

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1. BACKGROUND OF THE STUDY

Dewan Perwakilan Rakyat (DPR) or the House of Representatives is the name of legislative bodies with Regional Representative Council. The House of Representatives is placed under *Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat (MPR)* or [People's Consultative Assembly](#). They have five hundred and sixty members originated from Democratic Party ([Partai Demokrat](#)) with 148 chairs, Party of the Functional Group (Partai Golongan Karya) with 106 chairs, [Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle](#) (PDI-P) with 94 chairs, [Prosperous Justice Party](#) (PKS) with 57 chairs, [National Mandate Party](#) (PAN) with 46 chairs, [United Development Party](#) (PPP) with 38 chairs, [National Awakening Party](#) (PKB) with 28 chairs, Indonesian Independence Movement Party ([GERINDRA](#)) with 26 chairs and The Conscience of People ([HANURA](#)) with 17 chairs on 2009 legislative election. The House of Representatives has three mandatory duties. They are legislative, budgeting and oversight. The term of election for 5 years was chosen by the citizen yet it has some requirements (<http://www.dpr.go.id/id/>).

In Indonesia, the House of Representatives' members are voted by the people. Nowadays, the House of Representatives' members have bad values in front of the people because of their acts. Recently, there are several actions that legislature does that create bad image. For example, first about the news that

legislature made an application about new building complete with all facilities, which can require budget amounting to 1,6 trillion rupiah (<http://www.newoes.com/gedung-baru-dpr-gambar-foto-dan-kronologi-rencana-pembangunan-gedung-dpr-ri>). This will be such a waste of money for the nation. Second is about the comparative study which never work properly because people never see the effect or result from comparative studies. (<http://www.politikindonesia.com/index.php?k=pendapat&i=10877-Efektifitas%20Studi%20Banding%20DPR%20Atas%20Kualitas%20Legislasi>).

I notice such political issue concerning the legislatives in the form of caricatures. A caricature is a description of a person using a hyperbole picture of some characteristics and oversimplification of others. A caricature does not necessarily have to be a cartoon, it can be a painting, or a sculpture, or even a photograph. Most of the caricature pictures contain the satires of public figure or any kinds of issues in one country (<http://www.learn-to-draw.com/caricature/>). Caricature picture can be analyzed by means of semiotic theory because it represents an image form of language. I would like to analyze the pictures and words using semiotics. In semiotics, anything that 'stands for' something else is a sign. Signs take the form of words, images, sounds, gestures and objects (Chandler 2).

For my thesis, I focus on Saussure's theory regarding linguistic signs. Saussure correlates sign as two terms, signifier (significant) and a signified (signifie) (ibid.18). Saussure model is not a link between thing and a name, but between a concept (signified) and a sound pattern (signifier).

Nowadays, a number of conflicts about the legislative have been displayed in mass media, such as television, radio, internet, newspaper and etcetera. For the corps of data, I choose political caricature about the legislative

from Pikiran Rakyat newspaper. It is because Pikiran Rakyat is one of the newspapers that presents the caricatures of legislatives satirically. Specifically, I find that there are a number of caricatures which satire the members of the legislatives about comparative study in Indonesia. These kinds of caricatures usually appear on Monday edition of Pikiran Rakyat under the heading of the so-called "OPINI" page. I take it specifically in terms of comparative study. Based on Indonesia dictionary, "studi banding adalah suatu kajian ilmiah dengan mencari imbangan dari kasus yang sama atau serupa di lain tempat" (<http://kpudemak.wordpress.com/2010/05/31/studi-banding-yes-pelesiran-no/>) translated into comparative study is a scientific study to find a proportion of the same or similar cases in other places. The purpose of comparative study is to compare the condition of the object of study in other places with the conditions in our place for quality improvement, system improvement, repair laws and regulations, etc and the results in the form of information as a reference in the formulation of the desired concept (<http://kpudemak.wordpress.com/2010/05/31/studi-banding-yes-pelesiran-no/>).

After I analyze those caricatures semiotically, I can know further about the truth reality of legislatives in our country, particularly concerning Saussure theory that can explain how sign can be explained by signifier and signified which can make us know the concept of sign itself.

The caricature pictures of legislatives are often presented in Pikiran Rakyat, the biggest newspaper in West Java. Pikiran Rakyat is the local newspaper covering business, advertisement, job, community event and sports in Bandung, West Java, Indonesia. It usually presents the caricatures of legislatives satirically.

Based on those reasons, I state that the significance of my thesis is to analyze how Pikiran Rakyat caricature satirize the legislatives about comparative study. Therefore, I formulate the title of my thesis "Representation of The Legislatives In Terms of 'Comparative Study' in Pikiran Rakyat Caricatures."

1.2. STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The problems that I am going to analyze in this thesis are formulated as follows:

1. What semiotic elements about the legislative caricatures are found in Pikiran Rakyat caricatures?
2. How are the legislatives in terms of comparative study represented by Pikiran Rakyat in the caricatures?

1.3. PURPOSE OF THE STUDY

The purposes I choose to answer the statement of problem are:

1. To find out the semiotic elements that can be found in Pikiran Rakyat legislative caricatures.
2. To find how the legislatives in term of comparative study represented by Pikiran Rakyat in the caricatures.

1.4. METHODS OF RESEARCH

First, I search the data from Pikiran Rakyat newspaper. I gathered all the caricatures together. Then, I start to classify the caricature pictures. I take the caricature pictures about comparative study in legislatives. Afterwards, I read a number of references about the caricature and browse over a number of internet

websites to support my analysis. Finally, I draw some conclusions of what I have analysed.

1.5. ORGANIZATION OF THE THESIS

This thesis consists of four chapters. Chapter One is the Introduction which consists of the Background of the Study, Statement of the problem, Purpose of the Study, Methods of Research and Organization of the Thesis. Chapter Two contains all the theories that I use to analyze the data. Chapter Three is analyzing the data of my thesis. Chapter Four is the Conclusion. The thesis ends with Bibliography and Appendices.