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**RISKS FACTORS AND STRATEGIES IN YOUTH CRIME:
A CASE STUDY IN DESA ILMU, KOTA SAMARAHAN**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter focuses on the background of the study which is risk factors and strategies in youth crime case study in Desa Ilmu, Kota Samarahan. The presentation of this chapter begins with the research background, followed by the problem statement, research questions, research objectives, scope of the study, significant of the study and lastly the definition of terms and concepts used in this study.

1.1 RESEARCH BACKGROUND

Youth crime can be defined as crime committed by young people who are under 21 years old. This group of young people who commit crimes called juvenile offenders. According to the Prison Act 1995, a juvenile or young offender is person under the age of 21 years old. The Prison Department of Malaysia detains juveniles aged 14 to 21 years old in prison as young prisoner or in Henry Gurney School as students (Kassim, n.d.).

Youth crime has always been a major problem in the society worldwide. This issue is very serious as it is one of the major concern that every nation has to deal with, including our country, Malaysia. Malaysia has faced this issue for a long time where the government and the authority try the best to curb this problem. The actual number of cases for this issue is estimated to be much higher than that reported and it needs serious attention from all of us especially the government and the authorities (Kassim, n.d.).

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW AND CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 FACTORS OF YOUTH CRIME

2.1.1 Peer Group Pressure

Peer Group Pressure is defined as the strong social influence of an individual or group towards other individual in which the individual attempts to behave and act in ways that meet the expectation of its peers. Young people are proven to be easily influenced by their own friends, where in this case they are influenced by friends to commit any crime. This is because they want to be accepted by their peers that they are able to do what their peers are doing (Lapierre, 1954). Example can be taken from school students. Student who is influenced by other students who have poor discipline may follow their bad behavior such as truancy and may get involved in violence such as gangsterism and bully. Sadly, these young people are more easily to be influenced by their peer group and feel that the advice and criticisms from their family to be something that restricts and bores them, and they might get angry when his family advice and criticize him (Kassim, n.d).

2.1.2 Poor Parental Discipline and Supervision

Another factor that causes youth crime is poor parental discipline and supervision. Parental Discipline and supervision is very crucial because parents are the one who develop and prepare their children for the future. A good discipline and supervision will surely help their children to have a good development and positive exposure that will assure them a bright future ahead of them. This is where parent will teach them how to behave and act, and