

# The Role of Film Sensor Institutions on Film Show to Foreign Film Platform

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## **Abstract**

*In this day and age access to everything related to technology can be accessed quickly and easily by the people or community. The technology presented in this case, one no longer needs to be difficult or spend time to go to malls and shopping centers to watch films that are still freshly screened in theaters, this is because in times of sophistication, a lot of movie platforms that provide various kinds of films that can be watched freely but still paid and also legal, with the freedom of someone to access film shows and reality shows, in this case problems arise in terms of film censorship and also other shows provided by the foreign film platform. Therefore, in this article the author will examine the process of censoring impressions from foreign film streaming platforms in Indonesia. The method of approach used in this article is normative empiricism in which the writer will mix and match the realities that occur in the community with the applicable laws and regulations. The results of this study are that Indonesia has the right to censor every film showing in its country in accordance with Law Number 33 of 2009 concerning Film.*

**Keywords:** Film Censorship Institution, Platform, Film.

## **I. INTRODUCTION**

In this sophisticated era, people are increasingly made easy in all aspects, including the needs related to entertainment such as tourist attractions, television shows, radio, and even films. All people throughout the world including Indonesia until now have been given the ease of accessing films and also variety shows, with many streaming film platforms for foreign films entering Indonesia, foreign films and also series programs that usually only air on foreign television, can also enjoyed its existence by the people of Indonesia. But with the simplicity of streaming movies on the foreign film streaming platform provided, this basically also creates a new polemic related to the existence of film censors that can be accessed by the Indonesian people. Almost all of the foreign movie streaming platforms are still considered to be very weak in applying filtering, in terms of the age of the audience and also censorship of any shows that aired on the foreign film streaming platform. This movie streaming platform has a

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method of filtering age restrictions and censorship policies that are considered weak.<sup>4</sup>This eventually led to much debate in Indonesian society because of the presence of this foreign film streaming platform, because on the one hand the Indonesian people really liked the presence of the film streaming platform in Indonesia because it had provided far better shows than Indonesian television shows.

But on the one hand, many parents in Indonesia are worried about children and also adolescents who watch films from the foreign film platform because a lot of scenes of violence and bloodstained scenes are not censored by the foreign film streaming platform. So in this case, there needs to be a party who can guarantee that the shows that are broadcast on the foreign film streaming platform can be adjusted to the age and mental condition of the viewers in Indonesia. Because in the future the shows that aired on the foreign film streaming platform will greatly affect the psychological and mental health of the Indonesian people. Therefore, in this study the author will discuss who are the parties responsible for film censorship that is shown on the film streaming platform in Indonesia.

#### Writing method :

In everyday life, there are many things that can be explored and also understood by the wider community. The things that will be presented to the public will be more reliable if the information and knowledge are accompanied by the facts and also equipped with a basis that can support this fact so that it can be more accepted by many people without any shortcomings. Therefore, in this paper the writers will use a normative empirical writing method and will study the facts that exist in the community and also the applicable laws and regulations.

## II. Discussion

### Online movie streaming platform in Indonesia

Indonesia as one of the countries in Southeast Asia which has the most population certainly has a fairly high stress level. especially in big cities like Jakarta and also Surabaya and other big cities that have the most daily mobility. In this case it is certain to require adequate hobbies and entertainment facilities to eliminate the boredom and also fatigue during they do their work. So that the need for entertainment both inside and outside the home becomes a thing that is needed from the past until now. If in the past, someone who wanted to watch movies had to go to great lengths to build a large screen and watched with a crowd of people in his home environment, now, more modern cinemas in various malls and shopping centers, even today people no longer need to go out of the house just to watch movies, series shows, and also shows from abroad that may not be broadcast on Indonesian television. This is because at this time more and more foreign movie streaming platforms are entering Indonesia and providing movie shows and also series programs that are not broadcast on Indonesian television. With this foreign movie streaming platform, people only need to open the movie streaming platform on the website or application that has been provided, set up an internet connection, and buy a subscription package from the movie streaming platform. By

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<sup>4</sup>Yudhianto Thohirin, 'Netflix: Dua Mata Pisau Platform Streaming Film', 2020 <<https://technologue.id/netflix-dua-mata-pisau-platform-streaming-film/amp/>>.

subscribing to packages from the movie streaming platform, people can freely watch the movies they want during the time specified from the package that was purchased before.

In Indonesia now more and more online movie streaming platforms are ready to present programs that can be enjoyed by the Indonesian people for example Netflix, Hooq, and iFlix and many more. iFlix and HOOQ are more similar to Netflix. The difference is, HOOQ focuses on the local Philippine market. While iFlix is wider with reach in the Philippines and Malaysia. Netflix itself is available in 190 countries, including Indonesia.<sup>5</sup>The existence of a film streaming platform in Indonesia will actually be very beneficial for many people, not only for Indonesian people who get quality viewing, but also can benefit Indonesian filmmakers who join the film streaming platform. Chairperson of the Indonesian Film Producers Association (Aprofi) FauzanZidni assesses that the application provides great potential for the film industry without leaving the main focus on cinema. Producers who make use of the application can receive additional income from the sale of the film screening license.<sup>6</sup>With the various benefits that can actually be obtained from the Indonesian side, this will actually be more optimized by the existence of a balance of censorship applied to films shown on the film's streaming platform, which in turn will keep the films shown not containing violent scenes, excessive and inappropriate scenes to be imitated by Indonesian people especially children and adolescents which make it possible to damage the psychological and mental health of the viewers of the film.

With the existence of sensors it is very necessary for the film industry to filter quality films, especially with the current globalization where the era of openness is currently advancing information technology or often referred to as ICT information and communication technology. Anyone can access electronic media anywhere and anytime.<sup>7</sup>Because basically, a censorship that is imposed on a country has been adjusted to the state of society in that country where with the censorship imposed it has a function to protect all the people in a country, which is considered to be very easily provoked and also easily exposed to things, things that are not good from the outside are not in accordance with eastern customs that have been adhered to by the people of Indonesia.

### **Authority of Film Censorship Aired on Foreign Film Streaming Platform**

In matters relating to the existence of film censors, especially films shown on foreign film streaming platforms it is a very important thing to note this because the presence of film censors will keep a person from the negative side and also things that are not good and indecent from the film that aired. With the film censorship it is also expected to be able to help many families in choosing films and watching that are age-appropriate for all family members so that they can be enjoyed by all family members without exception. In the case of film censors that are shown on the foreign film streaming platform there are a number of questions about who is actually responsible for

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<sup>5</sup>Fatimah Kartini Bohang, 'Akhirnya Masuk Indonesia, Netflix Itu Apa?', *Kompas.Com*, 2016  
<<https://tekno.kompas.com/read/2016/01/07/13085347/Akhirnya.Masuk.Indonesia.Netflix.Itu.Apa..>>.

<sup>6</sup>Asteria Desi Kartika Sari, 'Ini Keuntungan Sineas Jika Kolaborasi Dengan Platform Nonton Film', 2018  
<<https://lifestyle.bisnis.com/read/20180926/254/842445/ini-keuntungan-sineas-jika-kolaborasi-dengan-platform-nonton-film>>.

<sup>7</sup>Achmad Fadli and others, 'Peranan Lembaga Sensor Film Terhadap Perfilman Indonesia : Upaya Dakwah Peranan Lembaga Sensor Film Terhadap Perfilman Indonesia : Upaya Dakwah', 2008.

the film censors aired on the platform. Around 2019 Indonesia was shocked by a policy discourse from the Indonesian Broadcasting Commission which intends to oversee every show aired on the well-known film streaming platform, Netflix. This raises the problem and also the opposition of the Indonesian people about who has the authority to implement censorship and also surveillance of films shown on the film's streaming platform. If we look at the applicable laws and regulations in Indonesia, every film that is screened in Indonesia must actually follow the screening regulations and also the censorship in Indonesia from the negative things of a film that aired on that platform. In the case of foreign film streaming platform censors such as Netflix to date seems to have a legal vacuum in censorship. This causes film shows on Netflix and also foreign movie streaming platforms in Indonesia to not be penalized when he does not impose censorship and also age restrictions. Streaming services feel that their bases are abroad, not subject to rules. Therefore need other institutions to make censorship regulations.<sup>8</sup>

In Indonesia itself actually has Law Number 33 Year 2009 concerning film which in this act provides conditions for every film, both widescreen films and films that are shown on telecommunications media or other information technology networks to always have a letter passing the censors that issued by the film censorship agency. Whereas in article 57 paragraph 2 of Law Number 33 of 2009 concerning film it is explained that "the letter of passing the censorship as referred to in paragraph (1) is issued after censorship which includes: a. Research and evaluation of themes, pictures, scenes, sound, and the translated text of a film to be circulated and/or displayed to the general public; b. determining the eligibility of films and film advertisements for distribution and/or display to the general public; and c. determining the age classification of film viewers". But in this case many parties, especially from Indonesian censors who feel that the existing rules in law no. 33/2009 cannot reach foreign film platforms based outside Indonesia so that it is hoped that there will still be new rules that can reach sensors for foreign platforms entering Indonesia. In this case there is indeed a problem of who has the authority to censor and also sanction the foreign film platform, but with Article 57 of Law number 33 of 2009 regulating "Every film and film advertisement to be circulated and/or shown must obtain a letter", so we can understand that even if this film streaming platform is owned by a foreign company, in every screening in Indonesia, it must follow the rules that apply in Indonesia in accordance with Law No. 33 of 2009 concerning film, which we can withdraw the conclusion is that every show, whether it's a data movie or a series, will later air in Indonesia.

### III. Conclusion

In this sophisticated era, people are increasingly made easy in all respects, including the needs related to entertainment such as tourist attractions, television shows, radio, and even films. More and more people will be facilitated in various ways, for example, as now people no longer need to get out of the house just to watch movies, series programs, and also shows from abroad that may not be broadcast on Indonesian television. This is because at this time more and more foreign movie streaming platforms are entering Indonesia and providing film shows and

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<sup>8</sup>/LSF Minta Payung Hukum Untuk Sensor Film Netflix Dan Iflix', *CNN INDONESIA*, 2020  
<<https://www.cnnindonesia.com/hiburan/20200220190418-220-476564/lst-minta-payung-hukum-untuk-sensor-film-netflix-dan-iflix>>.

also series programs that are not broadcast on Indonesian television. With the film streaming platform in Indonesia, this will actually be very beneficial for many people, not only for the people of Indonesia who get quality shows, but also Indonesian filmmakers who join the film streaming platform. But on its way, this led to confusion from the Indonesian people who actually had the authority to implement censorship and also surveillance of films shown on the film's streaming platform. On the one hand, in fact Indonesia already has a law related to film, namely Law Number 33 of 2009. But from the Indonesian film censorship institution felt the law was less able to reach foreign film streaming platforms which were centered on foreign countries so that the film censorship institution wanted rules that could guide foreign film platforms. Actually, in this case law number 33 of 2009 has regulated in its entirety, namely with the existence of article 57 paragraph 1 of Law number 33 of 2009 which regulates all films shown in Indonesia must obtain a letter of censorship pass from the Indonesian film censorship institution. Which means that in this case all foreign film streaming platforms must comply with Indonesian film law.

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