

# Development of Grazing Material for Married Couples who are Pregnant Out of Wedlock and Prevention Efforts in the Congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia

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## Abstract

*The purpose of this research is to find out how to develop grazing material for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia (Gereja Kristen Protestan Indonesia) congregations that are qualified, valid, practical and effective. Until this research was conducted, there were no standardized grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia. It was observed that there are still among pastors and church ministers reluctant and embarrassed to carry out grazing to married couples because they feel taboo to convey it. With the publication of this material, the pastor and minister of the church can convey this book of grazing material to the married couple to read and teach it to their children. This material is expected to be useful for teenagers, young people and also the elderly. The method used in this research is the Research and Development (R&D) method, which is the research method used to produce the product. The expert validators of this research were Pastors of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia, in Tarutung and Sipoholon subdistrict, consisting of 10 people. From the results of the expert validators assessments on grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation, it is obtained that grazing materials developed in this research are suitable with a qualification level of eligibility criteria of 82.44%.*

## Keywords

grazing material; married couple; out of wedlock pregnancy



## I. Introduction

Christian marriage is the complete bond and communion of life of a man (husband) with a woman (wife) whom God has confirmed in a holy marriage; which includes spirit, soul and body; the present and the future until one dies, with the aim of responsibly forming a holy, harmonious, and happy Christian household and glorifying and serving the Lord (Chase et al., 2014). Holy Christian marriage means being authorized by God in the event of confirmation and blessing of marriage by the church (Oei et al., 2016). Life as a husband and wife who has not been determined by God through the church is illegitimate (Ariawan et al., 2021), ungodly in God's heart, a form of impurity and enmity with God (Ex. 20:14 and James 4:4). The word unfaithful in James 4:4 is written with the true meaning of taming and the act of adultery / act that is hostile to God (Brandt et al., 2018).

The dominant culture or indigenous culture commonly influences the culture of the minority or the immigrant culture, and subsequently, the minority culture is affected by the dominant culture due to the cultural pressures of the culture itself (Pandapotan, 2020).

According to the author's observation there are still many Christians who live as husband and wife (pregnant out of wedlock) before being confirmed by God through the church. In the Shepherding Order book of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia, it is said: who performs conjugal relations before blessing or getting pregnant out of wedlock is called "Wild Marriage." The psychological impact of extramarital sex will arise guilty feelings and feeling very sinful will arise because in the religion of sexual intercourse before marriage is considered one of the great sins that should not be committed (De Vries, 2015). According to Jaharianson Saragih, if the child is the result of adultery (pregnant out of wedlock) then it is very likely that the child after adulthood will fall into the sin of adultery like his biological parents used to (Saragih, 2019).

The results of interview with mr. P.Simanungkalit, one of the indigenous leaders of North Tapanuli said that in Batak culture, married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock are not allowed to attend customary events / uninvited during the grazing process carried out by the church. Based on the observations and according to the results of research interviews to several Pastors of the Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia (*Gereja Kristen Protestan Indonesia*) in Tarutung Subdistrict, until now there is no raw grazing material to be used in grazing for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock.

## II. Research Method

The research method used is the Research and Development (R&D) method. Research and Development is a research method used to produce a particular product, and test the effectiveness of that product (Sugiyono, 2012). Analytical techniques are used using descriptive analysis techniques and reflective analysis in reviewing the results of preliminary study questionnaires and product validation questionnaires. The data analysis technique used is with descriptive analysis techniques, namely:

$$P = \frac{f}{N} \times 100 \%$$

P = Percentage

f = Number of scores obtained

N= Maximum number of scores

The qualification level of eligibility criteria for concluding validation results is as follows:

**Table 1.** The Qualification Level

Level	Eligibility Criteria	Qualification Information
90 -100 %	Very Worthy	No Need to be Revised
75 – 89 %	Worthy	No Need to be Revised
65 – 74 %	Quite	Revised
55 – 64 %	Less Worthy	Revised
0 – 54 %	Not Worthy	Revised

Assessment of the development of book form grazing materials to married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts are determined by a minimum value of B (Good). So if the average value of the material expert (Elder Pastor and field trials obtain a grade of B, then the grazing material of this book form is declared viable.

## **III. Results and Discussion**

### **3.1 Results**

Development of grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia are carried out by establishing several material topics to be conveyed to married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock, among others:

Chapter I: The Foundation of Christian Marriage

Chapter II: The Meaning of Marriage according to the Bible

Chapter III: Christian Marriage is Holy

Chapter VI: Your Body Is a Member of Christ

Chapter V: Overcoming the Negative Effects Of Getting Pregnant Out of Wedlock

Chapter VI: Providing Parenting/Family/Parent Education (Sex Education, Promiscuity, Christian Dating, Adultery)

Chapter VII: Guiding the Child in God

Chapter VIII: Christian Family Responsibilities

From the results of expert validator assessments on grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia obtained that grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in this study are worthy of use in grazing for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregations of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia with a qualification level of eligibility criteria 82.44 %.

From the results of the construct validator assessment of grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia obtained that grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts developed in this study are very feasible to use at the qualifying level of 90.73% eligibility criteria.

From the results of the expert validation trial on the grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia obtained that grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in this study are worthy of use in the implementation of grazing for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock with the level of qualification of eligibility criteria by material experts 82.44%, while by construct validation of 90.73%. With the qualifications worth using actually does not need to be revised, but based on the advice of the material experts in the questionnaire, then there is a revision of the product by adding a discussion on the basis of family formation pioneered by God as written in Genesis 2:18-25, theological themes in marriage and making comparisons with the book of *Shepherding Order* and the book of *Counseling Prenuptials*. In addition, there are improvements to some writing errors, reference lists / references and schematic grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation.

### **3.2 Discussion**

From the results of respondents' assessments from the Catechumens on Grazing Materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock in the congregation it was obtained that the grazing material section that obtained the lowest score on item no.15 on The Material in grazing for married couples who were pregnant out of wedlock that the picture presented was attractive with an average level of achievement of 79.54% with

decent qualifications and did not need to be revised. While the highest values are in questionnaires no. 3 and 11 about the depth of material and text or writing in this book is easy to read with an average ability rate of 97.72% with qualifications very feasible and does not need to be revised.

Based on the description above, grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts developed in this study deserve to be used on grazing for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia with a 90.17% achievement rate with the criteria "No Need to Be Revised."

Getting pregnant out of wedlock is an act of immorality that often tarnished the family's good name and violates religious rules. This happens because of uncontrolled free sex. Even very worryingly, nowadays, the phenomenon often occurs among teenagers. Pregnancy out of wedlock is the phenomenon of pregnancy in a relationship of two couples who are not officially married, in this case the relationship in question is a sex relationship. Sex relations is a total engagement between two human beings, including the physical and psychic dimensions. This happens because of a high curiosity and curiosity about the so-called "sex", but not yet at the right portion or time for teenagers to do the things that should be done by people who are already bound by a legal marriage relationship (Van Der Watt, 2016).

Getting pregnant out of wedlock is the result of sin. Therefore, you should always master yourself by always drawing closer to God (I Ptr. 4:7a). From the religious side, getting pregnant out of wedlock is seen as a forbidden act and can cause sin. This happens through relationships outside of legitimate relationships. Extramarital sex is a marriage, whatever the reason. This means that even if the two individuals love each other and are planning to get married officially. As a Christian he does not walk in the leadership of the Holy Spirit so that the power of sin in the flesh overwhelms him (Galatians 5:16).

Women who get pregnant out of wedlock often occur and is a classic problem that is familiar. Why did this happen, who exactly was wrong? If we notice, children are always victims, they can only ask for the wisdom of parents in dealing with this problem and cannot defend themselves. It may also be natural that parents are so upset with their child's behavior that they are so angry. Although their child is responsible for his actions and asks to be married immediately, parents will still be angry because they consider that it is a grave sin and a disgrace to the family. Moreover, Indonesian people are very sensitive to issues like this (Ariawan et al., 2021). As an Eastern country that is not accustomed to the culture of promiscuity or culture of promiscuity, it is a shame. Maybe parents will feel more embarrassed if their child is pregnant out of wedlock than stealing, lying or doing other mischiefs.

The cause of women who get pregnant out of wedlock is because, first, there is the improvement of effective communication with parents. Having a happy family is every person's dream. But in today's modern times, family ties don't seem to be an easy thing to woven well. Communication is one of the things behind the close or not close relationships of a family. Children raised in happy families will generally form into responsible and more confident social creatures. Communication has always been the most important part of childcare. Unfortunately, many parents often communicate one-way to children by ordering. What is good for us is not good for our children. This is where the role of communication to help unite opinions between parents and children. Often a child who disagrees or does not have good communication with his parents, tends to be closed and even rebellious to his parents. Effective communication is always found in families that have strong parent-child relationships (Greever, 2015).

In fact, it greatly affects the quality of family closeness. Many studies have found that the quality of parent-child communication influences their development. Therefore, parents need to cultivate the right attitude and learn effective communication skills to strengthen the relationship between parent and child. Likewise, the results of research interviews to the Pastors in Silindung Region said that the lack of togetherness (portion of communicating) parents with children is one of the causes of pregnant children out of wedlock.

Parents never sit together, whether it's both eating, equally watching, both walking. Parents should have plenty of time to be together, and there is a time when parents give god's advice or word as written in Deuteronomy 6:7 "You should teach it over and over again to your children and talk about it when you sit in your house, when you are on your way, when you lie down and when you wake up." The goal parents should teach children God's Word is so that their faith grows and is spiritually healthy so that in adulthood they do not live in the way of God (Louw, 2015).

The second is an environmental factor. Environmental factors are very influential on adolescent sex crimes. The modern environment has led them to out-of-control sex experiments.

The three, factors of information media. The number of media that exploits either movies, magazines or the internet, so that teenagers are easier to access everything they want to know so that teenagers are more permissive of sex. So easy for parents to facilitate their children with mobile phone, still sitting at the elementary level already have mobile phones so said the pastors. Many children have been damaged by mobile phone/gadget. Forgetting to work, forgetting to study, staying up late often, forgetting to sleep, lack of sleep, frequent headaches, eye pain. Through children's gadgets it is easier to access pornographic images that spur them faster to get to know the opposite sex, faster dating (Kristyana et al., 2021).

The fourth, lack of information about sex. In general, civilized people at least have a common sense of education, that education has a very important role in human life. Education can affect human development in all aspects of life and livelihood. Education has a dynamic influence on people's lives in the future. Education can develop the various potentials it has optimally, namely the development of individual potential as high as possible in the physical, intellectual, emotional, social and spiritual aspects in accordance with the stage of development and characteristics of the physical environment and socio-cultural environment in which he lives.

The fifth is promiscuity. Promiscuity can be interpreted as unlimited teenage association. They can do anything without the rules. Promiscuity can not be separated from the role of the modern world with its information technology that changes the view of adolescents about sex. The consequences of sex abuse will be fatal for his future. It is said that technological progress and the rapid flow of information allow the impact of globalization on individuals to be realized. The culture of adolescent life in this day and age has also been overwhelmed by an atmosphere of openness of information about sexuality. Until there is a complete humanitarian crisis as a result of errors in the wrong environmental processing system.

Sixth: feelings of curiosity and libido drive. Feelings of curiosity and libido drive are factors that cause a teenager to fall into extramarital sex (adultery). Feelings of curiosity and libido drive are internal factors in teenagers. Freely get porn sites on the internet that are very accessible. In fact, if the libido of the teenager who watches porn is provoked certainly requires channeling, and if he is unable to hold it he will look for the opposite sex and invite him to practice it, then the act of adultery is inevitable.

Marriage is a stage of life in which men and women can live together and enjoy sexually legally. Marriage is something that has been established by God from the beginning of creation. God establishes a marital relationship certainly has a special meaning and purpose that is certainly in accordance with God's will. Christian marriage is something holy in God's eyes which is why God considers sin for those who reflect the bond of marriage by committing adultery, as the author of Hebrews also reiterated that marriage is something holy and should not be defiled (Ariawan, 2020). In the Old Testament marriage was called a covenant. In Hebrew it is called *berith* which means covenant. The agreement in question is the basic marriage agreement.

Holy marriage is the inner birth bond between a man and a woman as a husband and wife with the aim of forming a happy and eternal family based on the Supreme Godhead. Marriage is a stage of life in which men and women can live together and enjoy sexually legally. The news of Eve's creation (Gen. 2:18-24) shows the unique relationship between husband and wife and also presents the relationship between God and His people (Jer 3; Ezk 16; Hos 1-3). God forbid sexual intercourse outside of marriage (Ex. 20:14). Therefore young men, keep your holiness until you enter into a holy marriage. Loss of holiness in premarital times will have an impact on marriage, whereas holiness before marriage will strengthen the framework of marriage. Holy marriage is so valued by God that it is used as a symbol of the relationship between God and His church.

#### IV. Conclusion

Based on the study in this study that concludes that there are several steps in the development of grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock in the the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia, among others:

1. Planning Stage: in this step researchers compiled grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock adapted to the Shepherding Order, Worship Order / Agenda and inputs from material experts / Pastors.
2. Development Stage: in this step the researcher sets several chapters (8 chapters) that can be applied in the implementation of grazing to married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock in accordance with the inputs of material experts (Pastors).
3. Validation: in this stage it is obtained that the development of grazing materials for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock developed in this study is feasible to use in the implementation of grazing for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia with a qualification level of eligibility criteria by material experts (Pastors) of 82.44% and by constructors by 90.73%.
4. Product revision: with the qualifications worth using actually grazing material for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock does not need to be revised, but based on input and advice from material experts (Pastors) in the questionnaire then there is a revision called draft 2 (prototype 2). The result of product revision is to add a theme that can help couples understand and admit their mistakes and help them get out of their guilt, be able to accept their condition, and be able to rise up and build a healthy and great marriage.

Thus the grazing material for couples who are pregnant out of wedlock and prevention efforts in the congregation of Christian Protestant Church in Indonesia are valid, practical and effective.



Based on the conclusions of this study, researchers give the following suggestions:

1. Researchers realized that this study was not perfect because of time constraints, funds, so the researcher suggested to the next researcher, to examine the results and impact of the application of grazing materials for married couples who become pregnant out of wedlock after use.
2. This grazing material for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock needs to be developed through the experience in the field of church servants in this case pastors, church teachers and elders.
3. The author proposes for the next researcher to develop material on acceptance and recognition for married couples who are pregnant out of wedlock.

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