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# Dating Violence: Descriptive Study of Adult Women in Jakarta

# City, Indonesia

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# ABSTRACT

This study aims to describe attitudes towards dating violence to emerging adult women victims of dating violence who still maintain relationship, for women living in the sub-urban area of Jakarta. The study used descriptive quantitative method with the subject of 120 women which has the following characteristics; adult age 18-22 years, had experienced forms of violence from the current partner, and still maintain relationships. Technique used is purposive sampling. The measured in this study are forms of dating violence from Wolfe's theory (2015), namely: cognitive, affective, and conative. Collaboration also measures on the side of dating violence from Wolfe's theory (2001), namely: physical violence, sexual violence, verbal and emotional violence, violence in relationships, and violence in threatening forms. Based on the results of the study, it is obtained that the empirical mean of 90.43 with the hypothetical mean of 108 can be concluded in general that the attitude toward dating violence in women in the moderate category. This shows that there are respondents who accept or reject violence in dating. Based on the background of the respondents identities who tend to reject dating violence based on the results of the background for respondents aged 18 years, tribal respondents from Minangkabau, the difference between respondents and their partners is 4 and 8 years, if the couple does not have a job or unemployment, the religion of different religions with this case is couples are Hindu, and in a combination of sexual and relationships violence. Results of this study describe conditions in the region and can not be generalized to others. However, the results of this study can be considered as a factor that influences a condition if it is similar to a phenomenon like this.

Key Words: Attitudes towards dating violence, Dating violence, Emerging adult.

# **1. INTRODUCTION**

#### **1.1 Emerging Adult**

Emerging adult is the latest development period who is aged 18-25 years [1]. Main task of individuals aged 18-25 years is to explore life, especially the area of love and work. This age is a transition period from adolescence to adulthood characterized by experimentation and exploration [20].

#### **1.2 Dating Violence**

Dating violence is a behavioral pattern used by an individual to maintain control over his date partner [10]. Research found dating violence during a period of 1 year [30].

Data on dating violence aged 19-24 years, recorded by victims (700) and perpetrators (654). The highest education category of victims and perpetrators is tertiary education. Based on complaint data for 2016 records, it was found that cases of dating violence reached 105 cases [9].

Dating violence received from a partner due to the belief that the violence committed by men to women can be justified [14]. On the other hand power possessed by the perpetrator to dominate the victim can also be the cause of the victim choosing to survive

in the relationship. Dating violence committed by the perpetrator is used to show that the position of the actor is more dominant in the relationship. The perpetrator will also assume that has the right to make all decisions in the relationship undertaken and they are able to control the behavior of the victim. With this dominance, victims can find it difficult to be assertive in their relationships and lead to feelings of helplessness to leave relationships [7].

Form of dating violence consisting of five forms [29], namely; (1) Physical violence is a behavior that disturbs and hurts a partner who looks physically; (2) Sexual violence is sexual behavior without the partner's will or there is no sense of the partner; (3) Verbal and emotional violence is behavior that is conveyed through verbal, aloof or offensive partners; (4) Violence in relationships is a behavior that prevents the spouse from being interrupted or disconnected from those closest to him; (5) Violence in the form of crime is included in verbal.

#### **1.3 Attitude Towards Dating Violence**

Attitude aspect is divided into 3 aspects namely; (1) Cognitive, is the knowledge and information printed that currently results in a decision to act; (2) Affective, is subjective socially to objects absorbed by objects; (3) Conative, is a behavior or tendency to behave in a person with the object he faces [3]. Victims have factors that influence the formation of attitudes [3], namely: personal experience, influence of others that are considered importat, culture, mass media, effect of emotional factors, educational institutions and religious institutions.

Women as victims of dating violence but still maintaining dating relationships are because they are close to the family of the boyfriend, the boyfriend promises to change, feels sorry for the boyfriend, is afraid of the boyfriend and because of the principles adopted. The situation is based on the attitude of individuals in choosing to defend or release couples who have committed acts of dating violence [28].

## 2. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The study used descriptive quantitative method with the subject of 120 women which has the following characteristics; adult age 18-22 years, had experienced forms of violence from the current partner, and still maintain relationships. Technique used is purposive sampling. All of the respondents are female with age 18 years old (17 participants), 19 years old (27 participants), 20 years old (24 participants), 21 years old (29 participants) and 22 years old (23 participants). All had experienced violence from the current partner and still maintain a relationship.

The scale of attitudes towards dating violence in this study was compiled by researchers who made their own based on a combination of aspects of attitudes and forms of violence. These items consist of 6 dimensions of violence, namely: physical violence, sexual violence, verbal and emotional psychological violence, violence in relationships, violent forms of threatening, and conflict resolution [29]. This scale is collaborated with the aspect of attitude [3], namely; affective, cognitive and conative. The scale of attitudes towards dating violence is made by researchers based on the dimensions of the form of dating violence [29] and the attitude aspect [3], which consists of 36 items.

A survey questionnaire with a five-point Likert-type scale ranging from SS (strongly agree) to STS (strongly disagree). It also shown 0.879 in cronbach's alpha coefficient. Data analysis was performed using the help of Microsoft Excel 2013 by conducting an item analysis test using biserial points with the requirement of 0.25 and reliability testing with a condition of 0.7. Furthermore, frequency distribution is done using SPSS version 20.0 for windows. The higher the score shows a positive attitude or supports dating violence, while the lower score shows a negative attitude or rejects dating violence.

## **3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

#### 3.1 Discussion Aspect Attitude Towards Dating Violence

On Table 1 the calculation of the normality test that is the hypothetical mean of 108, the empirical mean is 90.43, and the standard deviation 24 can be seen that the attitude towards dating violence is on the respondents of moderate emerging adult women. That is, there are participants who agree or disagree with violence. From the overall data obtained, respondents tend to be resistant to disagree with dating violence. However, some others can still declare and accept agree to dating violence. With this data, the attitude of those who agree or disagree with the violence that has been received but still maintain the relationship is still an issue.

The reasons that cause a person to choose to survive in a relationship with violence are quite diverse. Victims who decide to endure certain fears of loss and dependence on violent partners are a reason to survive [24]. Previous researchers have identified various factors that influence the decisions of victims of violence to survive in relationships with violence. One of them is the influence of the past where victims may have experienced violence when children. People who have experienced violence in their

childhood have a greater likelihood of surviving a relationship with violence due to learning to tolerate harsh treatment that often occurs when these children [6].

Other research literature finds that emotional commitment plays a very strong role in accepting violence and also the results of a relationship [2]. The victim who survives in the relationship does not mean he wants to be given violence, but he makes his own choices to survive even though he is hurt [11]. Relationship factors such as closeness, commitment and satisfaction are also decisive factors in forgiving [16]. So the respondent still maintains a relationship with a partner due to the closeness, commitment and satisfaction of establishing a relationship even though his partner has made a mistake and hurt his heart and feelings.

In the description of the respondents the research aspects of cognition. Based on these results it is categorized that the overall cognitive aspects of violence have a low level. Respondents tend to be resistant to disagree with violence in dating. In the aspect of cognition where respondents have gained knowledge respondent will reject the violence. But, the problem in this case is that respondents maintain relationships with their partners by considering other aspects. Victims of violence have certain cognitive dissonations that ultimately cause the victim to be difficult to escape from the perpetrator and choose to maintain the relationship [23].

No	Data	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
1	Attitudes Toward Dating Violence	90,43	120	14,392
2	Cognition Aspect Toward Violence	27,76	120	5,361
3	Cognition Aspects of Physical Violence	2,28	120	1,359
No	Data	Mean	Std. Deviation	Ν
4	Cognition Aspects of Sexual Violence	1,63	120	0,961
5	Cognition Aspects of Verbal and Emotional Violence	6,3	120	1,351
6	Cognition Aspects of Violence in Relations	4,76	120	1,87
7	Cognition Aspect Toward Violence in the Form of Threatening	6,8	120	2,472
8	Cognition Aspects of Conflict Resolution	5,99	120	1,845
9	Affective Aspect Toward Violence	33,74	120	9,094
10	Affective Aspects of Physical Violence	7,68	120	3,038
11	Affective Aspects of Sexual Violence	6,21	120	3,188
12	Affective Aspects of Verbal and Emotional Violence	4,49	120	1,833
13	Affective Aspects of Violence in Relations	3,87	120	1,1
14	Affective Aspect Toward Violence in the Form of Threatening	9,39	120	3,016
15	Affective Aspects of Conflict Resolution	4,25	120	1,541
16	Conation Aspect Toward Violence	26,49	120	6,132
17	Conation Aspects of Physical Violence	6,03	120	2,031
18	Conation Aspects of Sexual Violence	2,09	120	1,277
19	Conation Aspects of Verbal and Emotional Violence	5,3	120	1,617
20	Conation Aspects of Violence in Relations	2,41	120	1,192
21	Conation Aspect Toward Violence in the Form of Threatening	8,12	120	2,994
22	Conation Aspects of Conflict Resolution	2,55	120	1,036

#### Table 1. Descriptive Statistics Attitudes Toward Dating Violence

In the description of respondents in the affection aspect research. Based on these results it is categorized that the overall affection aspect of violence has a low level. Affectively the respondent rejects violence in dating. However, this study all involved are still

maintaining relationships with their partners. Thus, the attitude taken by respondents tolerates or forgives a partner when doing affective violence. Research mention that someone who has a high forgiveness nature and is satisfied with a romantic relationship with their partner shows higher forgiveness in real life even though their partner has made a mistake. Empathy in adolescents will be able to mobilize their hearts and behavior to forgive their partners even though their partners have committed a mistake, or unpleasant treatment [26].

In the description of respondents in the aspect of conasi research. Based on these results it is categorized that the overall aspect of violence towards violence has a moderate category. Some respondents refused and accepted dating violence. Respondents actions rejecting violence some victims became silent reporting for reasons of fear and shame, complex legal processes, and requests from the perpetrators to settle peacefully or not with legal channels. Women who have dating relationships are aware or unaware that they have experienced violence from their partners [8]. Media and social norms teach women to hold back and place their partner's needs above their own needs [15].

#### 3.2 Discussion of Subject Demographics

Subjects based on age, the results of the study showed that age 18 was included in the low category which meant rejecting violence in dating. While the age of 19,20,21, and 22 years of age included in the medium category who refused or accepted dating violence. Factors that influence dating violence because of young age and lack of self-control attitude [18].

Based on religion, the results of the study show that Islam and Christianity are in the moderate category. Found subjects based on education, the results of the study showed that the mean education of respondents was still in college and high school in the medium category. This means that the attitude tends to accept and reject dating violence. Education and religion as a system that has an influence on attitude formation because they both lay the foundation of understanding and moral concepts in individuals [3]. Understanding of good and bad, the dividing line between something that is allowed and not to be done, obtained from education and from the religious center and its teachings. Cognitive dissonation in which tension situations that arise when a person simultaneously has two cognitions that are not psychologically consistent or when a person's beliefs are not in line with behavior [27]. Not in line with the religious and educational beliefs of respondents towards their behavior.

Subjects based on ethnicity, the results of the study show that the Minangkabau tribe has a low category that responds to a tendency to refuse against violence in dating. Javanese, Betawi, Bugis, Batak, Sundanese, Toraja, Malay and Palembang tribes are in the category of responding to the tendency of some to reject and accept dating violence. Cultural tribes have certain patterns of behavior and behavior because they get reinforcement from the community for these attitudes and behaviors [3]. Culture has inculcated our line of attitude towards various problems. Culture has colored the attitudes of members of the community. It is known, that Minangkabau has strong religious and religious reinforcement so that this can be a factor as a way of responding to rejecting violence in dating.

Subjects based on the community, the results of the study showed that the Student activity units, the workplace, were not part of the community, volunteers and laboratory assistants included in the medium category, namely responding to the tendency of some to reject and accept violence in dating. Emotional support, appreciation support, concrete support, information support and social network support [22]. However, being part of the community can be a preventive step to minimize dating violence. Someone who does not enter the organization, but must remain involved in a community. Because it doesn't allow someone to live alone.

Subjects based on respondents daily activities, the results of the study showed that activities inside the home and outside the home were in the medium category, namely responding to the tendency of those who refused and accepted dating violence. Individual factors that have relationships with friends, groups, couples and families [31]. This is the closest social circle of someone. From people who are close to individuals can shape behavior and experience. Respondent activity if in the dominant house meets family and outside the house that is dominated by group friends or partners. Research role of family communication can prevent acts of violence because parents give messages to their children. In this study, individuals respond to the context of planting and support given when they are inside or outside the home [13]. If individuals get positive value planting, the point of view of attitudes towards dating violence will be rejected.

The results of the study show that respondents who have significant other with mothers, siblings, fathers, grandparents, and subject pairs are in the middle category, namely responding to the tendency of those who reject and accept violence in dating. Individuals tend to have conformity or in line with the attitude of people who are considered important, due to avoiding conflict with people who are considered important [3]

Subjects based on dating time, the results of the study showed that the dating time of respondents at 0-9 years is in the medium category, that is responding to the tendency of those who reject and accept violence in dating. From previous studies indicate that victims who are in a relationship with violence within a longer duration will be more likely to survive in the relationship [25].

Dating violence is more common in more serious relationships and in a sufficiently long duration of every 6 months duration, violence in the relationship will increase [12].

Subjects based on age differences, the results of the study showed that the age difference of respondents in the group of 4 and 8 years was in the low category. Respondents who have differences in age from 4 and 8 years respond tend to be an attitude of reject to dating violence.

Subjects bbased on partner work, the results of the study showed that the work of the couple as unemployed was in the low category. Individuals will not tolerate if they are hurt by a partner who is only a slave. However, individual couples who have a job make individuals if they get violence, their attitude is to accept by tolerating because they consider the status of a worker so that there is hope to maintain a relationship.

Subjects based on partner education, the results of the study showed that the education of the respondent's spouse was still in high school, including the medium category, namely responding to the tendency of those who reject and accepted dating violence.

Subjects based on ethnic couples, the results of the study show that ethnic couples from Java, Sunda, Minangkabau, Betawi, Batak, Palembang and other tribe couples from outside Indonesia are in the medium category, that is, responding to the tendency of those who reject and accept violence in dating. Most of their dating partners are from their own ethnic group [1]. Because it will tend to have the same view on various things. Respondents who choose the same ethnic group are Javanese.

Subjects based on partner religion, the results of the study showed that respondents whose partners were Hindu included a low category. Whereas respondents whose partners are Islamic and Christian are in the medium category that is responding to the tendency of those who reject and accept violence in dating.

Subjects based on the form of violence received, the results of the study showed that the combined form of sexual violence and relationships had a low category. Whereas forms of physical violence; verbal and emotional violence; a combination of physical, verbal and emotional violence; and a combination of physical violence and relationships tend to have an attitude towards moderate dating violence, that is responding to the tendency of some to reject and accept violence in dating. Respondents reject the form of violence that is very close to their activities if they are hindered in relation to relatives and feel very disturbing if the couple does something too private, namely sexual. Because in this environmental life, sexual violence is taboo and very intolerable.

Subjects based on media to know information dating violence. The results of the study show that the media dating violence from social media and books are categorized as moderate, that is responding to the tendency of some to reject and accept violence in dating. At present the condition of social media illustrates the impact of dating violence which is then viral and ends with hate speech. Lack of a preventive information so that it is possible that the way individuals can resist violence in dating when facing similar conditions.

Subjects were based on intensity in dating, the results of the study showed that intensity in dating was sometimes, rarely, often, and never included in the medium category, that is responding to the tendency of someone who refused and accepted dating violence.

Subjects based on activities with a partner, the results of the study showed that activities with couples who walked in the Mall and went to tourist attractions included in the medium category. Dating as an activity that involves a meeting between two people and they do activities together with the aim of getting to know each other [4]. The meeting of the respondent with his partner whatever the dating activities he did tended to be an attitude to accept and reject dating violence.

Subjects were based on comfort in dating, the results of the study showed that the comfort of dating which stated comfortable and uncomfortable included in the medium category, namely responding to the tendency of someone who reject and accepted dating violence. Triangle theory of love one of them is intimacy an element of affection that encourages individuals to always engage in emotional closeness with the person they love [19].

Subjects based on reason for maintaining relationships. The results of the study show that the reasons for maintaining a relationship because of commitment, comfort, love, good character, sacrifice and no reason are in the medium category. Maintaining relationships is to keep relationships in place, to maintain relationships in certain circumstances or conditions, to maintain relationships in satisfactory conditions, and to maintain a permanent relationship in improvement [5]. Women are more emotional and full of feelings while men are more rational and often use logic [21]. This stereotype is very strong and absorbs its

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impression on the culture of society. When a commitment has been owned, the experience or history that has been passed where the two share their feelings and thoughts, so that when the partner makes a mistake, then the woman will be able to forgive by empathizing with the mistakes made by his partner [26]. It is different if the reason is because of the love they have given so that the concept of love they give tends to be irrational because mature love does not hurt each other [17].

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Results of this study cannot be generalized, but only to describe 120 women. The tendency of subjects to reject dating violence based on the results of the background of ethnic respondents from Minangkabau, the difference between respondents and their partners is 4 and 8 years, if the couple does not have a job or unemployment, the religion couple of different religions (with this case is a Hindu religion), and in the combination of sexual and relationships violence.

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