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## Journal of Communication

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## Unmasking the Network: The Power Dynamics Behind the Social Movement Against Election Postponement

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### Abstract

This study analyzes and visualizes the network dynamics of the “Tolak Penundaan Pemilu” movement on Twitter, focusing on network structure, types of relationships, and overall connectivity. Using Graph Theory to define the network and Resource Mobilization Theory (RMT) to understand the role of resources, particularly human resources, in mobilizing social movements, the study applies quantitative Social Network Analysis (SNA) to a dataset comprising 2,210 nodes and 1,406 edges. Data was collected through text mining using Netlytic and analyzed with Gephi and Ucinet. The results indicate that the network has a two-mode relationship type with a radial personal network communication pattern, and the relationship direction is directed and asymmetrical. The network structure consists of 35 components, 3 isolated nodes, 47 cutpoints, and no cliques, indicating a fragmented and hierarchical network nature. These findings provide insights into the distribution of information and support within the “Tolak Penundaan Pemilu” movement. This research contributes to the study of social network dynamics in political movements on Twitter by highlighting the interaction between network structure and resource mobilization, offering new perspectives on digital social movement organizational patterns, and enriching the understanding of how social networks influence and facilitate collective action in contemporary political contexts.

**Keywords:** Social Movement, Graph Theory, Reject Election Postponement, SNA, *Resource Mobilization Theory*

### Abstrak

Penelitian ini menganalisis dan memvisualisasikan dinamika jaringan gerakan “Tolak Penundaan Pemilu” di Twitter, dengan fokus pada struktur jaringan, jenis hubungan, dan konektivitas keseluruhan. Menggunakan Teori Graf untuk mendefinisikan jaringan serta Teori Mobilisasi Sumber Daya (RMT) untuk memahami peran sumber daya, khususnya sumber daya manusia, dalam memobilisasi gerakan sosial, penelitian ini menerapkan analisis jejaring sosial (SNA) kuantitatif pada dataset yang terdiri dari 2.210 node dan 1.406 edge. Data dikumpulkan melalui text mining menggunakan Netlytic dan dianalisis dengan Gephi serta Ucinet. Hasil menunjukkan bahwa jaringan ini memiliki jenis hubungan dua mode dengan pola komunikasi jaringan personal radial, serta arah hubungan yang terarah dan asimetris. Struktur jaringan terdiri dari 35 komponen, 3 isolated node, 47 cutpoints, tanpa adanya clique, yang menggambarkan sifat jaringan terfragmentasi dan hierarkis. Temuan ini memberikan wawasan tentang distribusi informasi dan dukungan dalam gerakan “Tolak Penundaan Pemilu”. Penelitian ini berkontribusi pada kajian dinamika jejaring sosial dalam gerakan politik di Twitter dengan menyoroti interaksi antara struktur jaringan dan mobilisasi sumber daya, memberikan perspektif baru tentang pola organisasi gerakan sosial digital, serta memperkaya pemahaman tentang pengaruh jejaring sosial dalam memfasilitasi aksi kolektif di konteks politik kontemporer.

**Kata Kunci:** Gerakan Sosial, *Graph Theory*, Tolak Penundaan Pemilu, SNA, *Resource Mobilization Theory*

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## INTRODUCTION.

The development of social media has a big role in how people interact, communicate and engage with each other. In Indonesia, social media has become one of the main platforms for getting information. The term “social media” refers to web-based technologies that allow users to generate content, share, circulate, and comment on various types of content. (Leong, C., Pan, S. L., Bahri, S., & Fauzi, 2019). Through the results of the Kepios survey (2022) uploaded on We Are Social, it shows that the total active social media users in Indonesia as of February 2022 were 191.4 million users with a growth of 68.9 percent between 2021 and 2022.

Apart from being utilized as a medium of information, social media can be effectively used as a medium or means of expressing opinions as a form of social movement. A social movement is an activity that has the power to mobilize people’s opinions and talk about an issue that is important to be discussed and acted upon. With the high number of social media users, there are many social movements that have finally moved from direct implementation to online. Social media that are often used are Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, which have the ability to gather large numbers of people. In this research, the main focus of social media is Twitter as a medium for conducting social movements.

Currently, social media Twitter occupies the top position as an effective online platform for conducting social movements. This is because Twitter is able to attract the attention of the audience by disseminating messages on current issues massively and quickly. (Bakry, G. N., & Kusmayadi, 2021). This is supported by the thread and trending features, which are able to make Twitter a medium that is able to collect various topics and current issues around the world and make it a microblogging platform suitable for a virtual gathering place. With this, the expression of opinions is able to contain spontaneous and emotional reactions, and negative and positive opinions are increasingly widespread. (Inayah, D., & Purba, 2021).

The Executive Summary of the Democracy Survey Results (Power, Welfare, and Democracy) revealed that mobilization of people in a social movement can be done on social media in Indonesia, but the movement is not necessarily able to encourage democratic representation. (Kade Galuh, 2016) Democratic representation itself is a change in issues or public opinion into a political agenda. However, in some countries, the mobilization of people in social movements on social media is able to encourage and mobilize rapid action responses by channeling pressure on the government and turning people’s wishes into a political agenda. (Kade Galuh, 2016). For example, two political events in Egypt and the Philippines used social media, Facebook and Twitter, to overthrow their governments.

In January 2011 through two Facebook accounts namely “6th of April Youth Movement” and “We are all Khaled Said,” public opinion related to dissatisfaction with the government spread, triggering the Egyptian revolution. While in the Philippines in January 2001, it managed to overthrow President Joseph Estrada, which was initially triggered through a short retweet that read “Go 2 EDSAWEAR BLK” (Kade Galuh, 2016). This phenomenon has also been seen in Indonesia, where social media movements in 2020 were able to transform public issues into public agendas, such as student demands for tuition fee exemptions and final assignment fee waivers due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The online discussion on this topic encouraged the Indonesian public to create an online petition on the Change.org website, disseminated through Twitter under the title “Kemdikbud\_RI: Karna Covid19, Free Tuition & Final Project Fees for Final Semester Students.” This petition, which was signed by more than 40 thousand people, successfully brought the issue to the attention of the government. This social movement eventually attracted a response from the Minister of Education and Culture, Nadiem Makarim, who issued a new regulation on tuition fee adjustments and single tuition fee (UKT) relief during the Covid-19 pandemic through Permendikbud Number 25 of 2020, applying to all public universities in Indonesia. This illustrates how social media activism can influence policy changes, turning online voices into concrete government actions.

This phenomenon proves that social movements on social media, especially Twitter, provide opportunities for the community to turn important public issues into a public agenda, which can then be followed up by the government or relevant political institutions. Moreover, this social movement is supported by the large number of active Twitter users, allowing information to spread rapidly to a broad audience. According to the “We Are Social” report based on a survey by Kepios, Twitter is among the favorite social media platforms in Indonesia, ranking sixth with a total user percentage of 58.3% as of February 2022, which can be seen in Figure 1, demonstrating its significant role in amplifying public discourse and facilitating social movements on a large scale.

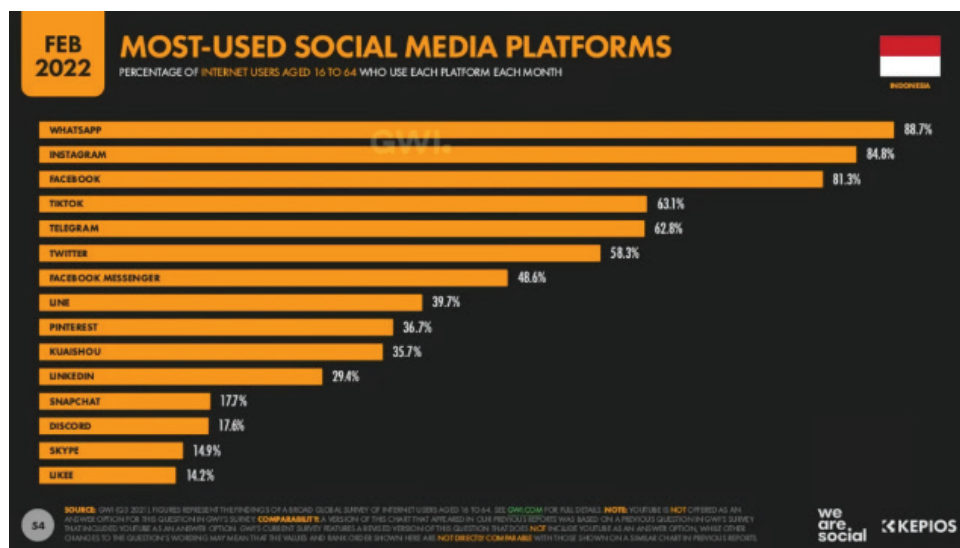


Figure 1. Indonesian Digital report 2022: Most-Used Social Media

Source: wearesocial.com

In March 2022, Indonesia was facing a political issue, namely the rejection of the postponement of the 2024 elections. This issue was trending in Indonesia, followed by several other discussions such as the student movement hashtag. This issue began to rise when there were reports on Indonesian online media regarding a proposal from the Chairman of the National Awakening Party (PKB), Muhaimin Iskandar, to postpone for one

or two years the maximum presidential and vice presidential elections that should be held in 2024. (BBC News Indonesia, 2022).

The idea of postponing the 2024 elections has brought various reactions from government elites, legal experts, and the Indonesian people, especially reactions to the rejection of the proposal to postpone the 2024 elections. One of them, namely from the Indonesian Muslim University Constitutional Law Expert, Fahri Bachim, as reported in Liputan 6 (2022), argued that postponing elections is categorized as an act of constitutional disobedience, where this idea is not in accordance with the spirit of the constitution. (Liputan 6, 2022).

According to the Chairman of the People's Representative Court (MPR), discussions on the policy plan to postpone the 2024 elections must involve public input through media and public spaces. If an amendment is formed without gaining the people's approval, it is considered an abuse of power (Liputan 6, 2022). Public participation is crucial in ensuring transparency and legitimacy in any policy decision, particularly when it involves significant changes like election postponement.

In addition to various opinions from high-ranking government elites and legal experts, the Indonesian people opened massive discussions on social media, especially Twitter. One of them is the dissemination of a petition to reject the postponement of the election with the title "Reject the Postponement of the 2024 Election," which, as of April 10, 2022 has been signed by 40,410 people on the change.org website. This petition was disseminated on Twitter on March 9, 2022, as shown in Figure 2.



**Figure 2: Tweet Petisi Change.org**  
**Source: Twitter @change.org**



The rejection was based on the argument that postponing the election only served the interests of Indonesia's political elite and contradicted the Indonesian constitution, violating universal democratic principles. This opposition led to a social movement that successfully mobilized mass demonstrations on the streets, primarily driven by students on April 11, 2022. The protest reflected the public's disapproval and resistance to any attempts to undermine democratic values, highlighting the people's role in safeguarding the integrity of the electoral process.

This shows how social media is a solution to the effective dissemination of informative messages that reach layers of society in various places. Therefore, the researcher intends to find out the effectiveness of spreading the message of rejecting the 2024 election delay by describing the shape and structure of the network and the main actors who play an important role in the network. So in describing and describing this phenomenon, researchers use the Social Network Analysis (SNA) research method. This is because communication network analysis has the power to analyze social aspects on the internet and see how communication networks work and how they develop. (Bakry, 2020).

A social network studies the relationships between individuals or groups who share ideas and information, thereby strengthening their connections (Chow & Chan, 2008). According to Littlejohn, social networks highlight that humans are not merely passive recipients of information; they actively create and contribute to it (Littlejohn et al., 2017). This dual role emphasizes the dynamic nature of social interactions, showcasing how individuals engage in information exchange to foster relationships and build communities within various social contexts.

The phenomenon of "Reject the Postponement of Elections" illustrates that individuals function as communication actors who can create, disseminate, and receive information. This dynamic enables like-minded individuals to collaborate in forming a social movement. Such a movement establishes a communication network that connects various actors from different locations and times, facilitating the exchange of ideas and strengthening collective action. By leveraging these networks, individuals can amplify their voices, fostering solidarity and driving meaningful discussions around the electoral process and its implications.

The Social Network Analysis (SNA) method effectively explains the flow of messages within a network. SNA is a research application rooted in graph theory, which describes the properties of networks. Graph theory, originating from mathematics, emphasizes nodes; in the context of social network analysis, these nodes represent actors within the network (Alhajj & Rokj, 2014; Alhajj & Rokne, 2018). By utilizing SNA, researchers can gain insights into relationships and interactions among individuals or groups, enhancing our understanding of communication dynamics.

In Social Network Analysis (SNA), lines symbolize social relationships, while points represent individuals, groups, organizations, and other social actors (Scott & Carrington, 2011). SNA can be visualized in a network presentation, effectively illustrating the relationships among actors. This visualization not only clarifies how information flows within the network but also highlights the accuracy of that information in relation to the interests of its users (Utami et al., 2021). By leveraging these visual tools, researchers can better understand social dynamics and interactions.

In a previous study entitled “Extraction of Knowledge about the Spread of #RatnaMilikSiapa on Social Networks (Twitter) Using Social Network Analysis (SNA)” in 2019, using social network analysis (SNA) to identify the main actors who have an important role in the formation of network groups on Twitter using the hashtag #RatnaMilikSiapa. This research uses centrality calculations to visualize the distribution and exchange of information between actors and determine key actors and boundary spanners (BS) in the #RatnaMilikSiapa hashtag network. The results showed that there were several key actors as well as boundary spanners that created a communication pattern where other actors actively received and absorbed messages generated by the main actors (Tomasoa et al., 2019).

In a 2021 study entitled “The Role of the Press as an Actor in the Digital Movement of the #SolidarityUntukNTT Hashtag on Twitter,” a social network analysis was conducted that aimed to identify and visualize the role of actors, especially the press, in distributing digital social movement messages and knowing the effectiveness of the spread of these messages. This research uses centrality as a measure of the role of the main actor, which shows that the press has a role in spreading the #SolidarityUntukNTT message within its network so that it spreads to other actors. However, the press is not the main actor or central player in the network. In addition, this research shows that the characteristics of the message network type are two modes with a radial person network communication pattern. (Bakry & Kusmayadi, 2021).

Furthermore, a study entitled “Using Social Network Analysis to Understand Public Discussion: The Case Study of #SaudiWomanCanDrive on Twitter” aims to discover which users express their opinions more critically within the #SaudiWomanCanDrive network and whether the dominant influence is generated by actors with high popularity. This research also shows advanced analysis of user behavior such as being retweeted or who is mentioned. In the analysis, researchers used degree centrality and eigenvector centrality benchmarks in measuring the popularity of the main actors. The results showed that two main actors with high popularity were able to have a major influence on the formation of an opinion on the topic of #SaudiWomanCanDrive who also acted as distributors or hubs. (Jastania et al., 2020).

The success of a social movement is determined by how effective resource mobilization is. Social movement networks using Twitter are the result of an important new technology for social movements around the world that easily creates resource mobilization to produce collective action (Lotan et al., 2011). In resource mobilization theory (RMT), resources are able to provide an opportunity where the more the growth of resources increases, the higher the chance of the emergence of new social movements (Melnychenko, 2020). (Melnychenko, 2020).

RMT categorizes resources into two parts: material resources and non-material resources. Material resources consist of money, organization, people/manpower, technology, communication, and mass media. Meanwhile, non-material resources consist of legitimacy, loyalty, social relationships, networks, personal connections, public attention, authority, moral commitment, and solidarity. (Flynn, 2011). However, in social networks, the most striking thing is people/manpower. Players or Twitter users have the ability as resources to create a social movement. The higher the collective effort of users, the easier

it is to mobilize a wide variety of individuals to join the protest discussion (Yan et al., 2018).

By using network analysis, researchers are able to identify actors who play a role in social movements. In a previous study by Isa and Himelboim (2018), actors who had a significant influence on the success of the social movement with the hashtag #FreeAJStaff on Twitter were identified. There are social mediators who are key actors to keep the flow of information communication in the network active (Isa & Himelboim, 2018).

It was concluded that previous studies used SNA to analyze the effectiveness of the spread of campaign messages on social media by visualizing network structures and actors. Whereas in this study, researchers conducted a network analysis of the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” social movement in 2024 on Twitter by analyzing the entire network starting from the type of relationship, network structure, and actors who fight in the network. Researchers use the social network analysis (SNA) method by analyzing using graph theory and resource mobilization theory (RMT) to see who is the central actor who acts as a social mediator in the social movement.

Based on the background previously described, the formulation of this research problem is: “How is the network structure of the central actor in the social movement “Reject the Based on the background previously described, the formulation of this research problem is: “How is the network structure of the central actor in the social movement “Reject the Postponement of Elections” in 2024 on Twitter?” In this research, there are two problem identifications as follows:

1. What are the types of user network relations in the social movement “Reject the postponement of elections” in 2024 on Twitter?
2. How is the network structure visualized in the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” 2024 social movement on Twitter?

## Graph Theory

This research is based on graph theory which is the root of the social network analysis (SNA) method. This theory is a method developed on mathematical investigations by Leonhard Euler to study networks (graphs) that show that point symbols represent individuals and groups and lines represent their social relationships as depicted in classic sociograms. (Scott, 2011). In other words, graph theory provides the basis for analyzing the formal properties of sociograms but sociograms themselves are not used to describe graph-theoretic concepts and measures. There are sociomatrix measures where the rows and columns of the matrix represent individuals, groups, organizations, institutions, or other social actors and the cells are used to record the presence or absence of social relationships between these actors. (Scott & Carrington, 2011). In other words, the two most important aspects that become the unit of analysis in graph theory are actors and relationships and are explained through the main concept of paths (Bakry & Kusmayadi, 2011). (Bakry & Kusmayadi, 2021).

Actors, or nodes, are individuals, groups, or institutions involved in a network, while relations, or edges, represent the connections between these actors. Analyzing nodes and edges involves three main components: the type of relationship, the network structure, and the roles and positions of key actors within the network. Understanding these components

is essential for comprehending how social dynamics operate and how different entities interact with one another, thereby influencing the overall functionality and effectiveness of the network.

Network relation types explain three forms of data analysis, namely the first type of relation formed by actors, consisting of one mode vs two mode relation types. One mode relations occur when the actors in the network consist of one type of actor set and two mode relations occur when messages are spread by two or more types of actor sets such as individuals, organizations, institutions, and other actors (Scott & Carrington, 2011).

The second is the relationship pattern which is useful for explaining the communication patterns that occur in the network. According to Soejanto, communication patterns are illustrations in the communication process that show the relationship between communication elements with one another. (Scientific & Meaning, 2022). The third is the network relationship which consists of the direction of the relationship that occurs. In analyzing the direction, there are two concepts, namely directed graph and undirected graph where the most important thing in this concept is the relationship or edge. Directed describes that each relationship is given a directional orientation where there are senders, recipients, subjects, and objects.

Undirected relationships describe interactions between actors that lack direction, indicating that the actors hold the same role (Bakry, 2020), and in addition to this, the type of bond in the direction of information is reflected in the feedback between actors in the network, which can take the form of symmetrical ties, where actors exchange messages intensively, or asymmetrical ties, where actors provide minimal feedback on the disseminated information.

In analyzing the network structure, it is seen from the elements that make up the network, including the first component, which refers to the grouping of actors who have a relationship of at least one relationship in the network (Scientific & Meaning, 2022). Second, cutpoints that show the actors who act as glue in the network (Scott & Carrington, 2011). The third is isolate which shows actors who have no relationship with other actors. The fourth is a click that shows a closely intertwined relationship between actors in the network.

This research uses Graph Theory to visualize and identify the phenomenon of the "Reject Election Delay" social movement on Twitter. The analysis of this research includes the type of network relations, network structure, and actor centrality which serves to find how the communication process in the network and the actors who play a role in the dissemination of information.

### **Resource Mobilization Theory**

In studying a social movement, resource mobilization theory (RMT) is one of the social movement theories to examine the importance of the acquisition and role of resources in the success of a social movement to achieve social change. (Flynn, 2011). RMT developed in the 1970s to provide a response to traditional social psychological analysis that saw social movements emerge from personal grievances over changes in social structures (Flynn, 2011). In its development, RMT explains that social movements are formed due to the

availability of resources, such as long-term changes in group resources, organization, and opportunities for collective action (Flynn, 2011).

Attracting participants and members to engage in social movements necessitates mobilizing various resources, including money, communication, and membership, as well as providing “selective incentives” (Breuer et al., 2015), and according to Jenkins, resource mobilization encompasses time, money, organizational capabilities, and specific political and social opportunities, which are further enhanced by resource mobilization on social media, as these resources are pooled and utilized to support group interests through collective action (Oyza & Edwin, 2015; Abdullah, 2020).

However, in socio-political research, there are two forms of resources that can be mobilized in social movements, namely material and non-material resources. Material resources consist of money, organization, manpower, technology, communication, and mass media, while non-material resources are legitimacy, loyalty, social relationships, personal connections, networks, public attention, authority, moral commitment, and solidarity (Flynn, 2011).

There is one social movement strategy that uses social media called spillover, which aims to mobilize and expand social movements. (Jose & Arvind, 2017). In the Tunisia Uprising movement, social media was used as a new technology to mobilize the social movement by Tunisian activists (Breuer et al., 2015). Social media became an effective tool in disseminating information related to the activities and protests carried out as well as information about the statements of government officials (Eslen-Ziya, 2013).

### **Political Communication**

Political communication is described as a form of activities that use mass media as a means of discussing political topics or issues, such as propaganda, campaigns, and political public relations (Heryanto & Rumar, 2013). In addition, political communication is also described as an interactive process that can transmit information among politicians, news media, and the public (Susanto, 2017). The process is the result of cooperation between communicators and communicants formed due to the presence of political issues with the same political goals.

Political communication contains political messages packaged by the actors concerned. The function of political messages is to recreate political ideas so that certain political attitudes and political behavior are created in a person or group (Rosadi et al., 2020). This is in accordance with political communication that is disseminated has political characteristics such as relationships with state, government, and society (Eliya & Zulaeha, 2020).

The purpose of spreading political messages is to shape a political image and public opinion, thereby capturing the audience’s attention (Alfiyani, 2018), and to achieve effective political communication, selecting the appropriate media is essential in developing strategies, as media serves as a means for political actors to disseminate and communicate their messages to the target audience (Dewi, 2017); one of the most effective media for disseminating political communication messages is social media, which can engage the public rapidly and extensively.

## Social Media and Public Opinion

In the communication process, the role of social media is quite significant. Social media provides space for users to participate, share, and create a virtual world forum. According to Bishop (in Aichner et al., 2021) social media is an online resource formed to facilitate relationships between individuals. In addition, social media is also identified as a digital space consisting of various platforms where users are provided with facilities for easy dissemination of interesting content, dialog formation, and a wide range of communication to audiences and provide interaction and networking at different levels such as interpersonal, professional, business, marketing, political, and social relationships. (Kapoor et al., 2018)

By using web-based technology, social media is able to turn communication into an interactive dialog. (Syarif et al., 2017). The use of social media has several functions including:

- Social media can create a transformation of unidirectional communication practices from one media institution to many audiences (one to many) so as to create large dialogic communication between audiences (many to many).
- The presence of social media supports the democratization of knowledge and information.
- Creating a mobilization of individuals who were initially identified as users and recipients of message content to the creators of the message themselves.

This makes social media an effective channel for individuals, groups, organizations, institutions, and other communicator elements. In the scope of political communication, people use social media to share their opinions on political issues that they think are important to discuss. This expression of opinion is known as public opinion. Morrissan (Bin Muhammad Alkatiri et al., 2020) identifies that public opinion is the shared feelings of a population towards a particular issue at hand.

According to Anwar Arifin (Indrawan, 2017), public opinion is the result of interactive discussions that consist of similar views expressed by many people in response to questions and issues related to the public interest. In the context of political communication, public opinion plays an essential role in influencing individuals and groups. It serves as a key outcome of political communication activities, where opinions are shaped and disseminated, impacting political perspectives and decisions within society (Indrawan, 2017).

Public opinion is commonly spread through both conventional and social media, with the latter being part of new media. While traditional media still plays a role in disseminating political opinions, social media has emerged as a more effective tool in shaping and influencing public perspectives. Due to its wide reach and rapid dissemination, social media serves as a powerful opinion maker in the current flow of information, significantly impacting how political issues are perceived and discussed (Indrawan, 2017).

Social media plays a role as an information intermediary and determines topics or problems and political issues that are important to be the concern and topic of public discussion. (Bin Muhammad Alkatiri et al., 2020). Opinions are spread freely in social media friendships with various expressions and attitudes such as supporting, rejecting, or neutral—

not taking sides. In addition, the presence of social media supports the rapid dissemination of opinions and reaches a wide audience without the barriers of place and time.

### **Social Movements and Twitter**

The development of technology has impacted the way humans communicate and has influenced how social movements occur. Previously, social movements happened conventionally on the streets. Messages were delivered from conventional media such as newspapers and even word of mouth. But now social movements can be carried out through media intermediaries, one of which is social media.

Social media is often identified as a technology or feature that allows users to create and build unique self-profiles, obtain digital content, create lists for users with whom they share relational connections, and users are able to view and traverse their connections and the connections of others on social media platforms. (Leong et al., 2019b) In addition, social media provides an opportunity to increase the general accessibility of information, encourage connectivity between users, and create a platform where users are able to produce their own content (Brünker et al., 2020).

Twitter is one of the social media platforms frequently used to spread social movement messages. It functions like a public chat room where users can engage in dialogue using the “@” symbol to direct tweets at specific users. For instance, when a post starts with the “@” sign followed by a username, it targets that user but remains visible to the public. This feature makes Twitter an effective medium for initiating conversations and amplifying messages widely (Murthy, 2012).

The use of Twitter as a digital social movement media is based on features that support the spread of messages. The first is like, dislike, and comments which are a form of response or feedback to a message that is spread. Second, hashtags or hashtags (#), which are able to generalize popular current topics (trending hashtags), foster public attention, and are able to connect conversations of various users (Brünker et al., 2014).

Third, tweets, which are messages containing photos, text, GIFs, or videos, and retweets, which are part of tweets, allow users to find topics they like. Retweets are a key mechanism for information diffusion on the Twitter platform. In other words, retweet activity has a central role in the context of analyzing influence in online communication, and this has an impact on the role of the main users (actors) of message dissemination, especially social movement messages (Brünker et al., 2020).

Twitter itself is a platform that has a “directed” relationship where when a user follows another person, it does not mean that person follows them. So directed link modeling is very suitable for analyzing the relationship between two or more users. (Gamal, 2017). This makes Twitter data able to describe a relationship and become an attraction for researchers. This research has two main variables in explaining the structure and actors in the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” social movement network.

The first variable is the type of relationship that is useful for identifying and analyzing the relationships formed over the spread of messages; the relationship pattern leads to communication patterns in the relationships formed in the network; and the direction of communication relationships between actors.

The second variable is to analyze and visualize the network structure formed by the elements that make up the network. The following is the research question of this study:

1. What are the types of user network relations in the social movement “Reject the postponement of elections” in 2024 on Twitter?
2. How is the network structure visualized in the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” 2024 social movement on Twitter?

In general, this study aims to discover the visualizations and analysis of the complete network, type of relationships and network structure in the “Tolak Penundaan Pemilu” network on Twitter.

## **RESEARCH METHOD.**

A paradigm is a set of basic beliefs or views that explain phenomena in the world (Creswell & Creswell, 2018). It serves as a guiding framework for researchers, influencing how they approach and interpret their studies. Creswell and Poth (2018) describe paradigms as a worldview that shapes how researchers perceive, process, and analyze data, guiding their actions and decisions throughout the research process. Thus, paradigms act as a foundation that directs researchers in framing their studies and understanding complex phenomena.

A study’s paradigm is oriented towards philosophical and conceptual frameworks. According to Creswell, there are four paradigms: positivistic, constructivist, transformative, and pragmatic. This research adopts a positivistic paradigm, which focuses on observing and measuring objective reality to obtain empirical data. The positivistic approach emphasizes scientific methods to test hypotheses and analyze relationships between variables, providing an objective view of the phenomenon under study. This paradigm is widely used in quantitative research to validate theories and produce generalizable findings (Creswell & Creswell, 2018).

According to Sugiyono (2013), the positivistic paradigm is based on the assumption that social phenomena can be categorized, and the relationship between these phenomena is causal (cause and effect). This relationship is explained using statistical analysis and a deductive thinking pattern to draw conclusions systematically from general principles to specific cases. By emphasizing objectivity and measurability, the positivistic approach aims to establish clear, empirical evidence in explaining the interaction of various social symptoms through quantitative research methods.

In this study, researchers aimed to analyze the cause-and-effect relationship of digital community behavior towards social movements, particularly the rejection of the 2024 election postponement. This causal relationship is observed through the communication network formed by the spread of messages on Twitter, where each variable is analyzed using statistical methods to address the research questions (RQ). The study utilizes the Social Network Analysis (SNA) method to examine the relationship between actors and the structure of the network in disseminating the “Reject Postponement of Elections” message on Twitter. The test in this study uses statistical tests using a number of software applications to analyze social network data. The social network analysis (SNA) method in social science research is formed on the assumption that there is a high interest in the relationships of actors or nodes who are key players in a social network of message dissemination (Bakry &



Kusmayadi, 2021).

This study utilizes a quantitative approach, which involves measurement, calculation, formulas, and the certainty of numerical data throughout the research process, from proposal to data conclusions (Musianto, 2002). The data analyzed includes numerical data, such as account data and relationship patterns within the network. Moreover, the quantitative approach is effective in explaining the positivistic paradigm employed in this research, allowing for a structured and objective analysis of the communication networks formed in response to social movements.

**Table 1. Variables of Research**

NO	VARIABLES	SUB VARIABLES	Questions
1	Network Relationships Type	Relationships Type	What Type of Relationships are formed within the “Reject the Postponement of Elections ” network ?
		Relationships Pattern	What are the communication patterns of “Reject the Postponement of Elections ” network relationships?
		Network Relationships	What is the direction of relationships of “Reject the Postponement of Elections ” network?
2	Network Structure	Component	What is the numbers of components formed and What is the number of actors membership in the components?
		Click	How many Cliques are formed and how many actor memberships are in the clique?
		Issolate	How many and who are the actors who have no components in “Reject the Postponement of Elections ” network?
		Cutpoints	How many and who are the actors who are the glue in “Reject the Postponement of Elections ” network?

The population in Social Network Analysis (SNA) is represented by nodes and edges forming a network in graph theory. In this study, population determination is event-based, focusing on the actors' participation in the "Reject Election Delay" social movement event on Twitter over a 7-day period. The sampling technique employed is saturated sampling, where the entire population is used as the sample (Sugiyono, 2013). The study identified 2,210 nodes and 1,406 edges. Data was collected using text mining with the keyword "Reject Election Delays" on Netlytic, including tweets, retweets, replies, and mentions.

There is a process of cross-checking data that is relevant to the focus and research problem. After the nodes and edges data were obtained, researchers analyzed the data using two applications, namely Ucinet and Gephi. In analyzing the data, researchers used the help of two applications, namely Ucinet and Gephi, and used graph theory as a basis for visualizing the results of the analysis. In analyzing the network structure, researchers code the data that has been obtained using the Ucinet application based on the desired network structure, including components, cutpoints, clicks, and isolates.

## **DISCUSSION.**

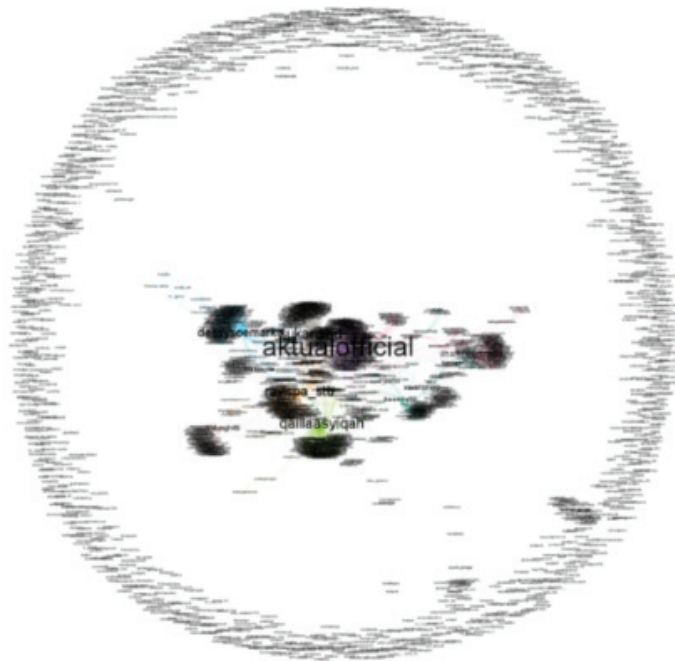
### **A. Types of User Network Relationships in the Social Movement "Reject the Postponement of Elections" in 2023 on Twitter**

#### **1. Relationship type**

Networks generally consist of two types of relationships: one mode and two modes, which help identify actors who build the network and spread information flow. One mode refers to relationships formed by actors of the same type, such as a network consisting solely of individuals or organizations. In contrast, two mode networks involve varied actors, which may include individuals, organizations, companies, and groups, allowing for a more complex interaction structure within the network.

The results showed that the type of relationship of the "Reject Election Delay" network is two modes. This can be seen from the variety of actors found, including individuals, social groups, social organizations, and the media. Like the actors @aktualofficial and @idntimes are one of the media actors who actively provide information. In addition, individual actors @qaillaasyiqah, @ravispa\_stb, and others also interact in the social movement communication network.

## 2. Relationship Pattern



**Figure 3. Relationship Pattern of the Social Movement “Reject the Postponement of Elections”**

**Source: research results**

Based on Figure 3, the relationship or communication pattern formed is a wheel communication pattern (radial personal network), with the information center located on the @aktualofficial actor. This pattern is visualized like a wheel, where the actor acts as the provider of information, serving as the basis for the perspective of other actors in the network. Thus, the information disseminated by this actor becomes an important reference for other actors in the network to interact and communicate effectively (Mulyani et al., 2022).

This wheel communication pattern facilitates greater opportunities for mutual interaction among actors. In contrast to a centralized communication pattern (interlocking personal networks), which offers limited chances for new interactions between actors, the wheel pattern encourages active engagement and collaboration within the network. As a result, actors are more likely to share information and participate in discussions, enhancing the overall dynamics of communication in this structure (Mulyani et al., 2022).

## 3. Network Relationship

A network has a relationship direction to see the network relationship formed. Relationship direction consists of 2 types, namely directed and undirected. A directed relationship is characterized by the presence of senders and receivers; there are subjects and objects. In contrast, undirected

relationships are characterized by the absence of senders and receivers; the actors have the same role (D’Andrea et al., 2014).

The results indicate that the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” 2024 network on Twitter is a directed network, where specific actors act as information sources (senders) while others are recipients. This can be observed from the formation of connections or lines that link one actor to another, enabling the flow of information within the network. Additionally, the network analysis also considers the pattern of relationships formed, which are categorized as either symmetrical or asymmetrical. Symmetrical relationships occur when actors exchange information equally and interact intensively, creating a balanced flow. In contrast, asymmetrical relationships arise when one actor dominates the communication, leading to minimal feedback from the recipients. This differentiation helps in understanding how information spreads and influences other actors in the network.

Symmetrical relationships are two-way interactions where actors are equally involved and share the same roles. Conversely, asymmetrical relationships are one-way interactions characterized by a dominant and a non-dominant party (Eriyanto, 2014). Figure 3 illustrates an asymmetrical pattern, where dominant actors are the main sources of information, while others act as recipients or merely forward messages. This pattern shows that information flow is primarily controlled by a few influential actors, creating an imbalance in communication, as these actors dictate the direction and spread of messages across the network.

## **B. Network Structure in the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” Social Movement in 2023 on Twitter**

### **1. Component**

**Table 2: Network Components Source: Research Results**

<b>Component</b>	<b>Size</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>1058</b>
<b>8</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>

Components refer to groups of actors within a network, also known as groupings of nodes that have links (edges) connecting them, allowing each actor to be reached by others, even through multiple stages (Eriyanto, 2014). The analysis revealed 35 components in the “Reject Election Delays” network. Table 3 highlights that components 2, 8, and 5 have the highest number of members, indicating their central role in information dissemination. In contrast, other components are smaller, consisting of only 2-4 members, showing varying levels of connectivity and influence in the network structure.

## 2. Cliques

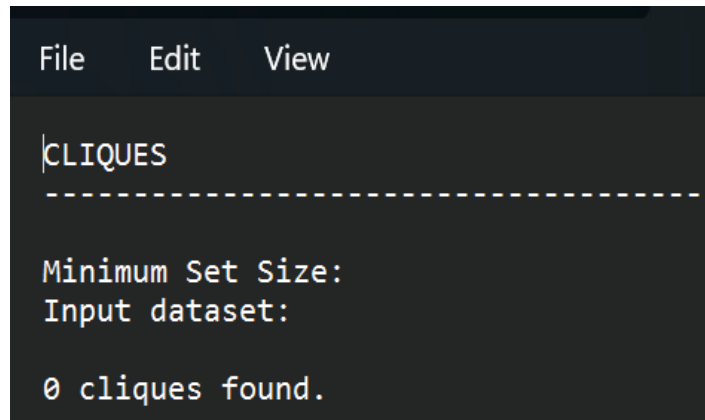


Figure 4. Cliques Source: Research Results

Cliques are similar to components, as both represent groups of actors in a network, but cliques are narrower and more tightly connected. Unlike components, a clique consists of a smaller number of members who are all directly connected and interact with each other (Eriyanto, 2014). Figure 6 shows that no cliques were found in the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” network, indicating the absence of tightly interconnected groups of actors. This suggests that the network lacks clusters of members who maintain direct and reciprocal interactions within their group.

## 3. Isolate

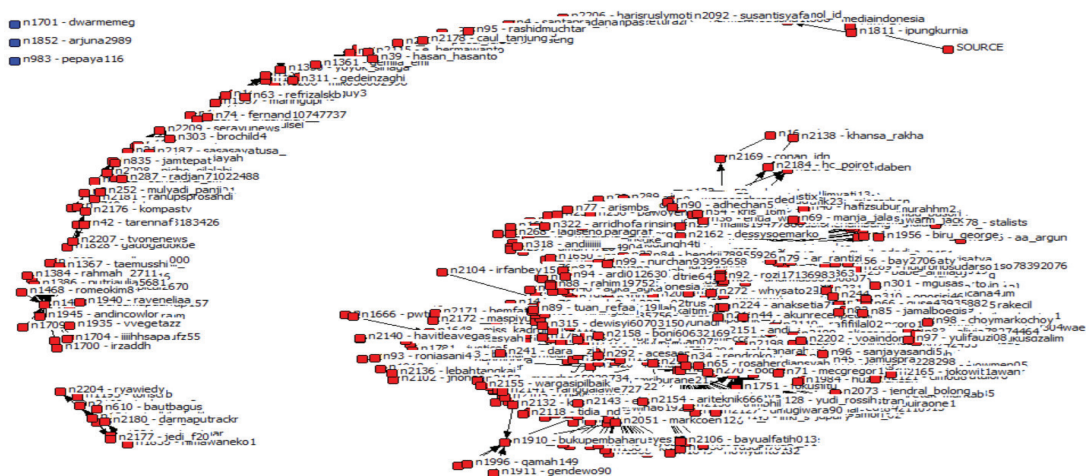


Figure 5. Isolate Source: Research Results

An isolate is the opposite of a component, representing an actor without any links to other actors, which results in their exclusion from any group within the network. Isolates are actors who are not involved in any form of interaction or communication with other nodes. As shown in Figure 7, three actors—@dwarmemeg, @arjuna2989, and @pepaya116—are identified as isolates within the network. These actors are completely separated from the rest of the network and lack any connections or relationships with other actors, indicating that they do not contribute to the spread of information or interactions in the network.

#### 4. Cutpoint

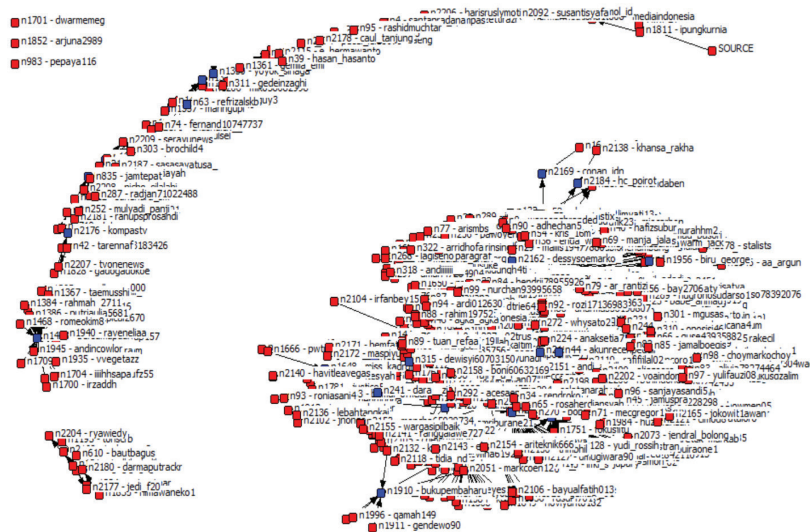


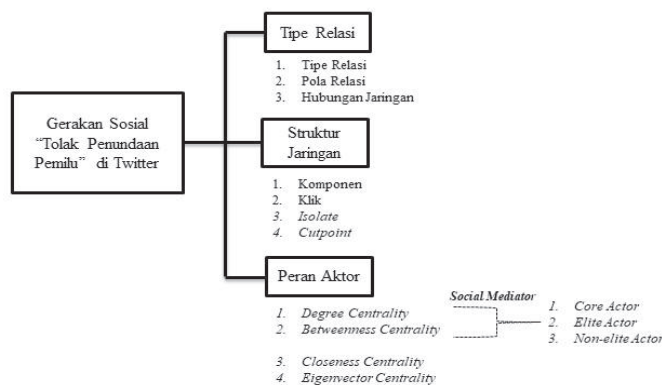
Figure 6. Cutpoints Source: Research Results

Cutpoints are actors functioning as connectors or bridges within the network, ensuring that various segments remain linked. Without these actors, the network would become fragmented, losing its structural integrity (Eriyanto, 2014). In Figure 8, the research identified 47 cutpoints, indicating their critical role in maintaining the network’s cohesion. Some of the key actors serving as cutpoints include @kumparan, @aktualofficial, @bemiu\_official, @cnnindonesia, @sukardind, @ilalanguni, @dessysoemarmo\_, and @akunrecepdedulu. Their presence ensures the continuous flow of information and interaction, highlighting their strategic importance in sustaining the communication structure of the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” network.

Twitter, as a social media platform with open network characteristics, enables optimal distribution of social messages across its network (Mulyani et al., 2022). This unique feature makes Twitter a preferred medium for various campaigns and social movements, including the “Reject the Postponement of Elections” social movement in 2024. With its broad reach and ability to facilitate real-time interactions, Twitter effectively supports the rapid spread of information, helping to mobilize public opinion and engage a diverse audience. Consequently, it has become a strategic tool for political and social advocacy, amplifying the

visibility and impact of such movements.

Social movement networks basically consist of actors (nodes) and relationships / links (edges). The network acts as a dynamic system to organize all information that can be understood by interacting actors. In this network, the information distributed is public unrest over political issues formed in opinions to reject the postponement of elections to be held in 2024. In accordance with the concept of social media, the delivery of public opinion on social media can connect common interests and turn communication into an interactive dialog that ultimately forms a communication network pattern.



**Figure 7. "Reject election postponement" social movement network on Twitter**

Using the Social Network Analysis (SNA) approach, the network can be evaluated by examining the type of relationship, network structure, and the role of actors within it. According to Figure 7, the relationship type analysis consists of three categories: relationship types, patterns, and network linkages. The research findings indicate that the type of relationship formed in this network is two-mode, characterized by the presence of multiple actor categories, including individuals, social groups, organizations, and media entities. This diversity illustrates a complex interaction where different entities contribute to the network's structure and information flow.

This supports previous research, namely #PrayForTurkey on Twitter, which states that in social media networks, especially medium to large scale, it will consist of various actors. Twitter itself is a social media that has data with two types of relationship characteristics, such as users consisting of individuals and institutions (Mulyani et al., 2022). Similar to the #Bandunglawancovid19 research, the Twitter network has the characteristics of a two-mode relationship type (Bakry, 2020b). Meanwhile, the relationship pattern described as a communication pattern shows how information dissemination between actors occurs. The communication pattern in the "Reject Election Delays" network is a radial personal network. Where information is disseminated from the dominant actor as the center of information in the network.

The wheel communication pattern is characterized by low cohesiveness, where actors within the network component are generally unfamiliar with each other (Bakry, 2020b). In the #PakaiMasker research, the information flow forms a loop with a central actor serving as the primary source of information dissemination (Prihantoro et al., 2021). This structure results in a one-way flow of communication, where most actors depend on the central figure to obtain information, leading to limited interaction and engagement between the peripheral members in the network.

Similarly, in the #SolidarityUntukNTT research, communication was also centered around the @BTSArmy actor, mirroring the network structure observed in this study (Bakry & Kusmayadi, 2021). The “Reject Election Delays” network also features a dominant actor, @aktualofficial, who serves as the main source of information for other actors. This centralization highlights the role of a key node in disseminating messages across the network, making it crucial in shaping the flow and reach of communication within the social movement.

In the network relationship, there are two analyses, namely the direction of the relationship and the pattern of the relationship. The results of the study found that the “Reject Election Delays” network is directed and asymmetrical. In social media, relationships that occur are often directed because there are givers and receivers of information supported by features provided by social media or Instagram that facilitate the division of roles.

The division of roles in a network visualizes information exchange activities, identifying who acts as the creator, disseminator, and recipient of information, as well as understanding the impact on each actor involved (Tomasoa et al., 2019). This role differentiation is further confirmed by the analysis of actor centralization, where a few actors hold a central position in distributing information. As a result, the network forms an asymmetrical relationship pattern, indicating that certain actors have more influence than others. In this pattern, feedback is not a critical component, as the focus is primarily on the flow of information from dominant actors to passive recipients.

As for its relation to communication patterns, the asymmetrical communication pattern of the wheel will make the distribution of information faster and more evenly distributed to each element of the network (Bakry, 2020b). However, the disadvantage with this network is that when the main element, namely the information center actor @aktualofficial, is problematic or inactive, the dissemination of information will be constrained. In other words, key actors play an important role in effective communication.

This is different from social movements that occur directly and move in the field. Central actors can consist of anyone and are usually organized so that the spread of opinions and communication continues even if there are obstacles to other central actors (Greijdanus et al., 2020) In the second discussion, namely the network structure, which explains how the complete network overview.

The first concept is components, which refer to groups formed within the network. Components are defined by the presence of at least one relationship linking each actor to others within the group. In network analysis, components represent interconnected subsets of actors, where every member is reachable through some path, even if it requires multiple steps. Components tend to have a larger number of members compared to cliques, which



are smaller and more tightly connected groups. This characteristic makes components more inclusive and flexible, allowing for broader information exchange and influence throughout the network, even across distant connections.

The study's findings show that the network is composed of 34 components, with the second component (2) having the highest number of actors, totaling 1,058 nodes. However, no cliques were identified, indicating that the network lacks intensive interactions and strong connections between its members. This absence of cliques suggests that while there may be numerous actors in the network, the interactions are relatively loose, and actors are not closely connected. As a result, the information flow within the network may be less cohesive, limiting the potential for tightly-knit collaborations or discussions.

Additionally, this study identified three isolates, which are actors that have no connections with others in the network. Although these actors participated in disseminating opinions about the "Reject Election Delays" issue, their tweets did not elicit any responses from other actors, resulting in a lack of relationship formation. This highlights their marginal role in the network despite their attempts to contribute to the discussion. Furthermore, cutpoints were identified as critical adhesive actors in the network, serving as bridges that connect different actors. The presence of cutpoints is essential for maintaining the overall structure and flow of information within the network.

There are 47 cutpoints that if eliminated in the component, the component will be split and even other actors who make it as an adhesive will become isolates. The existence of cutpoints is very important in the network, where it ensures that an actor is part of the network and the interaction is wider. The more effective the dissemination of a message or information, namely quickly and widely directly without obstacles, means the higher the strength of the communication network structure that occurs (Bakry, 2020b).

In the communication process, when the media provides space for users to participate, it will create a vast virtual space that includes many participants. The "Reject Election Delays" network proves that social media can be an effective medium in spreading public opinion on political issues. First, there is one to many and many to many communication, which is seen from the two-mode relationship type that includes a variety of actors (Syarief, 2017). As well as creating individual mobilization into users and recipients of information which can be seen from the division of roles that occur. Directed and asymmetrical networks make actors who act as information providers and information recipients.

## **CONCLUSION.**

This network has a two-mode relationship type with a wheel communication pattern (radial personal network). As for the direction of relations and relationship patterns, they are directed and asymmetrical. It is concluded that the communication that occurs in the network is centralized communication and provides opportunities for actors to freely interact with each other. As well as creating a division of roles between actors so that the mobilization of individuals who act as information providers and recipients of information. This network has quite a lot of components, namely 35 components. Component 2 is the component with the most members. However, this network does not have a click, which indicates that there is no intensive interaction between actors. Furthermore, namely isolate,

there are 3 members who have no relationship with other members and have 47 cutpoints that act as the glue of the network.

The Conclusions section consists of only one paragraph but obtained answers from hypotheses and/or research objectives or scientific findings obtained. Conclusions are not the result of repetition of the results and discussion, but more than the results of the results as expected from the results of the study. If necessary, at the end can be written things that will be done related to further research from the research.

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