



The Relationship of Adolescents' Knowledge of Child Grooming with Sexual Violence Prevention Attitudes at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

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ABSTRACT

Sexual violence against children and adolescents is a serious problem that continues to increase and requires special attention from various parties, including educational institutions. One form of violence that is often unaware of is child grooming, which is the perpetrator's attempt to build emotional closeness with the victim as the first step towards sexual violence. Adolescents' knowledge of child grooming plays an important role in shaping a preventive attitude towards such actions. This study aims to determine the relationship between adolescents' knowledge about child grooming and attitudes to prevent sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo. This study is a quantitative research with a Cross-Sectional approach. The population in this study amounted to 1,147 respondents and a sample of 297 respondents using the Cluster Random Sampling technique. This research instrument uses a questionnaire that has been tested for validity and reliability. Bivariate analysis using the Spearman Rho test. The results of the study obtained a P-Value = <math><0.001</math> (

INTRODUCTION

Adolescence is a stage of development that is marked by various changes, both physically, psychologically and socially. In this phase, adolescents often experience confusion because physical changes occur faster than their mental and social development. One of the impacts of these changes is the emergence of sexual behaviors, including sexual intercourse before marriage. This is often triggered by the influence of sexual hormones that are starting to be active, as well as the rapid and open flow of information, which can arouse sexual arousal in adolescents (Suryana et al., 2022).

In relation to this, adolescents are often vulnerable to falling into various forms of sexual violence. Sexual violence is any form of sexual act, attempt to obtain unwanted sexual acts, comments, or sexual solicitations. It also includes acts that take advantage of a person's sexuality by force, regardless of the relationship between the perpetrator and the victim, and can occur anywhere, whether at home or at work (Friday, 2024)

Sexual violence can cause various negative effects on victims, both physically, emotionally, and psychologically. Physically, the impact can be in the form of wounds, sleep and eating disorders, unplanned pregnancies, and transmission of sexually transmitted diseases. Emotionally, the victim experiences guilt, shame and denial. Meanwhile, psychologically, sexual violence can cause post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, anxiety, decreased self-confidence, and obsessive-compulsive symptoms, and so on (Friday, 2024).

One of the increasingly worrying phenomena of sexual violence is *child grooming*. It is a form of sexual violence that is carried out covertly through an emotional approach by adult individuals to children or adolescents. In this process, the perpetrator gradually builds the victim's closeness and trust through persuasion and psychological manipulation. The main purpose of these actions is to sexually exploit the child, where the

victim ends up feeling comfortable, emotionally dependent and unaware that they are being taken advantage of (Yogo et al., 2024).

This event is increasingly worrying along with the rapid development of technology and easy access to social media. Digital platforms are now the main target used by perpetrators to approach and trap victims secretly. One of the concrete proofs comes from *National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children* (NSPCC) In 2023, there were 6,350 cases recorded *Online Grooming* in 2023. This number represents an increase of 82% compared to the 3,492 cases recorded in 2018. The report also revealed that social media is the main means of perpetrators in reaching victims. The most frequently used platforms in the process *Grooming* be *Snapchat* (26%), followed by *Posted on Instagram* (26%), *Posted on Facebook* (15%), and *Posted by E* (6%). In terms of the characteristics of the victims, the majority are girls. Of the total 21,890 cases reported, 17,844 victims were known to be female. In addition, most of the victims are in the age range of 12 to 15 years, an age that is still psychologically vulnerable to persuasion and emotional manipulation from the perpetrator. (NSPCC, 2023)

Similar conditions also occur in Indonesia, various findings show that Indonesian children face similar threats. Based on data from the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (KPAI) in 2022, there were 859 cases *Child Grooming* in Indonesia. This data shows that child sexual abuse is a serious problem that needs immediate treatment. These actions not only fall under the category of crimes against humanity, but also violate national and international law, in particular the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), contrary to the religious and cultural norms of civilized societies (Dilla & Ufran, 2022).

Along with the high number of cases *Child Grooming* in Indonesia, Gorontalo Province is also not spared from this phenomenon. Data collected from the Women's Empowerment and Child Protection Office (DPPPA), sexual violence against children in Gorontalo Province in 2024 will be 187 cases. Of the data, 154 cases were experienced by girls while 33 other cases were experienced by boys. A similar incident occurred in one of the State Aliyah Madrasah (MAN) in Gorontalo Regency which showed a video of a male teacher with the initials DH (57) having sexual relations like a husband and wife with one of his female students with the initials P (17) who was a minor. The perpetrator targets the victim by manipulating, deceit, and persuading the victim to trust the perpetrator. Thus, *Child Grooming* occurs based on the goal for the sexual and emotional satisfaction of the perpetrator. (DPPPA, 2024)

Increasing cases of sexual crimes, including acts of violence *child grooming*, has a serious impact on children both physically, psychologically and socially. Physical wounds may be healed in a certain amount of time, but the inner wounds or psychological trauma experienced by the child are not always easy to heal. In fact, the impact of the trauma can last a long time and affect the child's future significantly (Andaru, 2021).

Through a process called *Child Grooming* Perpetrators usually choose vulnerable victims, then build trust with the victim and their environment through attention or kindness. After that, the victim began to be isolated to be more dependent on the perpetrator. Gradually, the perpetrator introduces inappropriate behavior until the victim becomes accustomed to it. The perpetrator then exploits the emotional needs of the victim to manipulate and create dependence. In the end, the perpetrator commits exploitation or violence facilitated by the previous manipulative process (Aletky, 2025).

Seeing the complexity and serious impact of sexual crimes against children and adolescents, particularly in the form of crimes *Child Grooming*, it is very important to conduct an in-depth study of the perpetrator's mode, the factors that make the victim vulnerable, and prevention strategies that can be carried out from an early age. The rapid development of digital technology has opened up new loopholes for criminals to access and manipulate victims, often unbeknownst to parents, teachers and even the victims themselves. Therefore, a good understanding and knowledge of *Child Grooming* is a crucial first step in preventing sexual violence, especially among teenagers who are active users of digital media (Solehati et al., 2022).

Factors that influence adolescents' attitudes about *Child Grooming* is knowledge. Knowledge is information stored in a person's memory and is used to understand, explain, predict, and control the phenomena around us. Knowledge plays an important role in efforts to prevent sexual violence behavior, including in the form of *Child Grooming*. Knowledge itself is the result of the process of knowing or knowing something after sensing a certain object. However, the level of adolescent knowledge about *Child Grooming* This is still relatively low, as evidenced by the opinion of UNICEF Indonesia, only 37.5% of children have received information on how to stay safe and prepare for potential occurrences *Child Grooming*. This can result in most adolescents only recognizing physical or explicit forms of sexual violence, while they do not understand the forms of emotional and psychological manipulation that are the main characteristics of *Child Grooming*. This condition has a direct impact on adolescents' attitudes in dealing with sexual violence in the form of *Grooming*, where lack of understanding leads to low vigilance as well as inability to take appropriate precautions (I. R. Dewi et al., 2024).

Lack of knowledge about *Child Grooming* is one of the main obstacles that affect adolescent preventive attitudes. With a lack of understanding of what constitutes sexual violence in the form of *Child Grooming* And how to anticipate it, adolescents are often unable to recognize signs of danger or build the necessary vigilance attitude. This makes them more susceptible to unsafe behavior and makes it difficult to

take appropriate action when faced with risky situations. The lack of strong sexual violence prevention attitudes among adolescents such as vigilance, daring to say no, or reporting suspicious behavior, can make adolescents more trapped in the cry of sexual violence (Solehati et al., 2022).

On the other hand, data compiled by the Gorontalo City Population Control, Family Planning, Women's Empowerment, and Child Protection (DPPKBP3A) Office shows that there will be 85 new cases throughout 2024. This figure has increased significantly compared to the 55 cases recorded in 2023. The increase in cases shows that Gorontalo City is still in a state of child protection emergency, where various forms of sexual violence, including child grooming, are still a real threat to adolescents (DPPKBP3A, 2024).

This condition is even more relevant when viewed from the position of SMA Negeri 2 Gorontalo which is located in Kota Barat District. This area is known to have a fairly high population density, as well as wide access to the use of the internet and social media among teenagers. These factors can open up opportunities for unsafe interactions in the digital space, so that the risk of exposure to child grooming practices becomes greater. Thus, the high number of cases in Gorontalo City coupled with the strategic location of SMA Negeri 2 Gorontalo in the center of adolescent activities in West City, makes this school representative to be researched as an effort to understand the level of knowledge and attitude of students against sexual violence.

Based on the results of initial observations made by researchers at SMAN 2 Gorontalo on 30 adolescents, it was concluded that some of them, namely around 5 respondents, felt confused when asked about sexual violence in the form of *Child Grooming*. The majority of respondents, 18 people, admitted that they had not received clear information or specific education about the *Child Grooming*. In addition, as many as 20 respondents stated that they did not know what to do if they experienced the process of sexual violence, while only a small part, namely 7 respondents, knew in general about sexual violence, but only in an explicit form such as physical harassment. Furthermore, the majority of adolescents, 22 people, do not understand the process or stages of action *Child Grooming* as well as the right attitude to prevent it. This condition shows that the level of adolescent knowledge about *Child Grooming* is still very low, especially in terms of concept recognition, the process of doing it, and effective preventive measures.

Although the case *Child Grooming* increasingly occurring, both in the national and local contexts, this topic still receives relatively little attention in the realm of research, especially in Indonesia. In Gorontalo Province itself, several cases have been found *Child Grooming* which indicates a serious vulnerability among adolescents to this covert form of sexual crime. However, academic studies that specifically address this phenomenon, especially in local contexts and with education-based prevention approaches, are still very limited.

RESEARCH METHODS

This research includes a type of quantitative research with an analytical survey research design and using an approach *Cross-sectional*. According to (Abduh et al., 2023) Research by design *Cross-sectional* It is a study that studies the relationship between risk and impact through observation methods, with the aim of collecting data at one time or simultaneously. This research needs to be published in order to provide an understanding to researchers that there is a research method that allows data collection to be carried out only once. *Cross-sectional* In contrast to longitudinal research, which takes longer, it can last for a month, a year, or even more, depending on the informant and the data to be collected. This study aims to find out the relationship between adolescent knowledge about *Child Grooming* with an attitude of preventing sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo. The location of this research was conducted at SMAN 2 Gorontalo.

Data Analysis Techniques

Univariate Analysis

Univariate analysis is a type of analysis that involves only one variable. The main goal is to describe or analyze the characteristics of a single variable in the data. The variables that will be analyzed on independent variables are adolescents' knowledge of *Child Grooming* and dependent variables, namely sexual violence prevention attitudes. Univariate analysis in this study will be carried out using a frequency distribution table including the characteristics of the responder, an independent variable, namely adolescents' knowledge of *Child Grooming*, and dependent variables, namely attitudes to prevent sexual violence. The data of the two variables were obtained using questionnaires. The questionnaire independent variable, namely adolescents' knowledge of *Child Grooming* with its statement measured by *Guttman scale* with a score of [1] True, and [0] False. While dependent variable, which is an attitude of prevention of sexual violence with its statement measured by *Likert Scale* with a score of [4] Strongly Agree (SS), [3] Agree (S), [2] Strongly Agree (CS), and [1] Disagree (TS), so that both variables will be analyzed using an ordinal scale.

Bivariate Analysis

Bivariate analysis involves two variables to see the relationship or association between the two variables. The goal is to find out if there is an influence or correlation between two variables. In this study,

bivariate analysis was carried out to determine the relationship between adolescents' knowledge about *Child Grooming* with an attitude of prevention of sexual violence. The test used in this study uses the *Spearman Rank Correlation*. Test *Spearman Rank Correlation* It is used to test two data groups, both independent and dependent variables in the form of ordinal data.

RESULT

Univariate Analysis

Respondent Characteristics

Table 1 Frequency Distribution of Respondents by Class

Class	Frequency (N)	Present (%)
X (Ten)	84	28
XI (Eleven)	92	31
XII (Twelve)	121	41
Total	297	100

Source : Primary Data 2025

Based on Table 1, it shows that the majority of respondents sit in class XII (Twelve), which is as many as 121 respondents (41%).

Table 2 Frequency Distribution of Respondents by Age

Age	Frequency (N)	Present (%)
15 – 16 Years	202	68
17 – 18 Years	73	24,6
19 – 20 Years	22	7,4
Total	297	100

Source : Primary Data 2025

Based on Table 2, it shows that the majority of respondents are aged 15-16 years, namely 202 respondents (68%).

Table 3 Frequency Distribution of Respondents by Gender

Gender	Frequency (N)	Present (%)
Men – men	124	41,8
Woman	173	58,2
Total	297	100

Source : Primary Data 2025

Based on Table 3, it shows that the majority of the gender of the respondents, namely women, is 173 (58.2%).

Adolescent Knowledge About *Child Grooming* at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Table 4. Distribution of Adolescent Knowledge Respondents About *Child Grooming* at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Adolescent Knowledge	Frequency (N)	Present (%)
Good Knowledge	222	74,7
Lack of Knowledge	75	25,3
Total	297	100

Source : Primary Data 2025

Based on Table 4, it shows that the distribution of respondents based on adolescent knowledge about *child grooming* at SMAN 2 Gorontalo, namely, respondents who obtained good knowledge about *child grooming* were 222 respondents (74.7%). Meanwhile, respondents who gained less knowledge about *child grooming* were 75 respondents (25.3%).

Attitude to Prevent Sexual Violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Table 4 Distribution of Respondents on Sexual Violence Prevention Attitudes at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Preventive Attitude	Frequency (N)	Present (%)
Optimal	239	80,5
Not Optimal	58	19,5

Total	297	100
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Source : Primary Data 2025

Based on Table 5, it shows that the distribution of respondents based on the attitude of preventing sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo, namely, the respondents who obtained the optimal preventive attitude were 239 respondents (80.5%). Meanwhile, respondents who obtained a non-optimal preventive attitude were 58 (19.5%).

Bivariate Analysis

The Relationship of Adolescents' Knowledge of *Child Grooming* with Sexual Violence Prevention Attitudes at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Table 5 Teens' Knowledge About Relationships *Child Grooming* With an attitude of preventing sexual violence at Sman 2 Gorontalo

Knowledge Adolescent	Preventive Attitude				Total		P-Value	Coefficient Correlation
	Optimal		Not Optimal		n	%		
	n	%	N	%				
Good Knowledge	216	73	6	2	222	75	< 0.001	0,527
Lack of Knowledge	23	8	52	17	75	25		
Total	239	81	58	19	297	100		

Source : Primary Data 2025

Based on the research that has been conducted, the relationship between adolescents' knowledge about *child grooming* and the attitude of preventing sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo. Of the total 297 respondents, the results were obtained as many as 222 respondents (75%) who had good knowledge about *child grooming*, there were 216 respondents (73%) who had good knowledge about *child grooming* and optimal sexual violence prevention attitudes, as many as 6 respondents (2%) who had good knowledge about *child grooming* but do not have an optimal attitude of prevention of sexual violence, as many as 23 respondents (8%) have less knowledge about *child grooming* but optimal in attitude to prevent sexual violence, as many as 52 respondents (17%) have less knowledge about *child grooming* and do not have optimal attitude in prevention of sexual violence.

From table 6, the statistical test value of *spearman rho* was < 0.001 . This shows that there is a significant relationship between adolescents' knowledge of *child grooming* and attitudes to prevent sexual violence ($p\text{-value} < 0.05$). As for the correlation value, it was obtained at 0.527 which shows that the relationship between the two variables is unidirectional and fairly strong.

DISCUSSION

Adolescent Knowledge About *Child Grooming* at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Based on the results of the study, it shows that knowledge adolescent about *Child Grooming* at SMAN 2 Gorontalo out of a total of 297 respondents, most of the respondents had good knowledge About the issue *Child Grooming* A total of 222 respondents (74.7%). This result shows that the majority of adolescents already have a level of understanding adequate knowledge of the form, mode, as well as risk factors associated with the action *Child Grooming*.

Based on the results of the questionnaire, researchers found that most adolescents were able to recognize signs and modes *Child Grooming*. This can be seen from the high accuracy of answers on several main indicators, namely the understanding that the perpetrator can approach the victim through social media, text messages, or *webcam*, as well as the awareness that children who are loneliness or lack of attention are more at risk of being targeted manipulation. In addition, teenagers also show good understanding about the mode of the perpetrator in the form of giving gifts, praise, or attention excessive as a strategy to build closeness and reduce the victim's vigilance. This shows that the majority of adolescents have understood the different forms and ways of working *Grooming*, starting from digital approach, the use of children's psychological conditions, to The use of gifts or compliments as a form of initial manipulation.

The results of this study also show that adolescents' knowledge is inseparable from the characteristics of the respondents, where it is known that class XII (Twelve) is the largest group of respondents. This condition also affects the high level of knowledge obtained, because grade XII students generally have experience learning and broader insights, both through formal learning, information from social media, as well as social interaction in the surrounding environment.

This is in line with the theory *Jean Piaget* (1970) deep research (Delfina et al., 2021) which explains that adolescents who at the final level of high school education has reached the stage of

formal cognitive development, in which they are able to think abstractly, logically, and critically about a problem. They also have the ability to understand social concepts more because they have had more complex experiences. Overall, the results of this study show that the level of knowledge of adolescents at SMAN 2 Gorontalo is classified as good in understanding risk factors, modes of actors, and impacts by *Child Grooming*. This research is in line with the results of the research that carried out by (Gómez-Guadix et al., 2021) where there are 395 Respondents aged 12-16 in Spain showed around 80% respondents have a good knowledge of *Child Grooming*, especially in recognizing the form, mode, and signs of the perpetrator *Grooming* done by the perpetrator. Thus knowledge can be the main foundation for teenagers to act more vigilantly as well as be selective in interacting in order to be able to protect yourself from the potential for sexual violence.

Based on the results of the questionnaire, the researchers found that some Adolescents still have limited knowledge related to child grooming. This can be seen from the low accuracy of answers on several indicators, among others, understanding the true purpose of grooming, namely building trust as the first step of sexual manipulation, Not just a long-term friendship. In addition, many teenagers who misunderstand that child grooming does not include violence sexual because it does not involve direct physical contact, even though the act of This is a potential form of psychological and emotional abuse develop into sexual violence. Lack of knowledge too seen in the perception of psychological impact, where some adolescents think that the victim is still easy to socialize, even though the victim usually become introverted, traumatized, and lose confidence. Because It can be concluded that some teenagers still have a perception of Confused about *Child Grooming*, such as assuming *Child Grooming* only as a form of friendship and does not include sexual violence because does not involve direct physical contact.

Low knowledge of adolescents related to *Child Grooming* Due to the existence of a wrong perception, this is supported by the opinion of the (Handayani et al., 2020) which states that adolescents have a low level of knowledge often get wrong information that forms a false perception of the *Child Grooming* and sexual violence. This causes them to be unable to distinguish between social friendship behavior and potentially dangerous manipulative behavior.

Theoretically, according to the theory developed by Fisher about *Information-Motivation-Behavioral Skills Model* (1992) in research (Again, 2021), explains that the information is an initial and fundamental component of behavior change, in which a person cannot have the motivation or skills to act if you do not first have sufficient knowledge about the issues at hand. Thus, the lack of information that individuals receive will have direct implications for low rates knowledge that he has. In this study, limited access to information about *Child Grooming* causes some adolescents Unable to afford understand the purpose, form and risk of *Child Grooming*.

Attitude to Prevent Sexual Violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Based on the results of the study, it shows that the attitude prevention of violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo from a total of 297 respondents, Most respondents have an optimal attitude in prevention sexual violence was 239 respondents (80.5%). This result shows that adolescents generally have a precautionary attitude that good against sexual violence.

Based on the results of the questionnaire, the researchers found that some Adult Adolescents Show Good Sexual Violence Prevention Attitudes and optimal. This is reflected in the high percentage of positive answers on several indicators, such as understanding symptoms and forms sexual violence, awareness that sexual violence can occur in anyone regardless of age, gender, or social status, and the ability to recognize signs of sexual violence in the environment about. In addition, adolescents also show emotional responses that are such as anger and empathy for victims of sexual violence, that reflect positive emotional involvement in rejecting and condemning acts of violence. Researchers also found that some adolescents are aware of the importance of sexual violence prevention as a shared responsibility, both individually and socially. With Thus, it can be concluded that teenagers at SMAN 2 Gorontalo do not only understanding the forms and symptoms of sexual violence, but also have a high level of care, empathy, and awareness of efforts prevention for the sake of mutual safety.

The results of this study also show that preventive attitudes Optimal sexual violence is inseparable from the characteristics of respondents. The age group of 15 – 16 years was recorded as the majority of respondents in research. This age group is included in the adolescent stage media, in which individuals begin to build social, moral, and responsibility for the surrounding environment. This can be described in the explanation of the results of the questionnaire on My Statements Routine educate friends or family about the importance of prevention sexual violence" that shows good results, which means Some adolescents have play an active role in disseminating information and education about the prevention of sexual violence. So that it can It is concluded that in the age group of 15 – 16 years the creation of a positive attitude Teen in Responsible for educating friends and family About the importance of Sexual Violence Prevention Efforts.

The results of this study are strengthened by research from (Rachmadhani, 2023) It is known that most teenagers have a positive attitude to efforts to prevent sexual violence. Out of a total of 127 respondents,

A total of 97 students (77%) showed a positive attitude that could be interpreted that most adolescents have awareness, empathy, and resilience answer to the issue of sexual violence.

These results are in line with the theory of moral development put forward by Lawrence Kohlberg (1984) in the study (Selviyana, 2024), explaining that middle adolescence is generally at the conventional stage, which is the phase when individuals begin to judge behavior based on social norms and environmental expectations. At this stage, moral awareness and a sense of responsibility towards others emerge as part of the process of forming a moral identity. This awareness encourages adolescents to behave in accordance with applicable social values, including in rejecting and preventing sexual violence. Thus, this theory emphasizes that the more mature a person's level of moral development, the stronger the adolescent's commitment to play an active role in protecting themselves and their environment from all forms of sexual violence.

Meanwhile, out of a total of 297 respondents, as many as 58 respondents (29.5%) were declared to have a non-optimal preventive attitude. These results show that some adolescents still have a low level of concern and awareness of sexual violence prevention efforts.

Based on the results of the questionnaire, researchers found that some respondents still showed less than optimal attitudes to prevent sexual violence. This can be seen from the high level of agreement with the statement that they feel no need to intervene if a friend is a victim of sexual violence, which indicates a lack of indifference and lack of concern for the victim, likely due to a limited understanding of the importance of social support for survivors of violence. In addition, there is still approval for physical comments such as mentioning that sexy friends are not sexual violence, indicating the normalization of verbal behavior with sexual nuances, which reflects that some adolescents are not able to distinguish between jokes and forms of sexual harassment that can actually have a negative psychological impact on the victim. Thus, this shows that there is still a need to increase adolescents' awareness and understanding of sexual violence prevention and behavioral restrictions that can harm others.

This phenomenon of inappropriate perception is reinforced by the opinion (Solehati et al., 2022) which explains that adolescents often judge sexual violence as limited to physical acts, so degrading verbal behavior, gestures, or jokes are considered natural and many adolescents as many as 65% of the 120 respondents do not have the courage to reprimand or report cases of violence and have the assumption that it is not their business. Thus, this condition shows that some adolescents do not have a critical awareness of the importance of their role in preventing sexual violence.

The Relationship of Adolescents' Knowledge of *Child Grooming* with Sexual Violence Prevention Attitudes at SMAN 2 Gorontalo

Based on the results of statistical tests that have been carried out with Using the test *Spearman rho* Significant Value Obtained $P\text{-Value} (< 0,001) = < \alpha (0.05)$ which means that H1 is accepted and H0 is rejected. While to The correlation value was obtained as 0.527 which indicates that The relationship between the two variables is unidirectional and fairly strong. So that it can Interpreted that the higher the adolescent's understanding of risk factors *Child Grooming*, the higher their ability to recognize and prevent potential sexual violence.

These results are also supported by the frequency distribution of respondents, in where as many as 216 respondents (73%) have good knowledge about *Child Grooming* and demonstrate a preventive attitude of sexual violence optimal. This shows that good knowledge about *Child Grooming* Provides an understanding of the signs risks, the mechanism of the perpetrator's approach, and the psychological and social impact from the occurrence of *Child Grooming*, so that adolescents are better able to recognize risky situations and take a proactive attitude in preventing them.

These results are in line with research (Hidayah, 2023) and (Kristiningrum et al., 2025) which states that adolescents with Good knowledge tends to have awareness and vigilance so that their attitude of prevention against sexual violence is high, so that their attitude towards sexual violence more optimal. In addition, good knowledge also allows youth to give advice or warnings to peers who are at risk, as well as improving their ability to distinguish between safe and risky interactions in the environment *Online And offline*.

Researchers argue that good knowledge of *child Grooming* will greatly encourage teenagers to have an attitude optimal prevention of sexual violence. The results of the study show that in addition to most respondents who are included in the category have good knowledge and attitudes Optimal prevention of sexual violence, there is an interesting phenomenon. A total of 6 respondents (2%) had good knowledge about *child Grooming* but have not shown a preventive attitude of sexual violence optimal. Based on the results of the questionnaire, the 6 respondents Female. This indicates that good knowledge does not always translate directly into a preventive attitude that Optimal. These findings are the basis that women are more vulnerable to becoming victims of sexual violence, because some of them do not have optimal preventive attitude.

This is in line with research (Kencanadewi, 2024) shows that although women have knowledge of risk of sexual harassment, lack of practical skills or strategies in preventing or avoiding risky situations can increase their vulnerability. Psychological factors, such as fear, social pressure or inability to resist unequivocally, can also affect the effectiveness of preventive attitudes. In addition, social norms that often puts women in a more vulnerable position in interactions social context, for example in the context of the school, home or online, can increase their risk of being targeted *Grooming* or sexual violence.

The authors argue that despite the knowledge of *child Grooming* and sexual violence is already acquired by most respondents, in fact, there is still a gap between knowledge and optimal preventive attitudes, especially for women. Knowledge without being accompanied by a concrete precautionary attitude shows the existence of psychological and social dimensions that need attention. Many women are aware of the potential risks sexual violence, still find it difficult to implement the measures-preventive measures in daily life.

Based on the results of the study, although most respondents demonstrate good knowledge of *Child Grooming* and violence There are interesting findings that show a discrepancy between knowledge and optimal preventive attitudes. A total of 23 respondents (8%) had less related knowledge *Child Grooming*, but shows an optimal precautionary attitude. This gives an idea that adolescents' understanding against sexual violence is often general, such as recognizing signs of physical or verbal abuse, and identify risky situations. This shows, although not fully understanding concept *Child Grooming* In depth, respondents still have awareness and skills in preventing sexual violence common.

This is reinforced by the opinion of the (Larastati, 2025), It was found that most adolescents tend to understand violence sexual in a more general form, without associating it with specific phenomena such as *Child Grooming*. This happens because many adolescents who are more accustomed to recognizing sexual violence as an act explicit such as rape or physical abuse, which is often is seen as the most visible and obvious form of sexual violence. In this case, they have not identified *Child Grooming* as specific threats that are suspicious and can lead to violence sexual. So that their preparedness against sexual violence generally looks optimal, but against *Child Grooming* Presence a tendency that is often difficult to recognize or perceive as threat.

The authors argue that although adolescents show optimal preparedness against sexual violence in general, This phenomenon actually reflects a gap in understanding against more subtle threats such as *Child Grooming*. Attitude Optimal prevention of sexual violence should include understanding and vigilance of all forms of sexual violence, both explicit and more subtle such as *Grooming*. With Thus, adolescents will have thorough preparedness, not not only against obvious sexual violence, but also against more hidden and often elusive threats.

Based on the results of the research, in addition to the respondents who have less knowledge but show a precautionary attitude optimally, it was also found that as many as 52 respondents (17%) had Lack of knowledge about *Child Grooming* and have an attitude prevention of sexual violence that is not optimal. The results of this study indicates that knowledge of sexual violence, in particular *Child Grooming*, is very important in forming a preventive attitude that Optimal. If one's knowledge is lacking or limited, then the prevention they apply is likely not to be optimal. Deep As many as 52 respondents (17%) have less knowledge about *Child Grooming* and show a precautionary attitude that does not optimally, reinforcing the argument that a deep understanding of about various forms of sexual violence, including *Grooming* have significant influence on a person's ability to prevent or avoid sexual violence.

These results are corroborated by research (Wulandari et al, 2023) states that better knowledge of sexual violence directly related to increased preventive attitudes that more effective. They found that individuals who had A deeper understanding of the early signs of sexual violence tend to be more prepared and faster to identify situations that are risk and take action *Preventive*. Conversely, individuals who do not have enough knowledge tend to ignore the signs of early signs or not knowing what to do to protect yourself they.

CONCLUSION

Adolescent knowledge about *child grooming* at SMAN 2 Gorontalo was obtained from 297 respondents (100%) in the study, there were adolescents who had adolescent knowledge about *child grooming*, which was as many as 222 respondents (74.7%) while adolescents who did not have knowledge about *child grooming* were as many as 75 respondents (25.3%).

Attitudes to prevent sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo were obtained from 297 respondents (100%) in the study, there were adolescents who had an optimal attitude of preventing sexual violence, namely 239 respondents (80.5%) while adolescents who had an attitude of preventing sexual violence that was not optimal as many as 58 respondents (19.5%).

There is a relationship between adolescent knowledge about *child grooming* and attitudes to prevent sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo. Based on the results of the statistical test that has been carried out using the *Spearman rho* test, a significant value of $p\text{-value} (0.000) = < \alpha (0.05)$ which means that H1 is accepted and H0 is rejected.

SUGGESTION

This research is expected to be an addition to the library of adolescent knowledge about *child grooming* with a prevention attitude of sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo. This also spurs nursing education institutions to come up with new research that supports and strengthens the results of subsequent research.

This research is expected so that students can know how to increase adolescents' knowledge about *child grooming* with attitudes to prevent sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo.

This research is expected so that respondents can increase knowledge and information about adolescents' knowledge about *child grooming* with attitudes to prevent sexual violence at SMAN 2 Gorontalo.

This research is expected to add insight, understanding, knowledge, and is expected to be a reference or source for future similar studies by adding variables or other interventions that can increase adolescents' knowledge about *Child Grooming* and sexual violence prevention attitudes.

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