
**INCREASING SEXUAL VIOLENCE BY CHILDREN AS A REFLECTION OF THE IMPROVEMENT OF SEX
EDUCATION IN INDONESIA**

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ABSTRACT

The general opinion that sex education is taboo because sex education is not based on religious teachings assumes that sex education is the same as educating men and women about sexual relations. The aim of this research is to describe the increase in sexual violence against children due to a lack of sex education among children. Because this study is an empirical-legal study, the information needed is secondary information in the form of legal documents and primary information in the form of information from stakeholders, especially those related to children's problems. The results of the research show that society's perception of the taboo on sex education has a significant impact on the increase in sexual violence against children. Because stakeholders need to pay attention, especially in the education sector, to teaching about correct sexual education based on religion.

Keywords: Education, Sex, Sex Education, Minors, Violence

INTRODUCTION

The recent cases of sexual violence against minors are clear evidence that sex education in Indonesia is poor. Sex education or penSexuality education is an effort to teach, increase awareness and provide information about various topics related to sex or sexuality.¹ Sexual violence against children must be prevented through early childhood sex education.

Sexual violence is one of the problems that we often face in Indonesia. Sexual violence can be defined as an act or activity that threatens someone involved in an intimate or sexual relationship which is carried out with violence by the perpetrator. Sexual violence can happen to anyone, regardless of gender or age.² However, if we look recently, there has been an increase in cases of sexual violence against minors. One of the cases of sexual violence against minors that really shocked the public was the case of the rape of 13 female female students in Bandung City by Herry Wirawan.³

The high rate of sexual violence against minors is also influenced by the attitude of Indonesian society which views sexual information about children as taboo. In fact, this sexual knowledge is very important to teach children from an early age. Discussing child sex issues is not easy because it should not be done carelessly. So that children do not take the wrong steps in their lives, however, sex education must be provided. The more information a child absorbs about sex education, the more useful it is for determining attitudes and making decisions in certain situations. Therefore, early awareness and concern for children's sex education can prevent children from experiencing sexual violence.

If sexual violence against children has occurred in Indonesia, the case of sexual violence will be dealt with temporarily in accordance with the Criminal Code (KUHP). and articles regulating sexual

¹ Fitri, Risa Ratnasari, and Muhammad Alias. (2016). Pentingnya Pendidikan Seks Untuk Anak Usia Dini. *Tarbawi Khatulistiwa*. No 2, Vol. 2, Hal 55.

² Arif, Mahmud Skripsi. (2022). Yogyakarta: Fakultas Syari'ah dan Hukum Universitas Islam

³ Indra, Dony Ramadhan. (2022). Dalam berita elektronik Jejak Perkara Herry Wirawan: Perkosa 13 Santriwati hingga Divonis Mati. Bandung: Detik Jabar. (Diakses 29 april 2023)

violence.⁴ However, even though there is a legal umbrella that regulates sexual violence against children, it is still unable to stem cases of sexual violence against minors. It is hoped that special attention such as providing sex education can be the first step, so that children can prevent sexual violence against themselves. Therefore, it is hoped that this research can support the urgency of sex education for minors in Indonesia.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study is a normative legal study that examines theories, concepts and legal foundations and is guided by applicable regulations regarding sexuality education. In his discussion, the author focuses on the nature of normative research which is supported by empirical research to obtain more accurate or valid information.

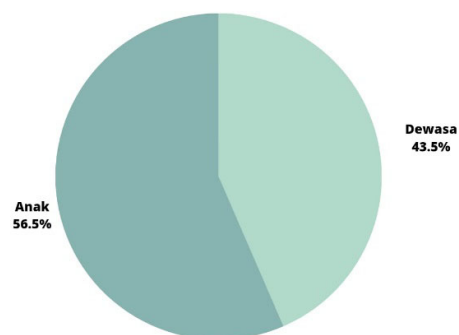
In data collection, main and accompanying data were used as research material. This main data collection was carried out by listening directly to interviews from the news on YouTube in order to obtain the information and data needed to make this research according to the topic being reviewed.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Importance of Sex Education to Protect Children from Sexual Violence.

In a narrow sense, gender means sex, while in a broad sense, gender means sexuality. Sexual is a concept of various things related to sex. Sex education, namely all activities to educate and upgrade awareness and information about sexual problems.⁵ Sex education itself is for children to convey information to children regarding the formation of paradigms regarding sex, such as identity, anatomy, sexuality, reproduction and emotional relationships.⁶ Leadership and a healthy understanding of gender from a physical, mental and spiritual health perspective.

It is very important for sex education from an early age, to protect children from sexual violence. This aims to provide knowledge and teach children from an early age how to protect themselves from people with bad intentions. Considering the widespread cases of sexual violence against minors in Indonesia today, sex education is a top priority in children's education from an early age. This is in accordance with data from the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (Kem PPPA) in 2022 regarding the number of cases of sexual violence, which shows that it occurs more frequently among minors than the number of cases by age group.



⁴ Harmna, Issha. (2022). Dalam berita elektronik "Pasal yang Mengatur Kekerasan Seksual." Jakarta Pusat: <https://koran.tempo.co/edisi/8005/2022-04-07>. (Diakses 29 april 2023)

⁵ Fitri, Risa Ratasari, and Muhammad Alias, Op.Cit. hlm. 56.

⁶ Nurhayati, D. A. And Relita Ayu. (2018). Pendidikan Seks Pada Anak Usia Dini dengan Pendekatan Sains. *Natural Science Education Research* 1(2): 236.

In online data input by the Ministry of PPPA, the number of cases of violence during 2022 was recorded at 14,534 cases with a greater percentage occurring with minors as victims.⁷This illustrates that special attention must be paid to sexual violence against minors, which is increasingly widespread and of increasing concern.

There are several aims of providing sex education from an early age to minors, namely:

- a. To fulfill children's curiosity about sexual knowledge. Sexual knowledge is very important to eliminate children's curiosity, which is usually very high. When children do not get this knowledge from their parents or school, of course the child will try to find out from other people, who will not necessarily provide the correct information to the child.
- b. To prevent children from engaging in inappropriate sexual activities. Nowadays there are many cases of children getting pregnant out of wedlock due to promiscuity. This case can occur due to the child's lack of knowledge about matters relating to sexuality. The consequences and lack of knowledge mean that children do not know the impacts that will be detrimental to them in the future.
- c. To make children aware of the importance of taking care of themselves and their reproductive organs. This is very important so that children can take good care of themselves and their reproductive organs. If children know what they can and cannot do, they can definitely take better care of themselves.
- d. To prevent children from acts of violence. This is so that children can limit other people from doing things to them in order to avoid acts of sexual violence. Children should be taught things that others should not touch or withhold from them.
- e. To help children understand biological information such as growth, puberty, and pregnancy. This is done so that the child is not surprised when there are changes within him.⁸

Implementation of Sex Education for Early Childhood So that It Doesn't Become Taboo by Society.

Currently, most people still think that talking about sex is taboo and should not be discussed.⁹The existence of this opinion by society is caused by several perceptions in the community, including: sex is not Indonesian culture but western culture, sex only teaches children to have sex, free sex increases when sex education is given, sex education is useless and really endangering young people, and vulgar sex and even pornography. The main problem underlying many perceptions is the misuse of sexual and reproductive material which leads to promiscuous sex between teenagers and young adults.¹⁰

In the matter of implementing sex education for early childhood so that it does not become taboo in society, the first step that must be taken is to eliminate perceptions related to errors regarding sexual education. Then, normalizing conversations and discussions by parents regarding knowledge of sex and sexuality will also have an effect on increasing children's educational insight about behavioral rules and regulations so that children can prevent bad behavior related to sexuality.

Apart from that, society should not consider it taboo and be reluctant to provide information to children about sex education. Sex education is very important to teach children so that children can adapt to the changes they experience. If not the closest people like parents, who else will teach their children about sex education? Parents are the first responsible for the safety of children in their development.

When adults do not want to talk to their children and provide sexual information. That's what Prof. said. Sar Lito Wiryan, from psychology at the University of Indonesia, Most Indonesians have little

⁷ <https://kekerasan.kemenpppa.go.id/ringkasan> (Diakses 29 April 2023)

⁸ Fadli, Rizal. (2021). Alasan Pentingnya Memberikan Pendidikan Seks untuk Anak. Halodoc.com, <https://www.halodoc.com/artikel/alasan-pentingnya-memberikan-pendidikan-seks-untuk-anak> (diakses 29 April 2023)

⁹ Fitri, Risa Ratnasari, and Muhammad Alias, Loc.Cit

¹⁰ Pranita, Ellyvon. (2020). Dalam berita elektronik Ahli: Jangan Anggap Tabu Pendidikan Seksual dan Kesehatan Reproduksi. Jakarta Pusat: Kompas.com <https://www.kompas.com/sains/read/2020/11/25/193000523/ahli--jangan-anggap-tabu-pendidikan-seksual-dan-kesehatan-reproduksi?page=all> (Diakses 29 April 2023)

education and correct understanding about sex. Lack of education increases the prevalence of sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS. Another negative impact is the rise of prostitution, especially in big cities, where many teenagers become pregnant out of wedlock even after having an abortion.¹¹

Sex Education is Appropriate and Effective if Included in the Education Curriculum.

The World Health Organization (WHO) has identified a number of important issues in the delivery of sexuality education. One of them is providing sex education, which must be curriculum-based to guide educators in providing sex education. The curriculum contains clearly structured central teaching objectives, development of objectives, presentation of concepts and core messages. Can be given at school or outside school (non-formal education).¹²By having sex education lessons according to WHO in the educational curriculum, children will gain knowledge about sex and trusted parties.

Incorporating sexuality education into the curriculum is very important for adults or teenagers, both through formal and non-formal education. This is important to prevent a lack of knowledge about reproductive health among teenagers. As a preventive measure to prevent sexual violence against minors, it is necessary to have a sex education model for children in the curriculum. For children, sex education must be carried out from an early age as someone who is trusted by parents and teachers.

How to Increase the Effectiveness of Regulations for the Protection of Sexual Violence against Children.

Legally, children under the age of 18 do not have the freedom to make their own decisions as minors. In Indonesia, the need for child protection is based on three concepts. First, children have the right to be part of citizens who must be protected by the state. Second, children are a command and gift from God in complete human dignity. Third, children are the next generation of national ideals and guarantee the existence of the nation and state in the future. The most important thing that Indonesia has done to realize children's rights and protect children based on the Convention on the Rights of the Child is to include child protection in the constitution. The Second Amendment to the 1945 Constitution contains Article 28 B(2) which states that every child has the right to survival, growth and development and the right to protection from violence and discrimination. Apart from that, the role of the state in protecting children's rights is also reflected in the Child Protection Law no. 23 of 2002. According to § 3 of this law, the aim of child protection is to guarantee the implementation of children's rights. so that children can live, grow, develop and participate optimally in accordance with human dignity and receive systematic protection from violence and discrimination. protect it is implemented. competent, noble and rich. This emphasizes the important role of the state in protecting the rights, survival and human rights of children under 18 years. This situation gives children inadequate control over their lives and leaves them in a vulnerable position.

Indonesia has several regulations to protect children from sexual violence. Starting with the Criminal Code, Law on the Elimination of Domestic Violence no. 23 of 2004 and Law no. 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to the Child Protection Law no. 23 of 2002.¹³In Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection, Article 1(2) defines the meaning of "child protection" and states that all efforts to guarantee and protect children and their rights that apply to them can live, grow, develop and participate optimally in accordance with human aspirations and dignity and be protected from violence and discrimination.¹⁴

¹¹Artia, Ruth Heldifanny and Kania Diah Rachmawati. (2016). Pendidikan Seks di Indonesia: Tabu atau Bermanfaat. *Economica*.id. <https://www.economica.id/2016/04/27/sexeducation/> (Diakses 29 April 2023)

¹²Rosa, Camelia. (2022). Jangan Sembarangan, Ini Hal-Hal yang Penting Diperhatikan Saat Memberikan Sex Education Menurut WHO. *A kurat.com*. (Diakses 29 April 2023)

¹³ Harruna, Issha, Loc.Cit.

¹⁴ Pasal 1 Ayat (2) Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2014 tentang Perubahan Atas Undang-Undang Nomor 23 Tahun 2002 tentang Perlindungan Anak

From the description above, it appears that child protection measures have been around for a long time and have been implemented, as evidenced by the existence of various regulations in the form of laws and regulations regarding sexual violence against children. However, these efforts have not been fully implemented in accordance with the needs and developments of Indonesian society. This is caused by the situation and conditions, as well as the limitations that exist in the government and the city itself, which do not allow them to actually develop the provisions of existing laws and regulations, and sometimes there are still many abuses committed in efforts to handle cases of sexual violence against children. Under age. In order to protect sexual violence against children, it can be achieved effectively by carrying out the functions and objectives and regulations governing sexual violence against children honestly and as fully as possible. When success is achieved in achieving the goals and functions of these regulations, it means that effectiveness has been achieved. Child protection is part of the duties and responsibilities of parents, the general public and judicial institutions and the state.

Article 1 Paragraph 2 of Law Number 35 of 2014 concerning Amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child and Regional Protection. The legal system does not only mean rules and regulations, but covers a broad field, including the structures, institutions and processes that fill it, related to the law and legal culture that lives in society.

As for how to increase the effectiveness and regulations regarding the protection of sexual violence against children above, this can be done in various ways, for example:

- a. The main way is to carry out the goals and functions of what is stated in the regulation
- b. Always prioritize efforts to protect different children's human rights and different interests related to children's welfare.
- c. Carrying out the implementation of legal protection for children as victims as stated in the law.
- d. Realize honestly Law no. 35 of 2014 Article 35 Article 64 Paragraph 3 states that child victims receive:
 - 1) Rehabilitation both inside and outside the facility.
 - 2) Efforts to protect and communicate identity through mass media to avoid branding.
 - 3) Guarantee of security for witness-victims and experts both physically, psychologically and socially.
 - 4) Provide information about case developments.¹⁵

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Sex educationis an effort to teach knowledge and information related to sex and sexuality. In Indonesia, sex education is still considered very bad. This is proven by the large number of cases of sexual violence against minors. The lack of providing sexual education to children causes children's insight into sexual knowledge to be very minimal. Perceptions in society that consider providing sex education to early childhood as something taboo can result in little protection for children from sexual violence. Even though sex education is very important as an effort to protect children from sexual violence. Therefore, based on this research, the author provides a solution to prevent sexual violence against minors, starting with teaching about sex education by parents and also through sexual education in schools. So, with formal and informal sex education for minors, it is hoped that it can raise awareness and concern in children to avoid sexual violence.

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¹⁵ Pasal 64 Ayat (3) Undang-Undang Nomor 35 Tahun 2014 tentang Perubahan Atas Undang-Undang Nomor 23 Tahun 2002 tentang Perlindungan Anak

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