



**EXPLORATORY STUDY ON FAMILY INFLUENCE ON CURRENT SMOKING HABIT
AMONG SECONDARY SCHOOL CHILDREN IN KUCHING, SARAWAK.
CASE STUDY: SMK SG. TAPANG**

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ABSTRACT

Abstract of the project paper submitted to Universiti Teknologi of Mara (UiTM) in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the Diploma Pentadbiran Awam.

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Smoking, a well-known health risk, is increasingly acquired at younger ages, during late childhood and adolescence. Cigarette manufacturers are known to target young children with their aggressive advertising but they could well be helped unwittingly by adult members of hundreds of thousands of families to promote their deadly products.

Many studies have shown significant association between smoking habits of family members especially that of the father's smoking habit on student's smoking habit. The behaviors are imitated more often when models are of the same sex, well respected, receive tangible rewards for their actions and are perceived as similar to the observers. Thus family especially parental behaviors strongly influence children's and adolescents' behaviors both positively and negatively.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1. Introduction.

1.1. Background and scope of study

Smoking, a well-known health risk is increasingly acquired at younger ages, during late childhood and adolescence. Cigarette manufactures are known to target young children with their aggressive advertisement but they could well be helped unwillingly by adult members of hundreds of thousands of families to promote their daily products.

Many studies have shown significant association between smoking habits of family members especially that of the father's smoking habit on student's smoking habit.

In Cognitive Social Theory that believes that through observational learning or modeling of the behavior of others, we adopt these behaviors our selves. Behavior are imitated more often when models are the same sex, well respected, receives as similar to observer, thus family especially parental behavior strongly influence children's and adolescents' behavior both positively or negatively.

There is definitely a strong correlation between children's smoking and the smoking habits of parents and older siblings. The family bond and the desire to be like their parents is the likely cause of this. As young children, many are very disapproving of their parents smoking habits but by the early teens, their thinking begins to change.