

THE ROLE OF HEALTH REPRODUCTION INFORMATION CENTER IN IMPROVING PRE-MARITAL SEX BEHAVIOR AMONG ADOLESCENTS IN BIMA, WEST NUSA TENGGARA

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ABSTRACT

Background: Adolescent sexual and reproductive health is a major public health concern. A number of authors and organizations report that many adolescents world over are sexually active, and in some regions, as many as half are married. Literature shows that there is a need for improved reproductive health services aimed at adolescents throughout the world. This study aimed to investigate the role of health reproduction information center in improving pre-marital sex behavior among adolescents in Bima, West Nusa Tenggara.

Subjects and Method: This was a cross-sectional study conducted in Bima, West Nusa Tenggara, from April to June 2018. A sample of 200 senior high school students was selected by proportional stratified random sampling. The dependent variable was pre-marital sex behavior. The independent variables were health information center (PIK-KRR), intention, perceived behaviour control (PBC), and media exposure. The data were collected by questionnaire and analyzed by a multiple logistic regression run on Stata 13.

Results: Health information center had a positive effect on healthy pre-marital sex behaviour, but it was statistically non-significant ($b = 1.64$; 95% CI = 0.78 to 3.44; $p = 0.188$). Healthy pre-marital sex behavior increased with stronger intention ($b = 17.18$; 95% CI = 7.98 to 36.97; $p < 0.001$), PBC ($b = 2.54$; 95% CI = 1.19 to 4.24; $p = 0.016$), and positive social media information exposure ($b = 2.01$; 95% CI = 0.95 to 4.24; $p = 0.068$).

Conclusion: The existing health information center in Bima, East Nusa Tenggara, is seemingly ineffective. It has a positive effect on healthy pre-marital sex behavior, but it is statistically non-significant. Healthy pre-marital sex behavior increases with stronger intention, PBC, and positive social media information exposure.

Keywords: healthy pre-marital sex behavior, health information center, social media information exposure

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