# THE NEED FOR REGULATING ANIMAL TESTING:

## A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND UNITED KINGDOM

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The students/authors confirm that the work was 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**

This research covers law relating to legal protection of animals welfare precisely on animal testing in Malaysia with comparison to United Kingdom. The aim is to embark on analyzing the comprehensiveness of the Animals Act 1953 with regards to animal testing in comparison to the law in United Kingdom, Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. It is also to emphasize on the importance of codifying the code of practice in statutory form pertaining to animal testing in Malaysia. This study shall look at the loopholes under the Animals Act 1953 in Malaysia regarding animal testing in comparison with the law that being applied in United Kingdom, Animals (Scientific Procedures) Act 1986. The significance of literature review in this study are to gain the relevant information and opinion from the experts regarding law on animal testing in Malaysia and United Kingdom, to collect data in detail, to discover the loopholes in Animals Act 1953 and to provide the appropriate solutions and recommendations pertaining the issue in this research paper.

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**CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION** 

#### 1.1 BACKGROUND

Malaysia stepped into 21st century, full of ambitions and hopes, mainly to become a developed country by year 2020. To achieve that vision, some adjustments had to be made to the structure of the economy to ensure that Malaysia is not left behind from the development of the global. To boost the development of the economy, Malaysia exploiting her advantage of steady economy growth and political stability, invited foreign pharmaceutical and biotechnological companies to invest in this country in the biotechnology sector, with the ambition to become a leader in the biotechnology sector in this region. As a result of that, foreign companies are eyeing to put more money in investments on biotechnology. On top of that, foreign companies also eyeing opportunities in this sector as not much regulations and laws to regulate their investment in this field. One of the loopholes is a lack of regulation on animal testing for research. In Europe, animal testing is strictly controlled by regulations and laws. As result, their experiments and research are subjected to those regulations. Their test on animals for research of medicine, cosmetics or for the knowledge and better understanding of science must be scrutinized by an independent party to ensure that there is no element of cruelty on animals.

In Malaysia, the relevant law pertaining to animal testing is the Animals Act 1953. This law is not in concurrence with the current situation in Malaysia. However, lack of enforcements of the penalty for offences under this 1953 Act contributes to insufficiency in curbing this problem. Moreover, it does not govern the genetically modified animals.