CONFLICT BETWEEN THEM: CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF COVID-19 MASK-WEARING REGULATION

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Abstract

COVID-19 first appeared in Wuhan, China, in late December 2019 and was declared a pandemic by World Health Organization (WHO) on March 11, 2020. Coronavirus disease transmission mainly occurs through exposure to respiratory droplets on exhalation and in close contact with COVID-19 patients. For this reason, the local governments in many countries made mandatory masks, following the guidelines of WHO. Masks become the protective equipment or tool to prevent the spread of COVID-19. However, mask-wearing remains a complicated issue, significantly since US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) relaxed its guidance about outdoor mask-wearing for people who have been fully vaccinated. CNN, as a media, reported that the mask-wearing issue is confusing and causing controversies. Fairclough's analysis uncovered the political issue, ideology, power, culture, and economics between the US and China, which affect CDC decision-making or regulations about mask-wearing.

Keywords : critical, mandatory, issue, controversy, ideology

INTRODUCTION

The Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) has spread globally to most countries. World Health Organization declared it a pandemic when its first outbreak in Wuhan, China, in late December 2019. The COVID-19 causal life form, the intense severe respiratory disorder coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2), is infectious and can adhere to bead cores at a distance of 5 m and get airborne (vaporized). Since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic, masks became the protective equipment to prevent COVID-19. Local governments in many nations have made the usage of masks by the general public mandatory because they follow the WHO's guidelines.

As time passed, the experts discovered antibodies as an exceedingly viable way to avoid the spread of COVID-19. However, masks remain a complicated issue since US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention relaxed its guidance on face coverings for fully vaccinated people outdoors (Gupta, 2021). The mask is politicized and creates confusion. Masks are still a vital tool, mainly because coronavirus infection rates are still high in many parts. However, as more people are vaccinated, and infection rates continue to fall, we'll have to start thinking about when we can relax the indoor mask restrictions. Masks were made to significantly minimize the number of viruses released into the air by an asymptomatic carrier. People with asymptomatic and pre-symptomatic infections, who often do not indicate that they're carrying the virus, are believed to account for more than half of the transmission of COVID-19. When people were out in public, the solution was to recommend masks to everyone.

The White House announced that 100 million citizens in the United States have now received the COVID-19 vaccine. It means 100 million Americans feel relief and peace of mind after a long and challenging year. They are protected, and their decision to vaccinate protects them and their family, friends, and communities. The US has distributed 237 million vaccine doses, and 55% of adults have received at least one injection dose (Media Indonesia, 2021). That leads to the question: is mask-wearing still necessary today, when nearly 57 percent of US adults have had at least one dose of the vaccine, 43 percent are completely vaccinated, and millions more have developed protection through natural infections? The three vaccinations that received emergency authorization from the US Food and Drug Administration effectively prevented people from developing and dying from symptomatic COVID-19 in clinical studies. However, evidence is emerging that certain vaccinations, particularly those developed by Pfizer/BioNTech and

Moderna, efficiently lower asymptomatic infection and viral load if a vaccinated individual becomes infected. In the form of reduced coronavirus cases and a growing number of vaccinated Americans, the CDC changed its outdoor mask guidance for fully vaccinated adults. The updated guideline on March 2021 implied that you could go unmasked among acquaintances from other families during short outdoor events or dining outside if you are completely vaccinated. Unvaccinated people should wear masks during outdoor activities such as concerts, parades, and sporting activities. In addition, the same guidelines apply to all indoor public venues.

CNN raised this topic because it has been a hot topic lately and raises essential questions. According to Danesi (2014), In the field of media, the news is delineated as a "report of a current happening or happenings in a newspaper, on television, on radio, or on the website" people nowadays believe that news discourse is the faithful recording of what has happened. In addition, CNN is a media with a significant influence, proved by the statement on their official website "CNN Digital is the world leader in online news and information and seeks to inform, engage and empower the world." (CNN, 2022). It is necessary to look at news from critical discourse analysis. Language is recognized as a kind of ideology in the discipline of critical discourse analysis (CDA). Linguistic action is understood as a social practice. This study used Fairclough's approach to reveal the power, political, cultural, and economic elements behind the complexities of wearing masks in the US.

ARTICLE TYPE

The original research article explains new information based on the research results and is supported by analysis tools. The content of this article is adapted to different fields of study. Content in the form of Introduction, Method, Explanation, and Conclusion.

METHOD
Approaches to CDA

Critical discourse analysis (CDA) combines the critical tradition of social analysis with language studies. It emphasizes discourse and the relationships between speech and other social aspects of critical social analysis (power relations, ideologies, institutions, social identities, and so forth). According to Fairclough (1989, 1995), the model of CDA consists of three interrelated processes of analysis tied to three interrelated dimensions of discourse. First, the object of analysis (including verbal, visual, or verbal and visual texts). The second is how the object is produced and received (writing, speaking, reading, listening, viewing). Third, the socio-historical conditions govern these processes. Fairclough also mentioned that each of these dimensions requires a different kind of analysis. They are text

analysis (description), processing analysis (interpretation), and social analysis (explanation).

Analysis Tools
Lexical Classification

The lexical choice reflects the culture. Our presuppositions, implicatures, metaphors, and coherence are essential to all aspects of meaning (Weiwei & Weihua Qinhuangdao Branch, 2015). For instance, coherent interpretations of texts are arrived at by interpreters based on cues in the text and resources that they bring to text interpretation. Coherence may be a key factor within the ideological structure and reconstitution of subjects in talk.

Transformation

The changing process of ideology in discourse is referred to as transformation. Meanwhile, critical linguists investigate how language and ideology relate to each other. In this thesis, two types of transformations will be discussed. There are nominalization and passivization. **Weiwei & Weihua Qinhuangdao Branch (2015)** explained that nominalization occurs when a writer or speaker should use a verb or verb structure to communicate a specific meaning but instead uses noun phrases. There are two methods for conversion. The first is to add particular derivational affixes, such as "perception" and "development," and the second is to use noun phrases to replace verb structures, such as "the firing of three officials." The functions of passivization and nominalization are identical. During passivization, the agent is usually eliminated or relocated to the middle or end of the phrase.

Transitivity

Transitivity is a system where clauses are explored in terms of what does, what to/to whom, who/what is, when, where, why, and how (Gerot & Wignell, 1995). Circumstances, Processes, and Participants are three semantic categories that can be used to express real-world situations as language aspects. Material Processes demonstrate how one entity affects other entitie (Gerot & Wignell, 1995) s. On the other hand, Relational Processes express the states of being and having. Identifying Processes and Attributive Processes are the two forms of Relational Processes. "Processes that establish identity are called Identifying Processes, while processes that assign a quality are called Attributive Processes," according to (Gerot & Wignell 1995). Relational Processes are used to characterize and identify something. Token and Value are the participants in Identifying Processes, while Carrier and Attribute are the participants in Attributive Processes. The clause's subject is a Token,

and the complement is Value (Gerot & Wignell, 1995).

Inter-Textuality

Intertextuality is the property texts have of being full of snatches of other texts, which may be explicitly demarcated or merged in. The text may assimilate, contradict, echo, and so forth (Fairclough, 1992). Intertextuality is implemented in practical news discourse analysis by analyzing speech reporting such as news source, mode, and verb. A person or organization whose account is quoted or reported by the reporter is a news source. There are three different types of reporting modes: direct speech, indirect speech, and slipping. When news reporters cite other people's statements or accounts, they likely use reporting verbs like "add," "quote," "cite," report," and another else.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION
Lexical Classification

Classification is mainly realized by lexical choice. It is an integral part of the production of ideology in news discourse. Here are the examples of lexical classification taken from CNN News published on 10th May 2021 entitled "Dr. Sanjay Gupta: The Complicated Calculus of Mask-wearing":

a) Let's face it, masks have been a **hot button** issue in this country since the very start of the pandemic.
b) They were politicized early on and quickly became a **symbol** of how seriously a person took the threat of the coronavirus.
c) In our new world, where there's now a highly effective way to prevent the spread of COVID-19 -- vaccines -- masks remain a **complicated issue**, significantly since the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention relaxed its guidance on face coverings for fully vaccinated people outdoors.
d) It was to greatly reduce the amount of virus an **asymptomatic carrier** might release into the air.
e) With previous **respiratory outbreaks**, people were only contagious when they were sick.
f) That made it easy to **self-screen** for symptoms and stay home.
g) The CDC updated its outdoor mask guidance for fully vaccinated people against a **backdrop** of falling coronavirus cases and the rising number of vaccinated Americans.
h) The original **clinical trials** of the three vaccines to receive emergency use authorization by the US Food and Drug Administration showed they are very effective in preventing people from developing and dying from symptomatic COVID-19.
i) But the evidence is beginning to **trickle** in showing that these vaccines, especially Pfizer/BioNTech and Moderna, are very effective at not only reducing asymptomatic infection but also reducing viral load if a vaccinated person does get infected.
j) The variants may **throw a wrench** into all of this, but so far, the vaccines appear to be protective against serious disease with them as well.

From the examples above, the phrases and the word "hot button," "complicated issue," "symbol," "asymptomatic carrier," "respiratory outbreak," "self-screen," "backdrop," "clinical trials," "trickle," and "throw a wrench" are used to show the label or identity that is delivered to the masks which are becoming the main topic of the article. In the first (a) and the third examples (c), CNN uses "hot button issue" and "complicated issue" to indicate that masks are becoming the highlight and prevalent issue and are becoming controversial during this pandemic era. The word "symbol" in the second example also indicates that masks play an important role in how people see the coronavirus, whether it is severe or not. Next, the phrase (d) "asymptomatic carrier" refers to the person who already got infected by the virus but didn't show any symptoms. Through the sentence, we can understand that masks have a significant impact on preventing the spread of the virus in the air. The phrase (e) "respiratory outbreak" in this term is that COVID-19 is very dangerous since it is contagious to people with historical diseases and people who don't have any diseases. The phrase (f) "self-screen" means that we can check ourselves at home to know and make sure whether we have been infected or not to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to other people. Part (g) "backdrop" refers to the COVID-19 phenomenon and its spread in America. "Clinical trials" in a sentence of (h) refers to the phase of three doses of vaccines that can give protection against COVID-19. So, American citizens are recommended to have their three doses of vaccination. The word in part (i), "Trickle," refers to the liquid of the vaccines, which can slow the spread of the virus in the human body so it can reduce the symptoms of the infected people. Lastly, in part (j), "throw a wrench" refers to the variants of COVID-19 that can destroy the human body system. However, it can be prevented by vaccination. The use of these phrases and words leads the reader to understand that these are the main points or problems in the article, and it seems interesting to be talked to. It

makes people curious and wants to find out what is happening and what is the truth behind this.

Transformation

Transformation is a process of transforming language. Nominalization and passivization are the most commonly used analytical tools. Some examples will be selected and analyzed to expose the function and ideology behind nominalization and passivization. The transformation consists of two parts.

Nominalization

Here are examples of nominalization taken from CNN News published on 10th May 2021 entitled "Dr. Sanjay Gupta: The Complicated Calculus of Mask-wearing."

(a) The vaccines don't confer 100% **protection** and so-called breakthrough cases have been documented.

(b) Now, masks aren't only tied to politics, they're also causing plenty of **confusion**.

(c) But as more people get vaccinated and infection rates fall even further, we are going to have to start thinking about when we can loosen indoor mask **restrictions**, too.

(d) The original clinical trials of the three vaccines to receive emergency use **authorization** by the US Food and Drug Administration showed they are very effective in preventing people from developing and dying from symptomatic COVID-19.

(e) If outdoors, the likelihood of you breathing in someone else's air with enough virus to give you **infection** is very small.

(f) According to a recent review of five international studies, the odds of **transmission** indoors was calculated to be almost 19 times greater than outdoors

(g) What's become increasingly clear to me is that the **recommendations** of indoor mask-wearing will probably be among the last public health measures the agency will loosen.

(h) With repeated behavior and learning, existing dendrites strengthen, they make more **connections** which then become the normal pattern of transmission in our brains.

In the first example (a), the word "protection" comes from the word "protect," which means the act of protecting or the state of being protected. The word "protection" here explains that vaccines are tools that have a protecting function for the human body. The sentence above indicates that vaccines have no 100% guarantee to protect the human body. 100% before the word protection keeps the reader's expectation. If the

author states, "Vaccines cannot effectively protect," the reader's expectations will differ. In the second example (b), the word "confusion" comes from the word "confuse," which means to disturb in mind or purpose. Mandatory mask-wearing is now ineffective since the number of vaccinated people keeps increasing. The word "confusion" describes the feeling of this phenomenon that has already been mentioned before. People tend to question why and how the regulation will be applied since many controversies about mask-wearing. In the third example (c), the word "restrictions" comes from the word "restrict," which means to confine within bounds. The word "restriction" emphasizes that wearing a mask is a must. Even though the number of vaccinated people keeps increasing, many still have not gotten the vaccine, even for the first dose, and it can be a risk if people decide not to wear masks. The virus is in the air, and no one can predict its existence. In the fourth example (d), the word "authorization" comes from the word "authorize," which means to endorse, empower, justify, or permit by or as if by some recognized or proper authority. The US Food and Drug Administration has the power to persuade people to do the three doses of vaccination to complete the clinical trials of preventing people from COVID-19 symptoms. Fifth, in part (e), the word "infection" comes from the word "infect," which means an act or process of infecting something or someone. When people stay outside, there's only a low chance of getting infected by COVID-19 because the area and air circulation are big. In the sixth part (f), the word "transmission" comes from the word "transmit," which means an act, process, or instance of transmitting. The possibility of getting infected in a room or indoors is 19 times higher than outdoors. In the seventh part (g), the word "recommendation" comes from the word "recommend," which means something that recommends or expresses commendation. The regulation of indoor mask-wearing would be the last thing to do since it is the riskiest thing for people to get infected by COVID-19. In the last part (h), the word "connection" comes from the word "connect," which means to become joined. Our brain always adopts a new habit after doing something repeatedly for a long time. Even though COVID-19 is reaching its lowest case in the future, our brains will still get used to wearing a mask because creating new habits needs time and adaptation.

Passivization

One of the functions of passivization is to achieve the effect of impersonality by deleting the agent. Here are the examples of passivization taken from CNN News published on 10th May 2021 entitled "Dr. Sanjay Gupta: The Complicated Calculus of Mask-wearing."

(a) Let's face it, masks have been a hot button issue in this country since the very start of the pandemic.
(b) They were politicized early on, and quickly became a symbol of how seriously a person took the threat of the coronavirus.
(c) Again, that is one of the main reasons we are asked to keep our masks on.
(d) But that leaves open the question. Is mask-wearing still necessary today when approximately 57% of US adults have gotten at least one dose of the vaccine, and roughly 43% are fully vaccinated? Have natural infections created immunity in millions more?
(e) With indoor mask-wearing, CDC officials have told me they believe it's easy to wear one (not a big sacrifice), and the public health rewards are still relatively high, given the amount of persistent viral spread.

In the first example (a), masks become the highlight or the central issue in this pandemic era. It is also can indicate why CNN takes this topic as an article. In the second example (b), "they" refers to the masks. The politics of the masks cause mask-wearing issues and lead to confusion that makes people question everything. In the third example (c), as mandatory by the government, people should keep wearing masks. It emphasizes that the virus is everywhere even though the number of vaccinated people keeps increasing, but there is no guarantee that people will be safe without masks. The fourth example (d) shows the result of people who have been vaccinated, whether it is one dose or full vaccine. In the last example (e), wearing a mask indoors is not hard, and it can't prevent the spread of the virus. The passive sentence indicates CDC as an institution with authority, so the suggestion of wearing masks is valid because it is very reasonable and based on the fact.

Transitivity

Identifying persons, processes, and conditions is known as transitivity analysis (Halliday, 1994). Here are examples from the CNN News published on 10th May 2021 entitled "Dr. Sanjay Gupta: The Complicated Calculus of Mask-wearing" article.

Process Type	No	Examples
Material	48	Currently, the CDC *recommends* mask-wearing and social distancing when indoors around people who don't live in the same household.
Behavioral	1	You *will breathe* in their air.
Mental	18	They *believe* it's easy to wear one (not a big sacrifice) and the public health rewards are still relatively high.
Verbal	13	Agency official *told* CNN in an email Tuesday they were unaware of any current plans to update it.
Relational	42	The same guidance *is* in place for all indoor public spaces.
Existential	4	If *there are a lot of viruses* circulating in the community.

According to the table, it can be seen that the material process is the most dominant. This is because the term "material process" is frequently used to describe the occurrence and progression of events. The relational process is the second, with a total of 42 numbers. The third is the mental process, and the fourth is the verbal process. The last is the existential and behavioral processes which only have a small number.

Interpretation

Interpretation makes explicit what for participants is generally implicit" (Fairclough, 1989, p.162). A practical examination of news talk is realized by examining discourse announcing such as news source, detailing mode, and announcing verb. The following are examples from CNN News published on 10th May 2021 entitled "Dr. Sanjay Gupta: The Complicated Calculus of Mask-wearing" article.

(a) **The CDC updated** its outdoor mask guidance for fully vaccinated people against a backdrop of falling coronavirus cases and the rising number of vaccinated Americans.

(b) **The CDC advises** that vaccinated and unvaccinated people still wear masks during crowded outdoor events, such as concerts, parades, and sporting events. And the same guidance is in place for all indoor public spaces.

(c) **According to a recent review** of five international studies, the odds of transmission indoors were calculated to be almost 19 times greater than outdoors, and fewer than 10% of coronavirus infections occurred outdoors.

(d) Currently, **the CDC recommends** mask-wearing and social distancing when indoors around people who don't live in the same household.

(e) **The CDC has said** it will continue to update the guidelines as the situation in the country evolves, although an agency official told CNN in an email Tuesday, they were unaware of any current plans to update it.

(f) With indoor mask-wearing, **CDC officials have told me** they believe it's easy to wear one (not a big sacrifice) and the public health rewards are still quite high, given the amount of persistent viral spread.

(g) Linsey Marr, a professor and an expert on the airborne transmission of viruses at Virginia Tech, told CNN in an email she isn't especially troubled by the NYSE's actions. "If everyone in the room is vaccinated, then I do not think any precautions are needed. If unvaccinated people are present, then it comes down to the vaccinated person's risk tolerance. We know the vaccines are very good, that they protect against severe illness and death, but breakthrough infections do occur," **Marr said**, noting that from the photos she's seen, the high ceilings help dilute exhaled breath and reduce the risk of transmission.

(h) **She added** that good ventilation and filtration, avoiding crowded parts of the floor, and avoiding people who are yelling and shouting will reduce risk further, if that's even possible on the trading room floor.

(i) Writing in the Washington Post, Joseph G. Allen, an associate professor, and director of the Healthy Buildings program at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health put it bluntly -- **medical science tells us** you don't need to wear a mask indoors if you're vaccinated. "The risk to yourself and others is

low," **he wrote**. "Social science tells us something different. As vaccinations go up and cases come down in this interim phase, the right thing to do is wear masks indoors in public spaces until every adult has had a fair and equitable chance to be vaccinated -- likely around June 1. It takes about 30 days for people to be fully vaccinated, and full protection kick in. That means it's reasonable to expect that we will be able to ditch indoor mask mandates by July 4. Independence Day. Seems fitting."

From all the statements above, CNN is trying to prove its credibility by using many statements from the CDC like "The CDC updated," "The CDC advises," "The CDC has said," etc. CDC is the national public health agency of the United States which. The main goal is to protect public health and safety by controlling and preventing disease, injury, and disability in the US and worldwide (Dull, 1991). To make it more and more credible, CNN also puts the statements from experts like Linsey Marr, a professor and an expert on the airborne transmission of viruses at Virginia Tech, who told CNN in an email that she isn't especially troubled by the NYSE's actions and Joseph G. Allen, an associate professor, and director of the Healthy Buildings program at Harvard University's T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

Explanation

The explanation is the final stage of Fairclough's three-dimensional model. At this point, an explanation of social context is required to uncover the ideology disguised in language usage and to clarify the link between language, power, and ideology.

Masks have been a protection tool since COVID-19 was declared a pandemic. Most people worldwide are given the mandatory both by the central government and the local government to keep wearing masks. The US is one of the countries that have already applied that mandatory. After several times passed with COVID-19, vaccines are now invented. Since its invention, vaccines have been distributed to almost all countries. Government and health organizations stated that vaccines could prevent and reduce the spread of COVID-19 and then recommended it to be taken in three doses, so many people chose to be vaccinated. Of this phenomenon, people started to question why they should wear masks if the vaccines are an effective way to protect from COVID-19. These issues are then complicated and made confusing.

CDC (Centers for Disease Control and Prevention) is responsible for this. COVID-19 is trying to solve the problem of this mask-wearing by giving two main

reasons to justify the continued cautious guidance. The first is because viral transmission is still high in about 35% of the counties in the US. Statistically, large gatherings are still placed where spreader events can occur. Another problem is that most settings do not require confirmation of vaccination. So, the CDC is likely to suggest masking in indoor circumstances until systems are input to distinguish those with joint or vaccine-acquired resistance or sufficient of the nation has been vaccinated. These problems lead to pros and cons among US citizens and cause many assumptions.

Politically, CDC has a productive relationship with World Health Organization (WHO). The Director of The CDC itself confirms it. This relationship has been well maintained until now (Sari, 2020). However, WHO has a lousy relationship with Donald Trump (Joseph & Branswell (2020). Trump instructed the government to stop funding the WHO because he thinks that the policies issued by the WHO were inappropriate and inconsequential in regulating the spread of the coronavirus (BBC, 2020). He even accused the WHO of leaning toward China. He accused China of pressuring the WHO to "mislead the world" about the virus without providing evidence. The reality is that the WHO doesn't get too close to any one country. They work with all member states—China, the United States, and the Central African Republic (Boston University, 2020). The WHO would have to treat them as equal partners. Trump's decision has been criticized by Russia (A country with a good relationship with China). The Russian side said that Trump's decision was very selfish and endangered the world organization, trying to be a reference for other countries in dealing with the coronavirus. These controversies have been a bit since the US held an election. Tragically, Trump is not elected for the second period. After beating Trump, Biden tweeted on Twitter that he would rejoin the WHO and restore the leadership on the world stage on his first day as president. It gives a chance to rebuild a good relationship mainly to deal with this pandemic. However, the problem has not been cleared yet. The relations between China and the US are increasingly heated, affecting the US public's view of institutions accused of being sympathetic to China. The connection with these mask-wearing issues is that some people do not believe in the CDC and refuse to comply with its new rules. Those who refuse the regulation think that with vaccination, everything is okay. This is the same line as the thought of President Donald Trump. Some people who comply think this is all done as prevention and for the good of their health.

Culturally, medical experts and scientists are trusted to provide services to society and have the responsibility to solve problems related to health issues. The truth is in their hands, so every regulation and action they take will significantly impact and influence society's beliefs. Not only that, but the government also has a significant role in deciding what's better for its country. Therefore, every regulation released must be based on facts and science. In addition, data transparency is also needed to maintain public and government trust. Before making a regulation, the two institutions must hold discussions and negotiations to get approval so that the community will not feel confused later. The author himself is a doctor which part of a medical institution. So, every statement mentioned must be balanced and based on the scientific side. Indirectly he supported what is better for people. However, the response of people varies toward the regulation. According to Sanchez (2020), American people do not wear masks because they have their rights as Americans and feel uncomfortable as the second reason.

Economically, the emergence of the COVID-19 pandemic triggered an economic crisis worldwide. All of the regulations taken by the government will have a significant impact on economic improvement. The only way to recover the economic condition is by giving vaccines to the public—the policies made by the CDC are always based on circumstances and scientific research. The stop of funding by the WHO government will have a fatal impact. On the one hand, the government suggested relaxing the use of masks, but conditions forced the CDC to issue a policy to keep wearing masks to prevent transmission. However, the economic war between the US and China is crucial. The US economy suffered from the trade war with China, and the Trump administration's primary policy goals were not met. Rather than helping the economy, it has slowed growth and employment in the United States, resulting in a peak job loss of 245,000 people. According to (The US-China, 2022), trade and investment flow with China has helped the United States. Economic growth, consumer choice, and job creation have benefited from the mix of bilateral trade, investment, and supply chain integration. Exports to China supported 1.2 million jobs in the United States in 2019, and Chinese multinational enterprises directly employed 197,000 individuals in the United States in 2018.

CONCLUSION

CNN is one of the biggest media in the world (CNN Worldwide Fact Sheet, 2022). They prove their credibility by putting experts' opinions and health institutions related to the main topic in every statement. The political, cultural, and economic stuff can be found by examining the article through CDA using Fairclough's approach. From the beginning, masks are the highlight and cause the problem that

leads to confusion. It can be seen from the part of the linguistic classification. In the part of nominalization, it can be seen that there is a relation between the word protection, confusion, and restriction. Because the vaccine is not guaranteed 100% protection, many people think it is okay; it is all confusion. From the interpretation part, it can be seen that health institutions and medical experts have power because what they say is very important.

The hidden political and economic issues cause confusion and problem in the explanation. From the political side, Trump accuses WHO of having a good relationship with China. The political issues between China and the US significantly impact the WHO and CDC in regulating mask-wearing. From the cultural side, the individualism of the American people is the main reason mask-wearing is becoming an issue. Most people prioritize their rights and think it is unnecessary to wear a not inconvenient mask for them. Responding to the transparency of government and health organizations is essential. The conflict between the US and China dramatically impacts the world on the economic side. The impact is not a joke; it can determine the community's perspective and cause a crisis. In conclusion, all elements are revealed after using this approach.

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