UNIVERSITY TEKNOLOGI MARA

A STUDY ON STUDENTS' ANXIETY LEVEL AND SELF-CONFIDENCE TOWARDS SPEAKING ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE: A CASE OF LAW STUDENTS

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Dissertation submitter in partial of fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of

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CANDIDATE'S DECLARATION

I declare that work in this thesis was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. This thesis is original and the result of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as reference work. This topic has not been submitted to any other academic institution for any other degree or qualification.

In the event that my thesis be found to violate the conditions mentioned above, i voluntarily waive the right conferment of my degree and agree be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations of Univeristi Teknologi MARA

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ABSTRACT

Speaking skill is one of the most challenging skills among the four English skills which are listening, speaking, reading and writing respectively. Hence, it is important for students to speak in English confidently and they can use speaking strategies in order to avoid anxiousness. The main purpose of this study was to investigate the association between two variables which are level of speaking anxiety and level of self-confidence. The other objectives that this study would like to explore are to identify level of speaking anxiety among Law students, to identify level of confidence when speaking among Law students, to determine if there is any significant difference in level of speaking anxiety and level of confidence when speaking among Law students based on their demographic details (gender, university, ethnicity, MUET result, year of study, first language) respectively. This study employed a purely quantitative study and correlational design was selected as the research design. The instrument used in this study was questionnaire. There were 380 respondents participated in this study which were Law students from four public universities in Malaysia. The result from this study indicated that Law students' level of speaking anxiety in English was moderate while the level of self-confidence among Law students was above average. The study also showed that there was a significant difference based on the universities that Law students come from and their first language in terms of level of speaking anxiety in English. It is also portrayed that there was a significant difference in terms of Law students' level of self-confidence based on their MUET result and first language correspondingly. Next, the study revealed that there was a weak significant association between level of speaking anxiety in English and level of self-confidence when speaking in English among Law students. Thus, from the results of the study, it is recommended for the stakeholders which were students, lecturers, the Faculty of Law, the universities and the policy maker to discuss and develop solutions for this issue. Hence, mastering to speak English for ESL learners is important.

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