

The Difference Of Intimacy, Passion and Commitment In Married Women Judging from The Length Of Marriage

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Abstract. One of the main reasons people getting married is because of the love and commitment that is shared with the partner. Sternberg (in Taylor, dkk, 2009), explained that love has three main components, namely intimacy, passion and commitment. This study aims to determine whether there are differences in intimacy, passion and commitment in married women judging from length of marriage. The theory used to explain intimacy, passion and commitment in this study is the Triangular Theory love proposed by Sternberg (1986). This study was conducted at 402 married women. The sampling technique used was purposive sampling. Data collection devices are questionnaire, in the form of the triangular theory of love scale (STLS) adapted by the authors, with the reliability of the scale is 0.956. The results of the data analysis with the Kruskal Wallis technique, obtained value of Asymp. Significance is 0.026 ($p < 0.05$). The results of the data analysis show that there is a significant differences of intimacy, passion and commitment in married women judging from the length of marriage.

Keywords: *Intimacy, passion, commitment, the length of the marriage.*

Abstrak. Salah satu alasan utama untuk melakukan pernikahan adalah karena adanya cinta dan komitmen yang dibagi bersama pasangan. Sternberg (dalam Taylor, dkk, 2009), menjelaskan bahwa cinta memiliki tiga komponen utama, yakni keintiman, hasrat, dan komitmen. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui apakah terdapat perbedaan keintiman, hasrat dan komitmen pada wanita yang telah menikah ditinjau dari lamanya usia pernikahan. Teori yang digunakan untuk menjelaskan tentang keintiman, hasrat dan komitmen dalam penelitian ini adalah Teori Segitiga Cinta yang diungkapkan oleh Sternberg (1986). Penelitian ini dilakukan pada 402 wanita yang telah menikah. Teknik sampling yang digunakan adalah purposive sampling. Alat pengumpulan data yang digunakan adalah kuesioner skala the triangular theory of love (STLS) yang diadaptasi oleh penulis, dengan reliabilitas skala yaitu 0.956. Dari hasil analisis data dengan teknik Kruskal Wallis, diperoleh nilai Asymp. Sig. Sebesar 0.026 ($p < 0.05$). Hasil analisis data tersebut menunjukkan bahwa terdapat perbedaan keintiman, hasrat dan komitmen pada wanita yang telah menikah ditinjau dari lamanya usia pernikahan.

Kata kunci: *Keintiman, hasrat, komitmen, lamanya usia pernikahan.*

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Introduction

One of the new roles of young adults is the role of husband and wife that occurs in a marriage. The Law of the Republic of Indonesia Number 1 of 1974 article 1 about marriage states that marriage is a physical and spiritual bond between a man and a woman as husband and wife with the aim of forming a happy and eternal family (household) based on The One of the Almighty God. Duvall and Miller (in Sarwono & Meinarno, 2009) explain that marriage is a socially recognized male and female relationship which aims to legalize sexual intercourse, legitimize child-comcorearing, and build a role division among partners.

Turner and Helms (in Sarwono & Meinarno, 2009) state that the main reason to get married is sharing love and commitment with the partner. Goodwin (in Iqbal, 2018) states that in a collectivist culture love is seen as something that follows marriage, not an initial requirement for marriage. Love in marriage will experience ups and downs along with the process and the dynamics in the marriage.

Sternberg (in Taylor, et al, 2009) explains that love has three main components, namely intimacy, passion, and commitment. The intimacy component includes a feeling of being close, related, and connected to a relationship, a feeling of amazed, and a feeling of wanting to pay attention to the lover. Self-disclosure and intimate communication are important. The passion component contains an urge that causes a strong emotion in a love relationship. In a romantic relationship, physical and sexual attraction is very important. However, there may also be other motives, such as the need to give and take, the need to maintain self-respect, and the need to dominate. The commitment component is a cognitive component of love. In a short term, this component is the decision to love another, and in a long term, this is a commitment to maintaining that love. He also explains that a love relationship

will be said to be ideal (perfect love) if the relationship has the three components of love.

Research on love has been conducted by several researchers, one of which is research conducted by Nanda (2017). The research objective was to see the differences between the three components of love in terms of gender in early adulthood. The results showed that the female component of intimacy has a higher total score than that of men, on the component of passion women have a lower total score than men, and in the commitment component, women have a higher total score than men.

Research conducted by Lemieux & Hale (in Indriastuti & Nawangsari, 2014) get the result, namely the three components of love (intimacy, passion, and commitment) has a significant relationship with the length of the relationship.

Then Acevedo research (in Indriastuti & Nawangsari, 2014) judging from the taxonomic review, theory, and research shows that love will remain in the long term of the marriage. Related to the results of these studies Sternberg (1986) states that in a short relationship, the individual has a component of sufficient intimacy, a high passion component, and a low commitment component. In a long love relationship, the individual has a high intimacy component, a sufficient passion component, and a sufficient commitment component. However, this is not in line with research conducted by Indriastuti & Nawangsari (2014) which shows that the short marriage age is, individuals have a component of high intimacy, a component of high passion, and a component of high commitment. In a long love relationship, the individual has a low intimacy component, a low passion component, and a high commitment component.

Based on the length of the marriage, married couples will go through various stages, such as the beginning of the marriage, the period of becoming parents, and the period when the child starts leaving home. Snowden, Dkk (in Oktavia, 2018) Explain that early marriage satisfaction will tend to remain consistent. This satisfaction will tend to be consistent until the pregnancy of the first child. After

that, the couple will enter the period of becoming parents. This period will arise many problems in domestic life. At the age of five years of marriage, the problems that often occur are economic problems and the adjustment of the habits of a married couple with their extended family. Saidiyah & Julianto (in Oktavia, 2018) explained besides that, the age of marriage is six to ten years the problems that often occur are differences in childcare, changes in positive attitudes that disappear after a long marriage and changes in communication patterns between partners.

When the couple cannot adapt to the dynamics of their marriage and unable to resolve domestic conflicts, then they will be in the choice of whether to stay married or divorce. In the perspective of social exchange theory put forward by Levinger (in Iqbal, 2018), argues that divorce is a function of encouragement to stay married, especially the attractiveness of marriage and separation barriers, and the attractiveness of the various alternatives that exist for maintaining a marriage. Marriage attractiveness is conceptualized as the ratio between the "reward" and "price" required. A reward is a positive aspect, for example, love, happiness, attention, trust, sex, friendship, and social and economic resources. Price is a negative aspect, like violence in relationships.

Regarding the separation barrier, this is explained by Amato & Previti (in Iqbal, 2018) that is, among other things, personal and social commitments, for example, children, beliefs (religious side), pressure from family, and community stigma. Married couples state that love, friendship, communication, attention, compatibility, trust, and children are indicators of attraction as well as obstacles for couples to stay together (Iqbal, 2018).

Based on the above explanation, the researcher was interested in investigating whether there was a difference in the intimacy, passion and commitment in married women judging from the length of the marriage.

Method

The dependent variable in this study is intimacy, passion, commitment). Intimacy is an emotional component that includes feelings that indicate closeness, attachment, and emotional connection to the partner. Passion is a motivational component that refers to romantic desires, physical and sexual attraction in a love relationship. Commitment is a cognitive component of love which in the short term refers to a person's decision to love another and in the long term refers to a person's commitment to maintaining love (Sternberg, 1997). The independent variable in this study is the length of marriage age, which is the length of time of marriage since a man and a woman are legally bound (legally and religiously married).

Subjects in this study are women who have been married legally and religiously and reside in East Nusa Tenggara Province, still have husbands (living spouses), and have the length of marriage between 1 to 15 years.

This research is quantitative research. The research instrument used was Sternberg's Triangular Theory of Love Scale (STLS) which was tested on 30 participants, consisting of 37 final items with reliability of 0.956. The number of participants used in this study was 402 people. The data collected from these participants analyzed because the data are not normally distributed with a significance value of $p = 0.000$ ($p < 0.05$), and the data are not homogeneous with a significance value based on the mean $p = 0.004$ ($p < 0.05$). So the data analysis technique used is Kruskal Wallis (non parametric) and is only used to determine the difference in the mean.

Result

Below is a table giving the profile of the participants of domicile, age, and length of the marriage.

Table 1.
Description of participant characteristics

Characteristics	Category	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Domicile	Alor District	2	0.5%
	Kupang District	32	8.0%
	Malaka District	11	2.7%
	Rote Ndao District	59	14.7%
	Sabu Raijua District	11	2.7%
	Sikka District	2	0.5%
	South Central Timor District	32	8.0%
	North Central Timor District	4	1.0%
	Kupang City	249	61.9%
	Age	20-25 years	67
26-30 years		141	35.1%
31-35 years		123	30.6%
36-40 years		53	13.2%
41-45 years		18	4.5%
Length of marriage	1-5 years	227	56.5%
	6-10 years	111	27.6%
	11-15 years	64	15.9%

Based on the table above, most participants resided in Kupang City. Moreover, most participants were at the age of 26-30 years old. Then, most participants had been married for 1-5 years.

The data analysis used in this research was Kruskal Wallis' comparative analysis and the following are the results.

Intimacy, Passion, and Commitment

Table 2.
Kruskal Wallis hypothesis test results of the triangular theory of love

The Three Components of Love	
Chi-Aquare	7.329
Df	2
Asymp. Sig	.026

Tabel 3
Three Components of Love Ranks

	Length of marriage	N	Mean Rank
The Three Components of Love	1-5 years	227	189.35
	6-10 years	111	208.77
	11-15 years	64	231.99
	Total	402	

The table above shows that the hypothesis in this study was proven that there was a difference in the intimacy, passion and commitment women judging from the length of marriage. This was indicated by the Asymp value. Sig of 0.026 ($p < 0.05$). The table shows that the longer the age of marriage, the higher the mean rank value of the triangular theory of love in married women judging from the length of marriage.

Intimacy

Table 4.
Kruskal Wallis hypothesis test results of the intimacy

Intimacy	
Chi-Aquare	9.257
Df	2
Asymp. Sig	.010

Table 5.
Intimacy Ranks

	Length of marriage	N	Mean Rank
Intimacy	1-5 years	227	186.29
	6-10 years	111	217.79
	11-15 years	64	227.20
	Total	402	

The table above shows that the hypothesis in this study was proven that there was a difference in intimacy in married women judging from the length of the marriage. This was indicated by the Asymp value. Sig of 0.010 ($p < 0.05$). The table shows that the longer the age of the marriage, the higher the mean rank value of intimacy in married women judging from the length of the marriage.

Passion

Tabel 6.
Kruskal Wallis hypothesis test results of the passion

Passion	
Chi-Aquare	9.664
Df	2
Asymp. Sig	.008

Table 7.
Passion Mean Ranks

	Length of marriage	N	Mean Rank
Passion	1-5 years	227	192.50
	6-10 years	111	196.15
	11-15 years	64	242.70
	Total	402	

The table above shows that the hypothesis in this study was proven that there was a difference in passion in married women judging from the length of the marriage. This was indicated by the Asymp value. Sig of 0.008 ($p < 0.05$). The table shows that the longer the age of marriage, the higher the mean rank value of passion in married women judging from the length of the marriage.

Commitment

Table 8.
The results of hypothesis test of the kruskal wallis commitment

Commitment	
Chi-Aquare	1.859
Df	2
Asymp. Sig	.395

Table 9.
Commitment Mean Ranks

	Length of marriage	N	MeanRank
Commitment	1-5 years	227	195.31
	6-10 years	111	212.95
	11-15 years	64	203.62
	Total	402	

The table above shows that there was no difference in commitment in married women judging from the length of the marriage. This is indicated by the Asymp value. Sig of 0.395 ($p > 0.05$). The table shows the mean rank commitment rating value for married women judging from the length of the marriage.

Discussion

The comparative test result obtained the Asymp value. Sig of 0.026 ($p < 0.05$) which meant that there was a difference in intimacy, passion, and commitment of married women judging from the length of the marriage. This finding had the same result as the previous research conducted by Indriastuti and Nawangsari (2014). The result of their research showed that there was a significant difference in intimacy, passion, and commitment between working wives whose marriage length was 0-10 years and working wives whose marriage length was 11 years and over.

Another result found in this study was that intimacy was proven to be higher when the length of marriage was getting longer, showing an inverse difference with the research proposed by Indriastuti and Nawangsari (2014). This result was probably due to the increase of the closeness between the husbands and the wives as they age, the feeling of mutual trust, openness and sharing, and the support provided in the relationship. The mutual openness between partners makes people feel safe and close to each other so they can share feelings related to intellectual, physical, sexual, and emotional problems (Biddle in Agusdwitanti, et al, 2015). This is in accordance with Erikson's (Agusdwitanti, et al, 2015) that intimacy comes from the Latin "*intimus*" which means deepest, and intimacy refers to the feeling of mutual trust, openness, and sharing in a relationship. Intimacy is an emotion that makes people feel close to each other such as respect, affection, and mutual support (Shaver & Clark in Agusdwitanti, et al, 2015). Couples who have high intimacy will certainly pay attention to the welfare and happiness of their life partners because they really respect and appreciate each other and have mutual understanding (Sternberg, 1998).

Like intimacy, passion in this study showed that the longer the marriage, the higher the passion. The results of this study are different from the research proposed by Indriastuti & Nawangsari (2014). The results of his research show that at a short marriage age (0-10 years), individuals have a high passion component. However, at a long marriage age (over 10 years), individuals have a low passion component, this happens because physical attractiveness and the implementation of sexual intercourse, which are the main components of arousal in long-term relationships, have decreased. The reason for the high passion of women whose marriage is 11-15 years old may be due to the participants in this study were still in their productive age or had not yet experienced the menopause phase. Bambang AR (in Mahayuni & Melaniani, 2007) said that menopausal women still have sex and feel excited until they are in their 80s and the cessation of sexual activities is due to the absence of their partner. Then the component of desire is not just sexual need, same as suggested by Sternberg (1986), passion is largely the expression of desires and needs such as for self-esteem, nurturance, affiliation, dominance, submission, and sexual fulfillment.

Then, the result of this study indicated that the commitment component is proven high, but there is no difference between the length of marriage of 1-5 years, 6-10 years, and 11-15 years. This is the same as the research proposed by Indriastuti and Nawangsari (2014). The results of his research show that at a short marriage age (0-10 years), individuals have a high commitment component and at a long marriage age (over 10 years), individuals have a high commitment component. The result of this study indicates that currently, a newly married woman has been able to grow her commitment with her loyalty to only love one man, her husband, and her determination to protect her love for her husband. This is in accordance with the understanding expressed by Sternberg (in Taylor, et al, 2009), explained that the commitment/decision component is a cognitive component in love, in the short term this component is the decision to love someone else, and in the long run is a commitment to maintaining that love.

In theory, the commitment framework is expressed by Johnson, et al (in Maharti dan Mansoer, 2015) marriage commitment is defined as a person's desire to maintain a marital relationship which is influenced by various factors, both from inside and outside the individual. There are three types of commitments, namely personal commitment, moral commitment and structural commitment. Johnson, et al (in Maharti dan Mansoer, 2015) it is said that personal commitment refers to the desire from within to persist in the marriage relationship which consists of love, marital satisfaction, dan couple identity. Moral commitment is the commitment of individuals who feel they have a moral obligation to continue the relationship which consists of an attitude of divorce, partner contract, dan consistency values. Structural commitment is a commitment that focuses on the individual's feelings to stay in the marital relationship because feels compelled to maintain the relationship, without elements of personal and moral commitment, consisting of alternatives, social pressure, termination procedures, dan irretrievable investments.

Regarding the results of this study, although intimacy, passion, and commitment were proven high, it had to be paid attention not only in the 15 years of marriage but also in the following years. As explained earlier, a woman must always grow and maintain her love for her husband so that their marriage can be successful and get happiness. The role of love is indispensable for realizing a successful marriage and minimizing divorce. In line with what was expressed by Sternberg (1986), if a person can grow and continue to nurture the three components of love (intimacy, passion, commitment) to a partner throughout their married life, the marriage relationship will continue and develop into a better one. Also, love can be said to be ideal if love has all the components of the love triangle, namely intimacy, passion, and commitment.

Conclusion

In conclusion, there was a difference in the triangular theory of love in married women judging from the length of the marriage. Then, there was a difference in intimacy among married women judging from the length of the marriage. There was also a difference in passion of married women judging from the length of the marriage. Another finding is that there was no difference in the commitment of married women judging from the length of the marriage.

Suggestion

Based on the results of this research, it is suggested that married women continue to grow and maintain intimacy, passion, and commitment in the marriage relationship in order to realize the goal of all married couples, a successful marriage. For further researchers, it is suggested that there are further studies about the factors that can influence the level of love differences intimacy, passion, and commitment in terms of the length of the marriage of married women. It is also suggested to take married men as research participants so that the love component in marriage is not only seen from the wives' side but also from the husbands' side.

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