



Early Marriage in the Flexing Era: A Review of Law and Ethics on Social Media

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Abstract

Early marriage in Indonesia has become a complex and pressing issue, particularly in the context of the digital era known as "flexing." This study employs a qualitative approach with a descriptive method to deeply explore the phenomenon of early marriage within the legal and ethical contexts of social media, as well as to understand the perspectives of both teenagers and parents regarding the decision to marry at a young age. The findings indicate that early marriage is influenced by various social, cultural, and economic factors, including strong societal norms, pressure from social environments, and the impact of social media that promotes young marriage as a status symbol. Despite the existence of legal regulations prohibiting early marriage, such as Law No. 16 of 2019 concerning Marriage, its implementation remains ineffective on the ground. The impacts of early marriage are felt not only by individuals but also by families and society as a whole, creating cycles of poverty and long-term health issues. This research highlights the importance of government and community roles in addressing this issue through educational programs and awareness campaigns. Proposed policy recommendations include developing comprehensive sex education programs and promoting children's rights, as well as providing economic support for low-income families.

Keywords: *Early Marriage; Law and Ethics; Social Media*

Abstrak

Pernikahan dini di Indonesia telah menjadi isu yang kompleks dan mendesak, terutama dalam konteks era digital yang dikenal dengan istilah "flexing." Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dengan metode deskriptif untuk menggambarkan secara mendalam fenomena pernikahan dini dalam konteks hukum dan etika di media sosial, serta memahami perspektif remaja dan orang tua terkait keputusan menikah di usia muda, sehingga peneliti dapat mengeksplorasi makna dan pengalaman subjektif yang tidak dapat diukur secara kuantitatif. Artikel ini bertujuan untuk mengeksplorasi fenomena pernikahan dini dengan tinjauan hukum dan etika di media sosial. Penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pernikahan dini dipengaruhi oleh berbagai faktor sosial, budaya, dan ekonomi, termasuk norma masyarakat yang kuat, tekanan dari lingkungan sosial, serta pengaruh media sosial yang mempromosikan pernikahan muda sebagai simbol status. Meskipun terdapat regulasi hukum yang melarang pernikahan dini, seperti Undang-Undang Nomor 16 Tahun 2019, implementasinya masih kurang efektif di lapangan. Dampak dari pernikahan dini tidak hanya dirasakan oleh individu, tetapi juga oleh keluarga dan masyarakat secara keseluruhan, menciptakan siklus kemiskinan dan masalah kesehatan yang berkepanjangan. Penelitian ini juga menyoroti pentingnya peran pemerintah dan masyarakat dalam menanggulangi masalah ini melalui program edukasi dan kampanye kesadaran. Rekomendasi kebijakan yang diusulkan mencakup pengembangan program pendidikan seks dan hak-hak anak serta dukungan ekonomi bagi keluarga berpenghasilan rendah.

Kata Kunci: *Pernikahan Dini; Hukum dan Etika; Social Media*

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Introduction

Early marriage in Indonesia has become an increasingly urgent issue, especially in the midst of rapid social and cultural developments.¹ According to data from the National Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN), the rate of early marriage in Indonesia is still relatively high, with around 10.5% of the total marriages involving minors. This phenomenon raises various questions about its impact on individuals, families, and society as a whole.² In the legal context, early marriage is contrary to Law Number 16 of 2019 which sets the minimum age limit for marriage, namely 19 years for women and 25 years for men.³ Despite clear regulations, the practice of early marriage continues, often without official registration. This shows that there is a gap between the applicable law and the social reality on the ground.⁴ One of the driving factors for early marriage is cultural norms that are still strong in society. In many communities, marrying young is considered a way to maintain family honor and prevent children from engaging in negative behaviors such as premarital sex. The pressure of this social environment makes many teenagers feel forced to get married earlier than they should.⁵

Social media also plays a big role in shaping adolescents' views on marriage. In the era of "flexing," where glamorous lifestyles and social status are often showcased, many teens feel compelled to follow the trend. Content that promotes young marriage as a status symbol can influence an individual's decision to marry at a non-ideal age.⁶ Early studies show that the lack of sex education and access to adequate information also contributes to the high rate of early marriage. Many teens do not have enough understanding of the consequences of early marriage, both emotionally and physically. This shows the need for better educational programs to provide the right information to adolescents.⁷ From a health perspective, early marriage often carries risks for reproductive health, especially for women. Adolescent girls who marry young are at risk of pregnancy and childbirth complications, as well as mental health problems due to the psychological stress of an unprepared marriage. This adds urgency to address this issue holistically.⁸

In addition, the economic impact of early marriage is also significant. Many young couples are experiencing financial difficulties because they are not yet financially ready to start a family. This can lead to a prolonged cycle of poverty, where children of couples who marry

¹Ngerinya Pernikahan Dini," BKKBN, 9 Juli 2024, <https://kampungkb.bkkbn.go.id/kampung/11200/intervensi/892696/ngerinya-pernikahan-dini>.

²"Suarjana 160402018_opt.pdf," t.t.

³Yopani Selia Almahisa dan Anggi Agustian, "Pernikahan Dini Dalam Perspektif Undang-Undang Perkawinan Dan Kompilasi Hukum Islam," t.t.

⁴Hotmartua Nasution, "Jurusan Al-Ahwal Al-Syakhsiyah Fakultas Syari'ah Dan Hukum Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara Medan 2019 M/ 1440 H," 2019.

⁵Nurmadiyah, "Kurikulum Pendidikan Agama Islam," *Al-Afkar : Jurnal Keislaman & Peradaban* 2, no. 2 (2014), <https://doi.org/10.28944/afkar.v2i2.93>.

⁶"Flexing: Pengertian, Penyebab, Akibat, dan Cara Menghindarinya," diakses 13 November 2024, <https://www.gramedia.com/best-seller/flexing-adalah/>.

⁷Imelda Triadhari, "Dampak Psikologis Pernikahan Dini (Studi Kasus Di Kua Kecamatan Kejaksan Kota Cirebon)" 7, No. 2 (2023).

⁸Hasyim Hasanah, "Pemahaman Kesehatan Reproduksi Bagi Perempuan: Sebuah Strategi Mencegah Berbagai Resiko Masalah Reproduksi Remaja," *Sawwa: Jurnal Studi Gender* 11, No. 2 (June 12, 2017): 229, <https://doi.org/10.21580/Sa.V11i2.1456>.

early are also at risk of low education and limited future employment opportunities.⁹ In the context of ethics, questions arise about the responsibility of social media in disseminating information related to early marriage. Should these platforms be more responsible for the content they display? There is an urgent need to increase media literacy among adolescents so that they can make better decisions regarding their personal lives. With all these factors in consideration, it is important for the public to understand the complexity of the issue of early marriage in the context of law and ethics. Addressing this problem requires collaboration between governments, educational institutions, civil society organizations, and the media to create an environment that supports better decision-making for the younger generation. This article aims to explore more deeply the phenomenon of early marriage in the flexing era with a focus on legal and ethical reviews on social media. By understanding the background of this problem comprehensively, it is hoped that effective solutions can be found to reduce the rate of early marriage and improve the welfare of the young generation in Indonesia.

Method

This study uses a qualitative approach with a descriptive method to describe in depth the phenomenon of early marriage in the context of law and ethics on social media, as well as understand the perspectives of adolescents and parents regarding the decision to get married at a young age, so that researchers can explore the meaning and subjective experiences that cannot be quantitatively measured. The research locations were carried out in several regions in Indonesia that have a high prevalence of early marriage, based on data from BKKBN and other related institutions, covering urban and rural areas to get a broader perspective on this phenomenon.¹⁰ Data was collected through several techniques, including in-depth interviews with adolescents who have married early, parents, and community leaders to explore their motivations and views; Observation of social interaction in communities with high rates of early marriage to understand social and cultural norms;¹¹ and documentation by reviewing previous documents, articles, and research reports relevant to this topic, including content analysis from social media related to hashtags such as #NikahMuda. The population in this study is adolescents aged 15-24 years who have married early, their parents, and community leaders who understand this issue, with samples taken by purposive sampling to select individuals who are considered to have relevant information.¹² Data obtained from interviews, observations, and documentation will be analyzed using qualitative descriptive analysis techniques through steps such as interview transcription, data coding to identify key themes, and thematic analysis based on categories relevant to the research objectives.¹³ To ensure the

⁹ Khoiriyatul Layyinah Et Al., "Problematika Pernikahan Dini Terhadap Kesejahteraan Ekonomi Keluarga Dalam Pespektif Ekonomi Syariah," N.D.

¹⁰ Lestari Nurhajati dan Damayanti Wardyaningrum, "Komunikasi Keluarga dalam Pengambilan Keputusan Perkawinan di Usia Remaja" 1, no. 4 (2012).

¹¹ "BAB III 09.10.033 Aji p.pdf," diakses 13 November 2024, <https://eprints.uny.ac.id/18100/5/BAB%20III%2009.10.033%20Aji%20p.pdf>.

¹² Waldi Herwanda And Teguh Widodo, "LAMAM BATANG HARI DI DESA PULAU JUM'AT KECAMATAN KUALA" 1, no. 5 (2024).

¹³ Siti Jubaidah, Mustapa Khamal Rokan, and Budi Dharma, "Analisis Prilaku Konsumsi Islami Sebagai Pedoman Konsumen Muslim Terhadap Fenomena Flexing Berkedok Pembohongan Publik Oleh Influencer Di Media Sosial," *Jurnal Manajemen Terapan Dan Keuangan* 13, no. 02 (June 11, 2024): 428-39, <https://doi.org/10.22437/jmk.v13i02.33164>.

validity and reliability of the data, the researcher will triangulate the sources by comparing information from various sources and member checking to ensure the accuracy of data interpretation.¹⁴

The research will also adhere to the principles of research ethics, including providing participants with complete information about the research objectives and seeking their consent before participating; maintaining the confidentiality of participant identities; and respecting the right of participants to withdraw at any time without consequences. From this study, it is hoped that a deep understanding of the factors that drive early marriage in the context of the flexing era and the legal and ethical impact of this phenomenon can provide recommendations for public policies and intervention programs to reduce the rate of early marriage in Indonesia. This research is expected to make a significant contribution to the literature on early marriage, especially in the context of law and ethics in the digital era, and be a consideration for policymakers in formulating strategies to prevent early marriage. Thus, this research method is designed to comprehensively explore the phenomenon of early marriage in the flexing era with a qualitative approach, utilizing various data collection techniques and qualitative descriptive analysis to provide a clear picture of the challenges and implications of early marriage practices in Indonesia today.

Result and Discussion

This study found that the phenomenon of early marriage in Indonesia is influenced by various interrelated factors, including social norms, culture, and the influence of social media. Data obtained from in-depth interviews with adolescents who marry early, their parents, and community leaders show that early marriage is often seen as a solution to avoid social stigma and maintain family honor. In addition, many teenagers are affected by content on social media that promotes young marriage as a symbol of status or prestige. The results of the analysis showed that there were two main categories of impacts of early marriage: individual impact and social impact. Individual impacts include reproductive, psychological, and educational health issues. Adolescent girls who marry early often face serious health risks because their bodies are not yet ready to conceive and give birth. Psychologically, they also experience stress due to the loss of adolescence and education. On the other hand, social impacts include an increase in divorce rates, poverty, and other social problems that arise due to the unpreparedness of couples in living a married life.

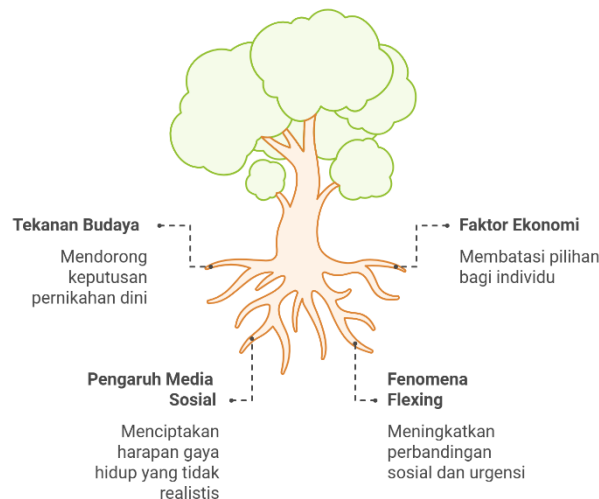
Research shows that one of the main factors driving early marriage is strong cultural norms in society. In many areas, especially in rural areas, there is a notion that marrying girls at a young age can preserve family honor and prevent negative stigma against women who do not marry soon.¹⁵ This is reinforced by the still prevailing tradition of arranged marriage in some communities, where parents feel responsible for ensuring their children marry before reaching a certain age. The driving factors for early marriage are not only limited to cultural norms, but also involve various other aspects that interact with each other. One of the important factors is the pressure from the social environment. In many cases, individuals feel pressured to marry at a young age due to the influence of peers or the surrounding community.

¹⁴ Dr Komang Mahawira dkk., “Deputi Bidang Pengembangan Kelembagaan,” t.t.

¹⁵ Yuli Asmi Rozali, “Penggunaan Analisis Konten Dan Analisis Tematik,” n.d.

For example, teens who hang out with married friends tend to feel that they too should follow in the footsteps. A social environment that favors early marriage can create the perception that marrying young is normal and expected, thus influencing an individual's decision to marry soon without considering their physical and emotional readiness.

Pernikahan Dini Dipengaruhi oleh Media Sosial



In addition, the education factor also plays a significant role in encouraging early marriage. Adolescents who drop out of school or have limited access to education often do not have a sufficient understanding of the consequences of early marriage.¹⁶ They may not realize the importance of education for their future and see marriage as an alternative to avoid boredom or uncertainty in life. Research shows that low levels of parental education also contribute to a child's decision to marry young, as uneducated parents are less likely to provide support or encouragement to continue their education. Economic factors are also a strong driver for early marriage. In many cases, families with difficult economic conditions feel that marrying their children at a young age can reduce their financial burden. By marrying a daughter, parents hope that the responsibility for meeting the child's needs will shift to her husband. This is often a reason for parents to accelerate the marriage of their children, especially in areas where poverty is still high and employment opportunities are limited.

In addition, customs and traditions also have a great influence on the practice of early marriage. In some communities, there is a tradition that requires girls to marry at a certain age as part of the prevailing social norms. Parents may feel pressured to adhere to these traditions so as not to be perceived as violating local cultural norms. In this context, early marriage is not only a personal decision but also part of a social and cultural obligation that must be fulfilled. Finally, the influence of religion cannot be ignored in the context of early marriage. Some religious teachings encourage young marriage as a way to maintain chastity and avoid adultery. In some communities, there is a belief that marrying young is the best way to control adolescents' sexual behavior and ensure that they remain within the moral boundaries set by religion. This often makes teenagers feel that they must marry early in order to meet religious demands and maintain the family's reputation. Thus, the driving factors of early marriage are

¹⁶ Triadhari, "Dampak Psikologis Pernikahan Dini (Studi Kasus Di Kua Kecamatan Kejaksan Kota Cirebon)."

very complex and interrelated, covering social, cultural, economic, educational, and religious aspects. Understanding these factors is critical in an effort to effectively address the issue of early marriage in society.

The Influence of Social Media

Social media plays a significant role in shaping adolescents' views on marriage. Content that promotes a glamorous lifestyle and young marriage as a status symbol can trigger a teenager's desire to get married early. Hashtags like #NikahMuda became popular among teenagers, creating the perception that early marriage is a socially acceptable option. This study shows that many teens feel pressured to follow these trends without considering the long-term consequences.¹⁷ The influence of social media on early marriage among teenagers is increasingly apparent, especially in today's digital era. Social media is not only a means of communication, but also a platform for sharing information and lifestyle. Content that presents young marriage as something glamorous and desirable can create social pressure for teenagers to follow the trend. Research shows that many teens exposed to wedding images and stories on social media find getting married young to be an attractive option, without considering the long-term consequences of the decision. This indicates that social media functions as a strong external influence in shaping adolescents' views and attitudes towards marriage.¹⁸

Further, this phenomenon is exacerbated by the ease of access to information on the internet, which allows adolescents to be exposed to content that is not always positive. For example, they can easily find videos or articles that promote early marriage without providing perspective on the risks and challenges they may face. In addition, with hashtags like #NikahMuda, teens can feel connected to a community that supports the decision, reinforcing their belief that early marriage is normal and acceptable. Research shows that excessive use of social media can lead to impulsive behavior and less wise decisions, including when it comes to marriage.¹⁹

Social media has a negative impact, there is also a positive potential of this platform in disseminating information about the dangers of early marriage. Awareness campaigns conducted through social media can help educate adolescents about the risks and consequences of early marriage and the importance of education and self-development before entering married life. Therefore, it is important for parents, educators, and the community to use social media as a tool to provide appropriate education to adolescents about early marriage. With the right approach, social media can be a means to encourage teenagers to make better decisions about their future. In terms of health, early marriage has a serious impact on individuals, especially women. Adolescent girls who get married at a young age are at risk of complications during pregnancy and childbirth because their bodies are not fully

¹⁷ Mukhsin Aseri, "Peran Keluarga dan Lingkungan Sosial dalam Mencegah Perkawinan Usia Dini di Kecamatan Banjarmasin Selatan," *Management of Education Jurnal Manajemen Pendidikan Islam* 10, no. 2 (2021): 268–75.

¹⁸ Febrian Cahyo Pradono dan Basukianto, "Faktor yang Mempengaruhi Penyusunan Kebijakan (Studi Pada SKPD Pemerintah Provinsi Jawa Tengah)," *Jurnal Bisnis dan Ekonomi (JBE)* 22, no. 2 (2015): 188–200.

¹⁹ Moch Hari Purwiantoro, Dany Fajar Kristanto, dan Widiyanto Hadi, "Pengaruh Penggunaan Media Sosial Terhadap Usaha Kecil Menengah (UKM)," *AMIK Cipta Darma Surakarta* 1, no. 1 (2016): 30–39.

developed. In addition, they tend to neglect education and opportunities for self-development, thus worsening their physical and mental health conditions.²⁰

Health complications that are often experienced by women who marry early include preeclampsia, postpartum bleeding, and infections, which can lead to maternal and infant mortality. The inability to access adequate health care is also a major problem, as many adolescents are unaware of the importance of prenatal check-ups and reproductive health care. Additionally, the psychological distress of early marriage can lead to mental health problems such as depression and anxiety, further worsening their quality of life.²¹ Early marriage often results in women being trapped in a cycle of poverty. By leaving formal education and entering married life early, they lose the opportunity to get a decent job in the future. This not only impacts them individually but also affects the next generation, as children of couples who marry early tend to face similar challenges in education and health. Therefore, it is important to realize that early marriage is not only an individual issue but also a social issue that requires serious attention from all parties.

Psychological Impact

Psychologically, young couples who marry early often face significant challenges in adapting to the shifting roles and responsibilities that come with household life. These challenges are compounded by their lack of maturity and readiness to handle the emotional and social demands of marriage. Research has shown that many young couples experience profound regret over the premature loss of their adolescence—a critical period that should have been devoted to education, personal growth, and social interaction. The sense of losing out on these opportunities can lead to feelings of frustration, unfulfillment, and even resentment, which may strain their marital relationships. The emotional unpreparedness of young couples also makes them particularly vulnerable to conflicts within the household. Marriage requires effective communication, compromise, and patience—skills that are often underdeveloped at a young age. This lack of emotional readiness not only increases the likelihood of misunderstandings but also escalates minor disagreements into significant conflicts. In some cases, the inability to manage marital stress can lead to domestic violence (KDRT), further destabilizing the relationship and negatively impacting the well-being of both partners.²²

Additionally, the psychological toll of early marriage can have long-term consequences. The burden of adult responsibilities, such as managing finances and raising children, can lead to chronic stress and anxiety, particularly when young couples feel unprepared or unsupported. This mental strain often hinders their ability to build healthy relationships and maintain emotional stability. For many, these challenges can result in a cycle of dissatisfaction

²⁰ Vani Kenanga Nan Wangi, Elo Bahiroh, dan Ali Imron, "Dampak Kesehatan Dan Keselamatan Kerja, Beban Kerja, Dan Lingkungan Kerja Fisik Terhadap Kinerja Karyawan," *Jurnal Manajemen Bisnis* 7, no. 1 (2020): 40–50, <https://doi.org/10.33096/jmb.v7i1.532>.

²¹ Rheananda Rhere Fitriajaya, Islam Pandu Utomo, dan Lina Handayani, "Dampak Kesehatan Akibat Kecanduan Game Online Pada Remaja," *Jurnal Cakrawala Promkes* 4, no. 2 (2022): 102–13, <https://doi.org/10.12928/promkes.v4i2.5651>.

²² Hayatul Khairul Rahmat dan Desi Alawiyah, "Konseling Traumatik: Sebuah Strategi Guna Mereduksi Dampak Psikologis Korban Bencana Alam," *Jurnal Mimbar: Media Intelektual Muslim dan Bimbingan Rohani* 6, no. 1 (2020): 34–44, <https://doi.org/10.47435/mimbar.v6i1.372>.

and unhappiness, which not only affects the couple but also has a ripple effect on their family and community. Ultimately, early marriage often deprives individuals of the time and space needed to develop the psychological resilience and life skills essential for a stable and fulfilling marital life. The immense pressure to fulfill the roles and expectations of being a husband or wife at a young age often results in prolonged psychological stress. Adolescents who marry early are thrust into the demanding responsibilities of managing a household and raising children, often without adequate preparation, skills, or support systems. This overwhelming burden frequently leaves them feeling trapped, helpless, and unfulfilled, contributing to a decline in their mental well-being. The combination of unmet expectations and unrelenting stress can manifest as chronic anxiety, feelings of inadequacy, and even clinical depression, further eroding their ability to navigate the challenges of married life effectively.

The inability to adapt to the complexities of marital life at a young age also increases the risk of domestic violence (KDRT).²³ The emotional immaturity of young couples often results in an inability to resolve conflicts constructively, leading to frequent disagreements and escalating tensions. Research has shown that early marriages are more prone to both physical and emotional violence, as the lack of harmony and understanding in these relationships creates a volatile environment. For instance, financial strain, unmet emotional needs, and unrealistic expectations often amplify frustrations, making conflicts more intense and difficult to manage. This cycle of disharmony not only jeopardizes the mental and emotional health of the couple but also adversely affects any children involved, perpetuating a legacy of dysfunction. Given these challenges, it is crucial to provide psychological and educational support to adolescents before they enter into marriage. Structured programs focusing on emotional intelligence, conflict resolution, and communication skills can equip young individuals with the tools needed to build healthy, stable relationships. Additionally, access to counseling services and community support can help alleviate the pressures faced by young couples, allowing them to navigate their roles more effectively. By fostering emotional and social maturity, these interventions can reduce the risks associated with early marriage and promote more sustainable and fulfilling partnerships.

Economic Impact

From an economic perspective, early marriage often fails to address the family's financial challenges and, in many cases, exacerbates the economic difficulties faced by young couples. This phenomenon occurs because most young couples who marry early are not financially prepared to support a family. They frequently struggle to meet basic needs such as food, housing, and healthcare, creating a precarious economic situation. Consequently, the cycle of poverty is perpetuated, as these couples may lack the resources and opportunities to improve their living standards. One of the primary reasons for this economic instability is that individuals who marry at a young age often have limited education and skills. This lack of qualifications restricts their access to stable, well-paying jobs, forcing them into low-wage employment with little job security. Such working conditions make it difficult for them to

²³ Lolita Moorena, "Women's Labor Supply and Decision Making Power in the Household: Evidence from the Shift in Divorce Norms Under Indonesia's Domestic Violence Law," *Available at SSRN 5052894*, 2024, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=5052894.

achieve financial independence, leaving them vulnerable to economic shocks, such as illness or job loss. The financial strain can also lead to chronic stress, further complicating their relationships and increasing the likelihood of conflict and tension between partners.²⁴

Moreover, the burden of financial responsibility that comes with early marriage often leaves young couples with little to no capacity for long-term planning. The pressing demands of meeting daily needs, such as food, shelter, and utilities, often consume their limited resources, making it difficult to prioritize saving for their children's education.²⁵ This lack of savings can hinder the next generation's access to better educational opportunities, perpetuating a cycle of limited prospects. Without proper education, children of young couples are often unable to break free from the socio-economic constraints faced by their parents, further deepening the intergenerational cycle of poverty. In addition to educational challenges, financial constraints also limit young couples' ability to invest in critical areas such as healthcare, insurance, or savings for future emergencies. This lack of investment in long-term well-being not only exposes them to heightened vulnerabilities, such as the inability to cope with unexpected medical expenses, but also reduces their potential to achieve financial stability over time. As a result, early marriage not only affects the immediate financial health of the couple but also diminishes their ability to create a secure and prosperous future, leaving lasting repercussions for their family's socio-economic mobility across generations.

Furthermore, the economic limitations of early marriage extend to the couple's children, who often bear the brunt of their parents' financial struggles.²⁶ Children born to parents who marry young are more likely to grow up in environments with fewer resources, lower educational opportunities, and limited access to healthcare. These disadvantages significantly affect their ability to thrive and reach their full potential, creating a cycle of deprivation that is challenging to escape. This perpetuation of poverty, driven by constrained economic opportunities and limited access to quality education, ensures that the struggles of one generation are passed on to the next. To address these issues, it is crucial for communities and governments to provide comprehensive economic and educational support to adolescents. Programs that focus on financial literacy, career development, and access to quality education can empower young people to make informed decisions about marriage and their future. Initiatives such as scholarships, vocational training, and community mentorship can also help adolescents build a strong foundation for economic independence. By equipping young individuals with the tools to navigate their future responsibly, society can mitigate the negative impacts of early marriage and promote sustainable socio-economic growth for future generations.

²⁴ Hary Hermawan, "Dampak Pengembangan Desa Wisata Nglanggeran Terhadap Ekonomi Masyarakat Lokal," *Jurnal Pariwisata* 3, no. 2 (2016): 105–17.

²⁵ Anissa Adun, "How Community Food Programs Empower Financial Wellness," *Available at SSRN 4845548*, 2024, https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4845548.

²⁶ Shiferaw Gelchu Adola dan Dessalegn Wirtu, "Effects of early marriage among women married before reaching 18 years old (qualitative study approach)," *Frontiers in Sociology* 9 (2024): 1412133, <https://www.frontiersin.org/journals/sociology/articles/10.3389/fsoc.2024.1412133/full>.

Policy Recommendations

This research also highlights the importance of the role of the government and society in overcoming the problem of early marriage. Although there are legal regulations that prohibit early marriage, such as Law Number 16 of 2019 concerning Marriage, the implementation of this policy is still not effective in the field. Therefore, a joint effort is needed from the government, educational institutions, and civil society organizations to provide education about the dangers of early marriage and increase access to education for adolescents.²⁷ One step that can be taken is to increase awareness campaigns at the community level regarding the negative impacts of early marriage. Educational programs involving parents, adolescents, and community leaders can help change the social views and norms that support this practice. In addition, the provision of accurate information about reproductive health and children's rights is also essential to help adolescents make better decisions regarding their future. By involving all elements of society, it is hoped that an environment can be created that supports the prevention of early marriage.²⁸

In addition, the government needs to strengthen cooperation with educational institutions to ensure that sex education and reproductive health are part of the school curriculum. A comprehensive education can provide adolescents with a better understanding of the consequences of early marriage and the importance of continuing education and self-development. Thus, through a holistic and collaborative approach between the government, the community, and educational institutions, it is hoped that the early marriage rate can be significantly reduced and the younger generation can have a better future. To reduce the rate of early marriage in Indonesia, this study recommends the development of intervention programs that focus on sex education and children's rights as well as awareness campaigns on the consequences of early marriage. In addition, economic support for low-income families also needs to be increased so that parents do not feel forced. Educational programs should include comprehensive information regarding reproductive health, healthy relationships, and the importance of continuing education. By providing youth with the right knowledge, they can make better decisions regarding their marriage and future.²⁹

In addition, economic support for low-income families also needs to be increased so that parents do not feel forced to marry their children early. The government can provide financial aid, educational scholarships, or skills training programs that can help families improve their economic well-being. By reducing economic pressures, parents will be better able to consider educational options for their children rather than rushing into marrying them.³⁰ Another recommendation is to involve the community in efforts to prevent early marriage through

²⁷ Hendra Mondong, "Peran Pemerintah Desa dalam Meningkatkan Partisipasi Masyarakat dalam Pembangunan Desa," *Governance* 5, no. 1 (2013): 1-18.

²⁸ Rizky A. Prasajo dan Luluk Fauziah, "Peran Pemerintah-Masyarakat dalam Pembangunan Desa Sedatigede Kecamatan Sedati Kabupaten Sidoarjo," *JKMP (Jurnal Kebijakan dan Manajemen Publik)* 3, no. 1 (2015): 49-64, <https://doi.org/10.21070/jkmp.v3i1.180>.

²⁹ Suci Iriani Sinuraya, "JSPG: Journal of Social Politics and Governance Rekomendasi Kebijakan Mengatasi Dampak LP2B di Sleman Suatu Studi Kasus di Kapanewon Seyegan, Sleman," *Journal of Social Politics and Governance (JSPG)* 3, no. 2 (2021): 97-117.

³⁰ BAMBANG SETIAJI dan P.A. KODRAT PRAMUDHO, "Pemanfaatan Teknologi Informasi Berbasis Data Dan Jurnal Untuk Rekomendasi Kebijakan Bidang Kesehatan," *HEALTHY: Jurnal Inovasi Riset Ilmu Kesehatan* 1, no. 3 (2022): 166-75, <https://doi.org/10.51878/healthy.v1i3.1649>.

community-based programs that educate and empower adolescents and parents. Activities such as seminars, workshops, and group discussions can help change the social norms that favor early marriage and encourage open dialogue on related issues. With a collaborative approach between the government, the community, and educational institutions, it is hoped that a more supportive environment can be created for adolescents to grow and develop without the pressure to marry their children at a young age.

Conclusion

This study shows that early marriage is a complex phenomenon that is influenced by various social, cultural, and economic factors in Indonesia. The impact is not only felt by individuals, but also by families and society as a whole, creating a cycle of prolonged poverty and health problems. Although there are legal regulations that prohibit early marriage, its implementation is still ineffective, so collaborative efforts from the government, educational institutions, and the community are needed to overcome this issue. The results and discussion of this study provide a comprehensive overview of the challenges faced in dealing with the phenomenon of early marriage in the flexing era and its implications for law and ethics on social media. With the increasing influence of social media in shaping teens' views on marriage, it is important to utilize these platforms as an educational tool to disseminate accurate and educational information.

Therefore, the policy recommendations proposed in this study should be seriously considered to reduce the rate of early marriage. The development of comprehensive educational programs, economic support for low-income families, and awareness campaigns at the community level will go a long way in creating a more supportive environment for adolescents. With these steps, it is hoped that future generations can grow better, have the opportunity to pursue higher education, and make more informed decisions about their future.

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