



LEGAL PERSPECTIVES ON FREE ASSOCIATION AMONG TEENAGERS

Mhd Alfa Ridho Fahlevi¹

¹, Faculty of Social Sciences, Islamic Civilization History Study Program, Universitas Islam Negeri Sumatera Utara, Indonesia

*Corresponding Author: pahleviridho90@gmail.com

Article Info

Article history:

Received :

Acceptance :

Published :

Available online

<http://aspublisher.co.id/index.php/lexsocietas>

E-ISSN: xxxx-xxxx

How to cite:

Fahlevi (2024) "Legal Perspective On Free Association Among Teenagers" Lex Societas: Journal of Law and Public Administration," *Lex Societas: Journal of Law and Public Administration*, vol. 3, no. 2, pp. 108-114, 2024. [lexsocietas.2024.xxxxx](https://doi.org/10.24054/lexsocietas.v3i2.108-114) [Online].



This is an open access article under the [CC BY-SA](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/) license

ABSTRACT

Free association among teenagers has become one of the social issues that attracts attention in various fields, including law. Free association refers to social interactions that are not bound by clear norms or boundaries, which often involve risky behavior, such as drug abuse, premarital sex, and the spread of sexually transmitted diseases. In this context, the law has an important role in providing restrictions, protection, and sanctions against behaviors that can endanger the health and morality of teenagers. This study aims to examine the legal perspective on free association among teenagers, with a focus on existing regulations in Indonesia and how the law can play a role in preventing the negative impacts of free association. Through a normative approach, this study analyzes laws and regulations that regulate adolescent behavior, such as the Child Protection Law, as well as government policies related to preventing free association. The results of the study show that although the law has provided a clear basis for protecting teenagers, the implementation of regulations that are still less than optimal and the lack of effective supervision are major challenges. Therefore, it is important to improve legal education for teenagers and strengthen the role of society in supervising and guiding them to avoid the negative influences of free association..

Keywords: free association, teenagers, law, child protection

1. INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is a transition phase from childhood to adulthood, marked by physical, psychological, and social growth and development. During this period, adolescents begin to search for their identity, which sometimes makes them vulnerable to negative influences, such as promiscuity. Promiscuity is often associated with social behavior that crosses the boundaries of norms, namely law, morals, or religion, such as sex outside marriage, drug use, and behavior that violates social order. Several factors that make adolescents vulnerable to this behavior are due to internal factors, such as puberty, the emergence of curiosity, and the search for identity, as well as external factors, such as the influence of social media, the social environment, and minimal parental control.

In the legal context in Indonesia, promiscuity is often not explicitly mentioned, but is closely related to certain legal prohibitions, such as adultery, molestation, or drug abuse. However, weak supervision and changes in the mindset of modern society often cause promiscuity to develop without adequate control. Therefore, an in-depth study is needed to see to what extent the law can be a tool to control this social behavior(Rambe & Sihombing, 2024).

Free association which is juvenile delinquency, is increasingly showing a very worrying increase. Among the various types of free association are free sex, brawl cases and alcohol addicts. Sexual intercourse before marriage is a hot topic of discussion. Sexual intercourse outside of marriage carries the risk of pregnancy, so it is a dam against free association in the sexual field for teenagers) (Kurniawati & Wardani, 2020).

According to Arfiati & Ricky (2023) in the SoloPos News news channel, it states that through data from the BKKBN, 60 percent of teenagers aged 16-17 years have had premarital sex in Indonesia. They do this because of the strong influence of the environment, the divorce factor of their parents so that they become broken homes, and family economic problems. Therefore, free association can affect the mindset of teenagers because free association is a place where they can do things that will affect their thinking and ultimately have an impact on life. To overcome this problem, active involvement from various parties is very important. The family has a major role in controlling the actions of teenagers by providing direction, guidance, and good examples. In addition, the community also needs to participate in providing support and creating a good environment for the growth and development of teenagers. By involving various parties, it is hoped that it can create a supportive environment for teenagers to grow and develop positively, and prevent free association among them.

2. RESEARCH METHODE

According to Maleong, Qualitative Method is a scientific research that aims to understand a phenomenon in social contact naturally by prioritizing the process of deep communication interaction between researchers and the phenomenon to be discussed. This research uses a qualitative method with a literature study approach by collecting data through information obtained through previous research that has been published in

scientific journals. In addition, information through books or related internet sites that support the preparation of this article..

3. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

Free association among teenagers has become an increasingly complex and concerning social phenomenon in various parts of the world, including Indonesia. Free association can be defined as a social relationship that is not bound by norms, rules, or moral boundaries that should be upheld by society. In teenagers, free association often involves risky behavior such as premarital sex, drug abuse, alcohol consumption, and other deviant behavior. These behaviors not only have the potential to damage the physical and mental health of teenagers, but can also have negative implications for their future, both socially and legally.

In the legal context, free association among teenagers has raised debate about the extent to which the law can regulate and protect teenagers from the negative impacts of free association. The law as a tool to uphold justice and protect individual rights, including the rights of teenagers, must be able to overcome the impacts of these behaviors. In Indonesia, a number of laws and regulations such as the Child Protection Law, the National Education System Law, and the Narcotics Law regulate the rights of teenagers and efforts to prevent behavior that can damage the younger generation. However, the implementation of the law often encounters challenges, especially in terms of law enforcement and adolescents' understanding of existing regulations (Rambe et al, 2024).

The problem of free association among adolescents is not only a matter of violating the law, but also reflects the unpreparedness of the social and educational systems in providing adequate understanding of legal norms to adolescents. Therefore, it is important to see how the legal perspective views the problem of free association and how existing regulations can be implemented effectively to protect adolescents from adverse social impacts. A deeper understanding of the law related to free association will help formulate more effective preventive measures in dealing with this issue among adolescents(Rambe et al, 2023).

Free association among teenagers has become an issue that has received serious attention in various fields, including law. Free association refers to social interactions that are not limited by norms, rules, and values that apply in society. In the context of teenagers, free association often involves risky behavior, such as premarital sex, drug abuse, and other criminal behavior. From a legal perspective, this has the potential to cause major legal impacts, both for the teenagers themselves and for society as a whole. Therefore, it is important to analyze how the law can provide protection and restrictions against such behavior.

One of the relevant legal bases in the legal perspective on free association is the Child Protection Law (Law No. 23 of 2002). This law aims to protect children from various forms of exploitation, violence, and abuse. In this case, teenagers who are involved in free association, especially those involving premarital sex or drugs, are at risk of being trapped in situations that endanger their physical and mental health. This law provides a basis for protecting adolescents by granting them the right to grow and develop in a healthy and loving environment, as well as providing preventive measures through education and guidance.

However, despite the existence of laws protecting adolescent rights, the implementation of these laws often encounters obstacles, especially in terms of supervision and law enforcement. One of the main challenges is that many adolescents

do not fully understand the legal implications of their actions in free association. For example, premarital sex can result in legal consequences, such as punishment for perpetrators of sexual violence or indecent assault. However, adolescents are often unaware of these legal risks, and there is no effective system to provide adequate legal education among them.

In addition, although the law has provided protection for adolescents, law enforcement against violations committed by adolescents is often inconsistent. Authorities often focus more on efforts to overcome the consequences of free association, such as handling cases of adolescent pregnancy or drug abuse, rather than prevention through education and the active role of families and communities. Law enforcement is also hampered by the attitude of society which often considers free association among adolescents as a social problem that does not really require strict legal action.

The importance of the role of families and communities in preventing promiscuity among adolescents cannot be underestimated. The law can provide a clear basis and sanctions, but the implementation of the law in everyday life is highly dependent on supervision and guidance carried out by parents, schools, and the community. Educational programs on moral values, ethics, and legal awareness are essential to prevent risky promiscuity. Therefore, the government also needs to strengthen legal counseling programs that focus on adolescents, so that they understand the legal consequences that can arise from promiscuity that violates legal and moral norms.

In conclusion, although the law has a strong basis for regulating and protecting adolescents from promiscuity, effective implementation of the law still faces many challenges. For this reason, cooperation is needed between the government, schools, parents, and the community in providing education and supervision of adolescent behavior. Thus, the law can function as a tool that not only provides sanctions for violations, but also encourages the creation of a safe environment and supports the development of adolescents within the framework of healthy and responsible social values.

4. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, the issue of premarital sex and free association among teenagers remains a critical concern from a legal perspective. The behavior often involves risky actions, including early sexual activity, substance abuse, and other criminal acts, which can have serious legal, health, and social consequences. Laws protecting children, such as the Child Protection Law, serve to safeguard minors from exploitation and harmful behaviors, providing a foundation for intervention and prevention. However, despite the legal framework, there are significant challenges in fully addressing and controlling these behaviors among teenagers.

The legal protections available to minors, particularly regarding their rights to healthy development and protection from exploitation, are essential in reducing the negative impacts of premarital sex and other risky behaviors. However, the effective implementation of such laws remains inconsistent. While legal regulations such as the Child Protection Law and the National Education System Law are in place, their enforcement, especially in preventing premarital sexual activity, often lacks the depth and reach required for real change. A significant issue is the lack of awareness and understanding among teenagers about the legal implications of their actions, which can lead to behaviors that they do not realize are harmful or punishable by law.

Furthermore, while the law provides a regulatory framework, it is clear that legal action alone cannot effectively prevent premarital sex and other risky behaviors among teenagers. One of the key challenges is the insufficient focus on prevention through education. The legal system has primarily focused on curbing the consequences, such as teenage pregnancies and substance abuse, rather than on proactive legal education aimed at guiding teenagers to make informed decisions. The role of education, both in schools and at home, in teaching teenagers about the legal, social, and personal risks associated with premarital sex is crucial and needs to be strengthened.

The involvement of families, communities, and schools is fundamental in the legal response to premarital sex among teenagers. While the law can set boundaries and impose sanctions, its effectiveness is significantly enhanced when supported by societal efforts, including parenting, mentorship, and community-based interventions. The legal system must be complemented by comprehensive education programs that address the ethical, moral, and legal consequences of premarital sex, teaching young people about responsibility, rights, and risks. By strengthening these aspects, society can help guide teenagers toward healthier and more informed choices.

Ultimately, a more holistic approach involving legal regulation, education, and societal involvement is needed to effectively address the issue of premarital sex among teenagers. Legal frameworks must evolve to meet the challenges posed by contemporary social dynamics, and the role of education should be emphasized in helping teenagers understand their rights and responsibilities. By fostering a legal environment that supports prevention and education, society can better protect teenagers from the harmful consequences of their actions and help them grow into responsible, informed individuals

References

- Al-Qur'an and Hadith related to guidelines for teenage relationships in Islam
Social and legal journal articles related to promiscuity
- Criminal Code (KUHP) Child Protection Law no. 35 of 2014
- Indonesian Ministry of Health (2022), Adolescent Health Report in Indonesia. Jakarta: Republic of Indonesia Ministry of Health
- Moeljatno, Principles of Criminal Law, Jakarta, Rineka Cipta, 2009
- Ngewa, H. M. (2021). The Role of Parents in Child Care. *EDUCHILD (Journal of Early Childhood Education)*, 1(1), 96-115
- Nadirah, S. (2017). The Role of Education in Avoiding Promiscuity in Adolescents. *Musawa: Journal For Gender Studies*, 9(2), 309-351
- Rambe, R. F. A., Bayu, S. I., & Sagala, S. (2023). Penerapan UU ITE (Informasi dan Transaksi Elektronik) dan UU Perlindungan Konsumen pada Kasus Jual Beli Jasa Review Palsu. *Journal on Education*, 6(1), 10030-10040
- Rambe, R. F. A., Al Khoir, A., & Marpaung, H. S. (2024). Pidana Mati dalam Pandangan Hak Asasi Manusia dan Hukum Pidana Indonesia. *Journal on Education*, 6(2), 14013-14023.
- Rambe, R. F. A. K., & Sihombing, M. A. A. (2024). Implikasi Perlindungan Hak Asasi Manusia Dalam Hukum Pidana. *Jurnal Ilmiah Penegakan Hukum*, 11(1), 24-31