



## **Beyond Generation: The Politic of Place in the Discourse of Adolescent Pregnancy in Indonesia**

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### *Abstract*

*This study attempts to capture another discourse among adolescents regardless the population is very huge and promising as a generation in Indonesia. As main context, it relates to the controversial issue of adolescent pregnancy. In one side, adolescent pregnancy is likely closer to the number of expelled out girl students due to the reason of moral violation. Meanwhile, based on Indonesia law of marriage allowing under 15-year-old girls to marry, it does not make sense to have a prohibition for pregnant students who are registered as senior high school and above. It is also very interesting that instead of placing reasons as measurement of self-achievements, schools, as representation of modern institutions, in fact, allow moral values to be working effectively in ruling human feasibility. This paradox then leads several questions such as: Is there any gender neutral in the development of modern institution of schools? To what extent schools deal with the idea of freedom in terms of public space for all gender? Or is it true that schools, as representation of modern institution, do strengthen the dichotomy of public and domestic because, based on the phenomena of expelled out pregnant students, there is no unconditional place for the girls. By following the perspective of politic of place (Dirlik 2001), this study, so far, finds that the discourse of adolescent pregnancy, in fact, reproduces contradictive notions such as between student and mother or between school and maternal lives. Subsequently, it causes such a dislocation for the girls because in order to be part of modernity or to be involved in modern institutions, the girls' body is constantly disciplined. Moreover, they are required to be student, virgin, single and away from her traditional femininity: otherwise she cannot occupy any place in public.*

*Keywords: adolescent pregnancy, the girls, place based imagination, modern institution, school*