Risk and Protective Factors Affecting Adolescent/Youth Sexual and Reproductive Health in Peninsular Malaysia

Dr. Hamizah Hassan, Noor Azlin Muhd Sapri
Lembaga Penduduk Dan Pembangunan Keluarga Negara (LPPKN)

Forum Penyebaran Data Hasil Penyelidikan LPPKN Siri 2
8 Mei 2014
Hotel Crystal Crown, Petaling Jaya
Scope of Presentation

Introduction

Definition

Objective

Methodology

Findings

The Way Forward

10th Nat. Symposium on Adolescent Health, 4th Apr 2014, Rainbow Paradise Beach Hotel Penang
Over the last 10 years, youth sexual and reproductive health (SRH) had raised a lot of concern on the national agenda.

Statistics:
- Age at first sexual intercourse to be as early as 9-10 years for both male and female adolescents (The Youth Sexuality Survey, 1996)
- The proportion of HIV infection due to sexual transmission is increasing from 18.8% in 2000 to 55.5% in 2011.
- About 26% of newly infected cases of heterosexual transmission in 2011 are amongst teens and youth aged between 13 to 29 years.

Young people as the potential human capital resource of the nation, hence, investing in their health will certainly yield positive returns in all aspects of the country’s development.

Sources:
Introduction

In Malaysia

Increasing prevalence of premarital sex among adolescent/youth

Sources:
3. Premarital sexual intercourse among adolescent in Malaysia, Lee et al, 2006
4. Health Status of Youth in Malaysia, MOH, LPPKN, 2010
In Malaysia

4th Malaysian Population and Family Survey, LPPKN, 2004:

- 18.4% involved in pornography
- 2.2% admitted ever had premarital sex
- 16.8% have no objection to homosexuality

Study on Health Status of Youth in Malaysia, MOH, LPPKN, 2010:

- 40.0% involved in pornography
- 6.5% admitted ever had premarital sex
- 1.6% involved in homosexual relationship
Factors that increase the likelihood of negative health behaviours & outcomes or discourage positive behaviours that might prevent health.

Factors that increase the likelihood of positive health behaviours or outcomes & discourage behaviours that might lead to negative health outcomes.
Objectives

1. To determine the prevalence of SRH behaviours of adolescent/youth

2. To identify risk and protective factors that influence adolescent/youth sexual reproductive health in Peninsular Malaysia
Methodology

Study Design

- Cross Sectional Study

Population of Study

- Youth aged 13-24 years:
  - Secondary School Students (13-18 years)
  - Institute of Higher Education Students (18-24 years)
  - Adolescents/Youths who were school dropout, working & unemployed (13-24 years)

Sample Size

- 5,088 youth (randomly selected)
Validated adopt and adapted questionnaire consist of:

i. Respondent Profile
ii. Adolescent/Youth Reproductive and Sexual Health
iii. Risky Life Style
iv. Internal Control
v. External Factors (Family, Peers, Community, School, Source of Information)
Results: Profile of Respondents (N=5,088)

Category of Respondent:
- School Students: 69.5%
- Institute of Higher Education Students: 20.3%
- Out of Education Institution: 10.1%

Sex:
- Male: 52.0%
- Female: 48.0%

Age Group:
- 13-15 yrs: 30.5%
- 16-18 yrs: 46.0%
- 19-24 yrs: 23.5%

Ethnicity:
- Malay: 69.6%
- Chinese: 21.7%
- Indian: 8.5%
- Others: 0.1%

10th Nat. Symposium on Adolescent Health, 4th Apr 2014, Rainbow Paradise Beach Hotel Penang
Results: Profile of Respondents (N=5,088)

- **Divorced Parent**
  - Yes: 10.4%
  - No: 89.6%

- **Living With Parent**
  - Yes: 74.3%
  - No: 25.7%

- **Strata**
  - Rural: 37.5%
  - Urban: 62.5%
Results:
Premarital Sex (n=295)

Admitted to have had sex (5.8%)

- Male (7.7%)
- Female (4.1%)

Category of Respondent

- Malay (6.5%)
- Indian (5.5%)
- Chinese (3.8%)

Out of Education Institution (22.9%)
- Institute of Higher Education Students (8.5%)
- Secondary School Students (2.5%)
Results: Premarital Sex (n=295)

- Strata:
  - Urban (6.4%)
  - Rural (4.7%)

- Living With Parents:
  - No (13.2%)
  - Yes (4.6%)

- Divorced Parents:
  - Yes (6.5%)
  - No (5.5%)

5.8% admitted to have had sex

10th Nat. Symposium on Adolescent Health, 4th Apr 2014, Rainbow Paradise Beach Hotel Penang
Results:
Risk Factors of Premarital Sex Among Youth

- Male: AOR = 2.2 (1.685, 2.818)
- Older Age (19-24 years): AOR = 2.9 (1.61, 3.923)
- Out of Education Institution: AOR = 6.6 (4.433, 9.778)
- Not Living With Parent: AOR = 1.7 (1.224, 2.258)
- Have Had Divorce Parent: AOR = 2.2 (1.599, 3.006)
Results:
Risk Factors of Premarital Sex Among Youth

- **Negative Attitude towards SRH**
  - AOR= 1.7 (1.242, 2.261)

- **Poor Self Control**
  - AOR= 1.6 (1.236, 2.181)

- **Involved in Substance Abuse**
  - AOR= 3.9 (3.027, 5.154)

- **Risky Lifestyle**
  - AOR= 7.8 (4.987, 12.341)
Results:
Risk Factors of Premarital Sex Among Youth

Involved in Substance Abuse
- AOR = 3.2 (2.305, 4.531)

Involved in Sexual Crime
- AOR = 4.8 (3.479, 6.600)

No School Connectedness
- AOR = 2.6 (1.985, 3.469)

High Accessibility to Electronic Media
- AOR = 2.5 (1.863, 3.352)

10th Nat. Symposium on Adolescent Health, 4th Apr 2014, Rainbow Paradise Beach Hotel Penang
Results:
Protective Factors of Premarital Sex Among Youth

- Family Rules
  - AOR = 2.179 (1.685, 2.818)

- Family Communication & Connectedness
  - AOR = 2.179 (1.685, 2.818)

- Positive Perception on Neighborhood Problem
  - AOR = 2.179 (1.685, 2.818)

- High Accessibility to Printed Material
  - AOR = 0.478 (0.359, 0.657)

- High Knowledge on SRH
  - AOR = 0.501 (0.393, 0.639)
The Way Forwards

1. Enhancing Existing Programme

- Kafe@TEEN
- PEKERTI @PLKN
- PEKERTI @Sekolah
- Ilmu Keluarga@LPPKN Serial Courses
- Parenting@Work Programme
- Family Development Module in Institute of Higher Education (MOPKIPT)
The Way Forwards

2. Development of New Intervention Programme

- SRH Module for Boys (16-24 years)

- Introduce **PEKERTI** module in boarding schools and rehab centres for adolescents

- Dissemination of knowledge on ASRH through internet, social media, mass media, religious centres, workplace and community centres.

- Increase awareness of cyber information security among parents and young.
The Way Forwards

3 Financial Fund

- Providing financial funding to conduct new intervention programmes and services, and also expansion of existing programmes.

4 Policies and Regulations

- Review the family planning policy with regards to adolescents who are less than 18 years old, unmarried and sexually active, particularly in terms of legislation. Nevertheless, it is complicated and sensitive issues, it should also be viewed in terms of religion, social-cultural acceptance, rights, ethics, responsibility and health.
Thank You