

## KNOWLEDGE AND ATTITUDE ON SEXUAL BEHAVIOR AMONG BINAKARYA BANGSA VOCATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

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### Abstract

All children becoming adolescents need information about bodily functions, sexual development, and avoid unwanted pregnancy. Also, they need knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including HIV / AIDS and prevention. This information helps prepare adolescents with their changing. This study used primary data collected by distributing questionnaires to 30 respondents. The finding of this study shows that 66.7% of adolescents are had poor knowledge about reproductive health. The majority of respondents (60%) have a negative attitude towards reproductive health. Furthermore, there is no significant relationship between knowledge and attitude.

**Keywords:** Knowledge, Attitude, Health, Reproduction

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### 1. Introduction

Nowadays, there was increasing in adolescent reproductive problems. Most of it occurred because of a lack of information on various aspects of reproduction-related to themselves. Improving the quality of adolescent reproductive health can be done by paying attention to health communication problems. The problems of adolescents regarding sexuality and reproductive health have been increasingly felt more and more alarming. <sup>[1]</sup> When entering the adolescent period, they would experience rapid physical changes. It marked the reproduction become mature. However, many phenomena show that some adolescents did not understand reproductive health, such as menstruation and pregnancy occurrence of pregnancy. <sup>[2]</sup> Adolescents need information about their bodily functions, sexual development, and also ways to avoid unwanted pregnancy. Also, they need knowledge about sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), including HIV / AIDS, to prevent it. Adolescents are vulnerable, so

indeed, they need much information about reproduction. Mainly this is parents' task; however, many studies showed that parents rarely talk about reproductive health to their children; most parents feel uncomfortable and unconfident or ashamed to have the "talk". <sup>[2]</sup>

IDHSS' data in 2017, from 43% of girls and 49% of boys were got information from health workers. Most girls (43%) stated that their source information was their mother. While the boys stated that the source of information was from their friend (26%) and their teacher (25%), both received information for the first time in junior high school; however, they did not receive any information about family planning. Only 12% of girls and 11% of boys stated that they got family planning information during junior high school; this number was very low. Information about HIV/AIDS was

also given for the first time at junior high school.<sup>[3]</sup>

Many adolescents show positive behavior and excel in various fields; however, some adolescents had negative behaviors such as smoking, drug use, brawls, abortion, free sex, which can lead to unwanted pregnancy and other infectious diseases. Therefore, they need information about maintenance of cleanliness of the reproductive organs, reproductive processes, and the impact of irresponsible behavior such as unwanted pregnancy, abortion, and other sexually transmitted diseases..<sup>[4]</sup>

The data from IDHS in 2012 regarding premarital sexual relations showed that most girls were against premarital sexual behavior compared to boys. BKKBNs' survey in 2008 showed that 63% of adolescents claimed to have had sexual relations before marriage.<sup>[5]</sup>

They were knowing helped form adolescent attitudes and behaviors, especially in maintaining their reproductive health, which indirectly helps to reduce the risk of transmission of sexual diseases, unwanted pregnancy, diseases of the reproductive system, and disruption of education and employment.<sup>[6]</sup>

## 2. Method

This study was a quantitative study aimed to identify Binakarya Mandiri Vocational High School students' knowledge and attitude on their reproductive health. Data collected through distributing a questionnaire to 30 respondents. The samples were taken using total sampling. Collected data analyzed using univariate and bivariate analysis (Chi-Square Test).

## 3. Results and Discussion

**Table 1.** Distribution of Knowledge on Reproductive Health

Sexually transmitted infections	N	%
Yes	30	100
No	0	0
Total	30	100
Type of Sexually transmitted infection		
Herpes, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, HIV / AIDS	1	3.3
Gonorrhea, Syphilis, HIV / AIDS	1	3.3
Gonorrhea, HIV / AIDS	1	3.3
HIV/AIDS	26	86.7
Did not know	1	3.3
Total	30	100

Understanding about transmission of sexually transmitted infections		
Yes	28	93.3
No	2	6.7
Total	30	100
Ways of transmission of sexually transmitted infections		
Kissing	1	3.3
Kissing, Sexual intercourse	4	13.3
Sexual intercourse	25	83.3
Total	30	100
transmission of sexually Transmitted infections through sexual relations by multiple partners	N	%
Agreed	20	66.7
Did not agreed	10	33,3
Total	30	100
condoms can prevent transmission of sexually transmitted infections		
Agreed	6	20
Did not agreed	22	73.3
Did not answered	2	6.7
Total	30	100
Transmission of sexually transmitted infections can be through kissing		
Agreed	19	63.3
Did not agreed	10	33.3
Did not answered	1	3.3
Total	30	100
Informant sources		
Friends	2	6.7
Friends, Boyfriends, Parents, Media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine)	1	3,3
Friends, Boyfriends, Media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine)	1	3,3
Friends, Media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine)	1	3,3
Friends, School	3	10
Boyfriends	3	10
Parents	2	6.7
Parents, Media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine), School	2	6.77
Parents, School	1	3.3
Media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine)	2	6.7
Media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine), School	1	3.3
School	11	36.7
Total	30	100
The meaning of losing virginity		
Did not answered	3	10
Life is unwilling to die	5	16.7
Life is reluctant to die Do not Want, Loss of the Future	3	10
Losing the Future	18	60

Did not know	1	3.3
Total	30	100
Definition of non virgin		
Did not answered	3	10,0
Had Sexual intercourse	22	73.3
Had Sexual intercourse, Married	2	6.7
Did not Bleed at first night intercourse	1	3.3
Did not know	2	6.7
Total	30	100
Sexual intercourse meaning		
Did not answered	1	3.3
Holding hands	1	3.3
Holding hands, sexual intercourse, hugging, kissing	1	3.3
Sexual intercourse	24	80
Sexual intercourse, kissing	1	3.3
Kissing	1	3.3
Did not know	1	3.3
Total	30	100
Reading / pictures / porn films helped increase knowledge about sex		
Yes	22	73.3
No	7	23.3
Did not answered	1	3.3
Total	30	100
Reproductive talk is a taboo		
Yes	11	3.67
No	11	3.67
Did not answered	8	26.7
Total	30	100
Introducing family planning means allowed to do sexual intercourse		
Yes	5	16.7
No	23	76.7
Did not answered	2	6.7
Total	30	100
premarital pregnancy is ashamed		
Yes	15	50
No	12	40
Did not answered	3	10
Total	30	100
Abortion is better choice		
Yes	3	10
No	25	83.3
Did not answered	2	6.7
Total	30	100
Keeping virginity is a must		
Yes	27	90
No	1	3.3
Did not answered	2	6.7
Total	30	100
TV shows or other media influence people to do sexually before marriage		
Agreed	15	50
Did not agreed	10	33.3
Did not answered	5	16.7

Total	30	100
Curriculum sufficient to educate about reproductive		
Yes	11	36.7
No	15	50
Did not answered	4	13.3
Total	30	100
Reproductive counselling is necessary		
Yes	25	83.3
Did not answered	5	16.7
Total	30	100

The table above shows that all students said they knew about sexually transmitted infections; this statement was limited to asking about knowing sexually transmitted infections. The table shows that there are 86.7% of respondents only knowing HIV / AIDS as the type of STD. About 3.3% of respondents had more knowledge about the type of STD like Herpes, Gonorrhea, Syphilis, HIV / AIDS, even though they could not mention all the types. However, there were respondents who did not know what kind of STDs are. Most respondents (93.3%) are knowing how STDs transmitted. Most respondents (83.3%) know that sexual intercourse is one of the ways to transmit STD. However, there are 13.3% of respondents who think that kissing could transmit STD. Most respondents (83.3%) know that sexual intercourse is one of the ways to transmit STD. However, there are 13.3% of respondents who think that kissing could transmit STD. Almost half of the respondents (66.7%) agreed that transmission occurs by doing sexual intercourse with multiple partners; 73.3% of respondents agreed that condoms could prevent the transmission. Almost half of the respondents also agreed that kissing it could be transmitted STD. Behavior in sexual intercourse in adolescents, 60% of respondents, interpret virginity as losing their future, 16.7% interpret that "reluctant to live but did not want to die." Most respondents answer interpretation of non-virgin as already had sexual intercourse (73%), while 6.7% of respondents added married people as a non-virgin. There are respondents who

interpret kissing as an act of sexual intercourse or holding hands.

Most of respondents get information about reproductive health from their school, but 50% of respondents stated that it was not enough. However, most respondents agreed that the media (VCD / DVD / Porn Magazine) as information sources did not educate adolescents about reproductive health. Several respondents agreed that the “talk” is necessary, not a taboo. However, by giving them information about family planning, most of the respondents agreed that this information means they allowed to have sex.

Respondents' point of view about pregnancy premarital was not a problem, but most of them agreed that abortion is the best choice. Most respondents (90%) still have a principal that they should keep their virginity before marital. Half of the respondents believe that television shows influence adolescent attitude and behavior especially about sexual behavior

**Table 2.** Distribution of Sexual Behavior

<b>Sexual Behavior (intercourse)</b>	<b>f</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	2	6.7
No	27	90.0
Did not answered	1	3.3
Total	30	100.0

Table 2 shows that most respondents (90%) never had sexual intercourse. However, there are 6.7% of respondents having them.

**Table 3** Knowledge and Attitude on Reproductive Health

<b>Knowledge</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>%</b>
Excellent	10	33.3
Poor	20	66.7
<b>Attitude</b>		
Positive	12	40
Negative	18	60

Table 3 shows that 66.7% of respondents have poor knowledge about reproductive health, and 60% have a negative attitude. This finding is consistent with Prajitno's previous study; most adolescents had a lack of information about reproductive health.<sup>[7]</sup> Aritonang (2015) also found few adolescents who had excellent knowledge.<sup>[8]</sup>

Attitudes define as an emotional predisposition that response consistently to an object. Attitudes also define as variables underlying,

directing, and influencing behavior; attitude was not identical with behavioral responses and could not observe directly but can be concluded from the consistency of observable behavior.<sup>[8]</sup> Agustini (2014) stated that when people had good knowledge, it would influence their behavior to be more positive and vice versa.<sup>[9],[10]</sup>

**Table 4** Correlation of Knowledge and Attitude

<b>Knowledg e</b>	<b>Attitude</b>		<b>p-value</b>		
	<b>positive</b>	<b>negative</b>			
	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>	
Excellent	5	50	5	50	0.344
Poor	7	35	15	65	

Statistic analysis shows p-value = 0.344, which means that there is no significant correlation between knowledge and attitude. However, the table shows that respondents with poor knowledge, most of them had a negative attitude. Rahmadi (2013), in his previous study, stated that there was no significant correlation between attitude and behavior. This finding can be seen probably due to other factors.<sup>[11]</sup> Attitude has three elements, namely cognitive (knowledge), affective (emotion, feeling), and connective (action). From the elements of emotion or feeling, adolescents can be triggered to behave negatively when exposed to other factors like watching advertisements or electronic mass.<sup>[10]</sup> Getting information helped adolescents understand their sexuality and suppress incidents of unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted infections, and the risk of infertility. Adolescents became more respectful of their anatomy and became more responsible for taking care of their reproductive organs. The school was the major aspect of helping adolescents understand their reproductive changes to adults. However, this study found that school health information was limited to biological and avoiding talking about sexuality. The material was insufficient in meeting adolescent needs according to their sexual behavior.<sup>[11]</sup>

Reproductive and sexual health education in school did not give in specific subjects but inserted in other subjects such as Biology, Physical Education, and Religious education. Also, students educated in non-school programs like events held by the government or other institutions. <sup>[11]</sup>

Society believes that sexual behavior only for the marital couple and to educate them about sexual behavior is only given by the Office of Religious Affairs. Schools only could give sexual education in order to prevent premarital sex. Premarital sex considered a deviant behavior because it is contrary to religious teachings. Therefore, in a religious subject, students get material to form their behavior in avoiding premarital sex. Health Law 36/2009 article 137 clause two, stated that adolescents had the right to get an education, information, and health services according to religious, moral considerations, and laws. <sup>[11]</sup>

Adolescents need to be prepared to facing puberty; because much changing, they became more vulnerable, including sexual behavior. Sexual education usually given by parents; however, this subject is taboo; most adolescents did not get it. Reproductive and sexual health education is a sensitive topic; that why it requires advocacy with the relevant authorities and public education regarding the importance of this given. <sup>[12],[13]</sup>

#### 4. Conclusion

Based on the finding, it can be concluded that most adolescents had poor knowledge and negative attitude toward sexual behavior. However, there was no significant correlation between knowledge and attitude on sexual behavior. Sexual education is essential to prepare adolescent facing puberty, so they need more information given by the school or other institution.

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