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**Title of Report:  
A STUDY ON THE FACTORS INFLUENCING YOUNG  
GENERATION'S REGISTRATION AS VOTERS**

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## **Abstract**

The aim of this research was to examine the factors influencing young generation's registration as voters among the students in Samarahan. 150 questionnaires were distributed randomly to students of three main campuses in Samarahan, which is Universiti Teknologi Mara Samarahan campus (UiTMKS), Universiti Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS), and Maktab Perguruan Tun Abdul Razak (MPTAR). The Statistic Package for Social Science (SPSS) was used to analyze the results obtained from the questionnaires that have been collected. The results of this study indicated that the most factors that influence young generation's registration to become voters was due to the involvement of too many political parties in one election, that it created confusion among the students in becoming a voter. It is clear from the present study that young generations in Samarahan wanted the voter registration process to be implemented in the Internet as it is an easy and convenient way for them to register.

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## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Introduction

Nowadays, the young generations in Malaysia are not coping with today's election process. Most of these youngsters prefer not to be a voter and let them be an entertainer without even realizing the responsibility that they had missed. In the research made by Dr. Jeniri Amir (2011), he stated that the younger generation is very important. From around 980,000 voters, one third is made up of young voters. There are around 310,000 of them; 100,000 Chinese, 71,000 Malays and 139,000 are Sarawak Bumiputera of other races. A total of 27 per cent are between the ages of 21 to 30 years old while another 73 per cent are between 31 to 40 years old.

Based on surveys, they become more 'anti-establishment' as they aged. 27 per cent of voters is not a small number. Even a quarter of the voters can change the result of the election. If they are not exposed to these matters from the early of their age, it might affect the government in future. It is not hard to imagine the effect on any contesting parties. Thus, the heart of the younger generation must be won over.

The younger generations are not keen to register as voters have become the problem. Sarawak has the most number of people who are qualified to vote but still had not registered as voters, which rank fourth among states. If this 450,000 people register themselves, they too can take part in this democracy process. Their ignorant attitude needs to be addressed. (Dr. Jeniri Amir, 2011)

The young generations should register as voter so that they can change the current politics situation. They can speak out through the ballot box when they are voting. The young generation should not have the thought that they cannot contribute towards change. Every single vote that they make will change the fate

## CHAPTER 2

### LITERATURE REVIEW & CONCEPTUAL FRAMEWORK

#### 2.1 Introduction

Voter registration is essential for political participation in a democratic context. There must be an assurance that the right to vote in elections is universal, equal, direct, and secret. The authorization is the way through which the governed agree to delegate their authority to those who govern. It is the link between the legitimacy of political governance and the liberty of human beings.

In a democracy – “government (cratos) by the people (demos)” – voter registers constitute a concrete description of the “demos”. Citizenship is usually defined by nationality or by residence, or both. The sovereign politically active is the electorate, which may be required to register in order to exercise the franchise, (Rafael Lopez Pintor and Maria Gratschew, 2000).

Voter registers, which work to safeguard the franchise, should be universal, which include every adult person belonging to the citizenry. The vote of every citizen should have the same value without discrimination. This does not mean that every vote has the same weight in producing institutionalized representation of the people. The right to vote should be personally exercised by every individual citizen at the polling station. Secrecy of the vote must be guaranteed both legally and in practice factors that may impact negatively on secrecy of the ballot include intimidation and fraud practices, or inadequate design of polling station interiors.

The structuring of voter registers constitutes a main instrument for the political expression of the sovereign, the electorate. Clean voter registers should be considered a safeguard to the integrity of the suffrage, and therefore an essential condition for the legitimacy of democracy as well as for the political stability of the country (Rial, 1999, 15).