

Research Note

Marriage Readiness of Emerging Adulthood

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Abstract

Marriage readiness is one of the keys to marital satisfaction. Emerging adulthood has some thoughts about that bassist Reviews their evaluation criterion of marriage readiness. It is essential to describe the approach of marriage readiness on emerging adulthood and understand emerging adulthood's evaluation of Reviews their marriage readiness. On the other hand, it is necessary to identify the differences in marriage readiness from a gender perspective. Quantitative This is an exploratory study, using 500 college students, aged between 18-25 years old, and consisted of 190 men and 390 women. The questionnaire using Criterion of Marriage Readiness to examine the criterion that important to marriage readiness (33 items, Cronbach alpha 0.917) and the level of emerging adulthood's preparation for marriage (33 questions, Cronbach alpha 0.946). The questionnaire using the criterion from Ghalili's study (2012). There are some results of this study. First, emerging adulthood evaluates Themselves are ready for Marriages, but not so prepared for marriage. They score higher places on the moral and mental criterion that Considered necessary for marriage readiness. This finding is somewhat consistent with the result of the preparedness of Marriages. Emerging adults have a higher score of preparation of Marriages in moral and mental criterion. There are significant differences between men and women in the standard of Marriage readiness married (sig 0.001, P <0.05) and the level of preparedness to marriage (sig 0.008, P <0.05). These findings are useful for government institutions, parents, and adults emerging as the basis of consideration of emerging adulthood's decision to marry.

Keywords: marriage readiness; readiness criterion of marriage; emerging adulthood

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Introduction

The young people in the current generation tends to have more extended time celibacy before marriage, to build a better relationship quality later (Ghalili, Z. et al., 2012). Under the Marriage Act, 1 of 1974, Article 7, paragraph 1 in Indonesia, the individual is considered to have the legality to marry by age are minimum age men and women 19 years of age or 16 years. According to the Population Census (SP) in 2010, Indonesia's first marriage age for women was 22.3 years, while men 25.7 years (<https://sp2010.bps.go.id>). This shows that the average age of the population of Indonesia married in the range of emerging adulthood.

Emerging Adulthood the transition from late adolescence into adulthood, with an age range 18-25 years. At this time, the individual is required to escape from dependence on parents, but also not considered to be able to face the responsibilities as adults. They must explore the development of life, one of which is associated with love, education, and employment. The emerging adult has a more extended period to explore the various areas of life (love, education, relationships) before establishing the role of an adult individual. Emerging adult subjectively, they feel you are in the exploration phase and has not adequately performed their role and responsibilities as adults. In identity, the emerging adult is a stage of self-exploration related to love life, education, and employment (Arnett, 2000)

In terms of love, the emerging adult is more severe and has had a profound relationship than adolescents. Emerging adult undergoes a series of romantic relationships, dating from the late teens to form a marriage. Not infrequently, they also engage in sexual behavior. In behavior, an emerging adult has the characters engage in sexual behavior and some risky behavior (involvement with alcohol or drugs) as a form of exploration of life before they establish the role of adult individuals (Arnett, 2000). The characteristic feature of the emerging adult, of course, contrary to marriage, which requires a commitment to partners as well as adherence to the norms that form the basis of friendship. Therefore it is essential to look at the emerging readiness married an adult.

Readiness married into one of the critical factors in married life as well as associated with the determination of the appropriate time to get married (Holman and Lee, in Ghalili, 2012). Individuals who have the readiness will be facing the challenges of married life. Willingness to marry is considered as one of the keys in a marriage that lead to marital satisfaction (Ghalili, Z. et al., 2012). Sunarti research results, Simanjuntak, Rahmatin, and Dianeswari (2012) even suggests that the readiness to marry also has a relationship with the fulfillment of family duties. This indicates that the willingness to marry, not only plays an essential role in helping individuals prepare for married life in the future but also as an additional factor marriage satisfaction and accomplishment of tasks in the family.

Readiness to marry is a subjective evaluation to face the responsibilities and challenges of married life (Larson, in Badger, 2005). Duvall (1971) defines readiness to marry are men and women who had completed adolescence; and physical, emotional, objectives, finances, and personally prepared to take responsibility in a marriage commitment. Readiness married also regarded as something that is believed to make people be convinced to marry (Olson, in Gunnels, 2013). According to Dewi (Krisnatuti and Oktaviani, 2010), it is a condition of readiness married individuals are willing to prepare themselves both physically and psychologically to form bonds of marriage, which is recognized religion, law, and society.

Readiness to marry an assessment of the various categories are referred to as criteria. Carroll research results, Badger, Willoughby, Nelson, Madsen, and Barry (2009) note that the readiness of the Emerging Adult married regarded as the process of building interpersonal competence, making long-term commitments, as well as achieve the ability to care for others. This indicates that the individual Emerging Adult has two transitions, the transition from the individual that gets the attention of others (parents) towards individuals who can pay attention to yourself, as well as the transition of individuals "self-care" towards people "caring for others." This suggests that the emerging adult married looked readiness to move towards criteria personal in a manner on principles that are interpersonal to social.

In terms of preparing themselves for marriage, Emerging Adult has its own ideas related criteria can be considered appropriate for a mate (Arnett, 2000). Previous studies have different approaches in the readiness to marry, although there are similarities among them (Duvall and Miller, 1985; Carroll, Badger, Willoughby, Nelson, Madsen and Barry, 2009; Burgess and Locke in Sunarti 2012 and Ghalili, Z. et al. 2012). Carroll research results, Badger, Willoughby, Nelson, Madsen, and Barry (2009) in 788 emerging adults; emphasizes the maturity of relations (interpersonal and intrapersonal competencies), the capacity of a family, and a willingness to follow the norm as the criteria considered necessary in readiness to marry. Different things obtained from research Gunnels (2013) at 200 emerging adults.

Gunnels research indicates that nearly all married readiness criteria considered essential or very important, including completion of the study, long-term relationship commitment, the ability to express feelings, conflict resolution skills, able to be responsible for one's behavior, and make decisions independently. Research with qualitative methods relating to the readiness to marry, also conducted by Ghalili, Z. et al. (2012), which found there are three main criteria in willingness to marry, i.e., the readiness criteria personally, interpersonally, and socially. Able to be responsible for one's behavior and make decisions independently. Research with qualitative methods relating to the readiness to marry, also conducted by Ghalili, Z. et al. (2012), which found there are three main criteria in willingness to marry, i.e., the readiness criteria personally, interpersonally, and socially. Able

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In the emerging adult, married readiness criteria necessary to be described as one input and reflection themselves to determine the readiness criteria married readiness. Research related to the preparation and the readiness criteria married in Indonesia has never been done before. Therefore, this study aims to describe the readiness criteria from the perspective of emerging adults married. Picture of the readiness criteria was married on an emerging adult is expected to be input and reflection of themselves to determine readiness to face marriage and prepare to meet the anticipated standards before entering married life. Also, the results of this study are expected to provide input to the relevant institutions Ministry of Religious Affairs said that the Board.

Method

This study is a descriptive exploratory to map the readiness criteria married on emerging adult. The study involved male participants (38%) and women (62%), the age of the range of 18 to 25 years ($M = 20:28$, $SD = 1.186$). Participants are active students at a private university in the city of Surabaya with consideration of university. They represent several tribes and religions. MajorityTiong Hoa ethnic participants (35%) and Java (30.2%), with the majority Muslim religion (35%), Krites Protestant (33.4%) and Catholic (20.4%). Participants were selected by quota sampling by taking from some faculties or departments, such as Economics, Engineering, Law, Psychology, and Pharmacy. The majority of participants currently studying semesters 5-6 (49.8%) with a grade point average (GPA) in the range of $3 \leq x < 3.5$ (40.4%) and above is equal to 3.5 (27.6%). Participants are still living with their parents as much as 46.8% and as much as 41.8% boarding.

Data contained three parts, namely an open lift of data, questionnaires, and questionnaires readiness criteria married readiness. Data free questionnaire includes some questions related to the characteristics of the participants and the factors which allegedly also affect the preparedness of marriage, such as views on marriage, experience in interpersonal relationships, as well as the experiences of the previous family.

Questionnaire data readiness criteria married and married readiness to use the same statement in the questionnaire, but contain a different response. Questionnaires were used to adapt the scale of "Readiness to Marriage" belongs [Ghalili, Z. et al. \(2012\)](#), which includes the readiness criteria married and adjusted based on the elimination of the results of an initial interview with the emerging adult. The questionnaire compiled based on nine categories of preparedness criteria of the research results [Ghalili, Z. et al. \(2012\)](#), namely: the readiness criteria based on age, physical, mental, financial, moral, emotional, context, interpersonal, and life skills criteria marriage.

Participants were asked to respond to a total of 33 statements related to the readiness criteria married, namely:

- a. Respond to the importance of each standard must-have to be ready to get married. Respondents were given a choice of answers scale of 1-5 (not important at all - significant).
- b. Providing a personal assessment of the readiness of himself in each of the readiness criteria married. Participants were given a choice of answers scale of 1-5 (not ready at all - it is prepared to).

The collected data were analyzed descriptively. Descriptive analysis was conducted to see the average, standard deviation, and score category variables of the study — some cross-tabulation of data tested to see the trend of a variable connection. In addition to using descriptive analysis, data processing also uses the reliability test, test independent-samples t-test for the parametric test, and Mann Whitney test for nonparametric tests.

Based on the test instrument to see the readiness criteria married relatively reliable with Cronbach's alpha value of 0.917 while married readiness is also quite reliable with Cronbach's alpha values for 0.946. Married readiness criteria scores obtained, then categorized into five categories using a mean calculation of ideal that is very important, not necessary, quite important, important, and very important. Similarly, the readiness to marry is divided into five categories, i.e., very not ready, not ready, quite prepared, willing, very prepared.

Result and Discussion

Based on the data obtained for the readiness criteria married, there are some criteria which are known as very high to low of the participants. The participants consider that almost all of the criteria in readiness to marry is considered very important and crucial. This is in line with research [Gunnels \(2013\)](#) in 200 emerging adults, indicating that almost all married readiness criteria considered essential or very important by the emerging adult. Results of research conducted by [Ghalili, Z. et al. \(2012\)](#) using qualitative methods. It is also known that there are nine criteria considered to be essential to see the readiness to marry, such as age, physical, mental, financial, moral, social-contextual, interpersonal, and marriage.

The majority of participants in this study focuses on moral criteria (78.8%), and mental (74.6%) were considered to be very important in readiness to marry. The moral principle is considered very important by the majority of participants. According to Carroll (2009), ethical criteria is one of the requirements in preparing a marriage that contains the individual's willingness to commit to the long term associated with marriage. In the emerging adult stage, people started to be more severe and have a deep love relationship than adolescents (Arnett, 2010). Moral readiness shows that individuals begin to confirm availability in relationships that are long-term and committed in marriage with their partner. In terms of mental criteria,

From the results of the different test using Kruskal (the readiness criteria married classified as abnormal with $\text{sig} = 0.023$, $P < 0.05$) note that there are differences between the importance of the readiness criteria married between groups of male participants, with the participation of women ($\text{sig} 0.001$, $P < 0.05$). Based on the comparison of the mean, it is known that the female participants had a higher way (mean 140.85) than the mean male participants (mean 136.58). This suggests that women assess the readiness criteria. Married is very important in terms of scores or conditions of the diversity of standards. Judged level of readiness to marry, it is known that the majority of married student readiness quite enough.

The majority of participants assess themselves subjectively that quite have the readiness to accept responsibility and challenge in the face of marital life ([Larson, in Badger, 2005](#)). [Arnett \(2000\)](#) mentions that at this stage, people started to explore related to love but not adequately perform their roles and responsibilities in marriage. This is evident from the plan participants after completing the course. The majority of participants were planning to work (71.6%) and took further studies (23%) after graduation S1. This is consistent with that presented by Arnett (2010), that in addition to exploring related to love life, individuals are also being focused on exploring the educational and occupational experience.

In the emerging adult stage, people started to be more severe and have a deep love relationship than adolescents ([Arnett, 2010](#)). As many as 36% of participants currently dating relationships and the majority of the participants have had the experience of dating between the range of 1-2 times (27.4%) and 3-4 (27%). Emerging adult undergoes a series of romantic relationships, dating from the late teens to form a marriage. Of the participants who are currently dating, the majority of discussions related to marital life with her boyfriend (21.2%). This shows that they have a more serious relationship leading to marriage with the counsel. Not infrequently, they also engage in sexual behavior, although only about 3% of the participants who are currently dating. It is appropriate that delivered by [Arnett \(2000\)](#), that is not uncommon in emerging adult individuals also involved in sexual behavior. In behavior, an emerging adult has the characters engage in sexual behavior and some

risky behavior (involvement with alcohol or drugs) as a form of exploration of life before they build an individual role as an adult.

From the results of the calculation results of the difference in average test groups of male and female, are known in the column Levene's Test for Equality of Variances have a significance value of 0.952 ($p > 0.05$). It shows that the two variances are equal, then the use of difference to compare the average population (t-test for equality of means) in the t-test test based equal variance assumed. In the assumed equal variance obtained t value of 2,655 and a significance level of $p = 0.008$ ($p < 0.05$), it means that there are differences in terms of readiness married sex.

Of the mean total score of readiness to marry, it is known that the mean value of the readiness of married men (112.26) was higher than the mean preparation married women (106.95). This shows that the group of male participants showed a greater readiness to marry than a women's group of participants. Willingness to marry shows how ready people are to accept the role and responsibilities within these criteria (Larson in Badger, 2005).

Indonesia adopted an active traditional role that will be associated with the separation of gender roles, which leads to a patriarchal culture. Rate individuals linked to the readiness criteria for readiness married, indirectly directing an individual to assess his ability to carry the burden and responsibility that exists. With an influential patriarchal culture, people (especially men) will tend to respond prepared in readiness criteria married.

Conclusion

Several conclusions can be drawn from the results of research that the majority of study participants to have the readiness to marry relatively. This suggests that participants are currently assessing themselves quite able to accept the responsibilities and challenges faced in the marriage, but not yet fully ready. The majority of participants considered himself prepared for marriage, especially in the case of a more serious relationship and committed long-term planning of the future in marital life. The readiness of married participants, especially in moral and mental, in line with the criteria considered necessary. In terms of the readiness criteria married, the majority of participants felt that all the requirements are essential in the face of marriage, especially in terms of maintaining long-term commitment (moral) and has a plan for the future (mental). The primary advice from the results of this study needs to be further developed research related to the relationship between the criteria considered necessary in the face of marital life with the readiness to marry. Given the results study, there are similarities that stand related to aspects of preparedness morally and mentally, both in terms of readiness and the important elements.

Other conclusions emerging from this study showed that among men and women have differences in contrast in terms of the readiness criteria married and readiness to marry. Women who have higher scores in assessing the readiness criteria married is considered very important, and it has a lower willingness to marry than men. However, further research can be done using a qualitative approach involving participants concerned, either from government institutions, parents, and emerging adults, to understand in-depth the criteria related to the readiness to marry. Also, the results of this study can be used by the relevant institutions (Ministry of Religious Affairs said that the Board, Advisory Board Development Preservation of Marriage), parents and emerging adult in considering the decisions related to the marriage, concerning the criteria deemed essential and deemed ready or not ready. Relevant institutions, parents, and emerging adults; can prepare these criteria before facing a real marriage by discussing.

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