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The Experience of Married Men Who Have Sex with Female Sex Workers (FSW)

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Abstract

Background: Sexual disharmony has serious effect, such as having sex with sex workers. This study aimed to explore the factors affecting married men who have sex with female sex workers as well as consequences.

Method: This study used a qualitative design with a phenomenological approach and purposive sampling. Total Sample was 13 married men who had sex with female sex workers in Pembatuan Area Landasan Ulin Timur, Banjarbaru. We conducted in-depth interview and FGD (focus group discussion). The result of study was descriptive analysis includes data reduction, data display, conclusion, and verification. The main outcome measures were themes identified as the reason married men had sex with female sex workers and the consequences of their behavior.

Results: Factors that affecting married men had sex with female sex workers was grouped into some categories that were irritable wife, body's wife is not ideal, wife is menopause or sick, environmental factors (intervene parents-in-laws), new sensations, loneliness because of distance, female sex workers are more communicative and romantic, get a bonus, excessive sex libido, not satisfied with his wife, the effect of alcohol and friends. While the consequences of married men had sex with female sex workers were financial disrupted, sexual transmitted infections, polygamy, better serving from wife, wife's appearance better than usual, divorce, regret, anxious, and satisfaction.

Discussion: Married couples are expected to live in the same place to fulfill psychological and biological needs can be fulfilled. If they have to live separately, both of them can control themselves and understand the consequences.

Keyword: married men, sexual activity, female sex workers, qualitative study, FGD

Introduction

Sex as harmonious communication does not occur in every couple ⁽¹⁾. Harmonious sex is needed to make partner feel satisfied. Some married couple can express their affection. Recognition of sexual desire could be a positive trigger and induce positive sexual expression ⁽²⁾

Otherwise, disharmony sex has serious effect, such as having sex with sex workers. Wrong sex behavior among married men was having sex with female sex worker to look for satisfied at prostitution place or tourist area ⁽¹⁾.

Married men who have sex with female sex workers because they want to have fun, have variety in sexual behavior, their body's wife is not ideal, look for satisfied feeling, to get comfort from others without commitment, to get a sensation, influence of alcohol or drugs and also peer ⁽³⁾. There are four aspects in term of sex behavior in married couples that were recreation, relations, procreation and institution ⁽⁴⁾.

High number sexual transmitted diseases among men and women were reported and recorded in the Provincial Health Agency (Dinkes). Data from the Indonesian Ministry of Health (2016) showed that South Kalimantan had 144 people suffering from HIV, 65 people with AIDS in 2010. While in 2012 showed HIV was 34 people, AIDS was 22 people and Sexual

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transmitted diseases were 141 people. In Banjarmasin, the number of sexual transmitted disease increased in 2011⁽⁵⁾. Based on the description, the aims of this study were to explore the experiences and consequences of married men who have sex with female sex workers.

Method

We used qualitative design to explore the experience of married men who have sex with female sex workers. The design of this study is qualitative research with a phenomenological approach. We conducted in-depth interview and FGD (focus group discussion) to explore ideas, health behaviors related to the experience of having sex with female sex workers.

Data were collected from married men who had sex with female sex workers at Pembatuan, Landasan Ulin, South Kalimantan from May to July 2018. We used purposive sampling with inclusion criteria were married men who had sex with female sex worker and provide the informed consent. Recruited continued until saturation data was achieved (n= 10).

We conducted forum group discussion and conducted triangulation through in-depth interviews among 3 participants to ensure reliability data. All interviews were transcribed by first author and translated into English. We used thematic analysis; the reason married men had sex with female sex workers and the consequences of their behavior. Analyzed data include data reduction, presentation, conclusions and verification.

Results

The results based on Focus Group Discussion method, Theme 1: factor effecting of married men had sex with female sex workers:

Irritability

"If I am at house, my wife always cranky, so I look for another woman" (P.1)

"Being so tired after working, but my wife so irritability, and I do not know the problem, perhaps from my children, or from family in Java, and she is angry all the time" (P.2)

"I want to have sex with my wife, but she does not want to do it. Unfortunately, she refused while angry, and it was Ordinary"(P.4)

Loneliness due to long-distance marriage

Most of the reasons were the wife is not at house

"I asked my wife to go home, but she refused it. So I look for another one" (P.3)

"It depends on my workplace"...(P.5)

"My wife in Java Island, so I want to have sex with others in here" (P.6)

"According to me, I feel loneliness" (P.9)

Wife's body is not ideal

"My wife is thin; I want someone with a fat body" (P.1)

Environment (intervene parents-in-laws)

Parents in-laws interfere, and they asked my wife to come back to their house, so it triggers me(P.7)

Variety in sex

"Eeemm, I think, I only want to look for new variety in sex" (P.8)

"There is new woman, I think she is Hollywood actress," (P.1).

"At that moment, there is good film actress, so I try it" (P.5)

Wife is menopause

"I already old as well as my wife, she often refuses to have sex with me" (P.10)

Female sex workers are communicative

"For us, the reason was I feel so comfortable with female sex worker, we can share each other's, and can communicate well" (P.2)

"Being my friend, and sharing" (P.6)

Female sex workers are romantic

"I always look for romantic one, and click with me, I always look for someone who romantic" (P.10)

Getting Bonus or additional income

"I have money..." (P.4)(P.6)

"I got bonus" (P.1)

Peer influence

"Initial, my friend invited me to join, currently I am addicted" (P.8)

Fight with wife

"I have problems and argue with my wife...." (P.2)

"I always argue and fight with my wife because of the smell of girl perfume" (P.6)

"If my wife knew about my behavior, we will fight each other" (P.4)

"I will argue and fight, if my wife knew" (P3)

Wife is sick

"My wife is sick" (P.6)(P.5)

Theme 2: The consequence due to having sex with female sex workers

Financial disrupted

"Financial problem" (P.5)(P4)

"Money runs out, cannot give money to the wife" (P.8)

Fight and argue

"It seems like.....I was scolded by my wife" (P.9)

"...throw the cellphone each other's" (P.3)

"Oooo....there's no divorce problem... If argue each others are..... usual...not often but sometimes... sometimes when my wife knew if I have sex with other" (P.1)

"Only get angry" (P.4)

Sexual transmitted diseases

"The effect is...positive and negative are the first effect... disease is certain....." (P.5)

"If sexual disease, emm I admit it, I've suffered before".(P.8)

Polygamy

"Already found out, she already knew so polygamy" (P.5)

Wife gives better services

"My wife serves me better" (P.5)

"My wife always gives me.....I mean she never refused me to have sex" (P.4)

"Yes....she always agrees, to serve us"....(P.2)

Wife's appearance is better than usual

"Perfume..." (P.5)

"Her smile like onion, I already came to my house" (P.5)

Divorce

"Divorce with my wife, she already leaved me and did not live with me" (P.7)

Afraid and anxious

"I worry about HIV....but I use condom" (P.10)

Discussion

Theme 1: Factors affecting married men had sex

with female sex workers

Based on the results there were 15 factors of married men had sex with female sex workers, that were 3 participants (23.1%) due to their wives are irritability. The wives often refuse when invited to have sex. It was similar to this reason, there was one participant (7.7%) said his libido is increase but his wife did not serve him. Previous study mentioned that having sex with others because their partner loses his passion for intercourse⁽⁶⁾. One participant (7.7%) said his behavior due to his wife is already menopause. During menopause a woman often experiences complaints in intercourse due to loss of libido⁽⁴⁾. Another reason comes from wife; there was one participant (7.7%) who had sex with female sex workers because the wife's body is not ideal. Perception of body size related to quality life⁽⁷⁾. The wrong perception of body size as the reason someone is interested in another⁽⁸⁾. There were three participants (23.1%) said that they often quarreled with their wives so they rarely engage in sexual activity. Conflicts with wife is the most common reasons for married men to have sex with female sex workers⁽⁹⁾. There were 2 participants (15.4%) who had sex with the female sex workers because their wives are sick, so the wife could not serve their husband. Physical or psychological disorders can cause sexual dysfunction⁽⁴⁾. There was one participant (7.7%) said because of dissatisfaction in sexual activity with his wife. Feeling satisfied in sexual activity is needed between husband and wife and it relates with quality of marriages⁽¹⁰⁾.

Other reasons come from female sex workers, there were 2 participants (15.4%) said that they want to look for variety in sex. Variety and sensation in sex is part of human need⁽¹¹⁾. There were 5 (28.5%) participants said that female sex workers are more communicative when invited to talk. Otherwise, their wives are lacked communication with them, so it encouraged them to have sex with female sex workers. Personal communication between husband and wife is needed to create harmonious life⁽⁴⁾. There was one participant (7.7%) said because female sex workers is more romantic. One of the psychological reasons for someone having an affair is affection need⁽⁶⁾.

Other reasons were from environments, there were five participants who had sex with female sex workers due to loneliness. They are doing long distance marriage or due to workplace. Need deprivation will encourage people to fulfill this deprivation with everything⁽¹²⁾.

There was one participant (7.7%) said that the reason was because of parents-in-laws who interfered in their household life. Sometimes, the existence of a family could become problem in the household⁽¹³⁾. There were 5 participants (38.5%) said they have sex with female sex workers because he got extra income. Socio-economic facilities this behavior, and trigger married men having sex with female sex workers⁽¹⁴⁾.

There was one participant (7.7%) said his behavior because of alcohol influence. People who consume alcohol are more likely to engage in sex with female sex workers⁽¹⁵⁾ (Schensul et al., 2006). There were two participants (15.4%) who had sex with female sex workers due to friend's invitation. Peer influences make married men tend to use peer norms and ignore social norms⁽¹⁶⁾.

Theme 2: The consequence due to having sex with female sex workers

There were five participants (38.5%) said they had financial problems because they addicted to having sex with female sex workers. There were four participants (31%) said the consequence was quarrel with wife. The biggest disappointment experienced by a wife whose husband had an affair⁽¹⁷⁾. In this study found one participant (7.7%) who said he divorce due to his behavior. Sexual outside can lead to divorce⁽¹⁸⁾.

Two participants (15.4%) said they suffered sexual transmitted disease or syphilis. The result also showed that four participants (31%) said they feel anxious because never use condom when having sex with female sex workers. Female sex workers believe that pill contraception not only protects the risk of pregnancy but also from sexually transmitted disease⁽¹⁹⁾. One participant (7.7%) said that the consequence was polygamy. This finding is similar with previous study⁽²⁰⁾. Also, three participants (23.1%) said that it brings a positive impact, the wife provided better service to husband. She maintains the relationship and forgives her husband⁽²¹⁾. In this study found one participant (7.7%) said that the appearance of the wife better than usual. There were 3 participants (23.1%) said they remembered their wives when having sex with female sex workers. Someone who has sex with female sex workers can get orgasm, but they do not feel satisfied⁽⁴⁾. This study has some limitation, we used qualitative study and purposive sampling, so it could not be generalized, but the diversity

of socio-economic characteristic respondents were available, such as age, background, living with partner or long distance marriage, and having menopause partner. Better understanding about these factors and consequences can educate married couple to gain harmonious life.

Conclusion

Factors that affecting married men had sex with female sex workers was grouped into some categories that were wife factors, environmental factors (intervene parents-in-laws, long distance marriage), the effect of alcohol and friends, female sex workers factors, married men factors such as not satisfied with his wife,. While the consequences of married men had sex with female sex workers were financial disrupted, sexual transmitted infections, , better serving from wife, divorce, anxious, and sexual satisfaction.

Ethical Clearance: All procedure of this study was granted IRB from Health Research Ethics Committee, Poltekkes Kemenkes Banjarmasin (Health Polytechnic, Ministry of Health, Banjarmasin, Indonesia) number: 251/KEPK-PKB/2018.

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