

Educational Implications of Early Marriage and Family Counseling-Based Solutions

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ABSTRACT

Marriage is a physical and spiritual bond between a man and a woman who has an important role in community life, because marriage is a bond and procession that legitimizes the relationship between a man and a woman. This study aims to determine the impact of early marriage and its solutions from the perspective of Family Counseling Guidance, so that it can examine how early marriage can occur, who is involved in the problem and its consequences. The method in this study uses qualitative research using primary and secondary data sources through interviews, observations and documentation from Sopo Village, Amanuban Tengah District, South Timor Tengah Regency. Data collection using field research using qualitative and descriptive analysis methods. The results of the study show that early marriage has an impact on family harmony, especially between husband and wife. The positive impact is that they still have a very strong physical and mentality and have been blessed with children, so that they can educate children in completing their studies and even to a higher level. While the negative impact: the husband and wife have not thought carefully both physically and mentally. So that there is boredom in marriage, and economically also not able to finance household life.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Marriage is a bond innately and mentally between a man and a woman that has an important role in social life, because marriage is a bond and procession that legalizes the relationship between a man and a woman that before the occurrence of the procession is still regulated in accordance with applicable norms such as moral norms, legal norms, norms of decency and religious norms (Madaninabawi & Hafidz, 2021). A marriage is said to be valid if there is a good association between a man and a woman that is in accordance with the position of humans as intelligent beings. The

purpose of marriage is to build a happy, safe and prosperous household based on religious, customary and state laws (Gedefaw, Tesfaye, Yemane, Adisu, & Asres, 2015).

According to law number 1 of 1974 concerning marriage, which is one of the unification of the law in Indonesia that can accommodate the aspirations of the community regarding marriage. So, all articles contained in the law will regulate life in marriage, starting from the basis of marriage to child marriage. Everyone who is going to get married must comply with the rules contained in the marriage laws. One of the rules that emphasizes is the minimum age limit for marriage (Kuntadi, 2022). Article 7 paragraph (1) of the Marriage Law states that marriage can only be allowed if the man has reached the age of 19 and the woman has reached the age of 16 (Zakiyuddin & Ridwan, 2022).

According to the law, they are considered to be able to live a married life. Such ages, when viewed from a psychological perspective, are generally still classified as adolescents. Customary law and state law do not specifically regulate the limits on the solemnization of marriage. Customary law, especially those in rural communities, many assume that it is appropriate to hold a marriage for their children (Boley, Ayscue, Maruyama, & Woosnam, 2017). Furthermore, in customary law, adulthood is not determined by a person's age, but everything that seems real that a child who is still young because of his large and upright posture can be classified as an adult even though he is only 13 years old. This proves that the nature of customary law is always approved and concrete (Ilyas, Rani, Bahri, & Sufyan, 2023). Meanwhile, state law states that the size and limits to be able to carry out a marriage are not mentioned definitively, but only mention that both men and women so that it is legal to carry out the marriage procession must be puberty (adult) and capable (Hafidzi, Umar, Hani, & Rusdiah, 2021). Maturity in life determines whether a person can get married even though he is still young (easy) and his posture is small (Heaphy, 2018).

This study aims to find out the Impact of Early Marriage and its solutions in the perspective of Family Counseling Guidance, so that it can examine how early marriage can occur, who is involved in the problem and as a result, because Counseling Guidance there is a practice of early marriage that occurs in the community, it will be an effective way to build community thinkers and provide assistance to families so that they can open up their minds. horizon thinking to a better society.

2. METHODS

The method in this study uses qualitative research using primary and secondary data sources through the results of interviews, observations and documentation from Sopo Village, Amanuban Tengah District, South Timor Tengah Regency. Data collection using field research which uses qualitative and descriptive analysis methods. The sample is part or representative of the population to be researched, such as men and women who are not old enough to have married at an early age in Sopo village, Amanuban Tengah District, which totals 17 families (and it is known that based on pre-research with a minimal number, this study uses a limited population. The data collection technique used in this study is field research. by using observations, interviews and documentation. This observation is used to find out the information needed in research on early marriage. By using this observation, it will be easier for researchers to obtain data or information in the field. This interview was used to find out the impact of early marriage and its solutions from the perspective of family counseling guidance in Sopo village, Amanuban Tengah District. This documentation is used to obtain data related to early marriage, through its problems and impacts.

3. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. The Impact of Early Marriage.

Based on the results of the research and information or confessions from the respondents that early marriage will eventually cause feelings of dissatisfaction with the life that is being lived in daily life. There will be feelings of regret experienced by the child, such as time with friends and playing time just disappears. Because this is all due to childhood that has not been finished and passed. But without realizing it, he has entered a serious life full of challenges and trials that are so big.

The reason for the divorce given by the respondents was the problem of weak economic problems and facing such great responsibilities that they were squeezed by debt to meet the needs of life. Similarly, the inability of the husband to give pocket money to the children will be a strong trigger and encouragement for the wife to choose to separate or divorce.

Economic problems are a barometer tool that can make people feel like they are or are not so that economic problems will also be the main trigger for divorce, even though the husband has tried his best to provide for his family. But finding a difficult job and increasingly fierce competition will make them powerless for a proper life (Omondi & Jagongo, 2018). If you pay attention to the problems raised by the respondents, it shows that divorce is caused by weak economic factors so that they are less steadfast in facing economic problems that should be solved familially and do not need to reach the stage of divorce (Reggina & Indriani, 2023). And in addition, the cause of divorce is triggered by the entry of other parties such as the presence of a second party or in-laws and due to a high level of social jealousy or the husband cheating with another woman.

Living a domestic life is not as easy as turning the palm of the ladder, which means that it is not as easy as what is thought in taking over the ark of the household and occasionally there are problems of disagreement that occur in the household will be the main trigger for conflict (Shkolnikov, Andreev, Tursun-zade, & Leon, 2019). If the age of both parties is not enough or immature, it is very difficult to respond to the problem wisely and wisely. From the background of two people with different traits, dispositions and characters, it will be difficult to unite perceptions while what is needed is commitment and an attitude of mutual respect and respect for each other (Zaim, Refnaldi, & Arsyad, 2020).

Therefore, traditional leaders and religious leaders must play an active role in providing appeals and enlightenment to the people who are easily on the right path, which is related to the practice of early marriage in Sopo Village, Amanuban Tenggara District. It will be the duty and responsibility of traditional leaders and religious leaders to explain and describe a number of impacts that occur due to early marriage (Susila & Risvan, 2022). For those who are already married, a traditional leader and religious leader have a role to foster and explain the rights and obligations of husband and wife with a number of problems and problems regarding domestic life, then the figure gives a message about how both couples deal with domestic conflicts wisely and wisely (Nolan & Molla, 2017).

Based on the explanation above to overcome early marriage, it is necessary to have an approach that involves various parties such as: There is an increase in public awareness through education about the negative impacts of early marriage. There is an increase in access to education for children, especially women. There is good law enforcement regarding the age limit for marriage. Family economic empowerment so as not to make early marriage a solution to economic pressure (Stephenson, 2023). Broadly speaking, early marriage brings more negative impacts than benefits. Therefore efforts to prevent it must be through good education, government policies and public awareness that are indispensable to reduce the rate of early marriage and create a healthier, educated and prosperous generation (Bilan, Mishchuk, Samoliuk, & Yurchyk, 2020).

The literal meaning of "Guidance" is a process that is carried out to guide, guide and empower a person so that they can develop themselves to achieve the desired goals. Meanwhile, according to (Ismail, Mudjiran, Neviyarni, & Nirwana, 2020) said that guidance is a help and assistance given to a person or a group of individuals to be able to achieve happiness in their life.

As a parent, they must be able to guide, teach and empower their children to become mature individuals in making decisions, so that in building a household they are able to live in harmony to achieve happiness in life. Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that Guidance is a process of providing continuous assistance to a person or group of people in order to be able to develop their potential to obtain social benefits.

Sopo Village is a village located in a remote part of the east. And the majority of the livelihood of the population is farmers and livestock farmers who have a relatively long distance from the center of the city government. However, the current condition of the village is supported by the facilities and

infrastructure of rural community activities in general, and has a very thick socio-cultural life. This is what distinguishes the social conditions of the village community from the urban community in general, which is famous for its harmonious and hedonistic life which is a pattern of urban society (Interview Results with Mr. Korjabi, as a community leader of Sopo Village, interview was conducted on 9-6-2022).

In Sopo Village, cultural problems and relationships between communities support each other and there is a term gotong royong, which is voluntary cooperation activities to overcome difficulties. Because the level of tolerance between religious people in Sopo village is very high when there are traditional ceremonies and wedding parties, they work together with each other to make the process of running the party activities a success.

Early marriage will cause problems and the impact of problems such as (Wang & Su, 2020): Early marriage has a tendency that is very difficult to realize the goals of marriage properly. The effect is that marriage only brings problems and suffering; Marriage at an early age will be difficult to get good and healthy offspring. The impact is that it will be difficult for children to get good nutritional intake and children will be prone to diseases; Marriage has a relationship with population problems. The impact turns out that the low age limit for a woman to marry will result in a population growth rate so fast that the population increases so quickly.

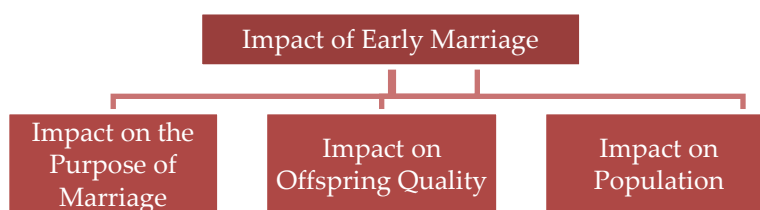


Figure 1. Impact of Early Marriage

3. 2. *The Impact of Early Marriage on Marriage Goals*

Marriage is like a sacred bond and is the main pillar in forming a complete household, there are so many rules and actions that are formed to validate a household that is built. And as for some of the actions taken, there is an agreement that must be made to be obeyed together by the bride and groom so that they are not violated.

The problem of married domestic life, for example, is in the form of the question: can we create a happy household? Perhaps everyone will say that marriage is not a very easy problem, and not everyone can live it well. People who are physically and mentally mature are not necessarily able to foster and build a household properly. What's more, easy people who are immature in making decisions (Judijanto & Asfahani, 2022). When it is associated with psychiatry, it seems very imperfect because it is a big responsibility to build a household, especially if it only relies on love. So love is the main capital to build a household, but good love must be able to manage the emotional level well, but love is followed by a sense of responsibility to develop oneself and others so that the life partner is seen as part of oneself.

The consequences of early marriage have various impacts that affect couples such as (Mustafa, Nawaz, & Rubab, 2017): Health impacts on mothers and children; Risk of pregnancy complications: Pregnant adolescent girls are more prone to complications such as preeclampsia, anemia and

premature labor. Babies born with low body weight due to the lack of physical readiness of the mother which can cause babies to be born with an abnormal weight so that it can increase the risk of stunting and developmental disorders; Maternal and infant mortality rates: maternal mortality rates are higher than those of those who become pregnant at a young age due to immature motherhood and lack of reproductive organ readiness; The risk of stunting and child development disorders; Lack of adequate nutrition: pregnant adolescents may not yet have a good diet, so the fetus lacks essential nutrients for growth; Stunting (failure to grow): babies born to mothers are more susceptible to stunting, which has an impact on children's intelligence and productivity in the future; Mental and cognitive development: children of mothers who marry early are at higher risk of delayed cognitive development due to lack of stimulus and optimal nutritional intake.

Judging from psychological factors and parenting: Unpreparedness in parenting: couples who marry early are often emotionally immature, so they are less able to provide good parenting; Higher levels of stress and family conflict: early marriage is more susceptible to conflicts, infidelity and domestic instability that negatively impact the child's psychology; Lack of education and low economy: couples who marry early are more likely to drop out of school and have limitations in getting decent jobs which has an impact on children's welfare; Risk of pregnancy complications: Pregnant adolescent girls are more prone to complications such as preeclampsia, anemia and premature delivery; Babies born with low body weight due to the lack of physical readiness of the mother which can cause babies to be born with an abnormal weight so that it can increase the risk of stunting and developmental disorders; Maternal and infant mortality rates: maternal mortality rates are higher than those who become pregnant at a young age due to immature pelvic and lack of reproductive organ readiness (Abdurahman et al., 2023).

Impact on population (Rumere, Sugiyanto, & Sulistyaningrum, 2022): Early marriage has far-reaching consequences for aspects of a country's population, including accelerating population growth, quality of human resources, and social and economic well-being. The following consist of several impacts that occur such as: Increase in birth rate and population explosion; Early marriage extends a woman's reproductive life, which leads to a higher number of births when compared to couples who marry at a mature age; If not controlled, this can trigger a population explosion, especially in developing countries with high rates of early marriage. In addition, there is an increase in poverty rates and economic burdens; Couples who marry early often do not have enough skills or education to get a decent job; As a result, they are more susceptible to poverty which contributes to an increase in the number of poor people.

Table 1. Sopo Village Residents Grouped by Age in 2022

Age	RW						Total
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
O< 1 Year	89	78	63	50	45	39	364
1< 5 Years	212	193	185	123	112	98	923
5< 15 Years	349	308	298	205	189	119	1.768
15< 25 Years	245	237	228	209	184	98	1.201
25< 35 Years	269	240	223	197	145	122	1.196
35< 45 Years	421	385	345	297	176	89	1.413
< 60 Years	211	189	173	89	76	65	803
> 60 Years	185	167	156	98	84	51	741

Source: Data from the sopo village monograph book

The table above describes the age classification of the population starting from the age of 0 month to the age of 60 years and above, while those aged 5-15 are more so that it is possible for villagers to get married at an early age (Wahidah & Maemonah, 2020). Meanwhile, in terms of livelihood, it can be detailed in the table below, which is as follows.

Table 2. Livelihoods of Residents in Sopo Village in 2022

No	Livelihood	Sum
1	Farmer	4.217
2	Private Employees	153
3	Small Industry/Dwelling House	318
4	Building and Construction	68
5	Merchant	125
6	Transport and Services	245
7	Civil Servant	87
8	Peternak	842
9	For Medics	58
10	Montir	79
11	Miscellaneous	53

Source: Data from the Sopo Village Monograph Book

Based on the table above, the average livelihood of the residents of Sopo Village is more dominant, namely agriculture, livestock, plantations, fisheries and others. Geographically reviewed, the most land in Sopo Village is dry land and rice fields, so people prefer to cultivate crops apart from that there are no other livelihoods that they rely on.

There are also many residents of Sopo village who prefer to migrate to other countries such as in Kalimantan, in Bali, Jamawa and in Malaysia, because of the unfavorable economic situation and conditions so that they prefer to migrate in order to improve the economy for the better. By migrating, it can also reduce and suppress the occurrence of marriage at an early age (Harini, Wahyuningtyas, Sutrisno, Wanof, & Ausat, 2023).

The population of sopo village is reviewed in terms of education consisting of several levels, namely the following:

Table 3. Education Data of Sopo Village Residents in 2022

No	Types of Education	Sum
1	Not yet in school	421
2	Not Finishing Elementary School	143
3	SD	1.325
4	JUNIOR	2.312
5	SMA	2.456
6	College	219

Source: Data from the Sopo Village Monograph Book

Based on the table above, the level of education of the people of Sopo village is still very minimal, and therefore the government and traditional leaders must build a good cooperative relationship in order to appeal to the villagers to provide encouragement and motivation to children so that they have goals to achieve. They drop out of school or not go to school because of a lack of encouragement or motivation from parents or other parties.

There are several factors that encourage and influence early marriage (Sugiarti & Husain, 2021);

- 1) Economic Factors: The occurrence of early marriage is influenced by the family's economic conditions that are less supportive. So they thought that by marrying their children at an early age, the family's economic burden would be reduced. Because a married child will be fully responsible for her husband. And even parents will hope that after their children get married, they can reduce the family's economic burden and even support their parents' lives.
- 2) Educational Factors; The lack of education between parents and children is only educated until elementary school (SD), and even there are still many who are not educated or do not go to school at all, so that it will have an impact on early marriage, and even parents will feel happy if their daughter is already approaching or liking her, then her parents will happily accept the man who likes their child and the parents no longer think about the risks or impacts negative future experienced by his daughter as a result of early marriage.

Parent Factor: The parent factor is the most dominant factor in early marriage, because parents also support and quickly approve to immediately marry their child if they see their child is big or grows up. This is because the level of education of parents is still minimal, so the mindset of parents is resigned to accepting the situation.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the applicable rules and customary laws, early marriage is not allowed because many minimize the negative impact more than the positive impact. Marriage is said to be valid if it meets the conditions or criteria that have been determined by the authorities. The main purpose of marriage is to create quality offspring, which in this case can only be obtained from people who already have readiness both in terms of economy, biologically and psychologically. The success of marriage is if both the husband and wife have good economic and mental readiness. And therefore according to the Marriage Law, it is determined regarding the age limit for prospective couples who will get married, which is the minimum age limit of 19 years. Which is in the category of a person's adult age (balight).

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that marriage at an early age can have a negative impact more dominantly than its benefits. Therefore, more considerations are needed in carrying out marriage at an early age. And as a parent who is going to marry his child, he needs to prepare or consider both the economic, biological and psychological readiness of the child he will marry.

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