

ISLAMIC FAMILY LAW

DEMYSTIFIYING SHARIAH IN THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN'S RIGHTS

VOLUME III
ZALEHA KAMARUDDIN



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Editor Zaleha Kamaruddin



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Mutiah Hud and Prof. Dr. Mohd Akram Shair Mohamed

PROTECTING CHILDREN FROM PRODECURAL DIFFICULTIES RELATING TO CHILDREN'S EVIDENCE IN CHILD ABUSE CASES IN MALAYSIAN COURTS

Mutiah Hud and Prof. Dr. Mohd Akram Shair Mohamed

Introduction

Child abuse is a crime involving children as the victims. Because children are usually the victims in matters relating to child abuse, their evidence before the courts is not only important, they are also required for the purpose proving the guilt of the accused. This therefore raises the issue of admissibility of children's evidence and the court's proceedings to which children are subjected to. This leads to the issue whether the evidence of children in a particular case requires corroboration by way of other material evidence to prove the guilt of the accused. Judges in Malaysian courts appear strict on the application of the provisions of Evidence Act on the issue of corroboration. This appears not to protect children as victims of child abuse in many cases especially in cases relating to sexual abuse. This will ultimately lead to miscarriage of justice. This is more so when