

The 14th Putrajaya International Conference On Children, Women, Elderly And Persons with Disabilities 2022: Physical and Online Conference

Theme

“Post Pandemic Empowerment, Recovery and Wellbeing of Children, Women, the Elderly and Persons with Disabilities”

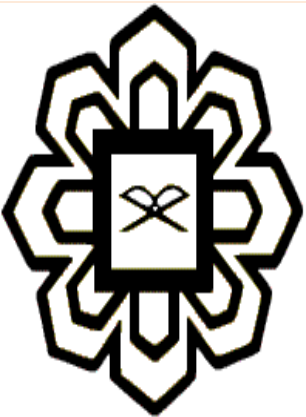
Date: 26-27 February 2022



International Islamic University Malaysia

AbdulHamid **AbuSulayman** Kulliyyah of Islamic Revealed Knowledge
and Human Sciences





الجامعة الإسلامية العالمية ماليزيا
INTERNATIONAL ISLAMIC UNIVERSITY MALAYSIA
يُونَيْتِيسِي إِسْلَامُ أَنْبَارَايْجِيَا مَلَيْسِيَا

Funded by Fundamental Research
Grant Scheme



Project Title.

**‘Delineating a Framework for Child Abuse in Malaysia: A
Holistic-Interactionistic Approach’**

Project ID:

12639 FRGS19-047-0655

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

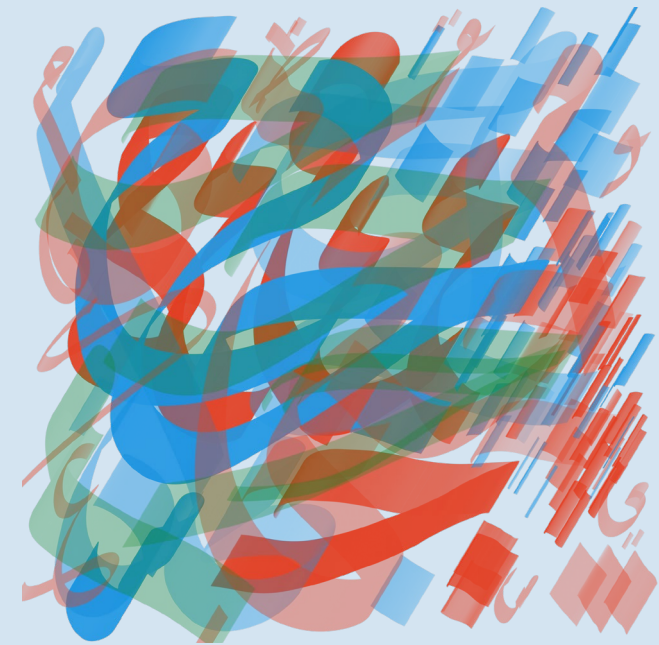
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Fostering Creativity among Vulnerable Groups



Umm Amira (RS)



The Case of Teenage Pregnancy

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Abstract

Creative thinking skills are one of the most appreciated tools of leading in various domains of human life. Although most studies focus more on certain vital sectors like innovation and industry, the creative thinking skill can be considered an effective tool to be utilized in other social subjective fields that concerns focus more on the wellbeing of people by helping to solve their personal and social problems. This research aims to share a field experience of teaching creative thinking skills for 36 vulnerable young women that reside in Raudhatus Sakina Center (RSC). By adopting the Islamic framework and concept of human nature, creative thinking and creativity, the trainers were able to interact more effectively with the participants and extend the relevance of creative thinking tools to the circle of their spiritual states, feelings, mental mods, and their social relations. To create confidence and learning interest among the participants, the trainers have used various mediums like stories, Islamic calligraphy, Torrence test, and the cultural context. According to responses of the participants to the question “did program benefit you in building up your confidence and readiness to address the problems you are facing in a more positive way”, the training that lasted for 12 weeks (2hr. each week) has significantly helped them not only in learning problem-solving skills but also to develop a positive perspective in looking to the problems and the overall meaning of life.

Keyword: creative thinking, problem-solving, women, Islam, vulnerability.



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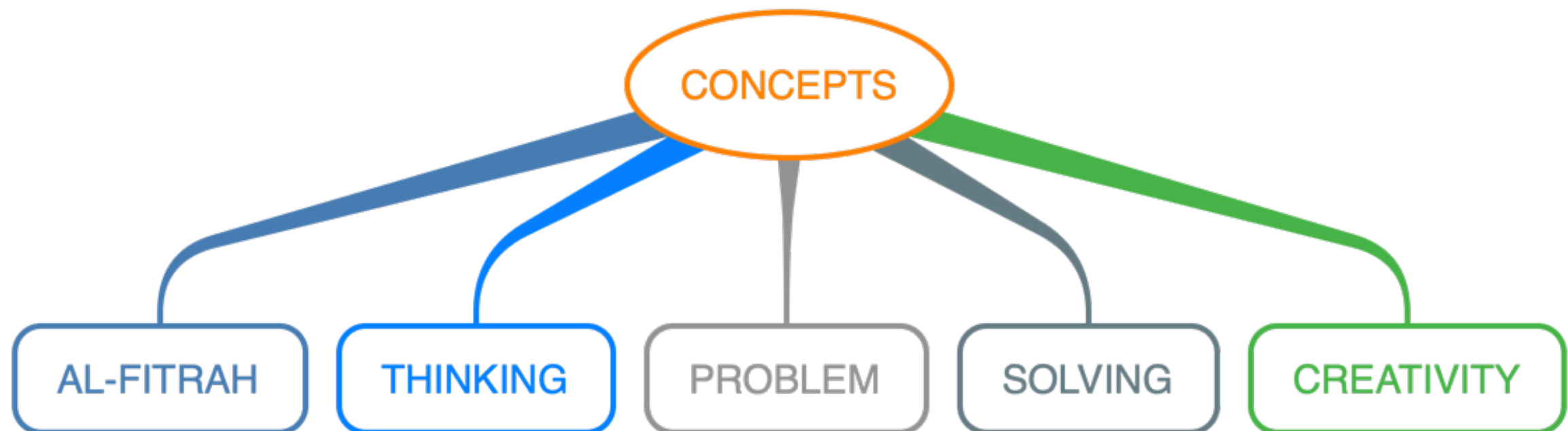
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Introduction where the concepts “human nature, creative thinking, and problem-solving” are explained from an Islamic perspective.

- Tools that Allah has created in al-fitrah (human nature)
- Faith, memory, reasoning, feeling, imaginations, will, desire, values,

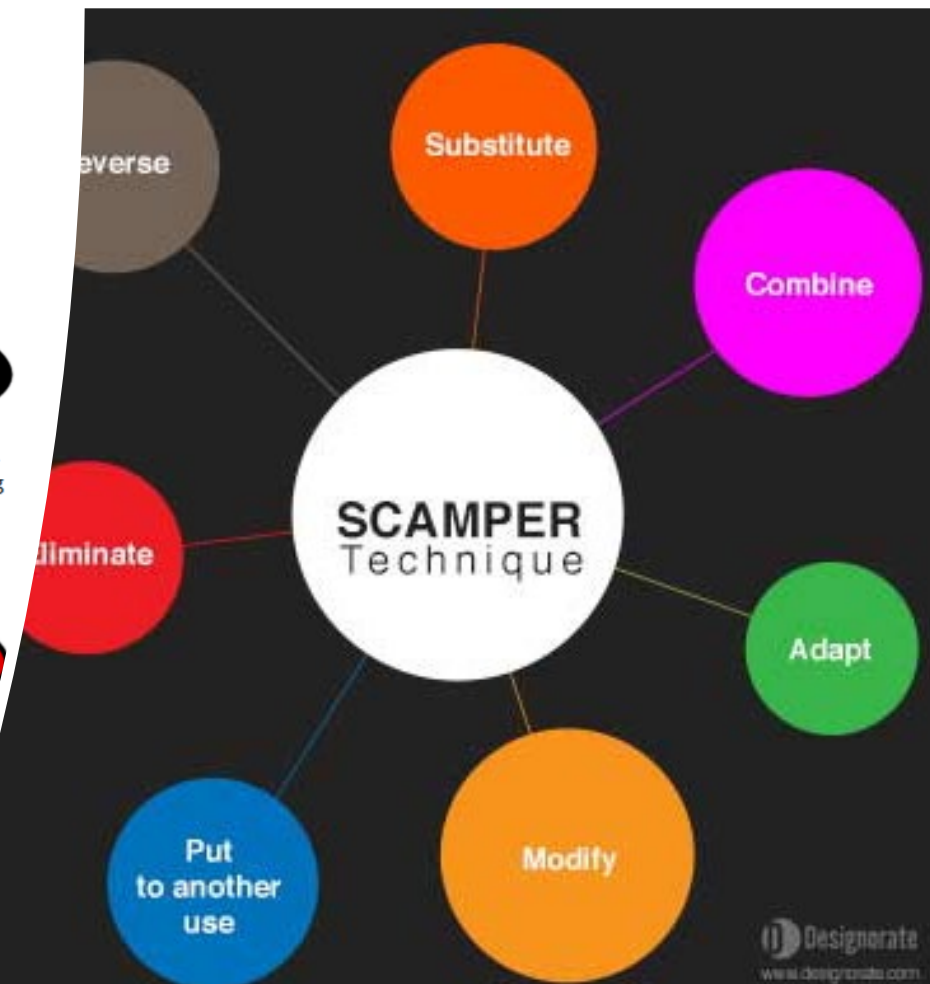
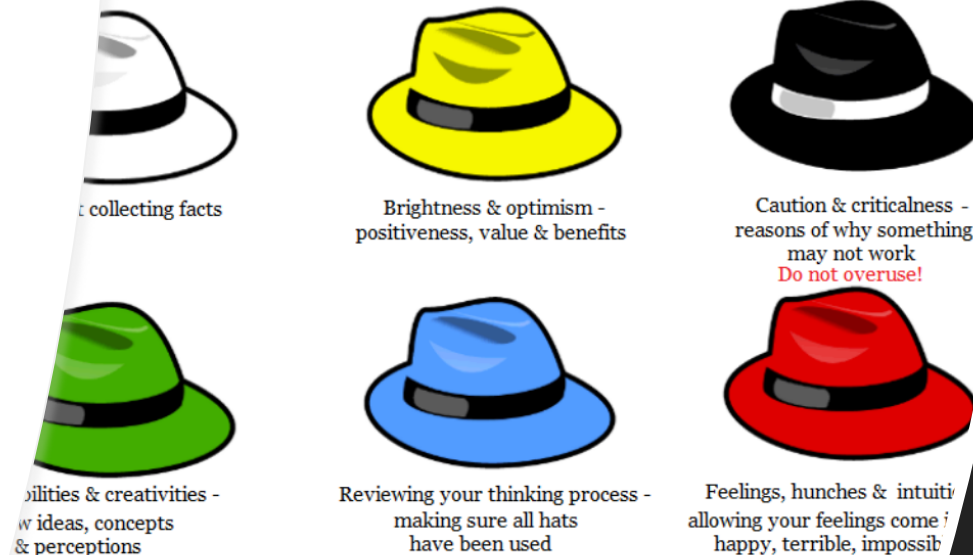


Creative Focus

The second part of the program focuses on how to use skills including brainstorming, six hats, creative pause, creative focus, SCAMPER, and design thinking tool.



EDWARD DE BONO'S SIX THINKING HATS





Objectives





Program Outline

Weeks	Topics	Learning Tools
Introduction		
1	What is creative thinking? And why it is important for our life?	Reading Material
2	Human Nature: Potentials and abilities	s //
3	Problem & problem solving in	//
4	Islam How to develop my creativity?	//
Creative Thinking Skills		
5	Brainstorming Skill	Group Activit
6	Six Thinking Hats	y //
7	Thinking Maps (Circle Tree Dual Bridge	//
1	Creative Pause & Focus	//
2	Design Thinking Tool	//
3	SCAMPER	//
4	Creative Challenge	//

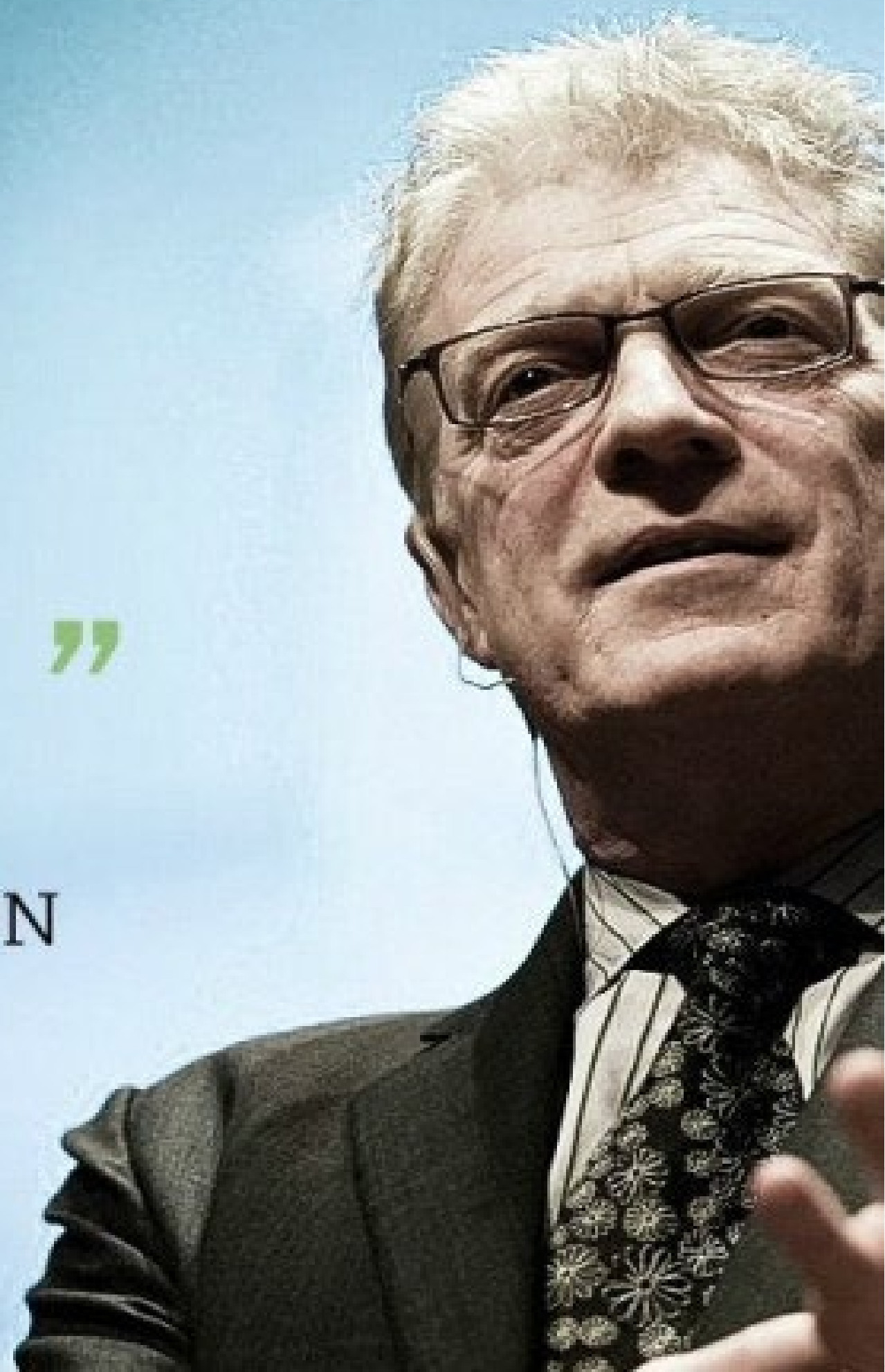
Assumptions of the program

- The prime source of creativity is the innate human nature (al- fitrah). Allah has created every human with various mental abilities including the ability to think critically and creatively. As a result, all-humans exercise and experience and have creative moments in their life.
- Creativity comes in a variety of shapes, sizes, expressions, outputs, and objectives. Different people choose different approaches to realising and implementing their imaginative and creative ideas. People are more likely to use creative thinking skills and create positive views about themselves and the difficulties they face in their life if they are taught with a revelational value-frame.
- People's spiritual powers and states are inextricably linked to their mental abilities and states in a reciprocal manner. As a result, combining creative thinking skills with spiritual insights is a creative way to develop empathy, which is necessary for providing better assistance to vulnerable populations and developing more effective solutions to the difficulties they face.

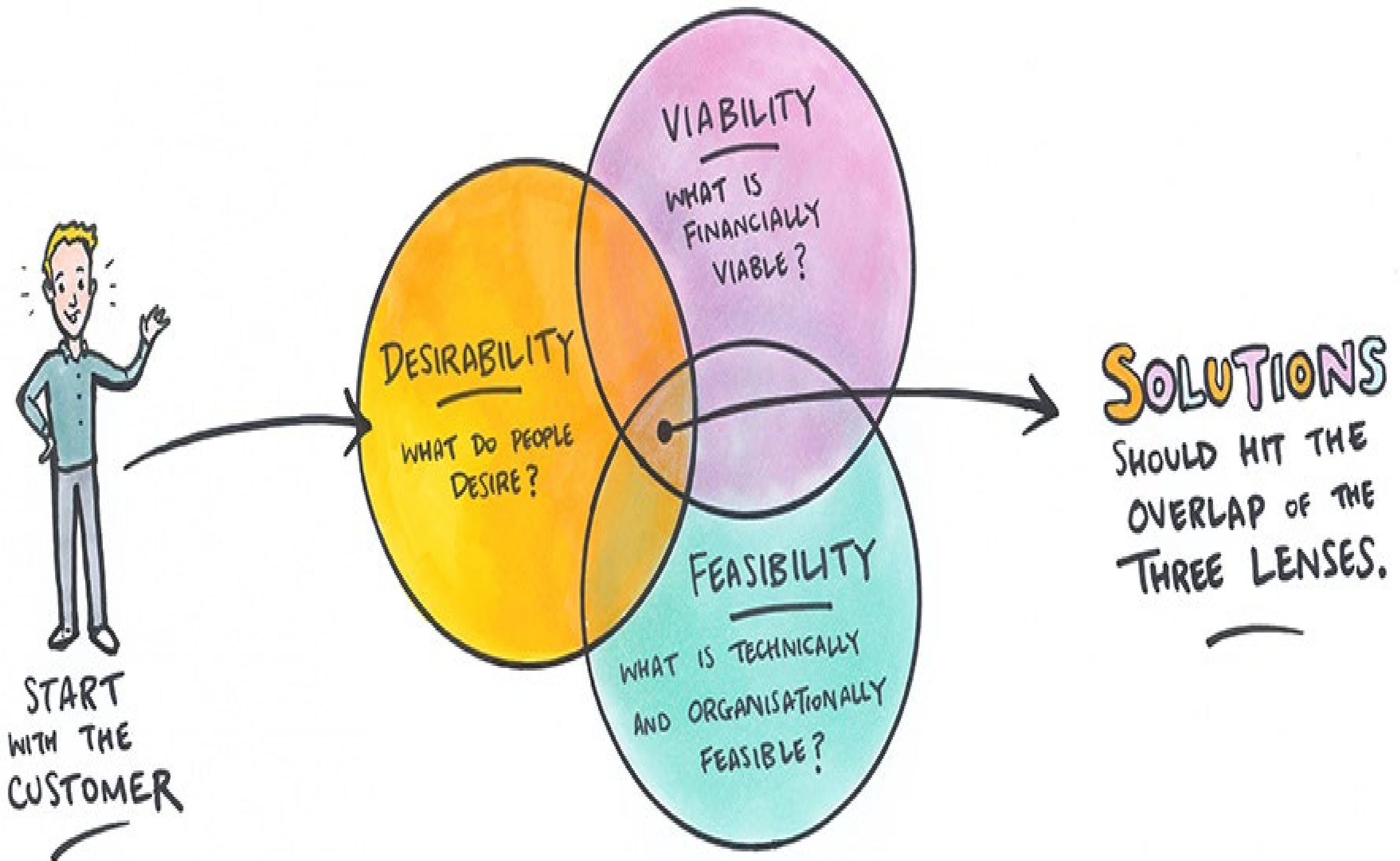
**Creativity is as important now
in education as literacy and we
should treat it with the same status .**

”

SIR **KEN**ROBINSON



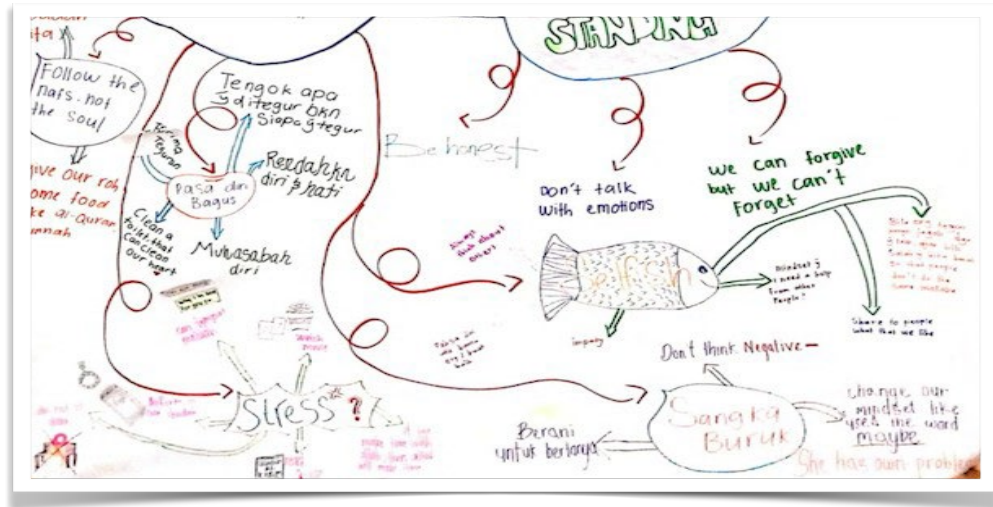
FROM DESIGN THINKING TO CREATIVE CONFIDENCE



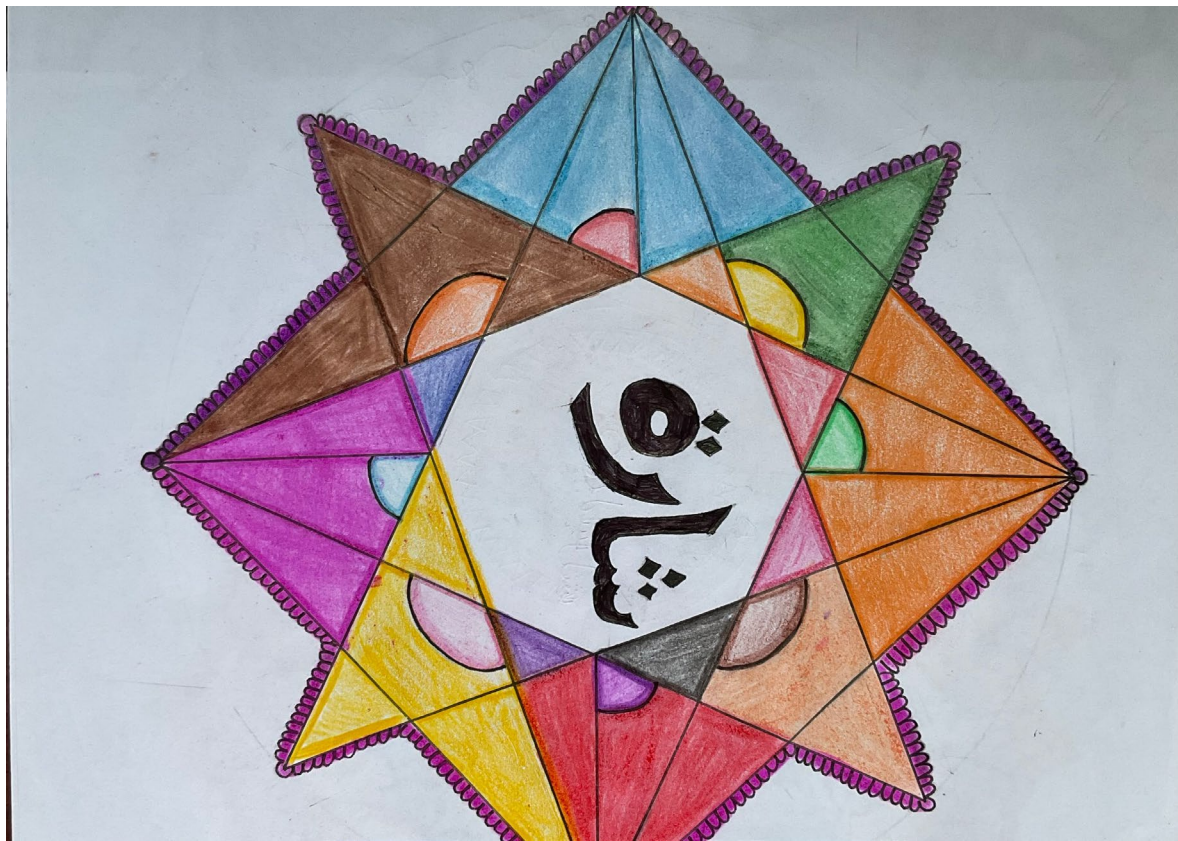
Activities & Tools

To encourage participants to think creatively, the programme has used a variety of tools. Participants are given for each skill and activity in both individual and group settings. The majority of the planned activities are linked with the participants' social life issues and interests in order to attract their attention. Here are some samples of those types of activities.

1. Chose a specific social issue and develop a solution following IDEAL steps .
3. Relocating to a K. Lumpur apartment with my grandparents' belongings. Choose one of the seven items in the photo, then use the SCAMPER's seven skills to improve it.
4. Use SIX THINKING HATS technique to improve the Radhatus Sakina residence's organisation and services.
5. After watching the video sent to you, and try to design a new pattern by using Arabesque steps and techniques.
6. Pick an Arabic calligraphy style and write your name following the techniques of the chosen style. Khat varieties include al-Kufi, Diwani, Raq'ī, Maghribi, Thuluth, al-Farsi.



Michael Lewrick, Larry Leifer, and Patrick
Link Thinking design



Questions		Strongly agreed	Agreed	Uncertain	Disagree	Strongly disagree
Questions about the self and attitude toward creativity	Do you have any social problems at the moment?	11	11	0	0	7
	Does participating in programme activities helped you to discover your creative thinking abilities?	13	13	2	0	0
	Do you love learning and utilising Creative thinking skills?	19	9	1	0	0
	Has training on creative thinking skills” helped you gain more confidence in dealing with day-to-day problems?	9	20	0	0	0
	Does the programme help you to improve your faith and spirituality?	22	7	0	0	0
Questions about the concept of Creativity & problem solving Skills	Will you apply the creative thinking skills you've acquired to solve your life problem?	15	12	1	0	0
	Do you want to learn more about creative thinking and problem-solving skills?	23	4	1	0	0
Questions about the Settings of program	Did the programme give you a good attitude on difficulties and life in general?	11	16	0	1	0
	Does the programme encourage you to attempt new things?	15	11	1	1	0
	Will you suggest the programme to others who are dealing with a similar challenging problem?	16	11	1	0	0

DISCUSSION

The respondent of this study includes 29 Muslim females from 17 to 28 yrs.

Three main issues are the focus of this study: teaching creative thinking skills from an Islamic point of view, attitude and thinking of the participants, and the positive changes that could happen in looking to daily problems and developing more effective solution by using proper thinking style and skills.

The majority of participants reported that the programme assisted them in discovering various thinking talents that they may utilize to solve their difficulties rather than slipping into overwhelming emotional states that are often ineffective in dealing with complex challenges. According to their responses, emotional feelings are interfering with their ability to solve difficulties, causing them to postpone or submit passively.

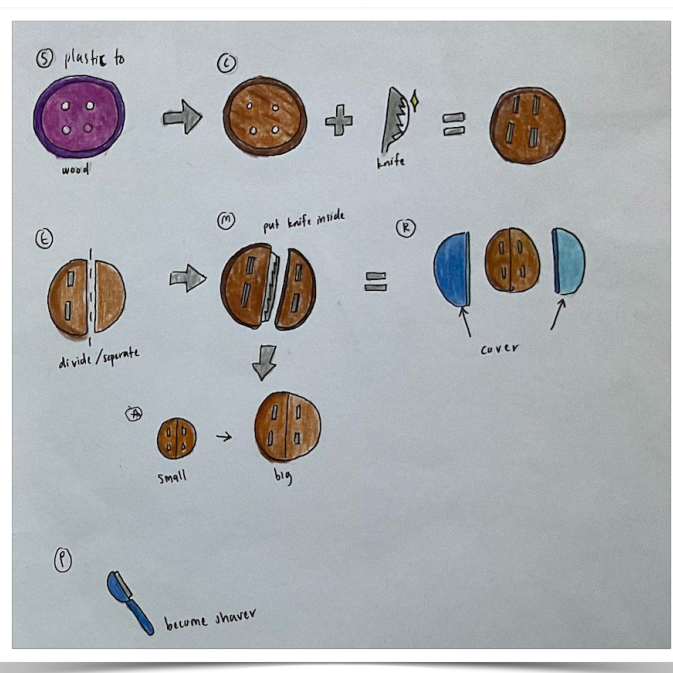
when asked them about **the state of their spirituality**, most of the responded reported that the program made them feel better spiritually. When asked the Question: “Does the programme help you to improve your faith and spirituality? 22 participant said they strongly agree and 7 said they agreed.

On the emotional “therapy” level, the program has helped the participants experience some positive emotional improvements. 9 of theme are highly agreed, while 20 others agreed, to the question "Has training on creative thinking abilities helped you gain more confidence in coping with day-to-day problems?".

In-depth-interview is conduct with the staff to learn more about the participant’s potentials thinking and behavioral changes after completing the program. When we have asked them if “Do you think that the program of creative thinking and problem solving has changed in any manner the way of thinking of the residents of RS about their daily problems? Respondent #1 strongly agreed, #2, agreed, #3 undecided.

We discovered from this poll that the programme would have a greater impact if it was conducted entirely face-to-face and included more activities. The program's Islamic framework has added significant value to the program's holistic and integrative approach.

Feedback and Comments of the participants



- Despite the fact that we had extremely little resources and equipment to run this programme, the 60 participants' feedback was quite positive. It appears that the program's short duration (three months) did not satisfy their desire for creative thinking exercises.
- The majority of the participants expressed a strong desire to engage in these types of programmes in their comments. For many of them, this training has opened their eyes to a new way of looking at their daily difficulties.
- For others, creativity is a rare talent that only a few people possess. However, many of them have had at least one small "c" creative moment after finishing the programme, and their perspective on creativity has shifted.
- They have gained some confidence and learned some skills that will assist them in leading their lives and dealing with their challenges in a more effective way that brings a good change and improvement. Although some of them still have reservations about "being creative," their perception of creativity has been irreversibly altered, and the barrier they once saw between them and creativity is dissolving.
- The participants also offered some excellent suggestions for improving the program's content as well as its delivery method. To reach those with limited English skills, they prefer using the medium of Bahasa Malay rather than English. Also, they would rather have face-to-face sessions than online ones.

- After finishing this programme, we have found out that teaching vulnerable groups creative thinking skills is quite effective in changing their perspective and removing some negative thoughts that stifle their ability to solve problems. The ability to think creatively not only instils confidence in this group, but it also provides them with new perspectives, allowing them to better plan and execute their mission of solving life problems.
- The sister's ability to think creatively has aided them in balancing her thoughts and reducing the influence of emotion when making judgments. Although some creative thinking skills require a significant amount of practise, the numerous tools available allow for a varied learning experience. The participant can always select a tool that is appropriate for their cognitive abilities as well as their practical requirement.
- We can see that incorporating an Islamic framework into the teaching of creative thinking skills has given a lot of value to the programme. It aided the trainers in adopting a comprehensive approach to teaching creative thinking skills. Creative thinking skills are offered as benefits and divine gifts that need to be trusted and applied for the betterment of our lives while contemplating Islamic principles and spirituality.
- After all, we can see that there are numerous changes that need to be made for this programme in terms of content, distribution style, and training activities. A news feature should be incorporated in the programme to make it more successful in addressing the multifaceted issues this group of individuals is facing, based on a good grasp of this group's spiritual, mental, behavioural, familial and social situations.



Policy recommendation

- Learning should not be about exams and memorization
- Apart from the role of education in lifting people out of poverty, we need a long-term vision and paradigm shift in the teaching and learning processes to prepare the younger generation for the future.
- The world is changing rapidly, hence our education system must transform too. What and how we teach our children today will determine the values, beliefs and attitudes, as well as the skills, of tomorrow's citizens.
- Creating a school culture that is based on reflection and learning is important. Incorporating a creative thinking course at an early age into the curriculum could also help.