

PARENT'S ROLE PREVENTING EARLY MARRIAGE

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Article Information

Received:

April 30, 2020

Revised:

January 11, 2021

Accepted:

January 18, 2021

Available Online:

February 04, 2021

Abstract

Background: Early marriage has many negative impacts; therefore, parents needed an effort to prevent early marriage. Purpose: To describe the role of parents in preventing early marriage. Method: quantitative descriptive, Accidental sampling technique, with a sample size of 95. The study was conducted in May 2019. The research instrument was a questionnaire on the Role of Parents in Preventing Early Marriage, modified from Novianti (2017), contained 30 questions, with a validity score of 0.3785 and alpha cronbach 0.707. Data analysis using frequency distribution. This research had been registered to the ethics committee with the ethics number of 535/UN6.KEP/EC/2019. Result: 56 people (59%) parents done their role excellent in preventing early marriage. Of the five roles of parents, the role of parents was an educator 64 (67%), role models and friends 46 (48%), counselor 40 (53%), and 60 (63%) as a communicator. Conclusion: the role of parents in preventing early marriage was categorized as either the role of educator, communicator and counselor, while the role of parents as friends and role models was said to be wrong. Suggestion: education about early marriage to the community and adolescents to reduce or minimize early marriage incidence

Keywords: Prevention, Early Marriage, Role of Parents

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1. Introduction

The number of adolescents aged 15-24 years has multiplied in recent years, and it was estimated that the number of adolescents was 1.2 billion or 18% of the world's population.^[1]

Indonesia's total population in 2010 was 237.6 million, 26.67% of whom were teenagers. The number of teenagers in West Java was 11,358,704 people, or 26.60% of the total population in West Java. One district in West Java with the highest number of adolescents was Garut Regency; there were 2,548,725 adolescents in 2015.^[2] Moreover, the

problem commonly found in adolescents was early marriage.^[3]

Indonesia was a country with a high percentage of early marriage and was ranked 37 globally and ranked second in Southeast Asia.^[4] Early marriage is a marriage performed by minors, which are less than 20 years old. The rise of early marriage should be addressed immediately.^[5]

A survey in 2012 showed that early marriage incidence in Indonesia, which occurred among children aged 10-14 years, reached 4.2%. Early marriage incidence in West Java was 36%, and Garut district had the highest early

marriage rate. The highest rate of early marriage in Garut was in the Tarogong Kaler sub-district. The 2006 - 2017 assessment conducted by the Indonesian Women's Coalition (IWC) Garut Regency recorded that the number of early marriages aged 15-16 years in Tarogong Kaler District, Garut Regency reached 36%.^[3]

Many factors influence early marriage, such as parental education, youth education, youth employment, and people's role.^[6] In the interviews with the head of the Religious Affairs Office Tarogong Kaler district, early marriage in Tarogong Kaler District was due to the Sundanese community's characteristics, which were still thick with young marriage culture. Also, there was juvenile delinquency that often occurs due to lack of parental supervision. Parents' role was needed to shape adolescents to find the right environment and produce good relationships, too, so that early marriage does not occur.

Early marriage on adolescents had negative impacts on reproductive health, cognitive psychology, and socio-economics. Early marriage was also caused by reproductive health problems, such as cervical cancer because women who were married under 16 years were 10-12 times more likely to develop cervical cancer.^[7]

The results of a preliminary study of Religious Affairs Office Tarogong Kaler District data indicated that early marriage in 2018 was 638 teenagers. One of the impacts of early marriage is divorce. Based on data from the Religious Courts, there were 890 requests for divorce. According to the Judge at the Garut district religious court, the high number of divorce cases was early marriage, and most of the couples filing for divorce were couples under the age of 20. This was due to economic factors and disharmony in the household. Another impact of early marriage was violence against women and children. Data from P2TP2A (Integrated Service Center for the

Empowerment of Women and Children) in Tarogong Kaler, there were 7 cases in 2017 and 2018. Two of them were early marriage, which impacted maternal and child mortality, divorce, violence against children, and crimes due to economic factors.

Early marriage also affecting maternal health. Data from the Cipanas Primary Health Care in 2018, there were 13 cases of preeclampsia, 7 cases of maternal mortality, and 1 case of infant mortality. Village Health Post of Pananjung in 2018, there were 33 cases of a high-risk pregnancy. Of the 3,914 women examined for the IVA test, 80 women with tumors and two suspected of cancer were found. Data on LBW (low birth weight) in dr. Slamet Garut recorded 937 cases of LBW in 2017.^[8]

Based on a review of data from the Tarogong Kaler sub-district Religious Affairs Office in 2018, 58 teenagers married early. According to the Head of the Pananjung Urban Village, teenagers' association was very worrying, and many cases of early marriage were caused by teenage pregnancy. Based on the high incidence of early marriage and its impact in Tarogong Kaler District, the authors chose Pananjung Village as the research location because Pananjung Village recorded the highest early marriage incidence in 2018.

Teenagers who live in Pananjung tend to have early marriages. The government has a program to reduce and prevent early marriage, namely Youth Family Development or BKR.

BKR is a forum whose members are parents who have unmarried teenagers aged 10-24 years. The purpose of BKR is to broaden parents' insights to foster teenagers. BKR is also implemented to increase participation, provide guidance, and increase independence in family planning, especially for couples of childbearing age. Family is the most crucial agent in preventing early marriage. Parents' role is expected to motivate adolescents to stay away from free sex behavior, leading to early marriage. One of the programs in the

BKR is the role of parents in fostering adolescent growth and development.

Parents' role is a direct effort to provide guidance, add insight, and provide and fulfill the child's need.^[9]

Parents' role is a direct effort to provide guidance, add insight, and provide and fulfill the child's needs. Parents have a considerable influence in determining choices for children, including the decision to conduct a marriage. Every right choice comes from good communication to get the right decision. Parents in carrying out their roles to prevent early marriage have several roles that must be done.^[10]

Parents have a role as educators, models, friends, counselors, and communicators. Parents as educators in preventing early marriage are related to parental education because parental education can affect how the understanding that families have regarding early marriage.^[11]

Aside from education, communication also can influence adolescent behavior. Parents as friends could assist in preventing early marriage. According to Lestari (2015), the mentoring role should be done to assisting in sexual matters.^[12] In line with Maryatun's previous study in 2013, there was a significant relationship regarding peers' role in premarital sexual behavior. She stated that much early marriage occurred due to teenage pregnancy.^[13]

High school students who married at a young age, mostly due to teenage pregnancy, have poor communication with their parents. Therefore, the parent counselor's role is to provide a picture of positive and negative values in everyday life, such as the good and bad of making friends or dating. Parents who have a poor understanding of the reproductive system tend to marry off their children regardless of the children's age to be married.^[10]

Parents are role models for children; parents should provide an excellent example for children in saying, behaving, worshipping, living, and

society. Noviyanti's research in 2017 stated that when parents did not know the proper methods of providing information and behave appropriately, they would not become a good role model for their children.^[14]

There are three determining factors of early marriage. They communicated with the family, parents as the decision-maker, and the family role creating an intimate relationship.^[9]

Based on the statement of the head of the Pananjung sub-district, most parents did not carry out their role correctly; they could not control and monitor their children, especially while far from home.

The majority of parents whom their teenagers married before they turn 21 for girls and 25 for boys have low education, namely junior high school. According to the midwives and cadres in the Pananjung sub-district, teenagers who married early were mostly due to pregnancy. From the interviews, we found that most parents allowed children to date, did not control what they do when they go out, and have poor communication with their children. This condition was what causes early marriage.

The GenRe program in Pananjung village was not running optimally; however, there were still efforts to provide information on early marriage, but only to teenagers who were known going to be married. So far, no counseling efforts have been made regarding the prevention of early marriage. According to health cadres, counseling on early marriage prevention was given only to adolescents who were about to or who have registered for marriage but were still under 17 years old.

The interviews with five teenagers married early with their parents in Pananjung Village; the parents found poor knowledge about early marriage. This conclusion was taken based on their answer during interviews. From 24 questions, only 14-16 questions were answered correctly. It shows that parents

fell to the category had poor knowledge. The conclusion has also taken from the questionnaire. From 21 questions, only 15-17 questions were answered correctly. It showed that they had a poor parental role.

Meanwhile, the teenagers before married already had permission from their parents. They stated that they had good communication with their parents, but they never told their parents about their friends or boyfriends. The teenagers also stated that their parents never provided an understanding of early marriage and its effects.

Teenagers who did not get attention from their parents will seek attention in other places or from other parties. However, teenagers could not sort out the good or bad environment for them, making them fall into bad associations, such as uncontrollable dating, frequent travel the opposite sex, and not being open with their parents. These things lead to teenage pregnancy and end up married at a young age. According to Maryatun (2013), there was a significant relationship between friends and premarital sexual behavior. There were many cases of early marriage occur due to extramarital pregnancy.^[13]

Nurses' role in preventing early marriage had been carried out but not optimal. In this case, nurses should carry out their role correctly to prevent early marriage, such as providing education about the impact of early marriage. This research was expected to provide an overview of the role of parents in preventing early marriage. This research was expected to provide an overview of the role of parents in preventing early marriage. The purpose of this research was to explore the roles that have been carried out in children related to early marriage so that they can unite related parties to handle early marriage.

2. Method

This research was quantitative with descriptive methods; namely, a research method was carried out to describe parents' role in preventing early marriage

in Pananjung Tarogong Kaler Garut. The population was 1657 teenagers, and the number of respondents obtained 95 teenagers. The instrument used in this study was modified from the Noviyanti (2017) instrument, which contains 30 questions with a validity score of 0.3785 and alpha cronbach 0.707.^[14]

3. Results and Disucussion

Table 1. Distribution of Parents' Role in Prevention of Early Marriage

Role	f	%
Excellent	56	59%
Poor	39	41%
Total	95	100%

Table 1 shows most of the parents categorized had an excellent role (59%).

Tabel 2. Distribusi Frekuensi Berbagai Peran Orang Tua Dalam Pencegahan Pernikahan Dini

No.	Variabel	f	%
1.	Educator		
	Excellent	64	67%
	Poor	31	33%
2.	Role Model		
	Excellent	46	48%
	Poor	49	52%
3.	Friends		
	Excellent	46	48%
	Poor	49	52%
4.	Conselor		
	Excellent	49	52%
	Poor	46	48%
5.	Communicator		
	Excellent	60	63%
	Poor	35	37%

a. Parents as Educator

Parents in Pananjung Village as an educator in preventing early marriage categorized had an excellent role. They could provide knowledge related to early marriage, but they had poor knowledge. Respondent knows that early marriage should not be done but does not know the impact of early marriage; this was due to the lack of information about early marriage. Nurhajati and Wardyaningrum (2014) previous

research stated that parents' role with the occurrence of early marriage was inseparable from the level of parental knowledge, which can be related to the level of education because the level of education affects the understanding of parents in efforts to prevent early marriage.^[10] This finding is in line with Alfiyah and Hisyam (2015) previous research stated that low levels of education and knowledge could be one of the causes of early marriage. This dramatically affects the role of parents as educators in preventing early marriage.^[15]

b. Parents as Role Model

Respondents were poor role models in preventing early marriage. Most parents lacked giving good examples in saying, behaving, worshiping, living, and in society. This finding was in line with Noviyanti's research in 2017; parents did not know the right methods. Parents could not behave accordingly and adequately in providing sex education so that parents do not become role models for children. Furthermore, in the end, teenagers try to find their role models outside. When a teenager did not have a good role model, the teenager will do anything to imitate his role model. If the teenager's role model behaves well, the teenager will do positive things like the role model. However, if the teenager's role model misbehaves, the teenager will imitate. This was one of the reasons for the high rate of early marriage in Pananjung Village.^[14]

c. Parents as Friends

Based on the result, respondents categorized had a poor role as friends. Parents lacked in building relationships with their children. Also, most teenagers think that their parents could not be their friends and prefer to have friends of the same age. Lestari (2015) stated that parents as friends could assist in sexual matters.

If there were no parents' assistance, adolescents would be confused to understand the sexual process. If they asked their peers, the information would not suffice.^[12] According to Maryatun in 2013, there was a significant influence from peers on premarital sexual behavior, so that many early marriage cases occur due to pregnancy outside of marriage.^[13]

d. Parents as Conselor

The results show most respondents were categorized as an excellent counselor. In this case, parents in Pananjung Village have given a picture of positive and negative values in everyday life, such as the good and bad of being friends or dating, to make their children able to make the right decisions dealing with their problems. However, parents in Pananjung Village have a poor understanding of reproductive health, which will be an obstacle to preventing early marriage. This finding shows an association with parents' knowledge and education. This finding is in line with Nurhajati and Wardyaningrum (2014), which stated that parents play a significant role in the occurrence.^[10] In early marriage, most parents had limited understanding, especially about reproductive health. They tend to marry off their children without paying attention to their age. Parents needed to act like counselors by being a mediator between adolescents and their future by shaping the problem by providing comfort to adolescents with their parents. Parents as counselors interpret, provide correct information to adolescents, listen, stay away from depressive actions, and direct.

e. Parents as Communicator

Most of the respondents categorized had an excellent role as a communicator. Most parents could communicate in two directions; two-way communication will help

adolescents develop mutual respect, increase self-esteem, accept change, and open attitude.^[16] Parents' role as communicators plays a good role due to the parents' knowledge about early marriage. So that parents know what to convey to their adolescents and how to convey these early marriages. Parents as communicators need to discuss all topics openly with adolescents and make teenagers open to discuss their problems with their parents because when parents and children have a harmonious atmosphere, good communication will be created. However, based on a survey conducted by researchers found that adolescents were not open with their parents. They think their parents did not need to know about their private life. Astuti research' in 2015, parents' role in preventing marriage early that high school students who marry early due to pregnancy outside of wedlock have poor communication with their parents.^[17]

4. Conclusion

Based on the research results, most respondents have had an excellent role as parents in preventing early marriage. Of the five roles of parents, the roles of educators, communicators, and counselors had high scores. Meanwhile, the role of parents as friends and role models is said to be wrong. Education regarding early marriage to the community and adolescents correctly and adequately should be improved.

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