

# UNDERSTANDING AND ADDRESSING SEXUAL DEVIANCE: A COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SEXUAL KNOWLEDGE AND BEHAVIOR AMONG TEENAGERS IN SUB URBAN PUBLIC AND RELIGIOUS SCHOOLS

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## **Abstract**

*Several studies indicate that insufficient education on sexual matters in schools is a contributing factor to the engagement of teenagers in sexual deviant behaviors. Another contributing factor to sexual deviance in teenagers is their experience as victims of sexual abuse, parental violence, and coming from broken homes. These factors might promote the development of sexual dysfunction, particularly in suburban regions. The objective of this study is to provide a detailed account of the sexual knowledge and sexual behavior of teenagers attending schools in suburban settings. The researcher selected two schools in Deli Serdang Regency, one being a public school and the other a religious school, both with distinct educational system histories. This research methodology employs a quantitative study design utilizing a survey-based technique. The public school sample consisted of 74 respondents, whereas the religious school sample consisted of 91 respondents. The research data were gathered by a questionnaire and analyzed using the SPSS version 22 software. The findings demonstrated that sexual education in religious schools can significantly mitigate the occurrence of sexual aberrations in comparison to public schools. Meanwhile, teenagers attending public schools view engaging in physical touch while dating as a favorable activity. This contrasts with teenagers attending religious schools, where the emphasis is on instilling stronger religious ideals in order to restrict romantic relationships during adolescence.*

**Keywords:** *Adolescents; Religious Schools; Suburban schools; Sexual behavior*

## **Abstrak**

*Beberapa penelitian menyebutkan bahwa kurangnya pengetahuan tentang seks di sekolah menjadi salah satu sebab remaja melakukan penyimpangan seksual. Faktor lain yang memiliki korelasi dengan penyimpangan seksual adalah para remaja tersebut merupakan korban kekerasan seksual, kekerasan orang tua, dan latar belakang dari keluarga broken home yang kemudian memicu munculnya disfungsi seksual di wilayah sub urban. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mendeskripsikan bagaimana pengetahuan seks dan perilaku seksual remaja di sekolah yang terletak di wilayah sub urban. Peneliti memilih dua sekolah dengan latar belakang sistem pendidikan yang berbeda, yaitu sekolah umum dan sekolah agama di Kabupaten Deli, Serdang. Metode penelitian ini menggunakan penelitian kuantitatif dengan pendekatan survey. Jumlah sampel sekolah umum sebanyak 74 responden, dan sampel sekolah agama sebanyak 91 responden. Data penelitian dikumpulkan menggunakan angket, dan diolah menggunakan program SPSS versi 22. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa pengetahuan tentang seks di sekolah agama secara efektif dapat mencegah munculnya penyimpangan seks dibandingkan dengan sekolah umum. Sedangkan remaja di sekolah umum menganggap pacaran dengan melakukan kontak fisik merupakan suatu aktivitas positif. Hal ini berbeda dengan remaja di sekolah agama yang lebih menanamkan nilai-nilai agama untuk membatasi hubungan berpacaran di usia remaja.*

**Kata Kunci:** *Remaja; Sekolah religius; Sekolah di sub urban; Perilaku Seksual*

## **A. INTRODUCTION**

Adolescent information about sexuality is an essential part of shaping adolescent sexual behaviour. Without preliminary information about sexuality, this can trigger strange sexual behaviours in their social activities. The expansion of this deviation leads to the emergence of early sexual ways of behaving. Because basically, information about sex can teach younger people about sex and have restrictions applied to other opposite sexes. Nowadays, many teenagers commit sexual deviance. The fundamental way of sexual behaviour occurs when a person has reached development towards adulthood. Pre-adulthood, or it can be said adolescence, is when a person begins to experience changes in his actual changes so that the teenager experiences very high puberty and his attraction to himself and the other sex are also very high. Pre-adulthood should also be a period of change from adolescence to adulthood. Puberty is caused by complex physical and emotional changes from adolescence to adulthood (Aysel 2016).

The current situation makes adolescents intellectually youthful because they are still looking for their identity and are very helpless in the face of various influences in their social environment, including unchanging sexual behaviour (Sarwono 2012). Results of Survey Demografi dan Kesehatan Indonesia (SDKI) conducted by the Badan Pusat Statistik Agency (BPS) in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (2013) indicate that in addition to physical appearance suggests that in addition to the material being used as a factor of sex change in adolescents, it turns out that environmental factors can also influence the sexual behaviour of adolescents. The absence of adequate knowledge about healthy sex is one of the causes that determine the occurrence of formative problems in adolescents as they age. Some of the issues associated with the increase in sexual behavior in

adolescents are that it can lead to extramarital pregnancies and then lead to criminal acts such as abortion because they cannot accept the situation from the consequences of the mistakes they have made. Likewise, with early marriage and the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases (STDs) such as HIV, AIDS, gonorrhea, and other venereal infections (Esteban 2018).

Grunseit et al. (1997) examined *Sexuality Education and Young People's Sexual Behavior: A Review of Studies*, finding that, out of 47 previous research findings, 25 research findings reported that HIV/AIDS and sex education did not increase or decrease sexual activity and related pregnancy and puberty. Seventeen studies said that sex education delayed the onset of sexual activity, reduced the number of sexual partners, or reduced the number of unplanned pregnancies. Only three studies have found an increase in sexual behaviour related to sexuality and puberty. Thus, little evidence has been found to support the claim that sex education can encourage promiscuity. Another study by Abdullahi & Abdulquadri (2018) understands the influence of media on adolescent sexual behaviour in Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). This shows the phenomenon of pluralism theory in looking at sexual behaviour in adolescents. Communication between parents and children is efficient regarding reproductive health knowledge, including implementing the Sex and Relationship Education (SRE) curriculum at school and at home.

The social phenomenon of adolescence is not only limited to observational meetings reflected in its qualities. However, it tends to be seen from relationships between adolescents that can influence their sexual behaviour, which is controlled by the surrounding environment through family, friends, mass media, or school. Aritonang (2015) found the research results showed that adolescents aged 15-17 years have a significant relationship

between knowledge and attitudes about reproductive health and early sexual behaviour. According to him, information and sexual mentality can inspire a person to act decisively or detrimentally. Research Mahmudah et al. (2016) also traced significant results to find that adolescent boys influence adolescent sexual behaviour in Padang City. Likewise, teenagers in the city of Padang have more and more sources of information about sex and also have an awful view of various sexual behaviours.

Sexual behaviour arises from the desire to obtain sexual pleasure through different ways of behaving, for example, fantasising, holding hands, kissing, and hugging in sexual relations with the opposite sex. The investigation of Naja et al. (2017) showed that the rate of adolescents who had early sex was higher in the group with minor data at 67.4%. A good level of information is about 43%. The rate of adolescents who misbehave is about 91.1%. The number of adolescents who had safe sex before marriage was higher than that of the well-behaved group at about 45.6%. The number of adolescents exposed to social media information with pornographic content is around 93.7%. The proportion of adolescents not at risk of having premarital sex is higher than that of adolescents who are not exposed to social media with sexual content 60%. The results of the information suggest that sexual behaviour is influenced by various sources of information about sex, especially among premarital adolescents.

Knowledge of sex among adolescents can influence adolescent behaviour. Teenagers, as the nation's next generation, are the state's most critical assets. If they are not maintained, the state will lose. Kartini Kartono (Jamaludin 2015) explained that the emergence of deviant sexual behaviour among adolescents was one of the problems that arose in Indonesia in the 1980s. According to him, the symptoms of delinquency among teenagers are rampant in terms of crime rate and quality. The form and

nature of evil deeds often lead to criminal acts (crimes). This unusual behaviour can be problematic if not taken seriously. An extraordinary approach is needed in disseminating sexual information so that adolescent behaviour has positive values according to age.

Knowledge of sex as a component that frames adolescent sexual behaviour seems to be an essential research theme today, especially in urban sociological studies in suburban areas. Researchers conducted research in sub-urban areas because the progress of urban areas is growing so fast that it is thought to affect social change in adolescents. A modern and heterogeneous society, making sub-urban teenagers also fall into the category of urban society. However, it is necessary to conduct special studies on knowledge of sexual behaviour to find solutions to prevent juvenile delinquency and promiscuous sex.

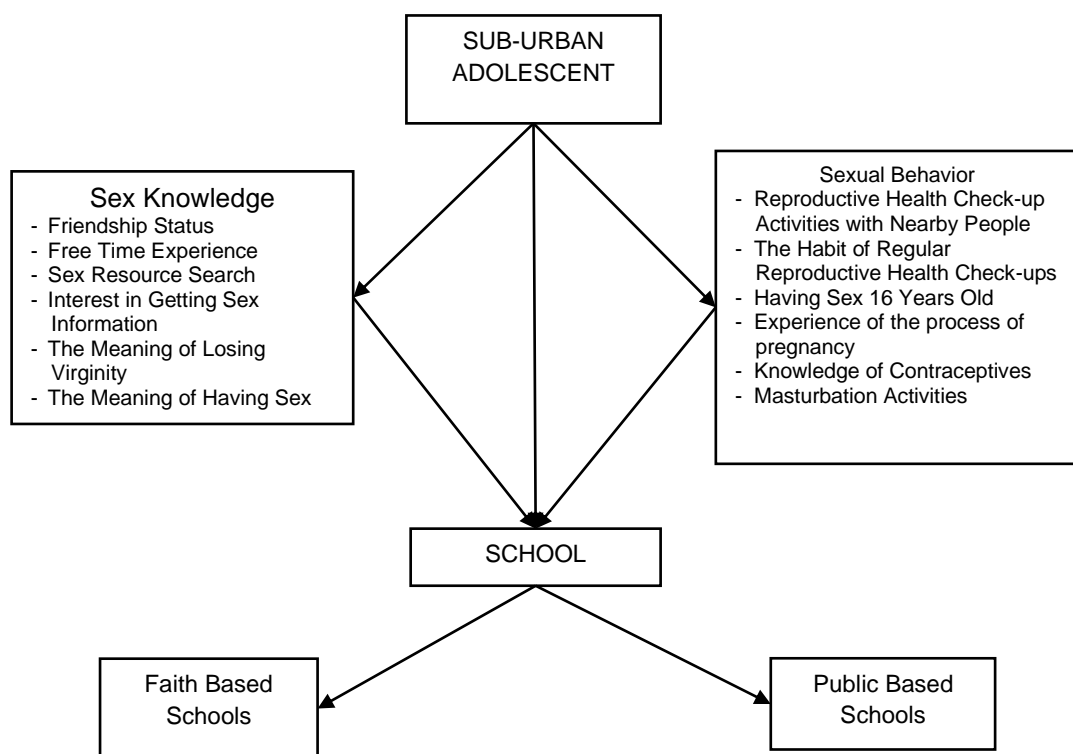
Based on the background, the problem formulation is How do teenagers respond to the meaning of sex in school? How do teens respond to their sexual behaviour at school? The purpose of this study was to describe adolescent sex knowledge in public and religious-based schools and to analyse adolescents' responses to their sexual behaviour in public schools and religious schools. Theoretically, this research is essential to be carried out to be able to improve the latest knowledge in the field of sociology studies. It can be used as reference material for further research to make the latest scientific contributions in social sciences, academia, government and society.

## **B. METHODOLOGY**

The paradigm of sex knowledge and sexual behaviour in this study is aimed at adolescents. The adolescents referred to in this study are young people who have the characteristics of a society

living in suburban areas (sub-urban), thus showing the distinguishment of this study. To clarify the thought process of this study, here is a scheme of research thinking frameworks on the concept of knowledge of sex and sexual behaviour in sub-urban adolescents in public and religious schools (Anna 2021).

**Figure 1.**  
**Paradigms of Knowledge and Sexual Behavior of Sub-Urban Adolescents in Schools**



(Source: Processed by Researcher)

This research uses quantitative research methods and survey research approaches. Survey research is a careful investigation of the fact or phenomena of social behaviour toward many subjects. This survey was conducted to describe a population's condition based on the aspects that are the focus of the study (Ali 2014:186–87). Researchers consider it necessary to examine two research

objects with different school backgrounds, namely public and religion-based schools to compare the development of knowledge and sexual behaviour of sub-urban adolescents in these schools. The general-based school in question is a school whose learning follows the general curriculum. For example, adolescents receive learning materials in general, while faith-based schools combine the broad curriculum with religious science. This research was conducted in Deli Serdang Regency. For public schools, researchers choose SMA Negeri 1 Delitua, while for religious schools, researchers choose SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua. In practice, the location of this study deserves to be used as a beneficial research object that can describe the problem under study. Researchers also require that the population of these two schools is demographically adjacent to the city of Medan, which is otherwise in the suburban community area.

A population is a set of elements, usually in the form of people, objects, events, or events that we are interested in studying or being the subject of research (Kuncoro 2009). Based on the total population of SMA Negeri 1 Delitua, as many as 975 people, and the total population of SMA Swasta Harapan 3 as many as 281 people. The sampling technique of this study is simple random sampling. It is called simple because the decision-making of sample members of a population is accidental without considering the strata of that population. The researcher assumes that all population members are considered homogeneous, that is. Both are teenagers. They determined the entire sample of adolescents of SMA Negeri 1 Delitua and SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua using the Slovin formula  $n = \frac{N}{1 + ne^2}$  (Sevilla 2007).

Based on the sampling results with the Slovin formula, from the number of samples in this study, it can be concluded that there were 91 respondents at SMA Negeri 1 Delitua and 74

respondents at SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua. In addition, data was collected through pre-tested questionnaires and disseminated to respondents. The type of questionnaire is a closed questionnaire in which the respondent chooses the answer determined by the researcher. The survey contains questions about sex knowledge and sexual behaviour. The questionnaire was tested with SPSS software version 22 by entering the data obtained and analysing it based on data findings and supported by other literature review sources appropriate to the research topic, such as books, documents, journals, and scientific articles.

## **C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

### ***1. Relationships and Meanings of Sex in Adolescents in Public and Faith-Based Schools***

Adolescents can naturally influence their sexual behaviour when they have social relationships with other social beings, family, or friends because the associations established by young people cause attraction or curiosity in the opposite sex regarding gender. Appeal to the opposite sex corresponds to the general development of sexual behaviour among adolescents. Based on the results of the material studied, here is an elaboration of some concepts that answer the problem of this research, namely as follows.

#### ***a. Status of Friendship Relationships with the Opposite Sex***

It should be noted that friendship relationships can affect the development of sexual knowledge among sub-urban adolescents, as shown in Table 1.



**Table 1.**  
**Responses of Research Subjects Related to the Status of  
Friendship Relationships with the Opposite Sex**

	SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
	Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Valid				
Already have a girlfriend/boyfriend	23	25,3	20	27,0
Already broken up (single)	40	44,0	26	35,1
Never dated	28	30,8	28	37,8
Don't want to go out	0	0	0	0
Total	91	100,0	74	100,0

Source: Processed by Researcher

Based on the statistical data obtained, it turns out that there is a significant difference in the friendship status of respondents to SMA Negeri 1 Delitua, which can be called a public-based school. Especially when making friends with the opposite sex or courtship. Respondents to public-based schools are already familiar with dating relationships. It can be seen that as many as 23 respondents already have girlfriends/boyfriends, namely around 25.3%, have broken up (single) up to 40 respondents, which is about 44.0%, and have never dated as many as 28 respondents or about 30.8%, and do not want to date as many as 0 respondents or about 0%. From these results, researchers concluded that, on average, about 69.3% of suburban adolescents in public-based schools have dated and are attracted to the opposite sex.

Furthermore, respondents from Harapan 3 Delitua Private High School, or what can be called a faith-based school, have different answers. Especially when making friends with the opposite sex or courtship. It turns out that most teenagers in faith-based schools already know and have relationships. This can be seen in respondents who already have a girlfriend. As many as 20 respondents, around 27.0%, have broken up (single). As many as

26 respondents, or about 35.1%, have never dated as many as 28 respondents, or about 37.8%, and do not want to date as many as 0 respondents or about 0%. From these results, researchers also concluded that about 62.9% of adolescents in religious schools have dated and are attracted to the opposite sex.

Opposite-sex friendships are a source of information for young people in urban areas to educate themselves about sex. Young people living in suburban areas can consciously learn this through close relationships with the opposite sex. Exciting things were found in both of these study sites, especially regarding friendships with the opposite sex. The results show that sub-urban adolescents do not want to learn sex alone without a partner or the opposite sex. This can be seen from respondents' statements from both research locations, which show that the alternative in the classification of unwillingness to socialise is 0 respondents or about 0%. From this, it follows that sub-urban adolescents mostly see sex knowledge through friendships with the opposite sex as indicative of personal opinions that are fundamental to them.

### ***b. Spend Time on Weekends***

Each student has a different pleasure and comfort in spending time with people they trust and care about. This can affect students' openness regarding their problems and life needs. In this case, the researcher explains the study's results based on the information obtained by looking at Table 2.

**Table 2.**  
**Response of Research Subjects Related to Spending Time On Weekend**

		SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
		Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Valid	Girlfriend/Boyfriend	4	4,4	6	8,1
	Friend	21	23,1	17	23,0

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	SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
	Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Family	55	60,4	44	59,5
Alone	11	12,1	7	9,5
Total	91	100,0	74	100,0

Source: Processed by Researcher

Table 2 shows that respondents in public schools spend weekends/holidays with their families, 55 respondents or about 60.4%. The second percentage who spends the most time with the closest people is with friends, namely 21 respondents with a percentage value of around 23.1%. From the above two statements, it can be concluded that teenagers in public-based schools prefer to share their free time with family and friends, although some respondents spend their free time with girlfriends and alone do not show too much percentage. Meanwhile, teenagers' responses in religious-free schools stated that as many as 44 respondents, or about 59.5%, spent weekends/holidays with their closest family. In comparison, 17 respondents, or about 23.0%, spent with friends. Based on the statements of the two school arenas above, it can be concluded that suburban teenagers prefer to share free time and share stories with family and friends.

Based on the above information, it can be analysed that suburban teenagers are not very interested in spending weekends with their girlfriends. This can be seen from the answers given by the research respondents in the table above, which, compared to family and friends, tells quite a lot of stories and is usually a little bit. Although adolescents in the suburbs tend to like relationships or friendships with the opposite sex, in their leisure time, they prefer to spend time with family, so the role of the family in acquiring sexual knowledge both directly and indirectly is relatively significant.

### c. Sources Get Information About Sex

From a wide variety of friendships, girlfriends, and family to oneself, the researchers presented accurate sources of information about sex. There are many types of sexual activity, be it porn sites, dating scenes, or even awareness of keeping respondents healthy. Further explanation can be seen in Table 3.

**Table 3.**  
**Response of Research Subjects Regarding Sources of Information About Sex Friend**

	SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
	Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Valid Friend	7	7,7	13	17,6
Girlfriend/Boyfriend	5	5,5	5	6,8
Parents	12	13,2	11	14,9
Mass Media	43	47,3	34	45,9
School	24	26,4	11	14,9
Total	91	100,0	74	100,0

Source: Processed by Researcher

Based on the statistical data in Table 3, it can be seen that respondents in public-based schools get many sources of sexual information through the media. This can be seen from the answers of respondents whose response rate was 43 respondents or around 47.3%; among school respondents, 24 respondents or about 26.4% and those who answered parents as many as 12 respondents, about 13.2%. From this statement, it can be concluded that the media and schools as agents of socialisation towards the development of adolescent sexual knowledge. In contrast to parents who still consider it taboo to talk about sex with their children. However, some get information about sex from their girlfriends, as many as five respondents with a frequency value of about 5.5%, so it can also be concluded that in dating, it turns out

that there is an element of sex in it depending on how the teenager interprets it whether it is accepted by physical contact or not.

In addition, based on the statistical data in the table above, it is clear that respondents in faith-based schools get a lot of information about sex through the media as well. Thirty-four respondents chose media with a frequency value of about 45.9%, choosing friends as many as 13 respondents or about 17.6%. In addition, there are two options with the same frequency value, namely schools and families, each of which has a frequency of 11 respondents or around 14.9%. From this statement, it can be concluded that the mass media strongly influences adolescents' behaviour in obtaining sex information. The difference with teenagers in public-based schools is that teenagers in faith-based schools also get information about sex from friends and school. Respondents also spent more time with their girlfriends at school than their girlfriends. Since the school not only serves to acquire general knowledge but also provides intensive information to the younger generation about sexual significance and religious values since the school is a school of the Islamic religion. Therefore, Islamic values such as faith, science, and charity are significant for sub-urban teenagers to follow in every school.

#### ***d. Interest in Finding Sources of Information About Sex Health***

Teenagers in urban suburbs are more interested in health because of the high cost of healthy living and do not look at rich or poor. Once infected with a disease, everyone understands the importance of maintaining a healthy body, so they need a healthy lifestyle to maintain endurance to carry out activities optimally. Young people, incredibly high school teenagers in sub-urban areas, tend to have a habit of looking for sources of health information from various sources. Usually, the information sought is about

healthy nutrition, diet, and prevention of sexual diseases that can be contagious and non-communicable. To see a more detailed explanation can be seen in Table 4.

**Table 4.**  
**Response of Research Subjects Related to Interest in Finding Sources of Information About Sex Health**

	SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua		
	Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent	
Valid	Very Interested	67	73,6	60	81,1
	Interested	0	0	0	0
	Less Interested	0	0	0	0
	Disinterested	24	26,4	14	18,9
	Very disinterested	0	0	0	0
	Total	91	100,0	74	100,0

Source: Processed by Researcher

Table 4 shows that adolescents in public-based schools tend to seek health information from various sources. Based on respondents' responses, as many as 67, or around 73.6%, were interested in seeking information about sexual health. As many as 24 respondents, or about 26.4% of respondents, are not interested in getting used to seeing sources of health information. Usually, women want to find sources of health information because they have started to take care of their bodies to look attractive and stay healthy at a young age. According to Table 4, adolescents in faith-based schools tend to seek health information from various sources. Based on respondents' responses, as many as 60 respondents, or about 81.1%, are interested in pursuing health information. As many as 14 respondents, or about 18.9%, are not interested in getting health information. Used to search for sources of health information. Along with women looking for sources of health information and exceptionally healthy eating tips, some men are looking for information about health in the form of keeping the body fit and macho.

**e. The Meaning of Losing Virginity**

Today, values and norms have changed, which causes controversy in society, especially in suburban areas. The heterogeneous characteristics of a suburban community and the rapidly developing dynamics of suburban society led to the fading of social values and norms, primarily due to the rapid and uncontrolled development of digital sources of information among adolescents (Emmanuel 2022). As a result, there are things that teenagers shouldn't do instead of thinking it's normal. For example, when meeting or getting acquainted at school, suburban teenagers consider hugging or kissing to be expected in a relationship. This raises the problem of social ills such as juvenile delinquency and misconduct.

In other words, intentionally or unintentionally touching the opposite sex, even to the point of adultery, is considered an act that harms the teenager. Therefore, there is no need to bring up feelings or understandings of youth regarding maintaining virginity. As a result, it can have adverse effects on the teenager, such as getting pregnant out of wedlock and possibly losing the opportunity to achieve his goals. Therefore, researchers try to analyse the importance of knowing the meaning of virginity for adolescents in public schools, and schools can later draw concrete conclusions about the problems faced by adolescents today. If you want to see more explanations, see Table 5.

**Table 5.**  
**Response of Research Subjects Related to the Meaning of Loss  
of Virginity**

		SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
		Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Valid	Losing the Future	45	49,5	44	59,5
	Resigned But Not Willing	12	13,2	8	10,8

	SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
	Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Not Answering	16	17,6	14	18,9
Following Today's Trends	13	14,3	3	4,1
Not Too Important	5	5,5	5	6,8
Total	91	100,0	74	100,0

Source: Processed by Researcher

Based on the statistical data in Table 5, it can be seen that respondents in public-based schools are more likely to state that the meaning of virginity can lose time can be seen from the frequency score of 45 respondents around 49.5%, 16 respondents or about 17.6% chose not to answer, 13 respondents or about 14.3% said to follow current trends. In comparison, 12 respondents, or about 13.2%, expressed resignation but were unwilling. Then, five respondents answered the statement about not being very important or about 5.5%. In addition, from the results of respondents' data in faith-based schools, it was also revealed that the meaning of virginity might be lost in the future. This can be seen from the frequency score of 44 respondents, or around 59.5%, respondents' statements related to indicators of resignation but not willing to as many as eight respondents, or about 10.8%, and as many as three respondents, or around 4.1% stated that they follow current trends, as well as statements that say not too important as many as five respondents or about 6.8%.

#### ***f. The Meaning of Having Sexual Intercourse***

The meaning of sexual intercourse that sub-urban adolescents must adhere to is the touch of the opposite sex as a form of sincere expression of affection. The contact in question is holding hands, hugging, kissing, and even having sex. Because if he is wrong, he can harm himself. The goal is for researchers to determine respondents' understanding of the meaning of having sex according to adolescents in school. Therefore, more information can be seen in Table 6.



**Table 6.**  
**Response of Research Subjects Related to the Meaning of  
Having Sexual Intercourse**

	SMA Negeri 1 Delitua		SMA Swasta Harapan 3 Delitua	
	Frequency	Per cent	Frequency	Per cent
Valid				
Holding hands	16	17,6	5	6,8
Cuddle	8	8,8	54	73,0
Kissing	15	16,5	2	2,7
Having intercourse	41	45,1	2	2,7
Don't Know	11	12,1	11	14,9
Total	91	100,0	74	100,0

Source: Processed by Researcher

In Table 6, respondents' statements in public-based schools about the meaning of having sexual intercourse were the most significant. From these options, 41 respondents chose to have intercourse or about 45.1%. Therefore, it can be concluded that the most difficult thing not to do in dating is to have premarital sex. Adolescents in public-based schools already understand enough about what sex is and how to prevent the occurrence of disorders in their sexual knowledge. Respondents claimed to have obtained information about sex from the media and schools. This shows that respondents are not information blind. Even though they are already romantically linked to the opposite sex, they still control themselves to maintain their virginity/ virginity. Likewise, respondents in religion-based schools chose the option of intercourse as the true meaning of sex. This is seen through the statistical results, where 54 respondents, or about 73.0%, have had sex. Therefore, it can be concluded that the most difficult thing not to do in dating is premarital sex. Culturing religious values is one of the critical factors so as not to fall into the jahiliyyah period, which can harm adolescents.

From the statements of respondents from two schools, it can be concluded that adolescents have basic information about sexual

activity. This can be seen from the conclusions drawn from the data results, which show that there is not much difference between religious and public schools. In short, the teenagers in these two schools have standards for building same-sex and opposite-sex friendships. Adolescents have social control to form certain relationships, and these adolescents can guide them to avoid sexual dysfunction.

## **2. Adolescent Sexual Behavior in Public Schools and Religious Schools**

### **a. Sub-Urban Adolescent Sexual Behavior in Public-Based Schools**

Teenagers in this school are teenagers from various family backgrounds, tribes, languages, religions, and even circles of friends who are very diverse in getting information about sex, especially behaviours in paying attention to reproductive health. Therefore, researchers presented the results of a research survey on sex behaviour and reproductive health. A more detailed explanation can be seen in Table 7 below:

**Table 7.**

#### **Responses of Research Subjects Related to Sex Behavior in Public-Based Schools**

No.	Indicators	Category					Total	Mean
		1	2	3	4	5		
1	Conducting reproductive health checks with parents	2	21	24	21	23	91	3,46
		2,2%	23,1%	26,4%	23,1%	25,3%	100%	
2	Have a reproductive health check-up with a friend	25	27	12	17	10	91	2,56
		27,5%	29,7%	13,2%	18,7%	11,0%	100%	
3	Conduct regular reproductive health checks	13	11	34	20	13	91	3,10
		14,3%	12,1%	37,4%	22,0%	14,3%	100%	
4	Having sex with a child under the age of 16 is not a form of the criminal act	18	8	5	25	35	91	3,56
		19,8%	8,8%	5,5%	27,5%	38,5%	100%	

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No.	Indicators	Category					Total	Mean
		1	2	3	4	5		
5	Pregnancy will occur if you have intercourse with a girlfriend/opposite sex, even if only once	20	10	7	23	31	91	3,38
		22,0 %	11,0 %	7,7%	25,3 %	34,1 %	100%	
6	Using condoms during sexual intercourse will prevent pregnancy and contagious sex diseases	13	19	21	23	15	91	3,09
		14,3 %	20,9 %	23,1 %	25,3 %	16,5 %	100%	
7	Masturbation can result in impotence and loss of sex appetite	8	14	30	20	19	91	3,31
		8,8%	15,4 %	33,0 %	22,0 %	20,9 %	100%	
Information	Category						Mean	
	1 = Strongly Disagree						1.00 - 1.80	
	2 = Disagree						1.81 - 2.60	
	3 = Quite Agree						2.61 - 3.40	
	4 = Agree						3.41 - 4.20	
	5 = Strongly Agree						4.21 - 5.00	

Source: Processed by Researcher

Based on the survey results, it can be seen in Table 7 presents several respondents' answers by looking at the average (mean) of respondents' choices. The average score of the respondent's answer evaluation indicator was 3.46, which means agreeing to conduct a reproductive health examination with parents. A total of 2.56 respondents who conducted reproductive health examinations with their friends expressed disapproval. From both indicators, it can be concluded that adolescents prefer to spend time with parents compared to friends regarding health checks. They kept reproductive health screenings a secret, and only families were aware of the screening process, although it turned out that there were respondents who were more comfortable with friends. In addition, the survey results showed an average of about 3.10 respondents disapproved of conducting regular/routine reproductive health checks. In addition to this, regular

reproductive health checks at childbearing age are essential for their future and the offspring, especially for girls to maintain reproductive health.

The survey results showed a mean value of about 3.56, which agrees that the indicator of having sex with people under 16 years old is not a form of crime, so this statistical figure shows significant results. According to the respondents, sex interest is quite typical among young people. However, they realise that when sex leads to adultery, it is part of an unkind deed that even leads to a criminal act. Teenagers believe that having sex with the opposite sex is normal as long as it does not damage the genitals of the opposite sex, which can harm the teenager's future. For them to pay attention to sexual behaviour is a natural act because it can know their sexual development even though they are under the age of 16.

The subsequent data finding is that pregnancy will occur if you have intercourse with a girlfriend/opposite sex, even if you only once express disapproval. This is seen from the average value of around 3.38. In other cases, when respondents' claims indicated that condom use during sexual intercourse would prevent pregnancy and infectious sex diseases, about 3.09 expressed disapproval. They see condoms as an alternative way to prevent communicable diseases and pregnancies, although some respondents consider this indicator taboo.

An affirmative statement regarding indicators about masturbation or masturbation can cause impotence and loss of sexual arousal has an average value of about 3.31. This masturbation sometimes makes them feel like they are climaxing quickly, so they realise that it can harm themselves and their sexual desires in the future. From this question, it turns out that some of them still don't understand and feel taboo to talk about it because they think it's not time to be open about sexual activity.

Therefore, they do positive activities such as sports to reduce curiosity so as not to be affected and until dependent. However, it is undeniable that it is natural for adolescents to engage in unnatural sexual activity due to an intense curiosity within themselves and being influenced by peers and social media.

**b. Sub-Urban Adolescent Sexual Behavior in Faith-Based Schools**

Adolescent sexual behaviour in faith-based schools seems to be quite an interesting trend if we look at adolescent sexual behaviour because these schools have a specific religious curriculum in addition to the general education curriculum. This social arena is undoubtedly an exciting and essential phenomenon to be studied sociologically and as a reference for this study. Table 8 below will provide more information about adolescent sexual behaviour in religious schools.

The survey examines adolescents' knowledge of sexual behaviour in faith-based schools. Table 8 shows an average of about 3.47, which shows that respondents agreed to have a reproductive health screening with their parents. Statements of disapproval of their responses about conducting reproductive health screenings with friends showed an average of about 2.43.

**Table 8.**  
**Responses of Research Subjects Related to Sex Behavior in Faith-Based Schools**

No.	Indicators	Category					Total	Mean
		1	2	3	4	5		
1	Conducting reproductive health checks with parents	4	11	24	16	19	74	3,47
		5,4%	14,9%	32,4%	21,6%	25,7%	100%	
2	Have a reproductive health check-up with a friend	19	26	14	8	7	74	2,43
		25,7%	35,1%	18,9%	10,8%	9,5%	100%	

No.	Indicators	Category					Total	Mean
		1	2	3	4	5		
3	Conduct regular reproductive health checks	9	11	25	18	11	74	3,15
		12,2 %	14,9 %	33,8 %	24,3 %	14,9 %	100%	
4	Having sex with a child under the age of 16 is not a form of the criminal act	31	22	8	6	7	74	2,14
		41,9 %	29,7 %	10,8 %	8,1%	9,5%	100%	
5	Pregnancy will occur if you have intercourse with a girlfriend/opposite sex, even if only once	24	17	6	16	11	74	2,64
		32,4 %	23,0 %	8,1%	21,6 %	14,9 %	100%	
6	Using condoms during sexual intercourse will prevent pregnancy and contagious sex diseases	12	11	18	23	10	74	3,11
		16,2 %	14,9 %	24,3 %	31,1 %	13,5 %	100%	
7	Masturbation can result in impotence and loss of sex appetite	6	13	30	16	9	74	3,12
		8,1%	17,6 %	40,5 %	21,6 %	12,2 %	100%	
Information	Category					Mean		
	1 = Strongly Disagree					1.00 - 1.80		
	2 = Disagree					1.81 - 2.60		
	3 = Quite Agree					2.61 - 3.40		
	4 = Agree					3.41 - 4.20		
5 = Strongly Agree					4.21 - 5.00			

Source: Processed by Researcher

In addition, respondents' opinions about conducting regular/routine reproductive health screenings showed an average score of about 3.15, indicating that they disagreed. The respondents' questions showed that suburban adolescents who attended public and religious schools chose to have reproductive health screenings with their parents rather than with friends. Teenagers participating in general and religious schools also don't care much about reproductive health. This is evidenced by their statements about reproductive health controls that show their dissatisfaction with implementing such activities.

Based on the statement's findings, having sex with a child under the age of 16 is not a form of criminal activity, and the average score is about 2.14, with which they disagree. Signs of pregnancy will occur if you have intercourse with a boyfriend/opposite sex, even if you only once expressed disapproval of around 2.64. Based on the data, researchers analysed that adolescents attending religious schools seemed to understand that having sex with the opposite sex can lead to pregnancy if they do not use contraception. Respondents' answers were quite diverse and balanced when explaining condom use can prevent infectious sex diseases, showing an average of about 3.11. The variety of responses suggests that not all respondents fully respect the benefits of contraceptive (condom) use. When asked again what contraception is, respondents only understood the meaning of contraception but did not know much about its usefulness.

Based on indicators related to masturbation can result in impotence and loss of sexual appetite, stated less noticeable than the average of about 3.12. When interviewed, teenagers got the most knowledge about sex and reproductive organs from playmates and the internet. The amount of information that can be obtained on the internet is one way to increase students' knowledge in understanding tools and reproductive health. Based on the overall results, the researchers concluded that school backgrounds (public or religious) influenced adolescent sexual behaviour. This statement is consistent with the results of the research of Wallace et al. (2007), which surveyed 3,820 schoolchildren in the UK aged 13-16. This study examines adolescent sexual activity using the Trans-theoretical Model of Stages of Change (MTT). The survey results showed that about a quarter of adolescents, or about 26%, had had sexual intercourse, about 44.8% did not use

contraception, and 48.9% stated that they did not use contraception. Previous history of condom and contraceptive use and a couple's willingness to use condoms are the strongest predictors of being in the active phase or staying on contraceptives in adolescents. These findings suggest that sex education needs to be aligned with standards to improve sexual health services. Seeing changes in the behaviour of adolescents entering high puberty, the role of the family, namely parents and schools as a whole, as a facilitator in socialising the prevention of sexual behaviour outside of marriage by not considering contraceptives as a taboo thing to learn for sub-urban adolescents in particular.

### **3. History of Sub-Urban Societies**

The history of the emergence of sub-urban areas was first systematically developed, appeared in England in the 9th century (sub-urban, with variations of "garden cities"), but spread to the United States in the 20th century. Homogeneous groups of people lived mainly were upper-middle-class societies of Anglo-Saxon countries or the European working class, so this type of settlement has existed since pre-industrial times. The sub-urban area settlement is also a suburban area consisting mainly of housing and urban areas separate from the industrial area. Usually reserved for the upper middle class, the suburbs represent a compromise between living near industrial cities, quality jobs and services, and a culture reproducing certain aspects of rural life. Based on empirical research, sub-urban areas can be characterised as follows:

- a) Sub-urban areas tend to function as dwellings that are generally smaller than urban areas
- b) The location of sub-urban areas is usually closer to the centre of a large city



The term sub-urban is often translated as a suburban area. More precisely, the suburb forms between () rural and urban. Considered a regional environment, sub-urban areas are located between or in the middle of rural and urban areas. On the other hand, the suburbs are a group of municipalities between rural and urban areas. In the sense of the outermost city limits, the periphery is referred to as a suburb or rural area. In other words, suburban people tend to live in the border areas between villages and cities, where most people work in urban areas. The continuous development of economic activity and population growth led to the need for space, that is, space for the fulfilment of housing needs as part of basic human needs. Due to the increasingly scarce space, urban development tends to move to the city centre and suburbs. Lower prices are one of the alternatives to residential construction. Weak urban enforcement mechanisms affect the settlement structure of scattered and poorly structured suburban areas (Kartono 2010:40).

The suburban communities mentioned in this study show urban characteristics but live in suburban areas. In general, suburban society does not differ significantly from urban society in social, economic and cultural aspects. Associations and cooperative interaction processes are becoming increasingly inclusive in today's world. In addition, after the construction of the city, people's patterns and lifestyles tended to be more developed. Because people from the suburbs go to the city to live and choose the suburbs to live in and rest. However, the rational choice of parents of suburban communities in terms of education usually sends their children to schools in the suburbs. This is done so that children are not too far from their residence to receive an education.

#### **4. Knowledge of Sex In Adolescents**

Sexuality is described as a social construct, and the general public sees it as more substantial. This tendency usually manifests itself in the idea of sexual desire as a powerful internal biological force that controls a person's sexual behaviour. Sociologists William Simon and John H. Gagnon (Izienicki 2021) introduced the concept of sexual scripts to show the social basis of sexuality and the stories surrounding it. Based on her findings, sexual knowledge is part of education regarding reproductive health in adolescents. In this case, sex education is broader and focused on issues related to sex life.

According to Kusumastuti (2010), knowledge is the result of knowledge obtained from perceiving a specific object. Perception takes place through sight and hearing, smell, taste and touch. This knowledge comes from experience, teachers, parents, books, and media. Notoatmodjo (Kusumastuti 2010:7-8) argues that several factors can influence the information itself, namely the following:

- a) Socioeconomics. The social environment supports a high level of knowledge, while economics is related to education, then the level of economic education is high, and the level of knowledge is also high.
- b) Culture (culture, religion). Culture has a significant impact on a person's level of knowledge since new information is filtered according to existing cultures and religions.
- c) Education. The higher the education, the easier it is to accept new things and quickly adapt to them.
- d) Experience. In terms of age and individual education, higher education means extensive experience because the older a person is, the more experience he has.

### **5. Adolescent Sexual Behavior**

Adolescent sexual behaviour is any activity or sexual intercourse carried out by a minor before marriage. This behaviour is rooted in adolescent desire and curiosity for sex (Sarah 2019). Adolescence is a developmental period when individuals reveal their first secondary sex characteristics upon reaching puberty. Individuals experience psychological development and discrimination patterns from childhood to adulthood to independence (Sarwono 2012). According to Smith and Anderson (Kusumastuti 2010), adolescent development can be divided into three types: early adolescence (10-13 years), middle adolescence (14-16 years), and late adolescence (17-21 years).

The phenomenon of adolescence is exciting to study, especially concerning sexual behaviour. The study by Odeyemi et al. (2016) in Nigeria, which examined 350 teenage girls aged 10-19 years who worked in the Sandgrouse market, Lagos, found that almost half of about 42.9% of respondents were sexually active. The median age at initiation was 17 years. Reported forced initiations of about 15.8% and 36.3% indicated that first-time sexual intercourse was due to coercion. Of those sexually active, only 12.3% said, "that's what they want". A majority of 64.1% of respondents believe rape is common in their communities, and 18% of sexually active people have experienced rape. Teenagers dropping out of school in these communities are at risk of sexual violence.

A literature study conducted by Kaaya et al. (2002) found that the sexual behaviour of adolescents in sub-Saharan Africa is influenced by the culture of its people in studying the meaning of adolescent sexuality both from the aspect of delaying the occurrence of pregnancy, relationships with the opposite sex, and age limits for having sexual intercourse according to their age.

Socioculturally, sexual knowledge information is more effective at intervening in sexual activity and can delay the start of sexual intercourse as a strategy to reduce the risk of sexual deviance. The study (Greif, Dodoo, and Jayaraman 2010) shows a region affects adolescent sexual behaviour. Slum dwellers exhibit more risky sexual behaviour than non-slum dwellers.

According to Dhamayanti, the urge to behave sexually appears in mid-adolescence. According to BKKBN, factors that increase libido in young people include watching porn, viewing pornographic images, listening to porn stories, being alone in quiet places, fantasising about sex, stimulant drugs and drugs (Ramadhani and Arifin 2019:24-25). One of the most critical components that can prevent this adverse effect, although religious teachings and spirituality are weaker in those who experience stressful life experiences. Based on the results of a survey conducted by Sigurvinsdottir (2021) shows that religiosity can reduce anger and depressed mood. These findings can help minimise the negative impacts on teens' lives that can interfere with mental health.

From some of the research results above, it is necessary to know that, according to Soetjningsih (2010), several factors can influence adolescent sexual behaviour that leads to juvenile delinquency and sexual violence.

- a) The time/time of puberty;
- b) Improper social control (too strict or too loose), lack of parental supervision, adolescents do not know which boundaries are allowed and which are not;
- c) The frequency of meetings with girlfriends, the relationship between them becomes more romantic, and a person wants to show love to his girlfriend and accept the sexual activity of the girlfriend;

- d) Economic conditions, family conditions that do not allow adequate childcare in adolescence;
- e) Victims of sexual abuse;
- f) Peer pressure, drug use, alcohol, and feelings of physical growth;
- g) To show courage and physical fitness;
- h) Increased reproduction or sex hormones that give rise to sexual arousal.

### **6. Get to know Public Based Schools and Faith-Based Schools**

A school is an institution or place where people are educated and bound by specific rules and policies to educate and shape the next generation. Schools are places where people can change the future and life of the country for the better. Without schools, the quality of Indonesian education will decline. Unemployment in many places, so life is not guaranteed. The importance of education for us as the nation's next generation in making schools pioneers towards higher development change. In some countries, in addition to public schools, students have preschool, secondary, and post-secondary education options. Education in Indonesia has several levels, namely Early Childhood Education (PAUD) or Kindergarten (TK) (ages 3-6 years), elementary school (6-12 years), junior high school (12-15 years), high school / vocational school (15-18 years), college, and other post-secondary education.

The schools referred to in this study are divided into two categories: public and religious schools. Public schools are schools whose curriculum is determined by the government in general and whose materials and subjects are accessible to all people of various classes, such as religion, ethnicity, and language. Meanwhile, religious schools use implementation methods combining general and religious education in one curriculum.

## **7. The Meaning of Sex in Sexual Behavior in Sub-Urban Adolescents in Religious Schools and Public Schools**

Knowledge of sex and sexual behaviour of sub-urban adolescents seems to have some significant differences, especially in public and religious schools. Based on the concept of a paradigm designed by researchers in the context of suburban adolescent sexual behaviour, it turns out that religious schools are better able to influence the sexual behaviour of adolescents themselves. The teaching of religious values and child sex education in adolescence seems to dominate more in religious schools than public schools that only accept sexual education in general subjects such as science or biology subjects. Through religious education, deviant sexual behaviour can be associated with sin or the sanction of the afterlife, allowing teenagers to open up to parents and schools.

These experiences can be a practical example to teach teenagers about the dangers of dating and having sexual relations with the opposite sex before marriage. In contrast to the view of sub-urban teenagers in public-based schools, it turns out that they already have sexual knowledge and can determine appropriate and inappropriate sexual behaviour at their age. It turns out that teenagers in public-based schools are used to knowing the sexual activity of teenagers of the opposite sex, especially when it comes to dating. The dating behaviour referred to by the teenager is physical touch. They view physical touch as an activity that prioritises a sense of closeness in establishing harmonious relationships through physical touch. Physical touch, for example, holding hands, kissing cheeks, and hugging, are positive expressions of love.

Even sub-urban teenagers in public-based schools also seem to be aware of the risk of misrepresenting and practising sexual acts in their environment. They also understand the phenomenon

of juvenile delinquency and promiscuity in the sex world. When adolescents abuse the reproductive function that somebody to couples who are already kosher, it will cause harm to adolescents. It turns out that they can understand sexual behaviour to the stage of adult sexual behaviour. This requires strengthening sexual knowledge through personal and general guidance by using unique approaches to avoid falling into worldly pleasures and momentary passions. When their sexual behaviour is excessive, the teenager feels deprived of hope and a future because he cannot control himself. Relevant approaches can be implemented through the role of schools through specific policies and regulations or the curriculum's strengthening.

From the statement, it follows that it is essential for most suburban teenagers to take care of their virginity because it can endanger their future and life. Researchers argue that maintaining virginity is very important, especially for children who lack knowledge about maintaining reproductive health, protection from infidelity and maturity, or virginity in religious marriages. Because according to the data, there are some teenagers, no matter how important it is to keep these valuable assets before marriage. This dramatically affects the social structure of society in maintaining virginity, so it is crucial to increase sources of sexual information to adolescents today must be accompanied by family, especially parents, religion, school, and social environment.

#### **D. CONCLUDING REMARKS**

Suburban adolescents in this study are classified as the development of society in urban spaces, in which case the nature and behaviour of society are considered modern. The sexual knowledge and behaviour of sub-urban adolescents are not much different from the sexual knowledge of urban adolescents in

general. Adolescents in suburban areas tend to be more advanced than rural communities in receiving all information and education from urban regions. Adolescents in public-based schools learn about sex and reproductive health knowledge only to a general extent, usually through family, school, social media, and friends who are considered more comfortable exchanging experiences and knowledge. In contrast to religious schools, primarily Islamic religious schools, adolescents tend to have access to the provision of values and norms that the family does not only teach but also the school curriculum that is tied to religious teachings in the form of education that is derived from the verses of the Quran and Hadiths, to make it easier for parents of teenagers themselves to be open to their children.

Sociologically, the sexual knowledge of sub-urban adolescents in religious schools can effectively counteract sexually deviant behaviour compared to public schools. This is influenced by religious and sexual education in the school with the support of public-based education. This can be seen from the sexual behaviour of adolescents in dating in public-based schools, considering the need for courtship activities using physical touch. They view physical touch as an activity that promotes a sense of closeness in establishing a harmonious relationship. Physical touch, such as holding hands, kissing cheeks, and hugging, is a positive expression of love. Unlike the case with teenagers in faith-based schools who are instilled with religious values by not being allowed to come into physical contact with people who are not their mahram. Because it is considered that it is not yet time for them to touch girlfriends Physically, and even in the religion of courtship for teenagers who are not old enough is also prohibited. Religious teachings emphasise establishing healthy friendships without any sexual element in them. Even so, the cultivation of religious values and parental assistance to adolescents must always be applied



considering the dynamics of adolescent behaviour that does not look at their school status but rather the situation and condition of adolescents who are still unstable (puberty) so that it is likely to cause deviations in sexual behaviour.

The expansion of urban areas considerably impacts the dynamics of a plural society, especially cultivating good ethical morals related to sex knowledge and behaviour in sub-urban adolescents. There needs to be significant social control in discussing the development of expertise and sex behaviour of sub-urban adolescents in public and religious schools through a particular education curriculum on sexuality. This is because adolescents' knowledge of the basis of spiritual science in the two schools does not seem to have shown maximum results regarding the negative impact of sexual behaviour. The authors suggest that further research is needed to examine the education system and school regulations related to sex knowledge and its implications for adolescent sexual behaviour because there are two interesting aspects to be discussed next, both manifestly and latently related to the dynamics of adolescent sexual behaviour in the development of urban sociology and health sociology studies in the sub-urban arena.

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