

A STUDY OF THE ILLEGAL MIGRANT WORKERS IN MALAYSIA; ARE MORE STRINGENT MEASURES NEEDED?

BY:

REEN RAWAIDA BINTI ZUHDI (2003643163) ASRINAWATI BINTI AHMAD RADZI (2003465898) NAWAL YASMIN BINTI KAMIL (2002375905)

SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILLMENT OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE BAGHELOR OF LEGAL STUDIES (HONS.)

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA FACULTY OF LAW

OCTOBER 2005

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	ACKNOWLEDGMENT	ii
	ABSTRACT	iii
<u>1</u>	INTRODUCTION	1
^		
	1.1 BACKGROUND	1 1
	1.1.1 International Labour Migration	I
	1.1.2 Malaysia: A Brief Introduction	5
	1.2 RESEARCH QUESTION	U
		0
	1.5 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY	12
<u>2</u>	ISSUES AND PROBLEMS	. 13
	2.1 INTERNATIONAL LABOUR MIGRATION IN MALAYSIA	. 13
	2.1.1 Trends in Migrant Worker Movements	. 13
	2.1.2 Foreign Labour Management Policies	. 18
	2.2 THE IMPACT OF FOREIGN WORKERS IN MALAYSIA	. 18
	2.2.1 Benefits of Employing Migrant Workers	. 20
	2.2.2 Consequences on the Economy	. 20
	2.2.3 Health-Related Problems	. 23
	2.2.4 Public Safety and Security	. 25
	2.2.5 Housing, Amenities and Social Services	
	2.2.6 Offspring of Illegal Aliens: Stateless Children?	. 28
	2.3 PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS	. 29
<u>3</u>	LAWS AND ENFORCEMENT	. 31
2		
	3.1 PROCEDURE OF APPLYING FOREIGN WORKERS	.31
	3.2 IMMIGRATION ACT 1959/63 (AMENDMENT 2002)	. 32
	3.2.1 <u>Section 6.</u> 3.2.2 Section 15.	. 23 27
		. 20 20
		30
	<u>3.2.5 Section 55D.</u> 3.2.6 Section 55E	. 37 40
	3.3 PASSPORT ACT 1966	40
	3.3.1 Section 12(1)(b)	
	3.3.2 Section 12(1)(g)	
	3.3.3 Section 12(1)(i)	
	3.4 MEASURES TAKEN BY THE GOVERNMENT	. 42
	3.5 PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS	49
4		
	4.1 GOVERNMENT'S CHALLENGES	
	4.2 CONCLUSIONS	53
	4.3 RECOMMENDATIONS	54
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	
	APPENDICES	.59

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Alhamdullilah, after months of hard work, we are able to complete this research. We owe many people on many things for the help and guidance throughout this study. A deep appreciation is extended to our tutor; Cik Azlena Khaled, who patiently read many drafts, and whose suggestions and editorial expertise, gave this study its present shape. For her willingness to advise, motivate, teach, her patience and her friendship, a special debt of gratitude is expressed to her. A special thanks is addressed to Tuan Haji Shahir Othman; Deputy Assistant Director of the Immigration Department of Malaysia, for permission to use materials from Immigration Department and his friendliness and generous counsel on the research methodology and statistical analysis. He also provided appreciated support and read drafts and proposals tirelessly and made useful comments and recommendations, all of which made the completion of this study a reality. I gratefully acknowledge the support of the Immigration Department for its endorsement of this study.

Finally, and the most important acknowledgement is owed to our family for their understanding, support and expectations. To our parents, thank you for your love and support which have been a constant source of strength. We are also grateful to En. Ahmad Zaman Nuri for his assistance. And to all our friends, who have often provided useful advice and instilled the much needed moral support.

Thank you all. May Allah bless you.

ABSTRACT

We; Reen Rawaida Binti Zuhdi, Asrinawati Binti Ahmad Radzi, and Nawal Yasmin Binti Kamil, part 05 students of MARA University of Technology, studied in the Law Faculty; were asked to prepare a Legal Research Project Paper, and we were given about 5 months to complete it.

We had chosen a topic called; "A Study of the Illegal Migrant Workers in Malaysia: Are More Stringent Measures Needed?"

The purpose of this report is to identify the weaknesses of the law and the enforcement in combating the illegal entry. Other than that, this report also hopes to determine whether the present Act can deter illegal entry into Malaysia.

A report of the findings is to be submitted by 26 October 2005.

We hereby submit the report on the above matter together with recommendations

CHAPTER

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

1.1.1 International Labour Migration

The World War II had affected the social, economic and political changes worldwide. Geopolitically, the world has seen a complete turnaround in the form of end of cold war, breakdown of the Soviet Union and communism as a major force and ideology- all replaced by more plural, open and democratic system. Economically, state control gave way to liberal, deregulated, private sector and market economies. The society also saw the end of Apartheid, first the uncontrolled spread of and then the beginning of the solution to the deadly AIDS disease, outbreak of ethnic wars in Sri Lanka, Bosnia and central Africa with the United Nations and world community playing an increasingly active mediating and problem solving role¹.

¹ Research Project Immigration Administration in Malaysia,, A report by Immigration Department of Malaysia, (1999), 1.