

# Analysis of Adolescents' Sexual Orientation in Bendungan Hilir Sub District Central Jakarta in 2022

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## Abstract

**Background:** Adolescence is considered as the peak of a process to find one's self-identity and sexual orientation more specifically, whether as heterosexual, homosexual, or as bisexual. Among the social problems that occur in adolescents is LGBT whose population in the world continues to increase, according to a survey by the Center for Intelligence Agency (CIA). The number of LGBT population in Indonesia is the 5th largest in the world after China, India, Europe and America. It is estimated that 3 percent of Indonesia's population are LGBT people or around 7.5 million people.

**Objective:** This study aims to find indicators and variables that cause sexual orientation in adolescents (women like women) in Central Jakarta in 2022.

**Methodology:** This study is a qualitative research design with a case study approach to informants who are lesbians. Collecting data using interview guides, uninvolved observation, and documentation. The data were processed using content analysis using a matrix and presented in a narrative manner.

**Results:** The results showed that there were 11 variables with each indicator that led to sexual orientation in adolescents, including personality, perception, attitude, religion, parenting style, social support, intensity of access to pornography, sexual behavior, trauma and environment.

**Conclusions and suggestions:** Parenting and trauma variables that are very prominent in lesby sexual orientation, the family plays an important role in the growth and development of adolescents.

**Key words:** sexual orientation, LGBT, adolescents.

## Introduction

Adolescence is a transitional period, during which there is a transition between childhood and adulthood. In this phase they are sometimes seen as children, while on the other hand they are required to act as adults (Surianti, 2019). Based on world data, the number of youth groups is estimated at around 1.2 billion or 18% of the total population. Meanwhile in Indonesia. Based on the 2020 population census, the population aged 10-19 years there were 44.5 million or around 18% of the total population (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2020). Based on the projected population of the City of Jakarta in 2020, the population of the City of Jakarta

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consists of 1,292,055 teenage boys and 1,226,707 young women out of a total of 2,518,762 people (BPS Prov. DKI Jakarta, 2021).

From the data on the number of adolescents, it was found that there were many social problems that occurred related to sexual concepts, which consisted of sexual identity, sexual behavior, and sexual orientation. Eccles et al (2004) and Igartua et al (2009). Today, the spread of LGBT has begun to reach teenagers and students, where in this position education must take a role in efforts to fortify youth and students from the dangers of LGBT propaganda. The dynamics of people's lives in this modern era raises many problems related to the use of technology and information, cultural differences, gender issues, lifestyles and many other problems and all of these problems are a fertilizer for the development of LGBT in society.

Almost all Same-Sex Attraction (SSA) or homosexuals have been aware since they were 10 years old until they were teenagers. Even in some cases, children are aware of their deviations when they are under the age of 10 (Hafidz, 2010). The Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) population continues to increase in the world. According to a survey by the Center for Intelligence of Agency (CIA), Indonesia's LGBT population ranks fifth in the world after China, India, Europe and America (Rahman, 2015). It is estimated that 3 percent of Indonesia's population are LGBT people according to Oetomo (2015) or around 7.5 million people (Ministry of Health, 2006). Studies show that homosexual behavior and same-sex attraction are common since the age of 15, the prevalence in men in America was 20.8%, UK was 16.3%, and America was 18.5%. While in the women's group each was 17.8%, 18.6%, and 18.5% (Sell, 1995). This situation shows that the school age group is a vulnerable age to start engaging in same-sex relationships.

Adolescence is considered as the peak process to find one's self-identity and sexual orientation more specifically, whether as heterosexual, homosexual, or as bisexual. This process is relatively related to how individuals get affection and treatment from the people around them. Early detection of adolescent sexual behavior is used in an effort to find out from the start the tendency of sexual deviance and to prevent further difficulties that befall themselves or the individual adolescent (Surianti, 2019). Controlling adolescent behavior to avoid sexual deviation is very important. The occurrence of unhealthy and high-risk sexual behavior is caused by, among other factors, parenting, environment (community, school, peers) and also due to genetic factors. The role and responsibility of parents is very important to look after, teach, educate and provide examples of guidance to children to provide

understanding, knowledge, the process of introducing, to the implementation process in accordance with the values and norms recognized within the community (Gunarsa, 2002).

Based on the description above, the authors are interested in finding the factors that cause sexual orientation in adolescents, so it is hoped that they can find solutions in tackling sexual deviant behavior among Indonesian adolescents, especially in Jakarta.

44,5 juta atau sekitar 18% dari jumlah penduduk (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2020). Berdasarkan proyeksi penduduk Kota Jakarta 2020, jumlah penduduk Kota Jakarta terdiri dari 1.292.055 jiwa remaja laki-laki dan 1.226.707 jiwa remaja perempuan dari jumlah total keseluruhan 2.518.762 jiwa (BPS Prov. DKI Jakarta, 2021).

## **Method**

### **1. Research design**

This research is a qualitative research with in-depth interview method (In-depth interviews) using semi-structured interviews.

### **2. Arrangements and sample**

This research was conducted in Bendungan Hilir Subdistrict Central Jakarta with 7 informants.

### **3. Measurement and data collection**

The sample selection was carried out by purposive sampling, those that met the criteria and were not taken randomly. Subject information was obtained from third parties who collaborated with researchers to maintain identity confidentiality. The researcher decided to take 7 informants based on the information obtained to fulfill the predetermined sampling criteria, having the same social environment and having psychological closeness.

### **4. Data analysis**

The process of data analysis in this study begins with preparing the data to be processed and analyzed by carrying out several stages; transcription of field data, processing data and preparing data, reading all data, coding data, creating themes, connecting themes and interpreting themes and descriptions obtained (Creswell, 2010).

## Results

The results of this study found 10 variables that provide influences on adolescent sexual orientation include personality, perception, attitude, religiosity, parenting style, social support, intensity of access to pornography, sexual behavior activity, past trauma and the surrounding environment with indicators of each of the following variables:

**Table 1.**

Indicators of Each Variable Affecting the Formation of a Woman's Sexual Orientation Like Woman

Variable	Variable
Sexual orientation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• shaking hands with women</li> <li>• loves to longer looking at beautiful women's face</li> <li>• prefer women than men</li> <li>• find the ways to stay with women</li> <li>• more comfortable with women</li> </ul>
Personality	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• prefer to be alone</li> <li>• do not like to share personal problem to others</li> <li>• more trust to talk about personal with the mother</li> <li>• introvert</li> <li>• comfortable being friends with only the closest people such as women</li> </ul>
Perception	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• not bothered or uncomfortable with women who look like men</li> <li>• comfortable with looking like a man</li> <li>• feel comfort with looking like a man</li> <li>• like feminine women</li> <li>• admiring and liking other women</li> </ul>
Attitude	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• homosexual behavior is normal and acceptable in society</li> <li>• everyone has the right to be able to love the same sex</li> <li>• same-sex behavior is temporary trend among adolescents</li> </ul>
Religiosity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• rarely worship or go to places of worship</li> <li>• rarely participates in religious activities</li> <li>• believe the God is omniscient</li> </ul>
Parenting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• parents forbade dating</li> <li>• parents don't care</li> <li>• parents give punishment for no apparent reasons</li> <li>• parents are busy working and do not pay attention to the child's psychology</li> <li>• Parents don't care about their childrens' friendship</li> </ul>
Social support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no acknowledgement from parents or others</li> <li>• girls friends are always beside to support</li> <li>• girls friends are always beside when facing problems with family and other people</li> <li>• mothers are better storytellers than fathers.</li> </ul>
Access intensity of pornography	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• often watch movies with sexual scenes</li> <li>• frequently watching sexual films with female friends</li> <li>• easy access to vieweing pornographic films or images</li> <li>• often want to practice pornographic scences after accessing them</li> </ul>
Sexual behavior	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• when you are close to the same sex, your heart flutters</li> <li>• likes to hold hands and embrace other women</li> <li>• likes to kiss the cheeks of women</li> </ul>

Trauma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• parental quarrel</li> <li>• affair between parents</li> <li>• parents' divorce</li> <li>• an abusive and angry father</li> <li>• bad treatment of parents towards children</li> </ul>
Environment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• more comfort being out of the house with friends</li> <li>• more comfort alone in the room</li> <li>• family environment is not harmonious</li> </ul>

**Table 2.**  
**Matrix of Conclusion of Interview Results with Informants**

Variable	Conclusion of informants' answers
Sexual orientation	The sexual orientation of the informants is that women like women which has lasted from 2-5 years
Personality	Introvert personality factors often occur in adolescents who experience a sexual orientation of women who like women
Perception	Perceptions of adolescents who have a lesbian sexual orientation can play a role
Attitude	Frequent emotional attitude
Religious	Religious practice is experienced by the sexual orientation of young women who like women
Parenting	Authoritarian parenting has an impact on adolescent sexual orientation with women who like women
Social support	Emotional social support influences the incidence of women's sexual orientation like women
Access intensity of pornography	The intensity of access to pornography attention dominates
Sexual behavior	Mild sexual behavior that occurs in adolescents with a female sexual orientation likes women
Trauma	Acute trauma aggravates the sexual orientation of women who like women in adolescents
Environment	A bad family environment can cause the sexual orientation of women to like women in adolescents

## Discussion

Lesbian is a same-sex love relationship but between a woman and a woman. There are also lesbians who become the male figure but there are those who become the female figure. Lesbians who become male figures, generally they will look like men, macho, have haircuts like men, dress styles are also like men. But if lesbians are the women's side, they will still be someone who is gentle, and girly<sup>1</sup>.

In this study, it was found that some informants behaved as butchy, where they looked like men, had short hair, always dressed in men's clothing, their breasts were bandaged with a stagen so they would not enlarge. He is also treated like a man, has strong power, treats women as partners and feels comfortable with his female partner.

Other informants behaved appropriately a woman who is feminine and loved by her partner who is also a woman.

Introvert personality often occurs in adolescents who experience lesbian sexual orientation. Personality influences the development of adolescent sexual orientation. According to research results that personality is influenced by the family environment, a child who gets less attention from parents will form a child's personality that is not good, such as being undisciplined and closed to others.

The perception of a natural appearance resembling a man is one that can be a trigger for directing women to like women, this of course must be a concern for parents and teachers in an effort to prevent same-sex sexual orientation. Attitudes about LGBT have a significant effect on sexual orientation, the level of maturity of a person in thinking will affect the direction of his sexual orientation. The more mature a person's way of thinking is, the more understandable it is to accept or reject an object, such as the case of LGBT, where the majority disagree with LGBT. This proves that attitudes affect the perception of an object that is contrary to the mind, moral and spiritual. So this can affect a person's attitude in choosing sexual orientation<sup>3,4</sup>.

Religious practice is experienced by the sexual orientation of lesbian youth. Where the level of one's religiosity is influenced by the family environment, friendship environment, community environment and religious leaders, the family environment, especially parents, is the foundation of religious teachings that are taught to children<sup>5</sup>.

Authoritarian parenting style has an impact on the sexual orientation of lesbian adolescents. Parenting parents can influence sexual orientation in negative (authoritarian) parenting patterns where parents feel in power in the household, so that all their actions look harsh, their words to their children are sharp and hurtful, they rule a lot, they don't listen to complaints or the origins of their children. son, too disciplined. Authoritarian parenting styles can cause difficulties for children to socialize. Because in caring for their children, parents provide many restrictions and various rules that must be obeyed by children.

Someone who has low social support tends to have negative thoughts, someone feels unappreciated, no one loves them so that it will lead to bad behavior. Someone who has high social support can improve one's quality of life and will form positive thoughts so as to avoid negative behavior. The intensity of access to pornography dominates the sexual orientation of lesbian youth. On the internet there are many videos about deviant

sexual acts. If a teenager's intensity in accessing pornography is high, it will cause a teenager to become addicted very easily to exposure to sexual deviant behavior that will affect a teenager's sexual orientation. The process of forming deviant sexual behavior is formed because of the learning process carried out by someone from electronic media and his colleagues. In general, a person's sexual behavior is influenced by a person's relationship with other people, by the environment and culture in which the individual lives. Environment influences one's behavior Where one can learn good and bad things depending on the nature of the group. In the environment a person will gain experience that will affect one's way of thinking.

### **Limitation of the Study**

This study did not examine the behavior of sexual orientation of men like men.

### **Conclusion**

The determination of sexual orientation in adolescents begins with the formation of a deviant personality. The family is the first place for children to learn social interaction. The family is responsible for the social development of the child. The variable that influences sexual behavior in adolescence is the relationship between parents and adolescents, either directly or indirectly. However, ineffective family communication, such as a broken home or an affair, of course it will interfere with the adolescent's developmental stage. It is suspected that the broken home could be the trigger for the personal formation of this lesbian sexual deviance. In addition to problems in the family, the environment plays an important role in the formation of deviant behavior, especially lesbian sexual deviance. Violence that comes from a father makes a childhood picture that is attached to the growth and development period in the wrong parenting style. The impact of parental fights in front of children and/or parental violence can cause children to lack affection from both their mother and father. Lack of child affection from mothers or lack of father's role due to gaps in the family can cause children to grow up as lesbians. The existence of a traumatic experience with the opposite sex presents problems in the mind and inner wounds, feeling disappointment and trauma related to the opposite sex. Both the environmental experiences experienced by the parents and those experienced by the informants themselves.

### **Ethical Clearance**

This study has gained the ethical clearance from research ethic committee.

### **Acknowledgement**

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### **Conflict of interest**

There is no conflict of interest.

### **Author contribution**

VS compiled and designed the research, conducted analysis and interpreted the data and drafted the manuscript. EL, PA, and VS were involved in data collection, analysis, data interpretation. PA and VS critically reviewed the manuscript. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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