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FACULTY OF ADMINISTRATIVE SCIENCE AND POLICY STUDIES



FACTORS ASSOCIATED WITH LOW NUMBER OF REGISTRATION AS VOTERS
AMONG YOUTH IN GENERAL ELECTION

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ABSTRACT

This paper discussed on the factors that associated with low number of registration as voters among youth in General Election. The objectives of this study is to identify the factors associated with low number of registration and to highlight the relationship between age, gender, race, family income and hometown background with registration of youth as voters in General Election. The respondent of this study were among the students from UiTM and UMS Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Sample size of this study was chosen among 250 students from UiTM and UMS Kota Kinabalu, Sabah. Questionnaires were used as an instrument to collect data and information for this study. The findings show that there were significant relationship between the factors associated with the low number of registration among youth in General Election and there were significant relationship between the number of registration with the age and family income of the respondents.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

The young, in any population, are a source of political power. This group makes up of half of the world's population is an important source of voting power, where this can determine which party will be the government. Scholars argue that participation in voluntary associations of a non-political nature is an important companion of political involvement, and some scholars even go further to suggest that participation in non-political voluntary organisations breeds political involvement. Indeed, not all young Malaysians are interested in formal politics and formal organisations. There are still many young Malaysians who do not register as voters whether they have lost faith in politicians, or they are not interested in formal politics, or tired of Malaysians politicians' politicking and politicisation, or they feel politics is irrelevant in their lives or they are just ignorant of the issues (Quintelier, 2007).

As the world turns into the new era of globalization in this 21st century, youth has risen in becoming most influential supporters in a country. According to Janet Jobson (2011), the greatest example of the transformative power of youth leadership in the 21st Century has been the protest action over the last two months that have radically reshaped the politics of the entire Middle East. Without youth, there is no bridge between now and future. Political leaders of the 21st century needs youth for the continuity of the new political system. Nowadays, youth have become the target group by political party not only the ruling party but as well as the opposition party.