

**THE PERCEPTION OF UNDERPRIVILEGED GROUPS TOWARDS THE
EFFECTIVENESS OF THE POVERTY ERADICATION PROGRAMS MONITERED
AND SPONSORED BY PEJABAT PEMBANGUNAN NEGERI JOHOR (PPNJ)**



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MARCH 2013

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 An Overview of Poverty Eradication Programs

Eradicate extreme hunger and poverty was the first goal to be achieved in Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in Malaysia. Starting in 1970s, Malaysia had started the development goal of eradicating poverty. In conjunction with to reach MDGs goal government of Malaysia had launched a lot of poverty eradication programs in every state in Malaysia. The purpose of this program was to reduce the number of poverty. Some organizations like ministries or department of Malaysia's government had involved in monitoring the programs such as Rural Ministry, State Development Office and so on. The examples of the poverty eradication programs are Program Bantuan Rakyat (PBR), Projek Peningkatan Pendapatan (PPP), Projek Champion, Program Pembangunan Modal Insan (PPMI), Peluang pekerjaan, Bantuan kewangan bilanan dan bantuan pendidikan.

The problem of poverty force the government to construct and planning the appropriate strategy of poverty eradication programs, so that the contents of poverty eradication programs that will be launched are appropriate with the current environment.

Pejabat Pembangunan Negeri Johor (PPNJ) under the Implementation Coordination Unit, Prime Minister Office (ICU JPM) plays the role to implement all programs and projects structured by the Prime Minister's Department, Ministry of Rural Development, Ministry of Public Enterprises and the Ministry of Primary Industries in the State of Johor.

There were four poverty eradication programs monitored and sponsored by PPNJ which were Housing Assistance Program, Income Generating Program, Quick Win Project and Mindset Development Program that implemented to residents of Johor from the year 2009 until the year 2010. Governments, aid donors and the

development community always asked for the evidence on the impacts of programs claiming to reduce poverty. Thus, this study was to determine the residents' perception towards the effectiveness of the poverty eradication programs in Johor which monitored by PPNJ.

1.2 Problem Statements

Poverty eradication programs were launched to eradicate the poverty problem among poor people. PPNJ was one of the organizations that responsible to organize the program that planned by Kementerian Kemajuan Luar Bandar dan Wilayah. e-kasih was used as a medium for PPNJ to distribute the information of the program. District offices in state of Johor also help PPNJ to identify the poor people and invite them to involve in the programs. In Malaysia, although some of poor people who received the assistance from the government, they cannot lift out from poverty. PPNJ also tried to find the best solution to overcome this problem. They organized a lot of programs and projects to increase the life quality of poor people. After two years implemented the program, many parties ask the effectiveness of the programs. Some of them think that the government just wastes the money and some of them feel that the programs need some improvements. Thus, this study focuses on the perception of participant of poverty eradication programs on the effectiveness of the implemented program.

1.3 Objectives of the Study

- a) to measure the effectiveness of the poverty eradication programs in Johor.
- b) to find the best model that explains the relationship between perception towards program, perception towards the organizer of program, and resident's involvement in the program to the effectiveness of poverty eradication programs.