



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

**EFFECTS OF FAMILY ECOLOGICAL FACTORS ON PERCEIVED  
PARENTING STYLE, AND LOCUS OF CONTROL AND  
SELF-EFFICACY OF ADOLESCENTS**

**SOMAYEH KESHAVARZ**

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**By**

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**March 2012**

**Chairman: Professor Rozumah Baharudin, PhD**

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The relationships between perceived parenting styles with adolescent's locus of control and self-efficacy have been established. Yet, much is to be understood on what factors moderate these relationships. To address this paucity, the present study was conducted to determine the moderating roles of some selected family ecological factors (parent characteristics, family contexts, adolescent characteristics) on the relationships between maternal and paternal parenting styles with adolescents' locus of control and self-efficacy. Parent characteristics were age and level of education, while family contexts were number of children and family income. Adolescent characteristics consisted of age and gender. A total of 579 adolescents aged between 13 and 17 years from secondary schools in the Petaling district of Selangor, Malaysia was identified using Multi-Stage Cluster sampling. Data were collected using self-administered questionnaire that comprised questions on demographic informations, Parental Authority Questionnaire (Buri, 1991) as well as two other scales that assessed the respondent's locus

of control (Nowicki & Strickland 1973) and self-efficacy (Schwarzer & Jerusalem, 1995). Descriptive statistics were utilized to examine parent's characteristics, family contexts, adolescent's characteristics, maternal and paternal parenting styles, locus of control and self-efficacy. Meanwhile, Pearson correlation analyses were conducted to identify the relationships between all variables of the study. Hierarchical regression analyses, followed by Post-hoc regression analyses were also performed to examine the moderating roles of parent, adolescent and contextual characteristics on the relationships between parenting styles, locus of control and self-efficacy. Regression analyses revealed that paternal authoritative parenting was significantly related to internal locus of control for adolescents whose fathers have higher level of education ( $b = -0.148$ ,  $p \leq 0.001$ ). Furthermore, it was indicated that paternal education moderated the relationships between paternal permissive parenting style and locus of control. It showed that high education reduce the negative influence of the permissive parenting style. The results also demonstrated that adolescents with older mothers reported more internal locus of control when they perceived their mothers as highly authoritative ( $b = -0.35$ ,  $p \leq 0.05$ ). Analyses for gender differences revealed that male adolescents ( $b = 0.312$ ,  $p \leq 0.001$ ) had higher level of self-efficacy as compared to females ( $b = 0.188$ ,  $p \leq 0.001$ ) when they perceived their fathers as highly authoritative. Additionally, adolescent's age moderated ( $b = -0.145$ ,  $p \leq 0.001$ ) the relationship between perceived maternal authoritative parenting and locus of control. Findings from the study highlight the moderating role of factors within the ecology of the family on the relationships between parenting styles, locus of control and self-efficacy. Consideration should be

given to family ecological factors in the design of interventions aimed at fostering necessary skills to parents and enhancing positive outcomes in adolescents.



Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk ijazah Doktor Falsafah

**KESAN FAKTOR-FAKTOR EKOLOGI KELUARGA KE ATAS PERSEPSI  
CARAGAYA KEIBUBAAPAN, LOKUS KAWALAN DAN  
KEBERKESANAN KENDIRI REMAJA**

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Perkaitan antara persepsi caragaya keibubapaan dengan lokus kawalan dan keberkesanan sendiri remaja telah terbukti. Namun begitu, masih banyak yang perlu difahami tentang apakah faktor-faktor yang memoderasi perkaitan tersebut. Untuk mengatasi kekurangan ini, kajian ini telah dijalankan untuk menentukan peranan moderasi beberapa faktor ekologi keluarga yang terpilih (ciri-ciri ibu bapa, konteks keluarga, ciri-ciri remaja) ke atas perkaitan di antara caragaya keibubapaan ibu dan bapa dengan lokus kawalan dan keberkesanan sendiri remaja. Ciri-ciri ibu bapa ialah umur dan tahap pendidikan, manakala konteks keluarga adalah bilangan anak dan pendapatan keluarga. Ciri-ciri remaja terdiri daripada umur dan jantina. Seramai 579 remaja berusia antara 13 hingga 17 tahun dari sekolah-sekolah menengah dalam daerah Petaling, Selangor, Malaysia telah dikenalpasti dengan menggunakan teknik pensampelan kluster pelbagai peringkat. Data telah dikumpulkan menggunakan borang soal-selidik tadbir sendiri yang

mana terdiri daripada soalan tentang maklumat demografi, *Parental Authority Questionnaire* (Buri, 1991) serta dua skala lain yang menilai lokus kawalan (Nowicki & Strickland 1973) dan keberkesanan sendiri (Schwarzer & Jerusalem, 1995). Statistik deskriptif telah digunakan untuk memeriksa ciri-ciri ibu bapa, konteks keluarga, ciri-ciri remaja, caragaya keibubapaan ibu dan bapa, lokus kawalan dan keberkesanan sendiri. Manakala, analisis *Pearson correlation* telah digunakan untuk mengenalpasti perkaitan antara semua pembolehubah dalam kajian. Analisis *Hierarchical regression*, diikuti dengan analisis *Post-hoc regression* juga telah dijalankan untuk memeriksa peranan moderasi ibu bapa, ciri-ciri remaja dan - kontekstual ke atas perkaitan antara caragaya keibubapaan, lokus kawalan dan keberkesanan sendiri. Analisis regresi menunjukkan bahawa gaya keibubapaan autoritatif bagi para bapa mempunyai perkaitan signifikan dengan lokus kawalan dalaman bagi remaja yang mana bapa-bapa mereka mempunyai tahap pendidikan yang tinggi ( $b = -0.148, p \leq 0.001$ ). Selain itu, kajian menunjukkan bahawa pendidikan bapa memoderasi perkaitan antara caragaya keibubapaan permisif bapa dan lokus kawalan. Ia menunjukkan bahawa tahap pendidikan yang tinggi mengurangkan pengaruh negatif bagi caragaya keibubapaan permisif. Dapatan kajian turut menunjukkan bahawa remaja yang mempunyai ibu-ibu yang lebih berusia melaporkan mempunyai lebih lokus kawalan dalaman apabila mereka menganggap ibu-ibu mereka sebagai lebih autoritatif ( $b = -0.35, p \leq 0.05$ ). Analisis perbezaan jantina pula menunjukkan bahawa remaja lelaki ( $b = 0.312, p \leq 0.001$ ) mempunyai tahap keberkesanan sendiri yang lebih tinggi berbanding dengan remaja perempuan ( $b = 0.188, p \leq 0.001$ ) apabila mereka menganggap bapa-bapa

mereka sebagai sangat autoritatif. Tambahan pula, umur remaja memoderasi ( $b = -0.145, p \leq 0.001$ ) perkaitan antara caragaya keibubapaan autoritatif bagi ibu dan lokus kawalan. Penemuan daripada kajian ini turut menonjolkan peranan memoderasi faktor-faktor dalam ekologi keluarga ke atas perkaitan antara caragaya keibubapaan, lokus kawalan dan keberkesanan sendiri. Pertimbangan perlu diberi kepada faktor-faktor ekologiikal keluarga dalam merekabentuk intervensi yang bertujuan memupuk kemahiran yang diperlukan oleh ibu bapa dan juga meningkatkan hasil positif dalam remaja.



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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 12/03/2012 to conduct the final examination of Somayeh Keshavarz on her thesis entitled "Effects of Family Ecological Factors on Perceived Parenting Style, and Locus of Control and Self-Efficacy of adolescents" in accordance with the Universities and University colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U. (A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the relevant degree.

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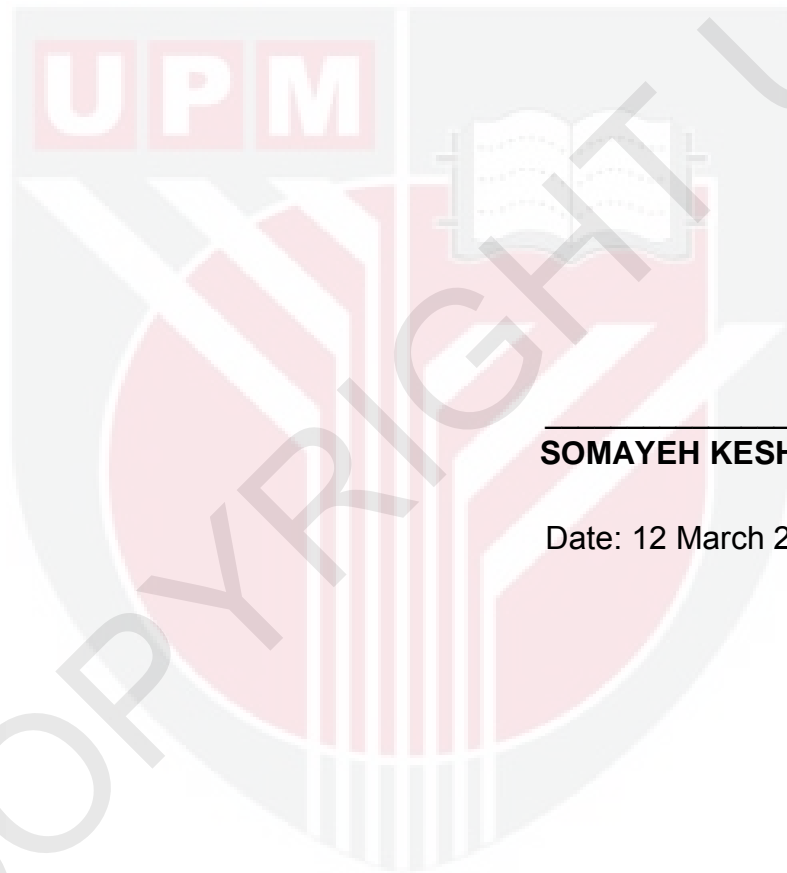
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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.



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**SOMAYEH KESHAVARZ**

Date: 12 March 2012

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