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Implementation of Digital-Based Counseling Media to Prevent and Handle Cases of Sexual Harassment Among Students in Higher Education

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KEYWORDS

ABSTRACT

Digital Counseling, Prevention, Handling, Sexual Harassment, Higher Education.

Theoretically, this study is the application of the counseling media model in higher education. The model needs to be developed in higher education, particularly digital-based ones, so that it can directly benefit students and the targeted higher education. Seiring perkembangan era digital, counseling services must adhere to the needs of the counselee with various increasingly complicated life issues. Untuk menjawab pertanyaan yang diajukan oleh peneliti, metode penelitian diperlukan. Analysis of Mixed Method Sequential Explanatory Designs is the research method used for this. The goal of this approach is to gather quantitative data about the use of the digital-based counseling media model, followed by descriptive interviews to validate the quantitative data findings. Purposive sampling or the researcher's considerations were used to take the sample. There are several ways to address and prevent sexual harassment in higher education, including creating a specific task force that works in institutional units under university supervision. These include the Counseling Service Unit (ULK) of UIN Kyai Abdurrahman Wahid (Gusdur), the Psychology Service Unit (ULP) of UIN Bandung, the Counseling Center of LPM UIN Surabaya, and several campuses that continue to handle sexual harassment cases using social media platforms like WhatsApp, Google Meet, and Zoom, such as Cirebon Islamic Institute, UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, UIN Bangka Belitung, and UIN Kyai Ahmad Siddiq Jember. UIN Gusdur (https://cdc.uingusdur.ac.id/), UIN Surabaya @konseling_uinsa and UIN Bandung (https://ulp.uinsgd.ac.id) are examples of universities that use digital-based counseling medium. The Cirebon Islamic Institute, UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, UIN Bangka Belitung, and UIN Kyai are further universities that offer online counseling. Counseling begins with registration and is conducted over social media platforms such as Zoom and Google Meet. The findings indicate that the latent element of digitalbased counseling in addressing and avoiding sexual harassment in higher education has a t-value of 0.870 (> 0.05). The effectiveness of digital-based counseling is then at 0.608 (> 0.05), with these results having a substantial value, indicating that it has an impact on handling and preventing sexual harassment situations in universities.

1. Introduction

Sexual harassment is a common case in social life (Noviana, 2016). Sexual harassment that occurs varies, both verbally and non-verbally. Sexual harassment is associated with the behavior of forcing the opposite sex to engage in intimate activities. Verbal sexual harassment is characterized by impolite words, demeaning self-esteem, and feeling emotionally disturbing to someone. Non-verbal sexual harassment is in the form of invitations, coercion, and physical interference in sensitive body parts of the opposite sex (Pratiwi, 2021). Sexual coercion causes physical and psychological harm to those who experience it. Winarsumu defines sexual harassment as an activity that has a sexual connotation that is carried out unilaterally and is not desired by the victim in the form of writing, symbols, speech, or actions (Winarsumu, 2008). Acts of sexual harassment often occur to women both in public places and in places that are considered safe by them. Cases of sexual harassment in society are a disgrace and have a major psychological impact amidst limited access to report incidents of sexual harassment. Cases of sexual harassment that occur can be carried out by people close to them, such as siblings, friends, and other close people. The closest people should be protectors and make them feel safe; this is different from the case experienced by the victim in Bogor Regency, where the perpetrator of sexual harassment was her own biological father (UPTTDA, 2022).

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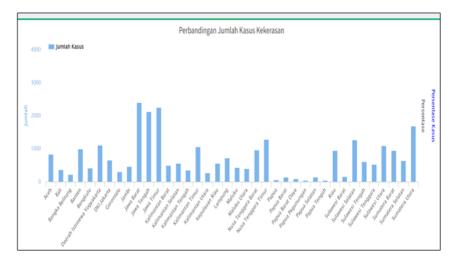


Figure 1: Sexual Harassment Cases in Indonesia in 2023

Cases of sexual harassment in Indonesia are increasingly rampant along with the development of the digital era (Ridwan, 2023). Various types of sexual harassment occur through social media or directly. According to the data above, sexual violence that occurred in Indonesia reached 27,839 cases, consisting of 5,875 male victims and 24,410 female victims (Kemenppa, 2023). All victims are spread across 38 provinces in Indonesia. The provinces of West Java, Central Java, East Java, and North Sumatra have the most cases of sexual harassment. Based on the location of the incident, sexual harassment was carried out in several public places, households, short-term education places, and schools.



Figure 2: Number of cases of sexual harassment by location in Indonesia in 2023

Based on the graph above, the places where sexual harassment cases often occur are households with 16,787 cases, workplaces with 443 cases, others are educational institutions and social spaces with 6,138 cases, schools with 1,651 cases, public facilities with 2,766 cases, and short-term education institutions with 54 cases (Dhini, 2023). The majority of cases that occurred were women victims, indicating that cases of sexual harassment against women are concerning. As many as 339,782 of the total complaints were gender-based violence (GBV), of which 3,442 were reported to the National Commission on Violence Against Women. Violence in the personal sphere still dominates reporting of GBV cases, namely 99%, or 336,804 cases (Hisam, 2024). In complaints to the National Commission on Violence Against Women, cases in the personal sphere reached 61%, or 2,098 cases. For cases in the public sphere, a total of 2,978 cases were recorded, of which 1,276 were reported to the National Commission on Violence Against Women. Meanwhile, cases of violence in the state realm were only found at the National Commission on Violence Against Women, with an almost 2-fold increase, from 38 cases in 2021 to 68 cases in 2022 (National Commission on Violence Against Women, 2023).



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Sexual harassment in educational institutions is an important part that needs attention. Cases of sexual harassment in educational institutions are increasingly rampant, such as in schools, Islamic boarding schools, and even in universities. The highest cases of sexual harassment from 2015 to 2021 occurred in universities, reaching 87.91% psychological, 8.8% discriminatory, and 1.1% physical violence. Cases of sexual harassment in universities are legally regulated by the issuance of the Minister of Education and Culture Regulation Number. 30 of 2021 concerning the Prevention and Handling of Sexual Harassment in the University Environment (VOA, 2023). This regulation is expected to be able to control the situation in various universities to respond to all forms of sexual harassment (Noer, 2022). Reported from Kompas news, which informs that according to Nadiem Makarim, Minister of Education and Culture, based on the results of testimonies from 79 campuses, there were 77 cases of complaints of sexual harassment in universities, and sadly, of the number of cases, 63% of campuses did not respond (Kompas, 2023) Research conducted by several experts in counseling, including N.K. Endah Triwijati (Endah 2022).

Sexual Harassment in Psychological Review. Faculty of Psychology, University of Surabaya, and Savy Amira Women's Crisis Center. The results of the study provide information related to the psychological picture of victims of sexual harassment characterized by panic, anxiety, lack of sleep, self-blame, feeling humiliated, headaches, loss of motivation, and fear. Then information related to the perpetrators is characterized by four dimensions: first, perpetrators who deliberately do it in public places and perpetrators who do it in quiet or private places; second, those who do not consider the consequences of their behavior; on average, the characteristics of the perpetrators have a relationship with the victim; third, people who have power, namely people who are good at planning activities with their power; and fourth, people who want to defeat their inability, namely people who are obsessive about certain positions. Then the research of Haris Retno Susmiyati (2022), entitled Survey of Sexual Violence at Mulawarman University, Women and Children's Study Program. The results of the study showed that sexual violence that led to sexual harassment was rampant; there were 131 students who were victims of sexual harassment by boyfriends, seniors, friends, and supervisors. From the cases that were revealed, there were still many cases that were not reported with alleged intimidation from the perpetrators. As many as 67.4% of victims did not report. Forms of sexual harassment such as rape, sexual intimidation, abortion, sexual torture, and sexual control. From the results of the study, services from the campus have not been carried out optimally, and there are still victims who do not receive treatment (Mahzumi, 2024).

Furthermore, Rival Pahrijal et al. (2023) conducted a study related to the analysis of Challenges in Dealing with Sexual Harassment of Millennials and Generation Z in Indonesia in 2023. Forms of sexual harassment that occur among millennials and generation Z include verbal harassment, online harassment, and distribution of content without consent. Gender inequality, digital progress, and cultural decline are factors causing sexual harassment. Psychological and socioeconomic consequences are the impacts of sexual harassment. Legal handling and protection need to be carried out so that victims receive services and legal facilities. Research by Luh Made Khristianti Weda Tantri (Luh Made, 2021). Protection of Human Rights for Victims of Sexual Violence in Indonesia, 2021, Airlangga University. The results of the study show that protection for victims of sexual violence has not received clear laws regulated by legislation. Furthermore, existing legislation has not been able to accommodate comprehensive legal handling.

Cases of sexual harassment that occur are caused by several causal factors. The results of research conducted by Haris Retno Susmiyati at a university showed that sexual harassment was caused by relationships such as boyfriend 27.4%, senior 18.6%, friend 17.7%, and supervisor 9.8%. From this data, 79.5%, or 171 respondents, answered that the form of sexual violence that occurred was sexual harassment that resulted in rape, sexual intimidation, abortion, sexual torture, and sexual control. Of the many victims of sexual harassment who reported the incident, only 32.6% and 67.4% did not report sexual harassment (Haris, 2022). The survey results show interesting data that can be studied further regarding the handling of sexual harassment cases in universities. Handling of sexual harassment needs to be done responsively, and institutions can maintain the confidentiality of victims. Fast and responsive complaint and handling services are things that need to be done by universities along with the increasing number of cases (Aziz 2023).

The strong foundation of this study is based on the rampant occurrence of sexual harassment leading to sexual violence, referring to the Regulation of the Minister of Religion (PMA) Number 73 of 2022, which contains efforts to handle and prevent sexual violence in educational units at the Ministry of Religion. The educational units include formal, non-formal, and informal education paths and include madrasas, Islamic boarding schools, and religious education units. This PMA consists of seven chapters, namely: general provisions; forms of sexual



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violence; prevention; handling; reporting, monitoring, and evaluation; sanctions; and closing provisions (Rahmayadi, 2023). Complaint services can be carried out with media that make it easier for victims to report persuasively and are protected from intimidation by the perpetrator. One alternative that can be done is to innovate digital-based counseling services. Digital-based counseling media services can be carried out independently via smartphones, making it easier for victims to make complaints of sexual harassment early. The e-counseling media model service is a form of responsive service that can then follow up on complaints with a more in-depth counseling process. The implementation of digital-based counseling media is expected to be able to improve services for cases of sexual harassment in universities in Indonesia. This research is expected to provide benefits for counseling science and for the wider community.

Cases that occur due to sexual harassment have not received serious handling in following up on sexual harassment. From the research above, several cases are still weak in psychological and legal handling. Basically, access for victims who experience sexual harassment has not been bridged properly. Services for cases of sexual harassment need to be optimized in providing responsive services at an educational institution. What distinguishes the research to be conducted lies in the prevention and responsive services using the e-counselling media model to help victims make complaints and consultations independently. Digital counseling media is expected to be able to provide benefits for students as the main subjects to make complaints related to problems experienced during their studies at the university. nts can be followed up with direct counseling services so that victims get initial psychological assistance. Then complaints can be followed up with direct counseling services so that victims get initial psychological assistance.

2. Method

Research methods are needed to answer the questions asked by researchers. This research method is a Mixed Method Sequential Explanatory Designs analysis (Sugiyono, 2018). This method is intended to find data related to the application of the digital-based counseling media model quantitatively, then interviews to confirm the results of quantitative data descriptively. The variables in this study are explored and interpreted with qualitative data. (Sugiyono 2018) The research locations targeted by researchers are in accordance with the characteristics of the problems of universities that have counseling guidance institutions/study programs that use digital-based counseling service media, both in state and private universities. The research was conducted at various universities that have digital-based counseling services based on data and researcher considerations. (Subana, 2021) The sampling was taken by purposive sampling or based on the researcher's considerations (Lenaini, 2024). The research location includes: 1) Sunan Ampel State Islamic University (UIN) Surabaya; 2) Ar Raniry State Islamic University (UIN) Banda Aceh; 3) Gusdur State Islamic University (UIN) Pekalongan, 4) Bunga Bangsa Islamic Institute Cirebon, 5) Kyai Ahmad Siddiq State Islamic University Jember, 7) Bangka Belitung State Islamic University (UIN), and UIN Bandung. Research techniques in data collection are divided into several techniques, including: a) Observation: observation aims to obtain initial data in research from research subjects related to scientific data. Informants needed in observation include university leaders, deans, and heads of study programs. b) Interviews: (Raharjo, 2011) interviews in research activities need to be conducted so that data is obtained directly from the main source of research. Interview targets for the study include university leaders, deans, heads of study programs, and students.

Data analysis is referred to as data interpretation according to the researcher's study. Data analysis is defined as a series of activities to study, group, systematize, interpret, and validate data about socially valuable phenomena. (Sandu 2015). This study uses a research instrument with a Likert scale, and the validity and reliability of the research instrument must be tested to meet the criteria (Budiaji, 2013). Validity is the result of an instrument according to which the researcher can measure what is to be measured. While reliability shows the level of consistency and accuracy of the measurement results. Testing the research hypothesis is by conducting an influence test using the SEM PLs 4.0 application to find data statistically (quantitative), while to interpret the data requires descriptive analysis (qualitative) (Saranggih, 2024).

3. Results and Discussion

Handling and Prevention of Sexual Harassment Cases on Students in Higher Education

Handling and preventing cases of sexual harassment in higher education is an important responsibility for educational institutions to ensure a safe and violence-free environment for all students. The handling of cases in each higher education institution varies according to the dynamics that occur. In this study, researchers describe



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various handling and prevention of cases of sexual harassment in higher education institutions. Islamic Religious Higher Education Institutions from each region have a form of handling, such as UIN Kyai Abdurrahman Wahid, by forming a Task Force or Special Unit: Higher education institutions can form a task force or special unit that handles cases of sexual violence, namely the Setara Integrated Service Unit. This unit is tasked with receiving reports, providing counseling, and following up on cases in accordance with applicable procedures. Institutions must provide a reporting mechanism that is safe, confidential, and easily accessible to victims or witnesses of sexual harassment through online registration and can determine handling with the counselor on duty. The mechanism ensures that the reporter will not experience intimidation or discrimination. Then the handling carried out at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya by forming the LPM Counseling Center as a form of psychological support needs to provide counseling services to support victims psychologically. This support can be in the form of individual or group counseling handled by professionals, such as psychologists or counselors. In addition, counseling carried out by the UINSA counseling center holds forms of education and strengthening activities such as seminars and others as an effort to prevent and act on sexual violence in higher education.



Figure 3. Counseling Activities at UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya



Figure 4. Counseling Activities at UIN Bangka Belitung and UIN Gusdur

Digital and offline counseling service units are organized by units and study programs related to counseling that can be accessed by students, lecturers, staff, and the general public as a form of university dedication, according to the Head of the UINSA Integrated Counseling Service Unit, Mrs. Marriena, who "said that psychological assistance services can be accessed digitally and people outside the campus can also access them. "Handling of sexual harassment cases is considered sensitive so that not all campuses where the researchers used the research targets did not mention the number of cases in their respective universities. The handling that has been carried out so far has been carried out in a closed manner and maintains the confidentiality of the counselee so that it is quite difficult to access. Digital counseling practices are effective for sensitive cases and are efficient so that in handling them it is safer and more comfortable for the counselee. Handling and prevention of cases carried out by other campuses include UIN Kyai Ahmad Siddiq Jember and several other campuses that are the targets of the research.

Prevention carried out by universities by implementing policies in the campus environment by giving sanctions to anyone who commits sexual harassment, be it lecturers, staff, and students. The policy is socialized through activities on campus such as student orientation, seminars, websites, and other activities. Furthermore, universities prepare procedures for handling that are friendly to clients so that cases experienced can be handled properly by providing legal protection. The campus also provides security for victims by avoiding intimidation and power relations from the perpetrators.



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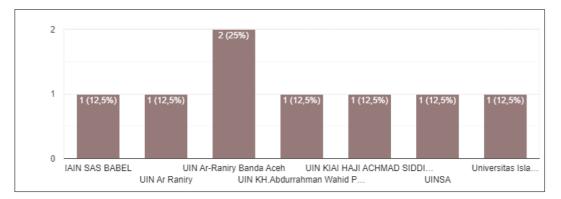


Figure 5: Targets of Higher Education Institutions that Fill in Qualitative Data

Each university has a special team to handle cases of sexual harassment, one of which is by forming an integrated service center that can be accessed by anyone. The services developed are in the form of psychological assistance that can be accessed online and offline. Digital counseling services in universities in handling cases of sexual harassment are considered effective and maintain the privacy of the counselee. Then the university handles counseling with the victim; if necessary, the university facilitates mediation with the perpetrator. In addition, in handling victims of sexual harassment, the university provides training for the academic community regarding prevention and handling of victims. Handling cases of sexual harassment in universities is inseparable from obstacles and challenges; this is because the victim does not dare to speak up because of intimidation. Handling victims in digital-based counseling has its own challenges for counselors because counselors cannot see the gestures or body language of the counselee in their entirety. To overcome this problem, counselors conduct face-to-face counseling to ensure information and events experienced by the victim. Responsive and responsive services need to be improved by every university in handling cases of sexual harassment. Acts of sexual harassment can be physically, psychologically, and for the future of the victim. Of course, actions in this case need to be taken seriously and sustainably by universities by creating a safe and comfortable environment for students in pursuing their education.

How to Use Digital-Based Counseling Media in Higher Education

Implementation of digital-based counseling can be a solution amidst complex problems in this digital era. Problems such as sensitive cases can use digital-based counseling in the handling process. Forms of handling carried out by universities can be done with social media such as Google Meet, Zoom, WhatsApp, and website-based technology. The use of digital-based counseling media in universities has become a growing trend to support the mental health and well-being of students. This involves the use of technology such as applications, websites, and digital communication platforms to provide counseling services, both directly (synchronous) and indirectly (asynchronous).

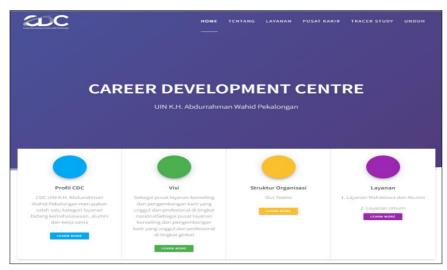


Figure 6: Digital counseling implemented at UIN Gusdur



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Figure 7 Digital Counseling Implemented at UIN Surabaya

Digital-based counseling services help clients register online through websites or digital media provided by counseling service centers. After clients register online, the admin will contact clients to conduct scheduled counseling sessions.



Figure 8: UIN Bandung Psychology Services

Psychological assistance services are also developed by UIN Bandung by opening psychological services, counseling, professional training, and others. Psychological counseling assistance is carried out online with the agreement of the counselor and counselee to communicate after filling out the counseling form. The counselee registers for a counseling session, which the admin will then assign to a psychologist or counselor who is willing to provide online services using Zoom and Google Meet media. Counseling is carried out safely and in a private atmosphere so that the counselee feels psychologically protected and comfortable. The application of digital-based counseling is felt to be quite effective by counselees who experience mental stress and sensitive cases such as sexual harassment and other sensitive cases. However, with the implementation of online counseling, counselors experience obstacles and challenges, such as the difficulty of ensuring the client's behavior and facial expressions.

However, based on the results of the researcher's analysis summarized from various interviews with managers of integrated counseling services, there are several things that are recommendations for digital counseling, including the following:

- 1. Increasing awareness and education related to sexual harassment: digital campaigns, online workshops and seminars, digital education modules
- 2. Increasing access to digital counseling services: attractive and easily accessible digital counseling platforms, counselor skills training in handling sexual harassment cases, data security in digital platforms is guaranteed (confidentiality principle)



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- 3. Easy and safe reporting process: anonymous reporting services, coordination with the counseling team, efficient case tracking system (students can monitor the progress of their case reports online)
- 4. Continued assistance and support: offering ongoing counseling, forming online support groups (WhatsApp groups, Facebook groups, or the like), offering referrals to external services (case transfers)
- 5. Monitoring and evaluation: creating online satisfaction and effectiveness surveys, continuous development to update digital services.

The Influence of Digital-Based Counseling Media in Preventing and Handling Sexual Harassment of Students in Higher Education

This study aims to analyze the implementation of digital-based counseling in higher education as well as assess its impact on the prevention and handling of sexual harassment cases. The SEM-PLS model is used to evaluate several related factors, such as service accessibility, counseling effectiveness, user satisfaction, and its impact on reporting and handling cases. To test the criteria for the influence of a model, several tests are needed in SEMPLs, as presented in the following model calculation results:

The SRMR value produced by the model is 0.072, which is below the threshold of 0.08. (Hair, J. F., Hult, 2022) These results indicate that the difference between the estimated and observed covariance matrices is quite small, indicating that the model has a good fit. (G. David Garson, 2016) The calculation results can be seen in the following table:

Table 1 Standardized Root Mean Square Residual (SRMR)

	Saturated model	Estimated model
SRMR	0.071	0.080
d_ULS	1.051	1.360
d_G	n/a	n/a
Chi-square	∞	∞
NFI	n/a	n/a

Next, R² shows how much of the variability of the dependent variable can be explained by the independent variables in the model. R2 values range from 0 to 1, with higher values indicating a better predictive power of the model. An R² of 0.816, for example, indicates that 80% of the variance of the dependent variable can be explained by the independent variables in the model. (Marko Sarstedt, 2021)

Table 2 R-Square Model

	R-square	R-square adjusted
Konseling Digital	0.788	0.781
Pencegahan dan Penanganna Pelecehan seksual	0.757	0.755

Then, to determine the direct relationship between indicators, it can be seen in the direct effect test as follows:

Table 3 Indirect Effect

	Aksesibilitas	Efektivitas Penang Kasus	Konseling Digital	Pem Kons Digital	Pencegahan dan Penanganna Pelecehan seksual
Aksesibilitas					0.170
Efektivitas Penang Kasus					0.529
Konseling Digital					
Pem Kons Digital					0.111
Pencegahan dan Penanganna Pelecehan seksual					

It can be seen in the output that all direct relationships (indirect effects) of all variables have a p-value of more than the 0.05 significance level so that they are significant. (Solihin, 2013)



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The results of the model fit analysis show that the SEM PLs model used has adequate fit to evaluate the implementation of digital-based counseling in higher education. All indicators show that this model is suitable for explaining the relationship between variables that influence the prevention and handling of sexual harassment cases. Model fit shows that the SEM (Structural Equation Modeling) model based on PLS (Partial Least Squares) (Haenlein, M., & Kaplan, 2024) is suitable for evaluating the implementation of digital-based counseling in higher education. This means that the data used can adequately describe the relationship between the variables in the model.

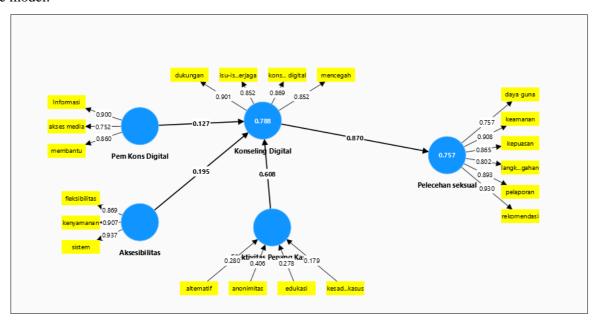


Figure 9 SEM PLs Graphic Model

The hypothesis in this study can be seen in H1, there is an influence of the application of digital-based counseling on the prevention and handling of sexual harassment in higher education. And Ha There is an influence of digital-based counseling media to prevent and handle sexual harassment in students in higher education. Based on the results obtained in the image above, the t-value for the latent aspect of case handling (digital-based counseling) is 0.870 (> 0.05). It can be concluded that digital-based counseling related to case handling has an influence on the satisfaction of sexual harassment victim services, then in the aspect of effectiveness it is at 0.608 (> 0.05), then in accessibility 0.195 (> 0.05), digital counselor coaching 0.127 (0.05). From the overall results, aspects have a significant value on handling and prevention using digital-based counseling in cases of sexual harassment in higher education. Therefore, the hypothesis in this study, H1, is accepted and Ha is rejected.

Overall, this SEM model graph shows a structured flow of relationships between variables, identifying which factors are most significant in influencing the measured outcomes. This analysis provides insight into the factors that play an important role in preventing and handling sexual harassment cases in higher education through digital-based counseling.

- 1. The accessibility of digital counseling services contributes significantly to the prevention of sexual harassment by making it easier for victims to get support.
- 2. The effectiveness of digital counseling has been shown to have a positive impact on handling harassment cases, increasing reporting rates, and providing adequate psychological support.
- 3. User satisfaction with digital services also influences the perception of service effectiveness, which has an impact on the decision to report and seek help.

This study shows that digital-based counseling can increase support and accessibility for students who are victims of sexual abuse. Compared to face-to-face counseling, 75% of respondents said they felt more comfortable talking about their experiences through online platforms. Compared to previous studies, this finding is in line with research by Smith et al. (2021), which showed that digital-based counseling can reduce the stigma often experienced by victims of sexual abuse. However, unlike the results of Johnson's (2020) study, which found that the lack of face-to-face interaction can hinder the formation of a therapeutic relationship, this study



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shows that digital platforms can help build strong relationships with victims of sexual abuse.

Interpretation The findings suggest that technology can be useful in assisting traumatized students in counseling. Relationships built through digital platforms can remain supportive and empathetic even though they are not face-to-face, as explained by the connectedness theory model (Nurodin 2024). This suggests that emotional support can be provided permanently through digital media. The use of digital-based counseling allows universities to provide more responsive and inclusive services. By using mobile applications and online platforms, universities can provide information and support to students more quickly, preventing escalation of problems (Irmayanti, 2020). Although the results indicate that it is effective, there are some shortcomings that need to be considered. This study had a small sample size, so the results may not be representative of the entire student population. In addition, it is possible that students who are more comfortable with technology were the ones who participated in this study, making the results more general.

4. Conclusions

Handling and prevention of sexual harassment in higher education is carried out in various forms of handling, namely by forming a special task force that operates in an institutional unit under the supervision of the higher education institution. Some handling and prevention by organizing digital-based counseling with professional staff such as the Counseling Service Unit (ULK) of UIN Kyai Abdurrahman Wahid (Gusdur), the Psychology Service Unit (ULP) of UIN Bandung, the Counseling Center of LPM UIN Surabaya, and several campuses that still use social media such as WhatsApp, Google Meet, and Zoom as handling cases of sexual harassment, including Cirebon Islamic Institute, UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, UIN Bangka Belitung, and UIN Kyai Ahmad Siddiq Jember.

The form of using digital-based counseling media in higher education is by using counseling media such as UIN Gusdur (https://cdc.uingusdur.ac.id/), UIN Surabaya @konseling_uinsa (https://www.instagram.com/konseling_uinsa/), and UIN Bandung (https://ulp.uinsgd.ac.id/?page_id=189). Other universities that conduct online counseling are the Cirebon Islamic Institute, UIN Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, UIN Bangka Belitung, and UIN Kyai Ahmad Siddiq Jember. Counseling is carried out starting from registration and handling using social media, Google Meet, and Zoom.

Based on the results obtained, the t-value for the latent aspect of digital-based counseling is 0.870 (> 0.05) in handling and preventing sexual harassment in universities. Then in the aspect of effectiveness, it is at 0.608 (> 0.05), with these results having a significant value, meaning that digital-based counseling has an effect on preventing and handling cases of sexual harassment in universities.

Future research should involve larger and more diverse sample sizes and conduct longitudinal studies to evaluate the long-term effectiveness of digital-based counseling. Research could also investigate factors that influence counseling success rates, such as socioeconomic background or comfort level with technology.

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