



STUDENT'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS LEARNING MUSIC

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Declaration of Authorship

I hereby declare that this thesis titled, 'Student's Attitude towards Learning Music: Case Study in a Private School and the work presented is my own. I hereby confirm that:

- ✓ This work had not been previously submitted for any degree or such qualification.
- ✓ This work was done by my own while in submission for a bachelor's degree at this university.
- ✓ Where I have consulted the published work of others, this is clearly credited in my references.
- ✓ I have acknowledged all main sources for help.

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CHAPTER 1

Introduction

1.1 Background of the study

Attitude is the favorable or unfavorable perceptions towards something. Attitudes are generally positive or negative thought and perception towards people, place or event. People may have conflicting attitudes or feelings towards an object, which can simultaneously be both positive and negative towards the task or activity. According to Hogg and Vaughn, attitude is a relatively enduring organization of beliefs, feelings and behavioral tendencies towards socially significant objects, groups, events or symbols (Hogg & Vaughan 2005, p. 150).

Attitude also defined by Zimbardo as a positive or negative evaluation of people, objects, event, activities, ideas, or anything in our environment (Zimbardo, 1999). Meanwhile, other opinion says that attitude is the relatively stable evident behavior of a person which affects his status (Bain, 1993). Based on another opinion by Lumley, attitude is a susceptibility to certain kinds of stimuli and readiness to respond repeatedly in a given way (Lumley, 1928). All the definition of the attitude achieved shows that the attitude involved in psychological area that need to be study in deep. Attitude is an important element in many field of life. Attitude may affect the person behavior or perspective towards something. As it goes towards learning process, attitude act as an agent so that the learning process is achievable and productive.

Learning attitude is very important towards any learning process. Students' attitude of learning involved such as discipline, commitment towards the subject, and able to take part

during the lesson. The attitude of the students as they are learning music in the school might be affected into several related issues. This is because the learning attitudes are divided into two types in which are internal and external factors. As the internal factors, it much more related to self-development such as commitment towards something, communication skill and self-discipline. In addition, the external factors related to the surrounding such as parental support, teaching method and also environment. The attitude of the students can be improved by motivation from teacher and moral support from their family as well (Graham & Weiner, 1996).

Hence, this study will show that how the student's attitude will be affected by the external factors which are the parental support and also teaching methodology conducted by the teacher. In addition, these factors will improve the students' attitudes towards learning music as well as learning in other field of study.

1.2 Statement of Problem

The involvements of students in private music classes especially for secondary school students had been decreasing from time to time. From a survey taken from several which are Yamaha and Tarrega House, I found that the percentage of primary school students taking private music classes keep increasing rather than students from secondary school. This is in contrast to the population of the secondary school students in Malaysia which are much larger than the primary schools.

A research was conducted to study the commitment of teens toward music and how it helps self-developments toward student for secondary school (Carlsbad, 2004). It is believed that music helps teenagers' especially secondary school students to have more commitment towards