## ABSTRACT

Devi Akmeliani. (2018) Improving Students' Mathematical Understanding Ability and Mathematical Self-esteem Of Junior High School Students Through Problem Based Learning Models.

This study aims to: (1) find out the improvement of students' mathematical understanding abilities through a problem based learning model; (2) knowing the achievement of mathematical self-esteem of students who get a problem based learning model is better than expository learning; (3) knowing the correlation between the problem based learning model with mathematical self-esteem. The method used in this study is a quasi-experimental method with a pretest-posttest control group design. The population in this study were all eighth grade students of SMPN 1 Pusakanagara. The research sample consists of 2 classes. Class VIII F was obtained as the experimental class which received the Problem Based Learning model and class VIII H as the control class which received the expository learning model. The instrument used in this research is in the form of a description of the mathematical understanding ability test and a self-esteem scale. The collected data is then processed using SPSS Statistics 23.0 for Windows. The results showed that: (1) the improvement of students' mathematical representation skills who received Problem Based Learning learning was better than students who received the lecture learning model; (2) the self-esteem of students who received the learning model using the Problem Based Learning learning model was better than the students who received the ordinary learning model; (3) There is a correlation between the ability of mathematical understanding and selfesteem of students who get the Problem Based Learning learning model.

*Keywords:* Mathematical understanding ability, self-esteem, problem based learning.