

ABSTRACT

This research aims to analyze and understand the self-concept of women who marry at an early age, as well as to identify the development or changes in their self-concept following marriage. The study was conducted in Cinanjung Village, Tanjungsari District, Sumedang Regency. Early marriage remains prevalent in Indonesia and has significant impacts on the psychological and physical development of women. Factors such as limited access to education, poor economic conditions, and gender stereotypes contribute to the high rates of early marriage. The research employs a phenomenological approach, using in-depth interviews with a number of informants who married under age.

The study finds that women who marry at a young age exhibit both positive and negative self-concepts, with a tendency towards negative self-concept. Informants often experience a lack of self-confidence, feeling inadequate, and a profound sense of low self-worth. The study also reveals that early marriage has a significant impact on both the physical and psychological conditions of the informants. Some informants report a decline in physical health and increased stress levels. The heavy responsibilities and limitation in personal development result in prolonged stress, leading to decreased mental and physical well-being. The conclusion of this research indicates that a woman's self-concept can undergo significant changes in response to shifts in their interactions and life circumstances.

Keywords: Early Marriage, Self-Concept, Women.