

ANALYSIS OF THE CAUSES OF EARLY MARRIAGE (CASE STUDY IN PENYAMUN VILLAGE, PEMALI DISTRICT IN 2024)

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Abstract

According to Indonesia's Central Statistics Agency, the rate of early marriage in Bangka Belitung increased sharply from 14.22% in 2018, to 15.48% in 2019, and reached 18.78% in 2020, making it the highest in Indonesia. Based on a May 2024 survey in Penyamun Village, Pemali District, early marriage in this area is generally triggered by promiscuity that causes pregnancy out of wedlock. As a result, many teenagers are married in series by their parents. This study aims to analyze the causes of early marriage in Penyamun Village with qualitative methods and phenomenological approaches. The findings of the study show that the attitude and relationship of parents that are not harmonious and indifference to children are the main factors. Teens who feel less attention from their parents often seek attention from male friends, potentially leading to pregnancy out of wedlock. In addition, the surrounding environment that does not support higher education and early marriage is considered a solution for adolescents who get pregnant out of wedlock. This condition is exacerbated by parents who choose to marry their children to avoid social stigma. Overall, factors such as disharmonious parental relationships, social environmental patterns, and out-of-wedlock pregnancies contributed significantly to the high rate of early marriage in Penyamun Village

Keywords: Early Marriage, Penyamun Village, Underage

Introduction

According to the World Health Organization, the definition of early marriage is a marriage that occurs between a couple or one of the male and female couples who are still children or adolescents under the age of 19 (1). Early marriage has a negative impact on unfulfilled psychological conditions. Its impact on health can increase maternal and infant mortality rates so that it is susceptible to complications during pregnancy, childbirth, and postpartum. Socially it reduces freedom of expression, narrows the scope of social communication, and provides shame due to pregnancy out of wedlock. The economic impact can be in the form of low economic conditions such as many teenagers who are unable to live independently, still face difficulties and depend on their parents for their lives (2). Early marriage occurs due to various factors, such as economic factors, educational factors, knowledge level factors, and pregnancy factors outside of marriage. Then cultural and religious factors adopted by the community can also encourage early marriage. Incidents like this are a burden for the future on the younger generation, because they are the next generation who must be educated in educational schools and colleges (3) from the research conducted (4).

This is the same as the results of the study that the factors that cause early marriage are social patterns, arranged marriage, economic factors, pregnancy out of wedlock, and personal desires. Similar research results were also conducted by (5). Based on data obtained from the United Nations

Children's Fund (UNICEF) in 2023, Indonesia ranks fourth in child marriage overall with a total of 25.53 million cases after India, Bangladesh, and China (6). According to the Central Statistics Agency of Indonesia (BPS), the rate of early marriage in 2018 in Bangka Belitung was 14.22 percent, and Bangka Belitung ranked eighth out of 34 provinces (7).

Early marriage certainly has an impact on the high fertility and mortality rates in Indonesia. The birth rate will be high because the woman's productive age is long enough to be able to give birth healthily or the woman is still in her teens and is not ready to get pregnant and give birth. In addition, the causative factor of the impact felt from early marriage is that it can affect the parenting pattern and the child's environment in the future because it depends on the lack of mental preparation of parents. Because our duty as prospective parents must be able to provide the right educational pattern to our children because it greatly affects the growth and development of children both physically and psychologically.

Based on the above phenomenon, researchers pay attention to the dynamics that occur in adolescent marriage and the impact that occurs due to early marriage. In addition, this study also aims to describe and analyze the incidence of early marriage due to parental attitudes and relationships, environmental influences, and cases of out-of-wedlock pregnancy around Penyamun Village. Based on the results of a researcher survey conducted in May 2024 on young married young women. They say that early marriage occurs at this age due to promiscuity, which causes them to get pregnant out of wedlock, and then their parents marry them even though they are underage. Based on the background of the problem, the researcher wants to study the case of early marriage in Penyamun Village, Pemali Regency.

Method

This study uses a qualitative method with a phenomenological approach and case study techniques to study early marriage in Penyamun Village, Pemali District, Bangka Regency. The goal is to describe the phenomenon of early marriage in the village. The research was carried out from June to July 2024. The main variable was early marriage, with the main informants consisting of 8 young married girls and 8 of their parents, as well as supporting informants such as a kiyai, village community leaders, and village midwives. Data collection techniques include structured and in-depth interviews, direct observation, and documentation. This method aims to collect complete information about the causes and conditions of early marriage in Penyamun Village

Results

Table 1. Characteristics of Key Informants: Teenagers Who Engage in Early Marriage and Parents of Informants and Supporting Informants

| No | Initials | Date of Birth | Date of Marriage | Marriage at KUA/Siri | Age at Marriage |
|---|--------------------------|---------------|------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Adolescent Girls Who Have Early Marriage | | | | | |
| 1 | IU 1 | 12-08-2006 | 10-12-2023 | Siri | 17 Years |
| 2 | IU 2 | 21-12-2007 | 12-12-2021 | Siri | 14 Years |
| 3 | IU 3 | 15-10-2006 | 05-11-2023 | Siri | 17 Years |
| 4 | IU 4 | 10-08-2006 | 15-10-2020 | Siri | 14 Years |
| 5 | IU 5 | 05-11-2007 | 16-11-2021 | Siri | 14 Years |
| 6 | IU 6 | 22-12-2007 | 20-10-2021 | Siri | 14 Years |
| 7 | IU 7 | 16-10-2006 | 25-08-2023 | Siri | 17 Years |
| 8 | IU 8 | 05-06-2006 | 15-07-2023 | Siri | 17 Years |
| Parents of Adolescent Girls in Early Marriage | | | | | |
| 9 | IU 9 | | | | 44 Years |
| 10 | IU 10 | | | | 44 Years |
| 11 | IU 11 | | | | 40 Years |
| 12 | IU 12 | | | | 46 Years |
| 13 | IU 13 | | | | 45 Years |
| 14 | IU 14 | | | | 43 Years |
| 15 | IU 15 | | | | 47 Years |
| 16 | IU 16 | | | | 44 Years |
| Supporting Informant | | | | | |
| 17 | IP 1 (Religious Leader) | | | | 68 Years |
| 18 | IP 2 (Community Leaders) | | | | 54 Years |
| 19 | IP 3 (Village Midwife) | | | | 26 Years |

Keterangan :

IU = Lead Informant

IP = Supporting Informant

Interview Results

From the results of interviews with the main informant and the Supporter of the child's attitude and relationship with parents who lack interest and lack of attention to their children's daily activities, it is a factor that causes the incidence of early marriage in Penyamun Village, Pemali Regency. Inconsistent parental attitudes and relationships make children, especially young women, look for a place to escape so that they can talk about their problems. If the child has a boyfriend or a male friend who can be a conversation partner, he will tell the male friend everything. Time is a matter of time until they get closer and dare to move on. Sikap dan hubungan orang tua terhadap anak dalam keluarga yang berantakan. Kurangnya kasih sayang membuat anak mencari tempat yang nyaman di luar rumah, mencari kasih sayang yang lebih menarik perhatiannya. Then the pattern of the surrounding environment is one of the causes of early marriage in Penyamun, Pemali District, most villagers think that marrying their children at an early age is better than pregnancy in marriage. Early marriage in Penyamun Village is considered common and commonplace, so it is not surprising that many young women in Penyamun Village are ready to get married at an early age or underage. Because of this cause, among teenagers who marry young, as well as factors that support many of their friends who marry young because they do not want to continue school, nor do they want to date first, because they are afraid of getting pregnant out of wedlock, this is one of the drivers for teenagers in the village to get married at an early age. As well as the results of in-depth interviews with the main

informant and supporting informants, it can be concluded that the case of early marriage that occurred in Penyamun Village was caused because many young women experienced pregnancy out of wedlock, then the young women were inevitably married in series by their parents because they were still minors.

Discussion

1. Early Marriage

Early marriage is a marriage carried out by all couples who have not met the age provisions that have been determined by legal norms. Early marriage is also called a marriage dispensation, which is a marriage that occurs to a couple or candidate who wants to get married at an age below the standard age of marriage that has been set by the legal rules of marriage (8). Early marriage is a marriage carried out by a couple of teenage boys and girls with a man under 21 years old and a woman under 19 years old (9). Menurut WHO, pernikahan dini adalah pernikahan yang melibatkan pasangan yang berusia di bawah 19 tahun. According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), early marriage is a marriage that is carried out before the age of 18, either officially or not (10). According to the Indonesian Law, marriage is only valid if the man is at least 19 years old and the woman is at least 16 years old. If the age is below that, then it is called early marriage. There are several things to consider before getting married early. Before getting married early, you should prepare yourself well to face the challenges of married life and prevent negative impacts that may occur. The things that must be considered before getting married early are; have emotional maturity, more than just love, have knowledge, the ability to fulfill responsibilities and readiness to receive children (11).

2. Factors Causing Early Marriage

a. Early Marriage due to Poor Attitude and Relationship with Parents

Based on the results of the research obtained through interviews with the main informants, namely teenagers involved in early marriage and their parents in Penyamun Village, it was found that there was a disharmony in the attitude and relationship between parents and teenagers. These teenage children do not get adequate attention from both of their parents, so they seek attention outside the home. They were looking for a place to share their grievances, which happened to be found through closeness with male friends. The attention given by such close friends makes teens feel more cared for and free to act, which ultimately contributes to their decision to get married at an early age.

This is in accordance with the theory (12), Parents' attitudes not only have a strong influence on family relationships but also on children's attitudes and behaviors. Most people succeed as adults, coming from families where their parents have a positive attitude that the relationship between them and their parents is healthy. Then it is the same as the results of the previous research by (Khaufi, Silva, 2023) The role of parents in their adolescent life is greatly influenced by the way parents interact with their adolescents. Communication between parents and adolescents is not only in the form of verbal communication, but also non-verbal communication. For example, parents must be able to recognize the gestures made by their teenagers, because adolescents who behave deviantly will show behavioral changes in their daily lives.

The researcher assumes that the results of the study analyzing early marriage with the attitude and relationship of parents in Penyamun Village are very influential because the attitude and relationship between parents and children or adolescents is not healthy, communication between parents and adolescents is not harmonious and parents who are not

attentive followed by adolescents who commit deviations by seeking attention outside, namely close male friends or called girlfriends can cause early marriage in adolescents aforementioned.

b. Early Marriage due to association or surrounding environment

From the results of interviews with the main informants, namely teenagers and parents of teenagers who got married early in Penyamun Village, it was known that teenagers got married at an early age because many of their schoolmates who were still in junior high school were married, they did not want to continue school. In addition, they also don't want to date for too long because they are afraid of getting pregnant out of wedlock. Their parents also have the same worries, rather than getting pregnant out of wedlock, it is better to be married regardless of the age of their young children because in the village environment it is considered a common thing to get married at a minor age, related to the assumption of the teenage parents, justified by supporting informants, whether it is from religious leaders, community leaders and health workers in Penyamun village.

According to Juliawati (2023) The environment is all the conditions that exist about a person and their impact on the growth and behavior of a person or group. According to statistics, the environment such as parents, siblings, relatives and associations with friends also have an impact on adolescents and have an impact on adolescent marriage. Previous research conducted by (15) Stating that in many areas, parents are often under pressure to marry their daughters as soon as possible to avoid them being sexually active before marriage (pregnancy out of wedlock), women being "branded" in this way will reduce the dignity of the family and the local community.

Researchers assume that the environment in Penyamun Village is one of the factors for early marriage. From the environment of friends who no longer want to continue their education to a higher level, they choose to get married young. So that among the teenagers who get married young in the village choose to follow in the footsteps of their friends, they also do not want to date for too long because they are afraid of getting pregnant. Their parents also agreed that their child should marry young, with the reason that marrying young is considered commonplace. They also do not want their children to get pregnant out of wedlock. In some other cases, there are also early marriages that occur due to the will of parents to force their children to get married even though they are not old enough. Most parents like this are because they feel uneasy, worried, and afraid if unwanted things happen and can cause the family to be tarnished. Therefore, when parents force their children to marry at a young or immature age, the children tend to comply. Some people still believe that they are obliged to find a partner for their daughter when the child is an adult. They feel anxious if their daughter is not married, especially if the child already has a lover, because they are afraid that the relationship could harm the family's reputation. If the child is married, parents often feel that their daughter is no longer their responsibility. In addition, parents' low knowledge about early marriage can also influence their decision to marry children at a young age, especially if they lack an understanding of reproductive health and other aspects related to marriage.

c. Early Marriage due to Pregnancy Outside Marriage

From the results of interviews with the main informants, both parents and adolescents as well as those who have early marriage in Penyabandit Village, it is known that 4 out of 8 adolescent respondents who have early marriage are caused by pregnancy out of wedlock. Early marriage by analyzing pregnancy outside of marriage many teenagers who are already pregnant or in the third trimester are just opening up with their parents. The parents of the teenagers also resigned themselves to not being able to hide their feelings after finding out that their child was pregnant and immediately married their child to the man who had impregnated their child. Even though they know that their children are still minors, they still marry their children in series.

Pregnancy out of wedlock In this case, a couple of men and women are forced to get married at an early age (early marriage) because the woman must have been pregnant out of wedlock before.

According to Rizky Yunneke, (2019) If a daughter becomes pregnant, then a marriage occurs between the two. Of course, fathers also want a man who will be in charge of their daughter and she will soon get married to cover up the family's disgrace. The results of the research conducted by Rakhmadani Yuniar (2022) It also shows that pregnancy outside of marriage is not expected by parents to their children. When parents find out that the girl is pregnant out of wedlock, of course the parents will feel very upset, disappointed in their son. Many emotions are felt by parents when they find out that their child is pregnant out of wedlock. There were feelings of sadness and anger, disappointment, shock, confusion, a feeling of hopelessness, then there was his rejection of the fact that his child was conceived out of wedlock. Parents also feel that getting pregnant out of wedlock can be a problem of family stigma in the eyes of the community. So parents want to demand immediate responsibility from the man who impregnated their child so that they can get married soon.

The researcher's assumption is that one of the problems that arise is sexual relations under the age of 18 years, which includes sexual relations such as husbands and wives outside of marriage. This action is often related to indecent behavior triggered by promiscuity and lack of attention from parents. Promiscuity by adolescents can result in serious consequences, such as pregnancy out of wedlock, which ultimately encourages adolescents to get married, even though they are still very young. When they are dating, they are tempted by negative things so they have sexual intercourse outside of marriage and result in pregnancy. The teenagers who got married at an early age, found out about their pregnancy after being pregnant and only dared to tell their parents about their pregnancy. In order to maintain the relationship and take responsibility for what they have done, they finally get married at an early age

Conclusion

Early marriage, which is carried out by couples under the legal age, is influenced by several factors in Penyamun Village, Pemali District. Parents' harsh attitudes and lack of attention encourage children to seek attention outside the home, often with their partners, which can eventually lead to early marriage. In addition, the view of the local community that marrying a child is better than getting pregnant out of wedlock makes early marriage an accepted solution. Pregnancy out of wedlock is also a driving factor, where parents often choose to marry their children in series as a way out.

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