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**A STUDY CONCERNING HOMELESS IN KUCHING**

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## THE ABSTRACT

### Abstract

The study concerning homeless in Kuching. The study is to determine the causes of homeless, identify the consequences of homeless, identify the approaches that homeless people used to cope with their homeless, and determine the relationship between causes and consequences of homeless. The information in this study were collected through questionnaire and interview. There are 13 homeless people were selected around Kuching city for the purpose of sample size of this study. The findings shows that the main cause of homeless in Kuching is lack of affordable housing. Next, the main consequences of homeless in Kuching is neglected by family. Furthermore, the main approaches that homeless people used to cope with their homeless in Kuching is food by non-government organizations (NGO). Lastly, there is no significant relationship between causes and consequences of homeless. Society needs to be more cooperative with government and NGO to support their efforts to reduce homelessness by providing information, awareness, and participate in welfare activities.

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## CHAPTER 1

### 1.1 INTRODUCTION

This chapter provides the chapter review and the background of the study focused on the homeless specifically, a study concerning homeless in Kuching.

### 1.2 Background of the study

Studies of 'homelessness' are confronted with many conceptual and methodological challenges. 'Homelessness' is a social construction that classifies diverse circumstances and individuals under a convenient description. Global research uses different definitions and measurements of the phenomenon, making the proportion of homelessness in a population highly variable.

According to the United Nations Centre for Human Settlements 1996 report, homelessness is a worldwide phenomenon. The number of homeless people can be estimated to be anything from 100 million to one billion or more, depending on how homelessness is defined. The estimate of 100 million includes those who have no shelter at all, while the estimate of one billion includes those in temporary or insecure accommodation (often squatters found occupying someone else's land illegally). The different estimates in any city or country reflect the different definitions for homelessness and the difficulties of measuring how many homeless people there are. (United Nations Centre for Human Settlements, 1996:229)

Arriving at a simple definition is not easy, as there is usually no single, simple reason for an individual becoming homeless, since 'homelessness is often the final stage in a lifelong series of crises and missed opportunities, the culmination of a gradual