

Probing Language Usage of Legal Cases in Indonesia's Social Media: A Study of Judgement

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Abstract—This study is qualitative research that will describe the indicators and targets of character and moral evaluation in legal cases of language usage in social media in Indonesia. The data of this research is in the form of language usage at the level of words, phrases, clauses, and sentences from social media which become evidence in legal cases in court order status or restorative justice from 18 jurisdictions in Indonesia. The approach used in this study is the attitude of judgment or character evaluation in appraisal theory, especially about personal and moral judgment. The indicator of personal judgments consists of criticism and moral/legal judgments that contain condemnation or blame. These indicators are expressed directly and implied through verbal, adjective, noun, and adverbial phrases, and metaphors. They reflected negative attitudes which are related to negative actions and behaviors, hatred, and fears directed towards individuals, groups or professionals, institutions or organizations, and situations as the evaluation targets. The findings of this study indicate a high use of criticism and condemnation towards others on Indonesian social media language crime. Overall, evidence of language crime on Indonesian social media can provide insights into societal attitudes and values that reflect moral degradation.

Index Terms—appraisal, legal case, social media, judgment

I. INTRODUCTION

The evolution and adaptation of language usage are constantly influenced by shifts in communication methods. Over the past ten years, information technology has been significantly altering the global communication landscape. The internet has catalyzed this transformation by modifying the style, structure, and approach of human interaction (Adebomi, 2024; Anjum & Katarya, 2024). This new epoch, as referred to by Crystal in Watt (2010), is characterized by written speech and spoken writing. It signifies a societal shift towards less direct communication, leading to a decline in social interaction (Chan, 2015).

One form of communication development resulting from the influence of popular internet technology is the rise of social media. Social media has become a new public space for people to interact (Hall, 2018; van Dijck & Poell, 2015) and a buzzword in many fields. Various social media platforms have sprung up with various variations of features tailored to the needs of their users. Kaplan and Haenlein (2010) distinguish social media into 5 types, namely (1) social networks, (2) discussion media, (3) publication media, (4) connected networked games, and (5) media for sharing works. In addition, there are other categories of social media, such as virtual worlds, live streams, MMOs, live casts, and microblogs. These various forms of social media are in high demand and are used by people with diverse interests to suit their needs. Social media provides flexibility and personalized platforms for people to connect with others (Girardin et al., 2020; Hallinan & Brubaker, 2021). In fact, modern humans use more language on social media than in their real lives (Seargeant & Tagg, 2014). The intensity of language usage on social media is illustrated in this chart.

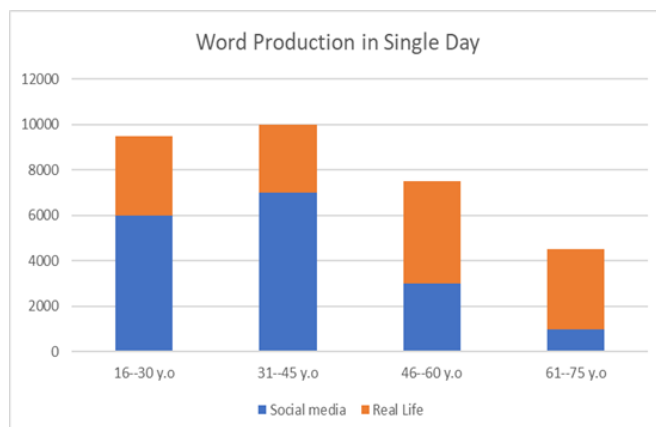


Figure 1. World Production in Single Day (Seargeant & Tagg, 2014)

It is estimated that humans produce 7,000 to 12,000 words per day. In that case, figure 1 shows that during their productive years, they have shifted their communication time from the real world to social media (Seargeant et al., 2023). Unfortunately, this high intensity of interaction on social media has consequences, including the rise of legal cases related to language use.

The frequent use of language on social media has the same inherent effects as in real-world interactions. People can express their ideas and attitudes as if they were communicating directly in the real world, in a straightforward and expressive manner (Segado-Boj & Díaz-Campo, 2020; Wang et al., 2021). However, this freedom is not always used wisely by the user community. They often use language that has the potential to create conflict, sometimes leading to legal consequences (Kearns et al., 2023; Matamoros-Fernández & Farkas, 2021). They share comments, criticisms, ideas, and jokes that may contain emotional and negative elements, which could cause others to feel morally or materially harmed. Fraud, bullying, sexual harassment, and hate speech have merely shifted platforms—from the real world to the virtual one—with potentially even more destructive consequences. Crockett in Neumann and Rhodes (2024) stated that there are arguments suggesting digital media may amplify expressions of outrage and moral emotions.

The widespread accessibility and use of social media platforms in Indonesia also have created fertile ground for the dissemination of hateful content. Since the ITE (*Informasi dan Transaksi Elektronik* ‘Information and Electronic Transactions’) Law was issued, cases related to hate speech in Indonesia have tended to increase yearly (Nuraflah et al., 2021). With millions of users sharing their thoughts and opinions online, the potential for hateful messages to be circulated rapidly and widely has increased significantly. While social media should facilitate public discourse, some users exploit these platforms to spread false information and attack others (Putra et al., 2023). The spread of hate speech and racism on social media is influenced by socio-political situations and technological advancements (Amin et al., 2018). Additionally, the ITE Law provides legal frameworks for prosecuting individuals who disseminate harmful content online, including hate speech. This has empowered authorities to act against those who violate the law, leading to a rise in reported and prosecuted cases.

Legal cases of language usage through social media in Indonesia are one of the crimes committed by abusing the sophistication of internet technology. The ongoing discussions and efforts to combat hate speech in Indonesia have been proposed several techniques for detecting hate speech, such as bidirectional long-short-term memory and word2vec extraction (Isnain et al., 2020). This study utilizes the richness of attitudes and peculiarities in the use of language in legal cases on social media (hereon abbreviated to LLCs) as a research target. It investigates the attitudinal evaluation conveyed through word choice and metaphors employed by users that can exacerbate tensions and lead to legal disputes. The study focuses on the attitudinal aspect of judgment which is explored with the appraisal approach (Martin & Rose, 2003; Martin & White, 2005). It analyzes how a text conveys positive or negative judgments, how the intensity or directness of those attitudinal expressions is reinforced or weakened, and how the speaker/writer engages dialogically with previous speakers or potential respondents to current propositions (Martin & White, 2005). As McEachrane (2009) stated, in this approach, emotions are caused by appraisals as evaluative judgments.

Judgment is the normative evaluation of human attitudes about rules or conventions of behavior. This is one of the aspects of attitudes proposed by Martin and Rose (2003), namely judgment or evaluation of people’s character. In other words, judgment relates to ethics, religion, morals, legal rules, or other unwritten rules. Judgment involves evaluating whether something is legal/illegal, moral/immoral, polite/uncivil, etc. Furthermore, judgment can be divided into two, namely personal judgment and moral judgment. Personal judgment is a normative judgment that is not related to legality in law. Personal judgment consists of positive judgment or admiration and negative judgment or criticism. Moral judgment relates to normative judgments that are related to legality in law. Moral judgment consists of positive judgment or praise and negative judgment or condemnation (Martin & White, 2005).

Judgment can be expressed either overtly or covertly, based on the manifestation of its form (congruence). Judgments communicated indirectly are categorized into uncommon activities that symbolize feelings, such as alterations in tone and body language (extraordinary behavior) and metaphors. As per Martin and Rose (2003), within a discourse or text, the attitude is manifested through four different focal points: adjectives (intensifiers), attitudinal vocabulary, profanity, and metaphor. When attitudes are conveyed via the usage of adjectives, attitudinal language, and cursing, the appraisal of attitudes is stated explicitly. When metaphors are employed to articulate attitudes, it signifies that a suggested or indirect assessment is provided. This implies that through the utilization of these four focal points of attitude, the evaluation of attitude can be scrutinized.

Several studies have examined cases of language usage in social media. With a legal approach, for example, Ali (2020) has explored language crimes such as bribery, perjury, defamation, incitement, threatening, and conspiracy. These crimes require good competence in pragmatics. Ali analyses the criminality of language by focusing on speech acts. However, Ali realizes that this is an interdisciplinary field, as his analysis relies on a variety of different fields: (critical) discourse analysis, pragmatics, stylistics, conversation analysis, phonetics, phonology, sociology, syntax, semantics, and law, among others. Previously, a study on forensic linguistics was also conducted by Correa (2013). This paper presents a summary of some of the most famous and publicly discussed legal cases and outlines the intersection between applied linguistics (especially pragmatics, discourse analysis, and sociolinguistics) and forensic law. Correa breaks it down into three interrelated areas: (1) language as a medium of communication between law enforcement and suspects/witnesses or as a medium of legal argumentation in the courtroom, (2) language in legal products (issues of clarity, interpretation, and

language construction of legal products), and (3) language crimes and linguistic evidence (their use, validity, and reliability in the trial context). However, there are still a few forensic linguistic studies that use the appraisal approach. There are Hurt and Grant (2019) who use the appraisal subsystem in appraisal analysis. This research compares realized and unrealized 'pledges to harm', which sometimes reveals patterns that are counterintuitive to the writer/speaker. For example, unrealized texts are procedurally crueler and more threatening, while realized promises/threats are more ethical. In such texts, some markers may begin to explain which actions the threatener may take in the future.

Based on the above description, this research explores the attitudinal aspects of judgment with an appraisal approach. It aims to explore character and moral judgments based on divisions related to personal judgment and laws or norms. In this research, both aspects are studied considering that violations of formal law indirectly also violate personal ethics and norms.

II. METHOD

The focus of this study is on examining the utilization of LLCS within the Indonesian context. A qualitative approach aligns with the research methodology, as it allows for the exploration of knowledge claims primarily rooted in constructivist perspectives, which emphasize the multifaceted nature of individual experiences and socially and historically constructed meanings. This approach also incorporates advocacy and participatory perspectives, which are politically and collaboratively oriented towards problem-solving or effecting change (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). Employing investigative strategies such as narratives and case studies, researchers aim to gather emergent open data with the primary objective of identifying thematic patterns within the dataset. Hence, qualitative descriptive methods are employed to delve into personal and moral attitudes as reflected in LLCS.

The variable of this research is the use of language in legal cases. Therefore, the qualitative descriptive method is used in the research of character and morals reflected in LLCS. The study used a qualitative method to describe data, characteristics, and relationships of phenomena systematically, factually, and accurately within a limited period (Moleong, 2019). A purposive sampling technique or criterion-based sampling was used in this study. Purposive sampling techniques are adopted to ensure the collection of comprehensive and in-depth data (Cash et al., 2022). It is adapted to the characteristics of the data in this study which are limited to attitude lexis and metaphors that reflect the attitude of judgment found in LLCS. The use of this sampling technique aims to obtain the completeness and depth of data in dealing with the existing reality. Thus, there is no attempt to generalize to the population, but rather an effort to obtain a more in-depth study in a particular context (Sutopo, 2006), namely the use of language in legal cases on social media.

The observation technique is carried out for data collection, namely through listening and recording every LLCS related to character evaluation, morals, and context. The results of the acquisition were then selected as data sources and data according to the number and criteria needed. The data came from 32 data on cases of language usage in mass media from various regions obtained from 18 police resorts in Indonesia. Then, the data is determined by combing through each use of language in each case. These cases can be in the *inkracht* stage (binding and cannot be appealed), up in the prosecutor's office, investigation, complaint, or restorative justice.

This research uses a content analysis technique by using a language usage theory approach for data analysis. Furthermore, the data analysis technique uses four stages in qualitative research proposed by Spradley (1997). The first stage is domain analysis, which identifies the linguistic units of LLCS that reflect moral attitudes. Each aspect of moral attitude found in the data was numbered. The numbering of the data was based on the case number and the sequence number of the attitude in the case in question if more than one aspect of attitude was found in one case. The second stage is taxonomic analysis, which is the classification of data based on the type, target, and indicators. The next stage is componential analysis, which explores the relationship between the types of attitudes, indicators, and targets of moral attitudes found in the use of language on social media. The last stage is cultural theme analysis, which is finding a general description of the findings associated with the characteristics of the data and data sources.

III. DISCUSSION

This study has three objectives, namely (1) to describe the aspects of attitudes that reflect character and morals in the LLCS, (2) to describe the targets and indicators of attitudes that reflect character and morals in the LLCS, and (3) to describe the relationship between targets and indicators of attitudes that reflect character and morals in the LLCS. The findings of this study are described in the following subsections.

Aspects of judgment were found in 80 LLCS data with almost all of them using negative polarity, namely negative personal judgment or criticism, and negative moral judgment or condemnation. The following is the distribution of attitude types based on judgment evaluation in this study.

TABLE 1
DISTRIBUTION OF JUDGMENT

No.	Attitude Congruency	Criticism	Condemnation	Total
1.	Direct	5, 6, 11, 12, 13, 16, 17, 18, 40, 42, 45, 51, 19, 20, 21, 29, 39, 41, 46, 47, 48, 50, 54, 56, 59, 60, 61, 63, 64, 65, 67, 71, 72, 80	1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 15, 24, 26, 27, 28, 32, 35, 37, 38, 55, 57, 58, 62, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79	59
2.	Implied	3, 9, 10, 22, 23, 30, 31, 34, 36, 43, 44, 49, 52, 53, 66, 68, 70	14, 25, 33, 69	21
Total		51	29	80

The data for this study is a collection of clauses containing attitude lexis or metaphors that indicate character and moral judgments. This means that when a clause is declared as data, there are linguistic indicators in the form of attitudes that are used to determine the presence or absence of this indicator.

A. Negative Personal Evaluation (Criticism)

Criticism is a form of negative personal evaluation. Fifty-one condemnation data were found in this study, both direct and implied. Direct criticism is built up from the use of verbal phrases, nominal phrases, adjective phrases, and metaphors. They become indicators that mark the criticism evaluation.

The data results show that attitude lexis in the form of verbal phrases dominates the indicators in LLCS. This dominant use of verbal phrases indicates the target of the assessment aimed at the behavior of the participants in the text. There are fourteen verbal phrases found in this evaluation, namely *berfoya-foya* 'splurging', *kebanyakan ngeroom* 'booking motel excessively', *dijanji-janjikan doang* 'empty promises', *rebut pacar orang* 'grabbing people's girlfriend', *kerjanya cuma main saja* 'faithless' (50), *berganti-ganti suami* 'constantly divorcing', *manusia tidak bertanggung jawab* 'irresponsible human', *bermasalah* 'problematic', *hasil nipu* 'illegal income', *ga bayar di mana-mana* 'debtor', *ngaku jabatan tinggi* 'claiming high positions', *temen dijelek-jelekin* 'demonizing friend', and *tidak ada iktikad membayar* 'no intention of paying'.

Of the fifty-one data, there were only a few data with indicators that were not verbs or verb phrases. There are five indicators in nominal phrases, those are *pelacur* 'sluttish' (11, 21, 45), *lonte* 'sluttish' (12, 18, 42, 51), *pelakor* 'steal someone's partner' (17, 40), WIL (*Wanita Idaman Lain*) 'other women' (41), *anak lonte* 'sluttish child' (71), *germo* 'procurer' (72), which are indicators of negative character evaluation. Then, there are nine adjective phrases, namely *banyak utang* 'have much debt' (5), *mata duitan* 'money oriented' (13), *biadab* 'savage' (16), *amoral* 'immoral' (19), *marah-marah* 'angry' (39), *ga malu* 'no shame' (48), *ga punya malu* 'no shame' (46), *gak puas sama satu laki* 'not satisfied with one partner' (56), *suami gonta-ganti* 'changing partner' (61). These attitude lexes are indicators of negative character assessment in the context of the language used in online media, specifically social and moral condemnation of the person's actions.

The use of the attitude lexis above to describe the negative behaviors of the target in LLCS can be seen in the following example.

- (1) *Bukalah seragam kalian itu, Aparat Keparat! Di balik itu kalian tidak lebih dari Kacung! Tanpa seragam dari uang kami, apa kalian itu berani sebiadap itu?* 'Open your uniforms, you bastards! Underneath you are nothing more than Kacung! Without uniforms from our money, do you dare to be that brave?' (data 16).
- (2) *Dapurane tok lugu, njerone bajingan, ga lama neruske profesi bapake jadi germo* 'Pretending to be innocence outside, behaving like a bastard inside, it won't take long until he becomes like his father as pimp.' (data 8)

In examples (1) and (2), negative personal judgments are shown through verb phrases *berani sebiadap itu* 'dare to be that brave' and *neruske profesi bapake jadi germo* 'like his father as a pimp.' This negative character evaluation is directed at the police profession and individuals. The verb phrases indicate a negative behavioural evaluation of those who are the targets or objects of judgment.

In addition, the use of metaphors also colors the negative character assessment. The phrases use metaphorical meanings, such as *gatel* which means 'flirtatious' (3), *ngga ada otak* 'stupid' (9), *tidak tahu diri* 'presumptuous' (10), *miskin harga diri* 'undignified' (22), *mau lobangnya doank* (23), *perempuan murahan* 'prostitute' (30), *harga diri lo murah* 'uncivilized' (31), *banyak akal bulus* 'cunning' (34), *genderang perang dimulai* (war drums started) 'declare war' (36), *nganggo tameng* 'using a shield' (43), *wanita simpanan* 'mistress' (44), *mangkal* 'prostitute' (49), *murahan* 'flirtatious' (52), *berkedok hijab* (under the guise of hijab) (53), *temen direndahkan* 'arrogant' (66), *orang sakit* 'crazy' (68), *di dalam perutmu ada uang dari saya* (in your stomach there is money from me) 'stealing' (70). Indirect judgment in this study can be seen from the use of untrue meaning (metaphor) in the language aspect that shows the judgment of condemnation.

Twenty-nine indirect or implied assessment data in this study show negative character evaluation in LLCS, as seen in the following examples (3) and (4),

- (3) *Inget mbak di dalam perutmu ada uang komisi dari saya* 'Remember, in your stomach there is commission money from me.'
- (4) *Sorry aku nganggo tameng kowe* 'Sorry for using you as a shield.' (data 51)

In examples (3) and (4) personal judgment is characterized using adverbial phrases and verb phrases. The implicit negative character indicator in example (3) is *di dalam perutmu ada uang komisi dari saya* 'in your stomach there is commission money from me'. Adverbial phrases are used to criticize others who have taken away their rights. This means

that there is indirect personal criticism implied using the phrase. In example (4), negative character evaluation can be seen in the phrase *nganggo tameng kowe*. There is a negative character evaluation expressed from the use of the verb phrase, which implies an undesirable activity, namely using other people as blame-shifters. From examples (1), (2), (3), and (4), it can be drawn that negative character evaluation leads to the behavior of targets and perpetrators who are considered to violate ethics. The targets and perpetrators in question are individual parties.

B. Negative Moral Evaluation (Condemnation)

The condemnation represents a form of assessment of violations of social or legal norms. This means that there are sanctions, either social or legal, given for the negative behavior. In this study, there are twenty-nine data marked with attitudinal lexis and metaphors that show moral judgment or condemnation.

The use of indicators on moral judgment is realized in verbal and nominal phrases. From the data, it can be seen that verbal phrases dominate the indicator. For example, *selingkuh* 'cheating' (1, 55), *tidak mau membayar utang* 'do not want to pay the debts' (4), *berselingkuh* 'have an affair' (15), *dirampok* 'being robbed' (24), *surat saja bisa dipalsukan* 'even letter can be forged' (28), *polisi, asu, cari duit* 'police who only looks for money' (32), *tidak bayar hutang* 'do not pay the debts' (35), *hutang lari* 'do not want to pay money' (37), *ga pernah mau bayar* 'do not want to pay debts' (38), *ditipu* 'being cheated' (57), *nggelapna duit* 'embezzle money' (73), *diperas* 'being blackmailed' (75), *kena tipu* 'being deceived' (76), *mencoba kabur* 'trying to escape' (78), *melarikan diri* 'trying to escape' (79). Then, there are four nominal phrases and one adverbial phrase which are also found in LLCS, namely *peselingkuh bangsat* 'cheater' (2), *pembohong* 'liar' (7), *pendusta* 'liar' (8), *penipu* 'cheater' (26, 27, 62, 74), *maling* 'thief' (77), and for adverb phrases, there is *demi nafsu* 'for lust' (58).

The use of attitude lexis above marks the judgment of direct blame, as seen in the following example of moral evaluation.

(5) *Hidup kok hasil nipu-nipu duit nasabah to mbak, mbak. Ngisin-ngisini perawatan ga bayar dimana-mana* 'Such a shame that you live from fraud money you got from your customers.'

(6) *kuwi to wonge...seng wedok tau nggelapne duit arisan online* 'So that's the person... the woman once did an online fraud.' (data 40)

The phrases *nipu-nipu duit nasabah* 'stealing customer money' and *tau nggelapne duit arisan online* 'ever embezzled online rotating savings money' is an indicator of negative assessment in examples (5) and (6). Negative assessments, which are marked by violations of legal norms, can be seen in the data and are aimed at bank employees and online managers who commit fraud. Fraud itself, in the realm of law, is a form of violation. The negative assessment of acts of corruption also refers to the perpetrators of corruption.

Then, judgments with indirect or implied blame were found in four data. The norm judgments are indirectly aimed at the negative behavior of people who use their profession for personal gain, as can be seen in the following examples.

(7) *tanah kami dirampok pp property mafia tanah* 'our land was robbed by the police and land mafia'.

In addition to the direct indicators of negative moral evaluation of *merampok* 'robbing', the indicator of the attitude of indirect condemnation in example (7) is the word *mafia tanah* 'land mafia'. The negative attitude assessment is addressed to a property company that is indicated to have seized the perpetrator's land. The negative judgment shows a negative attitude of blame towards the party that is robbing (*merampok*). The term *mafia tanah* is a metaphorical expression that means a group of people who work together to illegally own or control land belonging to others. In legal norms, the act is a form of violation of the law and morally the act also shows negative actions.

(8) *Dasar Kepala Desa mata duitan. Uang hak masyarakat pun dimakan* 'The village head is a vulture. The community's rightful money was eaten.'

The metaphorical forms of *mata duitan* 'a vulture' and *hak masyarakat pun dimakan* 'The community's rightful money was eaten' are indicators of negative judgment in example (8). However, what is an indirect indicator of moral evaluation is that *hak Masyarakat pun dimakan*. The negative moral judgment is aimed at the village head who committed corruption. The clause *hak Masyarakat pun dimakan* is a metaphorical 'the village head is a vulture'. The community's rightful money was eaten expression that shows the behavior of taking funds for the community for one's interests. By legal norms, the act is a form of violation of the law and morally the act also shows negative actions.

The examples above show moral judgment detected through violations of legal norms. These negative behaviors are indicated to be carried out by people from groups or ranks that have greater authority than ordinary people.

The investigation into moral perspectives in this research engages appraisal assessments centered on targeted actions that conflict with personal character and societal standards or morality. It implies that the researcher pays more attention to scrutinizing the sentiments and conduct of participants who manifest viewpoints about appraisal utilizing the theory of appraisal. Generally, adverse moral perspectives target characteristics that run counter to the personality, norms, ethics, and laws typically upheld by humans. Moreover, the evaluation is directed towards the caliber of participants who fail to fulfill anticipations and preferred situations. This study explores the attitudes and behaviors of the participants seen from the appraisal approach as it provides assessments, intensity, or directness for an attitude in the use of language (White, 2000).

The results of the study on LLCS show that explicit or direct indicators of moral attitudes are found in the data. This means that direct or explicit evaluation is stated by the text producer or actor by using more straightforward expressions of judgment. In this finding, the direct condemnation assessment is a negative personal judgment conveyed through the

use of attitude lexis in the form of verb, adjective, and noun phrases. This shows the dominance of emotion caused by judgment evaluation in the appraisal system (McEachrane, 2009).

Then, implied judgment is found in less than a third of the data. Implied moral attitudes are characterized by showing more concrete evaluations of attitudes. This means that the stylistic effects of the language used here can show more real hatred. Of course, this implicit stance contrasts with the explicit stance, where writers/speakers use metaphors to convey their emotions (Kareem & Farhan, 2022). The lack of evaluation of implicit attitudes in this study indicates limited knowledge about the use of metaphors. The use of metaphors shows an attempt to reinforce the author's attitude as a text producer. In addition, there are stylistic effects of the language used by metaphors, idioms, and stylistics that are known by social media users, especially those related to negative attitudes and morals.

The target profile, which is the realization of the character, attitude, and behavior of the participants assessed in LLCS, is quite varied. The assessment evaluation in this study is aimed at many parties. The parties in question are individuals, professions, groups, and certain organizations. The targets of attitude evaluation in LLCS include people (friends, co-workers, businesses, etc.), and something that is considered human or object, for example, from professions there are police, civil servants, village heads, bank employees, online gambling managers; from community groups, there is the land mafia, and from organizations there is PERADI (*Perhimpunan Advokat Indonesia* 'Indonesian Advocates Association'). As stated by White (2015), the evaluated character can be sourced from various backgrounds and knowledge as part of the phenomenon (entity, event, or situation).

By looking at each type of assessment individually, the negative attitude assessment in LLCS is dominated by expressions of hatred or anger. This indicates that there is a high degree of conflict or incompatibility between the perpetrator and these targets. The expressions of condemnation that realize these personal judgments focus on participants' behavior related to ethical violations. This dominance trumps the use of moral and legal variables as aspects of attitude assessment. Here, social media users appear to focus on evaluating participants' behaviors that violate the moral and legal parameters that affect their lives. They may display behaviors and attitudes that are harmful or disruptive to others, such as aggression, deception, and disregard for the rights and welfare of others. They may also have characters characterized by a lack of empathy, morals/conscience, or self-control. All examples show moral judgment detected through violations of legal norms. These negative behaviors are indicated by people from groups or ranks in positions of authority. These negative behaviors arise because they have greater power and control over others. This is related to the reality on the ground that shows so many facts of violations related to moral and legal issues that show poor expression of anger and other moral emotions (Neumann & Rhodes, 2024).

Language on social media, especially related to LLCS, also shows the expression of attitudes that show the communication patterns and social degradation of social media users. Various attitudes that arise in the use of language on social media show the negative behaviors and attitudes of the user community. These attitudes are influenced by situations, conditions, and communication patterns. Generally, negative moral attitudes are aimed at traits that are contrary to the character, norms, ethics, and rules of law owned by society in general. It is contact with immoral, unethical, bad, evil, and despicable acts committed by individuals, groups, or institutions through social media that may have an impact on the moral behaviors, judgment, reasoning, intuition, emotions, and views of users, especially in digital society, beyond those seen in other forms of communication (Gabriels & De Backer, 2016). Thus, evaluations are aimed at target behaviors and characters that do not match the expectations and desires of the perpetrator. However, many factors can contribute to criminal behaviors on social media, including environmental (exposure to criminal content, lack of digital literacy, poverty, limited opportunities, and social exclusion), social (peer pressure and online influences, cyberbullying and online harassment, lack of social support), and psychological factors (mental health conditions, low self-esteem and need for validation, impulsivity, and lack of emotional control).

IV. CONCLUSION

The study on the evaluation of LLCS shows personal judgment criticism as well as moral/legal judgment or condemnation. These negative attitudinal aspects are related to attitudes, behaviors, fears, and undesirable conditions. In this study, the overall object of attitude evaluation in LLCS includes participants in the form of individuals (friends, colleagues, businesses, etc.), professional persons, and organizations. These targets are parties that are considered to have behaviors and characters that are contrary to norms, ethics, and laws. Then, the indicators of attitude evaluation in this study are all attitude lexis that shows the behavior and quality of the attitude target. In general, these attitudinal lexis are lexis, phrases, and metaphors that show all behaviors and traits that are by or contrary to the norms, ethics, and laws that apply in society in general.

For the task of social media as a channel for socializing and sharing information to be carried out properly, there needs to be a balance of attitude evaluations from various sides or parties, especially on statements related to sensitive issues, such as political events, etc. This means that positive and negative attitude evaluations must be used equally to evaluate the intended party. In this study the author's assumptions and conjectures related to knowledge and understanding play a role in describing the research results. Therefore, the author suggests that future studies also reveal opinions or reasons from two sides, namely the author and the target of the attitude, as well as from legal experts about a case of language usage on social media. Therefore, understanding these complexities is important to prevent and handle criminal acts on social media and to develop more effective strategies to create safer online communication.

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