

USERS PERSPECTIVE ON SOFTWARE PIRACY IN KLANG VALLEY

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ABSTRACT

Software is simply defined as a set of instructions that cause hardware to do things users want them to do. Today, software has become one of the most precious technologies of the Information Age as in this current time; almost everything from personal computer to the use of Internet needs software. But, new things also bring disadvantages if the technology is not being controlled properly and the advancement of software has created its illegal substitute, pirated software. A research has been conducted under the title of "Users Perspective on Software Piracy in Klang Valley. Its objectives are to determine the extent of use of the software piracy, to identify factors that influencing people in buying and using pirated software, to evaluate the moral and ethical behavior impact of software piracy to users and lastly, to find or suggesting a new ways or possible solution to this problems. The target users under this topic will be selected randomly. This research will consist of 200 samples of respondents. The self-administered questionnaires collected then will be analyzed, coding and cleaning to produce valuable information for this research. Most of the respondents, after research has been done, agreed that they are aware to the Acts, which disallowed pirated software, but they did not really aware about the penalties as to the lack of enforcement done by the authority. Most of them also willing to loose his self-esteem and dignity, in term of this problem, to purchased and use pirated software.

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

Software piracy committed by computer users worldwide has becoming too uncontrollable. Only few studies have been done in determining the consequences and the reason of why this “virus” to original software has high demand in the market. In Malaysia, software piracy becomes a necessity to most of the computer user especially in the metropolis like Kuala Lumpur, Shah Alam, Klang and district near them, where this area called as Klang Valley. This research is tried to clarify and identify the reason of high demand for pirated software around this area.

1.1 Background

Computers are now increasingly used in homes, businesses, and educational institutions. This spread has been accompanied by high production of software. Software is one of the most valuable technologies of the information age. Unfortunately, increasing sales of computer software has created the problem of software piracy (Im and Koen, 1990; Taylor and Shim, 1993). Because software is so valuable and has a high demand in the market and because of it is easy to create an exact copy of a program, there are irresponsible people who gain benefits by copying the original software and sell it illegally. Software vendors estimated a revenue loss of over US\$11.4 billions due to worldwide software piracy in 1997 (Asia Business, 1998). The Internet also can be the platform for spreading pirate software. The existence of pirate software also has its own pro and contra. For example, the emergence of nuclear power and atom technologies, it