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## IMPLICATIONS OF EARLY MARRIAGE ON HEALTH AND HOUSEHOLD HARMONY

*Implications Of Early Marriage On Household Health And Harmony*

1) Alwi Jaya, 2) Sumarni, 3) Gustika Sandra, 3) Tarmizi

1\*) Master of Law Study Program, Andi Sudirman University, Indonesia.

2) D3 Midwifery Study Program, Andi Sudirman University, Indonesia.

3) Bachelor of Law Study Program, Andi Sudirman University, Indonesia.

3) Bachelor of Law Study Program, Andi Sudirman University, Indonesia.

\*E- mail : <sup>1)</sup> [dralwijayashmh@gmail.com](mailto:dralwijayashmh@gmail.com), <sup>2)</sup> [sumarnimangiril@gmail.com](mailto:sumarnimangiril@gmail.com), <sup>3)</sup> [gustikasandra84@gmail.com](mailto:gustikasandra84@gmail.com),  
<sup>4)</sup> [tarmizi88sep@gmail.com](mailto:tarmizi88sep@gmail.com)

\*Correspondence: <sup>1)</sup> Alwi Jaya

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### ABSTRACT

*This research aims to determine the implications of early marriage on the health aspects of married couples and household harmony. This research is library research through data collection and analysis carried out qualitatively. The data source in this research is primary data, namely data obtained through library materials or relevant research results. The research results show that there are several factors that cause the phenomenon of early marriage, namely, individual factors, economic factors, educational factors, accident factors and community habits. Early marriage can have an impact on aspects of education and self-development which become hampered, trigger Domestic Violence (KDRT), increase the risk of neglect, sexual and reproductive health problems, as well as sexual and reproductive health problems. For this reason, it is hoped that early marriage does not occur by knowing what impacts it has and becoming an asset for society, especially in their respective families, so that they can prevent early marriage.*

**Keywords :** *Early Marriage; Health; Household Harmony*

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## INTRODUCTION

Early marriage or underage marriage is something that is commonly heard of and is commonly carried out in rural communities. In general, the problems experienced by rural communities are due to a lack of understanding and knowledge of legal awareness, lack of communication, and economic problems so that there is still strong trust in public. The habit of people marrying at an early age because they feel anxious about their children who are still alone and want to immediately lighten the family's economic burden is the reason why parents want to immediately marry off their children at an early age without seeing and weighing the impact of having an early marriage. Because marriage cannot just happen, but there are conditions that must be fulfilled (Alfa, 2019) (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021) (Mahfudin & Waqi'ah, 2016) .

The phenomenon of early marriage is like an iceberg phenomenon that is only visible on the surface, very little is exposed in the public domain, but in reality it happens a lot among the wider community (Rifiani, 2011). Factors that cause early marriage are parents who want to marry their

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children quickly, some are pregnant out of wedlock, economics and also education. (Shufiyah, 2018) . However, what is most dominant is the parental factor so that the child quickly gets married and easily accepts the prospective man's proposal (Maudina, 2019) (Desiyanti, 2015) (Handayani et al., 2021) (Salmah, 2017) .

Regarding the age of marriage as regulated in Law Number 16 of 2019, Amendment to Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning marriage, which stipulates that the minimum limit for a man or woman to carry out a marriage is 19 years. The change in the law was due to the fact that the previous regulations conflicted with Law Number 35 of 2014, amendments to Law Number 23 of 2002 concerning Child Protection in Article 1 paragraph (1) which reads, "A child is someone who is not yet 18 years old. (eighteen) years, including children who are still in the womb."

The rise of early marriage in modern times has given rise to many problems and questions that arise in every discussion among the general public. Women and men sometimes take the issue of early marriage lightly. They don't know the risks behind their actions when they get married. There are many factors they have to think about, starting from women's health, mental readiness of both parties, society and also in terms of religion. (Shufiyah, 2018). For this reason, it is important to carry out research related to the implications of early marriage by reviewing aspects of health and household harmony by knowing the factors and impacts they cause.

## **METHOD**

This research is library research using qualitative data collection and analysis methods related to the causes and impacts of early marriage on the health of married couples and household harmony. The data sources in this research were obtained from literature and research results relevant to the problem under study. Data analysis was carried out descriptively qualitatively to outline the implications of early marriage on the health of married couples and household harmony.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Factors Causing Early Marriage**

Early marriage can occur due to several factors:

#### **a. Individual Factors**

The impact of early marriage in Indonesia is generally caused by factors of the individual himself, the family and community as well as the environment in which the individual lives. In general, factors that influence early marriage include individual factors such as free sex in teenagers, family factors such as economic needs and two arranged marriages, as well as environmental factors where the individual lives, for example the culture of early marriage. Some of the problems in child marriage include factors that encourage the prevalence of child marriage, its impact on education, the occurrence of domestic violence, the impact on reproductive health, children being born and children's psychological health, as well as legal reviews related to child marriage (Tampubolon, 2021) .

#### **b. Economic Factors**

Young marriages occur because families live on the poverty line, to ease the burden on their parents, their daughters are married off to people who are considered capable (Dalawa et al., 2022) . The large number of couples who marry early (below the minimum age limit for marriage) is because the education of most couples who marry early is still low, many have only graduated from junior high school or even elementary school graduates. Then there are factors such as below-average family income, precarious work and the tendency for socio-cultural factors such as ethnicity, where most

believe that marrying at an early age is not a problem (previous habits of parents) (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021).

**c. Educational Factors**

The low level of education and knowledge of parents, children and society causes a tendency to marry at a young age. If a child drops out of school at the mandatory school age, then they can fill their time by working. Currently, the child feels independent enough, so he feels capable of supporting himself (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021; Mahfudin & Waqi'ah, 2016; Wulanuari, Anggraini, & Suparman, 2017).

**d. Accident Factors**

There are several cases where marriage is proposed because the children have a biological relationship like husband and wife. Under conditions like this, parents of girls tend to immediately marry off their child, because according to the parents the girl is no longer a virgin, in this case it is considered a disgrace. If it turns out that circumstances require it (desperate), the marriage can take place even though one of the partners or both of them has not reached the minimum age limit for marriage or is still at an early age. This means that the parties can waive the minimum marriage age requirement. According to marriage law, irregularities can only be carried out by submitting a request for dispensation by the parents of one or both parties of the prospective bride and groom. For those who are Muslim, the application is submitted to the Religious Court, while for adherents of other religions it is submitted to the District Court.

An urgent reason cannot be just a claim, but there must really be sufficient supporting evidence. According to marriage law, sufficient supporting evidence is a certificate proving that the age of the bride and groom is still under the provisions of the law and a letter from a health worker supporting the parents' statement that it is very urgent for the marriage to take place. And sufficient evidence includes bringing in witnesses. The witnesses here must clearly be people who know the facts and not make things up (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021).

**e. Factor Community Habits**

Early marriage occurs because parents are afraid that their child will be said to be a spinster, so they immediately marry off their child (Saskara, 2018) (Handayani, Nuraini & Agustiya, 2021; Saskara, 2018). According to Desiyanti, (2015), factors related to early marriage are the role of parents in family communication, parental education and children's education. The most dominant factor in early marriage is the role of parents in family communication.

**2. The Impact of Early Marriage on Health and Household Harmony**

The impacts that will arise from early marriage are:

**a. Education and Personal Development Becomes Hampered**

Law Number 35/2014 Amendments to Law Number 23/2002 concerning Child Protection, in Article 26 it is stated that "Parents are obliged and responsible to prevent marriage at the child's age." In some cases, parents actually think that children who marry young can be the savior of their family. In fact, early marriage among children can hinder education and self-development (Ubaidillah & Taun, 2022) (Ubaidillah & Taun, 2022; Julijanto, 2015; Salmah, 2017) (Julijanto, 2015) .

**b. Triggering Domestic Violence (KDRT)**

Generally, teenagers still have unstable emotions. This instability makes husband and wife quarrel, and can even lead to domestic violence which can occur due to economic, financial factors or

life demands which cause arguments in the household (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021; Mujahiddin, 2023; Jannah, 2012) (Jannah, 2012 ) (Mujahiddin, 2023) .

**c. Increases the Risk of Neglect**

Emotional and financial instability can even lead to abandonment of wives and children. If early marriage is allowed, children who should be able to receive attention and education from their biological parents will instead be neglected (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021).

**d. Sexual and Reproductive Health Issues**

A child's reproductive health can result in fetal death or during the birth process for various reasons. Due to young age, reproductive organs are still in the development stage. So, there is the possibility of death of the fetus and during the birth process. Also, the health of babies born may not meet the requirements due to lack of understanding of caring for children, as well as low economic conditions hampering household life (Fadilah, 2021) (Hamidah & Junitasari, 2021; Fadilah, 2021)

**e. Psychological Health That Can Lead to Early Death**

Early marriage can affect mental health. Starting from unstable emotions, not being able to take care of oneself, having to fulfill the role of parent, and financial problems in the family. If you look at the psychological impact, you still often experience problems such as being easily emotional, stressed and burdened, from a health perspective, because the reproductive organs are immature, women are vulnerable to giving birth to premature babies. disconnected, they only work as hard as they can to meet their living needs and still depend on their parents (Hadiono, 2018) (Maudina, 2019) (Syalis & Nurwati, 2020) (Maudina, 2019; Hadiono, 2018; Syalis, & Nurwati, 2020).

## CONCLUSION

There are several factors that cause the phenomenon of early marriage, namely, individual factors, economic factors, educational factors, accident factors and community habits. Early marriage can have an impact on aspects of education and self-development which become hampered, trigger Domestic Violence (KDRT), increase the risk of neglect, sexual and reproductive health problems, as well as sexual and reproductive health problems. Through this research, it is hoped that early marriage will not occur, by knowing what impacts will occur when early marriage occurs, this will be an asset for them, especially in their respective families, to be able to prevent early marriage.

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