

# The Voice of Youngsters on Baby Dumping Issues in Malaysia

Nazni Noordin, Zaherawati Zakaria, Mohd Zool Hilmie Mohamed Sawal, Zaliha Hj Hussin,  
Kamarudin Ngah, and Jennifah Nordin

**Abstract**—The increasing cases of outrageous acts of dumping new-born babies and fetuses in Malaysia recently alarming the Malaysian to take serious attention in handling this matter. This research was about youngsters' perception on baby dumping issue. Out of 7,535 populations at four selected schools at the area of Bakar Arang State Assembly under Sungai Petani Parliamentary, Kedah, 400 students were selected as respondents. In this study, simple random sampling was used. This research used Descriptive Statistic and Pearson Correlation for data analysis purposes. Data were collected from July until October 2010. Three hypotheses were tested and accepted. The result indicates that there were positive relationship between awareness towards consequences of free sex, knowledge on sex education and religious belief towards baby dumping cases. The significant of this study was awareness creation on consequences of having free sex among youngsters as well as parents and school administration and also inclusive of religious bodies/agencies in taking seriously on the impact of this issue towards our social development in global era. Conclusion/Recommendations: The recommendations were made to the parties concerned in this issue in order to find the best solution in curbing this problem.

**Index Terms**—Baby dumping, teen, awareness, sex education, religious belief.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Lately, Malaysia is facing a serious issue regarding on baby dumping which getting more chronic and cause a lot of attention. This social problem appears every day in newspaper and mass media. From the period of January until July 2010, public were shocked, appalled, dismayed by the increasing reported cases of abandoned babies, some of whom were found dead. This incident indirectly indicated that something is wrong in our society [1]- [5].

What is actually the issue of baby dumping? It is not only just dumping new-born babies but also refers to discarding or leaving alone, for an extended period of time, a child younger than 12 months of age in a public or private setting with the intent to dispose of the child. The worse situation of this issue also can be seen when a girl gives birth in a school bathroom at night then throws the baby into the garbage or in the toilet bowl, also when a baby flung in the chicken coop, a baby

swaddled in newspapers left squalling by a fly-infested dustbin, a baby abandoned under the harsh sun beating down on a wet rice field, a baby stuffed into a cabinet drawer, a baby left on the doorsteps of people's home with notes or in a mosque. It is so embarrassing, sad and worst scenario that happened in our society.

Statistics from the Malaysia Welfare Department for year 2010, from January to April 2010, reported that 111 unmarried young girls were pregnant. The figure, however, is just the tip of the iceberg as many cases go unreported and pregnancies terminated. It also reported in New Straits Times on 23rd July 2010, the body of a baby girl found in a bag at a bus stop near the Sultan Ismail Hospital, Johor Bahru in the morning. Also there a baby found buried. New Straits Times on 18th July 2010, reported that a fetus was found buried by the roadside in Jalan 12, Bandar Puteri Puchong, Selangor.

Baby dumping is not the solution to a life problem and it could be charged under Section 317 of the Penal Code which carries a maximum jail term of seven years or fine or both according to the Malaysian law. For the past few years there are many newborn babies have been found, dead or live in the most unlikely places like rubbish dump. For instance, The Malay Mail on 26 July 2011 [5] reported that a fetus with the umbilical cord intact was found in a garbage can at Pulau Mutiara wholesale market in Jalan Makloom, Penang. This shows clearly that "baby dumping" is really serious problem that currently happened in our society.

## II. PROBLEM STATEMENT

TABLE I: STATISTIC OF BABY DUMPING CASES FROM THE HEADQUARTERS OF ROYAL MALAYSIA POLICE (PDRM): BY - STATE FROM 2005 UNTIL 7 APRIL 2010

Cases of Baby Dumping Reported in Each State from 2005 until 7 <sup>th</sup> April 2010	
States	Number of cases
Selangor	105
Johor	83
Sabah	65
Sarawak	34
Negeri Sembilan	24
Pulau Pinang	22
Perak	19
Pahang	17
Kedah	17
Kelantan	10
Terengganu	5
Melaka	3
Kuala Lumpur	2
Perlis	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>407</b>

Based on TABLE I, the statistic from the Headquarters of Royal Malaysia Police (PDRM) [6] indicated that there were 407 cases of baby dumping, for the past five years starting

Manuscript received January 9, 2012; revised February 20, 2012.

N. Noordin, Z. Zakari, and Z. H. Hussin are with Faculty of Administrative Science & Policy Studies, Universiti Teknologi MARA, P. O Box 187, Merbok, Kedah, Malaysia.

M. Z. H. M. Sawal is with Faculty of Information Management, Universiti Teknologi MARA, P. O Box 187, 08400 Merbok, Kedah, Malaysia.

K. Ngah is with Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS), Universiti Sains Malaysia (USM), Pulau Pinang.

from 2005 until 7th April 2010. On average, there are 68 cases every year (1 month = 5.7 babies @ 1 week = 1.4 babies!!!) and these cases keep increasing.

In year 2010 alone, it already recorded 65 cases up to 16 August 2010. That means average 8 cases per month solely in year 2010 and this figure is not included the cases that not reported. According to Federal Criminal Investigation Department (CID) Director Commissioner, Datuk Seri Bakri Zinin, year 2010 alone (as at 16 August 2010), 65 dumped babies had been recorded as compared to 42 cases during the same period last year (2009), proved that it was an increase in these cases [7].

Recently, the Cabinet also informed that there were 21 recorded cases of students who got pregnant out of wedlock between 2006 and 2010. Then, what about the unreported and unrecorded cases? Public belief that the figure more than what we can imagine.

### III. METHODS & MATERIAL

A simple random sampling technique was conducted among 400 students (out of total 7535 students) from Form One until Form Six (Upper Six) in secondary schools at the area of Bakar Arang State Assembly under Sungai Petani Parliamentary, Kedah. The schools involved were Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Ibrahim, Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Sungai Pasir, Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Khir Johari and Sekolah Menengah Kebangsaan Bandar Sungai Petani in Sungai Petani, Kedah. The data was analyzed using Statistical Package for the Social Science (SPSS) in getting descriptive statistic and correlation.

### IV. LITERATURE REVIEW

#### A. Baby Dumping

The killing of newborn infants is not a new phenomenon, yet modern society is still struggling with understanding the causes and the ideal way to address it. Several studies have revealed that there are remarkable similarities among the women who commit infanticide. They are socially isolated, have little or no financial independence and are emotionally immature. They are of all ethnicities and come from varying social backgrounds.

In our society, we always point fingers at the mother who dumps her baby. She would not have resorted to such a desperate act if her partner was there for her, if her parents forgave her and if the communities showed some sympathy for her and the unborn child, instead of banish her. It takes two people to produce a baby. But in almost every news article about teenage pregnancies and baby dumping, there is hardly any mention of the father. For all we know, he could be a family member, a married man or even a very important person. Why is the man absolved of responsibility? And when it comes to solutions, it is also the same.

Based on the current issues, it is clear that the rampant sex behavior in the community, especially among teenagers who do not think maturity. Sex behavior brings many negative impacts. Among the effects are increasing cases of abortion and baby dumping. For baby dumping cases, it is more

serious implications than abortion. This result will affect not only individual but also society and that particular individual will suffer mentally and emotionally and will feel guilty in her entire life.

Moreover, individuals who are making plans to throw her baby will not seek medical advice from doctors. This person is likely to experience blood loss, infection and injury during delivery. In addition, the infant mortality rate will increase because of not getting medical care and proper care. Babies that are removed will have mental problems and be extreme if not given the attention and care enough. This problem will be more serious when they become adult and extreme attitudes also will lead them to involve in crime.

Other than that, there are few factors regarding the truth about baby dumping in Malaysia. Firstly, condom price is still too expensive for the poor and is hard to obtain in rural area and they can't afford to buy it. Moreover, young generation also need sex education and know how to prevent ejaculation while inside, how to wear condom, how baby were made and so on. Next, parents also don't pay enough attention to their kids and they don't even realize their daughter is pregnant. So, when there are unsupportive parents, the young mothers afraid of their parents that will chase away them if they know they are pregnant outside marriage. Other factors are there is too much vacant area in Malaysia that gives opportunity for people to have instant sex and dumping babies and there is too much garbage bin that located in hidden places that will give opportunity for people to dump babies.

#### B. Awareness towards Consequences of Free Sex

Without a strong commitment to marriage as a life goal and as an essential gift to children, today's teenagers find it much harder to come up with good reasons to say "no" to sex and to use birth control conscientiously. It shows that there is low awareness among the teenagers towards the sex and it can lead to the unwanted pregnancy and will lead to baby dumping. The teenagers especially girls need to know that their body is belong to themselves and no one has the right to touch it without their permission. If someone touches them in a way that makes them feel uncomfortable, they have the right to tell them to stop and expect them to listen it. [10].

As mention by Dr Ismail Thamby in the Bernama on 26 August 2010, normally young people will not think of the consequences of their actions because they are easily driven by factors such as influence by pornographic materials on the internet, as well as they lack of religious knowledge. Most sexual behaviors involve some level of risk. It is up to us to determine how much risk we are willing to take. Some people choose to protect themselves by not engaging in any sexual behavior. Some limit their sexual activities to those that have less risk and some use condoms and contraception. We have the right to make any or all of these choices at any point in our life.

However, The Women's Aid Organization Executive Director, Ivy Josiah said that there was no correlation between an increase in baby dumping and pornography. According to her, "Talking to women who had unwanted pregnancies, they found it was never about pornography but because they were unable to talk or compromise with their

boyfriends about contraceptive use." Abandonment could result because inexperienced mothers do not know how to deal with their babies properly. She has suggested that mothers cannot handle the enormous social pressures from the unplanned or early pregnancy and they panic. Some women abandon their babies as an alternative to abortion and so leave the infant so that it can be found for a chance of a better life.

According to Georges Guiella & Nyovani Janet Madise (2007) [11], not much teenagers know about what motivates young people to initiate first sex, to have multiple sexual partners or to use protection such as condoms. Research on adolescents' sexual behavior carried out in Africa has shown that a range of factors including lack of reproductive health and HIV/AIDS information and services contribute to heightened risk of HIV among young people. However, the single most important determinant of HIV infection among young people in Africa is having unprotected sex with a person who is infected. It is because they did not use a condom during sex intercourse which it can spread the virus.

Other than that in September 1997, the American Journal of Public Health published a study finding that "making condoms available does not encourage students who have never had sex to become sexually active." It also found that making condoms available to students at school led to a higher rate of condom use among sexually active students. The study, initiated in the fall of 1994, compared the sexual behavior of 7119 students in New York City with that of 5738 students in Chicago. New York City public schools adopted a safe sex program in 1991 that includes access to condoms. Chicago's public schools provide safe-sex education, but they do not make condoms available to students.

From a public health standpoint, the survey is encouraging. Recent health-related surveys have turned up some troubling statistics about teens. For example the majority of high school students are sexually active and do not use condoms consistently. About 10,000 people by the age of 13 to 21 years old are infected with HIV/AIDS each year. One million teenagers become pregnant each year. Three million teenagers age 13 to 19 years old are infected with other sexually transmitted diseases. If teens implicitly view abortion as a form of birth control, increasing the psychic costs of obtaining an abortion through parental involvement laws may induce teens to substitute toward other forms of birth control such as condoms, birth control pills, or abstaining from sex altogether.

Teen sex which is oral or vaginal may have negative emotional consequences, especially for girls, according to a new study in Pediatrics. Parents and health professionals should help teens prepare for and cope with the emotions attached to sex, say Sonya Brady and Bonnie Halpern-Felsher (2007) [12]. Others, they also stated the negative consequences such as feeling used, getting pregnant, contracting a sexually transmitted infection, or feeling bad about them. The boys may have been more sexually active, had more partners or risky sex, or been more willing to admit those consequences, say the researchers. Teens may need help in coping with the emotions that surround sex. The researchers encourage health professionals and other adults

to talk with adolescents about how decisions to engage in any type of sexual activity may have important consequences.

Three quarters of youngsters knew it was possible for those under the age of 16 to buy condoms. The same proportion knew that a doctor was unable to inform a girl's parents if she asked for the pill. More than four out of ten girls had used the pill and seven out of ten knew how it should be taken. Eighty five per cent of the teenagers questioned said they intended to use a condom next time they had sex. Only one in ten teenage boys, as an example, believed that a girl could not get pregnant the first time she had sex. It said 'ignorance' was one of the key factors in teenage girls becoming pregnant. He suggested that most teenagers know how to use contraception and are putting the knowledge into practice. Among girls who had sex before the age of 16, 30 per cent regretted it. Half the teenagers said they were drunk when they lost their virginity and a third said the occasion was a one night stand. Two-thirds of the girls, compared with four out of ten boys, thought you should be in love before having sex a figure that contrasts sadly with the 30 per cent whose first experience was a one night stand. Four out of ten teenagers who had not had sex said they had been under pressure to do so. The research also suggested that teenagers were commonly engaged in behavior that amounted to far more than sexual experimentation.

Hugh McKinney of the National Family Campaign (2007) said, Sexual Health Research demonstrates that it is nonsense to say there are huge numbers of ignorant teenagers. 'The fact is that the huge majority of teenagers are very well-informed about sex and contraception. Besides that, he added that teenagers get no guidance on what to do with this knowledge from their schools.

### *C. Knowledge on Sex Education*

They are many factors that contribute to the problem teen unwanted pregnancy which can lead to the baby dumping. One of the factors is lack of the sexuality education or knowledge. With the knowledge, we can differentiate between good and bad. Based on this study, parents, teachers, media and others body need to provide basic knowledge to the students especially female students about their relationship with boys. Besides that, they also need to inform them about the pregnancy and the consequences of the unwanted pregnancy.

Target group for the educational program which is the school or community sexual risk reduction for teens included the teachers and community agency professional, parents, children and adolescent, teen peer leaders and youth at high risk pregnancy. For the teachers and community agency professional, they are responsible to educate and guide youth. While for parents, they need to participate in improving parenting skill where the religious organizations may have the greatest opportunity to reach this group. For the children and adolescents, they need to plan, organized and sequential sexuality education, taught by academically prepared teachers, from kindergarten through high school. Other than that, teen peer leaders are responsible to work within schools and community organizations to influence their peers and younger children through organized outreach programs. For the youth at high risk of pregnancy, these teens are targeted

with special programs and one-to-one interventions.

This issue will be effective if they are communicated to the target audience through media to which they attend and by using words, images and a tone which they will accept. So, by using the mass media, the target group which is the teenagers will get the knowledge or clear view how the pregnancy can occurred, how to prevent and if it is happen what they should do.

Based on previous research done by Carolyn Lester (2002) and Alexandra Allan (2003), the findings stated that sex education was reported to vary considerably in quality and content both between and within schools. Participants felt that this was due to some teachers being embarrassed, resulting in didactic delivery and lack of discussion. Most participants had received very little information about sexual transmitted infection, including how it could be avoided or what to do if infection was suspected. Many felt that it would be useful to have an organized visit to a sexual health or contraceptive clinic as part of the curriculum and that it would also be helpful if clinic staff contributed to their sex education. By teaching sex education to the students, it can give extra knowledge for them and it can reduce the number of unprotected sexual intercourse, illegal pregnancy and automatically it can reduce the number of baby dumping.

However, in The Star (2010, August 17) [13] stated that Selangor Menteri Besar Tan Sri Khalid Ibrahim, said "there was no need to introduce sex education as part of the campaign." Besides that, recently CID chief Datuk Sri Bakri Zinin was reported that widespread access to pornography and "weakened family ties" have led to an increase in baby-dumping cases in the last five years. State Exco Halimah Ali said sex education is not a "100%" answer to baby-dumping. Instead, an "overall solution" is needed.

New Straits Times (2010, August 19) [14] stated that The National Service Training Council has not decided whether to introduce sex education in its programmes. National Service Training Director General Datuk Abdul Hadi Awang Kechil said the council had received a proposal on the matter but no decision had been made. "This is a policy matter which can be decided only by the council," he said when asked to comment on the rise in the number of baby-dumping cases, especially involving youth.

As stated the issue in Bernama (2010, June 12), Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) School of Psychology and Human Development lecturer, Dr Fatimah Abdullah said sex education alone was not enough to address this issue and that it was important for young girls to know about self-dignity and sacrifice. "It cannot be denied that most of the girls, who became pregnant out of wedlock, have poor knowledge on reproductive system like their menstrual cycle." But their willingness to sacrifice for their lovers, which lead to their own detriment, should be changed," she said on the UKM news portal. Dr Fatimah said the social controls was loosening because of the fast pace of modernization and development.

#### D. Religious Belief

As we know, child is a priceless gift from Allah SWT. However, baby dumping is a social problem and has a chronic increase as many cases are occurring in Malaysian

society. Prevention is better than a treat and closing the road is better than sinful treat symptoms arising from the evil that occurred.

*Allah says in Surah Al-Israa' verse 32 which says:*

*"Do not approach adultery; fornication is indeed an abomination and an evil way.*

Means that, as a Muslim, we must avoid in involving with issues of free sex, dumping babies, drinking alcohol, drug addiction, rape, violation, abuse of children, domestic violence, and other community problems. Nowadays, we are shocked with the problem of rampant baby dumping which is beyond the norms of humanity that cannot make sense of well-known Malaysian society with Asian values and the teachings of Islam's precepts. Although the effect of this immoral act known to the public, but it is still clearly heard almost every day on this issue that appear in newspapers and this shows that there is a symptoms that associated with lack of religious education among future leaders of our nation.

In the context of Islam, the act of free sex is prohibited. According to the teachings of Islam, one of the fundamental moralities of Islam is the meaning of behavior. This problem is clearly contrary to the values in Islam in particular and the universal norms of humanity in general. Therefore, the proper way to address the problem of disposable baby is suppressing all the reasons to cause this problem.

Nowadays, teenagers are too free without their parent's control. He further claimed that even though boys and girls can be friend with anyone but they also must know their limit when they are friend with different gender.

Islam teaches us about the dos and the don'ts in relationship, where there is a border or limitation among boy and girl to avoid any misconduct occurred. The girl must not wear revealing or sexy clothes since this can rise up the boy's desire and passions to explore more to his opposite sex.

In addition, Islam emphasizes five areas to be taken care, which are property, honor, mind, life and religion. In this context, the act of free sex is contrary to the "honor" while abortion associated with taken the life of the fetus or indirectly means murder. In the discussion of this issue, one of the reasons for the occurrence of social ills is due to the failure of adolescents in controlling their desires and temptation. In Islam, for those who cannot control the desire, Islam encourages its followers to use other channels such as marriage or fasting. Free sex without protection leads to an increased risk of abortion among teenagers and baby dumping cases.

For Buddhism, legal relationship between husband and wife are allowed of all sexual relationships between men and women and not for those who are not recognized by law and social morality. This regulation is believed to bring good in the life of society. Following the concept of Karma, good deeds will bring good effects, while evil deeds will bring bad consequences. If we want to get good karma, it must comply with the five moral tenets of Buddhism. In addition, one of the moral values of Buddhism is kind of you to all the creatures of love and respects for all other creatures also have the right to life.

In the Coleman and Testa (2007) [15] study, respondents made consistent reference to religion when exploring a range of sexual attitudes, including those of abortion, sexual

intercourse before marriage, teenage pregnancy and sexually transmitted infections. In addition, respondent's discussion of their behaviours such as sexual intercourse experience and use of sexual health services commonly included religious references, particularly towards the expectations within the family and local religious community. This finding was apparent across all faiths. To illustrate further, Muslims frequently referred to their faith and the Qu'ran explicitly when describing personal or community views on sex and relationships. Similarly, Christians of Black Caribbean, Black African, Latin American and Lebanese ethnicity illustrated their views and perceptions with reference to the Bible.

The government should take active role to overcome this problem. The government should introduce true Islam to the people especially to the Muslim youth about halal and haram, heaven and hell and sin and reward. Islam scholars or known as Ulama must take this responsibility to explain to the community about Islam and its rules. The parents also must control and aware of their children's outdoor activities. We could solve this social problem if we emphasis religious teaching on our children, monitor them carefully and always take care of them.

## V. RESULT & DISCUSSION

### A. Profile of Respondents

Out of 400 respondents, there were 183 (45.75%) male respondents and 217 (54.25%) female respondents. This finding showed the dominant of female respondents in this study. Regarding the age group, the respondents were in the age of 13 years old (18 students or 4.50%), followed by 14 years old (51 students or 12.75%), 15 years old (44 students or 11.00%), 16 years old (97 students or 24.25%), 17 years old (94 students or 23.50%) and lastly 18 years old and above which is 96 students or 24.00%. The highest respondents in this study was 16 years old, followed by 18 years old, 17 years old, 14 years old, 15 years old and the lowest respondents were 13 years old. The race of respondents in this study consists of three major races in Malaysia which is Malay, Chinese, and Indian and the balance was other races. From the finding, it can be concluded that the highest race in this study was Malay, which consist of 242 students (60.5%), followed by Chinese, 75 students (18.75%), Indian 67students (16.75%) and the lowest was other races which consist 16 students (4.00%).

### B. Result of Findings

**H1:** There is a significant relationship between awareness towards consequences of free sex and baby dumping issue from the secondary school students' perspective.

There was a significant relationship between awareness towards consequences of free sex and a perspective of baby dumping issue from the secondary school students' perspective whereas P = 0.000 and r = 0.396. Significant level is P < 0.05 (P = 0.000). So, the researcher accepts the H1.

TABLE II. AWARENESS ON CONSEQUENCES OF FREE SEX TOWARDS A PERSPECTIVE OF BABY DUMPING ISSUE

	Awareness towards
--	-------------------

consequences of free sex		
Baby Dumping	Pearson Correlation	0.396**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000
	N	400

\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

This means, the awareness towards consequences of free sex has an influence towards perspective of the baby dumping issue. This finding was also supported by APWLD Annual Report 2010 [9].

**H2:** There is a significant relationship between knowledge on sex education and baby dumping issue from the secondary school students' perspective.

TABLE III: KNOWLEDGE ON SEX EDUCATION TOWARDS A PERSPECTIVE OF BABY DUMPING ISSUE

Knowledge on sex education		
Baby Dumping	Pearson Correlation	0.445**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000
	N	400

\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

There was a significant relationship between knowledge on sex education and perspective of the baby dumping issue from the secondary school students' perspective whereas P = 0.000 and r = 0.445. Significant level is P < 0.05 (P = 0.000). So, the researcher accepts H2.

This means, the respondents agreed that knowledge on sex education is important in order to prevent or reduce the number of baby dumping that happen in Malaysia. Besides that, most of the respondent agreed that by learning sex education, teenagers will be more matured and responsible to themselves and having knowledge on sex education is important to prevent free sex among teenagers.

**H3:** There is a significant relationship between religious belief and baby dumping issue from the secondary school students' perspective.

TABLE IV: RELIGIOUS BELIEF AND A PERSPECTIVE OF THE BABY DUMPING ISSUE

Religious Belief		
Baby Dumping	Pearson Correlation	0.386**
	Sig. (2-tailed)	0.000
	N	400

\*\*. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

There was a significant relationship between religious belief and a perspective of baby dumping issue from the secondary school students' perspective whereas P = 0.000 and r = 0.386. Significant level is P < 0.05 (P = 0.000). So, the researcher accepts H3.

Religious belief also plays an important role in order to prevent baby dumping that increase from time to time. Other than that, most of respondents also agreed that religious belief need to apply in their daily life activity. This finding was also supported by the Azmi (2010) [1] and Coleman & Testa (2007)[8].

## VI. CONCLUSION

As a conclusion, awareness towards consequences of free sex, knowledge on sex education and religious belief showed the significant relationships with the baby dumping issues in Malaysia. Most of the respondents agreed that these three variables have a significant impact on baby dumping cases. It is important for the teenagers to understand the consequences of free sex so that they can prevent the unwanted pregnancy at the young age. Besides that, the knowledge on sex education is important to ensure the teenagers have a better understanding about their body so that they will not easily involve in free sex which can lead to the baby dumping. On top of that, the important of religious belief and practices also play a vital function. Every religion has lay down and taught about the dos and don'ts, about the sin and reward, and all religion prohibited the act of free sex. In order to prevent it, the government, schools, parents and teenagers should take necessary actions to stop this baby dumping issue from becoming worst.

## VII. RECOMMENDATION

In order to cope with this baby dumping cases, government should come out with several policies and programmes. First of all, the government may incorporate sex education in school curriculum as part of a holistic approach to tackle baby dumping cases. This approach is needed in order to provide awareness and better understanding of reproductive system and health at school level. Besides that, the government also can restructure or add the syllabus in certain subject such as "Pendidikan Islam" or "Pendidikan Moral" in order to create awareness and highlighted the consequences of social problems like free sex and baby dumping.

The government also should promote Islam as a way of life especially to the Muslim youth as we can see nowadays; most of the people who involved in baby dumping were Muslims. Islamic scholars and Ulama' must take this responsibility to explain to the community about Islam. However, it is important for the religious persons to use suitable method that suit with target group in performing this task. The government also can bring the Ulama' or others religious person from other religion to give talk to the teenagers based on their belief especially when there is a program for teenagers as well as when there is a national campaign to curb with this kind of social problem.

Drastic step by the government in categorizing baby dumping as a criminal amounting to murder if it meets with all the legal specifications is also can be introduced. The government can give another chance to the guilty parents if their baby is found alive but if the baby is found dead, the guilty parents need to be penalized under this criminal act.

Government also can help to curb this problems by exterminate pornographic materials from internet and electronic multimedia. These pornographic materials also one of the biggest factors that can contribute to the baby dumping issues because it will influence teenagers to do bad things.

It is also recommended that the government come out with new rule to restrict the teenagers below 18 years old to

check-in hotel or motel without parents or guardian. This rule will able to reduce free sex among the teenagers.

Besides government, parents also should actively play their role in coping with this issue. For instance, they should discuss "openly" about sex and things related to it with their kids. Even though this topic still "taboo" in certain culture but it will prevent teenagers to get wrong information about sex from wrong sources.

Weak family ties also one of the contributing factors in the rising cases of baby-dumping. It is a signal to all the parents not to concentrate and busy with their works and forgets to spend time with their children. As caring parents, we should hug, kiss, love and give more attention to our children before other persons do it to them.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Our sincere thanks goes to our colleagues in UiTM Kedah, Malaysia for whom we have great regard, and we wish to extend our warmest thanks to all those who have helped us with the creation of this paper especially to Abdullah Fathi Muslim,Izzatul Nadiah Isa, Noor Atiqah Idris, Nurul Farakhin Zahrin and Nurzawani Abd Salam.

## REFERENCES

- [1] A. Dali, "Gejala buang bayi meningkat", *Kosmo*, 17 August, pp. 6, 2010.
- [2] New Straits Times (2010), "Eight held over selling of babies" available at: <http://www.highbeam.com/doc/1P1-188506529.html> (accessed 26 July 2011)
- [3] New Straits Times (2010), "Foetus found buried by roadside" available at: <http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/27jani/Article> (accessed 26 November 2010)
- [4] New Straits Times (2010), "Newborn found in plastic bag", available at: [http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/28sarr/Article/index\\_html](http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/28sarr/Article/index_html) (accessed 26 November 2010)
- [5] The Malay Mail (2011), "Foetus of boy found in garbage can", available at: <http://www.mmail.com.my/content/45796-foetus-boy-found-garbage-can> (accessed 26 July 2011)
- [6] PDRM (2010) "Baby Dumping Statistic" available at: <http://www.rmp.gov.my> (accessed 26 November 2010)
- [7] The Star (2010), "CID Chief: 472 babies found dumped since 2005", available at: <http://thestarmobile.com/jsp/news/viewNews.jsp?newsID=151204&catID=19> (accessed 16 August 2010)
- [8] L. M. Coleman and A. Testa, "Preferences towards sex education and information from an ethnically diverse sample of young people," *Sex Education*, vol. 7 no. 3, pp. 293-307, 2007.
- [9] Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development (APWLD) Annual Report 2010.
- [10] M. Gallagher, *The Age of Unwed Mothers Is Teen Pregnancy the Problem?* New York: Institute for American Values, 1999.
- [11] G. Guiella and N. J. Madise, " HIV/AIDS and Sexual-Risk Behaviors among Adolescents: Factors influencing the use of condoms in Burkina Faso," *African Journal Reproductive Health*; vol. 11, no. 3, pp 182–196, 2007
- [12] S. S. Brady and B. Halpern-Felsher, "Social and Emotional Consequences of Refraining From Sexual Activity among Sexually Experienced and Inexperienced Youths in California," *American Journal of Public Health*, vol 98, no. 1, pp 162-168, 2007.
- [13] L. F. Kong, *Need for sex education to combat social ills, says council*. Retrieved August 28, 2010, from The Star Online: <http://thestar.com.my/news/story.asp?sec=nation&file=/2010/8/17/nation/6869674>
- [14] *Health: Urgent need for sex education.* (2010, August 19). Retrieved August 24, 2010, from New Straits Times: [http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/Health\\_Urgentneedforsexeducation/Article/](http://www.nst.com.my/nst/articles/Health_Urgentneedforsexeducation/Article/)

- [15] L. M. Coleman and A. Testa, "Sexual health knowledge, attitudes and behaviours among an ethnically diverse sample of young people in the UK," *Health Education Journal*, vol. 66 no. 1, pp. 68-81, 2007.

**NAZNI BIN NOORDIN** is currently a lecturer at Faculty of Administrative Science & Policy Studies, UiTM Kedah, Malaysia since 2008. He obtained his Executive MBA in 2007. Before joined education line, he was a banker and HR & Admin Executive for 16 years for various well known organizations. He is actively attending and presenting his research finding in both international and national conferences. He has the interest in management, humanity and social sciences field. Email: nazni@kedah.uitm.edu.my

**ZAHERAWATI ZAKARIA** is currently a Senior Lecturer at Faculty of Administrative Science & Policy Studies, UiTM Kedah, Malaysia. She is actively attending and presenting her research finding in both international and national conferences. She has the interest in local government and social sciences field. Currently working on her PhD thesis on local government issues. Email: zaherawati@kedah.uitm.edu.my

**MOHD ZOOL HILMIE MOHAMED SAWAL** is currently a lecturer at Faculty of Information Management, UiTM Kedah, Malaysia. He is actively attending and presenting his research finding in both international and national conferences. He has the interest in information management, knowledge management and library management. Email: zoolhilmie@kedah.uitm.edu.my.

**JENNIFAH NORDIN** is currently a Lecturer at Faculty of Administrative Science & Policy Studies, UiTM Sarawak, Malaysia. Email: jenni2350@sarawak.uitm.edu.my.

**ZALIHA HAJI HUSSIN** is currently a Professor at Faculty of Administrative Science & Policy Studies, UiTM Shah Alam, Malaysia. Email: drzaliha@salam.uitm.edu.my.

**KAMARUDIN NGAH** is currently a Assoc. Professor and Coordinator of Local Government Consultative Forum (LOGFOR), Centre for Policy Research and International Studies (CenPRIS), Universiti Sains Malaysia, Penang. Email: kngah@usm.my.