# Role of The Youth Counseling Information Center (PIK-R) in Efforts to Improve Teenager's Attitudes in The Prevention of Early Marriage

**[1]Levi Tina Sari, [2]Ika Agustina, [3]Wardah Audina**

[1,2,3]Midwifery Department, STIKes Patria Husada Blitar, Indonesia

| Article Information | Abstract |
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| | Early marriage among young women will cause reproductive health problems, namely unpreparedness of the reproductive organs, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortion practices, and even young women who have narrow hips, which will hinder the birthing process and can even cause the death of the mother and child. To prevent early marriage, PIK-R is needed. The education provided in PIK-R is about the 8 functions of the family, the KRR Triad (Adolescent Reproductive Health), education on Marriage Age Maturation (PUP) and Delaying First Children (PAP), as well as providing an understanding of the role of teenagers in social life. This research used a Pre-Experimental research design with a one group pre-post test approach. The total population is 33 children. The sample in this study was 30 respondents used the Slovin formula. Result was increase in the mean between before and after of 1.5 points, meaning there was a tendency for good attitudes after treatment, method of providing education using FGD. It is known that the 2-tailed significant value is $0.0001 < \alpha\ 0.05$, so there is a difference between before and after treatment. The FGD method applied by PIK-R cadres can be an efficient health education approach for teenagers to prevent increasing cases of early marriage. Discussions among teenagers and by teenagers are more open and will produce active communication among teenagers. |

✉Correspondence Address:
STIKes Patria Husada Blitar – East Java, Indonesia
Email : tinasari.levi@gmail.com

## INTRODUCTION

Early marriage is a marriage carried out before the age of 19 years. This age limit refers to Law 16 of 2019 concerning Amendments to Law Number 1 of 1974 concerning Marriage (Kementrian Sekretariat Negara RI, 2019). Early marriage among teenagers is a violation of human rights. Child marriage has now become a global development agenda, especially through its inclusion in the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target 5.3, which aims to eliminate the practice by 2030(Wulandari & Laksono, 2020). Early marriage among young women will cause reproductive health problems, namely unpreparedness of the reproductive organs, unwanted pregnancies, unsafe abortion practices, and even young women who have narrow hips, which will hinder the birthing process and can even cause the death of the mother and child (Kohno et al., 2020). Marriage at a young age will have a psychological impact on facing social and economic problems in the family, making them not mentally ready to become parents (Supriandi et al., 2022). Early marriage rates vary between countries and regions. The highest rate of young women married before the age of 18 was reported in Southeast Asia at 44% and Sub-Saharan Africa at 39% (Tekile et al., 2020). In the Southeast Asia region, 32% of young women give birth under the age of 18, Indonesia is ranked third at 26% below Vietnam at 32% (United Nations Population Fund, 2021). The problem of early marriage in Indonesia has been exacerbated by the increase in early marriage during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (PPPA) Ministry noted that until June 2020 the number of child marriages had increased to twenty-four thousand during the pandem (Salsavira et al., 2021). Based on data from the Central Statistics Agency (BPS), the prevalence of early marriage among women aged 7-15 years in Indonesia by province, East Java ranks 3rd, namely 10.67% in 2020 (Geraldy et al., 2022). Blitar Regency is in 15th place with 17.41% in 2020, but it is recommended that marriage be at least 19 years old in accordance with Law no.16 of 2019 (Badan Pusat Statistik Provinsi Jawa Timur, 2022). In 2020, as many as 27 children were married between the ages of 14-16 years, then in 2021, this figure fell slightly to 22 child marriages. And in 2022, from early January to early June, 34 child marriages have been recorded in Blitar Regency (Tunggal, 2022)

An effort to prevent early marriage among young women, the government of the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (PPPA) is holding the "GenRe" Generation Planning program which is intended for teenagers and families who have teenagers through the Youth Information and Counseling Center (PIK-R). PIK-R provides programs that provide information and counseling services about the growing age for marriage, family function, sexuality, HIV AIDS and drugs, life skills, and the formation of a planned generation (Nurochim, 2021). The education provided in PIK-R is about the 8 functions of the family, the KRR Triad (Adolescent Reproductive Health), education on Marriage Age Maturation and Delaying First Children, as well as providing an understanding of the role of teenagers in social life (Priyanti, 2021). According to a preliminary study conducted by researchers, the Youth Information and Counseling Center (PIK-R) program has been implemented by PPPA Blitar Regency in several Middle and High Schools and Villages throughout Blitar Regency. ne of them is Gogodeso village with 5 trained cadres, but their role has not been maximized and there are still many teenagers in the area who have not utilized the Youth Counseling Information Center (PIK-R) as a place for counseling as it should be due to ignorance of the existence and function of PIK-R. According to research from Rachman et al, it is proven that the provision of reproductive health education by PIK R is quite effective in increasing student knowledge (Rachman et al., 2020). This was then confirmed by research from Nurmila et al, which stated that the Communication Strategy and Effectiveness of the GenRe Program Message socialized by DP3AP2KB Bogor Regency had an influence on the Knowledge and Attitudes of Adolescents in Caringin District (Nurmila et al., 2017). The existence of PIK-R/M at SMPN 1 Sokobanah, if viewed from KUA Sokobanah data, is quite helpful in reducing the high rate of early marriage in Bira Tengah Village. This activity is indeed focused on alleviating the rate of early marriage (Almanduri & Kholili, 2020).

## METHOD

This research used a Pre-Experimental research design with a one group pre-post test approach, namely by taking measurements before and after treatment. The population of this study were members of the PIK-R group in Gogodeso Village, Kanigoro District. The total population is 33 children. The sample in this study was 30 respondents used the Slovin formula. This research took a sample of members of the PIK-R group in Gogodeso Village, Kanigoro District who met the research inclusion criteria, including: teenagers in Gogodeso Village, Kanigoro District, teenagers who had never received health education related to the impact of early marriage from members of the PIK-R group, Not married yet. Exclusion criteria include: not following all research procedures, filling out the questionnaire incompletely. The sampling technique in this research was carried out using the purposive sampling method. he research instrument used a questionnaire includes general research data, demographic data (initials, age, gender, class if still in school, information, source of informatio. Meanwhile, the specific research data was measured

using a knowledge questionnaire about the impact of early. The research location will be carried out in Gogodeso Village, Kanigoro District. The research will be carried out in September 2022. The research process is researchers train youth cadres 4x in 2 weeks, then these cadres will become facilitators. Then, respondents were divided into 5 groups with each group having a trained facilitator. Treatment was given using the FGD (Focus Discussion Group) method, leaflets. Data analysis uses univariate analysis in the form of frequency distribution of general and research-specific data. Meanwhile, the analysis to determine the effect of empowering the PIK-R group uses the Spearman Sign Rank Test.

## RESULT

Results of univariate analysis carried out on each variable from the research results. In general, this analysis only produces the distribution and percentage of each variable which can be seen in the following table

**Table 1: Distribution of Respondent characteristics**

| No | Characteristic | Frequency | Percentage |
|----|----------------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | **Age** | | |
| | 15-16 tahun | 20 | 66,6% |
| | 17 - 18 tahun | 10 | 33,3% |
| 2 | **Education** | | |
| | - SD | 2 | 6,6% |
| | - SMP | 9 | 30% |
| | - SMA | 19 | 63,3% |
| 3 | **Information about early marriage** | | |
| | - Already | 13 | 43,3% |
| | - Never | 17 | 56,6% |
| 4 | **Resources** | | |
| | - health worker | 5 | 29,4% |
| | - friends | 2 | 11,7% |
| | - internet | 10 | 58,8% |

Resources : Primary Data (2022)

From the table above, it shows that the largest number of respondents in the study were 15-16 years old, 20 respondents, 28 respondents had received information about early marriage and 13 respondents received information from friends.

**Table 2: Frequency distribution of respondents' attitudes regarding the prevention of early marriage before treatment**

| No | Attitude | Frequency | Persentage |
|----|----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Not enough | 10 | 33,3 % |
| 2 | Sufficient | 19 | 63,3% |
| 3 | Good | 1 | 3,33% |
| | Total | 30 | 100% |

The table above proves that the attitude of respondents regarding preventing early marriage before treatment was carried out was that 19 respondents had an attitude in the "sufficient" category.

**Table 3: Frequency distribution of respondents' attitudes about preventing early marriage after treatment**

| No | Knowledge | Frequency | Persentage |
|----|-----------|-----------|------------|
| 1 | Not enough | 0 | 0% |
| 2 | Sufficient | 3 | 10% |
| 3 | Good | 27 | 90% |
| | tottal | 30 | 100% |

Based on the table above, it shows that the attitude of respondents regarding the prevention of early marriage after the treatment was carried out had an attitude in the good category of 27 respondents.

**Table 4: Numerical results of the Spearman rank test of respondents' attitudes before and after treatment.**

|           | N  | Mean   | df | Z      | Sign. 2(tailed) |
|-----------|----|--------|----|--------|-----------------|
| Pre test  | 30 | 1.3030 | 29 | -5.570 | 0.0001          |
| Post test | 30 | 2.8485 | 29 |        |                 |

Based on the results above, it shows that there was an increase in the mean between before and after of 1.5 points, meaning there was a tendency for good attitudes after treatment. It is known that the 2-tailed significant value is 0.0001 < α 0.05, so there is a difference between before and after treatment..

## DISCUSSION

Gogodeso Village has had a PIK-R program since 2016. The research was conducted using the PIK-R program, so the researchers provided trained in providing education to PIK-R youth cadres of 5 people. Trained for cadres is carried out 4 times a month, then these teenage cadres carry out education with the theme of prevented early marriage to 30 fellow teenagers.

The research results show that the attitude of young women towards preventing early marriage before providing education using the PIK-R program has an attitude in the "sufficient" category of 63.3% and the poor category of 33.3%. This is because, firstly, educational factors and secondly, sources of information. The level of formal education is the basis for the formation of a person's attitudes, apart from that, the way in which information is conveyed, the choice of methods and media used will have a significant effect (Rachman et al., 2020). The results of the research show that adolescent girls' education at the elementary school level is 6.6% and at junior high school is 30%. This is supported by research from Syafangah which states that there was a relationship between the level of education and attitudes towards early marriage and women who have low education are more at risk, so that in making the decision to carry out a marriage there is not much consideration (Syafangah, 2017). Then it was strengthened by research from Agustin et al, that higher education can prevent early marriage by 0.09 times for respondents who have low education (Agustin et al., 2021). Education is essentially a process of maturing the quality of life, through which it is hoped that humans will be able to understand what the meaning and nature of life is, as well as what it is for and how to carry out life's tasks and tasks correctly, so that a person can become himself and grow in line with his talents, character, abilities, and their conscience is intact, the lower the level of education, the more likely it is to encourage early marriage (Ratnawati & Nuraini, 2019).

Sources of information have an impact on teenagers in determining attitudes, teenagers who are less exposed to sources of information have a bad impact because teenagers don't get enough information about early marriage, so they are more at risk of experiencing early marriage compared to teenagers who are exposed to sources of information (Laili et al., 2019). According to research results, 17 young women received information about early marriage, and only 5 respondents received information from health workers. his is supported by research from Julianti, which states that teenagers who are not exposed to information about early marriage have a risk factor that is 2.807 times greater in early marriage than teenagers who are exposed to sources of information (Julianti, 2019). However, contrary to research from Tucunan et al, there is no relationship between the source of information and taking an attitude towards marrying at an early age (Tucunan et al., 2022).

The attitudes of respondents after being treated 4 times a month by PIK-R were in the "fair" category at 10% and the "good" category at 90% and showed differences in attitudes before and after treatment using the FGD method. This is due to the respondent's age being between 15-18 years. At the age of 15-18 years, including middle adolescence. This period is marked by the development of new thinking abilities. In general, teenagers' curiosity about new things is quite high at this time (Priyanti, 2021).

The method used was focus group discussion (FGD), where 30 respondents were divided into 5 groups accompanied by PIK-R cadres who had been trained by the researcher. This is supported by research from Elfi and Fitrianingsih, which states that there are significant differences. Changes in knowledge and attitudes between the FGD and lecture groups (p < 0.001), so that health education is proven to increase the knowledge and attitudes of adolescents (Elfi & Fitrianingsih, 2017). Then it was added that according to research from Putri et al, that the supportive attitude of teenagers was 46 respondents, after being given treatment the "supportive" attitude became 55 teenagers (Putri et al., 2019). FGDs are carried out in groups with focused discussions where in 1 discussion group there are only 8-12 people led by a facilitator who is competent in their field with the aim of making discussion members active (Haslan et al., 2021).

The FGD method applied by PIK-R cadres can be an efficient health education approach for teenagers to prevent increasing cases of early marriage (Sumartini & Maretha, 2020). Through PIK-R, teenagers can develop messages and choose more appropriate media so that the information they receive can be understood by their peers. PIK-R usually involves peer educators in forming group members to provide information in the same age group without feeling awkward or embarrassed. PIK-R is often used to change the level of behavior in individuals by modifying a person's knowledge,

attitudes, beliefs or behavior (Sumartini & Maretha, 2020). Discussions among teenagers and by teenagers are more open and will produce active communication among teenagers. Attitudes based on knowledge will produce lasting actions (Priyanti, 2021)

## CONCLUSION

The Youth Information and Counseling Center (PIK-R) which has been established in Gogodeso village is very effective in changing the attitudes of teenagers in preventing early marriage, because PIK-R cadres are peers so that respondents (adolescent girls) are open in expressing their opinions and will produce good communication. active among teenagers

## SUGGESTION

To create a generation that plans and does not engage in early marriage, the role of the Youth Information and Counseling Center (PIK-R) is optimized so that it is expected to be able to manage and implement the PIK-R program in a sustainable manner through efforts to create a supportive atmosphere (building an atmosphere) through improving skills PIK-R cadres who become managers and peer educators of PIK-R through training activities either organized by the school or in collaboration with related sectors (cross-sector).

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The authors have no conflict of interest in publishing the article

## AUTHOR CONTRIBUTIONS

All authors fully contribute to research activities starting from drafting activities, tabulating data management, writing drafts of manuscripts and analysis. Each author makes a positive contribution to this activity from start to finish, including publishing articles in this journal.

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