

ANALYSIS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION IN ADOLESCENTS AT JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL JAKARTA

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Abstrack

Background: In adolescence, sexual urges will appear more easily, there is a possibility of choosing a non-heterosexual sexual orientation. To prevent this, it is necessary to be identified in early adolescence.

Purpose: to determine the sexual orientation of adolescents at SMP 1 Barunawati Jakarta and to analyze the relationship between perceptions, attitudes, parenting styles, intensity of access to pornography, environment and trauma to sexual orientation using the Chi Square statistical test.

Methods: This research is a descriptive study with a cross-sectional research design with a research instrument using a questionnaire. The population in this study were all students of class VII and VIII at SMP 1 Barunawati Jakarta with a total sample of 139 people.

Results: Based on the results of univariate analysis, it was found that 67.6% of adolescents were heterosexual and 32.4% were at risk of non-heterosexuality. Meanwhile, the results of the bivariate analysis showed that the variables of perception, attitude and intensity of access to pornography had a significant relationship to sexual orientation with P values of 0.000, 0.009 and 0.003.

Conclusions: Students at SMP 1 Barunawati Jakarta have a sexual orientation that is in accordance with societal norms. Perceptions, attitudes and intensity of access to pornography have a significant relationship to the formation of sexual orientation. It is hoped that midwives can detect changes in sexual orientation in adolescents from an early age so that they can be treated immediately.

Keywords: Adolescent, Heterosexual, Non-Heterosexual, Sexual Orientation

Introduction

A common sexual orientation in society is heterosexuality, while homosexuality is considered a deviation from the sexual orientation of society ¹. Deviant sexual orientation followed by deviant sexual behavior will have a very detrimental impact, especially the health impact on both the perpetrator and society ².

Current estimates of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) cases in America show that from 11 million people in the United States there has been an increase from 4.5% in 2017 to about 5.6% of the U.S. adult population in 2020. In Canada the number of homosexuals is about 1% of the total population from the age of 18–59 years ¹. Based on a CIA (Central Intelligence Agency) survey in 2015 Indonesia is the country

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with the 5th largest LGBT population in the world after China, India, Europe, and America.

The Indonesian Ministry of Health stated that the number of sexual orientations in Indonesia reached 780 thousand people, statistic data described 58.3% of men classified as bisexual, 5.6% of women are lesbians and 0.7% are transgender³. The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia stated that there are 5 provinces with the highest number of LGBT people in Indonesia, namely West Sumatra recorded approximately 18 thousand people, DKI Jakarta there are around 43 thousand people, Central Java around 218 thousand people, East Java around 300 thousand people and West Java there are around 302 thousand people as LGBT⁴.

Based on the estimated cause of death of the world's population by 2030, deaths from HIV/AIDS continue to increase. Effective HIV/AIDS prevention strategies can be applied when the main risk factors for the spread of HIV/AIDS are correctly identified¹.

Gays, bisexuals, and other men who have sex with men (MSM) are the highest risk groups for HIV infection (Cherry et al., 2017). Based on WHO data in 2019, there are 78% of new HIV infections in the Asia Pacific region. For aids cases the highest for the last eleven years in 2013, which was 12,214 cases. UNAIDS (United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS) stated that the incident had a major impact on the number of HIV/AIDS cases in Indonesia reaching its peak in 2019, which was 50,282 cases.

Based on initial observations at Barunawati 1 Junior High School Jakarta, there are female students who look like male students (tomboys), there are 2 female students who are often together both in class and outside the classroom, and when PJOK (Physical Education, Sports, and Health) subjects, both male and female students often change clothes in groups and not infrequently female students defecate in the toilet in groups.

Based on the survey above, researchers are interested in the phenomenon that occurs in schools to conduct a study entitled "Analysis of Sexual Orientation in Adolescents at Junior High School Jakarta".

Method

1. Research design

This research uses a descriptive type of research with a Cross sectional research design where independent variables (causal/risk factors) and dependent variables (effect factors/influence factors), are collected at the same time which means that the measurement of subject variables is carried out at the time of examination and the researcher does not follow up on the measurements made.

2. Settings and samples

The study was conducted in January 2023 at Barunawati 1 Junior High School Jakarta. The population in this study was all students of grades VII and VIII at Barunawati 1 Junior High School Jakarta which amounted to 214 people and obtained a total sample of 139 people using Proportionate stratified random sampling and Simple random sampling techniques.

3. Measurement and data collection

The research instrument used in this study is in the form of a questionnaire or questionnaire adopted and modified from Wijayanti's research in 2022⁵. The instrument used in this study is intended to produce accurate data, namely by using the Likert scale. There are 7 categories of questionnaires, namely about sexual orientation, perceptions about LGBT, attitudes about LGBT, parenting, intensity of pornography access, environment and trauma. Validity and Reliability The instrument used in this study is the validity of Corrected Item-Total Correlation. With the results of the r-table calculation of 0.361 and the value of Cronbach's Alpha Coefficient of 0.6 with the number of respondents 30 people. The collection of research data was carried out by the researchers themselves by distributing questionnaires accompanied by BK (Counseling Guidance) teachers.

4. Data analysis

Data analysis using SPSS (Statistical Package for the Social Sciences) software with a test using the Chi Square statistical test with a meaningfulness limit (α) = 0.05 provided that the null hypothesis is accepted when the p value ≥ 0.05 (p value $\geq \alpha$) means that the statistical test shows no significant relationship, while the null hypothesis is rejected if the p value < 0.05 (p value $< \alpha$) means that the statistical test shows a relationship between the free variable and the related variable.

Results

Based on the characteristics, it is known that the subjects of the study were mostly (61.9 %) had a positive perception (against) of sexual orientation, most (71.2 %) had a positive attitude (against) towards sexual orientation, most (66.2 %) had democratic parenting, most (66.9 %) had a low intensity of access to pornography, most (60.4 %) had a positive environment and most (66.9 %) did not experience trauma.

The results showed that the perception, attitude, and intensity of pornography access had a significant relationship with sexual orientation because the P Value < 0.05 .

Table 1.
Characteristics of Respondents

Variables	Sum (n)	Percentage (%)
Sexual Orientation		
Risk of non heteroseksual	45	32,4
Heteroseksual	94	67,6
Total	139	100
Perception		
Negatif	53	38,1
Positif	86	61,9
Total	139	100

Attitude		
Negatif	40	28,8
Positif	99	71,2
Total	139	100
Parenting		
Authoritarian	16	11,5
Democrntic	92	66,2
Permissive	31	22,3
Total	139	100
Intensity of pornographic access		
Hight	46	33,1
Low	93	66,9
Total	139	100
Milieu		
Negatif	55	39,6
Positif	84	60,4
Total	139	100
Trauma		
Yes	46	33,1
No	93	66,9
Total	139	100

Table 2.
Characteristics of Respondents with Sexual Orientation

Characteristic	Sexual Orientation				P Value
	Non heterosexual risk		Heteroseksual		
	n=45	%	n=94	%	
Perception					
Negatif	32	60,4	21	39,6	0,000
Positif	13	13,1	73	84,9	
Attitude					
Negatif	20	50	20	50	0,009
Positif	25	25,3	74	74,4	
Parenting					
Authoritarian	1	6,3	15	93,8	0,055
Democratic	32	34,8	60	65,2	
Permissive	12	38,7	19	61,3	
Intensity of pornographic access					
Hight	23	50	23	50	0,003
Low	22	23,7	71	76,3	
Milieu					
Negatif	18	32,7	37	67,3	1,000
Positif	27	32,1	57	67,9	

Trauma					
Yes	19	41,3	27	58,7	0,165
No	26	28	67	72	

Information: P Value = Chi Square Test

Discussion

The results showed that some adolescents had a positive perception (against) of sexual orientation and bivariate analysis showed that the value of $P = 0.000$ ($P < 0.05$) could be concluded that perception has a significant relationship with adolescent sexual orientation.

In research in 2018 shows that there is a relationship between perception and LGBT stikma. The facts show a negative view that occurs more due to social constructions in society that consider that LGBT is deviant behavior⁶. The formation of perceptions is influenced by the environment (both social and family) and religion. Poor perceptions of LGBT people drive teens away from such deviant behavior. Based on research in 2018 Individuals who have LGBT identity are unable to understand their own religion⁷.

In terms of positive law and moral norms, there is no justification when sexual orientation deviations become legal in Indonesia⁸. In terms of LGBT religious law, it is contrary to Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning marriage, that the essence of a marriage is to obtain legal offspring by channeling biological desires led by Sharia law. While LGBT actions themselves are contrary to the principles and rules of marriage⁹.

The results showed that some adolescents had a positive attitude (against) towards sexual orientation and bivariate analysis showed that the P value = 0.009 ($P < 0.05$) could be concluded that attitudes have a significant relationship with adolescent sexual orientation.

In research in 2020 shows that a person who has friends with a sexual orientation will tend to be kind and tend to have significantly low sexual prejudices, compared to someone who has low contact or has no contact with sexually oriented friends at all, they tend to think badly gays and lesbians, and tend to have higher sexual prejudices¹⁰.

Based on the theory proposed in 2021 states that the perception process will affect attitudes and behavior. Perceptions and attitudes are things that become an interconnected whole. In adolescents who have a positive perception (oppose) tend to have a positive attitude (against) also towards deviations in sexual orientation and vice versa¹¹.

The results showed that some adolescents had democratic parenting and bivariate analysis showed that the value of $P = 0.055$ ($P > 0.05$) could be concluded that parenting did not have a significant relationship with adolescent sexual orientation.

This is contrary to research in 2019 showing a relationship between parental parenting and sexual orientation tendencies, students who have democratic parenting with sexual orientation tend to be low¹². However, according to research conducted in 2020 states that the relationship level of respondents raised with democratic parenting tends to be low, indicating that parenting is not the only factor that causes a person to

deviate sexual orientation.¹³

Other external factors such as the search for parenting after adulthood, because the parenting style applied by children who were taken care of as a child was taken care of with neglectful (neglectful/ negligent) patterns. Parenting by ignoring the role of one of the parents also increases the chances of sexual orientation deviations. The role of parental education is no less important, John Locke said that the purpose of education is the formation of disposition, human development as moral, physical and mental roundness. Individual behavior can also be obtained through a continuous learning process. In the hope that individuals who receive higher education will not have the potential for homosexual orientation¹³.

The results showed that some adolescents had a low intensity of access to pornography and bivariate analysis showed that the value of $P = 0.003$ ($P < 0.05$) can be concluded that the intensity of access to pornography has a significant relationship with the sexual orientation of adolescents.

This is in line with a research survey conducted by Hawskin states that people who watch porn once a week are at 13.09% risk of being bisexual. While those who watch movies several times a week are at 19.73% risk of being bisexual, and those who watch porn every day are at 23.01% risk of liking the same sex and the opposite sex¹⁴.

Theory shows that there is a spread of information media and sexual stimulation through mass media, namely with the existence of sophisticated technology such as the internet, magazines, television, video. Teenagers tend to be curious and eager to dabble and want to imitate what they see and hear, especially because teenagers in general do not know the full sexual problems of their parents. Hormonal development in adolescents is spurred by exposure to mass media that invites curiosity and provokes the desire to experiment in sexual activity¹⁵.

The results showed that some adolescents had a positive environment and bivariate analysis showed that the value of $P = 1.000$ ($P > 0.05$) could be concluded that the environment did not have a significant relationship with the sexual orientation of adolescents.

This is in line with research conducted on 2017 which states that there is no meaningful relationship between the social environment and sexual orientation in adolescents¹. However, contrary to research conducted in 2022 states that the environment has a significant effect on sexual orientation¹⁶.

In theory, the environment triggers the occurrence of deviations in sexual orientation, for example due to wrong associations. In making friends, it is appropriate for us to "choose" friends who have good behavior. When someone befriends a person who belongs to LGBT, there is a tendency that he or she will become a member of LGBT¹⁷. However, the questionnaire instrument used by the researcher did not specifically discuss the social environment with someone who tends to have a deviant sexual orientation but rather general activities carried out by respondents both in family, social and school settings.

The results showed that some adolescents did not have trauma and bivariate analysis

showed that the value of $P = 0.165$ ($P > 0.05$) can be concluded that trauma does not have a significant relationship with adolescent sexual orientation.

This is contrary to the results of a literature study conducted in 2018 states that experiences or traumas in childhood such as, the violence experienced by children in terms of physical, mental and sexual aspects that make a woman hate all men. Trauma to social and environmental habits such as when the child is in a separate school dormitory between men and women can invite gay and lesbian relationships ¹⁸.

Based on the theory, trauma in general is the emotional and psychological stress that results from unpleasant or violence-related events or experiences that cause undue stress ¹⁹. But from the view of psychology, the American Psychiatric Association (APA) removed the diagnosis of homosexuality as a mental disorder from the reference diagnosis of mental health experts or the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (DSM) edition II. In Indonesia, according to the Guidelines for the Classification and Diagnosis of Mental Disorders (PPDGJ) also does not consider sexual orientation including homosexuals to be mental disorders or disorders. The condition that a phenomenon is considered a disorder or mental disorder is characterized by the presence of suffering (distress) and inability (disability). Homosexuals can be called mental health disorders, if a person feels uncomfortable with their sexual orientation ²⁰.

Limitations

In this study, there are still limitations with the large number of variables and questionnaires of questions being less specific.

Conclusion

There is a significant relationship between the perception, attitude and intensity of pornography access and the sexual orientation of adolescents. What can be recommended for both the social and family environment is to shape adolescent perceptions and attitudes that sexual orientation is something that deviates and is not legalized from both positive laws and religious norms. And teachers and parents should always pay attention to children's consumption of spectacles so as not to fall into deviant orientation behavior.

For BK (Guidance Counseling) teachers in the future, they can work with counselors who have competence (professional) to provide more in-depth counseling related to sexual orientation in adolescents at the junior high school level. Further researchers are expected to discuss more specifically one of the variables so that the questionnaire of questions can be more specific and with this research it is hoped that the midwife profession will be able to reduce the rate of HIV/AIDS transmission that occurs due to this sexual orientation phenomenon.

Ethical Considerations

This research has earned an ethically worthy statement from Komisi Etik Penelitian Kesehatan (KEPK) Prima Indonesia University.

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Conflict of Interest

No conflict of interest.

Authors Contribution

AHP compiles and designs research analyzes and interprets data and prepares a draft of the manuscript. AHP, PA, and VS were involved in the analysis and interpretation of the data. PA and VS mutually reviewed the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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