

The Knowledge of Undergraduate Students about Sexual Violence and Sexually Transmitted Infections

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Abstract. Sexual violence is an issue in society, especially in higher education institutions. A survey by Students Executive Board on sexual violence at Universitas Negeri Malang in 2022 with 205 respondents reported that 11 respondents had been victims of sexual violence. Several studies have proven that knowledge of sexual violence can anticipate the risk of experiencing sexual violence. This study aimed to describe the knowledge of undergraduate students at Universitas Negeri Malang about sexual violence and sexually transmitted infections. This study used descriptive quantitative research with a cross sectional approach, and 400 respondents as its sample. This study employed univariate analysis as a technique to examine the participants' responses to the questionnaire items. The results showed that the majority of the participants have good knowledge of sexual violence, although some undergraduate students still have less knowledge than others. As for the knowledge of sexually transmitted infections, the majority are in the sufficient understanding category. This study suggested that future researchers are expected to use other variables related to this study, more accurate sampling techniques, as well as more in-depth data analysis.

Keywords: Adults, Health knowledge, Sexual Violence, Sexually Transmitted Infection.

1 Introduction

Currently, sexual violence that occurs in higher education levels is a problem that is discussed by the public. A number of incidents of sexual violence perpetrated by the academic community have been uncovered in the public sphere. Several incidents were uncovered, such as at UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung [1], UIN Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta [2], UIN Malik Maulana Ibrahim Malang [3], Yogyakarta Islamic University [4], Airlangga University Surabaya [5], University of North Sumatra Medan [6], and Diponegoro University Semarang [7].

Based on a survey conducted by the Students Executive Board in 2022 at Universitas Negeri Malang (UM) with 205 respondents, It was discovered that 11 of the respondents had experienced sexual violence, and 10 of the respondents said they were still unsure of the situation. In this regard, 16 respondents experienced 1-5 times, 1

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respondent experienced 6-10 times, and 1 respondent experienced more than a few times. According to the respondents' responses to the statement about whether or not they had ever heard or seen sexual violence at UM, the information was gathered from 78 respondents who said they had, 100 who said they had never, and 27 who said they were not sure whether they had heard/seen sexual violence. In terms of frequency, 87 respondents heard/saw the issue 1–5 times, 5 heard/saw 6–10 times, and 1 responded more than a few times. This circumstance is consistent with the justification [8] that assault cases are frequently concealed in educational institutions. Like an iceberg, the actual events are much more than the events that appear. Explained that low reporting was caused by a lack of knowledge about what is considered sexual violence [9].

The results of the study [10] also show that a teenager who has knowledge about sexual violence can do better in preventing the dangers of sexual violence. Therefore, it can be concluded that sexual knowledge is useful in identifying symptoms of sexual assault or harassment. [11] conducted a study on undergraduate students at Institut Pertanian Bogor, and found that 9.42% of respondents did not know the different types of sexual violence, and 39.13% of respondents were still unsure about their understanding of sexual violence. Furthermore, Khafsoh and Suhairi [9] conducted research at UIN Sunan Kalijaga in 2021. The results showed that 5.9% of students did not know and 1.2% posses no knowledge. This study demonstrates that students have unaware of sexual violence.

According to [12] the consequences of sexual violence can cause health problems, one of which is sexually transmitted diseases. According to [13] the physical impact of sexual violence is related to the occurrence of STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections). There are several types of STIs with implications as evidence of sexual violence. The types that have been diagnosed are Gonorrhea, HIV, Chlamydia trachomatis, and Syphilis. The National Population and Family Planning Board explains that adolescents start from the age of 10-24 years [14]. Students aged 18 to 25 are considered to be reaching the latter stages of adolescence to early adulthood. Students must identify and pursue life goals at this age in order to further their development [15]. According to statistics at higher institutions, the largest number of undergraduate students aged 18-30 years are classified as being in the final stages of their teens. Due to a lack of parental supervision and a nurturing environment, students in their late teens-the majority of whom are between the ages of 18 and 25-have unhealthy sexual attitudes and behavior [16]. Teenagers are more susceptible to health issues like sexual assault and STDs due to these conditions. Adolescents must be well-informed about sexual violence in order to lower this risk [10].

In order to prevent and handle cases of sexual violence in the campus area, the Indonesian government announced Permendikbudristek Number 30 year 2021 to handle and hinder cases of sexual misconduct on campus [17]. Thus, UM as a state university of the legal agency must be free of sexual violence to carry out its educational function optimally. Therefore, As a result, UM has a responsibility for the handling of sexual violence, which helps to tackle and avoid sexual violence on campus.

2 Methods

This type of research used descriptive quantitative analysis with a cross-sectional approach. The study was conducted at Universitas Negeri Malang with 400 undergraduate students as the population selected from 96.918 people. They were selected based on slovin formula. The study was carried out for a month, from May to June 2023.

The instrument of the study used a questionnaire to test undergraduate student's knowledge about sexual violence. The questionnaire was adopted from a study by Evi Minarsih with research entitled "The Relationship between the Level of Knowledge and Female Teenager's Attitudes on Sexual Harassment in Class XI Students of SMAN 8 Aceh Barat Daya, Aceh Barat Daya District in 2018". Meanwhile, the questionnaire that is used to test undergraduate student's knowledge about sexually transmitted infections was adopted from Nur Triningtyas Putri with a study entitled "Levels of Knowledge on Adolescents About Sexually Transmitted Infections at SMA Al-Asiyah Cibinong Bogor in 2015", the instrument mentioned above has been tested for validity and reliability. Sexual violence items used Cronbach's Alpha in its reliability test with the results of an alpha value (0.6) > (0.5) r table, while for sexually transmitted infections the internal reliability coefficient of all items (0.616) > r table (0.347). Then the data obtained were analyzed using univariate. This research has carried out an ethical test with number 820/HRECC.FODM/VII/2023.

3 Results

3.1 Respondent Age and Sex Distribution

Characteristics	n	(%)
Age		
18	19	4.8
19	81	20.3
20	150	37.5
21	107	26.8
22	35	8.8
23	5	1.3
24	3	0.8
Sex		
Male	113	28.3
Female	287	71.8
Total	400	100

Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Respondents by Age and Sex

Based on table 1 it can be seen that the age of the most respondents was 20 years old with 150 people (37.5%), followed by 21 years old with 107 people (26.8%), then 19 years old with 81 people (20.3%), 35 people aged 22 years (8.8%), 18 years old 19

people (4.8%), 23 years old 5 people (1.3%), then respondents at least 24 years old were 3 people (0.8%). Meanwhile, the distribution of respondents based on sex it is found that women were larger, consisting of 287 people (71.8%), while men represented 113 people (28.3%).

3.2 Knowledge Level of Undergraduate Students About Sexual Violence at Universitas Negeri Malang

Knowledge	n	(%)
Good	260	65
Average	89	22,3
Poor	51	12,8
Total	400	100

Table 2. Level of Knowledge of Undergraduate Students About Sexual Violence

Based on Table 2, the results obtained from the level of knowledge of respondents in good category with a total of 260 people (65%), followed by sufficient knowledge with a total of 89 people (22.3%), and lack of knowledge with a total of 51 people (12.8%).

 Table 3. Frequency Distribution of Knowledge Level on Undergraduate Students Regarding

 Sexual Violence Based on Age.

Age	Level of Knowledge			Total
	Good	Average	Poor	Total
18	16 (84,2%)	1 (5,3%)	2 (10,5%)	19 (100%)
19	60 (74,1%)	14 (17,3%)	7 (8,6%)	81 (100%)
20	89 (59,4%)	38 (25,3%)	23 (15,3%)	150 (100%)
21	68 (63,6%)	25 (23,4%)	14 (13%)	107 (100%)
22	23 (65,7%)	7 (20%)	5 (14,3%)	35 (100%)
23	3 (60%)	2 (40%)	0 (0%)	5 (100%)
24	1 (33,3%)	2 (66,7%)	0 (0%)	3 (100%)
Total	260 (65%)	89 (22,25%)	51 (12,75%)	400 (100%)

Table 3 shows that when looking at the age range between 18-24 years, the findings on good category level based on the highest age is 18 years old (84.2%), followed by 19 years old (74.1%), and the lowest at the age of 24 years (33.3%).

The level of knowledge based on gender can be seen in Table 4, in which female respondents have a higher good category level of knowledge, with 195 people (67.9%) compared to the level of knowledge in male respondents with male gender consisted of 65 people (57, 5%).

Gender	Level of knowledge			Total
	Good	Average	Poor	
Male	65 (57,5%)	30 (26,6%)	18 (15,9%)	113 (100%)
Female	195 (67,9%)	59 (20,6%)	33 (11,5%)	287 (100%)
Total	260 (65%)	89 (22,25%)	51 (12,75%)	400 (100%)

 Table 4. Frequency Distribution of Level of Knowledge on Undergraduate Students About

 Sexual Violence Based on Gender

3.3 Knowledge Level of Undergraduate Students About Sexually Transmitted Infections at Universitas Negeri Malang

 Table 5. Level of Knowledge of S1 Students at State University of Malang About Sexually

 Transmitted Infections

Knowledge	n	%
Good	60	15
Average	271	67,8
Poor	69	17,3
Total	400	100

Based on Table 5, the findings from the respondents' level of knowledge of sexually transmissible diseases were in the sufficient category with a total of 271 people (67.8%), followed by less knowledge with a total of 69 people (17.3%), and good knowledge with a total of 60 people (15%).

 Table 6. Frequency Distribution of Knowledge Level on Undergraduate Students About Sexually Transmitted Infections by Age

Age	Level of Knowledge			Total
	Good	Average	Poor	
18	8 (42,1%)	8 (42,1%)	3 (15,8%)	19 (100%)
19	15 (18,5%)	55 (67,9%)	11 (13,6%)	81 (100%)
20	17 (11,3%)	108 (72%)	25 (16,7%)	150 (100%)
21	14 (13,1%)	70 (65,4%)	23 (21,5%)	107 (100%)
22	4 (11,4%)	26 (74,3%)	5 (14,3%)	35 (100%)
23	0 (0%)	4 (80%)	1 (20%)	5 (100%)
24	2 (66,7%)	0 (0%)	1 (33,3%)	3 (100%)
Total	60 (15,0%)	271 (67,8%)	69 (17,3%)	400 (100%)

If we look at the ages of the respondents in Table 6, with the age range between 18-24 years, it can be seen from the table that the majority of students have sufficient knowledge of STI. The highest sufficient knowledge category is at the age of 23 years consisting of 4 people (80%), followed by 22 years old as many as 26 people (74.3%), and the lowest at 24 years old (0%).

193

Sex	Level of Knowledge			Total
	Good	Average	Poor	
Male	21 (18,6%)	69 (61,1%)	23 (20,3%)	113 (100%)
Female	39 (13,6%)	202 (70,4%)	46 (16%)	287 (100%)
Total	60 (15%)	271 (67,8%)	69 (17,3%)	400 (100%)

 Table 7. Frequency Distribution of Knowledge Level of Undergraduate Students on Sexually

 Transmitted Infections by Gender

It can be seen from the gender of the respondents in Table 7, that students have sufficient knowledge. The male had a higher good category knowledge of 21 people (18.6%) than the female consisted of 39 people (13.6%).

4 Discussion

4.1 Analysis of Knowledge Level of Undergraduate Students About Sexual Violence at Universitas Negeri Malang

The existence of students who still have sufficient and insufficient knowledge about sexual violence is in line with research results [9] at UIN Sunan Kalijaga which shows that there are still students who have minimum knowledge about sexual violence. According to the study's findings [10], there is a relationship between understanding sexual orientation and being aware of the possibility of experiencing sexual violence. This is consistent with reports of sexual assault cases at UM where students had little knowledge of sexual misconduct.

Contrary to what was discovered [18], age has an impact on thinking and cognition. The older, the more developed your comprehension and mindset so that the knowledge you acquire is improved. According to [19] knowledge is not only influenced by age. But there are other factors such as experience, sources of information, environment, and socio-culture. This discrepancy with the theory [20] which states that the older a person is, the better the knowledge is due to the uneven distribution of sampling.

By gender, this is consistent with the results of a study [21] which found that female understand more about sexual violence than men. This occurs because females become the majority of sexual assault victims, and as a result, females are more concerned with sexual violence prevention and avoidance than males.

4.2 Analysis of Knowledge Level of Undergraduate Students About Sexually Transmitted Infections at Universitas Negeri Malang

The results of this study are in line with research [22] on students of the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Sumatra Utara University that students have knowledge in a fairly good category. The survey results [23] also explain that adolescents still have insufficient knowledge of reproductive health.

Based on these results, there are still many adolescent students aged 18-24 who have sufficient and insufficient knowledge about STIs. This is in accordance with CDC

calculations that the age of 15-24 years contributes to half of the 20 million cases of infection per year [24]. UNFPA and WHO say that every year 1 in 20 adolescents contract an STI.

This is in contrast to the results of a study [22] of students at the Faculty of Medicine, Universitas Sumatra Utara which explained that women are more knowledgeable than men about sexually transmitted infections. Males are less informed than females about sexuality because males use the internet more frequently to play video games than to learn about issues [25]. However, according to [26] there are other factors that could affect the knowledge of sexually transmitted infections such as education level, social level, age, place of residence, and access to newspapers, radio, and the availability of the internet.

5 Conclusion

The conclusion of the study is that the majority of Universitas Negeri Malang undergraduate students have good knowledge of sexual violence and have sufficient knowledge about sexually transmitted infections. However, some students still have insufficient knowledge about sexually transmitted infections.

Author's Contribution

MAIR formulates design study, collect and analysis data, write manuscript. S.K and E.N.D formulate research ideas, supervise research, provide feedback, and assist with the shaping of analysis.

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196 M. A. I. Rodzali et al.

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