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**FACTORS CONTRIBUTE TOWARDS SMOKING HABIT AMONG
FSPPP MALE STUDENTS: A CASE STUDY AT UiTM BANDARAYA
MELAKA**

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter focuses on the background of the study which is factors contribute towards smoking habit among FSPPP male students at UiTM Melaka City Campus. The first section discusses on the background of the study, the next section explains the problem statement and the third section states the research objectives. In addition, the fourth section states the scope of research and the last section explains the significant of study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Smoking is an important public health issue because smoking can be the main factors to lung diseases such as Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), asthma, pneumonia and other. These lung diseases are caused by many factors such as unhealthy lifestyles, living condition and hazards at the residential area or workplace but according to Dr. Choo Chee Kheong smoking remains as a main causes that damage a person's lung and respiratory disease are one of the leading causes of hospitalization and death at public hospital in 2010 (6 November, 2012, NST).

Smoking is the inhalation of the smoke of burning tobacco that consists in pipes, cigarettes, and cigars. Meanwhile, smoker is a person who smokes at least one cigarette a week.

In the World Health Organization's Western Pacific Region (WHO WPR) say that "being born male is the single greatest risk marker for tobacco use". This statement showed that male is very synonym with smoking and the rate of male smoking also increases and leading in the world compare with rate of female smoking (Stanton, 2001). There are many campaigns to stop smoking were promoted but the number of male smoking is still increase. This is a serious issue because smoking affects the smoker and non-smoker's health. Basically non-smokers expose in secondhand smoke. Secondhand smoke causes by the smoke of burning end of a cigarette, pipe or cigar that exhaled by smokers.

In Malaysia, the number of male smoker is still extremely high with almost half (46.5%) compared with women smoker (1.6%) which is demonstrate the increases of future death rates and disease due to smoking (ITC Malaysia National Report, 2012).

The increasing rate of smoking prevalence showed that the campaign implemented by Malaysian government is not actually effective. The Malaysian government was launched "Tak Nak" or "Say No", "Kempen Nafas Baru Bermula Ramadan" or "New Breath Beginning Ramadan", is a campaign that encourages Muslim smokers to quit smoking during Ramadan but still the rate of smokers in Malaysia especially male not getting decrease.

1.2 Problem Statement

Problem statement means a concise, clear and precise statement of the questions or issues that is to be studied with the aim of finding solution or answer (Sekaran, 2003).

Malaysian government has accomplished the various programs in promote people to quit smoking. In Malaysia, the International Tobacco Control (ITC) Malaysia National Report has estimated about 10,000 Malaysia deaths annually because of diseases that related with smoking habit.

The subjects of our research were FSPPP male students at Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM). The students are not allowed to smoking or inhaling within the campus as referred to Act 174. However, students are not incorporate with any rules of UiTM when they are outside the campus.

The subjects for our research actually are perfectly literate with the knowledge where they realize about the risk of damaging health and worthless expenditure if they continuous smoking but they are not motivated enough to quit smoking (Urusa, 2012). No matter how much government efforts to reduce the number of smoker in Malaysia the rate of smoker among male is getting increase in each year.

That is why we would like to conduct research to explore the causes that drive male students to smoking habit. Even the government has launched the campaign of “Tak Nak” or “Say No” since 2004 why a large number of people still not motivated to quit smoking. So, due that we would like to investigate the rooted causes that led the male students play with their health even they know about the risk of smoking.

1.3 Research Question

- 1.3.1 Does the peers influence have directly contributed towards smoking habit among FSPPP male students at UiTM Melaka City Campus?
- 1.3.2 Does the environment factors have directly contributed towards smoking habit among FSPPP male students at UiTM Melaka City Campus?
- 1.3.3 Does the family background have directly contributed towards smoking habit among FSPPP male students at UiTM Melaka City Campus?