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LGBT Sexual Disorientation in East Java Region (Sexual education deviant in a city in East Java)

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Abstract : *The aim of this research is to understand the background and sexual behavior of LGBT teenagers in a city located in the East Java region that has sexual disorientation. Sexual disorientation is the physical attraction, emotional arousal, romantic and sexual interest of a person towards others that disregards their sexual identity (biological sex) and sexual behavior. Homosexuality is a condition in which a person exhibits sexual behavior between individuals of the same sex. The teenage years are a transitional period marked by physical and psychological changes from childhood to adulthood. In each developmental period, there are a number of developmental tasks that must be completed. This type of research is qualitative research with a phenomenological approach using snowball sampling technique. Data collection in this research utilized interview, observation, and documentation techniques conducted with 5 gay teenagers. Data analysis began with observation and documentation, followed by in-depth interviews with key informants. That is someone who truly understands and knows the situation of the research object. After conducting the interview, data analysis begins by creating a transcript of the interview results, by playing back the recording of the interview, listening carefully, and then writing down the words heard according to what is on the recording. The results of this study indicate that the background of LGBT adolescents in a city located in East Java is influenced by personality traits that have developed since childhood, significant others, and reference groups. Meanwhile, the depiction of their behavior is relatively similar to that of teenagers who are dating the opposite sex, such as holding hands, hugging, and so on.*

Keywords*: homosexual, gay, qualitative, phenomenology.*

INTRODUCTION

News about the LGBT phenomenon, or Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender, has been increasingly prominent lately. This was triggered by the numerous news phenomena and activities from the LGBT members themselves. Both activities that seem positive, such as social activities, and those that seem negative, such as activities related to pornography, as well as persuasive activities to join their group, and so on. Then the discourse or representation of LGBT in popular media was raised, making society more familiar with their lives. This has also enlivened the discussion on LGBT issues nowadays.

The existence of gay[1], lesbian, bisexual, and transgender individuals in this world has actually been around for a long time, including within Indonesian society. However, in recent years, their presence has come under the spotlight of various media due to several cases involving the LGBT community, including actions taken by the LGBT individuals themselves. One of them is the sexual deviance committed by entertainment figures in Indonesia. Many people did not expect the actions taken by the artist, especially since she had previously lived a normal married life, even though it ultimately ended in failure. Physically, he looks impressive like a true man. However, behind all of that, there is a sexual deviation that he/she has committed.

Sigmund Freud (in his writings) states that humans actually have an inherent bisexual nature. This means that everyone has the foundation and potential to be bisexual[2]. Referring to hormonal theory, every human actually possesses elements of both male and female hormones, and the interplay of these elements is a normal and easily occurring phenomenon.

Based on the survey results from the Ministry of Health conducted in 13 cities in Indonesia from 2009 to 2013, there has been a drastic increase in men engaging in same-sex relationships. Nafsiah Mboi, the Minister of Health in Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's administration, explained during a media event at the Ministry of Health office in Jakarta on Thursday (April 24, 2014) that "In 2009, the percentage of men who have sex with men increased from 7% to 12.8% in 2013, which is an 83%

[1] Gay is another term for homosexual and is popular in Western countries, then fully adopted in Indonesia. Please check again Boelstorff, Tom. 2005. Gay Archipelago. Princeton and Oxford, USA

[2] Mu'allafah, S. The Dynamics of the Personality of Bisexual Women: A Case Study on a Bisexual Woman Who Experienced Sexual Harassment. Malang: State University of Malang.

increase. Similar data was also presented by the Minister of Health through a previous survey conducted in 20 cities. According to the Minister of Health, in that survey, the number of men engaging in sex with men also rose from 5.3% to 12.4%."

In Jakarta, which is classified as a major city as mentioned above, the number of LGBT individuals has been increasing every year. This number can also spread to other developing cities, including one city located in the East Java region. This city is one of the cities that has undergone social changes along with the presence of its wells and oil refineries. Many foreigners are arriving to occupy this oil city, both from other regions and from abroad. The lifestyle of the residents in this area has also changed; from findings of several cases, some teenagers in this oil city are experiencing moral degradation in relation to sexual relationships. The improving economy in various parts of this city is also influencing the lifestyle of its residents, including among teenagers. This psychosocial aspect is one of the reasons behind a teenager's tendency towards LGBT. The cross-culture between foreign cultures and local cultures is seen as one of the causes of the emergence of LGBT cases in this oil city. This cultural exchange can occur directly through interactions between teenagers and newcomers, and indirectly through electronic media. Access to information is becoming increasingly easy in this modern age, allowing people to obtain information as widely as possible. The exchange of cultures, without being accompanied by a good filter from each region, enables the easy influence of incoming cultures on local cultures. This cultural exchange has a significant impact on teenagers. Havinghurst mentions that some developmental tasks of adolescents are to acquire a set of norms and values and to learn to have social roles according to their respective genders. If adolescents have not fulfilled these developmental tasks, it is likely that they will struggle to filter information according to the norms and values that prevail in society, as well as have difficulty in assuming social roles appropriate to their gender.

Erikson mentions that adolescence, spanning the ages of 12 to 20, is the most important stage among other developmental stages, because by the end of this stage, individuals must achieve a sufficient level of ego identity. Including identity about self-concept and gender roles. The crisis between identity and identity chaos reaches its peak at this time. Therefore, if adolescents experience identity chaos at this stage, it is likely that they will face identity confusion in their later lives, including regarding

their sexual lives. Erikson views adolescence as a latent social stage, where individuals are preoccupied with themselves, influenced by genital puberty, which creates opportunities for conflicts related to sex, work, self-esteem, and life philosophy. They are experimenting with various methods and trying out new roles while continuing to strive to find a solid sense of self-identity. Adolescence is an adaptive phase of personality development.

From the description above, this research aims to examine the causes of a teenager becoming LGBT, and the researchers hope for follow-up studies to find solutions to the issues faced by teenagers involved in LGBT activities through counseling and psychological therapy, in order to realize a generation that is healthy, intelligent, faithful, and devout to Allah SWT.

In this study, the author employs a qualitative phenomenological approach. According to Sugiyono, a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism is used to study objects in their natural conditions, where the researcher acts as the key instrument. Sampling of data sources is conducted purposively, data collection techniques involve triangulation, data analysis is inductive/qualitative in nature, and the results of qualitative research emphasize meaning rather than generalization. Qualitative research relies on a holistic understanding of the natural background, positions humans as research tools, conducts inductive data analysis, prioritizes the process over the results, and the findings are agreed upon by both the researcher and the research subjects[3].

The choice of a qualitative phenomenological approach in this research is based on the reason that the issue being examined, which is the depiction of the background and sexual behavior of LGBT youth in a city located in East Java, requires a significant amount of field data that is both current and conceptual. In addition, the qualitative approach is better able to adapt to the many sharpening joint influences on the value patterns encountered and the changing situations during the research process[4].

[3] [3] Sugiyono, *Metode Penelitian Kuantitatif, Kualitatif dan R&D* (Bandung: Alfabeta, 2010), hal. 15
[4] Lexy. J. Moelong, *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif* (Bandung: Remaja Rosdakarya, 2011), hal. 10

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of this research were obtained through observation techniques, followed by in-depth interviews with informants as a form of data collection and direct documentation in the field. After that, data analysis was conducted. The focus of this analysis is to understand the background and sexual behavior of gay teenagers in urban areas of East Java. To ensure that the research is more objective and accurate, the researcher seeks additional information by conducting in-depth interviews with informants to directly observe the phenomenon of the background and behavior of LGBT teenagers in one of the cities in East Java.

In this study, the researcher used a qualitative approach to observe the natural conditions of a phenomenon. This approach aims to gain understanding and depict complex realities. Research using a qualitative approach is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words based on the people or behaviors being observed. The approach is directed towards the background and individuals in a holistic manner. (utuh). So, there was no isolation process conducted on the research object into variables or hypotheses. But seeing it as part of a whole.

In the analysis stage, what the researcher does is create and compile a list of questions for the interview process, data collection, and data analysis conducted by the researcher themselves. To determine the extent of the information provided by research informants, the researcher employs several stages, namely:

1. First, the researcher attempts to collect research data by observing everything or events related to the phenomenon being studied.
2. Second, drafting questions to be used in the interview process based on elements of credibility that will be asked to the sources or informants.
3. Third, conducting interviews with gay teenagers in a city located in East Java, totaling 5 teenagers.
4. Fourth, carrying out direct documentation in the field to complement the data related to this research.
5. Fifth, transferring the research data in the form of a list from all the questions posed to the sources or informants.
6. Sixth, analyzing the results of the interviews that have been conducted.

DESCRIPTIVE ANALYSIS OF RESEARCH RESULTS

Descriptive analysis of research data is an analysis of all the data obtained by the researcher from interviews with five gay teenagers in a city located in East Java. In addition, the researcher also conducted a documentation study in the form of photographs of places frequented by gay individuals, both teenagers and adults. Based on the results of the interviews with the research informants, the researcher can conduct an analysis with the theme of LGBT phenomenology among teenagers in a city located in East Java, which includes:

1. Background of Gay Adolescents in a City in East Java

From interviews with 5 gay adolescents in a city located in East Java. Peneiliti concluded that the formation of teenagers into being gay is due to several factors.

a. Personality

Based on research findings, in general, gay behavior stems from the process of personal experiences they have encountered in their lives. Both experiences grow from childhood and into adolescence. Based on interviews conducted with 5 gay teenage informants, 3 of these teenagers stated that the background of their gay identity is due to a natural inclination and a calling of the soul, which has been present since childhood, whether consciously recognized or not. As stated by one of the research informants named Dani TT.

> "I don't know what caused me to be gay, this feeling has been there since I was in the third grade of elementary school. Since then, until today, I always feel a flutter when I meet a man. But strangely, when I meet a beautiful woman, I don't feel anything and I'm not attracted at all."[5]

b. Significant Other

A significant other is a person who plays a crucial role in the formation of self-concept. They are our parents, our siblings, and the people who live in the

[5] Interview, October 12, 2022

same house with us. The significant other used by the researcher in this study is the informant's parents.

Based on the results of field research, the formation of gay adolescents is due to the lack of closeness in the relationship between parents and children or the parents' indifference towards their children, compounded by limited knowledge about LGBT. This opinion aligns with what Ade H and Reza stated in the interview regarding the background of being gay.

> "My parents don't really understand what being gay or heterosexual is, and I've never been asked about it either." My parents are usually fine with me hanging out with my gay friend when he comes over. They think we are just like other teenagers. "Yes, I understand, maybe it's because they are farmers and are not aware of this."
>
> "My parents are all busy working, my father is out of town while my mother is busy with her merchandise." Although I also understand that it's all for her children. "They never ask about my social life or my friends who often come over."[6]

c. Reference Group

A reference group is a group used as a benchmark (standard) for self-assessment or for shaping attitudes. The reference group used by the researcher in this study is the peers of the research informants. Peers share social similarities that have common characteristics, such as similar age levels and shared interests.

Social relationships with peers hold great significance for an individual's life development. One of the most important functions is to provide a source of information and comparison about the outside world and family. As a social group, it is often defined as people who play an important role in an individual's development.

Based on the research results from interviews with the reference group, for their gay friend, they view it as something normal that has become commonplace, even though initially they did not expect it. As stated by Ade H as the informant of this research.

[6] Interview, October 12, 2022

"Honestly, I initially just did it for fun by following what my friend said, and it has turned into a pleasure in my life." "For self-concept, whoever it is, sir, will definitely lean towards the negative, especially since we live in one of the cities in East Java, which we all know is prohibited by law." [7]

2. The Sexual Behavior of Gay Adolescents in a city located in East Java.

Sexual behavior refers to all actions taken due to sexual urges. In this concept, it does not matter how and with whom or what the impulse is expressed; if the behavior arises from a sexual impulse, it is referred to as sexual behavior. A person's sexual behavior can also be influenced by their relationships with others, as well as by the environment and culture in which the individual lives.

From the results of interviews with 5 gay teenagers in a city in East Java, the researcher concluded that the depiction of sexual behavior they experienced is as follows:

a. Not all cases of LGBT teenagers in this city in East Java engage in sexual relations like husband and wife; however, some of them only date without progressing to further sexual relations. As stated by one of the research informants named Dani TT (pseudonym),

"No, we are not like other gays, even though our feelings are the same, which is liking the same sex." But we still have the courtesy of teenagers in a relationship. We just feel comfortable when we meet. Well, there are others who like to serve older gay men, but once again, not with us. "We have a commitment that we are only dating, and we also share the same goal, which is to want to get married like normal people."[8]

b. From the questionnaire answered by the informants, it shows that the furthest sexual behavior exhibited by gay teenagers in one city located in East Java is kissing with a partner and pressing their genitals against their

[7] Interview, October 14, 2022
[8] Interview, October 12, 2022

partner's body with a barrier. As stated by Refal (a pseudonym) who is an informant in this research.

> "When it comes to sexual behavior, it's pretty normal." The most intimate are holding hands, kissing, and hugging. Basically, that's how it is. Just like the others. And I haven't thought in that direction either. Because I am still in school. I really want to get married. "But it's still far from my mind." [9]

CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings regarding the formation of the backgrounds of gay teenagers in a city located in East Java, it can be concluded that the emergence of these urban teenagers as gay is influenced by several factors, including:

1.The personality that emerges from birth, which has been present within the teenager since childhood, continues to develop as they enter their current adolescent phase.
2. Significant Other/parents
3. Reference Group/peers.

The sexual behavior of gay teenagers is also shaped by the learning process they undergo through electronic media and their peers. The process of forming sexual behavior in gay adolescents does not differ. The process begins with the influence of parenting styles, with the most dominant styles being permissive and neglectful parenting. Then individuals will be influenced by their peers in engaging in sexual behavior. They also learn about sexual behavior through electronic media.

The forms of sexual behavior exhibited by gay teenagers are relatively similar. Like holding hands, hugging, and so on. This research may be biased and cannot be generalized regarding sexual behavior related to desires and sexual urges among gay teenagers, as the study's informants consist of only 5 gay teenagers aged between 17 and 24 years.

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[9] Interview, October 29, 2022

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