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GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE IN THE POLICY AND PRACTICE
OF SPORT FOR ALL IN MALAYSIA

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ABSTRACT

This study explores the national initiative in the practise of sport for all from its inception in Malaysia until the year 2000. Background information of the sport scene in the country including the history of sport in the country and the importance of sport in the national agenda are discussed. The promulgation of the National Sports Policy in 1988 is evidence that the government sees sport playing an important part in Malaysian society. Three out of four of the policy objectives are related to sport for all.

The methods of investigation in this study include documentary evidence and personal interviews. Original documents were referred to whenever possible. Interviews with present and former government administrators were conducted to provide details that were not available from documentary sources. A case study of the Federal Territory of Kuala Lumpur Youth and Sports Department has been included to illustrate the implementation of sport for all programmes at state level.

Background to the analysis in this thesis is provided through a reconstruction of the development of the nation's sports policies, structures and organisation. The government structure and the sports organisation in Malaysia are discussed. The main organisation responsible for sport for all is the Sports Division of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and its 15 state departments. The contribution of these and other government organisations such as the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Tourism and local authorities, are evaluated in terms of their role in the promotion of sport for all.

Historically the Malaysian government has placed priority on high performance sport. It has only been in recent years that sport for all has been given

emphasis. The importance of sport for all at the individual, social and national levels in Malaysia are explored. This country is experiencing some effects of globalisation. Research has shown that physical activity, a mainstay of sport for all, has individual and societal benefits. The social outcomes are especially important to multi-cultural, multi-racial, multi-religious Malaysia. Another rationale for emphasising sport for all is its relationship with high performance sport. With more Malaysians encouraged to be involved in sport for all, there is a larger talent pool from which to choose elite athletes.

The sport for all component of the National Sports Policy (1988) has been evaluated using Dunn's (1994) evaluation criteria (*effectiveness, efficiency, adequacy, equity, responsiveness and appropriateness*). Through the years, there has been an increase in sport for all efforts including facilities, funding, personnel, programmes and publicity. However, the participation rate, especially among women, the elderly and persons with disabilities, is still low. The health status of Malaysians has also not improved, neither has the crime rate been reduced. This suggests that there is a need to look at the micro level. Future studies could look at case studies of families and communities that actively participate in sport for all.

ABSTRAK

Kajian ini meneroka inisiatif negara berkenaan sukan untuk semua sejak mulanya sehingga tahun 2000. Maklumat latarbelakang arena sukan dalam negara termasuk sejarah sukan serta kepentingan sukan dalam agenda negara dibincangkan. Penggubalan Dasar Sukan Negara pada tahun 1988 membuktikan bahawa kerajaan memandang berat terhadap peranan sukan dalam masyarakat. Tiga daripada empat matlamat dasar tersebut adalah mengenai sukan untuk semua.

Kaedah penyelidikan yang digunakan dalam kajian ini termasuk bukti dokumentasi serta temuduga bersemuka. Sejauh mana mampu, dokumentasi asal dirujuk. Temuduga juga diadakan dengan pegawai kerajaan semasa dan lampau untuk mendapatkan butiran yang tidak dapat dikesan daripada dokumen. Kajian kes mengenai Jabatan Belia dan Sukan Wilayah Persekutuan Kuala Lumpur telah disertakan untuk menunjukkan proses implementasi rancangan sukan untuk semua di peringkat negeri.

Latarbelakang analisa dalam tesis ini diberi dengan membina semula perkembangan dasar, struktur serta organisasi sukan di negara ini. Struktur kerajaan dan organisasi sukan di Malaysia dibincangkan. Badan utama yang bertanggungjawab atas sukan untuk semua adalah Bahagian Sukan, Kementerian Belia dan Sukan serta 15 jabatannya di peringkat negeri. Sumbangan beberapa badan kerajaan ini bersama badan kerajaan lain seperti Kementerian Pendidikan, Kementerian Kesihatan, Kementerian Kebudayaan, Seni dan Pelancongan dan kerajaan tempatan, dinilai dari segi peranan dalam menggalakkan sukan untuk semua.

Dari segi sejarah, kerajaan Malaysia telah lebih mementingkan sukan prestasi tinggi. Hanya dalam beberapa tahun kebelakangan ini sahaja perhatian diberi kepada

sukan untuk semua. Kepentingan sukan untuk semua di peringkat individu, sosial, dan negara dikaji. Beberapa kesan daripada globalisasi mula dirasai di negara ini. Penyelidikan telah membuktikan bahawa kegiatan fizikal, aspek utama sukan untuk semua, membawa manfaat kepada individu dan juga masyarakat. Kesan sosial terutamanya penting bagi sebuah masyarakat seperti Malaysia yang berbilang kaum, budaya dan agama. Suatu lagi rasional bagi menitikberatkan sukan untuk semua ialah kaitannya dengan sukan berprestasi tinggi. Dengan menggalakkan lebih ramai rakyat Malaysia melibatkan diri dalam sukan untuk semua, maka lebih luaslah kumpulan berbakat bagi memilih atlit elit.

Komponen sukan untuk semua di bawah Dasar Sukan Negara (1988) dinilai menggunakan kriteria penilaian Dunn (1994) yang merangkumi keberkesanan, kecekapan, kemampuan, keadilan, sifat responsif dan kesesuaian. Sukan untuk semua telah mengalami perkembangan dalam beberapa tahun belakangan ini dengan bertambahnya kemudahan, peruntukan, kakitangan, program serta publisiti. Bagaimana pun, penyertaan wanita, warga tua dan orang kurang upaya masih kurang. Keadaan kesihatan rakyat Malaysia juga nampaknya tidak berubah dan kadar jenayah juga tidak berkurang. Ini menunjukkan bahawa perhatian harus diberikan kepada tahap mikro. Kajian di masa depan mungkin boleh memberi tumpuan kepada keluarga dan komuniti yang melibatkan diri secara aktif dalam sukan untuk semua.

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