# **Cultural Efforts To Reduce The Number Of Unwanted Pregnancies In Adolescents**

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### **Abstract:**

This study aims to see what factors influence the occurrence of unwanted pregnancies in adolescents and cultural efforts in suppressing the pregnancy rate. The research subjects were adolescents aged 16 to 18 years. This type of qualitative research with research subjects are teenagers who experience unwanted pregnancies and cases occur a maximum of 2 years before the research year, namely 2020 - 2021. The number of research subjects is 10 traditional leaders and 3 unwanted pregnant teenagers. The data collection technique was carried out by in-depth interviews. The results showed that the causes of unwanted pregnancies in adolescents were risky premarital sexual behavior, minimal knowledge about reproduction and sexuality, attitudes and free association with men, routine access to pornography through internet media, attitudes of parents who do not care, parents who and the invitation of close friends. The main factors that influence the occurrence of unwanted pregnancies in adolescents in Bener Meriah include lack of reproductive and sexual health education, parents who do not care, parents have problems, enjoy watching porn videos and circle of friends. The cultural efforts to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies are first the prohibition of being alone in a quiet place, second the Sumang culture

**Keywords** Sexual relationship, Culture, Unwanted pregnancy.

#### Introduction:

Unwanted pregnancy in adolescents occurs because there are no social boundaries between teenage boys and girls. The Statistics Agency survey in 2012 stated that the number of teenage pregnancies aged 15 to 19 years had reached 48 out of 1,000 pregnancies (BKKBN, 2014). This is further strengthened by research conducted by the Health Research Center of the University of Indonesia (UI) in 2011 which also stated that 3,006 adolescents in research in Jakarta, Tangerang and Bekasi obtained amazing results, namely 20.9 percent of adolescents were pregnant before marriage.

Several factors that cause unwanted pregnancies in adolescents include firstly the lack of knowledge about reproductive health, secondly factors that come from within the teens themselves who do not understand their obligations as students and the focus should be on learning and achieving goals, third, promiscuity without control. parents cause teenagers to feel free to do whatever they want, the fourth is the development of increasingly sophisticated communication media technology that increases the possibility of teenagers accessing anything including negative things such as pornographic videos (Kusmiran, 2014).

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On the other hand, teenagers are the future of the nation and future leaders. Adolescents at their productive and learning age should be able to focus more on education. So that various efforts are made in an effort to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies, among others through socialization of the use of contraceptives [ 11,12 ] , (b) providing knowledge and insight on the risks of free and designing sex education curriculum [ 11,13 ], (c) provide reproductive health services to adolescents [ 14,15,16,17,18 ] including approaches that encourage more productive activities among adolescents. but it has not been effective in suppressing the number of unwanted pregnancies so that culture takes a role in handling the problem of unwanted pregnancies among adolescents. Various cultural efforts to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies in Bener Meriah Aceh Indonesia, namely by making village ganuns and jinayat laws as well as cultural rules that regulate male and female relations.

This study will explore the culture that plays a role in reducing the number of unwanted pregnancies in Bener Meriah Aceh Indonesia

### **Methods**

This type of research is descriptive qualitative. The focus of the research is to explore information related to culture that can play a role in reducing the number of unwanted pregnancies among adolescents.

Data obtained through unstructured observation and in-depth interviews. Direct observations in the field were carried out using field notes. In-depth interviews were conducted with 3 traditional leaders and teenagers who experienced cases of unwanted pregnancy between 2020-2021 in Bener Meriah, Aceh Indonesia.

#### Result

# Factors that cause unwanted pregnancy

The sexual activities carried out by the three informants are in a severe stage,

where the three informants have had sexual relations many times. There are informants have had sexual relations since the age of 11 years. Having sex without using any contraception means there is a very high risk of getting pregnant. This is due to a lack of understanding of reproductive health education. When asked about HIV/AIDS, and other bad risks from his sex activities, the informant was silent and said he didn't know about it.

Some of the reasons from the informants who stated that the reason they had sexual relations with men was because they wanted to get money, internet credit, cosmetics and attention and affection.

Informants also have their own problems in their family life. Among the informants, there is a mother and father who have divorced, then his father remarried as well as his mother, so this teenager lives alone. There was also an informant whose mother had died and she had to live with her father who used to scold and beat her.

The informant also said that the reason for providing services and being willing to have a husband and wife relationship with his girlfriend was because he was afraid of being cut off by his girlfriend, because he was very in love and didn't want to lose his girlfriend, he finally chose to serve.

Enjoys watching porn videos, invites his friends to watch together, the informant also transmits his habit of watching pornographic videos to his other friends. So that this activity causes teenagers to be no longer awkward in having sex with the men who invite them.

In line with research conducted by Sinarsi (2013) which revealed that half of teenagers in Gayo Luwes Regency, Aceh Province, carried out risky sexual behavior, including hugging, masturbating, kissing lips, touching each other's sensitive parts, petting and having sex. Likewise, the frequency of dating more than once has twice the chance of having risky sexual behavior than teenagers with the frequency of dating once.

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Based on the results of the study as many as three informants, they continued their pregnancy and none of the informants had an abortion or attempted to abort their pregnancy. However, because the informant still wants to continue his education in high school, the child born later will be given to those who want to adopt him.

# Cultural efforts to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies

# I. Prohibition of being alone in a quiet place

Policy should not be alone in a quiet and quiet place. This prohibition is expected to provide moral education to adolescents so that they can maintain relationships. This prohibition on being alone is emphasized in qanun Chapter VII article 22 paragraph 1-2 it is stated that every person who prohibits the ban will be subject to a maximum of 9 lashes and a minimum of 3 times, and or a fine of 10,000,000 (ten million rupiah) and at least Rp. 2.500.000, - (two million five hundred thousand rupiah).

For the government or business entities that facilitate the place or location of men and women together and do things that can lead to free sex, they will be given a maximum penalty of 6 months and a minimum of 2 months, and or a maximum fine of 15,000,000 .- (fifteen million rupiah) and at least 5,000,000,- (five million rupiah).

### 2. Sumang Culture

Sumang culture in the Gayo community in Aceh is a culture that regulates the relationship between men and women and behavior. Sumang culture emerged in an effort to educate and foster youth to avoid the bad effects of promiscuity. there sumang culture consists of; sumang pengonen (discordance of vision) means that a man should not look at women with lustful eyes, here it is also recommended for men and women to keep their eyesight and guard their hearts.

While sumang pelapaken (traveling donations) means that when traveling men and women should be accompanied by their families, women are not allowed to travel long distances if there is no one to look after them, this is due to fears of being harmed or hurt, sumang pengenenen (hearing discord) means that they are not allowed to hear. other people's conversations, besides that, the content of conversations between men and women is also regulated. Boys are not allowed to whisper and talk about dirty and inappropriate things with their female friends.

Sumang kenunulen (discordant position) means choosing a safe place, if there is a father, mother, mother-in-law and children in the seat, they must feel free and maintain manners. Sumang Perupuhen (discordant dress) means that if someone wears clothes that are tight, narrow, thin and form the body, then in discordant clothing culture will be prohibited. The clothes described above are impolite and will cause discomfort and invite men to look at them with sexual desire. Sumang perceraken (brain speech) is a culture that regulates speech, speaks appropriate and good things.

Sumang pergaulen (social discord) means advice and direction for getting along, living and making friends and befriending. Friendship between a boy and a girl has its limits. Sumang perbueten (contributing actions) is a culture that regulates matters of action, where it is not allowed to carelessly hold women, as well as the principle of responsibility where parents are obliged to be responsible for whatever happens to their children, directing the right path, not allowed to mingle freely with male friends, and provide for the needs of their children.

### Conclusion

The results showed that the causes of unwanted pregnancies in adolescents were risky premarital sexual behavior, minimal knowledge about reproduction and sexuality, attitudes and free association with men, routine access to pornography through internet media, attitudes of parents who do not care, parents who and the invitation of close friends. The main factors that influence the occurrence of unwanted pregnancies in adolescents in Bener Meriah include lack of reproductive and sexual health education, parents who don't care, parents have problems, enjoy watching porn videos and circle of friends. The cultural efforts to reduce the number of unwanted pregnancies are first: the prohibition of being alone in a quiet place and, secondly: the culture of sumang.

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