Risk Factors for Sexual Violence in Adolescents Literature Review

Trilia¹, Nisha Nambiar², Faridah Mohd Said³

¹ Student Ph.D. In Health Science, Faculty Medicine, Lincoln University College, Malaysia
² Lecturer Ph.D. In Health Science, Faculty Medicine, Lincoln University College, Malaysia
³ Lecturer Ph.D. In Nursing, Faculty Medicine, Lincoln University College, Malaysia

Abstract

Introduction: Every year sexual violence cases increase and become a widely heard issue in the community. The increase in cases that occur requires research that examines what the risk factor affects. The purpose of this study was to analyze scientific articles related to what are the risk factors for sexual violence in adolescents. Material and Methods: The research employed literature review. The literature consists of journals with a travel year from 2018 to 2022. Literature collection was done through Google scholar, Pubmed, and ScienceDirect using the keyword “sexual violence”, “risk factor”, and “teenager”. Results: The results of the literature search 34,927 articles found in the database regarding entered keywords; however 34,917 articles in the last five years were excluded because they were not relevant to the author’s criteria. There were 5 articles that met the inclusion criteria, however only six articles categorized as good quality. Conclusion: Review results show that have any risk factors affecting sexual violence of a teenager, among other things gender, alcohol, age, sexual disorder, family, gadget, environment, disability, a poor parental education, economic, lust, religion, dating, and sexual intercourse.

Keywords: Risk Factor, Sexual Violence, Teenager.

Corresponding Author: Trilia
Email: triliawm13@gmail.com
1. Introduction

Recently, there have been many issues related to sexual violence among the community, which has caused particular concern for them. According to the Indonesian Women's Association, sexual violence is an act that is not in accordance with norms because it is carried out violently in practice, which violates applicable law and deviates from religious teachings. (Komnas Perempuan, 2021) Sexual violence against teenagers is all kinds of acts of coercion and threats to engage in sexual activity. Sexual activity can include touching, sexual abuse and even rape. (Paquette et al., 2019) Based on research data from (Banvard-Fox et al., 2020) in recent years, more than 1 trillion children have experienced physical, sexual or psychological violence. Of the many cases violence against teenagers such as physical violence, psychological violence, neglect, bullying and sexual violence being the most dominant. (Komnas Perempuan, 2021)

Cases of sexual violence always increase every year, victims of these cases can be adults, teenagers or children. Sexual violence against children will have various traumatic impacts and will have long-term effects on their lives. Young age is a vulnerable age for sexual violence, where at this time there is instability such as emotions so that the pattern of social relations changes. (Lomax & Meyrick, 2022) The phenomenon of cases of sexual violence against children also has a global impact in various countries. The problem of sexual violence in children globally is that 17% of boys and 31% of girls have experienced sexual violence. (Malvaso et al., 2020)

Worldwide child sexual violence data shows that rates of sexual violence are higher for girls than for boys. For children or adolescents, the rate of sexual violence reaches 0.3% (China), 1.6% -3% (South Africa), 4% (Israel), 5.6% (Ireland), 11% (Tanzania) and the highest 18% reported unwanted sexual intercourse (Ethiopia). In practice, there is intra- and extra-familial violence in sexual violence. (World Health Organization, 2021) Sourced from the explanation of an initial study which found that 63% of female subjects had experienced sexual violence.
intrafamilial (in the family) sexual violence before the age of 14 and experienced rape after the age of 14. (Komnas Perempuan, 2023)

Based on data from WHO in 2018, globally 31% (Uncertainty Interval or UI 27-36%) of women aged 15-49 and 30% (UI 26-34%) of women aged 15 years and over have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from her husband, ex-husband, intimate partner or not including these three categories or for both forms of violence at least once since the age of 15 years. (World Health Organization, 2021)

In global data, 27% (UI 23-31%) of women who have ever been married or had a partner in their reproductive age (15-49 years) are estimated to have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence at least once in their lifetime (defined as age 15). Using the UN SDG regional classification, the highest estimated lifetime prevalence of such cases occurs among least developed countries, namely; with a prevalence of 37% (UI 33-42%) and in three subregions of Oceania, including; Melanesia, where more than half (51%, UI 38-63%) are estimated to have experienced physical and/or sexual violence from an intimate partner at some point in their lives; Micronesia, estimated lifetime prevalence is 41% (UI 32-52%); and Polynesia, prevalence 39% (UI 30-49%). The regions of South Asia (35%, UI 26-45%) and Sub-Saharan Africa (33%, UI 29-38%) have the next highest lifetime prevalence rates of intimate partner violence in this age range, followed by North Africa (30% , UI 23-40%) and West Asia (29%, UI 22-37%). (World Health Organization, 2021)

In other regions, the estimated lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence is lower than the global average (27%). In Latin America and the Caribbean and North America, one in four (25%) ever-married or partnered women aged 15-49 are estimated to have experienced physical and/or sexual intimate partner violence at some point in their lives, since the age of 15. This prevalence is slightly higher than the estimated prevalence for Australia and New Zealand of 23% (UI 16-32%). Asia (World Health Organization, 2021)
Southeast, East and Central actually have relatively lower prevalence estimates, respectively 21% (UI 15-31%), 20% (UI 12-31%) and 18% (UI 13-25%). In individual European subregions, which consist primarily of high-income countries, estimates of the lifetime prevalence of intimate partner violence range from 23% in Northern Europe (UI 16-33%) to 16% (UI 12-21%) in Southern Europe. Even relatively low prevalence estimates in this subregion are still very high. The highest estimated prevalence of non-partner sexual violence from age 15 is in high-income areas including Australia and New Zealand (19%, UI 9-36%) and North America (15%, UI 5-40%), although estimates are also high in Polynesia (12%, UI 8-20%), Micronesia (12%, UI 7-19%), Latin America and the Caribbean (11%, UI 7-16%), followed by Melanesia (10%, UI 5-22%) and Northern Europe (10%, UI 6-16%). Sub-Saharan Africa region (6%, UI 5-8%), North Africa (4%, UI 2-9%), Southeast Asia (4%, UI 2-8%), West Asia (4%, UI 2-9%), Central Asia (2%, UI 1-4%) and South Asia (2%, UI 1-3%) have the lowest prevalence estimates among these regions. (World Health Organization, 2021)

The increase in cases of sexual violence that occurs every year requires a study regarding the risk factors that cause it from the side of victims, especially teenagers and perpetrators. Therefore, researchers are interested in analyzing articles on risk factors for sexual violence in adolescents which are expected to be useful in increasing insight and knowledge to the community which can be used as a reference in preventive efforts to reduce the number of cases and will also be useful in further research related to this topic.

2. Research Method

Research Design, Setting, and Samples

This research uses a literature review method. Research data was collected from several sources, namely Google Scholar, PubMed, and Science Direct between 2018-2022 and the articles were in English and Indonesian. The keywords entered are Risk Factor, Sexual Violence, Teenager. From the keywords written in the three databases, 34,927 articles were found. Next, select
articles by removing articles that do not fit the specified year range. Of the 34,927 articles, 16,206 articles were excluded because they were not included in the 2018-2022 range. After reselection by reading the article title, abstract, and suitability to the research topic, 20 articles were obtained. However, of the 20 articles, 15 articles had to be removed again because the discussion in these articles focused more on sexual harassment. Thus, 5 articles were selected which were selected because they were appropriate to the topic, namely risk factors for sexual violence in adolescents. The inclusion criteria in this literature review are articles that discuss risk factors for sexual violence in adolescents, available in English and Indonesian, published between 2018-2022, and full text. Meanwhile, the exclusion criteria were articles that tended to discuss the topic of sexual harassment against teenagers and were only related to violence. Of the 5 articles selected for the final review, the researcher read the entire contents of the article carefully to obtain appropriate information based on the objectives of this research. The sections analyzed are the results and discussion sections. Then in discussing this research the researcher links the analysis between the results and discussion of the 5 articles reviewed.

Data Collection
The research employed literature review. The literature consists of journals with a travel year from 2017 to 2022. Literature collection was done through Google scholar, Pubmed, and ScienceDirect using the keyword “sexual violence”, “risk factor”, and “teenager”.

Data Analytics
As can be seen in Figure 1, researchers followed the appropriate steps or research protocol by employing the Preferred Reporting Items for literature review Statement (PRISMA) technique. This was done in order to ensure that the research was conducted correctly.
3. Results And Discussions

a. Result

Table 1 shows that in the first article there are several risk factors related to incidents of sexual violence at Muhammadiyah High School in Bogor City, namely age, social environment, relationship between family harmony, and use of social media. In the second article, the factors that influence the occurrence of sexual violence against children are family factors, environmental factors, value factors and individual factors. In the third article, the triggers for sexual violence against children during the
COVID-19 pandemic are gadgets, the environment, parental education, parental communication, family economics, lust, the nature of girls, and humans' relationship with God. In the fourth article, what influences the risk of violence is the environment, internal genetics, and a lack of knowledge among teenagers. In the fifth article, the factors that cause someone to commit incestuous sexual violence against girls with disabilities, namely the difficulty of parents controlling sexual urges, older sisters and brothers sleeping in the same room, the father's inability to find a sexual partner outside the home, a tight situation where the child is the main female figure replacing the mother, hidden sanctions against the mother who does not participate in the demands of the sexual role as a wife, and fear of family disintegration. The final article is that the causes of sexual violence experienced by women are power relations, environmental stimulation, blaming the victim, individual characteristics and mental disorders.

Table 1. Article Review Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Author</th>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Objective</th>
<th>Method</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(Afi Putri Utami, Kusuma,</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Knowing the factors-</td>
<td>Cross sectional research with</td>
<td>Associated risk factors are age, social environment,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andreanda Nasution, 2021,</td>
<td></td>
<td>factor influencing students</td>
<td>amount sampleas many as 50</td>
<td>relationship between family harmony, and use of social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor-City</td>
<td></td>
<td>towards incidents of sexual violence at</td>
<td>students with fill in</td>
<td>media. Family harmony is related with events sexual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factor Influencing</td>
<td></td>
<td>Muhammadiyah High School in Bogor City</td>
<td>questionnaire, data P2TP2A</td>
<td>violence (p value = 0.005 &lt; 0.05). The use of social</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent Events</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>City Bogor</td>
<td>media is related to incident violence sexual (p value = 0.011 &lt; 0.05), the social environment is related with events sexual violence (p value = 0.005 &lt; 0.05)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Author(s)</td>
<td>Country</td>
<td>Title</td>
<td>Methodology</td>
<td>Findings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mannika, 2018</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Descriptive Study of the Potential for Sexual Violence on Teenagers</td>
<td>Taking data is carried out using questionnaire with number of samples as many as 271 students.</td>
<td>The causes of sexual violence experienced by women are power relations, environmental stimulation, victim blaming, characteristics individuals and mental disorders.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rahayu et al., 2022</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Analysis of Victims of Violence against Adolescents during the COVID-19 Pandemic in the city of Makassar</td>
<td>Qualitative research with amount sample as many as 8 respondents used the approach case study through observation, indepth interviews, and documentation</td>
<td>Sexual violence in children is triggered by gadgets, the environment, parental education, communication parent, Family material/economics, lust, child's character women, and connection man with his god.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Delfina et al., 2021</td>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>Connection Knowledge about Sexual Anticipation against Risk</td>
<td>Sampling using estimation formula proportion with amount sample 319 young women. Data analysis using the Chi-Square Test</td>
<td>Environment as an external factor, and genetic internal factors and less knowledge teenager as a risk factor for sexual violence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
associated with most of the negative health behaviors for both sexes, and these associations were often stronger among male students (significant adjusted prevalence ratios ranged from 1.63 to 14.40 for male and 1.24 to 6.67 for female students).

b. Discussion

Sexual violence includes contact and non-contact sexual experiences that are unwanted and where consent cannot be obtained. (Siria et al., 2020) Sexual violence is most often experienced by women at 21.86%, men at 14.58%. (Mannika, 2018) Meanwhile, the majority of perpetrators of sexual violence are men at 75% and women at 25%. (World Health Organization, 2021) found that the factors that influence the occurrence of sexual violence, especially among girls, are individual factors, family factors, and environmental factors.

1) Individual Factors
   a) Use of Social Media
In research conducted at a high school in Bogor City by (Afi Putri Utami Kusuma, Andreanda Nasution, 2021), they found a link between the use of social media and incidents of sexual violence. Poor use of social media means the risk of committing/receiving acts of sexual violence will be higher. Likewise, research conducted by (Rahayu et al., 2022) found that the causes or triggers for sexual violence against teenagers during the Covid-19 pandemic were the unrestricted use of gadgets and without parental supervision so that teenagers communicated more often via social media, with a known outsider to planning a meeting and sexual violence occurs.

b) Knowledge

Research conducted by (Delfina et al., 2021) shows that the factors that can cause sexual violence are internal factors, namely a lack of adolescent knowledge and information including the meaning, types and signs of sexual violence in adolescents.

c) Relationship History

In his analysis, (Mannika, 2018) found in his research that the factors that have great potential to trigger sexual violence are the experience/relationship of dating and the experience of having sexual relations.

2) Family Factors

In research conducted by (Siria et al., 2020), they found that the risk factors for perpetrators of sexual violence were factors related to family history and a sexual family environment. This is in line with research conducted at a high school in Bogor City (Afi Putri Utami Kusuma, Andreanda Nasution, 2021) which found a link between family harmony and incidents of sexual violence. Based on the number of respondents who have less than harmonious family relationships, the risk of committing/receiving acts of sexual violence will be higher.
Other research conducted in (Miranda et al., 2020) also shows that the factors that can cause sexual violence in adolescents are family factors. It is known that all informants who experienced sexual violence were children of divorce victims. Divorce can shape children’s behavior patterns, thereby increasing the risk of sexual violence in children. Likewise, research conducted by (Ajayi et al., 2021) found that the cause or trigger for sexual violence against teenagers during the Covid-19 pandemic was less than harmonious communication with parents.

Research conducted by (Rahayu et al., 2022) using in-depth interviews found that other factors that cause and trigger sexual violence among teenagers during the Covid-19 pandemic are parents’ low education so they have insufficient knowledge in educating children and there is problems between the two parents due to the family economy.

Sexual violence can occur due to incest, namely acts of sexual violence between people who are related by blood, such as between parents and biological children. Research conducted by (Setiani Fibrinika Tuta, Sri Handayani, 2017) found that the factors that cause someone to commit incestuous sexual violence are female and male siblings sleeping in the same room (40 people or 31%), situations where the child is forced to become the main female figure as a substitute for the mother (28 people or 21.7%), and fear of family dissolution (19 people or 14.7%).

3) Environmental factor

Based on environmental factors, the results of research conducted in Wonosobo Regency by (Setiani Fibrinika Tuta, Sri Handayani, 2017) show that the incidence of unwanted pregnancies is found in almost every community of the informants. Unhealthy social environmental conditions can cause an increase in sexual violence against children. This research is in line with research conducted by (Rahayu et al., 2022) regarding the triggers of sexual violence during the Covid-19 pandemic which can be caused by a child’s environment.
that is not supportive when outside the home because without family supervision the child will lead to negative things, according to the environment.

Research conducted by (Delfina et al., 2021) also explains that environmental factors are external factors that can cause sexual violence because they greatly influence an individual's sexual development. Apart from that, genetic factors are also factors that can cause sexual violence. Perceptions of differences between genders in the environment also have a relationship with incidents of sexual violence.

4. Conclusion

Based on the results of the review of the six journals above, it can be concluded that the factors that trigger incidents of sexual violence include individual factors, family factors, environmental factors, power imbalance between men and women, gender inequality, and poor parental education. It is hoped that the public will be more alert and try to eliminate risk factors for incidents of sexual violence in the community. This is necessary to support a reduction in the number of incidents of sexual violence due to mutually protective behavior in the community.

5. Compliance with ethical standards

Acknowledgements

The authors would like to convey their gratitude to all those who have contributed to this research for their aid in implementing the study. Our objective is to advance health research for the betterment of society.

Disclosure of conflict of interest

As part of the process of carrying out this research, the researcher ensures that no potential conflicts of interest are involved.

Statement of informed consent

As writers, everything we do is based on a mutual agreement or consent.
References


