UNDERSTANDING SOCIOLOGICAL ISSUES: CONCEPTUALIZING THE DIVIERSITIES

EDITOR DR. A.H.M. ZEHADUL KARIM

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EDITOR A II.M. ZEHADUL KARIM



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CONTENTS

| | Foreword | iv | |
|----|--|-----------|--|
| | Preface | vi | |
| | Acknowledgment | ix | |
| 1. | Introduction and Background: Issues and Diversities | | |
| | A.H.M. Zehadul Karim | 1 | |
| 2. | Islam: The Bedrock of Human Society | | |
| | Jamil Farooqui | 13 | |
| 3. | Poverty, Resource Inequality and Governance Muslim World: Building Bridges Across | e In The | |
| | Abdul-Mumin Abdulai | 29 | |
| 4. | Women Interaction and (Mis) Communication among | | |
| | Professional Women at Work Places | _ | |
| | Rohaiza Rokis | 57 | |
| 5. | Experiences of treating menopausal symptoms among urban | | |
| | Malay women: An anthropological case study | | |
| | Nurazzura Mohamad Diah | 89 | |
| 6. | Paradox of Development: The Case of Plantation Agriculture | | |
| | in Rural Societies | _ | |
| | Pute Rahimah Makol-Abdul | 117 | |
| 7. | Role Of Education And Social Environemnt In Influencing | | |
| | Social Network And Interethnic Relation Among N Youths | Malaysian | |
| | Khairulanuar bin Abd Rahman | 139 | |
| | TALLED TO THE STATE OF THE STAT | | |

| 9. | Social Media and Statutory Rape: A note from Contine Police Headquarter (IPK)Kuala Lumpur Malaysia –B Darina Ahmad Tagjuddin and | |
|-----|---|--------------|
| | Noor Azlan Mohd.Noor | 191 |
| 10. | Socio-Cultural Adjustment of Bangladeshi Wo Malaysia: Md. Sayed Uddin and Jamil Farooqui | rkers in 215 |
| 11. | , | |
| 11. | Work-performances and Adaptability of the Ban Workers in Malaysia: A Socio-anthropological Str A.H.M. Zehadul Karim | _ |
| | | |

Role of Kuala Lumpur City Hall in Developing Kampung

165

8.

Bharu

Khairil Azhar Md Yassin

Chapter 9

SOCIAL MEDIA AND STATUTORY RAPE: A NOTE FROM CONTINGENT POLICE HEADQUARTER (IPK) KUALA LUMPUR¹, MALAYSIA

Bazlin Darina Ahmad Tajudin² Noor 'Azlan Mohd. Noor³

ABSTRACT

Social media is a web-based and mobile technology to turn communication into interactive dialogue. It includes various online technology tools that enable people to communicate easily via internet to share information and resources. In other words, it is a medium of social interaction, using highly accessible and scalable communication techniques. Social network sites (SNSs) is one of the social media platform of which it incorporates new information and communication tools, such as mobile connectivity, blogging, and photo/video-sharing. Obversely, SNSs are apparently seen to be associated with substantial increase of rape incidences especially among teenagers. Statistics have shown that 90% of the reported sexual crimes involving victims below 18 years of age are solved with the perpetrators irrespective of age were arrested and convicted. Thus, this paper attempts to discuss rape particularly statutory rape in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The statutory rape refers to crime committed by victims and perpetrators below 16 years old. This study was conducted in Kuala Lumpur Contingent Police Headquarter (IPK, KL) involving 18 reported statutory rape cases for the year 2006 to 2009. Several important findings were discovered throughout the study. This among others includes coupling at young age, trust and naivety, poor parenting, lepak, and lack of social awareness, to list down a few. One of the important findings observed in this study was, perpetrators employed deceptive techniques to gain a young girl's trust and at the same time manipulating their victims, usually the underage teenagers, i.e., below 16, to agree for personal meeting and eventually leading to sexual relationship.