PREVENTING SEXUAL VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN THROUGH THE SHORT FILM “DEMI NAMA BAIK?”

Riri Irma Suryani¹
Dwi Candra Purnamasari²
Gusnita Linda³

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Abstract: Sexual violence cannot be ignored. Sexual violence can happen to anyone, be it children, teenagers, adults, men or women. One of the things that can be done to prevent sexual violence can be done using film media. The production of a short film with the title “Demi Nama Baik?” with the hashtag #Don’t Just Shut Up” is a film that tells the assertiveness of the campus in taking action against perpetrators of sexual violence. This research method uses a descriptive qualitative method approach with the concept of fiction film design. The making of this film aims to influence other campuses out there in the process of cracking down on cases of sexual violence that occur within the scope of higher education. This film aims to influence other universities in handling cases of sexual violence on their campuses.

Keywords: short film; film; production; sexual violence.

Introduction

Sexual violence is an act that degrades, humiliates, insults, and/or assaults the body and reproductive functions of an individual, resulting in physical and psychological suffering for the victim. Sexual violence can occur to anyone, including children, adolescents, adults, males, and females. Perpetrators of sexual violence can also come from various backgrounds, including strangers, acquaintances, friends, family members, or close associates of the victim, causing harm both physically and psychologically (Azhar & Raharjo, 2023).

One prevalent form of sexual violence in Indonesia, increasing annually, is sexual violence against women. The Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection recorded an increase in reported cases from 8,864 in 2019 and 8,686 in 2020 to 10,247 in 2021 (Ramadhan, 2022). This alarming trend raises concerns not only for potential female victims but also for men protecting their female counterparts. Women are urged to

¹Riri Irma Suryani is a lecturer at The Visual Communication Design Program Institut Teknologi Telkom Purwokerto (ITTP).
²Dwi Candra Purnamasari is a lecturer at The Product Design Program Institut Teknologi Telkom Purwokerto (ITTP).
³Gusnita Linda is a lecturer at The Visual Communication Design Program Institut Teknologi Telkom Purwokerto (ITTP).

e-mail: riri@ittelkom-pwt.ac.id
e-mail: candra@ittelkom-pwt.ac.id
e-mail: gusnita@ittelkom-pwt.ac.id
protect themselves not only from strangers but also from potential perpetrators who may be close to them.

The government has implemented policies to protect women and prevent the spread of sexual violence through laws and organizations dedicated to women’s protection (Wartoyo & Ginting, 2023). Types of sexual violence against women include various physical and non-physical actions. Law number 12 of 2022 concerning Sexual Violence states that sexual violence can take the form of non-physical sexual harassment, physical sexual harassment, forced contraception, forced sterilization, forced marriage, sexual torture, sexual exploitation, sexual slavery, and all forms of electronic-based sexual violence (UU RI, 2022).

The prevalence of sexual violence, especially against women, has led the government to enact clear legal provisions against such actions. Sexual violence can occur anywhere, including in educational settings that should ideally be safe for women, such as university campuses. In some cases, educators exploit their authority to commit sexual violence against students. Gender inequality and patriarchy in society contribute to women being disadvantaged and experiencing sexual violence (Nikmatullah, 2020). Considering the increasing incidents of sexual violence in universities, decisive actions are needed from various stakeholders, including universities formulating policies for campus supervision and management in handling violence on campus (Susilowati, 2022).

One preventive measure is to understand the various forms of sexual violence against women. Victims should bravely speak out, not only to protect themselves but also to prevent further victims. Universities should support investigations related to sexual violence on their campuses.

One effective method of prevention is through the use of media, such as short films. Short films are brief videos conveying important ideas and messages through visual communication, making them easily accessible to viewers (Oktaviani, 2019).

The short film titled “Demi Nama Bãi?” #Don’t Just Shut Up” addresses sexual violence in higher education. The film depicts the determination of the university to take swift action against a lecturer who attempts sexual violence against a student.

Methodology

The research methodology used is qualitative descriptive with the concept of designing a fictional film. Qualitative descriptive research involves analyzing literature and literature related to the phenomenon, issues, and scope of the study to obtain a scientific overview based on the correlation of available information (Moelong, 2018). The film “Demi Nama Baik?” was designed through three production stages: pre-production, production, and post-production (Shadrina et al, 2023).

Pre-production involves the initial stages of audiovisual work, including data collection, data analysis, idea formulation, and script development. Despite being a fictional film, scenes, and events are crafted based on a combination of imagination, analysis of various phenomena, literature, and discussions with experts (Pertiwi & Yusril, 2019). Data collection and analysis were conducted through the analysis of various phenomena, and literature data, and also by holding FGD (Forum Group Discussion) with expert speakers. In this study, discussions were conducted with speakers from the Center for Women’s Studies, Media, and Arts (ANJANI) at Sanata Dharma University in Yogyakarta.

Next, in the pre-production stage, all
necessary preparations for the upcoming production process were made. This includes not only creating the film script and storyboard but also casting actors, readings, location scouting, and preparing equipment for various divisions such as camera, lighting, art set, and others. All preparations before the shooting process must be ready during pre-production, so it’s not surprising that the maturity during the pre-production process determines 50% of the success of the film’s outcome.

The second stage is production, where the script is translated into a sequence of images and scenes. Each main division of the production team is involved, including the director and their team, the director of photography and their team, lighting, artistry, audio design, costume and makeup design, and other production teams.

The final stage of the production process is post-production, which includes editing the recorded material. Editing involves offline and online editing. Offline editing is the rough cut stage, where recorded audio and video are cut and rearranged according to the script’s flow. Online editing includes processes such as color grading, color correction, visual effects, motion graphics, and audio mixing.

Result

1. Sexual Violence in Higher Education

Sexual violence against children and women is not a recent occurrence. In the stage of data collection and analysis, researchers and the research team conducted FGD (Forum Group Discussion) with the Center for Women’s Studies, Media, and Arts (ANJANI) in Yogyakarta. ANJANI itself is a research center that conducts studies on women and the cases that involve them. In these meetings and discussions, several important pieces of information regarding sexual violence cases against women were obtained, especially in the university environment. These include: (1) How third parties act when they encounter cases of sexual violence against women, prioritizing support for the victim rather than the perpetrator. (2) The importance of listening to the victim’s wishes in the follow-up process to address the violence because not all victims are ready to face public scrutiny, so finding the right approach is crucial. (3) The necessity for each university to establish a task force to handle sexual violence cases on campus, ensuring that students or affected parties are aware of the reporting process. (4) Providing support to victims during the legal process, where the support should not only understand the victim personally and mentally but also communicate effectively with relevant parties involved in the case. (5) Selecting psychologists who truly understand the position of the victim since not all psychologists can handle cases of sexual violence against women. (6) Many victims hesitate to report to the university for various reasons, such as the lack of evidence and the belief that the university will side with the perpetrator for the sake of the institution’s reputation. In cases of sexual violence against women, the victim’s testimony can be considered valid evidence. (7) Recognizing that anyone in the university can become a victim, requiring education and appropriate support for the victim. (8) Acknowledging that victims of sexual violence are not only women but also men.

Based on the data obtained from literature research, phenomenon observation, field observations, and FGDs with relevant parties focused on women’s research, it is concluded that there is still a lack of educational media regarding sexual violence in the university environment. Therefore, there is a need for educational media that can serve as a source of information for the academic community in universities.
2. Film as a Campaign Medium

In response to this, the researcher aims to produce an educational media that can also serve as a campaign tool for cases of sexual violence in higher education. The delivery of messages through educational and campaign media requires a medium that can communicate and convey messages to its audience (Azhari, 2023). Mass communication is the process of conveying a message from the communicator to the audience, where the audience can consist of the general public (citation). Film itself is a mass communication medium, where it serves as a means of conveying messages, entertainment, music, performances, drama, and other presentations to viewers or audiences.

In its development, the film has three fundamental elements (Fernandes, 2014): (1) Film as a propaganda tool. In its development, film has also been used as a propaganda medium because it can not only provide entertainment but also convey specific messages, have a wide reach, and exert emotional influence and popularity. (2) Emergence of various film genres, including drama, documentary, docudrama, and experimental. (3) Emergence of the phenomenon of film as social documentation. The film is used as a medium for reflecting society, presenting phenomena and events that occur amid society and may contain elements of ideology and propaganda intended for a broad audience.

Campaigns themselves consist of three types (Ruslan, 2014): (1) Product-Oriented Campaigns, activities focused on products and usually used in the promotion and marketing of new products. (2) Candidate-Oriented Campaigns, campaigns focused on political figures or candidates related to political interests. (3) Ideological or Cause-Oriented Campaigns, campaigns with specific goals related to social issues or social change in society.

Based on these types of campaigns, this research outputs a film that can serve as a campaign medium for Ideological or Cause-Oriented Campaigns. The film titled “Demi Nama Baik?” with the hashtag #Don’t Just Shut Up addresses social issues related to sexual violence occurring in society, particularly in the university environment.

The research aimed to produce a short film serving as both an educational and campaign tool against sexual violence in higher education. Films, as audiovisual media, play a crucial role in communicating messages and can serve various purposes, including entertainment, music, drama, and propaganda (Fernandes, 2014).

The film “Demi Nama Baik?” aligns with the ideological or cause-oriented campaign type, addressing a social issue and promoting social change (Ruslan, 2008).

1. Production Process of “Demi Nama Baik?”

The process of producing a film involves three main stages: pre-production, production, and post-production. The pre-production process is the initial stage in the production of a short film. In the pre-production stage, all initial processes take place, such as searching for relevant data related to the object of study, formulating the research problem and objectives, data identification, and creating a story synopsis based on data obtained from observation and literature review. The synopsis is then developed into a treatment, leading to the creation of a film script, as can be seen in Fig. 1, which will serve as a guide for everyone involved in the production of this film.
Next is the production process, as can be seen in Fig. 2, where the written script is translated into a sequence of images and scenes. Every major division in the production team is involved in the production process, including the director and their team, the director of photography and their team, the lighting, artistic, audio director, costume and makeup designer, as well as other production team members.

The final stage of production is the film editing process. Broadly speaking, the film editing process is divided into online editing and offline editing. Offline editing is the rough cut stage, which involves cutting and arranging the images from the shooting on the editing table according to the storyline specified by the director (Syasyali et al, 2023). During the shooting process, the recording of images may not follow the intended sequence, but priority scenes are initially edited, followed by additional scenes and complementary elements. The editing process, as can be seen in Fig. 3, then continues with the online editing process. Online editing involves processes such as adding effects, transitions, audio mixing, voice-over, color grading, and color correction (Fadil et al, 2022).

**Discussion**

In the production of the film entitled “Demi Nama Baik?”, the writer is the screenwriter and director of this film. The idea of this story with the theme of sexual violence in universities was born after seeing the high number of sexual violence cases that occurred within universities. Pahadal College is a place to study for the community.

Cases of violence in universities have been difficult to uncover due to several factors. Based on research and observations conducted by the writing team,
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Riri Irma Suryani¹
Dwi Candra Purnamasari²
Gusnita Linda³

cases of sexual violence that occur in universities are difficult to reveal because they are caused by several things such as: first, the lack of evidence possessed. The incomplete evidence possessed due to acts of sexual violence is difficult to prove concretely because this incident is an act between the perpetrator and the victim. Things that can be used as evidence are only CCTV footage, but not all places and locations of events that have CCTV that can be accessed easily.

Second, not many victims dare to report the actions they have received. This is due to many things being considered, one of which is the shame of exposing one’s disgrace. Then when reporting the case that occurred, it was an act that brought up the trauma that the victim had experienced, this is not many victims can remember the indecent behavior he has received to retell.

Third, things that are also taken into consideration by victims when revealing or reporting acts of sexual violence are received because not all universities follow up on these reports properly. Not a few universities try to cover up cases of sexual violence that occur because they remember the good name of the campus that will be discussed, or to protect the good name of the perpetrator who is part of the permanent employees of the college. Although every university already has a PPKS (Prevention and Handling of Sexual Violence) Task Force, not a few PPKS Task Forces in several universities have been able to work optimally in investigating cases of sexual violence that have been received.

The short film “Demi Nama Baik?” is a campaign film for preventing sexual violence against women in the university environment. The film tells the story of a senior college student preparing for her thesis guidance with her supervisor. Without suspicion, the student agrees when her supervisor schedules a nighttime guidance session in his office after the campus is quiet. However, that night becomes traumatic for the main character, Nesya. She almost experiences sexual harassment by her supervisor Bambang. For several days, Nesya undergoes stress and depression, feeling that her thesis and future are at stake. Fortunately, Nesya has a friend named Rania, who eventually accompanies Nesya in reporting the incident to the university authorities. Unexpectedly, the university, which Nesya initially thought would protect the perpetrator, welcomes her report and takes strict action against the lecturer who attempted sexual violence against Nesya. The university’s rector promptly dismisses the lecturer disrespectfully.

The film “Demi Nama Baik?” explores the perspective of a student who is a victim of sexual harassment. In many cases, incidents of violence and sexual harassment in universities remain undisclosed, even though every university is mandated to establish a Prevention and Handling Team for Sexual Violence (PPKS). This is because not all victims have the courage to reveal what they have experienced. Additionally, victims are concerned about reporting to the university due to a lack of evidence and fear that the university will side with the perpetrator, especially if they hold a position as an educator or staff member.

It is such stigmas that often emerge among victims, and that is why the film “Demi Nama Baik?” was created. The film is produced to serve as a campaign medium for victims out there. It emphasizes that victims should bravely report such incidents to the university, starting with their closest friends, academic advisors, or other trusted faculty members. This way, victims can receive support from someone who makes them comfortable enough to disclose the events they have experienced.
The portrayal of the academic advisor in the film, as can be seen in Fig. 4, represents someone who cares for their students and listens to their stories. By depicting a character that is supportive and attentive, the film hopes that victims in various other universities will also find the strength to tell and reveal their experiences.

Figure 4. One scene in the film shows the guardian lecturer of the victim.
(Source: Personal research documentation)

Not only does this film encourage victims to muster the courage to disclose incidents of violence or harassment they have experienced, but it also conveys a message to universities on how they should respond when receiving reports of sexual harassment. The film demonstrates how universities should firmly address cases of violence and sexual harassment within the university environment. This is done to maintain the university’s as an institution that is responsive and protective of its students.

Figure 5. One scene in the film showing how universities is taking strong action against perpetrators of sexual violence against students.
(Source: Personal research documentation)

Conclusion

Film is an audio-visual medium that serves as a means of conveying messages. It can be used for various purposes and interests, one of which is serving as a campaign medium to the public. A campaign film contains information advocating a particular issue or a call to action directed at the wider community. In the film titled “Demi Nama Baik?” (“For the Sake of Good Name?”), the film serves as a campaign medium with the strategy of preventing acts of violence and sexual harassment that occur in the educational sphere, particularly within the scope of higher education. The environment that is expected to be a safe space for students sent by their parents to pursue education is ironically perceived as threatened by the potential for sexual violence. In Indonesia, cases of violence and sexual harassment revealed within the higher education context are still relatively high.

In addition, this film, it is also campaigned on how to take action by universities if they receive reports of sexual violence by victims or from people closest to victims. Universities must be able to thoroughly peel and stand with victims so that perpetrators of sexual violence in universities can be followed up by applicable law. The good name of the university will be better known if it can position itself as a wise party in dealing with sexual violence that occurs in its environment.

References


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Dwi Candra Purnamasari²
Gusnita Linda³

¹, ², ³ Authors' affiliations are not provided in the given content.


