

From cyberspace to mindspace: A freudian psychoanalytic perspective on digital literacy

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Abstract

Background of the study: The response of members of the motorcycle community in Semarang to social media is in the spotlight because it triggers brawls. A person's ability to respond to digital information is interesting to study from two sides: the information science side, which focuses on digital literacy, and the psychology side, which uses the Freudian psychoanalytic approach.

Purpose: A more profound investigation is required to ascertain the Freudian psychoanalytic perspective on digital literacy of the motorcycle community in Semarang.

Method: Qualitative research with a phenomenological approach was selected to investigate the experiences of motorcycle community members in Semarang regarding digital literacy. Data were gathered through interviews, observations, and document analysis. This research involved six informants who are members of the motorcycle community in Semarang.

Findings: The relationship between psychoanalysis and digital literacy can be utilized to gain insight into the Freudian psychoanalytic perspective on digital literacy within the motorcycle community in Semarang. One of the critical areas of study in Freudian psychoanalysis is the development of an individual's cognitive processes. As observed through psychoanalytic lenses, the digital literacy abilities of motorcycle community members in Semarang can be understood based on three fundamental elements: the id, ego, and superego.

Conclusion: A complex array of internal and external factors shapes the digital literacy behavior of the motorcycle community in Semarang. The internal elements are primarily influenced by Freudian psychoanalysis, which posits the existence of three fundamental psychological drives: the id, ego, and superego. In contrast, external elements are shaped by mind space, which encompasses both cognitive processes and environmental factors. These two domains collectively influence an individual's behavior, thought patterns, and decision-making abilities.

Keywords: digital literacy, Freudian psychoanalytic, motorcycle community

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Introduction

Society is in the digital era, where people do many activities in the digital world. In the end, cyberspace emerged because it involved digital ecosystems and communities (Lippert & Cloutier, 2021). This development facilitates all activities, especially in the information search section. However, in this convenience, people must be wise in using digital services so that they are not misused. Information technology today continues to grow and develop more rapidly, resulting in the ease of information obtained. Easy access to managing information can result in an information explosion, which can later become a boomerang or threat to society if it does not master digital literacy.

The advancement of information technology has had a profound impact on how contemporary society conducts its affairs. The utilization of digital media as a conduit for acquiring information has become a prevalent phenomenon, as evidenced by the findings of Klein (2023). The capacity to apply digital literacy skills in the context of digital media or content skills in managing digital information represents a significant aspect of this phenomenon. In the digital era, where information is readily accessible, the importance of digital literacy skills cannot be overstated (Vodă et al., 2022a; Weninger, 2023). These skills can help mitigate the risk of misinformation and disinformation, which can have significant implications in an age where information is readily available. Misinformation is defined as information obtained incorrectly, yet the individual disseminating it holds it to be true.

In contrast, disinformation is someone who already possesses incorrect information but disseminates it. Using the internet yields beneficial outcomes for users, such as facilitating human activities and enhancing communication between individuals (Van Deursen & Helsper, 2018). The Internet can have a detrimental impact on users in the form of the dissemination of misinformation, including fake news and hoaxes, the propagation of erroneous data, and the circulation of pornographic material.

In the current context, it is crucial to possess digital literacy skills to access pertinent information on time (Tenya et al., 2024). The evolution of digital culture impacts the development of human personality. This is related to psychoanalytic theory, a theory of human nature and personality that contains several elements, namely emotions, motivation, and other internal elements (Corradi, 2023; Hoffman & Rice, 2023). In psychoanalysis, emotions and motivations are considered internal factors. These elements serve as the driving forces behind an individual's actions and behaviours, shaping their personality (Sommers-Flanagan & Sommers-Flanagan, 2018). While external factors may be influenced by the interaction of an individual's surrounding environment, internal factors shape an individual's personality (Dilbarkhon, 2021). One's personality may be influenced by these two factors, one of which is the quality of digital literacy. To illustrate, an individual may possess the motivation or desire to analyze information to ascertain its veracity or validity. This can be achieved by undertaking an analysis of the information in question. Furthermore, environmental interaction factors influence an individual's circumstances. If the surrounding environment is digitally literate, the individual will be more likely to follow the appropriate steps for analyzing information. Without digital literacy awareness in one's immediate environment, an individual lacking motivation may be susceptible to accepting information at face value.

There are numerous instances of cases that have attracted attention due to their connection with digital literacy, which have resulted in physical altercations and, in some cases, even fatalities. To illustrate, in Banjarbaru, South Kalimantan, a conflict arose between motorcycle communities due to information disseminated via social media by a member of one of the communities (Polres Banjarbaru, 2024). In another instance, a conflict arose between motorcycle communities over disseminating content on social media platforms (Kompastv Lampung, 2023; Kurnia, 2021). The city of Semarang was selected as the site of this study



because, according to data provided by the Semarang Police Station, there have been 83 instances of violent altercations involving motorcycle communities over the past nine months (Wicaksono et al., 2024). These incidents originated in the digital domain and subsequently manifested in the physical world, highlighting the potential for online activities to influence the behaviour of motorcycle community members and result in destructive outcomes. To date, no research has been identified that adopts a Freudian psychoanalytic perspective on the digital literacy of the motorcycle community. Nevertheless, analogous research has been undertaken in distinct domains, specifically digital media psychoanalysis and community digital literacy. Previdi et al. (2023) did a study on digital media psychoanalysis, showing that using communication technology in therapy greatly affects in-person interactions and changes the therapy setting because the digital age allows patients to communicate from a distance. Marzi's research (2023) indicated that the pandemic significantly contributed to the heightened use of digital media in psychoanalytic practice. The incorporation of digital media in psychoanalytic practice has prompted inquiries regarding boundary management and ethical implications. A study revealed that a considerable proportion of psychoanalysts utilize digital media without previous consultation with patients, potentially resulting in boundary violations and ethical challenges (Benzel & Graneist, 2023). The three studies before this one looked at how digital media is used in psychoanalysis, while this research focuses on how community members can use digital media, which is then examined using Freudian psychoanalysis, to improve knowledge in this area.

Thus far, no research has been undertaken on specific community digital literacy regions, such as the motorcycling community in this study. Nonetheless, Oguna & Strachan (2023) have undertaken a study in the field of community digital literacy development. The researchers established a systematic framework to prioritize communities in digital literacy programs in Kenya. The study's findings clearly indicate that digital literacy is crucial for enabling village communities to enhance their human resource potential (Santosa et al., 2024). This claim is further supported by the research of Detlor et al. (2022), which highlighted the importance of digital literacy training in local communities, especially via public libraries. Despite several studies arguing for the need to foster digital literacy abilities in communities, there is a notable lack of research examining the current status of digital literacy competences within a specific community. This research aims to fill this significant gap by providing a thorough analysis of the digital literacy environment within a particular community. Since there hasn't been any research on digital literacy in Indonesia that specifically addresses motorcycle communities up to this point, the study's research question is:

RQ1: How is the depiction of digital literacy competencies within the motorcycle community in Semarang?

RQ2: How is the relationship between the digital literacy of the Semarang motorcycle community and Freudian psychoanalysis?

This study aims to provide a comprehensive overview of the Freudian psychoanalytic perspective on digital literacy within the context of the motorcycle community in Semarang.

Literature Review

Freudian Psychoanalytic

Psychoanalytic theory is a framework designed to clarify the complexities of human nature and personality, this theory comprises numerous components, including emotions, motivations, and other internal factors (Gedo, 2021). Freud's foundational work proposed that human personality is structured into three levels: the conscious, the preconscious, and the unconscious (Ewen B & Ewen, 2014). This theoretical framework remained the dominant paradigm until the 1920s. Freud's structural model, consisting of the id, ego, and superego, is a

fundamental contribution to the discipline (Ewen B & Ewen, 2014). The new structure enhances the mental representation, particularly regarding the function and purpose of the former structure. The three elements under examination demonstrate distinct aspects, principles, functions, and origins, as detailed below:

Id

The id is the primary structure, or, as it is alternatively referred to, the origin from which the ego and superego emerge. It is apparent that a biological component exists within the internal realm of human personality, which is not directly connected to the external environment. The id is characterized as the primary innate energy within the human psyche, serving as the impetus for the ego and superego. The id's role is to preserve stability while conforming to the pleasure principle. To exemplify the id's reaction in people during hunger, one can contemplate the inclination to visualize nourishment.

Ego

The ego is considered a more advanced construct than the id, as it includes psychological mechanisms that enable a more efficient interaction with reality. The ego is theorized as a connection between the instinctual psychological urges of the id and the external environment. The ego is proposed to serve as a regulator of the superego. The notion of ego arises from the interplay between an individual and the external world, which acts as a medium for individuals to interact with reality. Unlike the id, the ego lacks its own vitality and hence relies on the id for sustenance. The transmission of energy is referred to as identification, a procedure conducted by individuals to determine their needs. Learning entails the capacity to juxtapose internal cognitive representations with external reality.

Superego

The superego is the idealized aspect of personality shaped by external stimuli and cultural conventions. The superego is defined by a societal dimension that compels behavior, the specifics of which are dictated by the ego. This instruction is subsequently executed, with the ego serving as the final arbiter of whether the action is performed. The superego functions to regulate the id and guide both the id and ego toward ethical conduct. The three components have been shown to impact an individual's behavior and personality through various structural mechanisms. The initial item is an identifier. The energy creation process elicits an instinctual response in the individual, subsequently analyzed by the ego to ascertain the individual's demands. The ego functions as the executor of personality components and is accountable for synthesizing the three facets of personality. Furthermore, the notion of the superego, from a sociological perspective, serves as a valuable theoretical foundation for categorizing acts as either positive or negative. This classification is subject to further assessment by the ego.

Psychoanalytic Impact on Digital Literacy of Community

Digital literacy refers to the capacity to locate, assess, and distribute information acquired from diverse digital media platforms (Tinmaz et al., 2022). According to Vodă et al. (2022b), digital literacy encompasses an individual's actions, skills, and interests in utilizing technology as a means of communication and in effectively processing and exploring information in diverse formats. Digital literacy is defined as the capability to utilize digital devices for the management and dissemination of information through the internet. Belshaw (2014) identifies fundamental components of digital literacy: (1) cultural; (2) cognitive; (3) constructive; (4) confidence; (5) communicative; (6) creative; (7) critical and (8) civic. The formation of human personality is shaped by both conscious and unconscious influences.

Conscious factors pertain to adaptation to external environments, whereas unconscious factors relate to adaptation to internal experiences. Jung posited that the presence of conscious factors necessitates ongoing and creative development in human life to stimulate the aspiration for perfection. The surrounding environment significantly influences human personality development. In addition to environmental factors, unconscious or internal factors also influence personality development. Asserting that personality evolves amidst psychological conflicts and is shaped by motivation, emotions, and various internal factors (Kozlova et al., 2024). The swift advancement of communication and information networks prompts digital media users to adopt a more critical and interactive approach in their information selection process. The digital realm facilitates the dissemination of information by users. Despite the accessibility of the internet, it does not ensure that users in Indonesia will engage with social media and information content in a mature manner. This has led to internet abuse, including privacy violations, internet fraud, addiction, and the recent proliferation of fake news (Tyagi et al., 2024).

Method

Research Type

In this study, the authors employed a qualitative research method with a phenomenological approach. As Neubauer et al. (2019) states, phenomenology is the examination of a shared experience of an event from the perspective of multiple individuals, focusing on the perceptions of the world and the internal experiences of the subjects. A phenomenological research approach involves understanding an event in a particular social context (Williams, 2021). The methodology deployed by the author will elucidate the profound significance of an individual's biography and lived experiences, facilitating insight and understanding for others. The objective of the phenomenological approach in this study is to identify the fundamental essence of an experience and to gain insight into the nature of human conscious experience (Jackson et al., 2018). The phenomenon under investigation is the rapid advancement of technology and the concomitant development of human psychology, which affects people's lives in terms of their utilization of technology. This is demonstrated by motorcycle community members' experiences in Semarang navigating the digital era through the lens of digital literacy.

Population and Sample

The population of this study is motorcycle community members in Semarang. This study will employ a non-probability sampling method utilizing the purposive sampling technique. Purposive sampling is employed to identify informants who meet specific criteria or possess distinctive characteristics. The application of the purposive sampling technique, whereby the sample is selected according to specific criteria, is anticipated to ensure that the resulting sample aligns with the research objectives (Akkaş & Meydan, 2024). In order to facilitate the identification of informants, researchers establish criteria for the selection of informants. The researcher requires the following informants: The study will engage with active members of the motorcycle community in Semarang who have been utilizing digital media for a minimum of five years to understand information.

Data Collection

The research employs the following data collection techniques: (1) Interview: An activity conducted by the researcher to gain in-depth insights from informants. The interviews were conducted with six informants from the motorcycle community in Semarang who met the criteria for purposive sampling. (2) Observation, which takes the form of a description of

attitudes, behaviors, actions, and all interactions between people. In this observational approach, the researchers directly observed the informants' attitudes regarding their use of digital media, specifically members of the motorcycle community in Semarang. (3) Documentation. Document study collection techniques can complement the interview and observation methods used in qualitative research (Thelwall & Nevill, 2021). The documents collected by the author will then be subjected to further processing by the requirements of the research project, serving as supplementary data for the research.

Data Analysis

The data analysis in this study employs the Miles & Huberman technique, whereby the qualitative data analysis is conducted in a direct and continuous interactive manner until the data reaches saturation. The qualitative data analysis employed is an interactive model, which necessitates three components: data reduction, data presentation, and verification or conclusion drawing (Miles et al., 2014).

Maintaining Quality

It is essential to ensure the data's validity to substantiate the scientific rigor of the research. In order to maintain the quality of this research, the following strategies, as proposed by Lincoln, Y and Guba (1985), will be employed: credibility, transferability, dependability, and confirmability. (1) Credibility was assessed in this study through source triangulation, whereby the researcher evaluated the credibility of the data by examining the data obtained from multiple sources within the Semarang motorcycle community. (2) Transferability is achieved by providing a comprehensive and systematic account of the Freudian psychoanalytic perspective on digital literacy in the motorcycle community in Semarang, thereby ensuring the reliability of the findings. (3) Dependability is ensured through a rigorous process of data collection, problem identification, data analysis, data validation, and the documentation of observation reports. (4) Confirmability is attained through a meticulous and objective analysis.

Result and Discussion

According to the criteria established by the author, six informants were selected for interviews to gather research data. The quantity of informants is adequate to provide the required data, as the information obtained from interviews is saturated. Saturated data refers to information obtained from informants who provide consistent responses, prompting researchers to cease the data collection procedure.

RQ1: How is the depiction of digital literacy competencies within the motorcycle community in Semarang?

Enhancing the quality of digital literacy skills among members is imperative to impede the proliferation of misinformation pervasive in the contemporary digital landscape. Individuals with robust digital literacy competencies will undoubtedly exhibit greater discernment in the reception of information, aligning their intake with their informational requirements.

Understanding the context is the first step to develop digital literacy skills. The cultural element, or understanding context, is the ability to understand when using different digital contexts (Lucas et al., 2021; Mensonides et al., 2024). This element invites people to be "digitally literate" or not to stutter in accordance with the development of technology. Understanding the context in this study intends to determine the ability of the motorcycle community in Semarang to use digital media.

"I often use my mobile because I use it all the time in my day-to-day life, so it's just easier and more practical." ZP Informed

Informant TS added:

"...people tend to use mobile phones more because they're just easier to use, and they're faster for finding information."

FD opined that:

"...using television and mobile phones, because mobile phones are faster and television is more reliable."

The cognitive element is a basic element of literacy, which is defined as the expansion of the mind in a phenomenon of someone doing literacy objectively. When connected to the digital world, it has very extensive information, so cognitive elements are needed to protect someone when using the internet. Based on the results of the interview, AD informed:

"There are many sources, ranging from individuals, print media, digital media, and, most importantly in this day and age, the internet."

Meanwhile, another informant, TS stated:

"I use social media, through Instagram and Facebook, but I use Instagram more often with a trusted account."

"I'm just going with the flow because I'm afraid that if I spread information that I don't know to be true, it could turn out to be fake news, which is punishable under the Electronic Information and Transactions Law. So, I'm just waiting for some solid info from a reliable source." AS said.

The constructive element means using internet devices to do useful things. The Internet network has a very wide reach that can be used by anyone, resulting in both positive and negative effects. The impact of using the internet depends on who is using it, so it requires qualified digital literacy to create positive things in using the internet.

"I advise that before spreading news, make sure that the information provided is true and not fake news." FD informed.

ZP revealed:

"I tend to use my phone to search for info on X, as I can get the latest stuff faster that way."

The constructive element is used by informants to create positive things by meeting their information needs by using digital technology in the form of mobile phones to access different types of information sources. The next elements of developing digital literacy skills are being able to communicate, being confident, and being able to do new things. Informant AS explained:

"I read from all kinds of places, like Vice, Tempo, and other media accounts. I usually look into the news more in-depth because I'm genuinely interested in the news itself."

The same thing was also conveyed by informant ZP:

"I understand the information through the explanation in the news article, and I will explore it further if I am interested in the information."

Another informant, AD, argued:

"I understand information through various social media such as Instagram and TikTok. I look

at the content of the information from the captions and comment sections, because the comment sections usually contain reliable information relevant to the issue.”

Informants prefer to understand information through social media. Social media has a significant role and influence in the dissemination of information, which encourages people to increase the use of digital media by utilizing social media such as Instagram, TikTok, Facebook, etc.

The creative element of digital literacy is an element that finds new ways and new things by using digital technology. Informant AS responded:

“... in my opinion, technological developments as a medium for obtaining information and as a means of communication.”

AD added:

“the innovation I discovered is that I have become more sensitive to technological advances.”

“I gained innovation in using digital media to take advantage of digital-based buying and selling.” MS explained.

Based on the results of the interview excerpts of the motorcycle community informants in Semarang, it can be concluded that to develop the digital literacy skills of the motorcycle community in Semarang, with the element of communication skills, which means that a person is able to understand various digital information through news content or captions.

Someone who is able to communicate well certainly has confidence in using digital technology to receive information that can later be accounted for, so they are able to create innovations or do new things in using digital technology. Informants use digital technology by using social media to meet information needs. Digital media creates innovations in online business methods that make it easier for people in the digital age, so informants take advantage of these opportunities by running an online buying and selling business.

Information spread on the Internet is not entirely truthful, but there is also a lot of false information created by irresponsible people for certain interests that harm others. To overcome this situation, a critical element is needed in the Internet to avoid false information. AS explained:

“I usually wait for information to spread and read other sources to confirm that the information is accurate.”

Furthermore, FD argued:

“... first confirm the account that spread the information, then review comments from netizens.”

According to information from ZP:

“... usually cross-check from various sources first, then conclude the accuracy of the information to do critical thinking in digital media by first cross-checking from different sources of information, then being able to infer the truth of the information.”

Based on the results of the interview excerpt, it can be concluded that the informant through his critical ability in obtaining information by cross-checking from various trusted sources of information and not easily believe in the information spread on the Internet, besides that the informant can use netizen assumptions by drawing conclusions about the truth of the information. Critical elements are needed in digital media, especially social media, because the ease of spreading information through the Internet has a negative effect, namely the existence

of false information. Critical elements are used to reduce this risk by cross-checking information from multiple trusted sources.

The final element for developing digital literacy is civic or social responsibility. People are free to use digital media in their daily activities and to help with work. FD told:

“Digital media is useful for helping me obtain information through the internet, but the accuracy of information on the internet needs to be considered.”

In contrast to FD, TS said:

“Digital media is useful for helping me find information quickly and easily.”

MS had a different opinion. He said,

“In my opinion, digital media is useful for increasing learning motivation through the internet.”

Based on the results of the interview excerpts of the informant representatives, it can be concluded that the informants use digital media to support their daily activities and work as needed. Information obtained through the Internet network is not just swallowed raw, because the information received is later socially accounted for. A person who has digital literacy with civic elements can be seen by how to use digital media used to search for information and increase learning motivation through the internet network properly and correctly, so that the information received can be accounted for to the social community.

Discussion

Psychoanalysis is a psychological science that was developed to explain the development of the human personality. Over time, humans will undergo physical, cognitive, and personality development. Sigmund Freud posits three fundamental elements in his theory: the id, ego, and superego (Rennison, 2015), each has its distinct origin, aspect, and function. This research combined two distinct disciplines: psychology and library science. This study employs psychoanalytic analytical skills in conjunction with digital literacy to address RQ2: How is the relationship between the digital literacy of the Semarang motorcycle community and Freudian psychoanalysis?

Table 1. Qualitative Data Analysis

Theme	Final Code	Initial Code
The Id functions as a determinant of an individual's awareness in digital literacy	Informants utilize the Id factor as a scientific instinct	TV and cell phones are still the most common digital devices used in digital literacy One of the things that affects the choice of digital media is scientific sense
	The Id element influences my role as an informant in the context of digital media innovation.	The advantages derived from digital literacy initiatives
The Id plays a significant role in the development of the superego	The Id affects the informant's emotions, facilitating the provision of accurate information	Addressing misinformation identified within the community Ensuring the delivery of precise information

	via the superego process.	Responses that emerge are closely associated with emotions.
The ego influences how informants interpret information	The ego influences how informants interpret information	Informants analyze information obtained from news content, captions, and comments from internet users. Informants utilize digital media to engage with reliable social media platforms.
The ego functions as a response that emerges from the Id, subsequently assessed by the superego	Informants utilize their ego to gather information from credible news sources, subsequently employing their superego to verify the accuracy of the information initially.	Collect data from reputable sources The evaluation of the accuracy of information acquired via digital media.
	The ego regulates the informant's tendency to seek the most current information, while the superego assesses the reliability of that information.	Inclination to pursue the most up-to-date information and evaluate its reliability.

The relationship between psychoanalysis and digital literacy provides a valuable lens through which to view the Freudian psychoanalytic perspective on digital literacy within the motorcycle community in Semarang. In the contemporary era, digital literacy is of paramount importance. This is due to the exponential advancement of technology, which has facilitated the dissemination of information through digital media that anyone can access. Digital media is comprised of a multitude of distinct types. Digital media represents a communication tool connected to the internet through various communication machines, including smartphones and computers (Delfanti & Arvidsson, 2019). Members of the motorcycle community in Semarang indicate that digital media is frequently utilized to satisfy information needs through their routines and activities.

In response to the questions posed to AS informants, it became evident that they employ the id element as a fundamental human instinct by utilizing digital media technology in the form of mobile phones for information retrieval. This is because the informants' daily activities frequently involve mobile phone use, rendering this information acquisition method relatively straightforward. The id element represents a fundamental source of human psychic energy, originating from the human inner world or instinct to move the ego and super ego (De Masi, 2023; Nurul Azmi, 2023).

Another informant, AD, employs the id element or human instinct by utilizing television as a digital medium to fulfill information needs, as the informant asserts that the news on television is more accurate and reliable. In contrast to the preceding informant, informant MS employs two digital media and draws upon his instincts to satisfy information needs. The rationale behind using digital media is that it is a widely utilized tool with high accessibility. In addition to the id element, informants also employ the super ego element in response to the

influence of their surrounding environment.

The responses of the motorcycle community informants in Semarang indicate that the psychoanalysis of the id element functions as a human instinct, fulfilling information needs through digital media, specifically cell phones, and television. In contrast, the super ego is an evaluator of actions, assessing their appropriateness based on external influences. This analysis aligns with the perspective put forth by Rennison (2015), which posits that the id represents a biological aspect, namely the inner world of humans, and is inherited at birth. It is responsible for instigating the actions of the ego and super ego.

The proliferation of information across many digital platforms has led to an exponential increase in the volume of available data. This phenomenon can be addressed by enhancing the capacity to comprehend information in digital media and the methods through which informants satisfy their information requirements. The ego element is employed by AD when processing information via digital media. This involves accessing social media platforms such as Instagram and TikTok to examine information content, including captions and comment sections. The comment columns typically contain reliable information pertinent to the issue at hand. FD employs the ego element when interpreting information through digital media, examining hashtags, and perusing comments on reputable news outlets. The informant then reads an explanation of the content of the information, utilizing hashtags to expand the context of the information received.

ZP employs the element of ego to satisfy the human instinct to obtain information through digital media, specifically cell phones. Twitter is utilized as a source of information due to the expediency with which information can be obtained, particularly in the context of rapidly evolving events. In contrast to the preceding informant, informant FD, through ego analysis, fulfills information needs by searching social media such as YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok while still utilizing print media in the form of newspapers and magazines. In general, informants tend to rely more heavily on social media to fulfill their information needs. This is because social media offers a convenient and expedient method of obtaining information, thereby enhancing the efficiency of informants' time management.

In the context of Freudian psychoanalysis, the ego element plays a pivotal role in understanding digital literacy activities. The ego is a conduit between human instinct or the id and the external world, facilitating the implementation of desires (Eagle, 2021). In order to overcome the phenomenon of information explosion, informants must develop the ability to understand information through descriptions or captions, comment columns, and the use of hashtags to expand related information. Moreover, informants satisfy their information needs through digital media by leveraging social media, which offers a more convenient and time-saving approach to information acquisition.

The ego is one of the fundamental principles of the mindspace, wherein it functions as an element that shapes an individual's cognitive processes, actions, and decision-making abilities (Rauterberg, 2021; Shreedhar, 2020). Freudian psychoanalysis emphasizes the frequently unconscious motivations underlying human action (Leonardi et al., 2022). In contrast, the mindspace approach represents a structured methodology that exerts influence over behavior through the medium of the surrounding environment and the processes of cognition (Shreedhar, 2020). Both provide a comprehensive framework for understanding human behavior.

The simplicity with which information can be obtained encourages humans to engage in critical thinking to ensure that the information they receive does not harm themselves or others. In the contemporary era, humans are in a digital age, wherein their requisite life needs can be accessed through digital devices alone. The ease with which information is obtained has resulted in a proliferation of misinformation. In order to ascertain the veracity of the information



in question, ZP undertook a process of cross-checking with various information sources, subsequently concluding the accuracy of the data. The ego element adheres to the principle of reality, operating under the assumption that reality must align with its needs (Kitchens & Abell, 2020). This is consistent with the ego element, which elucidates how informants seek information and the super ego's role as an evaluator of veracity.

Moreover, AD stated that the veracity of the information can be ascertained if the informant has direct experience of the incident in question and there is corroboration from data and facts or if the incident has been observed on a trusted social media platform. This is consistent with Freud's psychoanalytic theory of the ego element regarding informants' pursuit of information through social media. In contrast, MS and TS indicated that they often utilize individuals in their immediate vicinity and digital media to discern information's veracity. Informants employ Freudian psychoanalytic theory, precisely the ego element, as a driving force to seek information through digital media. Additionally, they utilize the super ego as a sociological aspect, assessing the veracity of information based on their surrounding environment.

In the current era, a considerable amount of recent information is being discussed by the general public. It is therefore essential to consider this to ensure that individuals are more discerning in their information consumption. The information is then processed by the informants, regardless of its veracity, and they await confirmation from trusted sources. Once the information has been collated, it will be disseminated for discussion at the association. FD posited that one should refrain from consuming news not corroborated by verifiable sources. Before disseminating information, it is imperative to ascertain its veracity to prevent the propagation of misinformation through various channels. As previously stated, informants wait and follow the flow of information from trusted sources before disseminating it further. This is done because informants are concerned that if they disseminate information without verifying its accuracy, it may be identified as a hoax, which could result in legal consequences under the Electronic Information and Transactions Law (Act No. 11/2008) regarding the propagation of false information.

The fear of being caught by the Electronic Information and Transactions Law (Act No. 11/2008) represents a form of information anxiety experienced by informants, which subsequently gives rise to a sense of information laziness (Ganggi, 2020). Information laziness can be defined as a behavioral tendency whereby an individual disregards information that they perceive to be either inconsequential or potentially risky.

Members of the motorcycle community in Semarang employ a multifaceted approach to information-seeking, utilizing both trusted media sources and their immediate surroundings to cross-check information from various sources, thus ensuring the veracity and reliability of the information they receive. This attitude is consistent with Freudian psychoanalytic theory, specifically the concepts of the ego and the super ego. The ego element serves as a conduit for the id to satisfy its instincts when information is required (De Masi, 2023; Stolz, 2021). The ego fulfills the id's desires by seeking information through digital media. Moreover, the super ego is a sociological element that issues commands or prohibitions regarding actions (Barnard-Naudé, 2023; Rennison, 2015). The super ego evaluates the veracity of the information obtained by cross-checking and assessing it in the context of the surrounding environment.

In the preceding interview, informants demonstrated caution in processing and disseminating information due to the prevalence of hoax news. It is important to note that not all information disseminated on the internet is accurate. In fact, a significant portion of the information available online is hoaxes designed to create noise and confusion, ultimately detrimental to society. Hoaxes are a form of fake news that has the potential to cause harm to society (Gus Rijal et al., 2021).

AD, in addition to his role as a member, also serves as the coordinator of his motorcycle community. He asserts that he will take prompt and decisive action, including the potential expulsion of members, in response to disseminating hoax news that causes harm. Meanwhile, ZP elucidated that in the event of the dissemination of misinformation, the information in question will be rectified. The informant will initially seek the veracity of the information and subsequently validate it. If the information is identified as a hoax, it will be refuted.

Meanwhile, AS elucidated that if a member disseminates hoax news within the group, a warning will be issued if the information in question is indeed a hoax. Furthermore, the informant will be expected to provide the correct source of information. Regarding the dissemination of hoax news within the group, TS offers counsel to exercise caution when evaluating information disseminated online, given the prevalence of hoaxes. It is imperative to maintain vigilance when utilizing social media.

The results of interviews with motorcycle community informants in Semarang regarding the response to the spread of hoax news in the group, accompanied by the view of psychoanalysis theory, indicate that informants will take firm action if the hoax news has caused harm to others and refute hoax information. Furthermore, the results relate to the superego regarding the sociological aspect by making the proper judgment, namely providing the correct source of information and advice to be careful when using digital media.

Conclusion

The ego represents a factor that affects the digital literacy skills of the motorcycle community in Semarang, catalyzing the pursuit of information and the navigation of digital spaces. This ego element exerts an influence on the activities of members of the motorcycle community in Semarang in the digital domain. The ego is an internal psychological construct. Furthermore, this study revealed that the actions undertaken were frequently shaped by the surrounding environment and cognitive abilities, defined as the principles of mindspace. The id element is an instinctual drive when information is required, directing the individual toward the desired information source. Furthermore, the superego is responsible for evaluating the veracity of the value proposition, which represents a crucial juncture in assessing digital literacy skills among community members. When seeking information, the id element, or the instincts of informants, prompts them to seek information through social media or television. The ego then engages in the process of fulfilling these information needs through digital media. Finally, the superego assesses the veracity of the actions taken by informants to fulfill their information needs by evaluating the content of the information obtained and aligning it with reality. Nevertheless, the current study is limited by its psychoanalytic analysis of the practical dimensions of digital literacy within a specific society, specifically the motorbike community in Semarang. Additional extensive research is required, especially regarding the impact of psychoanalysis and digital literacy on decision-making in community groups.

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Authors' Contributions

All authors have contributed to the final manuscript. The contribution of all authors: conceptualization, methodology, formal analysis, writing original draft preparation, writing review, and editing. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

Conflict of Interest

All authors have no conflict of interest related to this study.



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