

## The Relationship of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Peer Support to the Prevention of Risky Sexual Behavior in Students at SHS 1 Subang

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### Abstract

**Introduction:** Adolescents are a vulnerable group to risky sexual behaviors due to a lack of understanding of reproductive health. **Objective:** To determine the relationship between knowledge, attitudes, and peer support and risky sexual behavior in adolescents at SHS 1 Subang. **Methods:** The study used a quantitative method with a cross-sectional design and a correlational approach. A sample of 87 respondents was selected through the proportionate stratified random sampling technique. **Results and Discussion:** The results of the analysis using the Spearman Rank Correlation test showed that there was a significant relationship between knowledge ( $r\ 0.407$ ;  $p\text{-value} < 0.001$  ( $p < 0.05$ ), attitude ( $r\ 0.310$ ;  $p\text{-value}\ 0.003$  ( $p < 0.05$ ), and peer support ( $r\ 0.413$ ;  $p\text{-value} < 0.001$  ( $p < 0.05$ ) with risky sexual behavior. **Conclusion:** Knowledge, attitudes, and peer support have an important role in shaping adolescent sexual behavior, in accordance with the Precede-Proceed Model theory which states that behavior is influenced by predisposing and reinforcing factors.

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### **Introduction**

Adolescence is a transition period from childhood to adulthood, where there will be triggers for changes from psychology and cognitive (Rohan et al., 2020). Lack of knowledge about reproductive health, negative attitudes towards sexual issues, and low peer support are important factors contributing to the increase in risky sexual behaviors among adolescents. Limited knowledge makes adolescents less likely to understand the consequences of unsafe sexual acts, such as unwanted pregnancies and the transmission of sexually transmitted diseases (Notoatmodjo, 2022). Permissive attitudes towards promiscuity are also the main triggers for adolescents to be more easily affected by the surrounding environment without considering the long-term risks (Yustika et al., 2023). In addition, the lack of support from peers in providing healthy information or instilling positive values can encourage adolescents to seek justification from irresponsible groups. Peers are even the main source of information that shapes adolescents' sexual mindsets and habits, which if not directed correctly can strengthen the tendency to deviant sexual behavior (Suwarni et al., 2021). These three factors are interrelated and can worsen conditions if not implemented appropriately through comprehensive education and a supportive social environment. Therefore, it is important to understand that adolescent sexual behavior is not only influenced by the individual himself, but also by the environment, information received, and the social interactions around him (Marzuki et al., 2021). As a result, the problems faced by adolescents are also diverse, such as the increase in the rate of early marriage, Sexually Transmitted Diseases (STDs), and *Human Immunodeficiency Virus / Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome* (HIV/AIDS) (Sirupa & Tirsa, 2022).

In 2022, Indonesia's Ministry of Health reported an increase in risky sexual behavior activities that threaten health in unmarried young people. About 62.7% of adolescents in Indonesia have had sex before marriage out of 94,270 adolescent girls, 20% have experienced unwanted pregnancies and 21% have had an abortion. Then 10,203 cases of HIV were found within 3 months, and 30% of them were teenagers (Dewi, 2022). In West Java in 2024, 2.48% of the population married to children under the age of 15, 21.47% married to children aged 16-18 years, and women aged 16-19 years 2.84%, of which 2.84% have given birth to children, and 19.54% have been married to children under 18 years of age reported giving birth to babies with low birth weight (BBLR) (Central Statistics Agency of West Java Province, 2024). This results in the impact of risky sexual behavior tends to increase the number of HIV patients in West Java reaching 8,812 people, consisting of 62 people aged 5-14 years, 347 people aged 15-19 years, and 1,586 people aged 20-24 years. In addition, there are 394 cases of AIDS, of which 36% are in the age group of 20-29 years and 1% are in the age group of 4-14 years (West Java Provincial Health Office, 2024).

Based on data from the Subang Regency Health Office in 2023, the total number of HIV/AIDS cases in Subang Regency is 1,618, of which Subang District has the highest number of cases (Subang Central Statistics Agency, 2023). Meanwhile, in 2024, 724 cases (20.27%) were identified at the age of 15-25 years out of a total of 3,573 cases. This has increased very drastically from the previous year, where the age group of 15-25 years old who are categorized as adolescents is the group with the most HIV infection (Watathika, 2024). The Subang Regency Population and Family Planning Agency (BKKBN) reported that 60% of adolescents aged 16 to 17 years have had sexual intercourse. A total of 20% are between 14-15 years old, and 20% are 19-20 years old

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(Prihartini, 2020). According to the Subang Regency Population Control, Family Planning, Women's Empowerment, and Child Protection (DP2KBP3A) Office, data on sexual abuse violence against children and women aged 18-25 years old was found to be 60 cases (DP2KBP3A Subang, 2024). According to the Subang Regency Health Office, the percentage of people aged 15-19 years who have had sexual intercourse has been relatively low and stagnant from 2007 to 2017, with a projection of 2024 remaining below 5%. In the 20-24 age group, the percentage increases significantly, especially in men, with a 2024 projection of close to 15%. This trend shows the need for more intensive reproductive health education, especially at a young age, to prevent risks related to early sexual intercourse (Watathika, 2024).

Although studies have shown a high prevalence between reproductive health and risky sexual behaviors among high school adolescents, there is still a gap in understanding the relationship between the two conditions. Especially in Indonesia, the available data is still limited, especially for high school students, so further exploration is needed to analyze related factors related to reproductive health for the prevention of risky sexual behavior in high school students. Given the negative consequences of sexual behavior, this study emphasizes the importance of a more in-depth study of the relationship between knowledge and attitudes, so that further research can create effective interventions in supporting reproductive health in adolescents, especially in high school (Chmielowice et al., 2024). In addition, previous studies have tended to focus on single or limited factor analysis, without considering the complexity and interconnectedness between factors that influence adolescent sexual behavior. The majority of existing studies use a simple descriptive approach and have not integrated comprehensive theoretical models such as *the Precede Proceed Model* in their analysis. This leads to a limited understanding of how various factors interact with each other in influencing risky sexual behavior in adolescents (Suwarni, 2021). *The Precede-Proceed Model* has been used in various studies as a conceptual framework to understand determinants of health behaviors, including adolescent sexual behavior in high-risk areas. One study showed that adolescents who received information from peer educators had higher levels of reproductive health knowledge, which correlated with more responsible sexual behavior (Sulistiawan et al., 2023).

The researcher conducted a preliminary study which was carried out on January 23, 2024 at SMA Negeri 1 Subang through interviews with BK teachers regarding the reproductive health counseling program, which was only carried out during the student orientation period. The researcher also conducted a short question and answer session on 10 students, the results of the questions and answers to students turned out to be 6 out of 10 students admitted that they did not understand in detail about reproductive health, and some students said that there had been a problem about promiscuity (dating outside the limits of reasonableness) in one of the high school students.

Based on this data, it can be seen that adolescent dating activities have led to a form of promiscuity that has the potential to cause risky sexual behavior. Although national and local data show a high prevalence of premarital sexual intercourse, unwanted pregnancies, and cases of sexually transmitted infections in adolescents (Dewi & Lestari, 2020), there are still gaps in research that specifically analyze the relationship between reproductive health knowledge, attitudes toward sexuality, and peer support in the context of preventing risky sexual behaviors among high school students. This research is needed

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to clarify the relationship between the three variables, in order to strengthen the basis for the formulation of promotive and preventive strategies in the educational environment.

Therefore, research needs to be conducted to find out the extent of adolescents' knowledge and attitudes about the dangers of promiscuity and how well these adolescents understand reproductive health in an effort to prevent promiscuity. This is necessary so that adolescents do not get entangled in promiscuity cases and the dangers of premarital sex do not become more widespread. Thus, the researcher is interested in conducting a study on "The Relationship of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Peer Support to the Prevention of Risky Sexual Behavior in Students of SMA Negeri 1 Subang".

### Method

The type of approach in this study is quantitative to test the relationship between knowledge, attitudes and peer support in reproductive health for the prevention of risky sexual behaviors using a *cross-sectional* design and through survey methods. This research was conducted at SMA Negeri 1 Subang, with a start time in February and ending in May 2025. The population that is the focus of this study is 708 students in grades X and XI at SMA Negeri 1 Subang. Class X 357 students, class XI 351 students in the age range of 15-18 years. The sample results obtained using *G\*Power* were 77 respondents. To accommodate the attrition rate of 10%, the final sample results were obtained by 87 respondents. Of the 87 respondents, the "*proportionate stratified random sampling*" technique was used, so that 44 respondents were students in class X and 43 students in class XI.

### Research and Discussions

#### 1. Results

##### Univariate Analysis

Table 1  
Respondent Characteristics

Respondent Characteristics			
Characteristic		Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
Age	15 years	9	10.3
	16 years old	51	58.6
	17 years	27	31.0
Gender	Man	26	29.9
	Woman	61	70.1
Class	X	44	50.6
	XI	43	49.4
Father's education	ES	6	6.9
	JHS	4	4.6
	SHS	23	26.4
Mother's education	Bachelor's degree	54	62.1
	ICE	4	4.6
	JHS	8	9.2
	SHS	29	33.3
Information about sexuality	Bachelor's degree	46	52.9
	Girlfriend	5	5.7
	Peers	50	57.5
	Parents	32	36.8
Residence	Kos	30	34.5
	parents	57	65.5
Total		87	100.0

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Based on table 1, 87 respondents, the majority of whom were 16 years old (58.6%). Based on gender, respondents were dominated by women (70.1%). Academically, students of grades X (50.6%) and XI (49.4%) are distributed almost equally. The educational background of parents is also quite high, especially the education of fathers (62.1% of universities) and mothers (52.9% of universities). This can be an indicator of a fairly good family education background. Regarding sexual information sources, peers (57.5%) are the most important indicators, and the majority of respondents live with their parents (65.5%).

**Table 2**  
Distribution of Adolescent Knowledge Frequencies

Yes	Knowledge	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
1	Good	37	42.5
2	Enough	44	50.6
3	Less	6	6.9
<b>Total</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Based on table 2, the majority of respondents have a sufficient level of knowledge (50.6%). This shows that most respondents already have a basic understanding of sexuality.

**Table 3**  
Frequency Distribution of Adolescent Attitudes

Yes	Attitude	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
1	Positive	43	49.4
2	Negative	44	50.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Based on table 3. The majority of respondents had a negative attitude 44 respondents (50.6%) and some had a positive attitude 43 respondents (49.4%).

**Table 4**  
Peer Support Frequency Distribution

Yes	Peers	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
1	High	11	12.6
2	Moderate	36	41.4
3	Low	40	46.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Based on table 4. The majority of respondents had low peer support 40 respondents (46.0%) and the least respondents had high peer support 11 respondents (12.6%).

**Table 5**  
Behavioral Frequency Distribution for Adolescents

Yes	Behaviour	Frequency (n)	Percentage (%)
1	Excellent	19	21.8
2	Good	54	62.1
3	Moderate	10	11.5
4	Less	4	4.6
<b>Total</b>		<b>87</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Based on table 5. The majority of respondents showed good sexual behavior (62.1%), which can be interpreted that individuals tend to stay away from risky behavior.

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**Bivariate Analysis**

**Table 6**  
The Relationship of Knowledge, with Risky Sexual Behavior

Knowledge	Sexual Behavior				Total	P-Value	r
	Excellent	Good	Enough	Less			
Good	16 84.2%	17 31.5%	3 30.0%	1 25.0%	37 42.5%	< 0.001	0.407
Enough	3 15.8%	34 63.0%	4 40.0%	3 75.0%	44 50.6%		
Less	0 0.0%	3 5.6%	3 0.0%	0 6.9%	6 6.9%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>87</b>		

(SPSS. 27.0) Research results 2025

Based on table 6, it can be seen that out of 87 respondents, 34 respondents (63.0%) had sufficient knowledge of good sexual behavior. The results of the *Spearman Rank Correlation test* were obtained with a *p-value* of < 0.001 ( $p < 0.05$ ) and a correlation of *r* of 0.407, meaning that there is a strong and significant positive relationship between knowledge related to reproductive health and students' sexual behavior.

**Table 7**  
The Relationship of Attitudes to Risky Sexual Behavior

Attitude	Sexual Behavior				Total	P-Value	r
	Excellent	Good	Enough	Less			
Positive	17 89.5%	20 37.0%	2 20.0%	4 100%	43 49.4%	0.003	0.310
Negative	2 10.5%	34 63.0%	8 80.0%	0 0.0%	44 50.6%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>87</b>		

(SPSS. 27.0) Research results 2025

Based on table 7, 34 respondents (63.0%) had negative attitudes with good sexual behavior. The results of the *Spearman Rank Correlation test* were obtained with a *p-value* of 0.003 ( $p < 0.05$ ) and a correlation of *r* of 0.310, meaning that there was a positive, moderate and significant relationship between attitudes related to reproductive health and students' sexual behavior.

**Table 8**  
Peer Relationships and Risky Sexual Behavior

Peers	Sexual Behavior				Total	P-Value	r
	Excellent	Good	Enough	Less			
Tall	10 52.6%	1 1.9%	0 0.0%	0 0.0%	11 12.6%	< 0.001	0.413
Keep	3 15.8%	34 55.6%	4 30.0%	3 0.0%	44 41.4%		
Low	6 31.6%	23 42.6%	7 70.0%	4 100%	6 6.9%		
<b>Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>87</b>		

(SPSS. 27.0) Research results 2025

Based on table 4.8, students who had moderate peer support with good sexual behavior were 34 respondents (55.6%). The results of the *Spearman Rank Correlation test* were obtained with a *p-value* of < 0.001 ( $p < 0.05$ ) and a correlation of *r* 0.413,

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meaning that there is a strong and significant positive relationship between peer support related to reproductive health and students' sexual behavior.

### **2. Discussion**

#### **The Relationship of Knowledge with Risky Sexual Behavior in Students**

Based on the results obtained, this study shows that there is a strong and significant positive relationship between students' level of knowledge about reproductive health and the prevention of risky sexual behaviors. This means that the higher the level of knowledge the students, the greater their tendency to avoid risky sexual behavior. This reflects that a good understanding of reproductive health, including the risk of unwanted pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections, is able to encourage students to make wiser decisions in relationships. Knowledge is an important basis in forming healthy attitudes and behaviors (Notoatmodjo, 2022).

Knowledge is the basis for making the right decisions regarding reproductive health. Adolescents with a good level of knowledge generally understand the risks of promiscuous sexual behavior, such as out-of-wedlock pregnancies, sexually transmitted infections (STIs), HIV/AIDS, and other psychosocial impacts. Therefore, they are more likely to apply the principle of prudence and responsibility to their own body (Syafitriani et al., 2022)

These results are in line with research conducted by those showing that good knowledge of reproductive health is positively correlated with healthy sexual behavior in adolescents. Similarly, research conducted by found that adolescents with a high knowledge of body anatomy, reproductive organ function, and premarital sexual intercourse risks had a greater tendency to delay sexual activity and set healthy boundaries in association. Ulia et al. (2020) Solehati et al. (2020)

In theory, this result corresponds to the *Precede-Proceed Model* developed by Lawrence Green, where knowledge is part of the predisposing factors. Predisposing factors are internal factors that individuals have before behaving, such as knowledge, attitudes, and beliefs (Nursalam, 2015). Good knowledge is the foundation for a person to make the right decisions and actions, including in terms of maintaining reproductive health and avoiding sexual behavior that can be harmful (Arfianti et al., 2023; Kurniawan & Sari, 2024).

The results of the study showed that knowledge has a significant relationship with adolescent sexual behavior. This is in line with research that states that good knowledge of reproductive health is closely related to safer and more responsible sexual behavior. Students who have adequate information about the function of the reproductive organs, the risk of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and unwanted pregnancies tend to be more able to control themselves, refuse sexual invitations, and choose behaviors that do not harm themselves. Srivastava et al. (2023)

The significance of this relationship between knowledge and sexual behavior can be explained through the *Health Belief Model* theory, where knowledge becomes a cognitive factor that shapes an individual's perception of vulnerability and seriousness of sexual risk. When students realize that free sexual behavior poses a high risk of STIs or out-of-wedlock pregnancies, they will be more motivated to avoid it. (Fitriana et al., 2023). In addition, good knowledge also encourages the formation of self-efficacy, which is the belief that individuals are able to make safe and healthy decisions. High self-efficacy is related to the ability to resist outside pressures, including invitations to engage

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in premarital sexual intercourse. This means that knowledge not only provides information, but also strengthens students' internal control over risky behavioral impulses.(Wulandari et al. 2020).

In contrast, adolescents with low or misinformed knowledge of reproductive health are more prone to risky sexual behaviors, because they are unaware of the consequences of their actions. They are also more likely to accept myths and misinformation, which ultimately form the wrong sexual decisions (Barokah & Zolekhah, 2022). Therefore, increasing students' knowledge about reproductive health should be a priority in efforts to prevent risky sexual behaviors among adolescents. Structured and comprehensive reproductive health education needs to be carried out on an ongoing basis in the school environment. Not only as an information delivery, but also directed to form a critical attitude, self-control, and the ability to make the right decisions.

Implicitly, reproductive health education programs should be designed to improve knowledge across the board, from biological to social-emotional aspects, so that students are able to understand the risks and reject irresponsible sexual behavior. In addition, strengthening the role of teachers and health workers as reproductive educators needs to be carried out through special training so that the messages conveyed are right on target and have a real impact on student behavior. Researchers assume that a good level of knowledge about reproductive health will encourage adolescents to behave more wisely and responsibly. Knowledge acts as a predisposing factor that influences an individual's awareness of the risks and consequences of risky sexual behaviors, such as unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted infections. Therefore, the higher the knowledge that adolescents have, the more likely they are to avoid sexual behavior that is harmful to themselves.

#### **The Relationship between Attitudes and Risky Sexual Behavior in Students**

Based on the results obtained, this study shows that there is a moderate and significant positive relationship between students' attitudes towards reproductive health and the tendency to engage in or avoid risky sexual behaviors. Students who exhibit positive attitudes, such as thinking critically about the impact of promiscuity and have strong moral values are more likely to exhibit healthy and responsible behavior. This attitude is a reflection of the process of internalizing previously acquired values and knowledge. In this context, attitude is not only an emotional response, but also a director of adolescent actions in the face of social and cultural pressures. These findings confirm that adolescent attitudes have a real contribution to safe sexual decision-making ( Stuart et al., 2023).

Attitude is a person's internal predisposition to react to certain objects, situations, or values. In the context of reproductive health, a positive attitude reflects acceptance of the importance of maintaining the health of the reproductive organs. Awareness of social and moral boundaries related to sexual behavior. Students with a positive attitude toward reproductive health will find it easier to form self-control and make careful judgment before acting.( Widiharto & Rakhmawati , 2020)

Attitudes, according to *Lawrence Green*, are also included in the predisposing factors in *the Precede-Proceed Model*. Attitudes are formed from the knowledge, experience, personal values, and social influences that individuals receive. A positive attitude towards reproductive health is reflected in the belief that taking care of the body and reproductive organs is important, that free sex can have negative impacts, and that



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postponing sexual intercourse until it is physically and mentally ready is a healthy choice (Nursalam, 2015) (Siregar et al., 2023; Yusnia et al., 2022). Risky sexual attitudes and behaviors indicate a significant relationship. This is in line with research by which shows that adolescents with positive attitudes towards reproductive health tend to be more able to resist sexual invitations, maintain boundaries in relationships with the opposite sex, and have stronger self-control. Positive attitudes reflect an internal value system, which serves as a basis for choosing behaviors that are in harmony with norms and health. By Tim O'Neill (2024)

The significance of this relationship can be explained through the concept of *Reasoned Action* theory, which states that an individual's attitude toward an action constitutes an intention to act, and ultimately influences actual action. In other words, when a adolescent believes that maintaining reproductive health is important, he or she is more likely to have real intentions and behaviors to avoid risky sexual activity. (Widiharto & Rakhmawati, 2020). Attitudes also play a role in shaping adolescents' risk perceptions and long-term orientation. Students with negative or neutral attitudes towards reproductive issues tend to be permissive toward promiscuity, because they don't see the importance of taking care of their bodies or understand the long-term effects of careless sexual intercourse. In contrast, adolescents who have a positive attitude tend to value the body as a long-term asset and realize that current behaviors can impact their future, both in terms of health and psychosocial (Fitriyani et al., 2022).

However, it is important to realize that attitudes do not work alone. The effectiveness of attitudes in shaping behavior is greatly influenced by social support, especially from the peer environment. Adolescents who have a positive attitude toward reproductive health, but are in a group of peers who are permissive or tend to normalize free sexual behavior, are at risk of experiencing dissonance between personal values and social pressure. This weakens the consistency between attitudes and actions (Ajzen, 2025). On the other hand, if a positive attitude is supported by a healthy peer environment that values the same values, social norms will be formed that reinforce responsible behavior. suggests that positive peer group norms are one of the significant protective factors in restraining adolescents from deviant sexual behavior, even if they are in high-risk environments. Kusumaningrum et al. (2022)

The implication is that to prevent risky sexual behavior in students, it is not enough to only target the improvement of individual attitudes, but also to target the formation of school culture and peer groups that support these attitudes. Like peer groups, peer ambassador training or small group discussion forums, can be a means to equalize values and strengthen positive attitudes collectively. Therefore, attitudes are a very important strategic starting point, but the impact will only be optimal if it is followed by the strengthening of social norms through a consistent approach to the youth community. In this context, schools, BK teachers, and health workers play an important role in not only providing education, but also facilitating the process of forming a supportive environment for healthy attitudes.

### **The Relationship of Peer Support with Risky Sexual Behavior in Students**

Based on the results that have been obtained, this study shows that there is a strong and significant positive relationship between peer support and risky sexual behavior in SMA Negeri 1 Subang students. Peers who exert a positive influence can form healthy group norms, where safe and responsible sexual behavior becomes part of their social

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identity. In contrast, adolescents who are in permissive friendship environments are more susceptible to deviations in sexual behavior. This shows that social support from peers plays a strategic element in reproductive health education interventions (Voice, 2021)

In the *Precede-Proceed Model* theory, peer support is categorized as a *reinforcing factor*. Reinforcing factors are external influences that function to strengthen or weaken a behavior. In the framework of (Nursalam, 2015) *the Precede-Proceed Model* theory, peer support is included in the category of *reinforcing factors*, which are external factors that play a role in strengthening or weakening a behavior that has been formed. Although the relationship between peer support and behavior is not very strong, these behaviors can still occur when they are supported by strong *predisposing factors*, such as individual knowledge, attitudes, and personal values. That is, even if the reinforcement from peers is low, the individual's tendency to behave remains if it has been formed from within through prior readiness and understanding. (Bridges et al., 2020 ; Kim et al., 2022)

Peer support and risky sexual behaviors indicate a significant relationship. These findings are in line with research by those who state that adolescents are strongly influenced by their immediate social environment, especially peer groups. In adolescence, peers function as a source of social acceptance, identity forming, and determining behavioral values that are considered normal in the group. Therefore, when peer support is permissive towards free sex, adolescents are more prone to imitate or follow these behaviors in order to gain social acceptance and validation from their peers. (Iskandar et al., 2023; Latifa et al., 2020)

The significance of this relationship can be explained through the theory of *Social Learning* (Bandura), which emphasizes that adolescents learn a lot from observations of the behavior of others, especially from those who are considered close or socially important. In this case, peer support is not only in the form of advice or explicit invitations, but also in the form of examples of behaviors, opinions, and attitudes that indirectly give social permission to free sexual behavior. This reinforces the formation of group norms that can legitimize risky behaviors among adolescents (Ulita et al., 2020)

Nevertheless, it is important to understand that strong peer support can be protective, or even triggered. When peers have a good understanding of reproductive health and strong moral values, they will provide healthy support, such as reminding each other to reject risky sexual invitations, respecting boundaries, and maintaining personal dignity. In this context, support is a reinforcing factor or reinforcing the attitude and knowledge that individuals already have. Conversely, if the peer environment is permissive toward promiscuous sex, even well-informed teens may still be encouraged to try, due to the push for social conformity. (Nurdin et al., 2022)

Thus, even if peer support is low or negative, healthy behaviors can still emerge if they are supported by strong internal factors, such as adequate knowledge and positive attitudes toward reproductive health. This shows that there is a dynamic interaction between predisposing factors (knowledge and attitudes) and reinforcing factors (peer support) in shaping adolescent sexual behavior (Susilowati et al., 2022) .

In the researcher's view, peer support is one of the *reinforcing factors* in the formation of behavior. Adolescents who are in a healthy and supportive friendship environment tend to have a better ability to resist invitations that lead to risky sexual behavior. However, if peer support is relatively low, healthy behavior can still be formed if the individual has strong predisposing factors, such as good knowledge and a positive attitude towards reproductive health. This shows that even if external influences (peers)

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are weak, healthy behavior can still be maintained if the individual has readiness from within.

**Conclusion**

Based on the results of the study on the Relationship of Knowledge, Attitudes, and Peer Support to the Prevention of Risky Sexual Behavior in Students at SMA Negeri 1 Subang, it was obtained that 1) The relationship between knowledge and the prevention of risky sexual behavior is positive, strong and significant. 2) The relationship between attitudes and prevention of risky sexual behavior was positive, moderate and significant, 3) The relationship between peer support and prevention of risky sexual behavior was positive, strong and significant. 4) Overall, the three main factors, namely knowledge, attitudes, and peer support, show a strong and significant positive relationship with the prevention of risky sexual behavior in students.

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