RESEARCH ARTICLE

War in #alleyesonrafah meme: Unraveling the Implications of the Palestine-Israel Conflict on Young-Children

Romaito Azhar*, Cici Rifmayanti, Aihani Rahmayani Harahap, Muhammad Ikhsan, Rahmad Ade Akbar

Abstract: The dissemination of Palestinian conflict issues on Instagram social media, goes beyond simply being a form of informative communication practice, it also describes the situation and latent dangers of the conflict’s implications for vulnerable groups. However, this context tends to be neglected in scientific discussions. This study also focuses on explaining and reflecting on the latent dangers of the implications of the Palestine-Israel conflict for children as a vulnerable group on Instagram. By using a qualitative descriptive case study approach, this study shows three important findings. First, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, aside from claiming the lives of many children who were victims, quite a few children also lost their relatives and friends who were in the conflict area. Second, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, aside depriving depriving children of their right to get a decent place to live, it has also destroyed the living environment in refugee camps for children in conflict areas. Third, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, aside from causing children to lose their fathers and mothers, also causes quite a few of children to lose their entire family members in conflict areas. This study also recommends the importance of discussing the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict which are disseminated on Instagram by using more varied hashtags.

Keywords: #alleyesonrafah, War, Conflict, Palestine-Israel, Young children.


Kata kunci: #alleyesonrafah, Perang, Konflik, Palestina-Israel, Anak.

About Author
Romaito Azhar, Faculty of Art and Humanities, University of Stirling, Scotland, United Kingdom; Cici Rifmayanti, Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia; Aihani Rahmayani Harahap, Faculty of Law, Universitas Gadjah Mada, Indonesia; Muhammad Ikhsan, Faculty of Industrial Technology, Universitas Islam Indonesia, Indonesia; Rahmad Ade Akbar, Faculty of Engineering, Universitas Negeri Yogyakarta, Indonesia

To cite this article: Romaito Azhar, Cici Rifmayanti, Aihani Rahmayani Harahap, Muhammad Ikhsan & Rahmad Ade Akbar. (2024). War in #alleyesonrafah meme: Unraveling the Implications of the Palestine-Israel Conflict on Young-Children. IAS Journal of Localities, 2(1), 19-32. DOI: 10.62033/iasjol.v2i1.45

Copyright © 2023 The Author(s). This is an open access article is distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution (CC-BY) 4.0 international license. (http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/)
1. Introduction

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has been in the spotlight and discussed in social media spaces. Fernando (2024) also said that the dissemination of conflict issues on Instagram social media, goes beyond simply being an informative communication practice, also contains evaluative meanings. The dissemination of Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues on Instagram social media, apart from being a form of visual expression, also describes the situation and latent dangers of the impact of the conflict, especially those experienced by children in conflict areas as a vulnerable group. Galuh Larasati et al. (2023) also said that discussions on social issues disseminated on social media are a form of evaluative expression of the situation and implications of an ongoing political contestation or social conflict. Therefore, the dissemination of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues on Instagram social media is a very important phenomenon that needs to be explained and reflected upon. In this context, this study has chosen to explain the situation and potential dangers of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on children’s welfare.

Up to now, studies that discuss the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that are circulated on social media have focused on only three contexts. First, studies that focus on discussing conflict issues disseminated on social media in the context of war visualization (Križić-Roban, 2021; Nguyen et al., 2024; Węcel et al., 2024). Second, studies that focus on the discussion of conflict issues disseminated on social media in the context of symbolizing war (Abu-Ayyash, 2024; Varvin, 2023; Zhovnir & Leshchenko, 2023). Third, studies that focus on the discussion of conflict issues disseminated on social media in the context of the language of war (De Nutte et al., 2024; Posylnyi, 2024; Taika Salo Devries, 2024). In general, studies that have discussed conflict issues disseminated on social media have focused only on three contexts, such as visualization, symbolization, and the language of conflict. In other words, discussions of conflict issues disseminated on social media have not been conducted comprehensively, especially studies that explain the potential dangers of the impact of the Palestine-Israel conflict on vulnerable groups such as children disseminated on Instagram.

The dissemination of conflict issues on Instagram social media not only goes beyond an informative communication process, but also aims to evaluate the situation and the hidden dangers of the implications of the Palestine-Israel conflict for children as a vulnerable group. Therefore, Salazar Flórez et al. (2024) also said that conflict issues disseminated on social media are a very important context to explain in order to reflect the situation and latent dangers of the conflict implications for vulnerable groups in conflict areas. However, until now, studies discussing conflict issues disseminated on Instagram social media are limited to visualization, symbolization, and language used in conflict. In addition to responding to the shortcomings of previous studies, this study also focuses on explaining and reflecting on the situation and latent dangers of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the well-being of children as a group vulnerable to violence and neglect in conflict areas through posts disseminated on Instagram social media.

In addition to an informative communication process, the dissemination of conflict issues on Instagram social media also aims to evaluate the situation and latent dangers of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on children as a vulnerable group, therefore it is very important to explain. In explaining this phenomenon, this study also focuses on three questions. First, what are the implications of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the well-being of children living in conflict areas that are disseminated on Instagram? Second, what are the implications of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the well-being of children living in conflict areas who are disseminated on Instagram? Third, what are the implications of the
Palestinian-Israeli conflict on the welfare of children’s families in conflict areas that are disseminated on Instagram? In line with these questions, this study is also based on the argument that the dissemination of conflict issues in Instagram social media is not only beyond an informative communication activity, but also a form of evaluative provocation towards the neglect of the welfare of children living in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area.

2. Literature review

The global community’s conception of children is limited to those under the age of 18, which implies that children’s lives are not only subject to regulations but also to the surrounding environment (Adriany et al., 2021; Abdullah, et al., 2023). This context positions children as weak and vulnerable individuals who become potential victims in times of conflict or war, as has been recorded in history (Larasati & Abdullah, 2023; Zachs, 2019). In addition, Cameron (2023) also argues that young children in times of conflict or war are frequently subjected to violence that has long-term implications for their well-being from various perspectives, including psychological distress, loss of resources and accommodation, and even death of family members. When there is a crisis caused by conflict and war, children often experience physical and mental suffering that can be reflected in the most horrific historical records (Gaber et al., 2022). In other words, the situation and conditions of young children in times of conflict and war have been shown to have a series of consequences that are vulnerable to the neglect of young children’s well-being in times of conflict and in the future (Carpiniello, 2023).

Conflicts and wars place young children in situations and conditions that are highly vulnerable to violations of their human rights and physical and mental well-being, with long-term consequences (Bürgin et al., 2022; Fernando et al., 2024). This context, as outlined by Garry dan Checchi (2020), arises due to the fact that conflicts and wars, in addition to creating unstable situations, can also threaten the future of a country, as a significant number of young children involved become victims. Nevertheless, research on the subject of young children in conflict or war situations and conditions remains scarce (Zachs, 2019). Studies that address the issue of young children in conflict or war situations and conditions tend to focus on the dissemination of information about refugee flows through mainstream media, with the objective of generating solidarity (Sajir & Aouragh, 2019). In fact, social media represents a potential platform that can be utilized not only for the dissemination of information but also for the systematic evaluation of the actual situation and conditions of children in times of conflict and war.

As conceptualized by Gramsci (1992), conflict or war refers to situations and conditions of ideological or cultural hegemony through acts of violence. Mann and Janis (2021) also argue that conflict and war are destructive and interpersonal, such as conflicts between countries, households, ethnicities, and gangs, due to economic and political instability. This context is also corroborated by Rahim (2017), also asserts that conflict or war arises from social entities’ actions that are at odds with normative behavioral preferences, discrepancies between expectations and reality, and unconstitutional contestation of natural resource ownership. Consequently, in their study, Islam et al. (2023) demonstrate that conflict or war not only has negative implications for development in a country but also significantly affects the fate and future of a nation if the conflict or war involves many young children as potential victims. This can be reflected through the situation and conditions of young children during the Palestinian-Israeli conflict.

The Palestinian-Israeli conflict has long-term implications for the relational relationships between groups (Hasler et al., 2023). Since 1948, the resolution of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not been realized (Nabulsi, 2023). Additionally, Alqaisiya
(2023) also states that the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has long-term consequences for the welfare of children in the future. This is due to the fact that the conflict has caused various kinds of long-term instability in the political, economic, educational, family, and welfare environments of young children (Docherty et al., 2023). Nevertheless, up to now, studies investigating the Palestinian-Israeli conflict have primarily focused on efforts aimed at resolution (Thiessen and Darweish, 2018). In contrast, the actual circumstances and conditions of young children during the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on Instagram represent a crucial context for understanding and evaluating the treatment of young children during the conflict.

As a social media, Instagram is often used to communicate and evaluate the actual reality online (Appel et al., 2020; Larasati, & Cahyani, 2023; Widari et al., 2023). Grover et al. (2022) also stated that in addition to being used for communication, Instagram is also used to spread evaluative ideas and ideologies. This context occurs due to Instagram is not only a source of information, but also a source of inspiration for people to evaluate an actual reality (Karadžić and Ristić, 2022). Therefore, issues such as conflict and war are widely disseminated on Instagram, which is oriented towards shaping perspectives and collective narratives linguistically and symbolically (Cinelli et al., 2021). The open and participatory nature of Instagram, according to Mohajerani et al. (2015), allows this platform to disseminate issues of conflict or war without space and time constraints. The issue of young children being disseminated on Instagram during the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is an interesting context to reflect on (Kim, 2023).

Instagram is the best platform to spread ideas and ideologies in the postmodern era. Due to its informative yet evaluative nature, Instagram became a strategic platform to spread children's issues during the Palestinian-Israeli conflict (Haque et al., 2022). The spread of children's issues on Instagram during the Palestinian-Israeli conflict shows that the content shared on Instagram contains symbols, language, and meanings that are not neutral to the actual reality (Golbeck, 2019; Nurasih et al., 2023). This context can be seen and reflected through the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict spread on Instagram, not least of which is the provocation represented through language and symbols (Goyanes et al., 2021). The spread of the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on Instagram does not highlight the actual situation and conditions experienced by young children in conflict areas. However, this context is often overlooked in media, war, and conflict studies (Hauter, 2023), which often focus on discussing conflict or war in an informational context.

3. Method

This study was conducted during the significant conflict between Palestine and Israel that occurred in the Rafah area in May 2024. However, this study solely addresses the implications of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on children in conflict areas. According to Fernando & Larasati (2023) issues disseminated on Instagram social media using meme images, photos, videos, and hashtags represent the characteristics of the ongoing situation and conditions. Consequently, it is of great interest to reflect on the social and cultural context of the media. In line with this, this study is also based on three crucial considerations. First, the issues of children in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area are central issues that have not been comprehensively considered in the study of culture, media, and conflict. Second, children's issues in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area also have message characteristics that are complex and contextual, and therefore require explanation. Third, children's issues in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area describe the latent dangers of conflict implications for children's welfare, and therefore require evaluation. These three considerations serve as the foundation for this study, which aims to elucidate and elucidate
the implications of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on children in the conflict area, specifically in Rafah.

This study is descriptive qualitative in nature using a case study approach. This study is also based on primary and secondary data. Primary data in this study was obtained through an investigation process on 1,500 posts of meme images disseminated on Instagram. The process of searching and reading the meme images started from May 26th to June 5th, 2024 using the hashtag #alleyesonrafah. The hashtag #alleyesonrafah was chosen since it was the most widely used hashtag by Instagram users in describing the conditions and situation of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict in the Rafah area using meme images. The selection and reading of meme images is carried out rapidly by using the skimming method focused on figures, symbols, and languages arranged in meme images. The reading process resulted in 499 meme images that describe the implications of conflict on children’s welfare, 503 meme images that describe the implications of conflict on children’s living environment, and 498 meme images that describe the implications of conflict on children’s family conditions. Secondary data in this study was obtained through reading relevant journal articles.

The data analysis in this study refers to the process carried out by Miles and Huberman (2014), which focuses on three processes. First, the process of data reduction is carried out to reorganize the data into a more systematic form based on the classification of the data obtained according to the situation, conditions, and implications represented by the data. Second, the process of verifying data is carried out to draw conclusions about the data that has been thematically reduced. Thirdly, the process of describing data is carried out to present the data that has been obtained and then presented in the form of a table arrangement containing meme images and descriptions of meme images that have been verified in accordance with the relevance of the discussion in this study. From these three processes, the next step is to analyze the data inductively as a basis for interpreting the data obtained. The interpretation is carried out by reformulating and reflecting on the data in accordance with the ideas, patterns and socio-cultural context represented by the data collected. The process and stages of analysis made it possible to reach a conclusion about the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on children in the conflict area of Rafah.

4. Result

The dissemination of war meme images in the #alleyesonrafah hashtag not only illustrates the current situation and conditions, but also represents the latent danger of the impact of the conflict on children in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area. The latent danger of the impact of the conflict can be seen through three important findings and discussions in this study.

4.1. Loss of life: Children in conflict zones

Many children have lost their lives in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict Veronese et al. (2024) also states that the latent danger of the consequences of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict did not cause a few children in the conflict area to lose their lives. This connection is not least disseminated through war memes in the hashtag #alleyesonrafah on Instagram, as can be seen in Figure 1.
Figure 1. Children who have lost their lives in conflict zones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme image 1</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Meme image 1" /></td>
<td>Meme image 1 describes several children carrying the bodies of their friends in conflict areas. The meme image 1 was uploaded by an Instagram account named mucahitakball.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme image 2</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Meme image 2" /></td>
<td>Meme image 2 describes a mother carrying the corpse of her child in a conflict area. The meme image 2 was uploaded by an Instagram account named jannah_towards.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme image 3</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Meme image 3" /></td>
<td>Meme image 3 describes a boy carrying the corpse of his sister in a conflict area. The meme image 3 was uploaded by an Instagram account named smoustart.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Instagram.

Figure 1 describes the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that affects the well-being of children living in the conflict area, which is disseminated through war memes in the hashtag #alleyesonrafah on Instagram. From Figure 1, we can also see three important connections regarding the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict for children in the conflict area. First, the latent danger of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose their friends, as can be seen from the meme image 1, which was spread by an Instagram account named mucahitakball. Second, the latent danger of the consequences of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has also caused parents to lose their children, as can be seen in meme image 2, a meme distributed by an Instagram account named jannah_towards. Third, the latent danger of the consequences of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose their siblings, as can be seen in meme image 3 disseminated by an Instagram account named smoustart. From these three contexts, it can be seen that the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only taken the lives of many children who have become victims, but also many children have lost their siblings and friends who are in the conflict area.
4.2. Being homeless: Children in conflict zones

Loss of place is experienced by many children in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict zone. Procter et al. (2024) also state that the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has a long-term impact on children’s well-being, and their right to a decent place to live is often neglected. This context is not least disseminated through war meme images in the hashtag #alleyesonrafah on Instagram, as can be seen in Figure 2.

Figure 2. Children who are homeless in conflict areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme image 4</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.jpg" alt="Meme image 4" /></td>
<td>Meme image 4 describes two girls who are crying as their house burns down in a conflict area. The meme image 4 was uploaded by an Instagram account named asciatou.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme image 5</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.jpg" alt="Meme image 5" /></td>
<td>Meme image 5 describes a child who is crying to see his camp burned down in a conflict area. The meme image 5 was uploaded by an Instagram account named machtsklick.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme image 6</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.jpg" alt="Meme image 6" /></td>
<td>Meme image 6 describes a child who is sitting pensively looking at his destroyed neighborhood in a conflict area. The meme image 6 was uploaded by an Instagram account named indonesiabertauhidofficial.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Instagram.

Figure 2 describes the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that affects the living conditions of children in the conflict area, which is disseminated through war memes in the hashtag #alleyesonrafah on Instagram. From Figure 2, we can also see three important contexts regarding the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict for children living in conflict areas. First, the latent danger of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose their homes, as can be seen from the meme image 4, which was spread by an Instagram account named asciatou. Second, the latent danger of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose their refugee camps, as can be seen through meme image 5 disseminated by an Instagram account named machtsklick. Third, the latent danger of the implications of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose their neighborhood, as can be seen through meme image 6 disseminated by an Instagram account named
indonesiabertauhidofficial. From these three contexts, it can be seen that the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only deprived children of their right to a decent place to live, but has also destroyed the living environment in refugee camps for children in conflict areas.

4.3. Loss of family members: Children in conflict zones

The loss of family members is also experienced by many children in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area. Mahamid (2020) also stated that the Palestine-Israel conflict has had a significant impact on children, such as the loss of family members. This context is disseminated not least through war meme images in the hashtag #alleyesonrafah on Instagram, as can be seen in Figure 3.

**Figure 3.** Children who have lost family members in conflict zones

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme Image 7</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image1.png" alt="Meme Image 7" /></td>
<td>Meme image 7 describes a child who lost all his family members in the conflict area. The meme image 7 was uploaded by an Instagram account named sabaaneh.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme Image 8</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image2.png" alt="Meme Image 8" /></td>
<td>Meme image 8 describes a family consisting of a mother and child crying about losing their father in a conflict area. The meme image 8 was uploaded by an Instagram account named its_prettylaw.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meme Image 9</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><img src="image3.png" alt="Meme Image 9" /></td>
<td>Meme image 9 describes a group of children who have lost their families in conflict areas. The meme image 9 was uploaded by an Instagram account named iamdawar.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Instagram.

Figure 3 describes the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that has an impact on the family conditions of children in the conflict area, which is disseminated through war memes in the hashtag #alleyesonrafah on Instagram. From Figure 3, we can also see three important contexts regarding the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict for children in conflict areas. First, the latent danger of the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in conflict areas to lose all of their family members, as can be
seen from the meme image 7, which was spread by an Instagram account named sabaaneh. Second, the latent danger of the consequences of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose a father as a family member, as can be seen through meme image 8 disseminated by an Instagram account named its_prettylaw. Third, the latent danger of the consequences of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has caused children in the conflict area to lose their parents, as can be seen in meme image 9 disseminated by an Instagram account named iamdawar. From these three contexts, it can be seen that the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only caused children to lose their fathers and mothers, but also many children have lost their entire family members in the conflict area.

5. Discussion

The findings of this study show three implications of the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on children, which is disseminated through war meme images in the #alleyesonrafah hashtag on Instagram. First, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only resulted in the deaths of many children who have become victims, but also not a few children who have lost their siblings and friends who were in the conflict area. Second, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only deprived children of their right to a decent place to live, but has also destroyed the living environment in refugee camps for children in conflict areas. Third, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only caused children to lose their fathers and mothers, but many children have lost their entire family members in the conflict area. From these three findings, it can be reflected that the dissemination of conflict issues on Instagram social media is not only beyond an informative communication activity, but also a form of evaluative provocation towards the neglect of the welfare of children living in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area.

This study reflects that the effects of conflict not only cause children to lose hope in life, shelter and family, but also show that children are still positioned as a subordinate object, leading to frequent neglect of their welfare and rights. Checchi (2020) also states that children who are in conflict situations and conditions often get discriminatory behavior, not even a few children become potential victims in conflict areas. This context occurs due to Alqaisiya (2023) argument that the commitment and active involvement of the state to protect vulnerable groups in conflict areas is the dominant factor that causes children to become potential victims. This issue is not least disseminated by the audience on Instagram social media to describe the impact of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict on vulnerable groups, such as children in conflict areas. In other words, the dissemination of Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues on Instagram goes beyond a form of communication pattern, but also an assessment of the latent danger of the impact of the conflict.

The dissemination of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues on Instagram social media is an assessment of the humanitarian commitments and concepts that the conflicting countries must adhere to, especially in protecting the welfare of children living in conflict areas. (Larasati, & Cahyani, 2023) also stated that the weak commitment of the state in the protection of vulnerable groups such as children in conflict areas will have a long impact on the future of a country, so the protection of children in conflict areas must be realized in accordance with the rules that apply globally. In this context, the emergence of provocative content on Instagram social media is the basis for assessing the potential dangers of the impact of war on vulnerable groups such as children in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Airlangga PH et al. (2024) also said that conflict issues disseminated on Instagram social media, in addition to reflecting a factual reality, can also be a reference to evaluate the latent
danger of the implications of conflict on vulnerable groups such as children who are often overlooked, such as those in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area.

The findings of this study differ from previous studies. Thus far, studies that have discussed the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict disseminated on Instagram social media tend to be normative and descriptive. However, the findings of this study show that the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict disseminated on Instagram go beyond an informative communication activity, but also aim to evaluate the weak commitment of the state to protect vulnerable groups such as children in conflict areas. This context is also emphasized by Karadžić and Ristić (2022), who argue that the visual, symbolic, and linguistic dissemination of conflict issues on Instagram social media contain meanings that aim to evaluate the potential dangers of conflict implications that are often overlooked. In other words, the dissemination of Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues in Instagram social media aims not only to provide information regarding the state’s commitment to protect vulnerable groups, but also to evaluate the latent danger of conflict implications for children.

The dissemination of Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues on Instagram social media is not only an informative communication activity, but also an evaluation of the weak commitment of the state to protect children as a vulnerable group of victims in conflict areas. Evaluating and reflecting on the commitment of the collective community and the state is a very important context for protecting the welfare of children during and after the Palestinian-Israeli conflict. Thiessen and Darweish (2018) also state that the commitment of the collective society and the state in protecting the rights of children in conflict areas is an attitude that must be realized in conflict situations and conditions. In other words, if society and the state are not committed to protecting the rights of children in conflict areas, the likelihood of children becoming victims of conflict will continue to increase even after the conflict ends. In addition to conducting systemic evaluations, ethical and regulatory considerations are also very important for countries in conflict to ensure the well-being of vulnerable groups living in war zones.

6. Conclusion

The study shows that the dissemination of Palestinian-Israeli conflict issues on Instagram goes beyond an informative form of communication. This context can be reflected in three important findings of this study. First, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only claimed the lives of many children who have become victims, but also many children have lost their siblings and friends who are in the conflict area. Second, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only deprived children of their right to a decent place to live, but has also destroyed the living environment in refugee camps for children in conflict areas. Third, the latent danger of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict has not only caused children to lose their fathers and mothers, but many children have lost their entire family members in the conflict area. From these three findings, it can be reflected that the dissemination of conflict issues on Instagram social media is not only beyond an informative communication activity, but also a form of evaluative provocation towards the neglect of the welfare of children living in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict area.

The results of this study differ from previous studies. Studies that have discussed the dissemination of the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict only focus on normative and descriptive tendencies. However, the findings in this study show that the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict disseminated on Instagram social media go beyond an informative communication activity, but also aim to evaluate the weak commitment of the state to protect vulnerable groups such as children in conflict areas. Therefore, the findings of this study are expected to be able to provide a dialogical basis for studies that aim to
explain war issues disseminated in social media in a more reflective and solution-oriented way. This study also has weaknesses in the data collection process, which is only conducted through an investigative process through Instagram social media using the search hashtag #alleyesonrafah. However, the weaknesses in this study are in fact expected to be able to become the basis for future studies to explain the issues of the Palestinian-Israeli conflict that are disseminated on social media using more diverse hashtags.

**Author Contribution Statement**

Contributions of the authors in this article: Romaito Azhar and Cici Rifmayanti contributed as concepts and drafters of the article; Aihani Rahmayani Harahap and Muhammad Ikhsan contributed as data analyzers and interpreters; Rahmad Ade Akbar as critically revising the article. All authors agree to take responsibility for all aspects of this work.

**Disclosure of Interests**

We have no conflict of interest to declare

**Funding**

No funding received

**References**


Kim, S. J. (2023). Computers in Human Behavior The role of social media news usage and platforms in civic and political engagement: Focusing on types of usage and


