

Selected Readings in
**Educational
Foundations**

Ummatic Ramifications

Edited By:
Suhailah Hussien



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Chapter 2

Philosophy as a Tool to Enhance Thinking among Muslim Students

Norillah Abdullah

INTRODUCTION

The increasing number of Muslim youths who are caught being involved in various types of social ills is a serious problem that warrants the attention of Muslim leaders. Issues of moral degradation have become serious and all kinds of moral decadence are reported daily in newspapers, magazines, journals and also by the electronic media. It is not uncommon today to read or watch news telecast over the television of the involvement of Muslim youths in social ills, like drug abuse, illicit sexual behaviour, pre-marital sex, abortion, truancy, gangsterism, stealing, loitering, bullying, and smoking. Among the common reasons attributed to these problems are peer pressure, influence of the media, lack of religious education, failure of the school system, and most importantly, lack of parental control and acute absence of good guardianship (e.g. *Berita Harian*, 9 August 2000; Mohd Feroz, 2000; Khairul Anwar, 2000; Khairul Anwar, 2000 & Hatipah, 2000; *Berita Harian*, 5 June, 2000 & Nor Afizah, 2000). However, Block (2001) asserts that the root of all these factors is