

New approaches in studying young people sexuality and reproductive health behavior : how can it be measured and tracked? (a case study of Indonesia)

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Abstrak

The objective of this paper is to focus on the methodological aspect in studying young people's sexuality. Due to the extreme sensitivity in studying this issue, an eclectic approaches to data gathering which include survey, in-depth interviews, focus group discussions, media clippings and daily field note is used. Five sexual indices developed from the 1994/95 Sexuality and Marriage Values Survey is elaborated and discussed. The index score produced from the sexual indices for sexual behavior are categorized into three groups: low, medium and high. Respondents who have a high score are assumed to be more liberal than respondents with a low score. The paper also discussed the advantages, disadvantages and how to make focus group and in-depth interview work in such a conservative cultural setting. Finally, the paper speculate; in trying to understanding sexuality referred to by researchers as 'ego-threatening', 'sensitive', and 'taboo topics' by using the eclectic approaches to data gathering.