EXPRESSIVE SPEECH ACTS IN RESPONSES TO "TOT TOT WUK WUK" SIRENS

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini membahas penggunaan bahasa di media sosial sebagai sarana ekspresi sikap, emosi, dan penilaian masyarakat terhadap suatu peristiwa sosial. Fokus penelitian terletak pada tindak tutur ekspresif yang muncul dalam kolom komentar video YouTube Metro TV berjudul "Fitra Eri Tanggapi Kendaraan Berstrobo Tot Tot Wuk Wuk". Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan bentuk-bentuk tindak tutur ekspresif yang digunakan oleh pengguna dalam merespons konten tersebut.Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode analisis isi. Data penelitian berupa tuturan tertulis dalam kolom komentar video YouTube yang mengandung tindak tutur ekspresif. Pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui teknik dokumentasi dengan cara membaca, mencatat, dan mengidentifikasi komentar yang relevan. Analisis data dilakukan dengan mengelompokkan tuturan berdasarkan jenis tindak tutur ekspresif, kemudian menafsirkan maknanya dalam konteks komunikasi digital. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan terdapat 50 data tindak tutur ekspresif yang terdiri atas mengkritik (21 data), memuji (17 data), mengucapkan terima kasih (5 data), mengungkapkan rasa marah (4 data), mengecam (2 data), dan mengucapkan selamat (1 data). Sementara itu, bentuk tuturan meminta maaf dan mengucapkan belasungkawa tidak ditemukan. Dominasi tuturan kritik menunjukkan bahwa kolom komentar media sosial cenderung digunakan sebagai ruang untuk menyampaikan penilaian terhadap fenomena sosial. Simpulannya, media sosial berfungsi sebagai ruang komunikasi publik yang memungkinkan masyarakat mengekspresikan sikap psikologis, pengalaman, dan pandangan mereka terhadap isu sosial yang berkembang melalui berbagai bentuk tindak tutur ekspresif

Kata kunci: *tindak tutur ekspresif, pragmatik, media sosial, kolom komentar YouTube, komunikasi digital*

Abstract

This study examines the use of language on social media as a means of expressing attitudes, emotions, and public evaluations of social phenomena. The focus of the research is on expressive speech acts found in the comment section of a Metro TV YouTube video titled "Fitra Eri Tanggapi Kendaraan Berstrobo Tot Tot Wuk Wuk." The aim of this study is to describe the forms of expressive speech acts used by users in responding to the content. This research employs a qualitative approach with a content analysis method. The data consist of written utterances in the YouTube comment section that contain expressive speech acts. Data were collected through documentation techniques, including reading, recording, and identifying relevant comments. The data analysis was conducted by classifying the utterances based on types of expressive speech acts and interpreting their meanings within the context of digital communication. The results show that there are 50 instances of expressive speech acts, consisting of criticism (21 data), praise (17 data), expressions of gratitude (5 data), expressions of anger (4 data), condemnation (2 data), and congratulations (1 data). Meanwhile, forms such as apologizing and expressing condolences were not found. The dominance of critical expressions indicates that social media comment sections are often used as spaces to convey public evaluations of social issues.In conclusion, social media functions as a public communication space that enables individuals to express psychological attitudes, experiences, and perspectives on emerging social issues through various forms of expressive speech acts.

Keywords: expressive speech acts, pragmatics, social media, YouTube comments, digital communication

1. INTRODUCTION

Language is the primary means that enables humans to build social relationships, convey ideas, and express various attitudes and feelings in everyday life. Through language, humans do not merely deliver information literally but also construct social meanings related to values, emotions, and evaluations of particular events. From the perspective of social communication, language functions as a tool that allows individuals to form interactions, influence others, and express their attitudes toward the reality they experience (Rahmani & Nawawi, 2024). Therefore, language cannot be understood solely through sentence structure or its linguistic form, but must also be viewed within the context of its use and the communicative purposes underlying it.

The study that examines the relationship between language, speakers, and the context of language use is known as pragmatics. Pragmatics emphasizes that the meaning of language does not always lie in words or sentences literally but often depends on the communicative situation, social background, and the intention that the speaker aims to convey. This indicates that every utterance produced by a speaker is not merely a sequence of words but also an action that contains a particular communicative intention (Rini et al., 2024). Therefore, the study of pragmatics is important for understanding how meaning is constructed in real language interactions.

One important concept in language studies is speech acts. Speech acts explain that when someone says something, they are not only producing a linguistic utterance but also performing an action through that language. In the study of speech acts, three main types of actions are recognized: locutionary acts, illocutionary acts, and perlocutionary acts (Wibowo, 2022). A locutionary act refers to an utterance delivered directly according to its lexical meaning. An illocutionary act relates to the intention or purpose the speaker aims to achieve through the utterance, whereas a perlocutionary act refers to the effect or influence that arises on the hearer after the utterance is delivered (Mediyanti & Ananda, 2024). Through this concept, it can be understood that language functions not only as a medium for conveying messages but also as a social action that can influence the thoughts and behavior of others.

One type of speech act that is directly related to the speaker's psychological expression is the expressive speech act. Expressive speech acts are used to express the speaker's attitudes, feelings, or evaluations toward a particular situation. This form of speech act can appear in various utterances such as expressions of gratitude, apologies, praise, criticism, complaints, or condemnation of an event. According to Leech (2015), expressive speech acts function to reveal the speaker's psychological attitude toward the state of affairs implied in the utterance, such as thanking, congratulating, forgiving, condemning, praising, or expressing condolences. This shows that expressive speech acts are not only related to linguistic meaning but also reflect the emotional condition and evaluation of the speaker toward the phenomena occurring. Furthermore, expressive speech acts also reflect the speaker's psychological state, which may include feelings of happiness, dislike, disappointment, anger, or sympathy toward a particular event.

Yule (2006) states that expressive speech acts are utterances that indicate the speaker's psychological attitude toward a particular situation being discussed. In the context of modern communication, such psychological expressions do not only appear in face-to-face interactions but are also widely found in digital media–based communication. Research on language in social media shows that internet users frequently express their emotions, evaluations, and attitudes directly through comments or responses to particular content (Ramadani & Fatmawati, 2025).

Along with the development of digital technology, communication practices in society have undergone significant changes. Social media has now become a new public space that enables people to express opinions, criticisms, and responses directly toward various social issues. One platform widely used to express such opinions is YouTube. Through the comment section feature, users can respond to the content of the videos they watch. The comment section often becomes a public discussion space that generates various forms of speech acts, including expressive speech acts. Several studies indicate that YouTube comment sections frequently function as a public space of expression that reveals various forms of emotions, evaluations, and social responses toward particular issues (Anugrah & Asnawi, 2023).

The phenomenon of language use in social media comment sections is interesting to examine because it reflects how people spontaneously express their attitudes. Unlike formal communication, comments on social media generally emerge spontaneously, freely, and are not always bound by strict language norms. This makes social media comment sections a rich source of linguistic data that can be analyzed from a pragmatic perspective. Previous studies also show that social media often becomes a place where various forms of expressive speech acts emerge, such as praise, criticism, complaints, and even condemnation toward social events (Syafendra & Fatmawati, 2023). This phenomenon can be observed in the comment section of a YouTube video discussing the use of strobe lights and sirens on vehicles, which recently went viral under the term "Tot Tot Wuk Wuk." The use of strobe lights that does not comply with traffic regulations often causes discomfort for other road users because it can create glare, noise, and potentially trigger conflicts on the road.

This phenomenon has generated various responses from the public on social media, particularly in the form of comments containing criticism, complaints, or condemnation of the behavior of vehicle users who install strobe lights. This viral phenomenon shows that social media functions not only as a medium for sharing information but also as a space for public expression that reflects people's opinions toward certain social issues. In this context, comments from social media users can be viewed as forms of expressive speech acts that illustrate the public's psychological attitudes toward the phenomenon occurring. For instance, comments describing the behavior of strobe-light users as "selfish," "arrogant," or "disrespectful toward other road users." Such utterances indicate expressive speech acts with a condemning tone, as the speaker evaluates the behavior as something unacceptable.

Although research on expressive speech acts in social media has been widely conducted, most previous studies have focused on comments on platforms such as Instagram, Facebook, or YouTube videos that are related to entertainment or general discussions. Studies examining expressive speech acts related to viral social phenomena in society are still relatively limited. In addition, studies that specifically connect expressive speech acts with public responses to the issue of vehicle strobe light usage in the context of digital communication are still rare. Therefore, there is a research gap that can be addressed by examining how people express their attitudes and emotions toward this phenomenon through language on social media.

Based on the explanation above, this study seeks to examine more deeply the forms of expressive speech acts that appear in the comment section of the Metro TV YouTube video titled "Fitra Eri Tanggapi Kendaraan Berstrobo Tot Tot Wuk Wuk." The analysis of user comments is expected to provide an overview of how people express their psychological attitudes through language within the digital communication space.

The novelty of this study lies in the object of analysis and the social context examined. This

research does not merely analyze expressive speech acts in social media in general but specifically investigates the forms of expressive speech acts that appear in public responses to the viral phenomenon of vehicle strobe light usage known as "Tot Tot Wuk Wuk." In addition, this study utilizes the YouTube comment section as a data source that represents spontaneous public opinion in a digital communication space. Therefore, this research provides a new contribution to pragmatic studies by connecting the analysis of expressive speech acts with social phenomena developing in digital media.

This research is situated within the scope of pragmatic studies. Considering the broad scope of pragmatics, this study focuses on one important aspect, namely illocutionary speech acts, particularly expressive speech acts. Expressive speech acts are used to express the speaker's psychological attitude toward a particular situation, such as praising, thanking, criticizing, complaining, or condemning. Therefore, this study focuses on how expressive speech acts appear in the comment section of the Metro TV YouTube video titled "Fitra Eri Tanggapi Kendaraan Berstrobo 'Tot Tot Wuk Wuk'.

2. METHOD

This study employed a qualitative approach with the aim of obtaining descriptive data regarding the use of expressive speech acts found in the comment section of a Metro TV YouTube video entitled "Fitra Eri Responds to Strobe-Equipped Vehicles 'Tot Tot Wuk Wuk'". The qualitative approach was chosen because the data analyzed consist of written utterances that express attitudes, feelings, and evaluations from netizens regarding the phenomenon discussed in the video. Through this approach, the researcher is able to understand the meaning of the utterances more deeply in accordance with the communication context underlying them. The method used in this study is content analysis, which is a method employed to systematically examine the content of messages within texts in order to identify forms of utterances that contain expressions of the speaker's attitudes or emotions.

The data in this study consist of comments containing expressive speech acts found in the comment section of the Metro TV YouTube video. The source of the research data comes from the main comments of netizens on the video entitled "Fitra Eri Responds to Strobe-Equipped Vehicles 'Tot Tot Wuk Wuk'". The selection of this data source was based on the high level of interaction and the variety of responses from netizens toward the phenomenon of strobe-equipped vehicles on public roads. The diverse comments that emerged demonstrate expressions of attitudes, evaluations, criticism, and support conveyed by social media users regarding the issue discussed in the video.

Data collection in this study was carried out through several stages. First, the researcher conducted documentation of the comments found on the Metro TV YouTube video by using the screenshot feature as evidence of the research data. Second, the researcher carefully and repeatedly read all the comments on the video in order to understand the context of the utterances expressed by the netizens. Third, the researcher recorded comments that contained elements of expressive speech acts. The recording process was conducted by selecting and writing down relevant utterances into a data collection sheet to facilitate the process of grouping and analysis.

After the data were collected, the next stage was data analysis. The analysis began by assigning codes to each data item that had been collected in order to facilitate the process of identification and retrieval of the research data. The coded data were then grouped according to the forms of expressive speech acts that appeared in the comments of netizens. Furthermore, the researcher examined the relationship between the utterances and the communication context underlying them in order to determine the meaning and expressive intention conveyed by

the speakers. The results of the analysis were then described descriptively to provide an overview of the patterns of expressive speech act usage in the comment section of the Metro TV YouTube video that served as the object of this study.

To ensure the validity of the data, this study considered several important aspects of qualitative research. The researcher ensured that the analyzed data genuinely originated from comments found in the examined video and were relevant to the context of the discussion presented in the video. In addition, the data were presented clearly and in detail so that readers could understand the context in which the utterances occurred and consider the possible application of the research findings to similar studies. The research process was also carried out consistently, starting from data collection, coding, classification, and data analysis. Each analytical result was directly based on the comment data obtained, ensuring that the

conclusions drawn remained grounded in the empirical evidence found in the comment section of the video.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the research findings, the most dominant form of expressive speech acts in the research data is criticizing, with a total of 21 occurrences. This is followed by praising with 17 occurrences, expressing gratitude with 5 occurrences, expressing anger with 4 occurrences, condemning with 2 occurrences, and congratulating with 1 occurrence. Meanwhile, the speech acts of apologizing and expressing condolences were not found in the research data. The results of the study are presented in the following table.

Table 1. Recapitulation of Expressive Speech Act Research Results

No	Form of Expressive Speech Act	Code	Number of Data
1	Expressing gratitude	1	5
2	Congratulating	2	1
3	Apologizing	3	0
4	Condemning	4	2
5	Praising	5	17
6	Expressing condolences	6	0
7	Criticizing	7	21
8	Expressing anger	8	4
	Total Data		50

Dominasi The dominance of critical utterances in the data indicates that comment sections on digital media are frequently used by the public to express judgments or evaluations

regarding ongoing social phenomena. In the context of this study, the comments analyzed were derived from public responses to discussions about the use of sirens and strobe

lights on vehicles on public roads. This phenomenon has generated various responses from the public because it is directly related to their experiences as road users.

A closer examination reveals that these comments not only demonstrate disagreement but also reflect a wide range of emotional expressions. Some users convey criticism directly, while others express support and praise toward figures who are perceived to represent public aspirations. Meanwhile, other users express irritation or anger toward certain practices occurring on public roads.

The diversity of these utterances indicates that social media has become a communication space that allows individuals to openly express their feelings, evaluations, and experiences. This finding is consistent with the perspective in pragmatic studies that language does not merely function to convey information but also to express the speaker's attitudes and emotions toward particular events (Rahardi, 2019).

Furthermore, the large number of critical utterances also reflects public awareness regarding issues of traffic order and fairness in the use of road facilities. These comments demonstrate that road users have particular perspectives on how regulations should be implemented fairly for all parties.

Therefore, the analysis of expressive speech acts in this comment section not only reveals the variety of language forms used by the public but also provides an overview of public perceptions regarding policies or social phenomena currently taking place. The following section presents a detailed explanation of each utterance analyzed in this study.

Expressive Speech Acts of Gratitude

Based on the analysis of the comment data collected in this study, five utterances were identified as belonging to the category of expressive speech acts of gratitude. These

utterances appear when speakers feel that someone has expressed an opinion or taken an action that represents their interests. In the context of digital communication, expressions of gratitude do not merely function as forms of politeness but also serve as expressions of moral support toward individuals who voice public aspirations.

One example of an utterance identified in the research data is as follows:

"Thank you for speaking up, Om Fitra."

This utterance demonstrates an appreciative attitude from the speaker toward the figure mentioned in the comment. From an analytical perspective, this utterance belongs to expressive speech acts because the speaker directly expresses feelings of appreciation toward another person's actions. The expression "thank you" functions as a linguistic indicator that signals a positive emotional attitude from the speaker toward the interlocutor or the person being discussed.

Within the context of social media, this utterance also suggests that the speaker feels supported by the statement delivered by the figure. The speaker assumes that the opinion expressed represents the concerns of the public that they have experienced for a long time, particularly regarding the phenomenon of vehicle escorts using sirens and strobe lights, which are considered disruptive to other road users.

Therefore, expressions of gratitude not only function as expressions of politeness but also serve as a form of social legitimacy toward the opinions expressed by public figures.

Expressive speech acts are forms of utterances used by speakers to express their psychological states toward particular events or actions. These expressions may include gratitude, praise, complaints, or criticism. Speakers employ expressive utterances to convey emotional attitudes that arise as responses to the actions of others (Herwani, 2024).

Another example of an utterance identified in the research data is as follows:

> "Thank you, Mr. Fitra Eri. You have represented the people who are often marginalized."

This utterance not only contains an expression of gratitude but is also accompanied by a reason that strengthens the appreciation. The speaker explicitly states that the figure mentioned has "represented people who are often marginalized."

This statement indicates that the expression of gratitude does not emerge spontaneously but is based on a social evaluation of actions perceived to defend public interests.

From a pragmatic perspective, this utterance suggests that the speaker positions themselves as part of a social group that feels represented by the statement made by the figure. In other words, the utterance contains a dimension of social solidarity between the speaker and the individual being discussed. The speaker uses gratitude as a linguistic strategy to reinforce support for the opinion expressed.

This phenomenon is relatively common in digital communication, particularly in social media comment sections. Social media users not only express criticism or complaints but also provide support for individuals who are perceived to represent public aspirations. Research on online communication indicates that expressions of appreciation, such as gratitude, are often used as forms of politeness as well as support for opinions that align with public perspectives (Rahmawati et al., 2023).

Furthermore, other studies also demonstrate that expressive speech acts such as expressions of gratitude play an important social role in communication interactions. These utterances can strengthen interpersonal relationships and demonstrate appreciation for the actions or contributions of others within a communication context (Ginting, 2024).

Thus, the presence of expressions of gratitude in the research data indicates that communication on social media is not always confrontational or dominated by criticism. Instead, it also includes forms of communication that express support and appreciation toward individuals who are perceived to represent public interests. This finding suggests that social media comment sections can also function as spaces where users build social solidarity through language.

Expressive Speech Acts of Expressing Congratulations

In this study, one utterance was identified as belonging to the category of expressive speech acts of expressing congratulations. Although the number is relatively small, the presence of this utterance indicates that interactions on social media are not exclusively dominated by criticism or condemnation. Some social media users also use language to convey prayers, good wishes, and moral support toward individuals who are perceived as having the courage to express their opinions in the public sphere.

In pragmatic studies, expressive speech acts refer to utterances used by speakers to express their psychological attitudes or feelings toward a particular situation. These expressions may include gratitude, praise, apologies, hopes, and congratulations. Such utterances do not merely function to convey information but also reflect the emotional stance of the speaker toward the event being discussed.

This phenomenon is also widely observed in digital communication. Social media allows individuals to express their feelings directly regarding issues being discussed. This finding is consistent with research conducted by Putri and Ningsih (2025), which shows that expressive speech acts in social media comment sections are frequently used by online users to express emotions, support, and evaluations regarding events that attract public attention.

Furthermore, research by Ramadani and Fatmawati (2025) also indicates that comments on social media often contain expressive utterances that function as forms of social support or solidarity toward particular individuals or groups.

Within the context of this study, congratulatory expressions appearing in comments indicate public support for individuals who are perceived as courageous in voicing the truth regarding the phenomenon of siren and strobe light usage on vehicles on public roads. One example of an utterance identified in this study is as follows:

> "May Om Fitra always be under the protection of Allah SWT in voicing the truth."

This utterance demonstrates that the speaker conveys a prayer and good wishes for Fitra Eri to remain protected while expressing views that are considered to represent public interests. From a pragmatic perspective, this utterance can be categorized as an expressive speech act because the speaker expresses emotional attitudes in the form of support and hope toward an individual.

Through this utterance, the speaker not only evaluates the statement delivered by the figure as correct but also expresses the hope that the individual will remain consistent in voicing such views. In other words, congratulatory expressions or prayers appearing in these comments function as a form of social legitimacy from the public toward individuals who are considered to represent public voices.

Another example with a similar meaning is as follows:

> "Bravo Bung Fitra! Thank you for speaking up!! Hopefully the escort regulations will be evaluated and their use restricted."

This utterance demonstrates a combination of praise, gratitude, and hope. The speaker uses the word "Bravo" as a form of appreciation for the courage of the individual being discussed. Additionally, the speaker expresses hope that policies related to vehicle escorts will be evaluated and improved.

From a linguistic perspective, this utterance also illustrates that expressions of support in social media communication are often conveyed through spontaneous sentences that do not necessarily follow formal language structures. This indicates that social media functions as a flexible communication space where individuals can directly express their opinions and feelings without strict formal language constraints.

Overall, the presence of expressive congratulatory utterances in this study indicates that communication on social media is not solely characterized by criticism toward public policies but also includes expressions of support from the public toward individuals who are perceived as advocating public interests. This finding suggests that social media comment sections function as spaces for social interaction where individuals can express their emotional attitudes toward emerging social issues.

Expressive Speech Acts of Condemnation

In addition to positive utterances such as praise or congratulatory expressions, this study also identified two utterances categorized as expressive speech acts of condemnation. Condemnation represents a form of expression used by speakers to convey disagreement, anger, or negative evaluations toward particular actions or policies.

In pragmatic studies, condemnation is categorized as an expressive speech act because such utterances reflect the emotional attitudes of speakers toward events that are perceived as inconsistent with their values or expectations. Through condemnation, speakers emphasize their

critical stance toward actions considered harmful to society.

Within the context of digital communication, expressions of condemnation are frequently encountered. Social media provides a space for individuals to openly express their opinions regarding various social issues and public policies. This finding is supported by research conducted by Haryadi et al. (2022), which indicates that expressive speech acts on social media are often used by users to convey criticism, anger, or negative evaluations toward social phenomena perceived as unjust.

Similarly, research by Darmawan et al. (2024) explains that online comments frequently reflect public sentiment regarding social and political issues, which are expressed through various forms of expressive speech acts such as criticism, complaints, and condemnation.

In this study, condemnatory utterances appearing in comments are related to the behavior of escort officers as well as facilities perceived as excessive for public officials. This indicates that comments written by online users are not merely spontaneous reactions but also reflect the experiences and perceptions of individuals regarding situations they encounter in public spaces.

One example of an utterance categorized as condemnation is as follows:

> "The arrogance of power is excessive; escort officers often behave harshly as if other road users have no rights."

This utterance demonstrates a strong condemnation of the behavior of escort officers who are perceived as arrogant toward other road users. The speaker evaluates such actions as a form of abuse of power because the officers are considered to treat the public unfairly.

From a pragmatic perspective, the use of phrases such as "excessive arrogance of power" reflects a strong emotional evaluation from the speaker toward the situation being discussed. This utterance not only conveys information but also expresses dissatisfaction and anger toward practices perceived as harmful to society.

Another example of condemnatory utterance identified in this study is as follows:

> "In developed countries, public officials do not receive facilities as luxurious as those in Indonesia… here it seems that officials are more focused on displaying wealth."

This utterance reflects condemnation toward the lifestyle and facilities enjoyed by public officials in Indonesia. The speaker compares the situation with officials in other countries who are perceived as having more modest facilities. This comparison is used to strengthen criticism toward officials whose behavior is considered excessively focused on displaying wealth.

From a pragmatic perspective, this utterance demonstrates that the speaker employs an evaluative strategy to express condemnation toward a particular social phenomenon. By comparing conditions in Indonesia with those in other countries, the speaker attempts to emphasize that the situation is perceived as abnormal or undesirable.

Overall, the presence of condemnatory utterances in this study indicates that social media serves as a space where individuals can express criticism toward practices of power perceived as unjust. Through the comments they write, social media users not only respond to events but also express moral evaluations regarding behaviors considered harmful to society.

Thus, the findings of this study suggest that expressive speech acts of condemnation play an important role in digital communication because they provide a means for individuals to voice dissatisfaction and encourage changes in policies or behaviors perceived as inconsistent with public interests.

Expressive Speech Acts of Praising

This study also identified 17 utterances categorized as expressive speech acts of praising. This number makes praise the second most frequently occurring expressive form in the research data. The presence of praising utterances indicates that communication on social media is not solely dominated by negative comments or criticism but also contains expressions of appreciation toward individuals who are perceived to possess positive views or actions.

This finding demonstrates that social media comment sections function as a communication space that enables the public to express various forms of attitudes, both negative and positive evaluations. In pragmatic studies, praise belongs to the category of expressive speech acts because it functions to convey the speaker's positive attitude toward an individual or an action. Speakers employ praise to express appreciation, support, or admiration toward certain individuals.

Research conducted by Ramadani and Fatmawati (2025) shows that praise on social media is frequently used by netizens as a form of social support for individuals who are considered to represent public interests or provide information that benefits society.

In the context of this study, most of the praise found in the comment data is directed toward a public figure who is perceived to have expressed opinions representing public aspirations regarding the use of sirens and strobe lights on vehicles on public roads. This finding indicates that social media users not only respond to the phenomenon being discussed but also evaluate individuals whose perspectives align with their own experiences as road users. In other words, praise appearing in the comments reflects public support for individuals who are considered capable of delivering criticism or explanations relevant to the ongoing situation.

One example of a praising utterance identified in this study is as follows:

> *"Pak Fitra Eri keren."*
> ("Mr. Fitra Eri is cool.")

This utterance represents a concise form of praise with a clear meaning. The speaker uses the word "keren" ("cool" or "impressive") to express a positive evaluation of the figure being discussed. In pragmatic analysis, the use of such a word reflects the speaker's appreciative attitude toward the opinions or actions expressed by the individual.

Although the utterance consists of only two words, it effectively conveys the message that the speaker agrees with and appreciates the viewpoint expressed. Another example of a praising utterance found in this study is as follows:

> *"Mantap Bung Fitra! sangat jelas dan tegas penjelasannya."*
> ("Great, Mr. Fitra! The explanation is very clear and firm.")

This utterance not only expresses praise but also provides an evaluation of the quality of the explanation delivered by the figure being discussed. The speaker perceives the explanation as clear and firm, making it easier for the public to understand. In this case, praise functions not only as an expression of appreciation but also as a form of support for ideas considered correct or consistent with public experience.

From a linguistic perspective, most praising utterances in the research data are expressed using simple words such as "cool," "great," or "good." The use of such short expressions indicates that in social media communication, praise does not necessarily need to be conveyed through long sentences or complex linguistic structures. Brief and precise words are sufficient to demonstrate the speaker's positive attitude toward an individual or an action.

This phenomenon is also supported by research conducted by Maryati and Ningsih

(2022), which states that praise in digital communication often appears in the form of short and direct expressions that are easily understood by readers.

The presence of praising utterances in this study further indicates that social media functions as a space for social support within society. Through the comments they write, social media users can demonstrate solidarity or support for individuals perceived as representing public interests. The praise expressed not only reflects the speaker's appreciative attitude but also reveals an emotional connection between social media users and the issues being discussed.

Overall, the findings of this study demonstrate that praising utterances play an important role in creating positive interactions in social media communication. Praise functions not only as an expression of appreciation but also as a form of support for ideas or opinions considered relevant to public experiences. Therefore, the presence of praising utterances in social media comment sections indicates that social media is not merely a space for criticism but also serves as a platform for the public to acknowledge and appreciate individuals perceived as representing the public voice.

Expressive Speech Acts of Criticizing

Based on the analysis of comment data collected in this study, 21 utterances were identified as expressive speech acts of criticizing. This number indicates that criticism represents the most dominant form of expressive speech act compared with other expressive categories. This dominance suggests that social media comment sections are frequently used by the public as a platform to express evaluations of social phenomena that attract public attention.

Through the comments they write, social media users do not merely convey information but also express their attitudes, evaluations, and personal experiences related to the issues being discussed.

This finding is consistent with the study conducted by Helda and Fatmawati (2023), which indicates that social media comment sections often function as spaces for users to express critical evaluations of various issues occurring within society.

From a pragmatic perspective, criticism belongs to the category of expressive speech acts because speakers express psychological attitudes or feelings toward a particular situation. Critical utterances typically arise when speakers perceive that certain actions or conditions do not align with societal expectations or norms. Through criticism, speakers convey disagreement or evaluations regarding behaviors considered inappropriate.

Studies on expressive speech acts in social media indicate that criticism is frequently used by netizens to express complaints, dissatisfaction, or forms of social participation regarding public issues they experience directly (Maryati & Ningsih, 2022).

One example of a critical utterance identified in this study is as follows:

> *"Jalan malam hari, sepilisi polisi menggunakan strobo biru yg menyilaukan gak tau buat apa, selain mengganggu pengguna jalan."*
> ("At night, many police vehicles use dazzling blue strobes. I don't know what they are for, except disturbing other road users.")

This utterance demonstrates that the speaker expresses a negative evaluation of the use of strobe lights by certain vehicles on public roads. The speaker perceives that the use of such lights does not provide a clear benefit for other road users and instead creates disturbances while driving.

This utterance not only functions as the delivery of information but also contains an

expression of dissatisfaction toward practices considered harmful to road users. This indicates that language used in social media comments plays a strong social role in conveying public attitudes toward certain policies or practices.

Moreover, the criticism expressed by speakers in the comments is closely related to their personal experiences on the road. Many comments reveal that speakers have experienced disturbances in concentration or discomfort while driving due to excessively bright sirens or strobe lights. Such experiences encourage speakers to express their views in comment sections as a response to the phenomenon being discussed. This suggests that utterances appearing on social media are often influenced by the social experiences encountered by speakers in their daily lives.

Another example of a critical utterance identified in this study is as follows:

"Karna kadang suara strobo bikin kita jadi grogi saat nyetir."
("Sometimes the strobe sound makes us nervous while driving.")

This utterance demonstrates that the speaker expresses criticism based on personal driving experience. The speaker explains that siren or strobe sounds may cause drivers to feel nervous or lose concentration on the road.

This statement contains an evaluation of the impact of siren usage, which is perceived as disturbing driving comfort and safety. In pragmatic terms, this utterance illustrates how language is used to express emotional experiences encountered by speakers in their interaction with the social environment.

From a structural perspective, most critical utterances in this research data are delivered through short and direct sentences that focus on the core issue. This communication pattern represents a typical characteristic of social media interactions, which tend to be fast, concise, and spontaneous.

Research conducted by Herlina (2023) also shows that netizens' comments on social media often employ simple sentences yet carry strong meaning because they reflect attitudes or evaluations toward particular events.

The dominance of critical utterances in this study can also be understood as a form of public participation in the digital public sphere. Through social media, individuals have the opportunity to express their opinions openly regarding issues related to public interests.

In the context of the use of sirens and strobe lights on vehicles on public roads, criticism expressed by social media users reflects public awareness regarding the importance of traffic order and fairness in the use of road facilities.

Therefore, criticism appearing in comment sections functions not only as an emotional expression but also as a form of public aspiration related to societal experiences.

Overall, the findings of this study demonstrate that expressive speech acts of criticizing play an important role in social media communication. The criticism expressed by users not only reflects dissatisfaction toward certain conditions but also illustrates how society utilizes digital media as a space to voice their perspectives on issues considered important.

Thus, the significant presence of critical utterances in this study indicates that social media comment sections can function as a form of social communication that reflects public perceptions and experiences regarding phenomena occurring in public spaces.

Expressive Speech Acts of Expressing Anger

In addition to appreciative utterances, this study also identified four utterances categorized as expressive speech acts of expressing anger. This type of utterance emerges

when speakers feel disturbed, dissatisfied, or disadvantaged by actions occurring within social life.

In the data analyzed in this study, the anger expressed by speakers is primarily related to the practice of escorting private vehicles using sirens and strobe lights on public roads. Such practices are perceived as creating injustice for other road users because they force vehicles to pull over and give way to certain convoys.

One example of an utterance found in the research data is as follows:

> *"Banyak juga OKE (Patwal) jasa pengawalan kendaraan pribadi, di negosiasi harga di puncak, bikin kesel saat macet."*

("There are also many escort services for private vehicles. The price is even negotiated at Puncak, which makes people really annoyed during traffic jams.")

This utterance reflects an expression of anger conveyed indirectly through the phrase *"bikin kesel"* ("makes [people] annoyed"). In pragmatic analysis, the use of words that signal negative emotions—such as *annoyed, angry,* or *irritated*—constitutes a linguistic indicator of expressive speech acts that convey the speaker's dissatisfaction with a particular situation.

In this utterance, the speaker highlights the practice of escorting private vehicles, which is perceived as a form of abuse of authority. Furthermore, the speaker refers to the existence of *"price negotiations"* for such escort services. This statement suggests that the speaker perceives the practice not only as disruptive to road users but also as indicating potential economic interests behind the escorting of private vehicles.

In pragmatic studies, utterances containing anger typically arise when speakers perceive that certain actions have violated social norms or caused harm to others. Expressions of anger function as emotional responses to

situations considered unfair or inconsistent with public expectations (Elfiyani et al., 2023).

Moreover, in social media communication, expressions of anger frequently appear because users have greater freedom to express their opinions directly without the formal constraints often present in face-to-face communication. This freedom allows social media users to more easily express emotions such as anger, disappointment, and criticism toward particular policies or social phenomena.

This phenomenon also indicates that social media has become a public discussion space that enables individuals to respond to various social issues occurring within their environment. Through the comments they post, social media users can express both their personal experiences and their perspectives regarding events perceived as harmful to the broader community.

Therefore, the utterances expressing anger identified in this study indicate that the practice of using sirens and strobe lights on private vehicles not only generates criticism from the public but also evokes negative emotions such as anger and frustration among other road users. This suggests that the phenomenon has created social tension, which is reflected in the language used within social media communication.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of comments on social media, this study identified 50 instances of expressive speech acts used by netizens in responding to the phenomenon of the use of sirens and strobe lights on vehicles on the road. The forms of expressive speech acts found consisted of 21 instances of criticizing, 17 instances of praising, 5 instances of expressing gratitude, 4 instances of expressing anger, 2 instances of condemning, and 1 instance of offering congratulations. Meanwhile, the expressive speech acts of apologizing and

expressing condolences were not found in the research data.

The dominance of criticizing utterances indicates that the comment sections of social media are often used by the public as a space to convey judgments and responses to phenomena occurring in society. Many social media users utilize the comment sections to express their disagreement with the use of sirens and strobe lights, which are considered inappropriate according to regulations or detrimental to other road users. On the other hand, there are also utterances of praise and expressions of gratitude, indicating support from netizens for parties who are perceived as voicing the interests of the public. In addition, utterances expressing anger and condemnation reflect the emotional responses of the public to the phenomenon.

In general, the results of this study show that social media comment sections can serve as a space for the public to express their attitudes and feelings toward an event through various forms of expressive speech acts. Through these utterances, it can be seen that netizens not only provide opinions but also express their experiences and perspectives regarding social issues occurring in society.

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