

2. SHORT EXPLANATION ABOUT TEENAGERS, AND ABORTION

2.1 The Definition of Teenager

Who is a teenager? Usually people say that teenager is period of transition between childhood and adult hood, or teens time. If a person shows certain behavior such as hard to be controlled, easy to be stimulated and etc it is the sign of teenager. But to define teenager is not simple, the problem is, we cannot stop by only defining that teenager is hard, we must start with a definition about teenager itself. There are several definitions of teenager.

2.1.1 Teenager according to the Law

In Indonesia itself teenager concept is not known in a portion of law that occurs. Indonesia law only knows children and adult, although the limit of that is given differently. In relation to this law, it seems only law of marriage that knows the teenager concept although it is not being opened. Minimal age to get married according to the law is 16 years for women and 19 years for man (*article 7 of the law number 1/1974 about marriage*). Because the age between 16-19 years until 21 years old can be the same as the definition of teenager in other social subjects.

2.1.2 Teenager for Society in Indonesia

To define the teenager from a point of view of society in Indonesia is as difficult as determining the definition of teenager in general. The problem is because in Indonesia consists of various ethnic groups, traditions and social levels of economy and education. Despite of our general guidance we can limit the age between 11-24 years old and has not married yet, for teenager in Indonesia with judgments as follows:

The age of 11 years old is an age where in general sexual signs start appearing (physical criterion)

In Indonesia, the age of 11 years old has been assumed as an adult, according to tradition and religion. Society does not treat them as a child anymore (social criterion). In book of Angel saksis, the term of youth gives a new meaning. It means a changing period between teen ages to adult.

2.1.3 Teenager according to Physical Development

In medical science and other related sciences, those teenagers are known as those who are undergoing a physical development phase where the human organs get mature. The word “growing up into maturity, but especially sociopsychology maturity”, especially the socio-psychological marurity.

2.1.4 Teenager according to WHO

In 1974, WHO gave definition about teenager which is more conceptual. WHO defines teenager based on three criteria, they are biological, psychological, and social-economic. The definition sounds completely as follows:

Teenager is a period where:

1. An individual who is developing from the first time he/she shows his/her secondary sexual characteristics until he/she reaches sexual maturity.
2. An individual who is experiencing psychological development and identification pattern from childhood to adult.
3. There is a change from social-economic dependence to full of autonomous condition. (*Muang man, 1980. Page: 9*)

Next, WHO states a more concrete definition about the teenager. WHO divides teenager into two parts, they are: pre puberty is period from 10-14 years old, and post puberty is from 15-20 years old.

2.1.5 Teenager according to the Development Phase

In general, the groupings of teenager based on the phases are as follows:

12-14 years is called pre teenager (pre puberty)

15-17 years is called teenager (puberty)

18-24 years is called post teenager (post puberty)

The term “teenager” is still used for “youth’ whose age is between 18 and 24 years old. It shows that they are still on changing phase from the teenager world to adult world.

2.2 The Characteristics of Teenager

Adolescence is a period of transition from childhood to adulthood. In this period, the teenager undergoes many changes such as his/she body, personality, intelligence, and their role inside or outside the neighborhood. Their body looks like an adults, but they cannot be considered as adults. Their experience about adult world is not enough. Therefore, we should know the characteristics of teenager. There are some characteristics, they are:

1. Physical development

Physical condition changes quickly, it is faster than childhood and adulthood. To balance the fast development, teenagers need good nutrition (they need much more to eat and sleep). In this case, sometimes parents do not want to understand and to get angry if their children eat and sleep too much. Teenager’s physical development can be seen obviously from legs and arms, muscles of the body growth, so that he/she looks tall, but his/she head still resembles a child’s.

Many teenagers have problems with their skin, especially on faces. Owing to rapid growth, teenagers start to pay close attention to their appearance. All drawbacks are

often exaggerated but for some it can result in the low self esteem and becoming reserved, if their real appearance is far from their ideal picture of themselves.

2. Sexual Organ Development

Sexual organs development sometimes causes trouble such as fights, suicide, and the others. The characteristics of sexual development on boys are; the production of sperm, the testes and scrotum begin to increase in size, pubic hair begins to appear. They get menarche or on set of menstruation almost always after the peak rate of growth in height has occurred, and related quite closely to body weight, initial appearance of downy(non-pigmented pubic hair), the increase in size of uterus and vagina and pubic hair begins to appear. If the sexual development occurs early or late, it can cause troubles for them.

3. Anxiety

Anxiety is not quite a condition that dominates teenagers. They have much curiosity which can not be always compiled with. In one hand, they want to look for experience, because it can increase and attract their knowledge in their social intercourse. Besides that, they feel that they are not able to do everything yet. They want to know all the events that happen in a wider neighborhood, but they do not dare to show some

reactions or solutions to find experience and knowledge from the sources directly. Finally they are only dominated by anxiety that cause their desire unexpressed.

4. Conflict

Conflicts which occur in themselves also cause anxiety for themselves or the others. Commonly conflict can become a dispute or conflict of opinions and views between teenagers and their parents. Then, this conflict may cause a desire to flee from their parents. But the desire to flee contrasted with the desire to get safe condition in their house. They do not dare to take the risks because they have left the safe condition around their family. In addition, the desire to flee is absolutely not followed by the ability to stand alone, without getting help anymore from their family especially in the matter of finance.

5. Curiosity about Many Things

In this phase they want to know many things through the efforts that they do in some fields. They want to know what adults are doing. For example, boys try to smoke secretly and start to try the sexual intercourse before marriage. They pretend to prove what adult can do, it can also be done by them. Girls begin to make up their face with new cosmetics. Even though, schools have forbidden the use of cosmetic or make up in school neighborhood, there are still many girl students who curious of that and want to try everything on teenagers can cause the negative effect if they are persuaded or asked

by someone to take drugs, marijuana , alcohol or the others. Finally they get great misfortune because they do not distribute their curiosity for useful things.

6. Desire to explore adolescence life more broadly

Not only the teenager had close environment (their family) which they want to investigate even the larger environment. The desire to explore and to investigate can be distributed well by the useful things. For instance, they can make an invention or modify furniture such as chairs, radio or other electronic equipments. Besides that, they can make wooden house equipments in their spare time, so there would be no useless activities or things.

7. Imagination and fantasy

Imagination and fantasy on boys refers to about prestige and career. Then on girls it refers to their feeling. It is because they sometimes feel sad and happy. Imagination or fantasy can be positive as an effort to be creative. Most of their creativities and experiments are done with their fantasy without needing much money. It just needs positive creativity. The positive imagination or fantasy gives them new idea and makes something useful for themselves and the others. In brief, there are seven characteristics of teenager that are worth-noting in order to know more about teenager's life.

8. Relation with Parents

As it was told, a teenager feels grown up and his relations with parents change. He refuses to obey demands that earlier he did, he wants to have less control and more independence, and he wants to be equal.

But it is not always easy for parents to change the relations, because they are used too much control and coordination, and because they do not see the reasons to change something (a teenager is still a student and still dependant on them). Besides, teenagers often do not show any proof of more mature behavior it is very important if parents choose the democratic style of relations. At this age parents should give more freedom and independence, less control. Teen years are very important period for children to learn norms of social behavior and adults should help them with it.

The time of communication should increase. Parents should choose such a style of relations in which they can be as older and wiser friends, not to command but explain and guide. Relations should be cooperation based on respect of each other and where parents serve as example. Teenagers should not only be given more independence and rights but more duties.

If there is no good contact and understanding between parents and teenagers, it will result in constant conflicts. This, in this turn, can have bad consequences for a teenager they will go to the street in search of people who wiil? Them and become a victim of drug sallahs.

2.3 Understanding of Abortion

Abortion is a term which is used to show pregnancy ceasing or miscarriage or throw of the embryo deliberately before the right time.

Abortion is divided into two parts:

1. Spontaneous abortion which occurs without planning.

It can be caused by weak pregnancy, lack of immunity because of over activities, the wrong eating pattern and poison. About 25% of all pregnancies result in miscarriages, women older than 35 or younger than 17 years old a couples who have difficulty in achieving pregnancy, and women who have had at least two miscarriages occur during the first (first three months or 12 weeks of pregnancy). Some cases of miscarriages happen even before a woman realize that she has aborted.

Besides that, there are five kinds of spontaneous abortion in biomedical nomenclature, they are:

- a. Miens abortion (threatened), where a pregnancy is threatened to undergo abortion. In this condition there is vagina hemorrhage, but the embryo is still a live, and the uterus is still closed.
- b. Insipient abortion (continuing), when a pregnancy fails, and it indicated by bleeding and the embryo dies, usually the uterus is still closed.

- c. Incomplete abortion which comes out because of half the conception result, usually the uterus is opened.
- d. Complete abortion comes out because of all the conception result, so the uterus is closed again.
- e. Missed abortion, when the embryo dies and usually there is no bleeding.

2. Induced Abortion

Induced abortion is an abortion which is done deliberately. It means that a pregnant woman deliberates to do miscarriage by her or by other help because she does not want her pregnancy.