Sexual violence in the discourse of digital citizens: Strengthening the concept of digital citizenship as online civic engagement

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Abstract

Cases of sexual violence frequently exposed on social media have sparked intense discussions among digital citizens. This phenomenon has given rise to new patterns of participation in the digital public sphere, indicating progress in efficiently and effectively expressing public aspirations through online civic engagement. Thus, online citizen engagement further strengthens the concept of digital citizenship as an active participation form in the digital world. In this study, the topic modeling method is utilized as a machine learning approach with statistical methods to identify topics within large, unstructured document collections. The applied topic modeling method is Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA), using data collected from Twitter through crawling big data using the Twitter API. The results of this research reveal the discourse on sexual violence discussed by citizens with seven topics, namely: 1) Indonesia's sexual violence emergency; 2) Support for the enactment of the Draft Law on the Prevention of Sexual Violence, opposing parties against the Draft Law on the Prevention of Sexual Violence; 3) Pros and cons of Minister of Education and Culture and Research and Technology Regulation No. 30 of 2021 concerning the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence in Higher Education; 4) Sexual violence as sadistic behavior; 5) Sexual violence on campuses and in Islamic boarding schools; 6) Support for Minister of Education and Culture and Research and Technology Regulation No. 30 of 2021 for the prevention and handling of sexual violence on campuses; and 7) Stop sexual violence against children and women. From the analysis of the topic modeling results, it is evident that with a good understanding of citizen engagement facilitated by technology, the younger generation can develop digital citizenship in the practice of online civic engagement.

INTRODUCTION

Sexual violence has become a discourse that has garnered significant attention from the public throughout 2021 and into 2022, particularly among digital citizens in Indonesia. This discourse has sparked public discussions, largely influenced by the ongoing deliberations of the Draft Law on Sexual Violence conducted by the Indonesian People's Consultative Assembly (DPR RI). The tug-of-war between various interests has resulted in the delayed passage of this law (Kompas.com, 2022)..

Interestingly, alongside the postponement of the enactment of the Sexual Violence Criminal Law, new cases of sexual violence have emerged, especially in the media. Sadly, these new cases have occurred in environments that should be safe from such incidents, such as Islamic boarding schools, schools, universities, and workplaces (CNN-Indonesia, 2021).

Looking at the data, the cases of sexual violence in Indonesia are indeed in a rather concerning condition. According to the data released by the Online Information System for the Protection of Women and Children

(SIMFONI PPA), under the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection of the Republic of Indonesia, incidents of sexual violence tend to increase each year. In 2019, according to SIMFONI PPA records, there were 6,454 cases of sexual violence, which increased to 6,980 cases in 2020. As for the year 2021 until November, there were 8,800 cases of sexual violence.

The high number of sexual violence cases in Indonesia indicates an imbalance of power relations between genders. Moreover, sexual violence cases tend to occur predominantly against young girls. Therefore, the state's intervention is necessary to put an end to sexual violence in Indonesia. One of the ways is through the enactment of the Sexual Violence Crime Act. However, the draft bill has sparked a controversial public debate and its approval has been repeatedly delayed, despite discussions starting in 2012.

The debate intensified in the digital sphere, particularly on social media. Digital citizens (netizens) have their own perspectives in expressing their concerns, both in supporting and rejecting the issue of sexual violence, especially when cases are brought to the public's attention. Digital citizens seem divided between supporting and empathizing with the victims, while some also blame the victims based on their clothing or behavior. Since the emergence of social media in the early 2000s, digital citizens have increasingly channeled their concerns in the digital public sphere through social media platforms. At this level, social media has transformed from a mere communication tool into a medium for public expression. Additionally, social media has fostered a new awareness of the importance of citizen engagement in public discourse to influence and win debates.

The involvement of citizens in digital public spaces signifies a new leap in activation that is more efficient and effective in channeling public aspirations. While some perceive citizen participation through social media as superficial or "slacktivism" (Gladwell, 2010), its existence offers new hope, especially for the younger generation, who are "digital natives," in promoting new forms of online civic engagement.

The emergence of new forms of citizen engagement in the digital public sphere has given rise to the concept of digital citizenship. Initially, studies on digital citizenship identified it as "appropriate and responsible behavioral norms regarding the use of technology" (Ribble et al., 2004, p. 7). However, recent research on digital citizenship emphasizes the importance of online involvement and participation. This perspective is rooted in the widespread use of internet-connected mobile devices that have enabled individuals to form digital communities or online communities, thereby expanding their connections (Mossberger et al., 2008, p. 1). Subsequently, the concept of digital citizenship has evolved to incorporate elements of online engagement and participation.

Given the extensive discussions among digital citizens involved in the discourse on sexual violence on social media, researchers are interested in mapping the topics within the digital citizen discourse on sexual violence and connecting them to the concept of digital citizenship as online citizen engagement. The research question of this study is what are the topics discussed by digital citizens regarding the discourse of sexual violence, and how do they analyze online civic engagement? Analysis is conducted on the conversations of digital citizens on the social media platform Twitter, utilizing big data obtained through the Twitter Application Programming Interface (API).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Sexual violence

Studies on sexual violence have become an important focus in understanding and addressing this sensitive social issue. Previous research has shown that sexual violence is a wide-ranging and complex phenomenon, involving various contexts and relationships between perpetrators and victims (WHO, 2021). This definition encompasses any form of forced sexual acts, including rape, sexual harassment, sexual assault, and sexual exploitation. Sexual violence is a serious violation of human rights and has detrimental physical, psychological, and social impacts on the victims.

Early studies often highlighted the prevalence of sexual violence in domestic contexts, sexual violence against children, and sexual violence within intimate partner relationships (Fulu et al., 2013). Over time, research

has expanded its scope, exploring issues such as sexual violence in the workplace, in online communities, and in armed conflicts. Recent research also aims to deepen understanding of risk factors, long-term impacts, and effective interventions in addressing sexual violence (Breiding et al., 2015). These studies contribute to raising awareness, improving prevention policies and practices, and providing support to victims of sexual violence.

Online civic engagement

In its early studies, civic engagement was conceptualized as individual or collective behavior aimed at addressing social issues in society, both through political and non-political means (Carpini, 2000; Ehrlich, 2000; Zukin et al., 2006). Conventionally, civic engagement can take the form of reading newspapers, volunteering for civil organizations, contacting public officials, attending protests, signing petitions, community involvement, or writing articles, among others (Keeter et al., 2002; Nishishiba et al., 2005; Putnam, 2000). Most of these activities are conducted in the offline or physical world. On the other hand, online civic engagement refers to civic engagement activities specifically carried out by young people and involving various types of digital media (Cho et al., 2020, p. 7). Conceptually, it shares similarities with offline civic engagement in its explanation. The distinction lies in the outcomes of engagement in these two realms. Therefore, any activities in the digital space aimed at enhancing communities are referred to as online civic engagement (Raynes-Goldie & Walker, 2008, p. 162).

Digital citizenship

Initially, studies on digital citizenship were conducted in response to the growth of the internet and digital technology. As more people use digital technology to interact with one another, it becomes important for individuals to understand how to behave ethically and responsibly in the online world (Ribble & Bailey, 2011). Over time, the study of digital citizenship has evolved and started to incorporate studies on human rights, privacy, and other issues related to the interaction between technology and society. Some scholars have associated digital citizenship with media and information literacy (Hobbs & Jensen, 2009; Simsek & Simsek, 2013). However, recent studies on digital citizenship emphasize the importance of online engagement and participation. This perspective is rooted in the widespread use of mobile devices connected to the internet, accessed by citizens, which has led to the formation of digital communities or online communities, enabling individuals to connect on a broader scale (Mossberger et al., 2008, p. 1).

METHOD

This research utilizes the topic modeling method, which is a statistical method with a machine learning approach aimed at identifying topics within a large structured document collection. Topic modeling employs algorithms to discover and assign labels to documents in a large quantity and group them into specific topics, as well as understand the interrelationships among these topics (Blei, 2012). There are various topic modeling models, but in this study, the Latent Dirichlet Allocation (LDA) model is used, which is a generative probabilistic model for discrete data collections like text corpora (Blei et al., 2003, p. 993).

In conducting the topic modeling process with the Latent Dirichlet Allocation model, coding is performed using the library tools provided by the Python programming language. The data analyzed in this research was obtained through crawling techniques using the keyword "sexual violence" by leveraging the Twitter Application Programming Interface (API) during the period from November 5, 2021, to February 5, 2022. The data collection period was chosen due to the high level of online conversations among digital citizens regarding the discourse on sexual violence amidst the delay in the enactment of the Sexual Violence Criminal Law Bill, as well as the numerous cases of sexual violence that have emerged in the public sphere.

Discussion

Topic Modeling Results

Data were collected from the Twitter social media platform for a period of three months, from November 5, 2021, to February 5, 2022, using a crawling technique with the keyword "sexual violence" through the netray. id application, which is a social media and media monitoring platform based on big data. From the crawling process, a total of 276,931 documents with 25 columns were found. The data has been categorized based on sentiment, and the results are as follows:

Tabel 1. Data Summary

Sentiment	AMOUNT	PERCENTAGE
negative	152.674	55,13%
Neutral	65.288	23,58%
Positive	58.969	21,29%
TOTAL	276.931	100,00%

Sentiment analysis is one of the fields of Natural Language Processing (NLP), which involves analyzing digital text to determine whether the emotional tone of the message is positive, negative, or neutral. From the data, it is known that the discourse on sexual violence is predominantly discussed by digital citizens with a negative sentiment, which accounts for 55.13% of the total data or 152,674 instances. This data indicates that the discourse on sexual violence is predominantly discussed in a negative manner by many digital citizens involved in the conversation. On the other hand, only 21.29% or 58,969 instances express a positive sentiment, while the remaining 23.58% are classified as neutral sentiment. Positive sentiment indicates that a discourse is discussed with a positive connotation.

The obtained data then underwent the first stage of processing called preprocessing, which involved several steps of data cleaning to remove unnecessary elements for analysis. The next stage is processing, which involves the formation of ideal topics. During this process, evaluation is conducted simultaneously by examining the perplexity and coherence score values. The resulting data from this process are as follows:
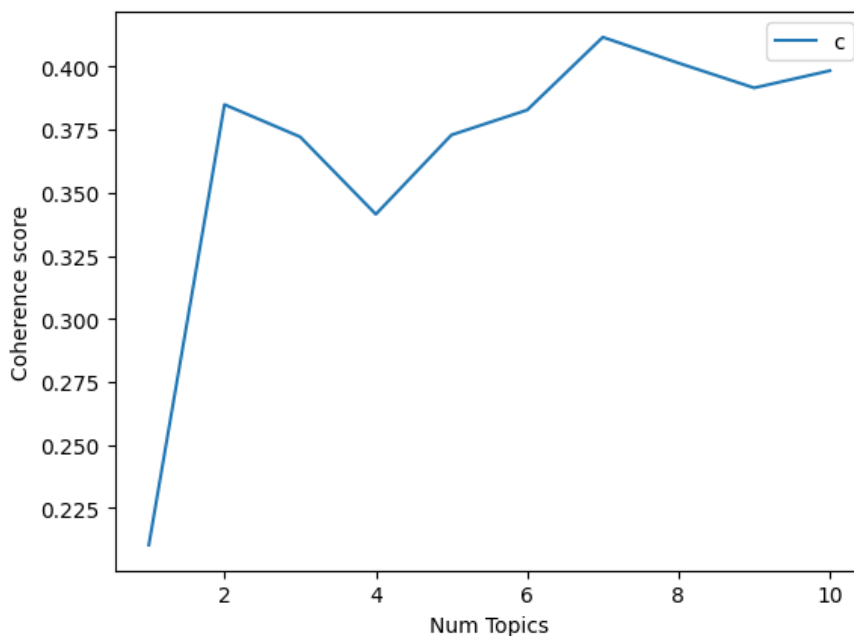

Figure 1. Coherence Score Results

The process of training topic modeling with a value of 10 yielded data, and the best topic was found at number 7 with a coherence score of 0.4117, while the perplexity value was -8.7265. The high or low values of coherence and perplexity significantly affect the number of topics generated. A higher coherence score indicates better accuracy in the model, while a lower perplexity value demonstrates the model's ability to generate diverse topics and use dissimilar words among the topics. Thus, it can be concluded that there are 7 topics within the discourse of sexual violence discussed by digital citizens during the period of November 5, 2021, to February 4, 2022. The next step is to analyze the 7 topics generated from the topic modeling process by examining the ten most relevant terms in each topic. The visual representation of the terms representing each topic can be seen in the following wordcloud:
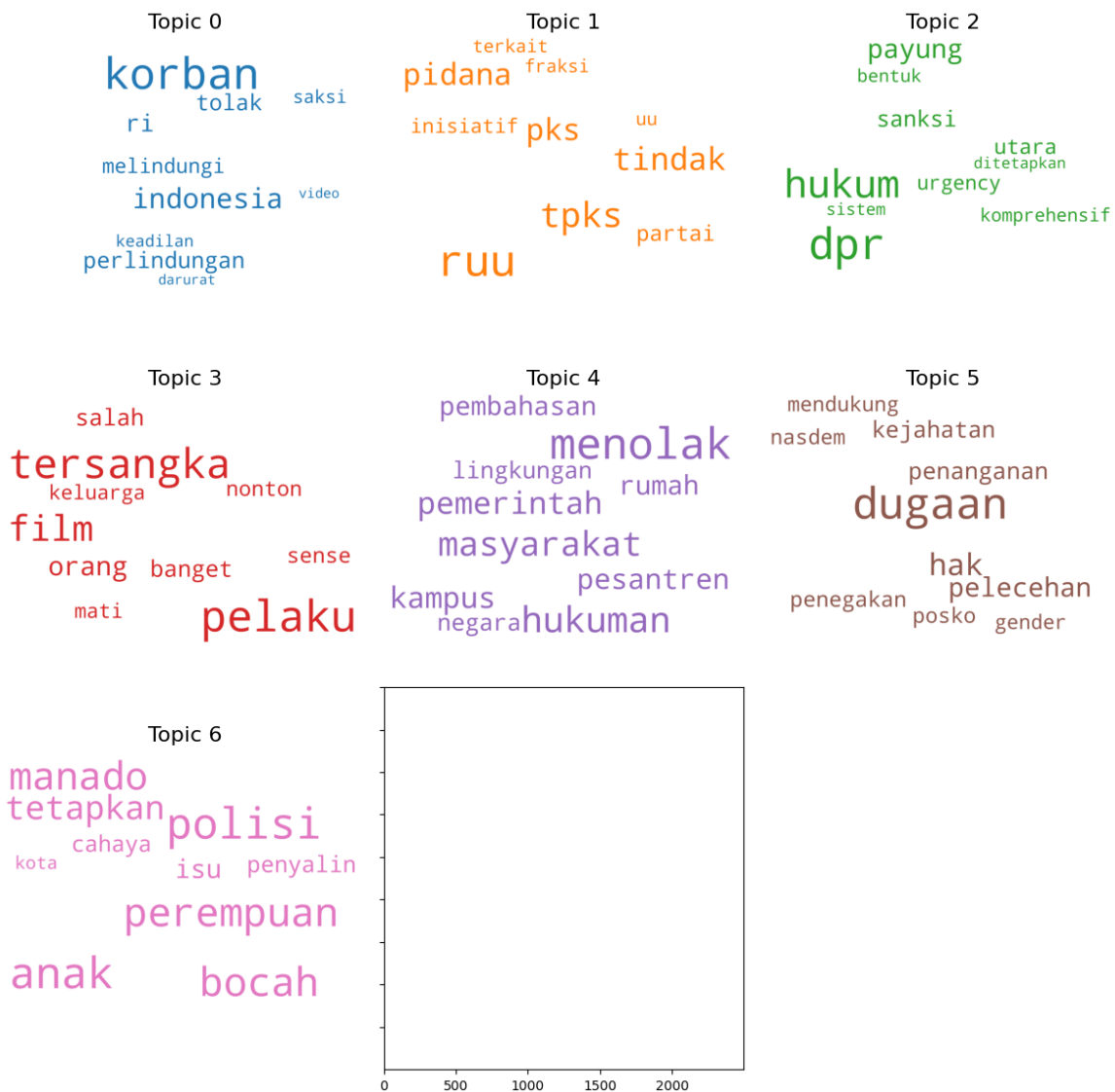

Figure 2. Wordcloud Visualization

Wordcloud visualization is considered a reliable representation to display the outcomes of topic modeling as it provides insights into frequently occurring terms based on the modeled topics. The font size within the wordcloud reflects the prominence of the terms within the topic, where larger font sizes indicate a greater influence of those terms in shaping the topic. The interpretation of each term in the generated data yielded the following information:

Tabel 2. Topic Modeling Results

Topic	Terms	Interpretation
1	0.208*"korban" + 0.061*"indonesia" + 0.043*"ri" + 0.038*"perlindungan" + ' 0.037*"tolak" + 0.031*"melindungi" + 0.024*"saksi" + 0.019*"keadilan" + ' 0.013*"darurat" + 0.013*"video"	Indonesia in a state of emergency regarding sexual violence
2	0.154*"ruu" + 0.093*"tpks" + 0.076*"tindak" + 0.070*"pks" + 0.069*"pidana" + 0.031*"partai" + 0.026*"inisiatif" + 0.021*"terkait" + 0.021*"fraksi" + 0.021*"uu"	Support the enactment of the Sexual Violence Eradication Bill (RUU TPKS), oppose parties opposing the bill
3	0.147*"dpr" + 0.114*"hukum" + 0.044*"payung" + 0.030*"sanksi" + 0.026*"utara" + 0.024*"urgency" + 0.019*"komprehensif" + 0.019*"bentuk" + 0.016*"sistem" + 0.014*"ditetapkan"	Pros and cons of Minister of Education and Culture Regulation No. 30 Year 2021 regarding PPKS in higher education institutions
4	0.057*"pelaku" + 0.052*"tersangka" + 0.037*"film" + 0.018*"orang" + 0.014*"salah" + 0.013*"banget" + 0.012*"sense" + 0.011*"nonton" + ' 0.010*"mati" + 0.010*"keluarga"	Sexual violence as a sadistic behavior
5	0.062*"menolak" + 0.040*"hukuman" + 0.036*"masyarakat" + 0.029*"pemerintah" + 0.027*"kampus" + 0.024*"pesantren" + 0.022*"rumah" + 0.021*"pembahasan" + 0.016*"negara" + 0.016*"lingkungan"	Sexual violence in campuses and Islamic boarding schools
6	0.118*"dugaan" + 0.046*"hak" + 0.035*"pelecehan" + 0.027*"penanganan" + 0.026*"kejahatan" + 0.023*"penegakan" + 0.022*"posko" + 0.021*"nasdem" + 0.021*"mendukung" + 0.019*"gender"	Support for Minister of Education and Culture Regulation (Permendikbudristek) No. 30 Year 2021 for the prevention and handling of sexual violence on campuses
7	0.079*"anak" + 0.078*"polisi" + 0.066*"perempuan" + 0.066*"bocah" + 0.062*"manado" + 0.045*"tetapkan" + 0.025*"isu" + 0.019*"penyalin" + 0.018*"cahaya" + 0.011*"kota"	Stop sexual violence against children and women

Based on the topic modeling, seven topics were identified in the digital discourse on sexual violence. The topics are as follows: The first topic is interpreted as "Indonesia in a state of emergency regarding sexual violence." This interpretation is based on the 10 most frequently occurring terms in topic 1, namely: *"korban", "indonesia", "ri", "perlindungan", "tolak", "melindungi", "saksi", "keadilan", "darurat", and "video"*." According to this interpretation, topic 1 represents digital discussions on sexual violence, specifically addressing the high number of sexual violence cases in Indonesia. The digital participants in topic 1 perceive it as a state of emergency regarding sexual violence in Indonesia. Additionally, further insights can be gathered from the textual content within topic 1, which includes the following:

"indonesia darurat kekerasan seksual"
"jgn biarkan mhsw/i kita rusak mentalnya krn aksi pelecehan dan kekerasan seksual yg tjd di kampus"

Meanwhile, topic 2 is interpreted as "Support the enactment of the Sexual Violence Bill, oppose parties opposing the Sexual Violence Bill." This interpretation is based on several terms that appear in topic 2, such as *"ruu", "tpks", "tindak", "pks", "pidana", "partai" "inisiatif", "terkait", "fraksi", and "uu"*. From this interpretation, it

can be concluded that the discourse on sexual violence within topic 2 consists of digital users expressing support for the enactment of the Sexual Violence Bill while opposing the parties that are against it. It is known that the Prosperous Justice Party (PKS) is the leading Islamic-based party that strongly opposes the enactment of the bill. The confirmation of this interpretation can be seen from the following examples of tweet posts:

> "selain itu ruu tpks menjadi salah satu hal dan/atau kepentingan yang sangat penting mendesak dan darurat dan menjadi suatu keharusan untuk segera dibahas dan disahkan dalam waktu dekat karena sudah marak dan ramai terjadi kasus kekerasan seksual di tengahtengah masyarakat"
> "pks nih yang kemaren juga nolak ruu penghapusan kekerasan seksual tandain"

Topic 3, with its top terms consisting of *"dpr"*, *"hukum"*, *"payung"*, *"sanksi"*, *"utara"*, *"urgency"*, *"komprehensif"*, *"bentuk"*, *"sistem"*, *and "ditetapkan"* is interpreted as "pros and cons of Minister of Education and Culture's Decree No. 30 of 2021 regarding Sexual Violence Prevention in higher education institutions." In this topic, digital users engage in discussions expressing both support and opposition towards Minister of Education and Culture's Decree No. 30 of 2021, along with their reasons. Here are some examples of posts found within topic 3:

> "how do you think guys peraturan mendikbud ristek no 30 tahun 2021 tentang pencegahan dan penanganan kekerasan seksual ppks di lingkungan perguruan tinggi menuai pro dan kontra yukk share opini kalian di kolom komentar"
> "islam menolak segala bentuk kejahatan atau kekerasan seksual tetapi solusinya bukan dengan permendikbud ristek 30 ppks karena permen ini justru melegalkan perzinaan"

Topic 4 is interpreted as "sexual violence as sadistic behavior." This interpretation is derived from the top terms in topic 4, such as *"pelaku"*, *"tersangka"*, *"film"*, *"orang"*, *"salah"*, *"banget"*, *"sense"*, *"nonton"*, *"mati"*, *and "keluarga"*. Based on this interpretation, it is understood that topic 4 discusses sexual violence as a sadistic and inhumane behavior that can occur anywhere and at any time. To further support this interpretation, here are some example tweets found within topic 4:

> "logika fallacynya nggak nyambung bahkan sosok ayahpun bisa jadi pelaku kekerasan seksual paman suami tetangga bisa jadi pelaku ayo pak iqro virus sama manusia beda virus nggak punya akal tapi manusia punya duh mikir pak kalau anakmu diperkosa bayangin pak"
> "off twitter dulu lagi banyak bgt berita soal kekerasan seksual jujur takut bgt bacanya"
> "dunia jahat banget tapi bukan dunianya ternyata manusianya kenapa makin lama manusia kehilangan peri kemanusiaannya ya dan akhir akhir ini banyakk kejahatan kekerasan seksual yang korbannya selalu perempuan"

Next is topic 5 with the top 10 terms: *"menolak"*, *"hukuman"*, *"masyarakat"*, *"pemerintah"*, *"kampus"*, *"pesantren"*, *"rumah"*, *"pembahasan"*, *"negara"*, *and "lingkungan"*. From the terms that appear, topic 5 is interpreted as "sexual violence in campuses and boarding schools." The voices of digital citizens in topic 5 express their concerns about the increasing cases of sexual violence in educational environments such as campuses and boarding schools, which should be the safest places. This interpretation is reinforced by several tweets found within topic 5, as shown below:

> "pecat semua dosen pelaku pelecehan dan kekerasan seksual di unj tandatangani petisi lewat"
> "kampus sebagai lingkungan pendidikan tinggi sepatutnya menjadi tempat yang bersih dari segala tindak kekerasan seksual"
> "lindungi para santriwati dari ancaman kekerasan seksual di dalam pondok"

Meanwhile, topic 6 with the terms *"dugaan"*, *"hak"*, *"pelecehan"*, *"penanganan"*, *"kejahatan"*, *"penegakan"*, *"posko"*, *"nasdem"*, *"mendukung"*, *and "gender"* is interpreted as "support for Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 for the prevention and handling of sexual violence in campuses." From this interpretation, it is known that digital citizens in topic 6 discuss their supportive stance towards Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021. As it is known, when Permendikbudristek No. 30 of 2021 was initially introduced, it received significant opposition, especially from Islamic-oriented parties like PKS. Here are some example tweets found within topic 6:

"tentang pencegahan dan penanganan kekerasan seksual di lingkungan perguruan tinggi hal yang kita perjuangkan sudahlah terbayar dengan peraturan menteri tersebut yang menyediakan payung hukum terhadap pencegahan dan penanganan kekerasan seksual di perguruan tinggi"

"tudingan legalisasi perzinaan oleh partai politik dan organisasi massa islam tentang peraturan menteri pendidikan mengenai pencegahan dan penanganan kekerasan seksual adalah tuduhan tidak berdasar"

Lastly, topic 7 is interpreted as *"stop kekerasan seksual terhadap anak dan perempuan" berdasarkan pada beberapa term teratas seperti "anak", "polisi", "perempuan", "bocah", "manado", "tetapkan", "isu", "penyalin", "cahaya", and "kota".* From this interpretation, it is understood that topic 7 contains expressions from digital citizens advocating to stop sexual violence against women and children. This campaign is a response to the increasing number of sexual violence cases that have emerged in the digital public sphere, with most victims being women and children. Here are some example tweets found within topic 7:

"theres no safe place for women di indonesia jangankam tmpt umum bahkah di tmpt ibadah jg bisa terjadi tindak kekerasan seksual tapi selalu perempuan yg disalahin atas nafsu bejat nya laki laki jd dmn tmpt yg aman buat kita"

"stop kekerasan seksual terhadap perempuan"

Analysis

In the current era of information technology, citizen communication has been represented in the form of communication through social media in the digital public sphere or cyberspace. In the field of media studies, many associate the potential of social media in facilitating civil society participation in the public sphere. This perspective is based on a long-standing political principle known as deliberative democracy, as conceptualized by Habermas (1996). Public discussions in that space involve conversations about issues of public concern among empowered citizens, which is a crucial and essential prerequisite for democracy to function (Uldam & Vestergaard, 2015, p. 6). The discourse on sexual violence analyzed in this study demonstrates the utilization of digital public spaces as platforms for online civic engagement.

As revealed by the topic modeling analysis, the discourse on sexual violence is discussed by digital citizens through seven topics. When presented in a pyLDAvis visualization, which is an interactive 2-dimensional visualization that calculates semantic distances between topics and project them, four distinct clusters emerge as follows:
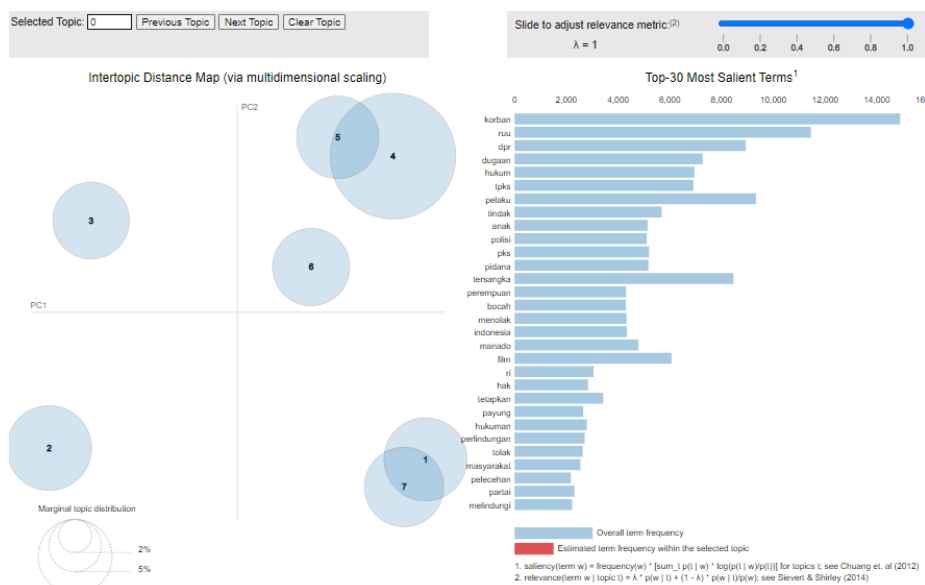

Figure 3. pyLDAvis visualization

Cluster one consists of a single topic, namely topic 3, which is interpreted as "pros and cons of Minister of Education and Culture Regulation No. 30 Year 2021 regarding Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence in Higher Education". As known, in early November 2021, the Minister of National Education of Indonesia, Nadiem Makarim, issued Minister of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology Regulation (Permendikbudristek) No. 30 Year 2021 concerning Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence (PPKS) in Higher Education as a response to the increasing cases of sexual violence occurring in the higher education environment. In this cluster, digital citizens express various opinions and debates regarding the Permendikbudristek.

Cluster two consists of three topics: topic 4, interpreted as "sexual violence as sadistic behavior"; topic 5, interpreted as "sexual violence in campuses and Islamic boarding schools (pesantren)"; and topic 6, interpreted as "support for Minister of Education and Culture Regulation No. 30 Year 2021 for the prevention and handling of sexual violence in campuses". This cluster groups the discourse of digital citizens who perceive sexual violence as sadistic behavior, predominantly occurring in educational settings such as campuses and pesantren, which are expected to be safe places. Therefore, digital citizens within this cluster fully support Minister of Education and Culture Regulation No. 30 Year 2021 for the prevention and handling of sexual violence in the educational environment, particularly on campuses.

Cluster three consists of two topics: topic 1, interpreted as "Indonesia's emergency of sexual violence", and topic 7, interpreted as "stop sexual violence against children and women". This cluster revolves around the concern of digital citizens regarding the high number of sexual violence cases in Indonesia, with women and children being the majority of victims. Hence, there is a campaign promoted by digital citizens expressing the urgency to address sexual violence in Indonesia.

Finally, cluster four consists of a single topic, topic 2, interpreted as "support for the passage of the Sexual Violence Bill (RUU TPKS)". The discourse on sexual violence reached its peak during the tug-of-war between the government and the parliament in passing the Sexual Violence Bill into a law. This ongoing struggle has sparked frustration among digital citizens, urging for its immediate passage as a legislation. In this cluster, digital citizens position themselves as advocates and supporters of the Sexual Violence Bill.

From this analysis, it is evident that with a good understanding of citizen engagement facilitated by technology, the younger generation can develop digital citizenship through online civic engagement practices. Digital citizens are capable of consolidating discourse, giving it direction, and influencing policies made by stakeholders. The experiences of the younger generation in expressing ideas, criticisms, and engaging online through social media ultimately promote the understanding that democracy requires responsible governance from each individual (Mulyono, 2017, p. 220). However, achieving these positive outcomes is not an easy task and requires adequate understanding of digital citizenship competencies before citizens can actively participate in the digital space through social media.

Citizen involvement online through social media indeed requires simple efforts such as making posts, reposting, liking, or sharing images. Therefore, Marichal (2013) refers to this type of involvement as "micro-activism," which denotes activism conducted using social media in small-scale politically-oriented communication. It is also categorized as "thin engagement" (Zuckerman, 2014), representing citizen involvement that only requires their "presence" as a form of support. Although such forms of involvement may be considered "thin" or "micro," the ease and speed offered by social media allow a discourse to gain attention on a large scale.

Although Gladwell (2010) labels it as "slacktivism" and considers digital citizen involvement in "micro-activism" or "thin engagement" levels as insignificant, the findings of this research demonstrate that the presence of social media holds significant importance in online citizen engagement, particularly when viewed as a broader part of the evolution of civic engagement. Therefore, citizen involvement through social media online has the potential to become a catalyst for significant political change (Shirky, 2008). The ability of social media to facilitate discussions among citizens gives hope that it can help revive the potential of extraparliamentary movements. Thus, online citizen involvement will strengthen the accountability of democracy, especially in Indonesia.

The current young generation, known as digital natives, has vast opportunities, especially in creating, engaging, and expanding their involvement through social media. Such practices promote "social capital" by

developing skills and social networks that, in turn, facilitate engagement in civic life (Kahne et al., 2016, p. 25). Young people's involvement in public issues serves as a means for them to learn about serious political engagement at the next level, thereby shaping a culture of participation, especially among the younger generation entering a phase of becoming active and engaged citizens.

At this culmination point, researchers argue that with the involvement of young citizens facilitated by internet technology like social media, there will be broader positive impacts, and the reach of their involvement will extend to all segments of society. As digital natives, young people have numerous alternatives for issues and forms of engagement that can be pursued on social media. Simultaneously, young people can enhance capacity and character development at the individual and community levels, known as private and public character development.

CONCLUSION

Online civic engagement through social media has become an undeniable reality that cannot be underestimated in its role. However, social media has significantly dominated its role in today's modern society. Therefore, whatever someone discusses and does on social media will have a direct or indirect impact on offline life. In the discourse of digital citizens regarding sexual violence, it is known that the discourse of sexual violence is discussed by digital citizens in seven topics: 1) Indonesia's sexual violence emergency; 2) Supporting the enactment of the Sexual Violence Criminal Law Bill, opposing parties against the Sexual Violence Criminal Law Bill; 3) Pros and cons of the Minister of Education and Culture's Regulation No. 30 of 2021 on Sexual Violence Prevention and Handling in higher education institutions; 4) Sexual violence as sadistic behavior; 5) Sexual violence on campus and in Islamic boarding schools; 6) Support for the Minister of Education and Culture's Regulation No. 30 of 2021 for the prevention and handling of sexual violence on campus; and 7) Stop sexual violence against children and women. The analysis of the generated topics concluded that with a deep understanding of citizen participation supported by technology, the younger generation can develop digital citizenship through online civic engagement. As digital citizens, they are capable of unifying discourses and exerting influence on policies made by stakeholders.

The involvement of digital citizens in the discourse of sexual violence outlined in this research serves as strong evidence that online civic engagement is within the scope of digital citizenship in the practice of citizenship, especially for digital citizens. Ultimately, the presence of social media as a new medium provides greater opportunities for everyone to express themselves freely and engage in political activism that was not previously afforded by conventional media. In a broader sense, social media can facilitate citizens, especially digital citizens, in collective actions such as online civic engagement. With an increasing number of young generations engaging in online politics, they will enhance political knowledge, political engagement, and political participation.

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