

Book Review 'Child Abuse in Malaysia' (Malay Version)

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Written by Ann Wan Seng and Khadijah Alavi, the book contains nine chapters touched background of child abuse, the definition of torture and the scenario in Malaysia, the signs and symptoms of child abuse. Also discussed are factors for abuse and its effects on children involved in particular and society in general. The book concludes with several recommendations and suggestions on steps that can be taken to prevent child abuse that is not directly contagious and spreads. In addition, this book is suitable as a reference by those who are interested and concerned about the problems being discussed.

The children's problems were much discussed in Malaysia. Cases of abuse, maltreatment and neglect of children are often broadcast by the mass media. Nevertheless none of the concrete and in-depth study was made to analyze this problem from various angles to find the root of this problem and seek a solution to address it. It is undeniable that many books have been written about child abuse but need to be reminded that these books are written from the perspective of the West by those who do not understand the social structure and the various cultures in Malaysia. So the problems highlighted and the suggested solutions exist are not applied and implemented in accordance with the situation of the people in Malaysia.

Up to this writing, there has not been a comprehensive study published in Malaysia but in the form of monographs, essay review, thesis and papers that perhaps the scope is too limited readership audience. Thus it is not used as a medium to enlighten the public in Malaysia about the seriousness of the abuse problem that is being faced today. The number of reported cases continues to increase and mostly failed to be resolved in court or by the parties who have authority. Recognizing this need, the book was written to help those responsible for dealing with this problem.

To reduce the complexity and technical problems, the book is divided into nine chapters. Each chapter is broken down into sub-sub topic that is relevant to the matter in question. Among the chapters contained in this book is the background of child abuse. Followed

by the definition of torture and the scenario in Malaysia. To see the problem of child abuse from a broader perspective, the categorization of the types of abuse were made. Similarly, the signs and symptoms of abuse. Not to forget also discussed the factors of abuse and its impact on children who are involved in particular and society in general.

Over the past century, the story and the story of abused children and abused has been passed down from one generation to another. Among the most famous fairy tale are Cinderella and Hasel and Gretel and that has become folklore for the West. While in the Malay society mistreatment committed against children have been told through the story of Bawang Putih and Bawang Merah. Most of the story takes the themes and issues that are almost identical, namely child maltreatment is often done by step-parents who have been given the values of the negative stereotypes such as the brutal, irresponsible and selfish.

Out of the corner of sociology, child abuse syndrome refers to the act of hitting and injuring a child intentionally. Concepts of abuse and neglect of children is extensive and covers a variety of aspects such as physical abuse, sexual, emotional and neglect. Physical abuse refers to violence committed by parents or guardians. Sexual abuse refers to the exploitation of children for the purpose of fulfilling the sexual desires of adults. Such abuse can be done in various ways such as molesting children. Emotional abuse can be in various forms such as psychiatric disorders either abused or family members involved. They are abused emotionally will experience lasting inner conflict and disturbance of mind which makes it always haunted by past events. Meanwhile neglect of children is done unknowingly. In case of neglect of care in terms of safety, treatment, education and emotional, then the child can be categorized into this case. In addition, children who are forced to work when young teens are also counted as one of neglect. Child abuse can happen to anyone regardless of race, occupation, socio-economic status, religion, ideology and national boundaries. According to the study that was done, child abuse happens in many detected among the lower socio-economic level. In terms of gender were found young girls who most abused either physically or sexually.

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