THE GENERATIVE EFFECT OF INFRASTRUCTURAL RUINS

In this section, I attempt to go beyond the discussion of infrastructural violence by illustrating how such a condition can be politically generative for the people who are exposed to this form of violence. In so doing, I draw some scholarly thoughts on the issue of failure, infrastructure, and ruin to analyze my ethnographic engagement in Long Nawang village.

Here, I propose to investigate infrastructural time as circular, oscillating between ruin and renewal (Gupta 2018). I argue that through looking at the infrastructural time this way, we can consider the generative political effect of ruination that is driven by the future of infrastructural renewal. I will illustrate this argument through my investigation to the rise of development watch apparatus in Long Nawang village. Mainly, I will look at how this organization works towards tricking the infrastructural time, from ruin to renewal.

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Youth and Social Life of Chemicals
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This medical anthropological study consists of comparative ethnographies of how youth use chemical and pharmaceutical compounds in everyday life to manage not only pleasure, but also sex, moods, vitality, energy, work, appearance, and health. Contemporary anthropological theory
tends to focus on the body as text, in the process diminishing its material significance. With the focus on what bodies culturally represent and their symbolic meanings, representation has been privileged over materiality and embodied experience, with little consideration for how bodies are lived, both socially and biologically.

A handful of sociological and anthropological studies have given us insight into what chemicals do for youths in their everyday lives. They help generate desired gendered subjectivities (such as being a beautiful and sexy woman or a brave and strong man), increase concentration and stamina, ease social interaction, create desirable moods, relieve aches and pains, and regulate fertility. The current inquiry will place both chemical materiality and sociality centre stage. Why do youths use chemicals in their everyday lives? What effects are they seeking? What role do chemicals play in calming their fears, in achieving their dreams and aspirations? There is a grave scarcity of ethnographic experience-near studies of youths’ use of chemicals in their daily lives.

“IS IT NECESSARY TO TAKE POSTINOR Too?”: THE USE OF POSTINOR-2 BY INDONESIAN YOUTHS AND THE IMAGINATION OF EFFICACIOUS CONTRACEPTIVE METHOD

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In this provisional paper, I investigate how Postinor-2, as an emergency contraceptive, mediates Indonesian youths’ anxieties of the ineffectualness of other birth control methods. By focusing on diversified questions concerning Postinor-2 by youths in Twitter, I argue that the use of Postinor-2 by Indonesian youth does not only based on the intention to prevent pregnancy, but also to diminish their uncertainties and doubts. An anxious statement such “although we already used a condom and counted my fertile days, is it necessary to take postinor too?” show that the lack of information about contraceptive methods influences youths’ use of Postinor-2. This lack of information mainly derived from the common assumption attached to contraception, in which contraceptive methods often perceived as only accessed by married, adult persons. This common assumption also affects youths’ purchase of Postinor-2. While legally Postinor-2 can only obtain with a medical prescription, many online drug stores sell Postinor-2 without requiring a prescription. Since youths purchase Postinor-2 without prescription, an interactive consultation with a medical doctor is absent. Instead of consulting with a doctor, youths who intend to obtain Postinor-2 gain their knowledge on it by reading the experience of other Postinor-2’s users, particularly in regard to its indication and contraindication. In this paper, I formulate the preliminary analysis by incorporating the conceptual framework from the anthropological study of the body in order to understand how youths’ bodily use of Postinor-2 to overcome their anxiety by rendering them efficacious.

Keywords: Emergency contraceptive, Indonesian youth, anxiety, experience, anthropology of body