

# Socialization Of Early Marriage Prevention As A Means Of Reducing Divorce Rates

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# Socialization Of Early Marriage Prevention As A Means Of Reducing Divorce Rates

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**Abstract.** Several countries face the problem of early marriage. Child marriage occurs in both urban and rural areas, with various backgrounds and economic classes. Economics, education, demographics and socio-culture influence early marriage in developing countries. Early marriage can also lead to divorce because they are not physically and mentally ready, so there are often disputes and so on. Adolescents who marry before the appropriate biological or psychological age are particularly vulnerable to adverse impacts. The community-based participatory research (CBPR) method was used in this study to address the need for a more people-centered and community-driven research approach to combat growing health disparities. The results of this study show that a movement such as socialization of early marriage prevention is needed in order to reduce the number of early marriages in Indonesia. After the number of early marriages in Indonesia is reduced, it will certainly correlate with the divorce rate in Indonesia because one of the factors of divorce is early marriage.

**Keywords:** Early, Socialization, Marriage, Divorce.

**Abstrak.** Beberapa negara menghadapi masalah pernikahan dini. Pernikahan anak terjadi di daerah perkotaan dan pedesaan, dengan berbagai latar belakang dan kelas ekonomi. Ekonomi, pendidikan, demografi, dan sosial budaya memengaruhi pernikahan dini di negara berkembang. Pernikahan dini juga dapat menyebabkan perceraian karena fisik dan mental mereka belum siap, sehingga sering terjadi perselisihan dan sebagainya. Remaja yang menikah sebelum usia biologis atau psikologis yang tepat sangat rentan terhadap dampak buruk. Metode penelitian partisipatif berbasis komunitas (CBPR) digunakan dalam penelitian ini untuk menjawab kebutuhan akan pendekatan penelitian yang lebih berpusat pada masyarakat dan digerakkan oleh komunitas untuk memerangi kesenjangan kesehatan yang terus meningkat. Hasil dari penelitian ini adalah menunjukkan bahwa diperlukannya sebuah Gerakan seperti sosialisasi pencegahan pernikahan usia dini agar dapat mengurangi angka pernikahan dini di Indonesia. Setelah angka pernikahan dini di Indonesia berkurang, tentu akan berkorelasi juga terhadap angka perceraian di Indonesia karena salah satu factor perceraian adalah pernikahan dini.

**Kata kunci:** Dini, Sosialisasi, Pernikahan, Perceraian.

## 1. BACKGROUND

Several countries face the problem of early marriage. Child marriage occurs in both urban and rural areas, with a variety of backgrounds and economic classes. Economics, education, demographics and socio-culture influence early marriage in developing countries. Early marriage affects married children and regional and national development. In addition, child marriage has negative health effects such as the risk of maternal and child mortality, high divorce rates, domestic violence, low living standards due to the inability to meet economic needs, and psychological risks Yanti (in Ismawati et al., 2023).

Marriage is a sacred event. Marriage changes one's status from bachelor to married. It is expected that the next generation will be better than the previous generation because of the existing marital bond. Therefore, couples who will enter into it must prepare themselves well, both mentally and physically, as well as social and economic preparation. Because of the high risk of marital failure, young pregnancies with risk of maternal mortality, and unprepared mental state for marriage and responsible parenthood, early marriage is an important concern for policy and program planners. The low age at first marriage of an area's population indicates low socioeconomic status. Women and men then do not have many other activity options and thus enter into early marriage.

If husbands, wives and children do not comply with the government's marriage registration law, the marriage has no legal guarantee protecting their rights and obligations. If violations are committed by either party at a later date, the aggrieved party cannot legally claim any rights. A person who abandons his or her obligations is not legally responsible for what is done to his or her spouse (Salman, 2002).

Early marriage can also lead to divorce because they are not physically and mentally ready, so there are often disputes and so on. Adolescents who marry before the appropriate biological or psychological age are particularly vulnerable to adverse effects. At that time, the bride is not ready to take on the responsibilities of an adult (Khalil, 2015). It turns out that the practice of Indonesian society does not always follow the regulations prohibiting underage marriage. That according to Irawan Setiady concludes that it is possible from the perspective of the prevailing customary law of marriage. The unity of both parties is still not limited by customary marriage. Here, parents, their siblings, and their respective families are united (Setiady, 2008).

Early marriage is one of the significant social problems in Indonesia. Early marriage is defined as marriage by adolescents who are not yet 20 years old and are usually not ready for marriage (Redjeki et al., 2016). For adolescents, the high number of marriages at too young an age has significant effects. These include problems with their physical and mental health, as well as difficulties in achieving their academic and professional goals. Providing early marriage prevention socialization to villagers to urge their children not to marry prematurely is an important step to address this issue.

## 2. METHOD

The community-based participatory research (CBPR) method was used in this study to address the need for a more people-centered and community-driven research approach to combat growing health disparities. CBPR is a collaborative research approach that involves

researchers, community members and other stakeholders equally throughout the research process and recognizes the unique strengths of each group (Salimi, 2012). Combining knowledge and action to create positive and sustainable social change is the goal of CBPR.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

#### Early Marriage

Wedding ceremonies vary according to religion, culture, social class, and ethnic traditions. A wedding is a ceremony celebrated or performed by two people to formalize their bond as a couple. Early marriage is usually done to avoid slander or having sex with unmarried people. In addition, parents sometimes marry off their very young children due to economic concerns. By marrying off a girl, the parents' responsibility for raising the child is reduced as the girl will become the responsibility of her husband.

Marriage is important for human beings because it allows one to attain biological, psychological, and social life balance (Adam, 2020). Those who are married, on the other hand, have a greater capacity to control their emotions and sexual desires. Emotional maturity is essential for marital continuity. The emotional maturity of the spouses is essential for the success of the household. Marriage is not just a bond meant for marriage, but also building a family, which requires the marriage actors to think and solve problems on their own.

Lower access to contraception, too close birth spacing, abortions, antenatal care and deliveries provided by medical personnel in health facilities, and infant mortality are some of the consequences of early marriage and pregnancy (Godha et al., 2013). Young mothers are more prone to malnutrition, which contributes to higher mortality rates for mothers and their babies (Goli et al., 2015). Women who marry at a young age often experience domestic violence, also known as sexual violence (Santhya, 2011). In addition, they may experience psychological disorders such as depression, anxiety, and other mood disorders (Ahmed et al., 2014).

Early marriage and childbirth at a young age increase the risk of premature delivery and low birth weight. Women who marry at an early age also have a longer time to conceive and a higher birth rate. In addition, teenage marriage leads to low family quality, both in terms of psychological unpreparedness to deal with household social and economic problems, the risk of being mentally unprepared for marriage and responsible parenthood, marital failure, and early pregnancy which increases the risk of maternal mortality due to the unpreparedness of teenage mothers to carry and deliver babies.

According to Eka Khaparisti and Edward, some of the causes of early marriage are self-will because they feel in love with each other, the encouragement of parents or family, and a very low level of education caused by inadequate economic conditions. Sarwono (2007) states that the education of adolescents and parents is also a contributing factor to early marriage. A child's low level of education can lead to a tendency to marry at an early age. This is because the way a person handles problems and makes decisions, including more complex ones, is strongly influenced by one's level of education.

### **Divorce in Indonesia**

Riani (2019) found that there are many reasons for divorce, including an imbalance in the husband-wife relationship in terms of fulfilling biological needs, issues of different life principles, income differences in terms of living welfare, and infidelity, where the Male Idaman Lain (PIL) and Wanita Idaman Lain (WIL) act as third parties that damage household relationships. In addition, Devi (2019) revealed the reasons for divorce in Bangkan Hamlet, Enrekang Regency. (a) Internal factors: (1) Economic factors; (2) Absence of responsibility; (3) Disputes and domestic violence (KDRT); (4) Infidelity; and (5) marriage without love and parental arranged marriage are some of these factors.

According to Arini, the impact of parental divorce on children's social life includes juvenile delinquency, stress, phobia, sadness, and confusion in facing existing problems, unable to express feelings, feelings of losing parents, loss of imaginative power, lack of trust in partners (for adults), and lack of confidence in school and residence. According to Kusumawati (2020), the impact of parental divorce on children's emotional conditions can be concluded that 1) emotional conditions greatly affect children's personalities, and 2) parental divorce tends to have a greater negative impact on the emotional conditions of children aged 6-12 years. Judging from the more dominant negative impact on children if parents divorce, as well as the importance of emotions to determine children's personalities, it would be better for parents to reconsider before divorcing. The factors and impacts of divorce in Indonesia are also none other than due to early marriage, married couples who marry at an early age will certainly lack emotional experience so that the household is still unstable. This instability will certainly make the household disharmonious.

### **Correlation between Early Marriage Prevention Socialization and Divorce Rates in Indonesia**

Socialization is an important link among social systems because it includes social interaction and behavior. According to Sutaryo (2004), socialization is the process of introducing a system to a person and how people determine their responses. The interaction

between one's experience and personality and one's social, economic, and cultural environment determines one's socialization. As biological beings, humans become cultured humans by socialization, which enables them to perform their duties properly as individuals and as members of groups.

Many people refer to adolescence as the most vulnerable period, a time full of problems and immense curiosity. During this time, one's emotions are at their highest. One tries to perform better and does not want to lose. Outside influences can enter easily due to unstable emotions. Apart from experiencing hormonal disturbances, he also experiences rapid and drastic physical changes. The development of sexual organs towards functional perfection and the growth of secondary genital organs show changes, this makes adolescents very close to sexual problems (Oktaviana, 2022).

Many teenagers just think that after marriage they will live better because they will not bother thinking about schoolwork and the subjects they have to study. They do not realize that early marriage has many impacts on education Walgito (in Oktaviana, 2022). The first impact is the closure of school education, the second is the lack of knowledge and insight, and the third is the difficulty of adjusting, because everyone is required to adjust Fourth, he often experiences quarrels in his household, Fifth, divorce is often feared because of his young age, Sixth, he does not have good social relations with the community, and Seventh, he is vulnerable to domestic violence (KDRT).

The more vulnerable teenagers who think briefly and without thinking long, the higher the divorce rate in Indonesia. Of course, we can overcome this by providing understanding and motivation to teenagers or young people so that they do not get married early. With the socialization of early marriage prevention, of course, it can make teenagers understand the negative impacts of self-marriage. This will certainly correlate with a decrease in the divorce rate, because one of the factors in the high divorce rate is early marriage.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Marriage is a ceremony celebrated or performed by two people to formalize their bond as a couple. Early marriage is usually done to avoid slander or having sex with unmarried people. Marriage itself can bring negative impacts if done without thinking first. After having an <sup>19</sup> early marriage, it will certainly have an impact on the divorce rate in Indonesia because early marriage couples have little emotion and life experience so that it will make the household relationship not harmonious. Therefore, a movement is needed such as socialization of <sup>8</sup> early marriage prevention in order to reduce the number of early marriages in Indonesia. After the

number of early marriages in Indonesia decreases, it will certainly also correlate with the divorce rate in Indonesia because one of the factors of divorce is early marriage.

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