

## Self-Label in Gay Adolescents with Sexual Behaviour at Risk of Transmission of Sexually Transmitted Infection and HIV-AIDS (Qualitative Study in District of Jember)

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### Abstract

*Self-label is the labeling of oneself among gays as top or bottom in order to communicate their anal sex tastes. In gay life, there are three self-labels, top, bottom and versatile. Top is a man who has the behavior of IAI (Insertive Anal Intercourse) in sexual intercourse, but top also serves as a husband whose job is to love, be warm, pay attention and make a comfortable bottom when being beside him. Bottom is a man who has the behavior of RAI (Receptive Anal Intercourse) in sexual intercourse, but the bottom also serves as a wife who will feel happy and comfortable if you get the attention and affection from a top. Versatile is a gay who has a top and bottom nature depending on the situation they face. Top, bottom and versatile in the use of social media is very different. Top is usually more manly, so its existence in social media is very limited. Top rarely post photos and status on social media and tend to close itself from the outside world, while the bottom is more feminine and in the use of social media, the bottom is usually more prominent than the top. The purpose of this study was to analyze self-label in gay adolescents with risky sexual behavior toward STI (sexually transmitted infections) and HIV-AIDS transmission in Jember. This research was conducted in Jember. The type of this research is qualitative research of phenomenology approach of data collection method of purposive sampling. Data collected from gay teenager, gay top 3 informants, gay bottom as much as 3 informant, and 2 additional informant that is NGO and GBFF. Data collection with in-depth interviews, observations and recorded by tape recorder. The results are grouped into five themes: Symbolic Interaction, Identity Status, Self-label, Social Activity and Social Media. Recommended for gay adolescents in order to prevent transmission of STIs and HIV-AIDS.*

**Keywords:** self-label, gay, adolescent, STI (sexually transmitted infections), HIV-AIDS

### I. INTRODUCTION

Risk sexual behavior is one of the reproductive health problems in today's adolescents. Irresponsible sexual behavior can lead to various health problems. Various irresponsible sexual behavior is sexual behavior perpetrated by teenagers outside of marriage. Based on WHO data that conducts research in some developing countries, shows that about 40% of teens aged 18 years have had sexual relations even without any marriage bonds. As a result of sexual intercourse, about 12% have been positively affected by Sexually Transmitted Diseases and about 27% are HIV positive (Anniswah, 2016). According to Junaidi (2012), male gay appearance remains only slightly different from real men. How to know the characteristics of a gay is not easy. But among gays, they usually have special marks or certain traits that can only be known by the group or certain people only. These special words are often called gay passwords, which are signs that gays deliberately show to identify and attract the interest of the person who is interested in him.

Data from January to March of 2017 collected from the Ministry of Health, there were 185 gay in Jember District who tested for HIV testing, and 15 of them were HIV positive (Kemenkes RI, 2017). Based on the Sufa Program Outreach by Laskar NGOs, the number of gays in Jember is around 2,030, of which 40% are 20-25 years old, 20% are 26-30 years old, 10% are over 30 and the remaining 30% are 15-20 year. This phenomenon is evident even in public places. Gay becomes more daring to show their behavior in style, dress and behavior without thinking about how people around will argue about themselves and they do not care about their social environment (Utami, 2016). According to UNAIDS in 2016, the estimated total number of gay people with HIV worldwide reaches 9,874,800. According to data from the Ministry of Health in 2012 shows that there are 1,095,970 men relating Sex with Men (SWM) aka gay spread across all regions. West Java is the province with the highest number of MSM. A total of 300,198 people indicated are gay. Meanwhile, Central Java has gay patients with a total of 218,227. While Gaya Nusantara in East Java is estimated to have thousands of members. Because the community has dozens of support organizations and spread in East Java such as Ikatan Banyuwangi (IWABA), Lare Osing (Gaya Laros), Waria and Gay Organization (Wagayo), Jember Putungan Nusantara Jember (Gapura Community Jember), Gubug Sebaya Jombang, Sehati Kediri Gallery, and a number of other gay, lesbian, and transgender communities. The purpose of this study was to analyze

self-label in gay adolescents with risky sexual behavior towards STI and HIV-AIDS transmission in Jember.

## II. RESEARCH METHODS

This research was conducted in Jember Regency. The type of this research is qualitative research of phenomenology approach of data collection method of purposive sampling sampling. Data collected from gay teenager, gay top 3 informants, gay bottom as much as 3 informant, and 2 additional informant that is NGO and GBFF.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Informants in this study are top and bottom gay adolescents. Number of primary informants 6 people. The results based on the characteristics of informants to be described include age, religion, ethnicity, recent education, girlfriend status, and STI complaints. From the data obtained from Table 4.1 shows the majority of 19-year-old informants, all the informants are Muslims, most of the informants are ethnic, the last education is mostly high school, the status of boyfriend is mostly single and all informants have no STI complaints.

Tabel 4.1 Characteristics of Informants

Informan No.	Age	Religion	Tribe	Education	Status	Complaints STI
1	19 tahun	Islam	Madura	Senior High School	Fix date	Nihil
2	19 tahun	Islam	Madura	Senior High School	Single	Nihil
3	18 tahun	Islam	Madura	Senior High School	Single	Nihil
4	19 tahun	Islam	Jawa	Senior High School	Single	Nihil
5	20 tahun	Islam	Madura	Senior High School	Single	Nihil
6	19 tahun	Islam	Jawa	Senior High School	Fix date	Nihil

Self-Label In Gay Teens With Sexual Behavior At Risk for STI and HIV-AIDS Infection (Qualitative Study in Jember)

The results of self-label research on gay adolescents with sexual behavior at risk of transmission of STI and HIV-AIDS in Jember Regency resulted in 5 themes, among others, as follows.

### Theme 1: Symbolic Interaction

- a. The results of research on six informants mentioned that there are two symbolic interactions experienced by gay adolescents. Symbolic interaction is Mind and self
- b. Mind: Most of the bottom informants claimed that they became gay because they felt their souls were gay and it was their way of life, as in the following informant statement:

*"... My sex orientation is different, I like the same man so I consider my self gay ... accepting hell yes because this is probably my way of life that God has given me." (15, 20. Bottom)*

The informant said that they became gay because they felt their soul was gay and became gay is their life, or often called the mind. The mind Mead defines as the process of a person's conversation with himself, is not found in the individual, the mind is a social phenomenon. Thoughts arise and develop in social processes and are an integral part of social processes.

- c. Self : The top informant and the bottom informant stated that the symbolic interaction is self. This is reflected in the category of the encouragement of friends and labeling from others. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"... I used to have friends contacts on facebook ... he told me he said I was fit to be a homo ... then I am amazed by his friend and finally going out with his friend .." (13, 18 years old Bottom)"*

In addition, top informants and informant bottom also stated that they have experience of physical contact

stimulation from other guys to become a gay.

**Theme 2: Identity Status:** The results of interviews conducted on six informants found there are two types of identity status that occurs, namely Identity Achievement and Identity Moratorium. Identity status as delivered by Mercia (1993) is divided into four kinds, but experienced by the informant in this research there are only two, namely identity achievement and identity moratorium.

*Identity Achievement:* Most informant bottom states that the identity status experienced is Identity Achievement. This is reflected in the category of feeling that they are 80% more accept themselves as gay and can not love women. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"... I'm 100% sure I'm gay, because its me, I'm just trying to be real me ... I'm sure and I'm comfortable with her ... yes I'm gay, not bad is being gay mas ... . "(11, 19. Top)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that as many as 100% of them recognize and accept that they are gay, in addition, they also can not to love women. This is consistent with Mercia's (1993) statement, that the status of the form of identity that forms in the individual who has managed to extract and master a number of important information for himself, is able to compare with the positive feelings (positive attitudes) in terms of the positives and negatives respectively. This will make the concerned immediately able to determine the choice of which information is taken as a component of identity forming it self.

a. *Identity Moratorium:* Most of the top informants stated that the identity status experienced was the Identity Moratorium. This is reflected in the category of feeling that they are less convinced that they are gay and there are plans to marry girls, although now they are comfortable dating boys. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"Most of the top informants stated that the identity status experienced was the Identity Moratorium. This is reflected in the category of feeling that they are less convinced that they are gay and there are plans to marry girls, although now they are comfortable dating boys. This can be seen from the following informant statement"*

Interviews conducted, informants stated that they are less sure that they are gay and there are plans to marry girls, although now they are comfortable dating boys. This is consistent with Mercia's (1993) assertion that the status of the identity constructed from the exploration results is quite good, but not supported by a balanced level of commitment.

**Theme 3: Self-Label:** The results of interviews conducted on six informants found there are two types of self-label that occurs, namely top and bottom, but also studied about gay in general. The terms top and bottom are used to label a gay-related role that they will do in their relationship status with other gay individuals Gay. All informants in the study stated that no tribes and any religion permit gay behavior. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"No tribe of any kind that allows gay married ... not any religion that allows relationship 2 men have sex ... Gay is so sweet! Oh my God, its so sweet! ... Gay is a couple of guys who are both in love with each other ... like boys, not girls ... I believe gays happen more because of genes ... "(11. Top)*

All the informants stated that feeling comfortable dating boys.

a. *Top:* Most of the bottom informants suggest that the top has a rather old age as a leader. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"Top more that age is a bit old, so kayak more guiding, nurturing." (14, 19. Bottom)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that the top role as a male in a gay relationship. In addition, the top is also tasked to give attention, give love, guide, nurture and lead the bottom. Top has physical characteristics that are manly and body larger than bottom. Top has a rather old age as a leader. This is in accordance with the statement of Ardiansyah (2016) that homosexual (gay) in sexual identity can be divided into 3 kinds, namely top, bottom, vers Bottom: Most informants are bottom, stating that bottom has soft and feminine physical characteristics. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

"... I look a little wooden, so that ... kemayu, so I need protection so dah ... bot his girl ... bot kemayu continue clever fashion dandan." (14, 19 years Bottom)

Interviews conducted, informants stated that the bottom role as a woman in a gay relationship. In addition, the bottom usually ask diperhatiin, protected, diperhatiin. Bottom has the characteristics of fissile wood, soft and feminine. This is in line with the statement of Ardiansyah (2016) that the bottom is a term for a gay who seems like a woman, in a sexual relationship the bottom is also more a role as a woman than to act as a man.

**Theme 4: Social activity:** The results of interviews conducted on six informants about social activities, obtained three sub-main themes, namely gay friends, coming out, and interaction with the community. Social activities undertaken by gay teenagers tend to be closed, which they do to maintain their privacy from their gay identity.

- a. Gay Friends: Most of the bottom informants stated that they often hang out, hang out, karaoke, gossip and walk with gay friends. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"I and my friends in cafes like that, sometimes gathering at home, swimming, but more privacy so if someone does not talk about that, we are more closed." (16, 19. Bottom.)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that choosing a suitable friend for them related to privacy. It is like a Veritasia (2015) statement that the context surrounding interpersonal relationships shows that not all information can be shared with everyone but certain things are told and with certain people it is delivered. Sexual identity as something personal because of its relevance to cultural discourses requires a special privacy management strategy.

- b. Coming Out: The top informant and the bottom informant have a desire to come out but still do not have the courage and are still afraid for it. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"I want to come out, haha..., but still do not have the courage, sometimes I envy my guy really, he's long he said coming out and I see him like so no burden at all being gay, so I really want coming out but sek collecting courage hahhahaa... for this time just only open to some people nearest tune soale fear of privacy also gays." (11, 19 years. Top.)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that the family has accepted that he is a gay, meaning there are gay teenagers who have done coming out.

- c. Interaction with Society: Most of the top states that interacting with the community while maintaining identity and privacy so as not to get caught that they are gay. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"Acting being normal haha ... in everyday life, im not gay, i am normal so yeach just plain guys like most normal guys." (11, 19 years old. Top.)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that interacting with the community but still maintain the identity and privacy so as not to get caught that they are gay. Gay youth tend to cover themselves because in the dominant society of heterosexuals so that gay teenagers find it difficult to make decisions about their sexual identity because they follow others in determining their life goals.

**Theme 5: Social Media:** The results of interviews conducted on six informants about social media, obtained three main sub-themes, namely social media functions, gay special media, gay porn and gay themed movie. Social media is used by gay teenagers to interact and communicate with other individuals, whether gay or not.

- a. Social Media Functions  
All informants stated that social media works to communicate, establish relationships and interact with

others. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"To make friends as much as possible and also for self-actualization in the public, this is my loh, so so depending on personality, to communicate, looking guy, sexual and also there is a focus for relationships like love one night so, but the fall of alma semakun like people who are selling together and I think it is not really." (I6, 19 years. Top.)*

Social media is not only used by heterogeneous people but also among homosexuals this is because homosexuals can freely express their identity

b. Gay Social Media: Most informants mentioned above stated that they did not use social media for various reasons. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"There is but do not use ... do not like ... like sex love one night, nothing serious." (I4, 19. Bottom.)*

Interviews conducted, informants stated that not using social media for various reasons, one of them disgusted, uncomfortable, dislike and said that social media is usually used by gay to seek sexual partners only, where it will be very risky cause the occurrence of STI and HIV-AIDS transmission.

c. Gay Porn: Top informants and bottom informants stated that they would masturbate after watching the video. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"Yaa there is a profit for mas still for the singles like me, so the material for "coli" haha." (I2, 19 years. Top)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that watching gay porn when being aroused only and usually will do masturbation after watching the video. It is like the statement of Pratami (2011) that teenagers who are aroused by teen porn video show finally look for impingement by kissing, neeking, petting, masturbation or having sex (intercourse) outside married to his friend.

a. Gay Themed Movie: Most top states that do not like the gay theme movie because it is too alay and not in accordance with reality. This can be seen from the following informant statement:

*"Excessive, cooking guys there are boys let alone get married like that, impossible ... let alone the romantis2 so I do not like ... in the movie too excessive, not realistic, and fantasy ... prefer in real life." (I2, 19 years. Top)*

The results of interviews conducted, informants stated that like the gay theme movie because exposing the relationship with guys romantic guy and describe their expectations. The other participants say that they do not like the gay theme movie because it is too alay and not in line with reality.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the exposure, it can be concluded that:

1. Symbolic interaction

The urge to be gay is influenced by the mindset factor that feels the call of the gay soul is their life. There is also because of the labeling factors of others so motivated to be a gay so can not love women.

2. Identity status

identity status experienced is Identity Achievement. This is reflected in the category of feeling that they are 80% more accept themselves as gay and can not love women. There are also those who are less convinced as gay but are in a gay environment but plan to live a normal life and marry women.

3. Self-Labels

The labeling of gay couples is of two kinds: top acts as a male in a gay relationship. bottom Top has a younger age. While the bottom role as a wife with who need attention and affection.

4. Social activity

They tend to be closed and make friends with fellow gays. Although there is also a normal social interaction with the community. Gay actors have a desire to come out but still do not have the courage and conviction to live normally. So they still maintain privacy as a gay.

5. Social media

There are some gays who do not use social media for varying reasons, one of which is disgusted, uncomfortable, dislikes and says that social media is usually used by gays to seek sexual partners only. Social media is used to watch gay porn as an outlet and describes their expectations.

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