

## ABSTRACT

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**Description of optimism on PLWHA (People Living with HIV / AIDS) early adulthood in the face of death. (Rahmah Hastuti M.Psi., Psi.). Psychology studies program, undergraduate degree in Psychology Program, Tarumanagara University. (i-xii, 115 pages, P1-P3, L1-L23)**

When individuals are given a diagnosis of HIV / AIDS, individuals will feel slumped and despaired to learn that HIV / AIDS leads to death. Individuals will feel useless to continue their life again. Therefore, it takes an optimistic attitude for the individual so that they can get up and continue to live a life like everyone else. Optimism is very important in doing anything. Optimism can make people think positively and be able to accept them in any condition. This study aims to find a description of optimism to the early adult with PLWHA (People Living with HIV / AIDS) in the face of death. The study used four subjects who are in the age range 20-40 years with positive diagnosis of HIV / AIDS over five years. The first, second, and third subjects are male, while the fourth subject is female. Data is collected between March-June 2012. This research uses the study of Macdonald (2004) and Ginnis (1990). The research was conducted at Rumah Cemara, a non-governmental organization, located in Geger Kalong, Bandung, West Java. This is a qualitative research with an in-depth interview process. The results show that being PLWHA, the four subjects have high optimism. They are able to meet the characteristics of optimism and able to think positively even though the diagnosis of HIV / AIDS leads to death.

Key words: optimism, PLWHA, death