

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**FOOD HYGIENE'S KNOWLEDGE,  
ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES  
BETWEEN URBAN AND SUBURBAN  
ADOLESCENTS**

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## ABSTRACT

Food poisoning cases was increase yearly, both in developed and undeveloped country. Every year, a lot of people worldwide were suffered from food borne illnesses. Besides, in Malaysia, the number of foods borne illnesses had increase from 1999 until 2012. Most of the cases occurred in education and learning institution such school canteen, dining hall and hostels. The Dewan Rakyat of Malaysia reported that 9,777of poisoning cases across the country from January to September 2012. This research was attempted to study the impacts of parental influences, socio-environmental and food safety knowledge towards the food hygiene practices between urban and suburban adolescents. Besides, this study also to assess the level of the practice and knowledge towards the food hygiene practices between Shah Alam and Puncak Alam adolescents. The survey was conducted by using mixed method includes quantitative and qualitative method. For quantitative method, questionnaire was given questionnaire to the respondent from Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Puncak Alam for the suburban area and Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Sultan Salahuddin Abdul Aziz Shah for the urban area and for the qualitative methods, interviews were conducted for five students from each school. The result showed that parental influences, socio environmental had positive impact on food hygiene knowledge, attitude and practices among urban and suburban adolescents. Correlation analysis has been conducted that shows that suburban adolescents had higher knowledge, attitudes and practices of food hygiene compared to urban adolescents. The results of the analysis are presented such that they can be used for the future study..

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# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

### **1.1 Introduction**

This chapter outlines background of the study, and purpose of the study in regards to factors that influences knowledge, attitudes, and practices of food hygiene among adolescents in urban and suburban area. Problem statements, objectives, significance of the study, its scope, limitations of the study and operational definition of key terms were also outlined.

### **1.2 Background of the Study**

Food is a product that is rich in nutrients required by microorganism and maybe exposed to contamination and deterioration. Every day, millions of people get sick from the food that they eat. This is called food-borne illness. Both developed and undeveloped countries faced this situation (World Health Organization, 2007). Hence, food safety is not only related to people's health, it is also related to the foundation of social stability and development of various undertaking.

Food safety is a broad topic. Food safety is defined as the degree of confidence that food will not cause sickness or harm to the consumer when it is prepared, served and eaten according to its intended use (WHO, 2007). Food-borne illness or also known as food poisoning is defined as diseases, usually either infectious or toxic in nature, caused by agents that enter the food through the ingestion of food (WHO, 2007).

Cholera, typhoid, dysentery, viral hepatitis A and food poisoning which are known as food and water borne diseases are caused by food or water intake that had been contaminated. According to Ministry of Health (2011), food and water borne diseases can lead to permanent health problem and disability and it can cause death if the person is not treated immediately.

In recent year, as the result of improper handling of food, more than 2 million people around the world suffer the illness that related to food and it can result in death.