

**UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**UNDERLYING FACTORS  
CONTRIBUTING TO CHILD  
SEXUAL ABUSE: A CASE STUDY IN  
TAMAN SERI PUTERI CHERAS,  
KAJANG**

**IFFAH NABILAH BINTI ISMAIL MUBARAK**

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## **ABSTRACT**

Sexual child abuse's trend has been on the rise in Malaysia. This social issue happens all over the world. From the statistic, the case of sexual child abuse is not something that we should take it lightly. Even though many steps have been taken by the government and NGOs, cases of sexual child abuse keep increasing every year. Therefore, it should be taken seriously and provide the way to protect the victim and to prevent it from happening. This study adopts a qualitative method. Researcher apply in-depth interview as a technique of collecting information in order to identify the factors that contribute the children to involve in sexual abuse. Four respondents have been selected to participate in this interview: selected female teenager from government shelter home, Taman Seri Puteri at Kajang. However, there are many reasons for people to engage with sexual activity as there is no continuous monitoring from their parents or caretaker. The findings revealed that parental negligence, poverty and mass media influence is the main factors in contributing to involvement in sexual abuse cases. There is a need to educate children about sexual abuse in order to increase their awareness and self-protection. This study also provides suggestions in order to tackle this issue. Lastly, it is hoped that this study could contribute in combating sexual abuse issue and able to protect children who in need of full protection from their family.

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# **CHAPTER ONE**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Preamble**

This chapter provides a brief overview on the issue of sexual abuse among children in Malaysia. This chapter highlighted on the problem statement, research questions and objectives, scope of the study, significance of the study and definition of key terms that relate with this research study. This chapter was designated to study in details what is the root of the problems that involve the children to be sexually abused. Therefore, researcher is focusing on the factors that contributing to sexual abuse among children in one of the government shelter home in Malaysia.

### **1.2 Background of the study**

Child abuse is global issue with long-lasting consequences, which not only happen in other developed countries but also in Malaysia. Every day, there are number of child abuses cases were reported on the main page of newspapers and mass medias. The abuses cases that involve child is unimaginable, considering how serious the impacts on our future child's lives. As reported in the statistic, out of 30.098 million of total population, there are 9.36 million children, which consists of 4.56 million (49%) girls and 4.8 million (51%) boys.

However, many people do not aware about the definition of child abuses, which should not be taken lightly in order to tackle this issue seriously. There are many definitions on child abuse that have been debated over by many scholars over many years. According to Child Act 2001, child abuse can be defined as when the child is at risky situation that involves in any physically, emotionally hurt, sexually abused with force or any mistreatment in terms of basic necessities such as food, shelter and medical supervision. Based on the health perspective, child abuse cases give a long-lasting consequence on