

Overview of Knowledge and Attitude of Adolescents Towards Free Sex in the Pannampu District, Makassar City

Nurhayati¹

¹ D-3 Nursing Study Program Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Kesehatan Makassar

*Correspondence: Nurhayati

INFO

Submitted: 12-10-2022,

Revised: 26-10-2022,

Accepted: 20-12-2022

ABSTRACT

Problems that are often experienced by teenagers today are issues surrounding sexuality, especially premarital sex or free sex. Data from the World Health Organization (WHO), which conducted research in several developing countries, shows that around 40% of young men and young women aged 18 years have had sex even without being married. Based on research in various big cities in Indonesia, around 20 to 30% of teenagers admit to having had sex. The aim of the research was to determine the description of teenagers' knowledge and attitudes towards free sex in Pannampu Village, Makassar City. The type of research is descriptive observational. The sample in the research was 98 teenagers aged 13-18 years in Pannampu Village, Makassar City, using proportional random sampling techniques. The results showed that based on knowledge, the majority of respondents had less knowledge about free sex, namely 58 people (59.2%), while based on attitude, the majority of respondents had a positive attitude towards free sex behavior, namely 66 people (67.3%). Based on the results of the research, it was concluded that knowledge can influence teenagers' attitudes towards engaging in free sex. The better teenagers' knowledge about free sex, the better their attitudes and behavior will be in avoiding free sexual behavior. It is recommended that health workers provide education about the dangers of free sex to teenagers to increase teenagers' knowledge about the impacts that can be caused by free sex.

Keywords: *Knowledge, Attitudes, Free Sex in Adolescents*

INTRODUCTION

Adolescence or adolescence comes from the Latin word "adolescence" which means "to grow" or "to grow into adulthood". According to Piaget, adolescence is the age at which individuals begin to integrate into adult society. Individuals no longer feel below the level of older people but are at the same level. According to WHO (World Health Organization), it is called a teenager if a child has reached the age of 10-18 years (Proverawati A & Misaroh S, 2009).

At adolescence, a child cannot take full responsibility for the things they do because there is no clear sexual education from various parties, which gives rise to various sexual problems. In adolescence, the sexual urge that arises will become more intense or wilder if you are not given guidance, in this case education about sex. The education provided should be related to the norms that apply in society, what is prohibited, what is common and how to do it without violating the rules that apply in society (Sarwono WS, 2012).

Problems that are often experienced by teenagers today are issues surrounding sexuality, especially premarital sex or free sex. Premarital sex or casual sex is a phenomenon that is becoming more common every day. This is proven by several studies which show that 20 years ago only around 1.2% - 9.6% agreed to premarital sex, then 10 years later it rose to above 10% and 5 years later that figure rose to 17% (Mangado N.E, 2014).

Based on data from the World Health Organization (WHO), which conducted research in several developing countries, it shows that around 40% of young men and young women aged 18 years have had sex even without being married. As a result of premarital sexual relations, around 12% have tested positive for sexually transmitted diseases, around 27% have tested positive for HIV, and 30% of young women have become pregnant, half of them have given birth but the other

half have had abortions (Mangado N.E, 2014).

Free sex among teenagers can be described based on research in various big cities in Indonesia, around 20 to 30% of teenagers admit to having had sex. The Indonesian Demographic and Health Survey (SDKI) shows that around 16.9% of women agree to have premarital sex and around 12.4% of men agree. Around 11% of men who have not completed elementary school agree to premarital sex while 8.8% of men who have completed high school agree to premarital sex, around 4.9% of women who have not completed elementary school agree to premarital sex and 4.5% of women who have completed high school agree to pre-marital sex (Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, 2012).

Data from the National Commission for Child Protection stated that from 4,726 respondents from middle school and high school students in 17 big cities, the results showed that 97% of teenagers had watched pornographic films and 93.7% had kissed, touched their genitals or had oral sex. As many as 62.7% of junior high school teenagers are not virgins and 21.2% of teenagers admit to having had an abortion (Arif G, 2011).

In South Sulawesi, free sexual behavior is the main cause of the high number of HIV/AIDS cases. In 2015 there were 844 new HIV sufferers and 486 people with AIDS, in 2016 there were 874 new HIV sufferers and 687 new AIDS sufferers with a total of 425 deaths (South Sulawesi Provincial Health Office, 2016).

There are several factors that encourage teenagers to have sex outside of marriage, including the influence of liberalism or promiscuity, environmental and family factors and the influence of the development of mass media. The flow of information through mass media can be in the form of magazines, newspapers, tabloids or electronic media such as radio, television and computers (Sarwono WS, 2012).

Free sex that occurs among teenagers is also greatly influenced by teenagers' knowledge about the dangers of free sex, as well as attitudes towards free sex that is widespread among teenagers. Low knowledge will influence teenagers' attitudes towards free sex as well as the strong influence of peers and the social environment, causing teenagers to have unhealthy sexual actions which ultimately puts them at risk of being infected with various kinds of sexually transmitted diseases, including HIV and AIDS (Mangado N.E, 2014).

The results of research conducted by Rumbory S (2012), which involved 511 class I, class II and class III students of SMA Negeri 1 Bula Seram Bangian Timur Ambon Regency, showed that 217 respondents (96.9%) had sufficient knowledge and less than 7 people (3.1%), 221 people (98.7%) had a positive attitude and 3 people (1.3%) had a negative attitude, while 203 people (90.6%) understood about free sex and did not understand about free sex 21 people (9.4%).

Data obtained from the Pannampu Subdistrict government, Makassar City, shows that the number of teenagers aged 13-19 years is 4,185 people. The number of teenagers in ORW 001 was 756 people (men = 421 people, women = 335 people), ORW 002 was 443 people (men = 241 people, women = 202 people), ORW 003 was 453 people (men = 236 people, women = 217 people), ORW 004 as many as 968 people (men = 502 people, women = 466 people), ORW 005 as many as 1,007 people (men = 522 people, women = 485 people), and ORW 006 as many as 558 people (men = 295 people, women = 263 people) (Human Resource Potential Data, Pannampu Village, Makassar City, 2017).

METHODS

This type of research is descriptive observational research. This research was carried out in Pannampu Village, Makassar City. The population in this study were teenagers aged 13-18 years in Pannampu Village, Makassar City, totaling 4,185 people. The sample in this study was 98 teenagers aged 13-18 years in Pannampu Village, Makassar City. The instrument in this research is a questionnaire. The knowledge and casual sex variables were measured using the Guttman scale, while the attitude variables were measured using the Likert scale. The analysis used in this research is univariate analysis, namely analysis carried out on each research result variable. This analysis produces a presentation of each variable studied using the computerized SPSS program.

RESULTS

Description of Adolescents' Knowledge of Free Sex

Table 1. Description of Adolescents' Knowledge of Free Sexual Behavior in Pannampu Subdistrict, Makassar City, 2017

Teen Knowledge	Free Sexual Behavior				Total	
	Once		Never			
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Not Enough	21	36,2	37	63,8	58	100,0
Enough	26	65,0	14	35,0	40	100,0
Total	47	48,0	51	52,0	98	100,0

Source: Primary Data

Table 1 shows that of the 98 respondents studied, 58 respondents had less knowledge, 21 people (36.2%) had had free sex and 37 people (63.8%) had never had free sex. Meanwhile, there were 40 respondents who had sufficient knowledge, 26 people (65.0%) had had free sex and 14 people (35.0%) had never had free sex.

Description of Adolescents' Attitudes towards Casual Sex

Table 2. Description of Adolescents' Attitudes towards Free Sexual Behavior in Pannampu Village

Adolescent Attitudes	Free Sexual Behavior				Total	
	Once		Never			
	n	%	n	%	n	%
Negative	15	62,5	12	37,5	32	100,0
Positive	27	40,9	39	59,1	66	100,0
Total	47	48,0	51	52,0	98	100,0

Source: Primary Data

Table 2 shows that of the 98 respondents studied, 32 respondents had negative attitudes, 15 people (62.5%) had had free sex and 12 people (37.5%) had never had free sex. Meanwhile, 66 respondents who had a positive attitude, 27 people (40.9%) had had free sex and 39 people (59.1%) had never had free sex.

DISCUSSION

Respondent Characteristics

The research results showed that of the 98 respondents studied, the maximum age was 17 years, namely 32 people (32.7%). This age is middle adolescence where at this stage teenagers really need friends, have feelings of liking for the opposite sex, feel happy that many friends like them. At this age, teenagers are very vulnerable to promiscuity and it is easier to receive information from outside, especially about sexual matters. This is due to increasingly sophisticated technological developments, making it easier for teenagers to access information about sex inappropriately. Sometimes in print media there is also pornographic content which will dominate the minds of teenagers who are not strong enough to control their emotional thoughts, because they are not yet allowed to have real sex.

Based on gender, the majority of respondents were women, namely 56 people (57.1%). Basically, most of those who experience losses due to sexual relations outside marriage are women. For women, sex is a relationship that is considered sacred and involves all of their deepest feelings. For men, sex is just a physical relationship that is not considered serious without any feelings. However, in certain cases, there is often an excessive feeling of affection and love so that one is willing to give anything to the person one loves or cares about, including one's virginity. Women are much more at risk than men. It is hoped that sexual decisions will be made maturely, so that they do not cause harm to themselves or their parents.

Meanwhile, based on education, the majority of respondents were high school, namely 69 people (70.4%). A person's level of education will influence knowledge, where the higher a person's education, the better the knowledge they have. The higher a person's education, the faster

he or she will receive information.

A person's level of education can influence their knowledge, where the higher a person's education, the better the knowledge they have. Teenagers who have good knowledge about the risks of free sex will tend to avoid things that can make them fall into promiscuity which can have an impact on free sex.

Description of Adolescents' Knowledge of Free Sex in Pannampu Village, Makassar City

Knowledge is the result of knowing and this occurs after people sense a particular object. Knowledge is something that is known related to the learning process. This learning process is influenced by various internal factors, such as motivation and external factors in the form of available information facilities, as well as socio-cultural conditions.

The research results showed that of the 98 respondents studied, 58 respondents had less knowledge, 21 people (36.2%) had had free sex. This is due to the lack of information that teenagers get about free sex, both from parents or family and from teenagers' social circles, as well as the existence of various misleading information about sex which gives rise to misperceptions and a deep curiosity about sex. This can be seen in the results of the summary of respondents' answers to the questionnaire, where respondents who have less knowledge do not know the factors that cause and psychological impacts resulting from free sexual behavior, and most respondents who have less knowledge do not know what free sex is, what factors there are, which can influence free sexual behavior, as well as the risks that will be faced if you have free sex.

However, the research results found that 37 people (63.8%) had never had casual sex, even though they had insufficient knowledge. This can be caused by the role of parents who always provide guidance and instill religious values in their children from a young age and always help provide appropriate solutions when their children face problems so that the children feel they receive good love from their family. With moral guidance and sincere love and good attention from parents, children will always be open when facing problems so that it will keep them away from promiscuity which has an impact on free sexual behavior which is rampant among teenagers today. So even though teenagers still don't know well about free sex, they can avoid things that could lead them to promiscuity because of good religious values.

Meanwhile, there were 40 respondents who had sufficient knowledge, 14 people (35.0%) had never had casual sex. What researchers mean by sufficient knowledge is respondents who understand and comprehend premarital sex, forms of premarital sex, factors that encourage and impact premarital sex and the consequences of casual sex. Sufficient knowledge can be obtained through sex education provided by parents, teachers, social circles and information from internet media. The knowledge factor plays an important role in the development of sexual behavior in adolescents. With sufficient knowledge, it is hoped that adolescents can avoid things that can lead them to promiscuous sexual behavior.

However, the research results found that 26 people (65.0%) had had free sex, even though they had sufficient knowledge. This is because a teenager who engages in free sex is not only influenced by knowledge, but also by several other factors such as disharmonious family conditions and the environmental conditions in which teenagers socialize. This condition can influence teenagers to fall into promiscuity, because a teenager who has a disharmonious family will cause them to prefer hanging out outside the home with their friends so they will be easily influenced by things that lead to free sexual behavior. Teenagers will easily follow what their friends say, especially if it is spiced up with the words "ah, you're not social" or "if you're not like this, you can't be my friend" and other persuasions and threats. This will force teenagers to do things they may not like but try to do for the sake of "prestige".

The results of this research are in line with the results of research conducted by Handayani S & Setyawan F (2015), concerning "Illustration of Knowledge and Premarital Sex Attitudes in Students of SMAN I Kandanghaur Indramayu. Faculty of Public Health, Wiralodra University", The results of the research showed that 83 people (34.3%) had good knowledge and 159 people (65.7%) had poor knowledge.

The formation of new behavior, especially in adolescents, begins in the cognitive domain, in the sense that the subject first knows about the stimulus in the form of material/objects outside it which later contains new knowledge on the subject and is finally followed by behavior. The

better a person's level of knowledge will usually have healthy sexual behavior, and vice versa because the knowledge a person has will shape their personality and have an impact on their daily behavior. But not all teenagers who have good knowledge about premarital sex never engage in sexual behavior. This can happen because of the information obtained, most teenagers get information from the internet.

Teenagers can have premarital sex because they are driven by great curiosity to try everything they don't know. Half-hearted knowledge not only encourages teenagers to experiment, but can also give rise to misperceptions. However, the internal factors that most influence adolescent sexual behavior lead to premarital sexual behavior in adolescents developing sexual organs (Fitrianan N.G, 2011).

Knowledge plays an important role in the development of sexual behavior in adolescents. With good knowledge, teenagers will know the risks of free sex, for example unwanted pregnancies and the risk of death due to abortion. Apart from that, there are social impacts, feelings of stress and depression, social discrimination, trauma, and loss of rights in the social environment due to pregnancy out of wedlock (Mangado N.E. 2014).

Knowledge about sexuality can make individuals have healthy and responsible sexual attitudes and behavior, therefore teenagers who have a correct and proportional understanding of reproductive health tend to understand behavior and alternative methods that can be used to channel sexual urges in a healthy and responsible manner. (Rumbory S, 2012).

To increase teenagers' knowledge about casual sex, sex education can be provided which can be done gradually and continuously. Sex education to teenagers can be provided through counseling to increase teenagers' knowledge about the dangers of free sex.

Based on the discussion presented above, the researchers concluded that teenagers who have good knowledge about the dangers of free sex will tend to avoid free sexual behavior, on the other hand, teenagers who lack knowledge about the dangers of free sex tend to approach free sexual behavior.

Description of Adolescents' Attitudes towards Free Sex in Pannampu Village, Makassar City

Attitude is an individual's mental predisposition to evaluate a certain thing in some degree favorable or unfavorable. Attitude is closely related to a person's level of knowledge. A person's attitude towards an object shows the person's knowledge of the object in question.

The research results showed that of the 98 respondents studied, 32 respondents had negative attitudes, 15 people (62.5%) had had free sex. The negative attitude referred to in this research is how teenagers respond to free sexual behavior. Negative attitudes about free sexual behavior in teenagers are caused by a lack of knowledge about the dangers of free sex and a lack of attention from the family, especially parents. Teenagers' attitudes will determine their behavior towards and approaching free sexual behavior. The results of the research show that teenagers who have a negative attitude are more likely to approach things that lead to promiscuous sexual behavior. This can be seen in the results of respondents' answers to the questionnaire, where teenagers who have a negative attitude mostly say that holding hands, embracing, hugging, kissing the forehead/cheek, and kissing a girlfriend's lips are normal things, but there are no teenagers who have ever had intimate relations, because according to them, intimate relations can only be done if they are bound by marriage.

However, the research results found that 12 people (37.5%) had never had casual sex, even though they had a negative attitude. This is because their parents do not allow them to date because they are still teenagers, so parents always provide strict supervision to their children so that they do not fall into things that lead to promiscuous sexual behavior.

Meanwhile, 66 respondents who had a positive attitude, 39 people (59.1%) had never had casual sex. This is because most teenagers have the perception that sex should be done after a legal marriage is established and is permitted according to religion. They believe that having free sex or premarital sex as a teenager will have a bad impact on their future and mental development. A positive adolescent attitude towards free sexual behavior can bring teenagers to socialize in an environment that teaches good life values so that behavior that can encourage teenagers to engage in free sex can be avoided, on the other hand, a negative adolescent attitude can cause teenagers to approach free sexual behavior.

However, the research results found that 27 people (40.9%) had had free sex, even though they had a positive attitude. This is because free sexual behavior is based on the attitude of teenagers who have great curiosity, even though with the knowledge they have, they should be aware of the various risks they will face if they have free sex or sex outside of marriage. However, technological advances have made it easier for teenagers to access pornographic things, for example the large number of pornographic VCDs circulating freely in society and the existence of the internet which can be accessed at any time and by anyone, making it easier for teenagers to access pornographic sites. In the end, it makes them addicted to continuing and continuing to access it, giving rise to a desire to put it into practice in their lives.

results of this research are in line with the results of research conducted by Haryanti (2014), regarding "Illustration of Knowledge and Attitudes of Adolescents regarding the Dangers of Free Sex at SMA Negeri 1 Telaga", showing that of the 143 respondents studied, as many as 125 respondents (87.4%) had a good attitude about the dangers of free sex, and only 1 person (0.7%) had a poor attitude.

Attitude is a person's appreciation of something that can change with increasing information about the object, through persuasion and pressure from their social group which is an evaluative response based on a self-evaluation process which is concluded in the form of a positive or negative assessment which is then used as a potential reaction to the object where the attitude towards This free sex was formed not only because of moral and religious factors but also because of knowledge about sex itself.

Adolescent attitudes are related to adolescent behavior in responding to free sex. A positive attitude of teenagers towards free sexual behavior can bring teenagers to socialize in an environment that teaches good life values so that behavior that can encourage teenagers to engage in free sex can be avoided. Attitude is a form of evaluation or feeling reaction. A person's attitude towards an object is a feeling of support or a feeling of not supporting the object. Attitude formation does not occur by itself, but attitude formation always takes place in interaction and is related to certain objects. Interactions within groups and outside groups can change attitudes or form new attitudes (Mangado N.E, 2014).

Attitude will provide a stimulus for someone to act and behave in responding/responding. Adolescents who have a supportive attitude towards premarital sex tend to engage in sexual behavior ranging from holding hands to having intercourse, but adolescents who have an unsupportive attitude towards premarital sex tend not to engage in sexual behavior outside of marriage (Fitriani N.G. 2011).

Based on the discussion presented above, the researcher concluded that attitudes can be influenced by good knowledge, where with good knowledge, teenagers' attitudes and behavior regarding free sex will also be more positive.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of research regarding the description of teenagers' knowledge and attitudes towards free sex in Pannampu Village, Makassar City, it was concluded that; (1) Most of the respondents had insufficient knowledge about free sex, namely 58 people (59.2%); (2) The majority of respondents had a positive attitude about free sex, namely 66 people (67.3%); (3) Knowledge can influence teenagers' attitudes towards having free sex. The better teenagers' knowledge about free sex, the better their attitudes and behavior will be in avoiding free sex.

REFERENCES

- Agus M. 2011. Seks Bebas Menjadi Penyebab Utama. (Online). <http://regional.kompas.com/html>. Tanggal 18 Januari 2017.
- Arif G. 2011. *Remaja dan Permasalahannya*. Hanggar Kreator. Yogyakarta.
- BKKBN. 2013. *Tanya Jawab Kesehatan Reproduksi Remaja*. Yayasan Mitra Inti BKKBN. Jakarta.
- Budiman & Riyanto A. 2013. *Kapita Selekta Kuesioner Pengetahuan dan Sikap dalam Penelitian Kesehatan*. Salemba Medika. Jakarta.

- Data Potensi Sumber Daya Manusia Kelurahan Pannampu Kota Makassar. 2017. *Jumlah Remaja Usia 13-18 Tahun*. Kelurahan Pannampu Kota Makassar. Makassar.
- Dinkes Pemprov Sulsel. 2016. *Profil Kesehatan Provinsi Sulawesi Tahun 2014*. Dinas Kesehatan Provinsi Sulawesi Selatan. Makassar.
- Fitriani N.G. 2011. Hubungan Pengetahuan dan Sikap Tentang Seks Pranikah Dengan Perilaku Seksual Pada Siswa SMK XX Semarang. <http://e-journal.akbid-purworejo.ac.id/index.php/jkk4/article/view/59/57.html>. Tanggal 24 Februari 2017.
- Handayani S & Setyawan F, 2015. Gambaran Pengetahuan dengan Sikap Seks Pranikah Pada Siswa SMAN I Kandanghaur Indramayu. Fakultas Kesehatan Masyarakat Universitas Wiralodra. *Jurnal Kesehatan Masyarakat*, Vol.1, No.2 Agustus 2015. http://ejournal.unwir.ac.id/file.php?file=jurnal&id=559&cd=0b2173ff6ad6a6fb09c95f6d50001df6&name=sri_handayani_Agustus.pdf. Tanggal 15 April 2017.
- Haryanti. 2014. *Gambaran Pengetahuan dan Sikap Remaja tentang Bahaya Seks Bebas di SMA Negeri 1 Telaga Tahun 2012*. *Jurnal (Online)*. <http://eprints.ung.ac.id/1831/9/2012-2-14201-841408028-bab4-.pdf.html>. Diakses tanggal 15 April 2017
- Hidayat A.A.A. 2014. *Metode Penelitian Keperawatan dan Teknik Analisa Data*. Salemba Medika. Jakarta.
- Kementerian Kesehatan RI. 2012. *Kesehatan Reproduksi Remaja*. Survei Demografi dan Kesehatan Indonesia. Jakarta.
- Mangado N.E. 2014. Hubungan antara Pengetahuan dan Sikap Remaja dengan Tindakan Seks Pranikah pada Siswa Kelas XI di SMK Negeri 2 Manado. *Jurnal Kedokteran Komunitas dan Topik; Volume 11. Fakultas Kedokteran Universitas Samratulangi Manado*. <http://www.e-jurnal.com/2015/05/hubungan-antara-pengetahuan-dan-sikap.html.html>. Tanggal 18 Januari 2017.
- Notoatmodjo S. 2014. *Ilmu Perilaku Kesehatan*. Rineka Cipta. Jakarta.
- Pawenrusi E.P. dkk. 2016. *Pedoman Penulisan Skripsi Edisi 13*. Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu Kesehatan (STIK) Makassar. Makassar.
- Proverawati A & Misaroh S. 2009. *Menarche (Menstruasi Pertama Penuh Makna)*. Nuha Medika. Yogyakarta.
- Rumbory S. 2012. Hubungan Pengetahuan dan Sikap Remaja Tentang Seks Bebas di SMA Negeri 1 Bula Kabupaten Seram Bagian Timur Ambon. *Jurnal Keperawatan; Volume 2 Nomor 4 tahun 2013. ISSN; 20302-1721*. <http://docplayer.info/269697-Hubungan-pengetahuan-dan-sikap-remaja-tentang-seks-bebas-di-sma-negeri-1-bula-kabupaten-seram-bagian-timur-ambon.html>. Tanggal 18 Januari 2017.
- Sarwono W.S. 2012. *Psikologi Remaja*. PT. Rajagrafindo Persada.
- Wawan A & Dewi M. 2010. *Teori & Pengukuran Pengetahuan, Sikap, dan Perilaku Manusia; Dilengkapi dengan Contoh Kuesioner*. Nuha Medika. Yogyakarta.