

## INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING PATTERN OF *TEMPO* WEEKLY NEWS MAGAZINE

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### Abstract

**Purpose of the study:** Through an investigative news, “*Kapal Patroli Pembawa Selisih*” (*Tempo*, 2004, May 16), this research is conducted for the purpose of examining *Tempo*'s investigative reporting pattern – how *Tempo* conceptualize its investigative reporting, how *Tempo* plan its investigative reporting, how *Tempo* evaluate its investigative reporting and how *Tempo* conduct its investigative reporting.

**Methodology:** This study uses qualitative method with case study approach, through interpretive framework. Case study approach designed for this research is a single case (embedded) in nature, which applies multi-level analysis. Analysis is carried out to discover the answers to understand the reporting of investigation, both stated by literature and meanings conceptualized by *Tempo* Magazine itself. ‘One observation’ is the terminology of investigative reporting (11-steps of investigative reporting by Paul N. Williams).

**Main Findings:** Investigative reporting by *Tempo* Magazine is a rigorous and systematic reporting, disclosing wrongdoing based on evidence, facts and data. Investigation's editorials of *Tempo* Magazine form special teams. The investigation team gives emphasis to quality and capacity of journalists, which coordinated by an editor. *Investigasi* rubric is systematically a reporting unit integrated with *Tempo*'s editorial management.

**Applications of this study:** *Tempo*'s investigative activity in Indonesia is not only a matter of press action. Its presence encourages democratic verve in Indonesia. *Tempo*'s reporting pattern represents social, cultural, politics and other subjects. As a matter of fact, *Tempo*'s investigative reporting is linked to Indonesia's Human Rights Affair, in articulating freedom of thought and opinion. Thus, this research is able to be use as material for research in politics, sociology, communication, media and cultural studies.

**Novelty/Originality of this study:** Investigative reporting is rather a unique topic of research. Most of the research discuss investigation within the news themes and its impact, or journalistic professionalism. Thus, the research on *Tempo*'s investigative reporting has its novelty. Investigation, in this research, is viewed from the perspective of its conceptualization, reporting, reporting planning, execution of reporting activity and its investigative news reporting. That is to say, how the mainstream media carry out their duty, seek and acquire as well as reporting deliberately concealed wrongdoings, especially in Indonesia.

**Keywords:** *investigative reporting, Tempo magazine, Indonesia, case study, Tempo investigative reporting activities*

### INTRODUCTION

In the late 1990s, there were many issues, scandals, violations, such as the government's Corruption, Nepotism, Manipulation reported by the Indonesian press. One of them was *Tempo* Weekly News Magazine. *Tempo* Magazine is a news magazine deemed to have credibility within the Indonesian press circle. Published since 1971, *Tempo* Magazine contributes a particular attitude and reporting pattern. The banning of *Tempo* Magazine in 1994 unleashed a wave of protest from various class of society. Its re-publication in 1998 brought together a new rubric called *Investigasi*.

The process of investigative reporting conducted by *Tempo* Magazine is executed in a specific mechanism. Meanwhile, on a certain discussion, investigative reporting has an array of specified technical guidelines. This study aims to examine the investigative reporting pattern of *Tempo* Magazine, through one of its news article.

### INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING

Reporting pattern is one of the important dimensions in journalism. Through excellent reporting, a media produces various message products that will be consumed by the public. Journalism discipline, among other things, introduces investigative reporting as a technique to report violation events through accurate facts and often described as ‘custodians of con-