

Understanding the ties that bind : Early marriage in Yogyakarta

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Abstrak

In Indonesia, socioeconomic status is one of the key factors in determining marriage age and partner choice. Adults and youth alike view religious and adat values as the “fortress” or filter countering all of society’s ills, including hedonism, consumerism and exploitation. Problematically however, the values associated with the complexities of contemporary social life. The increasing liberalisation of attitudes towards sexuality in popular culture, through access to digital media and virtual technologies and among peers, positions youth in an incredibly vulnerable position, one which requires them to have the tools to critique what they experience and to protect themselves against risks. In effect, this means an increase in the number of dispensation request, greater scope for their abuse by local officials and an increase in the number of abortions