

Oral

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Oral 6

[O-6-03] Contribution of Peer Problems on Loneliness Among Adolescents in Banyuwangi

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Background: Loneliness is a significant mental health issue, particularly for adolescents living in rural areas. Among various factors contributing to adolescent loneliness in rural areas, peer-related problems emerge as particularly important. However, research on peer problems and loneliness remains limited, especially in rural populations where mental health resources are often scarce. This study aims to explore the contribution of peer problems on loneliness among adolescents in Banyuwangi, a rural region in Indonesia.

Method: This cross-sectional study involved 1140 adolescents (50.3% male, 49.7% female) from five middle schools in Banyuwangi, with a mean age of 13.91 years (SD = 0.808). Peer problems were assessed using the self-report version of Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire (SDQ), while loneliness was measured with a 6-item version of De Jong Gierveld Loneliness Scale (DJGLS). A simple linear regression analysis was conducted to assess the contribution of peer problems on loneliness.

Result and Discussion: Result indicates a significant contribution of peer problems on loneliness among adolescents in Banyuwangi ($F(1, 1138) = 163.594, p < 0.001, R^2 = 0.126$). This finding underscores the importance of implementing promotive and preventive interventions in rural areas to address peer problems and reduce adolescent loneliness.