

FACTORS RELATED TO EARLY MARRIAGE AT STATE HIGH SCHOOL 1 MENTOK IN 2024

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Abstract

Early marriage is a marriage between young couples under the age of 20, namely women <18 years old and men <20 years old. Early marriage is a phenomenon that often occurs in Indonesia. To prevent the further increase and increase of early childhood marriage, the cooperation of various parties, both the government, the private sector, and the community, is needed which aims to increase knowledge and prevent further increase in early childhood marriage at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency. This study aims to find out the factors of the role of peers and the role of mass media with knowledge about early marriage at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency. This study uses a quantitative descriptive method with a cross sectional design. The population of this study is 573 male and female students of grades XI and XII of SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency, sampling using random sampling technique with a sample of 94 students. Data analysis was carried out using univariate, bivariate analysis and Chi-Square test. The results showed that there was a meaningful relationship between the role of peers and early marriage knowledge in, with a p-value of $0.017 < \alpha (0.05)$ for both variables, the relationship between the role of mass media and early marriage knowledge was obtained with a P value of $(0.404) > \alpha (0.05)$, meaning that H_0 was accepted, there was no meaningful relationship between the role of mass media and early marriage knowledge. The role of peers is related to early marriage knowledge, while the role of mass media is not related to early marriage knowledge in the SMA Negeri 1 Mentok area, West Bangka Regency in 2024.

Keywords: Early Marriage Knowledge, Peer Role, Role of Mass Media

Introduction

Early marriage is a marriage between a young couple under 20 years old, with a woman less than 18 years old and a man less than 20 years old. This phenomenon often occurs in Indonesia and has a negative impact on psychological, economic, social, and physical aspects. Although in the past young marriages were considered commonplace, they are now considered an ancient custom. Getting married before the age of 20 for women and 25 for men is considered unnatural in today's context (1). Early marriage is a marriage between a man and a woman who have not reached the age regulated in Law No. 16 of 2019, which sets the minimum age limit for marriage, which is 19 years old. According to WHO (2023), adolescents aged 10-19 years cover around 1.2 billion people, or 18% of the world's population of 7.2 billion people (2). Based on a 2020 survey, adolescents aged 10-19 years reached 17.3% of the total population of Indonesia (3). In adolescence, easily observable physical and psychological changes are often associated with sexual or reproductive problems (Saparini, 2022).

In 2023, BPS recorded that the number of adolescents aged 10 to 19 years in Indonesia reached 44.25 million people (Rany, 2022). In the Bangka Belitung Islands Province there are around 350 thousand teenagers, while in West Bangka the number of teenagers is 40,069 people or 19.23% of the total population, according to Katadata 2024 data (Indra Kertati, 2023).

The number of adolescents in Indonesia is relatively high compared to other age groups. Based on SKAP-KKBPK 2019 data, adolescents' knowledge about reproductive health is still low, with a knowledge index about AIDS and STIs of 42.4, the age of marriage and childbirth is 45.5, and the KRR is 48.5. Knowledge of drugs and alcohol was higher, namely 86.5. The KRR index is higher in adolescent girls (49.7) than adolescent boys (47.4) (6) The results of the study show that there are still many adolescents who have attitudes and behaviors that do not support the KRR Triad (Adolescent Reproductive Health), namely 24.6% and 7.6%. Of course, this raises problems regarding the vulnerability of adolescents who are at high risk of experiencing reproductive health problems. Because of the characteristics of adolescents who are full of curiosity, they are easily influenced by others and the environment and are exposed to inaccurate information (7)

Early marriage is a common phenomenon in Indonesia, which is ranked 37th in the world and second in Southeast Asia. Data from the Central Statistics Agency shows that the number of early marriages is increasing every year (8)

Indonesia and the Philippines are developing countries in Southeast Asia with many similarities, including in their systems of government, geography, and culture. However, they also have significant differences. According to UNICEF data (2022), in Indonesia, there are 7.5 million children under 15 years old and 25.5 million children under 18 years old who have been involved in early marriage in the last six years. Factors such as poverty, limited access to education, and cultural stereotypes play a role in the high rate of child marriage, even though Islam prohibits early marriage. Meanwhile, in the Philippines, there are 865,800 children under 15 years old and 5.5 million children under 18 years old who marry early. The main differences between the two countries are religious dominance, with the Philippines being Catholic-majority, as well as the challenges of poverty and access to education that also affect child marriage (9)

Indonesia's young generation, especially in rural areas, often get married at the age of 10-14. According to UNICEF, Indonesia ranks seventh in the number of early marriages. In 2018, Indonesia had a population of about 265 million people, with 45 million adolescents aged 10-18 years old, about 17% of the total population. The provinces with the highest early marriage rate above 15% include South Kalimantan (22%), Central Kalimantan (20%), Central Sulawesi (18%), as well as North Kalimantan, West Kalimantan, Jambi, Bangka Belitung, West Sulawesi, and West Papua (16%) (10)

One of the social problems in Indonesia is the high rate of early marriage. In 2018, 1 in 9 girls were married (11) In 2018, about 1,220,900 women aged 20-24 in Indonesia were married before the age of 18, making it tenth in the world for the highest number of child marriages. (12) The three provinces in Indonesia with the highest growth rate of child marriage are South Kalimantan (3.54%), Jambi (2.07%), and West Papua (2.04%). In response to this, the Plan International Indonesia Foundation and the Indonesia Women's Coalition launched a study on child marriage in seven regions after the change from Law No. 1 of 1974 to Law No. 16 of 2019 concerning Marriage (11) Reports show that about 23% of marriages in Indonesia involve children under the age of 18. Child-adult marriage reached 27.11%, compared to 17.09% in urban areas. The pregnancy rate at the age of 15-19 years is 1.97%. In 2016, there were 22,000 women in this category, and in 2022, child marriage accounted for 8.06% of total marriages. In addition, there were 54,894 cases of marriage dispensation applications for child marriage.

The data clearly illustrates that Indonesia is currently in the category of child marriage emergency (Ilma, 2020 in (13)). Although it is declining every year, early marriage remains a significant problem in Bangka Belitung (Babel). In 2018, Babel was ranked 8th with a figure of

14.22%. This figure increased to 15.48% in 2019 and 18% in 2020, making it the province with the highest percentage in Indonesia. However, this figure decreased to 14.05% in 2021 and 7.91% in 2022, placing it in 20th (14)

Early marriage is still a significant problem in the Bangka Belitung Islands, although there is a decline every year. In 2018, Babel was ranked 8th with a figure of 14.22%. This figure increased to 15.48% in 2019 and jumped dramatically in 2020, making it the province with the highest percentage in Indonesia. The early marriage rate then dropped to 14.05% in 2021 and 7.91% in 2022, placing it in 20th place (14)

In 2023, the Bangka Belitung Islands Provincial Education Office recorded a total of 29,996 high school students, with 26,033 in public high schools and 3,963 in private high schools. In West Bangka Regency, there are 3,665 public high school students and 313 private high school students, with a total of 6 public high schools and 3 private high schools. The number of cases of early marriage that occurred in high school children in West Bangka is as follows:

Table 1. Cases of Early Marriage in High Schools in West Bangka Regency in 2021-2023

No	School Name	Class X				Class XI				Total
		2021	2022	2023	Sum	2021	2022	2023	Sum	
1	SMAN 1 Mentok	0	0	1	1	6	4	2	12	13
2	SMAN 1 Simpang Ternip	1	3	0	4	1	6	4	11	30
3	SMAN 1 Kelapa	1	3	0	4	3	2	4	9	26
4	SMAN 1 Tempilang	0	1	2	3	1	5	1	7	20
5	SMAN 1 Jebus	2	1	2	5	1	1	2	4	18
6	SMAN 1 Squirrelly	0	0	1	1	0	0	2	2	6
Total					18				45	126

(Source: Data from the Provincial Education Office of Bangka Belitung District)

Based on a preliminary study at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, adolescents' knowledge about the risks of early marriage is still lacking. Mass media plays a major role in influencing adolescents' behavior, including lifestyle, dating, rape, molestation, and drug use, which has the potential to increase their interest in early marriage. Therefore, researchers are interested in researching factors related to early marriage in the school in 2024.

Method

The study is a quantitative descriptive with a cross-sectional design, which collects data at a time to analyze the relationship between risk factors and their impacts, with each subject examined only once (15) The population of this study consisted of 573 male and female students in grades XI and XII at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency. The sample was determined using the Slovin formula, resulting in a total of 94 students. The inclusion criteria included all students in grades XI and XII who were willing to be respondents, while the exclusion criteria included students who were unwilling, sick, unable to attend, or withdrew from the study. This research was conducted at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency, in July 2024. The independent variable of this study is the role of peers and mass media, while the dependent variable is knowledge about early marriage. The data collection method applied includes observation and the use of questionnaires. The instrument of this research is a questionnaire that measures the level of knowledge, the role of peers, and the role of mass media, using the Likert scale.

Results

1. Characteristics Responden

Table 2. Respondent characteristics by gender and age

Category	Sum (N)	Percentage (%)
Gender		
1. Woman	70	74,5%
2. Man	24	25,5%
Total	94	100%
Age		
1. 16 Years	5	5,3%
2. 17 Years	44	46,8%
3. 18 Years	41	43,6%
4. 19 years	4	4,3%
Total	94	100%

Based on the table above, it is known that most of the respondents are women, with the number reaching 70 people or 74.5%, while only 24 people are men, which is 25.5%. In terms of age, the majority of respondents were 17 years old, as many as 44 people (46.8%), followed by those who were 18 years old, as many as 41 people (43.6%). Only a small percentage of respondents were 16 years old (5.3%) or 19 years old (4.3%). Overall, the data shows that the majority of respondents are women and most are in the age range of 17 to 18 years.

2. Univariate Test Results

Table 3. Univariate test results of the variables of the role of peers, mass media and knowledge

Category	Sum (N)	Percentage (%)
Peers		
1. Role	40	42,6%
2. No Role	54	57,4%
Total	94	100%
Medium Mass		
1. Role	45	47,9%
2. No Role	49	52,1%
Total	94	100%
Knowledge		
1. Bad	23	24,5%
2. Good	71	75,5%
Total	94	100%

Based on the table above, it is known that most of the respondents feel that their peers do not play a role (57.4%) and the mass media also do not play a role (52.1%). However, more respondents felt that mass media played a role (47.9%) compared to their peers (42.6%). In terms of knowledge, the majority of respondents (75.5%) rated their knowledge as good, while 24.5% felt that their knowledge was not good. In general, knowledge was perceived as more positive by most respondents compared to the role of peers and mass media.

3. Bivariate Test Results

Bivariate analysis was used to assess the relationship between knowledge level, peer role, and the role of mass media with early marriage using the chi-square test and Prevalence Odds Ratio (POR) at a confidence level of 95% ($\alpha = 0.05$), to determine whether these factors affect early marriage.

Table 4. Chi-Square Test Results of Factors Related to Early Marriage Knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok

No.	Variable	Early Marriage Knowledge				Sum		P	BY (95% CI)
		Bad		Good		n	%		
1.		n	%	n	%				
	The Role of Peers							0,017	0,286
	No Role	5	12,5%	35	87,5%	40	42,6%		(0,096-0,854)
	Role	18	33,3%	36	66,7%	54	57,4%		
2.	The Role of Mass Media							0,404	0,791
	No Role	10	22,2%	35	77,8%	45	47,9%		(0,307-2,039)
	Role	13	26,5%	36	73,5%	49	52,1%		

1. Based on the table above, it shows that the role of peers and the mass media has a different relationship with early marriage knowledge. For peer roles, there was a significant relationship with early marriage knowledge, with a p-value of 0.017 which was less than 0.05, indicating that peers who played roles were more often associated with good early marriage knowledge. The Prevalence Odds Ratio (POR) of 0.286 (95% CI: 0.096-0.854) showed that respondents with peers who played a role had a 0.3 times greater tendency to have good knowledge of early marriage than those who did not play a role.
2. In contrast, for the role of mass media, the p-value of 0.404 was greater than 0.05, which showed no significant relationship between the role of mass media and early marriage knowledge. A POR of 0.791 (95% CI: 0.307-2.039) shows that the role of mass media does not have a clear tendency in influencing early marriage knowledge

Discussion

1. The Relationship between the Role of Peers and Early Marriage Knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency in 2024

Based on table 4.6, the results of the cross-tabulation test show that respondents who have friends who do not play a role are less likely to have 5 respondents with poor early marriage knowledge with a percentage of 12.5%, when compared to respondents who have good early marriage knowledge. Meanwhile, respondents who had friends who played a role less in respondents with good early marriage knowledge were 18 people with a percentage of 33.3%, when compared to respondents who had poor early marriage knowledge.

Based on the results of the chi square test, it was found that the P value ($0.017 < \alpha (0.05)$), meaning that H_0 was rejected, there was a relationship between the role of peers and early marriage knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok. The results of the *Prevalence Odds Ratio* test obtained a value of 0.286, which means that the role of peers has a tendency level 0.3 times greater than that of those who do not have peers with knowledge of the age of early marriage.

According to Jahja 2011 in (16) that peers are the first social environment where adolescents learn to know new things with others, who are not their family. "A peer environment is

a social unit consisting of two or more individuals who have had quite intensive and regular social interactions that have a commensurate age.

The negative impact of early marriage is one of the causes of the high divorce rate because their psychology is mature so that they tend to be unstable, relationships with in-laws are not suitable, infidelity and cannot adapt well with husbands or wives and extended families. Early marriage also causes children to drop out of school or not be able to continue their education because married people already have to work to go to school.

From the results of previous researchers, on the peer influence variable of 40 respondents who were negative about peer influence, there were 36 respondents (92.3%) who got married at an age Factors related to early marriage in adolescent women 21 Journal of Midwifery Volume 7, Number 1, January 2021 early while of the 38 respondents who were positive for peer influence, there were 35 respondents (89.7%) who did not marry at an early age. Based on the results of the study, $p=0.000$ was obtained, which means that there is a meaningful relationship between peer influence and early marriage. The value of $OR = 105,000$, then adolescents with negative peer influence are at risk of 105,000 times of early marriage compared to adolescents with positive peer influence.

As for the researcher's opinion, it is stated that peers play a role with the knowledge of early marriage in line with the researcher mentioned above, namely the correlation relationship shows the direction of correlation (+) which means that the greater the value of one variable, the greater the value of other variables.

2. The Relationship between the Role of Mass Media and Early Marriage Knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency in 2024

Based on table 4.6, the results of the cross-tabulation test showed that respondents who used mass media that did not play a role were less likely to be 10 respondents with poor early marriage knowledge with a percentage of 22.2%, when compared to respondents who had good early marriage knowledge. Meanwhile, respondents who used mass media played a smaller role in respondents with good early marriage knowledge as many as 13 people with a percentage of 26.5%, when compared to respondents who had poor early marriage knowledge.

Based on the results of the chi square test, the relationship between the role of mass media and early marriage knowledge was found that the P value ($0.404 > \alpha (0.05)$), meaning that H_0 was accepted, there was no relationship between the role of mass media and early marriage knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok.

Mass media is a tool used to convey source messages to its recipients both through written media (newspapers, magazines, bulletins and tabloids) and through electronic means (films, radio and television). Media exposure is one of the behavioral triggers that can trigger a person's curiosity to watch adult content. A person's exposure to information can change a person's knowledge, attitudes, and behaviors. The more sources of information you acquire, the more knowledge you have. Exposure to information such as reproductive health and contraceptive methods is associated with premarital sexual behavior among adolescents. Premarital sexual behavior is one of the factors in the occurrence of early marriage (17)

According to the results of previous researchers on *the Pearson product moment correlation test*, the significance value is $0.003 < 0.005$. Therefore, it can be said that there is a significant relationship between the mass media and early marriage in Curahkalong Bangsalsari Village, so in this case H_a is accepted, H_0 is rejected.

Looking at the Pearson correlation score (r calculated) obtained at 0.357 which can be interpreted as r calculation is greater than r table, considering that the r of the table is 0.2940 ($N-2$

= 43) so the value is $0.357 > 0.2940$ shows that there is a relationship between mass media and early marriage in Curahkalong Bangsalsari village. Therefore H_a is approved while H_0 is rejected.

According to the researcher's opinion, the relationship between mass media and the knowledge of early marriage of high school teenagers is currently very tied, where teenagers easily get access to information about matters related to early marriage events in the community. Therefore, family support and the role of parents in this case are very important in supervising adolescents in the use of gadgets. Parental attention can also provide good education to adolescents related to sex education from an early age, regarding the impact and risks that will occur.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the research on Factors Related to Early Marriage Knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok, West Bangka Regency in 2024

1. Based on the results of the statistical test using chi-square, the p value of 0.017 is smaller than the α - value (0.05), which means that there is a relationship between the role of peers and the knowledge of early marriage at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok
2. Based on the results of the statistical test using chi-square, a p value of 0.404 was obtained more than α - value (0.05), meaning that there was no relationship between the role of mass media and early marriage knowledge at SMA Negeri 1 Mentok

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