

## FACTORS CAUSING EARLY MARRIAGE FROM SOCIOCULTURAL VIEW IN THE WORKING AREA OF KETAPANG HEALTH CENTER OF SOUTH SUNGKAI REGENCY, NORTH LAMPUNG DISTRICT IN 2023

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### ABSTRACT

*Early marriage is still a global problem, around 21% of women in the world get married early, in Indonesia there are 1.2 million early marriages every year. Lampung Province data for 2022, the percentage of early marriage for women is 4.57%, while North Lampung Regency is 9.62%. Early marriage data in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center in 2021 reached 17.6% and increased in 2022 to 25.2%. Early marriage will have a negative impact both physically and psychologically. One of the causes of early marriage is sociocultural. The purpose of this research is to know the factors that cause early marriage in terms of socio-culture. This type of research is quantitative and case control research design. The population in this study were all married women in the working area of the Ketapang Health Center, with a sample of 72 people, using proportional random sampling. Statistical test using the chi-square test. The statistical test results showed that the variable ethnicity with p-value = 0.074, age group p-value = 0.000, school time p-value = 0.000, length of education p-value = 0.004, and last year's activities p-value = 0.000. The results showed that factors related to early marriage included age group, school time, length of education, and last year's activities. Meanwhile, there is no relationship between ethnicity and early marriage. It is hoped that health workers can increase health education to adolescents in schools regarding reproductive health and also the impact of early marriage.*

**Keywords:** Early Marriage, Socio-Cultural, Youth

### INTRODUCTION

Improving the quality of life of a nation is determined by the quality of the productive young generation. There are many challenges that must be faced by adolescents as the younger generation, including adolescent reproductive health problems, and incidents of violence against women as a result of early marriage which until now is still a predisposition to health problems in Indonesia, especially maternal and

child health. UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) states that early marriage is a serious violation of the right of every child to reach their potential, therefore in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), UNICEF sets a target to eliminate the practice of early marriage by 2030 (Losu, Pesak, Bongakeraeng, Momongan, & Pratiwi, 2021).

The high practice of early

marriage has become a global issue and a challenge in realizing the SDGs targets going forward. UNICEF in 2018 said that around 21% of women in the world get married at an early age, where there are still approximately 650 million teenagers who get married at the age of less than 18 years. The largest number are in South Asian countries followed by Sub-Saharan Africa (BPS, 2020).

Indonesia is ranked 7th out of 10 countries with the highest number of early marriages in the world, and is ranked 2nd in ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) after Cambodia. Early marriage data based on the National Socioeconomic Survey (SUSENAS) by the Central Statistics Agency (BPS) in 2018 states that the number of early marriages in Indonesia is quite high, reaching 1.2 million events. When compared with the total number of marriages in Indonesia, women who were married before the age of 18 were 11.2 % , while men were 1.06% (Nurhanisah, dkk, 2020).

Based on data from BPS Lampung Province in 2022, the percentage of couples who were married before the age of 18 was 2.44%, while men who married before the age of 18 were 0.5% and women were 4.57%. If seen from the Regency/City data in Lampung Province, North Lampung Regency is in the top rank of the 15 regencies with the percentage of couples who married before the age of 18 5.30%, while men married before the age of 18 was 1.27% and women of 9.62% (BPS, 2022).

The high rate of early marriage can have a negative impact on early marriage actors both physically and psychologically. Physically, the readiness of the reproductive organs of adolescents is not maximized in preparing for pregnancy and childbirth so that the risk of experiencing complications of

pregnancy and childbirth is higher, which can ultimately have an impact on the risk of death for mothers and babies. Psychologically, adolescents are still not able to assume responsibility for others, especially in terms of becoming parents, so they are at risk of causing conflicts in the household. From a health point of view, women who are married and have sexual intercourse at the age of <20 years are at risk of experiencing cervical cancer, where in their teens cervical cells are not yet mature. In addition, sexual relations at this age will increase the risk of exposure to the Human Papilloma Virus (HPV) which causes cervical cancer. Early marriage also stops opportunities to gain higher education, which results in difficulties in getting a job making it difficult to achieve a more decent standard of living which can increase poverty rates, domestic violence, and family resilience which will have an impact on malnutrition and stunting in child (Satriyandari & Utami, 2018).

To reduce this impact, the government enacted a marriage age law, namely according to Law No. 16/2019 the permitted age of marriage is a minimum of 19 years for men and women, although on the other hand the government also imposes marital dispensations for underage couples which will eventually opportunity for early marriage.

In addition, the government has implemented a strategy to prevent child marriage through health and community institutions, where the government has built 1,783 child-friendly health centers in 184 districts/cities in 34 provinces, adolescent reproductive health counseling and school outreach through health centers, as well as adolescent reproductive health services and education through

hospital. These efforts were made in order to meet the target of reducing the prevalence of early marriage in Indonesia in 2024 from 11.2% to 8.74% as set forth in the 2020-2024 RPJMN (Medium Term Development Plan) and also realizing the ideals of the SDGs where no more young people will marry early in 2030 (Nurhanisah, dkk, 2020).

There are several factors that can cause adolescents to marry early. Factors that cause adolescents to marry early include; knowledge, parental education, economy, mass media, customs/culture, and promiscuity (Satriyandari & Utami, 2018).

One of the causes of early marriage, among others, is sociocultural. Sociocultural can encourage habits and the formation of negative meanings about the value of an unmarried young woman, negative meaning in poor families and labeling spoiled girls who pursue higher education. In addition, there is also a tradition in society that considers a marriage that is carried out at an adult age is not a good thing. Marriage at an adult age actually creates negative perceptions for families where it is considered unsolicited or late for marriage. This encourages parents to get their daughters married as soon as possible even though they are still teenagers, because if they don't do this it can cause shame and burden for the family (Satriyandari & Utami, 2018).

Research conducted by Lowe, Joof & Rojas (2019), entitled "Social and cultural factors perpetuating early marriage in rural Gambia: an exploratory mixed methods study", that the study found that sociocultural factors and the fear that girls could have premarital sex were the most important factors associated with early marriage in rural Gambia. Sociocultural results

related to early marriage include ethnicity (tribe), age group, marital status, school age, education, and activities in the past year.

The Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency is one of the Community Health Centers in North Lampung Regency which has a fairly high rate of early marriage. Data on early marriage in the Ketapang Health Center Work Area in 2021 reached 24 cases (17.6%) from 136 marriages, while in 2022 it increased to 36 cases (25.2%) from 143 marriages. Based on the results of a preliminary survey through interviews with 10 women who had early marriages, from the identification of the causal factors it was known that 6 people (60%) were from the Javanese ethnicity, then as many as 8 people (80%) were in the 15-19 year age group, then as many as 7 people (70%) the age of first schooling is  $\leq 5$  years, then as many as 8 people (80%) have low education (SD), and as many as 6 people (60%) in the last year doing school activities. Meanwhile, if viewed from the economic condition, 5 people (50%) are economically lacking, then 4 people (40%) because their parents and family arranged an arranged marriage, then 3 people (30%) because of the influence of the mass media, and 2 people (20%) because of promiscuity.

Based on the description above, the researcher is interested in conducting research entitled "Factors that cause early marriage in terms of socio-culture in the working area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023".

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Early marriage is a marriage that occurs when the bride and

groom are not yet 19 years old. According to medicine, it is said to be an early marriage if the marriage is carried out before both or one of the bride and groom has the physical maturity to marry. For example, underage women whose reproductive organs are not ready and mature (Kiwe, 2017). Sociocultural is a complexity that includes knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, customs and other capabilities and habits acquired by humans as members of society. Sociocultural consists of all learning outcomes from normative behavior patterns, which include all ways or patterns of thinking, feeling, and acting (Putri & Rachmawati, 2018).

Tribe is a group of people in a family who are descendants or a national group as part of a nation that has the same culture. Indonesian society consists of various tribes spread across the archipelago. Each tribe has its own character and character. Indonesia is a country that has various cultures and ethnicities within the unity of the Republic of Indonesia with the motto "Unity in Diversity". With this difference, the Indonesian nation is rich in culture (culture) and ethnicity, from various tribes and races. This difference gives rise to the nature or character of each tribe and race (Putri & Rachmawati, 2018).

Each custom has its own rules which are very diverse and very multi-interpretative. With such a colorful diversity, of course it will be very difficult to map out the various things that can happen to each customary law which has its own variety and color. The many tribes and nations and customs that exist, it is certain that there will be many more traditions of early marriage that occur in this country (Kiwe, 2017).

Age is the length of time lived

or since birth which is a variable that is always considered in epidemiological studies. The morbidity and mortality rates in almost all situations show a relationship with age. It is also used to see patterns of morbidity or mortality by age group (Wahyuningsih, 2015).

age is closely related to the traditions of early marriage. The tradition of early marriage emerged for a number of reasons, the first being the opinion that women are more numerous than men, when compared, the ratio is 1:10. This is what makes people do matchmaking as early as possible. Many parents are afraid that their child will not be able to get a life partner later. The second reason is because of feelings of indebtedness. Lots of arranged marriages occur because of debt problems. The arranged marriage was carried out because there were two kinship families who had children of different sexes. In order for the family's debt to be paid off, their two children of different sexes had an arranged marriage. There are even arranged marriages between these two families, which can even be planned from the womb (Kiwe, 2017).

School is a place where a child gets guidance given by someone for the development of others towards certain ideals that determine humans to act and fill life to achieve safety and happiness (Wawan & Dewi, 2013). School age is the age when a person first enters primary education or elementary school (SD) (Lowe, Joof, & Rojas, 2020).

The time when a child enters school is associated with early marriage. The younger the school age, the faster a teenager will graduate from school. Some parents still think that when their children graduate from school quickly, their children can immediately help their

parents, either working in the fields, or choosing to work outside the city to try their luck, or another option is to marry them off. By marrying off their daughter, the parents feel they can release responsibility for that daughter. Because after the daughter is married, the daughter's life is no longer the responsibility of her parents. The daughter is officially the responsibility of her husband (Kiwe, 2017).

Education is a variable that can affect a person, including one's behavior towards lifestyle, especially in motivating attitudes to participate in development. In general, the higher a person's education, the easier it is for that person to receive information (Nursalam in Wawan & Dewi, 2013).

Education is a sociocultural factor as a determinant of early marriage among young women. The fear of premarital sex as a major factor in early marriage is also in line with the explanation of chastity where parents want their daughters to be chaste and believe that there is a risk that as they get older their daughters can lose their virginity outside of marriage (Lowe , Joof , & Rojas, 2020).

Based on the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) (2023), activity is an activity or work activity . Activity is part of a work activity carried out by someone in each part of the organization or company.

Many parents think practically and think that children who work will be more useful than children who go to school. For them, school would only be a waste of time and money, and nothing would come of it. However, low education affects companies to accept them as employees, and in the end it will be difficult to find work. If you haven't got a job for a long time, the last option is to marry off your daughter. Because by marrying off their

children, they feel they can release responsibility for their daughter because it is no longer the responsibility of their parents (Kiwe, 2017).

The significance of this research is to increase public knowledge about early marriage, add insight into socio-cultural facts related to early marriage in the community and the experience of the community, especially respondents, to participate as objects of scientific research. The results of this study are expected to be input for health workers as a basis for conducting health education to the community about the impact of early marriage and efforts to change people's sociocultural views regarding early marriage in order to reduce the number of early marriages in the region.

The formulation of the questions in this study included identifying the frequency distribution of ethnicity, age group, school age, education, activities in the last year and the incidence of early marriage for women in the working area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023. In addition, this study also identified ethnic relations, age group , school age, education , last year's activity with early marriage for women in the working area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023.

## RESEARCH METHODS

The research design uses types quantitative research with case control research design. This research was carried out from January to July 2023.

The population in this study were all married women in the working area of the Ketapang Health Center, with a sample of 72 people,



using proportional random sampling. The statistical test uses the chi-square test.

The measuring instrument in this study used an observation sheet to record the age of marriage on the early marriage variable, while for the sociocultural variable the instrument used was a questionnaire.

The ethical due diligence was carried out on July 18, 2023 under number 3832/EC/KEP-UNMAL/VII/2023.

Data analysis used univariate and bivariate analysis. Univariate analysis uses simple statistical calculations, namely presentation or proportion, while bivariate analysis uses statistical tests chi-square .

## RESEARCH RESULT

### Univariate analysis

**Table 1 Ethnic Frequency Distribution in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Ethnic group	Case	Control	Case	Control
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Java	21	58,3	17	47,2
Sunda	11	30.5	6	16,7
Lampung	2	5,6	7	19,4
Ogan	2	5,6	6	16,7
Amount	36	100	36	100

Based on table 1 above, it can be seen that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 21 people (58.3%) came from the Javanese tribe, 11 people (30.5%) came from the Sundanese tribe, 2 people (5.6%) came from the Lampung tribe, and 2 people (5.6%) came from the Ogan

tribe. In addition, in the control group (not married early), as many as 17 people (47.2%) came from the Javanese tribe, 6 people (16.7%) came from the Sundanese tribe, 7 people (19.4%) came from the Lampung tribe. , and 6 people (16.7%) came from the Ogan tribe.

**Table 2 Frequency Distribution of Age Groups in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, Lampung Regency North Year 2023**

Age Group	Case	Control	Case	Control
	Amount	%	Amount	%
≤ 15 years	7	19,4	0	0
16-19 years	29	80.6	5	13,9
> 19 years	0	0	31	86,1
Amount	36	100	36	100

Based on table 2 above, it can be seen that in the case group (early marriage), there were 7 people (19.4%) aged ≤ 15 years, and 29 people (80.6%) aged 16-19 years. In

addition, in the control group (not married early), 5 people (13.9%) were aged 16-19 years, and 31 people (86.1%) were >19 years old.

**Table 3 Frequency Distribution of School Age in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, Lampung Regency North Year 2023**

school age	Case	Control	Case	Control
	Amount	%	Amount	%
≤ 5 years	27	75	8	22,2
> 5 years	9	25	28	77,8
Amount	36	100	36	100

Based on table 3 above, it can be seen that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 27 people (75%) entered school at age ≤ 5 years, and 9 people (25%) entered school at age > 5 years. In addition,

in the control group (not married early), as many as 28 people (77.8 %) entered school at age > 5 years, and 8 people (22.2%) entered school at age ≤ 5 years.

**Table 4 Distribution of Education Frequency in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai Regency, Regency North Lampung in 2023**

Education	Case	Control	Case	Control
	Amount	%	Amount	%
basic education	26	72,2	13	36,1
Middle education	10	27,8	21	58.4
higher education	0	0	2	5,6
Amount	36	100	36	100

Based on table 4 above, it can be seen that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 26 people (72.2%) completed primary education, and 10 people (27.8%) completed secondary education. In

addition, in the control group (not marrying early), 13 people (36.1%) completed basic education, 21 people (58.4%) completed secondary education, and 2 people (5.6%) completed tertiary education.

**Table 5 Distribution of Activity Frequency in the Last Year in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Last Year's Activity	Case	Control	Case	Control
	Amount	%	Amount	%
Go to school/study	24	66,7	8	22,2
Find a job	9	25	13	36,1
Work	3	8,3	15	41.7
Amount	36	100	36	100

Based on table 5 above, it can be seen that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 24 people (66.7%) had activities to go to

school/study in the last year, 9 people (25%) had job-seeking activities in the last year, and 3 people (8.3%) had work activities in

the last year. In addition, in the control group (not married early), as many as 8 people (22.2%) had the activity of going to school/study in

the last year, 13 people (36.1%) had the activity of looking for work in the last year, and 15 people (41.7%) had work activities in the last year.

### Bivariate Analysis

**Table 6 The Relationship between Ethnicity and Early Marriage in Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Ethnic group	Early-age marriage				Total		P-Value
	Early Marriage		Not Marrying Early				
	n	%	n	%	n	%	
Java	21	55,3	17	44,7	38	100	0.074
Sunda	11	64,7	6	35,3	17	100	
Lampung	2	22,2	7	77,8	9	100	
Ogan	2	25	6	75	8	100	
Amount	36	50	36	50	72	100	

Based on table 6 above, it can be seen that of the 38 respondents with Javanese ethnicity, 21 people (55.3%) married early, while the other 17 people (44.7%) did not marry early. In addition, from 17 respondents with Sundanese as many as 11 people (64.7%) married early, while 6 people (35.3%) did not marry early. Then from 9 respondents with the Lampung tribe as many as 2 people (22.2%) married early, while 7 people (77.8%) did not marry early. In addition, from 8 respondents with

the Ogan tribe, 2 people (25%) married early, while 6 people (75%) did not marry early. The results of the analysis using chi-square, obtained p-value = 0.074, so that p-value >  $\alpha$  (0.074 > 0.05) then  $H_a$  is rejected. So it can be concluded that there is no relationship between ethnicity and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023.

**Table 7 Age Group and Early Marriage for Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Age Group	Early-age marriage				Total		P-Value
	Early Marriage		Not Marrying Early				
	n	%	n	%	n	%	
≤ 15 years	7	100	0	0	7	100	0.000
16-19 years	29	85,3	5	14,7	34	100	



> 19 years	0	0	31	100	31	100
Amount	36	50	36	50	72	100

Based on table 7 above, it can be seen that of the 7 respondents in the age group  $\leq 15$  years, as many as 7 people (100%) married early and none did not marry early. Then, out of 34 respondents in the age group of 16-19 years, 29 people (85.3%) married early, while the other 5 people (14.7%) did not marry early. In addition, of the 31 respondents in the age group  $>19$  years, 31 (100%)

did not marry early. The results of the analysis using chi-square, obtained  $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ , so that the  $p\text{-value} < \alpha$  ( $0.000 < 0.05$ ) then  $H_a$  is accepted. So it can be concluded that there is a relationship between the age group and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023.

**Table 8 The Relationship between School Age and Early Marriage in Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai Regency North Lampung Regency in 2023**

school age	Early-age marriage				Total		P-Valu e	OR (95% CI)
	Early Marriage		Not Marrying Early					
	n	%	n	%	n	%		
≤ 5 years	27	77, 1	8	22, 9	35	100	0.00 0	10.5 (3.533
> 5 years	9	24, 3	28	75, 7	37	100		-
Amount	36	50	36	50	72	100		31.207 )

Based on table 8 above, it can be seen that of the 35 respondents who entered school aged  $\leq 5$  years, 27 people (77.1%) married early, while the other 8 people (22.9%) did not marry early. In addition, of the 37 respondents who attended school  $> 5$  years, 9 people (24.3 %) married early, while the other 28 people (75.7%) did not marry early. The results of the analysis using chi-square, obtained  $p\text{-value} = 0.000$ , so that the  $p\text{-value} < \alpha$  ( $0.000 < 0.05$ ) then  $H_a$  is accepted. So it can be

concluded that there is a relationship between school age and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023. Then, based on data analysis also obtained Odds Ratio (OR) = 10.5. So it can be concluded that women who enter school at the age of  $\leq 5$  years have a risk 10.5 times married early compared to those who entered school at the age of  $> 5$  years.

**Table 9 The Relationship between Education and Early Marriage for Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Education	Early-age marriage				Total		P- Valu e
	Early Marriage		Not Marrying Early				
	n	%	n	%	n	%	
basic education	26	66,7	13	33,3	39	100	0.00
Middle education	10	32,3	21	67,7	31	100	
higher education	0	0	2	100	2	100	
Amount	36	50	36	50	72	100	

Based on table 9 above, it can be seen that of the 39 respondents with basic education, 26 people (66.7%) married early, while the other 13 people (33.3%) did not marry early. Then, out of 39 respondents with secondary education, as many as 10 people (32.3%) married early, while 21 people (67.7%) did not marry early. In addition, of the 2 highly

educated respondents, 2 (100%) did not marry early. The results of the analysis using chi-square , obtained p-value = 0.000, so that the p -value  $< \alpha$  (0.000  $< 0.05$ ) then  $H_a$  is accepted. So it can be concluded that there is a relationship between education and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023.

**Table 10 Relationship of Activities in the Last Year with Early Marriage for Women in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Last Activity	Year's to	Early-age marriage				Total		P-Value
		Early Marriage		Not Marrying Early				
		n	%	n	%	n	%	
Go school/study		24	75	8	25	32	100	0.000
Find a job		9	40,9	13	59,1	22	100	
Work		3	16,7	15	83.3	18	100	
Amount		36	50	36	50	72	100	

Based on table 10 above, it can be seen that of the 32 respondents whose activities last year went to school/study, 24 people (75%) married early, while the other 8 people (25%) did not marry early. Then, of the 22 respondents whose activity in the last year was looking for work, as many as 9 people

(40.9%) married early, while the other 13 people (59.1%) did not marry early. In addition, of the 18 respondents who worked for the last year, 3 people (16.7%) married early, while 15 people (83.3%) did not marry early. The results of the analysis using chi-square , obtained p-value = 0.000, so that the p -value

$<\alpha$  (0.000  $<0.05$ ) then  $H_a$  is accepted. So it can be concluded that there is a relationship between activities in the past year and early

marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023.

## DISCUSSION

### **Ethnic Frequency Distribution in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 21 people (58.3%) came from the Javanese tribe, 11 people (30.5%) came from the Sundanese tribe, 2 people (5.6%) came from Lampung tribe, and 2 people (5.6%) came from the Ogan tribe. In addition, in the control group (not married early), as many as 17 people (47.2%) came from the Javanese tribe, 6 people (16.7%) came from the Sundanese tribe, 7 people (19.4%) came from the Lampung tribe, and 6 people (16.7%) came from the Ogan tribe.

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Putri & Rachmawati (2018), that ethnicity is a group of people in a family who are descendants or national groups as part of a nation that has the same culture. Indonesian society consists of various ethnic groups scattered throughout the archipelago. Each tribe has character and character of each. Indonesia is a country who have diverse cultures and ethnicities within the Unitary Republic Indonesia with the motto "Unity in Diversity". With this difference, the Indonesian nation is rich in culture (culture) and ethnic, from various tribes and races that exist. This difference raises the character or character of each tribe and race.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Lowe, Joof, & Rojas (2020), entitled

"Social and Cultural Factors Perpetuating Early Marriage In Rural Gambia: An Exploratory Mixed Methods Study", it was found that the majority (37.6%) are the Mandinka tribe which is the main ethnicity with a patriarchal system in Gambia.

According to the researchers, most of the respondents in both the case group and the control group were Javanese because the Javanese had the largest proportion in the research location, even in Indonesia. As a result of the increasingly dense population on the island of Java and convenience in the field of transportation technology, during the era of President Soeharto, a large-scale transmigration was carried out from Java to an island with a low population density. Many Javanese people were moved outside Java Island, including in Lampung. They then developed in terms of population, economy, and Javanese culture in the province.

### **Frequency Distribution of Age Groups in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 7 people (19.4%) were aged  $\leq 15$  years, and 29 people (80.6%) were 16-19 years old. In addition, in the control group (not married early), 5 people (13.9%) were aged 16-19 years, and 31 people (86.1%) were  $>19$  years old.

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put

forward by Wahyuningsih (2015), that age is the length of time lived or since birth which is a variable that is always considered in epidemiological studies. The morbidity and mortality rates in almost all situations show a relationship with age. In addition, according to Syafrudin (2014), age group is a variable that is always considered in epidemiological investigations, whereby health patterns can be seen based on a person's age.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Pramana, Adi & Warjiman (2018), regarding the factors that influence early marriage in young women, the results of univariate analysis obtained that most respondents were married at the age of 18-20 years (66.7 %).

According to the researchers, most of the respondents in the case group were in the age group  $\leq 15$  years because most of the respondents in the case group (early marriage) belonged to that age group. Meanwhile, most of the respondents in the control group were  $> 19$  years old, because the respondents at that age married a few years after graduating from high school. The age of early marriage is mostly the age at which a person receives high school education or the equivalent. Some of the respondents in this group were teenagers who, when they graduated from high school, immediately married or junior high school graduates whose parents married off for various reasons, for example, instead of staying at home and becoming a burden on the family.

**Frequency Distribution of School Age in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 27 people (75%) entered school at the age of  $\leq 5$  years, and 9 people (25%) entered school at the age of  $> 5$  years. In addition, in the control group (not married early), as many as 28 people (77.8 %) entered school at age  $> 5$  years, and 8 people (22.2%) entered school at age  $\leq 5$  years.

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Wawan & Dewi (2013), that school is a place where a child gets guidance given by someone for the development of others towards certain ideals that determine humans to act and fill life to achieve safety and happiness. According to Lowe, Joof, & Rojas, (2020), school age is the age at which a person enters primary education or elementary school (SD).

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Dewi (2018), in an international journal entitled " Child Marriage In Short Stories From Indonesia And Bangladesh: Victor, Survivor, And Victim". This research reveals that first, child marriage in both countries is largely driven by a lack of education.

According to the researchers, most of the respondents in both the case group and the control group entered school at the age of  $> 5$  years because most parents enrolled their children in elementary school (SD) at the age of 6 or 7 years. Some who enter school at the age of  $\leq 5$  years are probably due to the will of the child who can't wait to go to school.

**Distribution of Education Frequency in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 26 people (72.2 % ) completed primary education, and 10 people (27.8%) completed secondary education. In addition, in the control group (not marrying early), 13 people (36.1%) completed basic education, 21 people (58.4%) completed secondary education, and 2 people (5.6%) completed tertiary education.

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Nursalam in Wawan & Dewi (2013), that education is a variable that can affect a person, including one's behavior towards lifestyle, especially in motivating attitudes to participate in development. In general, the higher a person's education, the easier it is for that person to receive information. Education is needed to obtain information, this can affect knowledge that supports health so that it can improve one's quality of life.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Lowe, Joof, & Rojas (2020), entitled " Social and Cultural Factors Perpetuating Early Marriage In Rural Gambia: An Exploratory Mixed Methods Study ", which found that most of the education was mostly (27, 4%) 7 to 9 years.

According to the researchers, most of the respondents in the case group only completed basic education because, apart from that most parents did not realize the importance of education, they also married at an early age , causing teenagers to drop out of school. Whereas in the control group most of the respondents had secondary education, this was because in the control group who did not marry early it was possible that some people continued their education to

tertiary institutions and some worked first and then married.

#### **Distribution of Activity Frequency in the Last Year in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that in the case group (early marriage), as many as 24 people (66.7%) had activities going to school/study in the last year, 9 people (25%) had job-seeking activities in the last year, and 3 people (8.3%) had work activities in the last year. In addition, in the control group (not married early), as many as 8 people (22.2%) had the activity of going to school/study in the last year, 13 people (36.1%) had the activity of looking for work in the last year, and 15 people (41.7%) had work activities in the last year.

The results of this study are in accordance with the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI) (2023), that activity is an activity or work activity. Activity is part of a work activity carried out by someone in each part of the organization or company. According to Lowe, Joof, & Rojas (2020), last year's activity is an activity carried out within the last 12 months, for example going to school/studying or looking for a job

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Pramana, Adi & Warjiman (2018), regarding the factors that influence early marriage in young women, the results of univariate analysis obtained that most have socio-cultural activities that are not good about early marriage (53 ,3%).

According to the researchers, most of the respondents in the case group had gone to school/study in the last year because most of the case group (early married) of course in the last year before marriage they were indeed students. Whereas in

the control group, most of the respondents had work activities in the past year. Because the majority of respondents who did not marry early after graduating from high school chose to work before getting married.

#### **Bivariate Analysis**

##### **The Relationship between Ethnicity and Early Marriage for Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that there was no relationship between ethnicity and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023 ( $p$ -value = 0.074).

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Putri & Rachmawati (2018), as it is known that Indonesian society consists of many ethnic groups with diverse cultural backgrounds. The cultural environment greatly influences the behavior of the people who own the culture. Therefore, cultural diversity can lead to variations in human behavior in all respects, including health behavior. Such conditions can be a challenge for health workers. Health workers in Indonesia will certainly provide health services to people with various cultural backgrounds.

The results of this study are not in line with the research conducted by Lowe, Joof, & Rojas (2020), entitled "Social and Cultural Factors Perpetuating Early Marriage In Rural Gambia: An Exploratory Mixed Methods Study", it was found that the results of the analysis obtained the most dominant factors is an ethnicity in which the Mandinka ethnic group still has an almost 3

times higher likelihood of marrying earlier than women in the Fula ethnic group. All of these results indicate that ethnicity has an independent influence on the likelihood of early marriage.

According to the researchers, there is no relationship between ethnicity and early marriage because the composition of ethnic groups in the study sites is very complex, where the spread is very even or not in groups so that the process of acculturation of cultural customs may have occurred. As a result, the associated myths and bad assumptions about unmarried women at a certain age that were previously inherent in the possibility of gradually fading due to the process of social interaction of various different tribes. However, there are also some people who still maintain the tradition of early marriage, possibly due to parental factors, including low parental knowledge and lack of information related to early marriage.

##### **Age Group and Early Marriage for Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that there was a relationship between the age group and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023 ( $p$ -value = 0.000).

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Hurlock, (2017), that on average boys become sexually mature between the ages of 14-16 years, while girls are aged 12-14 years. At this time, adolescents must master the important developmental task of forming new, more mature relationships with the opposite sex



and in playing the right role with their sex. During this teenage period, encouragement to engage in sexual activity can come from social pressures that can affect adolescent interest in sex and curiosity about sex. Due to the increased interest in sex, teenagers are always trying to find more information about sex, such as discussing it with friends, experimenting with masturbation, making out or intercourse. So that it can be said that at this age it is risky for early marriage.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Dewi (2018), in an international journal entitled " Child Marriage In Short Stories From Indonesia And Bangladesh: Victor, Survivor, And Victim". This study reveals that first, child marriage in both countries is largely driven by factors such as age , knowledge, parental factors, poverty, economic dependence, lack of education, and dowry.

According to the researchers, there is a relationship between age groups and early marriage due to early marriage that occurs in the adolescent age group apart from being arranged by their parents, usually it can also occur due to their own desire to get married. Then, sexual urges begin to occur in their teens causing premarital sex behavior to pregnancy outside of marriage which causes children to marry early. In addition, early marriage can occur due to a lack of knowledge about the impact of early marriage, where with good knowledge and understanding, girls can refuse arranged marriages or force parents to marry early.

**Relationship between school age and early marriage for women in the working area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that there was a relationship between school age and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023 (  $p$ -value = 0.000).

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Kiwe, (2017), that the time when a child enters school is related to early marriage. The younger the school age , the faster a teenager will graduate from school. Some parents still think that when their children graduate from school quickly, their children can immediately help their parents, either working in the fields, or choosing to work outside the city to try their luck, or another option is to marry them off. By marrying off their daughter, the parents feel they can release responsibility for that daughter. Because after the daughter is married, the daughter's life is no longer the responsibility of her parents.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Anwar & Ernawati (2017), concerning the factors that influence young women to marry early in the Lambaro Angan Settlement, Aceh Besar District in 2017, the results of bivariate analysis found that there is a significant relationship between education and early marriage in couples in Lambaro Angan Settlement, Aceh Besar District ( $p = 0.045$  ( $p < 0.05$ )).

According to researchers, there is a relationship between school age and early marriage in women, which can be caused by the younger the child enters primary school, the faster the child will graduate from school. It has become a tradition when a child has graduated from school, many men

will start coming to propose . Parents usually can only accept the proposal as long as their child likes the man who proposed it. Therefore, when they graduate from school and enter their teenage years where the reproductive organs are sexually mature, adolescents who were previously not equipped with knowledge about reproductive health will not refuse if their parents advise them to get married soon. The younger the child is , the more limited his thinking ability is, so he tends to follow what his parents want.

#### **The Relationship between Education and Early Marriage for Women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that there was a relationship between education and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023 (  $p$ -value = 0.004).

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Lowe, Joof, & Rojas (2020), that education is a sociocultural factor as a determinant of early marriage among young women. The fear of premarital sex as a major factor in early marriage is also in line with the explanation of chastity where parents want their daughters to be chaste and believe that there is a risk that as they get older their daughters can lose their virginity outside of marriage . Parents often think that caring for a girl is not easy. If he doesn't have a job after school, his parents have to do everything for him including buying him clothes and giving him money to meet his small needs.

In addition, according to Kiwe

(2017), the 9-year compulsory education from the government is actually very effective in overcoming the lack of thinking horizons of young people who are still passionate. The level of intelligence and education of potential partners is important to consider. In general, a person's educational background will influence the way he thinks. Starting from how he behaves, responds to something, and solves a problem. By opening the horizons of thinking, teenagers can influence parents to change the tradition of early marriage.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Pramana, Adi & Warjiman (2018), regarding the factors that influence early marriage in young women, the results obtained show that there is a significant influence of the level of education on early marriage ( $p$ -value = 0.049 ).

According to the researchers, there is a relationship between education and early marriage in women because the more education is taken, the more insightful and changing the way children think about early marriage. Children who are aware of the importance of education usually refuse when arranged marriages by their parents , they will be able to give opinions and appropriate explanations to their parents when there are suggestions for having a marriage they don't want.

#### **Relationship of Activities in the Last Year with Early Marriage for Women in the Work Area of the Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023**

Based on the results of the study, it was found that there was a relationship between activities in the past year and early marriage for women in the Working Area of the

Ketapang Health Center, South Sungkai District, North Lampung Regency in 2023 ( p-value = 0.000).

The results of this study are in accordance with the theory put forward by Kiwe, (2017), that many parents think practically and think that children who work will be more useful than children who go to school. For them, school would only be a waste of time and money, and nothing would come of it. However, low education affects companies to accept them as employees, and in the end it will be difficult to find work. If you haven't got a job for a long time, the last option is to marry off your daughter. Because by marrying off their children, they feel they can release responsibility for their daughter because it is no longer the responsibility of their parents.

The results of this study are in line with research conducted by Pramana, Adi & Warjiman (2018), regarding the factors that influence early marriage in young women, the results of bivariate analysis obtained that there is a significant influence of socio-cultural activity factors on early marriage ( p-value 0.000).

According to researchers, there is a relationship between activity in the past year and early marriage in women, which can be caused by the activities of girls after graduating from school and not wanting or not having the costs to continue to a higher level of education, usually choosing to work to help their parents' economy. However, not all of these women are absorbed in the world of work, given their educational background, it is likely that employment will also be more difficult to obtain. So many parents choose to marry off their daughters rather than being unemployed at home, besides avoiding bad words from neighbors it can also reduce the burden on the family.

## CONCLUSIONS

The results showed that factors related to early marriage included age group ( p-value = 0.000), school age ( p-value = 0.000), education ( p-value = 0.004), last year's activities ( p-value = 0.000) . While there is no relationship between ethnicity and early marriage ( p-value = 0.074).

Based on the research results, it is hoped that health workers can improve health education to teenagers in schools about reproductive health and also the impact of early marriage. Apart from that, it is hoped that health workers can provide input to the community through village community deliberations or Forum Group Discussion (FGD) regarding early marriage so that the community can make decisions regarding the issue of early marriage in their area.

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