

# DETERMINANT FACTORS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION IN YOUNG-GAY, SHEMALE, MEN WHO SEX WITH MEN (MSM) IN MAKASSAR CITY

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## ABSTRACT

Homosexuality has a tendency to engage in sexual attraction involving emotional and romantic with the same sex or sexual activity carried out a man with men. Homosexual consist of Gay, Shemale, Man sex with men (MSM) whose sexual orientation can be formed by internal and externa factors such as a past trauma, economic factor, and situation. The purpose of this study was to analyze the factors that trigger the formation of sexual orientation in Gay, shemale, MSM in Makassar City. The method of this research is qualitative by using observation techniques, in-depth interviews, an documentation. The informants of this study consisted of 6 young Gay, Shemale, Man sex with men (MSM) as the main informants selected with criteria of age 18-23 years, 2 outreaches supporting informants and 1 community leader as key informants. Based on the results of this study, it was found that at the age of 18 year young Gay, Shemale, Man sex with men (MSM) sexual orientation had been formed and confirmed his sexual identity which was based on reasons: 3 informant expressed love for fellow men because of past trauma, heartache left behind by lovers and betrayed by loved ones, 1 informant because of the situation and conditions when he was a studying in one of the boarding school where all of his residents were men, 2 informants revealed for economic reasons, in this case the choice to become transvestites and work in a beauty salon to help families and MSM financed by their partners. Having a sense of comfort and feeling mutual understanding when establishing relationships with fellow men makes the informant feel attraction to having risky sexual relations. Referring to this study, it can be concluded that the sexual orientation of individuals including young Gay, Shemale, Men who sex with men (MSM) in Makassar City is a result of interactions with the surrounding environment such as a history of past trauma, situation, and economy. It is recommended that health promotion activities be further enhanced to reduce risky behavior in Makassar City.

**Keywords:** Sexual orientation, Young MSM, Makassar.

## INTRODUCTION

Sexual behavior occurs because of a sexual desire regardless of to whom the desire is distributed. Social environment such as people in which an individual grew affects this sexual behavior. Gay, Homosexual, and Bisexual are communities that have feelings of affection or love that involve emotion directed towards the same sex.

The establishment of Young-Gay, Shemale, Men who Sex with Men (MSM) extremely influences an individual's sexual orientation which comes from various factors such as social environment, friendship, family acceptance, financial problems, biological problems, and past trauma. The phenome Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM non is fascinating because its existence is deemed violating Islamic regulations and social norms. This community tends to have multiple partners with free-sex behaviors which lead to increase spreading risk of sexually infectious diseases. It creates a distinct impression of the presence of men who decide to become Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM in Makassar.

Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM at the Gaya Celebes Foundation in Makassar comes from the young to the elder ones.

Those who are 18 or 25 years old are indicated by an interest in sexual intercourse. Based on previous data from the Gaya Celebes Foundation which fosters 129 Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM, it was found that they prefer to be gay because they have previously had sexual relations with fellow men while they were still student in boarding school in Makassar. On the one hand due to financial factor, some of them prefer to be a transsexual and work in a barbershop to make a living. While the others prefer to be Bisexual because their life needs are financed by their sexual partner in addition to becoming Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM because of natural interest (they prefer men to women). Based on previous description, the aim of this study is to find out the Determinant factors of sexual orientation of Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM in Makassar.

## MATERIAL AND METHOD

The study method was qualitative using observation, interview and documentation techniques. In this study, there were 6 main respondents, 2 supporting respondents, and 1 community leader with age criteria around 18-23 years old. These informants were willing to be involved in this

research. Data analysis was performed simultaneously with the data collection processes: the data was encoded, categorized then brought out into narration.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Based on the result, occasionally there are 6 respondents who constitute of Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM. One of them is the chief of Gaya Celebes Foundation in Makassar and two of them are supporting informants. It can be clarified that the informants are at the productive and young age which allow them to get along freely. In addition Makassar is well-known as a metro city. Various work background provides opportunities to interact with many kinds of people, so that it can be ascertained that the GHB interaction is increasingly widespread.

Regarding the determinant of sexual orientation factors of Gay, Transsexual, found:

- a. Become Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM due to financial problem.

Sexual orientation as a consequence of environmental influences such as economic background, the desire to follow such a hedonistic lifestyle that some young people opt instantaneously as stated by an informant:

*"sayaaaa...bapak saya sopir pete-pete, saya 3 bersaudara. Awal pertama kali menjalin hubungan dengan laki-laki yang lebih tua bukan karena memang suka, saya punya pacar perempuan. Saat itu saya kelas 1 SMA, saya selalu ke Makassar karena dulunya saya tinggal di sungguminasa. Kenal dengan laki-laki yang sudah punya isteri, dia biayai, dia belikanka pakaian, kasi uang dan segala macam sampai akhirnya saya terikat dan mulai terbiasa dengan dia. Perasaan sama seperti pacaran dengan perempuan, kadang saya jadi laki-laki kadang saya jadi perempuan dan itu keterusan sampai sekarang (Er, 19 th.LSL)*

On the other hand, an informant said that he became a homosexual because he only completed his study until junior school dan unable to continue study makes them change their appearance or work in a barbershop to earn a living. Sometimes they have a partner to support in needs.

- b. Become Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM due to trauma

Having unpleasant romance experience is able to influence man's sexual orientation as stated by an informant:

*"...dulu, adapacarku waktu SMP kelas 3, 1 tahunka pacaran..cinta pertamaku tapi dikasi menikahki sama orang tuanya jadi sakit hatika apalgi dia itu tetanggaku sendiri. Pacaran sama perempuan bikin sakit hati, bisa hamil juga kalau sama laki-laki kita saling mengerti tidak perlu takut hamil, tidak sakit hati..kalau dia punya pacar perempuan tidak masalah yang penting jangan pacaran sama laki-laki juga"*

Another informant experienced the same case because of trauma after having such a girlfriend which leads him to lose interest in woman

- c. Become young-GHB due to Social situation.

It cannot be denied that a lot of cases of sexual deviations owing to situation as stated by an informant:

*"Saya pernah tinggal di asrama... disana itu tidak bisa pegang hp sebenarnya tetapi kadang-kadang kita sembunyi-sembunyi..ketika menonton yang porno-porno kan mau sekali berhubungan seks tapi tidak ada perempuan, jd kalau tidak masturbasi kita berhubungan sama laki-laki, bagaimanalah caranya..."*

The same thing was stated by a model whowas as an informant in this study as well. He is used to hanging out with men, being taken care, being touched and so on in his profession. It causes him to fascinate to another man although his appearance is masculin.

Being Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM can be induced by various things. However the most influential factor is environmental factor as experienced by one of the respondents in this study. Before 17 years old, teenager at this stage is looking for identity. The desire in anxiety and confusion because conflict occurs within oneself. Teenagers are eager to try and explore everything that they do not figure out. On the other hand they establish teen-relation and sometimes still hide

themselves.

At the age of 18, teenager initially demonstrates the identity, thinks realistically and stably, and determines his own sexual orientation. On this study, Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM sexual orientation (18-23 years old) has been appeared and they are not reluctant to show same-sex attraction. It is called Coming In or Self-esteem. According to Darmanto (2013), Coming In is a condition where a person has fully accepted himself as he is between benefits and drawback as well as sexual orientation and gender identity has.

Based on these teenagers' characteristic, the establishment of Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM sexual orientation is induced by such a past trauma or betrayal of love that they become insane and will not like to have desire for women. This is because of frustration and without respect by their partner. According to Jatmika Sidik (2010) quoted from Khamim Z.P (2017) states that teenager possesses special behavior including sexual feeling that can be terrifying, confusing, guilty and frustrating.

Financial problem, extravagance, society and lifestyle but limited incomes are some factors to be Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM. Based on the study it can be seen that opting to be homosexual is caused by unwell-education and less skill moreover they must aid their family, therefore behaving like woman and working in the barbershop are the instant ways to make a living. Being a homosexual certainly has a passion to man with femininity homosexual in this study has a normal partner. One of the informants in this study decides to be a gay because he thinks that having deep relation with well-being man will be able to meet his cost living. Abdulyani (2007) states that the needs to be protected, loved, understood are why individual starts looking for a partner to obtain the sexual desire. In community human beings are always required to be able to adapt to the social environment, Situation is one of the determinant factors of sexual orientation. For example an informant who had lived in a male dormitory. When his libido increased, having sexual intercourse with the fellow male occupant is an effort to distribute his sexual desire. Demartoto (2013) stated that sexual behavior is a deed which is performed because of sexual drive. On this concept, no matter how and to whom the desire is distributed it is called sexual behavior. Someone's sexual behavior can be

influenced by environment and culture where the individual lives, because individual behaviour is a learning process and socialization of internal and external factors (Asrina, 2018).

## CONCLUSION

Young-Gay, Shemale, MSM sexual orientation in this study is induced by some factors such as past trauma, financial problem, situation or living place. In conclusion, informants' sexual behavior is influenced by external factors such as environment and lifestyle where they interact.

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