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# Analysis of The Level of Adolescent Knowledge about Sexual Violence on Adolescent Attitudes in Sexual Violence Prevention

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## ABSTRACT

Teenagers who should be the future of the nation are now a scourge for the wider community. The problem of sexual violence, exploitation and prostitution is currently rife throughout Indonesia. Sexual violence cases in Tegal Regency were ranked number three highest in Central Java. The objectives of this study include: a). To find out the level of knowledge and attitudes of adolescents in Tegal Regency about sexual violence. b). To analyze the relationship between the level of knowledge and attitudes of adolescents about sexual violence in Tegal Regency. The research method used in this study is qualitative method. The results of research from 150 respondents who have been interviewed, show that adolescents still have low knowledge about sexual violence. The average of them does not know that they have become perpetrators or victims of sexual violence. Just knowing they don't, let alone realizing it to take action in responding to this. Knowledge of sexual violence, greatly influences the attitude of adolescents. The lack of knowledge of adolescents about sexual violence has led to the low attitude of adolescents in supporting the prevention of sexual violence, especially in Tegal Regency.

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## **ARTICLE INFO**

## Keywords:

Sexual Violence, Knowledge, Attitudes, Adolescent.

### Article History:

Received: July 10, 2023 Revised: July 20, 2023 Accepted: November 20, 2023 Published: December 27, 2023

# Introduction

Teenagers who should be the future of the nation are now a scourge for the wider community. In fact, adolescents must be nurtured and given good direction in order to grow and develop reasonably for the creation of a developed country in the future. Teenagers should express all their appreciation and ideas for the progress of their nation even damage their future. Many of them fall into negative things such as promiscuity, smoking, drinking and that is the cause of sexual violence. Parental upbringing is also important for the psychological development of children, most of those who experience problems with their parents run into things that can plunge them into that circle.

The problem of sexual violence, exploitation and prostitution is currently rife throughout Indonesia. Not only occurs in children, adolescents and adults, but many parents also experience this incident. Sexual violence has become part of violence that occurs in general by using various ways to do it. In this modern era of globalization, technology is the most important factor in everyday life, and inevitably we have to follow the development of existing technology so that our country is not far behind other countries. Along with the development of technology today many of the teenagers who fall into the abyss that causes sexual violence can occur, they can access adult and porn sites wherever and whenever they want.

Sexual violence comes from two words, namely violence and sexual, which in English is called sexual hardness. The word hardness means violent, unpleasant and not free. The word sexual cannot be separated from sex and sexuality. (Shadily, 1997, p. 517) Sex is a biological difference between women and men or what is often referred to as sex. While sexuality involves a wide range of dimensions, namely the biological dimension, the social dimension, the psychological dimension and the cultural dimension. (Perkumpulan Keluarga Berencana Indonesia, n.d.)

The definition of sexual violence according to the RUU PKS, is any act of degrading, insulting, attacking, and/or other acts against a person's body, sexual desire, and/or reproductive function, forcibly, against one's will, which causes a person to be unable to give consent in a free state, due to inequality of power relations and/or gender relations, which results or can result in physical suffering or misery, psychic, sexual, economic, social, cultural, and/or political losses.(*Pasal 1 Rancangan Undang-Undang Penghapusan Kekerasan Seksual*, n.d.) Meanwhile, in article 4 of the Sexual Violence Law, sexual violence consists of non-physical sexual harassment, physical sexual abuse, forced contraception, forced sterilization, forced marriage, sexual torture, sexual exploitation, sexual slavery, and electronic-based sexual violence.(UU RI, 2022)

The impact of sexual violence includes the following:

Psychological State of Anxiety

Teenagers interpret acts of sexual violence as very painful acts and are crimes that leave very deep marks on their victims. They are deeply traumatized by the abuse and violence they experienced. It takes a long time and even years to heal the impact of trauma experienced by victims of sexual violence. Most of the victims certainly do not trust men, it happens because of the impact of the trauma they have experienced, they prefer women to men because they are afraid that they will experience sexual violence again. They are more comfortable and trusting of women because they think that men prefer women just to vent sex, they think.(Astuti & Nita, 2021)

- Helplessness of Victims of Sexual Violence
   The impact of sexual violence that occurs is characterized by powerlessness, where
   victims feel helpless and tormented when revealing the event. Emotionally victims of
   sexual violence experience stress, depression, mental shock, feelings of guilt and self blame, fear of relating to others, shadows of events where victims receive sexual
   violence, nightmares, insomnia, fear of things related to abuse including objects,
   smells, places, self-esteem problems and unwanted pregnancy.(Ivo, 2015)
- Extreme fear of sexual violence Victims of sexual violence have the potential to experience severe trauma, because the event is something that shocks the victim. Psychiatric shock can be experienced at the time of sexual violence and afterwards. Situations in society can often exacerbate the trauma experienced by the victim. Mass media also has an influential role in shaping public opinion about victims of sexual violence. Stigma in society that views that women victims of violence are despicable women. There is also a view that says that in a case of sexual violence it is the woman's fault. (Ekandari, 2002)

Sexual violence cases in Tegal Regency were ranked number three highest in Central Java. According to the secretary of the Office of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection and Population Control and Family Planning (P3A-P2KB) of Tegal Regency, cases of sexual violence are serious cases and almost occur every day. Especially the last two years during the Covid-19 pandemic. Data now shows 27 cases of sexual assault that have occurred in 2022.(Ariadi, 2022) This shows that the case of sexual violence in Tegal Regency is a serious case.

Some cases that have occurred in Tegal Regency include: A 2.5-year-old child who became a victim of sexual violence committed by a grade 6 elementary school (suarajawatengah.id) boy was published on Saturday, June 18, 2022 at 07:02 WIB.(Romadhoni, 2022) Sexual harassment by ngaji teachers to underage female students occurred in one of the Islamic boarding schools in Bumijawa, Tegal Regency.(Kartika, 2022) Then the case of sexual violence by an honorary elementary school teacher who is a resident of Pesarean Village, Adiwerna Sub-district to his students under the toll road in Adiwerna in 2019, when he was in grade 4 elementary school. There are also cases of sexual violence committed by his own biological father against his child. The perpetrator is a resident of Sidmulya Village, Warureja Sub-district who has abused his son five times from 2018 to 2022.(Cessnasari, 2022)

# Method

The study was carried out within a period of 3 months. Research place in Tegal Regency with the subjects of research Elementary School Students Grades 5-6, Junior High School/MTs Students, High School/Vocational/MA Students. The research subjects taken were teenagers in Tegal Regency. The teenagers taken are grade 6 elementary school students to grade 3 high school students/equivalent. The research subjects were taken from three points of the region, namely coastal, mountainous and regional centers. The samples taken from each region were 50 people/students with a composition of 25 males, and 25 females. So that the total sample from the three points of the region is 150 people/students. The research on research that is descriptive and tends to use analysis. This method is also referred to as the naturalistic method because of the research done on scientific conditions, and can also be referred to as the ethnographic method because many are used to observe culture or anthropology.

The data collection techniques in this study include:

1. Library Research.

The initial activity of this research is with the technique of selected materials or concepts that support the understanding and understanding of the results of previous field research to assist the author in obtaining an overview of objects that will facilitate the implementation of research in the field. This literature research is carried out by studying literature that is closely related to the problems discussed in this study.

- 2. Field Research In order to obtain field data is carried out in ways or techniques that include:
  - Observation Techniques

The method of data collection in the form of observation is a complex data collection technique, a process composed of various biological and psychological processes that aim to obtain data or information about a problem under study. Observation (participant observation) requires a researcher to enter or participate in activities related to research problems, the activities carried out are studying and analyzing adolescent knowledge about sexual violence towards adolescent attitudes for the prevention of sexual violence in Tegal Regency.

- Interview Techniques In conducting interviews, researchers prepare research instruments in the form of written questions to be asked, and record what is stated by informants, therefore the type of interview used by researchers is included in the type of structured interview. This interview was conducted on sample members based on a pattern that had been made previously in the hope that it would not get out of the problem to be achieved.
- Documentation

Research results from observations or interviews will be more credible if supported by relevant documents. Documentation is very important to support data in the field when conducting observations and interviews.

# **Findings and Analysis**

In this study, respondents were divided into three groups. The first group is elementary school students in grades 5-6, the second group is junior high school students, and the third group is high school/vocational/vocational students. The age range of respondents was divided into three groups, this aims to allow researchers to understand the knowledge capacity of each respondent. The age of group one respondents was in the range of 10-12 years, group two was in the range of 13-15 years, group three was in the range of 16-18 years.

Geographical differences in residence, researchers divide them into three zones. Zone one includes Pagerbarang, Balapulang, Margasari, Bumijawa, Bojong, Jatinegara Districts. Zone two includes the sub-districts of Lebaksiu, Slawi, Pangkah, Dukuhwaru, Adiwerna, Dukuhturi. While zone three includes Kedungbanteng, Tarub, Talang, Kramat, Suradadi, Warureja Districts. Each zone has 50 respondents consisting of 25 male students and 25 female students. For the composition of 25 male students and 25 female students, there were 5 respondents with elementary school education backgrounds in grades 5-6, 10 respondents with junior high school education backgrounds and 10 respondents also with high school / vocational education backgrounds. So that in total from all respondents in this study there were 150 students with different educational backgrounds.

	Table 1. Zone division and respondents					
Zone 1	Pagerbarang Balapulang Margasari Bumijawa Bojong Jatinegara	25 female respondents 25 male	<ul> <li>5 elementary school students grade</li> <li>5-6</li> <li>10 junior high school students</li> <li>10 high school / vocational students</li> <li>5 elementary school students grade</li> </ul>			
		respondents	5-6 10 junior high school students			
			10 juillor lingii school students			
			10 high school / vocational students			
Zone 2	Lebaksiu Slawi Pangkah Dukuhwaru Adiwerna Dukuhturi	25 female respondents	5 elementary school students grade 5-6			
			10 junior high school students			
			10 high school / vocational students			
		25 male respondents	5 elementary school students grade 5-6			
			10 junior high school students			
			10 high school / vocational students			
Zone 3	Kedungbanteng Tarub Talang Kramat	25 female respondents	<ul><li>5 elementary school students grade</li><li>5-6</li><li>10 junior high school students</li></ul>			

Table 1. Zone division and respondents

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	Suradadi Warureja			10 high school / vocational students
VV d		25 respondents	male	5 elementary school students grade 5-6
				10 junior high school students
				10 high school / vocational students

## Adolescent Knowledge of Sexual Violence

Sexual violence can actually happen to anyone, both men and women. But in this case, it is women who are many victims because they are considered sexual objects. Society also considers it strange and impossible, if men who are victims of sexual violence and consider it a disgrace if the victims of sexual violence are women.

Knowledge about sexual violence is very important to be given to adolescents. This is to reduce the increasing number of victims of sexual violence. Many of the teenagers around us do not know about sexual violence and how to prevent it. Based on the results of research conducted in Tegal Regency, it turns out that many of the teenagers understand about sexual violence, but do not understand the types of sexual violence.

The results of the study in zone 1 (elementary school students grade 5-6) of the 10 students interviewed, there were 8 students, both male and female, claiming to have received sex education. They explained that sex education was obtained in schools. This form of sex education is delivered through songs and writing. When interviewed about which parts of the body are allowed to be touched by others, the average of them is able to answer it correctly even though it is not perfect.

Of the 10 respondents when asked about "who can hold breasts, genitals and buttocks?". There were seven respondents who answered that parents and themselves can hold it. Even though to hold the part, only oneself is allowed to hold it. Then when asked "If anyone holds breasts, genitals and buttocks what to do?". Six students answered "Shut up", two answered "Ask for help", one answered "Retaliate" and another person answered "Rebelled".

As for the results of the zone 1 study with junior high school education background, of the 20 respondents interviewed both men and women, 13 respondents admitted that they knew about sexual violence and 16 respondents admitted that they knew about sexual harassment. But after further interviews about what acts fall under sexual violence, only three respondents were able to answer close to perfect. Then in the background of high school / vocational education in zone 1, of the 20 respondents interviewed, 18 respondents admitted that they knew about sexual violence and sexual harassment. But only four respondents were able to answer perfectly about forms of sexual violence.

In zone 2 with an educational background in elementary grades 5-6, out of 10 students, eight of them claimed to have received sex education at school, home or social media or Google. The forms of sex education they get vary including songs, videos, pictures and writing. Almost 10 respondents were able to answer perfectly when asked about "which parts can others touch?". Regarding who can hold breasts, genitals and buttocks, out of 10 respondents eight of them answered that only oneself can hold them. While two respondents answered themselves and parents who can hold it. While on the question "What to do when someone is holding breasts, genitals and buttocks?" there were five respondents answered "just shut up", two respondents answered "ask for help", the rest answered "rebellious" and "retaliate".

The results of the study on respondents with junior high school backgrounds, there were 18 respondents who claimed to know about sexual violence and 17 of them claimed to know about sexual harassment. But only four respondents were able to answer various forms of sexual violence perfectly. Meanwhile, in high school / vocational

background, there were 17 respondents who claimed to know about sexual violence and 18 respondents out of 20 respondents interviewed claimed to know about sexual harassment. And only three respondents were able to answer the form of sexual violence perfectly. When compared from the results of the study with zone 1, zone 2 has advanced knowledge about education about sexual violence even though it is not fully understood.

In zone 3 with an educational background in elementary grades 5-6, the results showed that out of 10 respondents, six respondents had received sex education. They admitted to having received sex education in school and social media or Google. Like respondents in zone 1 and zone 2, seven respondents answered "shut up" when asked what action to take when their breasts, genitals and buttocks were held by someone else. While the other respondents answered "retaliate" and "rebel".

In junior high school education, there were 15 respondents who claimed to know about sexual violence. While 18 respondents claimed to have known about sexual harassment. Still, when asked about the various types of sexual violence, only three respondents could answer perfectly. For high school / vocational education background, 19 students claimed to have known about sexual violence and 20 students claimed to have known about sexual harassment. But only one respondent was able to answer the forms of sexual violence.

After knowing the answers from 150 respondents spread across three zones, it can be seen that most teenagers in Tegal Regency do not fully understand about sexual violence. This is very influential on the attitude of teenagers in Tegal Regency. If adolescent knowledge about sexual violence remains low, it is very difficult to create a safe environment from sexual violence in Tegal Regency. Especially in the attitude of adolescents in preventing sexual violence in Tegal Regency.

## Adolescent Attitudes Regarding Sexual Violence

Attitude is a form of action of a person related to a situation, subject or object accompanied by certain feelings. This attitude is a reflection of the knowledge possessed by each human being. Adolescent attitudes regarding sexual violence are very influential on the level of knowledge they have. According to the results of the study, in zone 1 (elementary school grades 5-6) out of 10 respondents interviewed, six of them claimed to have been held by their breasts/genitals/buttocks. Meanwhile, there were three respondents who claimed to have held their friends' breasts/genitals/buttocks for joking reasons when playing together.

Making sexual comments or jokes to others is common. This is evidenced by six respondents admitting that he had joked with his friends about pornographic matters. In junior high school education background, of the existing respondents, there were seven respondents who had committed sexual violence. The shape also varies including; showing pornographic videos, bullying, kissing, groping, and harassing others. While seven other respondents admitted that they had been victims of sexual violence. The forms of sexual violence include; bullied, groped, harassed and forced to kiss.

Then in the background of high school / vocational education in zone 1, the results showed six respondents admitted to having committed sexual violence in the form of; bullying, groping, kissing, and showing pornographic videos. While 10 respondents out of 20 respondents interviewed claimed to have received treatment such as; bullied, shown pornographic videos, harassed and some forced to kiss. For those teenagers in zone 1 who have junior high and high school / vocational backgrounds, making jokes or making sexual comments is common. However, this action can trigger sexual violence for those who are concerned about the act.

Furthermore, in the results of the zone 2 study, out of 10 respondents with elementary school education backgrounds in grades 5-6, five of them claimed to have been held by their breasts / genitals / buttocks. This shows that it is very vulnerable for adolescents at the age of elementary grades 5-6 to become victims of sexual violence.

Limited knowledge about sexual violence makes them not know what to do other than just keep silent.

In the junior high school education background of the 20 respondents interviewed, there were 11 of them admitted to having committed sexual violence. The forms of sexual violence they commit include; harassing, showing pornographic videos, bullying, groping and kissing others. Some of them have also committed acts of physical violence, which is not justified by anyone and anywhere. Meanwhile, from the results of the interview, it was obtained that 15 respondents had been victims of sexual violence. The forms include; bullied, harassed, shown pornographic videos, groped, squeezed, and forced to kiss.

The results of the study with a background in high school / vocational education in zone 2 there were two respondents who claimed to have committed acts of sexual violence such as showing pornographic videos and kissing others. But when 20 respondents were interviewed about having been sexually assaulted, eight respondents admitted to having received it. The forms of sexual violence vary including; groped, squeezed, bullied, forced to kiss, shown pornographic videos, harassed and some even forced to have conjugal intercourse.

Zone 3 consisting of Kedung banteng, Tarub, Talang, Kramat, Suradadi and Warureja sub-districts, the results showed that in respondents with elementary school education backgrounds grade 5-6 there were five respondents who claimed to have been held breasts / genitals / buttocks by others. While three out of 10 respondents admitted that he had held someone else's breasts/genitals/buttocks for joking reasons. In junior high school education background, of the 20 respondents interviewed, eight of them had committed sexual violence. While 11 out of 20 respondents had experienced sexual violence in various forms including; Being bullied, shown pornographic videos and harassed by others. Then for high school / vocational education background, of the 20 respondents interviewed, seven respondents admitted to having committed sexual violence and 13 respondents claimed to have experienced sexual violence.

# The Relationship of Knowledge and Attitudes of Adolescents in the Prevention of Sexual Violence

The results of research from the three existing zones with 150 respondents interviewed, showed that the number of cases of sexual violence in adolescents in Tegal Regency was high. But everything seems to be considered normal, so sexual violence cases have never received serious attention from the people of Tegal Regency. Many teenagers do not realize that they have become perpetrators or victims of sexual violence. This is due to the lack of knowledge they get about sexual violence and its types.

A person's knowledge is very influential on changing his attitude. The attitude of Tegal Regency teenagers regarding sexual violence is very concerning. Most are unaware that they have become perpetrators or victims of sexual violence. Still within the framework of community culture, men who are victims of sexual violence are considered taboo. Meanwhile, women who are victims of sexual violence are considered a disgrace.

Many teenagers do not understand what they will do if they experience sexual violence. So they choose to stay silent and will not tell anyone. The results of a study of 30 adolescents (grade 5-6 elementary school students) both boys and girls, showed 20 respondents admitted that they only stayed silent if they were treated "held by their breasts/buttocks/bruts" by others.

Knowledge of sexual violence must be given massively to adolescents at least those who are in elementary school (elementary grades 5-6). Adolescents must be given an understanding of sexual violence to contribute to the prevention of sexual violence in their environment. Adolescents must be equipped on what steps to take if they are sexually assaulted. Because many of them do not know what steps they should take. Even just telling stories, they are confused about who to tell and who to ask for help. If sex education and understanding of sexual violence are massively held in every education unit, it can reduce the number of sexual violence cases in Tegal Regency which has entered the third place in Central Java. Knowledge of sexual violence should be an important subject matter to be disseminated during the orientation period of new students. So that adolescents can understand what attitudes are included in sexual violence, and how they respond if they are victims of sexual violence.

### Conclusion

The results of research from 150 respondents who have been interviewed, show that adolescents still have low knowledge about sexual violence. There were 150 respondents, each representing elementary school students in grades 5-6, junior high school students, and high school / vocational students. Which is divided into 3 zones, namely zone 1 (upper area), zone 2 (middle area) and zone 3 (lower area). The average of them does not know that they have become perpetrators or victims of sexual violence. Just knowing they don't, let alone realizing it to take action in responding to this.

Knowledge of sexual violence, greatly influences the attitude of adolescents. The lack of knowledge of adolescents about sexual violence has also led to the low attitude of adolescents in supporting the prevention of sexual violence, especially in Tegal Regency. It should be appropriate that sex education and understanding of sexual violence be given in every educational unit. This is necessary to provide prevention of sexual violence cases in Tegal Regency which are increasingly mushrooming everywhere.

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