SOCIO-CULTURAL ADJUSTMENT AMONG INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS IN MALAYSIAN UNIVERSITIES IN THE NORTHERN REGION OF PENINSULAR MALAYSIA

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ABSTRAK

ABSTRACT

The present study aims to examine the influence of locus of control and social support on socio-cultural adjustment among international student in public universities in Northern Region of Peninsular Malaysia. A total of 120 international students in Malaysian Universities in Northern Region of Peninsular Malaysia participated in the study. Regression analysis was used to test the hypothesis. The results showed that the external locus of control had a significant and positive impact on impersonal endeavour, cultural relatedness and cultural empathy. Moreover, it was found that internal locus of control had a significant and negative influence on cultural empathy. Further, social support from family and significant others had a significant and negative impact on cultural relatedness. Lastly, social support from friends was not a significant predictor of all dimension in socio-cultural adjustment. Practical and theoretical implication, limitations of the study and recommendations for future research were also highlighted.
It would not have been possible to write this paper without the help and support of the kind people around me. Firstly, I would like to extend my greatest appreciation and gratitude to my supervisor, Dr Johanim Johari, who has been a beacon of light in directing me to the correct path filled with patient guidance, motivation and soothing pressure. Without her, I would have never been able to complete this journey. Her dedication and wisdom were inspirational, and will never be able to thank her enough.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MOHE</td>
<td>Ministry of Higher Education Malaysia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LOC</td>
<td>Locus of Control</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Introduction

This chapter presents the background of study, the problem statement, research questions, research objectives, significance of the study and also the operational definition of the key terms used in this study.

1.1 Background of study

In the previous years, travelling to places further away from the area of origin is rarely done because it is difficult and limited access to transportation. Along with the advent of the era of globalization which is characterized by the development of technology and rapid transportation, things started to change (Sumer, 2009). The rapid development of technology and transportation have ultimately led to a lot of people from one country to visit other countries. Individuals who are traveling to another country for a specific purpose within a period tentatively called sojourner (Church, 1982). Sojourners travelled to another country with a variety of different interests, such as in the field of economic, social, political, military, education, and so forth. One area that is currently experiencing rapid growth is education. In this 21st century, internationalization of higher education is an essential issue which drives the high degree of enthusiasm by many students. The demand for higher education makes education turned into the key for each entryway,
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