

The Impact of Child Marriage: Literature Review

Siti Rofi'ah ¹, Haryono², Intan Zainafree³, Eko Farida⁴

^{1,2,3,4} Universitas Negeri Semarang, Central Java, Indonesia

Corresponding author: nandasheeta@gmail.com

Abstract: Marriage is an important moment for every couple with a physical and spiritual bond to form a harmonious family. Marriages performed before the age of 19 can be considered a violence and a violation for children's rights. Child marriage occurs due to several factors. Child marriage will have a multi-dimensional impact because it can have major implications for development, especially regarding the quality and competitiveness of young people's human resources in the future. This research aims to analyze the impact of child marriage. The research design used a literature review of four articles obtained from Semantic Scholar, Science Direct, and SpringerLink. The impact of child marriage on the physical domain includes maternal and child deaths due to risky pregnancies and nutritional status problems. The psychological domain is depression, suicide attempts, and communication patterns. The social domain includes divorce, school drop out, and domestic violence (KDRT). The economic domain is in the form of poor socio-economic conditions. It is hoped that these findings can be used to provide appropriate interventions for adults in health promotion efforts regarding to delay the age of marriage.

Keywords: Impact; Child Marriage

INTRODUCTION

Wedding is an important moment for man and woman in which their statues will be changeable automatically after getting marriage. Husband and wife are bound physically and mentally through marriage, to build a harmonious family based on belief in God Almighty. The government has set a rule about marriage age limitation in Republic of Indonesia Law No. 16 of 2019 concerning amendments to Law No. 1 of 1974 concerning marriage in Article 7, which stated that marriage is only permitted if the man and woman have reached the age of 19 (nineteen) years (Presiden RI, 2019). However, under certain conditions within reason urgently accompanied by supporting data, the parents of the man or woman can ask the court for dispensation. This provides an opportunity for child marriage happened.

Marriages performed before the age of 19 can be considered violence and violation of children's rights. Children have the right to self-determination, including reproductive and sexual freedom, making informed decisions about their health and bodies. Child marriage limits children's freedom so it can be considered a violation of children's rights. The Committee on the Rights of the Child has recognized that the right to health for many young people is hindered by child marriage

and the consequent early pregnancy (Crawford, 2022). This consequence is felt most by women. Women who married at a young age reported experiencing unpleasant experiences, regret, devastation, and exhaustion, and some considered marriage to be kidnapping. Marriage is considered by many to be a "prison", which "ends their childhood" and "the end of life" (Bayu Argaheni & Juwita, 2023).

Child marriage occurs due to several factors. The public perceives that social media is the most influential factor in the incidence of child marriage. With social media, teenagers get a lot of information about sex, which can give rise to the desire to practice or have sex. As a result, without guidance and attention from their parents, these teenagers can fall into actions that are contrary to society's norms and religion. Next are parental factors, economic factors, accidents or pregnancy out of wedlock, customs factors, and family factors. These factors contribute positively to child marriage, according to society (Slamet, 2022). Child marriage will have a multi-dimensional impact because it can have major implications for development, especially for regarding the quality and competitiveness of young people's human resources in the future.

Based on the description above, there is a need for a literature review regarding the impact of child marriage. We summarize the results of articles about the physical, psychological, social, and economic impact of child marriage.

METHODS

This literature review study uses five stages (Khan et al., 2003) and includes:

1. Stage 1: Develop questions.

The question structure used relates to the physical, psychological, social, and economic impact of child marriage.

2. Stage 2: Identify relevant articles.

This stage uses PRISMA (Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-analysis), with criteria including originating from Semantic Scholar, Science Direct, SpringerLink, publications in the last 2 years from 2022 to 2023, in English, full text, and open access. The number of articles used after going through the identification stage was four articles.

3. Stage 3: Assess the quality of the article

The article used in this analysis includes an observational design relating to the impact of child marriage in the last 2 years.

4. Stage 4: Compile the results.

Data synthesis in the form of a matrix or tabulation includes article identity (title, author, and year of publication), research methods (design, number of samples, and instruments used), research results, and then conducting data analysis.

5. Stage 5: Summarize the findings

The results of the article tabulation in step 4 will be presented in groups of physical impact, psychological impact, social impact, and economic impact.

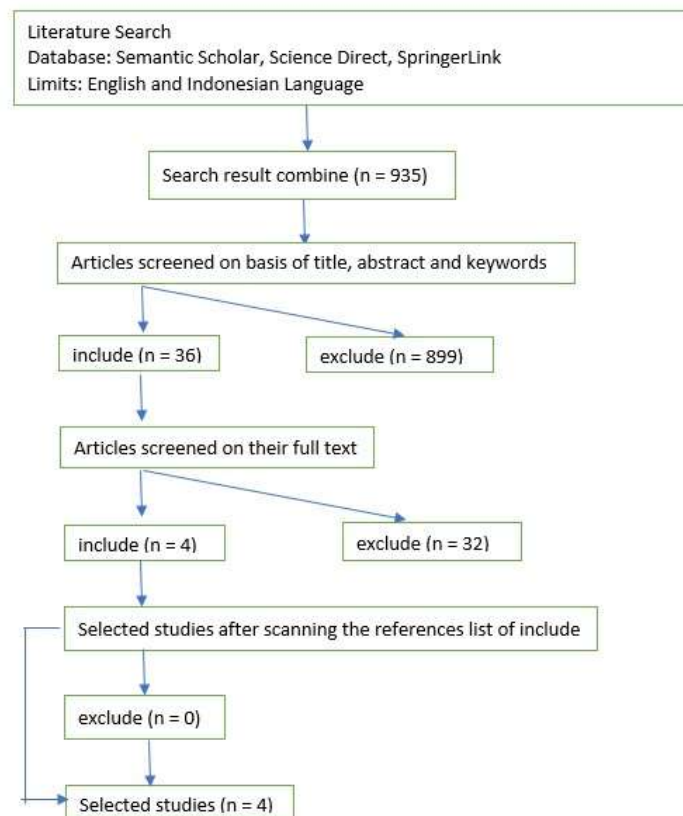


Figure 1
PRISMA Chart

RESULTS

TITLE	METHOD	RESULTS
Trends And Impacts Of Child Marriage In A Psychological Perspective (Case Study In Tuban Regency), Siti Fatimah, 2023	Research combining literature review and qualitative descriptive field research. Data were collected using in-depth interviews and univariable analysis in descriptive form	The impact of child marriage on teenagers includes negative and positive impacts. The negative impacts of child marriage include causing severe depression, divorce, dropping out of school, increasing child mortality rates, and crime. The positive impact of child marriage is that it reduces the burden on parents due to the need to move to their husband, and prevents disgrace or immorality such as adultery or cohabitation.
The Impact of Early Marriage on Communication Patterns between Parents and Children; Case Study of Early Marriage Perpetrators in Bojong Indah Village, Qiqi Nurhayati, Nirwan Syafrin, Yono, 2023	Case study research. Type of descriptive qualitative research. Data collection through observation, interviews, and documentation. Data analysis includes data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions	Early marriage has an impact on communication patterns between children and parents, economically, biologically, and psychologically. Biologically, individuals who marry early are vulnerable to damage to the reproductive organs, risking the death of the mother and child during childbirth. Psychologically, you will easily experience stress due to mental unpreparedness to bear the burden of taking care of your children and husband. The economic impact of early marriage on men is that it is difficult to find work, due to low levels of education
The association between early marriage and mental disorder among young migrants and non-migrant women: a Norwegian register-based study Kamila Angelika Hynek, Dawit Selendang Abebe, Aart C. Liefbroer, Lars Johan Hauge and Melanie Lindsay Strait, 2022	Population-based dynamic cohort study design using data from four registers in Norway in 2006-2015. The analysis uses logistic regression. The sample was followed from 2006 (age 17 years) until the end of the study (2015)	Women who marry early tend to experience mental health problems. Early marriage causes reduced time to accumulate socio-economic resources. Efforts to reduce the risk of mental disorders by improving education for young women.
Child marriage and the mental health of adolescent girls: a Longitudinal cohort study from Uttar Pradesh and Bihar, India. Shilpa Aggarwal, Kate L. Francis S. Ghazaleh Dashti and George Patton, 2023	Design a Longitudinal representative study of adolescents ages 10 - 19 years. Baseline survey (wave 1) 2015–2016, and follow-up survey (wave 2) 2018–2019. The analysis uses logistic regression	Early marriage can have dangerous mental health impacts including symptoms of depression, as well as suicidal thoughts and attempts. Poor mental health is associated with marital abuse. Physical and sexual violence committed in married life is associated with depressive disorders and suicide attempts. This is a greater risk for girls, due to limited physical, psychological, and financial resources

DISCUSSION

Based on the results of studies in several articles, it can be seen that the impact of child marriage on teenagers includes positive and negative impacts. The positive impact of child marriage is reducing the burden on parents due to the burden of having to move to their husbands and preventing disgrace or immorality such as adultery or cohabitation (Fatimah, 2023). The negative impact of child marriage is more complex. In general, the negative impacts of child marriage are grouped into four domains, including the physical domain, psychological domain, social domain, and economic domain.

Physical Domain

The success of a country's health services can be measured through the maternal mortality rate (MMR) and infant mortality rate (IMR). Child marriage is closely related to high-risk pregnancies under 20 years of age because the body's organs are still in the process of growth and development, including the reproductive organs. Women who are pregnant < 20 years are vulnerable to damage to the reproductive organs and also the death of the mother and child during childbirth (Nurhayati et al., 2023). The age of a pregnant woman influences the amount of nutrition needed during pregnancy and delivery. Mothers who give birth at the age of 18 also have a 60% increase in infant mortality and even provide wrong parenting patterns to children due to limited knowledge and maternal qualities (Fatimah, 2023). Pregnant women aged less than 20 years need more nutrition because apart from being used for their growth and development, they also have to share it with the fetus they are carrying so they need more energy to support the ongoing pregnancy (Permata Sari et al., 2023). This situation will pose a risk of Chronic Energy Deficiency (CED) and anemia in pregnant women. The impact of anemia in pregnancy can range from mild complaints to pregnancy disorders such as abortion, prolonged labor, bleeding, postpartum disorders, weak immune system, low breast milk production, and fetal disorders such as abortion, LBW, and perinatal death (Zelharsandy, 2022).

The condition of KEK will cause a decrease in the strength of the uterine muscles during the birth process, which can result in prolonged labor (Purnamaningsih & Haque, 2023). Adequate nutritional status is needed to meet the physiological needs of pregnancy, namely hormonal changes and increased blood volume for fetal growth so that if the nutritional intake of the fetus is reduced, as in the condition of KEK, it can result in obstacles to the growth and development of the fetus and babies born LBW. Mothers who give birth at an underage age tend to give birth to babies with disabilities or health problems. Malnutrition in the fetus, if it occurs in the

middle and end of gestation, will disrupt fetal growth, which can lead to coronary heart disease, high blood pressure, and type 2 diabetes. Restrictions on fetal growth will permanently change the structure and function of the body's physiology. Babies born LBW often have difficulty catching up with their growth (inadequate catch-up growth). The risk of growth restriction will be further exacerbated if malnutrition during the fetal period is followed by insufficient food intake in the first two years of life. The period in the womb and the first two years of life determine the incidence of stunting in adulthood (Sudarmadi et al., 2023).

Psychological Domain

Living a domestic life is not an easy thing, especially if there is a child in the family. Each family member must be ready and understand the responsibilities that must be carried out. Failure to carry out this role can cause conflict to arise which can result in depression. Child marriages with immature individual psychological conditions in the form of unpreparedness to take responsibility for caring for a partner and children can trigger psychological problems in the form of mental health disorders for both husband and wife (Fatimah, 2023). Poor mental health related to acts of abuse against partners. Physical and sexual violence in marriage will trigger depression and suicide attempts. Women are more at risk of experiencing this condition because of limited physical, psychological, and financial resources (Aggarwal et al., 2023). Couples who marry early will feel afraid and worried about facing family problems. This condition causes stress which ultimately results in depressive neuritis due to the protracted process of disappointment and excessive feelings of pressure (Azhar et al., 2022).

Child marriage also affects the communication patterns that exist between husband and wife and parents and children (Nurhayati et al., 2023). Young couples tend to have unstable emotions and high levels of egoism, which easily triggers conflict. This couple usually conflicts over small things. For example, one of them keeps acting like a child who wants to be accepted, but the partner doesn't understand it because each of them is concerned with their ego and their unstable thoughts. Efforts to resolve a conflict in the family can be made by communicating between partners. Communication patterns between partners are different in each family. Several factors can influence this communication pattern, including age at marriage, husband and wife's background, socio-economic conditions, and their respective cultures (Khoiroh & Sa'diyin, 2021).

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Social Domain

Child marriages are vulnerable to divorce due to mental, physical, and economic unpreparedness for married life. Immature thought patterns often trigger repeated conflicts. Young married couples usually do not yet realize the responsibilities of marriage. If this does not get the right solution then married life will not be harmonious and will end in divorce (Fatimah, 2023) (Wowor, 2021).

One of the impacts of child marriage is dropping out from school. The increasing level of information technology encourages teenagers to fulfill their curiosity about the information they received. The existence of information about sexuality that is disseminated through social media, supported by a lack of attention from parents and a lack of knowledge or understanding about religion, is a factor causing teenagers to engage in promiscuity or free sex, making children feel like they are friends with everyone and do whatever they want without thinking about the impact which arise. Teenage pregnancy as a result of promiscuity will cause interruption of the education being undertaken. Child marriage causes school dropout at an age that is still productive in pursuing education. The haste of lust causes a dim future that does not match expectations (Fatimah, 2023) (Jamir & Layuk, 2022)

Perpetrators of child marriage are not yet able to regulate their emotions or behavior towards their partner, so they are at risk of domestic violence (*KDRT*). Criminal acts such as domestic violence (*KDRT*) are a consequence of child marriage due to unpreparedness to become an ideal partner in building a household. Women often become victims of domestic violence (Aggarwal et al., 2023),

Economic Domain

After getting marriage, the husband has taken over the responsibility of a daughter from her parents. Husbands have to work to meet the family's economic needs. This responsibility has the consequence that when deciding to get married, both partners must leave school. The problem that arises is the difficulty of finding work, due to the low level of education (Aggarwal et al., 2023). Early marriage causes reduced time to accumulate socio-economic resources. Married at a young age usually have a lower socio-economic status than those who marry at an older age. This shows that couples who marry young are not ready socio-economically. The absence of a steady income from a family because they do not have a stable job causes economic problems in a family which will trigger conflict in the household (Cahyono & Dewi, 2018). Economic conditions contribute to the development of mental disorders (Hynek et al., 2022)

CONCLUSION

The impact of child marriage based on the literature study of the sample articles covers several things, in the physical domain include maternal and child deaths due to risk pregnancies and nutritional status problems. The psychological domain leads to depression and suicide attempts and influences the communication patterns between husband and wife, parents and children. The social domain of the impact of child marriage is vulnerability to divorce, school drop out, and risk of domestic violence (*KDRT*). The existence of child marriage also has an impact in the economic domain of the form of difficulty in obtaining work due to low education, so socio-economic conditions are unwell. It is hoped that these findings can be used to provide appropriate interventions for adolescents in health promotion efforts regarding to delay the age of marriage

Conflict of Interest

This research has no conflict of interest towards any party.

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