

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**HOME BIRTH IN MALAYSIA: A VIEW
ON ETHICAL AND LEGAL
PERSPECTIVES**

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MSc

February 2018

AUTHOR'S DECLARATION

I declare that the work in this dissertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results 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 degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Post Graduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

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ABSTRACT

Home birth had become as a choice in few country and numbers of cases in Malaysia is increasing. It has become public health issue as involved mortality and morbidity of both mother and baby. Doulas had been involved in home birth without any medical professional. Although childbirth is women's right but ensuring safety childbirth is responsible of all parties involved in home birth. Determinants that important in ensuring childbirth safety are personnel involved, preparedness for complications and continuous risk assessment. Difficulty in childbirth process is due to the anatomy of women's pelvic. It became more complex when the baby's head is larger. However, the most important element when considering home birth is safety of the mother and baby. Complete preparation is important factor together with the personnel involved. Selection of patient and medical trained professional are important to make a home birth as safety as in the hospital. Fast access to hospital when complication occur play an important role in preventing mortality or morbidity to the mother and baby. Specific law is not available in Malaysia; however, legal action should be considered by looking at the Midwifery Act as it well defined to role of midwife in helping birthing mother.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, I would like to express my profound thanks to my respected supervisor, Dr. Aimi Nadia Mohd Yusof and Prof Dr Suzana binti Daud for their valuable advices and untiring guidance given to me, throughout the writing of this dissertation. Their support gave me confidence to complete this writing.

My study in UiTM would not have been possible without the presence of my beloved husband, Mr. Mohd Noor Ridzuan Sahar and my daughter Dian Nur Dalila whom sacrificed a lot, for the sake of my studies. No words can describe my gratitude for their continuous support, comfort and love that showered me.

I am also grateful to my mom and family who has always inspires me and love me since the day I was born.

Finally, I would also like to express my gratitude to all the Postgraduate staff of the Medical Faculty, UiTM for all their help in making my study here a memorable journey.

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