



**DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING SURVEYING  
FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE, PLANNING AND SURVEYING  
UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA**

**BUILDING VANDALISM AT LOW COST FLAT**

**This academic project is submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirement  
for the bachelor of Building Surveying (Hons.)**

**MOHD FAIZUL BIN ISMAIL  
(2007120601)**

**APRIL 2011**

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## CHAPTER ONE

### INTRODUCTION

#### 1.1 Overview

Commonly, buildings that had been designed or built are hopefully to have a long life. Anyhow, this objective is uncertain to be achieved which indirectly, in achieving it, factors that are related to the causes of building deterioration must be considered. From that, there are several main factors that may arise to the causes of building deterioration which can be identified such as from design deficiencies, construction faults, lack of maintenance, changes of building use and the most important cause is vandalism itself.

According to the Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, which vandalism can be defined as willfully destroy or damage the public property. Besides that, vandals can be described as a person who willfully destroys or damages works of art, public and private property and the beauty of nature. While, from the *Dewan Bahasa Dan Pustaka* vandalism can be defined as an act to destroy or damage public or private property.

From the definition above, we can identify that vandalism can be classified as a crime when committed when they willfully damage or deface the property of others or the commons. It's widely rampant not only in urban areas but also in suburban and rural areas.

Vandalism is not a new phenomenon affecting Malaysia. It has been one of the outcomes of the current social problems affecting young generations. Basically this kind of social problem has increased from day to day. Vandalism is a negative culture and its can become nation disaster if not contained from the beginning.

Although the issue and the basic understanding of vandalism is known to every Malaysian, it has not motivated public, government, professionals or academicians to produce further research and studies regarding this issue. The current situation in Malaysia is that there is a lack in terms of institutional knowledge about the problems of vandalism, even though it is frequently mentioned by the media, and increasingly understood within the general public. This is not unusual in developing nations such as Malaysia which have developed without that institutional history to draw upon.

## 1.2 Statements of Issues

*Extract from The Star (01/03/2010) - A WHOPPING RM7.39mil was spent by the Kuala Lumpur City Hall (DBKL) last year for the maintenance of public housing schemes in the city and of that figure; RM2.5mil was spent solely for repairing faulty lifts. Federal Territory Department of Occupational Safety & Health (FT DOSH) director Zahrim Osman said 95% of the time the lifts were faulty because of vandalism. Lifts in low-cost housing schemes frequently break down due to vandalism and the situation is getting from bad to worse every year. A total of 92*