



# The Relationship Between Communication Patters and Parental Closeness with Adolescent Sexual Behavior at Privat Vocational School in Sidoarjo

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**Abstract. Background:** The study results in several developing countries show that male and female adolescents aged 18 years have had sex before marriage. Some of the causes of adolescent sexual behavior are due to the lack of communication between adolescents and their closeness to their parents. Teenagers are not open and do not tell their parents what problems they are facing.

**Aim:** This study aims to determine the relationship between communication patterns and parental closeness with sexual behavior of adolescents at Private Vocational School in Sidoarjo.

**Methods:** The study design used observational analytic. The number of samples are 90 respondents, taken using a simple random sampling technique. The independent variable is the communication pattern which is measured using the Parent Child Sexual Communication (PCSC) questionnaire, and the closeness of the parents is measured by the Parent Child Quality Relationship (PCQR) questionnaire. The dependent variable is sexual behavior as measured by a questionnaire. Data were analyzed by Chi Square Test ( $p < 0.05$ ).

**Results:** The results showed that the communication pattern of the respondents in the high category was 63,3% (57 respondents), and the low category was 36,7% (33 respondents). The closeness of parents in the high category was 65,6% (59 respondents). Sexual behavior in the non-risk category was 85,6% (77 respondents) and sexual behavior in the risky category was 14,4% (13 respondents). The results showed that there was a relationship between communication patterns and sexual behavior ( $p = 0,003$ ) and there was a relationship between parental closeness and sexual behavior ( $p = 0,001$ ).

**Conclusion:** The high or low intensity of the communication pattern between parents and their children affects the sexual behavior of teenagers. Communication is very important for families because it is one dimension of the closeness of parents and children. It is important for parents to take time for their children so that communication patterns and closeness between parents and adolescents are harmoniously intertwined so as to prevent adolescents from engaging in premarital sexual behavior. The implications in nursing are expected to increase the role of nurses in providing education about effective communication between parents and adolescents.

**Keywords:** Communication patterns · closeness · sexual behavior · parent

## 1 Introduction

The family is one of the most important institutions that carry out socialization activities on an ongoing basis to form good and polite children [1]. However, parents still play an important role in building a good and healthy socialization system, especially for the moral development of young people, thus enabling them to be more open and confident in expressing all the problems they face [2]. Poor communication and closeness of parents will have an impact on the perception of adolescents who consider themselves to be a group of people who feel that their lives are rejected by their parents, tend to carry out behaviors that they consider not deviant such as aggressive behavior, have lower self-confidence, engage in sexual behavior and increase their self-esteem, emotional instability in adolescents [3]. Psychosocial norms and spirituality are supporting factors for sexual health. Adolescent reproductive period shows the intention to have sex, contraception, condom use, frequency of sex and pregnancy [4, 5].

A healthy and open communication relationship is able to create a good relationship between parents and children so that children can overcome problems and foster self-confidence. And if there is a lack of communication and parental closeness, closed behavior will arise and will have an impact on promiscuity such as sex before marriage [6]. In this case, communication and the closeness of parents play a very important role in fostering good relations with children so that children have an open nature with parents and are willing to share their problems with their parents [1].

## 2 Methods

This study uses a correlation analysis design with a cross sectional approach. The population in this study were teenagers in Private Vocational School Sidoarjo totaling 117. Calculation of the sample size using the Slovin formula obtained 90 respondents. The sampling technique used is Cluster Simple Random Sampling because the respondents are divided into several classes [7]. Data were collected using instruments, communication patterns were measured by a modified Parent-Child Sexual communication questionnaire consisting of 16 items with 2 content and process indicators. This measuring tool consists of 16 items. The question category is favorable 10 items and unfavorable 6 items. Parental closeness was measured by a modified Parent-Child Quality Relationship questionnaire [8], consists of 29 items with 5 indicators, namely Conflict, Parent Involvement, Regard for Parent and Regard for Child. Instruments have been tested for validity and reliability tests on 30 respondents, using Cronbach alpha with a value of  $r = 0.855$  ( $r$  table = 0.60) and a validity test where all question items with a value above  $r$  table (0.360). This measuring tool consists of 29 items. The category of questions favorable 9 items and unfavorable 20 items. This sexual behavior questionnaire was quoted from Hastuti [9], a questionnaire consisting of 11 items with negative questions/statements (unfavorable). This sexual behavior questionnaire includes forms of sexual behavior. There are four alternative answers to the questionnaire, namely TP (never), JR (rare),

SR (often), SL (always) and sexual behavior. Statistical test using Chi Square with  $\alpha = 0.05$ .

Informed consent was given to the parents of the teenager and the teenager himself, after which the consent form was signed by both of them as a willingness to become respondents. The research was carried out after obtaining ethical approval from KEPK Stikes Hang Tuah Surabaya No. PE/43/VI/2022/KEP/SHT.

### 3 Results

Data collection was carried out on 02 – 07 June 2022. The respondents were 90 teenagers who were in class XI of private vocational schools in Sidoarjo, with 15 boys and 75 girls. The general data from the research is a description of the characteristics of adolescents which include age, gender, number of siblings, age of parents, father’s occupation, mother’s occupation, father’s education, mother’s education, living with whom, has a boyfriend, sexual information. Specific data describes data on parent-adolescent communication patterns, parent-adolescent closeness, and adolescent sexual behavior and the relationship between the three.

#### *General Data of Respondents*

Table 1 shows the age of the largest respondents in the age range of 17 years with a total of 64 people (71.1%) out of a total of 90 respondents. Female sex as many as 75 people (83.3%) the rest are male. Most of the respondents are the first child as many as 44 people (48.9%), and have 2 siblings as many as 37 respondents (41.1%).

#### *General Data of Respondent’s Parents*

Table 2 shows that most of the respondents’ parents are aged 43–50 years as many as 51 respondents (56.8%). With father’s occupation dominated by 43 respondents (47.8%) as

**Table 1.** Characteristics of Respondents based on general data

characteristic	n	%
Age		
16	11	12.2
17	64	71.1
18	14	15.6
19	1	1.1
Gender		
Female	75	83.3
Male	15	16.7
Position in Family		
First	44	48.9
Second	31	34.4

(continued)

**Table 1.** (continued)

<b>characteristic</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Thirth	8	8.9
Fourth	5	5.6
Fifth	2	2.2
Number of siblings		
1	26	28.9
2	37	41.1
3	16	17.8
4	3	3.3
5	6	6.7
6	2	2.2
Total	90	100.0

**Table 2.** Characteristics of respondent based on Respondent's Parent data

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Age of Parent		
35–42 years old	24	26,5
43–50 years old	51	56,8
< 50 years old	16	17,8
Profession of Respondent's Father		
TNI/POLRI/PNS	3	3.3
Private Employes	43	47.8
Enterpreneur	44	48.9
Profession of Respondent's mother		
Private Employes	26	28.9
Enterpreneur	17	18.9
Housewife	47	52.2
Education of Respondent's father		
Elementary	18	20.0
Yunior High School	16	17.8

(continued)

**Table 2.** (continued)

Characteristic	n	%
Senior High School	49	54.4
Diploma	7	7.7
Education of Respondent’s mother		
Elementary	14	15.6
Yunior High School	25	27.8
Senior High School	48	53.3
Diploma	3	3.3
Total	90	100.0

**Table 3.** Characteristic respondent based on supplementary data

Characteristic	n	%
Living with		
Parent	87	96.7
Relatives/Guardian	3	3.3
Have/No boy/Girlfirend		
Yes	32	35.6
No	58	64.4
Source of sexual Information		
Social media	50	55.6
Book	14	15.6
School	22	24.4
Other	4	4.4
Total	90	100.00

private employees and self-employed 44 respondents (48.9%). Meanwhile, the majority of mothers’ occupations are as housewives (52.2%). The education of the respondent’s father and mother is mostly high school graduates with the percentages of 54.4% and 53.3% respectively.

**Supplementary of General Data’s Respondent**

Table 3 illustrates that almost all of the respondents’ data 87 people (96.7%) live with their parents, the rest live with their relatives/guardians 3 people (3.3%). Respondents based on boyfriend ownership as many as 58 (64.4%) do not have a boyfriend, and most of the respondents (50 people/55.6%) get information about sexuality through social media, followed by information from school by 22 people (24.4%).

**Table 4.** Characteristic respondent based on specific data

Characteristic	n	%
Communication Pattern		
Good	57	63,3
Poor	33	36,7
Parental Closeness		
High	59	65,6
Low	31	34,4
Sexual Behavior		
No Risk	77	85,6
At Risk	13	14,4
Total	90	100,0

**Table 5.** Relationship between parent-adolescent communication patterns and sexual behavior in private vocational schools in Sidoarjo (June, 2–7, 2022) n = 90

Communication Pattern	Sexual Behavior				Total	
	No Risk		At Risk			
	f	%	f	%	n	
Good	54	94,7%	3	5,3%	57	100%
Poor	23	69,7%	10	30,3%	33	100%
Total	77	85,6%	13	14,4%	90	100%

Result of *Chi-Square p value* 0,003 ( $\alpha = 0,05$ )

### ***Specific Data of Responden***

Table 4 shows that of the 90 respondents, most of the respondents used high communication as much as 63.3% (57 respondents), and 36.7% (33 respondents) low communication. Most of the respondents with high parental closeness were 65.6% (59 respondents), and 34.4% (31 respondents) in the low category. Respondents with non-risky sexual behavior were 85.6% (77 respondents), and respondents with risky sexual behavior were 14.4% (13 respondents).

Table 5 shows that there are 57 respondents in the good category of parent-adolescent communication patterns, with 54 (94.7%) non-risky sexual behavior and 3 (5.3%) risky behavior. Poor Communication Patterns as many as 33 respondents with 23 (69.7%) risky sexual behavior and 13 (30.3%) risky behavior. The results of the Chi Square statistical test showed that there was a relationship between communication patterns and adolescent sexual behavior ( $p = 0.003$ ).

**Table 6.** The Relationship between Parent-adolescent closeness and Sexual Behavior at Private Vocational Schools in Sidoarjo (June, 2–7, 2022) n = 90.

Parental Closeness	Sexual Behavior				Total	
	No Risk		At Risk			
	f	%	f	%	n	
High	56	94,9%	3	5,1%	59	100%
Low	21	67,7%	10	32,3%	31	100%
Total	77	85,6%	13	14,4%	90	100%

Result of *Chi-Square p value* 0,001 ( $\alpha = 0,05$ )

Table 6 shows that parent-adolescent closeness is in the high category of 59 respondents, with 56 (94.9%) non-risk sexual behavior and 3 (5.1%) risky behavior. Parent-adolescent closeness was low as many as 31 respondents with 21 (67.7%) non-risk sexual behavior and 10 (32.3%). The results of the Chi Square statistical test showed that there was a relationship between communication patterns and adolescent sexual behavior ( $p = 0.001$ ).

## 4 Discussion

### *Relationship between Parent-Adolescent Communication Patterns with sexual behavior*

The results showed that there was a relationship between the pattern of communication between parents and adolescents with sexual behavior. High communication patterns indicate sexual behavior is not risky. In line with Gustina’s research, poor communication between parents and adolescents can lead to risky sexual behavior [4]. The higher the level of supervision and communication patterns that parents have with their adolescent children, the lower the possibility of deviant behavior in adolescents [10]. One study has shown that parent-adolescent communication can reduce the likelihood of adolescents engaging in risky sexual behavior [11].

Good communication between parents and adolescents will reduce the possibility of adolescents engaging in risky sexual behavior [12]. Communication between parents and adolescents creates a positive atmosphere and interaction between parents and adolescents. Adolescents’ perceptions of parental communication help them develop and mature into adulthood [13]. In parental communication, there is an expression of values, rules, and culture adopted by the family [14, 15]. The assumption of the researcher, that the communication pattern variable is related to adolescent sexual behavior because of the right communication pattern, namely the right use, the right situation, the right purpose, and the right benefits, the communication pattern built between parents and adolescents will reduce negative behaviors such as risky sexual patterns. Through communication, parents need to be the main source of information and educators about adolescent sexuality [16]. However, parents often have difficulty discussing sexual issues with their teens because taboos, shame, and lack of communication skills interfere with parent-adolescent communication about sexual behavior [17, 18].

### ***Parent-adolescent closeness relationship with sexual behavior***

One study has shown that the closeness of parents and adolescents can reduce the likelihood of adolescents engaging in risky sexual behavior [19]. Positive parental closeness has the potential to create good relationships with peers, lovers, and even the social environment [20]. Risky sexual behavior occurs because of the lack of parental closeness. There is a significant relationship between adolescent parental closeness and self-control between sexual behavior [21]. Build a close relationship with parents to create an emotional bond between parents and children. In addition, parents and teens can also spend valuable time exchanging ideas and sharing experiences with one another [22, 23].

The assumption of the researcher, this study shows that the quality of the closeness between parents and adolescents makes adolescents spend more time with family and less time with friends [24]. If the closeness between parents and children decreases, the greater the risk of sexual behavior in children as a result of the lack of harmony in the relationship between parents and children, lack of trust, so that children feel uncomfortable discussing personal matters with their parents [22]. Thus parents have a very important role in influencing sexual behavior in adolescents [25].

## **5 Conclusions**

The pattern of communication and closeness between parents-adolescents is significantly related to adolescent sexual behavior. The ability of good communication skills from parents is expected to be able to close the gap between the two, so that the closeness that exists can be a solution in efforts to prevent sexual behavior in adolescents.

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