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RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN MORAL MATURITY AND ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT OF FORM FOUR STUDENTS IN A SECONDARY SCHOOL

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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.

HUBUNGAN ANTARA KEMATANGAN MORAL DAN PENCAPAIAN AKADEMIK BAGI PELAJAR-PELAJAR TINGKATAN EMPAT DI SEBUAH SEKOLAH MENENGAH

ABSTRAK

Matlamat kajian penyelidikan ini adalah untuk menyiasat kematangan moral pelajar-pelajar Tingkatan Empat yang mengambil mata pelajaran Pendidikan Moral (16 tahun) di sebuah sekolah di Kuala Lumpur. Tiga kumpulan pelajar yang terdiri daripada 60 orang pelajar daripada pencapaian akademik yang berbeza (tinggi, sederhana, dan rendah) telah dipilih berdasarkan keputusan *Penilaian Menengah Rendah* (PMR). Dalam setiap kumpulan, 20 orang pelajar telah berjaya menyiapkan soal selidik (*Sociomoral Reflection Measure-Short Form* (SRM-SF) bagi menguji kematangan moral mereka dalam penaakulan moral.

Dari keputusan yang didapati, hanya 5% (n = 3) dari 60 orang pelajar berada di tahap penaakulan kematangan moral dan 95% (n = 59) yang lain berada di tahap kurang kematangan dalam penaakulan moral. Kumpulan pencapaian akademik yang tinggi mempunyai 15% (n = 3) orang pelajar yang mencapai peringkat 3 manakala 85% lagi berada di peringkat 1 dan 2 (tahap kurang kematangan). Bagi kumpulan pencapaian akademik yang sederhana, 55% (n = 11) daripada pelajar berada di peringkat 1 dan 45% (n = 9) mencapai peringkat 2. Bagi kumpulan pencapaian akademik rendah didapati 95% (n = 19) daripada pelajar berada di peringkat 1 dan hanya 5% (n = 1) berada di peringkat 2. Tiada pelajar daripada kedua-dua kumpulan pencapaian akademik sederhana dan rendah ini mencapai tahap kematangan.

Keputusan secara keseluruhan menunjukkan bahawa terdapat perkaitan di antara kematangan moral dan peringkat pencapaian akademik di kalangan pelajar Tingkatan Empat. Soal selidik SRM-SF dan manual permarkahan didapati sesuai bagi menguji kematangan moral pelajar dalam penaakulan moral. Namun demikian jawapan-jawapan pelajar yang tidak terkandung di dalam manual permarkahan perlu diberi pertimbangan terutamanya jawapan yang berkaitan dengan unsur-unsur budaya timur.

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