Attracting Mother’s Attention Through Masturbation: A Case Study of Masturbation in 12-Year-Old Boy

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Abstract: In accordance with their development, teenagers begin to have shame feeling, interest in the opposite sex, and start experimenting with the body like masturbation. It is out of the ordinary when a teenager masturbates in an open space. This study aims to determine the reason why a teenager did not hesitate to choose open masturbation to attract his mother’s attention. This study used qualitative method on a 12-year-old teenager who masturbated in front of his mother to get her attention. Acting as significant other were his mother, his father, his brother, his friends, brother’s friend, and his teacher. Using in-depth interviews with a case study approach, this study found that electronic media, subject’s friends, his brother’s friends, and the sexual intercourse of subject’s parent, intervened the subject behavior. Communication and sex education should be provided wisely to teenager so that he can select worth seeing electronic media. Parents should have privacy time and space so their children may only be allowed to enter parent’s room after requesting permission.

1 INTRODUCTION

Sex is a topic that has long been considered taboo to be discussed by both adolescents and adults in Indonesia. Teenagers have a high curiosity about sexual problems because adolescents are in active sexual potency related to the sex drive that is affected by the increase in hormones in the body. But often teenagers do not have enough information about their own sexual activity. Mistakes in obtaining sex education in adolescents can have a negative impact on adolescent behavior.

According to WHO, adolescence is a population with a 10-19 year of age period, whereas according to the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Indonesia, the definition of adolescence can be viewed from several points of view. Chronologically, adolescents are individuals aged 10-19 years. In physical terms, the adolescent period is characterized by a change in appearance characteristics and physiological functions, especially those related to reproductive organs, whereas from the psychological side, adolescence is a time when individuals experience changes in cognitive, emotional, social and moral aspects, childhood to maturity (Lawrence et al., 2015).

The adolescent period occurs at the age of 12-14 years. Various studies on sexual behavior abnormalities are widely reported beginning to occur in early adolescence (Marcell et al., 2011).

Sexuality, as defined by the World Health Organization in 2002, is a central aspect of human life and includes gender, gender identity and role, sexual orientation, intimacy and reproduction (World Health Organization, 2006).

In early adolescence children are exposed to rapid body changes, accelerated growth, and changes in body composition accompanied by early secondary sex growth. In the early teenage phase, they are only interested in the present state, not the future, while sexually begins to embarrassment, interest in the opposite sex but still play in groups and start experimenting with the body like masturbation. Later in the early adolescence period, children also began experimenting with cigarettes, alcohol, or drugs. The role of peer groups is very dominant, they try to form groups, behave the same, look the same, have the same language and code or cues.

Normal teenagers have a sense of shame and privacy to show their genitals in front of women. Sexual abnormalities reported in adolescent boys aged 10-14 years are usually associated with un-schooled adolescents, teenagers who earn a living, living with non-biological parents and adolescents
with divorced parents (World Health Organization, 2010).
In contrast to the reported studies, we received reports from several witnesses in Sukabumi who pointed to a 12-year-old teenager without being ashamed to show the process of masturbation in front of his mother. If left unchecked, disorders associated with mental health in adolescence will have an impact on mental disorders in adulthood (Department of Maternal Newborn Child and Adolescent Health, 2012). Achieving physical, emotional, mental and social well-being is closely related to sexuality. In certain situations, sexual health dominates reproductive health (World Health Organization.,). Therefore, this case is a very apprehensive case as well as interesting to investigate. Based on this background, this study explains why a teenager masturbates in front of his mother.

2 METHODS

This research is qualitative research. The purpose of this study is to achieve an in-depth understanding of the specific events that underlie why subjects choose to masturbate in the open to attract the attention of his mother. The data source of this research is the subject of research, his parents, friends, brother, and teachers.

Data were collected through observation, interview recording, field notes, documentation, and secondary data. Interviews in this study were used as the main tool of search data after the researchers themselves acted as an instrument. Understanding of the phenomenon through the subject's point of view can only be done by expressing the self-acceptance of the subject through the understanding of the frame of thinking and acting the subject. Thus, researchers try to enter into the conceptual world of subjects examined.

The data analysis of the research results was done in three parts:
- Reduction to get relevant materials from the data;
- describing the relevant materials;
- getting and describing the main points from the data.

The data analysis was based on the Empirical phenomenological psychological (EPP) method.

3 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Results

3.1.1 The Characteristics of the Respondent

The subject is a 12-year-old teenager, named MRA. It has a height of about 150 cm and weighs about 38 kg. His physical characteristics were thin but his arms were muscular. During the interview process, MRA's speech style went smoothly. The MRA only answers when asked, using Indonesian and occasionally using the term Sundanese. In answering the question, he looks polite. MRA is the second of three children. He was four years younger than his older brother, and five years older than his younger brother. MRA was born and raised in the house he now occupies. Since one year ago, the subject's parents installed Wi-Fi at home to help children, especially their siblings in doing schoolwork. His residence is often used as a gathering place for his brother's friends to do the work. MRA just graduated from elementary school and is now accepted in junior high school. he has a hobby of playing futsal with his friends.

3.1.2 Anamnesis

3.1.2.1 Mother's Attitude

The mother loved her three sons. According to his mother there is no favoritism among the three children. The mother's attention to the youngest is currently larger because she needs more attention. When MRA masturbates in front of his mother, his mother is surprised, but try to understand that the age of the MRA at that time was 11 years old and is high level of curiosity. The mother asks the reason why he did so, from which he knows how to do so.

MRA did it so that her mother would not give his younger brother more attention. Mother's attitude scolds and explains that she does not distinguish the affection to her three children. To the MRA, the mother said that once when the MRA was 5 years old, he got bigger attention from his brother. When his mother heard that MRA knew how to masturbate from the internet media, the attitude of the mother worried and mother forbade MRA open porn sites on the internet. To teach reproductive lessons to MRAs, mothers volunteered to show their genital organs and compare them to MRA's, but the MRA refused to be embarrassed and said they would not open any more pornographic sites.
3.1.2.2 Father’s Attitude

His father educated his three children by giving a religious foundation. Since the age of 6 years, MRA and his brother are required to attend religious class near his house for six days a week in the afternoon. MRA is still following the study until now while his brother followed the study until the age of 12 years.

At home, MRA's father provides electronic devices such as computers, tablets and mobile phones. His father also provides internet connection so that the subject's siblings are easy to do the task at school. His father's attitude when he received a report from MRA's mother was very surprised and limited the freedom to access the internet. The internet is only accessible 3 hours a day. His father hopes that with time restrictions, the internet is only used for tasks. Originally the computer was stored in MRA's brother's room but is now moved into the living room to be more easily monitored.

3.1.2.3 Brother’s Attitude

Her brother's attitude in his daily life was as polite as other children of his age. He loves his two siblings but is busy with school affairs. He often takes his friends home to do group work. One of his friends once told MRA ways to open the internet and access pornographic images from the internet. He then let his friend do that but told his friend not to do it again to his brother.

3.1.2.4 The Subject’s Attitude

MRA in everyday life is a quiet and polite teenager. MRA has a younger brother who is five years younger than him. Since the beginning of his younger brother’s presence, MRA felt the attention of his parents was more to his brother. He often showed jealousy towards his younger brother. MRA is sometimes angry at his mother when the MRA feels his mother is paying too much attention to his younger brother. MRA’s anger varies from silence to not answering her mother’s questions, hitting a table or door, shouting to his mother or going outdoors to hang out with his friends. But after his anger subsided MRA was as polite as a child to his mother.

3.1.3 Findings of Research Results Associated with the Theories

3.1.3.1 Hormonal Changes That Increase Sexual Desire of Adolescents

Based on observations and interview results, MRA has undergone a hormonal change. During puberty, there is a change and physical development in the body of a boy becomes more like an adult male body. Puberty causes many physical and emotional changes in every boy's body. Although boys generally start pubescent at age 9-14 years and changes in puberty follow a pattern, and each boy has his own developmental stage.

MRA claimed to feel the enlargement of his genitals. MRA is aware of hair growth in places that previously had only thin hair, little hair, or no hair at all. These locations include the armpit, genitals, arms, legs, chest. MRA has not experienced the growth of the mustache and the thickening of hair on the arms and legs. MRA has felt the disruption to body odor so that MRA has been using deodorant. Hormones affect the sweat glands, which result in a bit more sweating and have a distinct odor. MRA feels more easily sweaty and occasionally appears small pimples. MRA has had wet dreams at the age of 11. But when asked MRA answer forgot what dream to find sleeping pants or panties are wet when awakened.

MRA has undergone a change of voice. MRA became quieter because the sound was heavier and the MRA was embarrassed. The MRA also feels an enlargement on the Adam's apple and the muscular shape of the arm. The voice changes because of the increase in the hormone testosterone (male hormone) in the body. This makes the tone of voice thicker and louder, so the sound sounds heavier. These hormonal changes also cause the larynx (larynx) to become larger.

Based on interviews with MRA's mother, MRA in her mother's observation is irritable and emotional especially when MRA's mother gives attention to MRA's younger siblings. MRA often felt sad, angry, and went into the room when he saw his mother playing with his brother. MRA often closes his bedroom door, even locks it. Sometimes when angry, MRA spend more time hanging out with friends or play outdoors. MRA brother admitted several times caught MRA watch porno in his room with his friends. But when the MRA mother wants to clarify, MRA often responded curtly when invited to chat with his mother.

3.1.3.2 Religion Norms

The MRA grew up in a family that instilled Islamic values in its life. Since the age of six years, MRA has been accustomed to follow religious classes near his home every evening before sunset. MRA has also been informed about the prohibition of marital relationships before marriage. MRA claimed to be interested in the opposite sex since the MRA was 11 years old. Currently MRA already has a girlfriend of
playmates who is the same age as MRA. In the dating, MRA confessed only to chat and never has intercourse because it is forbidden in religion.

3.1.3.3 Sex Information Sources

Based on interviews to the subject, MRA claimed to know about sex through the internet media. MRA first learned to use the internet when his brother was working on group assignments with his friends at home. At that time his brother’s male friend called MRA and taught him how to search internet sites. His friend then gave an example by showing how to find porn sites. It was then that the MRA first learned about sex. Sometimes later, MRA several times access the internet in his brother’s room and see pornographic pictures. His brother once caught sight of a pornographic image in his room, then reported it to their parents. After that incident the computer was moved to the living room.

MRA also knows things about sex from his friends. If he was gathered in a place that has Wi-Fi, MRA often see pornographic images through mobile phones. Apart from the electronic media, MRA had once inadvertently seen his parents were having an intercourse, but did not know that.

3.1.3.4 Sex Education from Parents

Until the behavior of showing the genitals and masturbating in front of his mother, the parents of MRA have never provided sex education. When MRA masturbates in front of his mother, his mother realizes that she is too late in giving sex education to MRA. MRA’s mother offers MRA a direct look at her genital organ and compares it to MRA’s. ES argues that by looking directly at hers then the mother can better monitor and satisfy MRA curiosity about male and female reproductive organs directly under the supervision of his mother. The mother argues that it is safer than the MRA access via the internet. Meanwhile, MRA’s father limits the use of the Internet for fear of adverse effects provided by the internet. Apart from that the father moved the computer from the room of the subject’s sister to the living room.

3.1.3.5 A Trend of Free Lifestyle between Male and Female in the Society

Humans are creatures who have a desire to be one with each other and the surrounding environment. By using thoughts, instincts, feelings, desires, human beings react and interact with their environment. The pattern of social interaction is generated by a sustainable relationship within a society.

In adolescence a lot of changes that occur, both psychological and physical aspects. Adolescence is often associated with the name of juvenile delinquency. Adolescence in general is a transitional shift from childhood to adolescence. Juvenile delinquency arises from the inability of the child to face the task of adolescent development that must be met. The social transition of adolescents changes in the relationships of individuals with other human beings in emotions, in personality, and in the role of the social context in development.

In this case, the MRA was born and raised in Sukabumi. Juvenile delinquency in Sukabumi society is high in the form of brawl, drug abuse and drugs, and sexual deviation behavior. According to MRA his friends mostly already have a boyfriend. In the dating they are hand in hand, kissing, hugging his girlfriend, but both MRA and his friends have not had sex because it is prohibited by religion (not married). Sukabumi people mostly embraced Islam that prohibits sexual intercourse before marriage.

3.2 Discussion

In the case of this MRA, there are some reasonable problems related to the parent, which include:

- the issue that relates to the implementation of developmental tasks in terms of obtaining emotional freedom from parents. Teens want to be recognized as adults while parents still do not let go because they are not enough to be given freedom.
- The needs of the caring and affection of the parents cannot always be fulfilled because parents are busy in looking after their younger siblings.
- Developmental tasks that are contrary to economic dependence, especially in the continuity of education/schooling. All of which become a problem that interfere with his life.

In early adolescence, the context of closeness with friends becomes greater than that of parents (Berndt, 1982). This is reinforced by the feelings of the subject of this study who feels neglected by his mother because of the birth of his younger brother. In facing teenagers, parents tend to give up, and they no longer monitor their teenagers, nor are they actively involved in behavior management (Dishion et al., 2003). Challenges in early youth brotherhood relationships can generate additional pressure on the transition to secondary school (Erath et al., 2008). Early adolescents tend to be closer to their peers.
Often, peers become the center of questions and discussion in the face of problems encountered, including sexuality issues that want to know. In addition to the physical condition of adolescents affecting their psychological condition in terms of sexuality, advances in the field of knowledge and technology provide ease in communication, information, and completeness-completeness about sex. This causes teenagers to mature faster in terms of sexuality.

Sexual maturity makes teenagers become easily aroused for things that smell sexuality because of increased sexual urges. The increased sexual drive and great curiosity about sexuality caused the MRA to start playing its vital tool. In this case, MRA's wish was reinforced by the internet media she watched with her brother's friend. At that time, the MRA needs parental guidance to deal with emerging problems. Ironically, MRA who entered early adolescence and faced a transitional period felt the distance between the early teenagers and parents due to the birth of MRA's younger brother.

The parents realize and understand the condition because they are busy nurturing younger siblings. The parents of MRA forget to give any information needed along with the physical growth. MRA is not getting attention in facing the problems faced, especially around the physical and psychological development. MRA became reluctant and lazy to ask. Communication between parents and MRA becomes inhibited and tends to be ineffective. MRA prefers to question and discuss new things happening within themselves with their peers. In fact, peers tend not to have sufficient knowledge to share, especially information about sexuality.

Sexual information is very necessary for children from an early age, especially to face his teenage years. To create mutual understanding, good communication must be maintained between parents and MRA. If each other does not understand, it will cause misunderstandings in communicating.

Communication about sexuality in the family should be maintained. After the incident of MRA masturbation in front of his mother, MRA's mother started giving dialogue room for MRA about sexuality problem. But the way the mother did was inappropriate because the mother wanted to show the reproductive organs and compare it with the MRA. MRA feel embarrassed to see directly the mother's reproductive organs despite her own mother. This is not right. Facing adolescence, education through peers with the style of adolescent language is more striking for sex education. Various studies mentioned that peer education has proven to be an effective and innovative means of delivering sexuality education (Barnekow, 2014).

Sexual problems in adolescents stem from developmental tasks that they have not mastered. The task of such development is to form a new relationship more mature with the opposite sex. Teens that have matured sexually have an interest in sexual activity. This is a problem that must be resolved correctly. For unmarried teenagers, of course, it is difficult to satisfy their sex drive because they are not allowed to do so. However, it does not close the possibility for someone to be able to satisfy his sex drive, by way of masturbation. Teenagers who have unstable sexual urges force themselves to masturbate to release their sexual desires.

The desire to masturbate arises from sexual arousal that induces libido or sexual drive to meet sexual needs in search of satisfaction. Men are more aroused by visual stimuli, whereas in women more aroused by tactile stimuli.

Adolescents have two values of expectation (idealism) and ability. If the two values are not aligned, the forms of frustration will appear. These frustrations in turn will stimulate the younger generation to perform abnormal acts.

The development of reproductive behavior or adolescent sexual behavior in a society is determined by various social factors. The influx of cultures that change values is caused by global communication and technological change/innovation. In contrast, internal creativity factor in the form of intellectual change is an important factor in determining the development of reproductive behavior. Each form of behavior has a specific meaning that is addressed to a particular need. Adolescents can have behavioral variations devoted to diverse purposes of life.

Theories and research show that sexual behavior is influenced by positive motivation for sex, which may be physical (desire for pleasure, intimate, social orientation (desire for approval or honor from peers) or desire to gain a sense of competence (Ott et al., 2006).

Great curiosity in his physical changes encouraged the MRA to hold and play his genitals. The inappropriate problem with the MRA is that he shows and plays his genitals in front of his mother. This is also unnatural because research shows that cases of masturbation are often committed by teenagers aged 15-19 years in a closed place and conducted by teenagers who have had sex with the opposite sex (Gates and Sonenstein, 2000).

In addition to adjusting to the very rapid physical changes experienced in adolescence, the MRA feels jealous of his brother. Jealousy is not resolved.
properly. MRA has tried various ways to get attention from his mother starting from being a good brother, banging tables, shouting, confining herself, and going outdoors to hang out with her friends. But, he still did not find the attention.

High curiosity of teenagers makes them search for information from various sources around it. In this case, the MRA gets information about sex from friends of his older brothers. Teens are easily influenced by the context of friends rather than from parents (Erath et al., 2008). Failure to communicate with parents results in a discontent within teenagers. Dissatisfaction arises because his psychic needs are not met properly and reasonably, so he tried to compensate. As long as the selected compensation is positive, it will not be a problem. But adolescents often have difficulty choosing a positive compensation.

Sex education in adolescents should refer to the WHO's strategy vision: "all children and young people should have access to information and support of gender and age-appropriate health and sexuality" (Barnekow, 2014). The more we allow teenagers to experience and accumulate the positive effects of protective factors, the more likely they are to achieve and sustain their health and wellbeing in the future.

In the case of MRA, the behavior of masturbation in front of his mother is a form of protest because he feels unfairly treated. MRA felt helpless in competing healthily with his younger brother. It is possible that he has a developmental phase at the phallic stage, the stage in which a child learns to compete with others. In this case, MRA felt less able to compete with his brother to get the attention of his parents. In addition, MRA admitted that he had watched his parents performed intercourse. This may make the MRA unconsciously gain experience if he wants to get attention from the mother; he needs to show his penis as a symbol of his manhood. Normative decision theory states that perceived benefits are an important component of behavioral decisions.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The loss of attention and affection from his parents made the MRA commit incorrect acts. The attention of parents especially the attention of her mother diverted with the birth of a new brother. This is possible because of the considerable age difference between the MRA with his brother is 5 years, so the MRA feel jealous of his brother. The lack of communication between the MRA and its parents also predisposes to the occurrence of this case. MRA is trying to get her mother's attention back in many ways but has not gained the satisfaction of her wishes.

REFERENCES