HIV/AIDS EMPLOYEES IN MALAYSIA: ARE THE LAWS AND GUIDELINES IN MALYSIA SUFFICIENT TO PROTECT EMPLOYEES WITH HIV/AIDS?

By

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The students/authors confirm that the work submitted is their own and that appropriate credit has been given where reference has been made to the work of others.

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ABSTRACT

The topic of HIV/AIDS has been widely discussed, especially in a social context. However, the issue of HIV/AIDS in the workplace is still shrouded behind a veil of privacy and confidentiality. This is where our research comes in. Our research titled "HIV/AIDS employees in Malaysia: Are the laws and guidelines in Malaysia sufficient to protect employees with HIV/AIDS", will firstly look at the existing laws and guidelines in Malaysia to determine their sufficiency in protecting the rights of HIV//AIDS victims. From there, we will look at the policies in companies to see whether they conform to the existing laws and guidelines in protecting the rights of HIV/AIDS in relation to workplace discrimination. Lastly, to complete our research, we will find out whether there can be any recommendations and suggestions that could better protect the rights of HIV/AIDS victims, namely employees.

After the completion of our research, we have determined that the existing laws are insufficient as we have no specific laws that govern the protection of HIV/AIDS victims, especially HIV/AIDS employees in the workplace as the current laws are all general in nature. The guidelines however, are sufficient but what they do lack is legal and binding authority. On the issue of policies in companies, we find that they do not conform to the guidelines in particular, as the issue of HIV/AIDS is not addressed in their policies. Hence, we have suggested that there should be a specific law on HIV/AIDS, especially in the protection of HIV/AIDS employees while the existing guidelines should automatically be part of the provisions of all polices in companies therefore making it binding on the whole workforce.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowledgement							
Abstract							
Contents							
CHAI	PTER (ONE: INTRODUCTION					
1.0	Introd	uction	1				
1.1	Problem Statement						
1.2	Objective Of Study						
1.3	Literature Review						
1.4	Methodology						
1.5	Limitation						
1.6	Significance Of Study						
1.7	Provisional Plan						
1.8	Conclusion						
CHAI	PTER T	TWO: EXISTING LAWS AND GUIDELINES FOR THE					
		PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF HIV/AIDS					
	VICTIMS						
2.0	Introduction						
2.1	Basic facts about HIV/AIDS						
	2.1.1	Definition and distinction of HIV/AIDS	12				
	2.1.2	Current Scenario of HIV/AIDS in Malaysia					
		2.1.2.1 Statistics	13				
		2.1.2.2 News/Reports from Newspapers and Online Articles	13				
		2.1.2.3 Ministry of Health Handbook on "Plan of Action"	15				

2.2	Existing laws and guidelines for the protection of HIV/AIDS Victims							
	2.2.1	Laws and Guidelines in the United Kingdom						
		2.2.1.1	AIDS (Control) Act 1987	16				
		2.2.1.2	The Public Health (Infectious Diseases) Regulations	17				
			1988					
		2.2.1.3	Disability Discrimination Act 1995	19				
		2.2.1.4	United Kingdom Declaration of the Rights of					
			People with HIV/AIDS	22				
	2.2.2	Laws and Guidelines in Malaysia						
		2.2.2.1	Industrial Relations Act 1967	23				
		2.2.2.2	Prevention and Control of Infectious Diseases Act					
			1988	24				
		2.2.2.3	Code of Practice on the Prevention and Management					
			of HIV/AIDS in Workplace	25				
		2.2.2.4	The Malaysian AIDS Charter	27				
		2.2.2.5	International Labor Organization Code of Practice	29				
2.3	Concl	usion		32				
CHA	PTER T		THE EXISTENCE OF DISCRIMINATION TOWAR	RDS				
]	HIV/AIDS IN THE WORKPLACE					
3.0	Introd	luction		34				
3.1	Defin	Definition of Discrimination						
	3.1.1	Common Law Definition						
	3.1.2	Definiti	Definition According to the Code of Practice on the Prevention					
		and Ma	nagement of HIV/AIDS at the Workplace	35				
	3.1.3	Types o	of Discrimination	35				
3.2	Why	Why discrimination exists						
	3.2.1	Factors	That Contribute To Acts of Discrimination	39				