

**A CRITICAL STUDY ON THE LAWS GOVERNING ABANDONED PARENTS IN
MALAYSIA**

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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 study is to give a clear view about the current laws in Malaysia in administrating matters relating to the abandoned parents. This study will focus on the issue of inefficiency of these laws in protecting the rights of the abandoned parents as well as calling for the implementation of a specific act to govern this issue. This study also discloses the comparison between the laws relating to the abandoned parents in Malaysia to two other countries, namely Singapore and the United States. The aim of this study is to assist the legislator on improving the existing law to ensure that every aspect that may cause possible threat is well covered.

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CHAPTER ONE:

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This proposal focuses on the requirements to amend a new law in Malaysia to protect the rights of abandoned parents in comparison with the other country such as the United States, United Kingdom, Singapore, and India. This proposal is divided into 11 elements which are the title, introduction, research background, problem statement, research objectives, research methodology, scope of research, limitation of research, significance of research, literature review, and references.

1.1 Research Background

Abandoned parents can be categorized into many types. It does not necessarily require the children to leave their parents unattended at their house. There are also cases where children sent their parents to the old folk's home and neglected their obligation to satisfy the parents' need especially in monetary term, which consequently leads the parents to be insolvent. According to Section 2(b) of the Malaysian Destitute Persons Act 1977, a person can be considered as a destitute person if the person found in a public place, whether or not he is begging, who has no visible means of subsistence or place of residence or is unable to give a satisfactory account of himself.¹

Studies shows that 1 of 3 parents in Malaysia is being abandoned by their children. This makes the number of the abandoned parents increased until about 675 000 in

¹ Malaysian Destitute Persons Act 1977