

# The Analysis of Religious Observances and Peer Influences Towards Premarital Sex Occurrence in Sarolangun Municipality

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**Abstract**—Adolescents have an emotional progression characterized by explosiveness emotional nature and are difficult to control. Unrestrained emotions are due to teenagers taking too much of their emotional turmoil so that they can cause teenagers to be trapped into the wrong path of premarital sex. Data from our People's Information and Communication Center (SIKOK) in Jambi, in 2010-2012 mentions that as many as 164 teenagers (student status) are known to be pregnant outside of marriage. In line with this, information obtained from counseling teachers (BK) in several Senior High Schools and Vocational High Schools every year there are 3-4 students who are pregnant by marriage. This research aims to analyze the influence of religious obedience and the influence of peers through self control in teenagers in high school/equal Sarolangun Municipality Jambi province. This type of research is observational analytical research with cross sectional design. The research sample is 371 teenagers. Analysis of this research uses Path Analysis. The results and conclusions of this research show that religious observance is negatively and significantly significant to the events of premarital sex, and there are positive and significant influences directly from peer influence on premarital events in Sarolangun Municipality.

**Keywords:** Premarital Sex, Religious Observances, Peer Influences, Self-Control.

## I. INTRODUCTIONS

In Indonesia, most of its males and females while dating are found holding their hands each other (64% for females and 75% for males), hugging (17% for females and 33% for males), kissing (30% for females and 50% for males), touch or touched (5% for females and 22% for males). Among males and females that were already having premarital sex, 59% of females and 74% of males admitted that they had first sexual intercourse when they were 15-19 years old (BKKBN, 2017).

Nationally, there is an increasing number of adolescents committing such premarital sexual intercourse. In 2012, the percentage of male adolescents aged 15-19-years old that ever had premarital sexual intercourse was 4.5%. Meanwhile, the percentage of female adolescents was 0.7%. In 2017, the percentage of male adolescents aged 15-19-years old that ever had premarital sexual intercourse was 8.0%. Meanwhile, the percentage of female

adolescents was 2.0% (BKKBN, BPS dan Kemenkes, 2017)

From the BKKBN data in 2017, it shows that there were 15-19 year old adolescents' first pregnant or delivery cases with percentage 10.9% in Jambi Province (BKKBN, BPS dan Kemenkes, 2017) In 2012, there were 16 thousand students of 200 thousand students that had committed sexual intercourse (SIKOK, 2013). It is in line with the statement, based on the interview results with 10 adolescents in several Senior High Schools and Vocational High Schools in Sarolangun municipality, 10 adolescents admitted they ever dated; 9 adolescents ever kissed, and 10 adolescents ever hugged each other.

Premarital sex cases on adolescents could be caused by various conditions and are influenced by several factors. According to Choirunissa dan Sari (2017), the influential factors for adolescents to commit premarital sexual intercourses are due to poor religious observances and peers' influences.

The information above describes the degradation of premarital sexual action values committed by adolescents. Therefore, the researchers are interested to analyze the factors of religious observances and peer influences toward premarital sex occurrence in Sarolangun municipality.

## II. METHODS

This study uses a cross sectional approach. The population in this Senior High School and Vocational School students in Sarolangun with a total of 5028 people. Samples in this study using stratified random sampling, samples obtained were 371 adolescents. The dependent variable in this study is premarital sex, while the intervening variables are self-control, and independent in this research is religious observance and peer development. In this study using primary data that asks questions about religious observance, peer preference, self-control over premarital sex, and secondary data of students obtained from the Sarolangun District Education Office in 2019. Before collecting data, researchers conducted Ethical Clearance at Semarang State University. This research analysis technique uses Path analysis which is a development of regression.

**III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

This research was conducted in Senior High Schools and Vocational Schools in Sarolangun municipality, Jambi Province. The findings and discussions of this research were premarital sexual factor analysis through self-control on adolescents. They consisted of religious observances and peers' influences. The results of the effects toward adolescents' self-control could be seen in Table 1.

**Table 1.** The influence results in the mediating variable, self-control.

Variable	Regression Coefficient (B)	t count	Sig t
Religious Observances	-0.160	-3.161	0.002
Peers' Influences	0.122	2223	0.027

Based on the table, it shows the analysis results of the correlation test between the religious observances (X1) and the peers' influences (X2) toward self-control (Y1). The path analysis results showed the value of the statistic (t-value) of the religious observances with self-control as the intervening variable between religious observance and premarital sexual occurrence was -3.161 with p-value (sig) 0.002 or (p<0.05). Therefore, it could be concluded that there was significant-indirect influence negatively. It means when religious observance improves, then the adolescents' self-control to not commit premarital sexual intercourse will also improve. Therefore, the hypothesis about "religious observance affects premarital sexual occurrences through self-control" is accepted. It means high religious observance and self-control make premarital sexual occurrences lower and vice versa.

It is in line with a study conducted by Magdalena and Notobroto (2017). They stated that there were influences of religious observances toward adolescents' maternities in Saptosari regency, Gunungkidul municipality. Religious disobedient adolescents have a greater risk, 58 times, to experience pregnancy or maternity compared to religious observant adolescents.

Several influential factors of premarital sexual of a Health Academy college students such as in Banten conducted by Sinaga (2013) showed that observances of adolescents in praying based on their religion greatly influenced their behavioral control. It included sexual behaviors. The religious observant adolescents have self-control and the ability to keep their behaviors while facing their opposite sex.

The path analysis results showed the value of the statistic (t-value) of self-control as the intervening variable between peers' influences and premarital.

sexual occurrence was 2.223 with p-value (sig) 0.027 or (p<0.05). Therefore, it could be concluded that there was significant-indirect influence positively. It means when the influence of the peers improves and the adolescents' self-control is low, then the chances of premarital sexual intercourse committed by adolescents will also improve. Therefore, the hypothesis about "peers' influences affect premarital sex occurrence through self-control" is accepted. It means high peer influence and lack of self-control of adolescents make the premarital sex occurrence higher and vice versa.

It is in line with a study conducted by Apriliana et al., (2014). They showed that most of the peers' influences were categorized poor with a percentage of 58.7% compared to the positive or good influences with a percentage of 41.3%. Besides that, a study conducted by Rezha and Zahrotul (2017) showed there was external encouragement from the peer environmental influence. They are such as dating and committing premarital sexual behaviors. Thus, those make adolescents committing the same manners. Moreover, when they have opportunities to commit premarital sexual behaviors.

A study conducted by O L Badaki and M F Adeola (2017) showed significant influences from peers' pressures toward premarital sexual behaviors among Senior High School students in Kaduna State, Nigeria. The findings showed that the pressures of peers as a main influential factor affecting premarital sexual behaviors.

**Table 2.** The findings of this research about the direct influences toward premarital sexual occurrences

Variable	Regression Coefficient (B)	t count	Sig t
Religious Observances	-0.101	-2.288	0.023
Peers' Influences	0.097	2.037	0.042
Self-control	0.099	2.191	0.029

Based on the Table, the test analysis results of religious observance (X1), peers' influences (X2), and self-control (X3) affecting premarital sexual occurrence (Y2). The path analysis results show that the t value of religious observance is -2.288 with path analysis -0.101 and the t count significance is 0.023 < 0.05. It means each religious observance improvement leads to a 0.101 decreasing rate of premarital sex occurrences. Therefore, the results showed a negative correlation between religious observance with the premarital sex occurrences. Thus, higher religious observance leads to lower premarital sex occurrences. Therefore, the hypothesis about "religious observance influences premarital sexual

occurrences through self-control" is accepted. It means high religious observance and self-control make premarital sexual occurrences lower and vice versa.

The results are in line with a study conducted by Nuandri dan Widayat (2014). They showed that there was a significant correlation between attitudes toward religiosity with attitudes toward the tendency to commit premarital sexual behaviors on adolescents. Higher attitudes toward religiosity lead to lower attitudes toward premarital sex behavior tendencies and vice versa. It showed that religiosity was effective as a method to postpone or prevent an individual to commit premarital sex behavior tendencies.

The path analysis results show that the t value of peer influence is 2.037 with path analysis 0.097 and the t count significance is  $0.042 < 0.05$ . It means each peer influence increase leads to 0.097 decreasing rates of premarital sex occurrences. Therefore, the results showed a positive correlation between peer influences (X2) with the premarital sex occurrences (Y2). Thus, higher peer influence leads to higher premarital sex occurrences. Therefore, the hypothesis about "peer influences toward premarital sexual occurrences" is accepted. It means high peer influences make premarital sexual occurrences higher and vice versa.

It is in line with a study conducted by Dewi (2014). She found a significant correlation between peer influences with the sexual behaviors of adolescents. Adolescents with peer influences tend to have risky sexual behaviors, 1.73 times, than those without peer influences.

A study conducted by Fardilla et al (2012) showed that the most obtained information sources were from their peers both when they were hanging out. The respondents responded that most of the peers that committed exaggerated sexual activities were found that they did it because they loved it. The second factor was from them.

Based on the analysis of the self-control pathway showed a significant value of 2.191 with a path analysis of 0.099 and a significance value of 0.029. This means that each increase in self-control of one unit then the incidence of premarital sex increases by 0.105, therefore these results indicate the direction of a positive relationship between self-control and premarital sex events. Therefore the Hypothesis of "self-control of premarital sex events" is accepted, meaning that low self-control makes the incidence of premarital sex high and vice versa.

The results showed self-control over premarital sex events, it was because students who had control over could not think about the future of adolescents and students also had the desire to improve higher schools, this made students self-control in doing especially premarital sex to be reduced. This contradicts research in Senior High Schools Samarinda 1 which states that the level of

self-control that a person has will lose premarital sex and vice versa (Khairunnisa, 2013).

The results of this study are expected to be a reference and input for health sciences, especially public health sciences and can provide an overview of the factors and effects of premarital sex behavior, so it is expected that adolescents know the factors and consequences that arise if adolescents engage in premarital sex.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings and discussion about Religious Observance Factor Analysis and Peers' Influences toward Premarital Sex Occurrences in Sarolangun Municipality, it could be concluded that peers' influenced positively and significantly affected premarital sex occurrences.

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