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PROFESSIONAL ETHICS AMONG QUANTITY SURVEYOR IN CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY OF SARAWAK

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ABSTRACT

The construction industry plays a vital role in helping the national development in socio-economic and employment. Ethics is usually about right and wrong and touches on morality issues. Their professional body governs ethical behaviour through the codes of conduct. Investment funds on a large scale are invested in this industry as an opportunity for unethical activities such as corruption. This research aims to gauge opinion on various ethical issues in Sarawak's construction industry activities from a Quantity Surveyor's perspective. Quantitative research is adopted, which is the data collection method is through literature review and electronic questionnaires. There are 81 participants that are willing to participate in this research. From the findings, Quantity Surveyors in Sarawak agree that nepotism is the ethical issue they can experience, project delay is the most serious effect of ethical issues, and punish offenders, or rigorous prosecution is the most effective way to prevent these issues. From the conclusion, almost all the Quantity Surveyors have experienced ethical issue during their duty. It is recommended that to create an ethical industry, all the construction players must take action, not only Quantity Surveyor.

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CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

Based on Joanna (2010), professional ethics are all about moral issues that a person or, technically, a professional achieve from a body of knowledge and its usage at the workplace. Ethics did not have a standard definition; however, what is right and wrong related to morality issues is considered ethics (Sambo, 2019). Crane and Matten (2016) propose that morals are concerned with ethical quality and particular rules and standards that decide right and off-base for a circumstance. As in Christabel (2011), moral conduct is crediting oneself to "great" or "right" conduct, philosophically. Jardar (2017) gives an example that ethics and law must be differentiated, though often coincident. In the construction industry, Quantity Surveyor is well known as professional, as the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), Pacific Association of Quantity Surveyors (PAQS), and Board of Quantity Surveyors Malaysia (BQSM) have presented competence standards for quantity surveyors in the time past (Dada Joshua, 2018). The construction industry is characterised as complex and competitive and involves many parties with different construction backgrounds and knowledge throughout the world (Jarkas, 2017). Based on research that made by Ameh & Odusami (2010) among all the professional in the construction industry, Quantity Surveyor has the high tendency to commit bribery, which lead to the unethical behaviour in the construction industry. In the construction industry, emphasising ethics is seldom, rather than development in management or technology (Gyoo Kang et al., 2014).

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