

NARRATIVES AND JOURNALISTS' PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER EQUALITY ISSUES

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Abstrak

Pemberitaan mengenai gugatan cerai yang diajukan oleh guru perempuan setelah memperoleh Surat Keputusan Pegawai Pemerintah dengan Perjanjian Kerja (PPPK) menunjukkan adanya perubahan relasi sosial dan gender dalam kehidupan rumah tangga. Fenomena tersebut tidak hanya merepresentasikan dinamika personal, tetapi juga mencerminkan cara media membingkai peran perempuan dalam konteks profesional dan domestik. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis representasi guru perempuan PPPK dalam pemberitaan media daring serta mengidentifikasi konstruksi kuasa dan perspektif gender yang dibangun jurnalis. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan analisis wacana kritis model Sara Mills dengan fokus pada posisi subjek, objek, dan pembaca dalam teks. Data diperoleh dari berita daring Indonesia yang memuat kasus perceraian guru perempuan setelah memperoleh status PPPK. Teknik analisis dilakukan melalui identifikasi struktur narasi, pilihan bahasa, dan pola representasi gender dalam teks. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa guru perempuan cenderung diposisikan sebagai subjek aktif yang memiliki legitimasi ekonomi dan kapasitas pengambilan keputusan, sedangkan laki-laki lebih sering direpresentasikan sebagai objek pasif. Pemberitaan juga menekankan konflik psikologis, tekanan peran ganda, dan ketidakpuasan rumah tangga sebagai faktor utama perceraian. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa media daring berperan dalam membentuk wacana tentang perubahan relasi kuasa gender. Temuan ini berimplikasi pada pentingnya penguatan perspektif sensitif gender dalam praktik jurnalistik.

Kata Kunci: analisis wacana kritis, Sara Mills, perceraian, representasi gender, media daring.

Abstract

News coverage of divorce lawsuits filed by female teachers after obtaining the Decree of Government Employees with Work Agreements (PPPK) indicates changes in social and gender relations within household life. This phenomenon not only represents personal dynamics but also reflects how the media frames women's roles in professional and domestic contexts. This study aims to analyze the representation of female PPPK teachers in online media coverage and to identify the construction of power and gender perspectives built by journalists. The study employs Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis approach, focusing on the positions of subjects, objects, and readers in the text. The data were obtained from Indonesian online news reports covering cases of divorce involving female teachers after receiving PPPK status. The analysis was conducted by identifying narrative structures, language choices, and patterns of gender representation in the text. The results show that female teachers tend to be positioned as active subjects with economic legitimacy and decision-making capacity, while men are more frequently represented as passive objects. The coverage also emphasizes psychological conflicts, double-role pressures, and marital dissatisfaction as the main factors behind divorce. This study concludes that online media play a role in shaping discourse on changes in gender power relations. These findings imply the importance of strengthening gender-sensitive perspectives in journalistic practices.

Keywords: critical discourse analysis, Sara Mills, divorce, gender representation, online media.

1. INTRODUCTION

News coverage of the increasing number of divorce lawsuits filed by female teachers after obtaining the Decree of Government Employees with Work Agreements (PPPK) has attracted the attention of Indonesian online media in recent years. Several national and regional news portals during the 2024–2025 period highlighted this phenomenon as part of changes in women's social roles. Status as state employees provides economic independence that has the potential to influence power relations within households. These changes not only affect personal lives but also shape how society interprets women's positions in the family and the workplace.

Reporting on the divorce of female teachers does not merely present legal facts but also constructs social meaning through narrative structures and journalists' language choices. Widiyaningrum (2021) explains that the representation of women in the media is often influenced by social values that remain patriarchal in orientation. Abdullah (2019) also shows that news coverage about women frequently reflects perspectives that are not fully aligned with the subjects' experiences. Lesmana and Valentina (2022) find that women in popular media are often portrayed as emotional figures who require social validation. Surahman et al. (2022) emphasize that such representations reflect the dominance of certain ideologies in media text production.

To examine the relationship between language, power, and gender in news coverage, this study employs Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis model. Sobari and Faridah (2016) explain that this approach focuses on the positions of subjects and objects in the text. Andriana and Manaf (2022) add that the position of readers is also an important element in understanding the ideological direction of discourse. Through this analysis, it is possible to identify which parties are given a voice and which experience marginalization. This approach

enables researchers to uncover hidden power relations within media narrative structures.

A number of previous studies have examined the representation of women in various forms of cultural texts. Sumakud and Septyana (2020) analyzed women's resistance to patriarchal culture in the film *Marlina the Murderer in Four Acts*. Novianti et al. (2022) found that stereotypes of women as housewives remain dominant in Indonesian films. Widjanarko (2023) showed that popular song lyrics often represent women from a masculine perspective. These studies indicate that gender bias appears not only in news media but also in literature, film, and music.

Although research on women's representation has developed, studies that specifically examine current news coverage using the Sara Mills approach remain relatively limited. Most previous studies have focused on fictional and entertainment media. Research linking issues of divorce, the profession of PPPK teachers, and domestic–professional relations in online media is still scarce. This limitation indicates an opportunity to examine how the media frames changes in women's social roles in real-life contexts.

This study focuses on how online journalists construct narratives about female teachers who file for divorce after obtaining PPPK appointment letters. The analysis is directed at the positions of subjects, objects, and readers in news texts. Attention is also given to linguistic strategies used to shape women's images in family and professional relations. Through this approach, the study seeks to identify patterns of gender representation that emerge in media discourse.

The research questions cover two main aspects. First, how Indonesian online journalists represent female teachers who file for divorce after obtaining PPPK status. Second, how gender perspectives are constructed in such news coverage. This study aims to reveal media

narrative constructions and the ideological positions embedded within them. The findings are expected to enrich critical discourse analysis studies and contribute to understanding gender relations in contemporary Indonesian society.

2. METHOD

This study employs Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis (CDA) approach to examine the construction of meaning and gender positions in news texts. This approach focuses on the relationship between language and power within media discourse structures. Fairclough (2016) states that discourse is a social practice closely connected to ideological structures in society. Miles et al. (2019) explain that feminist discourse analysis emphasizes the positions of subjects and objects to examine the extent to which texts favor certain genders. This approach is considered relevant for understanding how journalists construct narratives about female teachers who file for divorce after obtaining PPPK status. Creswell (2018) emphasizes that qualitative approaches enable researchers to explain social phenomena through in-depth textual interpretation. The Sara Mills model was selected because it provides space for critical analysis of women's representation and media ideology.

This study adopts a descriptive qualitative research design aimed at describing social realities as represented through media language. Sugiyono (2019) explains that qualitative research focuses on meaning and context rather than statistical calculation. Creswell and Poth (2018) state that qualitative research allows researchers to understand phenomena through interactions among researchers, texts, and social contexts. The descriptive design was applied to present narrative patterns and journalists' perspectives in news texts. Miles et al. (2019) note that descriptive approaches facilitate the identification of relationships among meanings in qualitative data. The data in this study consist of written texts analyzed through repeated reading

strategies to identify implicit ideologies. This study does not aim for generalization but seeks in-depth understanding of media discourse construction.

The research object consists of a news article entitled "*Ramai Guru Perempuan Gugat Cerai Suami Usai Dapat SK PPPK, Psikolog Jelaskan Pemicunya*", published in August 2025. The article was selected using purposive sampling because of its direct relevance to gender equality issues. Sugiyono (2019) explains that purposive sampling is used when researchers select data based on specific considerations aligned with research objectives. Creswell (2018) adds that single-case selection can provide analytical depth in specific contexts. Data were collected through downloading the news text, identifying sentence structures, and mapping narrative patterns. Miles et al. (2019) emphasize that analytical quality depends on selecting information-rich data. This article was considered representative because it illustrates the interaction between women's professional and domestic roles in public discourse.

Data collection was conducted through document analysis by examining each narrative element in the news text. Flick (2018) explains that document analysis is used to systematically study messages contained in written texts. Data were collected by reading and marking sections that indicate subject, object, and reader positions. Miles et al. (2019) state that qualitative data collection must be accompanied by systematic coding and categorization. Creswell (2018) adds that qualitative data collection requires researchers' sensitivity to the social context behind texts. The recording process ensured consistent identification of each unit of meaning. Sugiyono (2019) notes that documentation is an essential technique for obtaining non-interactive and verifiable data.

Data analysis was conducted using the Sara Mills discourse analysis model, which emphasizes the positions of writers, readers,

subjects, and objects in texts. Miles et al. (2019) explain that these four positions determine the ideological direction of discourse. Fairclough (2016) states that critical discourse analysis not only examines explicit meanings but also reveals ideologies embedded in sentence structures. Miles et al. (2019) describe qualitative data analysis as an interactive process involving data reduction, data display, and conclusion drawing. Flick (2018) adds that thematic analysis can be used to identify ideological patterns in texts. Each sentence in the news article was examined repeatedly to identify meaning relations reflecting gender perspectives. This process was conducted to reveal how journalists frame women in changing social contexts.

Data validity was ensured through theory and source triangulation to enhance the credibility of interpretations. Creswell (2018) explains that triangulation helps ensure consistency between data and interpretation. Flick (2018) states that theoretical triangulation is conducted by comparing findings with different conceptual frameworks. Sugiyono (2019) adds that source triangulation increases reliability through cross-document comparison. Miles et al. (2019) emphasize the importance of reflective analysis to minimize subjective bias. The process also included repeated verification of data and interpretations to maintain objectivity. The validity of findings was supported by consistency among theory, data, and research context.

Interpretation of findings was directed toward understanding how media texts construct social meanings about women and gender equality. Fairclough (2016) explains that language in media functions as an ideological instrument that produces specific meanings in society. Miles et al. (2019) emphasize that subject and object positions indicate whose voices are represented and whose are marginalized. Creswell and Poth (2018) state that qualitative interpretation requires reflective engagement from researchers. Flick (2018) adds that

interpretation involves examining not only literal meanings but also underlying social contexts. Miles et al. (2019) stress the importance of presenting findings in narrative form to enhance clarity. This interpretative process helps reveal ideological meanings embedded in news coverage related to gender equality.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Kompas.com News Coverage

News reports from *Kompas.com* highlight the increasing number of divorce lawsuits filed by female teachers after obtaining PPPK appointment letters. The narrative centers on explanations provided by authorities and psychologists who interpret the causes of divorce. The phenomenon is presented as a social issue related to economic conditions, work pressure, and women's dual roles. The voices of the women who are directly involved are not presented explicitly. Instead, the narrative is controlled by male sources and professional authorities who assign meaning to the actions of female teachers. The textual structure indicates that women's representation is shaped through external perspectives that reinforce gender role differences in society.

Subject Position

The subject position is occupied by male figures who act as observers and interpreters of women's actions. Their authority derives from structural positions that strengthen their status as primary sources of information.

Data 1 (Kompas.com)

"Pemicunya ekonomi. Salah satunya karena sekarang perempuannya sudah punya kemandirian ekonomi sebagai PPPK, sehingga menggugat cerai suaminya," ujar Ruhli, dikutip dari Kompas.com, Jumat (8/7/2025).

This quotation emphasizes that Ruhli positions himself as someone who understands

the causes of divorce. The statement contains a generalization that portrays women as acting primarily because of economic motives. This perspective reflects a social construction that views women's independence as a threat to household stability. The discourse does not originate from women's lived experiences but from external interpretations supported by social legitimacy.

Data 2 (Kompas.com)

"Ketidakpastian dalam promosi jabatan dan perubahan kebijakan bisa memicu emosi-emosi negatif yang berdampak pada pernikahan," terang Danti saat dihubungi Kompas.com, Jumat (1/8/2025).

This quotation shows that the psychologist functions as a figure who explains women's emotional conditions from an expert perspective. The subject position shifts from officials to specialists who continue to speak on behalf of women. Women are constructed as individuals who are easily influenced by work-related pressure and unable to regulate their emotions. The narrative indicates that the meaning of women's actions is determined by external perspectives acting as interpreters of reality.

Object Position

Female PPPK teachers are positioned as narrative objects whose experiences are explained through data and the views of sources. Their presence appears only as examples of social phenomena without personal voices.

Data 3 (Kompas.com)

"Fenomena ini tidak satu kali terjadi, tetapi seperti merembet ke berbagai daerah, mulai dari Kabupaten Cianjur, Blitar, Pandeglang, hingga Wonogiri."

This quotation illustrates that women are represented as part of a collective phenomenon spreading across regions. Personal identities are erased and replaced by a homogeneous group

image. Women are portrayed as contributors to rising divorce rates without opportunities for self-defense. This framing constructs stereotypes that position women as triggers of household dysfunction.

Data 4 (Kompas.com)

"Peran ganda yang dialami ASN PPPK perempuan, yaitu sebagai pegawai dan ibu rumah tangga, kerap menimbulkan konflik dan kelelahan emosional."

This quotation constructs women as individuals who are weak in dealing with domestic and public role pressures. Women are portrayed as victims of emotional exhaustion that leads to an inability to maintain their marriages. There is no space to examine men's social roles in these conflicts. This representation reflects the media's tendency to place responsibility on women while overlooking unequal spousal support.

Reader Position

Readers are directed to understand divorce phenomena through institutional and psychological perspectives. The text guides public judgment toward women's morality and family roles.

Data 5 (Kompas.com)

"Dengan begitu, ia berpesan bahwa memahami akar masalah dan memberikan dukungan yang diperlukan, diharapkan bisa mengurangi angka perceraian di kalangan ASN PPPK."

This quotation shows that readers are invited to accept the source's views as authoritative truths. The constructed perspective directs public opinion toward perceiving divorce as a consequence of women's inability to manage work and family pressures. Alternative viewpoints that present women's emotional or rational experiences are absent. Readers are positioned to accept a single interpretation based

on professional authority. This narrative pattern reinforces patriarchal discourse that places women as objects of social evaluation rather than as autonomous subjects with agency over their life choices.

DetikNews Coverage

Reports from *detikNews* highlight the phenomenon of dozens of teachers in Pandeglang Regency filing for divorce after receiving their PPPK appointment letters. The coverage focuses on official statements from local government officials who attribute the causes of divorce to economic factors and infidelity. The narrative is constructed from a single main source, namely the Head of the Personnel Division of the Pandeglang Education Office, without presenting the direct perspectives or experiences of female teachers. This perspective frames the phenomenon as a social issue that must be managed through government mediation. The voices of the women involved do not appear directly, resulting in a narrative shaped by unilateral institutional judgments. The textual structure indicates representational bias in portraying women's roles in domestic and professional relationships.

Subject Position

The subject position is occupied by male officials representing local government institutions. These sources function as interpreters who assign meaning to divorce cases among female PPPK teachers.

Data 1 (detikNews)

“Banyaknya karena faktor ekonomi, perselingkuhan, suami kerja di luar kota,” kata Mukmin kepada wartawan, Jumat (25/7/2025).

This quotation shows Mukmin's position as an authoritative figure explaining the causes of divorce in an objective tone. The statement provides institutional legitimacy to a male-

centered perspective in interpreting women's actions. The narrative implies moral judgment toward women who file for divorce, suggesting that they act due to weak emotional control or external temptation. The subject position reflects the dominance of male perspectives in defining social causes without allowing women to interpret their own experiences.

Data 2 (detikNews)

“Mukmin mengatakan tahun ini ada sekitar 50 orang melakukan gugatan. Dia mengatakan mereka berstatus sebagai ASN dan pegawai pemerintah dengan perjanjian kerja (PPPK).”

This quotation positions the male subject as the controller of data and narrative. Statistical figures frame divorce as an administrative and bureaucratic issue. Emotional and social dimensions of women's experiences are marginalized. Officials are presented as meaning-makers, while women become objects of reporting without direct voices.

Object Position

Female PPPK teachers are represented as narrative objects. They are central to the issue but are not given opportunities to express their personal experiences.

Data 3 (detikNews)

“Mukmin melanjutkan gugatan mayoritas diajukan oleh pihak perempuan. Dia mengungkap penggugat juga didominasi setelah mereka mendapatkan SK P3K.”

This quotation portrays women as primary actors in divorce within a negative evaluative context. They are depicted as changing after gaining economic and professional status. The narrative constructs the perception that women's social mobility threatens household stability. This framing reflects patriarchal discourse that associates women's independence with domestic conflict.

Data 4 (detikNews)

“Mukmin menyebut pihaknya berupaya melakukan pencegahan agar fenomena ini tidak terus terulang. Dia menyatakan pihak Dindikpora melakukan langkah mediasi.”

This quotation places women as subjects requiring institutional control. Mediation is positioned as a corrective mechanism for behavior considered deviant. The object position reflects the view that women lack full autonomy in personal decision-making. This representation reinforces the idea that women require institutional supervision to maintain social stability.

Reader Position

Readers are guided to interpret divorce as a moral and social problem arising from women's changing economic status. The narrative directs empathy toward institutions rather than toward women.

Data 5 (detikNews)

“Kita berupaya melakukan mediasi,” ujarnya.

This quotation closes the report with a solution-oriented tone that supports government intervention. Readers are encouraged to accept administrative handling as appropriate. The structure positions readers as observers who agree with official interpretations without considering women's emotional experiences. Institutions are presented as centers of truth, while women remain silent subjects. This pattern reinforces gender inequality by privileging male and institutional voices.

MetroTV News Coverage

Reports from *MetroTV News* discuss the phenomenon of PPPK teachers in Cianjur who collectively filed for divorce. The narrative emphasizes rising divorce rates and their

connection to women's socio-economic status after becoming civil servants. Coverage relies on statistical data and administrative explanations. No direct quotations from female teachers are presented. The narrative is built entirely from institutional and legal perspectives. The media prioritizes procedural and moral aspects over women's subjective experiences. The structure reinforces institutional surveillance and control over women.

Subject Position

The subject position is occupied by government institutions and media authorities that define divorce phenomena through administrative discourse.

Data 1 (MetroTV News)

“Fenomena mengagetkan terjadi di Cianjur, sejumlah aparatur sipil negara (ASN) yang baru diangkat sebagai guru PPPK beramai-ramai mengajukan gugatan cerai.”

This quotation demonstrates sensational framing. The phrase “*fenomena mengagetkan*” constructs the event as deviant. The media positions itself as a moral observer and regulator. Women's actions are framed as abnormal and socially problematic.

Data 2 (MetroTV News)

“ASN tidak boleh cerai sembarangan, harus mengikuti prosedur yang berlaku misalnya melalui izin kepala daerah.”

This quotation emphasizes institutional authority over private life. Government bodies are positioned as moral and legal regulators. The subject position is embedded in structures that determine acceptable behavior.

Object Position

Female PPPK teachers are portrayed as objects associated with social and moral problems.

Data 3 (MetroTV News)

“Dalam enam bulan terakhir tercatat ada 20 guru yang mengajukan izin cerai. 75 persen yang mengajukan adalah guru perempuan.”

This quotation frames women as dominant contributors to divorce. Statistics emphasize quantitative involvement without addressing deeper social or psychological factors. Women are positioned as primary agents of perceived negative change.

Data 4 (MetroTV News)

“Setelah status ganti, standar pasangan seolah ikut berganti. Data menyebut hanya 10 persen suami dari guru PPPK yang juga ASN.”

This quotation constructs the idea that women’s improved status leads to higher expectations. Women are portrayed as demanding and destabilizing family relations. This reinforces stereotypes linking female success with marital conflict.

Reader Position

Readers are guided to interpret divorce as a moral and administrative warning.

Data 5 (MetroTV News)

“Contohnya, guru SD di Blitar gajinya dipotong 50 persen selama satu tahun karena cerai tanpa izin atasan.”

This quotation delivers a moral lesson through sanctions. Readers are encouraged to view institutional punishment as justified. Institutions are positioned as moral guardians, while women symbolize social deviation.

KalderaNews.com Coverage

Reports published by *KalderaNews.com* in 2025 discuss increasing divorce lawsuits filed by female teachers after receiving PPPK appointment letters. The narrative adopts an

informative and argumentative style, presenting statements from officials and psychologists. The phenomenon is described as widespread in several regions. The report focuses on five main causes: economic factors, work pressure, dual roles, value differences, and communication problems. Although appearing neutral, the structure reveals specific representational patterns.

Subject Position

Female PPPK teachers are positioned as primary subjects and active decision-makers.

Data 1 (KalderaNews.com)

“Belakangan ini ramai diberitakan sejumlah guru perempuan menggugat cerai suaminya setelah menerima SK PPPK. Ternyata ini 5 alasannya!”

This quotation centers women as narrative agents. Divorce is framed as a conscious decision linked to economic independence. Unlike other media, women are portrayed as active actors. However, their decisions are still associated with emotional and psychological factors rather than rational autonomy.

Data 2 (KalderaNews.com)

“Kepala Disdikpora Kabupaten Cianjur, Ruhli menyatakan bahwa faktor ekonomi menjadi penyebab utama maraknya perceraian PPPK di daerahnya.”

This statement reinforces the framing that women’s economic autonomy disrupts marital stability. Female subjectivity remains mediated through male authority.

Object Position

Husbands are positioned as passive objects affected by women’s decisions.

Data 3 (KalderaNews.com)

“Fenomena ini tidak satu kali terjadi, tapi masif di Cianjur, Blitar, Pandeglang, hingga Wonogiri.”

This quotation presents divorce as a collective phenomenon without male perspectives. Husbands appear as passive recipients of women's choices.

Data 4 (KalderaNews.com)

“Peran ganda yang dialami ASN PPPK perempuan, yaitu sebagai pegawai dan ibu rumah tangga, seringkali menimbulkan konflik dan kelelahan emosional.”

This quotation emphasizes women's dual burden. Husbands are implicitly constructed as lacking emotional support. The text reinforces the idea that domestic responsibility remains primarily women's burden.

Reader Position

Readers are directed to adopt sympathetic and psychological perspectives toward women's actions.

Data 5 (KalderaNews.com)

“Perbedaan nilai bisa memunculkan perbedaan tujuan hidup dan ekspektasi pernikahan. Hal ini menjadi sumber konflik yang berkelanjutan.”

This quotation guides readers to interpret divorce through value differences rather than moral failure. Gender inequality is obscured as women appear strong yet emotionally driven.

Data 6 (KalderaNews.com)

“Ketidakpuasan dalam pernikahan juga bisa menyebabkan salah satu pihak tidak kuat dan berujung pada perceraian.”

This statement closes the report with an empathetic tone. Divorce is framed as an emotional consequence rather than defiance. Readers are positioned to associate women's independence with marital vulnerability.

Overall, KalderaNews.com constructs women as socially active subjects, yet still confines them within psychological and domestic narratives. Husbands remain voiceless objects, while readers are encouraged to interpret divorce

as emotional complexity linked to women's economic mobility. This pattern reflects symbolic gender bias in which women appear empowered but remain constrained within traditional interpretive frameworks.

BangkaPos.com Coverage

News published by *BangkaPos.com* on August 10, 2025 highlights the increasing number of divorce cases among female teachers after being appointed as Government Employees with Employment Contracts (PPPK). The narrative emphasizes the perspectives of government officials and psychologists. The main focus is placed on economic and psychological factors that are considered to motivate wives to file for divorce after achieving financial independence. The structure of the report portrays this phenomenon as a widespread social trend, ranging from Cianjur to Sorong, supported by quantitative data and authoritative statements. This pattern illustrates how the media shapes public understanding of gender relations in economic and domestic contexts.

Subject Position

Female PPPK teachers are positioned as the main subjects in the text and become central figures who carry out social actions in the form of divorce lawsuits. The narrative focuses on women as active agents who exercise autonomy over their domestic decisions.

Data 1 (BangkaPos.com)

“Saat ini sedang ramai mengenai sejumlah guru perempuan menggugat cerai suaminya usai menerima Surat Keputusan (SK) Pengangkatan sebagai Pegawai Pemerintah dengan Perjanjian Kerja (PPPK).”

This quotation indicates that the act of filing for divorce is carried out consciously and collectively by women. The framing positions women as individuals responding to changes in social and economic status. Their decisions are

constructed as consequences of increased financial independence rather than as purely emotional reactions.

Data 2 (BangkaPos.com)

“Pemicunya ekonomi. Salah satunya karena sekarang perempuannya sudah punya kemandirian ekonomi sebagai PPPK, sehingga menggugat cerai suaminya,” ujar Ruhli.”

This official statement reflects a social construction in which women’s economic independence is perceived as shifting the balance of gender relations. The subject position presents women as actors who reject financial dependence and begin to determine their own life trajectories. The narrative implies a social paradigm shift in which economic roles become key determinants of identity and power within the household.

Object Position

Husbands are positioned as passive objects who become targets of divorce decisions. Male identities are not presented directly but appear through external narratives that explain their domestic situations.

Data 3 (BangkaPos.com)

“Rata-rata penggugat (istri) datang ajukan agar bisa cerai dengan suami itu gegara masalah tak dinafkahi, orang ketiga hingga cemburu.”

This quotation portrays husbands as failing to fulfill their traditional roles as providers and guardians of family harmony. Their positions are reduced to sources of problems without opportunities to present their perspectives. This pattern indicates the media’s tendency to construct specific moral images of men in divorce-related issues.

Data 4 (BangkaPos.com)

“Ada pegawai PPPK suami istri semua ajukan cerai gegara salah paham di dalam rumah tangga, maka lanjut berpisah.”

This quotation shows that domestic conflicts are described briefly and without in-depth exploration. Men are depicted as lacking the capacity to resolve problems through dialogue. Husbands appear merely as balancing elements in the narrative structure rather than as active subjects in social meaning-making.

Reader Position

Readers are directed to interpret the phenomenon through two main frames: economic and psychological. The narrative guides readers to understand divorce as a consequence of social changes following women’s financial independence.

Data 5 (BangkaPos.com)

“Psikolog Ibunda.id, Danti Wulan Manunggal, menanggapi bahwa peningkatan kasus perceraian di kalangan Aparatur Sipil Negara (ASN) dapat ditinjau dari berbagai aspek psikologis, di samping faktor ekonomi.”

This statement shapes the perspective that divorce is not merely a legal event but also a psychological response to pressure and dual roles. Readers are encouraged to view women as individuals struggling with emotional and social burdens rather than as actors rebelling against traditional domestic structures.

Data 6 (BangkaPos.com)

“Tren kasus cerai PPPK dan PNS berawal dari nafkah, orang ketiga dan cemburu, maka saya anggap perlu ke depan jadi contoh.”

This quotation reinforces a normative reading in which divorce is placed within moral and social frameworks. Readers are invited not only to understand its causes but also to recognize the need for regulation and education in marital relationships. The reader’s position becomes a means of legitimizing the view that divorce among female PPPK teachers results from social

changes that have not yet achieved balance between domestic and public roles.

DISCUSSION

News coverage of female PPPK teachers filing for divorce portrays women as active subjects who make decisions within the household. Women are depicted as having financial independence after receiving their PPPK appointment letters, leading to shifts in their positions within domestic relations (Mahsusi, 2024). The coverage emphasizes women's psychological dilemmas and social pressures, while men rarely appear in the narratives. Previous analyses indicate that women in online media are often positioned as active agents facing social tensions (Rosita et al., 2025). The media highlights dual-role conflicts, marital dissatisfaction, and economic pressure as factors influencing women's decisions (Kaestiningtyas et al., 2021). Women are portrayed as capable of balancing domestic and professional roles while confronting emotional challenges (Hakiki & Hudiyono, 2023). This narrative construction places women at the center of media attention.

The dual-role pressure experienced by female PPPK teachers emerges from the combination of professional responsibilities and domestic duties. The media emphasizes marital dissatisfaction and internal conflicts faced by women (Meilani et al., 2022). Women are portrayed as rational actors in responding to psychological and social pressures. Previous studies show that women in childfree-related discourse experience double social pressure that affects personal decision-making (Mardika et al., 2023). Men remain positioned as passive figures in the narratives, directing readers to perceive women as the main subjects. Online media present women's household and economic decisions as legitimate (Lancia & Azis, 2023). This representation reflects implicit changes in gender power structures within media discourse.

News reports frequently emphasize economic factors as triggers for divorce among PPPK teachers. Heads of education offices in several regions have stated that women gain financial independence after receiving PPPK status (Hakiki & Hudiyono, 2023). Sara Mills' analysis highlights that media language shapes public perceptions of women's power and social positions (Mahsusi, 2024). The emphasis on economic aspects reinforces the legitimacy of women's actions and the transformation of gender roles. These findings align with previous studies that portray women as active agents confronting structural inequality (Rahayu & Hamdani, 2023). Online media depict women as financially independent individuals who simultaneously face psychological and social pressures.

Value conflicts and differences in marital goals also emerge as important themes in the coverage. The media stresses women's dissatisfaction and internal conflicts as factors influencing divorce decisions (Rosita et al., 2025). These findings are consistent with previous studies highlighting social pressure and role conflicts experienced by women in media narratives (Kaestiningtyas et al., 2021). Women are represented as rational individuals capable of managing emotional stress. Men are rarely given narrative space, resulting in clear imbalances in gender representation. Sara Mills' framework emphasizes that subject-object positioning in discourse shapes perceptions of power in society (Mahsusi, 2024).

This phenomenon corresponds with Mahsusi's (2024) study, which highlights women in music media as subjects expressing independence. Lancia and Azis (2023) emphasize that women face social pressure and cultural norms in various contexts. The analysis of PPPK teacher news demonstrates that the media underscores the legitimacy of women's independence. Wirawanda et al. (2019) identified similar gender bias in celebrity news coverage,

where women are emotionally exploited while men receive limited attention. Media discourse reinforces gender power structures through language and narrative, positioning women as central figures.

Overall, news reports emphasize internal conflicts, dual-role pressures, and women's economic independence. Women are portrayed as rational and empowered in dealing with social and domestic challenges (Meilani et al., 2022). Online media affirm women's legitimacy in making important household decisions (Hakiki & Hudiyono, 2023). These findings are consistent with Mardika et al. (2023), who show that women are capable of making significant decisions under socially restrictive conditions. Gender representations in the coverage highlight shifts in women's positions within the symbolic power structure of the household.

4. CONCLUSION

The analysis of news coverage on female PPPK teachers who filed for divorce indicates that women are represented as active subjects with the capacity to make household decisions. The media emphasizes women's financial independence after obtaining PPPK status and highlights the psychological conflicts and dual-role pressures they experience. Women are portrayed as rational individuals who are able to cope with social and domestic challenges, while men tend to receive limited narrative space. The coverage also reflects the legitimation of women's actions and demonstrates a transformation in gender positions within marital relations.

Through Sara Mills' critical discourse analysis approach, this study reveals the role of media language in shaping public perceptions of power relations and gender representation. The positioning of subjects, objects, and readers in the texts shows a tendency to portray women as active agents, whereas men are more frequently positioned as passive figures. This

representational pattern aligns with previous studies indicating that women in various media contexts face social and economic pressures yet remain capable of making important personal decisions.

This study contributes to the development of critical discourse analysis in Indonesia, particularly in examining contemporary news that connects professional roles, family relations, and gender construction. The findings enhance understanding of how the media participates in shaping discourse on changing power relations within modern families.

This study is limited by the relatively small amount of data and the restricted range of online news portals analyzed. The analysis also does not include comparisons among media outlets with different ideological backgrounds. Future research may expand data sources, extend the period of observation, and adopt comparative approaches to obtain a more comprehensive understanding of gender representation in Indonesian media.

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