**OPINION ESSAY**

**“MISINFORMATION”**

ADVANCED ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT

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By:

Nur Afiyah Nurulputri

071911633077

**LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE**

**FACULTY OF SOCIAL AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**

**AIRLANGGA UNIVERSITY**

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**MISINFORMATION**

Every single person has different information needs. According to Miranda and Tarapanoff, information needs come when someone’s knowledge is not enough to solve the problem he/she is facing (Muliyadi, 2018: 3). Therefore, that person will come up with an action to fulfil their information needs with information-seeking behaviour. The very rapid development of technology these days caused many information are available and easy to access. However, it is not well-balanced with people initiative for seeking information maximally to fulfil their information needs.

In my experience, when someone is in a rush in the need of information, he/she won't be thinking clearly. Then, the situation will be chaotic because the information getting mazy and he/she can't process it. For example, when the lecturer gives an assignment, some students will interpret the order with a different point of view. Sometimes this will bring them into a debate. Though, if they read it carefully, they can have the same interpretation of it. The last thing they can do is directly ask the lecturer about the order given.

There's no doubt that every single person has a different ability to understand a piece of information. Ones can clearly understand, ones may misinterpret, and ones understand nothing from the information. This is also caused by different information-seeking behaviour of each individual. According to Wilson in Pendit, social, cultural, economic, political, and the social role of the person are aspects that caused the differences in information-seeking behaviour between individuals and individuals or between groups and other groups (Masruriyah, 2009: 3).

That may sometimes be true, but in some simple cases, every single person (without seeing his/her background) should at least understand information. This is important because the failure of interpreting information will mislead him/herself and other people also. For example, we spread wrong information to others, if he/she easily believed it and continuing to tell other people, we are indirectly being source of hoax.

I think someone often misinterprets information because he/she just read it without understanding the context. So, the information they received sometimes incorrect. Also, when someone seeking information to fulfil his/her information needs, he/she will easily assume that information he/she receives is correct and there's no need to do cross-check whether it is correct or not.

I am most concerned about someone's inability to process the information he/she receives will make him/her run over by increasingly sophisticated information technology. The thing I can suggest is, use the right way for finding information so that your information needs can be found properly and do critical thinking before digesting the information you get.

**References:**

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