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ABSTRACT

Hawkers are titles for individuals involved in street food. They are among the contributors to the increase of foodborne illness cases in Malaysia and globally. This is due to the lack of food safety and hygiene during food handling. Therefore, this study aims to identify the level of food safety and hygiene in preparing food among hawkers in the Gombak zone. Knowledge, Attitude and Practise (KAP) model used as a guideline to meet the objectives. A cross-sectional study was conducted among hawkers in the Gombak zone, Selangor. A total of 260 respondents were selected by using cluster sampling. Data were collected through a self-administered questionnaire which consisted of four sections which are socio-demographic characteristics, knowledge, attitudes, and practices. After all data of questionnaires complete, the data were analysed using Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) 27.0.1.0 version. The results showed that the mean score percentage of knowledge is poor (47.4%) while attitudes (69.5%) and practices (57.7%) are categorized as average levels based on the KAP model. The finding of this study served as an eye-opener for hawkers to follow a regulation set by the government and be responsible for preparing hygienic food. This study also may help the Local Health Authority to identify KAP level among hawkers in the Gombak zone and took an action for improvement of KAP among them.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Firstly, we would like to thank God for giving us the opportunity to complete this amazing and challenging journey successfully. Our gratitude and thanks go to our supervisor Mr. Abd Razak Bin Abu Kassim, and coordinator, Mrs. Jazira Binti Anuar for supporting, guiding, and assisting us with this project. We also would like to express our gratitude to our lecturer, Dr. Mohd Hairi Bin Jalis for imparting knowledge on the research subjects.

Our appreciation goes to Mrs. Syairah Binti Zahidi Baki, Head of Hawker Management Division at Selayang Municipal Council (MPS) for her tireless effort in providing information about hawkers. The hawkers who kindly agreed to participate in this study are highly appreciated. Special thanks to our friends for directly or indirectly helping us with this project. Finally, this thesis is dedicated to our parents and siblings for the support and determination to educate and assist us. This piece of victory is dedicated to all of you.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

C	ontents	Pages
A	uthor's Declaration	ii
A	bstract	iii
A	cknowledgement	iv
T	able of Contents	v - vii
L	ist of Tables	viii
L	ist of Figures	ix - x
		xi
CH	APTER ONE: INTRODUCTION	
1.1	Background of Study	1 - 2
1.2	Problem Statement	2 - 3
1.3	Research Objectives	3
1.4	Research Question	3
1.5	Scope of Study	3 - 4
1.6	Significant of the Study	4
1.7	Definition of Key Terms	5
	1.7.1 Contamination	5
	1.7.2 Foodborne Illness	5
	1.7.3 Food Handlers	5
	1.7.4 Food Safety	5
	1.7.5 Food Hygiene	5
	1.7.6 Hawkers	5
	1.7.7 Knowledge	6
	1.7.8 Personal Hygiene	6
	1.7.9 Street Foods	6
	A A A A T L L L L L L L L L L L L L L L	Author's Declaration Abstract Acknowledgement Table of Contents List of Tables List of Figures List of Abbreviations CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION 1.1 Background of Study 1.2 Problem Statement 1.3 Research Objectives 1.4 Research Question 1.5 Scope of Study 1.6 Significant of the Study 1.7 Definition of Key Terms 1.7.1 Contamination 1.7.2 Foodborne Illness 1.7.3 Food Handlers 1.7.4 Food Safety 1.7.5 Food Hygiene 1.7.6 Hawkers 1.7.7 Knowledge 1.7.8 Personal Hygiene

2 **CHAPTER TWO: LITERATURE REVIEW** 2.1 Introduction 2.2 Globally about Hawker 2.2.1 Definition 2.2.2 Hawkers in United States of America 2.2.3 Hawkers in Europe 2.2.4 Hawkers di Asia 2.2.5 Hawkers in Malaysia 2.3 Issues Related to Food Safety and Hygiene 3 **CHAPTER THREE: RESEARCH METHODOLOGY** 3.1 Introduction

7

7

7

8

8 - 9

9 - 10

10 - 11

11 - 14

15 15 3.2 Research Design Sample Selection 15 - 203.3 20 Research Instrument Development 3.4 3.4.1 Research Instrument 20 - 21 21 - 24 3.4.2 Questionnaire Development 3.4.3 Validity 24 24 - 25 3.5 Data Collection Method 25 3.5.1 Pilot Study 25 - 26 3.6 Reliability Test

CHAPTER FOUR: RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS			
4.1	Introduction	27	
4.2	Demographic Analysis	27 - 30	
4.3	Results on Variables	31	
	vi		