

EXPERIENCES OF ADOLESCENT WOMEN WHO MARRIED AT AN EARLY AGE IN THE PAYA PASIR DISTRICT OF MEDAN MARELAN

Wellina BR. Sebayang¹, Ida Yustina², Nurmaini³, Kintoko Rochadi⁴, Fikarwin Zuska⁵
¹⁻⁵Faculty of Public Health, University of North Sumatra

ABSTRACT

Cases of early marriage are a problem in various countries including Indonesia. Early marriage has an impact on reproductive health and risks experiencing emergencies during pregnancy and childbirth. Early marriage also tends to make children lose their right to play and get an education. The purpose of this study was to explore the experiences of young women who married at an early age in Paya Pasir Village, Medan Marelan District. The research design used was a qualitative phenomenological research design. The participants in this study were 10 married young women in the Paya Pasir sub-district. The results showed several sub-themes, namely: The causes of early marriage are due to romantic relationships, arranged marriages and economic factors, all participants did not have the mental readiness to face marriage. Experience in intercourse tends to mention surrender because of obligation and not enjoy. During pregnancy, two participants experienced an unexpected pregnancy, and even planned to have an abortion but it didn't happen. The contraceptive used by the participants was of the hormonal type, and all experienced symptoms of severe side effects. Experience in caring for babies all participants have felt anxiety, sadness and crying.

Keywords: Experience, adolescent women, early marriage



Received : 2 Feb, 2023

Received in revised form : 21 Feb, 2023

Accepted : Mar 17, 2023

INTRODUCTION

Marriage is a very meaningful moment for every human life in the form of a physical and spiritual bond between a man and a woman as husband and wife with the aim of forming a harmonious and eternal family based on Belief in the One Almighty God. Besides uniting two different people, marriage will

automatically change the status of both. The law regarding marriage is stated in Law no. 1 of 1974, Article 7 paragraph (1) states that marriage is permitted if the man has reached the age of 19 and the woman has reached the age of 16. However, changes and revisions to return to marriage can be made if the male and female parties are at least 19 years old, then it is continued in paragraph 2 which

Correspondence : Wellina Br. Sebayang. Faculty of Public Health, University of North Sumatra
wellinasebayang@gmail.com

states that the marriage of each candidate who has not reached the age of 21 must obtain permission from both parents. . Then, the National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) has also issued a regulation that the ideal age for marriage for women is 20-35 years and 25-40 years for men (BKKBN, 2020) .

According to WHO, Africa and Southeast Asia are countries that have high rates of early marriage placement. From the data reported, Southeast Asia has a number of teenagers under the age of 19 who are married, amounting to approximately 10 million teenagers. In Africa, 42% of youth aged 19 years carry out marriages (UNICEF, 2020) .Based on BPS (Central Statistics Agency) data for 2020 the number of early marriages or child marriages in 2019 was 10.82 percent. 15.24 percent of child marriages occurred in rural areas and 6.82 percent in urban areas. On the island of Sumatra, the province with the highest prevalence is Bengkulu, 14.33 percent (Central Bureau of Statistics, 2020) . Based on data for 2020, it is known that the early marriage rate is still above the national average in 20 provinces in Indonesia. West Sulawesi, Central Sulawesi and Southeast Sulawesi occupy the three highest positions in the number of early marriages. It is estimated

that 1 million children are married at an immature age.

East Lampung Regency is one of the regencies in Lampung Province which has experienced an increase in the rate of early marriage in the last 3 (three) years. In 2018 there were 5,164 people, in 2019 there were 8,347 people who married at an early age. Whereas in 2020 there were 3,822 teenage girls who entered into early marriages . Based on data from the Population and Civil Registry Service for East Lampung Regency in 2020 the highest early marriage rate was in 3 (three) sub-districts including Labuhan Maringgai sub-district with 341 people, Sukadana sub-district with 283 people, and Jabung sub-district with 243 people doing early marriages (BKKBN, 2020) .

Research conducted by Purba (2018) in Baru Village, Pancur Batu District, Deli Serdang Regency stated that the factors that influence young women's marriage are due to housing and education factors for young women's marriage, while economic and cultural factors have no effect on young women's marriage. urban and rural areas in Deli Serdang Regency. Lack of education, living in rural areas are contributing factors that can influence why someone marries

relatively young (Harahap & Lubis, 2022)

.

MATERIAL AND METHOD

The research method used is qualitative research with a phenomenological design, namely qualitative research that is rooted in philosophy and psychology, and focuses on human life experiences. The purpose of qualitative research is to make systematic, factual and accurate descriptions, drawings or drawings of the facts, characteristics and relationships between the phenomena investigated with a lot of emphasis. This research uses a

RESULT

This study describes the results of research on the impact of early marriage on the reproductive health of young women in Paya Pasir Village, Medan Marelan. The research was conducted by interviewing 10 participants who had

case study strategy, with the intention of studying intensively the background of the research to be carried out.

Participants in this study were young women who had early marriages in Paya Pasir Village. Data collection using in-depth interviews or in-depth interviews, as well as observation and data recording using a tape recorder. After all the data has been collected, data analysis is carried out by processing the data using the Colaizzi method where the interview transcripts are read again, then search for keywords and arrange categories. Furthermore, the categories are arranged into a meaningful theme.

early marriages. Data were obtained about the age of participants in early marriage (Table 1). This study will describe the results of interviews for each participant who were gathered in 10 participants related to the impact of early marriage. Following are the special characteristics of each participant.

Table 1. Age of Participants Married Early in Paya Pasir Village Medan Marelan

| Married Age | Frequency | Percentage |
|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| Married 16-17 yrs | 4 | 40% |
| Married 18-19 yrs | 6 | 60% |
| Amount | 10 | 100% |

Based on Table 1, it shows that 40% of the participants had early marriages, aged 16-17 years and 60%

were married aged 18-19 years. This shows that there are still teenagers who marry at an early age.

1. Causes of Early Marriage

"Initially I got married because I was arranged with my parents, at first I didn't want to because I was still in school but because of my parents' wishes so I couldn't do anything other than obey the wishes of my parents" (P1, P2, P3, P4). "I got married because of my own will because my boyfriend and I both like to be parents because I was afraid that something bad would happen, so I got married quickly and my family agreed too" (P5, P6, P7). "The reason I got married early was due to promiscuity when I was at school, I already dated so I got pregnant, in the end I was forced to get married and dropped out of school" (P8, P9). "The reason I married Ma'am was because of my family's economic problems, so I had to get married to reduce the economic burden on my family" (P10).

2. Mental Preparedness for Early Marriage

"My mental readiness for marriage is definitely nervous, I'm always afraid and I'm not ready to get married, let alone be matched, plus I'm still in school, so I'm afraid of my husband and his family. I'm afraid they won't like me later, especially since my child is still immature and can't do anything" (P1, P2, P3, P4).

"I am ready to get married even though I am nervous, but I feel happy because I am married to a man who loves me, even though I know I will drop out of school later" (P5, P6, P7).

"At that time, my mentality was very chaotic because I felt depressed and embarrassed by what my neighbors and friends said because I got married as a result of being pregnant out of wedlock, which made my family have to bear the shame" (P8).

"I'm sure I'm depressed and embarrassed because of being married in an unusual manner, namely getting pregnant out of wedlock and lots of scorn from my neighbors towards me" (P9)

"When I get married, of course I feel nervous, afraid especially if for example my parents-in-law don't like me, but because of my family's economic condition, I have to be ready to marry a man I don't know so that my family's burden is reduced" (P10).

3. Sexual Experience

"Initially I got married, we still didn't have sex because we were still shy what else to get married because we were arranged, but over time after I got to know my husband and I

Correspondence : Wellina Br. Sebayang. Faculty of Public Health, University of North Sumatra wellinasebayang@gmail.com

started to have feelings and vice versa so we started having husband and wife relationships, when we got in touch I gave up just because I've never had sex, so I follow what my husband wants" (P1, P2, P3).

"After I got married, my husband and I immediately had sex, even though we got married because we were arranged, but because of lust, what else can I do, Miss" (P4).

"After I got married, my husband and I immediately had sex with husband and wife, yes, at first I was shy but because my husband wanted it, what can we do, as a wife, we can only fulfill the husband's desires" (P5,P6,P7) .

"From the start, we told you that you already knew that I was pregnant out of wedlock, so my experience of having sex was due to promiscuity at first I didn't want to, but because my boyfriend forced me to keep adding more temptation, finally we did it until my genitals came out. blood and there I panicked because I didn't know anything but my boyfriend said it was because you were a virgin" (P8,P9).

"My experience when having intercourse with husband and wife was during the first night my husband and I had intercourse, whether I wanted it or not I had to want it because it was my duty as a wife to fulfill my husband's desires" (P10).

4. Pregnant Experience

"To get pregnant, my husband and I had planned to have children, even though basically we got married because we were arranged, but no matter what, every husband and wife will definitely have children and parents also want to have grandchildren. While I was pregnant, my husband and I were still in touch with my husband and wife. On that side, my husband and other families always cared about me" (P1, P2, P3).

"From the beginning of our marriage, my husband and I have had sex with husband and wife for not a few months. I've been pregnant, yes, I'm happy that you can get pregnant as well as my husband and during pregnancy my husband always does what I want, and during pregnancy I still have sex with my husband" (P4,P5,P6).

"When I was pregnant with my first child, I was ready for my pregnancy, Ma'am, but not until 1 month, I miscarried because I fell, so I was traumatized and sad because I lost my fetus, but soon I was pregnant again, Ms. " (P7).

"Before getting married, I was already pregnant, Ma'am, so I wasn't ready, I had to accept this pregnancy, even though I had planned to abort this pregnancy before, but because I was afraid and didn't have the courage, I had to keep it Ma'am" (P8 P9).

"I'm ready to get pregnant because it's a natural thing for married couples, even though I've never been pregnant but my parents-in-law always support me and tell me what happened during pregnancy" (P10).

5. Experience in Contraceptive Use

"After I gave birth I used birth control injections for 3 months, the effect was that I experienced my weight gain and I never had my period until now I still use birth control injections for 3 months" (P1, P2, P3).

"After I finished postpartum I planned to use birth control pills and there were some effects that I felt like dizziness and nausea, then I used birth control implants which had a 3 year effect, yes I haven't had my period for 3 years and every morning I have nausea like someone else pregnant and always dizzy every time she looks down" (P4).

"After I was in my puerperium I did a birth control injection which was 1 month at that time I didn't take long to replace it because it didn't suit me because during the day it made me shiver/crash and my period didn't go smoothly. Then I replaced it with a 3 month birth control injection" (P5, P6).

"After I had a child, it didn't take long for me to use the implant which was 3 years old but it didn't take up to 1 year for me to open it because as long as I used the implant I never had my period, my body started to thin, I felt weak and often tired. Then I asked the midwife because of the effect of the implant after I opened my period it went smoothly, my body started to fill up and I'm not tired anymore and until now I don't use contraceptives anymore" (P7).

"My experience in using birth control I only used injections for 3 months which had an effect on my appetite which increased so that it made me fat, my period was not smooth so because it was suitable until now I am still using it" (P8, P9, P10).

6. Experience in Caring for Infants / Children

"After I gave birth I had to be ready to take care of my baby on my own even though I wasn't next to other people and I often cried because at the start of breastfeeding it hurt plus my baby was always crying so it made my mood erratic and irritable but my husband was always there for me so he always support and help me both in taking care of children and homework" (P1, P2).

"Before I gave birth, the midwife taught me how to care for the baby, starting from holding the baby, breastfeeding and so on, so I was ready to take care of my baby plus the support from my husband and family" (P3, P4).

"When I gave birth I used to feel worried about my newborn baby because I still didn't know how to take care of a baby especially since it was my first time giving birth so I felt like that when I took care of the baby later because I felt a bit scared because our baby still had bones. it wasn't hard yet and the skin was soft and slippery but not long ago I was told by my parents-in-law and the midwife how to take care of the baby" (P5).

"After I gave birth to my first child I didn't feel ready because I gave birth by SC so my condition was still in recovery, but because of the support from my husband, family and midwife I started to want to take care of my child and slowly my condition started to improve" (P6).

"Even though I got pregnant out of wedlock, I am ready to take care of my baby after I give birth because thanks to the support of my husband and family, I am able to care for my baby even though my baby often cries" (P7, P8).

"Surely every mother must be ready to care for her baby because it is a mother's duty even though on the other hand I have felt sad, worried because my baby is always crying but thanks to the support of my husband and family so I can handle it" (P9, P10).

DISCUSSION

The results of the participants' answers from several sub-themes show that the understanding of participation about early marriage is good. Participants were able to explain their reasons for marrying at an early age, some of whom stated the reasons for early marriage included arranged marriages for their parents, their own desires, due to promiscuity, and family economic

problems. Based on the results of the study it can be seen that most of the factors that cause marriage are romantic relationships (P. 5,6,7,8,9), while some others marry because of arranged marriages and economic factors (P.1,2,3,4,10).

Most of the participants expressed their readiness for early marriage where participants (P.1,2,3,4) stated that their readiness for early marriage was feeling nervous and afraid because they were not

ready to marry and were afraid that their husbands and their families would not like them because they were still immature and can't do anything yet. Unlike the case with participants (P.5,6,7) where she explained that she felt happy because she married the man she loved even though there was a feeling of nervousness during the wedding. Then the participants (P.8,9) stated that they felt depressed and ashamed of their marriage, where neighbors and friends talked a lot about being pregnant out of wedlock. Participant (P.10) stated that although he was not ready yet, he was trying to face his marriage even though at first he felt nervous and afraid, but for the sake of his family he still had to accept it. It can be seen that almost all of the participants experienced feelings of nervousness and were not ready to face marriage, even two respondents felt that they were confused leading to depression.

In the experience of sexual intercourse, the participants (1,2,3) stated that at the beginning of the marriage, they still did not have sex because they were still shy because they got married as a result of an arranged marriage. Participants (4,5,6,7) explained that after marriage they immediately had sex with husband and

wife because her husband wanted her even though she still felt shy. In contrast to the participants (8,9) explained that before marriage she was already pregnant due to promiscuity where she was carried away by lust with her boyfriend. Participant (10) stated that on the first night he had intercourse to fulfill his husband's desires. Experience in having sex can be seen that seven participants only considered the relationship as an obligation and tried to be submissive, only three participants were able to enjoy intimate husband and wife relationships at the beginning of marriage.

On pregnancy readiness the participants (1,2,3,4,5,6,10) said that they were ready to get pregnant even though it was their duty as wives. Participant (7) stated that he was ready to accept his pregnancy even though initially he had a miscarriage. The case was different with the participants (8,9) explaining that she was already pregnant even though she had thought about having an abortion, but in the end she accepted her pregnancy. Two participants experienced unwanted or unwanted pregnancies and planned to have an abortion, one participant experienced spontaneous abortion, this possibility was

caused by a perfectly mature reproductive system due to the young age factor.

Experience in using contraception, namely: participants (1,2,3) explained that after childbirth she immediately used birth control injections for 3 months and is still using them. Participant (4) stated that at first he used birth control pills but because of some of the birth control effects he felt then he changed to birth control pills for 3 years. Participants (5 , 6) explained that initially they used injection injections for 1 month, then they changed to injection injections for 3 months. Participant (7) stated that after he had a child he used KB implants for 3 years but after 1 year he let go because he was not strong with the effects of the KB and until now he has not used any KB. Participants (8 , 9, 10) explained that he used KB injections for 3 months and is still using them. All participants used a type of hormonal birth control, namely injections for 3 months, 1 month and contraceptives under the skin (AKBK), with symptoms of side effects that were quite severe and even one participant chose to stop being a family planning acceptor.

Readiness of the mother in caring for the baby: Participants (1,2) explained that she was ready to care for her baby, even though sometimes she often cried

because she felt pain while breastfeeding and her mood was erratic so she got emotional easily because the baby often cried but thanks to the help and support of her husband and family can deal with it. Participants (3,4) explained that before giving birth they had been taught how to care for babies so that they were ready to take care of babies after giving birth. Participant (5) explained that after she gave birth she felt anxious because she didn't know how to care for her baby because it was her first time giving birth but because of the help and support from her husband , family and midwife she was able to take good care of her baby. Participant (6) explained that after she gave birth to her first child she felt she was not ready because she gave birth by SC so her condition was still recovering, but because of the support from her husband, family and midwife she started to want to take care of my child and slowly my condition started to improve. Participants (7,8) stated that even though I was pregnant out of wedlock I was ready to take care of my baby after I gave birth because thanks to the support of my husband and family, I was able to care for my baby even though my baby often cried. Participants (9,10) explained that she was ready to take care of her baby

because it was a mother's duty, even though on the other hand she had felt sad, worried because her baby was always crying but thanks to the support of her husband and family she could handle it. All participants experienced various feelings of sadness, anxiety and readiness in caring for babies after giving birth.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of in-depth interviews with ten participants, it can be concluded: The causes of early marriage are due to romantic relationships, arranged marriages and economic factors, all participants do not have the mental readiness to face marriage. Experience in intercourse tends to mention surrender because of obligation and not enjoy. During pregnancy, two participants experienced an unexpected pregnancy and even planned to have an abortion but it didn't happen. The contraceptive used by the participants was of the hormonal type, and all experienced symptoms of severe side effects. Participants experience varying feelings of sadness, anxiety and readiness in caring for babies

REFERENCES

Central Bureau of Statistics. (2020a).

- Prevention of Accelerated Child Marriage That Cannot Be Delayed. *Central Bureau of Statistics* , 6–10.
- Central Bureau of Statistics. (2020b). The National Strategy for the Prevention of Child Marriage. *Journal of Chemical Information and Modeling* , 53 (9), xi–78.
- BKKBN. (2020). *PREVENTING CHILD MARRIAGE THROUGH THE KKBPK PROGRAM* dr. Sigit Priohutomo, MPH (PLT. HEAD of BKKBN) Presented at the National Population Seminar .
https://www.bkkbn.go.id/po-content/uploads/2018.03.10.Banjarmasin.MENCEGAH_PERKAWINAN_ANAK_MEL_PROG_KKBPK.pdf
- Harahap, L., & Lubis, J. (2022). The Impact of Early Marriage on Adolescent Reproductive Health at State High School 5 Padangsidempuan City in 2022. *Journal ...* , 1 (2), 2–5.
<https://ejournal.stikesdarmaispadangsidempuan.ac.id/index.php/jpmd/article/view/31%0Ahttps://ejournal.stikesdarmaispadangsidempuan.ac.id/index.php/jpmd/article/download/31/24>
- UNICEF. (2020). Child Marriage in Indonesia. *Katadata* , 2030.
<https://www.unicef.org/indonesia/media/2826/file/Perkawinan-Anak-Factsheet-2020.pdf>
- Kemenppa, R. (2018). "Dana Clinic" as an Effort to Prevent Early Marriage. In *"Dana Clinic" as an Effort to Prevent Early Marriage* .
- Abdus, A., Saleheen, S., B, SA, A, SK, & Habib, J. (2021). *Machine Translated by Google Heliyon Sociodemographic factors and early marriage among women in Bangladesh, Ghana and Iraq: An illustration from the Multiple Indicator Group Survey* . 7 (November 2020).

- Akter, S., Williams, C., Talukder, A., Islam, MN, Escallon, JV, Sultana, T., Kapil, N., & Sarker, M. (2022). Harmful practices prevail despite legal knowledge: a mixed-method study on the paradox of child marriage in Bangladesh. *Sexual and Reproductive Health Matters* , 29 (2).
<https://doi.org/10.1080/26410397.2021.1885790>
- Dadras, O., & Hazratzai, M. (2023). *Relationship of child marriage to morbidity and mortality in children under 5 years of age in Afghanistan: findings from a national survey* . 1–9.
- Daulay, DH, Hayati, A., & Efendi, R. (2023). *Early Marriage According to the Views of Muhammadiyah Figures and Nahdlatul Ulama Leaders (Case Study in Fisherman Village Communities, Medan Marelan District)*
- Fadila, E., Robbiyanto, SN, Handayani, YT, Change, B., & Behavior, P. (2022). *Scientific journal of medicine and health* . 1 (2).
- Harahap, L., & Lubis, J. (2022). The Impact of Early Marriage on Adolescent Reproductive Health at State High School 5 Padangsidempuan City in 2022. *Journal ...* , 1 (2), 2–5.
<https://ejournal.stikesdarmaispadangsidempuan.ac.id/index.php/jpmd/article/view/31%0Ahttps://ejournal.stikesdarmaispadangsidempuan.ac.id/index.php/jpmd/article/download/31/24>
- Indriani, F., Pratama, NH, Ninta, R., & Sitepu, B. (2023). *THE IMPACT OF EARLY MARRIAGE TRADITION ON REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH IN WOMEN: LITERATURE REVIEW* . 4307 (1), 1–8.
- Katmawanti, S., Hamzah, D., Yusup, D., Sholihah, FZ, & Awaliahmunazila, M. (2022). *The impact of early marriage on the reproductive health of female adolescents* . 1–7.
- Lowe, H., Kenny, L., Hassan, R., Bacchus, LJ, Njoroge, P., Dagadu, NA, Hossain, M., & Cislighi, B. (2022). 'If she gets married when she is young, she will give birth to many children': a qualitative study of child marriage practices amongst nomadic pastoralist communities in Kenya. *Culture, Health and Sexuality* , 24 (7), 886–901.
<https://doi.org/10.1080/13691058.2021.1893821>
- Society, PK, Sekarayu, SY, Nurwati, N., Social, IK, & Reproduction, K. (2021). *Impact of early marriage on reproductive health 1* .
- Phiri, J., Musonda, E., Shasha, G., & Kanyamuna, V. (2023). *Individual and Community level factors associated with early marriage in Zambia: a mixed effects analysis* . 1–13.
- Social, I., & Efevbera, Y. (2021). *Social Sciences & Medicine* . 273 (November 2020).
- Zelharsandy, VT (2022). Analysis of the Impact of Early Marriage on Reproductive Health in Empat Lawang District. *Abdurrahman Journal of Health* , 11 (1), 31–39.
<https://doi.org/10.55045/jkab.v11i1.136>