

**A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK ON
CHILDREN PROTECTION FROM ONLINE PREDATORS IN
MALAYSIA AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (USA)**

By

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Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirement for the
Bachelor of Legal Studies (Hons)

**University Teknologi MARA
Faculty of Law**

October 2010

The students/authors confirmed that the work submitted is their own and that appropriate credit has been given where reference has been made to the work of others.

Acknowledgement

The team members of this research are Ahmad Azlan Bin Azizan, Raja Nurul Izzah Binti Raja Ezham, Siti Aminah Binti Abdullah and Cik Nor Aslizan Binti Musa@Mohamad and Muhammad Ainuddin Bin Kamaludin. First of all, we would like to thank Allah for giving us the strength and good health to complete this research successfully. Not forgetting our family for providing their support and understanding during the completion of this research. They have been the most helpful in providing us with all the necessary needs. Last but not least our eternal thanks to Dr. Sheela A/P Jayabalan for her guidance in carrying out this research and for her support, assurance and confidence in us.

Abstract

The publicity about online predators that prey on naive children using trickery and violence is improper. Internet sex crimes involving adults and juveniles more often fit a model of statutory rape-adult offenders who meet, develop relationships with, and openly seduce underage teenagers-than a model of forcible sexual assault or pedophilic child molesting. This is a serious problem that requires approaches different from those in current prevention messages emphasizing parental control and the dangers of divulging personal information. Malaysia does have laws such as the Communication and Multimedia Act 1998, the Penal Code and other types of enforcement but not a specific law as with the United States of America (USA). Specific legislation to deal with the children protection against offences committed by the online predators is of utmost necessary due to the incomprehensiveness of the current laws in Malaysia. Apart from legislative measures, there are appropriate prevention strategies that target youths directly and acknowledge normal adolescents with awareness and avoidance skills while educating older youth about the pitfalls of sexual relationships with adults and their criminal nature. Particular attention should be paid to higher risk youths, especially those with history of sexual abuse, sexual orientation concerns, and patterns off and online risk taking.

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