

Understanding the Experiences of Survivors of Sexual Violence Who Experience Silence

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ABSTRACT

This research was conducted to understand the experiences of survivors of sexual violence who experience silence. In addition, the purpose of this research is also to find out the forms of silence received by survivors of sexual violence who have tried to open up their experiences and understand the reasons that cause women's oppression in society. The research method used is a qualitative method with an interpretive phenomenological approach by Maurice-Marleu-Ponty with a critical paradigm. The theory used in this research is muted group theory from Cheri Kramarae and Alison Jaggar's analysis of radical feminism. The results found in this study are survivors of sexual violence, both those who have never and have ever spoken about their experiences, still experience silence in the form of intimidation and threats from perpetrators, victim blaming and ridicule, control or power relations or male domination, fear and anxiety about community stigma. Women are always put in the wrong position even though they have made efforts to speak to assistants and public forums.

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1. INTRODUCTION

Post-experiencing sexual violence is a difficult part for survivors to deal with. Not all survivors of sexual violence immediately have the courage to make the decision to share their experiences with others. In fact, so far cases of sexual violence have not received much response from society, because they are considered a personal and domestic problem (Oktaviani et al., 2020). If there are women who are victims of sexual violence it is considered as a trigger for the occurrence of such acts. This is known as victim blaming. The impact of victim blaming experienced by sexual violence survivors is feeling ashamed and

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considering their experience a disgrace, fear of seeking legal assistance, harboring trauma, future trauma, depression, and attempting suicide (Shopiani et al., 2021).

Those circles that are known for having multiple layers of power, both in the form of positional power and patriarchal power, make victims often helpless because they do not have the support to be able to resolve their cases. Victims can actually experience silencing or choose to silence themselves and not report to law enforcement agencies because the legal basis is not solid, there is no guarantee of protection for victims and the punishment given to the perpetrators is also disproportionate (Alpian, 2022).

The silent group theory states that women who have experienced sexual violence are members of a group whose experiences are not well supported by their language system (West & Turner, 2008). Cheris Kramarae (1981) observes that women are part of a minority group who do not have the ability to say what they want to say like men who have the freedom to say whatever they want, because so far the words and norms of their use have been formulated by male groups dominate (West & Turner, 2008). Kramarae (1981) (in (West & Turner, 2008)) built a theory of group silence to focus on communication and has the assumption that the silencing that occurs in women is caused by differences in meaning based on gender, male domination and women's translation process. There are three methods used by the patriarchal system to silence women, namely mocking, controlling, and harassment (West & Turner, 2008).

Radical feminism raises the issue of oppression and injustice experienced by women caused by aspects of culture that are dominated and controlled by men or patriarchy (Murniati, 2004). Male control over sexuality, reproductive life, self-identity, self-esteem, and women's self-esteem is the most fundamental of all the oppression that humans experience on each other. According to Alison Jaggar and Paula Rothenberg (Tong, 2009), there are five things about the oppression experienced by women, namely:

1. Women are historically the first oppressed group.
2. Oppression of women is the most widespread thing, present in almost every known society.
3. The oppression of women is the most difficult form of oppression to eradicate and cannot be eliminated by other social changes such as the abolition of social classes.
4. The oppression of women causes the greatest suffering for its victims qualitatively and quantitatively, although the suffering may often go unrecognized because of the sexist prejudices of the oppressors or the victims themselves.
5. The oppression of women provides a conceptual model for understanding all other forms of oppression.

This research refers to several previous studies that are related to this research, namely with the title "Gender, violence and cultures of silence: young women and paramilitary violence" written by Siobhan McAlister, Gail Neil, Nicola Carr and Clare Dwyerd in 2021. The main focus of this research is on the experiences of young women who experience violent conflict. By prioritizing the experiences of young women and adopting an

understanding of the violence they experience by exploring how they can experience violence. Furthermore, the research also adopts an intersectional lens in which prioritizing age and gender can bring out the unique experiences of young women, and the ways in which these are muted by cultures that eliminate, coerce, reduce, and minimize (McAlister et al., 2021) .

Then, research conducted by Welly Wirman, Genny Gustina Sari, Fitri Hardianti, Tegar Pangestu Roberto in 2021 with the title "Dimensions of self-concept of victims of cyber sexual harassment in Pekanbaru City." This study aims to determine the internal and external dimensions of self-concept and communication experiences of victims of cyber sexual harassment. This study uses a qualitative method with a phenomenological approach. The data analysis technique used is from Miles and Huberman. The results showed that the internal dimension of self-concept in adolescents is negative self-identity. Their behavior is pessimistic, has uncontrollable emotions, and gets negative ratings from their friends such as "exciting", "slut" and so on. Then the external dimension consisting of the physical, where adolescents feel their physical appearance can cause harassment, feel bad moral-ethical because they are not religious. In addition, from a personal perspective, they have anxiety, negative thoughts, and are skeptical of compliments. Pleasant communication experiences are obtained in the form of motivation, attention, and counseling, unpleasant communication experiences such as blaming each other, being ridiculed, being scolded by parents, and being considered exaggerated (Wirman et al., 2021).

The next research is research entitled Self-Disclosure of Women Survivors of Sexual Violence, written by Rini Oktaviani and Suzy Azeharie in 2020. The purpose of this research is to find out how self-disclosures are carried out by survivors of sexual violence to their companions and what are the reasons for survivors to open up. The theory used in this research is interpersonal communication, spiral of silence and self-disclosure. The results of this study. The results of this study indicate that expressing this experience really helps survivors not to bear the burden of their own problems. However, another finding is that when survivors of sexual violence reveal their experiences to their parents, the experiences of victims are ignored by their own mothers because the perpetrators are people who have blood ties. with survivors.

The research entitled Silencing Female Art Workers Victims of Sexual Violence on Social Media Muted Group Theory Study on Instagram Stories Uploads of Dangdut Singer Via Vallen (@viavallen) written by Nicky Stephani and Billy Sarwono in 2020. This research describes the silencing experienced by women who work in the arts who have been victims of sexual violence on social media. In addition, the research also identified what caused the silencing to occur through the group theory of silence. From the results of the research it was found that even though arts workers have access to voice on social media, survivors still experience silence. The silencing occurred because art workers were unable to articulate their experiences of sexual violence in front of the dominant group. This is because there is a patriarchal ideology that has taken root and has been systemized on social media so that it can

silence the expressions of women who are survivors of sexual violence (Stephani et al., 2020).

The latest research is research conducted by Fibrinika Tuta Setiani, Sri Handayani, and Warsiti Warsiti in 2017 with the title "Phenomenological Studies: Factors Influencing the Occurrence of Sexual Violence against Girls in Wonosobo District." This study aims to find out the description of what causes child sexual abuse in Wonosobo District. The method used is a qualitative approach with a descriptive phenomenological design. The results of the study found that several factors influence sexual violence in children, namely family, environmental, value and individual factors (Setiani et al., 2017).

In contrast to previous studies that used the phenomenological method and raised the theme of sexual violence, in this study the researcher will focus on how to understand the forms of communication that silence survivors of sexual violence. In addition, this research will focus on discussing women's silence using the group theory of silence from Cherris Kramarae and radical feminism analysis from Alison Jaggar. Therefore, the purpose of this study is to understand how the process of women being silenced and the forms of silence experienced by survivors of sexual violence and to find out the root of the obstacles that have made women oppressed as victims of sexual violence and afraid to speak up.

2. METHOD

The type of research used in this research is descriptive with a qualitative approach. This type of research aims to provide an overview of a problem, symptom, or social phenomenon so as to gain a new understanding of a situation. The paradigm used in this research is the critical paradigm, in which the critical paradigm has the belief that humans are faced with various socio-economic situations and conditions that can impact their lives, and place a person with other individuals, groups with one another who are in situations and different positions (Poerwandari, 2017).

This research method uses data from in-depth interviews, field observations, and through studies of existing literature or documents and then the results of the interviews will be analyzed using interpretive phenomenology. The data collected and interpreted comes from the results of in-depth interviews with survivors of sexual violence who have experience speaking out, but then are silenced for several reasons. In addition, the research design used in this study is through interpretive phenomenology initiated by Maurice Merleau-Ponty who believes that humans have the ability to create meaning in their world (Cosmas, 2007).

Qualitative research is socially constructed reality which is intended to highlight an experience and get its meaning (Denzin & Lincoln, 2009: 6). This research will describe the experiences of sexual violence survivors who have shared their experiences with others and what are the forms of obstacles silence survivors of sexual violence to speak out. The subjects in this study were survivors of sexual violence who had opened up their experiences to other parties and experienced silence.

This study consisted of 5 informants who were in various cities such as informant 1 NP (29 years) domiciled in Purwakarta, informant 2 Kindergarten (23 years) domiciled in Bandung, informant 3 (LN (23 years) domiciled in Kediri, informant 4 YM (19 years) domiciled in Semarang and informant 5 IM (27 years) lives in Jakarta. The primary data used is the result of in-depth interviews with informants. Then secondary data is obtained from books, journals, articles and documents that are still relevant to this research. The data collection technique that will be used by researchers is to conduct in-depth interviews with informants who have experience as survivors of sexual violence, namely women. To analyze data in research using the phenomenological method, this data analysis method is from Moustakas (1994), namely:

- a. The data that has been collected will be grouped according to sub-themes or problems.
- a. Reduction and elimination of data, that is, the researcher tested the data by means of epoche.
- b. Providing data themes that have started to show eidos.
- c. Identify data.
- d. Construct a textural description of each informant.
- e. Make data synthesis and answer research problems.

3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

From the results of in-depth interviews with the five informants, it shows that all informants who have experience as survivors of sexual violence experience silence when they want to speak up until they have voiced their experiences. The five informants had different openness processes to disclose their experiences of sexual violence.

Informant 1 named NP experienced sexual violence when he joined the Pencak Silat UKM on his campus in his third year of college. At that time NP was made unconscious by the perpetrators and then took him to his boarding room, where he was raped in turns. After this incident, NP took the initiative to visit the house of his lecturer who at that time was the supervisor of the UKM Pencak Silat which he attended. NP hopes that his confession will be defended by his lecturer. However, it turned out that NP was actually locked up in his lecturer's house along with other perpetrators. NP was forced to forget about the incident with the threat that the rape video would be shared by the perpetrators. Apart from that, NP was also persuaded to commit suicide by crashing himself into the railroad tracks.

“And some of the people made me lose consciousness like a grudge method. And an incident occurred in my boarding room. Turns out I was recorded. And I was threatened through the tape. Even when my family and I wanted to report to the police, I was locked in a room with them by the lecturer who protected them. To keep me silent.”

After successfully escaping from his lecturer's house, NP continued to receive terror from the perpetrators. These threats made NP afraid and canceled his intention to report to the police station. But finally NP dared to tell the incident to his girlfriend at the time. However, NP's honesty made him decide because he was considered worthless. She also faced the same thing when NP tried to tell her husband and family about her experience of sexual violence. But this actually makes NP labeled with various negative labels such as liars, braggarts, sluts, easy, and so on. Due to disappointment with

these responses, NP was reluctant to share his experience with anyone. Occasionally he tries to speak up on his social media, but he doesn't go into detail, because he doesn't want to be judged by his story.

Informant 2 named TK who was a victim of sexual violence by his stepfather. The victim was raped by her stepfather when she was in 5th grade. Apart from being raped, the perpetrator also limited TK's friendships by forbidding her from playing with her peers and not allowing her to own a cell phone until she graduated from high school. Many times TK intends to tell the incident to his guidance counselor at school, but this is always prevented by his father who always picks him up at school early. Apart from that, her stepfather also often physically abused her by hitting, punching, slapping and even holding a knife to intimidate TK not to report his treatment to her.

"Why did I stay silent during the incident and didn't tell anyone? Because the perpetrator always threatened to kill me and my family, I felt afraid and chose him. If anyone asks me why I didn't fight back when the perpetrator was carrying out his actions, because he always tortured me and held a knife to my neck, which made me feel threatened and afraid to fight back, I was often slammed, punched and slapped."

Despite living out of town while in college, his stepfather kept tabs on him and attempted to sexually assault him online. However, one day TK started to feel annoyed and finally decided to report the incident to state agencies. TK then reported the incident of sexual violence to Komnas Perempuan Yogyakarta. However, the report cannot be processed further because of the reporting procedure, the victim must be accompanied by witnesses. At that time, none of his family wanted to accompany the Kindergarten, because they thought that what had happened to the Kindergarten was a family disgrace. It didn't stop there, TK finally reported the incident to the police station, namely the Sewon Police, Bantul, Yogyakarta. Unfortunately, he experienced disappointment again, because the report could not be processed because the rape incident did not occur in the jurisdiction of the Sewon Police. Not getting any solution, TK instead gets unpleasant treatment from a police officer who keeps calling him to be invited to accompany him for dinner. In short, TK finally succeeded in putting his stepfather in prison. Even so, TK often received threats from the perpetrator's family who urged him to withdraw the report. TK also received negative labels from his followers when he tried to speak up on social media, such as sluts, easy women, bispak (can use), prostitutes, and others.

Informant 3 named LN who experienced sexual harassment by his own neighbor. LN first experienced harassment when he was still in elementary school. At that time LN hitched a ride watching television at his neighbour's house. Due to the quiet situation, suddenly LN was kissed by his neighbor. After the incident LN felt uncomfortable, however, on the one hand he felt confused and suspected that the kiss was a kiss of parental affection for the child. Several years later, when he was in high school, the incident repeated itself again when his neighbor was playing at his house and no one was there. That time LN was kissed again when his mother was in the kitchen. LN did not put up a fight because his body's reaction when he was subjected to harassment was so frozen. After LN entered college, the incident repeated itself again, this time when LN was behind his house and by chance his neighbor passed by and kissed him. LN harbored his frustration and trauma alone. Because he was confused about who to tell. He thought about the condition of his mother who was old and sickly. In the end, she decided to tell her siblings and several friends who had experienced the same harassment as herself. But they remained silent because they felt they did not have any evidence. LN chose to write about her experiences on the Women's Stories social media account to share stories and express her emotions because she was powerless to report perpetrators.

Informant 4 named YM who was a survivor of sexual harassment who was harassed by her own teacher when she was in grade 9 of junior high school. At that time, YM was close to his teacher. He felt his teacher was friendly and close to other students. At that time YM had been warned by her friends not to get too close to her teacher, because her teacher often sexually harassed girls at the school by holding their breasts. However, YM did not believe it and thought that the story was not true, because she felt her teacher was very kind to her. But one day, her teacher touched her breasts, at that time she was silent and still had a good feeling that her teacher had accidentally touched her. Then the next day the teacher did it again to him. Because YM did not accept that he fought back against his teacher by reprimanding him. However, his teacher even threatened him that if he dared to report the incident to other teachers, the grades of his classmates would all be bad.

"Until finally he dared to hold my breasts and hug me. If I don't want the grades in one class, I will be given bad grades. To be honest, it's an unnatural choice, because the problem is with me, but I'm brought in one class. Every lesson he feels like I'm always afraid." sis, because every time I go home I'm not allowed to go home.. finally there is one student who realizes that he was a victim before me and there were many other victims."

Because he was threatened by his teacher, he was helpless and only told his friends who had experienced abuse by his teacher. Even so, the girls who were abused did not even dare to report the story to their families because they were afraid. After college, YM decided to tell his family and girlfriend. However, the family's response actually blamed YM for not immediately reporting the incident to the teacher and family. In fact, YM was accused by her lover of not wanting to put up a fight because she enjoyed the harassment. "Why don't you fight back and just stay silent, don't you want it," said YM's boyfriend. YM's openness to her family and lover instead made YM blamed and was even accused of enjoying the harassment, eventually a YM persona was formed which became increasingly closed and did not want to tell anything According to him, his openness did not get him support and solutions, but made him even more depressed and depressed.

Informant 5 named IM who experienced two incidents of street harassment at different locations. The first sexual harassment occurred when he returned from his campus. Suddenly there was a man on a motorbike who was trying to touch her breasts from behind. However, because IM's chest was covered with the books he was holding, the breast robbers only touched IM's hands. The second harassment, when IM was already at work and was about to go to his office by taking the TransJakarta bus. On the bus, IM stood and behind him was a man who brought his body close to IM's body. The man rubbed his body on IM's buttocks and whispered seductive words. "The culprit is whispering like this too "a little more huh" something like that while continuing the flirting," said IM. After two incidents of street sexual harassment that he experienced at different times, IM always spoke up on social media.

Forms of Silence Accepted by Survivors of Sexual Violence

All informants experienced inner turmoil to finally have the courage to open up to their companions, namely parents, family, friends, girlfriends, and related institutions. But unfortunately, after disclosing themselves to others, the survivors actually experience victim blaming from the people around them which causes them to remain silent (Oktaviani et al., 2020). Victim-blaming itself is part of a form of communication as an effort to silence women's voices. Following are some forms of silencing experienced by informants as survivors of sexual violence as follows:

1. Threats or intimidation from perpetrators

Of the five informants, there were three informants who experienced silence in the form of threats or intimidation from the perpetrators. Informant 1 who experienced intimidation in the form of terror threats of her rape video would be spread on the internet, after she tried to seek help at her lecturer's house but instead was held captive with the perpetrators. Informant 1 NP was also persuaded to commit suicide to solve the rape problem. In addition, for years the perpetrators continued to give death threats to him and his family if they dared to report the rape to the police station. This caused informant 1 NP to experience depression and had to be treated in a mental hospital. Informant 2 Kindergarten who was a victim of rape since childhood by her stepfather. Often informants 2 Kindergarten received intimidation in the form of physical violence from the perpetrators and death threats. These threats are used by perpetrators to control victims so they don't report them to those closest to them. It was the same with the YM 4 informant who received threats from the perpetrators. YM 4 informant is a survivor of sexual violence who experienced this incident when she was in grade 4 of junior high school. The victim received harassment from her teacher by touching her breasts. YM 4 informant received intimidation in the form of threats that one class would get a bad grade if the victim dared to reveal the incident.

2. Control/power relations/male domination

Informant 1 NP finally chose not to report the perpetrators because the perpetrators were protected by lecturers who were also perpetrators of sexual harassment. Other lecturers do not want to interfere or investigate cases of sexual violence that befell female students because the lecturer has the power and network to protect them from all of these accusations. Then, the life of informant 2 Kindergarten was controlled by the perpetrator who was his own stepfather. The perpetrator forbade the victim to interact with his school friends. The perpetrator even forbade him to have a cell phone to prevent the victim from having friends. The position of the perpetrator as a stepfather who has the power to control the victim makes informant 2 TK have no choice but to obey the perpetrator's orders. YM 4 informant also chose to remain silent and did not report the incident to other teachers because the perpetrator's position was as the teacher. The existence of differences in power positions made the victims finally choose to remain silent rather than speak out.

Victim Blaming and Ridicule

Victim-blaming is a part of the culture of rape or rape culture, where it is an act of blaming and assuming that sexual harassment and violence occurs because of the behavior of the victim as the trigger (Ihsani, 2021). Both informants 1, 2, 4, and 5 experienced victim blaming from the people around them. Informant 1 NP became a victim of victim blaming from a former lover, ex-husband, ex-in-law, to her husband and sister-in-law who blamed the victim for triggering the sexual violence. The truth of the story shared by informant 1 on social media is always questioned by netizens who read the story. Even her own husband considered the story of informant 1 NP to be a fabrication and mere fantasy. Informant 2 Kindergarten also received the same treatment, namely when informant 2 Kindergarten began to dare to share her experiences through her social media, she received ridicule and gossip from her followers, namely being labeled as a "naughty" woman, an easy woman, a prostitute, and so on. This also happened to informants 4 and 5 who were victims of victim blaming from their own families. Informants 4 and 5 had tried to open up to their families and friends, but instead they were blamed and dismissed for not making any efforts to fight back during the harassment incident. Victims are also blamed for not immediately reporting the perpetrator immediately after the incident.

4. Confined in own fear and anxiety

Informant 3 LN took a long time to finally have the courage to open up to his friends and siblings because he felt that what he was experiencing was a disgrace that had to be kept secret. Informant 3 LN had anxiety and fear of being judged by people who heard his story because he didn't put up a fight against the perpetrator when he kissed him. This made informant 3 LN choose to only tell stories to people who he believed would not judge him and uploaded his experiences through the women's empowerment platform without including his real identity. Informant 3 did not dare to report the incident immediately after the incident because the victim lived through her trauma and felt she had no evidence to report the incident.

5. Weak legal system

The lack of swiftness of state institutions authorized to handle cases of sexual violence is one of the factors causing the silence. This was felt by informants from 2 Kindergartens who had tried to report the incident to Komnas Perempuan, but experienced problems the victim had to persuade her mother to act as a witness. Because the mother of informant 2 TK refused to be a witness, the case was not continued without any solution. Then the informant took the initiative to report the incident to the police at the Sewon Police, Bantul Yogyakarta. However, the informant's report could not be continued because the incident of sexual harassment did not occur within the jurisdiction of the Sewon Police. Even though the report could not be forwarded, informant 2 TK instead received uncomfortable treatment from police officers who kept contacting him privately.

The Patriarchal System Causes Women's Silence

As stated in the theory of silence groups, several factors that made the five informants as survivors of sexual violence were silenced due to a social understanding of who has power and who does not have power (West & Turner, 2008). As experienced by informants 1 and 2 who experienced problems in reporting the rape incident to the police because of the power relationship between the perpetrator and the victim. When informants 1 and 2 had the courage to fight back by daring to speak up and report the rape case, these two informants instead received threats from the perpetrators. The forms of silence experienced by survivors of sexual violence such as being threatened, intimidated by perpetrators, controlled by perpetrators, a weak legal system, victim blaming and fear of social stigma are the results of a patriarchal system that is deeply rooted in people's lives. Interestingly, the silencing persists even though survivors of sexual violence have the power to reveal themselves. In radical feminism, believes that women are oppressed by men as a result of a patriarchal system that controls all aspects of life. The patriarchal system is a domination that is owned by men, the power relations of men over women or a system that makes women dominated by men in many ways (Bhasin, 1996). The patriarchal system also legitimizes the giving of stigma and negative labels to victims of sexual violence by accusing the victim of being the trigger for the sexual violence (Khotimah et al., 2019). Rape is different from other criminal cases in that rape cases make the victim the wrong party or the trigger for the crime (Kusumah, 2017). This is as a result of the enactment of a culture of rape (rape culture). Rape culture is where it is normal for women to be raped (Restikawasti et al., 2019). Rape culture makes women's bodies as sexual objects, so this creates misogynistic concepts and does not provide protection to women as survivors of sexual violence (Rabbaniyah et al., 2022). The culture of rape is usually perpetuated by the media and popular culture. Practically, the mass media has participated in perpetuating and strengthening gender inequality against women in public life through reporting that presents ideas about patriarchy and raises news from the wrong gender perspective (Widiyaningrum et al., 2021)

Victim-blaming is part of the culture of rape, where the victim is often blamed for triggering acts of sexual violence (Ihsani, 2021). Violence and sexual harassment are rife and where victim blaming is also often carried out on victims, is able to influence other people to do the same to others as well (Ihsani, 2021). The imbalance in power relations between those who have power also has the potential to use their authority and power to commit sexual violence against those who have a weak position or are under their control (Nikmatullah, 2020). From the moment they are born, men and women are treated and socialized in different ways. In this process, gender roles will be constructed. So that gender roles will affect a person's behavior and beliefs in himself and also in others.

There are several reasons why survivors of violence do not report to legal institutions or the people around them, namely some of them are because they are worried that their statements will not be trusted, fear of being intimidated by the perpetrators, shame, being pressured by other parties not to tell anyone, having distrust of enforcement agencies the law, feeling they have no evidence, there is a desire to protect the perpetrator, feeling the incident is a disgrace, and fear of being blamed or experiencing victim blaming (Anisa et al., 2020). As happened to informants 1,2,4 and 5 who experienced victim-blaming from those closest to them such as parents, friends, boyfriends, husbands and followers on social media. The risks of experiencing victim-blaming ultimately made informant 3 choose to be careful in disclosing his experiences and this made survivors afraid to report sexual violence that happened to them because they had concerns about stigma from society and the case was being looked down upon or ignored by the authorities. (Shopiani et al., 2021). However, when survivors took the initiative to speak out about the sexual violence they experienced, they received threats and intimidation as an effort to silence them. In the end, whatever women do and wherever they are, women will always be under the domination of men and are considered inferior creatures (Ihsani, 2021). These conditions make whatever decision women make whether to speak up or not, they will always be blamed.

The silent group theory states that women are part of a group whose experiences are not supported by their language system (West & Turner, 2008). So far, female survivors of sexual violence have had difficulty describing their own experiences because apart from not having the same freedom of speech as men, the use of terms in the language prevailing in society is the product of male thinking. As a result, when women start to tell their experiences in their own language, the people who hear them cannot understand their position. This was experienced by the four informants who had the courage to tell about their experiences, but instead they were blamed for not immediately reporting to the authorities or putting up resistance to the perpetrators.

Then, what society doesn't understand about women who don't put up a fight when they experience sexual violence is that victims experience tonic immobility. Tonic immobility is defined as a reaction or response to a traumatic event, in which a person is unable to move, including decreased vocal capacity (TeBockhorst et al., 2015). Tonic immobility is often experienced by survivors of sexual violence when subjected to danger, threats or restraint. The absence of a response from survivors when experiencing sexual violence is a sign of danger which then has an impact on the sudden paralysis of the victim's biological response (TeBockhorst et al., 2015).

The silence of women can be explained by psychological and biological reasons, however, society seems to underestimate this and continues to give negative labels which are alleged to be women survivors of sexual violence because they did not put up a fight against the perpetrators during the violence. This is due to gender differences in the perspective of society. Brownmiller (2013) says that violence is the basis of men's control over women (Stephani et al., 2020). Male control is not only

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exercised over a few women, but also over all women through the dissemination of "fear". Walby (2013) explains the idea of patriarchy that uses normative violence to threaten and terrorize women. Violence in a normative form is the existence of a social label that gives the title of good women and bad women.

Marilyn French claimed that men's oppression of women logically leads to another system of human domination (Tong, 2009). This means that there is no place for women to explain the limitations they face (Stephani et al., 2020). Because people are used to using the mindset and point of view of men. Due to obstacles in conveying terms in language, informant 3 chose to remain silent. This was because informant 3 did not know how to express his reaction, who remained silent when he received the sexual violence attack. This condition is of course very detrimental to women, aside from the silence that makes women's position difficult to understand, this also makes the communication system controlled by a patriarchal culture. This will have an impact on other survivors of sexual violence who try to speak up, but are silenced again due to patriarchal domination that controls the communication system. In fact, women have been able to equalize themselves in position and degree with men in various fields. But in reality, until now women are still in the position of being oppressed and have not received their rights to protection and security (Umniyah, 2021).

4. CONCLUSION

The experience of violence and sexual harassment experienced by women survivors is the result of a patriarchal cultural system. From the results of interviews with informants that the five informants experienced the process of silencing. Silencing still occurs to women even though they have the courage to reveal their traumatic experiences. The forms of silencing experienced by survivors include threats/intimidation from perpetrators, control/power relations/dominance of men as perpetrators, victim blaming, and victims' anxiety and fear of societal stigma which makes their self-esteem low. The sufferings of survivors of sexual violence to the point of causing silence even though survivors have made efforts to voice their experiences are the effects of a culture of rape (rape culture) which is also part of a patriarchal system that makes it normal for violence and harassment to occur to women. This makes the community not care about and sympathize with the victims, instead it adds to the suffering of the survivors by blaming and giving all kinds of negative social labels. This experience of violence and sexual harassment and being silenced by the patriarchal system is a humanitarian crisis because it causes suffering to women who are not treated equally and fairly by society. After seeing what are the obstacles faced by survivors of sexual violence who voice their experiences in obtaining justice, the suggestion that can be given by researchers is to provide assertive training to victims of sexual violence by authorized institutions. Assertive training is a way to communicate what victims of violence want to say and think while still respecting the decisions and feelings of others (Noviani et al., 2018). That way survivors of sexual violence will have the courage to report and get justice. Apart from that, it is also the role of the government to actually implement the TPKS Law No. 12 of 2022 concerning government efforts to eliminate sexual violence. The government also needs to create a safe and comfortable space by maximizing the service facilities of institutions engaged in advocating for women victims of violence and abuse. In addition, the mass media

also has an important role in socializing gender equality by producing content that does not perpetuate patriarchal values and rape culture. The researcher is also aware of the limitations of the discussion in this study, so the researcher recommends further research to discuss matters that have not been discussed in this study.

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