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RESEARCH ARTICLE

The Relationship Between Sexual Satisfaction and Husband's Infidelity Intentions

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Abstract: There are many things that influence marital satisfaction. One of the factors is loyalty to the partner. Therefore, efforts are needed to prevent infidelity to maintain marriage. The purpose of this study was to determine the relationship between sexual satisfaction with the husband's intention of infidelity. The method used is a quantitative method in the form of a survey. Respondents in this study were men who were husbands with a minimum age of 5 years of marriage and domiciled in Makassar City. A total of 100 respondents participated in this study. Data was collected using a sexual satisfaction scale and an infidelity intention scale. The data analysis used is product-moment correlation. The results of the hypothesis test showed a correlation value of $r = -0.769$ with a significance value of $p = 0.000$ ($p < 0.005$), which means that there is a significant relationship between sexual satisfaction and the intention of cheating on a husband. A negative correlation value indicates a negative relationship between the intention of infidelity and sexual satisfaction in the husband. This means that the higher the sexual satisfaction, the lower the intention of infidelity. Conversely, the lower the husband's sexual satisfaction, the higher the intention of infidelity. The findings in this study have implications for married couples, especially wives, to pay more attention to sexual satisfaction in their marriage to maintain the quality of their marriage.

Keywords: Infidelity Intention, Sexual Satisfaction, Husband

1. Introduction

Human development consists of several stages, one of which is when humans enter the early adult phase, namely marriage. This phase is the phase in which the individual has completed his growth and is ready to accept status in the social environment along with other adults. Social development in early adulthood is the culmination of social development in adulthood. At that time there was a transition from an egocentric view to an attitude of empathy. At this time determining relationships is very important (Santrock, 2002).

Marriage is a legal bond between a man and a woman in which both are involved sexually. There are several factors that can affect satisfaction in marriage, including when the couple is able to meet the needs of the family and honesty and loyalty to their partner. Satisfaction in marriage will not be able to be felt if in a marriage there are many conflicts that occur between husband and wife. There are several problems that often occur in a marriage, one of which is infidelity (Permata & Sugriyanti, 2015).

Reality shows that the promise of loyalty made by the husband when the marriage contract is often ignored. In fact, husbands can be seduced by other women so that a love affair occurs in the form of an affair. However, this does not mean that cheating only occurs on the husband's side, not a few wives also have affairs (Muhajarah, 2016). The rise of cases of



extramarital affairs has become a phenomenon in Indonesia. Takariawan (2015) stated that extramarital affairs were the second highest cause of divorce in Indonesia in 2011. Handayani (2016) stated that the Head of the Ministry of Religion's Research and Development Center said that there were 25,340 cases of extramarital affairs that led to divorce. In addition, data from BPS in 2018 there were 408,202 divorce cases, an increase of 9% compared to the previous year. Based on research analysis of the factors causing divorce, it was found that one of the causes was extramarital affairs (Databoks, 2019).

Based on data from the Supreme Court of the Republic of Indonesia, the Directorate General of Religious Courts, in 2019 there were 546,781 divorce cases, one of the causes of which was extramarital affairs (Anisa & Rahmasari, 2021). Based on data from the BKKBN in 2019 there were 25,310 divorce cases caused by extramarital affairs (Life Style, 2021). Based on data from Class IA Makassar Religious Courts, the number of divorce cases in Makassar City in 2021 was 2,788 cases, the causes of which were dominated by extramarital affairs (Fajar, 2022). In addition, based on data on reports submitted to the Women and Children Service Unit (PPA) of the South Sulawesi Regional Police (Polda Sul Sel) in 2021, there has been an increase in reported cases of the enrolled environment was 141 cases.

Affair as the focus of discussion in this research needs to be studied because it is very closely related to the purpose of marriage, namely to create a family that is *sakinah, mawaddah, and rahmah*. Infidelity can reduce the meaning of marital happiness, but it still often occurs according to the data described above. Takariawan (2015) argues that infidelity is a trigger for conflict in the family, can lead to divorce and even murder. In addition, Charny & Parnass stated that infidelity causes other negative things, such as anger, loss of self-confidence, hurt self-esteem, and distrust of partners. Apart from having an impact on partners, extramarital affairs can also have an impact on children (Zare, 2011). Nogales found that there were 55% of children who came from families where one of the parents had had an affair, it was predicted that they could be involved in cases of extramarital affairs as well (Larson, 2015).

Based on the results of the initial data collection conducted by researchers involving 30 male respondents with the status of husbands in Makassar City, there were 60% of respondents who said that he had the desire to have an affair. There were 20% of respondents who said they might have an affair, and 20% of respondents said they did not have an affair. Regarding the possible causes of infidelity, 66.7% of respondents said that the cause was a lack of sexual satisfaction in marriage, 20% of respondents said a lack of emotional satisfaction in marriage, and 13.3% of respondents said that they felt not appreciated by the partner. Based on the results of the initial data collection above, it can be concluded that the husband's intention of cheating is quite high with the highest possible cause of infidelity, namely the lack of sexual satisfaction in marriage.

Tidwell found that men tend to fall for extramarital affairs more easily. This is because men have a stronger sexual urge than women. The study also said that if a man can learn to control himself in situations that tempt him, his sexual urges will be overcome. However, if men fail to control themselves, the sexual urge can become very strong and this situation can lead to infidelity (Ananda, 2012).

Various studies reveal the causes of infidelity. Watkins and Boon (2016) found that women tend to have affairs because of emotional dissatisfaction in their marital relationship, whereas men tend to have sexual motivation. Avianti and Hendrati (2011) argued that sexual satisfaction is the satisfaction felt by husband and wife in sexual relations with the physical and psychological union of both parties. Khotimah (2017) in his research found that the greater the level of sexual satisfaction of a husband and wife, the greater the level of happiness they feel. Septiana (2019) found that the higher the marital satisfaction, the lower the intention of adultery among married couples. Guntoro (2017) found that sexual satisfaction can predict the intention to have an affair.

Based on the above data, researchers are interested in examining the relationship between sexual satisfaction and the intention of infidelity on husbands in Makassar City. So the hypothesis in this study is that there is a relationship between sexual satisfaction and the intention of infidelity on husbands in Makassar City. It is hoped that this research can contribute to formulating anticipatory steps to reduce the number of infidelities and become a guideline for married couples to pay more attention to the importance of sexual satisfaction in marriage ..

2. Literature Review

2.1. Intentional Affair

Ajzen and Fishbein suggest that intention is an attempt by an individual to display a behavior (Al Barracin, Johnson, & Zanna, 2005). Jackman (2014) suggests that intention is an indicator of the level of individual desire to try and how much effort is willing to be put into carrying out a behavior. Blowow and Hartnett (Bastian, 2012) argue that infidelity is a sexual or emotional activity carried out by individuals who are bound in a committed relationship and are considered to violate the beliefs or norms that are good seen or not seen. Moller and Vossler (2015) argue that infidelity is a violation of norms that regulate the level of emotional or physical intimacy carried out by someone who is married to another person in out her partner .

Ajzen and Fishbein (Albarracin, Johnson, & Zanna, 2005) suggest that the intention of infidelity is the subjective possibility of an individual to have an affair, namely to violate trust and commitment to their partner by engaging in emotional or sexual relationships with other people outside their partner. Guntoro (2017) suggests that the intention to have an affair is an indicator of the level of an individual's desire to try to lie and hide something in an emotional or sexual relationship with someone other than his or her marriage partner.

2.2. Sexual Satisfaction

Avianti and Hendrati (2011) argue that sexual satisfaction is the satisfaction felt by husband and wife in sexual relations with the physical and psychological unity of both parties. Wijayanti (Khotimah, 2017) suggests that sexual satisfaction is the peak response of sexual activity that can be felt both physically and psychologically. From a physical perspective, it consists of: *foreplay*, *plateau*, *orgasm*, and relaxation. Meanwhile, from a psychological perspective, namely feelings of closeness, love, and happiness. Sexual satisfaction plays an important role in husband and wife relationships and can have an impact on married life. Yuni (Chandrasari, 2009) argues that sexual satisfaction is very important in realizing marital satisfaction. Septiana (2019) found that the higher the marital satisfaction, the lower the intention of infidelity in married couples. Campbell (2009) suggests that someone who feels sexual dissatisfaction tends to seek sexual satisfaction from a sexual partner who is not their legal partner in marriage. This happens because a person tries to compensate for the sexual dissatisfaction he feels with his legal partner.

Based on the explanation above, the hypothesis in this study is that there is a negative relationship between sexual satisfaction and the intention of infidelity on the husband. The higher the sexual satisfaction, the lower the husband's intention of infidelity, and vice versa.

3. Research Method and Materials

The research method used in this study is a quantitative research method. The population in this study were all husbands in Makassar City. Sampling in this study using purposive sampling technique. Hadi (2017) suggests that the purposive sampling technique is a sampling technique whose selection is based on certain characteristics or characteristics. Respondents in this study were 100 people with the following criteria: (a) Men who are husbands, (b) Domiciled in Makassar City, and (c) Minimum age of marriage is 5 years.

The intention of having an affair is an indicator of the level of a person's desire to violate his marriage both emotionally and sexually. Infidelity intention in this study was measured by



ITIS (Intention Toward Infidelity Scale). The higher the ITIS score, the higher the possibility of someone having an affair. Sexual satisfaction is a feeling of satisfaction with the quality of sexual relations that is felt by a person both physically and psychologically. The level of sexual satisfaction in this study was measured by the NSSS (New Sexual Satisfaction Scale). The higher the NSSS score, the higher the level of one's sexual satisfaction.

The data collection technique in this study is to spread the scale. The scale is arranged to express certain attributes by looking at the subject's response to the question (Azwar, 2019). The type of scale used is a likert scale which consists of 5 answer choices. This study uses two scales, namely the New Sexual Satisfaction Scale (NSSS) which consists of 20 items and the Intention Toward Infidelity Scale (ITIS) which consists of 7 items. The data analysis technique used in this study is the Product-Moment correlation analysis technique from Kernal Pearson using the SPSS 25 application.

4. Results and Discussion

4.1. Results

Respondents in this study amounted to 100 husbands with a minimum age of 5 years of marriage and domiciled in Makassar City. In this study, 36% of respondents were aged 25-34 years, 26 respondents aged 35-44 years, 29 respondents aged 45-54 years, and 9 others aged 55-65 years. The majority of respondents were married in the 5-12 year range, namely 54%, 14% were in the 13-20 year range, 25% were in the 21-28 range and 7% were 29-39 year old. Following are the results of data collection that has been carried out:

Table 1. Data on Sexual Satisfaction

Variable	Hypothetical				empirical			
	Min	Max	Means	SD	Min	Max	Means	SD
Sexual Satisfaction	20	100	60	13,33	79	100	89.80	5.303

Table 1 shows the hypothetical data, namely the average (*mean*) of the sexual satisfaction data is 60 with a standard deviation of 13.33. The minimum value for sexual satisfaction data is 20 and the maximum value is 100. Based on empirical data, the mean (*mean*) of the sexual satisfaction data is 89.80 with a standard deviation of 5.303. The minimum value for sexual satisfaction data is 79 and the maximum value is 100. The following details the categorization of sexual satisfaction based on the hypothetical data in this study:

Table 2. Categorization of Sexual Satisfaction Data

intervals	Amount	Percentage	Category
$X < 47$	0	0%	Low
$47 \leq X < 73$	0	0%	Currently
$X > 73$	100	100%	Tall
Amount	100	100%	

Table 2 shows the level of sexual satisfaction, all respondents are in the high category, which is 100%.

Table 3. Infidelity Data

Variable	Hypothetical				empirical			
	Min	Max	Means	SD	Min	Max	Means	SD
Intention Alternate kuhan	7	35	21	4.66	7	15	11	2.103

Table 3 shows the average (*mean*) of the intention of infidelity data is 21 with a standard deviation of 4.66. The minimum value of the intention of infidelity data is 7 and the maximum value is 35. Based on empirical data, the average (*mean*) of the intention of infidelity data is 11 with a standard deviation of 2.103. The minimum value of the intention of infidelity data is 7 and the maximum value is 15. The following details the categorization of the intention of infidelity based on the hypothetical data in this study:



Table 4. Categorization of Infidelity Data

intervals	Amount	Percentage	Category
$X < 16$	100	100%	Low
$16 \leq X < 26$	0	0%	Currently
$X > 26$	0	0%	Tall
Amount	100	100%	

Table 4 shows that at the level of the intention of having an affair, all respondents are in the low category, which is 100%.

Table 5. Hypothesis Testing

Pearson Correlation	-0.769 _
Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000 _

Table 5 shows that the research hypothesis can be accepted or there is a relationship between the two variables because the significance value of the *product-moment correlation test* is smaller than 0.05, which is 0.000. The *Pearson* correlation coefficient is -0.769, meaning that there is a very strong relationship. The direction of the relationship between the two variables in this study is negative as seen from the *Pearson correlation coefficient*, which is -0.769, meaning that there is a negative relationship between the two variables.

4.2. Discussion

The hypothesis in this study is that there is a relationship between sexual satisfaction and the husband's intention of infidelity. Based on the significance value obtained, which is 0.000, less than 0.05, the hypothesis is accepted. Based on the results of the *product-moment* hypothesis test, it can be seen that there is a relationship between sexual satisfaction with the husband's intention of infidelity. This means that the higher the sexual satisfaction, the lower the husband's intention of infidelity. Vice versa, the lower the sexual satisfaction, the higher the husband's intention of infidelity.

Interviews were conducted with 3 respondents, namely SO, ASR, and OI. The first respondent had the initials SO, 25 years old, graduated from high school, wife was 25 years old, and married 5 years old. Based on an interview with SO, it is known that he sometimes thinks of having an affair with his wife when he invites her to have sexual intercourse but his wife refuses for various reasons. SO respondents often feel annoyed with their wives for not complying with their wishes and this has happened repeatedly. Therefore, SO thinks that he needs a partner other than his wife to fulfill his sexual needs.

The second respondent is ASR, 27 years old, last education Diploma Three (D3), wife's age 26 years, and marriage age 6 years. The results of interviews with ASR respondents indicated that ASR was satisfied with their sexual life. ASR says that his wife is an obedient wife. ASR said that his wife never once refused if ASR asked her to have sexual intercourse. ASR also mentioned that since the beginning of their marriage, he and his wife have always communicated well about sexual relations in their marriage so that both parties can experience sexual satisfaction. ASR said that he never thought about an affair at all, let alone the intention to have an affair. ASR said that he was very grateful for his household life with his wife and children.

The third respondent is OI, 29 years old, last education S1, wife 27 years old, and 5 years of marriage. The results of interviews with OI respondents indicated that OI was satisfied with their sexual life. OI stated that his sexual needs could be met properly because of his wife's availability to have sexual intercourse. OI said that he needed a process until he and his wife were able to understand each other's desires in sexual relations. OI stated that communication is the most important thing because if one of the wives or husbands or even both do not want to communicate their sexual needs to their partner, that is when an affair sometimes occurs. OI said that if you don't get sexual satisfaction now it doesn't mean it won't last forever, but it can be communicated to your partner instead of looking for an affair to fulfill that sexual need.



The results of this study are also in line with the results of research conducted by Watkins and Boon (2016) which found that men are more likely to have an affair because of sexual dissatisfaction. Yuni (Chandrasari, 2009) argues that sexual satisfaction is very important in realizing marital satisfaction. Septiana (2019) found that the higher the marital satisfaction, the lower the intention of infidelity in married couples. In line with that, Campbell (2009) argues that someone who is married has the possibility to seek a sexual partner other than a legal partner to compensate for his sexual dissatisfaction. Guntoro (2017) in his research found that sexual satisfaction has a significant and negative relationship with the intention of cheating on husbands in the city of Yogyakarta.

5. Conclusion

Based on the results of the study it can be concluded that there is a negative relationship between sexual satisfaction and the intention of infidelity on husbands in Makassar City. The higher the sexual satisfaction, the lower the husband's intention of infidelity. Vice versa, the lower the sexual satisfaction, the higher the husband's intention of infidelity.

Husbands are expected to understand that even though sexual satisfaction in marriage is not fulfilled, cheating is not something that can be justified. Therefore, the husband is expected to be able to ward off the desire to have an affair and try to communicate with his wife about his sexual needs. For married couples, it is expected that they will pay more attention to the sexual satisfaction of each partner in order to prevent any intention of having an affair so as to be able to create a harmonious family relationship.

Suggestions for future researchers are expected to conduct research on several other factors that can influence the intention of having an affair, because sexual satisfaction is only one of the factors that influence the intention of having an affair..

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