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Political Awareness among University Students

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ABSTRACT

Politics is a science which deals with the promotion of the general welfare of the state and its people. Like any other science it has its rules and laws which when put to work produce specific effects. Many debate about the participation of students in politics but the truth is, there is nothing wrong in students understanding the laws that govern the prosperity of their country. Youth is a stage in man's development where the mind is inexperienced hence prone to brash outrage. There is enthusiasm yes, but it needs to be channeled in the right way for it to one day turn into wisdom so that it can serve both him and his nation. However, students can prepare for their sojourn in politics. They must use the time they have at this point of their life when they are not hampered by family responsibilities to study and gain information. Political science should put before the children facts about the principles and history of government as per their capacity to understand. College students should be allowed to attend political meetings so that they gain hands on knowledge of the goings on at these meetings. They should, however, not be allowed to participate. It is the time to assimilate knowledge, harness it so that one can use it when one has the wisdom to do so. College might be treated as mock parliament and the students might be allowed to assail roles in this mock parliament. Students will learn how to put their point across, they will learn to accept criticism, and more important, they will understand that there might be different ways of doing the same thing. They will gain perspective and valuable experience which will allow them to make educated choices when they finally decide to step into the world of politics.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

NO	TITLE	PAGE NUMBER
1	CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	
	1.0 Introduction	1
	1.1 Background of Study	2-4
	1.2 Problem Statement	5
	1.3 Objective of The Research	6
	1.4 Research Question	6
	1.5 Scope of The Study	7
	1.6 Significance of The Study	8
	1.7 Limitation of The Study	8
2	CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	
	2.1 Definition of The Topic	
	2.2.1 Review on Past Study	9-13
	2.2 Conceptual Framework	14
3	CHAPTER 3 METHODOLOGY	
	3.1 Introduction	15-16
	3.2 Data Collection	17
	3.2.1 Primary Data	17
	3.2.2 Secondary Data	17
	3.3 Sampling Method	18
	3.3.1 Unit of Analysis	18
	3.3.2 Sample	18
4	CHAPTER 4 FINDINGS	
	4.1 Introduction	19-20
	4.2 Section B: Respondent's Preferences	21-23
	4.3 Section C: Respondent's Feedback	24-27
5	CHAPTER 5 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION	28-29
6	CHAPTER 6 RECOMMENDATION	30
7	BIBLIOGRAPHY	31
8	APPENDICES	
	Questionnaire	

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 INTRODUCTION

This chapter will discuss about the introduction and explain a general idea about the study that will be conducted. The contents that in this chapter are introduction, background of the study and problem statement. Then, it follows with objective of the study, hypothesis, significant of the study, limitation and scope of the study as well as definition of term.

Based on the research that our group are doing it is taken from the perspective of the Universiti Teknologi Mara Sarawak Campus students whereby the respondent are from the Degree programs which is to identify the involvement of youth in politics. In our world today, students are more and more interested in political issues, thus, it's not uncommon to find some of youths actively participate in politics. Many students even have expressed loyalty to or enrolled themselves in their interested political parties. A primary distinction must be made here between politics as active participation in political movements and the study of political science. The latter is an academic subject and involves the study of the administrative systems of different countries, the formation of political parties, different judiciary systems, etc. Political science, therefore, is a theoretical study of political systems. Politics means the formation of political parties and their active participation in the administration of a country. This involves organizing political meetings, canvassing for elections and the manipulation of people for political gains.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Definition of the Topic

2.2.1 Review on Past Study of Political Involvement among Youth

According to Iasonas Lamprianou on his research about Contemporary Political Participation, he said that the issue of political participation has been a substantive area of interest for both sociologists and political scientists, mainly because it pertains to the quintessential act of democratic citizenship for example voting at election for the House of Representatives. While elections and voting behavior attract the attention of many social science researchers, various manifestations and forms associated with political engagement in a broader sense have also received extensive study. As liberal democratic culture and values have blossomed in Western societies, it increasingly became axiomatic that broad participation in the decision-making processes is a prerequisite for proper democratic governance (Dahl 1971, 1998; Pateman 1970). Political theorists claimed that all individuals ought to have an appropriately equal opportunity to influence decision-making processes (Verbaet al. 1978). While electoral turnout and voting, which is the cornerstone of the democratic political process, has been reportedly decreasing over the last decades in almost all European states (O'Toole et al. 2003), academic experts and technocrats have been exploring alternative participation's activities that could influence and shape decision-making processes, within a variety of social and cultural contexts. As a result, political participation have been proven to take incredibly diverse forms such as being a member of a political party or community-based organizations, displaying an active role within a range of cultural or leisure interactions, contacting a politician to express ecological concerns, suggestions or ideas, signing a petition, setting public buildings on fire and even shooting at policemen during demonstrations and riots (Bourne 2010).

Providing a final definition of political participation is not an easy task, especially if one employs both teleological in example, focusing on goal-oriented political behavior, derived from the Greek word telos as well as praxialist arguments or procedural engagement which is focusing on the relevant procedures involved, derived from the Greek work, praxis. For example, the world has recently witnessed the riots of young people in the UK in August 2011, would one