

# **Critical Discourse Analysis of Transparency of Information and Online Transactions as Triggers for Early Marriage for Millennial Women**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This article describes the direct relationship between the phenomenon of early marriage of women with information disclosure and online transactions among millennial. Study data were obtained through ethnographic surveys and in-depth interviews with 54 respondents. Kind the relationship between early marriage and the openness of information and online transactions is obtained through analysis of critical discourse on marriage age data and reasons for deciding to get married early. Linguistic understanding is supported by the functional grammar of early marriage texts through in-depth interviews. Of the 54 respondents, 77.78% were married between the ages of 15-16 years. It is certain that 100% want to avoid economic problems such as the fulfillment of communication tools, keeping abreast of developments, gold, and money. Early marriage as a text is considered a normal occurrence, does not violate socio-cultural and religious ethics. The reality of women's early marriage which is triggered by information disclosure and online transactions has never been understood as causality that adversely affects the civilization of society. This phenomenon is actually a practice of symbolic violence.

**Keywords:** *Early marriage for women, information disclosure, CDA.*

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

Demographic, social, and economic factors are not the only causality of early marriage for women. Information disclosure as one of the industries 4.0 principles are a trigger factor for women's early marriage. Improved economic level that allows parents to provide telecommunications facilities to their children. Openness of information and communication allows children to establish communication with many parties for various interests anytime and anywhere. Not only exchanging information about needs according to their needs as children, but another information is beyond their needs. The information exchanged, not only comes from them as communication agents, but can come from sources that can be accessed freely and openly. Not infrequently the information received and exchanged is consumed without consideration according to their physical and psychological development. In addition to exchanging information, communication media communication enables them to make commitments to meet in person quickly and easily.

This condition is certainly very different from the previous era. Personally meeting someone can only be done by prior agreement or dating in one place as usual as a place to meet or visit. With easy access to information, communicating and making agreements between them, the frequency of meetings and communication physically and non-physically becomes higher. Agreements made together outside their basic psychological and social needs are not uncommon. The decision to marry a woman early is one form of agreement made through communication in the current era of information disclosure. This condition is exacerbated by social neglect and the absence of consultation services in the community. In many cases of early marriage, women often end up at low welfare levels. The socio-economic reality that occurred with this choice actually gave birth to a new problem of low economic levels as a causal chain between married age, low education, low skills, difficulty finding work, low wages, low income, and low welfare, finally, a new chain of women's dependence was born. Economically, as is the case in most developing countries (Brik,

Bettayeb, Sahnoun, & Duval, 2019; Catal & Tekinerdogan, 2019; Hermanson, 2018)(Dijk, 1993; Fairclough, 1992; van Leeuwen, 2008). In addition to the consequences of choosing a woman to marry early as the case of this study, the current era of information disclosure is a new challenge in increasing personal capacity through the advancement of information and communication technology in the current 4.0 era. As (Wodak & Meyer, 2001)] shows the positive contribution to the progress of era 4.0 to social dynamics, including through the school curriculum. In addition, (Geertz, 1975) states that data and information from outside through Internet assistance can be a positive contributor in adding references to the improvement of civilization, and not vice versa. Other statement states, millennial age actually shows a mature psychological condition in decision making, including marriage decisions, as said (Nayak, 2017). That is, millennial in different socio-cultural contexts have contextual references and references that are still being debated.

The phenomenon of a woman's early marriage that triggered by information disclosure enables her to make early marriage transactions can be understood through the design of critical discourse / CDA analysis. Through CDA, the phenomenon of early marriage which is triggered by information disclosure in this era is understood as text. CDA offered [10] - [13] helps a critical understanding of the phenomenon of early marriage of women as a social phenomenon with a variety of causal relations. Early marriage is a social context that is full of social and cultural meaning that can be explained, traced, and related to other aspects (Foucault, 1978); Derrida, (Giddens, 1993). Accommodating the views of Geertz and Derrida, that early marriage, including the context of East Lombok, is a text that is full of meaning and can be explained in

relation to the current era of information disclosure. As a text, the process of meaning through understanding grammatical functional (Haryatmoko, 2010) by the meaning of language symbols in the social context of early marriage.

**2. METHOD**

The study was conducted in 10 sub-districts in East Lombok (end of 2018-2019) of 54 respondents who were married at the age of under the minimum age of marriage for women (19 years). Respondents were not differentiated based on marital status when the study was conducted, because it was found that the respondent had decided to separate (divorced) some time since his marriage. Research data were collected through a purposive case study (Braithwaite et al., 2010) ethnographic survey method followed by in-depth interviews to obtain reasons for decision making at an early age. Data were analyzed using explanatory techniques by linking cases of early marriage, reasons for early marriage decision making (Patton & Sawicki, 1993).

**3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Through ethnographic survey techniques and in-depth interviews, the data are sorted into categories: age of marriage and last education when married, and reasons for marriage.

**Age and Last Education at Marriage**

All respondents surveyed, 77.78% were married at the age of 15-16 years. 14.81% were married at the age of under 15 years, and 7.40% were married at the age of 16 years. From the perspective of educational psychology, respondents are sitting in junior high school or just graduating junior high school, even in the lower-level education (SD / MI), and few of them are sitting in high school/MA (see figures 1 and 2) .

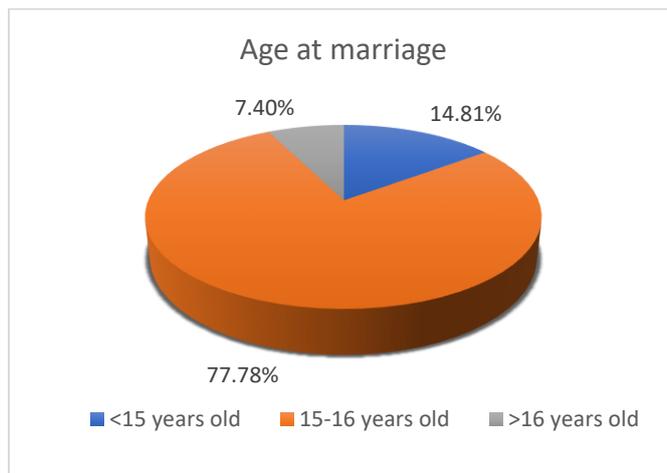


Figure 1: Age at marriage

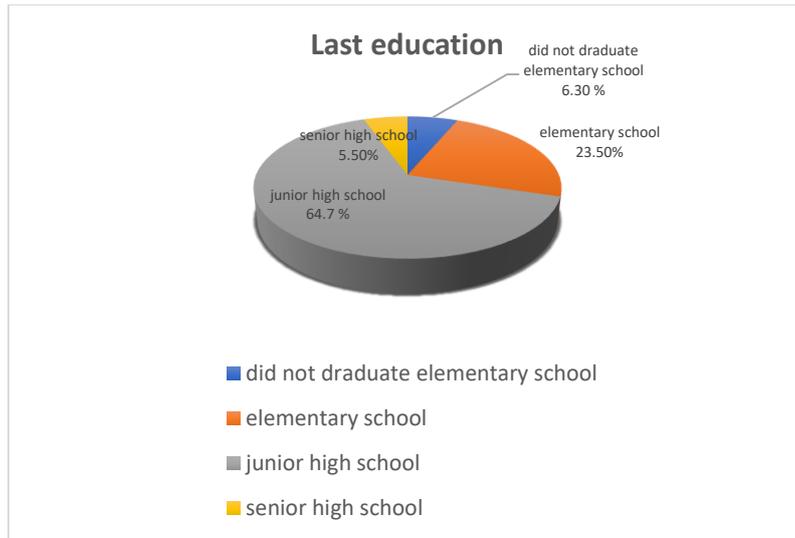


Figure 2: Last education when married

In addition to the data in Figures 1 and 2, the following is their explanations through in-depth interviews: Figure 2: Last education when married.

"I was forced to get married, when I was in grade two junior high. I am the fifth child of nine siblings, from two mothers (my mother has been divorced). Previously, I knew my husband on his way to and from school. He often hung out at my path post to school. He asked for my telephone number. I do not know his mind, two months after work affairs, he invited me to marry. Initially, I refused on the grounds still in school. Do not know why, when invited a second time, I just obeyed. My parents just said yes when his family took care of my marriage process".

Another informant acknowledged:

"I was married when I was only in 3rd grade MA. Previously, I had known it for five months after my husband. Get to know me first by phone, because my phone number was given by my friend. He is a senior at MTs in the same village. After graduating from high school, he did not continue his education, had joined in Kalimantan, but he did not feel comfortable. At home, he said he worked, but I didn't know his exact job. Because he was acquainted, several times he offered to take me to Madrasa, even to get me home".

Based on in-depth interview information, the decision to marry by the respondent begins with communication via mobile phone. This condition is caused because the respondent does not live in a harmonious family. They live in large numbers of families, and others live not with nuclear families. The next condition caused them to often communicate by cell phone, including making an appointment at an agreed place by telephone.

**Reasons for getting married**

Based on data from 54 respondents, without mentioning directly the reason for marriage, it is confirmed 100% want to avoid economic problems. The need for communication devices in the form of mobile phones mentioned must be met, because promised gold dowry, money, and the latest types of mobile phones but will be given at weddings. There are also those who are given money when invited to go somewhere, in the form of buying pulses and snacks when together are still girlfriends. There is also a new cellular phone bought (although not the expensive type). When Eid is invited to the mall to buy Eid clothes.

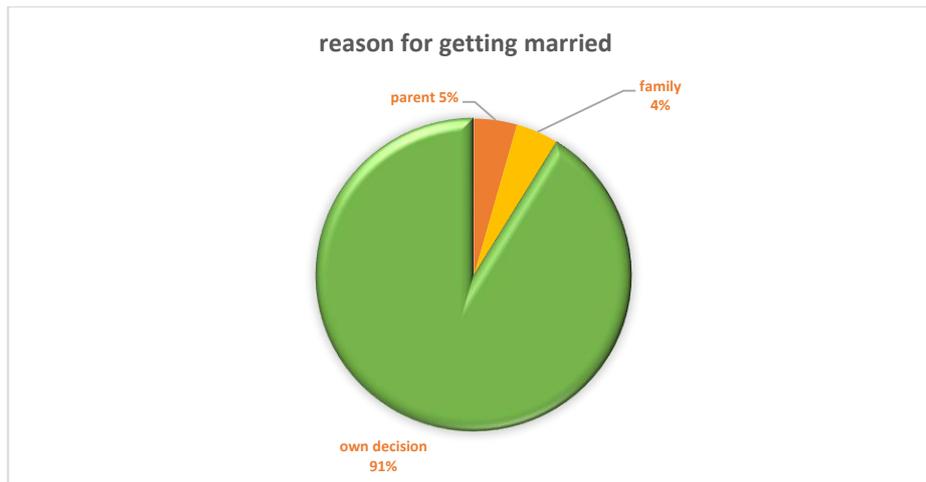


Figure3. Reasons for getting married

The decision to get married in figure three is mostly determined by themselves. The reason for the decision was not explained in the survey, but was seen through in-depth interviews as below.

"Before marriage, he was promised that he would be given gold and money as a dowry (shame the number). It is true given gold and money, but the amount is small (while blushing). A week after marriage, the dowry money is gone, and we use shopping together. What's more annoying is that the gold in the form of a ring given as a dowry is borrowed again for reasons to be replaced. Maybe people borrowed a ring for a wedding night just that."

"During before marriage, every time I was invited out, I was treated to food. Meatballs, or eat in a stall. Sometimes asked if there are pulses or not, then sent pulses. Yes, sometimes once a week according to the amount of credit that I use. I just love being sent credit or treated because I really do not have money for it. When I go to school, I buy credit with friends, or sometimes give it free."

"I don't have a cellphone other than the old cellphone sent by my sister when I was in Malaysia (Chinese mobile). He said my cellphone was not good for picture and video calls. Finally, he bought me a Chinese cellphone, he said the latest type, I did not know the price. He said 3 million. Wow, three million, haven't I ever had that kind of money. Still single can buy me 3 million cell phones, especially tomorrow already have a family".

Through in-depth interviews above, it appears that cellphone communication and the need for its existence are important reasons for marrying early at the age of under normal marriage for women.

#### CDA and Women's Early Marriage Encouragement through Information Open

##### 3.1. Text Position

Based on ethnographic survey data, early marriage as a text is positioned or considered a normal occurrence

because it does not violate socio-cultural ethics, does not violate the teachings of religion (Islam). As a normal occurrence, early marriage occurs almost without complications in the community. The community collectively accepts these events as ordinary social events. Conditions that need to be understood aside from being considered ordinary events, this incident is unconsciously triggered by the wide opportunity for them to exchange information for various interests, including interests outside their basic needs at the level of their psychological development. It cannot be ascertained if this phenomenon is considered extraordinary, then the early marriage rate for women will decrease. At a minimum, awareness emerged that information and communication openness in this era triggered this phenomenon. Awareness, understanding, and knowledge will give birth to efforts to eliminate its adverse effects on victims, and offer agendas that make conditions more productive.

##### 3.2. Advantaged and disadvantaged groups

The question posed, why there is no discourse as critical discourse analysis? This question is a form of appreciation for the existence of the analysis of the interview as a theory and method of understanding communication behavior that cannot be revealed through conventional linguistics. The reality of women's early marriage that is triggered by information disclosure and online transactions has never been understood as causality that adversely affects the civilization of society, especially women. Who benefits? Of course those who consider the phenomenon of marrying women early as a normal occurrence. The benefits they get from discrimination in many ways. In other words, indirectly information disclosure and online transactions become fertilizers of early marriage practices for women who result in various forms of discrimination, because women victims of early marriage have no choice. This kind of social practice (Foucault, 1978; Giddens, 1993) refers to

it as a deliberate structural pattern for a particular purpose within its own group by mastering and discriminating against it.

### 3.3. Social and cultural consequences and conditions.

As a phenomenon that is considered normal, early marriage for women triggered by information disclosure and online transactions is a practice of symbolic violence. Symbolic violence, including in the context of a woman's early marriage is called by (Giddens, 1993) violence that forces the other party, even the victim does not recognize it as violence, and accepts it as true. The consequences return to victims with various forms of discrimination. The neglect of victims' basic rights results in various forms of prolonged physical and non-physical discrimination.

As a social phenomenon, this incident cannot be ascertained since when. The community considers this incident as normal, and fosters the practice of discrimination against women. There is no tendency to prevent or forbid it. If this condition continues to be ignored, and continues to flourish, (Gellner, 1983) call it the forerunner of second-class society. Society must have sensitivity to women's basic rights, especially at an early age, and openness of information and online transactions must be an instrument of improving civilization to become a first-class society in a new era, the era of industry 4.0.

## 4. CONCLUSION

Through survey data, in-depth interviews, and critical discourse / CDA analysis, it was concluded that the existence of women's early marriage was triggered by the presence of an era of information disclosure and online transactions. The incomplete sentence age of marriage for most respondents ranged between 15-16 years. Improved economic growth with the availability of modern telecommunications equipment and information disclosure enables them to communicate directly, including making agreements about marriage that are not their basic needs at the age below the normal repeated word age of marriage for women. The community views this phenomenon as a normal repeated word occurrence so that it becomes a perpetual institution for discrimination against women.

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