

# Verbal Abuses as Impact of Hatred

Masda Surti Simatupang<sup>1</sup>, Ramot Peter<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Faculty of Letters, Universitas Kristen Indonesia, Jakarta 13630, Indonesia

<sup>2</sup> Character Building Development Center, Information Systems Department, School of Information Systems, Bina Nusantara University, Jakarta, Indonesia 11480

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**Abstract:** People are expected to speak politely to others in order to show solidarity. It means that they emphasize shared attitudes and respect to each other. In communication, people speak in polite manner to show respect to and to be appreciated by others. When people talk in a manner based on what they like, for instance with the purpose of hurting others, the verbal abuses, then, take place. People do verbal abuses, in this study because of showing authority and religion fanaticism. The words uttered are sometimes meaningless, but showing hatred, with curses or condemnation. There are some bad impacts of uttering verbal abuses especially stated by public figures. The purpose of this research is to explore some abusive words spoken by the public figures. The researcher analyses the scripts, explains why the words are classified into verbal abuses, and elaborates the impacts of the words to public. The methodology used is descriptive method which explains the verbal abuses from the data obtained from some links from the internet which contain verbal abuses. The results show that the verbal abuses have increased the public hatred. The conclusion is that verbal abuses cause impacts of public hatred.

## 1 INTRODUCTION

People will try to communicate clearly and politely in order to avoid misunderstanding. When people speak politely, they will speak according to the rules in their community and also based on the cultures which exist in the society. According to Thomas (Thomas, 1995), politeness can be seen if there is the phenomenon of respect one another between a speaker and a listener. The way we speak and write should be suitable with the situation, variety and the language system in social context. However, Sukanto (Sukanto, 2012) states that in communication we need to be aware to consider "being polite". What we think polite may be considered impolite by other speakers, especially if the interlocutors are from different ethnic group, culture or religion. When speaking to other people, we need to know the principle of politeness so there will be harmony in communication. If a speaker communicates using any kinds of words carelessly, which sometimes make the listener offended, the speaker then has done verbal abuse intentionally or not.

To be accurate, verbal abuse is the more intentional and personally directed act of verbal rudeness (Ickes, Park, & Robinson, 2012).

Humiliating, intimidating, or threatening is included in verbal abuse. Moreover, the attitudes to hurt or harm someone are also considered verbal abuse. The data reported by Smith in Ickes et.al. suggest that people who are the targets of another person's verbal abuse often feel angry and disgusted, particularly in the immediate aftermath of the encounter. Verbal abuse is an act of dehumanization prevailed universally in human history, beginning from the hostility of primitive inter-tribal because of injustice, arbitrariness, violation of human right and genocide. The forms of verbal abuse can be scornful, curse, expletive or other rude words spoken by the intention to humiliate the other speakers. The root of verbal abuse comes systematically from authority, ethnocentrism, and religion.

## 2 LITERATURE REVIEW

The root of verbal abuse comes systematically from authority, ethnocentrism, and religion. However, this study focusses on religion differences and fanaticism that caused people to utter their hatred. Each root will be discussed thoroughly in the following subsections.

## 2.1 Authority

Authority is the power to give orders or to make decisions; or the confident quality of someone who knows a lot about something or who is respected or obeyed by other people (Merriam-Webster dictionary). People of the majority group will get authority against the small groups; or bosses to employees. The one who gets the authority is the one who does the verbal abuse, as Johnson (Johnson & Indvik, 2001) stated 'abuse' becomes a regular occurrence in established work relationship, such as those between managers and employees, male and female workers, and so on. It can eventually lead to more serious acts, such open conflict, workplace violence, and sexual harassment.

## 2.2 Ethnocentrism

According to (Cunningham, Nezlek, & Banaji, 2004), ethnocentrism is the tendency to form and maintain negative evaluations and hospitality toward multiple groups that are not one's own. In other words, people have the tendency to believe that the norms and values of their ethnic group are absolute and can be used as the standard to measure other ethnic groups. Indonesia as a multi lingual and multi ethnic nation has the potential to have disintegration if one ethnic group measures others with their own way.

## 2.3 Religion and Fanaticism

Fanaticism, as expressed in [www.dictionary.com](http://www.dictionary.com) is wildly excessive or irrational devotion, dedication, or enthusiasm. In many cases, fanaticism is an exaggerated attitude towards one religion or group. Simatupang (Simatupang, 2013) states that the fanatic person has irrational dedication to his/her religion since he/she will consider his/her religion is the most correct or the purest. Conflict starts with scorn the symbols of a particular religion. For that reason, fanaticism and religion are inseparable for those who are not able to appreciate other persons' religion. Even though to some extent, fanaticism can be categorized as skin color, ethnic, and social class, in relation to verbal abuses, which sometimes can lead to many conflicts, the present study discusses verbal abuses spoken by public figures that deal with religion fanaticism.

## 3 METHOD

This study investigates verbal abuses spoken by two public figures: Basuki Tjahaja Purnama (Ahok), the previous governor of Jakarta and Amin Rais the advisor of Partai Amanat Nasional political party with the focus on explaining why the spoken utterances are classified into verbal abuses and what the impacts of the words in public. The data are taken randomly from the internet with the links containing verbal abuses or rude words. The research procedures are: first, getting the transcription of the spoken utterances, explaining why the words are categorized as verbal abuses, and elaborating the impacts of the utterances

## 4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The following is the result of some verbal abuse in context. The words with capital letters are considered as the verbal abuses.

### 4.1 Results

Table 1: Words in context which are considered as verbal abuses.

No.	Public Figure	Indonesian	English translation	Event
A.	Basuki Tjahaja Purnama (Ahok)	" <i>Makanya gua bilang, panggil gua ke angket, biar gua jelasin semua. Gua bukain taik taik semua seperti apa. Biar orang tahu, emang taik semua gua bilang.</i> "	"That's why I said (before), invite me to the '(parliament) inquiry rights so I will explain everything . I will open all the SHITS! Let all people know, all of them are SHITS, that's I said".	Live talk show at Kompas TV, Tuesday March 17, 2016.

B.	Basuki Tjahaja Purnama (Ahok)	<p>“...Kalau betul ada suap 12,7 triliun kenapa si DPRD membatalkan laporan ke Bareskrim? Kok GOBL OK SEKALILUORANG? ...kalau ada bukti memang nyuap apa lu laporin dong BEGO. ...BEGO BANGET LU gitu lho. ...sementara ada bukti gua mau nyuap lu 12,7 triliun, kok lu nggak berani laporin? Gua kuatir LU KEMALUAN LU PUNY</p>	<p>“...If the bribe of 12,7 trillion is true, why the representatives canceled their report to the Criminal Investigation Body? How DUMB are you? ...If you have some evidence that I bribe someone, (why not) report to the police. IDIOT ... How IDIOT you are. If you have evidence that I will bribe you 12,7 trillion, why don't you tell (the police) I'm afraid that you don't have GENITALS, do you?”</p>	Live talk show at Kompas TV, Tuesday March 17, 2016.
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C.	Amin Rais	<p>“Ahok ini SONGONGnya menyundul langit. Sombong sekali. Tetapi dalam sejarah tidak ada orang sombong menantang. Jadi kita sama-sama lawan. Jangan sampai DAJAL itu nanti menang.”</p>	<p>“This Ahok is so ABSURD that strikes the sky. Very snobbish. In history, no snobbish man will win. So, let's attack him. Don't let that BEAST win”.</p>	Big meeting of RT RW DKI Jakarta at Permai Tradisional Market, on September 18, 2016
D.	Amin Rais	<p>“Pilih yang jujur, yang cinta rakyat kecil. Yang bukan TUKANG GUSUR, bukan yang meladeni kepentingan pemodal”.</p>	<p>“Select the honest one who loves the poor. Not the ONE WHO EVICTS (people from their property), not the one who serves the capitalists”.</p>	A preacher of Solat Idul Adha at a mosque in North Jakarta on September 12, 2016
E.	Amin Rais	<p>“Karena kalau si ‘Ahok pekok’</p>	<p>“Because if this pekok Ahok is free from</p>	An oration in front of the building of The

	ini sampai bebas, dia bisa jadi Menteri i Dalam Negeri, bisa jadi Menhankam, bisa jadi apa saja”	the jail, he can be the Ministry of Internal Affairs or the Minister of Defence and Security, or he can be somebody ”	Supreme Court, Jakarta, on May 5, 2017
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Sources: A (Setiawan & Mukti, 2015), B (Gubernurmuslim, 2016), C (Berita Nusantara Satu, 2016), D (Berita Nusantara Satu, 2016), E (Prasetyo, 2017)

## 4.2 Discussion

If any, should be placed before the references section without numbering.

The words which are considered as verbal abuses from table 1 will be explained one by one. The followings are the elaboration of the verbal abuses and the impact to public.

A. “That’s why I said (before), invite me to the (parliament) inquiry rights so I will explain everything. I will open all the SHITS! Let all people know, all of them are SHITS, that’s I said”.

Utterance A is considered verbal abuse because Ahok mentions the word “shits” in live talk show on Kompas TV that possibly be watched by numerous Indonesian people through television. The word ‘Shits’ is rude word which is not to be spoken in public. This demonstrates that Ahok exploits inappropriate words to show his authority as the government of Jakarta who does not control his words when speaking to a reporter in front of television audience all over Indonesia. As a result, the public hate Ahok due to his own ill-manner words, and the worse is people label him as an impolite person. As Jakarta governor Ahok must not deliver rude words when speaking in front of public that will impact to public hatred.

B. “...If the bribe of 12,7 trillion is true, why the representatives canceled their report to the Criminal Investigation Body? How DUMB are you? ...If you have some evidence that I bribe someone, (why not) report to the police. IDIOT ... How IDIOT you are.

If you have evidence that I will bribe you 12,7 trillion, why don’t you tell (the police) I’m afraid that you don’t have GENITALS, do you?”

In utterance B, the words ‘dumb, idiot, genitals’ are impolite and intolerable due to the fact that those words are considered rude and should not be mentioned in public. This utterance is spoken by Ahok when answering the reporter’s questions. To show that he is Jakarta governor who do not bribe the parliament, Ahok wants to explain that he is clear from the bribe. However, he utters his rude words to shows his authority against the reporter. Controversial to the values of politeness for Indonesian people, the utterances are criticized by many people that create hot issues on TV programs and in social media by delivering “hate speech” against Ahok.

C. “This Ahok is so ABSURD that strikes the sky. Very snobbish. In history, no snobbish man will win. So, let’s attack him. Don’t let that BEAST win”.

Utterance C is spoken by Amin Rais, not only as the advisor of Partai Amanat Nasional political party but also as Muslim scholar and religious leader. He said “absurd, snobbish, and beast” just to show his feeling of antipathy or religion fanaticism. He does not agree if Ahok as non-muslim will be elected as the Jakarta governor. He, then provokes the audience of big business meeting of RT RW DKI Jakarta at Permai Traditional Market by uttering his arguments that Ahok is a ‘BEAST’ that should be defeated. As a religious leader, he should not have said that, using rude words to attack Ahok and reveal that Ahok is not deserved to be next governor. He provocatively influences other people in the meeting not to elect Ahok for the next governor of Jakarta. The impact is people who admires Amin will never elect Ahok to be the governor; in addition, they increasingly deploy hatred in the society.

D. “Select the honest one who loves the poor. Not the ONE WHO EVICTS (people from their property), not the one who serves the capitalists”.

Utterance D is also spoken by Amin Rais. It seems that there is no verbal abuse stated. The words ‘one who evicts people from their property’ seems alright. Ahok as the governor of Jakarta has relocated people from their houses at some riverside of Kampung Pulo, Kalijodo, and Bukit Duri in Jakarta. The purpose of relocation is to rehabilitate the river flow in order to reduce the flood in Jakarta. The

people of riverside were relocated to the better living in flats or apartments in Marunda, Pulo Gebang and Rusunawa West Jatinegara. Amin Rais satirically criticizes Ahok's action in this case, and called Ahok as the ONE WHO EVICTS (people from their property). Amin's utterance is considered verbal abuse due to his religion fanaticism that never agree to have non-muslim as the governor of Jakarta. This has impacted to disagreement of politicians, socialists, and the victims of the eviction that will not elect Ahok as the next governor of Jakarta. This means most congregation follow Amin Rais exclamation as their respect to him as a religious leader.

E. "Because if this PEKOK Ahok is free from the jail, he can be the Ministry of Internal Affairs or the Minister of Defence and can be somebody"

Utterance E is stated by Amin Rais, a famous chairman of People's Consultative Assembly, a politician who is always present in Media. Amin mentions a rude word 'pekok', does not exist in Indonesian language. The word 'pekok' is derived from Javanese language (the vernacular language of Amin Rais) means dummy, not having proper behaviour, doing as one's intent to. This utterance is verbal abuse to degrade Ahok's position as somebody with awful attitude. He equates Ahok with someone who has no good behaviour or performance. The category of verbal abuse is still religion fanaticism since people accuse Ahok as religion blasphemers, which Amin approves. This effects public hatred that finally Ahok is sentenced 2 years, which is longer than previously claimed by the prosecutor.

## 5 CONCLUSION

This research shows that verbal abuses cause bad impacts to public. In this study, the public figures abuse others to show their authority and religion fanaticism. Verbal abuses lead to make 'hate speech' of the others. This research shows that verbal abuses mentioned by the public figures are 'shit, damn, idiot, genitals, absurd, beast, and pekok'. The hate speech is presumed to happen aftermath. In other words, verbal abuses only make the hot issues and public hatred. Verbal abuse uttered by public figures tend to make chaos and hatred. The interest part is that, when Ahok speaks rudely in public about other persons, people hate him; on the contrary, when Amin Rais speaks rudely about Ahok, people hates Ahok more than hates Amin. To avoid the bad impacts of verbal

abuses, public figures must select the appropriate and polite words in delivering their speeches or statements in public media.

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