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THE LEVEL OF POLITICAL AWARENESS AMONG UiTM
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CHAPTER 1

1.1 Introduction

Political awareness is a knowledge and understanding of political issues at local, national and international levels, and being aware how these issues affect individuals. This includes support for teaching controversial issues. It is also refer to an awareness of political sensitivities, agendas and other external factor that enables you to cooperate effectively in a political environment. People always narrate that political is only for or suitable to adult people. Youths getting involved in politics are not a healthy attitude. This happens because they do not understand the definition of politic. They always thought that political is only involving political parties and voters.

Youth is considered as backbone to the nation. They can change the future of the society with their well being and courageous behaviour. But how far the political awareness among youth. Unfortunately today we find the youth those who are more interested in other places which are not useful to them as well as nation. They are more interested in other things because for them, politic not benefit them. Even though, there are some research has found that around the world there is a growing interest in young people participating in politics. This scenario is only occurring in some countries like in US. Recent data from the presidential primaries in the US suggests that youth participation has risen sharply. But this not happen in Malaysia, the involvement of youth is very dishearten.

CHAPTER 2

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 What is political awareness?

In political science, there are attempts at reconsidering the way in which citizens deal with politics. Indeed, some studies try to get out from the strict rationality-based model, and lay the stress on the “ordinary” form of political sophistication. This phrase means the way that people are in a relationship with politics, without their being specialists in political matters. Politics is not only a matter of party platforms and specific knowledge, but is also anchored in a daily life with personal experiences. (Dolez, 2009).

According to Charlotte Dolez from Sciences Po, Paris - CEE (Center for European Studies), “ordinary” political interest is defined by political discussions but also by media exposition. The political awareness is also determined by the media use regarding political information and news. In political science studies, information is often thought with this aim at making an electoral choice. Indeed, electoral campaigns are a privileged moment to deal with citizens’ political awareness. However, following the news is a regular activity of a great number of the population, not only during election campaigns. It seems to him that the way information has been thought, i.e. with the intention of making an electoral choice, does not exactly reflect the reality of the citizen’s relationship with news.