

## Factors Causing Early Marriage Of Women In Hinterland Community In Batam City

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### ARTICLE INFO

**Keywords:**  
*Causative Factors,  
Early Marriage,  
Women.*

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### ABSTRACT

Marriage is something to look forward to in human life because through a marriage can form a family that will be continued by having children. The number of cases of early marriage in Indonesia reaches 50 million people with an average marriage age of 19.1 years. The approach used in this study is the f quality approach. This study aims to decrypt the factors causing the rise of early marriage in the Hinterland community. The study involved three married female informants at an early age. The interviews the researchers conducted were four times. The results of this study found factors that cause early marriage of women in hinterland communities, namely low levels of economy, culture, level of education. The results of this research are expected to be used for health workers as educators and counselors as education to the community along with indigenous leaders about reproductive health in women and the impact of early marriage

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### 1. INTRODUCTION

Through a marriage can be formed a family that will be continued by having children. Need careful preparation in entering the marriage stage. Not only material and physical preparation but also mental preparation. In connection with this, there is a minimum age limit for a person to hold a marriage has been regulated in the Marriage Law of 1974 chapter II article 7 paragraph 1. In the article, it is explained that marriage is only permitted if the man reaches the age of 19 years and the woman has reached the age of 16 years. The rest of the marriages performed below this minimum limit are called early marriages.[1] Based on 2020 data, two regions actually increased cases of early marriage, namely Lingga Regency and Natuna Regency. At the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, the two districts did not have the status of infected areas. Now all regencies/cities in Kepri have recorded COVID-19 cases. Still based on the same data, the number of teenage girls dominates early marriage brides in Kepri. Batam was recorded the highest. The Kepri Provincial Government through the Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Control and Family Planning (DP3AP2KB) continues to twist its mind in response to this condition. [2]

Batam City recorded the highest number of early marriages, although it dropped significantly during the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020. However, compared to other regencies/cities in Kepri, cases of early marriage in Batam are still the highest. Anambas district recorded the lowest early marriage in Bumi Segantang Lada. In 2020, during the COVID-19 pandemic, cases of early marriage in Batam dropped by almost 50 percent compared to 2019. From 299 to 110 early marriages.

However, it is not yet known whether the decline due to the COVID-19 pandemic, although if you refer to data in other districts / cities the pandemic does not stop the intention to marry at a young age though. Young marriages that occur in society have become a habit or tradition that is difficult to leave. If girls are not married off immediately, they will become spinsters and will not sell. This encourages most parents in the village to marry off their daughters at a relatively young age. Handling marriage at a young age has actually been carried out by the government for a long time, one of which is through restrictions on the age of marriage. Just like the culture or tradition of marrying young is considered as family self-esteem and a woman's family will fall in self-esteem if she marries her daughter at an old age so that she is afraid of not having a partner. As revealed by HN who got married at a young age.

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*"...Saye dulu kawen di usie 14 tahun mbak, saye kawen kire-kire sudah saye lulus SD. Orang tue saye masokkan saye ke pondok pesantren setahon sesudah Mondok, saye dijodohkan same orang tue saye dan saye Kawen lah sekarang saye punye anak mbak. Sebenarnya saye ade niat nak sambong sekolah tapi orang tue saye surih saye untok kawen. Duet juge takde untok sekolah apelagi bapak saye dulu tak sekolah mbak ..."(HN, 19th)*

From HN's statement above, it can be seen that HN's parents still cling to the beliefs of their ancestors. The cohesiveness of parents in making the decision to marry their daughters gave birth to a decision that caused girls on Nguan Island to be unable to choose. Cost constraints are also the cause of HN being unable to continue his education. In addition, HN also stated that his parents did not go to school in the past. Most parents on Nguan Island make unilateral decisions. They do not consult with their daughters about who their future husbands are, they consider that children are the rights of parents so parents decide with whom their children should be married. The same thing was also revealed by the parents of HN, HW, 44 years old about the reason for marrying HN at a relatively young age.

*"...Saye kawen bukan karne ape-ape mbak. Anak saye dah perawan dah besar dah saye luloskan juge die di pesantren. Nak nunggu ape lagilah kalau tak saye kawenkan. Kalau kawen lah tue mane laku mbak. Mcam tak tau je mbak didese ni mcam mane. Dah tu saye pon tak punye duet nak nyambong sekolah SMP yang sekarang baya de mahal apelagi jaoh. Jadi saye kawen je... (HW, 44th)*

From the statement above, it can be known the reason parents marry their children at a young age. They fear that their children will become spinsters if they are not married off immediately. The reason for the cost is also the reason they cannot send their daughters to school. It is also possible that marriage occurs due to coercion from parents. Early marriage for women is very high risk because at that time their reproductive health has not been fertilized, besides that their psychology will also have an impact on newborn care and parenting. [3] Related to the above background, researchers are interested in understanding the factors that cause early age in women in hinterland communities

## 2. METHOD

This research is included in the type of qualitative descriptive research. Qualitative descriptive research is a research approach that reveals a particular social situation by describing reality correctly, formed by words based on relevant data collection and analysis techniques obtained from natural situations.[4] The focus of this study is to determine the factors that cause early marriage in the Hinterland community including:

1. Economic factors
2. Education factors
3. Factors Culture and Habit

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The study involved three married female informants at an early age. In accordance with the purpose of the study, all informants were married at an early age. Before conducting the study, researchers saw that early marriage in the Hinterland community was increasingly widespread even though community service had been carried out by researchers, namely counseling about the impact of early marriage reproductive health, but early marriage was still found in the Hinterland community. So the researchers decided to look for married mothers with early marriage to find the cause of choosing marriage at an early age. Initially, researchers found 5 mothers who were early in age when married, but due to several obstacles, researchers then narrowed the research informants to three people, namely Ika Wati, Rahmadani, and Ningrum Setiawati. The following is an explanation of the course of research that researchers conducted.

### 1. Informer 1

Researchers obtained information about Ikawati from village officials, namely RT packs. After getting Ikawati's contact, the researcher then sent a short message containing the purpose and purpose. After the researcher confirmed that Ika was included in the informant category, the researcher then sent an email to Ika. The email contained introductory questions about the informant's identity and experience as a housewife who married at an early age. Based on the chat, Ika met the criteria as a

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research informant, including housewives who married at an early age willing to become research informants.

Based on the chat reply sent by Ika, the researcher then compiled several questions to complete the research data. In addition to communicating through short messages, researchers also visited Ika's place of residence, namely on the island of Nguan. At the informant's residence, researchers had talked a lot about informants' knowledge about the impact of reproductive health on early marriage. Researchers conducted semi-structured interviews with a duration of one and a half hours. Researchers communicate more face-to-face and through short messages. As a housewife who is still young must take care of children. In addition to extracting data through interviews, researchers also made observations that were carried out simultaneously when conducting the second interview. [5]When making observations, researchers pay attention to the way the informant speaks, the informant's knowledge about the impact of reproductive health, about the care of newborns. On the occasion of the third interview, the researcher asked about the process that Ika went through so that she decided to get married at an early age. Ika admitted that customs consider that a fast marriage is a good thing because it is still stigmatized to marry for a long time or not sold or called an old virgin. And by marrying at an early age all needs are already borne by the husband. The interview process that the researchers conducted was each carried out on December 24, 2021.

### 1. Informer II

The introduction of researchers to informant Rahmadani was bridged by village officials, namely the head of RT. The woman who is familiarly called Dani has married at the age of 16 years and elementary school level. So Dani meets the criteria as an informant for this research. Some approaches that researchers try to do is to communicate with Dani through short messages.

Data mining that researchers conducted on Dani's informants through interviews, observations, and documentation. Researchers conducted interviews four times with the first interview conducted via chat containing introductory questions about informants. After the informant replied to the chat, then the researcher conducted a second interview at the house of Mr. RT. On this occasion, researchers asked many things about informants' experiences in marriage at an early age. The duration of the interview conducted occurred for one and a half hours. Documentation in the form of pictures when researchers conduct interviews with informants is also data in this study. Researchers made concurrent observations during the second interview.

The researcher then conducted a third interview which aimed to find out more about the identity of informants, educational history, the impact of early childhood. The four researchers interviewed to find data on the process Dani went through when deciding to marry at an early age. This is done by researchers to get answers to the formulation of the problem in this study. The informant told the experience of why Dani decided to marry at this early age because he did not have the cost of school because he was the first child. And based on the custom that long married has the stigma of spinsters. The researchers interviewed on December 24, 2021.

### 3. Informan III

Researchers knew and obtained information about Ningrum from informant Dani (second informant). Women who marry at the age of 14. And now 16 years old is pregnant with her second child. Dani's experience when she married at the age of 14 said she was often emotionally unawake, and had difficulty taking care of children. Dani said that he decided to get married at an early age because of family economic factors that could not go to school, rather than not just staying at home, there were those who proposed immediately accepted, because if you get married for a long time, you will become an old virgin. Ningrum also does not know the impact of marrying at an early age because seeing parents marrying at an early age is fine, and this has been passed down for generations.

### Findings:

#### 1. Early marriage

Along with the development of the current era, where knowledge is easily accessible through the internet, but still found early marriage in women, When deciding to marry at an early age, the reasons

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for each informant are not too different from one another. This was revealed when researchers asked "Why choose to marry at such a young age?", *Ika replied that iye kami menikah usia mude ini budaya kami kan bu,perempaun harus menikah cepat menghindari perawan tue*" orangtua tak mampu menyekolahkan kami, *apelagi nak difikirkan jadi milih menikah lagi bu. Tak tau ape dampaknya kite kan cm tamatan SMP, tpi lihat dari orangtue kite dulu tak ape menikah mude* (Interview with Ika , November 24, 2021).

Ika admitted, that marrying young still has emotional unstable, and does not know much about the care of newborns.

The second informant, Dani, reasoned that each informant was not too different from one another. This was revealed when researchers asked "Why choose to marry at such a young age?", *Dani ingin sekolah tapi orangtua tak mampu menyekolahkan kami, apelagi nak difikirkan jadi milih menikah lagi bu. Tak tau ape dampaknya kite kan cuma tamatan SD, tpi lihat dari orangtue kite dulu tak ape menikah mude* (Wawancara dengan Dani , 24 November 2021).

Ningrum, the third informant the reason each informant is not too different from one another. This was revealed when researchers asked "Why choose to marry at a young age?", *it is our culture mom*" (Interview with Ningrum, November 24, 2021).

## 2. Culture

The behavior and thought patterns of the hinterland people of Nguan Island who live in social groups learn, create and share. Culture distinguishes one group of people from another. Culture has 2 elements, namely customs and traditions.[5] The idea that a woman who does not marry soon will become a spinster and not sell became the mindset of the Hinterland community which is still developing and making it a normal habit or tradition in the Nguan Island community.[6]

Culture is a guide for society in carrying out actions, in Hinterland society women are not required to go to school, still stigmatized women who have been married for a long time tend to be old women according to what the informant said. The three infomen have the same reason when asked about early marriage.

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Ningrum, the third informant the reason each informant is not too different from one another. This was revealed when researchers asked "Why choose to marry at such a young age?", *sudah budaya kami bu*" (Interview with Ningrum , November 24, 2021).

## 3. Low level of education

A situation in which a human being or individual does not gain sufficient knowledge about the conscious and planned effort of a science. The level of education of the Hinterland community of Nguan Island, the majority of whom are only elementary school graduates, is not enough to support public knowledge about science, especially about the Marriage Law. [7]

The Hinterland community is an island community, which has minimal information, difficult internet networks, so information through the media is very rarely obtained. Women's hinterland society does not require education.

This was revealed when the researcher asked "Why choose to marry at such a young age?", Ika replied that *iye kami menikah usia mude ini budaya kami kan bu,perempuan harus menikah cepat*

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*menghindari perawan tue, orangtua tak mampu menyekolahkan kami, apalagi nak difikirkan jadi milih menikah lagi bu. Tak tau ape dampaknya kite kan cm tamatan SMP, tpi lihat dari orangtue kite dulu tak ape menikah mude* (Interview with Ika , November 24, 2021).

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Ningrum, informan ketiga alasan masing-masing informan tidak terlalu berbeda satu dengan yang lainnya. Hal ini terungkap ketika peneliti bertanya "Mengapa memilih menikah di usia muda?", *sudah budaya kami bu*" (Wawancara dengan Ningrum, 24 November 2021).

#### 4. Low economic level

A situation that occurs in the Hinterland community of Nguan Island which is unable to meet basic needs and other supporting needs.

The Hinterland community is a fisherman income community. If the wind is strong, it is delayed to make a living, so the yield depends on the weather.

This was revealed when the researcher asked "Why choose to marry at such a young age?", Ika replied *that iye kami menikah usia mude ini budaya kami kan bu,perempaun harus menikah cepat menghindari perawan tue*" *orangtua tak mampu menyekolahkan kami, apalagi nak difikirkan jadi milih menikah lagi bu. Tak tau ape dampaknya kite kan cm tamatan SMP, tpi lihat dari orangtue kite dulu tak ape menikah mude* (Interview with Ika , November 24, 2021).

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## DISCUSSION

Based on the findings of researchers in the field, researchers see that the phenomenon of marrying at a young age is common. Factors that cause early marriage in women in the hinterland community are culture, education level and economic level As stated by Ningrum, "Dani wanted to go to school but her parents couldn't afford to send us to school, but she thought about choosing to remarry, mom. Don't know ape the impact of kite is only an elementary school graduate, but see from the people who kite used to not ape marry mude. Early marriage in the study was a marriage that occurred in the age range of 14-16 years old women on Nguan Island and did not follow existing laws and regulations regarding the rules and age limit for marriage. Getting married at this young age takes place a lot on Guan Island. The culture in this study is the pattern of behavior and thinking of the Hinterland people of Nguan Island who live in social groups of learning, creating and sharing. Culture distinguishes one group of people from another. [8]Culture has 2 elements, namely customs and traditions. The idea that a woman who does not marry soon will become a spinster and not sell became the mindset of the Hinterland community which is still developing and making it a normal habit or tradition in the Nguan Island community.

The low level of education in this study is a condition where humans or individuals do not get enough knowledge about conscious and planned efforts about a science. The level of education of the

Hinterland community of Nguan Island, the majority of whom are only elementary school graduates, is not enough to support public knowledge about science, especially about the Marriage Law.

The low economic level in this study is a condition that occurs in the Hinterland community of Nguan Island which is unable to meet basic needs and other supporting needs

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Economic factors The number of early marriages that occur in the Hinterland community is caused by several factors including the following: economic factors, educational factors, and customs factors. Where the economic situation is insufficient so that parents marry their children at an early age to reduce the burden on parents, because the condition of families with low economy / less able to meet family needs so that the only way they do is by marrying off underage children. With the hope that when his son gets married will help meet the needs of his family. Parents and children do not think about the impact that will be caused when underage marriage has a bad impact. **Factors Low education** and knowledge of parents, children and society cause a tendency to marry underage children. The education of parents who only graduated from elementary school and many even did not attend school caused them parents not to understand the many adverse effects of early marriage, they did not know the existence of laws governing the age of someone who would marry. Parents also do not give much importance to the education of their children, they do not want to send their children to higher education, they do not know that education is important in life. **3. Factors of customs or habits** in Hinterland society if a family has a daughter who does not have a parental companion feel embarrassed, anxious, and anxious. Parents also find a companion for their children, even though the child does not necessarily agree to it. Sometimes not a few people or neighbors will gossip about the situation of the family if they do not find a partner for their daughters for too long. Parents feel embarrassed, anxious about the condition. In addition, their mindset parents still assume that if a girl is too long alone or single, she becomes an old virgin and difficult to find a mate. This research is expected to be used for health workers as educators and counselors as education to the community along with indigenous leaders about reproductive health in women and the impact of early marriage

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