

Towards an Aware Society: Counseling on the Prevention of Unregistered Marriages for Students at Muqorrobin Islamic Middle School, Malang

Menuju Masyarakat Sadar: Penyuluhan Pencegahan Pernikahan Siri bagi Peserta Didik SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang

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Abstract

Analysis of the partner situation illustrates phenomena in society that many do not understand the legal consequences of serial marriages, including regarding the inheritance and legal status of children from serial marriages. The problem that arises is when there are still residents who carry out serial marriages (not recorded), and then issues arise regarding inheritance rights when the husband dies, as well as joint property rights when there is a divorce. The approach to solving partner problems is the lecture and question-and-answer method. The evaluation results showed that community understanding increased significantly after being given socialization, with evaluation accuracy reaching 98%. The purpose of this socialization is to improve the community of SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang's knowledge of the legal consequences of serial marriage.

Keywords: *Prevention, Siri marriage, Muqorrobin Islamic Junior High School*

Abstrak

Analisis situasi mitra menggambarkan fenomena di masyarakat yang banyak tidak memahami akibat hukum perkawinan siri, termasuk di antaranya mengenai waris dan status hukum anak dari perkawinan siri. Permasalahan yang muncul adalah ketika masih ada warga yang melakukan perkawinan siri (tidak dicatatkan), dan kemudian timbul permasalahan mengenai hak waris ketika suami meninggal dunia, serta hak harta bersama saat terjadi perceraian. Metode pendekatan yang digunakan untuk menyelesaikan persoalan mitra adalah dengan metode ceramah dan tanya jawab. Hasil evaluasi menunjukkan bahwa pemahaman masyarakat meningkat secara signifikan setelah diberikan sosialisasi, dengan akurasi evaluasi mencapai 98%. Tujuan dari pelaksanaan sosialisasi ini adalah untuk meningkatkan pemahaman masyarakat SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang mengenai akibat hukum perkawinan siri.

Kata kunci: *Pencegahan, Pernikahan siri, SMP Islam Muqorrobin*

1. INTRODUCTION

Marriage is a sacred bond that binds two people legally and morally. Therefore, the marriage should have been carried out legally following the country's rules. (Jannah, 2020) By legally marrying, couples can protect their rights, including inheritance and joint property rights. In addition, a legally valid marriage provides legal certainty and protection for couples, especially after divorce. Thus, performing marriage legally is a wise step to ensure the continuity of the relationship and the protection of the rights of both parties. (Fauzi, 2018)

In addition, legally valid marriages also protect children born into the relationship. With a valid marriage, children will have a clear legal position as the legal children of the couple. It provides certainty regarding children's rights such as education, and welfare in their lives. (Kesuma & Hasyim, 2021) Legal marriage also provides stability and security for the development of children, as they grow up in an environment officially recognized by law. In addition to the legal aspect, a legal marriage also reflects the commitment and seriousness of the couple in building a lasting and responsible relationship. Through legal marriage, couples affirm

their vows to be faithful, and supportive, and build a future together. (Alhaidar et al., 2023) It also sets a good example for society, that a relationship requires strong commitment and clear responsibilities. Thus, a marriage legally performed in accordance with the rules of the country is not only a legal obligation, but also an important step in building a strong foundation for a happy relationship. (Musyafah, 2020)

Siri marriage is still a fairly common phenomenon in Indonesian society. One of the reasons is economic problems. Many couples choose to marry serially because they are constrained by high official wedding costs, such as administrative costs and wedding ceremonies that cost a lot. In addition, there are still many teenagers who are not old enough who decide to marry serially. This is often caused by an out-of-wedlock pregnancy, so they feel pressured to marry even though they do not meet the legal age of marriage. (Aprilia, 2018)

In the context of serial marriage, culture, and tradition also play a role in the phenomenon of serial marriage in Indonesia. In some areas, serial marriage is considered a valid form of marriage even if it is not officially registered at the civil affairs office. This is often done in an effort to maintain the good name of the family, especially in the event of an out-of-wedlock pregnancy. The existence of stigma and social pressure also makes some couples choose to marry serially so as not to be judged by the surrounding environment. (Lestari, 2018)

Although the government has intensively socialized the importance of legal marriage and sanctioned perpetrators of serial marriages, this phenomenon still continues to occur in society. Serial marriage is still an option for some people, especially among teenagers who do not fully understand its negative effects. (Kaseger, 2021) Therefore, the role of academics through community service programs is very important. By involving academics in conveying information about the importance of legal marriage and the negative effects of serial marriage, it is expected to increase public awareness, especially among adolescents who are still in compulsory education age. (Fauzi, 2018)

Community service programs conducted by academics can provide a deeper understanding of the consequences of serial marriage. Through this program, adolescents can be provided with accurate and clear information about the risks and negative impacts that may occur due to serial marriage, both socially and economically. With the knowledge provided by academics through community service programs, it is hoped that the community, especially teenagers, will be more aware of the importance of getting married legally. Thus, it is expected that there will be a decrease in the number of serial marriages in the community. Students who have understood the negative impact of serial marriage on home life are expected to be better able to make smart and responsible decisions regarding romantic relationships and marriage in the future.

2. METHOD

The method of implementing community service activities is carried out through lectures and question-and-answer sessions. Through this method, participants will be given knowledge and information about the legal consequences of serial marriages, including the rights of wives related to joint property in divorce, inheritance rights when the husband dies, and the legal position of children born from serial marriages. Thus, it is expected that participants can better understand the legal implications of serial marriage and can take appropriate steps to protect their rights

In a series of community service activities, the two methods used are lectures and counseling. In this method, the first method, namely lectures, conveys material about the legal consequences of serial marriage. Participants were given the opportunity to ask questions and answer with the lecturer. Details include the legal consequences of serial marriage, such as the wife's limited rights to the joint property during divorce, the wife's inheritance rights when the husband dies, and the legal position of children born from serial marriages.

In the second phase, participants will engage in an interactive dialogue that allows them to provide reviews related to legal issues regarding marriage as mentioned earlier. This dialogue is a forum for participants to express opinions, aspirations, proposals, ideas, and solutions related to the problem. The Community Service Team will provide pre-tests and post-test to participants

to measure the level of understanding and success in socialization regarding the legal consequences of serial marriage at SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

a. Socialization of counseling on the prevention of serial marriage

Before carrying out the service in the form of counseling on the prevention of serial marriages, the Islamic Faculty of the Islamic University of Malang first asked permission from the principal of SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang to provide counseling on the prevention of serial marriage to students, especially for female students, where women in the case of serial marriages more often get losses.

b. Implementation of counseling on the prevention of serial marriage

Serial marriage prevention material is delivered through lectures, and counseling activities, the material presented focuses on the practice of serial marriage, which often has complex and adverse legal consequences for the parties involved. For example, in the case of divorce, a wife who is married serially does not have the right to joint property as owned by the legal wife. Similarly, when the husband dies, the wife of the serial and the children born of the serial marriage do not have the same inheritance rights as the legal wife and legal children. The legal position of children born from serial marriages is also often ambiguous, where their rights are often marginalized and not fully recognized in the eyes of the law. This inflicts injustice and harm on wives and children born from serial marriages.

However, before delivering the material, students are asked to fill out a questionnaire to measure student knowledge. The following are the pretest results of students of SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang before getting material about serial marriage.

Table 1. Students' answers before material delivery

No	Question	Answer Options	
		True	Not Quite Right
1	Do you know the definition of a serial marriage and how the process of a serial marriage is carried out?	26 (65%)	14 (35%)
2	What is the reason for someone to have a serial marriage?	30(75 %)	10 (25%)
3	How will serial marriage laws impact Indonesia?	28 (70%)	12 (30%)
4	What is Islam's view on serial marriage?	30(75 %)	10 (25%)
5	What are the social and emotional consequences of serial marriage for individuals and society?	26 (65%)	14 (35%)

Overall, participants' level of knowledge and understanding of the legal consequences of serial marriage was still low. There are still many participants who do not understand the legal consequences of serial marriages, such as the rights of wives to obtain joint property during divorce, inheritance rights when the husband dies, and the legal position of children born from serial marriages. Many of those involved in serial marriages do not realize that in law, serial marriages are not officially recognized, so the rights normally acquired in legal marriages do not apply in the context of serial marriages. Efforts are needed to improve people's understanding of the legal consequences of serial marriages so that they can make more informed decisions and minimize future legal risks.

This activity was carried out on Saturday, March 30, 2024, at Muqorrobin Islamic Junior High School Malang and went smoothly. This activity was attended by

approximately 40 students who were very enthusiastic. They eagerly participated in various activities that had been prepared in the framework of the service. The atmosphere of togetherness and care was seen so thick during the activity, reflecting the spirit of togetherness and solidarity among students of SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang to know the concept of serial marriage and its impact on domestic life. The following is a documentation of community service activities at SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang.



Figure 1. Documentation of the submission of material on the prevention of serial marriages



Figure 2. Documentation of serial marriage prevention counseling

In addition to material about the impact of serial marriage on married life. This counseling activity also provides strategies for preventing serial marriages. To prevent serial marriage in teenagers, it is necessary to take a comprehensive approach that involves various aspects of adolescent life. Here are some prevention strategies that can be done:

1) Comprehensive Sexual Education

By providing comprehensive sexual education that includes information about healthy relationships, contraception, protection from sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), and the importance of communication in relationships. And have open

discussions about sexuality between parents and children, as well as in the school and community settings.

2) Counseling on the Impact of Early Marriage

Socialize the negative impact of early marriage, because serial marriage is also synonymous with serial marriage which causes high divorce rates, increased health risks, and potentially adverse economic impacts.

3) Social and Emotional Skills Development

Provide training on social and emotional skills to adolescents, such as good communication, problem-solving, and decision-making skills.

4) Independent Future Development

Provide quality education and skills training that can increase the independence of adolescents, so that they can have a better future economically and socially. As well as providing opportunities to participate in formal continuing education, skills training, or vocational education.

5) Parental Controls

Provide parents with an understanding of the importance of positive supervision of adolescent activities, without limiting open communication.

6) Responsible Use of Social Media

Provide education on responsible and safe social media use to teens. And encourage teens to choose friends and a positive, supportive online environment.

7) Women's Empowerment Program

Provide women's empowerment programs to raise their awareness of their rights, economic independence, and ability to make good decisions for themselves.

c. Evaluation of the implementation of serial marriage counseling at SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang

To assess community service activities, the extension team used forty (40) questionnaires or questionnaires. Participants received a questionnaire and circled the correct answers. The goal is to find out whether participants understand better before and after the material is delivered.

Table 1. Students' answers after material delivery

No	Question	Answer Options	
		True	Not Quite Right
1	Do you know the definition of a serial marriage and how the process of a serial marriage is carried out?	40 (100%)	0 (0%)
2	What is the reason for someone to have a serial marriage?	38 (95%)	2 (5%)
3	How will serial marriage laws impact Indonesia?	40 (100%)	0 (0%)
4	What is Islam's view on serial marriage?	38 (95%)	2 (5%)
5	What are the social and emotional consequences of serial marriage for individuals and society?	40 (100%)	0 (0%)

In the implementation of community service activities with the theme of the legal consequences of serial marriage, it was found that as many as 98% of students had succeeded in understanding the material well. The material presented includes the rights of wives in joint property, inheritance rights when the husband dies, and the legal position of children born from serial marriages. This shows that the implementation of community service activities has succeeded in providing sufficient understanding to students about relevant legal aspects in the context of serial marriage. It is hoped that the understanding

gained can provide benefits for students in everyday life and help them understand the rights and obligations they have in a marriage. In addition, the prevention of serial marriage in adolescents requires collaborative efforts from various parties, including families, schools, communities, and governments. With a comprehensive approach, it is expected to reduce the number of serial marriages in adolescents.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the description of the discussion above, it can be concluded that students of SMP Islam Muqorrobin Malang managed to understand the material delivered by the service team, as can be seen from the results of the questionnaire they filled out. The questionnaire includes correct and incorrect answer choices, with previously distributed materials as well as materials delivered directly by the service team. The evaluation showed that the level of understanding of participants increased to reach 98% accuracy after the counseling was carried out. The service team succeeded in answering the participants' problems and curiosities related to the legal consequences of serial marriage well, such as the rights of wives in joint property, inheritance rights when the husband dies, and the legal position of children born from serial marriages.

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