

PARENTAL CHOICE OF ISLAMIC PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOL

A project paper submitted to the Graduate School in partial
fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of
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by

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Abstrak

Kajian ini bertujuan menyelidik faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi pilihan ibu bapa untuk menghantar anak-anak mereka ke Sekolah Menengah Agama Rakyat di Kulim. Tentu ada sebabnya ibu bapa memilih sekolah persendirian ini dan menolak sekolah menengah kebangsaan yang menawarkan pendidikan percuma. Bidang yang menjadi penyediaan utama termasuk: (a) ciri-ciri keluarga (jantina, pendapatan, tahap pendidikan dan sejarah persekolahan - persendirian atau kebangsaan) (b) sikap dan tahap kepuasan ibu bapa terhadap ciri-ciri sekolah agama rakyat (pencapaian pelajar, kualiti guru, disiplin, tahap akademik, saiz kelas, kurikulum dan kemudahan fizikal)

Kajian ini menggunakan satu set soal selidik untuk ibu bapa yang mengukur 20 ciri demografik, 10 item atas sikap dan 10 item lagi atas tahap kepuasan. Soal selidik ibu bapa ini dikemukakan kepada 320 orang ibu bapa dari tiga buah Sekolah Menengah Agama di daerah Kulim yang ada waris sedang menuntut di tingkatan satu, dua, tiga, empat atau lima. Kadar jawapan yang berjaya diterima balik adalah setinggi 74.06 peratus.

Ujian statistik yang dipilih termasuk kekerapan, peratus, skor min, korelasi, ujian-t dan ANOVA satu hala. Korelasi Bivariate digunakan untuk menentukan hubungan yang signifikan antara pilihan dan ciri-ciri demografik. Ujian t dan ANOVA satu hala digunakan untuk mencari perbezaan antara min sikap dan tahap kepuasan.

Dapatan yang diperolehi ialah:

1. Pengajaran agama, peraturan disiplin yang ketat dan guru yang rajin adalah pembolehubah yang paling kuat memberi pengaruh atas sikap dan tahap kepuasan ibu bapa.
2. Terdapat hubungan antara sikap ibu bapa dan tahap kepuasan ibu bapa terhadap pendidikan sekolah agama rakyat.
3. Ciri-ciri demografik seperti jenis pekerjaan bapa, status pekerjaan ibu, pendapatan keluarga, tanggungan kewangan dan jarak rumah dari sekolah adalah pembolehubah yang memberi kesan pada sikap dan tahap kepuasan ibu bapa.

Kajian ini memberi wawasan tentang sumbangan Sekolah Menengah Agama Rakyat dalam pembangunan negara. Dapatan kajian ini boleh digunakan sebagai sesuatu peluang untuk meneliti sikap dan keperluan ibu bapa. Maklumat ini dapat membolehkan para pendidik untuk memajukan lagi sekolah supaya keperluan dan jangkaan pelanggan, iaitu pelajar-pelajar dan ibu bapa, dapat dipenuhi.

Abstract

This study investigated factors that affect parental choice of Islamic secondary private schooling in Kulim. There must be reasons behind the parental rejection of free public schools in favour of private schools. The major areas of investigation include: (a) family characteristics (gender, level of income, level of education attainment and history of school attendance - private or public) (b) parents' attitude and satisfaction toward characteristics of private school (student achievement, teacher quality, discipline, academic standards, class size, curriculum, and physical facilities.)

The study utilised a questionnaire for parents which measured 20 demographic traits, as well as 10 attitude variables and 10 satisfaction variables. The parent questionnaire was sent to 320 parents in the 3 Islamic private secondary schools in Kulim who had children enrolled in Form One, Two, Three, Four and Five. A return rate of 74.06 percent was achieved.

Statistics involved frequencies, percent, mean score, correlation, t-test, and one-way ANOVA. Bivariate correlation was used to determine the significance of relationship between choice made and demographic traits. The t-test and one-way ANOVA were used to find the difference between the means of attitude and level of satisfaction.

The results were:

1. Islamic teaching, strict rules of discipline and hardworking teachers were variables that exerted strong influence on the parental attitude and level of satisfaction.
2. There was a relationship between the parental attitude and parent's satisfaction on private Islamic schooling.
3. Demographic traits such as father's occupation, mother's working status, household income, financial burden and distance of home from school were variables that had an impact on parental attitude and satisfaction.

This research gave an insight in the contribution of the private Islamic schools in the effort of nation building. The finding of the survey can be used as an opportunity to examine the attitude and needs of the parents. This information enables educators to better develop schools which are able to meet the needs and expectations of their clients, the students and parents.

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Table of Contents

		Page
	Permission To Use	i
	Abstrak (In Bahasa)	ii
	Abstract (In English)	iii
	Acknowledgments	iv
	Contents	v
	List of Tables	vii
	List of Appendices	x
Chapter		Page
1	INTRODUCTION	1
	Context of Study	2
	The Major Differences Between Public Schools and Islamic Secondary Private Schools	5
	Statement of Problem	8
	Research Questions	10
	Research Hypotheses	10
	Significance of the Study	11
	Limitations of Study	14
	Delimitations	14
2	REVIEW OF LITERATURE	15
	The Reason that Private Schools Had Proven Attractive to Parents	15
	The Values of Having a Free Choice	18
	Characteristics of Private Education	20
	The Private Education System in Malaysia	23
	Legal Aspects of Islamic Religious Schools in Kedah Darul Aman	24
	Islamic Education	25
	The Malaysian National Education System: A Perspective on Its Islamic Impact	29
	Impact of the National Education Policy on Islamic Education	31
	Related Studies of Private Schooling and Islamic Education	32

Table of Contents (Continued)

Chapter		Page
2	Definition of Terms	35
3	DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY	36
	Introduction	36
	Research Design	36
	Research Model	37
	Operational Definitions	38
	Research Population and Sampling Procedures	38
	Research Instrumentation	39
	Data Collection	40
	Pilot Study	40
	Hypotheses and Statistical Procedures	41
4	PRESENTATION AND ANALYSIS OF THE DATA	45
	Demographic Data and Household Characteristics Analysis	46
	Findings Concerning Research Hypotheses	59
	Conclusion	71
5	SUMMARY, IMPLICATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS	73
	Review of the Study	74
	Findings	75
	Implications	77
	Implications for Policy Makers in Education and School Administrators	77
	Implications for Parents	78
	Recommendations for Further Study	79
	BIBLIOGRAPHY	81

LIST OF TABLES

Table	Page
1.1 Number of Private Primary and Secondary Schools By State and Types as at 31 st October 1995	1
1.2 Distribution of Subjects in Islamic Secondary Private Schools, Kedah Darul Aman	6
1.3 Types of Examination in Islamic Secondary private Schools in Kedah Darul Aman	7
3.1 Research Population and Sample.....	39
3.2 Cronbach Alpha Index of Reliability For Pilot Data.....	41
3.3 Statistical Tools and Usage for the Hypotheses	44
4.1 Class of the Child	46
4.2 Sex of the Child	46
4.3 Relation to the Child	47
4.4 Father's Formal School	47
4.5 Mother's Formal School	48
4.6 Father's Level of Education	49
4.7 Mother's Level of Education	49
4.8 Father's Age	50
4.9 Mother's Age	50
4.10 Father's Occupation	51
4.11 Mother's Working Status	51
4.12 Distance From School	52
4.13 Choice Made by	52
4.14 How to Go to School?	53
4.15 Household Income	53

LIST OF TABLES
(Continued)

Table	Page
4.16 Financial Burden	54
4.17 Examination to be Taken	54
4.18 School Performance Compared to Public School	55
4.19 Number of Children in Private School	55
4.20 Religious Studies in Public School	56
4.21 Parental Attitudes - Item Means and Weighted Score	56
4.22 Parent's Satisfaction - Item Means and Weighted Score	57
4.23 Correlations Between Means of Parental Attitude and Parent's Satisfaction	59
4.24 Correlations Between Choice of Private Schooling Made and Father's Occupation	60
4.25 Correlations Between Choice of Private Schooling and Distance of Home from School	61
4.26 Paired Sample t Test on Mean of Parental Attitude and Religious Teaching in Public School	62
4.27 Paired Sample t Test on Mean of Parent's Satisfaction and Mother's Working Status	63
4.28 ANOVA on the Means of Parental Attitude in Association with Household Income	64
4.29 ANOVA on the Means of Parental Attitude in Association with Examination to be Taken	65
4.30 ANOVA on the Means of Parent's Level of Satisfaction in Association with Father's Level of Education	66
4.31 ANOVA on the Means of Parent's Level of Satisfaction in Association with Mother's Former School	67
4.32 ANOVA on the Means of Parent's Level of Satisfaction in Association with Financial Burden	68

LIST OF TABLES
(Continued)

Table		Page
4.33	ANOVA on the Means of Parent's Level of Satisfaction in Association with School Performance	69
4.34	ANOVA on the Means of Parent's Level of Satisfaction in Association with Methods of Going to School	70

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix		Page
A	Survey Instrument Parent Questionnaire (in English)	85
B	Survey Instrument Parent Questionnaire (in Bahasa)	90
C	Permission From EPRD	97
D	Permission From UUM	98
E	Permission From State Education Department, Kedah	99
F	Permission From State Islamic Department, Kedah	100
G	List of Islamic Secondary Private Schools in Kedah Darul Aman in 1998	101

Chapter 1

Introduction

Since independence, the Ministry of Education has successfully developed the system of public schools. However, according to the Educational Statistics of Malaysia (1995), there is also a widespread and expanding system of private schools and institutions ranging from kindergarten level up to university level. The Statistics reveal that a total of 237 private primary and secondary schools with an enrollment of 102112 pupils exist in various states of Malaysia. In Kedah Darul Aman, there are 22 primary and secondary private schools as shown in Table 1.1.

**Table 1.1: Number of Private Primary and Secondary Schools
By State and Type as at 31st October 1995**

States	Primary and Secondary Schools	Chinese Schools	Expatriate Schools	Total
Johor Darul Takzim	11	8	-	19
Kedah Darul Aman	19	4	-	22
Kelantan Darul Naim	19	1	1	21
Melaka	5	1	1	7
Negeri Sembilan	2	2	1	5
Pahang Darul Makmur	9	-	2	11
Perak Darul Ridzuan	5	9	1	15
Perlis Indera Kayangan	5	-	-	5
Pulau Pinang	4	5	5	14
Sabah	14	9	3	26
Sarawak	15	14	4	33
Selangor Darul Ehsan	12	4	6	22
Terengganu Darul Iman	11	-	2	13
Wilayah Persekutuan	10	4	10	24
Total	141	60	36	237

Source: Educational Statistic of Malaysia 1995

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