

Thesis Title	Islamic Scripture and Practice and Their Influences on Sexual Behaviors among High School Muslim Adolescents: Narathiwat Province
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Abstract

This descriptive study aimed to identify level of sexual behaviors and predictive ability of Islamic scripture and Islamic practice in the sexual behaviors of high school Muslim adolescents in Narathiwat province. The sample was 256 Muslim adolescents studying in two selected high schools that provide academic courses along with religious teaching. Quota sampling method was used to enroll subjects. Data were collected by using a set of questionnaires comprising questions about 1) sexual behaviors, 2) knowledge according to Islamic scripture, and 3) Islamic practice relevant to sexual behaviors. Reliability of the questionnaire yielded Cronbach's alpha values of 0.72, 0.72, and 0.82 respectively. Descriptive statistics, Pearson's product moment correlation, and stepwise multiple regression were used for data analysis.

Results showed that sexual behavior of high school Muslim adolescent students in Narathiwat province was very appropriate. Islamic practice relevant to sexual behaviors was positively correlated with their sexual behaviors at a moderate level ($r = 0.33$, $p < 0.01$). Religious practice could explain only 13% of the variance in sexual behaviors in the fitted regression model. Islamic scripture, however, was not correlated.

Findings from this study suggest that vigorous religious practice should be promoted among Muslim adolescents.