

## ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to investigate the moral maturity of form four students of Moral Education (16 years old) in a secondary school in Kuala Lumpur. Three groups of students comprising 60 boys from three different academic levels of achievements (high, average and low) were selected based on their form three public examination (*Penilaian Menengah Rendah*) results. Twenty students from each group completed the Sociomoral Reflection Measure – Short Form (SRM-SF) questionnaires to assess their moral maturity in moral reasoning.

The results showed that 5% ( $n = 3$ ) of the 60 respondents were scored at the mature level of moral reasoning and 95% ( $n = 57$ ) of them were at the immature level of moral reasoning. The highest stage reached by the respondent was scored at stage 3. Among the high achievement group, only 15% ( $n = 3$ ) attained stage 3 (mature level) while 85% ( $n = 17$ ) of the students were at stages 1 and 2 (immature level). Among the average achievement group, 55% ( $n = 11$ ) of the respondents reached stage 1 while 45% ( $n = 9$ ) of them attained stage 2. Among the low achievement group, 95% ( $n = 19$ ) of the respondents were at stage 1 while only 5% ( $n = 1$ ) of them attained stage 2. None of the average and low achievement groups reasoned at mature level of moral reasoning.

The overall results thus suggest some relationship between moral maturity and level of academic achievements among the form four students. The SRM-SF questionnaire and scoring manual is found to be suitable but relevant responses that are not included in the manual be taken into considerations, particularly those that are related to non-western culture.



