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# Highlights of Factors of Adolescent gender Disorders "Like Thorns in The Flesh"

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#### Abstract:

The problem of gender confusion has existed for a long time and it is becoming more prevalent in Malaysia. Various approaches have been taken to curb this problem from spreading. This symptom of gender confusion has been one of the factors to the phenomenon of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) which is at odds with Islam and eastern culture. Facts show that the involvement of the LGBT community is becoming more and more worrying in society, in fact, this symptom is becoming more contagious not only among adults but also affects teenagers who are still in school. However, there are still insufficient studies which systematically review the literature that touches on the root causes of the problems to the occurrence of this gender confusion. Therefore, this article conducts a systematic review of the literature on the factors of occurrence of gender confusion problems. This study selected articles using two major databases namely Scopus and Google Scholar. The results of the study found that there are three main factors in the occurrence of this gender confusion problem, including lack of religious knowledge, family factors, environmental factors and past experience factors. For future studies, it is recommended to use different systematic survey methods and use additional databases, environmental factors and past experience factors. For future studies, it is recommended to use different systematic survey methods and use additional databases. environmental factors and past experience factors. For future studies, it is recommended to use different systematic survey methods and use additional databases.

**Keywords**: Gender confusion, gender issues, confusion factors

### INTRODUCTION

In general, the difference between the sexes between men and women is a clear one. In discussing the question of gender, Islam specifically divides into men, women (Surah al-Hujurat: 13), khunsa (clear and musykil), as well as mukhannas and mukhannis. However, khunsa is not stated or mentioned in the Qur'an and authentic hadith, but it is only stated in part of the athar (relics of the companions): Imam al-Baihaqi in the Book of Sunan Al-Baihaqi narrated: Hussin Bin Kathir heard from his father who stated that: "I saw Saidina Ali in determining the sex of khunsa, where he said: Look at the way the urine comes out, then its gender is determined from that ...". In another narration, Ali RA said: "If the urine comes out through his penis , then he is a man. And if it comes out of the vagina (genitals), then it is a woman ".

Khunsacomes from an Arabic word that carries the meaning as gentle. The fourth edition of the House Dictionary interprets him as a person having two genitals. While Islamic Fiqh divides khunsa into two conditions, first, khunsa wadih and khunsa musykil. Khunsa wadih is a person who has two genitals (penis and

vagina) and for some khunsa, one of the genitals is functional. On the other hand, a khunsa musykil is a person whose gender cannot be determined because the two available genitals do not appear to be clearly functioning (al-Siba'i & al-Baar 1997). When there is a conflict and clash between a person's gender manifestations with the biological gender at birth such as imitating the behavior, dress and nature of the different sexes as well as hiding the biological signs of the original gender, hence it is known as gender confusion or gender confusion (Haridi, 2016). Uncontrolled gender confusion can lead to the spread of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) is something that is forbidden by Islam and forbidden (Surah al-A'raf 7; 80-81; Surah al-Shu'ara '26: 165-166; Surah al-An'am 6: 85-87; Surah Sad 38: 11-14; Surah al-Oamar 54: 33-40; Ahmad bin Hanbal Abu 'Abd Allah al-Shaybani, Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, hadith no. 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir). Uncontrolled gender confusion can lead to the spread of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) is something that is forbidden by Islam and forbidden (Surah al-A'raf 7; 80-81; Surah al-Shu'ara '26: 165-166; Surah al-An'am 6: 85-87; Surah Sad 38: 11-14; Surah al-Qamar 54: 33-40; Ahmad bin Hanbal Abu 'Abd Allah al-Shaybani, Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, hadith no. 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir). Uncontrolled gender confusion can lead to the spread of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) is something that is forbidden by Islam and forbidden (Surah al-A'raf 7; 80-81; Surah al-Shu'ara '26: 165-166; Surah al-An'am 6: 85-87; Surah Sad 38: 11-14; Surah al-Qamar 54: 33-40; Ahmad bin Hanbal Abu 'Abd Allah al-Shaybani, Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, hadith no. 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asgalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir'). bisexual and transgender (LGBT) is something that is forbidden by Islam and forbidden (Surah al-A'raf 7; 80-81; Surah al-Shu'ara '26: 165-166; Surah al-An'am 6:85 -87; Surah Sad 38: 11-14; Surah al-Qamar 54: 33-40; Ahmad bin Hanbal Abu 'Abd Allah al-Shaybani, Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, hadith no. 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah ); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asgalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir). bisexual and transgender (LGBT) is something that is forbidden by Islam and forbidden (Surah al-A'raf 7; 80-81; Surah al-Shu'ara '26: 165-166; Surah al-An'am 6:85 -87; Surah Sad 38: 11-14; Surah al-Qamar 54: 33-40; Ahmad bin Hanbal Abu 'Abd Allah al-Shaybani, Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, hadith no. 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah ); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir'). Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, no. hadith 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir'). Musnad al-Imam Ahmad Bin Hanbal, no. hadith 10460 (Cairo: Mu'assasah); Qurtubah, tt) 1: 497; Abu Bakr Ahmad bin al-Husayn al-Bayhaqi, Shu'ab al-Iman, tahqiq. Muhammad al-Sa'id Basyuni Zaghlul (Beirut: Dar al-Kutub al-'Alami, 1410H), 7: 324. Ahmad ibn 'Ali ibn Hajar al-'Asqalani, Fath al-Bari by Sharh Sahih al-Imam Abi' Abd Allah Muhammad ibn Isma'il al-Bukhari, study. 'Abd al-Qadir').

The study of gender confusion is not a new study that triggers a social phenomenon in the global community but it is relevant to the social and psychological needs of human beings. Almost all studies on gender confusion have identified the benefits as well as implications of the study on individuals, society and culture (Zubeir, 2016). However, studies of the majority of gender disorders focus on the factors of gender disorders that occur in adults from a clinical and psychological point of view but studies on other factors of gender disorders are still limited. Therefore, this systematic literature review aims to analyze empirical studies related to gender confusion among adolescents. Adolescence is a phase of transition from childhood to adulthood. The world of adolescence is very challenging and full of challenges where adolescents experience various physical, intellectual and emotional changes that can cause conflict in themselves and their environment. According to the World Health Organization, adolescents are between the ages of 12 - 24 years (MyHealth for Life.gov.my). This phase of adolescence will go through various conflicts of physical, emotional, spiritual and intellectual self-transformation.

Adolescents need guidance, upbringing and guidance from parents, teachers and peers (Jaafar et al. 2012). Early adolescence is a critical phase in shaping the personality and self of adolescence. They are exposed to at-risk adolescents when engaging in misconduct and the causal factors that drive a person to engage himself or herself in wrongdoing thus violating the limits of value tolerance in society (Nazim et al. 2013).

In general, gender confusion is a long -standing phenomenon. Cases of sex development disorder (DSD) occur as early as the birth of a baby, although the number is considered too small (Ahmad, 2014). However, studies and writings in relation to this phenomenon began to be seen as early as the nineteenth century. For example, Krafft-Ebing (1886) in Dresher (2014) has written a diagnostic manual entitled Psychopathia Sexualis which records cases of indivdu who want to live as someone of a different gender. This work is considered one of the earliest diagnostic manuals. In the 19th century the gender confusion that led to the presentation of transgender was classified as "psychopathology" or a mental problem (Drescher, 2014). However, at the time, scientists cannot distinguish between homosexuality (liking same -sex sex) and transexualism (wanting to live as the opposite sex). Only in 1923, Magnus Hirschfeld (in Dresher, 2014) wrote and distinguished between homosexuality and transexualism.

Gender confusion has led society to the existence of a new phenomenon in

the global society known as the transgender society. Goodman (2017) refers to this transgender culture has been a hot topic and has become a popular concern of government, news and social media. The views of society everywhere in the world are mixed, positive and also negative. The same pattern of acceptance is seen among religious people (Christians, Muslims, etc.). These transgender individuals raise doubts about their spiritual position in the congregation at a place of worship.

### RESEARCH METHOD

In this section the methods used to obtain relevant articles to identify the factors influencing gender confusion are discussed. The authors collected articles through electronic search using Google Scholar and Scopus to conduct a systematic literature.

**Sources:** The articles were collected through an electronic search engine implemented using Google Scholar and Scopus. Article searches include those published and have full text only as well as articles published are from 2015 to 2020. The summary of questions for this study is based on PICo. PICo is a tool that helps researchers develop appropriate research questions for study. PICo is based on three main concepts namely Population or Problem, Interest and Context. Based on these concepts, the authors have included three main aspects in the survey namely Adolescents (population).

# **Systematic literature process**

**Identification Process:** Based on the research questions stated above, two main keywords were identified: adolescence and gender confusion factors. In search engines, the keyword term is combined with related terms by using the word "AND". To diversify these keywords, the authors searched for synonyms of terms and variations related to using online teasarus, such as theasarus.com and referred to keywords used by past studies, through Scopus references as well as Google Scholar. Based on the process, several keywords that are synonymous with gender confusion factors have been identified, namely the cause of gender dysphoria, gender confusion factors, feminine and masculine, **Screening process:** Based on table 2, several qualifications and exemptions have been stated. First, only research in the form of journal articles is accepted other than that such as books are excluded. Second, Malay and English are both included in the criteria of the screened articles. Third, with respect to the year of issue, a seven -year term was chosen (between 2015 to 2020) and it is a sufficient period of time to see the evolution of research and related studies. Finally, in accordance with the objective of focusing on the factors of the occurrence of gender confusion, only relevant articles were selected. **Eligibility:** The qualification process is a process in which the author monitors manually retrieved articles to ensure all remaining articles (after the screening process) meet the criteria. This process is done by reading the title and abstract of the article first, then read the complete article to identify studies related to the factors of gender confusion. The complete flow diagram of the systematic literature process is referenced in figure 1.0.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the study found that there are 5 articles related to the factors that influence gender confusion among them are the factors of lack of religious knowledge, family factors, the influence of friends, environmental factors and finally the factors of past experience.

# **Lack of Religious Knowledge**

Based on a study by Ahmad et al (2015), among the factors that influence a person to engage in lesbian symptoms is the lack of religious practices which is an important aspect of life and the effect of lack of religious beliefs causes the individual to run away from the normal limits of human life. Mohammad Ramzi Zakaria et al (2020) stated that the problem of gender confusion occurs due to lack of religious exposure since childhood either at home or at school. The results of a study by Mohammad Ramzi Zakaria et al (2020) found that all textbooks in religious schools do not apply knowledge about gender specifically and even disclosure about it is only in general.

### **Family**

A study by Adrian Furnham & Radhika Sen (2013), states that individuals with Gender Identity Disorder (GID) or known as this gender identity disorder problem stem from the family itself where parents actually treat their children like the opposite sex because the child the birth does not fit the gender choice they want. In addition, the results of a study by Puteri Hayati & Nurul Hudani (2015) found that men with gender confusion have a good relationship with their parents and family, but they hide the act of resembling the gender because they feel uncomfortable when reprimanded in terms of their appearance who behave like women other than them also feel afraid that the act will be known to the family, especially parents.

## **Environment**

Adrian Furnham & Radhika Sen (2013) found that unfavorable environmental factors lead to the onset of gender disorders such as frequent bullying at school, physical and mental abuse since childhood and the lives of those living with parents who are same -sex couples also lead to more the higher the risk of developing this gender confusion problem.

# Past Experiences

The results of a study by Puteri Hayati & Nurul Hudani (2015) found that childhood life will affect a person's character when growing up as a man who resembles a woman stated that in childhood they are more inclined and interest to play with girls which in the end the feeling has resulted in addiction in turn changing the character as a man to the character of a woman.

### **CONCLUSION**

The world of adolescence is very challenging and full of challenges where adolescents experience various physical, intellectual and emotional changes that can cause conflict in themselves and their environment. This phase needs special attention to shape the personality of adolescents as they will go through various conflicts of physical, emotional, spiritual and intellectual self -transformation.

Among them is the problem of gender confusion. Gender confusion is also one of the things that often become a dilemma in a person's life (Idris, 2012). Gender confusion is not something to be laughed at. It is time for the relevant parties to act actively to approach this group for the purpose of da'wah. Da'wah is not only limited to religious talks in the mosque, but goes down to the arena to appreciate and understand and treat the diseases of society which is also a jihad. Identifying the causes and factors of this gender confusion is fundamental to the authorities and non -governmental organizations. Addressing this issue is necessary so that it does not become a 'thorn in the flesh' that is festering in Malaysian society.

The main purpose of this study was to systematically examine the factors to the problem of gender confusion among adolescents. This study provides some important contributions for practical purposes as well as as a basis for knowledge to conduct further research on the issue of gender confusion. From the survey, stakeholders such as government bodies, the public and researchers can come up with strategies to curb this problem continues to spread. However, it requires a more standardized systematic survey method. In addition, additional databases can be used in addition to Google Scholar and Scopus search engine resources.

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