

## **Parents ethnic socialization practices in shaping ethnic identity and self-esteem of multi-ethnic children in Malaysia**

### **Abstract**

Parents' Ethnic Socialization practices play important role in shaping their children's ethnic identity and is also important for other developmental and behavioral outcomes such as self-esteem, and academic achievement. The present study examined the role of parents' ethnic socialization practices in shaping ethnic identity and self-esteem of multi-ethnic children in Malaysia. A total of 342 multi ethnic children (ages ranging from 10-14 years old) participated in the present study. The modified version of Multi group Ethnic Identity Measure (MEIM), The Familial Ethnic Socialization Measure (FESM) and The Rosenberg Self-Esteem Scale (RSE) were used in this study. The results showed that: i) parents' ethnic socialization practices were strong predictor of ethnic identity development and self-esteem of the children; iii) the children with a greater ethnic identity exploration exhibited higher self-esteem. The results of this study showed the implications for parents' ethnic socialization practices in successful multi ethnic families for better child development outcomes.