

# Level of Knowledge and Attitude of Street Children about HIV/AIDS Incidence in Mataram City

Siti Mardiyah WD1\*, Ultimate Chess Esty2, Aulia Amin3

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Universitas Muhammadiyah Mataram, Indonesia

#### **Abstract**

The number of HIV infections in NTB Province from the first time it was found up to March 2017 was 1,279, while the number of AIDS infections from 1987 to March 2017 was 704 people. The most risk factors for transmission are through heterosexuals (68%), IDUs (11%), followed by homosexuals (4%) and perinatal transmission (3%). Poor or wrong understanding of sexual problems puts teens at risk of unprotected sexual relations, such as changing partners, using drugs and not using condoms. Street children are one of the vulnerable groups infected with HIV. Describe the Level of Knowledge and Attitudes of Street Children about the Incidence of HIV / AIDS in the City of Mataram. Descriptive research method using a cross-sectional study design. The research location is in the city of Mataram. The population in this study were 30 street children in the city of Mataran. The sampling technique in this study was consecutive sampling. Analysis using univariate analysis. Results: the level of knowledge of street children about the incidence of HIV / AIDS in the city of Mataram which is the most knowledgeable is 22 people (73.3%) and in line with the good attitude that is 27 people (90%).

Keywords: Attitudes; HIV/AIDS Events; Knowledge; Street Children

<sup>\*</sup> Corresponding Author: Siti Mardiyah WD (email: sitiwiredarma@gmail.com), Jl. Gajah Mada Pagesangan No.100, Jempong Baru, Kec. Sekarbela Kota Mataram Nusa Tenggara Bar.

#### Introduction

AIDS starts from the body being infected by the Human Immunodeficiency Virus HIV, then HIV attacks certain cells of the immune system and destroys the immune system after infecting the human host (Guindo et al., 2014).

The number of HIV infections in NTB Province from when it was first discovered until March 2017 was 1,279, while the number of AIDS infections from 1987 to March 2017 was 704 people. The most risk factors for transmission are heterosexual (68%), IDU (11%), followed by homosexual (4%) and perinatal transmission (3%) (PP&PL Kementrian Kesehatan RI, 2014).

Based on the age, most cases of HIV/AIDS in Indonesia are suffered by productive age 25-49 years, and adolescents aged 15-19 years occupy the fifth position (Infodatin, 2014). Adolescence is a very wide age range for HIV infection. More than half of new HIV infections in the world are found at the age of 15-19 years, and the majority of adolescents are infected due to sexual intercourse (Guindo et al., 2014). In recent years, due to economic development and the influence of the mass media, it has influenced the attitudes and perceptions of adolescents about premarital sex.

Inadequate or wrong understanding of sexual issues causes adolescents to be at risk of having unsafe sexual relations, such as changing partners, using drugs, and not using condoms (Humas Rumah Sakit Hasan Sadikin, 2014).

### Method

This research method uses a descriptive research design with a cross-sectional study design (Notoadmodjo, 2012). Univariate analysis aims to explain or describe the characteristics of each research variable with a frequency table, then bivariate and multivariate analysis is used to determine the relationship between each independent variable, namely knowledge, attitudes and behavior of street children infected with HIV/AIDS in street children in Mataram City.

The population in this study were street children in the city of Mataram. In this study using a minimum sample of 30 samples. The sampling technique used in this study used consecutive sampling to be the choice of researchers who did not get a sample frame.

## **Result and Discussion**

**Table 1**. Distribution of the characteristics of street children about the incidence of HIV/AIDS in the city of Mataram

Variable	N.	0/
Gender	N	%
Man	24	80
Woman	6	20
Education		
Not completed in primary school	8	26,7
Graduated from elementary school/equivalent	11	36,7
Graduated from Middle School/Equivalent	5	16,6
Graduated from high school/equivalent	6	20
Residence		
With parents	23	76,7
Not with parents	7	23,3
Resources		
Electronic Media	9	30
Friend	21	70
Length of activity of street children		_
<6 hours/day	5	16,7
≥6 hours/day	25	83.3
Long been a street child		
<1 year	18	60
≥1 year	12	40

Based on table 1, it can be seen that most of the street children are male, namely 24 people (80%) with education mostly in elementary school, namely as many as 11 people (36.7%) and most of the street children live with their parents, namely 23 people (76.7%). It is also known that most of the sources of information about HIV/AIDS on

street children in Mataram City are through friends, namely 21 people (70%) and most of them carry out activities on the streets, namely ≥6 hours/day as many as 25 people (83.3%) and most respondents became street children, namely <1 year as many as 18 people (60%) .

**Table 2**. Distribution The level of knowledge and attitudes of street children about HIV/AIDS in the city of Mataram

Variable Knowledge level	N	%
Not enough	8	26,7
Well	22	73,3
Attitude		
Not enough	3	10
Well	27	90

### Conclusion

HIV/AIDS can be prevented by providing basic knowledge to youth about sexually transmitted diseases HIV/AIDS because of wrong information can plunge teenagers into promiscuity or to other things that can leading to the transmission of HIV/AIDS. Basic knowledge information about HIV/AIDS can help to understand and realize how much the dangers of HIV/AIDS so that teenagers can have positive attitudes and behaviors healthy to avoid HIV/AIDS (Lestari, 2014).

Street children in the transition period of adolescence have a desire to be accepted by friends and the social environment around them. They tend to participate in group activities that they want for reasons of solidarity, including wearing tattoos and piercings. Tattoos and piercings are also used as a way for street children to relieve the stress and frustration they experience (D'Ambrosio et al., 2013). This is in accordance with the theory and results of previous research where adolescents use body piercing for reasons of aesthetics, self-expression and their personal identity and there is a significant correlation between the use of tattoos piercings with psychological problems related to personality disorders, tendency to selfharm in dissociative disorders, alexithymia, and sensation-seeking traits (Stirn et al., 2006).

Based on the results of the study, it was found that the level of knowledge of street children about the incidence of HIV/AIDS in the city of Mataram was mostly well-informed, namely 22 people (73.3%) and in line with the attitude of street children about the incidence of HIV/AIDS in the city of Mataram, which was mostly good, namely 27 people (90%).

According to the Big Indonesian Dictionary, knowledge is something that is known related to the learning process. Process This learning is influenced by various factors from within, such as motivation and External factors in the form of available information facilities, as well as social circumstances and culture. Knowledge can be acquired by a person naturally or intervened either directly or indirectly (Budiman & Riyanto, 2013).

This research is in line with research conducted by Rahmati (2014) with the result that the level of knowledge about the meaning of HIV/AIDS is good (96%). This could be due to the fact that the distribution of respondents based on their level of knowledge of HIV/AIDS varied greatly, according to the respondents' answers which also varied.

Knowledge can be the basis for making an assessment of an object, which is produced in the form of an attitude (Rahman, 2017). Attitude is a thought or opinion about something or someone (Cambridge Dictionary, 2014). According to Sarwono, a person's attitude can change by obtaining additional information about the object, through persuasion and pressure from their social group (Kholid, 2015).

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