AC1 - 0494 INVC 1ms 12/2/01

FORM TWO STUDENTS' PERCEPTION OF SCIENCE LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT: ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH SCIENCE ACHIEVEMENT, ATTITUDE TOWARD SCIENCE AND GENDER

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A Research Report Submitted to the Faculty of Education, University of Malaya in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Education

1997

Acknowledgements

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This may seem like self-praise, but I have to admit that I am very pleased with myself for having completed this research report within the stipulated time.

Many people gave assistance to me during this study, but it is to Mr. Lew Tan Sin, my supervisor, that I am most deeply indebted and whom I must thank first. I am most grateful for his valuable advice, patience, encouragement, moral support and belief in me, that have helped me to complete this study.

I owe special thanks to Bahagian Perancangan dan Penyelidikan Pendidikan, Kementerian Pendidikan Malaysia; Jabatan Pendidikan Selangor; and Pengetua, Sekolah Menengah Hulu Kelang, Selangor for granting me permission to carry out my research in Sekolah Menengah Hulu Kelang. Also, my special appreciation to the Form Two Students of Sekolah Menengah Hulu Kelang (1996) for participating in this research study.

I would also like to gratefully acknowledge the invaluable help and suggestions from the vetting committee, Prof. Madya Dr. Suradi Salim and Prof. Madya Dr. Zulkifii Abdul Manaf during the vetting of my research proposal. In particular I must thank Pn. Salmah Wahab and Pn. Zainon Mohd Noh for spending their time to content-validate the instruments used in this study. Appreciation is also due to Pn. Shamshul Mardiyyah Bahrum and En. Ganesh T. for checking the translation of the instruments and En. Akabar Mohd Rafiq for assisting me in the construction of the science achievement test. I extend my grateful thanks to Mrs. Jasotha Manokaran, who diligently proofread this research report.

My most sincere thanks to my dear friends, especially Mrs. Lee Huong Sing who had in one way or another contributed to the completion of this research report. Also I would like to express my gratitude to my fellow colleagues for their continuous encouragement, moral support and confidence in me.

Finally, I owe a special debt to my family for their encouragement, understanding and support throughout my M.Ed course.

Dedication

It is with deep sorrow that I dedicate this study in remembrance of my late nephew, Andy Lau, who never had the opportunity to attend any formal education. He had always been my source of inspiration and may God bless his soul always.

Abstract

The purpose of this study was to investigate the relationship between the students' perception of the science laboratory environment and the dependent variables of science achievement, attitude toward science and gender. The subjects of this study comprised 255 Form 2 students (133 boys and 122 girls) of Sekolah Menengah Hulu Kelang, Selangor. This study utilised the survey method to collect data. The students' perception of the science laboratory was measured by the Science Laboratory Environment Inventory (SLEI), their attitude toward science was assessed by the Attitude toward Science in School Assessment (ATSSA) and their science achievement was assessed by the Science Achievement Test (SAT). The findings showed that there was a significant relationship between the students' perception of the science laboratory environment and: (i) science achievement (r = .41, p < .001), and (ii) the attitude toward science (r = .40, p < .001). There was no significant difference at p < .05 between the boys' and the girls' overall perception of the science laboratory environment.

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Persepsi Pelajar Tingkatan Dua terhadap Persekitaran Makmal Sains: Hubungannya dengan Pencapaian Sains, Sikap terhadap Sains dan Jantina

Abstrak

Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk menyelidik hubungan antara persepsi pelajar terhadap persekitaran makmal sains dengan pencapaian pelajar, sikap pelajar terhadap sains dan jantina. Subjek kajian ini terdiri daripada 255 orang pelajar (133 pelajar lelaki, 122 pelajar perempuan) dari Sekolah Menengah Hulu Kelang, Selangor. Penyelidikan ini menggunakan kaedah 'survey' untuk mengumpul data. Persepsi pelajar terhadap persekitaran makmal sains diukur dengan Inventori Persekitaran Makmal Sains (SLEI), sikap pelajar terhadap sains dinilai dengan Soal Selidik Sikap (ATSSA) dan pencapaian sains dinilai dengan Ujian Pencapaian Sains (SAT). Dapatan kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa terdapat hubungan yang signifikan antara persepsi pelajar terhadap persekitaran makmal sains dan: (i) pencapaian sains (r = .41, p < .001), dan (ii) sikap pelajar terhadap sains (r = .40, p < .001). Terdapat perbezaan yang tidak signifikan pada p < .05 antara persepsi pelajar lelaki dan pelajar perempuan terhadap persekitaran makmal sains keseluruhannya.

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