



## Anticipatory Attitude of Millennials in High School 31 Jakarta towards Hoaxes

Rafa Dahayu Amandya<sup>1\*</sup>, Rizqi Tri Novitasari<sup>1</sup>, Wahyunengsih<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>[Journalistic Study Program the State Islamic, University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, Indonesia]

<sup>2</sup>[Islamic Community Department the State Islamic, University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, Indonesia]

**Abstract.** Along with the rapid development of technology, the more advanced process of disseminating information. Hoax is one of the problems related to the dissemination of information. Hoax is fake news created by irresponsible people, made in such a way as to trick the readers into believing the word. The circulation of hoaxes is a concern for anyone, because of the disturbing nature of hoaxes, causing panic and other negative things. An anticipatory attitude towards hoaxes is very necessary. This study focuses on anticipatory attitudes towards hoaxes in the millennial generation at State High School 31 Jakarta. Where the millennial generation is a generation that is sensitive and active toward technological developments. So, hoax makers make them targets to read and disseminate hoax news. This study aims to determine whether the current millennial generation has implemented an anticipatory attitude toward hoaxes properly. The data collection technique was carried out with a questionnaire containing questions about anticipatory attitudes toward hoaxes that needed to be done. This research produces data that shows that the current millennial generation is quite aware of the anticipatory attitude toward hoaxes that must be done.

**Keyword:** Anticipatory Attitude, Dissemination Of Hoax, Millennials, News

**Abstrak.** Seiring dengan lajunya perkembangan teknologi, maka semakin maju penyebaran suatu informasi saat ini. Hoax adalah salah satu masalah terkait penyebaran informasi. Hoax merupakan berita bohong yang dibuat oleh oknum tidak bertanggung jawab, dibuat sedemikian rupa untuk mengelabui para pembaca agar mempercayai berita tersebut. Beredarnya hoax menjadi perhatian bagi siapapun, karena sifat hoax yang meresahkan, menimbulkan kepanikan dan hal negatif lainnya. Sikap antisipatif terhadap hoax sangat diperlukan. Penelitian ini berfokus pada sikap antisipatif terhadap hoax pada generasi milenial di SMA Negeri 31 Jakarta. Dimana generasi milenial merupakan generasi yang peka dan aktif terhadap perkembangan teknologi, sehingga para pembuat hoax menjadikan mereka sasaran untuk membaca dan menyebarkan berita hoax. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui apakah generasi milenial saat ini sudah menerapkan sikap antisipasi terhadap hoax dengan baik. Teknik pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan kuesioner yang berisikan pertanyaan-pertanyaan seputar sikap antisipatif terhadap hoax yang perlu

\*Corresponding author at: Dakwah and Communication Faculty, Journalistic Study Program the State Islamic University Syarif Hidayatullah Jakarta, Jl. Ir H. Juanda No.95, Cemp. Putih, Kec. Ciputat Tim., Kota Tangerang Selatan, Banten 15412, Jakarta, Indonesia.

E-mail address: rizqitri.novitsari22@mhs.uinjkt.ac.id

*dilakukan. Penelitian ini menghasilkan data-data yang menunjukkan bahwa generasi milenial saat ini cukup paham tentang sikap antisipatif terhadap hoax yang dilakukan.*

**Kata Kunci:** Berita, Generasi Milenial, Penyebaran Hoax, Sikap Antisipatif

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## 1 Introduction

Previous studies related to our research entitled Anticipatory Attitudes of the Millennial Generation of SMAN 31 Jakarta Against Hoax News are as follows. Previous studies related to the title of our research are as follows. First, research by [1] reveals that information behavior among students is still not enough to be able to prevent or reject hoax news that is very often widespread on social media. Where it was found that students still have difficulty distinguishing a piece of news whether the news is a hoax or a fact. Then there is research from [2] which writes that providing additional information through video media to teenagers, it can increase knowledge of hoax, which is quite effective in educational activities to prevent the spread of hoax.

Other opinions regarding the topic of this research are also presented by the researchers as follows. Research conducted by [3] shows that the millennial generation needs to be given at least counseling about the dangers of hoax news both as newsreaders and as news disseminates. Likewise, the research conducted by [4] found that the millennial generation needs to understand from the bottom and the characteristics associated with hoax news that are currently often circulating.

Another study that examines the anticipation that millennials need to have in preventing hoax news was also carried out by several other researchers. Research conducted by [5] showed that the students who are part of the millennial generation today are people who are still very easy to influence and many of them do not understand how to distinguish which ones are hoax news and which are factual news. Media literacy can be an alternative that is used to prevent the influence of hoax news that is often circulated. There is also research from [6] which says that the millennial generation, commonly referred to as generation Y, has a nature that is still easily influenced, making some irresponsible people take advantage of the situation to become targets, especially in the spread of hoax.

Furthermore, other previous research related to the topic of our research is a study also conducted by [7] which said that one of the strategies that can be done to prevent the younger generation from preventing the growth of hoaxes is to shape the character of the younger generation through education which includes learning about how to read critically. In their research [8] said that the millennial generation is a generation that is currently very closely related to social media and the internet, where it is very easy to access information. With this condition, it is easier for hoax news

to spread, where the rules and articles that emphasize punishment for hoax spreaders and makers are not yet qualified to control the amount of hoax news that continues to exist all the time news.

The following studies are also related to this research. Research conducted by [9] says that fake news can occur because readers lack understanding of the context or content of the news they read or hear. The last research from [10] stated that the younger generation can easily get socialization about hoaxes. It can be from the surrounding environment, such as family, friends, and others. The danger of this hoax is also very detrimental, so it is necessary to know that anyone who receives or spreads hoaxes can be subject to the ITE Law.

The difference between the research above and our current research is that the research we do is more aimed at anticipating hoax news, which is expected to be applied in social media activities, especially for the millennial generation, and can also increase the knowledge of the millennial generation in reading and receiving information to be more critical, both read or heard.

A hoax is information that is not true, but is made as if it is the truth [7]. The concept of a hoax is different from rumors, where rumors still have the possibility that the information circulating is true, while hoaxes have confirmed that the information circulating is not true.

In the book *A Glossary: Or, Collection of Words, Phrases, Names and Allusions to Customs* by Robert Nares, written in 1822, the word hoax is an absorption of the word hocus in the hocus pocus mantra which is often said by ancient magicians before starting their tricks. History records that the phrase hocus pocus itself is taken from the name of the Italian magician, Ochus Bochus. According to Nares, hoaxes were deliberately made as jokes to entertain people. However, with the development of the times, hoaxes are often made for more serious reasons and tend to be negative. Hoax according to the [6] is defined as a form of deception to make jokes and also cause harm. The hoax theory by [7] is a series of pieces of information that is misled and sold as truth. The hoax theory according to [9] which was developed from MacDougall's theory is a lie that was made up in such a way by someone.

The spread of hoaxes today often harms many people. According to [9], one of the factors for the creation of hoaxes is the existence of media competition in increasing the number of site visitors, so it is not uncommon for media on the internet to write news and information without paying

attention to the journalistic code of ethics. So, as a generation that is sensitive to technological developments, millennials must be smart in managing social media.

The theory about the millennial generation put forward by [3] is that the millennial generation is a generation that has several characteristics, namely they assume that the millennial generation has civil insight and a strong sense of empathy.

In addition to being smart in managing social media, the millennial generation is also expected to be able to understand the content of the news well. Improving digital literacy skills is one of the most important steps to anticipate the spread of hoaxes. Therefore, the millennial generation must have critical thinking and high curiosity to be able to process information so that the spread of hoaxes can be overcome.

The reason the research chooses the hoax subject is that information deviation often harms the community. This is stated in Article 28 paragraph 1 of the ITE Law which reads "Everyone intentionally and without rights spreads false and misleading news that results in consumer losses in Electronic Transactions."

The object chosen by the researcher is the millennial generation. According to data from the Ministry of Communication and Information, the young generation in Indonesia is vulnerable to the spread of hoaxes, one of which is because the younger generation is the largest user of social media. Therefore, we need a study that is relevant to the problem of the research.

Based on the explanation above, the formulation of the research problem is why the anticipation of hoax news is very necessary, especially for the millennial generation. and what attitudes can the millennial generation take in anticipating the rise of hoax news?

Based on the explanation above, the formulation of the research problem is to find out the importance of anticipating hoax news by the millennial generation and to find out what attitudes the millennial generation can take to anticipate hoaxes.

## **2 Method**

Our research method uses a qualitative approach that aims to find, collect, determine, process, and analyze research data. The author chose a questionnaire as a data collection tool. This questionnaire contains 20 questions related to knowledge and behavior in anticipating hoax news that often circulates. We will also distribute this questionnaire to the object of our research, namely the millennial generation among students. To be precise, students of SMA Negeri 31 Jakarta, from which we will take 30 respondents as data from our research. The link to our questionnaire is distributed through short battles. Each question in the questionnaire contains a scale from never to often, which the respondents will answer. The data generated from the

questionnaires that we distribute will be in the form of a respondent diagram, which we will analyze in the discussion for each question. This research method aims to obtain results that will be described in the form of a description. According to [3], descriptive research methods are: "A descriptive method is a method that serves to describe or provide an overview of the object under study through data or samples that have been collected as they are without analyzing and making conclusions that apply to the public."

### **3 Result**

#### **3.1 Determination of News Sources and Provocative**

Based on the questionnaire data we obtained, the respondents generally read more than one news source to ensure the truth of the information. This is the right step to reduce reading news that has the potential for hoaxes. In line with this attitude, respondents are mainly rarely provoked by provocative news headlines.

#### **3.2 Site Observations and Sources of News**

Anticipating the following hoax news is how respondents observe the sites and news sources they read. From the results of the questionnaire, it turns out that the respondents still rarely observe the site and the source of the information obtained. Meanwhile, by observing the sites and news sources that are read, the spread of hoaxes can be anticipated.

#### **3.3 Dumb News and News Publication Date**

In anticipating other hoax news, respondents stated that they rarely share the news that is not necessarily true. This is in line with respondents who always check the date of the news they read. Thus, respondents can determine which information is wrong and which is right.

#### **3.4 Accuracy in Reading News**

Hoax news often provokes the emotions of the readers. It aims to increase the amount of income through readers in any medium. Based on research, the respondents generally are not emotionally affected by the news they read. Reading a news story must be done thoroughly to avoid the influence of hoaxes, especially the influence of emotions. The respondents mostly always read the news thoroughly. However, there are still many respondents who rarely pay attention to the format of news writing. This shows that respondents typically only read, not look at the content of a news story.

### **3.5 Hoax Prevention Means**

Another thing we can do to anticipate hoax news is by using hoax prevention tools such as fact-checkers and anti-hoax discussion groups. Currently, many news media already have their fact-checkers, but it never hurts for readers to make sure the news we read is true and follows the facts. From the results of the study, it appears that the respondents rarely used a fact-checker. The possible cause is the respondent's lack of insight into fact-checkers. In addition, many respondents have not joined the anti-hoax discussion group on social media. Meanwhile, being a member of a discussion group can provide convenience to the public in verifying the truth of information. This is because there are accounts that participate in checking the contents of the news.

### **3.6 Hoax Complaints and Socialization Services**

Currently, there is a complaint service related to hoaxes. However, based on data from respondents who generally never report knowing that there is hoax news they read. This can be ascertained because the existence of these services is not able to reach school students. These services can be known by many people if the counseling is held. Based on the data, respondents generally rarely attend counseling related to hoaxes. So it is very unfortunate for students who still have little knowledge about the act of reporting hoaxes.

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### **3.7 Validation of Authenticity of Photos and Videos**

When reading the news, we must check the authenticity of the photos or videos listed. Based on the data, the respondents stated that they always check the authenticity of the photos or videos they see in a news story. This is the right attitude in anticipating hoax news because by ensuring the photos and videos we can prevent the wider spread of hoax news if the news is not proven to be true.

### **3.8 Personal Assumptions**

Making personal assumptions when reading the title of a news story must often be done by news readers. This can happen because sometimes news must have a title that provokes the readers to assume the title of the news they are reading. In fact, it is not necessarily the assumption that we

make true if we have not read the news thoroughly. Respondents stated that they rarely assume when reading news headlines. This is in line with the respondents who also rarely feel biased about a piece of news. So that respondents are not easily influenced by hoaxes.

### 3.9 Self-Defense from Outside Influences Related to Hoax

Dissemination of news needs to be done in a trusted community. So that the potential for the spread of hoaxes can be reduced. Based on the data, respondents generally always disseminate the news they receive to a trusted community according to and based on facts. In addition, the respondents also always hold fast to the facts they believe in regardless of the assumptions of the public present regarding the news. Then, the respondents also stated that they often considered the reasons why someone shared the news with them. This shows that respondents can refrain from outside influences related to hoax news.

## 4 Conclusion

This study seeks to determine how the millennial generation's attitude, especially among students, anticipates hoax news. Based on the research data, more or less, these millennial generations already know how to act if they are caught or receive hoax news. This means that the millennial generation can determine whether the news is factual or fake.

Suggestions related to this research are that the millennial generation can be more critical in reading information received, both information from print media and social media. In addition, researchers also suggest implementing media literacy that focuses on identifying the characteristics of hoax news which aims to reduce the spread of hoaxes among the millennial generation.

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