

# Adolescent Perception of Genre Related to Early Childhood Marriage In Kabalutan Island Central Sulawesi

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## ABSTRAK

Adolescent perceptions of early childhood marriage are responded positively or negatively because of the high sexual urges of teenagers because of permissive and almost unlimited environmental influences. The Planning Generation Program (GENRE) which is focused on adolescents is expected to be an innovative solution for the community, especially families with teenagers. This study aims to analyze the perceptions of adolescents about the acceptance of the GENRE concept related to early childhood marriage on Kabalutan Island. This research is a qualitative research with an explanatory approach. Data collection was conducted with Focus Group Discussions and in-depth interviews as well as observations on 14 informants consisting of teenagers who were early marriages and not early marriages, parents of teenagers who had married early and parents of unmarried teenagers and local community leaders consisting of officers health and teachers. To obtain the factors that drive teenagers' perceptions, the data are analyzed using taxonomic analysis. This study has succeeded in identifying the perceptions of adolescents about GENRE and early childhood marriages on the island of Kabalutan. The family environment and socio-culture of the local community and the interventions provided by some Parties provide a diverse understanding of adolescents. Therefore, it is recommended for cross-sector stakeholders who are interested in equating perceptions and joint interventions so that the acceptance of GENRE can be maximized in overcoming early marriage.

## INTRODUCTION

Early childhood marriage is a wedding performed by a spouse or one of its partners is still categorized as a teenager under the age of 19 (UNICEF, 2005). A variety of studies show that girls who are married at an early age have a high risk of experiencing anxiety, depression, or have a suicidal mind, some of that can be caused they have no

status, power, support, and control over their own lives (Raj, 2010).

Early-age marriages give greater risk to girls especially on the reproductive health aspects (Landung et al., 2009). Girls aged 10-19 years have a risk of five times greater death in cases of pregnancy and childbirth than females aged 20-24 years, and globally deaths caused by



pregnancy are the leading cause of child mortality Women aged 15-19 Years (BPS and UNICEF., 2016).

Tsani said, early childhood marriage was responded positively or negatively. This is due to the high adolescent sexual drive due to the permissive and almost limitless environmental influences. In the end physically, the child can be faster mature and mature. But if it is considered psychic, economic, religious, social or other forms of self-reliance, early marriage is not necessarily able to build a new community named family (Tsani, 2012).

Early childhood wedding in Kabalutan Island including the height of 30%. The island with an area of 15.13 km<sup>2</sup> has a population of 2.295 people with the largest distribution in the age group of 10-24, that is 38% of the total population and most of the society is the Bajo tribe. Based on preliminary study results, the high cause of early childhood marriage is broadly caused by two things. Firstly, most parents have an understanding when the child can make their own money already considered as adults and second youth who have had income, his role is no longer getting supervision from parents (BKKBN, 2017).

In research conducted National Population and Family Planning Board central Sulawesi province mentions children's marriage in SULTENG has reached 31.91% in the year 2015 (BKKBN, 2017). Data on BPS 2016 showed, one of the highest donors is Tojo una-una district by 23% (BPS and UNICEF, 2016).

Based on data BPS 2018, 27.09% of women aged 16-20 years have married, marry before the age of 18 years and the child's marriage very early (marriage before age 16 years between all ages 12-20 never married) of 2.5%. West Sulawesi Province, Papua, central Sulawesi, South Sulawesi, and West Papua are the five provinces that have the highest average for the percentage of children under 15 years of age (BPS and UNICEF, 2016).

Regarding the problem of adolescents the GENRE is considered present as a solution. This Program has the concept of postponing the age of marriage (women 21 years, 25-year-old males) through four substance. First population and family development is the granting of information access, education, counseling and service about family life; second adolescents ' reproductive health, i.e. giving KIE-related sexuality to HIV/AIDS; third life skills i.e. education about the general life skills and the fourth planning of family life by providing the right and true information about family life and the concept of family (Yulianti, 2017).

GENRE uniqueness is on the service of adolescent reproductive health counseling conducted by peer counselors/educators, where the GENRE is expected to be an effective educational media regarding adolescent reproductive health issues and others positively research result (2014) suggests that peer-to-peer education can increase the knowledge of the adulthood of marriage in adolescents, both in the Ministry and Rural (Follona et al., 2014).



Based on the issue is expected to study on the prevention of Early childhood marriage through adolescent health education. Researchers also wanted to find out how adolescent perceptions of the concept of the GENRE is in early-age marital issues.

## METHOD

### *Research Design and Location*

The research was conducted on the island of Kabalutan Talatako district of Tojo una – una of central Sulawesi. The type of research used is qualitative with an express approach.

### *Population and Sample*

The informant election techniques in this study were purposive based on the criteria of the specified-criteria. The informant consists of teenagers, teenage parents, community leaders. The characteristics of the informant are teenage do early childhood, unmarried youth, parents of young adults both early marriage and un marriage and informers of community leaders are family planning field officer and school teachers.

### *Data Collection*

Secondary Data is obtained by collecting information and documents from BP2KB District Tojo una – una, district family planning field officer Talatako and Kabalutan Village office. Primary Data is obtained by a focus group discussion and an in-depth interview to each of the informant by asking questions in the form of interview guidelines.

### *Data Analysis*

The data analysis techniques used in this study were conducted with a

taxonomy analysis to show more connections between something within the cultural domain.

## RESULTS

Table 1 showed that the characteristics of the informants consists of teenagers who married early or not, on average teenagers under 19 years and high school education (graduated or not), the main informants were 8 teenagers.

**Table 1. Characteristics of Teenage Informants In Kabalutan**

Informant	Gender	Age	School
<b>CN</b>	W	17 Year	High School
<b>GT</b>	W	15 Year	Junior High School
<b>WT</b>	W	19 Year	High School (not finished)
<b>PP</b>	W	18 Year	High School (not finished)
<b>WD</b>	W	19 Year	High School (not finished)
<b>WD</b>	M	23 Year	High School
<b>SR</b>	M	17 Year	High School
<b>MB</b>	M	19 Year	High School

Table 2 showed the characteristics of the supporting informants are parents of teenagers who have married early or not, health workers /Family Planning Field Officer (PLKB) and the school or teacher. Supporting informants were 6 people.

The results showed that the perception of teenagers is strongly influenced by whether or not to have an early marriage or the GENRE. Findings in this study based on the results of the



focus group discussion and in-depth interviews indicated perception of

adolescents into three domains.

**Table 2. Characteristics of Toma informants and parents in Kabalutan**

Informant Code	Gender M/W	Age (year)	School	Occupation
SL	M	31	Bachelor	PLKB
MM	M	46	High School	Teacher
WK	M	30	High School (not finished)	Fisherman
NL	W	24	High School	Housewife
AJ	M	40	No School	Fisherman
IS	W	35	No School	Housewife

**Domain perception of seriousness**

Adolescent informant is largely aware of the GENRE through counseling conducted by healthcare officers. The information they get indicates a perception of seriousness that is believed to be a risk to themselves.

(PP, 18 Year)

*“...dibilang disitu tentang narkoba bahaya, beken rusak torang pe otak torang pe masa depan, so itu kita te mau ba iko-iko ba obat biar saja dorang, tapi kalu barokok, iyo ada...”*

The perception of the seriousness of adolescents believes that the threat of reproductive health threats due to early marriage will have a serious impact on them. The informant also revealed that early marriage events could occur if the incidence of pregnancy outside marriage and average knowledge about the definition of early marriage, but in terms of the minimum age limit for marriage is still varied.

(It is said that drugs are dangerous to damage the brain and future, so I do not want to take part just let them, but if I smoke yes)

(SR, 17 Year)

*“...pernah juga itu pak ba kase penyuluhan, dia bilang torang anak-anak skola ini jangan dulu capat kawen, bagus kalo so umur 20 lebe sama-sama...”*

*“...kalu depe parampuan bulum cukup umur, kalu macam GENRE itu 20 ka bawah...”*

(If the woman is not old enough, if in that GENRE under the age of 20)

(CN, 17 Year)

(Mr. PLKB gave counseling, he said we are not used to be fast – quickly married, preferably if it is 20 years old and above)

*“...orang yang so kawen tapi umur anak-anak, macam ada itu yang 15 Year...”*



(People are married but still children, such as the age of 15 years)

(PP, 17 Year)

### **Domain Drive Acting**

*“...itu GENRE gaga, pak yang dari KB pernah datang ka skola, dia kase penyuluhan tentang bahaya parampuan hamil kalu masih anak-anak, nanti umur 20 lebe bagitu baru bagus, ada kita pe taman so kawen kon mau melahirkan siksa, so itu kita te mau capat-capat ba kawen kon hamil...”*

(Good GENRE, Mr. PLKB never come to school convey counseling about the dangers of pregnant women if still children, later than 20 years and above preferably, there is a friend I give birth is difficult to come out, therefore I do not want to quickly marry and conceive)

(CN, 17 Year)

*“...pernikahan yang kalu so terjadi apa-apa, macam so ta salah duluan...”*

(the marriage that occurred when it was pregnant first)

(WD, 19 Year)

Based on the perceived seriousness of the dangers of early childhood marriages, some informant believes to avoid early childhood marriage but there are also informants who reveal the seriousness of the occurrence of pregnancy outside the marriage then Early childhood marriage is an inevitable solution.

### **Domain Self-confidence**

The informant reveals the requirement a person is said to be worthy of marriage is if the woman is good at caring for the household and men – men already have a job. It is a self-confidence for teenagers to feel appropriate or not his butt to marry.

*“...harus cukup umur dulu, tau urus rumah tangga, urus suami, suami harus punya pekerjaan...”*

(must be old enough to take care of the household, take care of the husband, must have work)

(CN, 17 Year)

*“...harus terima keadaan laki biar laki mau susah ato sanang te boleh mau ba kalae...”*

(must accept the condition of husband in a State of difficult and seang quarrelsome)

(PP, 19 Year)

The perception of most teen informant on the island of Kabalutan on the terms of marriage is influenced by the family environment of parents. Older parents of early childhood marriages understand the concept of marriage is merely the unification of two people who love each other and have been deemed appropriate to enter the period of puberties.

*“...ehh disini ini kalu parampuan so ba haid kong cuma kasana kamari te ada*



*depe laki lebe bae dikase kawen, supaya abis orang pe carita...”*

(Eh here if the girl had menstruation only way here and there is no husband better married, Aga no negative stories of peoples)

(IS, 35 Year)

## DISCUSSION

Adolescent perceptions regarding GENRE concept are only at the stage of understanding counseling material. This is because the GENRE socialization process is considered to be not maximal even though it has been carried out with the school and health center care.

Adolescent perceptions on Kabalutan island regarding the minimum age limit for marriage are still varied. This is not independent of the intervention carried out by several parties. The local Office of Religious Affairs conducted a socialization based on the Marriage Law number 1 of 1974 that said the minimum age for marriage was male – male 19 years and female 16 years, while the health workers are based on the GENRE concept of 20 years in women and 25 years in men. The varying understanding of the age limit of marriage is said by health informants to cause the maximum acceptance of GENRE both on the part of the teenagers and the teenagers themselves. Another thing is the need for adolescent counseling has not been fulfilled due to inadequate infrastructure

Audina et al (2016) said that giving information that is lacking can cause low knowledge of adolescents that results in making perceptions about early marriage

become natural Adolescents have an assessment of the health care system they will use. This assessment will lead to an attitude of acceptance or rejection of the utilization of reproductive health service centers (Arie et al., 2011).

Health care services for adolescents according to the perspective of adolescents need a comfortable service place, that is a closed room, a comfortable atmosphere, secrets can be maintained. Besides at school, support for the family environment in this case parents and the social environment in this case the environment of residence and adolescence itself. Counseling services provided to adolescents will be effective by involving various elements, i.e. adolescents, families, in this case parents, schools, especially Counseling teacher and school health unit, as well as the community in the neighborhood (Rohmayanti et al., 2015).

Rural communities tend to familiarize themselves with early childhood, so that it becomes a culture that is continuously carried out and considers early marriage as a starting point to be separated from the moral and economic burden of the family. To create its own values to avoid negative talk of the community environment. Marriage is only seen as a mere biological need, not seeing the aspects of impact in a social and healthy manner. Force in carrying out the reality of early marriage due to the stigma that develops and will develop in the community (Hidayatullah et al., 2018).

Parents who have limited perceptions are based on the limitations of specific understanding of reproductive



health and children's rights, so the tendency is to marry off their children. Parents have a big role in the occurrence and delay of marriage at a young age (Arimurtti et al., 2017).

Open communication between parents and their children will lead to the closeness of parents and their children, so that teens can share their problems with parents and can get the right information about safe behavior in living their lives, teens will also know good things or things they must avoid (Lianawati et al., 2018).

## CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

There are various adolescent perceptions of each who believe the seriousness of the risk of getting married early, but there are also those who believe in the seriousness of the risk if pregnant out of wedlock and not married. Differences in teenagers' perceptions of the minimum age limit for marriage are due to interventions with different references. The party of religious affairs office based on Marriage Law of 1974 stated the minimum age of marriage for men is 19 years and women are 16 years and family planning field officer based on GENRE concept where it stated the minimum age of marriage for men is 25 years and women are 20 years.

Adolescents' self-confidence regarding the seriousness of being pregnant out of wedlock makes early marriage an unavoidable solution and adolescent self-confidence regarding marriage requirements is influenced by local socio-culture.

Based on the results of this study, first recommended to make Kabalutan island as a target area with the priority of adolescents and families group to reduce early marriage. Second, in order to family planning field officer and religious affairs office intervened together so that the programs implemented could mutually support GENRE.



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