

University Social Responsibility in Preventing and Addressing Impacts of Free Association among Adolescents

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Abstract

Association or interaction among adolescents becomes freer currently as male and female teenagers do not feel restricted to show their affection each other in public. Among students, who are belong to the late cohort of teenage, this phenomenon can be easily found out. Research results and released data from various institutions demonstrate this tendency. Cases such as recording their own intercourse, illegal abortion, pre marital-pregnancy, and HIV/AIDS exemplify the impact of freer association among male and female teenagers. The cause of this impact is not single. The lack of knowledge on sexuality, as well as the lack of internalized religious values, is among the causes.

University as an educational institution is yet to show their concern and has not addressed the issue. It is a surprise since university has millions of students who are still adolescent and vulnerable to face many temptations. Even if university starts to care about it, the role of institution is not yet optimized. As a result, students do not know how and where to complain about their problems in relation with their sexual opposites. The issue is interesting to be discussed since university is not only an institution for transferring knowledge, but also an institution for educating their students in order to have provision for life.

Keywords: adolescent, university, freer association, knowledge

1. Introduction

The very rapidly development of information technology in the last decade makes a significant social change. Increasingly widespread use of the Internet has intensified the opening of the barriers in communicating and interacting. Among adolescents around the world, this communications medium is now very popular. Zheng, Burrow-Sanchez, and Drew (2010: xiii) states that adolescent use of online social media such as blogs, chat rooms and text messaging has increased dramatically over the past decade largely due to the accessibility of such technology. As a result, communication and interaction among adolescent boys and girls also become more open and free and sometimes beyond the control of parents or teachers at school.

The characteristics of this media that is visually appealing, practical, and easily accessible making teens loves it. However, information technology is not always positively charged.

Negative content such as pornography can also be easily accessed. Thus, the abuse becomes very possible even according to data from the Ministry of Communication and Information, Indonesia is now the first rank who accessed pornographic sites in cyberspace. Among the users are teenagers it is even the kids (*www.suarapembaruan.com*, November 14, 2013; *inet.detik.com*, March 25, 2014). The consequence of this activity was to be expected, especially the imitation behavior among adolescents. Some examples of cases that can be referred to, for example a number of junior high school students in Jakarta who record their nasty behavior at school, the case of the three pairs of nude teens while watching porn in a cafe in Semarang, and four teenagers who made a nasty video in one of the boarding houses in the area TobeloMKCM village, North Halmahera (*republika.co.id*, November 7, 2013).

Teenage years, which began around the age range 10-13 years and were ended in 18-22 years is in

the transition period from childhood to a certain maturity. This category is usually subdivided into early adolescence and late adolescence. There is also a definition that divides adolescents and youth. Adolescents are those who are in the age range 10-19 years, while the youth is the age range of 15-24 years. In terms of education, it can be said is that teenagers are those who sitting on the bench junior high to high school, college or even S-1 (undergraduate level). Their biological, social, emotional, and cognitive conditions are still in the developmental stage, so if they do not get any guidance, it could lead to problems in their adult life (Nicolson and Ayers: 2004, <http://www.unfpa.org/public/>, Jatmika 2010: 10). Therefore, they are easily tempted and imitate interesting things, though contrary to religious norms, social values prevailing in society, even at risk to their own lives.

As part of the youth, students who are taking undergraduate levels are also faced with the issues related to biological, social, emotional, and cognitive characteristics that are still developing. Many case examples show, even though they have reached higher education, it does not mean that they can automatically control themselves particularly in terms of interaction with the opposite sex. Some cases and the studies' result confirm this hypothesis. Febriana's research on Promiscuity among Boarding Students in Malang showed that forms of promiscuity among students include casual sex, drug abuse and gambling (<http://studentresearch.umm.ac.id>). Similar-ly to what happened in Yogyakarta. An online news site in its search mentions that in Babarsari for example, promiscuity of the cafe to cafe no longer unstoppable. Usually, the socially night continues to students' boarding house. Many students often invite their boy/girlfriend to stay together in boarding-free

(*merdeka.com*.February 14, 2014).Some of the factors that cause it mentioned in a study of Nia Adria in Medan. The results of this study indicate that the causing factors of free sex among students boarding is the lack of social control, technology factors, lack of care and supervision of local residents, environmental factors, libido needs a boost factors, economic factors, and lack of religious teachings .

The impact of free-association among teenagers was varied, ranging from premarital pregnancies, abortions to early marriage. For example, the United Nations Population Fund data show that the world currently has 600 million adolescent girls and 500 million of them live in developing countries. Of this amount, each year as many as 16 million young girls under the age of 18 years has given birth to a child, and 3.2 million adolescents die from unsafe abortion (*SwaraRahima*, No. 43 November 2013). In Indonesia, for the case of abortion AristMerdekaSirait Chairman of Indonesian National Commission for Child Protection mentions, recorded 86 abortions in 2011, and in 2012 increased to 121 people (*kompas.com*, January 13, 2013). Another effect is the outbreak of HIV/AIDS. UNICEF reports that about 71,000 children aged between 10 and 19 years died of HIV in 2005. Number was increased to 110,000 in 2012 (<http://www.dw.de/unicef-remaja-arentan-hiv/a-17261987>).Mandriwati(2013) concluded that there are three critical issues facing teens in Indonesia, namely sexuality, drug use, and HIV.

Looking at the data and facts as well as the impact is appropriate for the university as part of the educational institutions involved in the prevention and control of promiscuity among teenagers. This is because as an organization especially engaged in the

field of education, universities have a social responsibility to the community where they grew up.

2. Methods

This paper is the result of thinking using literature searches were inspired by some researches that has been done before (Mintarti, Martono: 2012a; Mintarti, Martono, Puspitasari: 2012b; Mintarti, Dasuki, Novianti: 2013a; Mintarti, Dasuki, Novianti: 2013b). Research conducted in the three Islamic schools showed that these religious schools were not sterile from issues relating to teenage promiscuity. Therefore, it needs the attention and cooperation of all parties, including universities, to overcome this problem.

3. Discussion

In language, Indonesian Great Dictionary defines the word "university" as the college that consists of a number of faculty who hold scientific education and/or professional in a particular discipline (<http://kbbi.web.id/universitas>). In line with these definitions, the Decree of the Minister of National Education of the Republic of Indonesia No.234/U/2000 on Guidelines for the Establishment of Higher Education Chapter I, Article 1, Section 11 states, university is higher education in addition to organizing the academic education can also organize professional education in a number of disciplines knowledge, technology and/or particular art.

In the area of formal education, university is the highest level after high school. As part of social institutions, especially educational institutions, universities would not be able to stand alone as all social institutions can exist because there is a symbiosis with the community he is a part of it (Shapiro, 2005: xii). A university can survive, grow,

and thrive because of the support of the community, and the provision of support is certainly not out of "something" that is given by the university to the surrounding community.

As a continuation of high school, students who are studying at university is young children aged teenagers who were psychological, biological and social is growing. They are generally a group that is still in the process of the search for identity. As a result, control over their own behavior is often difficult to do. They become easily trapped in behaviors that endanger themselves at once at odds with social norms. Among the issues very closely with adolescent promiscuity is a problem, as well as the impact of various examples of cases have been described in the introduction.

The situation facing the university should come take a role in educating students so as not to fall into three critical issues facing adolescent in Indonesia above. This role is a form of social responsibility to the communities surrounding the university. In the midst of the declining influence of family, religion, and schools, higher education actually still expected role. Bok (1982: 116) argues that in teaching their students, universities have a special opportunity to make a useful contribution. Although families, churches, and schools seem to have declined in influence over the past few decades, higher education has assumed a more important social, and much larger proportions of the population now come in search of advanced instruction.

The role can be done through a process of learning in the classroom and other activities outside the lecture. In the lecture, the "special opportunity in teaching" can be done in a number of relevant courses. Here lecturer can convey, for example, a chapter on sexuality, reproductive health and

adolescent promiscuity negative impact from the perspective of the course. Nevertheless, even in the courses that are considered not related to the problem was, the lecturer can insert at least about values and social norms that can prevent teenage promiscuity. Outside the lecture, the university as an institution can also take a role in establishing or optimizing Information and Counseling Center which already exists.

Nevertheless, the ideal role of universities in preventing and combating participate teenage promiscuity will not work if there is no political will of the leadership of the university. This is because somehow the university is a formal structured and tiered organization. A policy can be implemented if there are instructions from the leader or manager who is on the top level. In other words, the issue of leadership to be one important factor in this effort. The extent to which leaders can respond and adapt to change and social problems that occur in the community is a challenge that must be faced by the university. Shapiro (2005: 7) stated, in a rapidly changing world, the social role and form of the university and its programs exist in an almost perpetual state of transition facing constant challenges of leadership and adaptability. Without the university leaders who dared to take the initiative to get involved in this issue, the impact of adolescent promiscuity remains will be "the rock" which is difficult to solve.

4. Conclusion

The rapid change of information technology raises complex social changes as well. Among its effects are changes in adolescent behavior, which tends to associate freely. This teen promiscuity, especially with regard to the issue of pre-marital sex, free sex

moreover, can negatively impact the lives of young people in the future.

University as an institution of higher education that educates adolescents, socially it should take responsibility on the issue. The involvement of this university can be done through activities in the classroom are curricular and non-curricular activities outside the classroom. However, such a role can only work if accompanied by adaptive leadership responsive to social change and all its associated impacts.

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