



Premarital Sex Behaviors of Teenagers: A Case in Bali, Indonesia



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Abstract

This study aims at describing premarital sex behavior as well as to analyze peers impact on premarital sex behavior of teenagers. The study was conducted in Bali, Indonesia. This is an analytic observational research that applied cross-sectional approach. The subject was 566 teenagers who were studying at Senior High Schools in Buleleng, Bali. Data was collected using a questionnaire. We examined the validity and reliability of the data before analyzed it. We also collected data through interviews. After being analyzed by logistic regression analysis, the data shows that 47% of teenagers have never watched porn, 35.9% of teenagers have never conducted kissing activity (with their partner), 24.7% of teenagers have never conducted sexuality rub toward their sexual organs, 22.8% of teenagers have ever masturbated, and 13.1% of teenagers have never experienced sexual intercourse. Teenagers who have got the correct information from peers are possible to have better premarital sex behaviors, 2 times greater than those who have not got correct information (OR = 2; p = 0.003). It is also found that teenagers who have got a good emotional relationship with peers are more possible to have better premarital sex behavior life, 3 times greater, than teenagers who have got a less emotional relationship with peers (OR = 3; p = 0.000). It is concluded that, statistically, there is significant influence between peers and premarital sex behaviors of teenagers in Indonesia.

Keywords

Behaviors;
Indonesia;
Peers;
Premarital sex;
Teenagers;

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1. Introduction

Teenagers are those who experience a period of transition from childhood to adulthood. According to [WHO \(2015\)](#), teenagers are the citizens aged between 10 to 19 years old. In Indonesia, Decree of Indonesian Health Ministry number 25 the year 2014 states that teenagers are persons aged between 10 years old to 18 years old citizens. In another side, National Family Planning Coordinating Agency of Indonesia (BKKBN) defines teenagers as those aged between 10 to 24 years old, and not married yet. Counting those statements into thought, it can be stated that there is no universal agreement regarding limitations on teenagers' age group. Yet, teenagers that are usually known as adolescence is associated with the transition of children towards adults, that is, on the time of adolescence, physical and sexual maturities are growing ([WHO, 2015](#)). Demographic data has shown that the largest population in the world is dominated by teenagers. In the year 2012, the number of teenagers (12-24 years old) was estimated to be 1.6 billion inhabitants. From the number, there were 721 million people aged between 12-17 years old. It is believed that by 2040, number of teenagers (at the age of 12- 17 years old) will be increased into 755 to 850 million people, while those who are 18-24 years old will be 850 to 883 million people ([United Nations, 2012](#)). Based on the results of a population survey in censuses 2015, a number of those who are 15-24 years old reached 42.061 million people, or in another word, it was 16.5% of total population in Indonesia ([Merry, 2016](#)).

Next, it is undeniable that adolescence is a period, in which rapid growth is taken place as well as physical, psychological, and intellectual development. It is a transitional period between childhood and adulthood. The rapid growth of teenagers has produced a great sense of curiosity inside them. Therefore, lots of them like adventure and challenges, as well as tend to dare for taking risks without having any consideration. Besides being driven by a desire to be like adults, mostly teenagers are trying to do what adults do, including problems that relate to sexuality ([Azinar, 2013](#)).

In that sense, it can be stated that teenagers are often acting risky behaviors such as health risks (smoking and consuming narcotics), future risks (dropouts from school, experience premarital pregnancy, having bad self-concept), and social environment risks (being unemployment, being criminal suspect), *etc.* The risky behaviors will harm both physical and psychosocial aspects of teenagers; therefore some of them are difficult to succeed in facing situation around them ([Merry, 2016](#)). In 2010, BKKBN found that in Surabaya, as the second crowded city in Indonesia after Jakarta, there were 54% of single women have already lost their virginity, while in Bandung and Medan (Indonesia), there were 47% and 52% single women were not virgin anymore ([Christianto, 2015](#)). The phenomenon has a relationship to free sex behavior. Free sex itself can cause some problems, such as unwanted pregnancy, sexually transmitted diseases, and be infected by Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), that draws to *Acquired Imuno deficiency Syndrom (AIDS)* disease.

According to AIDS Prevention Commission (APC) of Bali province, HIV/AIDS cases in the province of Bali have increased significantly. In the year 2015, it was recorded that the number of people with HIV/AIDS in Bali was 12.000, while in 2016 the numbers of people with HIV/AIDS were increased into 14.880 people. ([KPA, 2016](#)). HIV/AIDS in Buleleng Regency occupies third place after Denpasar city and Badung regency. As has been known, the various problems mentioned above have emerged as a result of free sex (bad sexual behavior).

Various problems occurred during the teenagers' time, undeniable, are influenced by various dimensions of life, both biological, cognitive, moral dimensions and psychological dimension. Beside impacted by children's personality system, the problems are also impacted by mass media, family, school, peers, culture,

religion, values and norms of the community. In adolescence, those various factors can be mutually supportive or can be non-mutually supportive (Agustini, 2013). Counting those thoughts, it is stated that peerS pressure is able to influence the various dimensions in the lives of teens. Various previous studies have indicated the influence of peers on teenage sexual behavior. Maryatun (2013) has conducted research and found that peers associated with premarital sexual behavior in teens. The research has been conducted in Indonesia, at Muhammadiyah Senior High School, Surakarta. Research conducted by Trisnawati (2010) also showed that teenager's sexual behaviors have affected by another risk teenagers.

Based on the background have been presented above, This research has raised some research problems such as (1) how the description of premarital sexual behavior Indonesian High school teenagers, and (2) how peers influence sex behavior of teenagers. In other words, this study aims at describing the behavior of premarital sex behavior of High school teenagers in Indonesia, and to analyze the influence of peers (as the source of sexual information, the source of cognitive and emotional resources) towards the behavior. If possible, the results of this research can be a reference for local governments, in this case, Indonesia Health Department, especially Health Department of Buleleng, Bali. We hope that this research will be a guideline source in delivering health services for adolescents in Buleleng Regency. Finally, we also hope that this research will be a valuable scientific input for studies about teenagers' sexual behavior around the world. For our institution, that is, *Universitas Pendidikan Ganesha*, this research is hoped to be a new stage of science development in the field of health.

2. Materials and Methods

This research used descriptive quantitative approach, which will expose several factors as well as its influence on peers conducting premarital sex behavior of teenagers in Bali, Indonesia. In another side, this research applied analytic observational research mode that used cross-sectional approach. The research design of this study used the approach of behavioral theory that proposed by Lawrence Green. However, we modified the approach to meet our needs in answering scientific problems. Based on the theory of Lawrence Green, a person's behavior, in this case, the behavior of adolescent premarital sex, is influenced by a predisposing factor, endowments factor, and amplifier factor. Following (figure 1) shows the framework of Green's behavior theory. On the figure, to make it clearer, we mark some section to show which is researched and which is not researched.

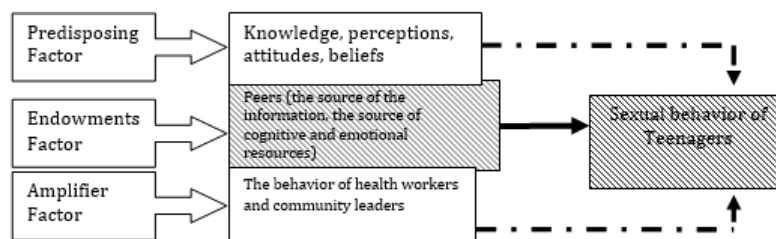




Figure 1. The framework customized based on Green's behavior theory

Note:

-  : Researched
 : Not researched/ Not examined

As this research was conducted in Indonesia, the population in this study were all students of grade X, XI, and grade XII of senior high school and senior vocational high school in Buleleng, Bali Indonesia. Total students, we had as a population was 11.273 students. From the total population, we took the sample. A sample of this study has been taken with purposive random sampling techniques. We used Krejcie table to calculated the sample. It has had 95% confidence level. Samples obtained in this study were 566 students. In accordance with the specified problem formulation, we define research variables as follows; The dependent

variable is premarital sex behaviors of High School teenagers, while the independent variable is peers (as the source of the information, the source of cognitive and emotional resources).

We started the research by having permission from the local government. After that, we started to collect data. Data was collected using a questionnaire that has been tested for its validity and its reliability. We also conducted interviews.

Data analysis technique we used was a binary logistic regression method that aimed at examining whether the peer variable (sources of information, cognitive and emotional sources) has an effect on premarital sexual behavior of adolescents or not. The data were processed with SPSS 16.0. To sum it up, we present our design research in the following figure (Figure 2).

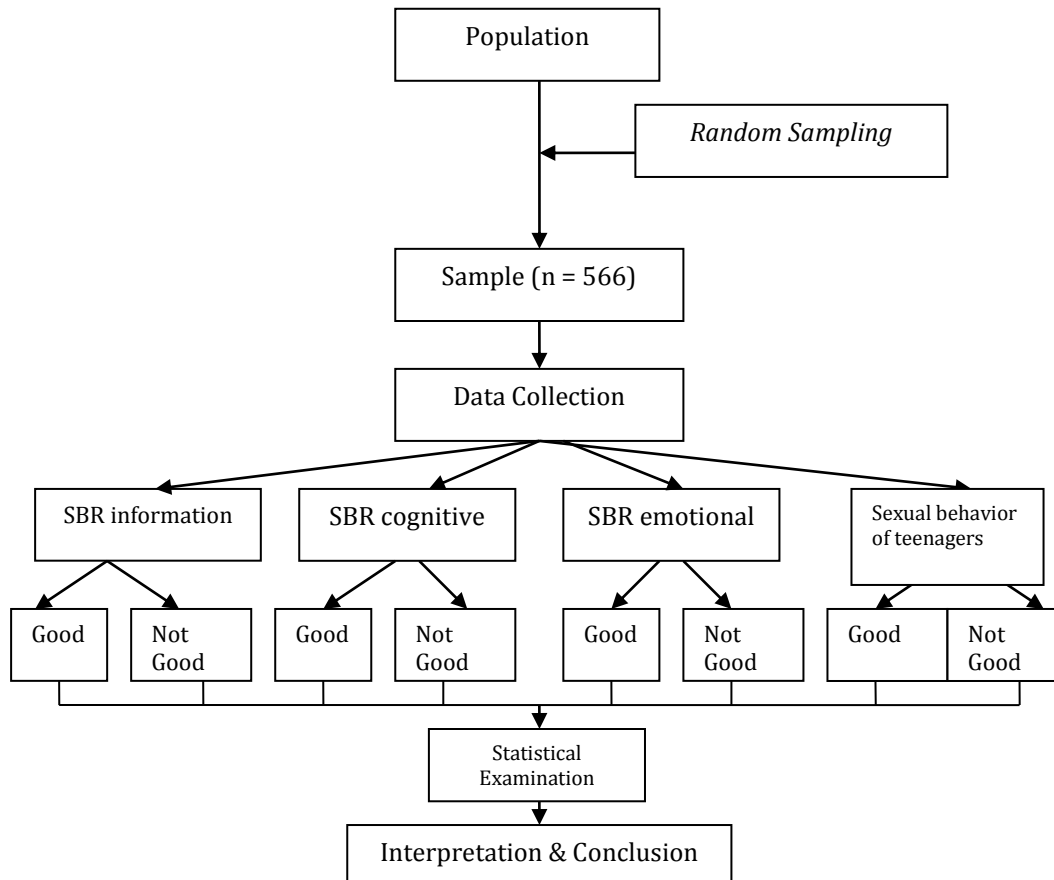


Figure 2. Research Design

3. Results and Discussions

In this section, we present the results of our research. At the end of our presentation, we discuss some important things related to the results. On the results, we display the distribution of respondents based on age, distribution of respondents based on gender, premarital sex behaviors of teenagers, the role of peers, and multivariate analysis.

Distribution of Respondents Based on Age

Distribution of respondents based on their age is described in the table below:

Table 1
Distribution of Respondents based on Age

Age (Years)	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
14	1	0,2
15	55	9,7
16	306	54,1
17	170	30
18	31	5,5
19	2	0,4
No Idea	1	0,2
Total	566	100

Based on table 01, it can be seen that overall 566 respondents, 3 teenagers (0.2%) were 14 years old, 55 teenagers (9.7%) were 15 years old, 306 teenagers (54.1%) were 16 years old, 170 teenagers (30%) were 17 years old, 31 teenagers (5.5%) were 18 years old, and 2 students (4%) were 19 years old. Next, the following is the distribution of respondents based on gender.

Distribution of Respondents Based on Gender

Based on gender, the distribution of respondents can be seen in table 2 as follows.

Table 2
Distribution of Respondents Based on Gender

Gender	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Male	286	50,5
Female	280	49,5
Total	566	100

Based on table 2, it can be seen that over total 566 respondents, there were 286 men (50.5%), and 280 (49.5%) women.

Premarital Sex Behaviors of Teenagers

The next results we present is premarital sex behaviors of teenagers. The behaviors will be presented in tables that divided into five sections, namely *watching porn*, *kissing their partner*, *rubbing their sexual organs*, *masturbating*, and *having sexual intercourse*. The following table (table 3) shows the behaviors of teenagers who watch porn.

Table 3
Watching porn

Behavior	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Ever	266	47
Never	295	52,1
No Idea	5	0,9
Total	566	100

Based on table 03, over 566 respondents, those who always watched porn were 19 (3.4%) teenagers, those who sometimes watched porn were 247 (43.6%) teenagers, and those who have never watched porn were 295 (52.1%) teenagers. On the other hand, teenagers who kiss their partner can be seen in following table 04.

Table 4
Kissing

Behavior	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Ever	203	35,9
Never	360	63,6
No Idea	3	0,5
Total	566	100

On table 04, it is examined that respondents who always kiss his/ her partner were 34 teenagers (6%), those who sometimes kiss his/ her partner were 169 teenagers (29.9%), and those who have never kissed his/ her partner were 360 teenagers (63.6%). As has been stated before, we also present the result of teenagers who rub their sexual organs. It can be seen in table 05 as follows.

Table 5
Rubbing sexual organs

Behavior	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Ever	140	24,7
Never	421	74,4
No Idea	5	0,9
Total	566	100

Based on table 05, teenagers who have always conducted sexuality rub toward their sexual organs were 12 people (2.1%), those who sometimes conducted sexuality rub toward their sexual organs were 128 people (22.6%), and those who have never conducted sexuality rub toward their sexual organs were 421 people (74.4%). Next, Table 6 shows the result about masturbation.

Table 6
Masturbation

Behavior	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Ever	129	22,8
Never	433	76,5
No Idea	4	0,7
Total	566	100

On table 06 above, respondents who have always had oral/anal sex were 7 teenagers (1.2%), those who have sometimes had oral/anal sex were 122 teenagers (21.6%), and those who have never done oral/anal sex were 433 teenagers (76.5%). Finally, related to premarital sex behavior, we present the result of having sexual intercourse. It can be seen in table 07.

Table 7
Sexual intercourse

Behavior	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Ever	74	13,1
Never	489	86,4
No Idea	3	0,5
Total	566	100

Based on table 7, respondents who have always had sexual intercourse were 13 teenagers (2.3%), those who sometimes had sexual intercourse were 61 teenagers (10.8%), and those who have never had sexual intercourse were 489 teenagers (86.4%).

The Role of Peers

Furthermore, we present the role of peers that related to premarital sex behavior of teenagers. The role of peers is divided into three, namely (1) as a source of information, (2) as a source of cognitive, and (3) as the source of emotional.

Table 8
Peers as a source of information

Source of information	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Good	312	55,1
Less	254	44,9
Total	566	100

Based on table 08, respondents who have received information about sexual behavior from peers were 312 teenagers (55.1%) while the other 254 teenagers (44.9%) have never received information about sexual behavior from peers. After that, following we present the result of peers as a source of cognitive. It is displayed in table 09 as follows.

Table 9
Peers as a source of cognitive

Cognitive Resources	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Good	334	59
Less	232	41
Total	566	100

On tables 09 above, respondents who have gained knowledge about premarital sex from peers were 334 teenagers (59%) while other respondents (232 teenagers /41%) have never gained such knowledge from peers.

Table 10
Peers as a source of emotional

The Source of Emotional	Frequency (People)	Percentage (%)
Good	291	51,4
Less	275	48,6
Total	566	100

The last, on table 10 above, it can be seen that respondents who have got a good emotional relationship with peers were 291 teenagers (51.4%), while other respondents (275 teenagers/ 48.6%) have not got a good emotional relationship with peers.

Multivariate Analysis

Examination of hypothesis aims at finding the strength of the relationship between peers as a source of information, peers as a source of cognitive and emotional resources as peers, that have been presented above, with premarital sexual behavior. This examination used binary logistic regression analysis. The result of binary logistic regression analysis is presented in table 11 below.

Table 11
The result of the Binary Logistic Regression Analysis on
Influence of Peers towards Premarital Sex Behaviors of Teenagers

Independent Variable	Odd Ratio (OR)	P	Confidence Interval 95%	
			Lower Limit	Upper Limit
Source of Information	0,831	0,320	0,577	1,197
Cognitive Resources	1,776	0,003	1,219	2,587
The Source of Emotional	2, 867	0,000	1,988	4,135
N Observation	566			
Nagelkerke R ²	96%			

By examining table 11 above, it can be known the result of logistic regression with the binary examination. First, we state that statistically, there is significant influence between peers and premarital sex behavior of High School Teenagers in Indonesia. Second, teenagers who have got good knowledge from peers have the possibility to behave better for premarital sex life, two times better than those who have not got good knowledge from peers (OR = 2; 95% CI = 1.22-2,59; p = 0.003). Third, teens who have got a good emotional bond with peers have the possibility to behave better for premarital sex life, three times better than teenagers who have not good emotional bond with peers (OR = 3; CI 95% = 1.99-4.14; p = 0.000).

Counting those results into account, it can be stated that most teenagers in Indonesia have good premarital sexual behavior. High School teenagers in Indonesia, especially in Buleleng, Bali, most of them have never watched porn, have never kissed their partners, have never sexually rubbed their sexual sensitive parts, have never conducted masturbation, and have never had sexual intercourse. However, there were some teenagers have got risk premarital sex behavior since they have ever had premarital sexual intercourse. It requires more serious attention from various parties concerned since this phenomenon will rise various social problems.

There are some factors affect premarital sex behaviors. One of them is peers factor. Based on data analysis, it is known that the majority of peers act as a source of information, resources, and sources of cognitive, and good emotional source. It shows that most high school teenagers in Indonesia have gained positive information about premarital sexual behavior. However, there are still a few teenagers who acted bad premarital sex behavior since they have gained negative information about premarital sex behavior (In Indonesia, premarital sexual intercourse is seen as something bad).

Based on data analysis results using binary logistic regression examination, it can be stated that, statistically, there is significant influence between peers and premarital sex behaviors. Those who have gained good knowledge from peers have the possibility to have premarital sex behaviors 2 times better than those who have not got good knowledge from peers (OR = 2; 95% CI = 1.22-2,59; p = 0.003). Next, teenagers who have got a good emotional bond with peers have the possibility to act good premarital sex behavior, 3 times better than teenagers who have a less emotional bond with peers (OR = 3; CI 95% = 1.99-4.14; p = 0.000).

The results are in accordance with the previous research that indicates the influence of peers toward premarital sex behavior teenagers. A research conducted by [Maryatun \(2013\)](#) indicated that peers associated with premarital sex behavior in senior high school in Muhammadiyah Surakarta, Indonesia. In another hand, research conducted by [Trisnawati \(2010\)](#) also indicated that premarital sexual behavior of peers influenced another premarital sex behavior of other teenagers. The third research that conducted by [Agustini \(2013\)](#) indicated that peers pressure influenced various dimensions of teenagers' life.

4. Conclusion

In this section, we provide some conclusions that are based on the results and discussion above. After that, we present our suggestions related to premarital sex behavior of teens. Based on the results of data analysis, it can be concluded as follows:

- a. Statistically, there is significant influence between peers and premarital sex behaviors of high school teenagers in Bali, Indonesia.
- b. Teenagers who have gained good knowledge from peers have possibility had good premarital sex behavior, 2 times better than teenagers have gained less knowledge of peers (OR = 2; 95% CI = 1.22-2,59; $p = 0.003$).
- c. Teenagers who have got a good emotional bond with peers have the possibility to act good premarital sex behavior, 3 times better than teenagers who have a less emotional bond with peers (OR = 3; CI 95% = 1.99-4.14; $p = 0.000$).

The results of this research are hoped to be used as advice for High School teenagers, so they will give more attention to their peers since the peers affect premarital sexual behavior. It is also recommended to the school to form groups of teenagers who can provide good knowledge or good information related to premarital sex behavior of teenagers.





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