

Contribution of Christian Values Upon Students' Character of Dating at Tarutung State Christian Religion Institute

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Abstract

The research target is to determine the contribution of Christian values in realizing respectful and commendable dating character of PAK study program students at IAKN Tarutung. Data was gathered by using closed questionnaire. The population was 948 students, and the sample was 15% = 142 students. The conclusion of this research is that there is a positive and significant influence of teaching Christian values to students towards their character in making a date with their couple, with the interpretation of Correlation between Christian Values (X1), and students' character (Y1) is 0.453 and (Y2) is 0.375. The coefficient of determination of dating character is $0.453 \times 100\% = 45.3\%$. While the rest amount 54.7% is determined by other variables. Faith and obedience is $0.375 \times 100\% = 37.5\%$, and the rest amount 62.5% is determined by the contribution of other variables.

Keywords: *contribution of Christian values, character of dating, faith and obedience*

Introduction

Dating is a process of obtaining the proper couple of men and women of where there is a possibility of equality between the two of them that can be continued into marriage. Dating behavior usually starts from adolescence and continues into adulthood. Santrock, stressed that they had begun to be selective in fostering intimate relationships with only certain people. At this stage the impulse arises to form intimate relationships such as the desire to date. Now the pattern of early adulthood considers dating as a must. Usually dating is based on two factors, namely because of love and lust. Love is in the form of admiration because of the excesses of the opposite sex who are admired, whereas, lust in the form of sex. God as creator gives feelings, turmoil and lust to feel the beauty, intimacy and pleasure between men and women to fulfill human responsibility so that "Children and grandchildren and multiply to fill the earth", but sex is not something that can be done when men- men and women have not entered the marriage stage.

In fact, dating behavior carried out by a number of students at the State Christian Religion Institute Campus (IAKN) located in a unique area of its customs, which is still thick with Batakese culture, usually dating is respectful and commendable. Dating respectfully and obediently, where a man and a woman together consuming the time until late at night talking together, fluttering, and other sweet activities. If the couple should go somewhere for making a date, firstly to do is that the man should take permission from the woman parents to bring their daughter to go to the certain place to show his attention and supervision, fear and love for God, pure-hearted, polite and respect.

Early adulthood as the easiest time to become a stumbling block for social order. This fact is happening to some students and college students at the Tarutung State Institute of Christian Religion in North Tapanuli Regency, which is located in an area that is culturally distinctive, that there are still dating behaviors that are beyond normal limits. That is, free dating without heed the value system of the teachings of Christianity and local cultural rules. Student behavior, for example, reasoning to go back to the village but the student did not return to the village, but met his girlfriend in a quiet place, also on Saturday (Sunday night) out of the house with the excuse of choir practice, often alone in a boarding house, washing clothes and cook the boyfriend's food, rarely attend lectures on campus, the Academic Achievement Index (IP) decreases causing behaviors involving feelings such as: fear, anger, sadness, joy, disappointment, pleasure, hate and misgivings in daily life the student, some even dropped out of college because they had to enter the marriage stage not yet because they were pregnant and

impregnating. The problems outlined above need to be examined how Christian values affect each student's behavior when dating so that it leads to dating behavior that is respectful and praiseworthy.

The formulation of the problem in this study is: How much positive and significant contribution between Christian values upon the students' character of dating.

Discussion

In previous research by VJ Hall, MA Wyle and DV Hall in his book *Building a Cultural House of Christian Dating* is written that dating based on Christianity refers to relationships that pursue holiness and honor. Sanctification means that each remains accountable before God. Respect means that each respects the other, without forcing romantic pressure or disrespecting the other. This study is in line with the results of previous studies, previous studies discuss descriptively through observing dating behavior. On the other hand this study uses the method of data results in the field how much the contribution of Christian values to dating is respectful and commendable.

The term adult comes from the Latin word which means to grow into an adult. Therefore an adult is someone who has completed his growth and is ready to accept his position in society along with other adults. Early adulthood is a transition from adolescence. Hurlock (1986) says that early adulthood begins at the age of 18 years until the age of 40 years. In general, those classified as early adulthood are those aged 20 to 40 years. Santrock (2012) in, young adults including the transition period, both physically, intellectually transitioning and transitioning social roles. Early adult social development is the culmination of adult development. Early adulthood is a beginning period where a person starts to have an intimate relationship with the opposite sex. This means that someone who is still in his young adulthood is only allowed to begin to know the opposite sex. It is not until husband and wife that results in late graduation or drop out of college.

Christian Values

These values are useful factors as a guide that gives consideration about the best values in carrying out activities to fulfill physical and spiritual needs. Christian values refer to the opinion of Cornelius expressing Christian values include: truth, piety, holiness, loyalty, virtue and love. These values seem to focus on spiritual life even though it is also said about love. According to Wright (2011) Holiness is something that is given for necessity in becoming what is true as God's people in all of their lives.

Dear Dating

Dating comes from the basic word boyfriend which means to have permanent opposite sex friends (lovers) and have relationships based on love. According to the PAK-PGI Editorial (2002), dating is a process in which men or women explore the possibility of equality between the two of them that can be continued into marriage. Furthermore according to Gilbert and Reinda Lumoindong (2003), courtship is preparation for marriage as written in the book of Amos 3: 3 which reads: "walk two people together if they have not promised?" it can be concluded that dating is a process in which men and women explore the possibility of equality between two different persons who need to work hard towards marriage preparation.

Dating with respect is dating in accordance with customs. Furthermore, according to Armawi (2008), Natolu is a cultural value which is a guideline to regulate and control and give direction to the behavior and actions of Toba Bataks. Early adult Batak Toba tribe who have local wisdom Natlanu in the order of his life follows the existing patterns. The meaning of respect according to Warneck (2001) namely: are respectful, polite to women. This means not being alone together until late at night, if you take a rest, you will be picked up and escorted by silaki, asking for permission from the female parents and not demonstrative. There are several stages involved in dating, namely the introductory stage, the exploratory stage (determining relationships to continue or stop), and the decision making stage.

Worth Dating

The word worth in dating is often explained by the 7 (seven) God's commands that you do not commit adultery is that we must fear and love God, therefore we must always be pure in heart, and be polite in the word of deed. So dating that is commendable is dating according to God's will, pure-hearted, very good, polite. It is better in dating requires a pattern of dating that does not conflict with the values of local customs and in accordance with God's will.

The Old Testament clearly states that God does not want humans to live alone in this world. God wants His people to have a relationship with the opposite sex. Thus, the relationship between men and women is never contrary to God's will. God never negates or forbids men and women from having a love relationship (dating) even God agrees to unite towards the level of marriage. The incident 29: 15-30 there is a love story of Jacob and Rachel explained clearly how Jacob's love for Rachel, so willing to do anything to get Rachel. The love story of Jacob and Rachel can be used as a theological foundation for dating Christian youth. The story of Jacob and Rachel wants to say that in love there must be sacrifice.

The New Testament also presents the love story of Joseph and Mary in Matthew 1: 18-25 which can be used as a theological foundation for love, dating and sex. From the story of Joseph and Mary can be taken a meaning that it turns out that love must accept the person he loves as is, with all the shortcomings. Love never humiliates the person he loves. The atmosphere of the religious tertiary campus (Christianity) is certainly influenced by Christian values both Academic and the associations of Lecturers, Staff and fellow Students. In the eyes of both dating who are respectful and praiseworthy as the implementation of the knowledge gained from the IAKN campus. As an adult, for example students can date and succeed also in studies at the time specified in campus regulations. Christian values include truth, piety, holiness, loyalty and love as guidelines in dating that are respectful and praiseworthy. It is better in dating requires a pattern of dating that does not conflict with the values of local customs and in accordance with God's will.

The objectives of this research are:

1. To create an atmosphere of student dating according to customs and in accordance with God's will.
2. To provide understanding for students to avoid promiscuity, free sex, cohabitation and other forms that are contrary to the light of the Bible.
3. In order for students to have insights and skills to control themselves from various temptations, passions, especially in dating life. Research Hypothesis

The hypotheses in this study include:

- a. There is a positive and significant contribution of Christian Values to dating the Honorable Student of PAK Study Program at the Tarutung State Christian Religion Institute, in academic year of 2019/2020.
- b. There is a positive and significant contribution of Christian Values towards the Students' characters of dating at Tarutung State Christian Religion Institute, in academic year of 2019/2020.

Research Methods

Research on the contribution of Christian values to respectful and commendable dating behavior is focused in Sipoholon Subdistrict, Silangkitang, precisely the campus of the Tarutung State Christian Religion Institute (IAKN), which is the only State Christian College of Religion on the island of Sumatra. The study uses quantitative research methods, namely correlational research between Christian values on respectful dating behavior and commendable dating behavior in the lives of Tarukung IAKN Christian Religious Education Study Program (PAK) students.

The population of this research is Tarukung IAKN students, which consist of: undergraduate Education Program of Christian Religious Education, in academic year of 2015/2016 to 2019/2020 with the amount of 948 students. The trial was conducted with the aim of getting a good measuring instrument, and the subjects who were willing to take part in the trial were 71 students. The data obtained were given a score of each item on the three research instruments. The results obtained were analyzed the discriminatory power. Then, the items are selected using SPSS (Statistical Product and Service Solutions) 23 for Windows.

Trial Result Estimating the reliability of the trial instrument by calculating Chronbach's Alpha with the help of SPSS 23 for Windows. Alpha values that cannot be accepted are values less than 0.60. Based on the calculation of alpha values using SPSS, the trial data yielded sufficient reliability, namely 0.747 for the variable X instruments, 0.767 for Y1, and 0.769 for Y2. Although it is reliable within reasonable limits, it is necessary to select items that might reduce the level of reliability.

The subjects in this study were active students of IAKN Tarutung focusing at the department of Christian Religious Education (PAK) from academic year of 2015 to 2019. Data collection from samples taken online using Google Form media with sent links via chat to PAK students starting from the first semester to the ninth. Students who are willing to answer are 155 students with 143 are dating or have been dating and 12 are not dating. In accordance with the purpose of the research, which is to know the subjects who are dating, the students who are the subjects in this study are 143 students

Research Result

From data analysis, it was known that

- a) Christian values are a guide to behavior that includes truth, piety, holiness, loyalty, virtue and love.
- b) Respectful dating is a situation that reflects the relationship of men and women based on the local wisdom values of the Batak people to respect one another.

A dating that is commendable is a situation that reflects the relationship of men and women based on the will of God, which is to uphold holiness in relationships.

Conclusions Based on Research Results

- a) Based on the test of the correlation coefficient between Christian values with respectable dating is 0.673 and $p = 0.000$ ($p < 0.01$), which is positive and is at a significantly strong relationship level. That is, there is a strong and significant positive contribution between Christian values and respectful dating.
- b) Based on the test of the correlation coefficient values between Christian values with a dating that is praiseworthy at 0.612 and $p = 0,000$ ($p < 0.01$), which is positive and is at a level of significant strong contributions. That is, there is a strong and significant positive relationship between Christian values and commendable dating.

Suggestion

Based on the results of research that has been done shows that there is a positive and significant influence between the contribution of Christian values to dating behavior that is respectful and praiseworthy for PAK IAKN Tarutung Study Program students, hereby it is recommended:

- a) The Tarakung IAKN Institution as a religious institution empowers dormitories as nurseries for future Christian leaders who are intelligent, skilled, respectful and holy.
- b) For Tarakung IAKN lecturers, by looking at the contribution of Christian values with respectful and commendable dating behavior, it is expected that lecturers should put more emphasis on teaching Christian values to students.
- c) For Academic advisors (PA) sharing with guidance students about their relationships.
- d) Christian values are a guideline for Tarakung IAKN students in establishing relationships with the opposite sex.
- e) For students to maintain themselves well as applicable customs.

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