

The Influence of Online Media and Social Media on Mass Communication with Communication Technology as Intervening Variables

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the Influence of Online Media and Social Media in North Sumatra to Mass Communication with Communication Technology as Intervening Variable. This type of research is descriptive quantitative. The independent variables are Online Media and Social Media. The intervening variable is Communication Technology and the dependent variable is Mass Communication. The population of this study is 203 users of Media Online and Social Media in North Sumatra. The sample of research is 203 users through purposive random sampling. Online Media and Social Media variables have a significant effect on Mass Communication in North Sumatra and Communication Technology serves as a mediation of the relationship between Media Online and Social Media to Mass Communication at 5% variable alpha level.

Keywords: Online Media, Social Media, Communication Technology, and Mass Communication

1. Introduction

The development of cyberspace or the internet is very rapid. Currently, all conventional media in Indonesia are competing to make their online version as the number of internet users in Indonesia grows, which now reaches 25% of the total population of Indonesia (Rizky, 2012). Because of the emergence of Internet media, previous media such as television, radio, and print media now get a new name: the Mass Media Communications (Sadalia *et al.*, 2017). In this era of globalization, journalist facilities in spreading information increases by one, that is online media. With the online media, people are able to provide information without limitation of space and time. The different fundamental characteristics of traditional media and online media poses various challenges faced by mass communicators in Indonesia.



In addition, the development of Mobile Phone and WIFI now also has made it easier for people to access the internet. Media users in the move are required to be able to see and provide information on the facts that occur because all forms of information to other media users are expected to influence the recipient of the information to get feedback, where the responses are able to build a community that is intelligent and that care about the condition of the nation. It shows that the individual's trust to the media continues to grow, if the information needs that can not be found in the immediate experience is fulfilled. The mass is assessed to rely on Online and conventional media in this era of globalization. The more important the media to the individual, the higher the value of the media.

2. Literature Review

2.1 The Characteristics of Online and Conventional Media

The characteristics of the online media allow a direct reciprocal communication. In this way, media users can perform two way communication and interpersonal communication between media and user (Poell, 2014). Online media is free, unlimited, social-free, interference-free, and, of course, space and time-free, so do not be surprised if online media encourages manipulation in conveying information. Due to the absence of these restrictions, the online media's character refers to the anonymity of information makers in cyberspace. (Alejandro, 2010). On the one hand, this condition manifests in various negative things, such as black campaign to both personal and institutional. Many informations that should not be exposed and should not violate a person's or a company's rights circulate in cyberspace. Generally, the aggrieved parties can not prosecute who did the violation because of the anonymity (Macnamara, 2014).

2.2 The Effects of Online Media and Social Media on Mass Communication

Herng and Chang (2015) states that Online Media and Social Media facilitate the tasks and functions of journalists and tasks of Mass Communications. Tamimi (2015) also states that social media via social networking is a characteristic related to the journalistic environment. Online media and social media forms networks of journalistic functions. Currently, most of the average human activity requires online media and social media. Social media is the former and representation of every individual and social environment profile. Many media networks and social media are connected due to internet, email, and web based shortcuts (Clement and Dong, 2015). Although the online service community is always dependent on its provider network, but its users will always form group centers. Social media can always provide inspiration to share ideas, events, or other interesting things related to individual networks so that they are connected to each other and this enables journalists to use them in performing their mass communication tasks.

2.3 The Role of Communication Technology in Mass Communication Tasks

The competitiveness of a nation is determined by the mastery of knowledge and information technology or known as knowledge based economy (Muda et al., 2017). The development of the world economy has now turned to belong to the ruling states of information technology and communication, because they not only can receive the flow of information, but they are



also able to process it in such a way to improve the nation's economy. (Schradie, 2015; Sadalia *et al.*, 2017). Developments of technology facilitate public access to information dissemination, along with the emergence of social networking sites, i.e. twitter, facebook, friendster, myspace, and so forth, and blog provider sites, i.e. blogspot, wordpress, multiply and others. This container is then used by the community to disseminate the information it obtains. In broadcasting the information, the public is not limited by the rules and selection process, unlike the news process in conventional media. In conventional media, the facts that have been collected by media users are first collected and transferred to fellow media users (Clement and Dong, 2015). Benefits of advancement of information technology communications to media users is to send a fact automatically over the internet network. Thus, information technology plays a role in the needs of media users.

2.4 Previous Research Review

The matrix of the previous study which is almost related to this research can be seen in Table 1. below:

Table 1. Overview of Past Researches

No.	Year	Name	Title	Variable	Research result
1.	2014	Al-Tamimi	Demographic Factors	Demographic Factors,	Training and Development, On the Job
			Influencing Arab Gulf Student's	Social Network Services.	Training, Training Design and Delivery style
			Use of and Attitudes Toward		have significant affect on Organizational
			Social Network Services at		Performance and all these have positively
			Ohio University; Field		affect the Organizational Performance. It
			Research on SNS Member's		means it increases the overall Organizational
			Relationship		performance. We also prove our Hypothesis
					through empirical data. However, the results
					are strongly based on the literature review.
2	2014	Ray, Paula	Activism Via Social	consciousness-raising	The digital tool of activism has the potential to
			Networking: A Case Study Of	groups, civic awareness	unite the disparate waves of feminism, and in
			Urban Indian Women Facebook	groups and groups	fact, to herald the beginning of a new wave of
			Users	promoting political	the feminist movement, initiated by digital
				participation	gadget-totting young women as well as men
					who go online to voice their support.
3.	2015	Fayomi,	Transnational And Integrative	Promoters of Nollywood,	The benefits to the promoters of
		Oluyemi O	Cultural Roles of Nollywood	norms and cultures	Nollywood towards positive projection and
			Entertainment Media In West		delivery of African values, norms and cultures
			Africa: The Case Study of		within West Africa, to other African countries,
			Benin Republic And Ghana		so as to enhance the regional integration of
					African Union.
4.	2014	Poell,	Social media and journalistic	Enhance journalism's	Independent journalism once considered as
		Thomas. &	independence. In	democratic functions,	"independent from political and economic
		Jos é van	Media Independence: Working	ndependent journalism	power" and "representing the interests of
		Dijck	with Freedom or Working for		citizens



			Free?		
5.	2010	Alejandro, Jennifer	Human Resource Policy Journalism In The Age of Social Media.	Social networks, social media,	Journalism is not dead but merely adapting and the journalists of the future need to reinvent. Journalists surveyed confirm that they are beginning to leverage on social media to gather stories and use news aggregators
6	2015	Clement Y. K. So and Yuying Dong	News Photos about Sichuan Earthquake: Effects of Political Ideology and Organizational Goal	Political ideology, Organizational goal	The clear political and ideological affiliations of Xinhua News Agency and CCTV dictate their roles in reporting the earthquake. The difference in organizational goals between the two mainland media organizations prescribe what they actually did in their coverage of the event.
7	2012	Newman, Nic; William H. Dutton and Grant Blank	Social Media in the Changing Ecology of News: The Fourth and Fifth Estates in Britain	Internet, social media, social network sites	The Fourth Estate—the institutional news media —is using social media to enhance their role in news production and dissemination.
8	2015	Madianou, Mirca; Liezel Longboan and Jonathan Corpus Ong	Finding a Voice Through Humanitarian Technologies? Communication Technologies and Participation in Disaster Recovery	Voice, participation, new communication technologies, social media	The article traces the factors that facilitate, or hinder, participate and find that communication technologies enable voice only if other parameters, such as a strong civil society, are present.
9	2015	Bolin, Göran and Per Ståhlberg	Mediating the Nation-State: Agency and the Media in Nation-Branding Campaigns	Nation branding, media production, media technologies, media organizations	The media (as technologies and organizations) can shed light on the dynamics of nation branding.
10	2015	Schradie, Jen	Political Ideology, Social Media, and Labor Unions: Using the Internet to Reach the Powerful, Not Mobilize the Powerless	Political Ideology, Social Media, and Labor Unions	A radical union was bottom-up and participatory, yet it had low levels of digital engagement. This union viewed the Internet as just one of many tools to organize the powerless rather than a way to reach the power.
11	2009	Hadi, Ido Prijana	Modern Technology Journalism and Covergence	Modern journalism, convergence, multimedia	The most important structural new media characteristic is the integration of telecommunications, data communications and mass communication in a single medium. It is the process of convergence.
12	2015	Herng Su and Shi-Chung Chang	New Television and Old Campaign: The Experience and Lessons in Digital Television Transition in Taiwan	Digital switchover and digital terrestrial television	Digital transition process was not only a huge transition with significant impact on consumers, but also was, not until the last moment, adequately planned for or coordinated.



2.5 Conceptual Framework

The conceptual framework used in this research:

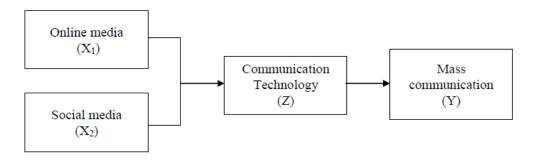


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework

The hypothesis of this research "Online Media and Social Media Influence on Mass Communication with Communication Technology as Intervening Variable"

3. Research Method

Research on things that are still foreign. Where researchers are not familiar with the problems studied. Usually this research is done by identifying people based on sociological and its role in society then the concept that has been made developed and revised what is thought does not match with the results obtained (Muda et al., 2014, Dalimunthe et al., 2016; Sirojuzilam et al. 2016; Handoko et al., 2017; Syahyunan et al., 2017, Nurlina et al., 2017 & Yahya et al., 2017). This type of research is an exsplanatory survey. Exploratory research is a research that is still at the stage of identification (Muda, 2014). Researchers will be faced with problems that are not familiar. This research is intended to more researchers to know and develop the concept in accordance with the state of the field. So this study should not be done by people who are already proficient in the problem studied. For example researching about people who tend to be appreciated by other communities (Muda, 2017). By looking at the attitudes of citizens in society, their participation in community activities, up to the attitudes of citizens to themselves. After that the researchers set up categories on the subjects of the perpetrators and also categorize the events. From that category researchers can develop concepts in accordance with existing circumstances in the field (Muda and Dharsuky, 2015, Lubis et al., 2016; Ferine et al., 2017, Achmad et al., 2017, Dalimunthe et al., 2017 and Badaruddin et al., 2017). The design of this study is a survey with primary data survey results in the form of questionnaires distributed to the respondents. The population in this study is social media and online media users in North Sumatra. Sampling was done by purposive random sampling technique of 203 users of social media and online media. The operational definitions of each variable in this study are as follows:



Table 2. Operational Variables

Variable	Variable	Indicator	Scale	Measurement	
Online media	Media presented online on the	1. Access via internet.	Ordinal	Likert Scale	
(X_1)	internet.	2. Mass communication.			
		3. Periodicity.			
Social media	Online media and the users can	1. Internet based	Ordinal	Likert Scale	
(X_2)	easily participate, share, and	2. Building on an ideological			
	create content including blogs,	basis			
	social networks, wikis, forums	3. User-generated content			
	and virtual worlds. (Sadalia et al,				
	2017 and Marhayanie et al.,				
	2017)				
Communication	Hardware equipment, software	1. Hardware equipment	Ordinal	Likert Scale	
Technology (Z)	and communication networks	2. Software			
	within an organizational structure	3. Communication network			
	that contain social value allow				
	each individual to collect, process				
	and exchange information with				
	other individuals. (Stoval, 2004;				
	Muda et al., 2017)				
Mass	Activities of media users in their	1. Influence	Ordinal	Likert Scale	
communication	activities are required to be able	2. Value information			
(Y)	to see and provide information on	3. Universality			
	the reality that occurs to other	4. Feedback			
	media users and able to influence				
	the recipient of information and				
	get feedback with the response.				

Data analysis method used to test the hypothesis in this research is the application of SEM (Structural Equation Model) Warp PLS. The equation is:

$$Y = \gamma_{11} X_1 + \gamma_{12} X_2 + \zeta \tag{1}$$

$$Z = \gamma_{11}X_{1} + \gamma_{12} X_{2} + \gamma_{13} Y + \zeta$$
 (2)

Information:

 ξ : Measurement Error (epsilon)/Construct (ksi)

Y : Mass communication

X1 : Online mediaX2 : Social media

Z : Communication Technology

γ : Parameter (gamma)



4. Result and Discussion

4.1 Result

4.1.1 Data Description

The distribution of questionnaires is as follows:

Table 3. Distribution of Questionnaires

Information	Quantity	Percentage
The shared questionnaires	500	100%
The returned questionnaires	203	40.60%
The questionnaires that did not return	297	59.40%
Questionnaires that can be used in research	203	40.60%

4.1.2 Data Quality Testing Analysis

4.1.2.1 Validity Test

From the results of questionnaires distributed to 203 respondents, output combined loading and cross loading are used as indicators of convergent validity that are parts of the measurement model in SEM-PLS (Kock, 2013; Muda *et al.*, 2016 & Lubis *et al.*, 2016; and Sirojuzilam *et al.*, 2017).

Table 4. Output Combined Loadings and Cross-Loading

OM_X ₁	SM_X ₂ CT_Z	JI_Y Type (a	SE	P value
MO1 0.920	-0.343 0.181	-0.031 Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
MO2 0.892	-0.601 0.972	-0.275 Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
MO3 0.906	0.940 -1.141	0.302Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
MS1 0.969	0.891 -0.814	0.355Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
MS2 -2.814	0.790 4.382	-0.630 Reflect	0.048	< 0.001
MS3 1.807	0.751 -3.639	0.241 Reflect	0.048	< 0.001
Z1 0.302	-0.734 0.916	-0.163 Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
Z2 -0.170	0.086 0.883	-0.058 Reflect	0.047	0.001
Z3 -0.140	0.661 0.902	0.222Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
Y1 0.251	1.883 -1.626	0.840Reflect	0.047	< 0.001
Y2 -0.418	0.309 0.244	0.830Reflect	0.048	< 0.001
Y3 0.163	-0.670 0.333	0.939Reflect	0.047	<0.001
Y4 -0.019	-1.339	0.942 0.903 Reflect	0.047	< 0.001

Notes: Loadings are unrotated and cross-loadings are oblique-rotated. SEs and P values are for loadings. P values < 0.05 are desirable for reflective indicators.

Source: Output WarpPLS 5.0. (2017).



Based on the test results, it is shown that the outer model qualifies the convergent validity for reflective constructs, where loading values are above 0.70 and the p-value is significant (<0.05) (Sadalia *et al.*, 2017; Lubis *et al.*, 2017 and Muda *et al.*, 2017). The results of the test construct meet the requirements of convergent and loading validity to other constructs that are lower than those constructs (Sholihin, 2013).

4.1.2.2 Reliability Test

Based on WarpPLS output, reliability test results are as follows:

Cronbach's alpha coefficients

OM_X₁ SM_X₂ CT_Z JI_Y 0.891 0.740 0.883 0.901

Source: Output WarpPLS 5.0. (2017).

Based on the results of reliability test against 4 (four) constructs, Cronbach's Alpha obtained is above 60%, so all questions are stated reliable.

4.1.2.3 Goodness of Fit Model Test

The fit model indicator is based on several indicators. Test results show:

Model fit indices and P values

Average path coefficient (APC)=0.455, P<0.001

Average R-squared (ARS)=0.884, P<0.001

Average adjusted R-squared (AARS)=0.884, P<0.001

Average block VIF (AVIF)=2.942, acceptable if <= 5, ideally <= 3.3

Average full collinearity VIF (AFVIF)=1.122, acceptable if <= 5, ideally <= 3.3

Tenenhaus GoF (GoF)=0.823, small >= 0.1, medium >= 0.25, large >= 0.36

Sympson's paradox ratio (SPR)=1.000, acceptable if >= 0.7, ideally = 1

R-squared contribution ratio (RSCR)=1.000, acceptable if >= 0.9, ideally = 1

Statistical suppression ratio (SSR)=1.000, acceptable if >= 0.7

Nonlinear bivariate causality direction ratio =1.000, acceptable if ≥ 0.7

Source: Output WarpPLS 5.0. (2017).

Thus, all model indicators meet the fit criteria.

4.1.2.4 Multicolinearity Test

Based on correlation test results among independent variables by looking at VIF values, it can be concluded that there is no multicollinearity problem. This is supported by the



relatively small Full Collon VIF value, i.e. nothing greater than 3.3 (Kock, 2013)

Table 5. Multicolinearity Test Results (Full collinearity VIFs)

Source: Output WarpPLS 5.0. (2017).

These results conclude that in all independent variables, there is no multicollinearity where the overall AVIF value is less than 5 (Kock, 2013).

4.1.2.5 Hypothesis Testing

The hypothesis states that Online Media and Social Media in North Sumatra have an effect on Mass Communication with Communication Technology as Intervening Variable in North Sumatera. Individual coefficient test of each independent variable can be seen in the following figure:

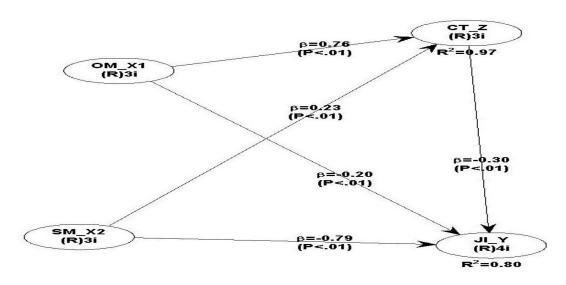


Figure 2. Test Results

The statistical Test t obtains:

- 1. The beta value of the Online Media Variable (X_1) is 0.20 and the probability level of p-value is 0.01. Thus, it can be concluded $p = 0.001 < \alpha = 0.05$, the hypothesis H0 is rejected and the hypothesis Ha is accepted (Muda, 2010; Maksum *et al.*, 2014; Nasir *et al.*, 2014; Sihombing *et al.*, 2015; Suriadi *et al.*, 2015), which states the variable Online Media has a significant positive effect on Mass Communication.
- 2. The beta value of Social Media Variable (X_2) is 0.79 and the probability level of p-value is 0.01. Thus, it can be concluded p = 0.001 < α = 0.05 (Sirojuzilam *et al.*, 2016; Lubis *et al.*, 2016; Muda, 2017). Thus, it can be concluded that the hypothesis H0 is rejected and the hypothesis Ha is accepted, which states Social Media variables have a significant effect on Mass Communication.
- 3. The beta value of the Communication Technology Variable (Z) is -0.30 and the probability level of p-value with is 0.01. Thus, it can be concluded $p = 0.01 < \alpha = 0.05$. Thus, it can be concluded that the hypothesis H₀



is rejected and the hypothesis Ha is accepted, which states the variables of Communication Technology mediate relationship to Mass Communication.

From the description above, then thus, it can be composed of multiple regression equation sourced from the path coefecient as follows:

$$Y = 0.20 X_1 + 0.79 X_2 - 0.30Z + e$$

4.1.2.6 Coefficient Determination Test Results (R²)

The magnitude coefficient of determination equation is:

R-squared coefficients

 $OM_{X_1} SM_{X_2} CT_{Z} JI_{Y}$ 0.967 0.802

Source: WarpPLS 5.0 Output Results(2017)

From the calculation, the value of R Square is 0.802. This means that 80.2 percent of Media Online and Social Media variables affect Mass Communication and it can be explained by independent variables, while the remaining 19.8% is explained by other factors outside the model.

Q-squared coefficients

OM_X1 SM_X2 CT_Z JI_Y 0.966 0.507

Source: WarpPLS 5.0 Output Results (2017)

While the value of Q-squared is 0.507, which means the model estimation shows good predictive validity of 50.7%.

4.2 Discussion

It cannot be denied that the development of information technology greatly affect communication technology. Information and communication technology can not be separated, so Information and Communication Technology is very popular right now. The combination of both grows rapidly with the Internet media. Internet technology has changed the way people communicate (Muda and Dharsuky, 2015). Email is the key in changing how to communicate. With just one email address, one can follow various communication models on the Internet. Barney (2005) states that improving the quality of life increasingly demands humans to perform various activities needed by optimizing the resources it has. Information and Communication Technology grows so fast, indirectly it requires humans to use it in all activities (Gusnardi *et al.*, 2016 & Muda *et al.*, 2017). For media users, the role of Information Technology (IT) is very important, with IT like the Internet, the information created will be quickly accessed by others. With IT, a media user will get instant information and it is directly accessible to others for a source of information used in their various life



needs and work completion (Sadalia *et al.*, 2017). So information technology (IT) is a big influence. Due to the development of Information Technology, journalism will definitely change following the rate of development of Information Technology (Muda *et al.*, 2014, Hadi, 2005 & Muda *et al.*, 2017). Technology in the development of the flow of production, consumption, and distribution of information plays an important role. The role of technology in the process of information processing occurs when technology results help to change the communication patterns that are bounded by space and time into a pattern of unlimited information communication. Thus, the presence of new media provides an alternative for the community in finding and utilizing information sources to meet their needs (Khaldun and Muda, 2014; Radianto *et al.*, 2014 & Lutfi *et al.*, 2016; Erlina et al., 2017 & Hasan *et al.*, 2017). Media users can send news instantly and simultaneously in context with global coverage. The information stored online has a quality that is so powerful, easy to trace (retrievability), but also prone to be duplicated. Because the web is an open medium and a networked technology, so it is easily duplicated and stored in a different location from the original.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

5.1 Conclusion

Hypothesis which states that Online Media and Social Media Influence on Mass Communication with Communication Technology as Intervening Variable.

5.2 Suggestion

Future research is expected to expand the object of research, especially in the scope of Indonesia and the comparison with media users abroad.

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