



## THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN ADOLESCENT KNOWLEDGE AND THE ROLE OF PARENTS WITH ADOLESCENT RISKY SEXUAL BEHAVIOR IN BATUROK VILLAGE, SUMBAWA REGENCY

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### Abstract

**BACKGROUND** : These days teenagers relationship and dating styles tend to be risky and negative. The results of a preliminary studies showed that several teenagers conveyed their dating pattern, usually holding hands and hugging at school. It was known that not much reproductive health education given to students due to the meager condition of schools and villages. Based on data obtained from the local civil registry office, 30% of the 66 brides who registered marriages in 2020 were a teenagers. Meanwhile, there were data obtained from the Public Health Center showed that 18% by total 28 pregnant women who came for a general check up were a middle and late teens. In addition, the health worker in the village explained that in the last two years there have been several cases of teenagers being exposed to sexually transmitted infections, as well as unwanted pregnancies, some of that case was the result of abused by their parents. The purpose of this research was to analyze the relationship between adolescent knowledge and the role of parents with risky sexual behavior in adolescents in baturotok village, Sumbawa Regency. **METHOD** : the design of this research is using a cross sectional with a simple random sampling. The amount of the sample used in this research are 100 respondents. I spread the questionnaire directly across the students of this school. The independent variables of this research are adolescents knowledge and parents. And the dependent variable of this research is risky sexual behavior. This research is using Spearman rho statistical correlation analysis in SPSS 21.0 for windows. **RESULT** : The result of this research indicate that there was a correlation between adolescent knowledge toward a risky sexual behavior ( $p=0,000$ ,  $r_s=0,681$ ). There was no significant relationship between parents role and risky sexual behavior in Baturotok Village, Sumbawa Regency ( $p=0,551$ ,  $r_s=-0,060$ ). **CONCLUSION** : The higher level of knowledge of adolescents, the lower risk sexual behavior tends to be. Meanwhile, the role of parents did not have a significant influence on adolescents' risky sexual behavior in Baturotok Village, Sumbawa Regency. Accordingly, it is hoped that the government, teachers and health workers can work together in an effort to increase the knowledge of adolescents and their parents regarding the dangers and responsibilities of their sexual behavior.

keyword : adolescence, knowledge, parents, risky sexual behavior, reproductive health

### INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is a developmental period that is typically divided into three stages: early adolescence (11-13 years), middle adolescence (14-16 years), and late adolescence (17-20 years) (Sarwono, 2011). During the early adolescent phase, individuals tend to be preoccupied with their present circumstances and may exhibit

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sexual shyness and emerging attraction to the opposite sex. In middle adolescence, there is a narcissistic tendency to focus on oneself, and adolescents tend to be drawn to friends who share similar traits. During this phase, many adolescents also experience a desire to date and fantasize about sexual activities, leading some to engage in sexual behaviors. In the final phase of adolescence, individuals tend to focus on their future aspirations and may form a stable sexual identity. They also tend to become more accepting of the traditions and habits of their environment (Hurlock, 2011).

Adolescents' level of knowledge is one factor that influences their sexual behavior. Adolescents with inadequate knowledge about the risks of premarital sex are more likely to engage in sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) than those with adequate knowledge (Irianto, 2014). A study conducted by Pati Lestari et al. in 2018 at a high school in Sumbawa city showed a significant relationship between adolescents' level of knowledge and their sexual behavior. A preliminary study in Baturotok Village, Sumbawa Regency, showed similar results. According to data obtained from the KUA, 30% of the 66 individuals who registered for marriage in 2020 were underage teenagers, while data obtained from the Village Primary Health Center in 2020 showed that 18% of the total 28 pregnant women who sought pregnancy checks from midwives were middle and late adolescents. Furthermore, the village midwife reported several cases of STIs and unwanted pregnancies among teenagers, some of which resulted from abuse by their own parents, in the past two years.

The aforementioned facts demonstrate the significance of communication and parental supervision in adolescent relationships. Parents hold a crucial role in the decision-making process of adolescents, hence maintaining good communication with their children is of utmost importance to prevent them from engaging in risky relationships. Sharma, Meera, and Mufune (2011) suggested that basic rules should be implemented at home from an early age, such as setting curfews, teaching proper manners, monitoring friendships, and attending to children's needs.

The above data highlights the prevalence of promiscuity in Indonesia, not only in urban areas but also in remote villages. Therefore, researchers are interested in investigating the potential correlation between adolescent knowledge and parental

influence on adolescent sexual behavior in Baturotok village, Sumbawa district. This village is isolated and rural, located far from urban centers, and has not been exposed to the impact of technological advancements, information, and globalization.

## **METHOD**

The study is an observational research aimed to investigate the relationship between adolescents' knowledge, the role of parents, and adolescents' risky sexual behavior, using a cross-sectional quantitative research design without treatment/intervention. The population of the study consisted of adolescents attending Senior High School in the 2020/2021 school year in Baturotok Village, Sumbawa Regency, totaling 133 students. The sample size was determined using the Slovin formula, and the resulting sample size was 99.81. Simple random sampling was used to select the participants as all adolescents were considered to have an equal opportunity to be sampled. The study involved 100 respondents who met the inclusion criteria, including being aged between 15-19 years, having parents, receiving information about reproductive health, and willing to participate in the study with the consent of their teachers and parents. The study was conducted at SMA "G", Baturotok village, Batulanteh sub-district, Sumbawa Regency, West Nusa Tenggara. The data collection period was from October 2020 to June 2021, with the data collection process using a questionnaire on the role of parents and adolescents' knowledge of risky sexual behavior. The questionnaire had passed validity and reliability tests and was distributed directly to the respondents while observing health protocols. Data processing involved editing, coding, tabulating, entry, and cleaning stages. The data analysis method used Univariate and Bivariate analysis methods, with the Spearman Rho test being performed on the SPSS program.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

This research was conducted at SMA "G" in Baturotok village, Sumbawa Regency, West Nusa Tenggara Province. This village is situated inland and is far from urban areas, making it a remote and isolated village. The community, especially teenagers, face difficulties in accessing information and learning



optimally due to inadequate telecommunication and internet signals, poor access to roads, and electricity. The majority of the population comprises farmers and traders with middle to lower socioeconomic status and low education levels. The limited knowledge of parents and their busy work affect parenting and supervision of children at home, while the lack of learning facilities affects the level of knowledge of adolescents, particularly related to reproductive health.

The study's results are presented in the form of a table of demographic data distribution of respondents in Table 1 and bivariate analysis tables using the Spearman Rho test in Tables 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6.

**Tabel 1.** Distribution of Respondents's Demographic Data (n=100) (Sumbawa, Agustus 2021)

Characteristic	n	(%)
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	41	41
Female	59	59
<b>Age</b>		
15 years old	25	25
16 years old	25	25
17 years old	31	31
18 years old	19	19
<b>Signs of Puberty (Wet Dreams/Menstruation)</b>		
already	100	100
<b>Having Relationship ( Berpacaran)</b>		
Not Have	18	18
Currently dating	66	66
Ever been in a reationship	82	82

Table 1 shows that the majority of respondents are 17 years old as many as 31 students (31%), mostly female 59 students (59%) and all of them are Muslim (100%). All respondents claimed to have experienced menstruation and wet dreams as a sign of puberty (100%) and the majority of 82 students (82%) claimed to have dated.

**Tabel 2.** Data Distribution of Adolescent Knowledge

Independent Variable	n	(%)
<b>Adolescent Knowledge</b>		
Less	28	28
Fair	22	22
Good	50	50
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 2 shows the results of data distribution for the adolescent knowledge variable. Most of the respondents had good knowledge about reproductive health, namely 50 students (50%). In contrast, the number of adolescents who have low knowledge is still quite a lot, namely 28 students (28%), especially regarding the consequences of risky sexual behaviour and the causes of anaemia in adolescents due to the absence of material on these matters in teaching and learning activities at school.

**Tabel 3.** Data Distribution of Parental Role

Independent Variable	n	(%)
<b>Parental Role</b>		
Low	2	2
Medium	80	80
High	18	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 3 shows that 80% of respondents fall into the moderate parental role category. This is because respondents said that they get enough attention from their parents but still give freedom in relationships with the opposite sex as long as it remains within reasonable limits. Some parents who have strict rules for their children were recorded as 18% of the total 100 respondents. Then for the low role of parents, only 2% were recorded, because parents are too busy so they pay less attention to the activities of their teenagers and give full freedom even in terms of teenage sexual behaviour.

**Tabel 4.** Distribution Data of Risky Sexual Behaviour

Adolescent Sexual Behaviour	n	(%)
No Risk	17	17
Low Risk	32	32
Medium Risk	26	26
High Risk	25	25
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>100%</b>

Table 4 shows the confessions of the respondents regarding their sexual behaviour and activities while dating or meeting the opposite sex. Most of the respondents fell into the low-risk sexual behaviour category, namely 32 students (32%). This is because respondents claimed to have never or rarely carried out the activities described in the questionnaire. For moderate-risk sexual behaviour, 26 respondents (26%) and for high-risk sexual behaviour, 25 students (25%) out of a total of 100 respondents.

**Table 5.** Cross Distribution of the Relationship between Adolescent Knowledge and Adolescent Risky Sexual Behaviour

Adolescent Knowledge	Risky Sexual Behaviour									
	High Risk		Medium Risk		Low Risk		No Risk		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	f	%	F	%
Kurang	12	12	14	14	2	2	0	0	28	28
Cukup	12	12	6	6	2	2	2	2	22	22
Baik	1	1	6	6	28	28	15	15	50	50
Total	25	25	26	26	32	32	17	17	100	100

$p = 0,000$   $r_s = 0,681$

Table 5 shows that the majority of respondents who have good knowledge about reproductive health have a low risk of dangerous sexual behaviour, namely 28 students (28%). The results of the statistical analysis test of the relationship between adolescent knowledge and risky sexual behaviour based on the Spearman Rho test with a significance value of  $p = 0.000$ . The  $p$  value is smaller than 0.05, meaning that there is a significant relationship between the adolescent knowledge variable and risky sexual behaviour in adolescents. From the results of the analysis, the value of  $r_s = 0,681$ , was also obtained, meaning that the level of strength of the relationship between these variables is strong at 0.681. The  $r_s$  number is also positive which indicates that the two variables are in the same direction, meaning that the better the knowledge of adolescents, the smaller the value of their risky sexual behaviour.

In this study, the variable knowledge of adolescents about reproductive health consists of several indicators, namely the definition of reproductive health, the definition of premarital sexual behaviour, reproductive organs, sexually transmitted diseases and the impact of having sex in adolescence. From the results of data analysis, it was found that the level of knowledge of respondents varied, where most respondents who had good knowledge were included in the low-risk respondent group, namely 28 (28%) and 15 (15%) respondents who were not at risk. Then some respondents who have a poor level of knowledge fall into the medium risk category 14 (14%) and high risk 12 (12%). In this study, the age of the respondents used was in the range of 15-18 years where the age was included in the

middle and late adolescence category, where at this age adolescents are easier to receive information, especially about sexual and reproductive health from external sources such as schools, mass media, social media and also their peers. Therefore, a good source of information will have a big influence on good knowledge.

The results of this study are in accordance with a survey conducted by WHO in several countries which shows that the existence of good and correct information will be able to reduce sexual problems in adolescents. Thus it can be said that the higher the level of knowledge of adolescents, the better their behaviour, because knowledge is a very important domain in shaping a person's actions and behaviour. This is supported by the theory put forward by Lawrence Green (1980) in Notoatmodjo (2014) which says that health behaviour is determined by predisposing factors manifested in knowledge, beliefs, attitudes, values and also by demographic health factors such as social and economic status, gender and age.

This study is also in line with research conducted by Endarto and Purnomo (2010) at SMKN 4 Yogyakarta where there is a relationship between the level of knowledge about reproductive health with risky sexual behaviour with a value of  $p=0.008 < 0.005$ . Another study that is also in line is a study conducted by Purwoko (2011) at one of the Jakarta Universities with a value of ( $r=0.255$ ;  $p<0.05$ ) which indicates a relationship between the level of knowledge of adolescents and their premarital sexual behaviour.

**Tabel 6.** Cross Distribution of the Relationship between Parental Role and Risky Sexual Behaviour in Adolescents

Parental Role	Risky Sexual Behaviour									
	No Risk		Low Risk		Medium Risk		High Risk		Total	
	F	%	F	%	F	%	f	%	F	%



Low	0	0	1	1	1	1	0	0	2	2
Medium	13	13	27	27	22	22	18	18	80	80
High	4	4	4	4	3	3	7	7	18	18
Total	17	17	32	32	26	26	25	25	100	100

$p = 0,551$   $r_s = -0,060$

Table 5.6 shows that 27 students (27%) have a low likelihood of risky sexual activity with moderate or reasonable parental roles. The results of the Spearman Rho statistical test of the relationship between parental roles and adolescent risky sexual behaviour showed a significance value of  $p = 0.551$  and a value of  $r_s = -0.060$ . The value of  $p$  is greater than 0.05, indicating that there is no significant relationship between the role of parents and risky sexual behaviour among adolescents in Baturotok village. The results of the analysis obtained an  $r_s$  value of  $-0.060$ , meaning that the level of strength of the relationship (correlation) between the variable parental role with adolescent risky sexual behaviour in Baturotok village is  $-0.060$  or very low. The correlation coefficient in these results is negative, so the relationship between the two variables is not unidirectional.

The results of this study are supported by previous research conducted by Sofietje T. Pontoan in 2015 at a vocational school in Gorontalo with the results of  $p = (0.615 > 0.05)$  which indicates that there is no relationship between the role of parents and adolescent premarital sexual behaviour. Another study conducted by Robii'atul Adawiyah in 2016 in Samarinda showed that there was no relationship between the role or parenting patterns of parents on premarital sexual behaviour in adolescents, seeing from the results of the study that  $p = (0.634 > 0.05)$ .

The role of parents has nothing to do with risky sexual behaviour in adolescents in Baturotok Village because there are several other factors such as biological urges, lack of knowledge of adolescents related to reproductive health, inability to control sexual urges, and the opportunity to have risky sexual relationships that result in adolescents trapped in deviant behaviour.

This study is also in line with research conducted by I Made Prema Putra in 2014 which states that the role of parents or family has no significant influence on adolescent premarital sexual behaviour ( $p=0.077$ ).

Although not having much influence on the sexual behaviour of adolescents in Baturotok village, the role of parents cannot be ruled out. Parents are the main



source of information and knowledge for their children. Some of the things that are the main responsibility of parents to children are providing basic moral and religious education, creating a pleasant and warm home atmosphere, as well as providing an understanding of the good and bad norms that exist in society. Basically, parents have an important role in child development, because parents are the most familiar with the figure of the child, his needs, and also how to fulfil these needs (Haryani, 2015).

In this study, it was found that there was no significant relationship between the role of parents and children's risky sexual behaviour, this is supported by the theory of Sarwono (2012) which says that the role of parents in communication with children is still limited to certain matters such as education, health, school lessons and finance. For social and sexual problems, adolescents will tend to discuss with their peers.

Some examples of deviant sexual behaviour of adolescents are dating secretly and engaging in risky sexual activities without their parents knowing. It can also be seen from the results of this study that as many as 7 respondents who have a high parental role have a high risk in their sexual activity. This is supported by research from Lutfianawati and Ananingsih (2014) which says that if parents apply a very strict or authoritarian parenting style, it can cause adolescents' attitudes to become bad because of this pressure, so that they can become insubordinate, lie to parents, break the rules of prohibition of dating and also carry out risky sexual behaviour such as kissing or engaging in sexual activity with a partner without parental knowledge. In contrast, respondents whose parents' role is not excessive or reasonable actually have a low risk of deviant sexual behaviour, namely 27 students (27%) and there are even those who are not at risk as many as 13 students (13%).

The majority of respondents in this study disagreed to talk about sexuality with their parents. Adolescents often feel uncomfortable discussing sexual and reproductive health issues with their parents. Instead, adolescents prefer to share with peers or even keep it to themselves without daring to reveal it to their parents. This is because talking about sexuality is still considered taboo to discuss with parents, especially in rural villages such as Baturotok village. Sexual issues are often considered shameful and not to be discussed by adolescents. This causes many



adolescents to fall into risky sexual behaviour that can lead to sexually transmitted infections (Fauziah and Mesra, 2016). This is very worrying, considering that the number of juvenile delinquency is influenced by the low role of parents.

Previous research conducted by Ismawati and Nur'aeni Eka Sari (2014) also stated that parents need to discuss all topics regarding reproductive health and sexual education openly with their children, to let children tell stories and give advice to them. This can provide a sense of comfort and security to adolescents. So it is not difficult for parents to control the association of adolescents to avoid risky sexual behaviour.

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

### Conclusion

From this study it can be concluded that there is a relationship between adolescent knowledge and risky sexual behaviour, while the role of parents does not have a significant influence on the risky sexual behaviour of adolescents in Baturotok village, Sumbawa Regency.

### Suggestion

Village government, teachers, and health workers are expected to work together to improve the knowledge of adolescents and parents regarding the dangers and responsibilities of their sexual behaviour, either by providing reproductive health counselling or youth activities and other learning methods.

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