SEXUAL HARASSMENT: A COMPARATIVE STUDY BETWEEN MALAYSIA AND UNITED KINGDOM

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

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ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research is to examine the possibility of enacting a specific law in Malaysia to which deals with sexual harassment. We have conducted a study to analyze the lacuna in our existing laws in handling cases related to sexual harassment by taking into consideration the application of the law in the United Kingdom with the aim of ascertaining the manner of redressing and remedying the victims of sexual harassment cases in Malaysia. Its objectives are to critically analyze whether the said existing laws would be adequate to resolve the sexual harassment cases and thereafter to also suggest and recommend civil remedies to sexual harassment victims through civil proceedings.

To enable us to obtain better understanding of the law on sexual harassment, we have employed qualitative methods whereby questions were designed and interviews were conducted. The overall results of the research showed that the effectiveness level of our existing laws in combating sexual harassment cases is less sufficient. Furthermore, the types of redress available to the victims of sexual harassment do not consist of any award for damages and compensation.

Looking at the effects consequences of the sexual harassment upon the victims, we have made suggestions for the victims to be compensated with monetary remedy.

The conclusion that we can draw from the research is that we do need to enact a specific law on sexual harassment in Malaysia in order to regulate sexual harassment at all places to enable fair and justice be delivered to the victims.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Acknowle	edgement			ii
Abstract				iii
Contents				iv
List of Ca				vi
List of Sta	atutes			vii
СНАРТЕ	R ONE: INTRO	DDUCTION		
1.1	Introduction			1
1.2	Problem Staten	nent		2
1.3	Objective of th	e Study		5
1.4	Research Meth	odology		5
1.5	Scope and Lim	itation	,	6
1.6	Significance of	the Study		7
1.7	Conclusion			8
CHADTE	D TWO. INIDE	DOTANDING	SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN	
CHAPTE			INITED KINGDOM	
2.1	Introduction			9
2.2	Definition of S	exual Harassm	ent	9
2.2	2.2.1 Malay:			9
	2.2.2 UK			10
2.3	Types and Form	n of Sexual Ha	arassment	11
	2.3.1 Malay:		,	11
	2.3.2 UK			12
2.4		nsequences of	Sexual Harassment	14
2.5		-	Sexual Harassment	15
	2.5.1 Malay:			15
	•	Penal Code		15
	2.5.1.2			17
	2.5.1.3	IRA		19
		OSHA		20
		Code of Pra	ectice	22
	2.5.2 UK			24
	2.5.2.1	UK SDA		24
		2.5.2.1.1	A New Definition of Harassment	28
		2.5.2.1.2	Harassment by Third Parties	30
		2.5.2.1.3	Criticism	32
2.6	Conclusion			34

3.1	CR THREE: THE PROBLEMS AND THE APPROACHES Introduction	36
3.2	Methodology	36
3.3	Background of the Interviewee	36
3.3	3.3.1 WAO	37
	3.3.2 DSJM	37
3.4	Results/Findings of the Interview	38
5.1	3.4.1 WAO	38
	3.4.2 DSJM	4(
3.5	Conclusion	45
CHAPTE	ER FOUR: RECOMMENDATION AND CONCLUSION	
4.1	Introduction	46
4.2	Insufficient Legal Remedies	46
	4.2.1 Penal Code	46
•	4.2.2 EA	47
	4.2.3 IRA	48
	4.2.4 OSHA	49
	4.2.5 Code of Practice	50
4.3	Developments in Legislation in Malaysia	53
4.4	Adopting the UK SDA and the	
	UK SDA Amendment to Malaysia	54
4.5	Recommendation	57
4.6	Conclusion	58
Bibliogra	phy	60
Appendic	ees	
Anne	ndix 1 : Penal Code (Act 574), Sections 509 and 294(a)	64
	ndix 2 : Employment Act 1955, Section 14	67
	ndix 3 : Industrial Relation Act 1967, Section 20	71
~ ~	ndix 4 : Occupational Safety & Health 1994, Sections 4 and 15(1)	75
~ ~	of Sexual Harassment in the Workplace	80
Appe		93
Appe	*	17
Appe:	ndix 6 : Sex Discrimination Act 1975	
Appe Appe Appe	ndix 6 : Sex Discrimination Act 1975 ndix 7 : Sex Discrimination Act (Amendment) Regulation 2008	
Appe Appe Appe	ndix 6 : Sex Discrimination Act 1975 ndix 7 : Sex Discrimination Act (Amendment) Regulation 2008 ndix 8 : Interview Question – WAO	17
Appe Appe Appe	ndix 6 : Sex Discrimination Act 1975 ndix 7 : Sex Discrimination Act (Amendment) Regulation 2008 ndix 8 : Interview Question – WAO 8.1 Document 1	17 18
Appe Appe Appe	ndix 6 : Sex Discrimination Act 1975 ndix 7 : Sex Discrimination Act (Amendment) Regulation 2008 ndix 8 : Interview Question – WAO	17 18 18 18