# UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

# DURATION OF SOCIAL NETWORKING SITE (SNS) USE AND BODY IMAGE DISSATISFACTION AMONG UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT IN THE FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES UITM SELANGOR PUNCAK ALAM CAMPUS

## NUR'AIN NABILA BINTI HADI MUNIR NUR AFIQAH BINTI AHMAD TARMIZI NUR FARAH IZWANI BINTI AHMAD

Thesis submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of **Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)** 

**Faculty of Health Sciences** 

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### **AUTHOR'S DECLARATION**

I declare that the work in this disertation was carried out in accordance with the regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA. It is original and is the results of my own work, unless otherwise indicated or acknowledged as referenced work. This thesis has not been submitted to any other academic institution or non-academic institution for any degree or qualification.

I, hereby, acknowledge that I have been supplied with the Academic Rules and Regulations for Undergraduate, Universiti Teknologi MARA, regulating the conduct of my study and research.

Name of Student : Nur'ain Nabila binti Hadi Munir

Student I.D. No. : 2014286628

Programme : Bachelor of Nursing (Honours)

Faculty : Faculty of Health Sciences

Thesis : Duration of Social Networking Site (SNS) Use and

Body Image Dissatisfaction among Undergraduate Students in the Faculty of Health Sciences UiTM

Selangor Puncak Alam Campus

Signature of Student : .....

Date : July 2018

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### **ABSTRACT**

The negative body image perception or body image dissatisfaction is a problem very persistent in developing countries particularly among women, leading to health problems such as eating disorders and depression. One of the causes of this disorder is exposure to thin ideals media. The emergence of the Internet and social networking sites (SNS) has since indirectly becoming the source of body image dissatisfaction precipitation, facilitated by social or appearance comparison. This research explores the association of the duration of social networking site (SNS) use and body image dissatisfaction among undergraduate students in one of the public universities in Malaysia. The association of BMI and gender with body image dissatisfaction among them were also investigated. A cross-sectional study was conducted among the population of undergraduate students of the Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) Selangor Puncak Alam Campus using quota sampling. Questionnaires containing sections on demographic background, Social Net-working Time use Scale (SONTUS) and Body Shape Questionnaire (BSQ) to measure the duration of SNS use and body image dissatisfaction respectively, were distributed and among them, 309 were returned completely. After cleaning, the data was cross-tabulated and its association tested with Pearson's Chi Square. There was an association between the duration of SNS use and body image dissatisfaction (p=.046). Low users of SNS seemed to exhibit lower body image dissatisfaction than average to users. Females exhibited higher SNS dissatisfaction than males (p=.002), which was consistent with previous findings. However, contrary to the previous study, there was significant association between BMI and body image dissatisfaction (p<.001) although higher body image dissatisfaction was found among participants with normal BMI. The study adds new data regarding SNS use and body image dissatisfaction to the body of knowledge in Malaysia.