

## **Relationship of Marriage Perception and Married Readiness in Women's Adolescents in Makassar City**

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### **Abstract:**

**Background:** In general, early marriages based only on love without mental and material readiness will have a negative impact on the household. The high case of early marriage is not comparable with the high readiness of adolescents in living life in their marriage, as well as how teens perceive the marriage. The purpose of this study was to determine whether there is a relationship between perception and readiness of marriage to young women in Makassar City.

**Materials and Methods:** The subjects in this study were 375 teenage students 16-18 years old in Makassar. The data collection method used in this study was a questionnaire using a Likert scale that is the scale of marriage perception and the scale of marriage readiness. In this study, the hypothesis was tested using the correlation test, regression test, and the Anova test.

**Results:** The results showed that there was a correlation between Marital Perception and Marital Readiness. From the results of the calculation of linear regression analysis, the significance level of 0,000 or perceptions of marriage affects marriage readiness.

**Conclusion:**The result shows that there is a significant relationship between perceptions of marriage with marriage readiness.

**Key Word:**Marriage Perception; Marital Readiness; Young Women.

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### **I. INTRODUCTION**

Family is the leading indicator of the nation's quality. Welfare is the goal of every family that is built through marriage. A phenomenon that often occurs in some developing countries is early marriage. The data shows that the trend of early marriage in Southeast and East Asia is lower than in other Asian countries. Furthermore, around the world, there are more than 51 million teenage girls aged 15-19 years old who are married and carry the burden of domestic responsibilities and risks associated with early sexual activity, including early pregnancy. (Mathur, Greene, & Malhotra, 2003). Another study shows that most women in developing countries are getting married in their teenage years. Alternatively, there are 20-50% married women under the age of 18 years and more than 40% of women who marry at the age of 20 years. The most significant influence on the incidence of early marriage is institutional factors. Women who graduate from high school tend to avoid getting married during adolescence. Even data on countries with a higher proportion of women with secondary education and the incidence of early marriage is also low. (Singh & Samara, 1996).

Early marriage is a marriage that is carried out by 18-year-old teenagers and even younger ages who are physically, physiologically and psychologically not ready yet to assume marital responsibilities. (Singh & Samara, 1996). Furthermore, Policies in Indonesia regulating the age of marriage for men are 19 years old and for the women 16 years old.

According to the data from the United Nations Development Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA, 2010), Indonesia is the 37<sup>th</sup> country with the highest number of early marriages in 2007. For the ASEAN level, the level of early marriage in Indonesia ranks the second largest after Cambodia. The Population Census Data in 2010 provides a general description that 18% of adolescents in the 10-14 age group who are married, 1% have ever given birth to live children, 1% are divorced. While the incidence of young marriage in the group of adolescents aged 15-19 years who live in rural areas is 3.53% compared to urban teenagers 2.81%. (Nguyen & Wodon, 2012). The high case of early marriage is not comparable with the high readiness of adolescents in living life in their marriage. Adaptation of adolescents to the roles and tasks of newly married couples often creates problems. One reason for the difficulty of carrying out new tasks is the lack of readiness to carry out these tasks (Hurlock, 1994).

Early marriage, which is only based on love without mental and material readiness, will have a negative impact on the household. The number of young marriages is directly proportional to the high divorce

rate. Young age leads to practical and wrong decision making which leads to divorce. Mentally, a young age has not been able to face family problems. Divorce rates in all major cities in Indonesia show a sharp increase in a graph. Data from 2009 to 2016 shows an increase in divorce rates reaching 16-20 percent.

Readiness means the development level of maturity, which is advantageous to practice something or to be prepared to respond to something. Furthermore, marital readiness is a condition of being ready or willing to deal with a partner, ready to accept responsibilities as husband or wife, ready to engage in sexual relations, ready to manage the family, and ready to care for children. (Lawson, 1988). Furthermore, marriage readiness consists of emotional readiness, social readiness, role readiness, age readiness, and financial readiness. The essential needs in the ability to get married including 1) *Love*, nurturing feelings, pride, optimism, and controlling emotions; 2) *Personality fulfillment*, help couples to receive potential and autonomy; 3) *Respect*, liking and understanding your partner well always give encouragement and 4) *Communication*, express feelings to your partner and provide the best solution for each problem. (Stinnett, Carter, & Montgomery, 1972)

Knowledge about marriage is the basis for the formation of the perception of marriage. Knowledge about marriage can be obtained from family, friends, or other people's experiences. Good knowledge about marriage will form a positive perception of marriage. The perception of marriage is essential because it is the initial foundation that must be prepared in building a family life.

South Sulawesi, with the capital city in Makassar, is one of the places where many early marriages take place. Nationally, South Sulawesi is one of the provinces with the second-highest early marriage age after West Java and Aceh. Noted the number of marriage vulnerable points among women aged 10-14 years reached 4 million people and South Sulawesi around 200 thousand people.

Based on the background description, this article describes the Relationship between Perception of Marriage and Marriage Readiness for Adolescent Girls in Makassar City, Indonesia. This study is a rationale for preventing the growth of new marriage rates.

## II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

Marital readiness is the ability of an individual to be able to present himself in marital roles while the perception of marriage is a person's perspective or observation of a stimulus in their environment through a sensing process that is actively carried out to be able to interpret and conclude the stimulus.

**Study Design:** This study uses quantitative data with independent variables, namely the perception of marriage, and the dependent variable is the readiness of marriage.

**Study Location:** Senior high school girls in Makassar City with ages between 16 years and 18 years.

**Instrument:** The instrument used to collect data. Marital readiness consists of 40 items from 8 indicators. Furthermore, the instrument used to collect data on the level of teenage perceptions of marriage uses a marriage perception scale consisting of 30 items from 3 aspects.

**Sample size:** 375 people.

**Sample size calculation:** The number of study samples is 375 people selected by the random / probability sampling technique. The instrument used to collect data on perceptions and readiness for marriage uses a Likert scale model consisting of 4 choices. Each answer is given a value in the range 1 - 4. Test the validity of the instrument using content validity.

**Analysis data:** Analysis of the data used in this study is descriptive quantitative analysis. Descriptive analysis was conducted to measure the average value and standard deviation of the research variables. Anava test was conducted to analyze differences in research variables based on the type of school. The relationships between research variables were analyzed using Pearson's correlational test. Besides, regression analysis is used to find out how much perception of marriage contributes to influencing on marriage readiness.

## III. RESULT

### Description of Study Subjects

**Table no 1:** The subjects in this study were high school, vocational, and female students, totaling 375 people. Based on table 1 the number of each school shows the percentage value that is relatively the same.

**Table no1:** The Number of Students.

NO.	School Type	N	%
1	Senior High School	122	32,5
2	Vocational High School	123	32,8
3	Boarding Senior High School	130	34,7
Total			1000

### Marriage Perception Data

**Table no 2:**The results of students' answers to indicators of marriage readiness are presented. In the personal aspect, students assess that marriage readiness is dominated by perceptions about readiness to become husband and wife. While in the economic aspect, most students consider that the readiness of marriage must be supported by the ability to manage finances. In physical aspect, students assess physical readiness to carry out family tasks is a consideration for marriage.

**Table no2 :** Shows Percent Change in Lipids,( mg/dL) on a regular dose of Rosuvastatin 20mg for 6 weeks.

Aspect	Indicators	Favorable	Unfavorable
Personality	Ready to be a loyal partner	1,2	3,4
	Ready to change the life from a free to a deep relationship	5,6	7,8
	Has tenderness and affection for her partner	9,10	11,12
	Be sensitive to other people's emotions	13,14	15,16
	Share intimacy with others	17,18	19,20
	Have a realistic assessment of your partner	21,22	23,24
	Contributing in meeting the needs of his family	25,26	27,28
	Have a family life plan later	29,30	31,32
Economic	Ready to be a husband or wife	33,34	35,36
	Readiness to works to improve the family economy	37,38	39,40
	Ready to have the skills or advantages possessed for work	41,42	43,44
Physically	Mampu mengelola keuangan	45,46	47,48
	Confident physically	49,50	51,52
	Having a physical ability to carry out family duties	53,54	55,56

**Table no 3:**The results showed that marriage perceptions based on the origin of the school showed that students of boarding school had higher marriage perceptions compared to SMK and SMA students, while the perception of marriage by SMK students was higher than that of SMA students. From the results of research that has been done from each school shows the level of diversity of these perceptual data is relatively the same.

**Table no 3:**The perceptions of marriage in each group of subjects.

NO.	School Type	MEAN	STD. ERROR
1	Senior High School	71.828	.757
2	Vocational High School	71.065	.754
3	Boarding Senior High School	67.992	.734
AVERAGE		70.295	70.295

**Marriage Readiness Data**

**Table no 4:**The results of the analysis of respondents' answers indicate a low cognitive aspect of marriage readiness. In general, students have minimal knowledge and information about marriage with also the components of affection and conative.

**Table no 4 :**Data on perceptions about marriage readiness

Aspect	Indicator	Favorable	Unfavorable
Cognitive	Knowing marriage	1,2	3,4
	Obtain information about wedding preparations	5,6	7,8
	Have confidence about marriage readiness	9,10	11,12
Affection	Happy to have a marriage	13,14	15,16
	Happy with the task as a woman or man	17,18	19,20
conative	Behave according to the duties of women or men	21,22	23,24
	Be in line with a partner	25,26	27,28

**Table no 5:**The results showed that the readiness to get married based on the origin of the school showed that students had higher marriage perceptions compared to SMK students and high school students, while the perception of the marriage of high school students was higher than that of SMK students. From the above table, the results of the study can be concluded that the mean value for each school shows that the level of readiness for marriage is not much different from other schools.

**Table no 5 :**The perceptions of marriage in each group of subjects

NO.	School Type	MEAN	STD. ERROR
1	Senior High School	155.221	1.384
2	Vocational High School	153.024	1.378
3	Boarding Senior High School	153.438	1.340
AVERAGE		153.894	1.367

**Relationship of perception with readiness to marry in adolescents in Makassar**

**Table no 6:**Based on the results of this study, the correlation between Married Perception and Marital Readiness is 0.607 and  $p < 0.05$ ; thus, it can be said that there is a correlation between Married Perception and Marital Readiness. Furthermore, the results of the regression analysis showed that the Marriage Perception variable contributed 36.8% to Marriage Readiness, while the remaining 63.2% was influenced by other things not examined in this study.

**Table no 6:** ANOVA Test

Model		Sum of Squares	Df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
1	Regression	32144.863	1	32144.863	217.652	.000 <sup>b</sup>
	Residual	55087.975	373	147.689		
	Total	87232.837	374			
a. Dependent Variable: SKM						
b. Predictors: (Constant), SPM						

#### IV. DISCUSSION

Knowledge is a person's internal factors that can influence the formation of perception. Information obtained by research subjects from experience or events not only at home but also at school. These conditions cause the subject's knowledge about marriage to be more numerous, so the subject's perception of marriage depends on the way the subject interprets the message received.

Research subjects who are students in high school, vocational school, or in Islamic boarding schools are in the stage of adolescent development. Where one of the criteria for adolescents is more like to discuss in the learning process, subjects can form internal representations of the concept of marriage and the values adopted from information obtained previously. This information can come from family, friends, or other people's experiences (Putrini, 2002). Subjects spend more time at school, so indirectly there is more time to communicate with friends than family. Things that are communicated are not free from personal problems and are related to the couple so that indirectly awakens the perception of marriage.

Good knowledge and perception of marriage will have implications for marriage readiness. Marital readiness is the willingness of individuals to prepare themselves to form an inner and outer bond between a man and woman as husband and wife to form eternal families and households that are recognized in religion, law, and society.

The results of previous research reveal that age influences marriage readiness. Married age, motivation to get married, mature personality characteristics, and good adjustment influence the readiness of marriage. Furthermore, marital readiness is strongly influenced by physiological maturity, psychological maturity, and social maturity. (Badger, 2005; Holman & Li, 1997)The result of the study is related to the opinion of Duvall and Miller who said that when someone is ready to get married, then he must have completed all the tasks of his development following the age at which he will marry. (Duvall & Miller, 1985)

## V. CONCLUSION

The description of adolescent knowledge about marriage is still very minimal and causes their perceptions about marriage are very limited. Most adolescents consider that marriage readiness is dominated by perceptions about husband and wife readiness, marriage readiness must be supported by the ability to manage finances and physical readiness to carry out family tasks. There is a relationship between perceptions about marriage with marriage readiness in adolescents in Makassar.

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