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EFFECTIVENESS OF GOVERNMENT INTERVENTION IN INCREASING VASECTOMY ACCEPTANCE IN EAST LUWU DISTRICT

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Abstract:

Vasectomy is a permanent contraceptive method for men that has a high level of effectiveness and relatively low health risks compared to other contraceptive methods. Various efforts have been made by the government to increase male participation in vasectomy, however male participation in vasectomy remains low. This indicates that there are obstacles that have not been fully identified and overcome. The independent variables in this study include the level of knowledge about vasectomies, attitudes towards contraception, and social stigma. The dependent variable is vasectomy acceptance which is measured through the desire and decision to have a vasectomy. This research uses a quantitative approach with a survey method. Data was collected through questionnaires distributed to adult men aged 25-50 years and married. Determination of the sample using a simple random sampling technique with sample determination using the MoE formula. Data analysis was carried out descriptively and inferentially with the help of the SmartPLS statistical tool. The results of the study showed that knowledge about vasectomies had a positive and significant effect on the acceptance of vasectomy. Attitudes towards contraception have a positive but not significant effect on acceptance of vasectomy. Social stigma has been proven to have a positive and significant effect on acceptance of vasectomy. Simultaneously, knowledge, attitudes and social stigma have a positive and significant effect on acceptance of vasectomy.

Keywords:

Vasectomy Knowledge, Attitudes towards Contraception, Social Stigma, Vasectomy Acceptance

Introduction

The family planning (KB) program is one of the important initiatives undertaken by the government to control population growth and improve reproductive health. In this context, vasectomy as a permanent contraceptive method for men plays a significant role (Wijhati & Suesti, 2020). However, the level of male participation in vasectomies in Indonesia, especially in East Luwu Regency, is still relatively low. This low participation is caused by various factors such as lack of knowledge about vasectomies, social stigma, and fear of side effects. Therefore, the government has launched various interventions to increase men's participation in vasectomies.

Government intervention in the form of education, counseling and providing financial incentives has been carried out to increase men's participation in vasectomies. Education and outreach programs aim to increase men's knowledge and awareness regarding the benefits and safety of vasectomies, while financial incentives are provided as additional motivation to encourage men to make vasectomy decisions (Degu Ayele et al., 2021). Although various efforts have been made, the level of male participation in vasectomies has still not reached the expected target.

Observations show that despite the launch of various programs, the level of male participation in vasectomies remains low. Many men remain hesitant or reluctant to undergo a vasectomy, often due to a lack of adequate information, fear of side effects, or the social stigma attached to this contraceptive method. In addition, some men feel that the responsibility for contraception is more appropriately borne by women, so they are more likely to support their wives using female contraceptive methods.

The main problem in this study is the low level of male participation in vasectomies despite various interventions carried out by the government. This study aims to analyze the effectiveness of this intervention in increasing men's participation in vasectomies in East Luwu Regency. Some of the research questions asked include, to what extent is government intervention effective in increasing knowledge and positive attitudes towards vasectomies and what factors support and hinder men's participation in vasectomies.

Existing data shows that only a small number of men in East Luwu Regency choose vasectomy as a contraceptive method. This phenomenon shows that there are significant obstacles in efforts to increase men's participation in family planning programs. These obstacles can include a lack of accurate information about vasectomy, the social stigma attached to it, and fear of possible side effects. This phenomenon requires special attention because the success of family planning programs is very dependent on the participation of both parties, both men and women.

Previous research shows that government interventions such as educational campaigns, providing easily accessible health services, and support from health workers can increase knowledge and positive attitudes towards vasectomies (K. White et al., 2022). For example, research conducted by Ezeoke et al., (2022) showed that an intensive educational campaign

could increase men's knowledge about vasectomies by up to 70%. In addition, research by Torrado Arenas et al., (2020) found that providing incentives or rewards for men who had vasectomies also contributed to increasing participation.

However, cultural and social obstacles are still challenges that need to be overcome to achieve more optimal results. In East Luwu District, although similar interventions have been implemented, male participation in vasectomies remains low, indicating the existence of other factors that influence men's decisions not to choose vasectomies. This study took the variables level of knowledge about vasectomies, attitudes towards contraception, social stigma and acceptance of vasectomies as factors that need to be studied as factors that influence men's decisions to have vasectomies.

This study aims to measure the effectiveness of various government interventions in increasing men's participation in vasectomies in East Luwu Regency. In addition, this study also aims to identify factors that support and hinder men's participation in vasectomies. By understanding these factors, it is hoped that more effective strategies can be formulated to increase men's participation in family planning programs, especially through the vasectomy method.

Literature Review

Knowledge about Vasectomy

Knowledge about vasectomies refers to the extent to which individuals understand correct and comprehensive information regarding the vasectomy procedure, its benefits, risks, and impact on reproductive health and sexual life. Vasectomy is a minor surgical procedure performed as a permanent method of contraception for men. According to Prieto-Campos et al., (2023), knowledge about vasectomies includes an understanding of the mechanism of action, implementation procedures, and long-term impacts of vasectomies. Besides that, Torrado Arenas et al., (2020) emphasized that adequate knowledge about vasectomies can influence an individual's decision to choose this method as a form of contraception.

Vasectomy is a permanent method of contraception for men which is performed through minor surgery to cut and close the tubes that carry sperm from the testicles. Adequate knowledge about vasectomies is essential to help men make informed decisions regarding the use of this method as a family planning option (Rao et al., 2022). Apart from that, knowledge about vasectomies also includes information about the process of carrying out the procedure, including the steps taken by medical personnel, recovery time, and post-operative care. A correct and comprehensive understanding of these aspects can reduce unnecessary fear and worry, and increase an individual's readiness to consider vasectomy as a contraceptive option (Ndu et al., 2022).

A study by Ahmed Galal Atia et al., (2023) emphasized that knowledge about vasectomies is not only limited to medical information, but also includes an understanding of the myths and facts that exist in society. Correct knowledge can help overcome the social stigma and misinformation that often hinder acceptance of these methods. Therefore, comprehensive and evidence-based education is needed to increase men's knowledge and acceptance of vasectomies.

To measure knowledge about vasectomies, the indicators used cover various aspects of information that individuals must understand regarding vasectomies (Ahmed Galal Atia et al., 2023) including: Understanding of the Vasectomy Procedure: this indicator measures knowledge of the steps in the vasectomy procedure, information regarding post-operative recovery time, understanding of the working process of vasectomy in preventing pregnancy; Benefits of Vasectomy: this indicator measures knowledge about the effectiveness of vasectomy as a contraceptive method, information about the health benefits associated with vasectomy, understanding of the effect of vasectomy on sexual life and reproductive health; Risks and Side Effects: this indicator measures knowledge about the possible risks and side effects of vasectomy, information about how to deal with possible side effects, understanding of the myths and facts surrounding the risks of vasectomy; Support and Information Sources: this indicator measures knowledge about trusted sources of information about vasectomies, information about the role of health workers in providing education about vasectomies, understanding about the importance of social support in the decision to have a vasectomy.

Attitudes toward Contraception

According to Assessment of the Knowledge and Attitude of Eligible Couples towards Tubectomy and Vasectomy, (2021), attitudes consist of three main components: the cognitive component (beliefs and thoughts about vasectomy), the affective component (feelings and emotions towards vasectomy), and the conative component (behavioral tendencies or actions related to vasectomy). In the context of vasectomies, cognitive attitudes include knowledge and understanding of the procedure and its effects, affective attitudes reflect positive or negative feelings toward vasectomies, and conative attitudes relate to readiness or intention to undergo the procedure.

Attitude is a positive or negative evaluation of a particular object, person, or concept based on beliefs, feelings, and behavioral tendencies (Aqsa & Kartini, 2015). Attitudes towards vasectomy refer to the views, perceptions and evaluations of individuals or society regarding the vasectomy procedure as a permanent method of contraception for men.

Attitudes toward vasectomies play an important role in decisions regarding permanent contraception. Positive attitudes toward vasectomies may increase men's acceptance and participation in vasectomy programs, whereas negative attitudes may hinder such decisions (Ohn Mar et al., 2019). Factors that influence this attitude include education, accurate information, social norms, support from partners or the community, knowledge, experience, cultural norms, and information received from the social environment (Al White et al., 2020).

Nesro et al., (2020) found that men with better knowledge about vasectomies tended to have more open and positive attitudes toward this contraceptive method. This research suggests that adequate education and information can help increase vasectomy acceptance among men. Dejene Wolde et al., (2023)in his research found that cultural and social norms have a large influence on attitudes towards vasectomies. In communities where vasectomies are seen as something negative or contrary to gender norms, negative attitudes towards vasectomies predominate. In contrast, in communities that support gender equality and reproductive health, attitudes towards vasectomies tend to be more positive.

To measure attitudes towards vasectomy in this study, indicators were used, including: Perception and Benefits, this indicator measures the extent to which individuals know about

the procedure, benefits and risks of vasectomy; Belief, this indicator measures individual beliefs regarding the effectiveness of vasectomy as a contraceptive method; Emotional Feelings, this indicator measures emotional reactions such as fear, anxiety, or positive beliefs towards vasectomies; Behavioral Propensity, this indicator measures intention to consider or undergo a vasectomy and talk to medical personnel about this procedure.

Social Stigma

Social stigma is a negative view received by individuals or groups because of certain characteristics or actions that are not in accordance with applicable social norms (Bathula, 2013). In the context of vasectomies, social stigma refers to the negative views and discrimination faced by men who choose this method of contraception. Vasectomy is often considered an action that reduces a man's masculinity, causing various stigmas in society.

Research by Das & Dasgupta, (2015) This research examines public perceptions and attitudes towards vasectomies in several developing countries. The results suggest that social stigma is a major barrier to vasectomy adoption. Men who undergo vasectomies are often considered unmasculine and face social discrimination. Society has a negative view of men who undergo vasectomies, including the belief that they are less manly or irresponsible. Discriminatory actions experienced by men who undergo vasectomies, such as exclusion from the community or unfair treatment in the work environment. Pressure from family, friends, or the community not to undergo a vasectomy because it is considered not in accordance with applicable social norms

Research by Nivedita. et al., (2019) found that in countries where vasectomies are less accepted, men who choose this method often face social pressure and stigma. This negative perception is often reinforced by a lack of information and understanding about the vasectomy procedure. Experience of isolation or separation from a social group due to the decision to have a vasectomy. Lack of support from a partner, family, or health institution in the decision to undergo a vasectomy.

Social stigma against vasectomies is a significant barrier to adoption of this contraceptive method. Negative labeling, stereotypes, social segregation, and discrimination are some of the main components that make up social stigma. Previous research shows that this stigma is reinforced by gender norms and society's perceptions of masculinity. Indicators of social stigma towards vasectomies include negative perceptions, social discrimination, social pressure, social isolation, and lack of support (Pallangyo et al., 2020).

Negative Perception, this indicator measures negative societal views of men who undergo vasectomies, including perceptions that they are less manly or irresponsible; Social Discrimination, this indicator measures discriminatory actions experienced by men who undergo vasectomies, such as exclusion from the community or unfair treatment in the work environment; Social Pressure, this indicator measures the level of pressure from family, friends, or the community not to undergo a vasectomy because it is considered not in accordance with applicable social norms; Social Isolation, this indicator measures the level of isolation or separation from social groups due to the decision to undergo a vasectomy; Lack of Support, this indicator measures the level of support from a partner, family, or health institution in the decision to undergo a vasectomy.

Vasectomy Acceptance

Vasectomy acceptance rate refers to the extent to which an individual or society accepts and supports the contraceptive method vasectomy as a valid option for birth control. This acceptance is influenced by various factors such as knowledge about vasectomies, beliefs and attitudes towards the medical procedure, support from partners and the community, as well as information conveyed through the media and educational programs (Ndu et al., 2022). The high acceptance rate indicates that vasectomy is viewed positively and is considered an effective and socially acceptable contraceptive option.

Prieto-Campos et al., (2023) explained that the level of acceptance of vasectomies is influenced by knowledge about the procedure, perceptions of risks and benefits, as well as cultural and religious values held by individuals and society. Ahmed Galal Atia et al., (2023) emphasized that acceptance of vasectomies often depends on public health education programs that successfully communicate the safety and effectiveness of the procedure. Torrado Arenas et al., 2020) stated that support from partners and families, as well as positive experiences of individuals who have undergone vasectomies, contribute greatly to the level of acceptance in society.

Several studies have examined vasectomy acceptance rates, research by Longtin & Binion, (2022) showed that effective education campaigns in various developing countries succeeded in increasing vasectomy acceptance rates by up to 30%. Research by Mafazat et al., (2022) revealed that community-based interventions involving community leaders and local health workers were able to significantly increase vasectomy acceptance. Research by Ahmed Galal Atia et al., (2023) found that adequate knowledge and support from partners were the main factors influencing a man's decision to undergo a vasectomy.

Vasectomy acceptance is a complex and multidimensional concept. Various factors such as knowledge, attitudes, partner support, culture, religion, and access to information play an important role in shaping individual or group acceptance of this contraceptive method. The indicators used in this study to measure the level of acceptance of vasectomy are: Support from Partner: The level of approval and support given by the partner towards the decision to undergo a vasectomy; Information Access: Sources and quality of information received by individuals regarding vasectomies; Personal or Environmental Experience: Personal experiences or stories from people close to you who have undergone a vasectomy; Cultural and Religious Factors: The influence of culture and religion in determining acceptability of vasectomies.

Conceptual Research Framework

Relationship between Knowledge about Vasectomy and Acceptance of Vasectomy

Research conducted by Torrado Arenas et al., (2020) it was found that adequate knowledge about vasectomies significantly increased the acceptability of this method. The study involved participants from various developing countries and showed that effective educational campaigns can increase knowledge and, in turn, increase vasectomy acceptance rates. Study Ahmed Galal Atia et al., (2023) showed that a high level of knowledge about vasectomies correlates with increased acceptance of this method. Participants who had more in-depth knowledge tended to have more positive attitudes and support vasectomies. Nesro et al., (2020) revealed that adequate knowledge about vasectomies is the main factor influencing men's

decisions to undergo this procedure. Based on variable relationships from previous research, it can be formulated:

H1: It is suspected that knowledge has a positive and significant effect on acceptance of vasectomy

Relationship between Attitudes toward Contraception and Acceptance of Vasectomy

A positive attitude towards contraception can increase acceptance and use of the method, whereas a negative attitude can be a major barrier Betru et al., (2022). Study Ohn Mar et al., (2019) showed that favorable attitudes toward contraception were positively associated with acceptance of vasectomy. Men who have a positive view of contraception are more likely to accept vasectomy as a permanent method of contraception. Research by White et al., (2020) showed that positive attitudes toward contraception in general were associated with higher acceptance of vasectomies. Based on variable relationships from previous research, it can be formulated:

H2: It is suspected that attitude has a positive and significant effect on acceptance of vasectomy

The Relationship between Social Stigma and Acceptance of Vasectomy

Social stigma is one of the factors that influences the acceptance of contraceptive methods, including vasectomies. Study Longtin & Binion, (2022) found that social stigma had a significant positive effect on vasectomy acceptance. This study shows that men who feel worried about society's negative views or fear being seen as unable to fulfill traditional gender roles are more likely to refuse a vasectomy. Bathula, (2013) conducted research showing that the social stigma associated with vasectomies significantly hinders the acceptance of this method. men who fear social stigma, such as negative views from friends, family, or society, tend to avoid vasectomies. Based on variable relationships from previous research, it can be formulated:

H3: It is suspected that social stigma has a positive and significant effect on vasectomy acceptance

Simultaneous Relationship of Knowledge, Attitudes and Social Stigma to Acceptance of Vasectomy

Acceptance of vasectomy as a contraceptive method is influenced by various factors, including knowledge, attitudes, and social stigma (Wankhede et al., 2021). Previous research shows that these three variables have a significant relationship with receiving a vasectomy. Degu Ayele et al., (2021) found that low levels of knowledge, negative attitudes, and strong social stigma together inhibited acceptance of vasectomies. Men who have better knowledge about vasectomies tend to have more positive attitudes, which in turn reduces the negative influence of social stigma and increases acceptance of vasectomies. Study Ezeoke et al., (2022) shows that knowledge, attitudes, and social stigma are interrelated in influencing vasectomy acceptance. This research emphasizes the importance of comprehensive educational programs to change attitudes and reduce social stigma.

H4: It is suspected that knowledge, attitudes and social stigma simultaneously have a positive and significant effect on vasectomy acceptance

An explanation from the literature review and looking at previous research regarding the relationship between knowledge, attitudes and social stigma related to vasectomy on the level



of public acceptance regarding vasectomy, we can see the conceptual framework in this research in Figure 1 below:

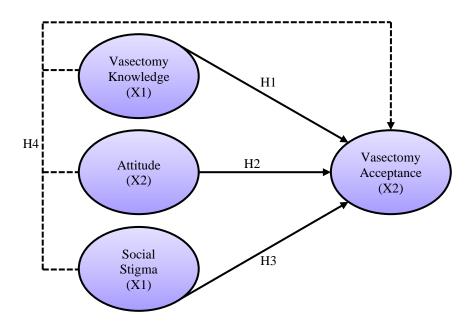


Figure 1. Conceptual Framework Research

Methodology

The type of research carried out is explanatory research using a quantitative approach, which uses data in the form of numbers as a tool to analyze information about what you want to know. The population studied in this research is people, especially men with the criteria of being 25 - 50 years old and married. The samples in this study were taken using the Purposive Sampling method taken from each sub-district in East Luwu Regency.

Determining the sample size uses the formula from Sugiyono (2012) which suggests that for sampling where the population is large and the number is unknown, you can use the MoE formula, so the sample size is 96.04. To make it easier, the sample size is sufficient to be 100 people. Data was collected by distributing questionnaires to respondents where the questionnaire had been tested for data validity using validity and reliability tests. Data analysis in this research uses the SmartPLS statistical tool.

Data collection techniques are used to obtain the required data and information using questionnaires and direct observation. A questionnaire is an information gathering technique that allows analysis to study the attitudes, beliefs, behavior and characteristics of several key people in the organization who can be affected by the existing system. The questionnaire contains a list of questions given to other people willing to provide responses (respondents) according to the user's request and is measured using a Likert scale range.

The data analysis carried out consisted of validity and reliability analysis to find out whether the questionnaire was valid and consistent in measuring what it wanted to measure. The data that has been collected will also be analyzed descriptively to provide an overview of certain

conditions by describing the characteristics of the research object. Data analysis in this research uses correlation analysis through the SmartPLS program. Hypothesis testing is carried out using correlation analysis to test the closeness of the relationship between 2 (two) or more variables.

Data Analysis

Loading Factor

This test is carried out to measure the level of suitability of each indicator to describe the variables used in the instrument. The value of 0.7 is the expected value while what is often used as a minimum limit is \geq 0.6, the following is a tabulation of factor loadings:

Table 1. Loading Factor

	Attitude_(X2)	Social Stigma_(X3)	Vasectomy Acceptance_(Y)	Vasectomy Knowledge_(X1)	Exp
X1.1				0.785	Valid
X1.2				0.748	Valid
X1.3				0.801	Valid
X1.4				0.859	Valid
X2.1	0.731				Valid
X2.2	0.783				Valid
X2.3	0.812				Valid
X2.4	0.807				Valid
X2.5	0.718				Valid
X3.1		0.773			Valid
X3.2		0.865			Valid
X3.3		0.895			Valid
X3.4		0.885			Valid
X3.5		0.738			Valid
Y1.1			0.777		Valid
Y1.2			0.838		Valid
Y1.3			0.827		Valid
Y1.4			0.823		Valid

Source: Data Primer Smart PLS 2024

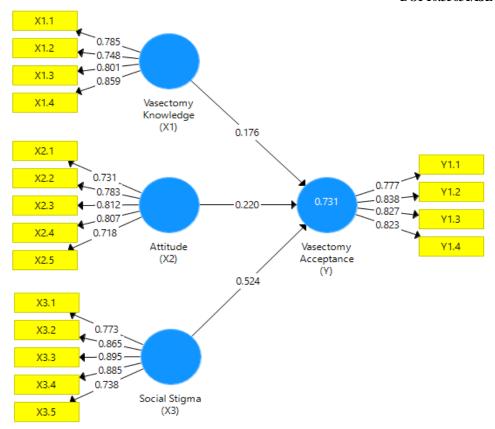


Figure 1. Loading Factor

After calculating the loading factors, it can be seen that the values for all indicators are as expected > 0.7, so it can be said that all indicators are able to describe the variables and meet the requirements for further analysis.

Convergent Validity

A variable can be said to be valid if it is able to explain the type of indicator with an Average Variance Extracted (AVE) value of 0.5 or more. Based on the analysis results shown in table 2 below, it can be seen that the AVE values for all constructs are > 0.5 so they are declared to meet the requirements for further analysis.

Table 2. Covergen Validity

Variable	Average Variance	Expl
	Extracted (AVE)	
Attitude_(X2)	0.595	Valid
Social Stigma_(X3)	0.695	Valid
Vasectomy Acceptance_(Y)	0.667	Valid
Vasectomy Knowledge_(X1)	0.639	Valid

Source: Data Primer Smart PLS 2024

Model Reliability

This stage aims to measure the consistency of each indicator in explaining the variable construct. To find out how consistent each indicator is in explaining the variable construct, you can see the analysis results in the composite reliability or Cronbach's alpha column which is set

at a value of ≥ 0.7 . Based on the analysis results displayed in table 3 below, it can be seen that the Croanbach's alpha and composite reliability values are ≥ 0.7 so that all variables are suitable for use in further analysis.

Table 3. Composite Reliability and Cronbach's Alpha

Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	Composite Reliability	Expl
Attitude_(X2)	0.830	0.880	Reliable
Social Stigma_(X3)	0.888	0.919	Reliable
Vasectomy	0.833	0.889	Reliable
Acceptance_(Y)			
Vasectomy	0.811	0.876	Reliable
Knowledge_(X1)			

Source: Data Primer Smart PLS 2024

Bootstrapping

After testing the PLS Algorithm until it meets all the specified requirements, Bootstrapping testing is then carried out to determine the path coefficients (Path Coefficients) or the significance of the independent variable (X) on the dependent variable (Y) in order to test the research hypothesis. An independent variable can be said to have a significant effect on the dependent variable if the statistical significance value of T > t table (in this study t table = 1.660) and P value < 0.05, the influence value is shown in table 4 and Figure 2 below:

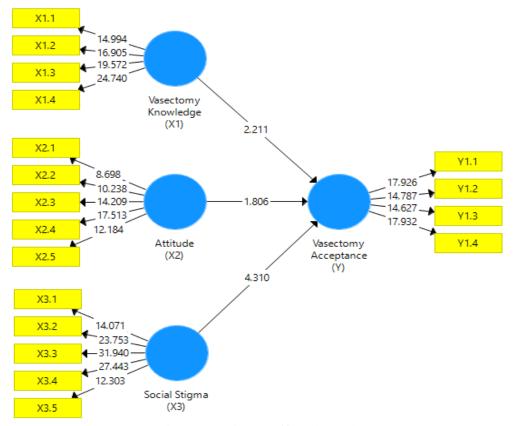


Figure 2. Direct Effect (t-test)

Table 4. Direct Effect (T-Test)

Variable	T Stat	P	Explanation
		Value	
Attitude_(X2) -> Vasectomy Acceptance_(Y)	1,806	0.072	Positively
			Significant
Social Stigma_(X3) -> Vasectomy	4,310	0,000	Positively
Acceptance_(Y)			Significant
Vasectomy Knowledge_(X1) -> Vasectomy	2,211	0.028	Positively
Acceptance_(Y)			Significant
Attitude_(X2) -> Vasectomy Acceptance_(Y)	1,806	0.072	Positive Not
			Significant

Source: Data Primer Smart PLS 2024

R Square Test

This stage is carried out to see the influence of the independent variable on the dependent variable simultaneously (together). The following are the results of the R Square test of this research:

Table 5. Simultaneous Effect (R-Square)

Variable	R Square	R Square Adjusted
Vasectomy	0.731	0.723
Acceptance_(Y)		

Source: Data Primer Smart PLS 2024

For the R Square value, categorize the measurement using the construction values (< 0.19 as weak), (0.19 to 0.33 as moderate) and (> 0.33 as strong). Based on the table above, the ability of exogenous variables simultaneously to explain endogenous variables is assumed to be at the level of having a strong influence, this can be seen from the results of the smart PLS analysis for R Square which shows a figure of 0.731 > 0.33 as a standardization of assessment.

Hypothesis Testing

Vasectomy Knowledge and Vasectomy Acceptance

First hypothesis: The results of the T statistical analysis show that the calculated t value = 2.211 > t table = 1.660 with a P value of 0.02 or smaller than the cut off value of 0.05. This means that the variable knowledge about vasectomies has a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. So the first hypothesis is declared accepted.

Attitudes Toward Contraception and Acceptance of Vasectomy

Second hypothesis: The results of the T statistical analysis show that the calculated t value = 1.806 > t table = 1.660 with a P value of 0.07 or greater than the cut off value of 0.05. This means that the attitude variable towards contraception has a positive but not significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. So the second hypothesis is rejected.

Social Stigma and Acceptance of Vasectomy

Third hypothesis: The results of the T statistical analysis show that the calculated t value = 4.310 > t table = 1.660 with a P value of 0.000 or smaller than the cut off value of 0.05. This

means that the social stigma variable has a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. So the third hypothesis is declared accepted

Simultaneous Knowledge, Attitudes and Social Stigma towards Acceptance of Vasectomy

Fourth hypothesis: The results of the analysis obtained an r-square value = 0.731 >> 0.33 as a standardization of assessment. This means that simultaneously the variables of knowledge, attitude and social stigma simultaneously have a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. So the fourth hypothesis is declared accepted

Discussion

The Effect of Vasectomy Knowledge on Vasectomy Acceptance

Data analysts point outKnowledge about vasectomies has a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. The level of knowledge about vasectomy that the public has regarding the procedure, benefits, risks and benefits can provide a good understanding to the public about vasectomy and can influence the level of acceptance of this contraceptive method. In-depth and comprehensive knowledge about vasectomies plays an important role in increasing acceptance of this contraceptive method in East Luwu Regency. By reducing fears, dispelling myths, and providing accurate information, people can make better decisions about their reproductive health.

This positive and significant influence is because the level of knowledge about vasectomies as a safe and effective contraceptive procedure can provide in-depth understanding, so that people tend to be more open and accept vasectomies as a contraceptive option. Apart from that, there are many myths that make people hesitate to undergo vasectomies because they are afraid of the negative impacts. For this reason, given the right knowledge, these fears and myths can be dispelled, so that individuals feel more comfortable accepting this procedure. Access to good information and services related to knowledge about vasectomies tends to make them more likely to know where and how to get this service, which in turn increases acceptance of vasectomies.

The results of this study are still in line with the findings of several studies which show that increasing knowledge about contraceptive methods, including vasectomies, contributes to increasing acceptance of these methods. Research by Kloping, (2020) demonstrated that education and outreach about vasectomies significantly increases the acceptance and implementation of this procedure in the community. Likewise, research by Dejene Wolde et al., (2023) revealed that adequate knowledge about vasectomies reduces the fear and misunderstanding that are often the main barriers to vasectomy acceptance. These findings emphasize the importance of education and health education in efforts to increase acceptance of vasectomies and other contraceptive methods.

The Influence of Attitudes toward Contraception on Vasectomy Acceptance

Data analysis shows that attitudes towards contraception have a positive but not significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. Attitudes towards contraception include individual perceptions, beliefs and views regarding the use of contraceptive methods, including vasectomies. This attitude is formed by various factors such as culture, education, personal experience, and information received about contraception. The results of the study show that

attitudes towards contraception have a positive but not significant influence on vasectomy acceptance in East Luwu Regency. This means that although more positive attitudes toward contraception tend to favor acceptance of vasectomy, the effect is not strong enough to significantly increase acceptance of this method.

Previous research suggests that attitudes toward contraception can influence acceptance of various contraceptive methods. For example, research by Alil et al., (2020) suggests that a positive attitude towards contraception in general can increase acceptance of modern contraceptive methods. However, research by Ohn Mar et al., (2019) found that a positive attitude alone was not enough to significantly increase acceptance of more specific contraceptive methods such as vasectomy. Other factors such as knowledge, access to services, and partner support also play an important role.

There are several reasons why attitudes toward contraception have an insignificant effect on vasectomy acceptance. First, there is a lack of specific knowledge about vasectomy so that someone may have a positive attitude towards contraception in general, but they may not have enough specific knowledge about vasectomy. Lack of detailed information about the procedure, benefits, and risks of vasectomy may hinder acceptance of this method despite positive general public attitudes toward vasectomies.

Second, There is still a strong social and cultural influence on society. In many communities, attitudes toward vasectomies are influenced by social and cultural norms. If vasectomies are considered taboo or socially unacceptable, positive attitudes toward contraception will not be strong enough to change views toward vasectomies. Research by Chinnaiyan & Babu, (2021) suggests that strong cultural norms may inhibit acceptance of vasectomies despite positive attitudes toward contraception.

Third, The lack of availability and access to vasectomy services can also be an obstacle. Even if a person has a positive attitude towards contraception, if they do not have easy access to vasectomy services, acceptance of this method will remain low. Research by Dance, (2020) found that availability and access to health services greatly influenced the acceptance of certain contraceptive methods.

Although positive attitudes towards contraception contributed to vasectomy acceptance, the effect was not significant in East Luwu Regency. This is caused by various factors such as lack of specific knowledge about vasectomies, the influence of social and cultural norms, partner and family support, and availability and access to services. To increase acceptance of vasectomies, a comprehensive approach is needed that includes increasing knowledge, changing social norms, increasing support from partners and family, and increasing access to health services.

The Influence of Social Stigma on Acceptance of Vasectomy

Data analysis showsSocial stigma has a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. Social stigma refers to the negative view that society attaches to certain individuals or groups based on characteristics or actions that are considered to deviate from applicable norms. In the context of vasectomies, social stigma can arise due to negative views towards this procedure, which may be seen as a form of loss of masculinity or a reduction in men's reproductive abilities.

The research results show that social stigma has a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance in East Luwu Regency. These findings indicate that the higher the social stigma towards vasectomies, the higher the acceptance of this procedure. This may sound contradictory at first glance, but some previous research and further analysis can explain this phenomenon.

Previous research has shown that social stigma can influence individual decisions regarding reproductive health. Research by Bathula, (2013) shows that social stigma often influences health behavior, either in the form of avoidance or acceptance of certain actions. In the context of vasectomies, several studies suggest that social stigma may play a role in increasing the acceptance of vasectomies as a form of resistance or response to social pressure.

Several reasons why social stigma has a significant influence on vasectomy acceptance include, Individuals may receive a vasectomy as a form of reaction or resistance to social stigma. In certain cases, men may choose to undergo a vasectomy as a way to prove that they are not influenced by society's negative views and are able to make their own decisions regarding their reproductive health. In some communities, the presence of social stigma can encourage solidarity and support among individuals who choose vasectomies. Study Pallangyo et al., (2020) suggests that in situations where social stigma is high, community support can be an important factor encouraging acceptance of certain procedures, including vasectomies.

Research byNdu et al., (2022) shows that appropriate education can reduce social stigma and increase acceptance of contraceptive methods such as vasectomies. The existence of social stigma encourages more intensive dissemination of information and more intensive education, which ultimately increases the acceptance of vasectomies. The social stigma that associates vasectomies with reduced masculinity may serve as a trigger for men to challenge and redefine the concept of masculinity. Research by K1sa et al., (2017) suggests that in certain contexts, men who undergo vasectomies may feel more responsible and empowered, thereby increasing acceptance of the procedure.

Overall, social stigma has a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance in East Luwu Regency. Although at first it may seem contradictory, these findings can be explained by various factors such as reactions to social pressure, community support, intensive education, and changes in perceptions of masculinity. These findings highlight the importance of a comprehensive approach in addressing social stigma and promoting acceptance of contraceptive methods such as vasectomies. Efforts to reduce social stigma must include broader education, community support, and efforts to redefine the concept of masculinity in a more inclusive and positive way.

Simultaneous Influence of Knowledge, Attitudes and Social Stigma on Vasectomy Acceptance

Data analysis shows that knowledge, attitudes and social stigma simultaneously have a positive and significant influence on vasectomy acceptance. The combination of these three factors creates an environment conducive to acceptance of vasectomy as a method of contraception. Increased knowledge and positive attitudes can reduce the negative impact of social stigma, while social stigma itself can trigger community solidarity and support. These findings emphasize the importance of a holistic and integrated approach in efforts to increase acceptance

of contraceptive methods such as vasectomies, including through comprehensive education programs, community support, and changes in social norms.

Good knowledge about vasectomies can increase positive attitudes towards this method, while positive attitudes can help overcome social stigma. The combination of these three factors creates a more supportive environment for receiving a vasectomy. Comprehensive educational programs not only increase knowledge but also influence attitudes and reduce social stigma. Study Torrado et al., (2020) shows that appropriate information and effective education can change public perceptions and increase acceptance of contraceptive methods.

Social stigma can strengthen solidarity among individuals who choose vasectomies, as found by A.l. White et al., (2020). This community support is important in overcoming barriers caused by stigma and increasing acceptance. Knowledge and positive attitudes towards vasectomies can help change existing social and cultural norms. Study Msoka et al., (2019) suggests that changes in perceptions of masculinity and men's reproductive responsibilities may increase acceptance of vasectomies.

Implications

Theoretical Implications

This research makes an important contribution to the literature on reproductive health, particularly in the context of the acceptance of vasectomies as a method of male contraception. The findings of this research strengthen the theory which states that knowledge, attitudes and social stigma have a significant influence on reproductive health behavior. The results of this study can be used to develop a more comprehensive model of contraceptive acceptance. This model not only considers knowledge and attitude factors but also includes social stigma as an important variable influencing the acceptance of contraceptive methods.

Practical Implications

The findings of this study emphasize the importance of a comprehensive educational program about vasectomies. A good educational program should include detailed information about the procedure, benefits, and risks of vasectomy to increase public knowledge. This can be done through direct counseling, mass media and digital platforms.

To increase positive attitudes towards contraception, there needs to be a campaign that emphasizes the importance of family planning and reproductive health. These campaigns should be designed to change negative perceptions and myths associated with contraception, especially vasectomies. Governments and non-governmental organizations need to develop strategies to reduce the social stigma associated with vasectomies. This could involve community leaders and local leaders to educate and change negative views about vasectomies. Research shows that support from influential figures can reduce stigma and increase acceptance.

The results of this study indicate the need for policies that are more inclusive and supportive of male contraceptive methods such as vasectomies. Such policies should include providing accurate information, easily accessible services, and support from trained health personnel. Vasectomy should be better integrated into national family planning programs. This includes



providing training for family planning educators and medical personnel on how to effectively promote vasectomies.

Conclusion

Knowledge about vasectomies has a positive and significant effect on vacectomy acceptance. Comprehensive education and dissemination of accurate information are very important in changing public perceptions and increasing vasectomy acceptance. Attitudes towards contraception have a positive but not significant effect on acceptance of vaxectomy; positive attitudes alone are not enough to significantly increase acceptance of more specific contraceptive methods such as vasectomies. Other factors such as knowledge, access to services, and partner support also play an important role. Social stigma has been proven to have a positive and significant effect on acceptance of vaxectomy. Social stigma can play a role in increasing acceptance of vasectomies as a form of resistance or response to social pressures that prevail in society. Simultaneously, knowledge, attitudes and social stigma have a positive and significant effect on the acceptance of vaccetomy as a contraceptive method in the community in East Luwu Regency.

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