# UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

# EXPLORING PRIVACY CONCERN AND INTENTION IN DISCLOSING HEALTH INFORMATION ONLINE IN MALAYSIA

## **ROMAINOR ISMAIL**

Dissertation submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of

Master of Science (Information Technology)

Faculty of Computer and Mathematical Sciences

**JULY 2013** 

# CANDIDATES'S DECLARATION

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

In the event that my report is found to violate the conditions mentioned above, I voluntarily waive the right of conferment of my degree and degree to be subjected to the disciplinary rules and regulations of Universiti Teknologi MARA.

Name of Student	Romainor Ismail
Student's ID No	2009370949
Program	CS770 - M.Sc (IT)
Faculty	Computer and Mathematical Sciences
Project Title	Exploring Privacy Concern and Intention in Disclosing Health Information Online in Malaysia
Signature of Candidate	
Date	July 2013

#### **ABSTRACT**

With rapid development in Information, Communication and Technology (ICT), health industry has become significantly impacted when relevant medical information is stored and retrieved borderlessly. This scenario has triggered many challenges. One of the key challenges is the protection of the medical information which it should be kept private and fully safeguarded. Privacy concerns came from many perspectives such as data violation or invasion via communication tools etc. Therefore, policy has been built in order to improve people trust and reduce privacy concern. Research indicates that privacy concern could impact the decision in disclosing health information online. Therefore, the objective of this study is to investigate the level of privacy concerns and intention in disclosing health information online. The scope of the study focuses on privacy concern and its association with intention to disclose health information online among Malaysian citizen. This research use mixed-method. Quantitative and qualitative approaches were used in the investigation. Sample of 300 respondents have been gathered and 5 personnel were selected for qualitative interviewing. The result shows that different levels of privacy concern exist among Malaysian. In addition, the intention to disclose health information also varies among Malaysian. Future research includes investigating other factors such as culture that may influence the privacy concern among Malaysian.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

My fully gratitude and pray to Allah SWT for giving me good health, strength and opportunity to continue and complete this research.

Foremost, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to my supervisor Dr. Wan Abdul Rahim Wan Mohd Isa for his continuous support of my MSc study and research, for his tirelessly patience. His guidance helped me in all the time of this research and completing it.

Besides my supervisor, I would like to thank all the lecturers that have taught me throughout the MSc (IT) CS770 course for their indefinite knowledge sharing and guidance.

Last but not the least; I would like to thank my family especially my wonderful wife Fazlia Hanim Ab Hamid who is always beside me and giving full support, encouragement and inspiration, my lovely kids, Muhammad Afeef Muez and Muhammad Akeef Muhaiymin for your understanding and supporting your daddy in his difficult time. Not forgetting my classmates Hadi, Ita, Yaz, Iza and Shad for their encouragement, teamwork and the friendship throughout the study periods.

Thank you and Alhamdulillah.

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
STUDENT'S DECLARATION	i
APPROVAL	ii
ABSTRACT	iii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	iv
TABLE OF CONTENTS	v
LIST OF TABLES	viii
LIST OF FIGURES	ix
CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	ı
1.1 Research Background	1
1.2 Problem Statement	3
1.3 Research Objectives	5
1.4 Research Questions	5
1.5 Scope of Research	5
1.6 Significance of Research	6
1.7 Outline of Dissertation	6
CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW	
2.1 Introduction	7
2.2 Personal Data Protection Act 2010	7
2.3 International Privacy Protection Act	8
2.4 Studies on privacy concern on health information	10
2.5 Privacy concern on health information in Malaysia	14
2.6 Studies on the impact of privacy concern	15
2.7 Studies on factors that could cause the increment of privacy concern and discourage information disclosure	17