

## Premarital Sexual Behavior in Adolescents in Terms of Parenting: Meta-Ethnography

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### ABSTRACT

**Background:** Adolescence is a crucial period in which adolescents will be faced with various problems, one of which is premarital sex which can cause problems in adolescent life such as unwanted pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections, and unsafe abortions. Parents have an important role in shaping adolescent behaviour and values in preventing premarital sex.

**Aim:** This study aims to synthesize or describe premarital behaviour in adolescents in terms of parenting patterns.

**Method:** This study used Meta-ethnography analysis on 6 qualitative articles between 2011 to 2021, Heading Premarital Sex "OR" Early sexual intercourse "AND" Parenting style "AND" Qualitative. Critical appraisal is carried out using standard criteria and synthesized using the meta-ethnography method.

**Results:** Overall from six articles shows teenagers choose to have premarital sex due to poor parenting, Parenting that is too restrictive, lack of affection in the home, and lack of communication between parents and adolescent.

**Conclusion:** This study evaluates the need for developing parenting patterns for adolescent parents, especially in the prevention of premarital sex.

**Keywords:** early sexual intercourse, parenting, premarital sex, qualitative study



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### INTRODUCTION

World Health Association (WHO) defines adolescents as people aged between 10-19 years and is a crucial period in which adolescents experience changes, especially changes in values from children to adults. In this period adolescents will experience several problems (DP3KB 2018).

Including sexuality, HIV AIDS and drug abuse. Among the three problems that have a major impact on adolescents is premarital sex. Although sexual intercourse is a normal stage in adolescent development, early sexual intercourse will be a problem such as unprotected sex, sexually transmitted infections and teenage pregnancy. Starting early sexual relations tends to be caused by a lack of social, emotional, and cognitive skills, including the pattern of dating their partner. In addition, the lack of information about reproductive health will also affect adolescent sexual behaviour (Avelar E Silva, et al 2016).

According to research conducted by Nandhiro, it was reported that the proportion of adolescents in Indonesia who had early sexual intercourse was 4.9%. However, the incidence of pre-marital sex in Indonesia is almost twice as large as other Muslim-majority countries such as Malaysia, where it was 2.8% (Mundhiro, Fauzi, et al 2021).

By the ecological system of the family environment and the poor relationship between parents and adolescents affects sexual behaviour in adolescents (Avelar E Silva, et al 2016). According to several previous studies, sexual behaviour before marriage in adolescents is caused by the development of a culture that tends to be permissive due to poor parent-adolescent relationships, this is evidenced by data from the *Syvonate research*, 40% of adolescents have sexual intercourse at home (George W, Noblit, R, et al, 2021).

The worse the relationship between parents and adolescents, the more likely they are to have early sexual intercourse. One form of parent-adolescent relationship in the family is parenting between parents and their children. Several previous studies have stated that families who have negative parenting patterns such as being full of criticism and using physical violence will encourage adolescents to behave negatively. Parenting styles according to *Baumrind* are divided into *authoritarian, authoritative, permissive, and uninvolved*. The four parenting patterns are divided into two behavioural dimensions, namely the emotional dimension consisting of parents who are warm, responsive, and concerned with the needs of their children, but it can also be the other way around, namely, parents who show rejection, are unresponsive and are not involved in the interests of their children. The second is the control dimension, namely parents who are very demanding of children and prohibit the behaviour of children or vice versa parents who are very permissive and do not demand anything (George W, Noblit, R, et al, 2021).

## METHOD

The research method used in this study is a systematic review with a qualitative or meta-ethnography approach, where the researcher narratively summarizes several relevant research results to develop new theories or exist theories (George W, Noblit, R, et al, 2021).

The article search uses three databases, namely Pubmed, Science Direct, and Google Scholar, which is research conducted from 2011 to 2021. In this study using the keyword Premarital Sex "OR" Early sexual intercourse "AND" Parenting style "AND" Qualitative Selection Criteria.

In this study, the researcher conducted a search by reading the title and abstract to find out the article was relevant according to the criteria. The criteria used in this study are: 1) Articles that discuss premarital behavior in terms of premarital sex; 2) the article uses a qualitative method. Researchers obtained 14.968 articles and after going through several stages of selection, 7 appropriate articles were obtained.

## Analysis

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## RESULT

Based on the 7 articles analyzed, the following results were obtained : According to Adungo (2018), using a qualitative method with in-depth interviews conducted on 21 adolescents, it was found that Extrinsic factors influenced sexual intercourse among adolescent that is poor of parenting. This was corroborated in this study by the following remarks “ *There is no body in the house who would provide for me my needs, what will I do if am facing some growth and developmental challenge as an adolescent* ” (Wilfred, *Caring Sci* 2015).

Article from Li ping wong (2012) using a qualitative study with Focus group discussion (FGD) conducted on 34 group discussion with 185 participants. This study shows

that adolescents who have more conservative dating occur in adolescents with strict parents than those with liberal parents.

According to research from Joyce Wamoy (2014) using Ethnography, research design describe from discussion both parents and adolescents shows decision to engage in early sexual intercourse most of the adolescent girls says one of the reason for engaging early sexual intercourse because they mind lack of parental love and care, the desire to get emotional support from their boyfriends.

Using qualitative study in 10 adolescents aged 12 until 21 years old. This study shows that adolescents get stressed from family environment influenced the decision of adolescent girls to engaging premarital sex. This can be seen in the following quote: *"it is became I am stress at home, I just to be out from home"* Several teenage girls say they need a role model in the family as well as to be the protector in the family (Sámano *et al.*, (2017).

According to research by Reyna (2017) using a qualitative study with an in-depth interview with 29 teen mothers. This study shows teen mother says they have the feeling of repression, loneliness, and indifference to their parents, they think unprotected sexual relationship from their parents. This was corroborated in this study by the following remarks: *"...Because I feel that, my mother was not me when I needed her, I wanted her to talk to me about my things, but she preferred to be with her boyfriend..."* (Josefina, 16 years old)" (Tryphina Skosana, Doricah Peu, et al., 2020-2021).

Article by Malebo (2020) Using Phenomenological Approach in 20 parents. This study aims to describe the role of parents in the prevention of teenage pregnancy. This research shows lack of communication between parents and adolescents influenced sexual decision making among adolescents.

According to research from Mansoorh (2018) using a qualitative study divided into two, the first group considers that the relationship with the opposite sex is a cognitive relationship in this group, teenagers tend to have warm relationships with their families. While the second group considers that relationships with the opposite sex are emotional relationships and teenagers in this group tend to have cold relationships and without support from their families.

## DISCUSSION

From the seven articles that have been reviewed, it was found that parents who use the and *Uninvolved* parenting style, namely parents who tend to be permissive or undemanding and also unresponsive, will make teenagers choose to have premarital sex. This is shown by an article from Adongo, Joyce, Kadek Anggi, and Reyna and who stated that teenagers who lack parental love and care, do not get role models and protection from family and loneliness at home will make teens seek comfort outside the home by establishing a romantic relationship with their partner who ends with early sexual intercourse (Li ping wong, 2012).

One article argue Permissive parenting style namely parents tend to liberate or not demand their teenagers so that they lack self-control. This is shown from research by Malebo which states that parents who do not communicate about sexuality with their teenagers will make teenagers choose to have early sexual intercourse (Silalahi, 2010).

Another article from Li Ping Wong stated that the type of authoritarian parenting or parents who are too restrictive, demanding and unresponsive to their teenagers will make teenagers do premarital sex, because teenagers feel their parents are too harsh (Li ping wong , 2012).

## CONCLUSIONS

From several articles that have been reviewed, the type of parenting that is most suitable to prevent premarital sex in adolescents is authoritative parenting where parents have a warm and responsive attitude towards their teenagers but also limit or provide control behaviour so that teenagers have self-control and are responsible (Silalahi, 2010).

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