

Village Government and Religious Affairs Office (KUA) Policies in Reducing Early Marriage in Southern Bangka

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ABSTRACT

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The province of Bangka Belitung is known as one of the regions with significantly high rated early marriage. This study is focused on the development of Payung village government collaboration with Religious Affairs Office in reducing the number of early marriages. This research adopts qualitative method and applies historiography-phenomenology approach, which includes four phases: heuristic, verification or source evaluation, interpretation, and historiography. The research location is Payung village, South Bangka. The research includes in-depth interview with the village head, Village Consultative Body, and the head of Religious Affairs Office. The research results are realized in three village regulations. They are Village Regulation Number 2 of 2020 concerning villages that support children's rights, Village Regulation Number 3 of 2020 concerning child protection, and Village Regulation Number 141 of 2022 concerning child-friendly village development. Other than that, innovations such as the refusal of early marriage recommendation letter, regular counseling at schools regarding early marriage and the consequences, a ban on using village facilities for early marriage ceremonies, and a policy for village officials not to attend early marriages, are also implemented. These new policies have proven effective in reducing the rate of early marriage. Researchers hope that these innovations can be used as models by other villages or regions in the efforts to reduce the rate of early marriage.

Keywords: *Early Marriage; Innovation; Village Decision; School*

ABSTRAK

Provinsi Bangka Belitung dikenal sebagai salah satu daerah dengan tingkat pernikahan usia dini yang signifikan. Studi ini diarahkan untuk mengembangkan kerjasama antara Pemerintah Desa Payung dan Kantor Urusan Agama dengan tujuan menekan angka pernikahan usia dini. Penelitian ini mengadopsi metode kualitatif, mengaplikasikan pendekatan historiografi-fenomenologi yang meliputi empat fase: heuristik, verifikasi atau evaluasi sumber, interpretasi, dan historiografi. Lokasi penelitian berada di Desa Payung, Kabupaten Bangka Selatan, dengan subjek penelitian melibatkan wawancara mendalam bersama Kepala Desa, Badan Permusyawaratan Desa, dan Kepala Kantor Urusan Agama. Hasil penelitian diwujudkan dalam tiga regulasi desa, yaitu Peraturan Desa Nomor 2 Tahun 2020 tentang Desa yang Mendukung Hak Anak, Peraturan Desa Nomor 3 Tahun 2020 tentang Perlindungan Anak, dan Peraturan Desa Nomor 141 Tahun 2022 tentang Pembangunan Desa yang Ramah terhadap Anak. Selain

itu, inovasi-inovasi lain seperti penolakan penerbitan surat rekomendasi pernikahan dini, penyuluhan rutin di sekolah mengenai pernikahan dini dan akibatnya, larangan menggunakan fasilitas desa untuk upacara pernikahan dini, dan kebijakan aparat desa untuk tidak menghadiri pernikahan dini, turut diterapkan. Kebijakan-kebijakan baru ini terbukti efektif dalam menurunkan tingkat pernikahan dini. Peneliti berharap inovasi-inovasi ini dapat dijadikan model oleh desa atau wilayah lain dalam upaya menurunkan angka pernikahan dini.

Kata-kata Kunci: Pernikahan Dini; Inovasi; Keputusan Desa; Sekolah

1. INTRODUCTION

Early marriages in the Province of Bangka Belitung Islands are considered very worrying. Based on data adapted by the Central Bureau of Statistics (BPS), the proportion of women who are married or committing cohabitation before the age of 19 in the Province of Bangka Belitung Islands is very high. Over the past four years, the average of early marriages under the age of 19 is 15.62%. 14.22% is in 2018, 15.48% is in 2019, 18.76% is in 2020, and 14.05% is in 2021. Based on the data, the Province of Bangka Belitung has the highest rate of early marriage in 2020, even the highest in Indonesia at 18.76% (Badan Pusat Statistik, 2022). It is also stated that the number of early marriage for women in Southern Asia reached the number of 48% (Wahhaj, 2018), and 15 million girls are married as children each year (Musa et al., 2021).

In its understanding, the process of marriage that takes place under the age of 19, both women and men, are included in the class of early marriage. This rule refers to a government decision that sets the age of children is from 0-18 years (Nurkholis, 2018).

From the explanation above, there are many factors that cause early marriage. The education factor tops the list. It is not because of the lack of knowledge and socialization of the official marriage age regulations, but the situation where the formal education process at school it self has stopped which results in early marriage (Pourtaheri et al., 2023; Santhya, 2011). However, it is not supposed to be that way. One of the ways to ensure children not to get married early is by including the participation in higher education and society (Batyra & Pesando, 2021).

Dropping out of school is one of the factors causing early marriage. In short, school drop-outs will tend to marry under the specified age or classified into early marriage. When they drop out of school, they do not have many options, so in the end marriage becomes inevitable. On average, women who got married early are those who only finish junior high school (Ahn, 2023).

With the rise of early marriage, the negative impacts caused should be well anticipated. There are at least three impacts of early marriage. They are the economic impact, the health impact, and the impact of society's judgment on the perpetrators of early marriage (Zhang & Zou, 2023). The increasing divorce rate is one of the impacts

of the early marriage. This is due to the readiness to be in a marriage relationship which is still under average (Omoeva & Hatch, 2022). The knowledge and readiness about life in a marriage is still not well equipped (Guirkinger et al., 2021). In addition, early marriage can also cause an imbalance in mindset, especially for a young woman who is forced to become a mother under the proper age. As a result, the ability to handle family and children becomes an additional problem. Usually, with the prevalence of early marriage, there will be many children who are born and then do not have legal administrative requirements according to the state. (Delprato et al., 2015, 2017; Guirkinger et al., 2021).

However, the education obtained at school will certainly not be enough to deal with school dropouts that lead to early marriage. The local government, young activists, and researchers need to loud their voices through some policies (Eyleen et al., 2021). It is an integral part of the school community. The active role of the government is highly emphasized starting from the small scope to the central government. The government at the village level should be more active in tackling this problem, as it will be in direct contact with the target. In otherwords, village governments must have innovations in preventing school dropouts that result in early marriage. Previously, there were many studies that raised the topics of school dropouts and early marriage, but no one had written about the role of the village government in tackling this phenomenon and what patterns the village government had made in an effort to reduce early marriage.

In short, there are no previous researchers who have discussed policies carried out by the village government. Some studies have only assessed policies carried out by the central government and also the provincial level. This is a novelty in this study where the village government also plays a role in efforts to reduce the number of child marriages.

Therefore, this study aims to find out the policy innovations made by the local government, especially the Village Government, which has full discretion over the rules that bind the community in its area that become the policies developed to reduce the number of child marriage. The policies might differ to the rules created and developed by each local. Thus this might become a lesson learned from the area to share ideas on about reducing the child marriage.

A child is someone who is formed from conception until the end of adolescence. The definition of the age of a child in Election Law No.10 of 2008 (article 19, paragraph 1) is up to 17. It is also stated in other countries (Arthur et al., 2018; Asghari, 2019; Jarhum & Hoppe, 2019). Meanwhile, Marriage Law No.1 of 1974 explains the minimum age of marriage for women is 16 year old and men are 19 year old. The definition of a child based on Law No. 23 of 2002, is someone who is not yet 18 year old, including children who are still in the womb. Child marriage is defined as a marriage that occurs before the child reaches the age of 18, before the child is

physically, physiologically, and psychologically mature to be responsible for the marriage and the children resulting from the marriage (Abdul Hamid & Sanusi, 2016; Ahn, 2023; Guirkinger et al., 2021).

Marriage that takes place in adolescence will generally cause problems physiologically, psychologically, and socio-economically. The impact of marriage at a young age is more in adolescent girls than in adolescent boys (Ahn, 2023; Guirkinger et al., 2021). The real impact of early marriage is the occurrence of abortion or miscarriage because physiologically their productive organs (especially the uterus) are not yet perfect. The increase in divorce cases in young couples is because in general young couples are psychologically immature, so they are still unstable in dealing with problems that arise in marriage (Abdul Hamid & Sanusi, 2016; Hasanudin et al., 2023). In terms of socio-economic problems, early marriage is usually followed by economic unpreparedness (Cordero-Vinueza et al., 2023; Octaviani & Nurwati, 2020). In relevance, Islamic perspective also stated something similar to those explanation related to the causes, both in socio-economic and health issues (Tan, 2018).

Early marriage is increasing due to several factors that are very influential. They are factors from the individual, parents, the community environment, and the role of the local government, especially the village government. The local government itself consists of the Regional Head, along with other officials who have obligations and authorities that must be carried out by the local government. Early marriage among teenagers now not only occurs in rural areas but in big cities. This phenomenon has become a trend among teenagers with many motives. If in the past many parents wanted their children to get married at a young age, now the teenagers themselves who want to get married early (Muhadara et al., 2016; Muntamah et al., 2019).

The role of the government in handling child marriage is very important. Some of the things the government can do are: Coordinating the course of government in the implementation of development and community development. Performing tasks in the field of development and community development for which it is responsible. Conducting efforts in order to increase community participation and self-help. Conducting activities in the context of fostering regional peace and order. Performing other functions delegated to the government in protecting community rights (Delprato et al., 2015; Maertens, 2013; Marphatia et al., 2020; Naved et al., 2022; Rumekti & Pinasti, 2016).

Local governments must play a role in dealing with the rampant phenomenon of the early marriage. Its influential roles are to regulate the lives of society. Several stages that the local government might take. First, Personal approach; this stage is carried out by Marriage Registration Officer when there are people who register for marriage, but the requirements are not in accordance with the Marriage Law in Indonesia. Second stage is to collect the data carefully. At this stage, the data collection is carried out by

the head of the village as well as local government. It is due to determine several stage to carry out the policy (Corno & Voena, 2023).

The next stage is socialization. Addressing early marriage is by means of socialization to the community, like through a community activity such as the seminars to motivate the parents not to let their children get married earlier by continuing their education to a higher level. Lastly, tighten the marriage law becomes the last choice of reducing the early marriage programs. This is done in order to minimize early marriage phenomenon (Muntamah et al., 2019).

However, those stages are collaboratively conducted with all elements of community, including the Religious Affair Office (KUA) which also takes several collaborative actions to reduce the early or child marriage issues. Those are the approach taken by the government, both as institutional and as private responsibility, to get Indonesia free of child marriage. Thus, this research might provide a lesson learned to the policies makers to take an account in reducing the child marriage in each own local area.

2. METHOD

This research is a qualitative research using a historiography-phenomenology approach. This research aims to provide, explain, describe critically, reconstruct the past in a narrative, and correct in thorough manner from several sources of information and then analyze the data so as to find representative empirical evidence (Yusuf, 2017). The work process of this research is by describing the object or subject of research, then analyzing it. It is then compared with the current reality to find a solution to the problem. This research investigates, assesses, and synthesizes evidence to obtain facts and draw appropriate conclusions about the objects observed.

The location of this research is in the Village of Payung. It is one of those located in the legal administrative area of South Bangka Regency. Payung Village was established through Law No. 5 of 2003 concerning the Establishment of South Bangka Regency, Central Bangka Regency, West Bangka Regency, and East Belitung Regency. Payung Village is one of the villages in Payung Sub-district, South Bangka Regency. It has an area of 5,046.6 km². The boundaries of Payung Village are to the north bordering Pangkal Buluh Village, to the south bordering Sengir Village, to the west bordering Nadung Village and to the east bordering Paku Village. The geographical condition of Payung Village has a rain fall of 191.5 - 208.9 mm and an average air temperature of 23.2 - 24.1o C. The total population of Payung Village is 4,916 people. Approximately 31.89% are women and 30.78% are children. The total between women and children is 62.67%, so this is a great asset in achieving sustainable development policies, programs and activities.

The instruments used in this study were observation and interview. However, the data collection process was not only done manually, but by digital recording. In this way, the researchers can carry out the verification stage and criticize the results of the interview repeatedly. Therefore, the researcher can analyze and conduct the interpretation stage properly and thoroughly.

This research procedure includes 4 stages. The first is heuristics, which is the stage of collecting various sources that are considered capable of providing information. The second stage is verification or criticism of sources through credibility testing by obtaining information in the form of confirmation data from other sources. The next stage is interpretation, which means interpreting the data obtained through various means such as data transcription which is then analyzed by discourse. The last stage is historiography, which is the stage of compiling and writing down the data collected so as to produce an understandable reading.

Respondents in this research are the Head of Payung Village who represents the local government, the Village Consultative Board (BPD) of Payung Village and the Religious Affairs Office (KUA) in Payung Sub-district as the main source of the data. It was used to confirm the data provided by the two previous respondents.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The in-depth interviews resulted to uncover and focus on the policy innovations owned by the local government to reduce the number of early marriages. The policy was conveyed directly by the Head of Payung Village. In his interview with the research team, he conveyed some innovative policy regulated as below:

"To overcome the occurrence of early marriage, the village government does not issue a recommendation letter to the KUA. The Village Head and the apparatus will not attend the wedding and are also prohibited from using village facilities for the benefit of the wedding party. They will even be exiled from the village."

The statement above strengthens and at the same time implements Village Regulation No. 03 of 2020 concerning early Protection in Payung Village, which is described in articles 34, 35 and 36. In article 34, children have the right to be guarded and protected from early marriage practices. Meanwhile, article 35 reads that the village government, community, parents and teachers are obliged to socialize to prevent early marriage, and socialize the adverse effects of early marriage related to reproductive health and other impacts. Specifically, article 36 has three paragraphs. Paragraph 1 states that every person is prohibited from influencing and persuading children for family and individual interests that are detrimental to the future of the child, which leads to early marriage. Paragraph 2 states that early or child marriage as referred to in Paragraph (1), then, all requirements related to the administration of the marriage will not be permitted by the Village Government. Meanwhile, in paragraph 3, it is stated that

if a child is still in schooling status and is forced to marry, he or she is encouraged to continue schooling.

The statement in paragraph 3 of Village Regulation No. 3 of 2020 reinforces that early marriage is not only carried out because of the wishes of both parties, but there are several other driving factors. They are low levels of education, economic needs, young marriage culture, arranged marriages, and free sex in adolescents which causes pregnancy before marriage (Saleheen et al., 2021). In education factors that tend to be low and the family's economic income makes children forced to drop out of school and not continue their education to the next level. The education factor will greatly affect economic factors. Poverty is one of the factors that has a major influence in encouraging early marriage because in some areas in Indonesia women are still often labeled as a burden on the family economy. Therefore, marriage at a young age is considered to be the fastest way out for families to reduce their economic burden, to get rid of the family, to get rid of the strictures of the parents (Mirzaee et al., 2021). Another factor influencing early marriage is also closely related to the cultural factor of young marriage. In remote and rural areas, there are still many assumptions that a woman will only end up being a house keeper, so remote village communities think that it is better for women to be married off when they have reached their puberty.

With the existence of Village Regulation No. 3 of 2020, the existence of early marriage in Payung Village decreased very quickly. This is reinforced by data from the Office of Women's Empowerment, Child Protection, Population Administration, Civil Registration and Family Planning Population Control of the Province of Bangka Belitung Islands (DP3ACSKB) as in the following table 1.

Table 1. Early Marriage in Payung Village based on Net Consolidated Data (DKB)

Village	Marital Status of 0–18-year-old Children			Marital Status of 0–18-year-old Children			Marital Status of 0–18-year-old Children		
	Year of 2019			Year of 2020			Year of 2021		
	Man	woman	Total	Man	woman	Total	Man	woman	Total
Payung	0	5	5	0	3	3	0	1	1

With the existence of Village Regulation No. 3/2020, the rate of early marriage in Payung Village has decreased. However, it is also expected that early marriage at the provincial level will decrease as shown in the table 2 about the comparing of the national data of early marriage with the data of the Province of Bangka Belitung island.

Table 2. National Provincial (Bangka Belitung) Early Marriage Rate

No	Province	Proportion of Women Aged 20-24 who are Married or Cohabiting Before 18 by Province (Percent)			
		2019	2020	2021	2022
1	Bangka Belitung	25.48	18.76	14.05	7.91
2	Indonesia	10.82	10.35	9.23	8.06

Source: ([Badan Pusat Statistik, 2022](#))

To confirm this statement, researchers also conducted in-depth interviews with the head of the Religious Affairs Office (KUA) and the Village Consultative Board (BPD) focusing on the policy to reduce the number of early marriages. This is part of the verification or source criticism stage. Based on the results of interviews conducted with the Head of the Religious Affairs Office (KUA), the KUA has taken the following steps:

The Religious Affairs Office (KUA) has implemented Law No. 16/2019 on the amendment of Law No. 1/1974 about marriage. Especially in Payung Village, the KUA does not tolerate early marriage even though there are no civil and criminal sanctions for perpetrators of early marriage. It is only under social sanctions regarding early marriage.

They fully support the Village Regulation of Payung on early marriage as regulated in Law No. 16/2019. However, the KUA will marry off early-age children if there is a recommendation letter from the religious court. The KUA conducts counseling to schools about early marriage and attempts to conduct pregnancy checks at schools so that children do not engage in free sex which results in marriage by accident. The KUA looks for support from the local government, especially the Regent of Southern Bangka, to continue conducting socialization to schools so as to reduce the occurrence of early marriage.

The KUA's statement at point (1) is based on statement that marriage can only be permitted for those who have met the age requirements, but in certain circumstances the court can provide marriage dispensation in accordance with the applicable laws and regulations. Because the laws and regulations governing the adjudication of dispensation for children who are not of marriageable age clearly and explicitly do not yet exist, the Supreme Court has issued a regulation that serves as a guideline for religious court judges in adjudicating cases of marriage dispensation cases for Muslims who are not of marriageable age. It is the issuance of Supreme Court Regulation Number 5 of 2019 concerning Guidelines for Adjudicating Marriage Dispensation Applications. However, there are some manipulated rules of marriage especially to those who are underage. ([Barkah et al., 2023](#)). That becomes the more concern of the Religious Office Affair not to give opportunity to those type of practical system.

On another occasion, researchers also conducted in-depth interviews with representatives of members of the Village Consultative Board (BPD). The same statement was also made to support the policies made by the Village Government as follows. "As a member of the BPD, I do not agree with the existence of early marriage and there are policies and regulations dealing with early marriage in Payung Village in the form of village regulations. The pattern is to inform the village administration not to issue marriage certificates (N1) and not to attend/witness the marriages of minors. The village government also conducts socialization and assistance programs for underprivileged students." In detail, the innovations intended by the three sources can be seen on Table 3 as described below.

Table 3. Policy Innovations by Local Government to Reduce Early Marriage Rates

Number	Respondent	Policy Innovations
1	Religious Affair Office	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Enacting Law No. 1/1974 on the zero tolerance of early marriage. 2. Fully supporting Law No. 16 of 2019 on Early marriage Regulation 3. Conducting counselling to schools about early marriage and efforts to conduct pregnancy checks in schools so that children do not have free sex which results in marriage by accident. 4. Asking for the support from the government of South Bangka Regency
2	Village Government	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Making Village Regulation No. 2 of 2020 on Child Friendly Village 2. Establishing Village Regulation No. 3 of 2020 on Child Protection 3. Making Payung Village Decree No. 141 of 2022 concerning the Implementation Team of the Payung Village Child Friendly Village Development Task Force. 4. Not issuing recommendations to the KUA to marry off children 5. Village officials are not allowed to attend all wedding ceremonies. 6. All village facilities are prohibited from being used in the marriage ceremony.
3	Village Consultative Board (BPD)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Supporting policy innovations made by the Village Government 2. Providing initial input to the Village Government not to issue N1 (Initial Marriage Certificate) forms for early marriages.

Based on the results of the research on the prevention patterns ruled by the village government to prevent children from dropping out of school, it is implemented

by cooperating with several other local government organizers such as the Village Consultative Body (BPD) and the Religious Affairs Office (KUA). In addition, of course, the local government of Payung village also cooperates with other government elements. This kind of collaborative works among all sectors of governments aims to protect children's rights (Erdianti & Fatih, 2019; Ramaswamy et al., 2023). Therefore, in supporting this program, the Payung Village Government invites all elements of society to work together in realizing a Child Friendly Village (Prihantika et al., 2020). One form of realization is in the form of village regulation No. 2 of 2020 concerning Child Friendly Villages. The Child Friendly Village is where there are efforts to protect children's rights. It might include some aspects such as government and local environment (Cordero-Vinueza et al., 2023; Nan, 2020). However, to support the policy ruled by the government and Religious Office Affair, parents may take actions as well (Elvina et al., 2021)

The above is certainly in line with further efforts made by the village government, that is forming village regulation No. 3 of 2020 concerning child protection, which was further derived in Payung Village Decree No. 141 of 2022 regarding the task force for developing a child-friendly village in Payung Village. This is a real effort made by the local government of Payung Village to fulfill children's rights. One of these children's rights is the right for education as contained in the Child Protection Law Article 4 - Article 18 (Sholihah, 2018).

The next innovation made by the Payung Village Government in an effort to reduce the number of early marriages is to issue a point stating not to provide a Certificate of Marriage (N1) for applicants who want to enter into early marriage. Furthermore, a decision was also made not to give permission to all village officials to witness early marriage.

This regulation carries the concept of Reward and Punishment. The points applied by the Payung Village Government are in the form of punishment given to the applicant as an effort to reduce behavior or actions that are considered inappropriate. It is needed to reduce the rates of domestic violence against woman and divorce in Indonesia (Abdul Hamid & Sanusi, 2016; Hasanudin et al., 2023). With such social punishment, it is hoped that the community will be able to raise full awareness of the wrong concept of early marriage. This applies to all, not just the applicant (Bhan et al., 2019). In the other purposes, it also aims to reduce mental health risks (Kumari & Shekhar, 2023).

A further regulation prohibits the use of village facilities for early marriage. As in most villages, facilities provided by the local government can be used as an option for weddings. It is one of the government's efforts to support marriage (Mubarak et al., 2022). Just like the previous policy, prohibition of using this is also part of the social punishment provided by the Village Government in reducing the number of early

marriages in Payung Village. As a result of the policy implemented by the Payung Village Government, it can be seen that since this policy was implemented several years ago, the number of early marriages has been reduced and even eliminated.

"Bangka Belitung Islands are among the regions with highest rate of child-age marriages. In 2020 Bangka Belitung Islands will get the first rank for the number of child-age marriages in Indonesia, and in 2021 Bangka Belitung Islands will still be in the top five highest in Indonesia for child-age marriages. However, when being compared to other sub-districts, Payung sub-district is still low compared to Simpang Rimba sub-district including Pulau Besar sub-district because in Payung sub-district there is a decrease in early marriage since they also involve other offices such as BKKBN".

This can be further seen through Table 1 as shown in the results section. From 2019 to 2021, the number of early marriages in Payung Village has decreased significantly. The rise of early marriage is certainly inseparable from the reasons behind this. One of the factors causing child or early marriage occurs due to factors from within the child himself, such as marriage by accident. It is also stated that male and female students have the same selective views on dating, promiscuity before marriage, going out at night beyond 9 pm and watching pornographic films (Mukharom & Sihotang, 2020; Suryadin, 2020). To overcome this problem, the role of parents is one of the important factors in fostering children's character so that they can protect themselves from activities that have a negative side (Saputra, 2020). One of the activities that can be done is to involve themselves in all children's learning processes, both at school and in the family environment (Haiyudi & Art-In, 2021). In addition, fostering a strong character must also be done to maintain the quality of children's education in various situations (Sutopo et al., 2021). It is related to the approach and rules conducted by the local village to keep a positive maintaining process of reducing the early marriage number in their local. This strategy is not only implemented in Indonesia, but also in some other countries (Delprato et al., 2015; Marphatia et al., 2023; Nan, 2020)

Besides, early marriage also occurs due to coercion from parents. However, in general, early marriage occurs due to internal factors like the occurrence of unplanned marriage (marriage by accident). This is triggered by the rise of promiscuity, especially in urban areas.

Some of the problems that may occur if early marriage occurs are also related to reproductive health. Biologically, the reproductive organs of a child-age girl are still in the process of growth towards maturity so that they are not ready for sexual intercourse, if pregnancy and childbirth occur and are forced, trauma, extensive birth canal tears and infections that endanger their reproductive organs. If so, the problem of early marriage is a cross-sectoral problem between parents and all parties (Harvey et al., 2022; Li et al., 2021). In other studies, it is also stated that the negative impact of early marriage will

also hinder the education process. This contradicts the opinion of the Village Consultative Body (BPD) to support children schooling process that said early marriage should not hamper schooling. In line with Village Regulation No. 3 of 2020 Paragraph 3, which states that if a child is still in school and is forced to marry, they should still continue their schooling (Musa et al., 2021; Pourtaheri et al., 2023).

Therefore, with the policy innovations made by the Payung Village Government, it is hoped that the rate of early marriage will also decrease at the provincial and national levels. If we look at the comparison of early marriage data displayed in Table 2 regarding the comparison of early marriage in the Bangka Belitung Islands Province with that nationally, it can be concluded that the decline has occurred significantly from 2019 to 2021.

4. CONCLUSION

Several policy innovations made by the Payung Village Government are contained in Payung Village Decree No. 141 of 2022, Making Village Regulation No. 2 of 2020 concerning Child Friendly Villages, Making Village Regulation No. 3 of 2020 concerning Child Protection, Making Payung Village Decree No 141 of 2022 concerning the Implementation Team of the Payung Village Child Friendly Village Development Task Force not issuing recommendations to the the Religious Affairs Office (KUA) for early marriage. Finally, village officials are not allowed to attend all wedding ceremonies. All village facilities are also prohibited from being used. In short, the policy innovation implemented by the local Government of Payung Village, Payung Sub-district, South Bangka Regency, under the village Decree No 141 of 2022 has been successful in reducing the number of early marriages. To sum up, the researcher might suggest the next research to focus on the types of policy designed by other village as the innovation to solve this issue. Moreover, this research recommends the policy maker to refer to the policy in order to contribute to reduce the number of early marriage.

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