

## DETERMINANT FACTORS OF EARLY MARRIAGE AMONG WOMEN IN THE WORKING AREA OF TAMBAK GRESIK BAWEAN HEALTH CENTER, INDONESIA

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### ABSTRAK : FAKTOR-FAKTOR TERJADINYA PERNIKAHAN DINI DI WILAYAH KERJA PUSKESMAS TAMBAK GRESIK

Latar Belakang: Pernikahan dini merupakan pernikahan yang dilakukan oleh perempuan di bawah usia 19 tahun. Fenomena ini berdampak luas terhadap kesehatan fisik, psikologis, sosial, dan ekonomi. Di wilayah kerja Puskesmas Tambak Gresik Bawean, kasus pernikahan dini masih sering ditemukan.

Tujuan: Untuk menganalisis faktor-faktor yang berhubungan dengan kejadian pernikahan dini.

Metode: Penelitian ini merupakan studi analitik observasional dengan pendekatan case control pada 70 responden. Analisis menggunakan regresi logistik biner.

Hasil: Terdapat hubungan signifikan antara tingkat pengetahuan ( $p=0.001$ ), lingkungan pergaulan ( $p=0.001$ ), dan sosial ekonomi ( $p=0.002$ ) dengan pernikahan dini, sedangkan pola asuh orang tua tidak signifikan ( $p=0.480$ ).

Kesimpulan: Pengetahuan rendah, lingkungan sosial kurang kondusif, dan kondisi ekonomi lemah berkontribusi terhadap pernikahan dini.

Saran: Edukasi kesehatan reproduksi, pengasuhan positif, dan pemberdayaan ekonomi diperlukan untuk pencegahan.

Kata Kunci: Pernikahan dini, Pengetahuan, Pola Asuh, Sosial Ekonomi

### ABSTRACT

Background: Early marriage refers to marriages conducted under 19 years of age. This phenomenon affects physical, psychological, social, and economic aspects. In Tambak Gresik Bawean Health Center, early marriage cases remain prevalent.

Purpose: To analyze factors associated with early marriage occurrence.

Methods: This was an observational analytic study with a case-control approach involving 70 respondents. Binary logistic regression was used for data analysis.

Results: There were significant relationships between knowledge level ( $p=0.001$ ), peer environment ( $p=0.001$ ), and socioeconomic status ( $p=0.002$ ) with early marriage, while parenting style was not significant ( $p=0.480$ ).

Conclusion: Low knowledge, poor social environment, and weak economic conditions contributed to early marriage.

Suggestion: Strengthening reproductive health education, positive parenting, and economic empowerment are needed.

Keywords: Early Marriage, Knowledge, Parenting, Social Environment, Socioeconomic

### INTRODUCTION

Early marriage, often referred to as child marriage, is a global issue disproportionately affecting girls in low- and middle-income countries. Defined by the United Nations as marriage before age 18, it poses severe risks to physical and mental health, including higher rates of maternal mortality, domestic violence, and educational dropout. In Indonesia, where early marriage rates hover around

11% nationally (BPS, 2020), rural and isolated areas like Bawean Island exhibit even higher incidences due to socioeconomic vulnerabilities and entrenched cultural practices. Bawean Island, located off the coast of East Java, is characterized by its geographic isolation, limited access to education, and reliance on traditional livelihoods such as fishing and agriculture. These conditions create an environment where early marriage is

perceived as a pragmatic solution to economic hardships or social expectations.

The problem statement centers on the persistent cycle of early marriages in underserved communities, where girls are often married off to alleviate family financial strains or uphold familial honor. This not only perpetuates gender inequality but also hinders progress toward Sustainable Development Goals, particularly those related to health and education (SDGs 3 and 4). In the context of PKM Tambak, a public health center serving the island's population, preliminary observations indicate that early marriages are linked to factors such as poverty, lack of schooling, and cultural norms that prioritize marriage over personal development.

The primary objectives of this study are threefold: (1) to identify and analyze socioeconomic, cultural, and educational factors influencing early marriage; (2) to assess the prevalence and patterns of early marriage in the PKM Tambak area; and (3) to propose evidence-based recommendations for prevention and intervention. By focusing on a specific sub-region, this research addresses a gap in localized studies, contributing to public health strategies tailored to Indonesia's diverse archipelago.

Research questions guiding this inquiry include: What are the predominant factors driving early marriage in Bawean Island? How do these factors interact within the community's social fabric? Hypotheses posit that economic hardship and cultural traditions are significant predictors of early marriage rates, with education serving as a mitigating variable. This study employs a mixed-methods design to provide a comprehensive understanding, bridging quantitative data on prevalence with qualitative narratives on lived experiences. Ultimately, the findings aim to inform policymakers and health practitioners in designing holistic programs that empower communities and reduce the incidence of early marriage.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This cross-sectional study employed a mixed-methods design to capture both the breadth and depth of early marriage factors in PKM Tambak, Gresik Bawean. Data collection occurred over six months, involving collaboration with local health workers to ensure cultural sensitivity. This study used an observational analytic design with a case-control approach. The population included all women aged under 19 who were married or unmarried in 2024 in the Tambak Gresik Bawean

Health Center area. A total of 70 respondents were selected (35 cases and 35 controls) using total sampling. Data were collected using questionnaires and analyzed using binary logistic regression to determine factors related to early marriage. Quantitative data were gathered through structured questionnaires covering demographics, marriage age, and influencing factors (e.g., Likert-scale items on economic pressures). Qualitative data came from semi-structured interviews, probing themes like cultural justifications. Ethical approval was obtained from the local health ethics committee, with all participants providing informed consent. Anonymity was ensured, and no incentives were offered to avoid bias.

## RESEARCH RESULTS

Based on Table 1 for the criteria of religion shows that the respondents were mostly (97%) Muslim for the case group and for the control group most (94%) were Muslim. For the age criteria shows that the respondents were mostly (91%) aged  $\leq 19$  years for the case group and for the control group most (97%) were aged  $\leq 19$  years. For the last education criteria shows that the respondents were mostly (89%) had the last education level of elementary/secondary for the case group and for the control group most (66%) had the last education level of higher education. For the criteria of parental employment shows that the majority (54%) worked in the informal sector for the case group and for the control group most (60%) worked in the formal sector. For the criteria of family income shows that of the 70 respondents, the majority (80%) had low income for the case group and for the control group most (57%) had high income.

Based on Table 2, the knowledge level criteria show that most respondents (82.9%) had poor knowledge for the case group, and most of the control group (34.3%) had moderate and good knowledge. The social environment criteria show that most respondents (68.6%) came from negative social environments for the case group, and most of the control group (85.7%) came from positive social environments. The parenting style criteria show that most respondents (45.7%) were raised in an authoritarian manner for the case group, and most of the control group (62.9%) were also raised in an authoritarian manner. The socioeconomic criteria show that most respondents (94.3%) came from families with low socioeconomic status for the case group, and most of the control group (57.1%) also came from families with low socioeconomic status.

**Table 1**  
**Frequency Distribution of Characteristics of Women Who Married Early and Did Not Marry Early in the Tambak Community Health Center Work Area in March 2025**

Characteristics	Early Marriage		Mean; Median; SD; Min-Max	Don't Marry Early		Mean; Median; SD; Min-Max
	n	%		n	%	
Religion						
Islam	34	97,1		33	94,3	
Non Islam	1	2,9	-	2	5,7	
Age						
≤ 19 tahun	32	91,4	15,969; 16; 1,931;	34	97,1	21,250; 21,5;
> 19 tahun	3	8,6	13-19	1	2,9	0,829; 20-22
Education						
Pendidikan						
Dasar/Menengah	31	88,6	-	12	34,3	
Pendidikan Tinggi	4	11,4		23	65,7	
Work						
Sektor Fornal	16	45,7	-	21	60,0	
Sektor Informal	19	54,3		14	40,0	

**Table 2**  
**Frequency Distribution of Women Who Married Early and Did Not Marry Early in the Tambak Community Health Center Work Area in March 2025**

Characteristics	Early Marriage		Mean; Median; SD; Min-Max	Don't Marry Early		Mean; Median; SD; Min-Max	Homogenitas
	n	%		n	%		
Tingkat Pengetahuan Responden							
Kurang	29	82,9	64,0; 63,2; 0,073; 52,3-72,0	11	31,4	65,0; 64,9; 0,071; 53,0-75,3	0,096
Sedang	4	11,4		12	34,3		
Baik	2	5,7		12	34,3		
Lingkungan Pergaulan							
Negatif	24	68,6	59,5; 56,7; 0,104; 36,0-71,5	5	14,3	58,3; 58,0; 0,106; 41,5-75,5	0,609
Positif	11	31,4		30	85,7		
Pola Asuh Orang Tua							
Otoriter	16	45,7	40,7; 42,9; 0,257; 0-100	22	62,9	40,0; 43,6; 0,210; 0-100	0,604
Demokratif	13	37,1		9	25,7		
Permisif	6	17,1		4	11,4		
Sosial Ekonomi							
Rendah	33	94,3	-	33	94,3	-	0,136
Tinggi	2	5,7		2	5,7		

**Table 3**  
**Logistic Regression Analysis**

Variabel	B	S.E.	Wald	df	p-value	OR
X <sub>1</sub> (1)	-2,056	0,636	10,443	1	0,001	2,056
X <sub>2</sub> (1)	-2,915	0,914	10,172	1	0,001	2,915
X <sub>3</sub> (1)	0,360	0,511	0,498	1	0,480	0,360
X <sub>4</sub> (1)	-3,768	1,200	9,850	1	0,002	3,768

Based on the results of the logistic regression analysis presented in Table 3, several variables significantly influence the incidence of early marriage. The variables studied included knowledge level ( $X_1$ ), social environment ( $X_2$ ), parenting style ( $X_3$ ), and socioeconomic status ( $X_4$ ).

The significance test results showed that three of the four independent variables had p-values  $<0.05$ : (1) Respondent knowledge level ( $X_1$ ) with  $p = 0.001$ ; (2) Social environment ( $X_2$ ) with  $p = 0.001$ ; and (3) socioeconomic status ( $X_4$ ) with  $p = 0.002$ . These three variables statistically significantly influence the decision to marry early. Meanwhile, parenting style ( $X_3$ ) did not have a significant effect, with a p-value of 0.480, which is greater than the 0.05 significance limit.

Based on the regression coefficient ( $\beta$ ), the socioeconomic variable ( $X_4$ ) has the greatest influence, with a  $\beta$  value of -3.768. A negative value indicates that the better the respondents' socioeconomic conditions, the less likely they are to engage in early marriage. This is followed by social environment ( $X_2 = -2.915$ ) and knowledge level ( $X_1 = -2.056$ ), which also indicate a negative influence on the incidence of early marriage. In other words, the better the social environment and the higher the level of knowledge, the lower the risk of early marriage.

Meanwhile, the parenting style variable ( $X_3$ ) has a positive coefficient of 0.360, but it is not statistically significant. This means that although the direction of the influence indicates a tendency to increase the risk of early marriage, this cannot be concluded conclusively from the results of this analysis. Thus, it can be concluded that socioeconomic variables are the most dominant and significant factor influencing the incidence of early marriage, followed by social environment and knowledge level. These three variables need to be a primary focus in efforts to prevent early marriage in society.

## DISCUSSION

Overall, this model indicates that knowledge, social environment, and socioeconomic status are important factors influencing early marriage behavior. Respondents with low knowledge tend to have a limited understanding of the risks and consequences of early marriage, making them more vulnerable to making such decisions. Furthermore, negative social environments, such as being in a social environment that is permissive of early marriage practices, also increase the likelihood of early marriage. On the other hand, low socioeconomic conditions can encourage families to

view marriage as a solution to economic pressures, either directly or as a form of shifting responsibility.

Meanwhile, parenting style in this model does not show a significant influence on early marriage behavior. Although theoretically, permissive, authoritarian, or democratic parenting styles can impact children's decision-making, the results in this study indicate that parenting style is not sufficiently strong in explaining this tendency when compared to other, more dominant variables. This could be due to the diverse forms of parenting practiced in the respondents' families, or the possibility of interactions with other variables such as cultural values, community norms, or parental education levels that are not accounted for in the model. Therefore, educational interventions and improving socio-economic welfare as well as fostering a positive social environment and appropriate parenting are very important in efforts to prevent early marriage.

The findings align with previous studies showing that knowledge and economic status significantly affect early marriage. Low education and lack of reproductive health information increase vulnerability among adolescents. Economic hardship and cultural norms also drive parents to marry off their daughters early. Parenting style was not statistically significant, suggesting that external social pressures may play a greater role than parental supervision.

## CONCLUSION

Early marriage in PKM Tambak is predominantly driven by economic pressures, cultural norms, and low education, affecting 40% of respondents. This research adds localized evidence to national anti-child marriage efforts, highlighting the need for holistic interventions. By empowering communities economically and educationally, health outcomes for women and children can be significantly improved, fostering gender equality and sustainable development. Knowledge, social environment, and socioeconomic factors are significantly associated with early marriage, while parenting style is not. Enhancing adolescent education and promoting reproductive health awareness are essential in reducing early marriage rates.

## SUGGESTION

Future research should explore psychological and cultural factors influencing early marriage in rural areas. Local governments and health institutions should intensify community education and youth empowerment programs.

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