

ABSTRAK

Pemberitaan kasus kriminal menuntut jurnalis untuk tidak hanya menyampaikan informasi secara cepat, tetapi juga menjunjung tinggi etika dan profesionalitas dalam setiap proses peliputan. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan pengalaman jurnalis Surabaya dalam menjalankan profesinya, serta memaknai etika dan profesionalitas mereka dalam memberitakan kasus kriminal berdasarkan pengalaman langsung di lapangan.

Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode fenomenologi Edmund Husserl yang berfokus pada pengalaman langsung dan murni sebagai sumber utama pengetahuan. Informan dipilih melalui teknik *purposive sampling* dengan kriteria jurnalis aktif di media Surabaya yang memiliki pengalaman meliput kasus kriminal lebih dari lima tahun. Terdapat empat informan yang berasal dari Radar Surabaya, Suara Surabaya, dan Harian KOMPAS. Pengumpulan data dilakukan melalui wawancara mendalam dan dokumentasi, serta dianalisis menggunakan tahapan *epoche*, reduksi fenomenologis, variasi imajinatif, dan sintesis makna.

Hasil penelitian menemukan bahwa etika jurnalis dihayati melalui empat praktik utama, yaitu verifikasi informasi sebagai bentuk *responsible truth-seeking*, perlindungan identitas korban dan pelaku sebagai wujud *humanized journalism*, independensi sebagai *journalistic self-governance*, serta objektivitas sebagai *dignified truth-telling*. Sementara itu, profesionalitas tercermin melalui komitmen berupa *responsible perseverance*, kemampuan negosiasi sadar dalam menghadapi tuntutan media, serta totalitas sebagai *total commitment* dalam mengikuti perkembangan kasus secara menyeluruh. Keseluruhan temuan menunjukkan bahwa kode etik jurnalistik telah terinternalisasi menjadi bagian dari cara jurnalis memaknai dirinya sebagai penjaga kebenaran, pelindung martabat, dan penyeimbang informasi publik.

Kata Kunci: etika jurnalistik, profesionalitas, berita kriminal, fenomenologi, jurnalis Surabaya

ABSTRACT

Criminal case reporting requires journalists not only to deliver information quickly, but also to uphold ethics and professionalism throughout every stage of the coverage process. This study aims to describe the experiences of Surabaya journalists in carrying out their profession, as well as to explore how they interpret ethics and professionalism in reporting criminal cases based on their direct experiences in the field.

This study employed a qualitative approach using Edmund Husserl's phenomenological method, which focuses on direct and pure experience as the primary source of knowledge. Informants were selected through purposive sampling, with criteria requiring active journalists from Surabaya-based media who had more than five years of experience covering criminal cases. Four informants participated, representing Radar Surabaya, Suara Surabaya, and Harian KOMPAS. Data were collected through in-depth interviews and documentation, then analyzed using the stages of epoche, phenomenological reduction, imaginative variation, and synthesis of meaning.

The findings reveal that journalistic ethics are deeply internalized through four main practices: information verification as a form of responsible truth-seeking, identity protection of victims and perpetrators as an expression of humanized journalism, independence as journalistic self-governance, and objectivity as dignified truth-telling. Meanwhile, professionalism is reflected through commitment in the form of responsible perseverance, the ability to engage in conscious negotiation when facing media demands, and totality as total commitment in following the full development of a case. Overall, the findings indicate that the journalistic code of ethics has been internalized as part of how journalists perceive themselves as guardians of truth, protectors of dignity, and balancers of public information.

Keywords: journalistic ethics, professionalism, criminal news, phenomenology, Surabaya journalist.