

Chapter 4

Conclusion

Through analysis of news article by The Japan Times done in the previous chapter, writer had seen the propaganda activity by the newspaper media. The analysis of eleven articles under the section of “state secrets law” from the media’s website published in the year of 2014 had proven that the media has been doing a positive propaganda. This was proven by the analysis that shows these articles had done a propaganda, since the eleven news articles provide information that was constructed to affect the opinion of others through a predetermined goal of the propagandist, which is The Japan Times. And through these coverage, The Japan Times provides information regarding the state secrecy law that proves the issue to be an international social phenomenon, awoken by a trend for secrecy law. Furthermore, the propaganda done by the media is also proven to be a positive propaganda, as most of the articles had done five of the characteristics of a positive propaganda. Therefore, the answer to the research question of **“Does Japan’s state secrecy law made The Japan Times do a positive propaganda?”** is yes, it does.

This answer were made, firstly because of the situation of the Japanese state secrecy law. The Act on Protection of Specially Designated Secrets Law were discussed earlier in the chapter two and three, proving it to be an international trend or phenomenon, and that it had been seen to be a complicated issue in other countries. However, one concept stood out as a benchmark for

democratic countries in implementing a state secrecy law; The Tshwane Principles. These principles are a guideline for democratic regimes in constructing an adequate state secrecy law. Japan's failure of constructing a state secrecy law accordingly to The Tshwane Principle is one of the main reason why it became a problematic issue in Japan, driving many parties, including The Japan Times as a media to express their opposition. This conclusion was made reflecting to the fact that The Japan Times, historically has always been a media that supports Japan's democracy. And the fact that the state secrecy law fails to implement its system according to the democratic guideline for a state secrecy law was seen to be the reason why The Japan Times does its propaganda against the government.

To further explain why this answer were made, a brief explanation of the analysis will be summarized. First of all, to prove if the news article covered by The Japan Times is a propaganda at all, was analyzed in the early chapter four. All eleven of the articles were analyzed and each of the article contains phrases that shows information that attempts to affect the government's opinion, by posting data that shows opposition towards the law, how and why it is problematic through the public's perspective. This includes opinion from the public of Japan, government officials, and external actor such as U.S. experts. Other data shows why the state secrecy law is problematic towards Japan's very own values and norms. The next variable is to see if the articles shows a predetermined goals by The Japan Times to do its propaganda. Reflecting to the third chapter, how The Japan Times is a media that highly supports Japan's democratic values, many of the phrases in the eleven articles states the need for Japanese government to

cancel the law as it is seen to be contradictive and problematic towards Japan's democracy. Ultimately, this goal shows that The Japan Times wants to uphold values of democracy within Japan, which is what the media has always been supportive about. This fact shows that The Japan Times has a predetermined goal of securing Japan's democratic values as it has always supported throughout the media's history. These two variables show that The Japan Times, had proven to do a propaganda, according to Ellul's concept of a propaganda.

Furthermore, to prove that this propaganda is a positive propaganda, eleven of the articles are analyzed using the rules of a positive propaganda according to Frank Camelio. Some of the articles do not do propaganda accordingly to the rules, such as articles that only provides a result of survey does not seem to provide any values of the people in its coverage for the third rule. Furthermore, acknowledgement of all forms of opinion as the fourth rule also does not appear to be posted in several articles that covers an opposing opinion towards the state secrecy law as its main subject. However, these absence was seen to be rational and reasonable, since it is only a few of all the articles that fails to do its propaganda accordingly to the rules. Furthermore, these articles that fails to do a positive propaganda only does it because the articles are talking about a different context from the rules. The rest of the article which is the majority of it still proven to be doing a positive propaganda accordingly to the rules. Moreover, the fact that The Japan Times is the only media that does its news coverage in a manner of propaganda is accordingly to their vision in providing a unique point of view regarding Japanese issue. Therefore, the news coverage activity done by The

Japan Times is concluded to be a positive propaganda that was done because of the existence of Japan's state secrecy law.

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