

Sexual Education Among Gifted and Talented Students: A Study in Kolej PERMATA Insan

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ABSTRACT

Sex education is a process of teaching and learning about the cognitive, emotional, physical and social aspects of sexuality. There are various debates about the validity of these studies based on different parties' perspectives. This study aims to explore students' perspectives on sexuality education. This qualitative study used a semi-structured interview method with purposive sampling, i.e., students who had followed at least three years of study, and the interview data was analysed manually. The study found that all participants believe sex education should be part of the curriculum. However, they disagree on how the learning of sex education should be implemented. The implications of this study are significant as it provides suggestions for the best way to implement sex education and all the things that need to be emphasized to ensure that this learning does not lead to undesirable things based on the students' perspective.

Keywords: *health, emotion, relationship*

INTRODUCTION

Sex education is a curriculum base that provides children and young adults going through puberty with the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to help them protect their health. It is a process of teaching and learning about the cognitive, emotional, physical and social aspects of sexuality. It aims to equip children and young people with knowledge, skills, attitudes and values that empower them to realize their health, well-being and dignity; develop respectful social and sexual relationships; consider how their choices affect their well-being and that of others; and understand and ensure the protection of their rights throughout their lives. There are various debates about the validity of these studies based on different parties' perspectives, but the students' perspectives are hard to find. Hence, this study aims to explore students' perspectives on sexuality education.

METHODOLOGY

This qualitative study uses a semi-structured interview method to obtain information regarding the perception of PERMATA Insan College students regarding sexual education in school. A semi-structured interview protocol was used as an instrument. This instrument has undergone a validation process to ensure that the questions constructed are accurate, meaningful, reliable, and usable, allowing the data to be concluded (Fraenkel & Wallen, 2009). This study used purposive sampling, as suggested by Gay & Airasian (2003). The study sample consisted of PERMATA Insan College students who will give feedback based on their perception of sexual harassment among teenagers. The characteristics of participants are female students of PERMATA Insan College who have followed at least

three years of study. A total of 4 participants were interviewed, and the interview data was analysed manually.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Students understand and recognize that sex education must be taught because it is a matter that involves physical and emotional aspects. Though some students stated that sex education is less publicized, and some said that sex education is publicized at least once a year in their school. All students believe that sex education should be taught in school.

Some students suggest the subject be taught in elementary school so that they do not have misconceptions about sex education, while most of them say that we should start introducing sex education in secondary school because this is a stage where we need to know and understand sex education. Next, students say that we should separate male and female students when learning about sex education so that they feel comfortable discussing this topic openly, while most of them suggest creating a program that discourages talking about porn so that they are exposed to it early rather than them learning about it from their peers.

CONCLUSION

To summarise, students are open to and agree with the topic of sex education in school, but they have different opinions on how it should be implemented. This study helps to suggest the best way to implement sex education in schools. The implications of this study are significant as it provides suggestions for the best way to implement sex education and all the things that need to be emphasized to ensure that this learning does not lead to undesirable things based on the students' perspective.

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