all national news broadcasting media dare to report on the sensitive issue that is heating up in Indonesia.

In addition, BBC News broadcast the news through social media, Instagram. In the digital era, news broadcasting through Instagram is considered very effective. The news spreads quickly, and the public can respond to it. Public

responses related to the broadcasting of protest news are part of the community's self-expression. Through the comment column, people use language as a means to express their feelings, ideas, and perceived ideas. Therefore, this study selected the Instagram comment section of the BBC News Indonesia account to examine the public's response to news related to the protests. The BBC News Indonesia Instagram account uses the account name @bbcindonesia. The selection of BBC News Indonesia as a news media is in line with the institution's vision, which is to be an independent and reliable news broadcaster. It can be said that the broadcasting of news about the protest on the @bbcindonesia account is considered neutral and reliable, without intervention from other parties. The @bbcindonesia account also has a sum of 1,000,000 followers. This number is relatively large, allowing the dissemination of information to spread quickly and widely.

The source of this research data is news uploads related to the protest uploaded on August 28, 2025. The content of the news was a BBC News reporter's report on the situation during the afternoon protest in front of the House of Representatives building. Students and elements of society joined the protest of labor groups, and demonstrations became chaotic when the authorities attempted to disperse the protesters. The news contained video footage of the mass action and the apparatus firing tear gas to disperse the protesters who tried to enter the House of Representatives. From the news upload, it received more than three thousand comments and was shared by six thousand Instagram users in November 2025. By examining the comments of Instagram users, it can be seen that there is an expression of public partiality regarding the news of the protest.

To examine this phenomenon, this study employs the theory of speech actions proposed by Searle (1979), Especially in the type of speech act based on its function, namely, expressive speech acts. According to Searle (1979), Expressive speech is a type of speech that conveys the speaker's emotional response to a specific event, action, or situation. Expressive speech contains the speaker's subjective assessment of the object of speech, both in the form of events, social actors, and policies that are reported. Through expressive speech, such as expressions of support, criticism, sympathy, or disappointment, the speaker not only conveys personal feelings but also functions as an indicator of the public's partiality through the responses they make in the comment column. Thus, the theory of expressive speech can enable this study to reveal

the implicit partiality of society that emerges through the words people choose.

Research related to expressive speech on social media and various other issues has been carried out by previous researchers, such as Hedrianti (2024), Fatmawati & Ningsih (2024), Jihad et al., (2022) Palupi et al., (2023), Setyorini et al., (2022), Sukmawati (2023), Rosyida & Siroj (2021), Mu'awanah & Utomo (2020), Faroh & Utomo (2020), dan Pratama & Utomo (2020). Fatmawati & Ningsih (2024) Researching speech actions from the perspective of cyberpragmatics, or the synergy between pragmatics and information technology and digital technology. The research focused on digital interaction on the Instagram account @detikcom, yielding various findings through the use of expressive speech acts. Then Jihad et al., (2022) Researching expressive speech used in the trending topic feature on Twitter related to political issues. The results of the study revealed the functions of expressive speech, including saying thank you, congratulating, apologizing, expressing condolences, threatening, praising, complaining, criticizing, and blaming.

Next, Palupi et al. (2023) have also researched the form and function of speech in the comments of criminal news readers Ferdy Sambo on social media Instagram. The study's results identified five forms of speech acts: assertive, commissive, directive, expressive, and declarative. There are forty acts of expressive speech, including those with functions such as flattery, blame, praise, criticism, expressions of compassion, and expressions of apology. Declarative speech, on the other hand, serves the functions of informing and assigning names. Expressive speech in news discourse has also been studied by Sukmawati (2023). The news discourse on the @kompascom Instagram account related to presidential candidate Anies Baswedan demonstrates the use of expressive speech as part of the dynamics of communicating on social media. In addition to the use of expressive speech on social media, it is also employed in films, as researched by Setyorini et al. (2022) and Hedrianti (2024). Both researchers investigated the use of expressive speech in cinema, utilizing the results of their research on various forms of expressive speech to convey psychological conditions and aid in character development. Research related to strategies, speech actions, and speech patterns has also been conducted by Rosyida & Siroj (2021). The study's results revealed a pattern of defamatory language, utilizing speech theory, speech strategies, and FTA. It was found that illocutionary speech acts, BSSs' speaking strategies, and bald-on-record statements were

employed in the speech of @digeembok accounts reported to defame SW.

Furthermore, research on illocutional and expressive speech and its functions has been conducted by Mu'awanah and Utomo (2020), Faroh & Utomo (2020), and Pratama & Utomo (2020). Mu'awanah and Utomo (2020) researched the topic of analyzing expressive speech in news coverage of the COVID-19 case on the Tribunnews.com YouTube channel. The study's results identified four forms of expressive speech: criticizing, praising, apologizing, and blaming. This form is used for social control, specifically to promote mutual respect among others. Then Faroh & Utomo (2020) researched the act of illocutional speech in a vlog on Sherly Annavita Rahmi's YouTube channel. From the study, five types of illocutional speech actions were found used by speakers, namely (1) assertive speech acts of stating, showing, expressing opinions, speculating, and mentioning; (2) directive to order, request, suggest, invite, order, and urge; (3) expressive thanks, criticize, and congratulate; (4) the commission's offer and (5) declarative. Pratama & Utomo (2020) also researched the use of expressive speech in stand-up comedy discourse. From the study, six forms were found, namely (1) expressive speech to criticize, (2) expressive speech to complain, (3) expressive speech act of praise, (4) expressive speech act of blaming, and (5) act of expressive speech insulting. However, the function of expressive speech is limited only to descriptions related to its use in the realm of comedy.

From these studies, it is evident that speech can serve other roles in the realm of digital communication, which can be utilized in various ways. However, research on expressive speech actions used to voice partiality on sensitive issues is still limited. Therefore, this research is essential for completing our knowledge of the use of expressive speech in various discourses. From this background, a problem formulation was found, namely (1) what is the form of expressive speech in the news of the protest on the @bbcindonesia account?, (2) what is the function of the expressive speech in the news of the protest on the @bbcindonesia account?. In line with the formulation of the problem, this study aims to describe the forms of expressive speech used by the public in responding to news related to protests on @bbcindonesia accounts. In addition, this study also seeks to explain the function of non-expressive speech in relation to the public's partiality in responding to the news of the protest on the @bbcindonesia account.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research is a qualitative descriptive research. This research method employs qualitative data and is described descriptively. The research steps are divided into three stages, namely the data collection stage, the data analysis stage, and the presentation of data analysis results. The source of data in this study is a news upload on a @bbcindonesia account containing news related to the protest in front of the Jakarta House of Representatives building on August 28, 2025. The selection of the data source takes into account the virality of news uploads, which in September had garnered more than 3,000 comments and was shared by over 6,000 Instagram users.

The first step in the data collection stage is carried out using a free and engaging method. According to Sudaryanto (1993), the free Engage Cakap method is a data collection technique by listening to the use of language without participating in conversations. This aligns with Creswell's (2014) opinion regarding data collection using non-participatory observation methods. The research method involves observing the behavior or speech of the subjects without directly participating in their activities or interactions. After observing the use of language in the comment column of the news upload, the researcher conducted data sampling. Data collection is carried out using the purposive sampling method, a data sampling technique characterized by specific characteristics that enable the collection of more in-depth data information. The data selection criteria in this study are comments that contain expressions of public responses or attitudes to the reported protest events. Then, the data is collected through documentation techniques, including screenshots, in the Instagram comment column @bbcindonesia.

Based on the data collection process, 30 comments were obtained containing public expressions on the news of the protest. The next stage is data analysis, which is carried out using the Miles and Huberman interactive analysis model, encompassing data reduction, data presentation, and conclusion. In the data reduction stage, the researcher selects and focuses the data by identifying comments that contain expressive speech acts, as well as eliminating data that is not relevant to the study's focus. Furthermore, the data that have been reduced are classified based on the category of expressive speech forms, such as expressions of sympathy, anger, disappointment, support, or criticism, with reference to speech theory actions, especially expressive speech actions in pragmatic studies.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

John R. Searle (in Leech, (1993) Classify speech actions in speaking activities into five types of speech forms, each of which has a communicative function, namely assertive (representative), directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. Essentially, speech acts are designed to communicate information clearly and effectively, making it easier for speech partners to accept and understand. One of the speech acts that is often used to comment on social media is expressive speech. Expressive speech is the speaker's ability to deal with certain situations that determine the appearance of psychological symptoms (Agustina dan Chaer (2004)). According Yule (1996) Expressive speech is a type of speech that conveys the speaker's emotions and feelings. Expressive speech acts in Indonesian can be directed at yourself, the second person, or the third person. The speech can take the form of the speaker's psychological state, such as happiness, sadness, disappointment, anger, and so on.

Based on the search, thirty data samples were found representing various public expressions in response to news discourse related to the protests uploaded by the @bbcindonesia Instagram account. From the data, seven forms of expressive speech were identified, namely expressive forms of sadness, concern, disappointment, swearing, enthusiasm, appreciation, and prayer and hope. Explanations related to the forms of expressive speech are as follows.

Expressive Sad

Expressive speech in a sad form is speech that shows sad expressions. Instagram users responded to news uploads related to protests with sad expressions. Based on the classification carried out, two data samples were identified that exhibit the following sad expressive forms.

Dates (1)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : *"Sedih kali liat negara ini, ga ada yang peduli, pejabat tinggi termasuk presiden, parah bangeett [emoji menangis], sehat-sehat bapak-bapak yang demo."*

Saying : "It's sad to see this country, no one cares, high-ranking officials, including the president, it's bad [crying emoji], healthy ladies and gentlemen who are demonstrating."

Data (2)

Konteks : *Unggahan Instagram @bbcindonesia terkait berita unjuk rasa di Jakarta pada 28 Agustus 2025.*

Tuturan : *"Sedih lihatnya... sebegitunya rakusnya kah anggota DPR sampai rakyat menderita, tidak punya hati nurani [emoji menangis]"*

Data (2)

Context : *@bbcindonesia Instagram post related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.*

Speech : *"It's sad to see it... Is that greedy for members of the House of Representatives until the people suffer, they don't have a conscience [crying emoji]."*

The speech in the data examples (1) and (2) shows a sad expression characterized by speech *sedih kali* and *sedih lihatnya*. The speech directly describes the psychological condition or feelings of Instagram users who feel sorry about the news of the protest, which can be defined as chaotic. The sadness is expressed clearly, allowing other users to understand it directly through the comments. This somber expression suggests widespread public concern about the state of the Indonesian state, which is perceived as unstable and in poor condition. Pragmatically, the expressive form of grief strengthens the function of expressive speech because grief is positioned as a reasonable and legitimate response to the condition of the country that is considered problematic. In addition, the expression of sadness is supported by the use of emojis that depict a crying face, which can be interpreted as affirming the speaker's emotions of sadness and crying about the country's poor condition. The clear expression of his expression can be read and felt directly by other Instagram users. Thus, sad expressions expressed directly in the comment column can serve as a means of building emotional solidarity as well as triggering follow-up responses from other Instagram users.

Expressive Concerned

Expressive speech acts of an expressive form of concern are speech that shows an expression of concern for an event or a social context. In this study, expressive concern was found in the context of responses related to the news of the protest uploaded on @bbcindonesia's Instagram account. Based on the classification carried out, five out of thirty data samples were found to exhibit expressive speech acts of concern. The following is an example of data on expressive speech acts of concern.

Data (3)

Context : *Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.*

Tuturan : *"Rakyat berjuang sampai titik darah penghabisan, presiden diam seribu bahasa, menutup mata dan telinga, yaAllah [emoji menangis]"*

Saying : *"The people fought to the last drop of blood, the president was silent in a thousand languages, closed his eyes and ears, yaAllah [crying emoji]."*

Data (4)

Context : *Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.*

Tuturan : *"Polisi perang musuh rakyatnya. Ampun dah! [emoji menangis]"*

He said : *"The police are the enemy. Sorry! [crying emoji]"*

Based on the speech data (3) and (4), it can be seen that the expressive speech act of the form of concern is used to express concern. This is evident in the speech in the data (3), which explains that the people have fought to the last drop of blood, but there has been no solution or even a response from the president. Then it is added to the speech *ua Allah*, which in the context of the event is an emphasis on the expression of concern by calling on the name of God. In addition, the use of religious invocations "*ya Allah*" In data (3) serves as a pragmatic strategy to deepen the intensity of emotions and affirm the speaker's helplessness in dealing with the situation. This call suggests that concern is positioned as a moral response to social conditions that are considered beyond the limits of reasonableness.

Furthermore, in data (4), the speech of concern is evident in the phrase "Ampun dah!", emphasizing concern over the chaotic situation between the police and protesters during the protest. In addition, in data (4), the expression of concern is displayed through declarative sentences "*Polisi perang musuh rakyatnya*", which metaphorically frames the police as a party that faces the community. The choice of metaphors *perang* strengthens the depiction of the conflict between the state and the people, as well as deepens concern for the situation of protests that lead to violence. Through the expressive form of concern, it shows the sympathy and concern of the public for the action period, which in the news is faced by the form of violence carried out by the state apparatus. The expression of concern is also

supported by the use of crying emojis that reinforce the affirmation of emotions felt by the public when writing the comment.

Expressive Disappointed

Expressive speech is a type of speech that conveys disappointment in a specific social event or situation. Based on the classification that has been carried out, six out of thirty data samples of expressive speech in the expressive form are disappointing. The following is an explanation of expressive speech of disappointment.

Data (5)

Context : Instagram @bbcindonesia uploaded a related video to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : *"Muaakkk banget sama negara ini."* He said, *"This country is very proud of itself."*

Data (6)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : *"Sebenarnya hal seperti ini tidak perlu terjadi kalau pemerintah punya empati dan kesadaran bahwa ada yang salah dengan cara mereka membuat kebijakan sampai rakyat merasa kesal luar biasa."*

Saying : *"Actually, something like this doesn't need to happen if the government has empathy and awareness that there is something wrong with the way they make policies, until the people feel incredibly upset."*

Based on data (5) and (6), it can be seen that Instagram users or the Indonesian people feel disappointed with the Indonesian government. The public is disappointed with the system, which is considered unwise and is not in the best interest of the people. Then, the Indonesian government did not take wise steps by showing sympathy and actions that calmed the masses. Laughter data (5) reveals high emotional intensity and suggests long-lasting satisfaction, rather than momentary dissatisfaction. Pragmatically, this short speech possesses strong emotional power, functioning as a form of disappointment with the state as an institution that is considered to have failed to meet the community's expectations.

Then, in data (6), the expression of disappointment is shown more argumentatively. The expression of public disappointment can be observed through the phrase "rakyat merasa kesal luar biasa." The previous explanation was that mass action will not occur if the government is wise in its

policy decisions. This suggests that the people were already very disappointed, and the protests that occurred are a manifestation of this accumulated frustration. Through this expressive form of disappointment, expressive speech serves to express the psychological condition of the community when the news of the protest is broadcast, namely, feelings of disappointment. It can be interpreted that disappointment is a sign that the community is on the side of the masses who have struggled to voice their aspirations and regret the government's unwise attitude, which is considered to have triggered the large-scale action.

Expressive Swear

Expressive speech is an expression of swearing, which is speech that contains swear words or swearing directed at a speech partner in the context of a particular social event. In this study, the expressive form of swearing was found in as many as five out of thirty cases. The following is an explanation of expressive speech in the form of insults, as seen in responses to the news of the protest uploaded on @bbcindonesia's Instagram account.

Data (7)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : *"Ga aparat ga pejabat bajingan semua isinya"*

Pros : *"The staff was not a member of the Board."*

Data (8)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : *"DPR tai anjing giliran didemo oleh rakyat malah ngumpet, katanya berani, buktii sekarang wahay para tikus korupsi"*

The statement *"The House of Representatives tai dog is being protested by the people and even hiding, he said bravely, prove now wahay the rats of corruption."*

Based on data (7) and (8), the expressive form of swear words can be known from swear words, such as the word *bajingan*, *tai*, *tikus korupsi*, and *anjing*. In data (7), the expression of curses is displayed through collective generalizations *"ga aparat ga pejabat bajingan semua isinya"*, which targets two institutions at once, namely the apparatus and state officials. The speech indicates that the community has eliminated exceptions and

now targets all institutions as the focus of criticism. It can be said that the curse in data (7) is frontal, or that is spoken directly. This can strengthen its expressive function to emphasize spontaneous emotions after reading news related to the protest. Furthermore, data (8) show a more complex use of swearing. Speakers don't just use direct swear words such as *tai* and *anjing*, but also make use of metaphorical swear words through speech "*tikus korupsi*". This metaphorical slur has a broader effect because it establishes a symbolic relationship between DPR officials and animal behavior that is synonymous with cunning, greedy, and detrimental nature. In addition, the use of ironic greetings, "*wahai para tikus korupsi*," emphasized the tone of sarcasm aimed at members of the House of Representatives. These cursing words refer to something that is considered harmful. Therefore, the expressive form of cursing reveals the partiality of the people who support the protest and condemn the actions of officials deemed unacceptable.

Expressive, Vibrant

Expressive speech acts of an expressive form of enthusiasm are speech that contains expressive words that arouse a sense of confidence. In this study, four out of thirty data points were found to be expressed in the enthusiastic form. The following is an example of expressive speech in the expressive form of excitement.

Dates (9):

Context: Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : "*Semangat kami selalu membara, hidup masyarakat Indonesia [emoji api menyala]*"

Caption: "*Our spirit is always burning, the lives of the Indonesian people [flame emoji].*"

Data (10)

Context : Instagram post by @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : "*Hidup rakyat!!!*"

Speech : "*Long live the people!!*"

Based on data (9) and (10), it can be known that the expressive form of enthusiasm of speech that arouses enthusiasm, such as the words *semangat* and *hidup rakyat*. Pragmatically, expressive speech acts of excitement serve a different function than the expressions of sadness, concern, or disappointment. If the previous expression sparks empathy and criticism, then passionate expressiveness serves as a moral

reinforcer, encouraging the sustainability of action and strengthening the sense of togetherness. In the comment column, this expressive form often appears as a follow-up response to a concerned or disappointed comment, thus forming an emotional chain from concern to active solidarity and support. This can be identified through speech *hidup masyarakat Indonesia* and *hidup rakyat*. These two speeches can be interpreted as a form of community solidarity as a unit, namely *rakyat* or *masyarakat Indonesia*. It can be construed as an expression of enthusiasm, showing the public's partiality towards the mass action as a form of people's sacrifice for the common good.

Expressive Appreciation

Expressive speech is a form of appreciation that contains expressions of gratitude. In this study, two out of thirty data samples were found. The following is an explanation of expressive speech forms of appreciation in the context of responses related to the news of the protest uploaded on the @bbcindonesia Instagram account.

Data (11)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : "*Terima kasih rakyat!!!*"

Speech : "*Thank you, people!!*"

Data (12)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.

Tuturan : "*Terima kasih kalian semua*"

Speech : "*Thank you all*"

Based on data (11) and (12), it can be observed that expressing appreciation through speech is characterized by the use of the phrase "terima kasih." The speech expressed the gratitude of Instagram users addressed to the protest masses. It can be seen that the expression of *appreciation* is used to appreciate the protest masses for their courage in taking action on the streets to voice the community's aspirations. A speech of gratitude addressed to the masses, with additional speeches to the *rakyat* and *kalian semua*. The speech shows the existence of social closeness and solidarity, because the speaker positions himself as part of the community that feels the benefits or impacts of the protest. Thus, this act of speech serves as a means of strengthening social relations between the online community (through social media, such as Instagram) and mass action in offline spaces. Therefore, expressive forms of appreciation

pragmatically provide moral support and affirmation to the people who participate in the Movement on the streets.

Expressive Prayer and Hope

Expressive speech is an expressive form of prayer and hope expression, or a person's psychological state, conveyed through words in the form of worship or containing words that represent hope. In this study, five out of thirty data samples were found. Here's an example of how to use it.

Data (13)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.
 Tuturan : "Ya Robb.. Lindungi rakyat yang terzolimi ya Robb..."
 Saying : "Yes, Robb.. Protect the people who are being bullied, Robb..."

Data (14)

Context : Instagram upload @bbcindonesia related to the news of the protest in Jakarta on August 28, 2025.
 Tuturan : "*Ya Allah lindungi mereka yang mewakili kami semua dalam menyampaikan aspirasi kepada pemerintah*"
 Saying : "O Allah, protect those who represent all of us in conveying our aspirations to the government."

Based on data (13) and (14), it can be seen that the expressive forms of prayer and hope are characterized by the element of praying in the name of God, such as *Ya Robb* and *Ya Allah*. The speech conveys a sense of surrender to God, thereby fostering hope for something better. In addition, the use of speech *terzolimi* Data (13) reveals the community's position as a victim of the impact of government policies that are considered unfavorable to the people. In data (14), prayers are delivered through speech, '*lindungi mereka yang mewakili kami semua*', which can be interpreted as a form of solidarity, where the speaker positions himself as a community that supports the action, even though he does not participate directly in it. Judging from its function, the expressive speech acts of prayer and hope serve to express concern, empathy, and emotional support. In Indonesia, the practice of praying for one another has become a common cultural tradition among people. It can be said that these actions represent a form of public alignment with mass protests against the government.

Fungsi Tindak Tutur Ekspresif

Based on the results of classifying expressive speech forms, it can be seen that expressive speech in @bbcindonesia Instagram uploads related to the Jakarta protest serves two functions. These two functions, among others, demonstrate the community's solidarity and partiality. The two tasks of expressive speech do not stand in opposition to each other between solidarity and partisanship. Still, both are interconnected in the practice of community language on social media. In the expressive form of sadness and concern, the function of partiality is realized through empathy for the condition of the people and the masses who are perceived as the aggrieved party. A sense of solidarity is built through a shared recognition that the social situation that occurs is a collective problem, not a purely individual problem. Therefore, the expressive form of sadness and concern is a spark of everyday awareness that the condition of the Indonesian state is not good. With sad and concerned expressions, it can improve the function of language to foster a sense of solidarity with others. Then the expressive form of disappointment and cursing indicates a more assertive and confrontational function of partisanship.

Expressive, cursing, and disappointing represent a negative evaluation of the government and a system that is considered to have failed to meet the people's expectations. The form of cursing also reinforces the community's partiality, which supports the protest.

Furthermore, enthusiasm and appreciation are shown more affirmatively. This form fosters solidarity among fellow human beings. With a sense of confidence and gratitude, the community feels supported and united, fighting for the rights of its people. In this case, partiality is not expressed through criticism but through recognition and appreciation that reinforces a sense of moral solidarity. Furthermore, the expressive form of prayer and hope shows the dimension of partiality that is religious and cultural. Prayers offered to God are a means of symbolic support that places the masses in the correct position and deserves good prayers. Thus, other Instagram users who read these expressive speeches can be influenced and join the protest, thereby increasing the sense of concern for the condition of the Indonesian state. Therefore, the function of expressive speech as a form of solidarity shows the partiality of the people; the two are interconnected. This aligns with Holmes' (1995) opinion, namely, that solidarity is one of the primary functions of language in social interaction. Through expressive speech, individuals show partiality towards certain parties and

strengthen social relationships. Through the expressive speech expressed by the Indonesian people in the comment column, it has indirectly strengthened the sense of solidarity and provided support to the Indonesian people themselves. It can be said that many Instagram users, including some Indonesians, are on the side of the people.

The results of this study are in line with the research that has been conducted by Hedrianti (2024) Who also researched YouTube's comment column on the documentary *Dirty Vote*. The study described expressive speech as a form of support, sympathy, and criticism of the political issues raised in the film. This indicates that expressive speech conveyed through social media plays a significant role in shaping partisan dynamics, particularly on sensitive topics. This confirms that netizens effectively use expressive speech to voice their partisan views and show solidarity and support for a social event. Furthermore, this study offers a more detailed examination of how the pragmatic function of speech conveys solidarity and partiality within the dynamics of community communication. Thus, this study complements the findings Hedrianti (2024) By showing that the function of expressive speech is not singular, but varies according to the form and linguistic strategy used by netizens. Overall, the two studies confirm that expressive speech on social media is a crucial instrument in shaping public discourse, particularly on sensitive political and social issues.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the classification and analysis carried out, seven forms of expressive speech were identified, namely expressive forms of sadness, concern, disappointment, swearing, enthusiasm, appreciation, and prayer and hope. Through these expressive forms, they reflect the community's reaction or response to a particular social condition. Expressive of sadness and concern builds collective empathy, while expressive of disappointment and cursing affirms the position of criticism and opposition. In contrast, expressions of enthusiasm, appreciation, prayer, and hope serve to strengthen moral legitimacy and symbolic support for the mass of action. From the analysis results, it is evident that expressive speech serves two primary functions: demonstrating solidarity and highlighting the community's partiality. The results of the analysis also show that the tasks of solidarity and partiality are not present separately, but are integrated in each form of expressive speech. Thus, expressive speech plays a crucial role in shaping and strengthening the dynamics of public alignment in the digital public sphere, particularly in the context of sensitive socio-political issues. It

can be concluded that expressive speech in the social media space plays a crucial role in shaping partisan dynamics, particularly on sensitive topics. Thus, expressive speech can be understood not only as an emotional expression but also as a pragmatic means to construct solidarity and voice partiality in the digital space. In this study, the community took a stance in support of the community that held the protest, or it can be said that the community sided with itself. This research contributes to pragmatic and cyberpragmatic studies by demonstrating that the social media comment column is not merely a space for interaction but also a venue for the development of social and political discourse. These findings confirm that analyzing expressive speech acts can be used to infer attitudes, ideologies, and people's orientation towards an event. However, this research is still limited to the context of protest reporting and focuses solely on the analysis of forms and functions. In future research, it would be beneficial to develop the study by incorporating analysis from the perspective of critical discourse analysis or by utilizing more complex data sources, thereby enabling the generation of more varied research results.

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