

ABSTRACT

Irene Wijaya Kusuma

Motivation and how wife cope with a marriage with a husband who has an affair. (Henny E Wirawan, M. Hum., Psi); Undergraduate Program in Psychology, University of Tarumanagara. (106 pages, R1-R3, Appdx 1-13)

A wife whose husband has an affair will feel the bad effects of the affair. The affects include several aspects, such as psychologic, physiologic, as well as sexual and communication problems with her husband. Though having known her husband has an affair, the wife is still motivated to keep the marriage. This research aims to answer these problems: What motivates the wife to keep the marriage with a husband who has an affair? And how she copes with it? To answer the questions, the writer used the theory which discusses about the motivaton to keep such marriage, stated by Then (2002). Another theory used is the one from Lazarus and Folkman (1984) about how to solve the stress coping. This research used qualitative method and deep interview technique, which had been done from September 18th until April 3th, 2008. The research involved 5 respondents from the ages of 30-50 years old. The result showed that the main reason why all respondents decided to keep their marriages was because of personal reasons: they loved their children and wanted to be faithful with their love. All those five respondents did more emotion focused coping. Commonly, they tried to seek emotional and sympathy support, do religious activities, surrender everything to God, and also learn to live with real condition.

Key word: Marriage, Affair, Motivation, Coping.