

Parental Attachment, Peer Influence and Adolescent Sexual Behavior at Vocational High School Trenggalek Regency

Shafira Meidy Savitri, Zakiyatul Faizah, Euvangelia Dwilda Ferdinandus
Midwifery Study Program, Faculty of Medicine, Department of Medical Biology,
Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Airlangga, Indonesia
shafira.meidy.savitri-2018@fk.unair.ac.id, zakiyatul-f@fk.unair.ac.id,
euvangelia.dwilda@fk.unair.ac.id

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Abstract

Introduction: Adolescence is a transitional phase from childhood to adulthood characterized by a heightened curiosity and courage to take risks. SDKI data from 2012 and 2017 showed an increase in cases of adolescents who had had premarital sexual intercourse, with the breakdown of cases in adolescent boys by 4.5% then increasing to 8% and in adolescent girls by 0.7% increasing to 2%. **Objective:** this study is to determine the relationship between parental attachment and peer influence with adolescent sexual behavior. **Method:** The type of research is correlational analytics with a cross-sectional approach. The study was conducted at SMKN 1 Pogalan, Trenggalek Regency in June 2022. The population used was grade 11 students of SMKN 1 Pogalan with a sample of 86 people. Sampling using simple random sampling. Data analysis used the spearman rho test with a 95% confidence level. **Results and Discussion:** Based on correlational tests, results were obtained that the variables of maternal attachment ($p=0.002$), father's attachment ($p=0.001$), and peer influence ($p=0.000$) had a value of $p<0.05$. **Conclusion:** this study shows there is a relationship between parental attachment and peer influence with adolescent sexual behavior in Trenggalek District Vocational High School.

Keywords: Parental Attachment; Peer Influence; Adolescent Sexual Behavior;

How to Cite

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Introduction

Adolescence is synonymous with high curiosity about new things and courage in making risky decisions (Intannia, Dahlan, and Damaianti 2020). Accompanied by the rapid development of the digital era, it also provides convenience in accessing various information that can influence the mindset and behavior of teenagers. Negative information has a major influence on patterns of deviant behavior in adolescents, including in sexual matters (Wardhani, Tamtomo, and Demartoto 2017). The existence of sexual exploitation in digital media contributes to the formation of adolescents' perceptions of sexual matters, including the idea that premarital sexual activities are free to be carried out by ignoring applicable norms and ethics and coupled with immature emotional (Rusmiati and Hastono 2015)

From the IDHS data (Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey): Adolescent Reproductive Health in 2017 (BPS et al. 2017) shows that 44% of adolescent boys and 45% of adolescent girls have dated at the age of 15-17 years. When dating, 64% of girls and 75% of boys hold hands, 17% of girls and 33% of boys do hugs, 30% of girls and 50% of boys kiss on the lips. 5% of girls and 22% of boys have ever touched a partner. In addition, there has also been an increase in cases of adolescents aged 15-19 years who have had premarital sex in terms of IDHS data. 2012 IDHS data (BPS 2013) reported that 4.5% of adolescent boys had sexual intercourse and 0.7% of female adolescents, the results of the next survey in 2017 (BPS et al. 2017) increased to 8% for boys and 2% for girls

Risky sexual behavior in adolescents can cause long-term health problems in adolescents, one of which is unwanted pregnancy. Unwanted pregnancy in adolescents is one of the drivers of cases of early marriage. DP3AK (Dinas Pemberdayaan Perempuan, Perlindungan Anak dan Kependudukan) East Java reported that in 2019 applications for early marriage dispensation were 5,766 cases, then increased rapidly in 2020 to 17,214 cases and in 2021 decreased slightly to 17,151 cases. Although there has been a decline, the incidence is still relatively high. One of the areas in East Java that also experienced an increase in cases of early marriage is Trenggalek Regency. Data from the Social Service for Women's Empowerment and Child Protection in Trenggalek Regency noted an increase in cases of child marriage. In 2020 there were 456 cases of child marriage and then there was a doubling to 956 cases of child marriage.

Adolescent sexual behavior is influenced by several factors. Factors that have a major influence on adolescent behavior are parents and peers. Parents have a role as role models as well as monitors for their children. Parents have an obligation to provide education regarding sexual behavior to their children, but there are still many parents who are reluctant to provide sexual education to their children because they consider it taboo to discuss it. So that teenagers often seek their own information related to sexual matters without parental supervision (Simawang et al. 2022). Not infrequently teenagers choose to spend time with their peers, so that the exchange of information and thoughts can affect adolescent sexual behavior (Elmansyah and Sutoyo 2015). Research by (Intannia et al. 2020) on adolescent sexual behavior, states that a positive family environment contributes

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in decreasing the tendency of adolescent sexual behavior and the presence of peer pressure has a great opportunity to increase adolescent risky sexual behavior

Methods

This research is a correlational analytic study with a *cross sectional*. The study was conducted at SMKN 1 Pogalan, Trenggalek Regency in June 2022. The population used were all 11th grade students of SMKN 1 Pogalan in the 2021/2022 academic year totaling 615 people. Calculation of the sample size using the Slovin formula with a tolerance limit of error = 0.1 and obtained a large sample of 86 people. Sampling using *simple random sampling technique*. The research instrument used is an *online* using *google form*. The questionnaire used for the variable of parental attachment is by Deny Hidayat (2018), the variable of peer influence by Tessa Widya Kosati (2018), and the variable of adolescent sexual behavior by Erlinna Nur Syah Putri (2019). Data analysis used univariate analysis in the form of frequency distribution and bivariate data analysis using *Spearman Rho* with 95% confidence level.

Result and Discussion

Results

Table 1

Distribution of the frequency of parental attachment, peer influence, and adolescent sexual behavior at SMKN 1 Pogalan Trenggalek Regency

Variable	Frequency
Mother's Attachment	
Very low	7 (8.1%)
Low	15 (17.4%)
Medium	37 (43.0%)
High	22 (25.6%)
Very high	5 (5.8)
Father attachment	
Very low	7 (8.1%)
Low	18 (20.9%)
Medium	33 (38.4%)
High	23 (26.7%)
Very high	5 (5.8%)
Peer Influence	
Weak	41 (47.7%)
Strong	45 (52.3%)
Adolescent Sexual Behavior	
Low	15 (17.4%)
Medium	56 (65.1%)
High	15 (17.4%)

Based on Table 2, it is known that almost half of the respondents have an attachment to their mother in the medium (43.0%) and high (25.6%) categories. Meanwhile, in the attachment to father sub-variable, almost half of the respondents have attachment in the medium (38.4%) and high (26.7%). Most of the respondents got a strong influence (52.3%) from their peers. And most of the respondents are in the category of moderate sexual behavior (65.1%).

Table 2
Relationship between Mother's Attachment, Father's Attachment, Peer Influence on Adolescent Sexual Behavior at SMKN 1 Pogalan Trenggalek Regency

Variable	Sexual Behavior of Adolescents			<i>p</i>	Correlation Coefficient <i>Spearman</i>
	Low	Medium	High		
	F	F	F		
Mother's Attachment				0.002	-0.329
Very low	0 (0%)	5 (5.8%)	2 (2.3%)		
Low	1 (1.2%)	8 (9.3%)	6 (7%)		
Moderate	6 (7%)	28 (32.6%)	3 (3.5%)		
High	6 (7%)	13 (15.1%)	3 (3.5%)		
Very high	2 (2.3%)	2 (2.3%)	1 (1.2%)		
Father's Attachment				0.001	-0.365
Very low	1 (1.2%)	3 (3.5%)	3 (3.5%)		
Low	0 (0%)	13 (15.1%)	5 (5.8%)		
Moderate	4 (4.7%)	25 (29.1%)	4 (4.7%)		
High	8 (9.3%)	13 (15.1%)	2 (2.3%)		
Very high	2 (2.3%)	2 (2.3%)	1 (1.2%)		
Peer Influence				0.000	0.383
Weak	11 (12.8%)	26 (30.2%)	4 (4.7%)		
Strong	4 (4.7%)	30 (34.9%)	11 (12.8%)		

Based on Table 2, it is known that the variables of mother's attachment, father's attachment, and peer influence have $p < 0.05$, which means H_0 is rejected. So it can be concluded that there is a relationship between parental attachment and peer influence with adolescent sexual behavior at SMKN 1 Pogalan Trenggalek Regency. Judging from the correlation coefficient, the strength of the relationship between the variables of parental attachment and peer influence is at a sufficient level and the direction of the relationship on the parental attachment variable is negative or in the opposite direction, while the peer influence variable is positive or unidirectional.

Discussion

The Relationship between Parental Attachment and Adolescent Sexual Behavior in Vocational High Schools in Trenggalek Regency

The results of this study indicate that there is a relationship between parental attachment and adolescent sexual behavior, both on the sub-variables of maternal attachment and father attachment. This is in line with research (Fadhila and Febriani 2021) on adolescents aged 11-24 years, that parental attachment to adolescent sexual behavior. These results are also in line with a meta-analysis study (Kim and Miller 2020) which states that the presence of unsafe attachments between parents and adolescents is associated with an increased tendency for adolescents to engage in risky sexual behavior and may even have more than one partner.

Judging from the correlation coefficient, the relationship has a negative value or the opposite direction. This relationship can be said that the higher the parental attachment, the lower the adolescent sexual behavior, conversely the lower the parental attachment, the higher the adolescent sexual behavior. In accordance with research (Shahrudin et al. 2017) conducted on adolescent girls in Malaysia who were pregnant out of wedlock. The results of the study stated that there was a significant negative relationship between parental attachment and adolescent sexual behavior. Similar results were also obtained in the study (Timisela, Elia, and Mamahit 2021), that the higher the attachment of parents to adolescents, the tendency of adolescents to access pornography *online* is lower

However, this study is not in line with research by (Fadila 2016), that there is no relationship between parent-child attachment and premarital sexual behavior in high school adolescents in Purwakarta. Contrasting results are also found in research by (Widman et al. 2021) which states that there is no significant relationship between parental communication about *sexting* or pornography with adolescents' desire to have *sexting*. In this study, it was also found that teenagers often talked and opened up about sexual matters and pornography with their friends or friends compared to their parents. This difference can occur because of the possibility of other factors, both external and internal factors, which are more dominant in influencing adolescent decision-making to engage in sexual behavior.

The Relationship of Peer Influence with Adolescent Sexual Behavior in Vocational High Schools in Trenggalek Regency

The results of this study indicate that there is a relationship between peer influence and adolescent sexual behavior. These results are in line with research by (Nengsih 2021) which states that there is a relationship between peer influence and risky sexual behavior in high school adolescents (Sajidalloh, Chairani, and Anwar 2022) and also states that peers have a significant relationship with *sexting* (*online*) in adolescents. The study also states that *sexting* can be done by teenagers to their loved ones or just ordinary friends. A meta-analysis study by (Van de Bongardt et al. 2015) stating that adolescents who have peers who have been sexually active, agree to have sexual relations, and provide

encouragement for sexual behavior, these adolescents tend to engage in sexually active behavior, either because of coercion from peers or above his own decision.

The correlation coefficient of peer influence with adolescent sexual behavior is positive or unidirectional. This relationship has a meaning, namely the higher the influence of peers, the higher the sexual behavior of adolescents, on the contrary, the lower the influence of peers, the lower the sexual behavior of adolescents. Similar results were also found in the study (Widman et al. 2021), that there was a moderate positive relationship between communication with friends and adolescent involvement in digital sexual behavior. In the study it was said that adolescents who discussed *sexting* with their peers had a tendency to engage in this behavior. This is in line with research (Shakti, Ramani, and Baroya 2022), that male adolescents who are negatively influenced by their peers are at greater risk of engaging in premarital sexual behavior

This result contrasts with research by (Mulya, Lukman, and Yani 2021) which states that there is no significant relationship between the role of peers and adolescent sexual behavior. It is also not in line with research by (Anindya and Indawati 2022), that poor peer association does not necessarily cause adolescents to engage in risky sexual behavior, as well as the influence of good peers. Differences in the results of this study may occur because adolescent sexual behavior arises due to many factors (multifactorial). Theory *Precede-Proceed Model* it is known that a behavior or habit arises because it is influenced by predisposing, supporting, and motivating factors. So there is the possibility of other factors that are stronger in influencing the selection of decisions to behave in adolescents.

Conclusion

The results of this study indicate that there is a relationship between parental attachment and peer influence with adolescent sexual behavior at the Trenggalek Regency Vocational High School. Therefore, there is a need for education from the health office and social services to parents regarding the importance of providing early sexual education to children. Future research is expected to be able to examine more deeply how these factors can influence the choice of sexual behavior decisions in adolescents.

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