UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

FUTURE ACCOUNTANTS' ATTITUDES TOWARDS BUSINESS ETHICS

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

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FUTURE ACCOUNTANTS' ATTITUDE TOWARDS BUSINESS ETHICS ABSTRACT

Business ethics is a form of professional ethics that dwells on ethical principles and moral or ethical issues that arise in a business environment. Business ethics has been in the limelight of late due to numerous unethical business conducts which finally led to business collapse and shareholder loss. This study examines the attitude of potential future accountants to predict their attitude towards business ethics. This study investigates the relationship of religiosity and attitude towards business ethics. Apart from that, this study also highlighted the differences in attitude among genders and also the range in attitude towards business ethics among the three main ethnics in Malaysia. This study indicated religiosity has a positive significant relationship with ethical attitude. In terms of gender, this study showed that there is significant difference between males and females. Surprisingly, this study indicates that males are more ethical than females. With regard to ethnics, the result showed that there is no significant difference among Malays, Chinese and Indians in their attitude towards business ethics. Overall, this study indicated that future business leaders display high levels of ethical attitude and also high levels of religiosity. This can help the university management and future employer in promoting these students in the students' career path.

Keywords: Business ethics, accounting students, religiosity, ethnic, gender

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract	iii
Acknowledgment	iv
Table of contents	vi
List of Tables	vii
List of Figures	viii
List of Formulas	ix
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
1.0 Preamble	1
1.1 Background of study	5
1.2 Problem statement	7
1.3 Objectives of the study	9
1.4 Significance of the study	9
1.5 Scope and limitations of the study	11
1.6 Organization of the chapters	11
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.0 Introduction.	13
2.1 Literature review	
2.1.1 Ethics	13
2.1.2 Business Ethics.	14
2.1.3 Meta-ethics	15
2.1.4 Moral objectivism	16
2.1.5 Relativism	17
2.1.6 Religion	18
2.1.6.1 Religiosity	19
2.1.6.2 Intrinsic Religiosity	19
2.1.6.3 Extrinsic Religiosity	19
2.1.7 Gender	21
2.1.8 Ethnic	23
2.2 Theoretical consideration	26
2.2.1 Moral objectivism	26
2.3 Hypothesis Development	28
2.3.1 Intrinsic religiosity	28
2.3.2 Extrinsic religiosity.	29
2.3.3 Gender.	29
2.3.4 Ethnic	30
2.3.1 Edinio	20
CHAPTER 3: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	50 _ 00, 4400
3.0 Introduction	33
3.1 Sample design and data collection	33
3.2 Research instruments	34
3.3 Measurement of variables	36
3.4 Data Analysis	38
3.4.1 Reliability and Normality Test	38

3.5 Chapter summary	40
CHAPTER 4: ANALYSIS OF DATA	
4.0 Introduction	41
4.1 Respondents' profile	42
4.2 One Way Anova	43
4.3 T-Test	44
4.4 Correlation	45
4.5 Multiple regression	47
4.6 Ethical Attitude and Religiosity Level of the Students	51
4.7 Summary of the Findings	54
4.7.1 The relationship between religiosity and attitude towards	
business ethics	54
4.7.2 Gender and ethical attitude	55
4.7.3 Ethnic and ethical attitude	56
4.8 Summary of the chapter	57
CHAPTER 5: CONCLUSIONS AND LIMITATIONS	
5.0 Introduction	58
5.1 Conclusions	58
5.2 Scope and limitations of the study	59
5.3 Implications of the study	59
REFERENCES	61
APPENDIX	65