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**SAFETY AWARENESS ON PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT IN
TAIPING LAKE GARDEN**

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ABSTRACT

The recreational park has become attraction place to the tourist that visit Malaysia. One of the popular recreational park in the Malaysia is Taiping Lake Garden. Taiping Lake Garden is the first and the oldest recreational park in Malaysia. There are many facilities available at Taiping Lake Garden. One of the facilities provided is playground. Playground is a place or area that are designed to allow children to play there. However, children accident at playground area are listed as one of the highest sources of minor injuries today. Therefore, it is really important to ensure that the playground equipment are safe to use. Thus, the aim of this research is to analyze the safety awareness on playground equipment in Taiping Lake Garden. The objectives of this research are to identify the playground equipment provided in Taiping Lake Garden, to determine the level of safety awareness among parents on playground equipment in Taiping Lake Garden and to suggest the improvement on the safety of the playground. Data for this research were obtained through observation and questionnaire survey. The types of playground equipment available at Taiping Lake Garden has been listed through the observation. The questionnaire has been distributed randomly to the 384 parents that visit Taiping Lake Garden. Respondents' response that can be analyzed is only 300 people. Another 84 respondents cannot be analyzed due to refusal and non-response from respondents. The respondents' agreement towards the safety of the playground equipment at Taiping Lake Garden has been identified and in high level. The highest level of awareness is playground signage followed by maintenance and design of the equipment. Meanwhile, the highest finding to improve the safety of the playground is provide more tables and chairs for parents. Future research can be done by determine the playground equipment for disabled children and identified the level of parents' satisfaction towards the maintenance of the playground.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 GENERAL OVERVIEW

According to Hailegiorgis (2017), recreation almost becomes part of the lives of people in the world as it is really needed throughout life. On the daylight, mostly human will spend their time in activities like working, clean the house and cooking, so if there is leisure time, they need to spend their time to do some activity that can make they become healthier and release their stress from works. Recreation can be related to any kinds of physical activity. For example, jogging, walking, picnic with family, cycling, Chinese martial art and other activities (Arni and Khairil, 2013).

The suitable place to do all these activities is at recreational park. This place provides a lot of facility to visitor use. Recreational park also provides a playground for children that visit the park with their family. It is also a place where children can run, jump, climb, slide and play with peers, so it is really important that the environment of the playground is safe for children to play, enjoyment and relaxation (Mani, Mehdi Hosseini and Abdullah, 2012). Even though playground can be described as a place or area that can create excitement and fun to the children, but they also can present hidden danger and risks to the children. Report from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) 2018, more than 200,000 children age fourteen or younger has been treated each year in the hospital for playground-related injuries. This is because injuries can happen in any factors, for example a child slip while climb the monkey bar and get thermal burn caused by the material of the equipment. So, for the safety of the children at the playground, parents must take some proper preparation and precaution to avoid accident and incident from happen.