



UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA

***FACTORS RELATED TO INTENTION TO STOP BEING HOMELESS
AMONG HOMELESS PEOPLE IN KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA***

NUR SYAZWANI BINTI ABU BAKAR

FEM 2016 10



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By

NUR SYAZWANI BINTI ABU BAKAR

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies, Universiti Putra Malaysia,
in Fulfilment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science.**

March 2016

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Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in
fulfilment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

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March 2016

Chairman : Associate Professor Ma'rof bin Redzuan, PhD
Faculty : Human Ecology

In Malaysia, the number of people became homeless have increased every year in reprisal to high cost of living and economic growth. The purpose of this study is to examine homeless intentions to quit of being homeless by investigating the TPB variables: attitudes, subjective norm, and perceived behavioral control, along with internal and external factors of homelessness. The study involved a total number of 220 homeless people from four different locations in Kuala Lumpur which is Masjid Jamek, Jalan Panggung, Masjid Negara, and Jalan Sultan Ismail. In describing the relationship between variables, theory of planned behavior has been adopted. This study focuses on other added variables such as internal and external factors, other than existing variables included in the theory which is attitude, perceived behavior control, and subjective norm to predict intentions to quit of being homeless. Findings from this study show that gender, age, and years being homeless were able to predict intention to quit of being homeless and concluded that there were statistically significant differences between female and male and also between age group. However, between of years of being homeless group, the differences in those variables were not significant. The results show that scores from most of the respondents were classified under moderate level in this study for all of the variables tested. Furthermore, the results showed, all the variables had significant relationship with intention. In this study, it is revealed that the subjective norm was a unique predictor of intention to quit of being homeless. Findings from this study suggest that internal and external factors play a significant role in predicting intention among homeless people to quit of being homeless in Kuala Lumpur. Homeless exposure to community influences particularly on community expectation towards them. This study provides valuable information on how society could act in order to help the homeless people on their intention to quit of being homeless.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Master Sains

**FAKTOR-FAKTOR BERKAITAN DENGAN NIAT UNTUK BERHENTI
MENJADI GELANDANGAN BAGI GOLONGAN GELANDANGAN DI
KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA**

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Malaysia mengalami peningkatan jumlah orang menjadi gelandangan setiap tahun sebagai tindak balas kepada kos sara hidup yang tinggi dan pertumbuhan ekonomi. Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji niat gelandangan untuk berhenti menjadi gelandangan dengan mengkaji pembolehubah TPB: sikap, norma subjektif dan persepsi kawalan tingkahlaku yang dilihat, bersama-sama dengan faktor-faktor dalaman dan luaran menjadi gelandangan. Kajian ini melibatkan seramai 220 orang gelandangan dari empat lokasi yang berbeza di Kuala Lumpur iaitu Masjid Jamek, Jalan Panggung, Masjid Negara, dan Jalan Sultan Ismail. Dalam menggambarkan hubungan antara pemboleh ubah, teori tingkah laku terancang telah diterima pakai. Kajian ini memberi tumpuan kepada pembolehubah tambahan lain seperti faktor-faktor dalaman dan luaran, selain daripada pembolehubah yang ada termasuk dalam teori iaitu sikap, persepsi kawalan tingkah laku dilihat, dan norma subjektif untuk meramalkan niat untuk berhenti menjadi gelandangan. Hasil daripada kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa jantina, umur, dan tahun tanpa tempat tinggal mampu meramal niat untuk berhenti menjadi gelandangan dan mendapati bahawa terdapat perbezaan statistik yang signifikan antara lelaki dan wanita dan juga antara kumpulan umur. Walau bagaimanapun, tahun menjadi gelandangan, mempunyai perbezaan tidak ketara. Keputusan menunjukkan bahawa skor dari kebanyakan responden telah dikelaskan di bawah tahap sederhana dalam kajian ini untuk semua pembolehubah yang diuji. Hasil kajian menunjukkan, semua pembolehubah mempunyai hubungan yang signifikan dengan niat. Dalam kajian ini, ia mendedahkan bahawa norma subjektif adalah peramal unik niat untuk berhenti menjadi gelandangan. Hasil daripada kajian ini menunjukkan bahawa faktor-faktor dalaman dan luaran memainkan peranan yang penting dalam meramal niat di kalangan gelandangan yang bergelandangan di Kuala Lumpur. Pendedahan gelandangan berpengaruh kepada masyarakat terutamanya jangkauan masyarakat terhadap mereka. Kesimpulannya, dapatan itu memberi sumbangan besar, dalam konteks psikologi sosial bagi menangani masalah sosial di Kuala Lumpur.

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I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 11 March 2016 to conduct the final examination of Nur Syazwani bt Abu Bakar on her thesis entitled "Factors Related to Intention to Stop Being Homeless among Homeless People in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia" 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 Master of Science.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

MOWFCD	Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development
HUD	Department Housing and Urban Development
FEANTSA	European Federation of National Associations Working with the Homeless
SWD	Social Welfare Department
TPB	Theory of Planned Behavior
TRA	Theory of Reasoned Action
PBC	Perceived Behavior Control
PSBK	Social Studies Panti Bina Karya

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Generally, homeless is refer to a group of people who live in conditions where they were seen to violate the social norm, not having a place to sleep as we call shelter, jobless, and also staying temporary at places. They sleep at the corridor, laying themselves on cardboard, carrying begs with shirts everywhere, moving here and there, some would probably beg for money and food. The total number of homeless people in the city of Kuala Lumpur is not known. Most probably the number is about to 2000 and above. This estimation was obtained from Social Welfare Department on their operations which found 1387 profiles of homeless on 2011. The number is quite surprising as this problem is still new and the amount is seen as crucial as the other social problem such as smoking, and drug addict. The homeless children were seen as runaway home children, while the women homeless were always associated with prostitution.

In Malaysia there are no official definitions to describe the homeless people (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012). Getting the homeless name from the nearest neighbour countries Indonesia, Malaysia called the homeless as 'gelandangan'. The name was being used because of the similarity of Asian country and the nature of the homeless is almost the same for these countries. Study by Patrick Guinness (1977), on *Gelandangan* in Yogyakarta, found that *Gelandangan* came from the word *gelandang*, which means 'always on the move'. In Indonesia they do not only consider that *gelandangan* are people who are poor but also include them with people who stay and live at villages. Other than that, they do assign *gelandangan* as people who are shifty, untrustworthy vagrants, and people who does not have morality. (Guinness, 1977). How researchers defines homeless is seen different from each another and it depends on the country and how they attributed the homeless into what they perceived.

It seems that different countries have different foundation to define homeless and most of the countries link the definitions with the homeless background situations and problems faced by the group. In Canada, the Alberta Secretariat had categorised the homeless into four groups which is the Chronic Homelessness, Temporary Homelessness, Working Homeless and Family homeless. On the other hand, in Europe definition of homeless as according to Edgar (2008), was categorised into three domains namely the physical domain, social domain and legal domain. However, Edgar et al (2008), observed that countries like Germany saw this homeless definition from another angle such as those who have problem with shelter. Meanwhile, in United States, Mc Kinney (2001), defined homeless as those who do not sleep and having sufficient time at home, includes those who did not have dinner at their home at the fixed time and street homeless who slept on the streets and, individuals who slept insufficiently time in the house. On the other hand, in Ireland, homeless is defined by linking them with housing and accommodation to the homeless people that included in

the Irish Housing Act (1988). The definition does also comprised the homeless situation when they are shortly with the underlying job. While according to Baratvand (2013) homeless people in Iran were defined as 'Street children' which mean, homeless children that do not have any contact with their family and community.

Different definition of homeless initiated by different countries showed that homelessness comes from different factors. There were many contributed factors to this homelessness problem. However the main contributing factors towards these problems in these cities are still under research. In Malaysia, it was found that increasing life expenses in the big city forced individuals to spend the nights on the streets. This also led to the emergence of other related problems such as unemployment, thief, drunk and also prostitution (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012). Studies been done previously showed that have there have been similar causes of homeless such as drug, alcohol and gambling. Some of them are detected by drug abuse, gambling, and no income or being employ. Other causes were due to the impact of the family and the abuse of parental authority (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012). While some of them become homeless because of illness, and disabilities, some because of debt and facing discrimination in term of Lesbian Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) and other similar cases.

On the other hand, research by Tri Muryani (2008), in Indonesia discovered different sides on factors of homelessness. From her research, social and cultural factors were found to influence a person from becoming homeless and beggar, such as having low self-esteem caused no shame to beg, resignation to fate, assume that poverty and their condition as vagrants and beggars caused no willingness to change (Tri Muryani, 2008). While in European countries, Groundswell (2010) found that homeless people majority became due to bad experience in relationships include problem with family members and friends, physical and mental trauma, involvement in social problems and bad life experience, that cause them to have a bad image in social community that will initially cause the employer to underestimate their capability to become an employee. The factors that caused homeless are identified to be varied in different countries. In Malaysia studies conducted in Kuala Lumpur by a non-governmental organization, Kechara Soup Kitchen (KSK) showed that the homeless consisted of ethnic from Malay, Indian, and Chinese. However, the Social Welfare Department (SWD) data showed statistically homeless people from the ethnic Chinese accounted for 45.2%, followed by Malay 32.2%, Indian 17.7%, Sabahan and Sarawakian and other natives group 4.8%. They live near Dang Wangi, Kampung Baru, Jalan Masjid India and Bangkok Bank road. The data also shows that homeless people below 30 and above 60 years old have lower percentage in number compared to homeless age 30-60 years old. These figures are steadily increasing each year. The figure was collected 4 years ago and the real numbers might be different from years to years. From the study, the homeless income was noted to be ranging from RM 20 per day or RM 600 per month. The small amount of income received by the labourer were due to there was no policy to protect labourer from receiving low income. The homeless work as parking attendance, helper at restaurant and others are not working because they had given up to be accepted in working environment. Their small income is not enough to pay for the room rental (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012). While in Jakarta, Indonesia, James (1963), had identified ten different jobs performed by more than 200 homeless, including

waste collector, rickshaw drivers, food vendors and hawkers. At first they worked as prostitutes, gamblers, and thieves before the local administration officials took action against these activities in 1960. In 1963, some of them had got a better job, such as, street sweeper, driver, assistant radio and car mechanics. In Europe study by Culhane JF et al. (2003), found some demography profile and characteristic of the homeless in USA. It is shown that among all the homeless women, 60% have children under the age of 18, but only 65% of those living with at least one child. Among all homeless men, 41% have children under the age of 18 years, but only 7% live with at least one of their own children (Culhane, JF et al., 2003). Meanwhile, National Center for Family Homelessness (2011), research on the characteristic of family experiencing homelessness in US showed that most of the homeless mothers in US had mental health problems. There are 36% of the homeless mother have three times the rate of Post Traumatic Stress Disorder, (PTSD and 41% had a risk two times the rate of drug and alcohol dependence. It is approximate 50% of mothers experienced high trauma since becoming homeless. Some mothers were found to have disabilities conditions.

Before this, in Malaysia the homeless people can't be seen to exist because they hide where they sleep and there were greater numbers of male than female homeless people. While most of female homeless people usually slept by sharing room paid together with other homeless women and sometimes they spend their nights at the relatives, and friends house, therefore their existence cannot be seen. However, the increasing number of the homeless people had caused them to be viewed by the community and authorities as they had taken up places near train station, under the bridge and bus stations. (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012). Same goes to the countries in Europe, where the homeless people are no longer hidden, they ported themselves out in underground malls, under train tracks, and on cardboard box near train stations (Swenson, 2008). From the annual report of US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) (2009), estimation of 1.6 million people in U.S experienced homelessness in a year. More than 600,000 people are homeless in the U.S. on any given night. Family homelessness is 32% of the number and most of the number of family experienced homelessness for the first time. Homeless people might experience discrimination such as gender, age, sexual orientation or ethnicity discrimination (Hankivsky & Cormier, 2009). In Europe, according to Reeve (2011), on their survey of single homeless in England, many of the homeless experienced their first homeless as early as age 20 years and also could be over age 50 and above. Most of the first time homeless are said to be hidden, they are living outside mainstream provision, staying with friends and sleeping rough in other marginal accommodation (Reeve, 2011).

Inspite of different backgrounds contributed to the number of homeless, there are also many different backgrounds of voluntary groups that served the homeless throughout the week. The Soup Kitchen are still standing strong around the Klang Valley the Kechara Soup Kitchen, Pertiwi, Masjid Jamek, Dapur Jalan Kuala Lumpur, Assumption Soup Kitchen, Reach Out Malaysia, The Nasi Lemak Project, Food Not Bomb KL are still there to serve the homeless people. Most of the help came in term of food, medication, attire, jobs and financial pathway from the government. The government of Malaysia itself had opened a shelter home call Anjung Singgah. This is the place where the homeless people received place to sleep, food, counseling and training for interview. It is also where most of them get place to work on evening, and

spend their night at Anjung Singgah. More than that, they also attended many courses organized by the government. While homeless people area near Masjid Jamek had been monitored by the Anti-Doping Agency, to ensure the homeless are free from drug and they come to check in periodically time.

There are several strategies that have been initiated by countries which had experienced homelessness issues. However, most of the strategy fails to cure homelessness issues in the country. The strategy initiated by other countries indicated that the homeless problem is also global problem. However, strategy to deal with it is still in experimental stages. The strategy need to be evaluated for its effectiveness. Same goes to the countries in Europe. They are also creating efforts in order to help the homeless people which have the initiative to release themselves from being homeless. In Canada the program is based on the goal of ending homelessness in Alberta by 2019. The strategy taken by the Secretary of Alberta (2008), in Canada is by planning for protected areas to accommodate homeless people in Alberta. This transition plan focused on housing for the homeless people and encourage them to be more independent. Expenditure aimed at obtaining permanent housing to homeless people in Alberta, and connected them with the support they needed to maintain housing. Meanwhile, Volker & Fitzpatrick (2008), have done a research on the German government. The government has developed an emergency accommodation provided under the law .The police found a heavy emphasis on preventive services, especially the prevention of eviction. This had encouraged the development of social agencies to provide access to resettlement for single people who are homeless. It is a project financing network site investigation, to the homeless people and support for households. It also function to provide housing for the homeless people immediately. They gave services for family mediated which was provided by the Youth Welfare Service. Furthermore, the social support services were given in the military and in hospitals as well as specialized services for prisoners to be released.

Many researches had been done on the factors, problems, strategies to tackle the homeless people problems. However, the question being asked whether the homeless people, have the intention to quit of being homeless or somehow they felt better living life like that where everything they needed were being provided without they having to work on it. There are no use for other people to work on it, unless the homeless individuals take efforts to change their self toward better life. Therefore, the key to all of the problems lies on the homeless itself people itself whether to quit of being homeless or to be homeless for the rest of their life. The research of social psychology anyway come across to identify many of behavior intentions especially behavior that violated social norms such as smoking, drug addicts, drink and drive and other related social problems. According to Ajzen (1991), in the Theory of Planned Behavior, intentions are determine by subjective norm, perceived behavior control and attitude. The intentions also are mediated by many other factors such as the backgrounds and the situations. Homeless people in Kuala Lumpur consist of people with different genders, range of age consist of infants, teenager and old people, and also having different length of time being homeless that might have different way of thinking and naturally will effect in performing a behavior, which in this study is to quit of being homeless. (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012). Robbins (2000), stated that demographic factors such as age, gender, are important to determine the intention to stop behavior.

However, in Malaysia there is no research done in depth of the background of homeless people and their intention to quit of being homeless. While other studies in social science regarding behavior have proved that there are differences in the intention to perform behavior between genders. Researchers had argued that men and women follow different union formation strategies. It also proved that the importance of attitudes, subjective norms and perceived behavioral control varies by gender (Oppenheimer, 1988; Becker, 1991). Something else to ponder relates to whether the homeless do possess high attitude, high perceived behavior control, high subjective norm, high perceived external factor, high perceived internal factor will also have high intention to quit of being homeless. By controlling these factors, there is a chance for them to quit the behavior.

Therefore, this research try to focus on the problem of homeless people itself in their responds of homelessness in which it is related to the homeless attitude, perceived behavior control, subjective norm, perceived internal factor, perceived external factor toward being homeless on their intention to quit of being homeless

1.2 Problem Statement

Homeless people had always been related to laziness, spoon feeding and poverty. The issues here to be clarified are whether they become homeless because of situation or because of the self attitude. If the problems caused by the situation, therefore support should be given, in term of financial, food and other. However, if it was caused from the attitude, support in term of counseling, and training should be intensively provided. The ways to tackle the problems are different in the eyes of social psychology. Therefore, there is a need to identify the main cause of the problems. While the government and non-government organization are trying hard to help the homeless people, however on the other side the homeless perceptions on being homelessness are not known as their opinions and voices were kept silent without any research on it. Therefore, this research is basically trying to get the answer of the homeless people situations and their perception of homelessness itself.

At first glance, it may seem like just a normal problem resulted from the high cost of living (Social Welfare Department, 2010). However, the government of Malaysia is trying to find solutions in order to solve this social problem. This problem has become a social issue seen as a different form of life norms, cultural values and religious values in society. It is surprising that this group formed a community in a big city, especially in Kuala Lumpur and indirectly defamed the central hub of the country as well as invited other social problems. If the community continue to believe that this is just a normal problem, the larger question of the increasing number of people being homeless will never be understand. Once we understand the real cause of homeless, we will begin to see the answers to the problems. Homelessness studies done in Malaysia are still not comprehensive. While this problem has contributed to one of the social problems, it must be dealt with effectively and progressively (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2012).

These issues have been known because many parties were infected. The parties included, were the Police Tourist and the Enforcers of city. This issue gave negative impression on the country. It affects in term of the cleanliness and the view of the city. It created impression that the country is not safe, as it opens way to gamble, drunk, prostitution, thief and jobless. How to ensure this homeless people to have intention to quit being homeless is one of the problems need to be ask and solve. Some studies on homeless people had been done in 2010, by Social Welfare Department (SWD). The department found roughly around 1387 profiles of homeless people in the city of Kuala Lumpur. This does not include the homeless people who are not registered and their profile have not been collect. The important point need to be highlight on the factors causing of homelessness, such as house price, low income, job opportunities, and also the differents level of education. Therefore, the factors are being gathered and group among the variables of subjective norms, attitude, perceived behavior control, perceived internal factor, perceived external factor on intention to quit of being homeless, in order to analyzed the intention to quit of being homeless by the Theory of Planned Behavior.

The main focus of this research is to examine whether the homeless have intention to quit from being homeless. Homeless problems has been controversial because of the increasing numbers of them involved in the issue. Most of the studies conducted on the biography of this homeless people are done nearly 4 years ago which only cover a part of them. (Sharifah & Alifatul, 2011) Furthermore, their activities were not being observed from year to year. There were no studies that analyzed in depth about their increasing numbers in the community and also the problems that they faced. What really caused them to be homeless had not yet been known and their demographic profiles not being analyzed thoroughly. While support is being given, by the government and community, but there also part of the city which consist of homeless that does not received any support at all (Social Welfare Department, 2010).

The study attempt to employ Theory of Planned Behavior to explain the intention of the homeless to quit from being homeless. Ajzen Model of Theory Planned Behavior connected the variables of subjective norm, attitude, perceived behavior control, and the intention to quit from being homeless. This is in order to measure the relationship of the factors with the intention to quit of being homeless. Most of the researchers only use the variable in Theory of Planned Behavior as their main source of research to analyzed intention. However, according to Huda (2012), there are also others factors which contributed to intention other than the variables stated in Theory of Planned Behavior that is not being analyzed. Therefore, addition of variables which are internal factors and external factors of being homeless are added in this research in order to make sure that the cause for the homeless people to stop being homeless were briefly analyzed. There needs to be a long-term programmed or plan to ensure that a plurality of factors can be addressed together.

It is very crucial to understand the importance of the homeless people intention to quit being homeless. Homelessness is categorized as one of the social problems in line with poverty, drug use and smoking. Researchers need to understand and analyze the intention to quit behavior for other social problems such as drug addict and smoking by using Theory of Planned Behavior in order to find solutions to these problems.

Therefore, the Theory of Planned Behavior was used to further more understanding the social problems which consisted of attitude, behavior, subjective norm, perceived behavior control as the factors that leads to intention to stop a behavior. In addition, this study employed this theory to evaluate the attitude to quit being homeless, subjective norm, perceived behavioral control and also external and internal factors which in turn directly influenced to quit being homeless. Theory of Planned Behavior could further serve as a tool to develop other alternatives to increase the intention of the homeless people to quit being homeless in the future. Recent research have been applying theoretical framework of TPB as a model from social psychology to understand the social problems. It explored the factor that influenced the behavioral performances which made people consider something carefully the information that had been received (Ioannou & Zampetakis, 2011).

All three factors in TPB are to predict whether or not a person intends to perform a behavior. For example, if an individual is in favor towards a behavior such as to quit being homeless, one would evaluate stop as positive and if the factors of other's expectation or social pressure wanted the individual to stop, the results are greater in intention to quit from being homeless. The stronger intention to engage in a behavior, the more likely one would perform. However, intention only predicts behavior if the individual have the ability to control behavior with voluntary behavior (Ajzen, 1991). TPB helped to explain why some quit being homeless while others do not.

Homelessness problems are interconnected with the people surrounding to give support in order to quit being homeless. It is sustainable with support from the other especially from families and the government. Therefore, it is important to understand factors that stimulate people to quit being homeless with the Theory of Planned Behavior. It is known that, there will never be a perfect relationship between behavioral intention and actual behavior. However intention can be used as the most near measurement of behavior. This is the most important contributions of TPB model compared to other theory of attitude behavior relationship. Even though there is no readily available measure of actual behavior, however the variable in this model can be use to determine the effectiveness intervention implemented.

1.3 Significance of Study

This study attempted to give an understanding and initiate behavior intention for the homeless to stop being homeless. This study would support prior studies about homeless people and contributes to the literature review on homeless problems. In the future, this profile can be used by other researchers to conduct different studies for the homeless people. This study also provides knowledge to other related studies that might need to use the research data and adding up other variables that will initiate intention to stop being homeless.

Moreover, in term of policy, the policy makers may find this study useful for the purpose of legislating public policies in regards to homeless people and community. This is important so that they can be traced and easily identified. Most researchers had used Theory of Planned Behavior to predict Social Behavior intention. It explains more

on the detection psychosocial factors relating to the intention to engage in social behavior. It also noted that to stop homelessness is difficult with many physiological, emotional, and social barriers that might impact others (Ajzen, 2006; Armitage & Conner, 2001; Rise, Kovac, Kraft, & Moan, 2008).

Additionally, it was expected that findings from this study would help Social Welfare Department (SWD) to provide social support to those who are still staying in the charity homes to find their own path, have their own house and a new life. This is one kind of awareness which encouraged individuals and groups of people to avoid from being stuck with the problems that led to homelessness. On the other hand, the aim of this study is to provide assistance that is really needed by the homeless people that faced the same situation in life. It can be done by assisting them in dealing with their problems that somehow effect their emotion and behavior. To handle it vast action is needed in order for the effective intervention to take place. Therefore the intention to quit being homeless may increase.

The most important from these findings it will aid the government of Malaysia and Non Government Organizations (NGO) in it continuous effort to help the homeless people to initiate short-term and long term strategy on intention to stop being homeless. Strategies that will be used will reduce the number of homeless and will slowly clean them in this country. Inspired strategy can also be used by researchers from other countries in addressing similar problems if it occurs in their country. By explaining and predicting the factors related to homelessness, the targeted interventions may result in a reduction of people becoming homeless.

1.4 Research Questions

1. What are the sociodemographic backgrounds of the homeless?
2. What are differences in intention to quit of being homeless in term of gender, age group and years being homeless?
3. What are the level of the variable and the relationships between subjective norm, attitude, perceived behavior control, perceived external factor, perceived internal factor and the intention to quit of being homeless?
4. Which factors are contributed to intention to quit of being homeless?

1.5 Research Objectives

The purpose of this study is to examine homeless intentions to quit of being homeless by investigating the TPB variables:- attitudes, subjective norm, and perceived behavioral control, along with internal and external factors of homelessness.

1.5.2 Specific Objectives

There are four specific objectives in the present study:

1. To describe the sociodemographic background of homeless.
2. To identify the difference in intention to quit of being homeless in term of gender, age group and years being homeless.
3. To determine the level of variables and relationships between subjective norms, attitude, perceived behavior control, perceived internal factors, perceived external factors and the intention quit of being homeless.
4. To identify of which factors are contributed to intention to quit being homeless.

1.6 Hypotheses

In line with findings on the literature review, the hypotheses are formulated in the present study.

Objectives 2: To identify the difference in intention to quit of being homeless in term of gender, age group and years being homeless.

- H₁: There is no significant difference in intention to quit of being homeless between male and female.
- H₂: There is no significant difference in intention to quit of being homeless between age groups.
- H₃: There is no significant difference in intention to quit of being homeless between years of being homeless.

Objectives 3: To determine the level of variables and relationship between subjective norms, attitude, perceived behavior control, perceived internal factors, perceived external factors and the intention to quit of being homeless.

- H₄: There is no significant relationship between attitude and intention to quit of being homeless.
- H₅: There is no significant relationship between subjective norm and intention to quit of being homeless.
- H₆: There is no significant relationship between perceived behavior control and intention to quit of being homeless.
- H₇: There is no significant relationship between perceived internal factors and intention to quit of being homeless.
- H₈: There is no significant relationship between perceived external factors and intention to quit of being homeless.

Objectives 4: To identify of which factors are contributed to intention to quit being homeless.

H₀: There are no factors contributed to intention to quit of being homeless

1.7 Theoretical Framework

Figure 1.1 presents an over view of the theoretical framework for the study. It outlines the relationship of the framework of Theory of Planned Behavior (Ajzen, 1991).

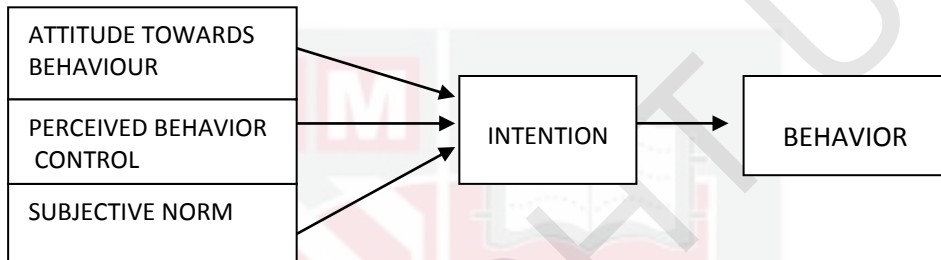


Figure 1.1: The Theory of Planned Behavior, adapted from Ajzen (1991)

The Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB) as noted by Ajzen (1991) provides a theoretical framework for systematically investigating the factors which influence behavioral choices and had been applied to many other situations in order to see behavior of individual (Tonglet, Phillips, & Read, 2004). This is one of the popular social psychology theories to predict how people behave. It was used by many studies and can be seen in many researches to examine the determinant of social problem (Sommer, 2011). In this study, this theory aim to analyze intention to quit of being homeless, with added variable which was perceived internal and external factors of homelessness. Theory of Planned Behavior had been successfully used in passed research on determining the intention to quit behavior, especially smoking and drug addiction. Therefore, in this research, intention to quit being homeless are determined using this theory because it give positive results significance to the intention behavior.

A person attitudes and situational as well as psychological variables have been identified as important predictors to stop being homeless behavior. However, to explore the influence of these factors further, a theoretical framework for systematically identifying the determinants to quit being homeless is required (Tonglet, Philips & Read, 2004). It is one of the best supported social psychological theories with respects to predicting human behavior (Sommer, 2011).

Modification of theory reasoned action initiate the Theory of Planned Behaviour (Ajzen and Fishbein, 1980). Consideration of many factors was the initial ability of people before doing a behavior. Prediction of the behavior in future was initiate on the earlier intention. This theory has three components which were attitude towards

behavior, subjective norms and perceived behavior control that affect intentions toward behavior. This theory stated that only certain attitudes will predict certain behavior. Attitudes, normally related to the favorable or unfavorable feelings and evaluation of the behavior. There always was a consideration to engage in a behavior. A person overall evaluation of the behavior is their attitude toward the behavior. What is most important before consideration to engage in behavior is to have a believe that every behavior have it owns consequences and also will eventually have positive or negative judgments from other people especially people who know the person (Ajzen,1991). In this research, homeless attitude were being determined, by analyzing their attitude towards homeless situation. These attitudes were being analyzed by questioning their inner feelings of homelessness they experienced and how favorable they possessed on homelessness situations.

Other than attitude measuring, there is also a need to measure homeless people on subjective norms which show how they care on what people thinks on their homeless situation. Subjective norm, it is related to a believer of approval or disapproval of behavior from people of ones. It is normally highlight in an individual us to the people who are related such as peers and important person that will initially think whether they should engage in behavior. While social norms, are more referring to group of people or larger cultural context that have their own customary codes. In a group of people social norms are considered normative and standard. In this research, the subjective norm are being measured by questioning their feelings and opinion on how does people sees and reacted to them. This is very important, as this homeless people, know that other people are judging them and also they can see how positive or negative judgments of the homeless towards people around them. This will probably help them to change their behavior base on the judgments that the homeless feel on other parties. If the judgments turn to be negative, there are possibilities for the homeless people to quit of being homeless to satisfy other parties.

Perceived behavior control and its influences on the intention which refers to the people's perception and the ability for them to perform a given behavior. Meanwhile, perceived behavioral control is a feeling to the extent of being able to enact the behavior in a person. It is held by two aspects which is how much a person has control over the behavior and how confident a person feels about being able to perform or not to perform the behavior. This is control by the power of situational and internal factors to inhibit or facilitate the performing of the behavior. Perceived power refer to the perceived current factors that will enhance or lower the performance of a behavior. It is contributed to the person's perceived behavioral control over each of those factors (Ajzen, 1991). Perceived behavior control in this research show how does the homeless have the control on their homeless situation, especially in terms of their life and how far they can handle their life problems, such as in term of food, job, shelter and other related life processess. The greater control they had on accessing the need of life, the greater possibility they had to quit being homeless. This predictor of three components will initially lead to the intention.

Behavioral intention, related more to motivational factor where when the intention to perform behavior is stronger there will be more chances for the behavior to be done. TPB have been used widely and successfully to predict the sorts of behavior and

intentions such as smoking, drinking, health services, breastfeeding and others. The TPB states that motivation (intention) and ability (behavior control) was the dependant of the behavioral achievement. These constructs influence the behavior through the impact on behavioral intention. The relation between intention and behavior can be describe as “People do what they intend to do and do not do what they do not intend” (Tonglet, Philips, & Read 2004). In other words, intention represents the motivation of an individual’s conscious plan to exert effort to perform the behavior. Intention could be understood as an immediate antecedent to behavior (Sommer, 2011). The general rule, the more favorable the attitude, subjective norm and the greater the perceived control, the stronger the person’s intention to perform the behavior in question (Ajzen, 1991).

1.8 Conceptual Framework

Figure 1.2 presents an over view of the conceptual framework, for the present study. It outlines the relationship between the independent variables (attitude toward homelessness, perceived behavior control, subjective norm and perceived factors toward homelessness) and the dependent variable (intention to stop being homeless).

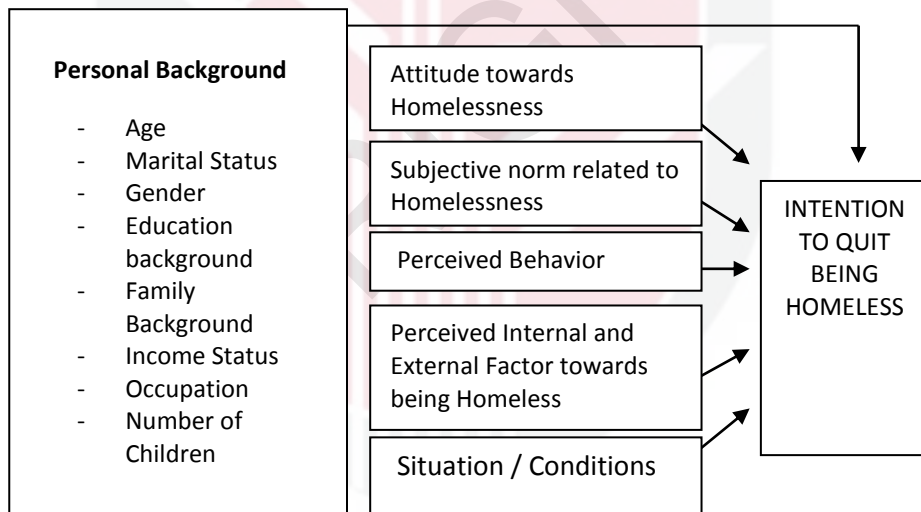


Figure 1.2: Conceptual framework of the study

This conceptual framework is adapted from Theory of Planned Behavior by Ajzen, and there are certain variable added on the real model based on the literature review on other similar cases of social psychology problems. It can be seen that the sociodemographic background of homeless are being collected in order to achieve the first objective of this research which is to describe the sociodemographic background of the homeless based on the literature review. The socio demographic backgrounds are also important in order to achieve the second objectives of the research which is to

identify the differences in intention to quit being homeless in term of gender, age group and years of being homeless.

The variable stated in this research included the three variables from the real model and added with perceived internal, external factors and situation or condition of homelessness. The famous concepts are the studies of attitude (Ajzen 2002). It is mostly affected by the means of good or bad, harmful or beneficial, pleasant and unpleasant situation. It appears on the behavior and it consists of summary evaluation of a psychological behavior. (Fazio et al., 1986; Bargh et al.,1992; Ajzen, 2001). The ability of attitude concept to make a prediction and explanation of social behavior which opened the eyes of the researchers. (Fazio et al., 1995; Sheeran and Orbell, 1998; Armitage and Conner). Attitude has always been one of the factors for people to perform a behavior including homelessness. Attitude homeless people posses towards homelessness would affect their intention to stop being homeless.

In term of subjective norm, a person has their own estimation of social pressure, whether to perform or not to perform the target behavior. Believing on how other people, who may be in some way important to the person, would like them to behave (normative beliefs) and the positive or negative judgment about each belief (outcome evaluation) are the important parts which work together in subjective norms (Ajzen, 1991). In this case, if the homeless received social pressure from other to stop being homeless, the intention for them to stop being homeless would increase. Perceived behavioral controls are also a perception of a person of the ease or difficulty of performing a behavior. It is different across situations and actions resulting having a different perception of behavioral control based on situation. The homeless would see perceived control as factor for them to stop being homeless. The greater control towards their life, the higher intention for them to stop being homeless.

Perceived internal and external factors have were seen as one of the important factors affecting intention based on the literature review. It can be seen that rather than the three variables on the real model by Ajzen, the added variable might contribute on the homeless intention to quit of being homeless. The internal factors, include homeless people inner factors faced by the homeless itself such as the strength or disabilities of homeless, while external factors include problems or barrier from other parties such as financial support and others. Lastly the variables that the homeless experience were the situation and the condition of the homelessness itself, such as the shelter they had, food, freedom, cleanliness and other. Therefore, this five variables, will eventually arise the intention to quit being homeless and, change the behavior of the homeless people.

1.9 Definition of Terminology

There are five terms used in this study, namely attitude toward stopping homelessness, subjective norm, perceived behavioral control, perceived internal factors and perceived external factors. These terms are defined conceptually and operationally.

1.9.1 Attitude

According by Petty and Cacioppo (1997) attitude is related to an emotional feeling which stated a positive or negative feeling about some person object or issue. It is based on the characteristic of attitude itself which is attitude predispose, and something that are learned. (Breckler & Wiggins,1989).

In this study, attitude towards homelessness refers to individual preferences towards homelessness behavior from questionnaire based on the attitude toward homelessness literature and previous application of TPB. It consist of 7 items to measure attitude towards homelessness with used of a 5-point scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree. The items were scaled based on the positivity or negativity of the statement. This also means that higher scores indicating greater attitude toward homelessness.

1.9.2 Perceived Behavior Control

According to Bandura (1991), perceived behavior control focuses on the actor's self perceived abilities, influence by perceptions of available resources, opportunities and anticipated obstacles far broader than self efficacy (Bandura, 1991).

Perceived behavioral control in this study refers to the level of control over the behavior to quit being homeless. It depends on how easy or difficult performance of the behavior is likely to be based on the homelessness literature and previous application of TPB. In this research it consists of 10 items to measure perceived behavioral control with used of a 5-point scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree. The items were scaled based on the positivity or negativity of the statements. This also means that higher scores indicated greater perceived behavior control.

1.9.3 Subjective Norm

According to Fishbein and Ajzen (1975), subjective norm refers as a behavior whether to do it or not as a result from the group's social pressure. It is add up with the perspective of others towards individual in order to meet the expectations of the group depending on the motivation of the individual to comply.

Subjective norm in this study refers to social pressure homeless received from other people on being homeless. It was from the questionnaire based on the homelessness literature and previous application of TPB. It consists of 13 items to measure subjective norms with used of a 5-point scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree. The item was scaled based on the positivity or negativity of the statement. This also means that higher scores indicating greater subjective norm.

1.9.4 Internal Factor

According to Weiner (2006), internal factors are behaviors which seek anything that causes by the person themselves which include effort and ability to understand why some event happens beyond their control. If the cause is from internal behavior it will enhance self-esteem. While stability lies on hopefulness or hopelessness of their future.

Internal factors in this study refer to the effort and also the ability of an individual to quit being homeless. It was from questionnaire based on the homelessness literature and previous application of TPB (Forsterling, 2001). It consists of 5 items to measure subjective norms with used of a 5-point scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree. The item was scaled based on the positivity or negativity of the statement. This also means that higher scores indicating greater internal factors.

1.9.5 External Factor

According to Weiner (2006), on external factors are anything that causes by the other persons or situations is stated as external factors. He also found that uncontrollable causes lie on the external factor and focus on the dimension of emotional response and connecting it with many various causal dimensions.

External factors in this study include influences which are out of the individual's control, such as luck or the difficulty of an individual to quit being homeless. It was from questionnaire based on the homelessness literature and previous application of TPB (Forsterling, 2001). It consists of 5 items to measure subjective norms with used of a 5-point scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree the item was scaled based on the positivity or negativity of the statement. This also means that higher scores indicating greater external factors.

1.9.6 Intentions

According to Ajzen (1991) intention refers as a person's subjective probability of performing a behavior. It shows the willingness of an individual to engage in a certain behavior. Intention represents the motivation of an individual's to give effort to do a behavior (Francis, et al, 2004).

Intention towards homelessness in this study refers to intention of an individual to quit being homeless. It was from based on the homeless literature and previous application of TPB (Forsterling, 2001). It consists of 6 items to measure intention with used of a 5-point scale from (1) strongly disagree to (5) strongly agree. The item was scaled based on the positivity or negativity of the statement. This means that higher scores indicating greater intention.

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