

Relationship Pattern of Fatherless Impacts to Internet Addiction, Suicidal Tendencies and Learning Difficulties for Students at SMAN ABC Jakarta

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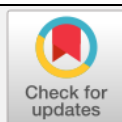
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ABSTRACT

Fatherless is the absence of a father figure. Some impacts of fatherlessness are loneliness, openness, depression, self-control, and self-esteem. These factors can influence internet addiction and suicidal tendencies. It also can cause difficulty in the learning process for students. This study aims to determine the significant impacts caused by fatherlessness and the relation to internet addiction, suicidal tendencies, and learning difficulties. The method used is Partial Least Square. The results showed that the significant impacts caused by fatherlessness are loneliness, depression, and self-esteem. The impacts of fatherless that influence internet addiction are loneliness and depression. The impact of fatherlessness that influences suicidal tendencies is depression. Internet addiction and suicidal tendencies influence learning difficulties.

Keywords: *Fatherless; Internet Addiction; Learning Difficulties; Suicidal Tendencies*

1. Introduction

Family is the smallest unit of society, consisting of the head of the family and several people gathered and lived together under one roof ([Kementerian Kesehatan Republik Indonesia, 2016](#)). A complete family usually consists of father, mother, and children (Williams, 2011). Every member of the family has a responsibility to fulfill the function and the needs of the family ([Peterson, 2009](#)). As parents, fathers and mothers have an important role in the growth of children. Parenting is the duty of the father and mother. Nowadays, many stereotypes state that parenting is only the mother's responsibility ([Gorman & Fritzsche, 2002](#); [Ashari, 2018](#)), even though the father's role in parenting children is also very needed.

[Lamb \(2010\)](#) revealed that the father's role is divided into three components, paternal engagement, accessibility or availability, and responsibility. The father's role in paternal engagement is to interact directly with children in nurturing, playing, and relaxing. This role will cause children to have examples from the father in dealing with life ([Parmanti & Purnamasari, 2015](#)) and communicate with others ([Lismanda, 2017](#); [Risman, 2017, p. 18](#)). Components of accessibility or availability mean that the father has a role in the presence and affordability of children, whether through direct or indirect interactions. This thing provides and fosters a sense of security in children. The existence of a father figure can increase children's sense of courage in facing life ([Hanifah, 2019](#)). The father is responsible for meeting daily needs, arrangements, and planning on a child's life. In this case, children will see and get an example of being responsible ([Hanifah, 2019](#)). In addition, the father also has the role of economic provider, friend and playmate, caregiver, teacher and role model, monitor and disciplinary, protector, advocate, and resource ([Lismanda, 2017](#)). Based on the various studies, the father's role in the family is very significant in building the children's character.

However, recently many fathers do not understand his role as a father, especially for their children. Based on a survey conducted by the Indonesian Child Protection Commission (Komisi Perlindungan Anak Indonesia or KPAI) in 2015 regarding the quality of childcare in Indonesia, the results showed the quality of education and knowledge of parents, especially parents, especially fathers, related to childcare is still low. Only 27.9% of fathers trying to find information about caring for and raising children before marriage, and only 38.9% of fathers sought information about caring for children after marriage ([Setyawan, 2017](#)). Many fathers in Indonesia are only physically present but do not build their children's character.

The absence of a father's role in a child's life can have a negative impact on children. [Lerner \(2011\)](#) stated that someone who feels fatherless would lose the important roles of their father, which will impact low self-esteem, the feeling of anger, and shame for being different from other children. The fatherless can cause impacts such as loneliness, un-openness, depression, inability to self-control, and low self-esteem. This impact can cause internet addiction and suicidal tendencies. For students, both effects will cause learning difficulties.

Suppose the relationship pattern among fatherless impacts, internet addiction, and suicidal tendencies and their effects on learning difficulties can be identified. In that case, schools can be made appropriate policies to deal with students who experience learning difficulties. This is what SMAN ABC Jakarta wants to know, and this becomes the purpose of this study.

For the introduction above, the purpose of the study is to analyze the relationship pattern of fatherless' impact and internet addiction, suicidal tendencies, and learning difficulties.

2. Research Methodology

It will explain the variables used in this research, the population and sample, and the Partial Least Square (PLS) method.

2.1. Variables

The variables used here are fatherless, loneliness, openness, depression, self-control, self-esteem, internet addiction, suicidal tendencies, and learning difficulties.

Fatherless is defined as a father's figure absence in life because of death or the bad relationship and communication between children and father. According to [Bradley \(2016, p. 234\)](#), fatherless is the father's physical, emotional, and spiritual absence from the children's lives. If children have a father figure in their life, they will feel that their father can find out what they feel and think, children can communicate with their father in many ways, can ask advice and help from them. If children do not experience the things mentioned, it can be concluded that they experienced a fatherless condition. In this research, the fatherless variable states the degree of a father's absence in life both physically and psychologically. This variable is a latent variable measured by using ten indicator variables.

Loneliness is a situation experienced by someone who has unpleasant social relationships ([de Jong-Gierveld, 1987, p. 120](#)). It is the same as [Baron & Byrne \(2005\)](#) expressed that loneliness is an unhappy emotional and cognitive state where the expectation of being involved in meaningful and intimate social relationships is not achieved. According to [Perlman & Peplau \(1981, p. 31\)](#), loneliness is an unpleasant experience with some deficiencies in social relationships. This variable is a latent variable measured by using eight indicator variables.

Openness is telling about ourselves to other people, from general information to very private and sensitive information ([Masaviru, 2016](#); [Vogel & Wester, 2003](#)) described openness as a process in which individuals express emotions, thoughts, beliefs, and their attitude. Fatherless in children can affect children's openness to the father. If there is no good communication between father and children, it will not be easy to open up because they feel their father did not understand children's feelings. In this research, this variable is a latent variable measured by using six indicator variables.

Depression is a mental disorder arising from stress, loss of interest or pleasure, decreased energy, feelings of guilt or low self-esteem, sleep disturbances or appetite, and concentration bad and often accompanied by anxiety symptoms ([WHO, 2012](#)). Depression can affect a person's feelings, way of thinking, and acting and cause sadness or loss of interest in activities. According to [Allen & Daly \(2007\)](#), it is known that children who do not grow up with their fathers can lead to increased depression. This variable is a latent variable measured by using six indicator variables.

Self-control is a person's ability to control behavior, restraint, not showing someone's feelings, such as trying to control oneself not to get angry, sad, and too happy ([Hornby, 1995](#)). Self-control refers to resisting temptation, regulating emotions, controlling cognition, and adjusting behavior in facing a goal. [Baumeister et al. \(2007\)](#) and [Lismanda \(2017\)](#) stated that fathers have a role in monitor and discipline to supervise and enforce discipline rules in children. If a father's role does not exist, it can result in a low level of self-control ([Situmorang et al., 2018](#)). This variable is a latent variable measured by using five indicator variables.

Self-esteem is an individual's perception or subjective assessment of self-worth and self-confidence and how someone views himself positively or negatively ([Sedikides & Gress, 2003](#)). [Rosenberg \(1965\)](#) revealed that self-esteem refers to the overall individual evaluation of self.

High self-esteem causes people to value or consider themselves worthy. O'Neill (2002) revealed that children who experience fatherlessness tend to have self-esteem problems. Children who have fatherless will easily feel inferior and not confident because they feel different from other children (Lerner, 2011). This variable is a latent variable measured by using six indicator variables.

Internet addiction is an act, urge, or behavior that excessive uncontrolled computer using and access internet causing distraction or pressure (Shaw & Black, 2008). Tikhonov & Bogoslovskii (2015) defined internet addiction as an impulse disorder of individual experiences or behavior of using the internet, managing time in using the internet. Internet addiction can distract and decrease social interactions. Fatherless can affect the level of addiction to the internet in children. This happened because they did not get satisfaction when doing social relations directly (face to face). This variable is a latent variable measured by using six indicator variables.

Suicidal thoughts are the urge to lose one's own life to be the best solution for solving problems (Shneidman, 1985). According to Klonsky et al. (2016), suicidal thoughts are defined as thoughts or hopes against death. Nock et al. (2008) defined suicidal thoughts as thoughts and impulses to end one's self-own life. Hidayati & Muthia (2016) revealed that lonely children tend to withdraw from their social environment. They feel that no one cares about them. It has been known that one source of loneliness is fatherless. This variable is a latent variable measured by using five indicator variables.

Learning difficulties were defined as differences between academic potentials and actual academic results (Ross, 1974). Learning difficulties are a condition characterized by obstacles in activities to achieve a goal, requiring a harder effort to overcome it (Sugiyanto, 2007). This variable is a latent variable that is measured using five indicator variables.

2.2. Population and Sample

The population in this study is the students of SMAN ABC Jakarta. The sample used is students in 10th grade and 11th grade, while students in 12th grade were not included in the sample because they focused on preparing for the exam. The sample in this study was taken by using stratified and cluster sampling. The population is divided into two strata, 10th class, and 11th class. From each class, 3 clusters (class) are selected randomly. All students from the selected classes became the sample. The total number of respondents obtained was 198 students.

2.3. Partial Least Square (PLS)

According to Gunadi et al. (2020), Partial Least Square is an analysis of variance-based structural equations that can simultaneously conduct measurement model testing as well as structural model testing. The measurement model is used to test the validity and reliability, while the structural model is used to test causality (hypothesis testing with predictive models). This study used PLS to determine the relationship pattern among fatherless, loneliness, depression, openness, self-control, self-esteem, internet addiction, suicidal tendencies, and learning difficulties. In addition, the PLS method is used to explain the relationship between latent variables and their indicator variables and the relationship among latent variables simultaneously. The PLS method does not have a distribution assumption, so the PLS method is non-parametric (Boßow-Thies & Albers, 2010). PLS can also be applied to data with relatively small sample size, a complex model, and any measurement scale.

In this research, the early model is described as in **Figure 1** below:

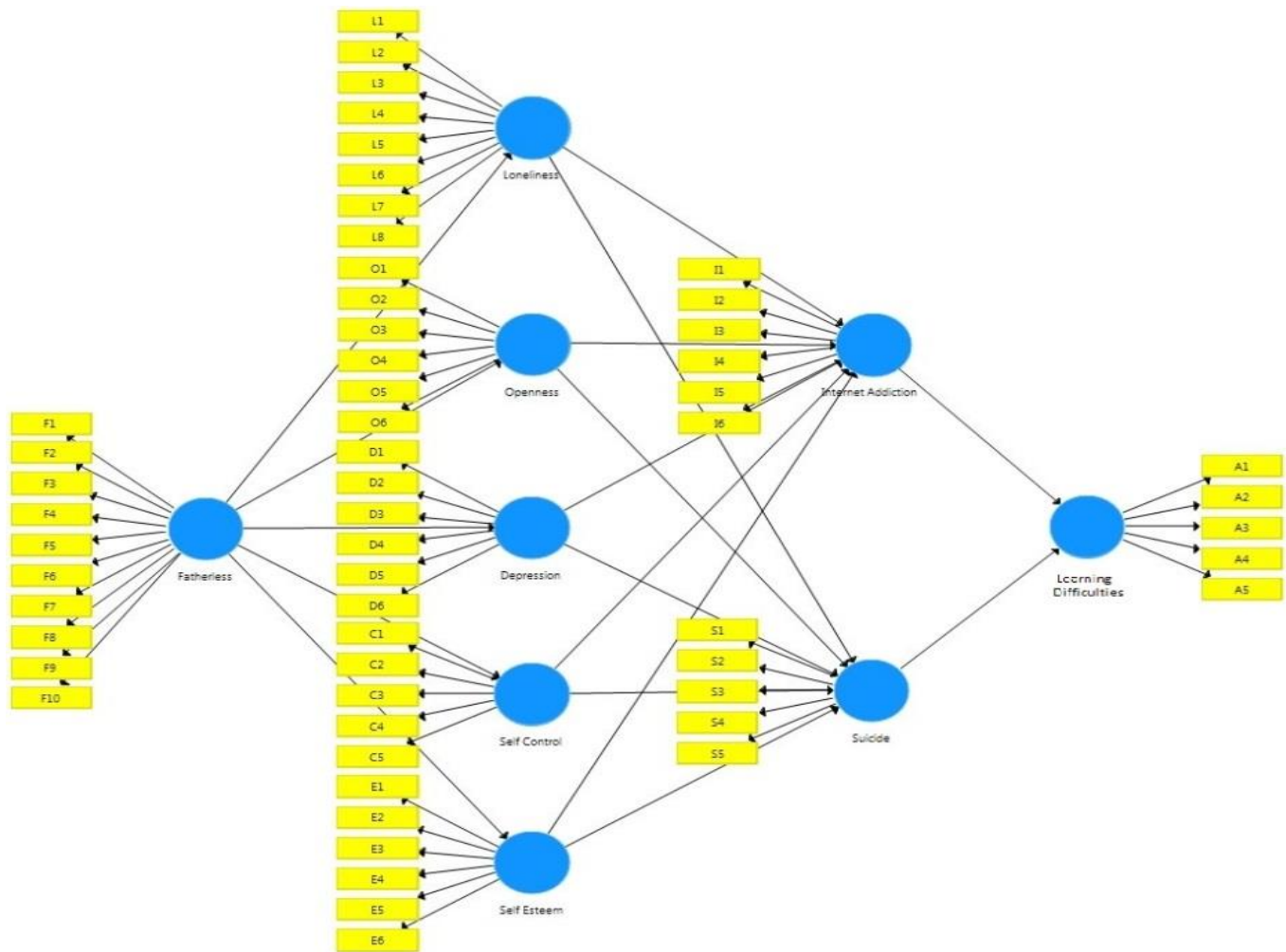


Figure 1. PLS Early Model Prediction

The parameters in the model are estimated by iteration method and tested by Bootstrap methods. After that, the assumptions are checked, such as:

2.3.1. Outer Model Evaluation

In outer model evaluation, reliability and validity tests were carried out using convergent validity, discriminant validity, and composite reliability.

1) Convergent Validity

Convergent validity can be measured using outer loading and Average Variance Extracted (AVE). The outer loading value can explain the relationship size between the indicator variables and latent variables. According to [Hair et al. \(2017\)](#), an indicator that can explain latent variables well has an outer loading value greater than 0.6. Apart from outer loading, another test to assess convergent validity is through the AVE value. AVE is the average of the outer loading squared on a latent variable. The AVE value can describe the variability of the indicator, which latent variables can explain. According to [Sarstedt et al. \(2017\)](#), the latent variable that can explain the indicator's variance has an AVE value greater than 0.5.

2) Discriminant Validity

Discriminant validity has the principle that the indicators on a latent variable do not have a high correlation with other latent variables (Hair et al., 2014). The validity of the discriminant can be measured using the cross-loading value. An indicator is declared a valid discriminant if its outer loading value is greater than its cross-loading value with other variables.

3) Composite Reliability

Composite reliability, or what is also called Dillon-Goldstein's rho, is used to measure the internal consistency of latent variables (Sarstedt et al., 2017). Internal consistent latent variables have a composite reliability value greater than 0.7 (Hair et al., 2017).

2.3.2. Inner Model Evaluation

The PLS inner model can be evaluated using the significance value of the path coefficient, the coefficient of determination (R^2), and the predictive relevance Q-Square. The path coefficient indicates the amount of the correlation among latent variables. Another measurement made in the inner model evaluation is the coefficient of determination (R^2). The coefficient of determination (R^2) shows the amount of variation in the dependent variable that the independent variables can explain in the inner model (Sarstedt et al., 2017). It usually has a low determination if the coefficient (R^2) is below 50%.

Apart from these two measurements, another inner model evaluation is through the Q-Square predictive relevance value called the Stone-Geisser test. Q-Square shows the predictive relevance (observation value) generated by the model and its parameter estimates. A model that has a Q-Square value > 0 means that the model has predictive relevance (Hair et al., 2017) and if the Q-Square value approaches 1, the model has a good predictive relevance (Ghozali, 2008). The formula used to find the value of Q-Square is as follows:

$$Q^2 = 1 - (1 - R_1^2)(1 - R_2^2) \dots (1 - R_p^2) \quad (1)$$

Where $R_1^2, R_2^2 \dots R_P^2$ is the coefficient of determination of the latent variable.

3. Results

From the data analysis using the PLS method, the finding best model is described such as in Figure 2 below:

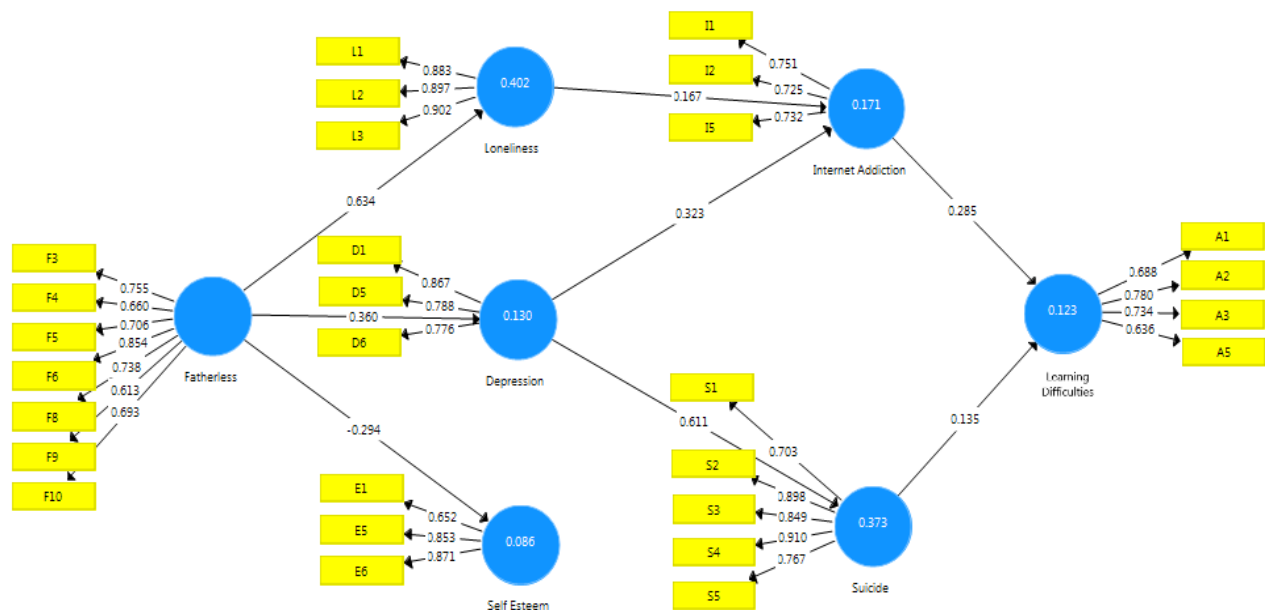


Figure 2. Best Model PLS

The model in **Figure 2** is the best model that meets all the assumptions, namely:

3.1. Outer Model Evaluation

1) Convergent Validity

From the model in **Figure 2**, the outer loading values are obtained in **Table 1**. Based on **Table 1**, all indicators on latent variables have outer loading values > 0.6 . As for the AVE values of the model are: fatherless = 0.519, loneliness = 0.799, depression = 0.658, self-esteem = 0.637, internet addiction = 0.542, suicidal tendencies = 0.687 and learning difficulties = 0.506. It can be seen that all latent variables in the model have an AVE value > 0.5 so that all latent variables can explain the variance of the indicators well.

Table 1. Outer Loading Values

Latent Variable	Indicator	Outer Loading	Latent Variable	Indicator	Outer Loading
Fatherless	F3	0.755	Self-esteem	E1	0.652
	F4	0.660		E5	0.853
	F5	0.706		E6	0.871
	F6	0.854	Internet Addiction	I1	0.751
	F8	0.738		I2	0.725
	F9	0.613		I5	0.732
	F10	0.693	Suicidal Tendencies	S1	0.703
Loneliness	L1	0.883		S2	0.898
	L2	0.897		S3	0.849
	L3	0.902		S4	0.910
Depression	D1	0.867		S5	0.767
	D5	0.788	Learning Difficulties	A1	0.688
	D6	0.776		A2	0.780
				A3	0.734
				A5	0.636

2) Discriminant Validity

After checking this assumption, all indicators have outer loading values greater than their cross-loading values with other variables. Therefore, it can be concluded that the discriminant validity of the model is fulfilled.

3) Composite Reliability

The results of the composite reliability values from the model are: fatherless = 0.882, loneliness = 0.923, depression = 0.852, self-esteem = 0.839, internet addiction = 0.780, suicidal tendencies = 0.916 and learning difficulties = 0.803. It can be seen that all latent variables have a composite reliability value > 0.7, so it can be stated that all variables in the model are internally consistent.

Based on the results of the outer model's evaluation that has been carried out, it can be concluded that the outer model in **Figure 2** is suitable.

3.2. Inner Model Evaluation

In the model, an inner model evaluation is carried out using the p-value of the path coefficient. The p-values of the path coefficient in the model are shown in Table 2.

Table 2. P-value of the Path Coefficient

Variable	Path Coefficient	Statistics T	P-value
Fatherless → Loneliness	0.634	14.203	0.000
Fatherless → Depression	0.360	5.765	0.000
Fatherless → Self-esteem	-0.294	4.474	0.000
Loneliness → Internet Addiction	0.167	2.215	0.027
Depression → Internet Addiction	0.323	4.340	0.000
Depression → Suicidal Tendencies	0.611	13.834	0.000
Internet Addiction → Learning Difficulties	0.285	4.350	0.000
Suicidal Tendencies → Learning Difficulties	0.135	1.744	0.081

Based on **Table 2**, it can be seen that all paths have a p-value < 0.1, so for all paths in the model, there is a significant relationship.

After evaluating the outer and inner models, the next step is to examine the coefficient of determination (R^2) of the variables in the model. The values of the coefficient of determination are: The results of the composite reliability values from the model are: loneliness = 0.402, depression = 0.130, self-esteem = 0.086, internet addiction = 0.171, suicidal tendencies = 0.373 and learning difficulties = 0.123.

Furthermore, the coefficient of determination (R^2) above is used to find the Q-Square predictive relevance value of the model. The following is the predictive relevance Q-Square equation obtained from the model:

$$Q^2 = 1 - (1 - R_1^2)(1 - R_2^2)(1 - R_3^2)(1 - R_4^2)(1 - R_5^2)(1 - R_6^2)$$

$$Q^2 = 1 - ((1 - 0.402)(1 - 0.130)(1 - 0.086)(1 - 0.171)(1 - 0.373)(1 - 0.123))$$

$$Q^2 = 0.78323543$$

Based on the calculation results, the Q-Square predictive relevance value is 0.78323543. It shows that model has good predictive relevance.

4. Discussion

Based on these results, it is known that the significant factors being the impact of fatherlessness on students of ABC Jakarta High School are loneliness, depression, and self-esteem. Fatherless has a positive relationship with loneliness. Loneliness is the most significant factor influenced by fatherlessness. Students of SMAN ABC Jakarta who lose their father figure in their life will feel lonely due to the lack of social relationships with their father. This statement is in line with [Lerner \(2011\)](#) that someone who feels fatherless will lose the importance of a father's role so that children will feel lonely.

Another factor influenced by fatherlessness is depression. There is a positive relationship between being fatherless and depression. This illustrates that the higher the level of fatherlessness, the higher the level of depression. This finding is consistent with [Allen & Daly \(2007\)](#) in their research that children who do not grow up with their father can cause an increase in depression in children.

Apart from the factors of loneliness and depression, fatherless also significantly influenced the level of self-esteem. There is a negative relationship between being fatherless and the level of self-esteem. This shows that the high level of fatherlessness can cause their self-esteem to decline. [Kamila & Mukhlis \(2013\)](#) also found the same results, that the group of children who have fathers have a higher level of self-esteem than groups of children who do not have a father.

Another thing obtained in this study, namely loneliness due to being fatherless, has a significant effect on internet addiction and internet addiction has a significant effect on learning difficulties. This is in line with research conducted by [Bozoglan et al. \(2013\)](#) that loneliness is a predictor of internet addiction, while [Ghulami et al. \(2018\)](#) stated that internet addiction has a significant relationship with children's academic performance.

Other findings in this study were depression due to being fatherless, which significantly affected internet addiction and suicidal tendencies. In contrast, internet addiction and suicidal tendencies had a significant effect on learning difficulties. The results of this study are in line with several previous studies. [Wu et al. \(2016\)](#) stated that internet addiction is positively correlated with depression. Moreover, depression is a significant predictor of suicidal tendencies ([Lew et al., 2019](#)). According to [Ghulami et al. \(2018\)](#), internet addiction has a significant relationship with children's academic performance. Also, [Miletic et al. \(2015\)](#) stated that there is a significant relationship between suicidal tendencies and children's academic performance.

5. Conclusion

Based on this study, it can be concluded that the significant impact caused by fatherlessness on students of SMAN ABC Jakarta is loneliness, depression, and self-esteem. Individuals who feel more fatherless will have higher loneliness, higher depression, and lower self-esteem. From the results of this study, it can be seen that the increase of loneliness and depression will increase the level of internet addiction. As explained above, Internet addiction can distract and decrease social interactions. Loneliness and depression, which are getting higher, will also lead to increased learning difficulties. This needs to be anticipated and avoided. Apart from causing internet addiction, depression often makes individuals think about committing suicide. This

makes the person concerned mentally suffer. In addition, suicidal tendencies will also increase learning difficulties that need to be anticipated and avoided. From this study, fatherlessness also negatively affects self-esteem. Individuals who have high feelings of fatherlessness will have low self-esteem, making them less able to respect and trust themselves. In this study, there is no known direct effect that is influenced by self-esteem. The results of this study apply, especially to SMAN ABC Jakarta.

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7. Declaration of Conflicting Interests

The authors have declared no potential conflicts of interest concerning the study, authorship, and/or publication of this article,

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