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**THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SAFETY CLIMATE, SAFETY
COMMUNICATION, AND WORK ENVIRONMENT WITH
UNSAFE BEHAVIOUR AMONG CONSTRUCTION WORKERS**



By
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**Dissertation Submitted to
Othman Yeop Abdullah Graduate School of Business,
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in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirement for the
Master of Science (Occupational Safety and Health)**



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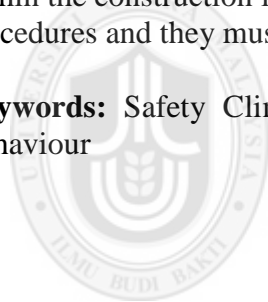
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ABSTRACT

The primary objective of this research was to determine the relationship between safety climate, safety communication, and work environment with unsafe behaviour. A survey was carried out among construction workers in Selangor. A total of 112 construction workers became the respondents in this research. This research used structured questionnaire comprising of 41 questions to measure four main variables i.e. safety climate, safety communication, work environment and unsafe behaviour. In this research, all the variables were measured by 6-point Likert's scale. Analysis of the study was carried out through descriptive and multiple regression method. Data was analysed using IBM SPSS Statistics 21. The results showed all the three hypotheses were accepted. The implication of this study towards practical and future study is also discussed for the management of construction industry to provide a conducive working environment. Specifically, this research has important findings for safety policy implementation, rules and procedures in the construction industry practices. The empirical results of this research offered strategic direction to avoid workers unsafe behaviour while at work for a successful implementation of construction projects. This research had provided insight into factors affecting theoretical perspective for understanding unsafe behaviour research in the construction industry. Policy makers within the construction industry must be clear about the objectives of safety rules and procedures and they must be communicated effectively within the organization.

Keywords: Safety Climate, Safety Communication, Work Environment, Unsafe Behaviour



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ABSTRAK

Objektif utama kaji selidik ini adalah untuk menentukan hubungan antara iklim keselamatan, komunikasi keselamatan, dan persekitaran kerja dengan tingkah laku yang tidak selamat. Satu tinjauan telah dijalankan di kalangan pekerja pembinaan di Selangor. Sejumlah 112 pekerja pembinaan menjadi responden dalam kajian ini. Kaji selidik ini menggunakan kaedah soal selidik berstruktur yang mengandungi 41 soalan untuk mengukur empat pembolehubah utama iaitu iklim keselamatan, komunikasi keselamatan, persekitaran kerja dan tingkah laku yang tidak selamat. Dalam kajian ini, semua pembolehubah diukur menggunakan skala Likert 6-poin. Analisis kajian dijalankan melalui kaedah deskriptif dan regresi berganda. Data dianalisis menggunakan Statistik SPSS IBM 21. Keputusan menunjukkan kesemua tiga hipotesis telah diterima. Implikasi kajian ini terhadap praktis dan masa depan telah juga dibincangkan iaitu pengurusan industri pembinaan haruslah menyediakan persekitaran kerja yang kondusif dan selamat. Secara khusus kaji selidik ini, memperolehi dapatan yang sangat penting untuk pelaksanaan dasar keselamatan, peraturan dan prosedur dalam amalan industri pembinaan. Keputusan empirikal kajian ini merupakan panduan ke arah yang strategik bagi memperbaiki tingkahlaku tidak selamat yang diamalkan oleh pekerja semasa projek pembinaan dilaksanakan. Kajian ini telah memberikan pandangan tentang faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi perspektif teori untuk penyelidikan tingkah laku yang tidak selamat. Pembuat dasar dalam industri pembinaan mestilah jelas mengenai objektif peraturan dan prosedur keselamatan dan mesti dibincangkan secara terbuka dengan berkesan dalam organisasi.

Kata Kunci: iklim keselamatan, hubungan keselamatan, persekitaran kerja, tingkahlaku tidak selamat

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--------------------------------------|-----------|
| PERMISSION TO USE | i |
| ABSTRACT | ii |
| ABSTRAK | iii |
| ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS | iv |
| TABLE OF CONTENTS | v |
| LIST OF TABLES | viii |
| LIST OF FIGURES | ix |
| LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS | x |
| | |
| CHAPTER ONE INTRODUCTION | 1 |
| 1.1 Background of Study | 1 |
| 1.2 Problem Statement | 7 |
| 1.3 Research Questions | 12 |
| 1.4 Research Objectives | 12 |
| 1.5 Scope of the Study | 13 |
| 1.6 Significance of the Study | 13 |
| 1.7 Definition of Terms | 14 |
| 1.7.1 Construction Industry | 14 |
| 1.7.2 Unsafe Behaviour | 14 |
| 1.7.3 Safety Climate | 14 |
| 1.7.4 Safety Communication | 14 |
| 1.7.5 Work Environment | 15 |
| 1.8 Outline of the Study | 15 |
| | |
| CHAPTER TWO LITERATURE REVIEW | 17 |
| 2.1 Introduction | 17 |
| 2.2 Conceptual Definition | 17 |
| 2.2.1 Unsafe Behaviour | 17 |
| 2.2.2 Safety Climate | 18 |
| 2.2.3 Safety Communication | 19 |

| | | |
|---|---|--------|
| 2.2.4 | Work Environment | 20 |
| 2.3 | Previous Literature Review | 21 |
| 2.3.1 | Safety Climate and Unsafe Behaviour | 22 |
| 2.3.2 | Safety Communication and Unsafe Behaviour | 23 |
| 2.3.3 | Work Environment and Unsafe Behaviour | 24 |
| 2.4 | Summary | 24 |
| CHAPTER THREE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY | | 25 |
| 3.1 | Introduction | 25 |
| 3.2 | Research Framework and Hypothesis | 25 |
| 3.3 | Research Design | 26 |
| 3.3.1 | Unit of Analysis | 27 |
| 3.4 | Population and Sampling | 27 |
| 3.5 | Instrumentation | 28 |
| 3.5.1 | Unsafe Behaviour | 28 |
| 3.5.2 | Safety Climate | 29 |
| 3.5.3 | Safety Communication | 29 |
| 3.5.4 | Work Environment | 30 |
| 3.5.5 | Personal Information | 30 |
| 3.6 | Back to Back Translation | 31 |
| 3.7 | Data Collection Method | 31 |
| 3.8 | Pilot Test | 32 |
| 3.9 | Data Analysis | 34 |
| 3.10 | Conclusion | 35 |
| CHAPTER FOUR RESULTS | | 36 |
| 4.1 | Introduction | 36 |
| 4.2 | Response Rate | 36 |
| 4.2.1 | Background of Respondents | 36 |
| 4.3 | Reliability of Variables | 39 |
| 4.4 | Descriptive Statistics | 40 |
| 4.4.1 | Unsafe Behaviour | 41 |
| 4.4.2 | Safety Climate | 42 |

| | | |
|---|---------------------------------|--------|
| 4.4.3 | Safety Communication | 43 |
| 4.4.4 | Work Environment | 44 |
| 4.5 | Hypotheses Testing | 45 |
| 4.5.1 | Correlation Matrix | 45 |
| 4.5.2 | Regression Analysis | 46 |
| 4.6 | Summary | 47 |
| CHAPTER FIVE DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION | | 48 |
| 5.1 | Introduction | 48 |
| 5.2 | Overview of the Research Study | 48 |
| 5.3 | Discussion of Findings | 48 |
| 5.4 | Contribution | 51 |
| 5.4.1 | Contribution to Theory | 52 |
| 5.5 | Limitation of the Study | 53 |
| 5.6 | Suggestions for Future Research | 53 |
| 5.7 | Recommendations | 54 |
| 5.8 | Conclusion | 55 |
| REFERENCES | | 57 |
| APPENDIX A | | 67 |



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LIST OF TABLES

| | | |
|------------|---|----|
| Table 1.1 | Fatal accidents by sector 2011 - 2017 | 5 |
| Table 1.2 | Fatal accidents at worksites by states 2011 - 2017 | 5 |
| Table 1.3 | Summary of Fatal accidents in construction industry from 2006 to 2017 | 6 |
| Table 3.1 | Summary of Instruments to Measure Main Variables | 31 |
| Table 3.2 | Cronbach's Alpha of the Pilot Study | 34 |
| Table 4.1 | Background of Respondents (n=112) | 37 |
| Table 4.2 | Mean value for age (n = 112) | 39 |
| Table 4.3 | Reliability Coefficients of Research Variables | 40 |
| Table 4.4 | Descriptive statistics of research variables (n = 112) | 41 |
| Table 4.5 | Means of Unsafe Behaviour Items (n = 112) | 42 |
| Table 4.6 | Means of Safety Climate Items (n = 112) | 43 |
| Table 4.7 | Means of Safety Communication Items (n = 112) | 44 |
| Table 4.8 | Means of Work Environment Items (n = 112) | 45 |
| Table 4.9 | Correlation Matrix Among Variables Under Study (n = 112) | 45 |
| Table 4.10 | Summary of Hypotheses Results | 46 |
| Table 4.11 | Results of the Regression Analysis | 47 |

LIST OF FIGURES

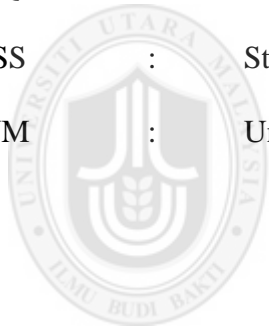
Figure 3.1 Research Framework

26



LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

| | | |
|-------|---|--|
| BNM | : | Bank Negara Malaysia |
| CIDB | : | Construction Industry Development Board |
| DOSH | : | Department of Safety and Health |
| ILO | : | International Labour Organization |
| NIOSH | : | National Institute of Safety and Health |
| NTT | : | Nusa Tenggara Timur |
| OSHA | : | Occupational Safety and Health Act |
| OSQ | : | Offshore Safety Questionnaire |
| SPSS | : | Statistical Package for the Social Science |
| UUM | : | Universiti Utara Malaysia |



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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

Construction industry is one of the industries that is responsible in providing notable contributions to the development and growth of the country's economy including Malaysia. The success of a country is seen from the aspect of building infrastructure and other physical facilities. Therefore, the construction industry is closely related to the economic development of a country. According to Rahman (2012), the construction industry is the industry that carries out the construction of a building or infrastructure such as housing, commercial buildings, public utilities and roads. Construction industry is classified as one of the most hazardous industry in relation to fatal and non-fatal injuries. In comparison to early retirement of workers in the other industries, construction workers have the highest potential of retiring early due to health and musculoskeletal pain, thus losing valuable number of working days (ILO, 2017).

Minimising injury is difficult in an industry such as construction where the nature of work is labour intensive and work activities always changing. To adopt changes in the working environment, it involved wide range of changes in safety behaviour because of the nature of work, how it is conducted and the requirement to cater for potential imperative competition with customer demands and meeting the date line. This is further worse due to workers negative attitude and their behaviour towards safety (Choudhry & Fang, 2008).

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APPENDIX A



UUM
Universiti Utara Malaysia

Dear Sir/Madam,

First and foremost, I would like to congratulate you for being selected as respondent in this study. These questionnaires are made to obtain information about your experience and knowledge to determine the influence of safety climate, safety communication, and work environment on unsafe behaviour among workers. Your opinion is important in helping me understand the unsafe behavior. This study is a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Occupational Safety and Health

For your information, your involvement in this research is voluntary. In addition to that, I assure you that confidentiality of the information provided and your identity is secured. All information provided will be used for research purpose only. Many thanks for your support in helping me to complete this questionnaire.

Should you require further explanation please do not hesitate to contact me. at: ghazali.bin.abdaziz@gmail.com or 019-3168696

Thank you.

Ghazali Bin Abd Aziz
Master of Science Occupational Safety and Health Management
School of Business
Univeriti Utara Malaysia

10.02.2018

QUESTIONNAIRES (SOAL SELIDIK)

INSTRUCTION (ARAHAN)

Please complete the questionnaire by marking your chosen answer with an 'X' in the space provided.

(Sila jawab kesemua soalan yang dikemukakan dengan menandakan 'X' pada ruang yang disediakan)

SECTION A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION (MAKLUMAT LATAR BELAKANG)

1. Your year of birth (*Tahun anda dilahirkan*)?
2. Are you (*Anda ialah*) Male (*Lelaki*) Female (*Perempuan*)
3. Your position (*Jawatan Anda*)? _____
Specify (*Nyatakan*,

SECTION B: UNSAFE BEHAVIOUR (*TINGKAHLAKU TIDAK SELAMAT*)

| Items <i>Perkara</i> | Strongly disagree <i>Sangat tidak setuju</i> | Disagree <i>Tidak setuju</i> | Slightly disagree <i>Sedikit tidak setuju</i> | Slightly Agree <i>Sedikit setuju</i> | Agree <i>Setuju</i> | Strongly agree <i>Sangat setuju</i> |
|--|---|---------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|--|
| 1. I ignore safety regulations to get the job done. <i>Saya abaikan peraturan keselamatan untuk menyiapkan kerja.</i> | | | | | | |
| 2. I carry out activities which are forbidden. <i>Saya melakukan aktiviti yang dilarang.</i> | | | | | | |
| 3. I break work procedures. <i>Saya melanggar peraturan kerja.</i> | | | | | | |
| 4. I take chances to get the job done. <i>Saya ambil kesempatan untuk menyiapkan kerja.</i> | | | | | | |
| 5. I bend the rules to achieve a target. <i>Saya melanggar peraturan untuk mencapai sasaran.</i> | | | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 6. I get the job done better by ignoring some rules. <i>Saya dapat melakukan kerja lebih baik dengan mengabaikan beberapa peraturan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 7. Conditions at the workplace stop me working to the rules. <i>Keadaan di tempat kerja menghalang saya bekerja mengikut peraturan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 8. Incentives encourage me to break rules. <i>Insentif menggalakkan saya melanggar peraturan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 9. I take shortcuts which involve little or no risk. <i>Saya mengambil jalan pintas yang melibatkan sedikit atau tanpa risiko.</i> | | | | | | |

SECTION C: SAFETY CLIMATE (IKLIM KESELAMATAN)

| Items Perkara | Strongly disagree Sangat tidak setuju | Disagree Tidak setuju | Slightly disagree Sedikit tidak setuju | Slightly Agree Sedikit setuju | Agree Setuju | Strongly agree Sangat setuju |
|---|--|--------------------------|---|----------------------------------|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. The written safety rules and instructions are too complicated for workers to follow. <i>Peraturan dan arahan keselamatan bertulis sangat rumit untuk diikuti pekerja.</i> | | | | | | |
| 2. If I didn't take a risk now and again, the job wouldn't get done. <i>Jika saya tidak mengambil risiko sekarang dan seterusnya, kerja tidak dapat dilakukan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 3. The standard of safety is very high at my place of work. <i>Standard keselamatan sangat tinggi ditempat kerja saya.</i> | | | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 4. I can get job done quicker by ignoring rules. <i>Saya boleh melaksanakan kerja lebih cepat dengan mengabaikan peraturan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 5. The rules do not always describe the safest way of working. <i>Peraturan tidak selalunya menerangkan cara kerja yang paling selamat.</i> | | | | | | |
| 6. There is sometimes pressure to put datelines before safety in this construction site. <i>Kadang-kala terdapat tekanan terhadap keutamaan menyiapkan projek daripada keselamatan di tapak pembinaan ini.</i> | | | | | | |
| 7. Nowadays, managers are more interested in safety than construction of project. <i>Pada masa kini, pengurus lebih berminat terhadap keselamatan berbanding projek pembinaan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 8. There is a good attitude to safety in this construction site. <i>Terdapat tingkahlaku yang baik terhadap keselamatan di kawasan pembinaan ini.</i> | | | | | | |
| 9. Rules and instructions relating to personal safety sometimes make it difficult to keep up with project dateline. <i>Peraturan dan arahan yang berkait dengan keselamatan peribadi selalunya menyukarkan menyiapkan projek mengikut sasaran.</i> | | | | | | |
| 10. Workers are reluctant to report accidents. <i>Pekerja agak keberatan melaporkan kemalangan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 11. Safety is taken seriously in this construction site. <i>Keselamatan diambil serius di kawasan pembinaan ini.</i> | | | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 12. Management is genuinely concerned about workers' safety. <i>Pengurusan benar-benar prihatin tentang keselamatan pekerja.</i> | | | | | | |
| 13. Sometimes it is necessary to ignore safety regulations to keep construction works going. <i>Kadang-kala adalah perlu untuk mengabaikan peraturan keselamatan untuk memastikan kerja-kerja pembinaan berjalan lancar.</i> | | | | | | |
| 14. Workers on this construction site refuse to do work if they feel the task is unsafe. <i>Pekerja di tapak pembinaan ini enggan melakukan kerja jika mereka merasa tugas adalah tidak selamat.</i> | | | | | | |
| 15. I feel that the management on this construction site is concerned about my general welfare. <i>Saya rasa pengurusan di kawasan tapak pembinaan ini mengambil berat terhadap kebajikan am saya.</i> | | | | | | |

SECTION D: SAFETY COMMUNICATION (*HUBUNGAN KESELAMATAN*)

| Items <i>Perkara</i> | Strongly disagree <i>Sangat tidak setuju</i> | Disagree <i>Tidak setuju</i> | Slightly disagree <i>Sedikit tidak setuju</i> | Slightly Agree <i>Sedikit setuju</i> | Agree <i>Setuju</i> | Strongly agree <i>Sangat setuju</i> |
|---|---|---------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|--|
| 1. I am satisfied with the way I am kept informed about what takes place on. <i>Saya berpuas hati dengan cara saya diberi maklumat tentang apa yang berlaku.</i> | | | | | | |
| 2. There is good communication between management and construction workers. <i>Terdapat komunikasi yang baik di antara pengurusan dan pekerja binaan.</i> | | | | | | |

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|---|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 3. I am consulted before decisions are made. <i>Saya dirujuk sebelum sebarang keputusan dibuat.</i> | | | | | | |
| 4. There is good communication between construction workers changes. <i>Terdapat komunikasi yang baik semasa pertukaran pekerja binaan.</i> | | | | | | |
| 5. My supervisor gives me clear instructions. <i>Penyelia saya memberi arahan yang jelas</i> | | | | | | |
| 6. I have a fair opportunity of influencing the decisions to be made by my superiors. <i>Saya mempunyai peluang mempengaruhi keputusan yang akan dibuat oleh penyelia saya</i> | | | | | | |
| 7. I know what I can expect from others. <i>Saya tahu apa yang boleh saya jangkakan daripada orang lain.</i> | | | | | | |

SECTION E: WORK ENVIRONMENT (*PERSEKITARAN KERJA*)

| Items <i>Perkara</i> | Strongly disagree <i>Sangat tidak setuju</i> | Disagree <i>Tidak setuju</i> | Slightly disagree <i>Sedikit tidak setuju</i> | Slightly Agree <i>Sedikit setuju</i> | Agree <i>Setuju</i> | Strongly agree <i>Sangat setuju</i> |
|---|---|---------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|--|
| 1. There is constant pressure to keep working. <i>Terdapat tekanan berterusan untuk terus bekerja.</i> | | | | | | |
| 2. Things are sometimes disorganized. <i>Keadaan kadang-kala tidak teratur.</i> | | | | | | |
| 3. There always seems to be urgency about everything. <i>Kerap kali terdapat keutamaan tentang segala-galanya.</i> | | | | | | |
| 4. Activities are well planned. <i>Aktiviti dirancang dengan baik.</i> | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 5. Workers cannot afford to relax. <i>Pekerja tidak mampu untuk berehat.</i> | | | | | | |
| 6. Rules and regulations are somewhat vague and ambiguous. <i>Peraturan dan undang-undang agak kabur dan samar-samar.</i> | | | | | | |
| 7. Nobody works too hard. <i>Tiada sesiapa yang bekerja lebih kuat.</i> | | | | | | |
| 8. The responsibilities of supervisors are clearly defined. <i>Tanggungjawab penyelia ditakrifkan dengan jelas.</i> | | | | | | |
| 9. There is no time pressure. <i>Tiada tekanan tentang masa.</i> | | | | | | |
| 10. The details of assigned jobs are generally explained to workers. <i>Perincian tugas lazimnya dijelaskan kepada pekerja.</i> | | | | | | |

☺ Thank you for filling in the questionnaire. ☺

☺Terima kasih kepada anda kerana sudi menjawab borang soal selidik kajian☺