I'm Married too Young: How To Pursue Legal Marriage?

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I’m Married too Young: How To Pursue Legal Marriage?

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One of the social problems in West Nusa Tenggara Province, Indonesia is high rates of under-registered child marriage. Marriage registration is an obligation in marriage legislation in Indonesia and also an issue of human rights. Studies on marriage registration are very limited in Indonesia. Therefore, this study aims to examine the critical determinants that affect the provision of having a marriage certificate in case of child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. The study used the 2022 Indonesia National Socio-Economic Survey (SUSENAS) data. The analysis was done using descriptive statistics and binary logistic regression. The results indicate that the variables included in the analysis are statistically significant. The odds ratio indicates that women are more likely to register their marriage than men. It is more likely that people who lived in the urban areas, people who married after 16 years, people who had been educated in senior high school and above, people who were employed, and people who accessed the internet/social media were more likely to register their marriage. People who had not joined Bank Accounts, who came from rich families, and who had social insurance from the government were in line with those who did not register their marriage (odd ratio = 1). The finding in this study concluded that gender, age at marriage, place of residence, wealth index, education, working status, joint bank account, media exposure, and receiving social insurance from the government are the leading determinants of registered child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia. Furthermore, there is a need to educate the importance of registering a marriage to society more intensively and the policy makers should campaign awareness of existing marriage certificates.

Keywords: child marriage, registered marriage, adolescent, child rights, Indonesia

Prevention of child marriage is one of the targets on the agenda of Sustainable Development Goals/SDGs, Goal 5 "achieving gender equality and empowering all women and girls" target 5.3 aims to eliminate all harmful practices including child marriage by 2030 (Mugni, 2019). Indonesia has the 8th highest rate of early childhood marriages internationally and is ranked 2nd in ASEAN. This phenomenon has put Indonesia in the spotlight of The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) (Kirana & Nisak, 2022).

Child marriage is a marriage where at least one of the parties is under 18 years of age. Forced marriage is a marriage in which one and/or both parties have not personally expressed their full and free consent to the union. Even though child marriage prevalence in Indonesia remains high, the government of Indonesia is committed to achieving this target (Salsavira, et al., 2021). Child marriage has, in recent years, become a focus of Indonesian public policy. In September 2019, Indonesia's parliament voted unanimously to raise the legal age of marriage for women from 16 to 19 years, in line with the legal age of marriage for men (Lembaran Negara Republik Indonesia, 2019). The National Socio-Economic survey in 2022, shows that in the last twelve years, the child marriage rate in Indonesia fell slightly just by 3.40% but in 19 provinces the prevalence of child marriage remains above the national average of 4.29% in 2022 including West Nusa Tenggara Province. In the last twelve years, the child marriage rate in West Nusa Tenggara Province Indonesia fell slightly just by 1.06%. The prevalence of child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara is the highest in Indonesia at about 9.47% and 18.14% as unregistered marriage.

Ideally, the minimum age to get married should be 21 years old and registered to be a legal marriage.
As part of legal events, marriage results in legal consequences and protection for a husband and a wife as well as their born children. Indonesia is currently concerned with enforcing the Law of the Republic Indonesia Number 16 of 2019 which raises the legal minimum age of marriage for girls by three years to 19 (Aditya & Waddington, 2021). However if a marriage is forced to take place before the age of 19 years, it must submit a dispensation in accordance with Supreme Court Regulation No. 5 of 2019 (Aditya & Waddington, 2021)(Hendri, 2020). A study on marriage dispensation showed that the most frequent reason for submitting marriage dispensation was the parent’s concern that their child was in a relationship and the study also found that one of the main reasons for judges granting the marriage dispensation was to prevent “mudarat” (loss or danger) because of unwanted pregnancy (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2020b). The purpose of dispensation is not only to legally approve child marriage but also to avoid unregistered marriage (Kasijm, 2016).

Indonesian law previously allowed girls as young as 16 years old and men at 19 years old to get married. But, the practice of child marriage is a pervasive and serious problem in Indonesia (Aditya & Waddington, 2021). Marriage registration is one of the national legal principles under Law Number 1 of 1974 on marriage. In Indonesia’s marriage legislation (Hendri, 2020).

The existence of marriage registration is related to and defines the validity of marriage besides following the provision of their religions and beliefs (Hendri, 2020). Otherwise, registration and making a marriage certificate is an obligation in marriage legislation in Indonesia. Even if the marriage is done based on their religious provision, if not registered, the marriage does not have a legal position. This unregistered marriage causes the husband, wife, and their children not to have legal protection (Aditya & Waddington, 2021; Wicaksono, 2021; Prasetyawati, 2023; Setiawan & Haryadi, 2022). Socialization is needed so that people realize how important it is to register their marriage even though they have to go through a trial at the Religious Court (Prasetyawati, 2023).

According to the National Socio-Economic Survey in 2022, unregistered child marriage in Indonesia is 18.49% meaning 18 out of 100 child marriage cases have not registered their marriage. Thirteen out of 34 provinces had a higher percentage of unregistered child marriages than the national average. One of them is West Nusa Tenggara Province that the highest percentage of child marriage in Indonesia in 2022.

Child marriage and unregistered marriage cases are complex practices in Indonesia (Grijns and Horii, 2018). It is rooted in cultural beliefs and customs (Judiasih, et al., 2018) (Judiasih, et al., 2020), which are linked to various other structural factors and social determinants (Rumble, et al., 2018). Previous studies have identified various factors that influence child marriage, the individual factors include the place of residence (Hadiati, et al., 2022; Joy, 2020; Boutayeb, 2022; Marshan, Rakhmadi, Rizky, 2013; Tekile et al., 2020; Negash, M., 2020); neighborhood effect (Joy, 2020), number of siblings (Joy, 2020), low education/drop out off school, education level (Paper, 2021; Ihsan, 2020), women’s education (Bellés-Obreero & Lombardi, 2023; Rahiem, 2021; Malik et al., 2022; Paper, 2021), partner’s/husband education (Negash, M., 2020), mother’s education, age of people (Cameron et al., 2022), women working status (Negash, M., 2020; Malik et al., 2022), wages/family monthly income (Hadiati et al., 2022; Tekile, et al., 2020), wealth index/poverty/low financial (Rosenbaum-Feldbrügge & DeBiasi, 2019; Emirie et al., 2021), number of siblings (Joy, 2020), ethnic (Joy, 2020; Ihsan, 2020), religion of women (Negash, M., 2020), access of communication by handphone/media exposure (Handayani et al., 2021; Malik et al., 2022), access of internet and media participation (Hadiati et al., 2022) (Negash, M., 2020), literacy level (Tekile et al., 2020), lower earning and less say in household decision making for both men and women (Cameron et al., 2022), financial shock in family (Paper, 2021), knowledge of legal marital (Tekile et al., 2020), local socio cultural values/ socio cultural perspective (Handayani, et al., 2021), strengthen families ties or kinship, gender norms (Emirie, et al., 2021), ethnicity (Negash, M., 2020), tradition and religion (Setiadi, 2021; Badan Pusat Statistik, 2020b; Kasijm, 2016; Ihsan, 2020), the role of traditional and religious leader (Handayani, et al., 2021).

The perspective on child marriage is also influenced by the existing local socio-cultural values that place marriage as a solution to socio-economic problems and a simple procedure of marrying young through marriage dispensation (Setiadi, 2021). On contextual factors, the ratio of school facilities also (Marshan, Rakhmadi, Rizky, 2013), was found to be affecting the maturation of marriage age. Furthermore, over the next 10 years, up to 10 million more girls all over the world will be
at risk of child marriage because of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic (UNICEF, 2021). The increase in child marriage during the pandemic COVID-19 in Indonesia is because of the change in learning patterns, economic conditions, belief in religion, and the influence of friends who marry early (Hasudungan, 2022). Previous studies conducted in West Nusa Tenggara Province (NTB) have identified various factors that influenced the rate of child marriages to increase since the outbreak of COVID-19 in NTB was believed that marriage is an escape from schoolwork, house chores, the stress and boredom of studying and staying at home during the pandemic, the customary law/ local custom, lack of understanding of the impact and long term implication of underage marriage, economic problem, the influence of the surrounding environment and peers (Rahiem, 2021).

Based on data from the Directorate General of the Religious Courts Agency processed by the Ministry of Women’s Empowerment and Child Protection (KPPPA), from January to June there were around 34,000 applications for marriage dispensation and around 97% of applications were granted or permitted to marry and get a marriage certificate (Hasudungan, 2022).

A previous studies in Italy, marriage certificates can accurately measure the literacy rate, so it concluded that having a marriage certificate depends on the literacy rate (Trading, 2014), (Martinez, 2020).

Other studies in India, place of residence, wealth index, low education, lack of awareness, no requirement of marriage certificate, social norms, and age of marriage/early marriage are the major causes of unregistered marriage (Kumari et al., 2022a; Hendri, 2020). Previous studies in Indonesia concludes that education (drop out of school), economy, pregnancy before marriage, lack of information/socialization about registered marriage (Prasetyawati, 2023; Cornelis van Huis & Dyah Wirastri, 2012; Muchsin et al., 2019; Tarigan et al., 2021), underage workers (Susilo et al., 2022), the extended used of "ibadah nikah" (Farabi, 2020), perception of cultural and religious legitimacy (Susilo et al., 2022) are the major cause of unregistered marriage in Indonesia.

Previous studies have identified various marriage factors that influence high rates of early marriage or child marriage in individual and contextual factors, previous studies always focus on early marriage from the perspective of women, not from the perspective of men. There has been no research looking at child marriage from the perspective of legal marriage/ the ownership of marriage certificate in Indonesia based on Socio-Economic Survey Data. Therefore the present study tried to examine the determinant of registration marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province Indonesia.

If the frequency of child marriage is related to the number of disadvantaged people/ poor people in a province, West Nusa Tenggara Province is one of the provinces that need more attention, because this province has a high cases of child marriage and a high percentage of poverty (Hadiati et al., 2022). In Lombok Island West Nusa Tenggara Province especially Sasak ethnic, there is a tradition that still perpetuates child marriage such as "meraqi", in which a woman is "kidnapped" to the man’s house to be married. In doing so, the parents have to conduct marriage (Kasnim, 2016; Ihsan, 2020; Handayani et al., 2021; Badan Pusat Statistik, 2020a).

As one of the highest prevalences of child marriage in Indonesia, West Nusa Tenggara Province has a high number of unregistered married cases is worth investigating and requires deeper understanding. West Nusa Tenggara Province was chosen as the main focus of our study because the percentage of child marriage cases in West Nusa Tenggara Province is not only above the national average but has also increased over the last seven years. The average age of first marriage on Lombok Island is lower than the average age of first marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province as a whole and cases of child marriage are more common on Lombok Island.

Studies and data on marriage registration based on national surveys are very limited in Indonesia. Therefore, this study tried to examine critical determinants of unregistered child marriage. In this study, we aim to develop a binary logistic model for analyzing the determinant factors at the individual level that affect the registration of child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province. Through this study, we aim to calculate the prevalence of registered marriage on child marriage using the 2022 Socio- Economic Survey data as nationally representative data for Indonesia in 2022. Using Binary Logistic regression, we examine the determinant factor of registered marriage in men/women aged 20-24 years old than marriage before 19 years old.

Methods

This study is a cross-sectional study using secondary data sourced from the March 2022 Indonesia National Socio-Economic Survey (SUSENAS)
raw data. SUSENAS is an annual survey held by Statistics Indonesia (BPS) twice a year, in March and September. The Susenas data were collected using multi-stage sampling. In March 2022, there were 334,229 households sampled under SUSENAS covering all regencies/municipalities in Indonesia. This study focuses on all the people aged 20-24 who reside in each regency/municipality in West Nusa Tenggara Province in 2022. The age selection of 20-24-year-olds is to determine the prevalence of child marriage among young people (under 24 years old). Hence, there are 215 people aged 20-24 in West Nusa Tenggara Province which further selected into a final sample size of 1,490 among those who lived with their respective households. Registered marriage on child marriage is defined as if he/she has a marriage certificate as a legal document that has been mandated by the civil registration office (KCS, Kantor Catatan Sipil) or by the Office of Religious Affairs (KUA, Kantor Urusan Agama) (Grijns, M., & Horii, 2018).

The dependent variable is the registered marriage of the child marriage. Self-reported age (in years) of the respondent at the time of first marriage. If the first marriage was less than 19 years old it is considered child marriage and otherwise. This variable is categorical and takes value 1 if having a marriage certificate and 2 otherwise. The independent variable used consists of individual factors. Individual factors consisted of a place of residence, gender, age at marriage, education, working status, Bank account ownership, economic status, media exposure/access to the internet, and receiving social protection programs from the government. These variables were selected from the socioeconomic survey to explore the determinants of registering child marriages to complete the research gap.

Place of residence is the area where the respondent lives which is categorized into urban and rural based on the regional criteria stipulated in the Regulation of the chief Statistician of the BPS-Statistics Indonesia No 37 of 2010. Gender is categorized into males with a value of 1 and a value of 2 for females. Education is defined as the last education which men/women pursue. It is categorized into junior high school and below for a value of 1 and it takes a value of 2 for senior high school and above. Employment status is the working status during the last week at the time of the survey. The employment status is categorized into employment and unemployment, taking a value of 1 if a week ago people were employed and taking a value of 2 if unemployment. Bank account ownership is defined as a joint bank account, taking a value of 1 if having Access to Bank Account and taking a value of 2 if otherwise. Economic status is formed by classifying the households into five quantiles based on the sum of the average monthly food expenditure and the average monthly nonfood expenditure, which takes a value of 1 if the household is categorized into quintiles 4-5 as the richest and takes a value of 2 if otherwise. Age at marriage is defined as the age when people get married, taking a value of 1 if married below 16 years old and taking a value of 2 if married above 16 years old. Media exposure is defined as using the internet for access to social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc), taking value 1 if using the internet for access to social media (Facebook, Instagram, etc), and taking value 2 if otherwise. A social protection program from the government is defined as receiving social insurance from the government, taking value 1 if receiving social insurance from the government, and taking value 2 if otherwise.

In this study, we conduct both descriptive and inferential statistical analysis. Descriptive analysis is used to determine the description of registered marriage for child marriage under 18 years, while inferential statistical analysis is used to determine the factors that significantly influence the provision of a registered marriage of child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province. We develop a binary logistic regression model. The significance level is set at 5%. The association was reported as adjusted odds ratios with 95% confidence intervals.

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The binary logistic regression model is used when the dependent variable is dichotomous and the independent variables are of any kind. This model requires fewer assumptions, flexible and easily used distribution. It is presented as follows

$$\log \left( \frac{p}{1 - p} \right) = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \ldots + \beta_k X_k$$

where p is the probability of having a marriage certificate of child marriage, is a set of independent
variables, and $\beta = (\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \ldots, \beta_k)$ T is a vector of unknown coefficients. The quantity to the left equal of the equal sign is the log of the odds of having a marriage certificate of child marriage in the binary logistic regression. The adequacy of the model was checked by using the Hosmer-Lemeshow goodness of fit test.

surpassing the average province which includes Lombok Barat, Lombok Tengah, and Lombok Timur regencies (see Figure 1). There are 13.02 % of people that married before 16 years old. Meanwhile, there are still 18.14 % are unregistered marriages as illustrated in Table 1.

As shown in Figure 1, West Nusa Tenggara Province consists of two islands, Lombok Island and Sumbawa Island. On Lombok Island, there was the highest number of child marriage cases. Three out of

Figure 1
Prevalence of Child Marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province, 2022

Results

All regencies in Lombok Island West Nusa Tenggara Province's percentage of child marriage is high, ten regencies in West Nusa Tenggara Province have a percentage of unregistered child marriage upper the province average which includes Lombok Barat, Lombok Tengah, and Lombok Timur regencies.

Figure 2
Prevalence of Registered Child Marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province, 2022
The socio-cultural in Lombok Island “merariq” which is still rooted in the Sasak tribe community on Lombok Island causes cases of child marriage to remain high. This culture requires the groom to kidnap the bride to the man’s family home for more than 24 hours. This tradition requires that a man and woman marry after this kidnapping process. The “merariq” culture is only found on Lombok Island.

Child marriage cases in West Nusa Tenggara Province at 78.60 % and 25 % are unregistered marriages. Kota Mataram is the municipality with the lowest number of child marriage cases in West Nusa Tenggara Province at 57.10 % and 12.50 % are unregistered marriages.

Such difference shows that there is a large variation in the percentage of child marriage cases

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Background Characteristics</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Having Marriage certificate (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Place of Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Urban</td>
<td>32.09</td>
<td>85.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Rural</td>
<td>67.91</td>
<td>80.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Junior High School and below</td>
<td>73.95</td>
<td>80.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Senior High school and above</td>
<td>26.05</td>
<td>85.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age at Marriage</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Less than 16</td>
<td>13.02</td>
<td>71.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.16 and more</td>
<td>86.98</td>
<td>83.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Account</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Having an account</td>
<td>28.84</td>
<td>82.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.None</td>
<td>71.16</td>
<td>81.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Working</td>
<td>55.35</td>
<td>82.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Else</td>
<td>44.65</td>
<td>81.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Men</td>
<td>17.67</td>
<td>73.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Women</td>
<td>82.33</td>
<td>83.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access of Internet</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Access to internet</td>
<td>80.47</td>
<td>83.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.None</td>
<td>19.53</td>
<td>73.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quantile of Wealth</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Rich</td>
<td>31.20</td>
<td>82.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.Poor</td>
<td>68.80</td>
<td>81.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Insurance</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.Receiving Social Insurance</td>
<td>32.60</td>
<td>85.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.None</td>
<td>67.40</td>
<td>80.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td></td>
<td>81.86</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This tradition will not be found on Sumbawa Island. Looking in more detail at the regency/municipality level, Lombok Timur is the regency with the highest and unregistered marriages for people aged 20-24 years old between regency/municipality in West Nusa Tenggara Province.
As illustrated by Figure 2, in 2022, three out of ten regencies in West Nusa Tenggara Province had a percentage of unregistered child marriage above the province average, which included Lombok Barat, Lombok Tengah, and Lombok Timur regencies. Two out of five regencies/ or municipalities in Lombok Island have a low prevalence of marriage registration below the provincial average.

Table 1 presents the percentage of registered and unregistered child marriages by respondent's background characteristics. The results showed a significant association between marriage registration and demographic and socio-economic background characteristics such as place of residence, education, activity, ownership of bank account, gender, age at marriage, media exposure/internet access, wealth status/quantile wealth, and receiving social insurance.

Eighty-two percent of people who marry at an early age have registered their marriage. Women (83.62%) were more likely to register their marriage than men. Nearly 85.51% of people in urban areas had their marriage registered, compared to 80.14% in rural areas.

People who had passed senior high school and above (85.71%) were having their marriage registered more than those who had passed junior high school and below (80.50%). However, if people with joint Bank Accounts (82.26%) were having their marriage registered than fewer who did not have Bank Account (81.70%). With an increasing number of respondents aged at marriage, marriage registration also increases.

The marriage registration was higher among those people who married at age 16 years old and above (83.42%) than those who married at less than 16 years old (71.43%). The marriage registration was higher among those people who had access to the internet/social media (83.82%) than those who did not have access (73.81%). People who were employed (82.35%) and rich (82.09%) were higher in proportion registering their marriage than those who were unemployed (81.25%) and poor (81.76%), respectively. However, if people who receive social insurance from the government (85.71%) were having their marriage registered than people who don't have social insurance from the government (80.00%).

Table 2 shows the results of binary logistic regression for estimating adjusted odds of marriage registration for a given people's characteristics after controlling other background characteristics. It is observed that the odds for registered child marriage concerning the place of residence are significantly different from each other. The odds ratio indicates that it is more likely that people who lived in urban areas registered their marriage as compared to those who lived in rural areas. There are differences between those who live in rural and urban areas regarding marriage registration. People who lived in urban areas were more likely to register their marriage because of the modern way of thinking and social culture in urban areas.

Women are more likely to register their marriage 1.862 times (odds ratio = 1.862; 95%CI: 1.809-1.917) than men. There are differences between men and women regarding marriage registration. Women have a greater tendency to register their marriages than men because those who suffer the greatest losses from unregistered marriages are women and children. If the marriage is not registered, this means that the marriage is deemed to be invalid according to the state and law. When a divorce occurs, the wife will not get her rights as a wife after the divorce. One example is that there is no division of joint assets because it is considered that there is no marriage. From an administrative perspective, the child will only be registered as the mother's child. Illegitimate children have no right to inherit their father's property.

People who marry after 16 years old are 2.513 times (odds ratio = 2.513; 95% CI: 2.448-2.581) more likely to register their marriage than people who marry before 16 years old. There are differences between people who marry before 16 years old and people who marry after 16 years old regarding marriage registration. People who marry after the age of 16 are more likely to register their marriage because they have more mature thinking and know the provisions for applying for a marriage dispensation.

People who had not joined Bank Account was another significant factor for registered child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province. People who had not joined Bank Account were 1.048 times (odds ratio = 1.048; 95%CI: 1.024-1.073) more likely to register marriage than those who have Bank Account.

There are differences between people who have not joined Bank Account and those who have Bank Account regarding marriage registration. People who do not have a savings account are less likely to register their marriage due to economic inability.
Table 2
Regression Results

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variables &amp; Categories</th>
<th>B</th>
<th>Sig</th>
<th>Exp (B)</th>
<th>95% Confident Interval</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Odd Ratio</td>
<td>Lower</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Place of Residence</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>-0.192</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.826</td>
<td>0.807</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior high School and below</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior High School And Above</td>
<td>0.396</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1.485</td>
<td>1.446</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aged Of Married</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Less than 16</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 and more</td>
<td>0.922</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>2.513</td>
<td>2.448</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bank Account</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Having an account</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>0.047</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1.048</td>
<td>1.024</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activity</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Working</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Else</td>
<td>-0.448</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>0.639</td>
<td>0.624</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>0.622</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1.862</td>
<td>1.809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Access of Internet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Access to Social Media</td>
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<tr>
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<td>-0.365</td>
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<td>0.694</td>
<td>0.677</td>
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<tr>
<td>Quintil of Wealth</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rich</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poor</td>
<td>0.042</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1.043</td>
<td>1.019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Insurance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Receiving</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>0.093</td>
<td>0.000</td>
<td>1.097</td>
<td>1.074</td>
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</table>

The wealth quantile of the family was another significant factor for registered child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province. According to the wealth index, people in the poor household were 1.043 times registered child marriage in line with those who lived in the rich household.

There are differences between people who live in the rich household and those who live in the poor household regarding marriage registration. People who live in the poor household are more likely to register marriages because marriage is considered a solution to economic problems and poverty.

Receiving social insurance was another significant factor for registered child marriage in West Nusa Tenggara Province. People who lived in families that did not receive social insurance were 1.097 times registered for child marriage in line with those who had social insurance from the government.

There are differences between people who receive social insurance and those who do not receive social insurance regarding marriage registration. People who do not receive social insurance from the government are more likely to register their marriage because they do not want to be trapped in poverty after marriage.
Education level plays an important role in preventing child marriage and affects decisions regarding marriage registration. People who had been educated in senior high school and above were likely to register their marriage 1.485 times (odds ratio = 1.485. 95% CI: 1.446-1.525) compared to those who had not completed senior high school. People with higher education tend to have more adequate knowledge about the negative impacts of early marriage and the risks of unregistered marriages.

Education is one of the factors influencing a person’s perception, with higher education a person will more easily receive knowledge and be more mature in terms of thinking. Higher education will increase personal maturity and readiness for marriage. Early marriage is related to the large number of teenagers dropping out of school and low education. One of the important reasons for promoting the 12-year study program carried out by the government is to prevent early marriage by natural means.

Working status is another important determinant for registered child marriage. This study found that as compared to working status, people who were employed were more likely to register for marriage compared to those unemployed.

People who have jobs tend to register marriages because they already know the importance of legalizing marriages and they have economic independence. Registered marriages will be safer in terms of recognition in law and the state. The wife will receive a division of inheritance and children from a legal marriage will receive a birth certificate and inheritance.

Media exposure is also another significant determinant of registered child marriage. It is observed that the odds for registered child marriage concerning the access to internet/social media are significantly different from each other. The odds ratio indicates that it is more likely that people who access the internet/social media register their marriage as compared to those who do not access the internet/social media.

People who access the internet show high literacy in communication knowledge. If you have extensive knowledge via the internet, you can gain knowledge about the importance of marriage registration and the disadvantages of unregistered marriages.

Discussion

This study examined the prevalence of registered child marriage and the related factors in West Nusa Tenggara Province. Based on the results of data processing on the selected sample, the study found that around 81.86% of people who had registered their marriage shows that low education contributed to higher unregistered marriages. Previous studies conducted in various settings also underlined the importance of education and its association with marriage registration (Jamilah et al., 2020). Higher education will increase the probability of registered marriage and higher registration will decrease child marriage (Amin & Das, 2013). This study also noticed that women were more curious to pursue registered marriage than men, because a lot of consequences to their human right if they were in unregistered marriage (Judiasmih et al., 2018). The age at marriage factor is also an important thing to pursue legal marriage. A similar finding was previously reported that age at marriage was a strong factor in increasing the probability of registered child marriage (Kumari et al., 2022b).

This study found that employed people are more likely to register their marriage than those unemployed people. A similar finding was previously reported that employed people had a strong preference for registering their marriage (Patoari, 2020). The possible reasons could be that work status is directly related to education and provides empowerment and awareness about their entitlements.

This study is evident in noticing that people who lived in urban areas were more likely to register their marriage than people who lived in rural areas (Kumari et al., 2022a). The logistic regression analysis revealed that marriage registration was significantly higher among people who lived in an urban area than those who lived in rural areas.

This study also revealed that there were no differences in marriage registration between the rich and poor. There were no differences in marriage registration between the people who had bank account and did not have bank account. There were no differences in marriage registration between the people who received social insurance from the government and did not receive social insurance from the government. There may be other factors that influence people registering marriages, for example, there are mutual cooperation traditions in marriage ceremonies in Indonesia. The purpose of the mutual cooperation tradition in marriage is to
alleviate the cost borne. Therefore, further studies are needed that consider socio-cultural factors.

The previous study revealed that marriage registration was significantly higher among people in the high-wealth quintile/rich compared to the poor. Existing literature and this study show that there is unregistered marriage among underprivileged people because of low education, lack of awareness of the importance of marriage registration, the high dominance of traditional customs (Buvinic & Carey, 2019; Jamilah et al., 2020; Amin & Das, 2013), and the expensive costs of marriage dispensation (Setiadi, 2021). People who marry underage should apply two applications for dispensation for marriage for prospective husbands and wives who are underage. This means that the cost would be double for the couples (Cut Auliag & Nellvita Purba, 2022). The expensive costs of marriage dispensation could be the reason that the registered marriage was significantly higher among people in the high wealth quintile, joint bank account, and receiving monetary funds or social insurance from the government (Kumari et al., 2022b). Therefore, further studies are needed that consider people's perceptions of marriage dispensation.

A marriage registration certificate is a legal document that provides many entitlements to the couple and the children, such as to get birth certificates for the children, to get alimony and maintenance after divorce, and to get property rights. Marriage registration is itself an empowerment for the women, which indirectly reduce domestic violence and their illegal desertion by their husband. Every marriage needs to establish the rights and responsibilities of each of the spouses through a systematic universal marriage registration. Therefore the government as a policymaker should reduce the cost of marriage dispensation to increasing registered marriage on early marriage and the government should consider social protection programs for child marriage.

This research shows that the Indonesian government, the private sector, and civil society partners priorities secondary education for both girls and boys and ensure that social security funding meets the most impoverished households. The Indonesian government and related institutions can further reduce the costs of the dispensation of marriage to increase the opportunity for young couples to register their marriage and the government should consider giving social insurance for child marriage cases. The policymaker should create awareness of existing marriage certificates and increase the age of marriage.

Furthermore, there is a need to communicate the importance of registering marriage to society more intensively. The investigation of additional individual variables and contextual variables that significantly affect registered marriage is left for future studies, such as variables on cultural aspects, personal values, and beliefs/perceptions towards registered marriage.

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Declaration for competing Interest

The authors declare that they have known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

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