

THE ASSOCIATION BETWEEN KNOWLEDGE ABOUT HIV/AIDS AMONG ADOLESCENTS AND STIGMA TOWARDS PEOPLE LIVING WITH HIV/AIDS IN INDONESIA

Rizka Dita Hidayati, Dewi Rokhanawati

Universitas Aisyiyah Yogyakarta

ABSTRACT

Background: The stigma against HIV/AIDS leads to suspicion, negative attitude, and rejection towards people living with HIV/AIDS (PLWH) and their communities. The stigma that occurs in adolescents may be influenced by various factors, one of which is knowledge of HIV/AIDS. This study aimed to determine the association between knowledge about HIV/AIDS among adolescents and stigma towards PLWH in Indonesia.

Subjects and Method: This was an analytic observational study with a cross-sectional design. A sample of 10,437 adolescents was selected for this study. The dependent variable was stigma towards PLWH. The independent variable was knowledge about HIV/AIDS. The data were taken from Indonesia Demographic and Health Survey (SDKI) year 2012. The data were analyzed by chi square test.

Results: There was an association between knowledge about HIV/AIDS in adolescents and stigma towards PLWH. Stigma towards PLWH increased with a lack of knowledge about HIV/AIDS among adolescents (OR= 2.66; 95% CI= 2.24 to 3.15; $p < 0.001$).

Conclusion: A lack of knowledge about HIV/AIDS among adolescents is associated with an increase in stigma towards PLWH.

Keywords: stigma, knowledge, HIV/IDS, PLWH, adolescent

Correspondence:

Dewi Rokhanawati. Universitas 'Aisyiyah Yogyakarta, Jl. Ring Road Barat No. 63, Nogotirto, Gamping, Sleman District, Yogyakarta 55592.

Email: dewik.2011@gmail.com