

**THE REPRESENTATION OF REYNHARD SINAGA IN THE  
GUARDIAN ONLINE NEWS**

**THESIS**

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**DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH LITERATURE**

**FACULTY OF HUMANITIES**

**UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI MAULANA MALIK  
IBRAHIM MALANG**

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GUARDIAN ONLINE NEWS**

**THESIS**

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**2020**

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This to certify that Ahmad Ramdhani's thesis entitled *The Representation of Reynhard Sinaga in The Guardian Online News* has been approved by thesis advisor for further approval by the Board of Examiner as one of the requirements for the Degree Sarjana Sastra (S.S) in English Letters Department, Faculty of Humanities at Universitas Islam Negeri Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang.

Malang, 27 July 2020

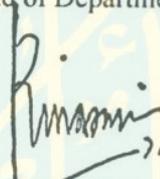
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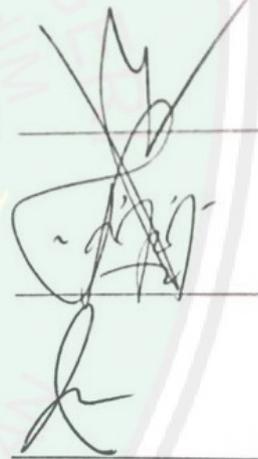
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## CERTIFICATE OF THESIS AUTHORSHIP

I state that the thesis entitled “**The Representation of Reynhard Sinaga in The Guardian Online News**” is my original work. I do not include any materials previously written or published by another person, except those ones that are cited as referenced and written in the bibliography. Hereby, if there is an objection or claim, I am the only person who is responsible for that.

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## MOTTO

**“Where there is a will there is a way”**



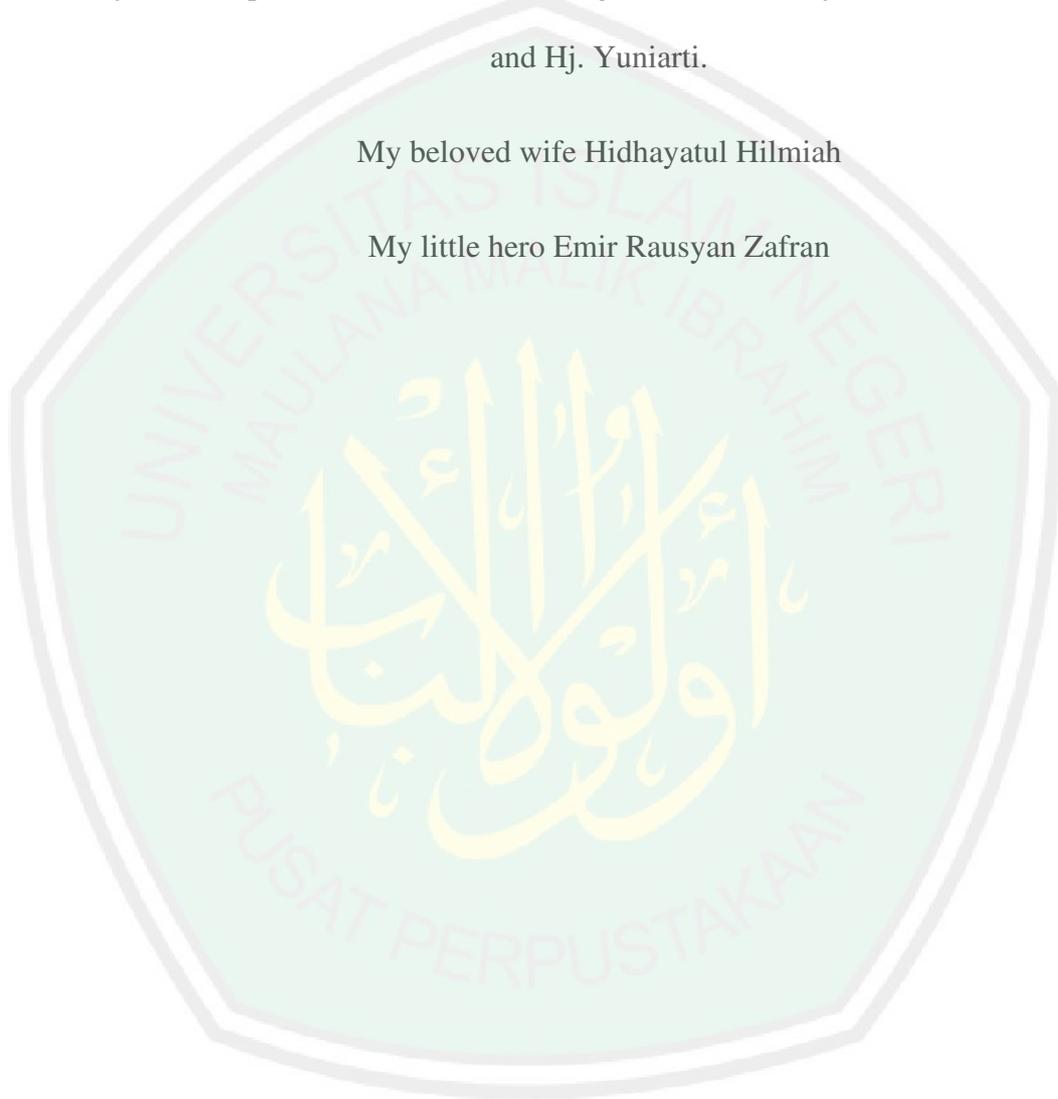
## DEDICATION

I proudly dedicated this thesis to:

My beloved parents Drs. Julaini, Dra. Hj. Jannatul Wardiyah, H. Choiron Hilmi  
and Hj. Yuniarti.

My beloved wife Hidhayatul Hilmiah

My little hero Emir Rausyan Zafran



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### *Bismillahirrahmanirrahim*

All praises be to Allah, most beneficent and merciful, who has given us mercies and blessings, especially for me, until I am able to finish my thesis. Then, peace and salutation may always be recited to our prophet Muhammad SAW, who has taught and guided us to the straight path of Islam.

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Moreover, I also thank to all my friends of English Letters 2016 for the time we have been through in four years. I am really aware that this thesis is far from perfection, therefore, all comments and suggestions is needed by me to be better. I hope this thesis can be useful for everyone especially students of English Letters

Malang, June 15th , 2020

Ahmad Ramdhani

## ABSTRACT

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In early year of 2020, people all around the world had been shocked by a horrible rape case done by a PhD student named Reynhard Sinaga. He was suspected of drugging and assaulting hundreds of men in Manchester which then became a hot news in Britain. In reporting the case, media has a big influence to lead readers' perspective against social actors reported in the news. In reporting person or group of social actors, the media may use certain strategies. This research attempts to analyze how the media (The Guardian) applied social actor representation strategy proposed by van Leeuwen (2008).

This research applied descriptive qualitative as the research design in order to maintain a deep and clear analysis of the data. The data are taken from The Guardian news article in online version published between January, 5th until January, 26th 2020. The focus of the study will be on the use of exclusion and inclusion strategy by the author of The Guardian. The data were analyzed through several stages done by the researcher. First, by looking for the news article which reported Reynhard Sinaga's case. Second, by reading the whole article in order to get an overview of the research. Third, by recognizing of how was the representation of Reynhard Sinaga within the text. Fourth, by analyzing the exclusion and inclusion strategies as proposed by van Leeuwen.

The findings of the research revealed that the author of The Guardian used both exclusion and inclusion strategy in representing the social actors. The exclusion strategy involved suppression and backgrounding strategy, while the inclusion strategy used dissociation, individualisation, assimilation, genericisation, specification, overdetermination, categorization, nomination, semiformalization, informalization, indetermination, functionalization, identification, relational identification, physical identification, classification, activation, passivation, impersonalization, personalization, and differentiation. Furthermore, the purposes of the strategies are to show the importance of a role or an social actor, to marginalized certain social actor, to show government domination, to remind the readers and to lead reader's perspective.

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## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation, definition of the keyterm, research method which includes research design, research instrument, data and data source, data collection and data analysis.

#### 1.1. Background of the Study

In early 2020, people had been shocked by a horrible rape case done by a student named Reynhard Sinaga. His rape case against hundreds men in United Kingdom stole many people's interest. It was regarded as the scariest sexual assault around the world. Moreover, his case became the trending topic in online news media of United Kingdom around January, 2020. In this case, the news as a media has a place where discourse can be maintained. Through the discourse offered, linguists have chance to broad the area of analysis. One of the analysis is how the media represent social actor within the text of the news. This is called social actor representation strategy by (Van Leeuwen, 2008). In short explanation, social representations are about process of collective meaning-making resulting in common cognition (Höijer, 2011)

Social actors representation is one theory of critical discourse analysis (CDA) which focuses on how person or group of people are represented throuwithi the text through discourse conducted. According to (Van Leeuwen, 2008), social actor representation theory is divided into two

strategies, exclusion and inclusion strategy. The exclusion strategy is a strategy in which the social actor is excluded, whether omitted or delayed within the text, while the inclusion strategy is a strategy in which the social actor is included or depicted to exist within the text. As the media did the social actor representation, through the analysis of exclusion and inclusion strategy, the ideology brought by the media can be traced.

For a simple imagination, the researcher here will give an example of the social actor representation in the media. The example is taken from a paragraph of The Guardian online news entitled 'How Serial Rapist Posed as A Good Samaritan to Lure His Victims' published on January 6th, 2020. The news reported Reynhard's strategies to get the victim by drugging them before doing his harmful action.

*"A number of the victims vomited and still did not wake up while being abused."*

In the sentence above, the author of the news used the passive agent deletion, a strategy of exclusion where he hid the actor. He excluded the existence of the social actor (Reynhard Sinaga) from the text. This exclusion strategy can influence the reader's perspective and cognition of the news. By omitting the social actor and concerning with the action, the author wanted to show the readers how terrifying is the abuse done by the actor as he did the action while the victim was unconscious and incapability.

People around the world chose media as a tool to get information. They consumed the information from media such as television, newspaper,

magazine, internet, online news and proceeded it in their mind to create conclusions. Through this process, the media have chance to show information and hide other information in order to gain advantage. It is also possible to say that media has its own power against people. Wodak and Busch (2004) said in (Anitasari, 2018) that media are images of public spaces and maybe studied as sites of social power and struggle. Media is not purely neutral from any interest and ideology. Indeed, they say that they are neutral, however, the news maker or content creator of news must have hidden ideology he put in the news.

Through representation, media can create a common understanding of people on a phenomenon, individual, group, etc. In process of representation, media have power to steer attention to and from public issues that determines which problems will be tackled or ignored by society (Fürsich, 2010). The representation itself does not merely existed without any intention of the writer. In some cases, we can find that the media is to support an actor and to opposite another side through the process of how an object or the actor is reported in the news.

With its broad area, media can be observed and investigated through CDA, the powerful tool in the building of text to learn ideology used in the context social itself (Widuna, 2018). Through CDA, the text of the news will be dissected methodologically, to find out the ideology and hidden message of the media. Several CDA theories are applicable in analyzing discourse in the media, but, in this research the researcher considers that

(Van Leeuwen, 2008) social actor representation is the relevant theory so reveal purposes of the author in producing his news.

Many works in CDA deals with the discursively enacted or legitimated structures and strategies of dominance and resistance in social relationship of class, gender, ethnicity, race, sexual orietation language, religion, age, nationality or world-region (Van Dijk, 1995). The study of CDA and analyses aim to contribute to the understanding of social problems, especially those caused by public talk and text, and to point out social inequalities (Jakku, 2018). (Widuna, 2018) said that mass media plays a crucial role in producing beliefs over the social context. Therefore, online news media takes a big part in maintaining the discourse to influence the reader's understanding or the cognition of news' content.

In this study, the researcher intends to analyze the social actor representation on one booming issue that is rape case done by Reynhard Sinaga in early 2020. There are three considerations to support the researcher's decision in using this issue. First, he wants to reveal how do the media represents him as his position as a student of PhD and an educated person to do harmful action against dozens of men in United Kingdom. Second, the author also wanted to know how does the media represents him while he is a comer and not an origin of United Kingdom. Third, the researcher regard Reynhard's news in media as a relevant subject to be analyze through the social actor representation.

Online media news is one option for people in achieving information. Through internet access, the news can be read everytime and everywhere, besides, it s also serves up to date information. In this research, the researcher considered to choose one online media news in United Kingdom which reported Reynhard Sinaga case. As an original media in Britain, it will help the researcher to reveal the strategy of social actor strategy used by United Kingdom's online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga case. The Guardian is also an up to date media and it is proven by its daily update of Reynhard Sinaga case.

Several studies have been conducted related to the representation in media. First, a study conducted by (Calista & Nafiah, 2018) investigated on how the author of news article of CNN Indonesia online news of agression of Ahmadiyah marginalized a party and support another party. Third, a study conducted by (Amalia et al., 2019) which analyzed on how the figure of workers, students and demonstrates marginalized in liputan6.com's news. The study showed that there are two exclusion processes and five inclusion processes found in the liputan6.com's news in marginalizing the workers, students and demonstrates.

From those date mentioned above, many objects has been analyzed with CDA and the social actor representation. Therefore, to make a broader field of social actor representation and to give a gap, the present research is intended to reveal the exclusion and inclusion strategies in representing social actors in different subject. Although similar theoretical framework is

use, but different online news media is chosen (The Guardian). used by the author of The Guardian online news while reporting the rape case of Reynhard Sinaga. Furthermore, this research also analyzed different issue with different social actor if it is compared to other previous studies. Based on those reasons, the researcher believes that this research will come with different finding.

### **1.2. Research Question**

Based on the background of the study, the recent study tried to solve the problem below:

1. What are the exclusion strategy used in The Guardian online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga?
2. What are the inclusion strategy used in The Guardian online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga?

### **1.3. Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problem of the study above, this study has several objective as stated below:

1. To describe the exclusion strategy used in The Guardian online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga
2. To describe the inclusion strategy used in The Guardian online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga

### **1.4. Significance of the Study**

This study gives both theoretical and practical significance, Theoretically, this research serves further understanding on how CDA

theory of van Leeuwen used to analyze social actor representation. Practically, this study helps the students of linguistics to increase their critical awareness while reading a news and this research is hoped to be a reference for further research with the related topic of this research.

### 1.5. Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on investigating the way The Guardian online media news in applying the exclusion and inclusion strategy in representing social actor. The researcher only chose news article which reports Reynhard Sinaga from 5th to 26th of January 2020. For the data, the study used the text of news article in form of word, phrase, expression or sentence that shows the use of exclusion and inclusion strateg used by the author in the text of news article. Because of the limited time and energy this study only analyzes and investigates one online news media by using van Leeuwen's social actor representation theory.

### 1.6. Definition of the Keyterm

Representation	The process of how an individu, group, social actor and others are depicted in media, in order to conduct a common cognition in the society.
Exclusion	The strategy in which the social actors are hidden in the text by the author
Inclusion	The trategy in which the social actors are presented in the text by the author

Reynhard' Case	The rape case that is considered as the biggest rape case against almost 200 young men in United Kingdom.
The Guardian Online News	The United Kingdom's online news which accommodates the news in many subjects such as politic, economy, sports, etc from all over the world.

### 1.7. Research Methodology

This part presents and discusses the methodology of the research. The research methodology covers research design, research instrument, data and data source, data collection and data analysis.

#### a. Research Design

In this research, the researcher applies qualitative research methodology. It can be so as this research describes the social phenomena which naturally occurs (Dornyei, 2007). This research is also categorized as descriptive because it aims to present detail and rich description (Heigham & Croker, 2009) about the social actor representation in the online news article by using van Leeuwen's theory. The collected data will be investigated and analyzed through van Leeuwen's social actor representation strategy to achieve the finding of the research.

#### b. Research Instrument

The research instrument of this research is the researcher himself. According to (Heigham & Croker, 2009), In qualitative research, the

researcher is the primary research instrument. Therefore, the researcher or the researcher of this research becomes the instrument of the research. Besides, the researcher himself is also the only one who selected the relevant data before analyzing it. Furthermore, as being the instrument of the research, the researcher will do the focus of the data, collecting the data, assessing the data, analyzing and interpreting the data and making the conclusion at the end.

**c. Data and Data Source**

The data source of this study is the The Guardian online news article which involved the news of Reynhard Sinaga's rape case between January, 5th up to January, 26th. Then, the data of this study is in the form of text of the online news media The Guardian which have the strategy of inclusion and exclusion by van Leeuwen in representing social actor in Reynhard Sinaga case.

**d. Data Collection**

In the process of the data collection, the author passes several steps as follow. First, the author looks for the news from The Guardian online news during 5th – 26th of January 2020 which reported Reynhard Sinaga's rape case. Second, the author read all the news in order to get a deep understanding of the news content, especially the representation of Reynhard Sinaga within each news. Third, the researcher recognize of how is the representation of Reynhard Sinaga. Fourth, based on van Leeuwen's

inclusion and exclusion, the sentences and utterances which are regarded as inclusion and exclusion process will be analyzed later.

**e. Data Analysis**

In the process of analyzing the data, the researcher has to do with several steps. First, the data in the form of the text will be investigated via inclusion and exclusion theory. Second, the data will be investigated whether they classified into inclusion or exclusion process. Third, the author will investigate the data to find out what exclusion types found in The Guardian online news media to answer the first research question. Fourth, the author will investigate the data to find out what the inclusion types found in The Guardian online news media.

## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF THE RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter consists of the theories related to the research. it discusses Theo van Leeuwen's model of CDA and the exclusion and inclusion strategies. Futhermore, several related previous studies is also involved within this chapter.

#### 2.1 Theo van Leeuwen's Model of Crtical Discourse Analysis

In his model of Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA) van Leeuwen proposed that disourse is the recontextualization of social practice. In his book entitled *Discourse and Practice : New Tools for Critical Discourse Analysis* (Van Leeuwen, 2008), he also introduced the elements of social practices and their recontextualizations. If we want to look discourse as recontextualization of social practice, we have to consider several aspects as follows; (1) social practice, (2) the recontextulization chain and (3) transformation In process of representation, there are several aspects that must be there in a social practice. The aspects are; participants, action, performance modes, eligibility condition, presentation styles, times, locations, eligibility condition, resources and eligibility condition.

In recontextualization, the recontextualized social practice may be; (1) a sequence of non linguistics action, for example dressing or having breakfast, (2) a sequence in which linguistics and nonlinguistics action alternate, (3) a sequence of linguistics (and/or other semiotic) actions. Then, in the process of recontextualization, several kinds of transformations happened. The

transformations are substitution, deletion, rearrangements, additions. In addition, there are elements can be added as process of recontextualization, those are repetition, reaction, purposes, legitimations, and evaluations.

## 2.2 The Exclusion and Inclusion Strategies

### a. Exclusion

In the process of writing a report, which representing a social actor, the writer of the news may exclude and include the social actors in order to conduct public opinion about the social actors of the news. Representations include or exclude social actors to suit their interests and purposes in relations to the readers or whom they are intended. In the case of exclusion strategy, there are two strategies; suppression and backgrounding.

#### a) Suppression

It means that there is no reference to the social actors in question anywhere in the text. Example “In Japan similar concerns are being expressed about a mere trickle of Third World immigrants”. In the sentence, it is only told us that concerns are being expressed, but we do not know the actor of it.

Suppression strategy can be identified through several ways such as follows:

(a) Passive Agent Deletion

In this suppression strategy, the form of the sentence will be passive form with the hidden social actor. Therefore, the focus readers will be on the action by the social actor, not the social actor himself. Example, “*Sinaga was convicted of 159 sexual offences: 136 counts of rape, eight counts of attempted rape, 13 counts of sexual assault and two counts of assault by penetration.*”

(b) Non-finite clause function as grammatical participant

In this way, the used non-finite clause is only which function as grammatical participant which affect the social actor can be excluded from the text. Example, “*to maintain this policy is hard.*”

(c) Nominalisation or process noun

In nominalisation, the verb will be changed to a noun which causes the social actor can be omitted and excluded from the text. Example, “*Reporting restrictions banned all media coverage to avoid prejudicing future juries, and we were barred from telling friends what we had seen and heard.*”

b) Backgrounding

In backgrounding, the excluded social actors may not be mentioned in relation to give an action, but they are mentioned elsewhere in the texts. The social actors may be delayed into the next clause. They are also not so much excluded, with decreased emphasis

rather than suppression. Backgrounding strategy can be identified through three ways:

(a) Non-finite clause with *-ing* and *-ed*

In this way, the first clause of the sentence will be the verb + *ing* as the action or the social practice, whereas the social actor will be delayed into the next clause. Example, “*Giving evidence in the fourth trial, Sinaga told of using gay dating apps including Grindr and Hornet.*”

(b) Infinitival clause with ‘to’

Here, the social actor will also be delayed into the next paragraph as same as the non-finite clause. Example “*to maintain this policy is hard*” (Van Leeuwen, 2008)

(c) Paratactic clause

In paratactic clause, the existence of social actor will also be delayed. Therefore, the reader will only find the social practice first, and the social actor last. Example, “John invited them to the party, but the wilsons didn’t show up.” (Qanitat, 2015)

b. Inclusion

If in the exclusion strategy the social actors are excluded from the discourse, in inclusion strategy, the social actors are included within the discourse. There are many subcategories of the inclusion strategy according to (Van Leeuwen, 2008):

a) Activation and Passivation

Activation occurs when social actors are represented as the active, dynamic forces in an activity, while passivation occurs when the social actors are represented as “undergoing” the activity, or as being at the receiving end of it. Example, *“Reynhard Sinaga was sentenced to life with a minimum of 30 years last week after being found guilty of attacking 48 men in Manchester. Videos he recorded on two iPhones suggest that he attacked at least 195 men while they lay comatose in his city centre flat, having spiked their drinks with a date rape drug”*. In this case, the social actor Reynhard Sinaga is clearly stated and related with the action of attacking men. In the other hand, passivation also occurs in that example. Reynhard Sinaga who is the actor of attacking men, is also represented as the object of the social practice that is being sentenced to life.

In activation, it can be realised through participation, (grammatical participant roles), the active role of social actor, through circumstantialisation, with prepositional circumstantial by or from and premodification or postmodification of nominalisation. In the other hand, passivation has two smaller branches, they are subjected or beneficialized. In subjected, social actor is treated as the object, while beneficialised made a third party which can be positively or negatively benefits from it.

Subjected is quite similar with activation in its realisation. First, role participation where in passivation, social actor is goal of an action or a recipient of an action. Second, Through circumstantialization, that is with prepositional phrase *against*. Third, by possessivation, in the form of postmodifying a nominalisation or process noun with *to*. Finally, through adjectival premodification.

b) Personalization and Impersonalization

Personalization is one of inclusion strategy which represents social actor as human being. For example “*when his final victim woke up mid-assault and beat him up*”. Personalization can be realized through personal or possessive pronoun, proper names or noun which has meaning of human feature. Furthermore, impersonalization is an inclusion strategy in which social actor is represented through abstract noun or concrete noun that has no semantic feature of human.

Personalization has several branches, they are indetermination, determination, genericisation and specification. Impersonalization also has two branches; abstraction and objectivation.

c) Indetermination and determination

Indetermination one branch of personalization strategy which represents social actor anonymously whether group or individual. In contrast, determination occurs when social actor is represented specifically. Here is an example of indetermination, “*Some had heard him describe “turning” heterosexual men as a sport*”.

Indetermination can be identified through the realisation of indefinite pronoun; some, somebody, someone, some people. Determination is the opposite strategy of indetermination. It occurs when social actor is represented specifically within the text. The example is “*The office of the attorney general, Geoffrey Cox QC, confirmed he had received a letter asking to review the sentence*”. Here, Geoffrey Cox is regarded to be specific social actor.

Determination is divided into several sub categories; association, dissociation, differentiation, indifferentiation, categorisation, nomination, single determination and overdetermination.

(a) Association and Dissociation

Dissociation occurs when the social actors are unformed from being associated. Example “*Investigators did not find any of the drugs Sinaga is believed to have used to knock his victims out. Police waited two days to interview the final complainant, by which time any drugs would have disappeared from his system. But the prosecution insisted the men must have been drugged, probably with gamma-hydroxybutyric acid – commonly known as GHB – or something with very similar effects.*” Those three social actors are dissociated from being association.

(b) Differentiation and indifferntiation

Differentiation occurs when social actor whether individual or group are differentiated from similar actor or group in order to make difference between 'self' and 'other', 'us' and 'them'. The example is "*Sinaga had no criminal record and had never been suspected of any crimes until 2 June 2017, when his final victim woke up mid-assault and beat him up so badly that he was taken to hospital.*" Here, Reynhard is being differentiated with his victim in the action they have done. Conversely, indifferntiation occurs when social actor is not being differentiated with similar individual or group.

(c) Categorisation and nomination

Categorisation strategy occurs when social actor is represented in terms of identities and functions they share with others (Coulthard & Coulthard, 1995). Example, "*His friends say they had no knowledge of his crimes*". Categorisation is divided into two subcategories, they are functionalisation and identification. Nomination strategy, as another type of determination strategy, occurs when social actor is represented through his unique identity. Nomination can be realised through proper noun, which can be surname only, with or without honorifics (formalization) as Sinaga, surname and

given name (semiformalization) as Suzanne Goddard or given name only (informalization) as Normawati.

(d) Functionalisation and Identification

Functionalisation occurs when social actor is referred to in terms of an activity, in terms of something they do and occupation or role while identification There are three types of identification, they are classification, relational identification and physical identification.

(e) Overdetermination

Overdetermination is an inclusion strategy that occurs when social actor is represented to have more than one social practice at the same time. Example, *“As well as paying tens of thousands of pounds in tuition fees, his father financed Sinaga’s flat in Montana House, a few doors down from Factory nightclub, which became his favourite place to look for men.”* Overdetermination is divided into subcategories, they are, inversion, symbolisation, connotation and distillation.

Inversion is one form of determination where social actors are connected to two practices which are opposing each other.

Symbolisation is when a ‘fictional’ social actor or group of social actors stands for actor in non-fictional social practice.

Connotation is when unique determination (nomination or physical identification) stand for a classification or

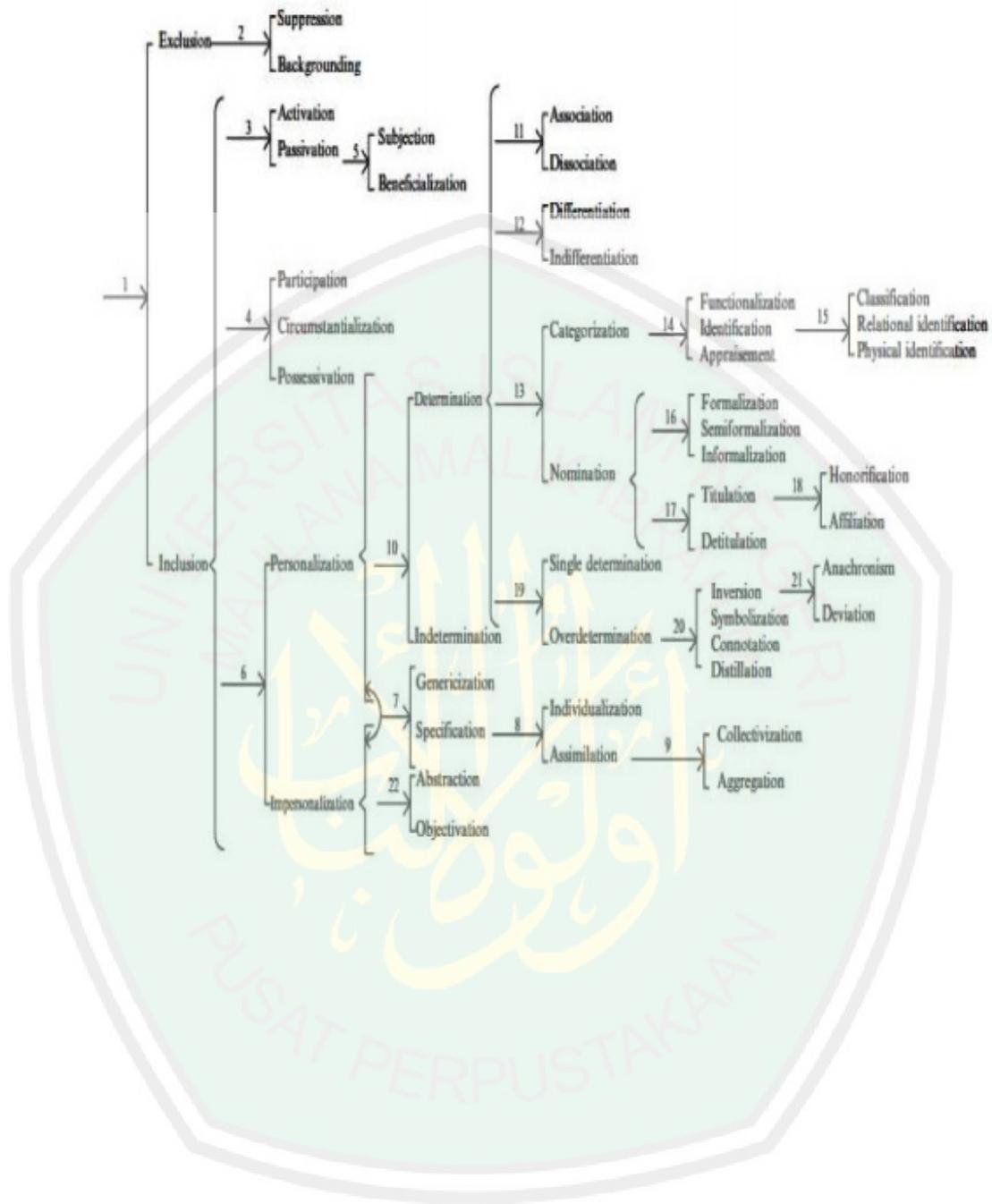
functionalisation. Distillation is overdetermination strategy which is formed by the combination of generalisation and abstraction (Coulthard & Coulthard, 1995)

d) Genericization and Specification

In genericization, the social actors were represented as classes or in general form of the subclasses. Genericisation can be realised through the plural without article. Example, ‘victims’ in “*Police have issued a warning after a number of social media posts purportedly identified victims of the serial rapist Reynhard Sinaga.*”. It can also be realised through singular with and without definite article. Example, ‘the student’ in “*The student was proved to have committed 159 offences, including 136 rapes, which he filmed on two mobile phones.*”

On the contrary, the specification puts the social actors as an individual or specific actor. Example, “*After Sinaga’s sentencing, LGBT activists pointed to a series of homophobic media reports and statements on social media*”. Here, ‘the activists’ is categorized as specification. Specification is divided into two subcategories; individualisation in which social actor is represented as individuals and assimilation in which social actor is represented as a group.

For instant, the diagram below shows the grouping of social actor representation strategy proposed by (Van Leeuwen, 2008)



#### 2.4. Previous Studies

This study related to several relevant previous studies as follows. First, (Dashti & Mehrpour, 2017) used Van Leeuwen's CDA model to investigate the representation of social actors in the lectures of two philosophers, J, Krishnamurti and Alan Watts. The study tried to analyze the transcribed lectures or the speech of the chosen philosophers in order to find out the inclusion, exclusion and the morpho-syntactic mechanism. The study found out that there is a difference of representation of social actors between those philosophers' speech, while J. Krishnamurti tended to involve the audience, and Alan Watts did not.

Second, a study conducted by (Calista & Nafiah, 2018) investigated on how the author of news article of CNN Indonesia online news of aggression of Ahmadiyah marginalized a party and support another party. The researchers also used van Leeuwen's inclusion and exclusion process. The researchers found out that the author used the inclusion strategy and exclusion strategy such as passivation, nominalization objectivation, identification and indeterminacy in the news article.

Third, a study conducted by (Amalia, Juita & Manaf, 2019) which analyzed on how the figure of workers, students and demonstrates marginalized in liputan6.com's news. The study used the model of van Leeuwen's model of discourse analysis in investigating on how the demonstrators are marginalized in the news. The study found that there are

two types of exclusion found; passivation and nominalization, while there are five types of inclusion found; differentiation-indifferentiation, objectivity-abstraction, nominalization-categorization, determination-indetermination and assimilation-individualization.

Fourth, a study conducted by (Sahragard & Davatgarzadeh, 2010) which investigate the linguistic representation of male and female social actors, and the construction of gender identities in the *Interchange Third Edition*. This study used van Leeuwen's model of CDA and Halliday's transitivity model in analyzing how male and female represented differently in the *Interchange Third Edition*. The study found that women were portrayed as more prominent, successful, active, independent, expressive and assertive compare to men. The study also found that women have crucial role as men.

Fifth, a study conducted by (Rayhan Bustam, 2018) which examined the discourse strategies in the heading of the news representing social actor about the case of Donald Trump's declaration to Jerusalem as Israel Capital. This study focused on examined the headline of three different international online newspaper; CNN News, The Guardian, and Al Jazeera. By using van Leeuwen's CDA theory of social actors representation, the study described the linguistics realization of the strategies and the function of the strategies used in representing the social actors. Through this study, the researcher found that there are some different techniques and strategies used by those three international online

media in representing the case. Moreover, the difference is caused by different ideology brought by each media.



## CHAPTER III

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains the finding of the research and the discussion. The first subchapter covers the findings as the result of data analysis based on the van Leeuwen's social actor representation. The second subchapter covers the discussion of the findings to discover the conclusion of the research.

#### 3.1. Reseach Findings

This study aims to analyze the exclusions and inclusion strategy used by The Guardian online news in representing Reynhard Sinaga case based on van Leeuwen's social actor representation theory. The analysis of the data will be presented the research questions in Chapter I. The first research question aims to analyze the exclusion strategies used by The Guardian online news in representing Reynhard Sinaga's case and the second question aims to analyze the inclusion strategies used by The Guardian online news in representing Reynhard Sinaga's case.

##### 3.1.1 The Exclusion Strategy in The Guardian Online News

###### Data 1

The present data were taken from the online version of The Guardian news' article published on January 6th, 2020 entitled "*Reynhard Sinaga jailed for life for raping dozens of men in Manchester*" written by Helen Pidd and Josh Halliday. The news article reported the judge's decision of

Reynhard Sinaga's case with 30 years in prison for 136 rapes against dozens of men in Manchester.

### **Datum 1.1**

The datum presented below was taken from the seventh paragraph of the article. It contains the sentence of Reynhard Sinaga at Manchester crown court after being suspected of 136 rape cases against dozens of young men.

“**Sentencing** him at Manchester crown court on Monday, Judge Suzanne Goddard QC described Sinaga as a “dangerous, deeply disturbed and perverted individual with no sense of reality”, who should never be released from prison.”

From the **datum (1.1)** above, stated at the first part of the paragraph, the actor of the ‘sentencing’ is delayed to the next clause that is Judge Suzanne Godard QC. The way the author delayed the existence of the social actor in the text is called **backgrounding strategy**. When the author used the backgrounding strategy, the social actor is excluded from the text, but it still can be traced elsewhere in the text. Because of the delayed social actor, the focus of the reader will be on the social practice stated at the beginning of the sentence, that is “*Sentencing him at Manchester crown court*”, the action that was done by the doer. Furthermore, the existence of the social actor might not be more important than the action. From the datum above, the backgrounding strategies was resulted from simple ellipsis in non-finite clause with *-ing* participle.

## Data 2

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 7th, 2020 entitled “*Reynhard Sinaga’s life sentence for rapes ‘fits his crimes’, says father*” written by Josh Halliday. This news article reported the acceptance of Reynhard’s family of his verdict. It also reported Greater Manchester police who opened the opportunity to anyone related with Reynhard Sinaga’s case to make online report by contacting mentioned number.

### Datum 2.1

The datum presented below were taken from the fourteenth paragraph of the article. It contained the status of Reynhard Sinaga as a student who came to Manchester to continue his study. Furthermore, it also showed number of his accusation in his trial.

“Sinaga, who arrived in Britain on a student visa in 2007, was **convicted** of 159 offences against 48 young men between January 2015 and June 2017, when he was **arrested** after one of his victims regained consciousness during an assault.”

In **datum (2.1)**, the author represented Reynhard Sinaga as the object of verb ‘convicted’ and ‘arrested’ of doing offence and sexual assault against young men in Britain. However, the social actor who did those actions were not found within the text. It meant the author used an exclusion strategy called **suppression strategy**. The use of suppression strategy is to exclude the social actors from the text until it is difficult to find it as it leaves no clue for readers to identify the social actor. From the datum above, the suppression strategy can be realised through passive agent deletion. In passive agent

deletion, the author omitted the existence of the social actor while the sentence is in form of passive voice. As it was stated in the datum above, the passive voices were *'Sinaga was convicted of 159 offences against 48 young men between January 2015 and June 2017'* and *'He was arrested after one of his victims regained consciousness during an assault'*. From the sentence that was separated into two clauses, we cannot find the social actor who had convicted Reynhard Sinaga and arrested him. Furthermore, the use of suppression strategy by author in this datum was to lead the reader to focus on report of the news which talked about Reynhard conviction and arrest not to the doer of those action. Besides, the author may defend the social actors from bad perspective of readers, as they could be police and judge.

### **Data 3**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 25th, 2020 entitled *"'I thought, OK, he goes for drunk guys': friends and flatmates on the Reynhard Sinaga they knew"*. The news article reported the process of Reynhard Sinaga's trial as the reporter of The Guardian presented at that time. It also reported several reaction of Reynhard's victim after knowing that Reynhard had done a harmful action to them. Furthermore, it reported the **interview** of The Guardian and Andrew, one of Reynhard's flatmate.

### **Datum 3.1**

This datum was taken from the fifth paragraph of the article. It contains the statement of the journalist when they attended the trial but could

not enter the court room. They were banned to tell other people what they had been seeing during the trial and to avoid prejudicing future juries.

“Sitting on the press benches, journalists could but not see the videos: snoring and sleep-talking, with occasional sirens. **Reporting restrictions** banned all media coverage to avoid prejudicing future juries, and we were barred from telling friends what we had seen and heard.”

In datum (3.1) above, the author applied an exclusion strategy that was **suppression strategy** which excluded the social actor from the text. In the text above, the author used term ‘reporting restriction’ that referred to activities but functioned as nominal. The author also excluded the social actor from the text. In this case, nominalisation was used by the author as one type of suppression strategy. Nominalisation can be identified through the realisation of noun which denotes activity but functions as nominal in the text. The function of nominalisation is similar with other type of suppression strategy, that is to exclude the social actor. Furthermore, from the datum above, the author wanted to lead readers’ perspective to focus on the action done by excluded social actor that is the restriction of journalists report. Besides, the author also wanted to hide the exact doer to protect them from being unmasked to the readers.

### 3.1.2 The Inclusion Strategy in The Guardian Online News

#### Data 1

The present data were taken from the online version of The Guardian news’ article published on January 6th, 2020 entitled “*How serial rapist posed as a good samaritan to lure victims.*” The news article reported the

process of Reynhard' arrest after the police was realised that they had detained wrong person who was one of Reynhard's victim. Besides, the article also reported about the investigation of drug that Reynhard used to drug his victims.

### Datum 1.1

This datum below was taken from the sixth paragraph of the article. It contained the investigation of drug used by Reynhard before attacking the victim. Firstly, investigator could not find the drug, and they had to wait for the interviewing case of the drug would be revealed. But, finally, they only guessed type of the drug used by him which had a similar effect with his drug.

“**Investigators** did not find any of the drugs Sinaga is believed to have used to knock his victims out. **Police** waited two days to interview the final complainant, by which time any drugs would have disappeared from his system. But **the prosecution** insisted the men must have been drugged, probably with gamma-hydroxybutyric acid – commonly known as GHB – or something with very similar effects.”

In datum (1.1) above, there were three social actors mentioned by the author separated into different sentences. ‘Investigator’, ‘police’ and ‘the prosecution’ were the group who investigated Reynhard Sinaga and especially in this case the drug he used. In this case, the author used an inclusion strategy of inclusion called **dissociation strategy**. It was a strategy in which the association of the social actors unformed within the text. In this datum, those three social actors were not grouped as one. They separately were shown with different social practice. Investigators as the ones who directly investigated the drug in the crime scene. Police acted as the ones who

did the interview with Reynhard. The prosecution who would decide the punishment for him only guessing the type of the drug. Here, the author rather than make them into an association who generally handle Reynhard's drug, he preferred showing them unformed by giving specific social practice for each social actor. Therefore, the responsibility of each social actor was shown clearly by the author. If he made them into an association, the specific action of each social actor would be blurred. Furthermore, by showing their action denoted effort to reveal kind of the drug used by Reynhard, the author indirectly told the readers that Reynhard had a strong constancy to keep not informing type of the drug he used.

#### **Datum 1.2**

The datum below was taken from the fourteenth paragraph of the article. It contained the persistence of Reynhard from revealing and telling the investigator about the drug he used before assaulting his victims.

“Because **Sinaga** persisted with his defence, jurors had to watch the footage. All were later uniquely offered counselling.”

In **datum (1.2)** above, the author mentioned Sinaga as the only one becoming the social actor who did the social practice, that is persisting with his defence. It meant that the author used an inclusion strategy called **individualization strategy**. In this case, the author showed Reynhard clearly because he wanted to show the readers his position as a suspect of the case. He intended to show the exact doer of the social practice. By doing so, the

readers did not need to question who the social actor was. Individualization itself, can be realized by singularity.

## Data 2

The present data were taken from the online version of The Guardian news' article published on January 6th, 2020 entitled "*Reynhard Sinaga jailed for life for raping dozens of men in Manchester*"

### Datum 2.2

The datum presented below was taken from the third paragraph of the news article. It contains the number of the case that raised by the police to bring Reynhard Sinaga to the court with the evidence and the testimony from the victims.

**"The student** was proved to have committed 159 offences, including 136 rapes, which he filmed on two mobile phones. Police have yet to identify at least 70 of his victims."

Based on datum above, the author tried to represent social actor in discourse "*the student*" by using inclusion strategy. However, the social actor here was depicted generally by the author. It meant, the readers could not guess who was the doer directly. This strategy is called **genericisation strategy**. Through this strategy, the author did not put the doer of rape case (who was Reynhard Sinaga) directly, but, he put it into general illustration. As "the student" was general, it could be undergraduate student, highschool student, even elementary school student. By using this strategy, the author could bring the readers' perspective to ignore their focus to the social actor

because it was difficult for them to identify who was the student who became a rapist in the article. The existence of genericisation strategy in this datum can be realised by the singular noun with a definite article.

### Data 3

The present data were taken from the article of The Guardian in online news version published on January 6th, 2020 entitled “*Priti Patel urges review of date-rape drugs after Reynhard Sinaga case*”. The news article reported the statement of Priti Patel, a home secretary, who said that Reynhard had have done a serious crime by using GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid) to drug his victims. She also urged the review of the drug to the independent Advisory Council. Furthermore it reported the dangers caused by the drug and the difficulty in obtaining that kind of drug.

#### Datum 3.1

This datum was taken from the second paragraph of the article. It contained the indictment of Reynhard Sinaga for using GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid) to drug his victims before attacking them. This was reason why Priti Patel to urged the review of that drug.

“Reynhard Sinaga, 36, is believed to have used GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid) to incapacitate **dozens of young men** before raping or sexually assaulting them in his flat in Manchester city centre”

In **datum (3.1)** above, the author stated Reynhard’s victim by using statistic ‘dozens of young men’. It meant that the author used an inclusion strategy called **assimilation strategy**. It could be so as the author represented the social actor in a group of people, that was the victims of rape case by

Reynhard Sinaga. Here, the author was intentionally assimilating the victims into a group in order to lead readers' interest to focus on the huge number of victims and to agree that Reynhard Sinaga was a most prolific rapist in Britain.

#### Data 4

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 6th, 2020 entitled "*Reynhard Sinaga: the 'Peter Pan' student who raped scores of men*" written by Helen Pidd and Josh Halliday. This news article reported the characteristics of Reynhard Sinaga like his body appearance, his daily activity, his friends' thought of him and his daily life of being a gay.

#### Datum 4.1

This datum was taken from the third paragraph of the article. It contains that Reynhard's father who was supporting Reynhard to pay his tuition fees and to pay his flat.

"Born in 1983 to a Catholic family in Jambi in the Indonesian island of Sumatra, Sinaga came to the UK in 2007 on a student visa when he was 24. For the next 10 years, up until his arrest on 2 June 2017, he lived off money wired from Indonesia by his father, a banker. As well as **paying** tens of thousands of pounds in tuition fees, his father **financed** Sinaga's flat in Montana House, a few doors down from Factory nightclub, which became his favourite place to look for men."

In **datum (4.1)** above, the bold words were showing the action done by Reynhard's father. Besides, it also showed that those activities were done by the social actor at the same time. It meant that the author used one of inclusion strategy called **overdetermination strategy**. In overdetermination

strategy, the social actor depicted to do two actions at the same time. Through this strategy, the author wanted to show the reader about big responsibility and important role that Reynhard's father had. From the datum, he was depicted to pay Reynhard's tuition fees and to finance his house.

#### **Datum 4.2**

This datum was taken from the sixth paragraph of the article. It continued the statement of Reynhard's friends as they said that they did not know about his crime.

**“His friends** say they had no knowledge of his crimes. **Some** had heard him describe “turning” heterosexual men as a sport. He would boast to certain friends of his sexual misadventures, often with the heterosexual men he was later accused of raping.”

In **datum (4.2)** above, the author stated “his friend” to substitute people who had friendship relation to him. In this case the author used an inclusion strategy called **relational identification** as part of **identification of categorisation strategy** which more specifically called relational identification. Categorisation strategy used to represent social actors in terms of identities and function they share with others. However, in relational identification, it is represents social actors in terms of their personal, kinship or work relation to each other. In the datum, we can find that the author mentioned Reynhard's friends preceded by possessive pronoun ‘his’ which meant that they were related to Reynhard in relation of friendship. The categorization strategy in this datum can be identified through the existence of word ‘friend’ denoted a relationship which was possessivated later. While

author use the categorisation strategy in the text, in meant that he wanted to lead readers' focus to the social actor.

In the next sentence, the author did not mention Reynhard's friends immediately who described him "turning" heterosexual men. But, the author preferred to use word "some" to protect them being involved in the case. Besides, the author regarded it was irrelevant for the readers to know their identity. Here, the author include social actor within the text, but not in clear way and used word "some" as substitute. In this case, the author used an inclusion strategy called **indetermination strategy**. The function of using indetermination strategy in this text was to hide irrelevant social actor to the readers. If the author changed word "some" and specify them, it might affect unwanted problem to the social actor as their identity unmasked in public.

#### **Data 5**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 7th, 2020 entitled "*Reynhard Sinaga's life sentence for rapes 'fits his crimes', says father*" written by Josh Halliday.

#### **Datum (5.1)**

The datum below was taken from the eleventh paragraph of the article. It contains the statement of Duncan Craig who said that men who become the victim of Reynhard might be feeling helped and shocked that their abuser was known and sentenced to be jailed for 30 years.

"Craig, a trained therapist, said the men abused by Sinaga would be feeling a combination of relief and shock now their **abuser** had been unmasked, following

four trials which imposed reporting restrictions preventing the cases from being made public.”

In **datum (5.1)**, the author used term ‘abuser’ for representing someone who did abuses to men in Manchester. In this case the author applied one inclusion strategy called **categorisation strategy** which specifically it was included to functionalization strategy as part of categorisation strategy itself. Through categorisation especially **functionalization**, it represents social actors in terms of activity or what they did. As in datum above, the word ‘abuser’ referred to Reynhard Sinaga as the actor who did the abuse against men in Britain. The author intentionally had substituted Reynhard Sinaga with ‘abuser’ to lead readers’ perspective to the social actor’s activity. Previously, the author had stated feeling of Reynhard’s victim after knowing he would be jailed, and the existence of word ‘abuser’ brought readers’ perspective to think that he had gave bad impact to victims by abusing them. It would be different if the author mentioned Reynhard Sinaga immediately as social actor, “*Craig, a trained therapist, said the men abused by Sinaga would be feeling a combination of relief and shock now Reynhard Sinaga had been unmasked*”. Here, the social actor is clearly understood (Reynhard Sinaga), but, the action which affect the victim’s distress is not found. In this datum, categorisation strategy can be identified through verb added with suffixes -er.

#### **Data 6**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 9th, 2020 entitled “*Police issue warning over*

*posts 'identifying Reynhard Sinaga victims'". This news article reported the warning of Greater Manchester Police forbidding any posts in social media which intended to identify Reynhard's victims as they would be committing criminal offences. Similarly with the previously data, this news article also reported that the hotline had been opened by the detectives in anticipating the victims will come forward after the judge's verdict.*

### **Datum 6.1**

The datum below was taken from the tenth paragraph of the article. It contains the judge Suzanne Goddard's statement and her description about Reynhard Sinaga as a rapist.

"Jailing Sinaga on Monday, the judge, **Suzanne Goddard QC**, described him as a "dangerous, deeply disturbed and perverted individual" who would never be safe to be released."

In **datum (6.1)** above, the author stated the name of a judge who decided the sentence for Reynhard Sinaga at court completely with her degree before mentioning her statement about him. In this case, the author used one inclusion strategy called **nomination strategy**. In nomination strategy, social actors represented in terms of their unique identity. From datum above, nomination was titulated, that meant there was an addition of standard titles, ranks, etc. Here, the bold printed social actor 'Suzanne Goddard' which was in the form of honorification with the 'QC' as honorifics of the social actor. While the author used nomination strategy which titulated the social actor, it meant that he wanted to show that the social actor was a capable person to do certain social practice and to avoid readers' question about credibility of the

social actor. In the datum above, Suzanne Goddard, a judge who decided Reynhard's sentence in his trial was titulated by the author in order to make her having good credibility when she uttered her statement about Reynhard Sinaga. Therefore, the reader did not need to question the credibility of Suzanne Goddard.

### **Datum 6.2**

The datum below were taken from the first paragraph of the article. It contains the police's warning to people who wanted to identify the victims of Reynhard Sinaga as it may result the problem during the investigation.

**“Police** have issued a warning after a number of social media posts purportedly identified victims of the serial rapist Reynhard Sinaga.”

In **datum (6.2)** above, the author represented the social actor within the text, but, he still anonymised other social actors. The hidden social actors found in the article were Greater Manchester Police (GMP) and the detectives. Therefore, it meant that the author used an inclusion strategy called **assimilation strategy**. The assimilation strategy was usually identified from the existence of social actor that was referred as a group. In this case, the author wanted to lead readers' perspective that the warning from police came from the group of police in general, although, the warning was not decided by all police, but only some of them.

### **Data 7**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 10th, 2020 entitled *“Detectives investigate new*

*allegations against rapist Reynhard Sinaga*". The news article reported the possibility of new accusations to Reynhard as the detectives and police had opened dedicated major incident hotline for those who wanted to report sexual abuse. However, police would not show how many potential victims would be raised as the report were not fully done by Reynhard.

#### **Datum 7.1**

This datum was taken from the tenth paragraph of the article. It contained the statement of Neil Henderson, the chief executive of The charity Safeline who said that there was a raise in contacts following the football abuse scandal.

**"Neil Henderson**, its chief executive, said the huge increase in contacts this week compared with a 300-400% rise following the football abuse scandal in 2016."

In datum (7.1) above, the author mentioned the social actor's complete name 'Neil Henderson' who was chief executive of the charity Safeline that accomodated anyone who wanted to report sexual abuse. In the case of stating the social actor with his given and surname, the author had applied one of inclusion strategy called **semiformalization strategy** as branch of nominaiton strategy. Here, the author intentionally mentioned the chief executive's complete name in order to show his position and high status where he directed the charity Safeline as one important institution in doing investigation of Reynhard through. Another inclusion strategy was also applied by the author, that was **specification strategy** by mentioning 'chief executive' in order to legitimate Neil Henderson's status. Therefore, through

using both strategies, the author wanted to show high status of Neil Henderson in the charity Safeline and to legitimate it by showing specific position of him.

### Data 8

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 12nd, 2020 entitled “*Mother of UK’s worst serial rapist ‘didn’t know he was a gay’*”. The news article reported the interview of Reynhard Sinaga’s mother about the sentence received by her son. She also said that the family did not believe with his action to be a gay and a rapist as they were a good Christian family. His mother also told a short story of her son’s course education.

#### Datum 8.1

This datum was taken from the second paragraph of the article. It contained Reynhard Sinaga’s case in general, the reason why he was being jailed, that was to attack men in Manchester and the punishment he got from what he had have done, being prisoned 30 years.

“Reynhard Sinaga was sentenced to life with a minimum of 30 years last week after being found guilty of **attacking** 48 men in Manchester. Videos he recorded on two iPhones suggest that he attacked at least 195 men while they lay comatose in his city centre flat, having spiked their drinks with a date rape drug.”

In **datum (8.1)** above, the author put Reynhard Sinaga as the social actor within the text. Here, he played two roles of social actor representation immediately. First, Reynhard Sinaga became the object of being sentenced and jailed. It meant that the author used one of inclusion strategy called

**passivation strategy.** Passivation strategy occurs when social actors is represented as undergoing the activity or as the one who gets the effect of an action. In this case, Reynhard Sinaga was represented as the one who received the sentence.

Another role that Reynhard played within the text was as the social actor of ‘attacking’ men. Here, the author used **activation strategy** to include the social actor within the text. Although the social practice was delayed, it still could be identified from the text who was the doer. While using activation strategy, the author really intended to show the readers about the exact social actor of certain social practice that is ‘attacking’. Combining both passivation and activation strategy in the text, the author must had a reason to reveal. The author wanted to show causality of doing certain action. As Reynhard’s case talked about crime, the author wanted to show the causality of doing a crime. Simply, the author wanted to tell, if someone did a crime, he must be responsible of punishment. From the datum, the author indirectly warned the readers for not doing such kind of assaulting, raping, drugging, etc.

### **Datum 8.2**

This datum was taken from the fourth paragraph of the article. It contained the statement of Reynhard Sinaga’s mother, Normawati, who delivered her disappointment of the son who became a gay. She also said the distrust of family for him.

“**His mother, Normawati**, said **her family** did not believe men can be gay, suggesting that she did not know **her son** was attracted to men. “We are a good

Christian family who do not believe in homosexuality,” she told the Sunday Times. “He is **my baby**.”

In **datum (8.2)** above, the author mentioned the social actor in form of possessive pronoun, showing a relation to another person in the text. In this case, the author used one of inclusion strategy called **categorisation strategy**. From the datum above, the author mentioned several utterances signing the categorisation strategy ‘his mother’, ‘her family’, ‘her son’, and ‘my baby’. The author wanted to depict a very close relationship between social actor and other people within the context. Simply, the author intended to draw a relationship of a family, especially mother and son. Furthermore, the author indirectly told the readers that sometimes, individual in family, although they looked like having close relationship, it did not guarantee of knowing and understanding each other.

At beginning of the datum, the author mentioned name of Reynhard’s name Normawati. In this case, the author used an inclusion strategy called **nomination strategy**. In more detail, it was an informal type of **informalization**, as the social actor stated with the given name only. The author wanted to give a clear understanding of the social actor to the readers who was Reynhard’s mother after presenting her status with ‘his mother’. Furthermore, at the beginning of the text, the author used categorisation strategy followed by nomination strategy which functioned as an emphasis for readers that the social actor was really a credible person to state about Reynhard Sinaga.

## Data 9

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 14th, 2020 entitled “*Indonesia: LGBT community faces backlash after Reynhard Sinaga’s rape conviction*”. The news article reported effort of Indonesian people for fighting against LGBT after Reynhard Sinaga’s conviction, but, it affected the protest of coalition of LGBT, human rights group and queer rights advocacy group as they proposed that homosexuality was only taboo in Indonesia not illegal.

### Datum 9.1

This datum was taken from the second paragraph of the article. It contained instruction to report any kind of LGBT activity and to call agencies to uncover members of LGBT community in order to prevent its spread in the city.

“The mayor of Depok, a city south of Jakarta, **asked residents** to report any signs of LGBT activity which he characterised as “deviant behaviour”. Mohammad Idris also **called on several agencies** to improve efforts to prevent the “spread of LGBT” in order to “strengthen families and ... protect the children” and **instructed police** to carry out raids to uncover “LGBT behaviour”.

In **datum (9.1)** above, the paragraph was separated into two sentences. In both sentences, there were three social practices done by the social actor at the same time. The social practices were ‘asked’, ‘called on’ and ‘instructed’. It meant the author used an inclusion strategy called **overdetermination strategy**. Through this strategy, the author depicted the social actor participating more than one social practice at the same time. In the datum above, the social actor who was the mayor of Depok represented to do those

three social practices; Asking residents to report LGBT activity, calling on agencies to prevent the spread of LGBT and instructed police to uncover LGBT behaviour. The author, by presenting the action of social actor, he showed the effort, responsibility and important role of the mayor in fighting against LGBT.

### **Datum 9.2**

The datum presented below was taken from the seventh paragraph of the article. It contains the comment of the LGBT activist who commented on the media reports and statements which brought the homophobia to people.

“After Sinaga’s sentencing, LGBT **activists** pointed to a series of homophobic media reports and statements on social media”.

In **datum (9.2)** above, the author mentioned social actor ‘activists’ which referred to a specific group, that was LGBT. In this case, the author used an inclusion strategy called **specification strategy**. As the social actor in the datum referred to certain group, it meant that **assimilation strategy** had been applied by the author. The social actor ‘activists’ in this datum was created by several smaller units of it, combined to be one large group. They were queer rights advocacy group, gay rights activists, anti-liberal activists and other group with total 16 groups of activists. The function of specification strategy was to put the social actor into a specific one, therefore, the readers could identify the social actors immediately without any questions. In the datum above, the social actor ‘LGBT activists’ was mentioned specifically as the author wanted to show to readers the exact doer of social practice.

Besides, it was clear to mention the assimilated social actor with 'LGBT activists' who fought against homophobic media.

### **Data 10**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 15th, 2020 entitled "*Exclusive: CPS seeks longer sentence for rapist Reynhard Sinaga*". The news article reported the effort of Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) to raise the conviction of Reynhard Sinaga after being sentenced for 30 years in prison. The news also reported that the sentence of Reynhad Sinaga was not a fix term for him as the attorney general still had to review the decision.

#### **Datum 10.1**

This datum was taken from the fourth paragraph of the article. It contained the statement of The Guardian that they knew what was letter received by attorney general telling about. The datum was about sentence that Reynhard Sinaga would be punished with to be reviewed by the attorney general for

"The office of the attorney general, Geoffrey Cox QC, confirmed he had received a letter asking to review the sentence. **The Guardian** understands the letter came from the CPS, which thinks a higher minimum tariff or even a full life sentence would be more appropriate."

In datum (10.1) above, the author mentioned 'The Guardian' specifically as the social actor included within the text. The author in this case used an inclusion strategy called **specification strategy**. By putting 'The Guardian' specifically within the text, the author wanted to lead the readers'

perspective to the social actor (The Guardian) in doing certain social practice. It was possible for the author to change 'The Guardian' with interviewer or reporter, but through using 'The Guardian' he intended to present a credible social actor by showing the name of media that reported it, so, there would be no question about credibility of the social actor anymore.

### **Datum 10.2**

The datum below was taken from the sixth paragraph of the article. It contained the statement of the judge Suzanne Goddard, QC who said that she was able to make Reynhard Sinaga being jailed for whole life.

“Sentencing him on 6 January, after four gruelling trials spanning a year and a half, **Goddard** said she considered whether she had the authority to ensure he was never released.”

In **datum (10.2)** above, the author mentioned name of judge only with her surname 'Goddard'. It meant that the author used a **nomination strategy** with category of **formalization**. It was possible for the author to mention complete name of the social actor even with her honorifier, however, distance would occur between the social actor and the readers. Therefore the author wanted to delete the distance and distinction between the social actor within the text and the readers and make them would be able to accept all social actor statement.

### **Data 11**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 16th, 2020 entitled “*Reynhard Sinaga: court to decide on whole-life sentence for rapist*”. This news article reported the new

decision to Reynhard Sinaga after they were intervened by the attorney general. Many consideration took into account by the judges whether Reynhard will be jailed for whole life or not.

### Datum 11.1

This datum was taken from the title of the article. It contains the further review of Reynhard Sinaga's case after he was sentenced for 30 years in jail.

“Reynhard Sinaga: **court** to decide on whole-life sentence for rapist.”

From datum (11.1) above, the author mentioned ‘court’ as the social actor. ‘It was a concrete noun which had no features of human. It meant the author used an inclusion strategy called **impersonalisation strategy**. Impersonalisation strategy can be identified through abstract or concrete noun that has no feature of human. ‘Court’ is a place where trial usually held for perpetrators. Here, ‘court’ means a place. However, ‘court’ based on the context of the discourse, it was social actor who decided the punishment for Reynhard Sinaga with his rape case. Furthermore, ‘court’ here in specific way was included into objectivation strategy, one strategy of impersonalisation in which social actors are represented by means of reference to a place or thing with relation to the person or the activity. By using impersonalisation strategy, the author included the social actor within the text, but he still be able to keep the social actor from being revealed to public. The author could hide the social actor's identity by substituting them with the abstract or concrete noun having close relationship to him.

## Data 12

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 25th, 2020 entitled “*Reynhard Sinaga may have been raping men as far back as 2005*”. The news article reported the presumption of police in Manchester that Reynhard Sinaga had firstly attacked men since 2005. It also provided the interview between reporter of The Guardian and one of Reynhard’s flatmate who told story about Reynhard Sinaga. He told the reporter that he did not know if Reynhard was a rapist.

### Datum 12.1

The datum below was taken from the eighth paragraph of the article. It contained the profile of Reynhard Sinaga who was a good person with no criminal record until one of his victim reported him.

“Sinaga had no criminal record and had never been suspected of any crimes until 2 June 2017, when **his final victim** woke up mid-assault and beat him up so badly that he was taken to hospital.”

In **datum (12.1)** above, the author mentioned two social actors within the text; Reynhard Sinaga and his victims. The author contrasted them in social practice they had done. Reynhard Sinaga who was firstly depicted as a good person turned to be a bad person after his victim woke up during his assault. Furthermore, as the author used term ‘victim’ which referred to men being raped by Reynhard, he has done making clear distinct between them. In this case, the author used an inclusion strategy called **differentiation strategy**. Through differentiation strategy, the author wanted to show one

social actors to be distinct with another. Therefore, by differentiating Reynhard and his victims, the author wanted to tell the readers that crime cannot be identified instantly by looking at the person who have done it, however, someone regarded as a good person can do the crime such as Reynhard Sinaga, a ‘good person’ but dangerous for men in Britain until he was described as most prolific rapist. Furthermore, someone who have done violence action, cannot be categorized as a bad person, he is possibly being a victim of any crimes and turning anger to protect himself. This is what Reynhard’s final victim did. He attacked Reynhard in order to protect himself while being abused.

Another strategy was also applied by the author to represent the asocial actor in the text, that was **personalization strategy**. It is a strategy where the social actor is represented as human being. From the datum above, in ‘his final victim’ the author represented the social actor with the ability of having and owning as one feature of human being. It could be identified through the possessive pronoun stated in the datum.

### **Data 13**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 25th, 2020 entitled “*‘I thought, OK, he goes for drunk guys’: friends and flatmates on the Reynhard Sinaga they knew*”.

### **Datum 13.1**

The presented datum below was taken from the first paragraph of the title. It contains the depicted situation inside the court during the trial especially Reynhard's position in the witness box.

“Sitting there, smiling, between three hulking security guards, was a **small man** with thick-rimmed hipster glasses, playing with the **shiny, shoulder-length hair** he had not cut since his arrest in June 2017.”

In **datum (13.1)** above, the author did not represent social actor directly, but he used physical characteristics of the social actors in. In this case, the author applied branch of **categorisation strategy** in representing the social actor which namely physical identification. This type of strategy represents social actor in term of his unique physical characteristic. In the text above, the author represented the social actor who is Reynhard Sinaga by using his physical appearance 'small man' and 'shiny, shoulder-length hair'. Through this strategy, the author wanted to illustrate the situation of Reynhard's trial where he was a small man sitting alone surrounded by three big securities. Furthermore, as the author illustrate the situation of Reynhard during his trial, he indirectly told the readers that Reynhard is a dangerous person who had to be guarded for his hundreds rape case against men in Britain.

### **Data 14**

The data below were taken from the article of The Guardian in online version published on January 26th, 2020 entitled “‘Reynhard Sinaga victim: 'I thought I might have killed him'.” The news article reported

### **Datum 14.1**

This datum was taken from the eleventh paragraph of the article. It contained the description of Reynhard kindful action outside the club in Manchester in order to bring his victim to his flat before drugging and attacking them. This description became reason why no one felt realised that he was a dangerous rapist.

“Sinaga had been posing as a **good Samaritan** outside clubs in central Manchester, inviting men back to his flat for a drink or to charge their phones before slipping the date rape drug gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) into their drink.”

In datum (14.1) above, the author used ‘good Samaritan’ in order to represent Reynhard Sinaga’s behaviour who was kindful and friendly. ‘Good Samaritan’ itself is an expression of kind person thought in Christian faith. Therefore, in this case, the author used a strategy of inclusion called **classification strategy**. Through classification strategy, the social actor is differentiated between the classes given by the society, and in this datum, ‘good samaritan’ referred to religion class in Christian faith. Furthermore, the author represented Reynhard as ‘good samaritan’ which meant good and kind person that was contrasting the fact that Reynhard was a dangerous person with terrifying action. Here, the author did not show the exact social actor directly, but gave contradicting characteristic to Reynhard. The author in this case wanted to lead the readers’ interest as it was ambiguous why a dangerous rapist called as a good samaritan. By doing so, the readers would be definitely curious with the exact social actor.

In the datum above, the author also applied another inclusion strategy of social actor representation. He represented the social with his surname 'Sinaga', Reynhard's family name he got from his father. Through this way, the author used **formalization strategy**. Through formalization strategy, the social actor is represented by his surname, with or without honorifics. Here, the author wanted to show the readers the exact doer of a social practice, so they did not to question who would be the exact doer. Furthermore, as the author used the term 'Sinaga' which was Reynhard's surname, he indirectly wanted to tell the readers that Reynhard is someone who came from Indonesia as 'Sinaga' was one of surname in Batak tribe, a tribe stated in Indonesia.

### 3.2 Discussion

After analyzing the finding of the data from The Guardian online news article about Reynhard Sinaga case, this subchapter will present the discussion of the findings in order to answer the research question; what are the exclusion strategy used in The Guardian online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga? and what are the inclusion strategy used in The Guardian online media news in representing Reynhard Sinaga. Firstly, the researcher will present the types of soial actor representation strategy proposed by (Van Leeuwen, 2008) in representing Reynhard Sinaga in The Guardian online news.

### 3.2.1 Types of Social Actor Representation used by The Guardian online News

Based on the analysis of the data in previous subchapter, the researcher concludes that there are two strategies of social actor representation strategies proposed by Theo van Leeuwen used by The Guardian online news in representing Reynhard Sinaga published between January, 5th until January, 26th. The strategies are exclusion and inclusion strategy of social actor representation. By using these strategies, the researcher also found the purposes of the author in using exclusion and inclusion strategy in representing Reynhard Sinaga. The purposes are to show the important of a role or an social actor, to marginalized certain social actor, to show government domination, to remind the readers and to lead reader's perspective.

In this study, the author of The Guardian online news had used both exclusion and inclusion strategy in representing the social actors. For the exclusion strategy, suppression and backgrounding strategy were used by the author. The suppression strategy applied in the data was realised through passive agent deletion such as in "*Sinaga, who arrived in Britain on a student visa in 2007, was convicted of 159 offences against 48 young men between January 2015 and June 2017*", "*Sinaga was jailed for a minimum of 30 years on Monday*", "*when he was arrested after one of his victims regained consciousness during an assault*" and through the nominalisation in "*reporting restrictions*

*banned all media coverage to avoid prejudicing future juries*". Here, the hidden social actors are mostly the government and the police who became the opposite of Reynhard Sinaga. Looking at the social practice 'convicting', 'jailing', 'arresting', and address a question, "who actually can do these action?", the answer must be 'the police', as a part of government. Furthermore, in 'reporting restriction', the action for preventing the case became spread out. The social actor, again, must be the police as part of the government.

As the suppression strategy was realised through passive agent deletion and nominalisation, the backgrounding strategy was realised through simple ellipsis in non-finite clause with *-ing* participle as stated in "*As well as paying tens of thousands of pounds in tuition fees, his father financed Sinaga's flat in Montana House*", "*Giving evidence in the fourth trial, Sinaga told of using gay dating apps including Grindr and Hornet*", "*Jailing Sinaga on Monday, the judge, Suzanne Goddard QC, described him as a "dangerous, deeply disturbed and perverted individual"*".

Through using the suppression strategy, the social actors are clearly excluded or omitted from the text. The author will lead the readers to focus on the object and the social practice received by him. On the other hand the excluded social actors may be caused by the author's tendency to certain institution or government. Furthermore, through the backgrounding strategy, the social actors still leave trace or

their existence is being delayed within the text. However, although they are still possible to be identified, this backgrounding strategy will also lead the readers' focus on the object and the social practice received by him. The author, in exclusion strategy, tended to exclude the government and police who opposed Reynhard Sinaga from being badly represented with certain social practices.

Beside the exclusion strategy, the author of The Guardian online news media also applied the inclusion strategy within the text. It can be identified through the realisation of activation, passivation, personalization, impersonalization, indetermination, dissociation, categorisation, nomination (semiformalization, infomalization and formalization), functionalization, identification (relational identification, physical identification and classification), differentiation and overdetermination. Each of these strategies include the social actor in different ways based on its characteristics.

Finally, in this research, there are twenty three social actors representation strategy which includes exclusion (suppression and backgrounding) and inclusion (dissociation, individualisation, assimilation, genericisation, specification, overdetermination, categorization, nomination, semiformalization, informalization, indetermination, functionalization, identification, relational identification, physical identification, classification, activation, passivation, impersonalization, personalization, an differentiation) as

the main strategies. It uses almost all exclusion and inclusion strategy, compare to previous studies which also used van Leeuwen's social actor representation, this research has found more strategies. Because of different focus from previous researches, different findings occurs. However, in certain case, it has similar findings that the government has the domination against common people and marginalization of certain social actors.

### **3.2.2 The way social actors are represented in The Guardian online news**

Based on the previous discussion about the exclusion and inclusion strategies used in The Guardian online news, this part will discuss the way social actors are represented in The Guardian online news. The researcher found that there are four ways of the social actor representation; as follows:

#### **a. The exact doer of action**

The author of The Guardian tended to use several inclusion strategy in representing the exact doer especially for whom considered as relevant and has responsible of the action. First, activation strategy as in datum (9.1) Second, individualization as in datum (1.2) Third, overdetermination as in datum (4.1) Fourth Specification as in datum (7.1).

The author, in representing the exact doer tended to embed bad perspective to Reynhard Sinaga as suspect and whom related to him, and embed good perspective to government and police

who opposed Reynhard Sinaga. For example, in datum (9.1), the author mentioned the mayor of Depok with a his action to pretend the spread of LGBT activity in the city. However, in datum (4.1), Reynhard's father depicted with two specific unimportant actions which indirectly told the readers that he supported Reynhard in doing his crime. It would be better if the author did not mention specific aid his father gave to him.

b. Subtituted by other representative characteristic.

The author of The Guardian, sometimes, subtituted the exact social actors with other representation denoting whether the characteristics of the exact social actor, the part of it or in relation with it. Several strategies were used by the author to substitute the exact social actor. First, categorization whether functionalization as in datum (5.2) or identification as in datum (4.2). Second, impersonalization as in datum (11.1). Third, personalization as in datum (12.1)

The obvious thing in this part of discussion is the discrimination of the author against Reynhard Sinaga as suspect of his rape case. The author characterized him and everyone related to him with certain bad perspective. First, as in datum (5.2), he was represented not with his name, but through his harmful action 'abuse'. On the other hand, in datum (4.2), the author represented

his friends as people with negligence where as being close to him, they did not know his bad behaviour.

c. Reynhard Sinaga vs his opposites

The author of The Guardian also tended to represent Reynhard Sinaga with different opposites as stated within the data. First, he was represented as opposite of his victims. It could be found as in datum (12.1) Here, the author used differentiations strategy to give distance between Reynhard and his victims. Both were depicted with two contrasted actions within the discourse. Formerly, he was a good person, and then became a bad one after his victim attacked to defend from being assaulted. Second, Reynhard Sinaga's representation as the opposite of the government. This kind of representation was commonly found within the data as in datum (8.1) Almost everytime the author mentioned his crime and sentence, the author hid the social actor who sentenced him in order to make the readers focused on Reynhard and his case. It would ruin the image of government if the author of The Guardian mentioned them as the social actors of 'sentencing' as it had a bad understanding and would influence readers' perspective. However, if the government was stated within the text, the author gave him with the title and honorification, as in datum (2.1). Moreover, he never be stated within the text with his title, the author said that he was a PhD student, but he was never mentioned as 'Reynhard Sinaga, PhD'.

d. Governments, polices and experts

The author also tended to represent government in certain ways by using several inclusion strategy. First, nomination strategy as in datum (6.1). Second, genericisation as in datum (2.2). Third, dissociation as in datum (1.1) Fourth, assimilation as in datum (3.1).

In representing the governments, polices and exprets, it is very clear shown their domination against Reynhard and the author's support for them by showing them with the status, as in nomination strategy, putting them in general social actor as in genericisation strategy, mentioning each function in handling Reynhard's case as in dissociation strategy, and showing them as a group in assimilation strategy. For nice action they did, they would be shown specifically and when bad action embedded to them, the author would blur them from being specific and clear.

## CHAPTER IV

### CONCLUSION

This chapter presents the conclusion of the research finding and discussion with the suggestion for further research

#### 4.1 Conclusion

Based on the data analysis and the findings, the researcher proposes some conclusions of the research. First, the author, in representing social actors in the news, applied exclusion strategy to hide and delay the social actors from the text and the inclusion strategy to show the social actor within the text. The exclusion strategies used in The Guardian online news which represents Reynhard Sinaga consists of suppression and backgrounding strategy. Furthermore, the inclusion strategies used in by the author in The Guardian online news which represents Reynhard Sinaga are activation, passivation, personalization, impersonalization, indetermination, dissociation, categorisation, nomination (semiformalization, infomalization and formalization), functionalization, identification (relational identification, physical identification and classification), differentiation and overdetermination. The purposes of the application of the exclusion and inclusion strategy are to show the important of a role or an social actor, to marginalized certain social actor, to show government domination, to remind the readers and to lead reader's perspective. Finally, through the way that the author represents certain social actors, he tended not to be neutral, the author

commonly showed the government, police, and expert domination against Reynhard Sinaga and people close to him who had been shown with bad perspective.

#### 4.2 Suggestion

In this subchapter, the author proposed suggestions for the readers, the media, further researchers and the students.

- a. For the readers, it is suggested for you to read the article carefully and critically, because the author of the news may have certain ideology into his report by meant, they tend not to be neutral.
- b. For the media, it is suggested for media to be careful in presenting the report in the news, being neutral is needed in order to present actual data with no intention to lead the reders' perspective against certain peoplr or institutions.
- c. For the researchers and the students, the research about social actors representation is applicable in further research with consideration of the novelty of the object. Furthermore, it will be possible to conduct a research which combines social actor representation theory with another theory as it will provide a comprehensive result and spread the field of social actor representation.

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## APPENDIX

### How serial rapist posed as a good samaritan to lure victims

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Reynhard Sinaga's luck ran out shortly before 6am on 2 June 2017. For at least two-and-a-half years, the Indonesian student had honed his tactic of inviting men back to his flat in central Manchester and handing them a spiked drink on arrival.

But that morning, the drugs failed. Or perhaps he had become so complacent that he did not use any. Either way, his final victim, an 18-year-old he had met outside Factory nightclub, woke up face down with his jeans and boxer shorts around his knees. He realised Sinaga was sexually assaulting him and pushed his shorter and slighter attacker off, beating him up so badly he thought he might have killed him.

The teenager called 999 and an ambulance soon arrived at Montana House, where Sinaga had lived for five years, around the corner from the clubs where he found many of his victims. Sinaga was stretchered out and taken to hospital with a suspected bleed on the brain, while police arrested the teenager on suspicion of grievous bodily harm.

Detectives from Greater Manchester police soon realised they had detained the wrong person. They went to Manchester Royal Infirmary to question Sinaga and noticed he was behaving oddly. He was obsessed with being given his phone and repeatedly gave police the wrong password, trying to grab it from an officer when he reluctantly revealed the correct pin. After unlocking the phone, they discovered films showing Sinaga raping a series of apparently sleeping young men.

Another iPhone contained more films of more men. Months of analysis identified more than 195 different victims, who were all unconscious while Sinaga abused them. DI Zed Ali, the senior investigating officer, said it was "like trying to put together a million-piece jigsaw without the jigsaw cover".

On one occasion, Sinaga was filmed on CCTV leaving the block where he lived and returning within a minute with his next victim. Photograph: Facebook

Investigators did not find any of the drugs Sinaga is believed to have used to knock his victims out. Police waited two days to interview the final complainant, by which time any drugs would have disappeared from his system. But the prosecution insisted the men must have been drugged, probably with gamma-hydroxybutyric acid – commonly known as GHB – or something with very similar effects.

Sometimes known as liquid ecstasy, Gina or G, the drug is popular in the gay chemsex scene. It can cause the levels of sedation, unconsciousness and incapacity seen on the videos Sinaga recorded as he abused his victims. Regular users call it “G-ing out”. On one of the clips, a mobile phone could be heard ringing at full volume but the victim did not stir; in many others, the men could be heard snoring loudly while Sinaga repeatedly raped them.

Many of Sinaga’s victims remembered him giving them a drink when they went to his flat. Some recalled being promised a “party” or simply somewhere to sleep for the night, but then had a total blackout until the following day. Only one, a 21-year-old man raped four times by Sinaga in the early hours of 21 May 2017, told the jury there was something odd about the drink he was handed.

“It looked like water but there was a solution in it, almost like salt. It wasn’t as transparent as water,” the man said, giving evidence via video link. “I think I said to him, ‘What’s this? This isn’t water’, and he said, ‘It’s water, you need to drink water’.”

The heterosexual man said he remembered nothing after that point until he woke up the next day in Sinaga’s flat with what he thought was “the worst hangover ever”. He noticed a used condom underneath a set of drawers – one of the rare times Sinaga is believed to have used protection – and asked him what had happened. “He said he had saved me, that I was passed out on the sidewalk next to Factory [a nightclub], and I said ‘OK, thank you for giving me a place to stay’. It was plausible: I was really drunk,” the man said.

Sinaga would lure men to his flat in Princess Street with the promise of a ‘party’ or simply a place to stay for the night. Photograph: CPS

In a WhatsApp group where he would boast of his sexual conquests, Sinaga once made reference to a “secret poison” he used to make heterosexual men fall in love with him. He sent the message after raping a 21-year-old man he had spotted trying to walk home after losing his bank card and running out of phone battery on a night out. Asked for his “formula” for seducing these men, Sinaga responded with: “Black magic yeah! Rey makes drink potion of gay love haha ... Take a sip of my secret poison, I’ll make you fall in love.”

The drugs were so effective that only Sinaga’s final victim knew with any certainty that he had been assaulted. Until police knocked on their doors several years later, some remembered Sinaga only as the “good samaritan” who gave them a place to stay when they lost their friends or bank card, or their phone had run out of battery.

They thanked him for looking after them and felt guilty for imposing on him. Some even agreed to be his friend on Facebook. One returned with his girlfriend

the following day to prove he had innocently spent the night at Sinaga's, rather than with another woman.

Forty-eight of Sinaga's victims agreed to give evidence against him at Manchester crown court, which meant the case had to be split into four separate trials, the first beginning in May 2018 and the final one finishing just before Christmas 2019. Some of the victims were shielded from Sinaga by screens or appeared via video link. Others were in open court.

A media blackout was imposed, banning any reporting so as not to prejudice the next jury, with the Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) keeping open the possibility of charging Sinaga with more of the hundreds of rapes and sexual assaults he had filmed.

He kept souvenirs to remember his crimes – passports, watches, bank cards and driving licences – and often took screenshots of his victims' Facebook profiles to create what the prosecutor, Iain Simkin QC, likened to a "Top Trumps" collection.

Giving evidence in the first and last of his four trials, Sinaga described himself as an "effeminate gay man" and claimed he was perceived as a "ladyboy" by his "sexually curious" victims. He said each of the 48 men approached him on the street near his flat and propositioned him before agreeing to go to his flat to take part in sexual role play that involved them pretending to be asleep while he penetrated them, sometimes for hours. They were lying in court, Sinaga suggested, because "it is not an easy thing to come out as gay", and "internalised homophobia" remains widespread.

Sentencing him after the first trial, the judge, Suzanne Goddard QC, dismissed his defence as "ludicrous ... that each of the males had asked you for oral sex or anal sex and had agreed to take part in your sexual fantasy by lying completely still throughout and not speaking or making any sounds, and had agreed to be filmed in the most intimate ways imaginable."

Because Sinaga persisted with his defence, jurors had to watch the footage. All were later uniquely offered counselling.

A number of the victims vomited and still did not wake up while being abused. The films showed Sinaga carefully checking the younger men were unconscious, putting his finger in their belly buttons to see if they would react, before raping them.

Sinaga rarely wore a condom, meaning all of the victims had to be tested for sexually transmitted diseases, though he tested negative after his arrest.

The earliest rape to come to court took place in the early hours of New Year's Day in 2015. A 22-year-old man who, like the vast majority of Sinaga's targets, was heterosexual, could remember nothing after going to the Ritz club in Manchester until he woke up on Sinaga's floor covered in vomit. After the victim left the flat, embarrassed at imposing on a stranger, Sinaga texted a friend to boast that he had had his first sexual intercourse of the year with a man who was not gay. "He was straight in 2014. 2015 is his breakthrough to the gay world hahaha. Well, he was straight until we woke up naked," he wrote.

Sinaga would typically leave his flat at about midnight and go looking for men, most often outside Factory, which was almost next door. Sometimes, he walked for a few minutes and loitered outside 5th Avenue, another club popular with students now known as Fifth Manchester. On one occasion, he was filmed on CCTV leaving Montana House and returning within a minute with his next victim.

On one weekend in September 2016, Sinaga raped two men in the space of 24 hours, one in the early hours of Saturday and the other on Sunday. The second man, a 19-year-old who had been out with his mother on Canal Street, remembered Sinaga helping him up from the pavement after he had been kicked out of a taxi. He recalled going back to Montana House but then nothing until he woke up naked in Sinaga's bedroom the next morning. He asked Sinaga why he was not wearing clothes and was told he had been sick, so Sinaga had undressed him. They ended up having a drink together before Sinaga asked if he would have sex. The man refused, saying he had a girlfriend.

"Tellingly, you may think, there was never any conversation concerning the eight instances of sexual activity which had already taken place that morning, nor was there any mention of the defendant recording any sexual acts," Simkin told the jury in the second trial.

Sinaga was well known in Manchester's Gay Village and people who regularly saw him at clubs were shocked when he was arrested. Photograph: Facebook

When word began to spread in Manchester's Gay Village that Sinaga had been arrested, there was widespread incredulity that the slight, cheerful man they often saw out dancing and giggling could be capable of such acts. In the early 2010s, he was a fixture on Canal Street, out most nights of the week at the Thompson Arms, G-A-Y or the club night Poptastic.

He had a large circle of friends, but few were close. "He was very flamboyant, had highlighted hair and was very camp," said one man who went out regularly with Sinaga until 2013. "He was always out, always going on holiday. We wondered where he got his money because he never seemed to work." Others thought he was a sex worker, or involved with a well-off man who funded his lifestyle.

One of his female friends remembered Sinaga had a couple of boyfriends: one who worked at the Ibis hotel opposite his flat, and another who left him distraught. “He left Rey and Rey threatened to drink bleach. He had an extreme behaviour [in response] to rejection, if that’s the right term for it,” she said.

Sinaga was constantly chatting to men on the gay dating apps Grindr and Hornet, and was very active on Facebook and Instagram. His final Facebook post was the day before his arrest. When the updates stopped, some of his friends wondered where he had gone.

In the end, it was Sinaga’s compulsion to document his crimes that caused his downfall. During sentencing after the second trial, Goddard told him: “It is ironic that were it not for the films that you took of your evil crimes, it seems that most of these offences would not have even been discovered, let alone prosecuted.”



## Reynhard Sinaga jailed for life for raping dozens of men in Manchester

Published on January 6th, 2020.

A man described as “Britain’s most prolific rapist” will never be safe to be released, a court heard on Monday, as he was jailed for a minimum of 30 years for 136 rapes against dozens of young men in Manchester.

Reynhard Sinaga, 36, a mature student from Indonesia, is thought by police to have abused at least 195 men over two and a half years after luring them to his flat under the guise of being a “good samaritan”, drugging his victims and then attacking them after they passed out. All but four of the 48 victims whose cases came to court were raped.

The student was proved to have committed 159 offences, including 136 rapes, which he filmed on two mobile phones. Police have yet to identify at least 70 of his victims.

The lifting of a two-year media blackout at the end of Sinaga’s fourth trial on Monday meant that he could be identified for the first time and drew expressions of horror from police and victims, as well as calls for a review of controls on so-called “date rape drugs”.

Ian Rushton, the north-west deputy chief crown prosecutor, called Sinaga the “most prolific rapist in British legal history”. Meanwhile, Priti Patel, the home secretary, urged the independent Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs to examine control on substances like GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid), believed to have been used by Sinaga.

Sinaga is already serving 88 concurrent life sentences with a minimum of 20 years before he can be considered for parole after his first two trials, which related to 25 victims and were heard between 2018 and last year. He was sentenced on Monday for trials three and four, where he was convicted of counts relating to a further 23 victims.

Sentencing him at Manchester crown court on Monday, Judge Suzanne Goddard QC described Sinaga as a “dangerous, deeply disturbed and perverted individual with no sense of reality”, who should never be released from prison.

The judge said she had strongly considered ordering Sinaga to serve a whole life term, meaning he would never be released, which would have been the first such sentence imposed for a crime other than murder.

Goddard said it was a “borderline case”, therefore she could only pass a term for a minimum of 30 years, but added: “In my judgment you are a highly dangerous, cunning and deceitful individual who will never be safe to be released, but that is a matter for the Parole Board.”

The defendant, who wore a knitted sweatshirt and black-rimmed glasses, smirked as he entered the dock beside two custody officers but appeared expressionless and bored for much of the sentencing. He yawned and played with his hair as harrowing evidence of the impact on his victims was read to a packed courtroom.

Addressing Sinaga, Goddard said he had shown “not one jot of remorse” and told him: “Again, you seem to be actively enjoying the court process even as you stand there waiting to be sentenced.”

She added: “You are an evil serial sexual offender who preyed on young men who came into the city centre wanting nothing more than a good night with their friends.

“One of the victims in their victim personal statement described you as a monster. The scale and enormity of your offending establishes that is an accurate description.

“Rarely if ever have the courts seen such a campaign of rape covering so many victims over such a prolonged period.”

Sinaga claimed his victims were enjoying acting out his sexual fantasy of playing dead during intercourse, but the defence was described as “ludicrous” and unanimously rejected by the four trial juries at Manchester crown court.

Many of the men could be heard on film snoring while he raped them. One man told the court he showed Sinaga a scan of his unborn child before he fell unconscious, dismissing the idea that he would have consented to what Sinaga claimed was “Fifty Shades of Grey-type stuff”.

Sinaga, who moved to the UK in 2007 at the age of 24, mostly preyed on undergraduates in their late teens or early 20s. They had typically gone into Manchester city centre “wanting nothing more than a good night out with their friends”, said Goddard.

The court heard Sinaga had a tried-and-tested formula for finding his victims outside clubs within a few minutes’ walk of his flat on Princess Street in central Manchester.

He would go out after midnight to wait outside clubs, usually Factory or Fifth, and prey on mostly heterosexual young men who had been kicked out by bouncers or

lost their friends or partners. Some had no money for a cab home or their phone batteries had run out, while others had been sick.

All were in a state of inebriation when they were approached by the slight, smiling man in black-rimmed glasses, who appeared harmless. When he asked the men if they wanted to come back to his flat and sleep on the floor or have a few more drinks, they agreed.

The juries were told Sinaga kept men's belongings as trophies and looked them up on Facebook. He texted a friend to boast about one victim: "He was straight in 2014. 2015 is his breakthrough to the gay world hahaha."

The judge said Sinaga had showed 'not one jot of remorse' and seemed to be enjoying the court process before sentencing. Photograph: Facebook

Police believe Sinaga would have carried on had one of his victims not woken up during an attack and called 999 on 2 June 2017.

Following Sinaga's arrest, police discovered films on two iPhones showing him raping scores of apparently sleeping young men.

When Greater Manchester police examined Sinaga's digital devices, they discovered 3.29TB of extremely graphic material – equivalent to 250 DVDs or 300,000 photos – depicting sexual assaults lasting in one case for eight hours.

Whenever groggy victims regained consciousness, Sinaga could be seen pushing them back to the floor to continue the assault or snatching away his phone to avoid suspicion. Few had any idea they had been raped until police knocked on their doors several years later.

Many months of excruciating analysis identified 195 victims, all of whom were unconscious when Sinaga abused them. Investigators never found the drugs he had used to knock his victims out.

But experts told the jury they believed the men must have been drugged, probably with GHB or something with very similar effects. Even at quantities as low as 1ml, GHB can render a person unconscious.

Victims described how their careers and personal relationships had suffered as a result of the abuse. Several said they had turned to alcohol and become socially isolated, unable even to tell close relatives or friends about what happened.

Sinaga lived at Montana House in Princess Street, central Manchester, close to several nightclubs. Photograph: Peter Byrne/PA

One teenager described Sinaga as “an evil predator” and “faceless monster”, and said the day he was told by police that he had been raped “changed my life for ever”. He said he began drinking heavily and having panic attacks, and considered self-harm, abandoning a teaching course.

Another man, who had a promising career when he was attacked by Sinaga, said he would have killed himself were it not for his mother, one of the only family members or friends he had been able to tell what had happened.

“I’m at the point now where I feel life could not get any worse. This has been my worst nightmare become a reality,” he said in a statement read to the court.

Jurors had to watch hours of explicit footage recorded by Sinaga, who insisted throughout that all of the men were simply pretending to be asleep as part of what his barrister, Richard Littler QC, described as “a role-play fantasy”. The law states that an individual cannot consent to sex if they are unconscious, so the jury was required to assess only whether the men in the video were asleep.

## Priti Patel urges review of date-rape drugs after Reynhard Sinaga case

The home secretary, Priti Patel, has called for an urgent review into whether more stringent controls are needed for date rape drugs such as GHB after the sentencing of Britain’s most prolific rapist.

Reynhard Sinaga, 36, is believed to have used GHB (gamma-hydroxybutyric acid) to incapacitate dozens of young men before raping or sexually assaulting them in his flat in Manchester city centre. The mature student, originally from Indonesia, was jailed for a minimum of 30 years on Monday.

Patel urged the independent Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs to review current controls of the drug. She said: “Sinaga committed truly sickening crimes and it is right that he has been sentenced to life imprisonment. I extend my heartfelt sympathy to his victims and my gratitude to the police and prosecutors who worked on this case and put him behind bars.

“I’m deeply concerned by the use of illegal drugs like GHB to perpetrate these crimes and have asked the independent Advisory Council on the Misuse of Drugs to expedite a review looking at whether our controls for these drugs are tough enough.”

The jury in Sinaga’s trial heard he had probably sedated his victims with drinks spiked with powdered GHB or its liquid equivalent, GBL (gamma-butyrolactone),

which is used as a paint stripper and cleaning fluid but has become popular in the gay chemsex scene.

To prove its case, the prosecution relied on expert evidence from Dr Simon Elliott, a consultant forensic toxicologist. He told the jury that one of the effects of GHB/GBL is anterograde amnesia, where someone is unable to make new memories and cannot remember anything about the period of intoxication. About 15 minutes after taking one small dose (deliberately or otherwise), a person may fall into a deep sleep or even become unconscious, and may not be able to remember anything for seven hours, Elliott said.

One police specialist who gave evidence to the court said GHB was easy to buy online from China, with five litres selling for as little as £300. Dealers sold the drug in 15ml or 30ml vials, with users sometimes measuring out their own doses with small plastic fishes used for soy sauce in sushi packs. Just 1ml was enough to knock someone out, he claimed.

But the drug can also be used for nefarious means and overdosing is very common and sometimes fatal. That Sinaga did not kill someone was, said the prosecutor, Iain Simkin, “just good luck”.



## Reynhard Sinaga: the 'Peter Pan' student who raped scores of men

There is no such thing as a typical rapist. But both Reynhard Sinaga's friends and victims agree there was nothing about his friendly and unthreatening appearance to suggest he was capable of any kind of violence, let alone a two-and-a-half year campaign of rape and degradation.

Barely 5ft 7in (170cm) tall, with a soft voice, ready smile and thick-rimmed glasses, he cut an unassuming figure. "He's just nice, meek and inoffensive," said one friend from the Gay Village in Manchester. "I can't imagine him getting a parking ticket or telling off. He's such a square."

Born in 1983 to a Catholic family in Jambi in the Indonesian island of Sumatra, Sinaga came to the UK in 2007 on a student visa when he was 24. For the next 10 years, up until his arrest on 2 June 2017, he lived off money wired from Indonesia by his father, a banker. As well as paying tens of thousands of pounds in tuition fees, his father financed Sinaga's flat in Montana House, a few doors down from Factory nightclub, which became his favourite place to look for men.

Sinaga, known as Rey, rarely talked about his family or life back home, where he had two siblings. His mother came to the first pre-trial hearing, but was not present for any of the four trials her son insisted on putting his victims through, with the defence claiming the men he drugged and filmed himself raping were only pretending to be asleep.

He never hid his sexuality in Manchester, where he was a regular on Canal Street and in the Gay Village. Giving evidence in the fourth trial, Sinaga told of using gay dating apps including Grindr and Hornet.

His friends say they had no knowledge of his crimes. Some had heard him describe "turning" heterosexual men as a sport. He would boast to certain friends of his sexual misadventures, often with the heterosexual men he was later accused of raping.

In July 2015, in a WhatsApp exchange read to the jury, he told a friend that his flatmate was moving out. "You can get in lots of straight boys darling," said his friend. Sinaga responded with a photograph of his latest victim, passed out: "Hahaha. You mean like this one?"

"There's always a new one," said his friend, adding: "Fucking hell darling u get a dif straight every week."

Friends said he was secretive about his bedroom. In January 2015, after raping a 19-year-old man, Sinaga told a WhatsApp group that he had picked up a man the previous night who had argued with his girlfriend in Factory. “SuperRey saves straight boys from their monstrous girlfriend,” he boasted, sending a photograph of the victim. One friend replied: “Finally I can see the inside of Rey’s room, I was always forbidden to go behind the magic door hahaha. “You were always screaming ‘nooo it’s too messy!’ Then we were joking male dead body were piling under the bed haha.”

Sinaga had a few short-term relationships. One female friend recalled a boyfriend who worked at the Ibis hotel opposite his flat on Princess Street. He did not cope well with rejection, she said, recalling how he threatened to drink bleach when a boyfriend broke up with him.

Another friend said it was a mystery where Sinaga got his money from – he once had seasonal work in Next and was briefly an exam invigilator, but he could not hold down a job and yet never seemed short of cash. “He was always out, always going on holiday. We wondered where he got his money because he never seemed to work,” they said. “He was always in the Village. He was one of those people who were always out. He would never be with anyone. He would cling to you and just be with you for the rest of the night.”

When word started to spread in the Gay Village that Sinaga had been arrested, many friends thought there must have been a mistake – until they learned Sinaga had filmed his attacks, cataloguing them alongside photos he took of his victims’ ID or bank cards. That he had spiked their drinks was a further shock. Friends from the Village said he was never into drugs when they knew him, in the early 2010s, and had never spoken of chemsex parties or GHB, sticking to alcohol on his many nights out.

One close friend, who collaborated with Sinaga on a photography project, said he was “a sweet, happy guy, always smiling and laughing”, liked by all. He attended St Chrysostom’s church, which prides itself on welcoming “all people regardless of ethnicity, age, relationship status, disability or sexual orientation, and regardless of how much or how little faith people have”.

Until recently, Sinaga was still pictured on a church blogpost from 2012, when he helped with a children’s Easter project and talked about the children having a “fabulous time”.

The church provided a character reference for Sinaga, with the judge, Suzanne Gooddard QC, remarking during the sentencing of the second trial: “It is almost beyond belief that someone who could profess some Christian faith could at the same time have been committing such wicked and evil crimes.”

The other two references came from his mother and sister, based in Indonesia, neither of whom, said the judge, know of “the cold, cunning and calculated rapist that you are”.

His barrister struggled to find anything to say in his favour, accepting the “obvious aggravating factors in the case” and the assessment of psychiatrists and prison staff that he was highly dangerous and at great risk of reoffending.

Another friend remembered how someone from the church was helping Sinaga try to apply for refugee status “on the grounds he couldn’t be gay in Indonesia”. Whether he ever submitted an asylum claim is unclear, but Sinaga managed to keep extending his stay in the UK by eking out his PhD. “He was trying to avoid returning to Indonesia and one way to avoid that was to stay a student for ever,” said his photography friend.

Sinaga studied at Manchester University from August 2007 for an MA in sociology, and then in August 2012 began studying at Leeds University for a PhD in human geography, which he never finished. He submitted his thesis, entitled “Sexuality and everyday transnationalism among South Asian gay and bisexual men in Manchester”, in August 2016, but it failed and he was given time to make corrections.

Sinaga flitted between various groups of friends. One woman who knew him well until 2013 said he thought of himself as “a bit of a Peter Pan”. He looked younger than his age and acted it, being “narcissistic and somewhat naive to everything”. He loved taking selfies and lived his life online, posting daily photographs. The final shot was taken on 1 June 2017, the day before he was arrested, using a filter that gave him pink ears and sunglasses.

# Reynhard Sinaga's life sentence for rapes 'fits his crimes', says father

The father of the man described as the most prolific rapist in British legal history has said his son's punishment of life in jail "fits his crimes".

The first comments from Reynhard Sinaga's immediate family came as more of his potential victims approached police following his sentencing on Monday to life imprisonment, with a minimum term of 30 years.

The 36-year-old's father, Saibun Sinaga, told the BBC in a phone call: "We accept the verdict. His punishment fits his crimes. I don't want to discuss the case any further."

Greater Manchester police opened a dedicated major incident hotline following the sentencing of Sinaga, a PhD student from Indonesia.

He has been convicted of 136 rapes and sexual offences against 48 young men over two-and-a-half years but police believe he may have assaulted at least 195 men over a longer period.

Sinaga lured his victims back to his flat in Manchester city centre under the guise of being a good Samaritan before drugging them and attacking them after they had passed out.

Detectives said on Tuesday that there had been multiple calls to its major incident hotline since the sentencing and that some of these were from potential further victims of the student.

Although police declined to disclose specific numbers, the force said its incident room had received a "very positive response".

Duncan Craig, the chief executive of the charity Survivors Manchester, which is supporting some of Sinaga's victims, said he understood that "about 30 calls" had been made to the hotline although it was unclear how many of those were from potential further victims.

He said: "In my office there's people ringing up who aren't directly affected by this particular case but are people who have been sexually assaulted, maybe even in childhood, feeling that now is the time to talk."

Craig, a trained therapist, said the men abused by Sinaga would be feeling a combination of relief and shock now their abuser had been unmasked, following four trials which imposed reporting restrictions preventing the cases from being made public.

He told the BBC's Victoria Derbyshire programme: "Everything becomes much more of a reality now.

"Particularly survivors will talk about when a case has concluded there's this momentary euphoria of 'Oh thank goodness, that's it, it's over' and then the sudden realisation of 'Now the work starts to build my life back up'."

Sinaga, who arrived in Britain on a student visa in 2007, was convicted of 159 offences against 48 young men between January 2015 and June 2017, when he was arrested after one of his victims regained consciousness during an assault.

Police believe he attacked at least 195 victims, including the 48 whose cases were brought to court, judging by the number of "trophies" the rapist kept following his assaults, including video footage, wallets, watches, mobile phones and ID cards. All but four of the 48 victims he assaulted were raped.

Sinaga was jailed for a minimum of 30 years on Monday. The judge, Suzanne Goddard QC, described him as a "dangerous, deeply disturbed and perverted individual" who would never be safe to be released.

Greater Manchester police said anyone with information relating to Sinaga could contact 0800 092 0410 (calls made from within the UK) or 020 7158 0124 (international calls) or make a report online. Anyone affected by the case and needing support from specialist agencies can contact 0800 056 0154 (calls made from within the UK) or 020 7158 0011 (international calls).

# Police issue warning over posts 'identifying Reynhard Sinaga victims'

Police have issued a warning after a number of social media posts purportedly identified victims of the serial rapist Reynhard Sinaga.

Greater Manchester police (GMP) said social media users would be committing criminal offences and potentially jeopardising a live investigation by identifying those who may have been sexually assaulted by the PhD student.

The force said: “We are aware of a number of social media posts circulating which may identify potential victims of sexual offences in connection with the live investigation into Reynhard Sinaga.”

Sinaga, 36, was jailed for a minimum of 30 years on Monday after being convicted of 159 counts of rape or sexual assault against 48 men between January 2016 and June 2017. The student, originally from Indonesia, is suspected to have abused at least 195 men and police confirmed that more potential victims came forward this week.

GMP issued a statement on its social media channels on Thursday after a number of posts about the case.

It said: “We would like to stress that under the Sexual Offences (Amendment) Act 2000, victims of sexual offences have a lifelong right to anonymity and therefore any post which identifies victims of sexual offences constitutes a criminal offence. Additionally these posts risk jeopardising an ongoing investigation into serious crime. Please be mindful when sharing any social media posts.”

Detectives have opened a major incident hotline since the sentencing in the anticipation that further victims of Sinaga will come forward. On Tuesday the force said it had received multiple calls in the 24 hours after he was sentenced and that an undisclosed number were from potential additional victims.

Although police declined to disclose specific numbers, the force said its incident room had received a “very positive response”.

Police believe he attacked at least 195 victims, including the 48 whose cases were brought to court, judging by the number of “trophies” the rapist kept after his assaults, including video footage, wallets, watches, mobile phones and ID cards. All but four of the 48 victims he assaulted were raped.

Jailing Sinaga on Monday, the judge, Suzanne Goddard QC, described him as a “dangerous, deeply disturbed and perverted individual” who would never be safe to be released.

GMP said anyone with information relating to Sinaga could call 0800 092 0410 from within the UK or 020 7158 0124 for international callers, or make a report online. Anyone affected by the case and needing support from specialist agencies can call 0800 056 0154 from within the UK or 020 7158 0011 for international callers.



# Detectives investigate new allegations against rapist Reynhard Sinaga

Detectives are investigating new allegations against the most persistent rapist in legal history amid an unprecedented increase in male victims contacting helplines to report sexual abuse.

Greater Manchester police said on Friday they had received a “significant number” of calls to a dedicated major incident hotline launched after the sentencing of Reynhard Sinaga on Monday.

The force declined to reveal how many potential new victims had come forward but said it would “fully investigate all reports” as part of its ongoing inquiry into the 36-year-old.

Sinaga, a PhD student originally from Indonesia, was jailed for life and ordered to serve a minimum of 30 years in prison after being convicted of 159 counts of rape or sexual assault against 48 men between January 2015 and June 2017.

A small team of five police officers and four specially trained support officers have been manning a dedicated hotline set up in the expectation that dozens more possible victims of Sinaga will come forward.

Police believe the former university student attacked at least 195 victims, including the 48 whose cases were brought to court, over a period that could stretch back to 2007, when he first arrived in the UK.

Detectives will seek to interview Sinaga at Strangeways prison in Manchester if the investigation into any potential new offences progresses to that stage. He has never spoken to professionals during his two years in custody on the advice of his legal team, meaning the true scale of his offending remains unclear.

While the police investigation continues, the worldwide coverage of the case has prompted a flood of male victims to contact helplines about sexual abuse they have suffered – many breaking their silence after decades.

The charity Safeline said it had seen a 500% increase in calls to its national hotline for male survivors of sexual abuse since Sinaga’s sentencing on Monday – the biggest rise in its history.

Neil Henderson, its chief executive, said the huge increase in contacts this week compared with a 300-400% rise following the football abuse scandal in 2016.

Survivors Manchester, the charity supporting several of Sinaga's victims, said it had also experienced a rise in the number of people seeking help, from an average of two a day usually to 57 new referrals between Monday and Friday morning.

Duncan Craig, its founder, described the case as a "watershed moment" for the perception of male rape. He said it had bust "the myth" that rape only happened to gay men and started a national conversation about men opening up about sexual abuse.

"What it's done inadvertently is open a window of opportunity to male survivors which they're now jumping through," he said.

Craig, a trained therapist, said there now needed to be a wider discussion about how night-time safety campaigns were always aimed at women, when they applied equally to men.

"The whole world effectively is talking about how it's possible for men to be raped, how we need to talk about safety and rethink messaging," he said. "When pubs and clubs and alcohol campaigns are often talking about be careful of your drink it's always aimed at women, but maybe we need to start having a wider conversation."

Sinaga posed as a "good samaritan" to lure his intoxicated victims back to his flat in Manchester city centre, where he would spike their drink and sexually abuse them when they passed out, filming the whole encounter on two mobile phones. All but four of the men he assaulted were raped.

# Mother of UK's worst serial rapist 'didn't know he was gay'

The mother of a mature student described as “Britain’s most prolific rapist” says she did not know he was gay.

Reynhard Sinaga was sentenced to life with a minimum of 30 years last week after being found guilty of attacking 48 men in Manchester. Videos he recorded on two iPhones suggest that he attacked at least 195 men while they lay comatose in his city centre flat, having spiked their drinks with a date rape drug.

Almost all were heterosexual, with Sinaga boasting to friends of “saving” straight men he picked up when they were drunk outside nightclubs. “SuperRey saves straight boys from their monstrous girlfriend,” he said in a WhatsApp message after raping a young student in January 2015, joking that his bedroom was a “discreet straight boys sanctuary”.

His mother, Normawati, said her family did not believe men can be gay, suggesting that she did not know her son was attracted to men. “We are a good Christian family who do not believe in homosexuality,” she told the Sunday Times. “He is my baby.”

Giving evidence at his fourth trial before Christmas, Sinaga, a 36-year-old from Indonesia, claimed that he was mistaken for a “ladyboy” by his victims, who were unwilling to admit that they had slept with a man. “It is not an easy thing to come out as gay,” he told the jury.

But most of his targets had no idea they had been raped until the police knocked on their doors years later, having found videos of them being abused on Sinaga’s phones. Only his final victim directly accused Sinaga of rape at the time, having woken up during the attack.

Normawati described visiting her son when he was on remand at HMP Manchester, the prison better known as Strangeways, and asking him why he recorded the attacks. He allegedly told her: “I like to do it. It was my documentary.”

In the interview, at the family’s home in Jakarta province, Normawati spoke of her son’s Christian upbringing and life of privilege, funded by the family’s company, which runs a palm oil plantation and refinery.

She described Sinaga as a “gentle boy” who “loved to bury himself” in a book. “He is the eldest of my four children. He didn’t really go out much,” she said. “He was more interested in studying.”

He studied architecture at the University of Indonesia and then went to a college in the US. He returned after a few months, complaining that the students were more interested in partying than studying, his mother claimed.

He arrived in the UK in 2007 on a student visa and studied for an masters in sociology. He then began a PhD in human geography at Leeds University, commuting to Yorkshire, but his thesis – Sexuality and Everyday Transnationalism among South Asian gay and bisexual men in Manchester – was rejected in August 2016. He was then granted time to correct the work and resubmit but had not done so by the time of his arrest on 2 June 2017.

His mother told the Sunday Times she begged him to return home to work for the family firm but that he refused, saying he wanted to “build a career as a lecturer. “He said Indonesia was not a good place to live for him and he felt comfortable living in Manchester.”



# Indonesia: LGBT community faces backlash after Reynhard Sinaga's rape conviction

The mayor in the home city of an Indonesian man described as Britain's "most prolific rapist" has ordered raids to uncover members of the LGBT community, prompting fears of a growing homophobic backlash across the country.

The mayor of Depok, a city south of Jakarta, asked residents to report any signs of LGBT activity which he characterised as "deviant behaviour". Mohammad Idris also called on several agencies to improve efforts to prevent the "spread of LGBT" in order to "strengthen families and ... protect the children" and instructed police to carry out raids to uncover "LGBT behaviour".

His comments follow the conviction of Reynhard Sinaga, 36, a mature-age student from Indonesia, who was found to have abused at least 195 men, luring them to his flat in Manchester before drugging and attacking his victims. Sinaga was sentenced to life in prison earlier this month.

It is not clear what the purpose of the proposed raids would be, since homosexuality, while taboo, is not illegal in the country – except in the conservative, sharia-ruled province of Aceh.

Last week a coalition of 16 LGBT and human rights groups, including queer rights advocacy groups, issued a joint statement condemning Sinaga, but said that his crimes should not be used to incite hatred.

"Sexual violence can be committed by and to anyone regardless of class, level of education, religion, age, sex and sexual orientation," the statement said. "Blaming sexual orientation for one's criminal actions is an attempt to turn the issue of sexual violence into hate against vulnerable LGBT groups."

After Sinaga's sentencing, LGBT activists pointed to a series of homophobic media reports and statements on social media. The Islamic writer and self-described anti-liberal activist Akmal Sjafril wrote on Twitter: "Rape is not new, and has been done by humans for a long time ... But the rape record is now broken by homosexuals, even though this group is very small in number compared to normal."

Lini Zurlia, a prominent queer rights activist based in Jakarta, said the LGBT community was devastated. "Since the case went public, I have personally been

harassed online by people saying that Sinaga is ‘part of my circle’ and that I would defend him and I am sure other [queer] activists are also experiencing the same,” Zurlia said.

“[The media] focus on Sinaga’s sexual orientation rather than the rape case itself. It’s also affecting individuals in our community because some of them are getting emotionally attacked from their family, as if being gay is to ‘be like Sinaga’.”

“The sad thing about this discourse is you’ll probably only hear from the ones who fight back,” said Dede Oetomo, a veteran gay rights activist. “But there are many more young queer people – and I work with a lot of them as a peer counsellor – who will internalise these media messages and think they are wrong, that they are sinners.”



# Exclusive: CPS seeks longer sentence for rapist Reynhard Sinaga

A man described as Britain's most prolific rapist could have his sentence increased after the Crown Prosecution Service wrote to the attorney general saying Reynhard Sinaga should serve longer than 30 years in prison.

Sinaga, a 36-year-old mature student from Indonesia, was given a life sentence with a minimum tariff of 30 years by a judge at Manchester crown court last week. Suzanne Goddard QC told him it was "borderline" whether he should be given a whole-life term but decided that he should not be considered for release until he was 66, having been unanimously convicted by four juries of drugging and abusing 48 men while they lay comatose in his Manchester flat.

Greater Manchester police says it has evidence to suggest he may have raped 195 men between 2005 and 2017, when he was arrested.

The office of the attorney general, Geoffrey Cox QC, confirmed he had received a letter asking to review the sentence. The Guardian understands the letter came from the CPS, which thinks a higher minimum tariff or even a full life sentence would be more appropriate.

Under the unduly lenient sentence scheme, the attorney general has 28 days after sentencing to review the decision.

Sentencing him on 6 January, after four gruelling trials spanning a year and a half, Goddard said she considered whether she had the authority to ensure he was never released.

"Whole-life sentences are extremely rare and I understand that a whole-life order has never been made in a case other than one involving murder," she said. The judge said she accepted evidence from a forensic drugs expert, Dr Simon Elliott, who said it would be easy to kill someone with GHB, the date-rape drug Sinaga is suspected of using to stupefy his victims.

"Whilst these offences collectively and individually are of the utmost seriousness, and in my view did involve a risk to life, given the evidence of Dr Elliot, the features of torture and violence are absent, and do not involve death or lasting serious physical injury. You are clearly well versed in the necessary doses and mercifully none of the victims suffered any lasting serious physical effects.

“The sole feature that would allow the court to contemplate the passing of a whole-life order would be the vast scale of your offending, which now involves 48 victims – some 23 in these two trials. This is in my view a borderline case, as described in the authorities, and as such I must therefore shrink back from passing a whole-life order. In my judgment, you are a highly dangerous, cunning and deceitful individual who will never be safe to be released but that is a matter for the Parole Board.”

The judge told Sinaga that a minimum term was not a fixed term, after which he would automatically be released, but the minimum time he would spend in custody before he could be considered for parole. She said: “It will be for the Parole Board to say at that time whether and if so on what conditions you are to be released. If and when you are released you will be subject to licence for the rest of your life. If you were to be in breach of any condition of your licence, that licence could be revoked and you would then be recalled to prison to continue to serve your life sentence in custody.”

Sinaga was convicted of 159 sexual offences: 136 counts of rape, eight counts of attempted rape, 13 counts of sexual assault and two counts of assault by penetration.

A Crown Prosecution Service spokesperson said: “The case of Reynhard Sinaga is unprecedented in CPS history and we took a range of factors into account when bringing each trial to court.

“A key consideration was the likely impact on sentence of bringing further prosecutions, and we are confident we did everything we could to ensure the court had adequate sentencing powers to see justice done in this case.”

# Reynhard Sinaga: court to decide on whole-life sentence for rapist

Appeal court judges will decide whether Britain's most prolific rapist should die in jail following an intervention by the attorney general.

Geoffrey Cox QC has referred Reynhard Sinaga's sentence to the court of appeal under the unduly lenient sentence (ULS) scheme as he thinks a "whole-life order" should be considered.

Sinaga, 36, a mature student from Indonesia, was sentenced at Manchester crown court on 6 January to life imprisonment with a minimum term of 30 years for 136 counts of rape.

Normally whole-life orders are reserved for the most serious murder cases and ensures the recipients are never released from jail. Prisoners currently serving such sentences include Michael Adebolajo, who murdered the soldier Lee Rigby near his barracks in London, and the serial killer Levi Bellfield.

Cox said: "After carefully considering the details of this case, I have decided to refer the sentence to the court of appeal.

"Sinaga carried out an egregious number of attacks, over a prolonged period of time causing substantial pain and psychological suffering to his victims. It is now for the court to decide whether to increase the sentence."

Sentencing him on 6 January, after four gruelling trials spanning a year and a half, the judge, Suzanne Goddard QC, said she considered whether she had the authority to ensure he was never released.

She told him: "The sole feature that would allow the court to contemplate the passing of a whole-life order would be the vast scale of your offending, which now involves 48 victims ... This is in my view a borderline case, as described in the authorities, and as such I must therefore shrink back from passing a whole-life order. In my judgment, you are a highly dangerous, cunning and deceitful individual who will never be safe to be released but that is a matter for the Parole Board."

The judge told Sinaga that a minimum term was not a fixed term, after which he would automatically be released, but the minimum time he would spend in custody before he could be considered for parole.

# Reynhard Sinaga may have been raping men as far back as 2005

Police in Manchester believe the PhD student dubbed “Britain’s worst ever rapist” may have attacked men as far back as 2005 – and have admitted he called them at least twice to help evict men from his flat.

Reynhard Sinaga, 36, from Indonesia, posed as a “good Samaritan” outside clubs in central Manchester, inviting men back to his flat for a drink or to charge their phones, before slipping the date rape drug gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) into their drink. He then recorded himself raping them, sometimes for hours at a time.

He was convicted earlier this month of drugging and assaulting 48 men between 1 January 2015 and 2 June 2017. But detectives from Greater Manchester police (GMP) think he may have begun raping men in 2005.

They have found photos, videos and “trophy items” that suggest he attacked 195 men between 2005 and 2017.

One of Sinaga’s former flatmates, between 2013-2015, told the Guardian that he now believes Sinaga may have been raping men while they lived together.

In an exclusive interview with the Guardian’s Weekend magazine, the 27-year-old said he met one potential victim in 2014. He remembers a young man knocked on the door to say he had woken up in the flat and wanted to know if he had been raped.

The flatmate did not report it to the police at the time but now says he will help any victims he met by giving evidence for them in court.

Sinaga had no criminal record and had never been suspected of any crimes until 2 June 2017, when his final victim woke up mid-assault and beat him up so badly that he was taken to hospital.

In an account confirmed by GMP, the flatmate also remembered Sinaga twice calling 999 – once when a man he brought home turned violent, and once in February 2015, to ask for help evicting said flatmate.

In the first instance, the flatmate recalled Sinaga bringing home a “giant, terrifying-looking man” who ended up starting a fight shortly after Sinaga took him into his bedroom.

A spokesman for GMP said: “Police were called to the flat to reports of a disturbance and yes it does appear that Sinaga did not want to take any action with regards to arrests or charges.

“The man was asked to leave and was arrested for being drunk and disorderly but this was based on his behaviour outside the building a short time later rather than the disturbance with Sinaga. There is no evidence to link this man to Sinaga as a potential victim and the man has no memory of the disturbance.”

On another occasion the flatmate remembered breaking up a fight between Sinaga and another “very drunk” young man . “I think he thought Rey had tried to touch him and he didn’t really know why he was there,” the flatmate claimed, saying he found the man in their hallway in his boxer shorts.

Sinaga also called 999 on 20 February 2015 after the flatmate refused to move out. He was advised it was a “civil matter”, said the GMP spokesman.

The Guardian understands at least 30 new complainants have come forward since Sinaga was sentenced to life and told he will serve a minimum of 30 years before being considered for parole.

After his arrest in June 2017, police examined Sinaga’s multiple digital devices and discovered 3.29 terabytes of extremely graphic material – equivalent to 250 DVDs or 300,000 photos – depicting sexual assaults lasting, in one case, for eight hours. They also found what the judge, Suzanne Goddard, QC, referred to as “souvenirs” of his crimes: watches, driving licences, passports and phones stolen from his victims.

“The 195 potential victims are spread between 2005 and 2017. The evidence is a combination of stills, video (not all offences were recorded) and trophy items taken from victims,” said a GMP spokesman.

The attorney general is currently considering a request from the Crown Prosecution Service to increase Sinaga’s sentence which could see him become the first non-murderer to receive a “whole life” term.

## ‘I thought, OK, he goes for drunk guys’: friends and flatmates on the Reynhard Sinaga they knew

Everyone has a similar reaction when they see Reynhard Sinaga for the first time. It was the same whenever a new reporter came into the Manchester crown courtroom and stared into the dock. Sitting there, smiling, between three hulking security guards, was a small man with thick-rimmed hipster glasses, playing with the shiny, shoulder-length hair he had not cut since his arrest in June 2017. Him? That’s Britain’s worst rapist? Predators come in all shapes and sizes, but Sinaga’s “worst ever” billing was hard to square with the boyish figure in the lumberjack shirt, scribbling notes behind the bulletproof glass as a stream of nervous young men went into the witness box to testify against him.

The Guardian was present at three out of Sinaga’s four trials, and Sinaga often seemed to be enjoying himself. He would cock his head to one side, as if studying a nature documentary, as he watched videos of himself raping dozens of men who had made the mistake of going back to his flat after a drunken night out. The prosecution tried to persuade the judge, Suzanne Goddard QC, that Sinaga didn’t need to see the films he had recorded on two iPhones, one perched on a dresser for long shots and another handheld for closeups. But Goddard reluctantly ruled that he should be allowed to see the evidence in order to mount what seemed to be a hopeless defence: that he wasn’t a sexual predator, but a harmless deviant. He just happened to be irresistible to young, usually straight men, who would pretend to be asleep as part of a sexual fantasy in which Sinaga would penetrate them on camera, sometimes for hours on end.

There was no remorse. Were we in the presence of a psychopath? By the time the 36-year-old gave evidence in his fourth and final trial, before Christmas, he seemed to have persuaded himself that he was innocent. It was a “50 Shades Of Grey” thing, he said; the sort of sex people have “underground”.

When Sinaga first stood trial in May 2018, charged with drugging and raping 12 men, no journalist knew; Greater Manchester police were trying to keep it quiet. They had already gathered enough evidence to suggest that Sinaga might have abused 195 men between 2005 and 2017, including before he even arrived in the UK on a student visa from Indonesia in 2007. More trials were inevitable. They had identified about 120 of the victims and 48 were eventually willing to testify, far too many for one jury to cope with. On one level, the jurors’ task was simple: they just had to decide whether the men in the videos were awake. But to do that,

they had to watch hours and hours of explicit footage, much of it so traumatising that they were offered counselling once their trials were over.

Many victims didn't remember meeting Sinaga – until, years later, police showed them stills from the videos

Sitting on the press benches, journalists could hear but not see the videos: snoring and sleep-talking, with occasional sirens. The Guardian got wind of the second trial in April last year, and attended the third and fourth in September and December. Reporting restrictions banned all media coverage to avoid prejudicing future juries, and we were barred from telling friends what we had seen and heard. It was hard in a case that felt very close to home. The locations where Sinaga preyed on his targets were horribly familiar, outside Manchester clubs where we'd had our own drunken nights out: Factory, Fifth Avenue, the Ritz, Gorilla. Crown court cases often seem distant when you're a reporter: gang violence, domestic dramas, stupid decisions you feel quite sure you would never make yourself. But what happened to Sinaga's victims could have happened to anyone who had been out and had too much to drink; who had lost their phones and mates. If Reynhard Sinaga had invited you back to his flat, you might well calculate you'd be able to tackle him if he tried anything silly. He was only 5ft 7in. And anyway: he doesn't look the type. Right?

Some of Sinaga's victims gave evidence in open court, shunning the offer of screens. They seemed to want to get a good look at him. Many said they didn't remember meeting him, even when police knocked on their door several years later. They were adamant that detectives were barking up the wrong tree, until they were shown stills from the videos. The investigation team arranged to visit them at home with crisis counsellors from Saint Mary's sexual assault referral centre. A police officer would begin by telling the men why they were there, and counsellors would start the therapy that continues today with 60 of Sinaga's victims.

“There were many different reactions but a lot of men felt completely overwhelmed,” says Lisa Waters, the centre's deputy directorate manager. “Some were very distressed. Some were very confused. Some were very angry and wondered why we'd come and told them this, which you can understand.”

Not one of the victims wanted to see the films, but some were glad to get back watches and phones they hadn't seen since a drunken night out many moons ago; Sinaga had stolen them, along with passports and bank cards, as souvenirs. A couple of men immediately went online and deleted him as a Facebook friend. They were horrified to realise the friendly man who had added them after they had woken up in his flat in a pile of vomit (“He said he saved me, that I was passed

out on the sidewalk next to Factory,” said one man, giving evidence via videolink) had in fact drugged and abused them.

In court, the contrast between Sinaga and his victims – tall, stocky, laddish, all but four heterosexual – was striking. Most were students, but there was also a chef, a personal trainer and two members of the armed forces. The youngest were 18, the oldest 36. One was still in sixth form.

Though the trials delivered powerful justice for all 48 men, many questions remained unanswered. How had Sinaga kept his double life a secret from all his friends and lovers? When did he begin his campaign of rape? And had the police missed opportunities to catch him earlier?

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When reporting restrictions were finally lifted earlier this month, Sinaga’s friends told us they could not believe the man they knew as “Rey” was capable of such wickedness. Even his most recent boyfriend, whom we tracked down to a hotel in mainland Europe, struggles to reconcile the predator with the man he was in a relationship with for six months in 2013. George (not his real name) first met Sinaga through a mutual friend over drinks at Sinaga’s flat. “He was kind, always joyful,” George recalls. The pair spent hours at coffee shops, talking about everything from childhood to politics, “from the simplest to the most complicated” topics. George says Sinaga went for straight-looking guys – “I know he liked the ‘hetero’ type and the first time we met he thought I was hetero” – but adds that their sex life was normal: there was no role-play around pretending to be asleep, although Sinaga did like to wake him up by initiating intercourse. “I am confused, puzzled,” George says, during a break from work. “I would never imagine him raping somebody. It is so unlike the Rey I knew.”

News of the case came as less of a surprise to his former flatmate, Andrew (not his real name). We first contacted him in May last year, during the second trial, but he wasn’t ready to talk. He changed his mind on 6 January this year, after Sinaga was sentenced to life in prison with a minimum tariff of 30 years. Whereas Sinaga’s friends all talk about the giggly party animal who was obsessed with Victoria Beckham and the Spice Girls, who recounted every sexual encounter like it was a fairytale or a Hollywood film, Andrew knew Sinaga had a predatory side.

From September 2013 until early 2015, Andrew lived in the spare room of Sinaga’s flat in Montana House, a modern block on Princess Street in central Manchester. Andrew is now 27, but he was 21 when he moved in, and worked at G-A-Y, one of the biggest clubs on Canal Street, the heart of Manchester’s gay village. He paid £400 a month for the box room, sandwiched between the open-plan kitchen and living room, and Sinaga’s large master bedroom. The flat was in a great location, five minutes’ walk from G-A-Y and a 10-minute stroll from

Manchester University's main campus, where Sinaga completed his first master's after arriving in the UK on a student visa in 2007. For Sinaga, the flat had another significant advantage, being on the same street as two nightclubs, Factory – in a building that once housed Joy Division's record label – and Fifth Avenue. On a busy night, the Factory queue snaked right under the flat's window. Across the street, he could see drunk students eating kebabs in the bus shelter. If he had his windows open, he could hear them remonstrating with the bouncers who wouldn't let them back in.

Andrew moved in after his sister, a longtime friend of Sinaga's, moved out. But the two men ended up on such bad terms that Sinaga called 999 to ask police for help to evict him in February 2015. Sinaga was advised that it was a civil matter. The police had no evidence then that their time was being wasted by a serial rapist.

Sinaga was hard to live with, Andrew remembers. He hogged the bathroom and spent hours in front of the mirror on his great obsession: his highlighted hair, which he maintained with industrial quantities of hairspray. Andrew was not allowed in Sinaga's bedroom but would sometimes slip in when he was out, usually to borrow hairspray. "The rest of the flat was quite nice but it was disgusting in there," he recalls. Sinaga had a double bed, but on the floor there always seemed to be a makeshift bed cobbled together from two grubby duvets.

Sinaga's narcissism soon began to grate. His PhD thesis said it all, Andrew says. Entitled "Sexuality And Everyday Transnationalism Among South Asian Gay And Bisexual Men In Manchester", it was basically an autobiography: "He was doing a PhD on himself." Leeds University failed the thesis in 2016. According to Andrew's sister, Sinaga seemed convinced that the world would end without him. "I had an argument with him once, because he believed that if he died, all life would cease to exist," she says. "I tried to explain that we would all still be here. He didn't get it."

A few months after moving in, Andrew noticed something odd: Sinaga kept leaving the flat in the middle of the night and coming back a short time later with different men. "I just thought, OK, he's out to meet a guy: a Grindr hook-up or something," Andrew says. "Some of the places on Canal Street stay open until 9am, so it's not that he didn't have anywhere to go. It just started to seem unusual when it became so frequent." He kept shtum: "I had a boyfriend who I would bring back to the flat as well, so I wasn't going to say anything about him bringing people home. I consider myself to be a very unprying person. I didn't really question it, and I suppose I didn't really want to know either."

There was a guy at the door, asking for Rey. 'I was here last night,' he said. 'I just want to know if I was raped'

Then, walking home from G-A-Y one night, Andrew saw Sinaga hanging around outside Factory. Another time he was outside Fifth Avenue. As he recalls the encounters, he shakes his head, unable to comprehend how he failed to understand what he saw.

“He was standing there on his own. That was unusual. That’s when I started to think he was taking advantage, even though I didn’t make the connection I should have. But I thought: fair enough, he goes for drunk guys – maybe he’s got low self-esteem. I could tell he had only just left the flat. He’s a very well-dressed person but he was standing there in sweat pants, flip-flops and a jumper, as if he had literally just left in his pyjamas.”

Pepe (also not his real name) first met Sinaga around 2009, in the Bannatyne gym in Manchester’s gay village. He was in a WhatsApp group with Sinaga where he would discuss his conquests. Some of their messages, from July 2015, were read to the court, with Sinaga announcing that his latest flatmate was going to move out in August and he would be living alone. “You can get in lots of straight boys, darling,” Pepe replied. Sinaga responded with a picture of a 21-year-old he had raped eight times the previous evening, having met the younger man drunkenly trying to walk six miles home to Stockport after losing his bank card. “Hahahahaha,” Pepe wrote. “There’s always a new one.” Earlier, on New Year’s Day 2015, Sinaga had boasted of sleeping with another straight man he had met in Factory, saying he had begun the year with his “breakthrough to the gay world”. He sent some pictures he said he had taken “secretly” that morning. “I always wonder how you manage to get these straight boys,” Pepe mused. “Lol dunno,” replied Sinaga. “Good luck mostly lol. Plus it’s Manchester hun. There’s always a chance here.”

But Pepe, who fell out with Sinaga shortly after this exchange, insists he had no idea any of the men had been raped. And he says he never believed his friend was “turning” straight men in a sinister way: “When we say ‘straight’ guys, many people aren’t comfortable with themselves as being gay, so they call themselves straight.” Pepe says he never slept with Sinaga but remembers a detective asking what role Sinaga took in bed. “I said he was the bottom, in gay slang... Many times he mentioned to us, ‘Oh my God, I went home with a guy last night and my bum is still burning.’”

Despite being “out” in Manchester, Sinaga was in the closet with his parents, Pepe remembers. Every time he went back to Indonesia, he had his hair cut shorter before he got on the plane. “They knew he was different somehow but he never told his family about his sexuality, that’s for sure,” Pepe says. “He shared with us a couple of times before going home that he was nervous. His father would give him a hard time. Once, he mentioned that he wanted him to meet this girl in London, the daughter of some important person from his country. He would send us messages when he was in Indonesia saying his family were horrible and they wanted him to get married.”

George, the ex-boyfriend, says Sinaga had a poor relationship with his father, a palm oil tycoon: “He told me a few times how he was glad that England gave him the opportunity of living in a country where he didn’t need to pretend to be someone else.” Yet Sinaga presented two very different faces in his adopted home. Andrew first got a sense of his dark side in 2014, when one day he heard a knock on the door. “I didn’t think Rey was in, so I answered it,” Andrew says. “There was this guy there, he must have been 18 to 21, and he looked surprised to see me. He said, ‘Oh, sorry, does a Chinese guy live here?’ I said, ‘Yeah – Rey?’ and he said, ‘Yeah – is he in?’ I said, ‘I don’t think so.’ The guy looked really uncomfortable and he said, ‘It’s just that I was here last night’ – or the other night. He said, ‘I woke up here’ and he used the word rape: ‘I just want to know if I was raped or not.’ And at that point I thought: fuck.”

Andrew gave the man Sinaga’s number and shut the door. Almost immediately, he heard ringing from Sinaga’s room. “Rey came through to the living room a few minutes later, laughing, saying: ‘Did you give my number to a boy?’” Andrew remembers the visitor being tall, gym-toned, tanned, with short hair. He was nervous and stuttered slightly. “That’s when I started to worry what was going on.” But he didn’t ask any questions: “I suppose I didn’t want to know.” He also didn’t want to be homeless. “I had nowhere else to go.”

A 19-year-old, who met Sinaga after a night out with his mum, texted him the next day, unaware he'd been raped six times

Not long afterwards, Sinaga brought home another man in his mid-20s, late at night. A fight broke out shortly after they went into Sinaga’s bedroom. “I came out of my room and saw this guy stripped down to his boxers with, like, one sock on or something. And he’s got Rey up against his bedroom door with his hand on his throat. They were shouting at each other,” Andrew recalls. “I then spent about an hour calming this guy down, getting him dressed slowly, and out of my flat, and walking him down to the front door, just trying to reassure him... I can’t remember what he was saying to me because he was very drunk and wasn’t really making a lot of sense. I think he thought Rey had tried to touch him, and he didn’t really know why he was there.”

While many of the victims had no memory of meeting Sinaga, and no clue they had been abused – because, the jury was told, of the “relaxing” effect of GHB, the date rape drug he was suspected of using – others stayed in touch. One 19-year-old, who met Sinaga after a night out on Canal Street with his mum, texted with him the following day, unaware that Sinaga had raped him six times the previous evening. He’d woken up at 10am, naked and confused, and Sinaga said he’d undressed him because he’d been sick. He gave the young man clean clothes to wear – a pink T-shirt with the word “love” on it and some jogging bottoms – and the two started drinking again. Sinaga then asked him for sex and he refused, saying he had a girlfriend.

That afternoon he sent Sinaga an SMS: “Yo man haha literally just got home I’m so pissed we will have to meet up tomorrow Night if your up for it.” Sinaga was enthusiastic about the idea: “Looking forward to another good old drunken night. Bring us the shots till we pass out. Ha!” But the boy got cold feet when Sinaga steered the conversation back towards sex.

In 15 months living with Sinaga, Andrew says he saw no evidence of drug-taking in the flat. He knew from the gay scene what paraphernalia came with taking GHB, and never saw any of it: no pipettes, no syringes, none of the little fish-shaped soy sauce bottles you get with sushi sets that are just the right size for measuring out a dose. “He just drank alcohol, and not even that much,” Andrew says.

Sinaga has always denied drugging anyone. Defending him, Richard Littler QC emphasised that police never found any evidence of GHB use. When measuring out a dose of the drug, “there’s a narrow margin between euphoric high and death,” he told the jury. “[Sinaga] would have had to be a practising anaesthetist to administer these drugs without killing someone.”

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Listening to the evidence, it was hard not to wonder why the victims did not realise what had happened to them. Perhaps it was the complacency that comes with being a young, straight man. “I thought briefly he might have done something, but I thought: stuff like that doesn’t happen,” one 21-year-old told the jury. Had dozens of young women woken up in Sinaga’s flat with no underwear on, and no memory of the night before, would they have been more likely to suspect the worst and go to the police?

Only two of the men Sinaga attacked were sufficiently worried after waking up to seek medical assistance. One, a 33-year-old, called police and also contacted Saint Mary’s sexual assault referral centre in Manchester city centre, on 25 April 2017. “I just wanted to report a, like, possible sexual assault thing,” he told a 999 operator, explaining that he had woken up with a sore anus in what he thought was a hotel room, with an Asian man next to him being “overly friendly... just like cuddling me, stroking me”. He thought he might have been at the Ibis hotel, across the road from Montana House, the address on his Uber receipt.

Forensic analysis identified a stranger’s semen in the man’s boxer shorts, but there was no match on the DNA database, and the police investigation focused on the hotel and went nowhere. Sinaga was unknown to police as a perpetrator, though he had reported crimes, Andrew says. Once, towards the end of their flat-share, Andrew was on his PlayStation in the living room when Sinaga brought home another stranger. “The door opened and I turned to see this giant, terrifying-looking man. He was clearly on drugs – his eyes were massively dilated – and he looked scary, thuggish, as tall as the door.”

Sinaga took the man into his bedroom, smiling. Within a minute, a fight had started. Sinaga and Andrew managed to get the man out into the communal corridor, where he started smashing things up, barging into a neighbour's unlocked flat. Sinaga called 999, and the police arrived and took the man away. They asked Sinaga if he wanted to press charges, but he declined. What on earth was he doing with a violent drug dealer who was known to carry knives, they asked. "You're very lucky that neither of you has been killed," the police officer said.

In the early hours of 2 June 2017, Sinaga *was* almost killed by the last young man he brought back to Montana House. The boy, an 18-year-old rugby player, had lost his friends in Factory. Sinaga, then 34, suggested he come back to his flat and try to contact them from there. And that's as much as the boy could remember until he woke up several hours later, lying face down, with his jeans and boxer shorts around his knees. He was in a bathroom and Sinaga, naked, was sexually assaulting him.

In the ensuing fight, Sinaga bit the boy, who responded with such powerful punches that by the time the paramedics arrived, Sinaga had to be taken to hospital with a suspected bleed on the brain. Police initially arrested the wrong man, suspecting the 18-year-old of grievous bodily harm. That changed when they succeeded in unlocking Sinaga's phones. Though police believe Sinaga has been abusing men since 2005, the earliest victim to go to court was the man he met on New Year's Day 2015.

The Sinaga story is unlikely to end there. At least 30 new potential victims have approached the police since he was sentenced, with detectives promising to fully investigate every new case they uncover. The CPS has left open the possibility of future trials, and Andrew now feels ready to go to court and testify for any of the men he met while he was Sinaga's flatmate – particularly the one who knocked on the door the morning after, asking if he might have been raped. "I really hope he gets in touch with the police. I really want to help," Andrew says.

Only Sinaga knows how many men ended up comatose and abused in his city centre flat, or why he did it. From his prison cell at Strangeways, he has refused for two and a half years to cooperate with probation officers, detectives or psychologists. According to his mother, he still maintains his innocence. He will be 66 when he is first eligible for release – or even older, following the attorney general's referral of his sentence to the court of appeal. Perhaps, when the enormity of that dawns on him, he may feel willing to tell all about his horrifying campaign.

- Anyone with information about this case can contact GMP on 101. For anyone who wishes to seek support but does not want to talk to police, St Mary's Sexual Assault Referral Centre can continue to be reached on 0161 276 6515.

If you would like your comment on this piece to be considered for Weekend magazine's letters page, please email [weekend@theguardian.com](mailto:weekend@theguardian.com), including your name and address (not for publication).



# Reynhard Sinaga victim: 'I thought I might have killed him'

The student who exposed the serial rapist Reynhard Sinaga has said he feared he had killed him after he woke and fought back when he found he was being abused.

Sinaga, 36, was jailed this month for a minimum of 30 years for 136 rapes against dozens of young men in Manchester. Police believe he would have carried on offending had one of his victims not woken up during an attack and called 999.

This victim, known as Peter, has now told how he woke in a drunken state to find Sinaga on top of him on 2 June 2017.

Peter, who was 18 at the time, had been plied with a date rape drug and was half-naked when he woke midway through the assault on him. He described how he fought for his life and beat Sinaga until he lay motionless on the floor.

In an interview with the Sunday Mirror, he recalled: "I woke up disorientated, face down on a pillow. There was a quilt on the floor. My pants and jeans were down to the top of my knees; he was on top of me with his pants down to his ankles."

The two men began to fight as Sinaga accused Peter of being an intruder. "He started shouting 'Intruder! Intruder!' I said: 'Mate, calm down,' then he headbutts me on my nose and starts biting me. I was so confused. We were grappling. He pulled me over on to the bed and bit my shoulder," Peter said.

"He was a scrawny little guy. I was defending myself. I was stronger, I hit him a few times and he dropped to the floor. I was feeling scared. I knew I was in Manchester but that was about it."

He added: "I thought I might have killed him, I didn't really know what I was doing, I was using my instincts and adrenaline to survive."

After escaping Sinaga's flat, Peter called his mother and asked her to pick him up. Initially Peter was arrested on suspicion of assaulting Sinaga.

He spent 11 hours in police cell before detectives discovered that Sinaga had filmed attacks on dozens of unconscious men on his iPhone, including the assault on Peter.

Sinaga had been posing as a good Samaritan outside clubs in central Manchester, inviting men back to his flat for a drink or to charge their phones before slipping the date rape drug gamma-hydroxybutyrate (GHB) into their drink. He then recorded himself raping them, sometimes for hours at a time.

Peter described feeling like an “accidental hero” as Sinaga’s crimes may not have been detected had he not accidentally left his phone in Peter’s pocket.

Peter said: “The police and close friends say I’m a hero for stopping the biggest ever rapist. I feel like the accidental hero. If I hadn’t woken he’d still be doing it now.”

He said police at first did not believe he had been raped and he was not examined until two days later.

He told the Sunday Mirror: “They took my fingerprints and DNA. They questioned me like an offender, not a victim. He [Sinaga] was in hospital and they told me they would question him when he was released.

“I repeatedly said ‘I think he’s tried to rape me’ but they didn’t do any tests. That’s the one thing I thought wasn’t right at the time.”

After Peter handed them Sinaga’s phone, detectives found hundreds of clips of men being abused, and Sinaga was arrested. Peter went on to become a key witness in Sinaga’s trials.

Greater Manchester police said they had learned lessons from the case after admitting there were delays in treating Peter as rape victim.

A spokesman said: “We accept samples were not taken expediently in this case and we have since taken steps to strengthen our procedures going forward. Learnings have been cascaded to detectives and will also be incorporated into future policy.”

## CURRICULUM VITAE



Ahmad Ramdhani was born on January 16th, 1997 in Kuala Tungkal, Jambi. He is the oldest child of Mr. Julaini and Mrs. Jannatul Wardiyah. He graduated from Islamic Teacher Training Colege (ITTC) in 2015 and subserved at Darul Muttaqien Islamic Boarding School Banyuwangi until 2016 before continued to study at State Islamic University Maulana Malik Ibrahim Malang in the same year. During his study at ITTC, he got an achievement as 1st winner of English speech contest in POSPEDA VI (Pekan Olahraga Santri Pesantren Daerah) at Jambi province level. During his study at University, he joined Advance Debate as member in 2017-2018 and became the staff of HRD in 2018-2019.