

Representation of Natural Disaster Victims in the Online Media Tribun Bengkulu: A Linguistic Corpus Analysis

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Abstract: This research examines how victims of natural disasters are represented in the online media coverage of Tribun Bengkulu. The aim of this study is to identify the representation of victims in news texts and explain the tendencies of the resulting meanings. The methods used are corpus-based quantitative and qualitative. The research data consists of 30 disaster news articles published in the period 2023–2025 with a total of 9,261 tokens. The analysis was conducted using software AntConc to identify wordlists, concordance, collocation, and n-gram related to victims of disasters in the news corpus. The study's findings revealed that the words house, resident, victim, affected, and damage were the frequent words in the corpus. The news reports on natural disasters primarily focused on victims' material losses, emergency situations, and statistics on the disaster's impact. The affected people were portrayed more in terms of material and administrative losses than emotional and psychological aspects. This study concludes that media language plays a crucial role in constructively shaping public perceptions regarding the social status and conditions of post-disaster victims.

Keywords: Disaster, Linguistic Corpus, Online Media, Victim Representation, Tribun Bengkulu

Introduction

The language used in news texts not only serves as a means of conveying information, but also as a medium for shaping meaning that influences how the public understands an event (Harfiandi, 2020). Every choice of words, the way events are narrated, and how the parties involved are portrayed in the text carry certain values that readers often do not realize. The language used by media in representing disaster victims is even more critical since it can influence audience members' views about the affected people, disaster circumstances, and even the government's response to the event (Salamah et al., 2021). Considering representation as a production of meaning by media professionals in language use, Hall, (1997) argues that the language used to represent the news is not simply a reflection of what happens but also a way of constructing or creating meaning.

Bengkulu Province is one of the regions that is quite vulnerable to various types of natural disasters such as floods, landslides, and earthquakes (Gustiani et al., 2021). This situation makes information about disasters an important necessity for the local community, especially through online media reports, which are currently the fastest and most accessible source of information. Tribun Bengkulu, as one of the local media houses that actively report disaster occurrences, plays a vital role in disaster management by building public awareness about the victims' problems. If the media outlet uses language that evokes sympathy from the audience, for instance, by emphasizing victims' suffering, property damage, and helplessness, the audience will associate the victims with pity. On the other hand, if the media uses language that emphasizes solidarity, for instance, by discussing community support for the victims, the audience will learn about another perspective on the victims' lives. Such findings suggest that



the representation of disaster victims in the news is not only dependent on the event but also on how the media constructs news items (Hajar, 2026).

Some of the previous studies have demonstrated the effect of language use in constructing the representation of disaster victims. According to Sakti et al., (2023), deictics in disaster news reports could trigger the construction of social distance between victims and other social groups. Similarly, when reporting the Sinabung volcano disaster, Lestari et al., (2018) revealed that news stories tended to elevate the government's voice over disaster victims. Anggoro et al., (2025) found that the media used the victim frame to emphasize the hardship of flood victims, making them portrayed as passive recipients of the disaster. In turn, Pardede et al., (2026) unveiled that media outlets used dramatic language when reporting landslides and overlooked the voice of residents, making the victims represent themselves as passive actors of the incident. On the other hand, in reporting Cianjur earthquake news on Kompas .com, Walid et al., (2025) discovered that the language used by the media to report the disaster emphasized the roles of disaster management agencies, thus overshadowing the voice of disaster victims. These previous findings provide substantial information on the role of language use in constructing disaster victims' representation in the news.

Although various studies have discussed the representation of victims in the media, most still use a qualitative discourse analysis approach and focus on national media or specific regions outside Bengkulu. Studies that specifically examine local media in Bengkulu using a linguistic corpus approach are still relatively limited. The corpus approach allows for the empirical identification of linguistic patterns through the analysis of frequency and recurring collocations (McEnery & Hardie, 2012), and also opens up space to reveal the structured social meanings in texts (Baker, 2006). Thus, there is still a research gap in understanding how disaster victims are systematically represented in local online media based on corpus data. Moreover, the nature of disasters and the closeness of local media to the Bengkulu community might affect the representation patterns of victims compared to national newspapers. Thus, analyzing the corpus of local news is essential to unveil language trends used in constructing representation in a particular context (Widjajanti et al., 2025).

In media studies, corpus-based research has become increasingly important due to its ability to investigate patterns of language use in the target data set. Through wordlists, collocation, and n-gram searches, the research could uncover wordlinguistic patterns that might be inaccessible to manual inspection (McEnery & Hardie, 2012). At the same time, such analysis enables researchers to reveal social meaning underpinned by patterns of word occurrence due to their repetitive use (Baker, 2006). The corpus-based method has been employed in local media studies, such as the research conducted by Puspitasari & Sukma, (2022) to investigate pandemic-related news and identify patterns of collocation use that contribute to certain representation of the pandemic in the news. Likewise, the current study attempts to apply the same method to analyze news reports on disasters in Bengkulu to identify patterns of representation of victims (Widjajanti et al., 2025). In addition to being able to unveil the patterns of word use, corpus-based analysis also offers objectivity in research findings since



the study relies on the target data corpus. One of the limitations of qualitative research is the subjectivity of its findings due to the dependence on the researcher's expertise. By using corpus-based methods, the current study aims to contribute to more trustworthy and objective findings into language patterns used in representing disaster victims in news reports.

The current study's data consists of news reports published between 2023 and 2025. The timeframe was selected considering the availability of news reports from the online media outlet since *Tribun Bengkulu* commenced its operation in Bengkulu in 2022. Concurrently, the period offers rich disaster data that have occurred in Bengkulu to conduct corpus research. The data corpus was generated using purposive sampling procedures, taking into account news reports that focused on disasters occurring in Bengkulu that triggered victims' losses and damages to properties. Particularly, the current study sampled news reports that documented flash floods, floods, landslides, and earthquakes that occurred in 2024, 2025, and 2025, respectively, and caused extensive damage to residents' houses. Besides, disaster-prone Bengkulu is geographically located as a place where seasonal floods and earthquakes are frequent, making the timeframe relevant to represent disaster occurrences in the locality. The inclusion criteria for the current study were news reports that documented disasters in Bengkulu, mentioned victims or impacts resulting from the event, and published between 2023 and 2025. Besides, the current study excluded opinion pieces and non-event news reports to guarantee the relevance of data corpus to the research objectives.

Based on the provided background information, the current study aims to address two research questions concerned with representation of disaster victims in news reports by the online media outlet *Tribun Bengkulu* between 2023 and 2025. Firstly, the study will investigate how victims of disasters are represented in news stories published by the local media outlet. Secondly, the research will examine what aspects of victims' experiences are emphasized in the news reports based on the lexical patterns revealed through corpus analysis. Using corpus-based methods, the current study will utilize wordlists, concordance, collocation, and n-grams to identify patterns of language use related to the word victim to conduct the research. The quantitative findings are then combined with qualitative readings to understand the meaning constructed through language. Through this approach, the study is expected to provide a more comprehensive picture of the representation of disaster victims in local media and enrich media linguistic studies and discourse studies in Indonesia.

Methods

This study uses a quantitative corpus-based method and qualitative reading of news texts. This approach was chosen because studies on the representation of disaster victims require not only an interpretive understanding of meaning, but also mapping of linguistic patterns that appear repeatedly throughout the data (Habil, 2023). Corpus analysis allows researchers to systematically identify word frequency, lexical tendencies, and interword relationships, so that the picture of representation can be seen in a more measurable way. In addition to relying on corpus-based methods to identify patterns of language use in news



reports on disasters, the current study will conduct qualitative reading of the news reports to discover how words related to disasters are used in constructing victims' representation in the news (Salamah et al., 2021). The combination of both methods is essential to fulfill the research objectives since relying only on corpus analysis might fail to capture the nuances of language use in constructing representation. According to Baker, (2006), corpus-based and qualitative studies could be combined to provide complementary insights into language use in texts. Similar arguments have been made by McEnery & Hardie, (2012) to suggest that combining both methods offers a more comprehensive understanding of language use. Thus, this research does not only rely on frequency numbers but also considers the social and linguistic contexts that underlie the use of language in news reporting.

The current study's data consists of online news reports published by Tribun Bengkulu online media outlet between 2023 and 2025 years. Particular news reports were sampled using purposive sampling procedures due to their relevance to the research objectives of investigating disaster representation in local media. The timeframe for selecting the data was operationalized based on news reports' availability since Tribun Bengkulu media house commenced its operation in Bengkulu in 2022. Besides, the period offers enough disaster data to conduct corpus research. Consequently, the generated corpus includes news reports on natural disasters that occurred in Bengkulu and resulted in victims' losses and damages to their properties. Opinion articles, editorials, and non-event writings were not included so that the data remained focused on factual reports. Based on these criteria, 30 relevant news articles were obtained and met the requirements for analysis in this study.

The data collection process was carried out by searching news archives on official media websites, then downloading texts that met the predetermined criteria. All texts obtained were separated from non-text elements such as advertisements, internal links, and website metadata so as not to influence the analysis results. The data cleaning process plays a critical role in corpus research to guarantee that the resulting corpus has relevant, clean, and consistent data (Biber et al., 1998). Having completed the data cleaning process, the current study saved the news reports in .txt file format to generate a research corpus. Particularly, the corpus was tokenized to ensure that all special characters and symbols had been removed to prevent them from affecting the analysis process. Following the completion of the data preparation process, the current study presents the results of the data preparation stage to demonstrate that the corpus consists of 9261 tokens. The word tokens are an essential metric in corpus research since they determine the number of words used to generate the findings of wordlists, collocation, and concordance analyses in the next stage of the study.

Prior to conducting the analysis, the current study prepared the research data using wordlists, collocation, and concordance analyses in AntConc to generate findings on patterns of language use in news reports on disasters in Bengkulu. Firstly, the study focused on identifying the words that occurred frequently in the context of disaster victims to uncover the essential words used to represent the topic in the news. Frequency and collocation analysis is rooted in Sinclair, (1991) idea of regarding word occurrence patterns as meaning-makers,



which was further developed by Stubbs, (2001) in relation to meaning and discourse tendencies. Through the concordance feature, researchers also traced the context of keyword occurrences to see how victims were portrayed in sentence structures. After obtaining quantitative patterns, a qualitative reading of the concordance lines and several texts representing the dominant patterns was conducted to understand how meaning is represented narratively. This combination of quantitative and qualitative analysis follows the principle of triangulation in discourse corpus research as described by Baker & Egbert, (2016), so that the research results are not only statistical, but also contextual and interpretive.

Results and Discussion

This section discusses the main findings obtained from corpus analysis of natural disaster news reports in *Tribun Bengkulu*. The results of this analysis are compiled to answer the research question of how disaster victims are represented through the language choices used by the media. Quantitative findings from the list of most frequently occurring words, collocation patterns, and the context of word occurrence in KWIC lines form the basis for examining these representation trends. These findings are then explored in depth through qualitative reading to ensure that the meanings that emerge are not only understood numerically, but also in the manner in which the media frames the conditions and positions of victims in their reporting (Salamah et al., 2021). The following discussion also compares the findings of this study with theories and findings of previous studies so that the patterns of representation that emerge can be viewed in a broader context in relation to the issues being studied.

The corpus used in this study consists of 30 natural disaster news articles published by *Tribun Bengkulu* with a total of 9,261 tokens. This section discusses the main findings obtained from the corpus analysis, particularly to see how disaster victims are represented through language choices in news reports. The quantitative analysis results include a list of the most frequently occurring words, collocative relationships, and the context of word occurrence in KWIC lines as a starting point for exploring the semantic tendencies constructed by the media when reporting on disaster events. These figures are then explored in depth through qualitative reading so that the appearance of words is not only understood as frequency, but also as a way for the media to frame the position, experiences, and vulnerability of victims. Furthermore, these findings are compared with previous theories and research so that the patterns of representation that appear can be read in a broader context, both as a discourse practice and as part of the social construction of disasters.

Table 1. Wordlist of the Bengkulu Tribune News Corpus

Word	Rank	Freq
<i>Flood</i>	5	136
<i>House</i>	6	107
<i>Residents</i>	9	84
<i>Landslide</i>	12	74
<i>Earthquake</i>	13	73
<i>Road</i>	17	62



<i>Community</i>	25	47
<i>Victims</i>	26	46
<i>Affected</i>	26	46
<i>Disaster</i>	30	44
<i>River</i>	30	44
<i>Rain</i>	37	39
<i>Damage</i>	41	48
<i>Damaged</i>	45	35
<i>Region</i>	64	25

Source: Antconc Analysis 2025

Based on Table 1, the words that appear in the Wordlist show the general trends of the analyzed news texts. Several words such as *flood*, *house*, *residents*, *landslide*, and *earthquake* appear with a fairly high frequency. This indicates that the news in the corpus indeed emphasizes the types of disasters that occur and their impact on residents' homes and lives (Subiyakto, 2025). In addition, the words *community*, *victims*, and *affected* also frequently appear, which indicate the manner in which the media describes the parties directly affected by the incident. Other words such as *roads*, *rain*, and *damage* also appear to show that the focus of the news is not only on the disaster itself, but on the circumstances and conditions after the event. The initial findings of this Wordlist provide an overview before the analysis moves to a deeper level.

After observing the most frequently occurring words, this study then focused on five words considered most relevant to seeing how disaster victims are represented in the text, namely *victims*, *affected*, *residents*, *homes*, and *damage*. These five words not only appear frequently, but are also directly related to how the media describes the condition and position of victims in their reporting. Therefore, further analysis was conducted through collocation and KWIC to see how these words appear in sentence context. By looking at the patterns of their appearance and context, the discussion can reveal the image of victims constructed by the media in the analyzed reports.

The focus on these five words becomes even stronger when placed in the context of recent research on disaster reporting in Indonesia. Recent studies show that the choice of language in disaster reports is never neutral, but rather plays a role in shaping how readers understand the situation and the position of the victims. For example, research conducted by Namira et al., (2024) found that media reporting on disaster in the national media often emphasizes certain attitudes such as sympathy or a critical tone, which can influence readers' perceptions of the victims and disaster management. Similar findings can also be seen in the study by Ninggar et al., (2025) on online coverage of the flooding in Bandar Lampung, which shows there is a tendency for the media to emphasize the physical damage and emergency needs (basic necessities, evacuation) but lack the in-depth narrative on victims' experiences of the disaster. Both studies support the need to conduct corpus analysis for words such as *victims*, *affected*, *residents*, *homes*, and *damage* to understand



how the media frames the post-disaster reality.

The word "house" as an indicator of impact and damage in disaster discourse

The KWIC results for the word rumah (house) show that this word is almost always used to describe the impact which disaster has on people's lives. In various excerpts of news, the word rumah appears in the context of damage, flooding or unusable living conditions. For example, some quotes mention "residents' homes affected by flooding," "homes flooded with water," and "residents' homes damaged by earthquakes." This recurring pattern shows that the media focuses its report on material losses as a way of emphasizing the seriousness of the disaster. In disaster reporting, damage to homes is often used as the main indicator to describe the magnitude of the impact on the community, because homes are considered the most personal space and a point of stability in residents' lives. When homes are damaged or flooded, all activities and residents' sense of security are disrupted, so the consistent use of the word "home" reflects the vulnerability of the victims.

Upon closer examination, the dominance of the word "*house*" in the context of destruction also reveals how the media constructs narratives of disaster through symbols of loss of living space. Houses do not only provide physical structures, but also sources of social stability and the sense of security related to the concept of ontological security (Giddens, 1991). By highlighting the houses as the focal point of the narrative, the media directs the readers' attention on the most tangible aspect of a disaster. From a representational perspective, language does not merely reflect reality, but also creates it through certain lexical choices (Hall, 1997). The repeated emphasis on damage to homes indirectly frames victims through the loss of property and living space, so that the emotional dimensions and subjective experiences of victims tend to be less exposed.

This tendency is even more apparent in the collocation results. The word rumah (house) has strong collocations with sebanyak (as many as), terdata (recorded), and terdampak (affected) that imply that media reports tend to emphasize quantitative data on the number of houses damaged. Collocations with warga (residents), mengalami (experienced), kerusakan (damage), rusak (damaged), and terendam (submerged) show that houses are used as the center of the narrative to describe the status of the victims. This pattern of collocation is in line with Baker, (2006) that words which frequently appear together can disclose the structure of representation and ideology hidden in the text. In this context, houses are not only physical objects, but also symbols of damage that lead to the portrayal of the community as a party which has suffered losses, needs help, or is in a helpless condition.

Furthermore, the collocation with words "heavy," "unit," and "RT" shows that news reports contain administrative details that make the damage appear measurable and officially recorded. This is in line with the findings Stubbs, (2001), which states that the media often uses numbers, categories, and technical details to create an impression of objectivity. By listing the number of houses, the level of damage, and the location of the neighborhood, the media presents



the disaster as an event that can be managed, handled, or monitored by the government and related institutions. However, at the same time, this pattern also makes the narrative of the victims appear through material aspects alone, while the personal experiences of the victims are rarely shown. A quantitative approach to disaster reporting is indeed important for public information purposes, but the dominance of numbers and administrative units can narrow the public's understanding of the complexity of victims' suffering (Jeong & Lee, 2019).

Viewed as a whole, the word "house" plays an important role in indirectly depicting victims. Victims are not always represented by the word "victims", but also through their assets or living area, such as houses. This is line with Fairclough, (1995) that media constructs social representations through entities or objects associated with groups. In this study, damage to homes became a way for the media to indicate the suffering and vulnerability of the residents without necessarily referring to them as victims. Thus, the analysis of the word "home" not only explains the physical damage but also highlights how the media frames the residents as affected parties who need help.

More critically, the tendency of the media to emphasize the damage to homes can be viewed as a strategic report which emphasizes the most easily visualized, measured, and communicated aspects to the readers. Physical damage is considered more concrete and quicker to create a sense of urgency than subjective emotional experiences. In journalistic practice, data- and number-based reporting is often seen as more fulfilling the standards of objectivity (Tuchman, 1978). However, this choice also shows the media's preference for the material dimension over the psychosocial dimension of the victims. The implication is that the public is more inclined to understand disasters as events of physical and administrative damage, rather than as humanitarian crises that touch on the trauma and social dynamics of post-disaster victims.



File	Left Context	File	Right Context
1 Dokumen temp...	aman beresendik, tidak ada korban jiwa," kata Agus. Diketahui terdapat 11	rumah	warga yang terdampak banjir, dan beberapa pendirian rumah terge
2 Dokumen temp...	bumi yang menggempang Bengkulu pada Jumat dan Sabtu. Berikut rincian	rumah	warga yang terdampak gempa di Kabupaten Bengkulu I LRT 48
3 Dokumen temp...	sekitar pukul 18.00 WIB yang menyebabkan air naik masuk ke dalam	rumah	warga yang diparkirkan akibat banjir air dari selokan yang
4 Dokumen temp...	tersempit, barang panjang, para warga terus ikut berendam. Bahkan ada	rumah	warga yang bersempitan air, "jika Ramadhan, Kema (11/08/2025), Ramadhan
5 Dokumen temp...	korban jiwa hanya mengalami luka ringan dan telah dirawat. "Tadi	rumah	warga yang bisa kuyung telah bisa beres yang dulu."
6 Dokumen temp...	bekas informasi resmi BNPB, Hani Hasan Tunas Lampung Likal Konde	Rumah	Warga yang rusak Cukuma Bengkulu, Hani Hasan, terganggu beres
7 Dokumen temp...	ar TRIBUNBENGKULU.COM, BENGKULU - Program perbaikan bangunan dan	rumah	warga yang rusak akibat gempa itu, baru dirawat Cukuma
8 Dokumen temp...	terdi, saat jaman hujan musim yang warga banyak menumpang ke	rumah	warga yang terdampak banjir, untuk mandi dan ber
9 Dokumen temp...	dua titik berbeda, pertama di Desa Saba Teet yang menem	rumah	warga dan longsor ke dua terjadi di Desa Tanjung
10 Dokumen temp...	ke belakang, Minggu (25/1/2025) lalu. Bangun pun mendengar sebanyak 48	rumah	warga dan menghancurkan sebagian besar pendirian serta rumah warga
11 Dokumen temp...	pukul 18.20 WIB akibat Survei Padang Guri meluap. Sebanyak enam unit	rumah	warga Desa Sa Kating Kecamatan Padang Guri di Kabupaten
12 Dokumen temp...	ga Sagel Pateri Saub TRIBUNBENGKULU.COM, MUSKUMUKU - Sebanyak 91	rumah	warga Desa Pondok Batu, Kecamatan Kute Mukomuko, Kabupaten Mukom
13 Dokumen temp...	wang yang bereset Air Katurang (1 rumah ditemukannya meninggal), puluhan	rumah	warga di Kecamatan Pasa Raja terendam banjir. Kemudian ada
14 Dokumen temp...	banyak Mangrove TRIBUNBENGKULU.COM, BENGKULU) TENGALI - Tahun	rumah	warga di jumlah Desa di Kabupaten Bengkulu Tengah terendam
15 Dokumen temp...	Pemerintah Provinsi Bengkulu, belajar akan segera mengontak, kerusakan	rumah	warga akibat bencana gempa bumi, Hani Hasan mengatakan, data
16 Dokumen temp...	an ringan hingga berat. Dari 120 rumah warga terdapat, terdapat sebanyak 20	rumah	warga akibat dua bencana gempa bumi, dua ditengahi lagi
17 Dokumen temp...	Korban, dan satu rumah di laporan mengalami kerusakan. Selain itu, 120	rumah	akibat Survei mangrove, dan menghancurkan sebagian rumah warga beres.

Figure 1. KWIC Analysis Results for the Word "Rumah"
Source: Results from AntConc Online News Tribun Bengkulu (2025)

Collocate	Rank	FreqL	FreqR	Range	Likelihood	Effect
1 sebanyak	1	26	16	10	1	90.412 3.727
2 terdapat	2	21	11	10	1	82.532 4.046
3 terdampak	3	34	11	23	1	71.467 2.677
4 it	4	19	10	9	1	70.682 3.902
5 warga	5	31	2	29	1	30.399 1.675
6 mengalami	6	18	4	14	1	30.174 2.329
7 kerusakan	7	19	12	7	1	27.230 2.114
8 rusak	8	18	0	18	1	26.598 2.154
9 terendam	9	16	2	14	1	20.655 1.984
10 berat	10	12	2	10	1	19.753 2.306
11 unit	11	8	5	3	1	19.331 2.944

Figure 2 Results of KWIC Analysis of the Word "Rumah"
Source: AntConc Results from Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)

The word "Warga" as an Indicator of the Direct Impact of Disasters

KWIC search results for the word *warga* in the news corpus show that this term is almost always used to refer to community groups that are directly affected by disasters. This word appears in constructions such as "residents of Tanjung Negara Village," "residents who were swept away," or "residents' homes affected by flooding," which place residents as the main subjects in disaster events. The inclusion of geographical markers shows that the social identity of residents is attached to a specific space, so that the representation of victims is always connected to the affected area. Within the linguistic framework of the corpus, the repetition of this pattern reflects a systematic tendency in the framing of subjects (Baker, 2006). Representationally, the use of collective terms such as residents simplifies the complexities of individuals into homogenous communal categories (Hall, 1997).

Structurally, residents often appear as subjects in sentences describing situations of emergency, such as "residents evacuate," "residents struggle to find clean water," or "residents hope for assistance." Although grammatically subjects, the actions that are attributed to residents are generally reactive to the situation rather than actions to demonstrate control. This pattern is in line with the tendency to represent victims as those who experience, rather than as actors who determine the course of events (Houston et al., 2019). Thus, the structure of language contributes to shaping the image of residents as a vulnerable group in need of external intervention. This representation reinforces the image of vulnerability as the main characteristic of victims. Indirectly, the language used also limits the possibility of alternative interpretations of citizens' social capacity.

Collocation analysis shows that the most dominant pair with the word *warga* is *rumah* (house). Phrases such as "rumah warga rusak" (residents' houses damaged) or "rumah warga terendam" (residents' houses submerged) appear repeatedly, showing that residents' identity is attached to the material condition of their dwellings. In corpus analysis, consistent lexical associations form specific social meaning patterns (Baker, 2006). The strong relationship between *residents* and *houses* shows that residents' social experiences are often measured through the physical losses they experience. Thus, the representation of residents is ultimately more dominant in the framework of physical loss than in that of inner experience. This shows that the logic of material measurement is very strong in framing disaster narratives.

Collocations related to geographical markers such as "Tanjung Negara" emphasize the importance of the local dimension in news framing. In journalism, spatial proximity is a key news value since it increases relevance and urgency for the readers (Tuchman, 1978). Emphasis on specific locations help to create emotional closeness but limits the interpretation of the disasters to the local community. In the context of news production, this pattern also reflects the norm of journalistic objectivity, which prioritizes verified facts, concrete locations, and identifiable data as sources of credibility (Ahmad et al., 2024).

Overall, the term "residents" acts as a marker for groups which are directly affected either for loss of homes, economic losses, or safety risks. This pattern is in line with Houston



et al., (2019) which shows that the media focuses its narrative on local communities as victims. This view is reinforced by Khawaja et al., (2025) which assesses that collective representation builds solidarity, but frames residents as affected parties. Such representations are effective in creating empathy and legitimizing the urgency of aid. However, the dominant focus on collective vulnerability narrows the picture of citizens' social capacity in dealing with disasters.

More critically, this choice of representation pattern shows that the media tends to use collective categories and material indicators because they are considered more objective and credible in crisis situations (Tuchman, 1978). Measured and administrative language helps maintain the legitimacy of the news. However, the implication for the public is the formation of a perception that citizens are primarily understood as a vulnerable group in need of help. Thus, the use of the word *warga* not only describes the impact of the disaster, but also shapes the way readers understand the social position of victims within the disaster structure.

File Edit Settings Help

Target Corpus

Name: temp

Files: 1

Tokens: 9261

Dokumen tanpa judul.docx

KWIC Plot File View Cluster N-Gram Collocate Word Keyword Wordcloud ChatAI

Total Hits: 84 Page Size 100 hits 1 to 84 of 84 hits

File	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1 Dokumen tanp...	it Sunaidah (51) warga Desa Tanjung Negara (istri kades, red), Musdiana (42)	warga	Desa Tanjung Negara dan korban lain sedang menyeberang sungai.
2 Dokumen tanp...	ian hanyut 1 di antaranya berhasil ditemukan yakni atas nama Sunaidah (51)	warga	Desa Tanjung Negara Kecamatan Kedurang yang merupakan istri kades,
3 Dokumen tanp...	22/2/2024) yakni Marsanaini (51) warga Desa Keban Agung II, Musdiana (42)	warga	Desa Tanjung Negara dan satu lagi Ahdawati (76) warga Desa
4 Dokumen tanp...	Tanjung Negara. Pada saat itu, Lastri dan korban hanyut Sunaidah (51)	warga	Desa Tanjung Negara (istri kades, red), Musdiana (42) warga Desa
5 Dokumen tanp...	Kedurang. Sedangkan, korban yang berhasil selamat yakni Lastri Hayati (60)	warga	Desa Tanjung Negara, Jamli (79) yang merupakan suami dari Ahdawati
6 Dokumen tanp...	1/2/2024) sekitar pukul 16.00 WIB diungkap korban selamat Lastri Hayati (60)	warga	Desa Tanjung Negara. Pada saat itu, Lastri dan korban
7 Dokumen tanp...	seperti mandi dan lain-lain terganggu," jelas Zeki. Selain itu,	warga	Desa Pondok Batu yang mayoritas petani sawit juga merugi
8 Dokumen tanp...	mengalami gagal panen menjelang bulan puasa. "Karena banjir ini, Kami	warga	Desa Pondok Batu yang punya sawit gagal panen, apalagi
9 Dokumen tanp...	al Panen Sawit TRIBUNBENGKULU.COM, MUKOMUKO - Sebanyak 60 rumah	warga	Desa Pondok Batu, Kecamatan Kota Mukomuko, Kabupaten Mukomuko Ten
10 Dokumen tanp...	II, Musdiana (42) warga Desa Tanjung Negara dan satu lagi Ahdawati (76)	warga	Desa Durian Sebatang, semuanya berasal dari Kecamatan Kedurang. Sedangk
11 Dokumen tanp...	warga Desa Tanjung Negara, Jamli (79) yang merupakan suami dari Ahdawati	warga	Desa Durian Sebatang, dan 3 orang lagi belum diketahui identitasnya.
12 Dokumen tanp...	WIB akibat Sungai Padang Guci meluap. Sebanyak enam unit rumah	warga	Desa Air Kering Kecamatan Padang Guci Iir Kabupaten Kaur
13 Dokumen tanp...	lain belum ditemukan hingga Kamis pagi (22/2/2024) yakni Marsanaini (51)	warga	Desa Keban Agung II, Musdiana (42) warga Desa Tanjung Negara
14 Dokumen tanp...	ako Melonjak Tajam TRIBUNBENGKULU.COM, BENGKULU UTARA - Ratusan	warga	Desa Lebong Tandai, Kecamatan Napal Putih, Kabupaten Bengkulu Utara,
15 Dokumen tanp...	ggi hingga yang sawahnya gagal panen. Seperti diceritakan Abdul Gafar (49)	warga	Desa Pyang Mbik, Kecamatan Amen, Kabupaten Lebong yang saat
16 Dokumen tanp...	Rindu Hati sudah semakin tergerus atau mengalami erosi. Salah satu	warga	Desa Rindu Hati Lukman Hakim menjelaskan, kondisi tanah yang
17 Dokumen tanp...	terkendali, tidak ada korban jiwa," kata Agus. Diketahui terdapat 11 rumah	warga	yang terdampak banjir, dan beberapa peralatan rumah tangga rusak

Search Query Words Case Regex Results Set All hits Context Size 10 token(s)

warga

Sort Options Sort to right Sort 1 1R Sort 2 2R Sort 3 3R Order by freq



Figure 3. Results of WKIC Analysis of the Word "Citizens"
 Source: Results from AntConc Online News Tribun Bengkulu (2025)

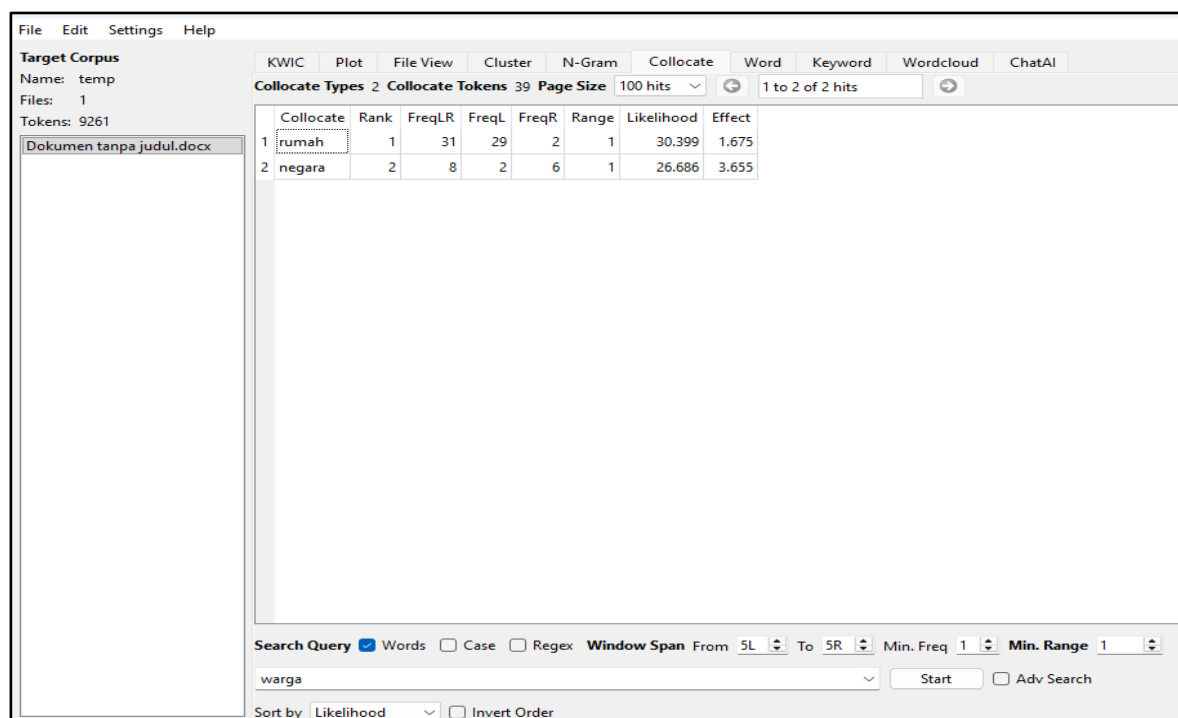


Figure 4 Results of Word Collocation Analysis for "Warga"
 Source: AntConc Results from Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)

The word "victim" as a representation of risk and loss in disaster news

The appearance of the word *korban* (victim) in the data is prominent in the context of news coverage of disasters that have struck various areas in Bengkulu. Based on the sequence of its appearances, the word *korban* is often followed by phrases such as *korban jiwa* (fatalities), *korban selamat* (survivors), and *korban hanyut* (those swept away), which illustrate the position of the word as the center of information about the direct impact of disasters on individuals. Recurring pattern of words such as no casualties, victims found, and survivors illustrates that local media prioritizes safety and victim search as the story's main theme. This is in line with the findings of Stubbs, (2001) that the distribution of words in the context of a sentence can reveal bias or focus in the text, especially in the discourse of disasters. Linguistically, the use of the word *korban* (victim) constructs a social identity that carries the meaning of suffering and helplessness. In the framework of representation, this naming is not neutral because it positions affected individuals primarily in relation to loss and risk (Hall, 1997).

In addition, the appearance of the word victim is closely related to the search and rescue process, through expressions such as "victims found," "victims survived," or "victims swept away not yet found." This recurring pattern shows that the news coverage

focused heavily on the post-disaster evacuation phase. Location-specific patterns, such as presenting news on the banks of the Kedurang River and the personalization of stories through Lastri as a name, also support the proximity hypothesis. Indeed, the findings align with previous studies that demonstrate how the local media focuses on geographical and human proximity when reporting on disasters (Kasim & Halid, 2025). However, the dominance of passive structures such as "victims were found" eliminates the agent of action. From a critical discourse analysis perspective, this passive form obscures the perpetrator and places the victim as the object of the event Fairclough, (1995), so that they are represented more as the party affected by the action than as the subject of agency.

The collocation results show a strong association between victims and the words soul, safe, found, river, and swept away. The pair victim soul has the highest frequency, signifying that the fatalities are the significant indicator in the news. The media prioritized the dissemination of information concerning the safety of the people as the essential news value. The usage of the collocation safe confirms that the narrative did not focus solely on the deaths and included the rescues. Indeed, the pattern is similar to other disaster-related news corpus where the fatalities and safety are intertwined (Alfarabi & Adhrianti, 2021). In the framing theory, the number of fatalities is the critical issue that media outlets use to signify the urgency and gravity of a disaster (Solman & Henderson, 2019). As such, the word victim appeared more frequently than the survivor because the former was a more significant news value.

The collocation of found, river, and washed away demonstrated that the narrative centered on the hydrometeorological disaster, particularly the flash flood. Indeed, the frequent occurrence of the collocation of victim and the river indicates that the news emphasized the impact of water currents. Additionally, the pattern of using the name or local official as a secondary source showed that the media used them to reinforce the credibility of the message, which is in line with the framing theory (Solman & Henderson, 2019). The involvement of concrete figures can also increase the credibility of news reports (Eriyanto, 2011). However, the term "victim" remains the main label that precedes personal identity. Thus, individual identities remain framed within the category of suffering, so that personal narratives serve to reinforce the construction of victims, rather than presenting them as autonomous subjects.

Overall, the results of KWIC and collocation analysis show that the word *korban* (*victim*) occupies a central position in disaster news texts in Bengkulu. This word acts as a key to the story, linking the facts of the event, the state of people, and the search and rescue operation details. The identified patterns in the use of words in context reveal that the most frequent news headlines focus on human interests and concerns, particularly the safety and the search and the discovery of victims. The results align with corpus-based disaster research, in which the majority of news stories are found to center on people.

More importantly, the choice of words demonstrates that the news media wanted to attract the audiences' attention to the issue by emphasizing the losses and risks. Indeed, the



words victim and safe are some of the most significant news values that the media used to report on the flood. In this capacity, the media used the word victim to draw the audiences' attention to the disaster and remind them that such a tragedy could occur to them or their loved ones. As such, the usage of the word signifies that the local media used the issue of flood to attract and retain the audiences' attention. As such, the word not only indicates the fact but also a specific way of portraying the flood disaster in Bengkulu.

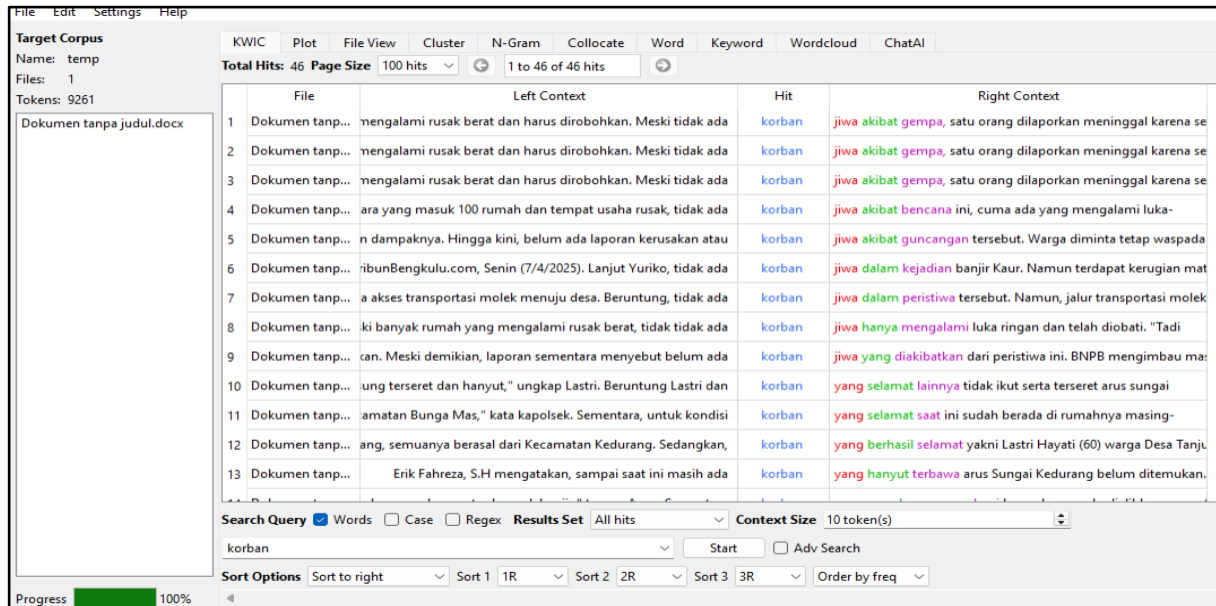


Figure 5. KWIC Analysis Results for the Word "Victim"
Source: Results from AntConc Online News Tribun Bengkulu (2025)

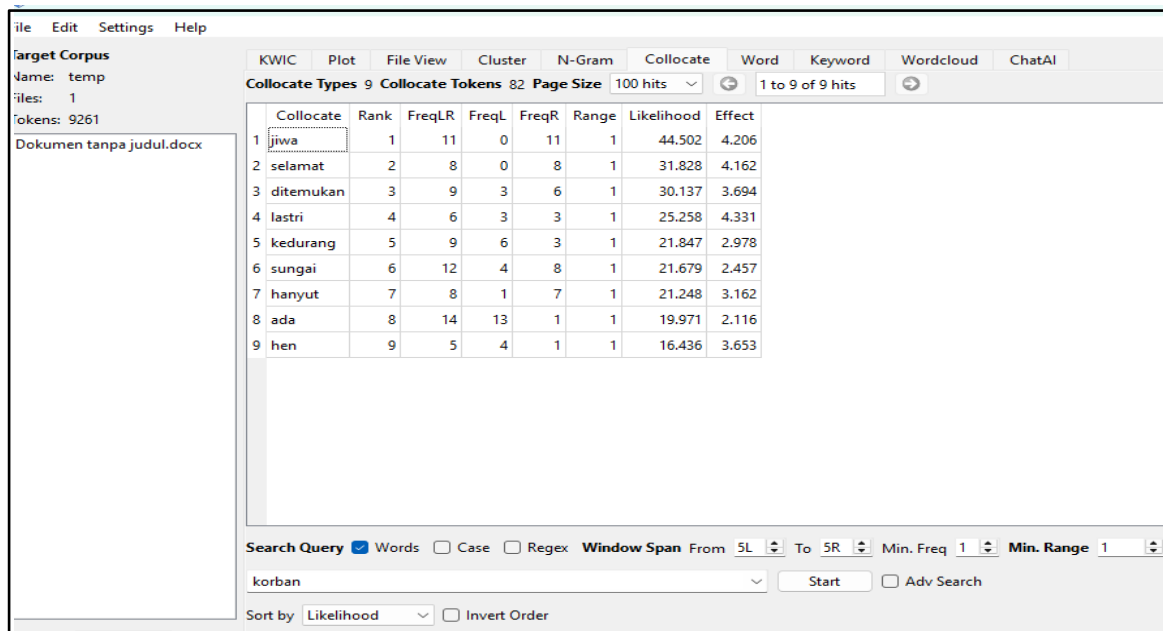


Figure 6. Results of KWIC Analysis of the Word "Victim"
Source: AntConc Results from Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)

The word affected as the indicator for the severity of impact

The findings of the KWIC for the word 'affected' demonstrate that the word was primarily used to indicate the damage and social effects of the flood disaster. The majority of the word's occurrences were used in reference to the number of houses destroyed or affected, such as '33 houses affected by flooding' or 'residents' houses affected by the earthquake. As such, it can be argued that the word served as a critical indicator of the destruction caused by the disaster. This pattern shows that the media uses *terdampak* as a standard term to describe the concrete scale of a disaster, especially in relation to housing and public facilities (Stubbs, 2001). Morphologically, this form is a passive construction that does not explicitly show the agent. In critical discourse analysis, passive structures tend to shift attention away from the causative agent to the final condition experienced (Fairclough, 1995). As a result, the reporting focuses more on the outcome in the form of damage than on the structural factors that may have contributed to the impact.

In addition to referring to houses, affected also collocated with administrative areas such as villages, sub-districts, or neighborhood associations, for example, "the most affected areas" or "villages affected by flash floods." This shows that the word functions as a geographical category for mapping response priorities. Usage such as "affected residents still need assistance" shows an expansion of meaning from physical objects to social subjects. Thus, *affected* combines material and social dimensions as described in disaster discourse (Tierney, 2019). However, in both contexts, this term still serves as a label for a condition, not a marker of personal experience, thereby reducing the complexity of suffering to an administrative category.

Moreover, the collocation results demonstrated that the word *terdampak* always occurred with RT, terdata, sebanyak, and rumah, forming the pattern of "RT 48 terdata rumah terdampak" 48 houses recorded as affected. Such administrative patterns are common in disaster reporting because they help readers understand the severity of the disaster in a systematic manner (Biber et al., 1998). In journalistic practice, numbers and classifications are considered to increase the credibility and objectivity of news (Tuchman, 1978). However, the consequence is that the subjective experiences of citizens become less visible because they are not easily converted into data. Altogether, the lexical patterns demonstrated how the media depicted the flood as a severe issue that caused the destruction of people's property and affected their quality of living (Andini et al., 2025).

Other collocations, such as Betungan, reviewing, and the repetition of the word, indicate that the word also was used in the context of administrative processes to denote the impact of the disaster. Specifically, the pattern of 'the Vice President reviews the affected location' demonstrated that the word was used to indicate the scope of the disaster that the government had to address. Similarly, the pattern 'the Head of BNPB directly inspects the



affected area' demonstrated that the word was used to indicate the severity of the disaster based on the government's response. Indeed, the findings align with the disaster discourse literature that demonstrates how the news media often used a disaster's impact on society and the response to it to indicate its severity (Houston et al., 2019). Thus, collocations reinforce the position of "affected" as a link between the facts of damage and response measures. This pattern also shows that the term "affected" functions as a discursive bridge between the condition of citizens and the legitimacy of government actions. As such, using the word affected in the context of the administrative response demonstrated that the media wanted to emphasize that the flood was a serious problem that required the involvement of various government agencies.

Based on the KWIC and collocation results, it can be argued that the word affected had a dual role in media's portrayal of the flood disaster. On the one hand, it is a technical term used to describe physical damage, especially to residents' homes. On the other hand, this word is used to indicate social and administrative characteristics, ranging from regional mapping to residents' needs. By using this word in a consistent manner, it becomes one of the critical keywords that frame the narrative about the Bengkulu disaster. Indeed, it serves as a reminder of the disaster's scope while also emphasizing the need for immediate reaction. Overall, the analysis allows us to conclude that the word affected is one of the most critical words in the provided corpus because it both defines the disaster's impact on the region and guides the audience's perceptions of this impact.

The KWIC and collocation results allow us to search for further patterns related to the word affected. In this case, it appears that, in most cases, this word is used to define either urban or rural areas that were impacted by the disaster. At the same time, the fact that the word affected is used more often than suffering, loss, or any other emotional words suggests that the media tries to remain objective while still conveying the gravity of the situation. In other words, the framing of Bengkulu disaster is primarily instrumental in trying to affect the audiences' perceptions of the emergency rather than evoke their emotions. After being exposed to such narratives, people would have understood that disasters are primarily administrative emergencies that require a specific response rather than emotional experiences. Overall, the KWIC and collocation results allow us to conclude that the word affected is used by the media to define the scope of the disaster and set the framework for its narrative representation in the target regions.



The screenshot shows the AntConc interface with the 'KWIC' tab selected. The search query is 'terdampak'. The results are displayed in a table with columns: File, Left Context, Hit, and Right Context. The table lists 14 hits from various news documents. Below the table, there are search options like 'Search Query', 'Results Set', 'Context Size', and 'Sort Options'.

File	Left Context	Hit	Right Context
1 Dokumen tanp...	n Bencana Daerah (BPBD) Bengkulu Tengah, sebanyak 33 rumah	terdampak	banjir di Desa Rindu Hati Kecamatan Taba Penanjung pada
2 Dokumen tanp...	masi TribunBengkulu.com. Belum diketahui pasti jumlah rumah	terdampak	banjir di Desa Sidodadi dan Desa Srikunoro Kecamatan Pondok
3 Dokumen tanp...	atan Karang Tinggi. Tak hanya itu, di Kecamatan Pondok Kelapa	terdampak	banjir di dua desa yakni Desa Sidodadi dan Desa
4 Dokumen tanp...	rlukan bantuan air bersih. "Jadi semua sumber air bersih dilokasi	terdampak	banjir bandang tidak ada, semuanya tercampur lumpur dan mate
5 Dokumen tanp...	akai," lanjut Kapolres. Kapolres menambahkan, bagi masyarakat	terdampak	banjir bandang yang memerlukan bantuan air bersih bisa langsur
6 Dokumen tanp...	gga beberapa hari ke depan. Penyaluran air bersih kepada warga	terdampak	banjir ini dilakukan mengingat Sungai Ketahun sedang dalam ke
7 Dokumen tanp...	BONG - Ratusan rumah di Kabupaten Lebong Provinsi Bengkulu	terdampak	banjir pada Senin (27/3/2023) akibat hujan deras yang mengguy
8 Dokumen tanp...	anjung Kabupaten Bengkulu Tengah merupakan salah satu lokasi	terdampak	banjir yang terparah, usai diterjang banjir bandang. Minggu (23/1
9 Dokumen tanp...	di wilayah Perumahan Rafflesia merupakan wilayah yang paling	terdampak	bencana alam ini. Terpisah, Sekretaris BPBD Provinsi Bengkulu, KI
10 Dokumen tanp...	ungannya, Wapres Gibran dijadwalkan meninjau langsung lokasi	terdampak	bencana gempa bumi serta berdialog dengan warga. Dari agende
11 Dokumen tanp...	edang berupaya untuk melakukan pembersihan terhadap warga	terdampak	bencana ini. "Saya dan beberapa petugas sedang dalam perjalan
12 Dokumen tanp...	anyakan tercampur lumpur pasca banjir. Maka dari itulah, warga	terdampak	bencana masih memerlukan bantuan air bersih. "Jadi semua sum
13 Dokumen tanp...	ana (BNPB), Letjen TNI Dr. Suharyanto meninjau langsung lokasi	terdampak	gempa bumi di Kelurahan Betungan, Kota Bengkulu, pada Senin
14 Dokumen tanp...	ana (BNPB). Letjen TNI Dr. Suharyanto meninjau langsung lokasi	terdampak	gempa bumi di Kelurahan Betungan, Kota Bengkulu, pada Senin

Figure 7 Results of KWIC Analysis of the Word "Terdampak"
Source: Results from AntConc Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)

The screenshot shows the AntConc interface with the 'Collocate' tab selected. The search query is 'terdampak'. The results are displayed in a table with columns: Collocate, Rank, FreqLR, FreqL, FreqR, Range, Likelihood, and Effect. The table lists 7 collocates. Below the table, there are search options like 'Search Query', 'Window Span', 'Min. Freq', and 'Min. Range'.

Collocate	Rank	FreqLR	FreqL	FreqR	Range	Likelihood	Effect
1 rt	1	20	11	9	1	109.622	5.194
2 terdata	2	19	10	9	1	102.008	5.120
3 sebanyak	3	20	11	9	1	91.354	4.566
4 rumah	4	34	23	11	1	71.467	2.677
5 terdampak	5	18	9	9	1	43.971	2.978
6 betungan	6	5	2	3	1	15.321	3.483
7 meninjau	7	4	4	0	1	15.051	4.010

Figure 8 Results of KWIC Analysis of the Word "Terdampak"
Source: AntConc Results from Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)

The word "Damage" as a Representation of Post-Disaster Infrastructure Conditions

KWIC analysis shows that the word *kerusakan* (damage) appears mainly in the context of reporting the severity of post-disaster infrastructure in various regions of



Bengkulu. In most contexts, *kerusakan* is positioned after phrases such as "experienced damage," "no damage," or "reports of damage," indicating that this word functions as the center of information related to the physical impact of disasters. The contexts that emerge are directly related to public buildings and facilities, such as houses, early childhood education centers, government buildings, roads, bridges, and irrigation facilities. The variety of subjects shows that local media places *damage* as the main marker to describe the scale of disruption to people's living spaces. This is in line with the function of news texts that emphasize the factual and measurable impact on the physical environment of an area (Stubbs, 2001). Semantically, the word damage functions as an abstraction of concrete events that occur in the field. Rather than discussing people's experiences, this term depersonalizes the disaster by categorizing it as a physical entity that can be measured. In terms of representation, such an approach confirms the dominance of Materialistic news values over interpersonal or psychological ones (Hall, 1997).

In addition, the frequent use of phrases such as 'details of severe, moderate, and minor damage' suggests a pattern of categorization of the information. Not only did the media report that damage had occurred, but they also provided a categorization of the severity of the damage that the affected buildings experienced in order to demonstrate the extent of the changes or destruction that has occurred (Taufiqurrahman, 2024). From the perspective of corpus linguistics, the repetition of these categories demonstrates a consistent lexical pattern in the construction of the meaning of physical impact (Sinclair, 2004). The categorization of severe, moderate, and minor also shows that the media adopted an administrative framework commonly used in post-disaster technical assessments. This framework facilitates the process of data collection and determining aid priorities, but at the same time simplifies the complexity of the impact into a technocratic hierarchical scheme. As a result, readers are likely to understand disasters as being concerned with building damage rather than a social crisis that impacts the daily lives of citizens (Habil, 2023).

Meanwhile, the results of collocation analysis clarify that the word damage most often appears with the word experience, denoting a very strong association between damage as an event and the affected subjects. This collocation shows that the media consistently frame damage as a direct result of a disaster, and this structure portrays a cause-and-effect pattern that is often used in reporting on disasters. Additionally, the presence of collocations such as 'severe,' 'moderate,' and 'minor' confirms the media's attempt to present information hierarchically. This pattern is a typical feature of disaster reports, in which the categorization of damage levels is important as a basis for assessing the need for assistance (McEnery & Hardie, 2012). The dominance of the "experienced damage" structure also indicates the use of passive constructions that focus on the final condition, rather than on the causes that may have contributed to infrastructure vulnerability. In critical discourse analysis, such patterns can divert attention from structural factors such as spatial planning, development policies, or suboptimal mitigation (Fairclough, 1995).

Other collocations such as *house*, *building*, *report*, and *regarding* show that the



word *damage* is in a network of meanings directly related to data collection and verification. This shows how the news constructs damage not merely as a condition, but as an administrative fact that requires data collection, reporting, and recovery measures. This framework is in line with the view of Miles & Huberman, (2014) that language in disaster reports is often used to streamline complex information into a manageable form for impact analysis purposes. Thus, collocation analysis provides an overview that the word *damage* has a strategic function in the discourse structure: as a center of technical information that connects impact data, community needs, and government measures. This pattern also shows that damage serves as discursive legitimization for government actions and aid distribution. The greater the level of damage reported, the stronger the urgency built in the news text (Suandi et al., 2023).

KWIC and collocation analysis shows the word *damage* occupies an important position in post-disaster reporting due to its use to describe the physical impact that various infrastructures and public facilities experience. Its presence in patterns such as experiencing damage or variations in severity, moderate, and minor indicates that the media not only describes damage as a condition but also categorize it systematically. Collocation with words such as 'house,' 'building,' 'report,' and 'regarding' confirms that damage is framed as technical information that needs to be recorded, verified, and followed up. Thus, damage is a focal point that aids in framing the reality of the disaster and facilitates easier understanding of the magnitude of the impact.

The overall pattern that emerges shows that the use of the word *damage* in the news texts about disasters not only serves as a factual report but also aids in building the readers' awareness of post-disaster conditions. The choice of words and structure used shows how *damage* is recorded, discussed, and used as a basis for assessing the urgency of handling in each region. Through measured and gradual presentation, the news encourages readers to understand that each type of damage has different implications for the lives of the community (Pinontoan & Wahid, 2020). In this way, the representation of *damage* does not stop at merely mentioning the physical impact, but also reinforces the understanding of how disasters change the space, activities, and needs of residents in the field.

More critically, the dominance of the word *damage* in news discourse shows that the construction of meaning around disasters is very much centered on the material dimension. This, however, implies that the public tends to understand disasters solely in the extent of infrastructure damage while aspects such as psychological trauma, social loss, and long-term uncertainty are given less attention (Habil, 2023). Thus, the word "*damage*" not only describes physical conditions, but also shapes readers' thinking about what is considered to be the main impact of a disaster.



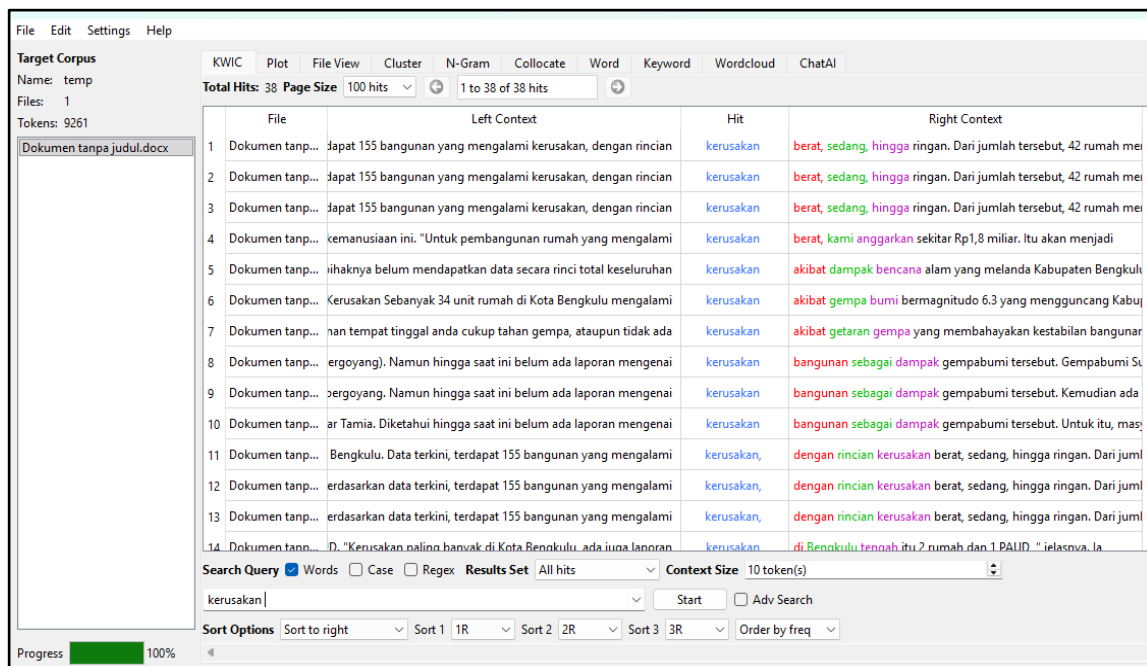


Figure 9. Results of WKIC Analysis of the Word "Damage"
Source: Results of AntConc Analysis of Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)

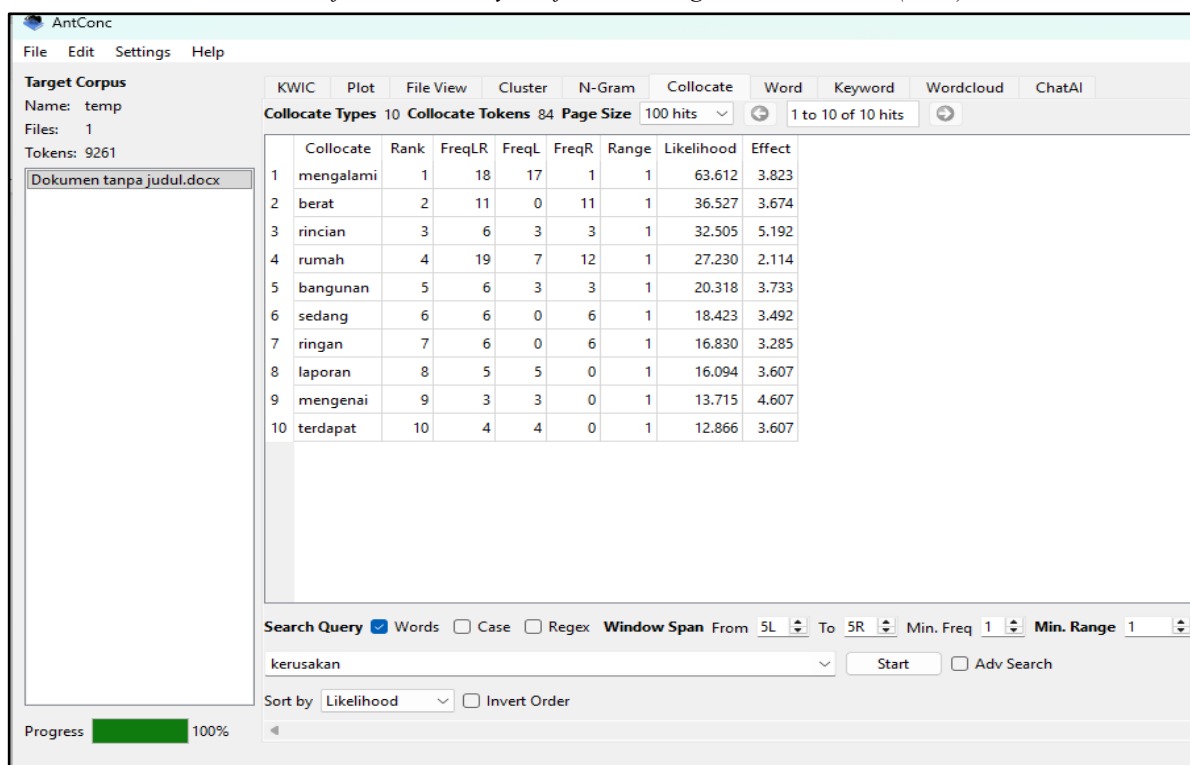


Figure 10. Results of Word Collocation Analysis for "Damage"
Source: Results from AntConc Tribun Bengkulu Online News (2025)



Synthesis of Victim Representations in Disaster Discourse

Overall analysis of the words house, residents, victims, affected, and damage reveals a consistent pattern of representation in disaster discourse. Words house and damage bring the material dimension to the forefront with emphasis on infrastructure and levels of destruction. The word affected furthers the administrative orientation through passive constructions and quantitative categorization while the words residents and victims present a social dimension which remains within the framework of data collection and categorization. With the recurring patterns of collocation and KWIC structures, the news builds a reality of disaster as an event that is mainly understood through numbers, categories, and levels of physical damage (Fatul et al., 2023).

Critically, these findings illustrate that the representation of victims in the media is not focussed on personal experiences or individual narratives, but is placed within a technical and administrative context (Subiyakto, 2025). The employment of passive forms such as 'affected' and constructions such as 'experienced damage' shifts the attention from the possible structural factors to the final conditions that appear on the surface. Thus, disasters are portrayed as a series of material impacts that require data collection and handling, instead of being complex social events that have broader psychological, cultural, and structural dimensions.

The implication is that the public tends to understand disasters primarily in the extent of infrastructure damage and number of residents or houses recorded as affected. This pattern underscores the impression of objectivity and credibility of the news reporting as it is based on data and systematic categorization (Susilowardhani, 2024). However, the same implication has the potential to limit the understanding of the complexity of the victims' experiences. In other words, the representation of victims in local media's discourse is more predominantly framed through the logic of measurement and administration rather than a deep human narrative (Habil, 2023). These findings confirm that the lexical choices in the news reporting do not only function as descriptive tools but also as mechanisms for meaning formation that influence the understanding of the impact and priorities of disaster management.

Conclusion

The results of the study show that the representation of victims in disaster reporting in Tribun Bengkulu is framed through language patterns that highlight physical losses, emergency conditions, and quantitative data on the scale of the impact. The consistent appearance of words such as house, residents, victims, affected, and damage indicates that the media tends to describe disasters through material and administrative indicators. This lexical pattern portrays victims as vulnerable parties who are directly affected and require immediate assistance. Thus, the language of the news reporting not only conveys factual information but also influences the understanding of the social position of victims in disaster events.



The findings show that the dominance of physical damage and administrative data potentially narrows the picture of the victims' experiences. The emotional dimension, survival strategies, and direct voices of victims are relatively underrepresented in news texts. The practical implications of these findings are important for journalists and media managers, particularly local media, so that disaster coverage does not only focus on numbers and damage but also provides space for the perspectives and human experiences of victims. For policymakers, this pattern of representation can be a reflection on how public information is compiled and disseminated so that victims are not merely treated as objects of data collection, but also as subjects who have a voice.

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