



UNDERSTANDING OF SEX EDUCATION LITERACY: A CASE STUDY OF FOURTH AND FIFTH-GRADE STUDENTS AT AZZAHRO SCHOOL TANGERANG

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PEMAHAMAN LITERASI SEX EDUCATION: STUDI KASUS SISWA KELAS 4 DAN KELAS 5 SDI AZZAHRO TANGERANG

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ABSTRACT

Abstract: Understanding sex education for children is crucial to understand as a provision to select the right healthy friendship with their friends. It is a reason why this paper is made to provide clear counseling so that the students of SDI Azzahro Tangerang understand sex education as a provision in socialization along with the increasing level of violence and sexual abuse against children. The purpose of the research was to analyze the understanding of sex education for 4th and 5th graders at SDI Azzahro Tangerang. The research uses a qualitative method with a descriptive phenomenological approach. The findings and results of the research indicate that after counseling about sex education, students have an understanding of sex education that can be applied in everyday life. The results can be recommended to teachers to provide teaching and learning materials consistently regarding sex education in order to obtain a further understanding for students.

Keywords: literacy, sex education, human rights, elementary students

Abstrak: Pemahaman Pendidikan seks bagi anak-anak sangat penting untuk dipahami sebagai bekal untuk bergaul secara sehat dengan teman-temannya. Hal itu menjadi alasan artikel ini ditulis untuk memberikan penyuluhan secara jelas agar siswa SDI Azzahro Tangerang memahami Pendidikan seks sebagai bekal dalam bergaul seiring dengan tingkat kekerasan dan pelecehan seksual terhadap anak meningkat. Tujuan penelitian yang dilakukan oleh peneliti untuk menganalisis pemahaman Pendidikan seks bagi siswa kelas 4 dan 5 SDI Azzahro, Tangerang. Penelitian menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan pendekatan fenomenologi. Temuan dan hasil penelitian menunjukkan setelah dilakukan penyuluhan tentang Pendidikan seks, siswa memiliki pemahaman akan Pendidikan seks yang dapat diterapkan dalam kehidupan sehari-hari. Hasil dari data tersebut dapat direkomendasikan bagi guru untuk tetap memberikan materi yang berisikan tentang Pendidikan seks guna pemahaman lebih lanjut terhadap siswa.

Kata Kunci: literasi, Pendidikan seks, hak asasi manusia, siswa sekolah dasar

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INTRODUCTION

Discrimination against children, especially sexual violence, is a problem that needs to be addressed together. Sexual

violence in Indonesia, especially among children, continues to increase in various regions of Indonesia, this problem needs to be addressed with strategies that can reduce

sexual violence against children. The increase in sexual violence is seen not only in terms of quantity but also in terms of quality. In fact, the perpetrators who commit sexual violence are mostly carried out by those closest to the victim, the school environment and the social environment. This is in accordance with research conducted by Girgira (Handayani, 2017) at BMC Public Health which stated: "The majority of the victims were cases of sexual abuse (97.3%) and most of them were female (75.7%). The mean age of the victims was 9.5 years (standard deviation (SD) = 4.2 years). The majority of the abusers were known to the victim (73.0%) and male (98.8%). Neighbors (38.95%), teachers (7.9%) and relatives (13.4%) were the most commonly reported perpetrators." This means that the perpetrator of sexual harassment is the closest person to the victim, usually neighbors, teachers and siblings. According to various crime experts, the phenomenon of sexual violence that occurs is like an iceberg, meaning that there are still many cases that have not been reported. This is because the community considers reporting cases of sexual violence to be covered up (Silawati et al., 2018). Various cases of sexual violence against children that are rife at this time will affect the rate of development of children and even destroy their future. Because this will result in delayed trauma which at any time will recall the incident (Silawati, 2017). A study conducted in India stated that there were several categories of children who were prone to experiencing sexual abuse, namely street children, children in foster care, children experiencing economic difficulties, stepchildren and poor orphans (Rohmah et al., 2015). It can be concluded based on this study that children who are victims of sexual harassment tend to be physically, psychologically, economically and socially weaker than the perpetrators who do it.

The culture of the Indonesian people when they hear the word sex is something that

is vulgar, pornographic and strange. Because Indonesian people think that talking about sex is taboo and doesn't need to be discussed. If a child asks about sex from parents or someone older than him, it will be a matter of not finding an answer. Actions like that should not happen because in childhood the curiosity is high. Children are a group that is very vulnerable to becoming victims of sexual violence because children are positioned as weak and dependent on more mature people (Noviana, 2015). The characteristics of these children become a problem if there is sexual violence and they are threatened not to spread the incident. Ricard J. Gelles (Hurairah, 2012) argues that violence perpetrated against children is an intentional act and results in harm to children both physically and emotionally. So, if children do not understand sex education, they will be vulnerable to sexual violence by those closest to them and the social environment.

The process of overcoming sexual violence that occurs in children and trying to understand sex education through literacy corners that are carried out in educational institutions, one of which can be done since elementary school. At the elementary school level, children have a high level of curiosity. Low literacy in Indonesian society is a challenge to increase literacy levels to form critical, competitive and active human resources (Husna, 2020). Literacy is an ability to understand, manage, and use information in various contexts (Batubara & Ariani, 2018). Echols & Shadily (Kharizmi, 2015) explained that literally literacy comes from the word literacy which means literacy. Kuder & Hasit (in Kharizmi, 2015) also argues that literacy can be interpreted as all the processes of learning to read and write that a person learns including the four skills in language namely listening, speaking, reading, and writing.

Literacy ability is one of the important abilities that every student must have because through literacy students can think critically,

be able to calculate, solve problems, how to achieve goals, develop knowledge and one's potential (Subandiyah, 2015). So that literacy, numeracy, and science skills have an important role in one's life for academic success. The ability of these three components must be the main weapon for the generation of the Indonesian nation and must be taught from an early age (Kharizmi, 2015). Got it and sex education in the formal school environment also needs to be improved. So that students can find out about sex education. Knowledge regarding this matter must have been given, especially among students at the elementary school level so that they know the boundaries of their body area so that sexual violence against children does not occur due to a lack of understanding about sex education in the child's environment.

The process of providing an understanding of sex education in the formal school environment is a strategy to be able to reduce sexual violence among the millennial generation, especially children. In the process, sex education is inserted by teachers in almost all subjects which are inserted through moral education to develop students' character positively. The importance of sex education for students is so that they get correct and accurate information about sex issues in accordance with the religious and cultural values prevailing in society. Sex education aims to protect students from various bad consequences due to wrong perceptions and social behavior (Paramita & Awaru, 2016). Talking about sex is the same as talking about the differences between men and women seen from the shape and function of their bodies, besides that sex can also be interpreted as a lesson about reproductive organs (Damayanti, 2017). Thus, an understanding of sex education needs to be given to children, so that children can understand that talking about sex is not something that is taboo, dirty or disgusting as it is inherent in the mindset of Indonesian society.

In the pattern of people's lives in Indonesia, the topic of sex education is still considered taboo by most people, so that information about sex education is almost never taught by parents or teachers to their children (Clairine & Widayatmoko, 2019). Sex Education or sex education is a knowledge that can be taught by parents or teachers to children about everything related to sex which includes starting from the growth of the sexes of boys and girls (Abduh & Wulandari, 2016). Based on the background that has been stated, thus the purpose of this study is to be able to find out and analyze the understanding of Sex Education literacy of Azzahro Islamic Elementary School students, Tangerang Regency.

METHOD

This study uses qualitative research with descriptive phenomenological methods. Phenomenological study is a method that assumes experience that is actually lived as the basic data of a reality. So that the phenomenological study aims to explore the deepest awareness of the research subjects related to their experience of an event or phenomenon. The data collection technique used in this study was an in-depth interview technique with the research subject and documentation techniques were carried out by searching documents such as books, articles and supporting news. The data analysis technique used in this study is a phenomenological analysis technique which consists of three steps. First, to fully describe the phenomena experienced by research subjects. Second, inventorying the results of research transcripts that contain statements that are relevant to the research focus. Third, classifying statements according to the sub-themes of the discussion. After the data analysis process has been completed, the last stage in the phenomenological study, the researcher will construct statements originating from research subjects related to a

phenomenon into a description of the meaning and essence of the experiences experienced by research subjects (Hasbiansyah, 2008). This research was conducted in May - August 2022. In this study, a research instrument was used which consisted of observation (direct observation) and filling out an open questionnaire. The process of obtaining data was carried out on June 10, 2022 which began with the process of collecting data at schools. Data were obtained through a process of observation or direct observation and interviews using an open questionnaire filling model aimed at 31 grade 4 and 31 grade 5 SD Islam Azzahro Tangerang students who acted as research respondents so that the total data in the study amounted to 62 respondents. After obtaining the data, the researcher then conducts data analysis to the process of constructing the data and drawing conclusions.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Student's Understanding of Aspects of Knowing Yourself

Students' knowledge of aspects of self-knowledge such as differences between boys and girls physically, traits, and hobbies have an important role in influencing patterns of peer association in the school environment. So that the self-knowledge indicator in this study aims to determine the level of students' understanding of the basic aspects of gender theory. In the data collection process in the field, the majority of students' answers had understood the differences between men and women physically, traits, and hobbies. Based on the results of data regarding indicators of self-knowledge related to differences between men and women physically, traits and hobbies. The results of the data can be seen in diagram 1 as follows:

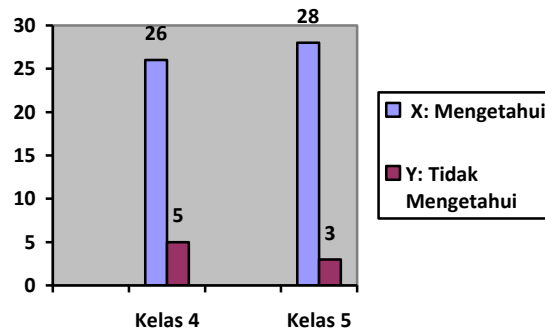


Figure 1. Students' Understanding of Self-Knowing Indicators

Based on the findings in the field, results were obtained with details on the level of understanding of indicators of self-knowledge in grade 4 students as many as 26 students had understood the differences between males and females physically, while 5 students had not understood and in grade 5 as many as 28 students had understood the differences between males and females. boys

and girls physically, while 3 students did not understand.

Furthermore, the students' answers related to the differences between women and men in nature obtained the majority of the answers men had strong, high-spirited, responsible and mischievous characteristics while women were kind and gentle. Then the students' answers related to the differences

between women and men based on hobbies, obtaining the majority of answers.

Thus, based on the answers that the researchers obtained from the results of interviews with 4th and 5th grade students of SD Islam Azzahro Tangerang who acted as research subjects, it can be said that the level of understanding of SD Islam Azzahro students on basic aspects in gender theory such as indicators of self-knowledge of the majority of students' answers have understood so that in carrying out patterns of association in the school environment students know the roles, characteristics, functions, rights and obligations of each gender.

Student Attitudes Towards Healthy Associations in the School Environment

Students' attitudes toward indicators of healthy socializing in the school environment,

such as their desire to always play with peers who have gender and physical differences, can be influenced by the level of students' understanding of self-knowledge indicators. So that the indicator of healthy socializing in the school environment aims to see the attitudes shown by students regarding the factors that underlie their desire to establish friendships with peers in the school environment. In the data collection process in the field, the majority of students' answers indicated their attitude by agreeing to still want to play with their peers regardless of the differences. Based on the results of the data regarding indicators of students' attitudes toward healthy association in the school environment to establish friendships or interactions with peers in the school environment. The results of the data can be seen in diagram 2 as follows:

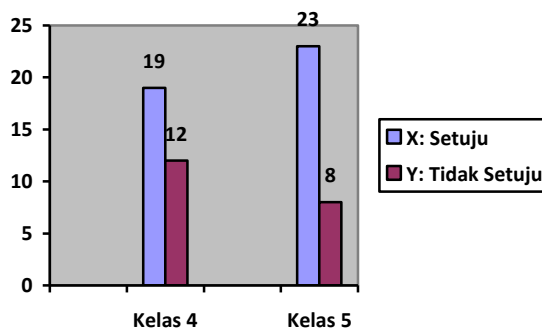


Figure 2. Attitude of Student Approval to Associate with Peers of Different Gender

Based on field findings, 19 students agreed to continue playing with friends despite gender differences, while 12 students disagreed and in grade 5 students as many as 23 students stated that they agreed to continue playing with friends even though they had gender differences, while 3 students did not agree.

Furthermore, student answers related to the desire to continue playing with peers if

they have differences in skin color obtain all student answers, namely agreeing to continue playing with friends who have different skin colors and do not mind these differences in the process of making friends in the school environment. Then the attitude of students if there is unpleasant behavior in the process of making friends in the school environment, they respond by not being sad and still wanting to play afterward. Based on the answers the

researcher obtained from the results of interviews with 4th and 5th grade students of SD Islam Azzahro Tangerang who acted as research subjects, it can be said that the attitude of SD Islam Azzahro students towards their desire to continue playing with peers in the school environment shows a positive attitude. positive by not discriminating friends. So that it can create a healthy association between peers in the school environment.

Mastery of Student Literacy Related to Knowledge of Sex Education

Sex education in the school environment has an important role in preventing children's rights to participate in the learning process at school in a calm and

comfortable manner. Sex education can be given through the learning process in the classroom as a basic understanding stimulus to be given to every student. In the process of collecting data in the field, the students' answers showed that the level of students' understanding of sex education in the school environment was quite high, with the majority of students' answers being able to understand the basic knowledge of sex education. Based on the results of data regarding indicators of students' literacy mastery level in understanding the concept of Sex Education within the scope of Elementary Schools. The results of the data can be seen in diagram 3 as follows.

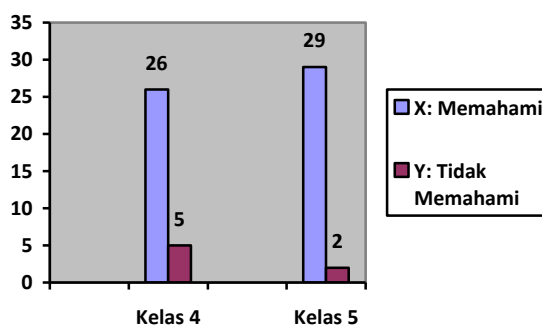


Figure 3. Level of Student Literacy Mastery of Sex Education Knowledge

Based on the findings data in the field, obtaining results with details of students' attitudes towards indicators of students' literacy mastery level towards basic knowledge of sex education in the school environment such as body parts that may be touched and may not be touched by other people such as teachers and peers get answers as many as 26 grade 4 students have understood the basic aspects of sex education, while 5 grade 4 students did not understand sex education yet.

Then in grade 5 students, as many as 29 students had understood sex education, while 2 had not been able to understand.

From the answers that have been obtained, it can be seen that the literacy mastery of grade 4 and grade 5 SD Islam Azzahro has mastered the basic knowledge of sex education. The majority of students' answers have been able to explain related to the limbs that may be touched and also those that may not be touched. Students are also able

to understand what is allowed to see and touch their body parts with the majority of answers referring to nuclear family members such as parents (father and mother), and siblings. Thus the level of mastery of sex education in Azzahro Islamic Elementary School can be said to be quite high.

The Urgency of Cultivating Literacy About Sex Education in the School Environment

The inculcation of gender theory in children who are at the elementary school level has an important role in shaping children's attitudes in interacting between genders. Mastery of gender theory from an early age in children is also expected to prevent children from the phenomenon of sexual violence that often befalls them. Gender is one of the theories put forward by thinkers from the social sciences family that aims to explain the differences between men and women that are natural or available since human birth as God's creation and which are cultural formations that have been learned and socialized since childhood (Puspitawati, 2013).

Etymologically, gender is an identity to classify related to two sexes, each known as the masculine and feminine groups (Marsudi, 2008). In terms of terminology, gender functions to signify differences in everything that exists in people's lives with sexual differences (Dzuhayatin, 1997). H. T. Wilson argues in his book entitled *Sex and Gender*, that gender is a fundamental thing in determining the contribution to culture and collective life which causes the presence of differences between men and women (Wilson, 1982). Andik Wahyun Muqoyyidin (2013) disagrees with the opinion put forward by H. T. Wilson regarding his understanding of gender because the definition put forward by H. T. Wilson is not quite right, only seeing gender from its contribution to culture.

Save M. Dagun (Dagun, 1992) conducted a more in-depth study of the differences between men and women from the

perspective of physiology, psychology, sexuality, career, and the future. Save M. Dagun explained physically, men and women do have very visible differences, such as physical shape. Psychologically, the difference between men and women can be seen from their characteristics. These differences are influenced by aspects of aggressiveness, emotion, and ambition. Boys tend to be more aggressive than girls. Women tend to be emotional, while men tend to be rational.

So that an understanding of gender theory is important enough to be given to children from an early age so that when they grow up they can create the next generation who are able to understand the differences and roles between men and women. Then mastery of gender theory from an early age is also able to form patterns of healthy peer association in the school environment. Thus discriminatory behavior that is often experienced by one gender is no longer found in the school environment and children can play and learn comfortably as one of the rights that must be given to children.

Peer association can be said as a group consisting of a number of individuals with an average age that is almost the same and has certain interests that are very temporary. Peer groups become agents of socialization that have a strong influence in the direction of increasing age of children (Tirtarahardja & Sulo, 2005). Associating with peers in the environment is one of the activities that is often carried out by children at school in addition to the learning process because in essence playing activities with peers can stimulate emotional states in the child's body. Thus it can be concluded that the inculcation of gender theory in children can form patterns of peer association that are physically and psychologically healthy in the school environment.

Peer association in the school environment needs to be strengthened by inculcating children's literacy about sex

education. Sex education is an effort to transfer knowledge and values (knowledge and values) about physical-genetics and their functions, especially those related to male and female types (sex) as continuation of humans who are attracted to and love other types. Sex education is an effort to teach, raise awareness and provide information about sexual problems given to children, in an effort to keep children free from habits that do not violate social norms and close all possibilities towards forbidden sexual relations. Guidance and healthy understanding of sex from the aspects of physical, psychological and spiritual health (Roqib, 2008). Thus, sex education needs to be given earlier because the basic human character is formed in childhood. Sex education in early childhood is possible to straighten children's understanding and sexual behavior so that it can be more positive.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMENDATIONS

Discrimination against children is a major problem in Indonesia, because it will impact all aspects of a child's life. One of them will have an impact on the cognitive aspects of children that make children not develop. One form of discrimination against children is sexual violence which often occurs among children. Many Indonesian children experience sexual discrimination by those closest to them. This is a major problem that must be overcome to prevent discrimination against children, especially by those closest to them. One of the preventions to be able to overcome the problem of discrimination against children is by providing sex education to children, especially from an early age or are still in elementary school (SD). This, aims to provide an understanding of sex education for children to be able to eliminate sexual discrimination that occurs in children. The process of providing Communication, Information and Education (IEC) about sex education which is carried out at Azzahro Islamic Elementary

School, Tangerang, Banten is by conducting direct analysis of students to be able to review their understanding of sex education. Thus it can be concluded that providing an understanding of sex education for children really needs to be improved to reduce the level of discrimination against children, one of which is to overcome sexual discrimination against children.

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