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UiTMLaw eNewsletter

Issue 2 / 2020

“Triumph The New Normal”

Child Law Centre

Prepared by: Dr Nadzriah Ahmad



A) Invitations as Guest Speaker

1. Guest Speaker by the Faculty of Law, University of Malaya, Kuala Lumpur

Date: 11 & 18 May 2020

Venue: Online Platform (Google Meet)

Dr Nadzriah Ahmad was invited as a guest speaker on 11 May 2020 to deliver a talk on "Diversion of Child Offenders from the Criminal Justice System in Malaysia" to postgraduate students undertaking Masters programme at the Faculty of Law, University of Malaya.

On the 18 May Dr Nadzriah delivered another talk to the postgraduate students, sharing the latest developments in the Child Act 2001 in protecting the rights of child offenders in the juvenile justice system in Malaysia.

2. Panellist and Facilitator for Formulation of New Laws to Address Issues Relevant to the Homeless for Policy and Strategic Planning Division, Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development

Date: 14 to 15 September 2020

Venue: Berjaya Times Square Hotel, Kuala Lumpur

Dr Nadzriah Ahmad was invited as one of the panellists for the forum session entitled "Homelessness and the Laws" that seeks to address lacunae in the laws in addressing problems surrounding the homeless in Malaysia. This forum also seeks to find viable solutions to address the situations of homeless involving vulnerable persons, such as women and children, illegal immigrants, persons with HIV, urban poor and those suffering from mental diseases. Additionally, this forum provides a platform for a sharing session in connection to the research findings derived from the research conducted by Dr Nadzriah in 2016.

Dr Nadzriah was also invited to be one of the Facilitators for two Focus Group Discussions involving officers from the Social Welfare Department across Malaysia in order to discuss formulation of new laws in connection to issues surrounding homelessness in Malaysia, particularly in relation to the definition, operation, placement and enforcement of the laws.

3. Guest Speaker by the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, Hospital Kuala Lumpur

Date: 6 October 2020

Venue: Hospital Bahagia Ulu Kinta

Dr Nadzriah Ahmad was invited as one of the guest speakers for the Child and Adolescent Forensic Psychiatric Advanced Course organised by the Department of Psychiatry and Mental Health, Hospital Kuala Lumpur. In the talk entitled "Children in Conflict with the Laws: With reference to the Legal Framework in Malaysia" that was delivered to 50 Psychology Officers from across Malaysia, Dr Nadzriah focused on the effects of coming into contact with the formal justice system for juvenile offenders in Malaysia. The talk concluded with viable suggestions that can be undertaken by relevant stakeholders in order to minimise the detrimental effects of coming into contact with the juvenile justice system among the juvenile offenders.

B. Innovation

1. Winning Gold Medal at the Invention, Innovation and Design Exposition (IIDEX) 2020

Date: 2 – 4 November 2020

Venue: Online Platform

The product created by the Child Law Centre called the WEBSITE LEARNING TOOL FOR CHILD RIGHTS EDUCATION IN MALAYSIA: E-BOOKS FOR ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST CHILDREN won Gold Medal at the recent IIDEX competition. The e-books are significant to help create awareness among children of their rights to be legally protected from being victims of violence.

The CLC participated in the category of Social Sciences/Education in the above competition and a video highlighting the importance of ending violence against children is showcased in the competition. In this competition, the Child Law Centre was represented by Dr Nadzriah Ahmad, Assoc Prof Dr. Normawati Hashim and Assoc Prof Dr Sheela Jayabalan. The IIDEX Competition is held annually in order to provide platforms for inventors to showcase and commercialise their products for potential investors.

C. Research Grants

1. International Matching Grant between the Child Law Centre, Faculty of Law, UiTM and Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chiang Mai Rajabhat University (CMRU)

Research Duration: Two years

Through the Strategic Research Partnership (SRP) Grant that is initiated by UiTM and other universities abroad, the Child Law Centre, Faculty of Law, UiTM together with the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, Chiang Mai Rajabhat University (CMRU) will be collaborating in undertaking a research project for the duration of two years. The research, headed by Dr Nadzriah Ahmad, will focus on the rights of indigenous children to have access to quality education. The title of the research undertaken is **"A Legal Analysis of the Right of Indigenous Children to Have Access to Quality Education: A Comparative Study between the Peninsular Malaysia and the Upper North of Thailand"**. The grant awarded will give the opportunities to researchers from both Malaysia and Thailand to examine the effectiveness of the legal frameworks in both countries in connection with providing access to quality education to indigenous children. Additionally, through this research grant, the CLC will also be able to undertake comparative analysis and help strengthen the industrial linkages between the two Faculties and Universities, as well as having the opportunities to jointly publish research papers in this area.

2. International Matching Grant between the Child Law Centre, Faculty of Law, UiTM and Faculty of Law, Universitas Negeri Semarang (UNNES)

Research Duration: Two years

An international research grant was awarded to the Child Law Centre, Faculty of Law, through the Strategic Research Partnership (SRP) Grant, under the auspice of the Office Of Deputy Vice-Chancellor- Research & Innovation of UiTM. The research collaboration, headed by Assoc Prof Dr Sheela Jayabalan, is with Faculty of Law, Universitas Negeri Semarang (UNNES). It is the prevalent hope that, with the award of this research grant, networking, publications, future research collaborations, intellectual discourses and goodwill shall be established between the CLC and the community of Faculty of Law, UNNES. The title of the research that will be undertaken is **"Child Food Security Policy: How Government Should Combat Hunger in Malaysia And Indonesia Through Food Aid Programmes in Schools?"** The scope of the research is on child food security, specifically on how child food security policies through food aid programmes in schools should be addressed in Malaysia and Indonesia. The findings and suggestions will be shared between the two teams for future actions by the respective countries to address child food security, which is a primary concern the world over.





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