

FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH THE OCCURRENCE OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE CASES IN PATIENTS AT BALARAJA REGIONAL HOSPITAL

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ABSTRACT

Sexual violence is a serious problem with significant impacts on victims' physical and mental health. This study aims to analyze factors associated with sexual violence cases among patients at Balaraja Regional Hospital, focusing on age factors and victim-perpetrator relationships. This research employed a cross-sectional design with a retrospective approach. Data were obtained from medical records of violence cases at Balaraja Regional Hospital from 2022 to 2024. A sample of 27 cases was selected through purposive sampling. Data analysis was performed using univariate and bivariate methods with Chi-square or Fisher's Exact Test at a significance level of $p < 0.05$. Out of 27 cases studied, 18 cases (66.7%) were sexual violence. Most victims were under 18 years old (55.6%) and had social relationships with the perpetrators (70.4%). There was a significant relationship between age factors and sexual violence incidents ($p = 0.014$, $OR = 9.10$) and between victim-perpetrator relationships and sexual violence cases ($p = 0.025$). Children and adolescents under 18 years old have a higher risk of experiencing sexual violence, and such violence is more frequently perpetrated by individuals who have social relationships with the victims.

Keywords: sexual violence, age factor, relationship factor, Balaraja Regional Hospital

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INTRODUCTION

Sexual violence is any sexual act performed without the victim's consent, including rape, sexual harassment, sexual intimidation, and sexual exploitation.¹ The impacts are severe, including physical injuries, sexually transmitted diseases, and psychological trauma such as depression and anxiety.² Various forms of sexual violence include forced sexual relations, sexual harassment, and sexual exploitation. Sexual violence can be defined as acts that degrade, insult, or attack someone's body and reproductive functions, which are carried out without consent and often related to power imbalances.³

According to 2023 data from the WHO, in collaboration with the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and Medical Research Council, nearly 30% of women in 80 countries reported experiencing violence, both physical and sexual.⁴ The prevalence of violence is 23.2% in high-income countries, 24.2% in the Western Pacific region, and 37.7% in Southeast Asia.⁵

Based on the 2023 report from the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan), there was an increase in sexual violence cases reaching 15,621 cases, indicating the need for more attention in addressing this issue.⁶ Data reported by the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (Kemen PPPA) recorded 7,842 cases of violence against children in the first half of 2024. From this total, sexual violence was the most frequently reported category, with 5,552 female child victims and 1,930 male child victims.⁷

In Tangerang Regency, sexual violence data shows significant numbers. During the first quarter of 2023, the Department of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection (DP3A) recorded 49 cases of violence against women and children, with sexual violence being the highest. In 2022, there were a total of 192 cases of violence, with 71 of them being cases of sexual violence.⁸

This study aims to identify factors associated with the occurrence of sexual violence cases in patients at Balaraja Regional Hospital. The risk factors explored in this study include age and the relationship between victims and perpetrators. The relationship established between victims and perpetrators is very important to study because these relationships can influence the dynamics of sexual violence.⁹

METHODS

This research was conducted with a cross-sectional design through a retrospective approach to determine the relationship between age factors and relationship factors with the occurrence of sexual violence. The research was conducted at Balaraja Regional Hospital from February to May 2025.

The target population in this study was all patients who experienced cases of sexual violence in Balaraja Regency. The accessible population in this study included all cases of sexual violence at Balaraja Regional Hospital from 2022 to 2024. The research subjects were the accessible population that met the

inclusion criteria, namely data from medical records of living patients who were victims of violence cases at Balaraja Regional Hospital, Tangerang Regency. Exclusion criteria included data with unknown factors and incomplete data.

The sample size was calculated using a categorical descriptive formula, resulting in a minimum sample size of 27 cases. Sampling used the purposive sampling method. The data collected were secondary data from patient medical records and reports of sexual violence incidents.

The variables studied included the dependent variable in the form of sexual violence incidents and independent variables, namely age factors and relationship factors. Data were analyzed with univariate analysis to see the frequency distribution of each variable and bivariate analysis using Chi-square test or Fisher's Exact Test to assess the relationship between variables with a significance level of $p < 0.05$.

This research has received ethical approval from the Health Research Ethics Committee (KEPK) of the Faculty of Medicine, Sultan Ageng Tirtayasa University.

RESULTS

Overview of Research Location

Balaraja Regional Hospital is a government hospital that serves as a referral center for health services for the community in the Balaraja area and its surroundings. This hospital provides various health services, including handling medicolegal cases such as sexual violence. Based on data from medical records and violence case registers at Balaraja Regional Hospital, there were 242 cases recorded in 2022, 490 cases in 2023, and 611 cases in 2024.

Frequency Distribution of Violence Cases

Medical record data of patients at Balaraja Regional Hospital who were victims of sexual violence from 2022 to 2024 show that out of a total of 27 cases of violence, there were 18 cases (66.7%) of sexual violence and 9 cases (33.3%) of non-sexual violence.

Table 1. Frequency Distribution of Violence Cases at Balaraja Regional Hospital 2022-2024

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Violence Cases	Sexual	18	66.7
	Non-Sexual	9	33.3

Total	27	100.0
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Source: Ratu Annisa Mutiara, 2025

Frequency Distribution Based on Age Factor

Based on the age distribution of victims, out of 27 cases of violence studied, most victims were in the age group below 18 years, namely 15 cases (55.6%), while victims aged above 18 years were 12 cases (44.4%).

Table 2. Frequency Distribution Based on Respondent Age at Balaraja Regional Hospital 2022-2024

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Age Factor	<18 Years	15	55.6
	>18 Years	12	44.4
Total		27	100.0

Source: Ratu Annisa Mutiara, 2025

Frequency Distribution of Relationship Factor

Based on the distribution of the victim's relationship with the perpetrator, out of 27 cases of violence studied, the majority of cases occurred in the context of social relationships, namely 19 cases (70.4%), followed by family relationships of 5 cases (18.5%), and cases where the perpetrator was not known by the victim of 3 cases (11.1%).

Table 3. Frequency Distribution Based on Perpetrator-Victim Relationship at Balaraja Regional Hospital 2022-2024

Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Relationship Factor	Family Relationship	5	18.5
	Social Relationship	19	70.4
	Unknown	3	11.1
Total		27	100.0

Relationship Between Age Factor and Sexual Violence Cases

Analysis of the relationship between age factor and the incidence of sexual violence using Chi-square test obtained a significance value of $p\text{-value} = 0.014$ ($p < 0.05$), which means there is a significant relationship between age factor and the incidence of sexual violence.

Table 4. Relationship Between Age Factor and Sexual Violence Cases at Balaraja Regional Hospital 2022-2024

Variable	Category	Violence Cases		Total	p-value	OR
		Yes	No			
		n (%)	n (%)		n (%)	
Age Factor	<18 Years	13 (86.7%)	2 (13.3%)	15 (100.0%)	0.014	
	>18 Years	5 (41.7%)	7 (58.3%)	12 (100.0%)		
Total		18 (66.7%)	9 (33.3%)	27 (100.0%)		

Source: Ratu Annisa Mutiara, 2025

Table 4 shows that of the 15 victims under the age of 18 years, 13 victims (86.7%) experienced sexual violence and 2 victims (13.3%) experienced non-sexual violence. Meanwhile, of the 12 victims aged over 18 years, 5 victims (41.7%) experienced sexual violence and 7 victims (58.3%) experienced non-sexual violence.

The results of statistical tests using Fisher's Exact Test showed a $p\text{-value}$ of 0.014, which means that there is a significant relationship between age factors and the incidence of sexual violence in patients at Balaraja Regional Hospital. The results of the odds ratio analysis showed an OR value = 9.10 (95% CI: 1.46-56.76), which means that individuals under 18 years of age have a 9.10 times greater risk of experiencing sexual violence compared to individuals over 18 years of age.

Relationship Between Relationship Factor and Sexual Violence Cases

Analysis of the relationship between the perpetrator's relationship with the victim and the incidence of sexual violence using Chi-square test obtained a significance value of $p\text{-value} = 0.025$ ($p < 0.05$), which means there is a significant relationship between the relationship factor and the incidence of sexual violence.

Table 5. Relationship Between Relationship Factor and Sexual Violence Cases at Balaraja Regional Hospital
2022-2024

Variable	Category	Violence Cases	Total	p-value
		Yes	No	
		n (%)	n (%)	n (%)
Relationship Factor	Family Relationship	3 (60.0%)	2 (40.0%)	5 (100.0%)
	Social Relationship	15 (78.9%)	4 (21.1%)	19 (100.0%)
	Unknown	0 (0.0%)	3 (100.0%)	3 (100.0%)
Total		18 (66.7%)	9 (33.3%)	27 (100.0%)

*with correction factor 0.5

Source: Ratu Annisa Mutiara, 2025

Table 5 shows that of the 5 cases with family relationships, 3 cases (60.0%) experienced sexual violence and 2 cases (40.0%) experienced non-sexual violence. Of the 19 cases with social relationships, 15 cases (78.9%) experienced sexual violence and 4 cases (21.1%) experienced non-sexual violence. Meanwhile, of the 3 cases where the perpetrator was unknown to the victim, none (0%) experienced sexual violence and all 3 cases (100.0%) experienced non-sexual violence.

The results of statistical tests with Pearson Chi-Square showed a p-value = 0.025, which means that there is a significant relationship between relationship factors and the incidence of sexual violence in patients at Balaraja Regional Hospital.

DISCUSSION

The results of research at Balaraja Regional Hospital during the 2022-2024 period show that from a total of 27 cases of violence that met the inclusion criteria, 18 cases (66.7%) were sexual violence. This figure indicates that sexual violence is the dominant form of violence at Balaraja Regional Hospital, in line with data from the National Commission on Violence Against Women (Komnas Perempuan) which reported an increase in cases of sexual violence in Indonesia in 2023 reaching 15,621 cases.¹⁰

The results of the analysis of the relationship between age factors and the incidence of sexual violence show a significant relationship ($p = 0.014$). Of the 15 victims under the age of 18 years, 13 victims (86.7%) experienced sexual violence. These findings are in line with Fikrya's research which showed that the characteristics of victims of sexual violence cases based on the distribution of age factors were mostly in the age of 0-17 years, which was around 102 cases (85%).¹¹

The vulnerability of children and adolescents to sexual violence can be explained through several factors. First, children and adolescents generally have a limited understanding of actions that include sexual violence and boundaries in social interactions. Second, children and adolescents tend to be in a weaker position physically and psychologically compared to perpetrators who are generally adults. Third, children and adolescents often have dependence on adults around them, both emotionally, physically, and economically, which can be exploited by perpetrators of violence.¹²

The odds ratio value of 9.10 (95% CI: 1.46-56.76) indicates that children and adolescents under 18 years of age have a 9.10 times greater risk of experiencing sexual violence compared to individuals over 18 years of age. A study by the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2021 showed that around 20% of women and 5-10% of men reported experiencing sexual violence during childhood.¹³ These results are also consistent with research by Ahmad et al. which found that 58.3% of sexual violence cases occurred in children under 18 years of age, with the highest prevalence in the age group of 12-17 years.¹⁴

Regarding relationship factors, the research results show a significant relationship between the perpetrator's relationship with the victim and the incidence of sexual violence ($p = 0.025$). Sexual violence most often occurs in cases with social relationships (78.9%), followed by family relationships (60.0%), and does not occur in cases where the perpetrator is unknown to the victim (0%).

These findings differ from Sulastri's research which found that about 50% of sexual violence cases occur in the context of family relationships.¹⁵ This difference may be due to several factors such as the characteristics of the research location, social stigma, and barriers in reporting cases involving family members.¹⁶

The high percentage of sexual violence in the context of social relationships can be explained by several factors. First, people who have social relationships with victims often gain trust and have easier access to commit acts of sexual violence. Second, in social relationships, perpetrators can use emotional manipulation to gain victim compliance. Third, in some social relationships, behavior that is actually a form of sexual violence may be normalized or considered part of the normal dynamics of relationships.¹⁷

These findings debunk the stigma that has developed in society that sexual violence perpetrators are generally strangers. These findings are in line with various other studies which show that the myth "perpetrators of sexual violence are strangers" is actually not supported by empirical data.¹⁸

The implications of these findings are the need for special attention to the age group under 18 years and the interpersonal relationships of children and adolescents, both in family and social contexts. Sexual violence prevention programs need to be developed with appropriate approaches for this group, including comprehensive and age-appropriate sexual education.¹⁹

CONCLUSION

From a total of 27 cases of violence recorded in the medical records of Balaraja Regional Hospital for the 2022-2024 period, 18 cases (66.7%) were sexual violence. There is a significant relationship between age factors and the incidence of sexual violence, where children and adolescents under 18 years of age have a 9.10 times greater risk of experiencing sexual violence compared to the adult age group. There is a significant relationship between the perpetrator's relationship with the victim and the incidence of sexual violence, with sexual violence most often occurring in the context of social relationships (78.9%), followed by family relationships (60.0%).

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