

ORIGINAL ARTICLE:**Knowledge about sexually transmitted infections does not associate with attitude towards LGBT behavior****Munadhia Jannatun Naimah¹, Baksono Winardi^{2*}, Pudji Lestari³**¹Midwifery Education Program of Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia, ²Department of Obstetrics and Gynaecology, dr. Soetomo General Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia, ³Departement of Public Health and Preventive Medicine, Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, Surabaya, Indonesia.**ABSTRACT****Objective:** To analyze the association between knowledge about sexually transmitted infections and attitudes towards LGBT behavior in teenagers at Trimurti High School Surabaya.**Materials and Methods:** A cross sectional study with a sample of 96 students who were selected by random sampling technique based on the attendance list. The data was collected by using primary data via questionnaires at Trimurti High School students in the academic year of 2017/2018. Data were analyzed using Chi Square test.**Results:** 56.3% of respondents had sufficient knowledge about sexually transmitted infections, 56.3% of respondents had a positive attitude towards LGBT behavior. Chi Square test in significance level of 0,05 reveal p value equal to 0,582, indicating there is no association between the level of knowledge about sexually transmitted infections with attitudes towards LGBT behavior in teenagers at Trimurti High School Surabaya.**Conclusion:** There is no association between the level of knowledge about sexually transmitted infections and attitudes towards LGBT behavior in teenagers at Trimurti Surabaya High School.**Keywords:** Sexually transmitted infection, LGBT, knowledge, attitude***Correspondence:** Baksono Winardi, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, Dr Soetomo Hospital, Jalan Prof dr Moestopo 6-8, Surabaya 60286, Indonesia. E-mail: bakso_dr@yahoo.com**ABSTRAK****Tujuan:** Menganalisis hubungan antara pengetahuan tentang infeksi menular seksual dengan sikap terhadap perilaku LGBT pada remaja di SMA Trimurti Surabaya.**Bahan dan Metode:** Penelitian cross sectional dengan sampel meliputi 96 siswa yang telah dipilih dengan teknik random sampling berdasarkan daftar hadir. Pengumpulan data dengan data primer melalui kuesioner pada siswa-siswi SMA Trimurti Surabaya tahun ajaran 2017/2018. Analisa data menggunakan uji Chi Square.**Hasil:** 56,3% responden mempunyai pengetahuan cukup mengenai infeksi menular seksual, 56,3% responden memiliki sikap positif terhadap perilaku LGBT. Hasil uji Chi Square dengan tingkat signifikansi sebesar 0,05 mendapat nilai p sebesar= 0,582, berarti tidak ada hubungan antara tingkat pengetahuan tentang infeksi menular seksual dengan sikap terhadap perilaku LGBT pada remaja di SMA Trimurti Surabaya.**Simpulan:** Tidak ada hubungan antara tingkat pengetahuan tentang infeksi menular seksual dengan sikap terhadap perilaku LGBT pada remaja di SMA Trimurti Surabaya.**Kata Kunci:** Infeksi menular seksual, LGBT, pengetahuan, sikap

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, the phenomenon of LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender) has become a hot topic in the community. This is triggered by the openness attitude of existence shown by LGBT people on the mass media and in public. One group that is vulnerable to being blown away is teenagers. Teenager's population is the largest number of total population in Indonesia which is 43,551,815 people. Studies show that homosexual behavior and same-sex interests are commonly since the age of 15 years². In Indonesia, there is no definite statistical data on the number of LGBT people. There are around 1,095,970 gays and more than 66,180 people or 5% of the number have HIV³. PBB predicts that the real number of LGBT people in Indonesia is bigger, reaching 3 million people in 20114.

Sexually transmitted infections (STIs) are infections caused by bacteria, viruses, parasites and fungi, which are primarily transmitted through sexual intercourse. STIs is one of the 10 causes of discomfort diseases in male adolescence and the second largest cause of discomfort diseases in female adolescence in the developing countries⁵. STIs greatly affect women's health.

According to WHO, 10%-40% of women who have untreated chlamydial infection will develop Pelvic Inflammatory Disease (PID). Homosexual or bisexual husbands can transmit STIs to their wives. This disease does not bring death but it is dangerous for pregnant women and their babies since it may carry unwanted effects, such as infection to disability. STIs are also the most common cause of infertility, especially in women⁶. In the United States, it is recorded that from 340 million cases incidence number of STIs, 72% of people aged 13-24 years are HIV positive. In 2011, 57% of people diagnosed with HIV were gay, bisexual, and drug users⁷. LGBTs people are at risk of exposure STIs and HIV because they tend to performed oral sex and anal sex, change partners, and less likely to use safety protection⁸.

Surabaya is the second largest city in Indonesia, also contributor to STIs with total number of 7,045 people⁹. Trimurti High School is located right in the center of Surabaya, close to the Submarine Monument aka Monkasel, a gathering place for the LGBT community. Based on those reasons, this study is conducted with an aim to analyze the association between knowledge about sexually transmitted infections and attitudes toward LGBT behavior in teenagers at Trimurti High School Surabaya.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This research was an observational analytic research with cross sectional approach. The population in this study were all Trimurti Surabaya high school students of 2017/2018 academic year. Total number were 717 people. Samples were taken using simple random sampling technique to get 96 people. Respondents were obtained by choosing representatives of students from each class randomly based on the attendance list. Data collection used primary data from questionnaires which were distributed to Trimurti High School students in the academic year of 2017/2018. The data analysis used Chi Square statistical test according to 95% significance level ($\alpha=0.05$).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1. General characteristics of the respondents

No	Characteristics	Frequency	%	
1.	Age	<16 years	4	4.2
		> 16 years	92	95.8
2.	Gender	Man	57	59.4
		Women	39	40.6
3.	Information Source	Mass media	60	62.5
		Parents	12	12.5
		School	14	14.6
		Friend	10	10.4
4.	LGBT Exposure	Yes	22	22.9
		No	74	77.1
Total		96	100	

Based on Table 1. it could be seen that almost all respondents (95.8%) were aged > 16 years. Most (59.4%) of the respondents were male. Most (62,3%) of respondents get information source from mass media and almost all respondents (77,1%) had never been exposed to LGBT people.

Table 2. Chi Square Test Result

Knowledge of Sexually Transmitted Infections	Attitude Toward LGBT Behavior		Total	P Value
	Positive	Negative		
Good	19 (19.8%)	15 (15.6%)	34 (35.4%)	0.582
Enough	29 (30.2%)	25 (26.0%)	54 (56.3%)	
Less	6 (6.3%)	2 (2.1%)	8 (8.3%)	
Total	54 (56.3%)	42 (43.8%)	96 (100%)	

Based on Table 2. it could be seen that the majority (56.3%) of respondents had sufficient knowledge about sexually transmitted infections, (56.3%) respondents had a positive attitude towards LGBT behavior.

The level of knowledge of each person varied and was influenced by several factors such as age, gender, culture and information sources¹⁰. This theory was also in accordance with the results of the study which showed that almost all respondents (95.8%) were in their late teens (17-20 years). With the increasing of age, maturity and also intellectual level, youth had a stronger memory, creativity and a higher sense of knowing about something that they had not been known before¹⁰. Gender determined on how and what men and women should know about sexuality. The ignorance of women was considered as a sign of purity. This assumption raised due to male active role in finding information about sexuality than women who were considered to be passive. Information of productive health was still considered to be taboo to be discussed within school and parental scope in Indonesia. Therefore, teenagers tended to search information via mass media and peers, which unfortunately were less reliable and caused teenagers having difficulty to distinguish between myths and facts.

Results of this study indicated that the attitudes of teenagers from SMA Trimurti towards LGBT behavior tend to be positive, namely 56.3%, but only 27 people out of 96 respondents (27%) stated that they were willing to support LGBT people. Factors that influenced the attitudes toward LGBT people were including personal experience, inspiration from other people who were considered important (role models), culture, mass media, educational and religious institutions, and emotional factors¹². Teenagers as normal people performed an attitude which was commonly identified under normalization term, namely the extent to which normal people could accept the stigmatized people. They were divided into pro (positive) and counter (negative). Positive attitude in previous research was found in students who were more advanced in terms of age and level of education and association¹³. Surabaya which was a large city with a diverse population caused people to be more tolerant with differences. Other factors that caused this difference was including the information received by teenagers, the surrounding environment that could give an influence in learning about good values and teenagers' way of thinking. Teenagers who were exposed to LGBT information had a greater likelihood of being positive than teenagers who had never received any LGBT's information exposure before.

The result of statistical test using Chi Square test was there was no difference of frequency distribution between two variables. However, descriptive research results show that positive attitude respondents were supported by those who had good knowledge. The numbers seen in the results of this study were

descriptively visible in the big picture of numbers that were not too different in each cell, row and column, and were not statistically related. These results could not be compared with other studies because there had not been previous research with similar variables.

Researcher found that among LGBT knowledgeable teenagers at Trimurti Surabaya High School, there were still teenagers who had negative attitudes. Positive attitude of 55.9% shown by respondents who had good knowledge. It could be concluded that good knowledge did not necessarily have a positive attitude but a positive attitude was motivated by good knowledge. Some studies proved that behavior was adopted after passing through the stages of knowledge, attitude, and practice. But other studies also proved that the process was not always like the above stage, even in everyday practice, the opposite stage might happen. Knowledge was not always influencing attitudes, many other factors may influence both internally and externally. Therefore, to form a good attitude and behavior which was in accordance with knowledge, it was necessary to strengthen both internal and external factors in each individual.

CONCLUSION

56.3% of respondents have sufficient knowledge about sexually transmitted infections, and 56.3% of respondents have a positive attitude towards behavior. LGBT. There is no relationship between the level of teenagers' knowledge about sexually transmitted infections with attitudes towards LGBT behavior at Trimurti High School Surabaya

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