

Violation of Marriage Age Limit Provisions in Indonesia: Counseling and Education Perspectives

Suryadi¹, Mursalim², Anisah Prafitralia³

Islamic Guidance and Counseling Study Program, Faculty of Da'wah,

Universitas Islam Negeri Kiai Haji Achmad Siddiq Jember, Indonesia¹

Islamic Religious Education Study Program, Faculty of Tarbiyah and Teacher Training,

Universitas Islam Negeri Kiai Haji Achmad Siddiq Jember, Indonesia²

Islamic Guidance and Counseling Study Program, Faculty of Da'wah,

Universitas Islam Negeri Kiai Haji Achmad Siddiq Jember, Indonesia³

E-mail: surya12@lecturer.uinkhas.ac.id¹, salimabuya@gmail.com²

anisah.prafitralia@uinkhas.ac.id³

Correspondent Author: Suryadi, surya12@lecturer.uinkhas.ac.id

Doi: [10.31316/g-couns.v10i01.7667](https://doi.org/10.31316/g-couns.v10i01.7667)

Abstract

Violation of the marriage age limit provisions is a complex issue and is often overlooked in the context of society. This study aims to explore violations of the marriage age limit from the perspective of counseling and education. In this study, the author employs a qualitative methodology with a descriptive approach, utilizing data collection techniques that include observation, documentation, and interviews, and data analysis based on the theory of Miles and Huberman. In this study, the author analyzes the factors that encourage violations, including social norms, economic pressures, and a lack of understanding of the long-term impacts of early marriage. Through a counseling approach, it is hoped that individuals and families can be given a better understanding of the importance of a healthy marriage age limit. In addition, education plays a crucial role in disseminating information and increasing public awareness of the risks and consequences of marriages that are not in accordance with the provisions. Additionally, early marriage can also impact the quality of education received by teenagers. They may not have equal access to quality education programs, or they may not have enough time to focus on their education. This study is expected to contribute to the development of more effective policies, education, and counseling programs that can reduce violations of the marriage age limit in society.

Keywords: early marriage, marriage dispensation, marriage age limit, reproductive health

Abstrak

Pelanggaran ketentuan batas usia pernikahan adalah masalah yang kompleks dan sering diabaikan dalam konteks masyarakat. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menggali pelanggaran batas usia perkawinan dari perspektif konseling dan pendidikan. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan metodologi kualitatif dengan pendekatan deskriptif, memanfaatkan teknik pengumpulan data yang meliputi observasi, dokumentasi, dan wawancara, serta analisis data berdasarkan teori Miles dan Huberman. Dalam penelitian ini, penulis menganalisis faktor-faktor yang mendorong pelanggaran, termasuk norma sosial, tekanan ekonomi, dan kurangnya pemahaman tentang dampak jangka panjang dari pernikahan dini. Melalui pendekatan konseling, diharapkan individu dan keluarga dapat diberikan pemahaman yang lebih baik tentang pentingnya batas usia pernikahan yang sehat. Selain itu, pendidikan berperan penting dalam menyebarkan informasi dan meningkatkan kesadaran masyarakat akan risiko dan konsekuensi perkawinan yang tidak sesuai dengan ketentuan. Selain itu, pernikahan dini juga dapat berdampak pada kualitas pendidikan yang diterima remaja. Mereka mungkin tidak memiliki akses yang sama ke program pendidikan berkualitas, atau mereka mungkin tidak memiliki cukup waktu untuk fokus pada pendidikan mereka. Penelitian ini diharapkan dapat berkontribusi dalam pengembangan program kebijakan, pendidikan, dan konseling yang lebih efektif yang dapat mengurangi pelanggaran batas usia perkawinan di masyarakat.

Kata kunci: pernikahan dini, dispensasi pernikahan, batas usia pernikahan, kesehatan reproduksi

Article info

Received March 2025, accepted June 2025, published January 2026



INTRODUCTION

Lately, in the social reality, the discussion about the minimum age limit for marriage in Indonesia has again become a controversial discourse. The determination of the age of marriage is related to social matters. Therefore, it is worthwhile to examine the social norms that apply in society. Directly and specifically, in Sharia law, there is no explanation about the appropriate age for men and women who are going to get married. In fact, fiqh books approve of marriage between men and women who are still young, positive that the ability is reported as directly or indirectly, as in fiqh literature.

According to Article 7, paragraph (1) of Law No. 16 of 2019, which amends Law No. 1 of 1974 regarding Marriage, marriage is only permitted if the man is at least 19 years old and the woman is at least 16 years old. In Law Number 16 of 2019, Article 7, paragraph (2) it is stated that if there is a deviation from the age provisions, then the parents of both the man and the woman are permitted to submit a marriage dispensation to the Court on the grounds of public interest and accompanied by supporting evidence (Sekretariat Negara Republik Indonesia, 2019).

The provisions of the article above provide an understanding that Article 7, paragraph (1) should be set aside if there are other urgent and more useful reasons. Dispensation, namely a way out according to the regulations, is to provide advice by the Religious Civil Court to companions whom the Religious Affairs Office rejects because they are not old enough. Or, more importantly, convenience as an option for the public who hope to marry but feel hindered by Law Number 16 of 2019 concerning the age limit to marry, to ensure that they always marry according to official regulations and do not marry outside of them. The existence of Supreme Court Regulation Number 5 of 2019 regulates the understanding, guidelines for judges in carrying out defense, principles for the chief justice, and other matters that govern the resolution of applications for marriage dispensation. especially, as a norm for the chief justice in completing applications for marriage dispensation (Fendi et al., 2024).

Some cases state that the chief justice who decides on a request for leniency in marriage can seek advice from a doctor or a women's and children's insurance support agency, and others. To be precise, Article 15 d states that the judge can seek advice from a psychologist, doctor/physician, professional social worker, social welfare worker, Integrated Service Center for the Protection of Women and Children (P2TP2A), or the Indonesian/Regional Child Protection Commission (KPAI/KPAD) when seeking an explanation from the applicant for leniency in marriage. Half a year ago, Law Number 16 of 2019, concerning the transformation in relation to Law Number 1 of 1974, led to a spike in the number of applicants due to the impact of not fulfilling the requirements, which were constrained by the age limit being regulated. marriage dispensation. This has an impact on many requests for dispensation reaching the ruling court, whether granted or rejected by the Religious Court (Bin Hashim & Aziz, 2023).

Regarding the age limit for marriage, as explained above, the age of 19 is considered to be physically and mentally mature enough to marry, also to slow down the birth rate, reduce the risk of maternal and child mortality, and optimize the fulfillment of needs. Children's rights to their growth and development, and to access the highest possible education (Bin Hashim & Aziz, 2023)

In the long term, early marriage can have broader implications for adolescents' educational and economic opportunities. They may not have the same opportunities to develop the skills and knowledge needed to compete in the job market, or may not have the same access to further education programs. Therefore, it is crucial to address the issue



of early marriage within the context of educational programs. This can be done by raising awareness about the dangers of early marriage, as well as providing support and resources for adolescents who wish to continue their education (Retnowulandari et al., 2024).

However, there are several long-term impacts if this marriage age limit is violated, including: 1) Economic Dependence: Teenagers who marry at too young an age may be more vulnerable to economic dependency, because they may not have enough education and skills to get a good job. 2) Difficulty in Facing Responsibilities: Teenagers who marry at too young an age may have more difficulty in facing the responsibilities of marriage, because they may not have enough experience and skills to face the challenges and pressures that come with marriage. 3) Delay in Developing Skills: Teenagers who marry at too young an age may have more difficulty in developing the skills and knowledge needed to compete in the job market, because they may have to sacrifice their education to face the responsibilities of marriage. 4) Difficulty in Facing Health Problems: Teenagers who marry at too young an age may have more difficulty in facing health problems, because they may not have enough knowledge and skills to deal with complex health problems (Fadilah, 2021).

Based on the results of initial observations, the counseling conducted by the researcher was carried out with both parents who applied for marriage dispensation and with the two couples who were about to get married. The existence of counseling socialization in Sumberbaru District, in collaboration with researchers, provides convenience for applicants seeking marriage dispensation, as psychological guidance is available under one roof at the Religious Court.

The fact is that Jember has the highest number of child marriages in East Java. The data, based on the religious court's August 2023 report, reached 903 marriage dispensations (Diksa). Head of the DP3AKB children's division, Joko Sutrisno, stated that in 2022, Jember ranked second, but this year it has taken first place. The highest Child Marriage (PUA) data is in Sumberbaru, Ledokombo, Silo, Bangsalsari and Sumberjambe Districts (Salma et al., 2024).

The counseling role carried out by researchers and the team is a stage that must be passed by the two assistants who apply for leniency at the Jember Religious Law Council (Lase, 2022). Regarding how the implementation of counseling, both technically carried out by officers and the results of the counseling, will later affect the judge in adjudicating the application for marriage dispensation, this is the main topic of the writing that the author will examine in depth to be able to answer how the Religious Court team and Researchers and the influence of counseling results in adjudicating applications for marriage dispensation at the Jember Religious Court carry out counseling.

The terms "dispensation" and "marriage" can be used to clarify the concept of marriage dispensation (Hidayah & Alaklabi, 2023). Dispensation has a grammatical meaning in the form of a request from a general provision for a certain situation. Marriage has an important meaning as a phase of forming a family with the opposite sex. So, dispensation is a legal exception for special circumstances. The rule referred to here is to seek execution of what is regulated in the Marriage Regulations, which grant marriage for the Religious Court, but because one of the women or men who are close together has not met the basic age limit for marriage.

According to Article 7, paragraph 1 of Law Number 16 of 2019, which amends Law Number 1 of 1974, marriage is not permitted until a person reaches the age of 19 years. This regulation is also reinforced by the provisions of Article 15 paragraph 1 of the Compilation of Islamic Law (KHI) which states that marriage can only be carried out by



a person who is at least 19 years old, as regulated in Article 7 of Law Number 1 of 1974 (State Secretariat of the Republic of Indonesia, 2019), for the benefit of the family and household. These articles and regulations contain different standards to balance the objectives of marriage (Rumadaul, 2020).

Specifically, the principle of voluntariness, family participation, and the maturity of the couple. This includes whether both prospective partners are mature inside and out. Because maturity in marriage and a strong sense of care are essential to lead a family, the mental and physical maturity of both prospective partners is crucial. The Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia has issued Supreme Court Regulation Number 5 of 2019 concerning Guidelines for Applications for Marriage Dispensation in the implementation of examinations (Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia, 2019). The principles that must be considered in evaluating applications for dispensation are specifically stated in the regulation. It outlines the requirements that must be met, as well as who is eligible to submit an application to the court for a marriage regulation. The regulation also outlines the criteria that judges must use when deciding whether to approve or reject an application for marriage dispensation.

Research on early marriage has been widely conducted in recent years. However, the majority of these studies focus more on legal and social aspects, such as the impact of early marriage on reproductive health, family economy, and educational opportunities. Although these studies have made significant contributions to understanding the phenomenon of early marriage, there are still gaps that need to be filled (Kanji et al., 2024).

One of the most striking gaps is the lack of attention to the counseling and education aspects in research on early marriage. Most research on early marriage focuses more on the legal and social aspects, but does not discuss much about how early marriage can affect the mental and emotional well-being of married adolescents. Therefore, this study aims to fill this gap by focusing on the counseling and education aspects in the context of early marriage.

This study will discuss how early marriage can affect the mental and emotional well-being of married adolescents, and how counseling and education can help these adolescents to face the challenges and pressures that come with early marriage. Thus, this study is expected to make a significant contribution to understanding the phenomenon of early marriage and aid in the development of effective counseling and educational programs for married adolescents.

Several researchers have studied marriage dispensation, among them Mughniatul Ilma, whose study suggests that the increase in the minimum age for marriage is not accompanied by strict rules regarding the limits for submitting marriage dispensation (Ikhsanudin & Nurjanah, 2018). As a result, almost all requests for marriage dispensation were granted. The study's results stated that only pregnancy was categorized as an emergency, while other pregnancies were not categorized as emergencies and therefore did not require emergency care (Efrinaldi et al., 2023). Further research conducted by Sonny Dwi et al., studied that increasing the minimum equality of the age of marriage between men and women as an effort to minimize the number of child marriages turned out to be ineffective, not only because of the government's unpreparedness in anticipating the spike in requests for marriage dispensation, but also the low public awareness to comply with the rules.

Another study conducted by Faiq Tobroni highlighted the Constitutional Court Number 74/PUU-XII/2014, which did not provide constitutional standards as a



consideration for granting marriage dispensation (Tobroni, 2018). This indicates that the standard for granting marriage dispensation is an open legal policy that can be revised at any time in response to the needs and conditions of the community (Efrinaldi et al., 2023). In addition, Yuni claims that a request for marriage dispensation will be granted if there are reasons and evidence; conversely, if the reasons are insufficient and the evidence is not strong, it will be rejected (Yuni, 2021). It was further emphasized that granting dispensation is a form of violation of children's rights, so marriage dispensation should be eradicated (Rumadaul, 2020). Meanwhile, there has been no research on the emergency reasons considered by judges when granting a request for marriage dispensation. which then became the background of this study. This discussion focuses on the categories of motivation and court reasons that judges consider in granting marriage dispensation applications at the Jember Religious Court.

The formulation of the problem in this study is: What motivates parents to marry their children early? Second, what are the backgrounds to early marriage? The study's results on marriage dispensation are expected to make a significant contribution to the development of effective education policies and programs aimed at preventing early marriage and improving the quality of life for adolescents. Of course, the results of this study can also serve as a reference for revising the existing Marriage Law, ensuring it meets the needs and rights of adolescents in the context of marriage.

The results of this study will also be used to develop more effective educational policies aimed at preventing early marriage and enhancing the quality of life for adolescents. In terms of government programs, of course, this study will be used to develop more effective sexuality education programs in preventing early marriage. It will also be used to develop more effective counseling and guidance programs that help adolescents face the challenges and pressures associated with early marriage.

This study on Violation of Marriage Age Limit Provisions in Indonesia: Counseling and Education Perspective has several significant innovations. First, this study employs a counseling and education approach to understand the phenomenon of violating marriage age limit provisions in Indonesia. Second, this study employs a qualitative research method to gain insight into the experiences and perceptions of women who marry at a young age. This study employs a counseling and educational approach to understand the phenomenon of violating marriage age limit provisions in Indonesia. Using counseling techniques or approaches certainly provides an understanding for husbands and wives who marry underage in building a household.

RESEARCH METHODS

This study employs a qualitative approach, which aims to understand the research subject's holistic experiences and describe them in words and language within a specific natural context, utilizing various natural methods. The type of research used is a case study, specifically examining the status of the research subject in relation to a specific or typical phase of the entire personality (John W. Creswell, 2013). Case studies are chosen because the research used to understand social and cultural phenomena in depth and detail through specific case analysis. Case studies focus on collecting both qualitative and quantitative data, including interviews, observations, document analysis, and surveys (Raco, 2010).

The stages of qualitative research with a case study approach include: 1) Case Selection: The researcher selects a specific case to be studied, namely, the Age Limits for Marriage in Education and Counseling. 2) Data Collection: The researcher collects data



using several techniques, namely through interviews, observations, document analysis, and surveys. 3) Data Analysis: The researcher analyzes the data that has been collected to understand the phenomenon being studied. 4) Interpretation of Results: The researcher interprets the results of the data analysis to understand the phenomenon of age limits for marriage. 5) Theory Development: The researcher develops a theory that can explain the phenomenon being studied, namely early marriage in the aspects of Education and Counseling.

The certainty of the subject is based on the reasoning of the thought, which emphasizes the subject of children who enter into underage marriages. These parents allow children to marry even though they are not yet mature enough, and for educational reasons, which makes children marry before they are old enough.

The data in this study were collected using observation, interview and documentation techniques (Sugiyono, 2013). In this study, researchers conducted direct observations to collect data related to the observed aspects. Observations were conducted by directly observing teenagers who married at a young age, including participation in household activities, social activities, and educational activities. Observations were also conducted by recording the activities of teenagers who married at too young an age using a recorder. Meanwhile, interviews were conducted to obtain in-depth information related to the research object. This interview was conducted with couples who had marriage dispensations, religious figures, parents, and friends of the research subjects to gather the desired information (Raco, 2010). Interviews were conducted by asking open-ended questions to teenagers who married at too young an age. The questions asked included inquiries about the background, motivation, and experience related to early marriage. Interviews were also conducted by recording the answers of teenagers who married at too young an age using a recorder. The information obtained by researchers from the documentation was photos of the counseling process activities and documentation related to the interview process (Saputra et al., 2023). And documentation is carried out by collecting documents related to early marriage and analyzing them to understand how early marriage is regulated and implemented in society.

The data collection instruments in the form of interviews, observations and documentation used in this study were adapted and modified for the research context by using simple language that is easy for teenagers who marry at too young an age to understand and using examples that are relevant to the daily lives of teenagers who marry at too young an age (John W. Creswell, 2013).

The data analysis technique employed in this study is qualitative data analysis, as developed by Miles and Huberman. The stages of data analysis in this study are data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions or making inferences (Matthew B. Miles, 2014). Data reduction is the process of condensing the amount of data collected into a simpler and more easily understood form by grouping data related to identified themes and eliminating irrelevant or useless information. Presentation of data that has been analyzed in a form that is easier to understand and more interesting, namely, using narratives to present data in more detail and more depth and using tables and graphs to present data visually about the number of teenagers who marry too early.

The validity of this study is assessed using the Transferability test to ensure that the research results can be applied to other contexts. Such as using various data collection techniques, such as interviews, observations, and document analysis. Using various data analysis techniques, such as theme analysis, content analysis, and narrative analysis (Sugiyono, 2013). Using data verification techniques, such as asking for confirmation



from participants or using secondary data. By employing the methods outlined above, researchers can enhance the validity of qualitative research data and ensure that the research results are accurate and reliable.

Table 1.
Research Steps Table

Step	Description
1.	Literature review on Violation of Marriage Age Limit
2.	Survey design and validation
3.	Participant selection and data collection
4.	Data analysis (quantitative and/or qualitative)
5.	Results interpretation and conclusion

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Based on the study's results, the factors contributing to underage marriage in Sumberbaru District, Jember Regency, are attributed to economic, cultural, and social factors, including free association and dating without adherence to legal and religious norms. Based on the results of an interview with Misroni, an employee at the village office, stated that "over the past 3 years, there have been 19 cases of underage marriage. For men, there are those aged 16 and 17 years, and for women, there are those who marry at the ages of 14 and 15 years. The cause is a free lifestyle, where they date until they disregard religious norms, have no activities (work), and thus spend all their time thinking about boredom and socializing everywhere, coupled with weak parental control. "

The data and interviews above indicate that underage marriage continues to occur from year to year. Meanwhile, according to Tono, as a religious figure in the local village, the cause of underage marriage is due to free association, complicated household problems (broken home) and pregnancy outside of marriage.

Another factor mentioned is that the cause of early marriage is influenced by environmental factors and parenting patterns (Bangkinang, 2020). Environmental factors, such as the influence of the environment on risky dating behavior, including following friends who are married, may occur because of the child's own strong desire to get married. Family parenting factors, such as children who are victims of their parents' divorce, have the potential to experience mental disorders. In a situation like this, the child then tries to find a comfortable place outside the home, such as at a friend's house, at a girlfriend's house, until finally deciding to get married and is vulnerable to taking risky actions, so that not a few cases of early marriage occur due to pregnancy outside of marriage".

However, there are also reasons that are slightly different from most. Underage marriages also occur because of their own desires or drives. As SG stated in the following interview: "I got married at the age of 17, it was because of my own drive. There was no coercion from other people or my parents. My wife and I love each other and believe we are well-suited to get married, even at a young age. My wife and I only knew each other through social media, at first, after that we exchanged cellphone numbers or WhatsApp numbers, because there was harmony, that's why we planned to get married".

However, some parents marry their children under age because of economic factors without considering the impact on the child in the future, such as thinking about whether the child is able to live life after marriage. Matters related to the child's future, especially after marriage, must be considered carefully so that the child can accept and



respond to any problems that may arise in the household in the future. In this case, it actually goes back to the person running it; whether he is able to do so depends on him. Carrying out a marriage at an early age can ease the burden on parents due to the poor economy. In this case, marriage is considered as one way to ease the economic burden of the family, especially the burden borne by the parents.

Based on the interview above, economic factors are one of the causes of underage marriage. Children who are released to marry are considered to have lightened the burden on their parents. Based on the researcher's observations, F's family is indeed classified as a low-income family. According to others, underage marriage is caused by educational factors. Children who have just graduated from Junior High School (SMP) and decided not to continue their higher education ultimately decide to marry at an immature age.

As stated by LD, who was 17 years old when she got married, the decision to get married at an early age was due to her not continuing her education. "I was too lazy to continue school, coincidentally, my girlfriend also did not continue her school, and there were other things that made us have to get married, finally, we have been married until now. Because I have nothing to do anymore, I don't continue school either, my wife also doesn't go to school anymore, rather than dating for a long time, we finally decided to get married".

In this case, the parents are the mother and father, who are the result of a legal marriage bond that forms a family and carries the responsibility to educate, care for, and guide their children through certain stages until they are ready to live independently (Heryanto et al., 2020). Based on the results of this study, the low education of both parents leads to a mindset of resignation and acceptance. This resignation causes parents to matchmake their children without considering the child's condition when deciding who to marry. As done by AB, a 17-year-old, regarding the reasons for getting married. In addition to the various causes as described above, other causes of underage marriage in Sumberbaru Village are also caused by accidents or pregnancy outside of marriage (married by accident).

Based on the results of the study, the factors causing underage marriage include: (a) Education factors. Many children who marry at an early age are due to dropping out of school, (b) Willingness factors or the urge to have their own desires. The case of early marriage in Kalajena Village occurred because of their own urges. Both felt that they already loved each other, and so those who already had partners or lovers were influenced to marry at a young age. (c) Pregnancy factors. The case of early marriage that occurred in Kalajena Village was due to pregnancy before marriage. That free association can be one of the factors. As a result of the excessive freedom of adolescent association, especially in dating relationships, adolescents can have sex and pregnancy outside of marriage. This is one of the factors that causes early marriage among adolescents, (d) Family environment factors. Many parents become migrant workers so that their children are only left with their families, during which the family carries out the child's upbringing. Another thing is that many parents are unable to send their children to school, so the choice for their children is to get married quickly, also due to the child's lack of desire to continue their education.

From the description of the research results above, it can be classified as follows:

1. Education Factor

Low levels of education or not pursuing further education to a higher level, in this case can encourage someone to enter into early marriage. Additionally, the level of family education can also influence the likelihood of early marriage. Early marriage is also



influenced by the level of education of the community as a whole. Some communities with low levels of education will tend to marry off their children at a young age. It can be concluded that education is one of the factors that contribute to early marriage, specifically adolescent education and parental education. In the education sector, it will have a significant impact on economic factors.

2. Factor Married By Accident

In Indonesia, cases of early marriage are often caused by pregnancy before marriage or Married By Accident (MBA). Early marriage often occurs in children who are going through puberty, because teenagers are very vulnerable to engaging in sexual behavior that they do before marriage. It can be concluded that free association can be one of the factors. As a result of the excessive freedom of adolescent association, especially in dating relationships, adolescents can have premarital sex and pregnancy outside of marriage. This is one of the factors that causes early marriage among adolescents (Fadilat Tsaniya et al., 2023).

3. Economic Factor

Poverty is one of the factors that has a major influence in encouraging early marriage because in some areas, such as in Indonesia, women are still often labeled as a burden on the family's economy. Parents who use economic welfare as a reason for early marriage for their children assume that by allowing their daughters to be married off, they can ease the cost of living for their parents. Additionally, household expenses and income are also indicators of a family's level of welfare (Dianti, 2017).

There are several factors that cause early marriage based on the situation in Sumberbaru Village, namely:

1. Own will: because both feel they already love each other, and so those who already have partners or lovers are influenced to get married at a young age.
2. Economy: Due to family circumstances living on the poverty line, to ease the burden on their parents, their daughters are often married off to people considered capable. Parents often feel unable to send their children to school, so they are quickly married off. This is partly due to the child's lack of desire to continue school and the fear of becoming an old maid. As a result, the only way out is to marry them off as soon as possible when a suitable match is found.
3. Education: low levels of education and knowledge of parents and society lead to a tendency to marry off children who are still minors.
4. Tradition: early marriage occurs because it is still considered normal for marriage to take place at a young age or adolescence, and it has become a tradition that is difficult to eliminate in that community.
5. Pregnancy factors outside of marriage. Generally, the phenomenon of early marriage is often caused by an unintentional "accident" resulting from free association. Therefore, there are consequences for the actions that have been taken, namely, the practice of early marriage. Marriage is carried out with the aim of covering up the shame and disgrace borne by the family, because there is no other choice but to marry them off at that time, even though their age is still relatively young.
6. Factors of mass media development. The transition from childhood to adulthood is accompanied by a great sense of curiosity, making teenagers want to know everything about themselves and their surroundings. Entering adolescence, many changes occur in them, including changes in body shape. The role of mass media is a means of providing various information for teenagers, including information related to sex or pornography. Due to the ease of accessing information in the mass media, it makes



teenagers' curiosity is even higher, so they use it to search for information about sex in the mass media.

Social and Cultural Causal Factors:

Social norms that support early marriage are still strong in some communities, causing adolescents to be pressured to marry before the specified age. Pressure from family, friends, and society can prompt individuals to marry at a young age. In some cases, parents or family members feel that marrying off their children at a young age is a way to maintain family honor or avoid social stigma (Luruk & Tabun, 2023).

Lack of education on reproductive health and individual rights can lead to adolescents not understanding the consequences of early marriage. Marriage dispensations are often granted without a thorough understanding of the responsibilities that come with them. In some communities, early marriage is seen as a solution to economic problems. Marriage dispensations can arise in response to situations where families feel that marrying off their children early can help reduce the financial burden (Iqbal & Rabiah, 2020).

Lack of access to education is one of the factors that causes early marriage. Teenagers who do not have access to adequate education often do not have enough knowledge and skills to face the challenges and pressures that come with early marriage. In addition, lack of access to education can also make teenagers more vulnerable to social and cultural pressures to marry at too young an age.

In some cultures, there is a perception that adolescents who have reached a certain age are considered mature enough to marry, even though they have not reached the legal age limit. This can lead to the application for dispensation as a way to acknowledge this maturity (Fendi et al., 2024). Changes in social and family structures, such as the increasing number of single parents or changes in family dynamics, can influence the decision to marry early and apply for dispensation (Nabila et al., 2022).

Patriarchal culture is one of the factors that causes early marriage in society. In a patriarchal culture, the role of men is considered more dominant and has greater power in the family and society. This can cause women, especially young women, to be more vulnerable to pressure to marry at too young an age. In a patriarchal culture, men are considered to have greater power in the family and society (Sakina & A., 2017). This can cause women to be more vulnerable to pressure to marry at too young an age.

In patriarchal cultures, women are often considered to be less able to get good jobs and have greater economic dependence on their husbands. This can make early marriage more vulnerable to economic dependence (Muhammad Iqbal Revilliano et al., 2023). And in patriarchal cultures, women are often considered to be less able to face the challenges and pressures that come with early marriage. This can make early marriage more vulnerable to difficulties in facing challenges.

In the educational context, educators can teach teenagers about the impact of early marriage on their health, education, and economic well-being. Educators can also teach teenagers about the importance of education in improving the quality of life and reducing the risk of early marriage. Additionally, they can teach teenagers the skills to cope with pressure from family and society to marry at too young an age (Ma'rufa et al., 2024).

Counseling and education can be implemented in the community in several ways, including: 1) Holding Counseling and Education Programs: Holding counseling and education programs that teenagers and parents can follow. 2) Using Social Media: Using social media to disseminate information about the impact of early marriage and the



importance of education. 3) Cooperating with Community Institutions Cooperating with community institutions to develop effective counseling and education programs (Lase, 2022). Thus, counseling and education can be implemented in society to reduce violations of the marriage age limit and improve the quality of life of adolescents.

Positive Impact of Marriage Dispensation

The first positive impact of marriage dispensation is reducing social stigma. With marriage dispensation, individuals who marry at a young age no longer feel marginalized or judged by society. This can help reduce the social stigma that is often attached to early marriage. Providing Legal Protection: Marriage dispensation provides legal protection for couples who marry under the specified age. This ensures that their rights are recognized and protected, and prevents exploitation or abuse (Alexander et al., 2024). Supporting Emotional Well-Being: In some cases, couples who marry young may feel better emotionally if they can do so legally.

Marriage dispensations can provide a sense of legitimacy and support for their relationship. Education and Empowerment: The process of applying for a marriage dispensation often involves counseling and education about marriage, responsibilities, and reproductive health. This can empower couples with the knowledge necessary to build a healthy family. Reducing the Risk of Illegal Marriages: By providing a legal pathway to marriage, marriage dispensations can help reduce the number of illegitimate marriages or relationships that are not legally recognized, which can lead to various legal and social problems, as well as discourage adultery (Fendi et al., 2024).

Flexibility for Special Cases: Marriage dispensation can be granted in urgent situations, such as unplanned pregnancy or socio-economic conditions that force couples to marry early. This provides flexibility to handle unique cases (Maharany et al., 2024). Raising Public Awareness: The marriage dispensation process can raise public awareness about the importance of the marriage age limit and the consequences of early marriage, which in turn can encourage broader discussion on social issues (Sustiono et al., 2022).

Table 2.

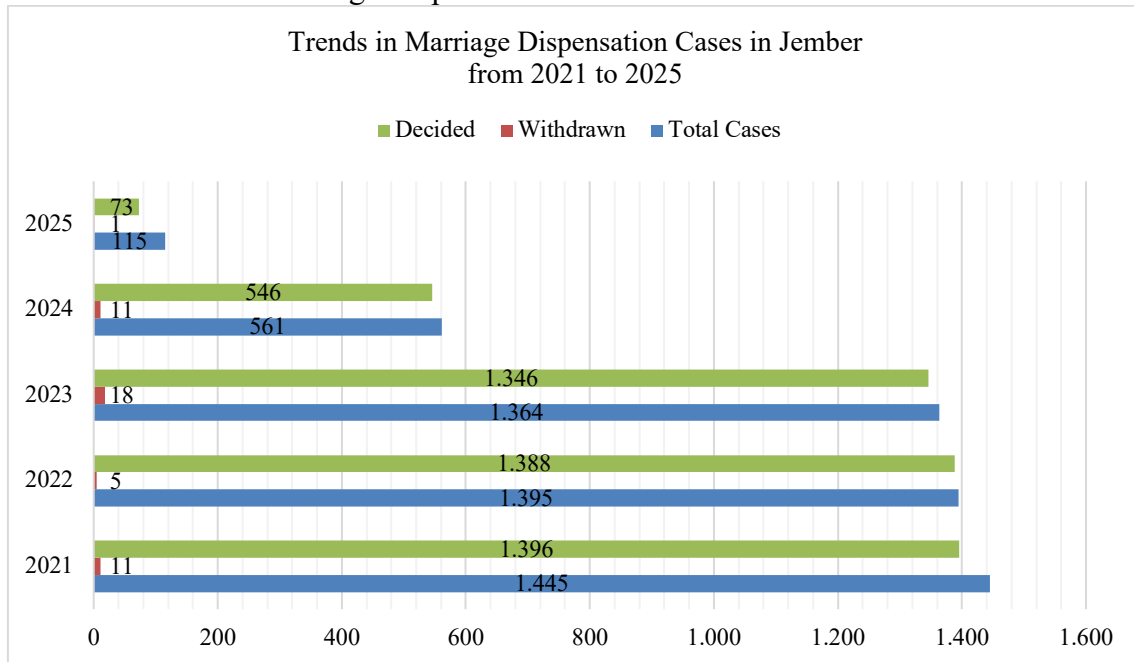
Summary of Marriage Dispensation Cases Jember Religious Court Jurisdiction
 2021-2025 Period

Year	Rollover from Previous Year	New Cases	Total Cases	Withdrawn	Decided
2021	27	1.418	1.445	11	1.396
2022	38	1.357	1.395	5	1.388
2023	2	1.362	1.364	18	1.346
2024	0	561	561	11	546
2025	2	113	115	1	73

Overall, although marriage dispensation is often viewed with skepticism, in certain contexts it can have significant positive impacts on individuals and society, especially when coupled with adequate education and support.



Diagram 1.
Trends in Marriage Dispensation Cases in Jember from 2021 to 2025



In line with the results of other studies showing the impact of early marriage, namely, (a) positive impact, seen from a religious perspective. Early marriage, viewed from a religious perspective, is considered a positive aspect because it can prevent individuals from engaging in sinful acts. Seen from an economic perspective. Weak families are also helped because the family burden is borne together, (b) negative impact, in terms of education, mentality and health. The motivation to learn is that someone is getting married, as many tasks must be done after marriage. In addition, not a few perpetrators of early marriage are actually not fully ready for everything that must be faced after marriage. When pregnancy occurs at an early age, it has an impact on the reproductive organs because they are not ready to be fertilized (Ariani et al., 2021).

The Role of Counseling:

Counseling can help teenagers understand the consequences of early marriage and provide emotional support and information needed to make better decisions. Counseling provides necessary information about marriage, responsibilities, and the consequences of marrying at a young age (Lase, 2022). It helps couples understand what they will face after marriage. Counselors can offer emotional support to couples who may feel anxious or stressed about the decision to get married. Counseling helps them to express their feelings and concerns in a safe environment.

In some cases, couples may face conflicts with their families or communities regarding their decision to marry (Auliya, 2019). Counseling can help individuals manage these conflicts and find effective ways to communicate with those around them. Counseling can help couples prepare for marriage by addressing essential aspects such as communication, finances, and household roles. This can increase the chances of their marriage being successful (Yuni, 2021).

Through counseling, couples can become more aware of the social issues related to early marriage, including individual rights and the long-term impacts of marrying at a



young age. Counseling can also provide information about domestic violence and how to recognize its early signs. This is important to ensure that couples understand the dynamics of a healthy relationship.

The Role of Education:

Education provides the necessary information on aspects of marriage, including responsibilities, rights of spouses, and the consequences of marrying at a young age. It helps individuals understand what is expected of them after marriage. Of course, through education, individuals can understand their rights and obligations as husbands or wives. This helps create equality in relationships and reduces the risk of abuse or injustice.

Sex education and reproductive rights need to be improved to provide knowledge to adolescents about the importance of the age limit for marriage and the consequences of violating it. Education about reproductive health is very important, especially for couples who marry at a young age (Nur Farida et al., 2023). This includes information about contraception, family planning, and the importance of maintaining physical and mental health.

Education can help prevent unwanted early marriage by providing information about the negative consequences of marrying at a young age. This can encourage individuals to delay marriage until they feel more ready. Education benefits not only the individuals who are getting married, but also their families. Educated families can offer more effective support to their children in the decision-making process regarding marriage.

Counseling and education are two effective strategies to reduce violations of the age limit for marriage in society. Here are some ways in which counseling and education can be implemented in society. In the aspect of counseling, it can help teenagers understand the impact of early marriage on their health, education, and economic aspects. Counselors can help teenagers develop skills to cope with pressure from family and society to marry at a too young an age, and they can also help teenagers make informed decisions about marriage and their future.

CONCLUSION

Various factors, including social norms, economic conditions, and a lack of education, influence the violation of the age limit for marriage. Societies that still maintain the tradition of early marriage often put pressure on teenagers, especially girls, to get married immediately. Teenagers who marry before reaching the specified age often experience significant negative impacts, both physically and mentally. These include higher health risks, mental health disorders, and loss of educational opportunities, which ultimately affect their quality of life in the future.

The government or educational institutions should develop educational curricula that are relevant to the needs of adolescents, including education on reproductive health, women's rights, and the impact of early marriage. The government or educational institutions should hold effective counseling programs to help adolescents face the challenges and pressures that come with early marriage. The government or educational institutions should use social media to disseminate information about the impact of early marriage and the importance of education. The government or educational institutions should collaborate with community organizations to develop effective counseling and education programs. The government or educational institutions should allocate sufficient budget to develop and implement counseling and education programs.



This study also has several limitations, including its relatively small sample size, which involved only a few respondents. This can affect the generalization of the research results. This study was conducted in only one location, so the results may not be generalizable to other locations. This study employed limited data collection methods, including interviews and observations. This can affect the accuracy and reliability of the data collected.

Further research could investigate the effectiveness of counseling and education programs in reducing violations of the marriage age limit across various contexts, including urban, rural, and high-poverty areas.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

- Ariani, P., Siregar, G. G., Ariescha, P. A. Y., Manalu, A. B., Wahyuni, E. S., & Ginting, M. N. (2021). Dampak Pernikahan Usia Dini Pada Kesehatan Reproduksi. *Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat Putri Hijau*, 1(3), 24–32. <https://doi.org/10.36656/jpmph.v1i3.707>
- Bin Hashim, J., & Aziz, S. (2023). Review of the Marriage Age Limit Policy in Indonesia Through the Saad al-Dzari'ah Principles. *Indonesian Journal of Islamic Law*, 6(2), 18–36. <https://doi.org/10.35719/ijil.v6i2.2022>
- Dianti, Y. (2017). Faktor Ekonomi Pada Masyarakat Desa Telaga Sumatra Barat. *Angewandte Chemie International Edition*, 6(11), 951–952., 05(02), 5–24. [http://repo.iain-tulungagung.ac.id/5510/5/BAB 2.pdf](http://repo.iain-tulungagung.ac.id/5510/5/BAB%202.pdf)
- Fadilah, D. (2021). Tinjauan Dampak Pernikahan Dini dari Berbagai Aspek. *Pamator Journal*, 14(2), 88–94. <https://doi.org/10.21107/pamator.v14i2.10590>
- Fendi, F., Sembiring, R., Kaban, M., & Andriati, S. L. (2024). Dampak Dispensasi Nikah Di Bawah Umur Dalam Praktik di Mahkamah Syar'iyah Kuala Simpang. *Locus Journal of Academic Literature Review*, 3(1), 14–32. <https://doi.org/10.56128/ljoalr.v3i1.273>
- Heryanto, M. L., Nurashiah, A., & Nurbayanti, A. (2020). Hubungan Pola Asuh Orang Tua Dengan Kejadian Pernikahan Usia Dini Pada Wanita Usia Muda Di Desa Malausma Kecamatan Malausma Kabupaten Majalengka. *Journal of Midwifery Care*, 1(1), 78–86. <https://doi.org/10.34305/jmc.v1i1.198>
- Iqbal, M., & Rabiah. (2020). Penafsiran Dispensasi Perkawinan bagi Anak di Bawah Umur (Analisis Beberapa Putusan Mahkamah Syar'iyah Aceh). *El-Usrah*, 3(1), 101–114. <https://doi.org/10.22373/ujhk.v3i1.7708>
- John W. Creswell. (2013). *Research Design Qualitative, Quantitative, and Mixed Methods Approaches*, Third Edition, Achmad Fawaid (terj), (hal. 270). Pustaka Pelajar.
- Kanji, S., Carmichael, F., Darko, C., Egyei, R., & Vasilakos, N. (2024). The Impact of Early Marriage on the Life Satisfaction, Education and Subjective Health of Young Women in India: A Longitudinal Analysis. *Journal of Development Studies*, 60(5), 705–723. <https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2023.2284678>
- Lase, F. (2022). Upaya Pencegahan Pernikahan Dini Melalui Layanan Konseling Format Klasikal. *Zadama: Jurnal Pengabdian Masyarakat*, 1(2), 120–136. <https://doi.org/10.56248/zadama.v1i2.32>
- Luruk, E. Y., & Tabun, M. (2023). Dampak Pernikahan Dini Terhadap Pendidikan di Desa Lamea Kecamatan Wewiku Kabupaten Malaka. *PENSOS : Jurnal Penelitian dan Pengabdian Pendidikan Sosiologi*, 1(2), 11–19.



- <https://doi.org/10.59098/pensos.v1i2.1185>
- Ma'rufa, R. I., Kusumawati, Y. A., & Radhitanti, A. (2024). Educating Middle Adolescent through Social Media: The Impact of Early Marriage on Achieving High Education. *Procedia Computer Science*, 245(C), 1182–1191. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.procs.2024.10.348>
- Nabila, R., Roswiyani, R., & Satyadi, H. (2022). A Literature Review of Factors Influencing Early Marriage Decisions in Indonesia. *Proceedings of the 3rd Tarumanagara International Conference on the Applications of Social Sciences and Humanities (TICASH 2021)*, 655(Ticash 2021), 1392–1402. <https://doi.org/10.2991/assehr.k.220404.223>
- Raco, J. R. (2010). *Metode Penelitian Kualitatif JENIS, Karakteristik, Dan Keunggulannya* (hal. 67).
- Retnowulandari, W., Wangga, M. S. E., Notoprayitno, M. I., & Ahmad, N. (2024). The Prevalence Of Child Marriage: Comparative Study Of Indonesia And Other South Asian States. *Jambura Law Review*, 6(2), 339–366. <https://doi.org/10.33756/jlr.v6i2.24257>
- Rumadaul, S. R. (2020). Comparison of Positive Law and Islamic Law In Recognition Outside Marriage Children's Legal Status. *Musamus Law Review*, 2(2), 106–117. <https://doi.org/10.35724/mularev.v2i2.3029>
- Salma, A., Nabilla, I., & Albab, M. B. U. (2024). Pencegahan Pernikahan Dini Melalui Psikoedukasi Pada Remaja Di SMA Negeri 2 Tanggul Kabupaten Jember. *Jurnal Pengabdian Indonesia*, 2, 20–24. <https://journal.pubmedia.id/index.php/jpi/article/view/3005%0Ahttps://journal.pubmedia.id/index.php/jpi/article/download/3005/3012>
- Sekretariat Negara Republik Indonesia. (2019). Undang-undang Republik Indonesia No 16 Tahun 2019 Tentang Perubahan Undang-Undang Nomor 1 Tahun 1974 Tentang Perkawinan. *Undang-Undang Republik Indonesia*, 006265, 2–6. <https://peraturan.bpk.go.id/Home/Details/122740/uu-no-16-tahun-2019>
- Sustiono, N. A., Marzuki, M., & Sidik, S. (2022). Judge Considerations in Accepting Underage Marriage Applications in Luwuk Religious Court. ... *Pendidikan dan Studi Islam*, 8(1), 325–336. <https://doi.org/10.31943/jurnal>
- Yuni, L. A. (2021). Analysis of The Emergency Reasons in The Application of Marriage Dispensation at The Tenggaraong Religious Court. *Samarah*, 5(2), 976–1002. <https://doi.org/10.22373/sjhk.v5i2.9135>

