THE CONDUCIVE LEVEL OF LEARNING AND LIVING ENVIRONMENT OF OFF-CAMPUS STUDENTS: CASE STUDY UITM SHAH ALAM



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"SELAMAT MENJALANKAN PENYELIDIKAN DENGAN JAYANYA"

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5.2 Enhanced Executive Summary

The impact of near-campus students housing, or off-campus students accommodation cannot be ignored by the universities and as well as the community officials. Numerous scholarly studies have highlighted the substantial economic impacts either direct, indirect or induced, and cumulatively the roles of the universities have significantly contributed to the local economies. The issue of the impacts of offcampus student rental housing on neighbourhoods is one that has been of longstanding but increasing concern in Malaysia Statistically, in Malaysia, there was approximately a total of 1.2 - 1.5 million students in 2009. By the year 2015, it is expected that 50 per cent of 18 to 30 year old active population should gain access to university education, amounting to 120,000 yearly. The objectives of the research are to obtain information on the living and learning conditions of off-campus students prevalent in the tertiary institutions in Malaysia and to isolate those factors that may impede the successful learning so that priority can be given to them in subsequent policy implementations and actions by government and the higher education institutions The research will establish a deliberated review on the capability to interact (social empowerment); the accessibility to local institutional and structural context (social inclusion); the resources that facilitate interaction (socio-economic security); and the necessary collective accepted values and norms, such as trust, that enable community building (social cohesion).

Key- words: off-campus students, neighbourhood, economic impacts, living and learning condition

5.3 Introduction

The impact of near-campus student housing, or off-campus students accommodation cannot be ignored. Besides the monetary returns, studies with special reference on social tolerance, which relates to the relationship between the off-campus students housing in the neighborhood is nonetheless, vaguely explored. Although, reiterated that with appropriate planning strategies, student identification may not necessary hypothesize the adversarial housing-related phenomenon. However, as observed, the propensity to inciting the negativity is higher, trends are contested and the deprived relations between the community and the off-campus students are obvious. These unexplored trends are endemic to the whole meaning of conduciveness. Many local residents may be employed by the university – and could be the largest employer in the community, where local businesses cater primarily to the university, and the students' population may outnumber the local population.

The provisions of adequate and safe student housing are equally important, especially in the aspect to regions sustainable planning. This is when the definition of conduciveness of the dwelled students in off-campus living environment should be reconstructed. Thus, this research intends not to delimit the definition of conduciveness that exhibit exclusively to the conditions of the living environments, but the most pertinent is to equate the whole meaning of conduciveness by framing the living environment that is tolerable to the local neighbourhood.

To off-campus students, the sense of community among students dwelled offcampus is precluding in local neighbourhood. The absence of sense of community, as noted by has been found to engender feelings of alienation, isolation and loneliness. On the contrary, a strong sense of community has been linked to a range of positive outcomes including improved wellbeing, empowerment, sense of efficacy, life satisfaction, and happiness, and abound literatures by and could justified these characteristics. Social deprivation and disorder in residential areas contribute to create a climate of tolerance within the neighbourhood, which in turn may widen the incidence of acceptability within these communities. As noted by the 'moment of tolerance' within the community contexts seem to shape what can be termed cognitive landscapes or ecologically structured norms (normative ecologies) regarding appropriate standards and expectations of conduct. There has been little research in the context of off-campus students living environment living in community settings.