Original Research Article

Youth preference in generation plan (GenRe) program viewed from characteristics and access to information in Padang City

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ABSTRACT

Background: Future planning for teenagers is an important thing that needs to be prepared to the fullest extend. Generally, teenagers have not considered that it is not a necessary to think about that when they are still in education. Although everyone has different talents and interests, still, there are many teenagers who recklessly follow their peers and make a wrong decision in taking their field of study. The Government of Indonesia through the generation plan (GenRe) program attempts to direct teenagers regarding their future. The purpose of this study is to describe the preference of teenagers in generation plan (GenRe) program in terms of characteristics of teenagers and their access to information in Padang city. The results of this study can become an input in the implementation of the programs for teenagers.

Methods: Analytical with cross-sectional approach was used as the research design. 249 respondents were 13-24 year-old teenagers who were taken with accidental sampling. Data were collected with questionnaires which contained demographic data questions (age, gender, education) and access to information about Generation Plan (GenRe) program. And the data analysis used Chi-Squre statistic.

Results: There was a significant correlation between the characteristics of teenagers: age (p = 0.018) gender (p = 0.037) and education (p = 0,020) on youth preference in choosing generation plan (GenRe) program, while there was no connection to information access to the program, there were: the existing source of information (p = 0.077), the desire to find information with p value = 0.097 and information obtained with the value p = 0.075).

Conclusions: Therefore, we expect that the socialization of generation plan (GenRe) program needs to be improved and socialized more through social media for further development.

Keywords: Access information, Preferences, Teenagers

INTRODUCTION

Today's teenagers will become part of Indonesia's gold generation, a generation that in 2045 will be aged around 35-54 years old, who definitely will influence and become the nation's future leader. Teenagers are residents in the age of range 10-19 years, and according to Regulation of the Minister of Health of Indonesia No. 25, 2014 that teenagers are in the range of 10-18 years,

whereas according to BKKBN teenagers age range are 10-24 years and unmarried.[1] According to population census data in 2010, there were 43.5 million people or 18% of the population, were the groups of aged 10-19 years. With that number, the youth group is the largest group and has great potential as the next generation of a nation. The Generation Plan Program (GenRe) is a government-directed program for youth, aiming to prepare young people in planning their families in the

future.[2] The program runs with a variety of government efforts, varying from socialization, selecting GenRe ambassadors and youth counseling activities at the Youth Information and Counseling Center (PIK-R) in schools. However, the actions have not shown satisfactory results, where many teenagers still do not know and still high rates of early marriage among adolescents as well as the high number of risky sexual behavior among adolescents. With the development of science and technology without limits, any information will easily accessible even information on pornographic sites by itself exposed within adolescents. The involvement of adolescents in Narcotics, Psychotropic, and other addictive substances (NAPZA) trafficking is quite high, 27% of drug users are students, as well as adolescents with HIV/AIDS relatively much at the age of 20 - 29 years of 29.9%.[3,4]

Early marriage rates in Indonesia are also considerably high at 48/1000 teenagers (MDGs target in 2015 is 38/1000 adolescents), and the region with the highest number of early marriages is in West Kalimantan that is 108/1000 adolescents. In West Sumatera, the early marriage rate in the period 2010-2015 recorded of 6.083 couples, with the highest case in Pesisir Selatan with 753 couples and the lowest in the city of Pariaman with 11 couples.[5]

With this view, it is necessary to save the future of adolescents in Indonesia, so that the Government through the Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) begins to target the adolescents with the Generation Plans Program (GenRe) in accordance with the mandate of Law No. 52 the year 1993 upon the development of population and family. With the GenRe Program, we anticipate that adolescents can plan their education, have a career in well-planned and married planning with healthy reproductive wellness.

Several studies that support the adolescent group have been conducted by Budiati and Dhian in Wonogiri on the communication pattern of adolescents in the implementation of GenRe program.[6] The result shows that the formed pattern of adolescent communication is the all-way communication either formal or non-formal. This is also proved by the study of Devie et al, in Bandung about the analysis of knowledge mastery of marriage maturity education results in the GenRe program, obtained that the average knowledge of adolescents was quite high.[7]

Similarly, Nelfira's study in West Sumatra on the application of learning which was favored by adolescents, found that teenagers were more enthusiastic in the use of interesting applications.[8]

The city of Padang as the capital of the Province can represent the problems of teenagers in general. In addition to the provincial capital, Padang City holds as an education center for the Sumatra region, so access to more information through print media, electronic and even social media is not a peculiar thing for teenagers. According to data from Kominfo, smartphone users in Indonesia in 2017 reached 100 million people, and 30 million users were teenagers. Meanwhile, according to internet live strat, in 2017, internet penetration rate in Indonesia is also included high in Asia that is 17% after India 19%. But the high users of social media have not been utilized adequately by the government in providing socialization its programs, especially for adolescents. Whereas to build a preference, knowledge, understanding, attitude, and self-efficacy are needed to be obtained by adolescents because it becomes the basis for decision making.

According to Terry GR and Brinckloe, said that the foundations of a decision-making approach can use intuition, experience, facts, authority, and logic (rational). So, based on the phenomenon and problems above, researchers interested in exploring adolescents thinking about their choices (preference) in the future and its relationship with access to information obtained related to GenRe program.

METHODS

This study was a basic research to see that the higher number of early marriage among adolescents was a result of the high number of free sex behavior in adolescent so that it needed to be explored about the understanding of adolescents concerning the family planning.

The population in this study were adolescents of Padang City from public schools, including from junior high school to university level, so the population in this research were 13-24-year-old adolescents by seeing the characteristics such as age, gender and education and access information about the GenRe program and linked to youth preferences about the future in the generation plan programs.

An 249 respondents were taken by accidental sampling with the fulfillment of criteria, such: age of 13-24 years, willing to be a respondent, filling and returning the complete questionnaires. Collecting tools were questionnaire with question sheets, univariate analysis with frequency distribution tables and bivariate analysis in Chi-square. The results were presented in tabular form.

RESULTS

Characteristics of teenage

There are three factors characteristics of adolescents that are viewed, such as: age, gender, and education. Can be seen in the Table 1. Based on the table above, we can find the highest number of respondents (60,2%) are in the late teens' age range, while 56,6% of the respondents are male. Furthermore, we notice that 60,2% of the respondents have finished their high school.

Table 1: Respondent distribution based on the characteristics of respondents (n= 249).

Characteristic of respondent	F	%
Age (year)		
Early teens (13-16)	99	39.8
Late teens (17-24)	150	60.2
Gender		
Female	108	43.4
Male	141	56.6
Education		
Elementary school	39	15.7
Junior high school	60	24.1
Senior high school	150	60.2

Access to information

There were three aspects that were considered in access to information in this research, they were: information sources, searching for information and getting information about the GenRe program. The results of research to information access could be seen in Table 2 as follows:

Table 2 above shows that most teenagers (79.5%) say that they do not get a source of information about the GenRe program. And most teenagers seek information about health (73.5%), however most teens (72.3%) say that no information is obtained.

Table 2: Distribution of teenage information access in Padang City (n=249).

Information access	F	%
Information source		
Yes	51	20.5
No	198	79.5
Searching for information		
Yes	183	73.5
No	66	26.5
Getting information		
Yes	69	27.7
No	180	72.3

Teen's preference for the future

The teen's preferences for future regarding the generation plan (GenRe) program can be seen in Table 3 below: Form Table 3 above, according to the standard of GenRe program, we know that around 53% of teenagers already have a choice regarding their future.

Table 3: The teen's preferences regarding the generation plan program (n = 249).

The teen's preferences for future	f	%
According to standard	132	53.0
Not according to standard	117	47.0

Relationship between preferences of teenagers and adolescent characteristics

Table 4 above shows the characteristics of respondents which related to the preference (choice) of adolescents by the future standard that most of them are the early adolescents (53.5%). As for the gender, more than half are men (53.7%) and for the graduates of elementary, junior and senior high school almost have the same future preferences that meet the GenRe program standards. Based on Chi-Square statistical test, the significant correlation to future preference is age with p-value = 0,018, gender with p-value = 0,037, and education with p-value = 0,020.

Table 4: Relationship between adolescent characteristics (age, gender, and education) and preferences of teenagers toward the future (n=249).

Variable	Preferences of teenagers						P value
	According to standard		Not according to standard		Total		
	f	%	f	%	f	%	
Age							
Early teens (13-16)	53	53.5	46	46.4	99	100	0.018
Late teens (17-24)	79	52.6	71	47.3	150	100	
Gender							
Female	74	52.4	67	47.5	141	100	0.037
Male	58	53.7	50	46.2	108	100	
Education							
Elementary school	22	56.4	17	43.5	39	100	
Junior high school	31	51.6	29	48.3	60	100	0.020
Senior high school	79	52.6	71	47.3	150	100	

Table 5 above shows that based on Chi-Square statistical test, it is obtained that there is no significant relationship between access to information that affects the future preferences of adolescents in accordance with the standard of genre program, be it the source of information with p-value = 0.007, searching for information with p-value=0.097, and getting the information with p-value=0.075.

DISCUSSION

Respondent characteristics in preference of generation plan (GenRe) program

Characteristics of adolescents found in this study are that more than half of adolescents are in the late stage of adolescence (60.2%). It shows that in this stage, they are already in their way through adulthood. Now there is a

process of orientation transformation in adolescents, which has happened as an orientation towards the ideals and future.[9] Teenagers should begin to think about the task of developing into an adult, start preparing for family and future careers. Moreover, research on youngster prisoners found that they wanted a better future but did

not dare to dream.[10] A result of Indonesia Health Demographic Survey (SDKI, 2014) stated that the number of adolescents in Indonesia currently reaches 18% of the total population. The numbers are quite large and need a targeted future handling effort.

Table 5: Relation of access to information (source of information, searching for information and obtaining information) with future adolescent preference (n = 249).

Variable	Preferences of teenagers				Total		P value
	According to standard		Not according to standard				
	F	%	f	%	f	%	
Source of information							
Yes	22	43.1	29	56.8	51	100	0.077
No	110	55.5	88	44.4	198	100	
Searching for information							
Yes	92	50.5	91	49.7	183	100	0.097
No	40	60.6	26	39.3	66	100	
Getting information							
Yes	31	44.9	38	55.0	69	100	0.075
No	101	56.1	79	43.8	180	100	

As for gender, more than half were males (56.6%). This shows that boys who will become a leader in their family need preparation and have a plan in moving toward their future because some responsibilities will be on the men.

The highest education rate is high school graduates (60.2%) who have future preferences that are in line with the standards of GenRe program. There are 3 characteristics of adolescents that are observed in determining future choices in the GenRe program: age, gender, and education. These three elements relate significantly to the choice (preference) of adolescents in managing their future.

According to Miller JD and Murtono I stated that in determining the choice, a person is influenced by individual factors such as age and gender.[11] Age determines the maturity level of a person in thinking because as the age is increasing, the more mature is a person in thinking logically. This is in accordance with the theory of growth and development (Piaget in Santrock) that formal operational thinkers will begin to take place at the age of 11-15 years in the early teenage phase.[12] Teen's contemplation in this stage becomes more abstract, idealistic and logical when compared with concrete operational thinking. Teenagers begin to associate an idea with another idea, they not only organize an observation and experience but also will adapt it to a new idea. Because extra information will make a deeper understanding.

In this study, according to the gender of adolescents both males and females have the option to determine their

future. This is in line with Siti M, Rosyidah research, who states that both men and women have the same perception in determining an investment risk.[13] The educational factors also determine a person in managing his future choices. Nowadays the opportunity to get an education is wide open without gender differentiation. There is no diversity in deciding the future of teenagers, they can choose their liking majors and fields of study. This supports to influence the targets of the generation plan program. To make it more effective, this program should be given in the late teenage phase and at the highest levels of education before marriage age.

Access to information related to generation plan (GenRe) program

The results of this study found that more than half of adolescents searching for information, but adolescents who get the information greatly influence them in determining future choices in generations plan programs. Information factor is very important for adolescents because information will provide knowledge and attitude so that it will form an understanding of the adolescent for future planning. Sources of information are expected to be more popular and close to adolescents.

Based on the questionnaire given to teenagers, the source of information that many teenagers use today is social media such as WhatsApp, Facebook, Instagram, etc. Nelfira's study in West Sumatra on the application of learning preferred by adolescents found that teenagers were more interested in using appealing applications so that teenagers are more receptive to information and may

ultimately influence their behavior.[8] This is certainly very helpful to communicate the programs to adolescents, with the increasing number of smartphone usage in Indonesia. According to digital marketing research institute in Indonesia, it is estimated that in 2018 the number of active users of smartphones in Indonesia is more than 100 million people and 30 million are users among teenagers (Kompas.com.19/02/2014). With that amount, Indonesia will be the country with the fourth largest smartphone active users in the world after China, India, and America.

Meanwhile, adolescents who seek health information also significantly influence their future choices. Of the 249 adolescents taken as respondents, 50.5% of them actively sought information about health, but unfortunately, 56.6% did not get the needed information. This is an evaluation for the government as the implementer of the future generation plan program to broadcast more information related to the programs, especially information on the postponement of marriage age, adolescent reproductive health, education programs and information on family planning.[14]

The chi-square statistical tests found that there was no significant relationship between future adolescent preference in the GenRe program with access to information. This is different from the purpose of information, where an information system is expected to be the basic ingredients for a person in decision making and can help a person address a problem that is facing him.

Meanwhile, when viewed from the desire of teenagers in seeking information about health, most adolescents (73.5%) are always looking for information but (72.3%) do not get that information. It is very unfortunate that the government as the implementer of the program has not been able to touch the important things that become the needs of adolescents, so it is worried that teenagers who have a high desire for information will get unneeded information which is not suitable for them. it is necessary to evaluate the program continuously, especially in the messages that have to be delivered to adolescents by paying more attention to the needs and desires of adolescents.

CONCLUSION

There was a significant relationship between age, gender, and adolescent education, while the access to information on future preferences in the GenRe program was not significantly related.

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