



UNIVERSITI MALAYSIA SABAH

LAPORAN PENYELIDIKAN

**Child Care Arrangement, Costs and the Supply of
Labour of Working Parents in Kota Kinabalu
(KOD PROJEK: 22/99)**

oleh

THIRUNAUKARASU SUBRAMANIAM

**SEKOLAH PERNIAGAAN DAN EKONOMI
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Child Care Arrangement, Costs and the Supply of Labour of Working Parents in Kota Kinabalu

CHAPTER 1: SYNOPSIS

Child care plays an important role in the supply of labour of working parents especially for women. Quality and reliable child care is important in order to enhance the performance of working parents, to reduce worry and to increase their productivity in the workplace. It is obvious that child care can be expensive. This study analyses different types of childcare arrangement that is available in Kota Kinabalu namely baby-sitter, relatives, child-care centers, domestic helper, playschool and preschool. The study found that on average families spend about RM261.64 per month for childcare expenditure. This constitutes about 8.83 percent of a family's monthly income. The burden these child care expenditures place on families can be substantial. A mother will only decide to work if the cost of childcare is lesser than the wage received from particular employment. If the cost of childcare is higher than the wage received or consumes a large portion of their income, than the mother would make the decision not to work. This in turn will reduce the participation rate of women in the labour force. To address this problem, cost-sharing and flexible job arrangement should be seen as possible alternatives.

SINOPSIS

Jagaan kanak-kanak memainkan peranan yang penting dalam penawaran buruh ibu bapa yang bekerja terutamanya bagi pihak wanita. Jagaan kanak-kanak yang berkualiti dan boleh diharapkan adalah penting untuk meningkatkan prestasi kerja ibu bapa, mengurangkan kerisauan dan meningkatkan produktiviti mereka di tempat kerja. Jagaan kanak-kanak boleh mendatangkan kos yang tinggi kepada ibu bapa. Kajian ini menganalisa beberapa jenis jagaan kanak-kanak yang boleh didapati di Kota Kinabalu.

Antaranya termasuklah penjaga bayi, saudara-mara, pusat jagaan kanak-kanak, pembantu rumah, dan pra-sekolah. Kajian ini mendapati bahawa pada puratanya sebuah keluarga membelanjakan sebanyak RM261.64 sebulan untuk perbelanjaan jagaan kanak-kanak. Ini meliputi kira-kira 8.83 peratus daripada pendapatan sebulan bagi sebuah keluarga. Perbelanjaan jagaan kanak-kanak yang terpaksa ditanggung oleh sesebuah keluarga boleh menjadi satu bebanan kepada keluarga berkenaan. Seorang ibu hanya akan membuat keputusan untuk bekerja jika kos jagaan kanak-kanak adalah kurang daripada upah yang diterima daripada sesuatu pekerjaan tertentu. Jika kos jagaan kanak-kanak adalah lebih tinggi daripada upah yang diterima atau memakai sebahagian besar pendapatan mereka, maka seseorang ibu akan membuat keputusan untuk tidak bekerja. Akibatnya, ini akan mengurangkan penyertaan wanita ke dalam pasaran buruh. Untuk mengatasi masalah ini, perkongsian kos dan dan jadual kerja fleksibel perlu dilihat sebagai alternatif yang mungkin.

CHAPTER 2 : INTRODUCTION

Childcare plays an important role in the supply of labour of working parents especially for women. Quality and reliable childcare is important in order to enhance the performance of working parents, to reduce worry and to increase their productivity at the workplace. The increasing number of participation of women in the labour force in Sabah reflects two possibilities. Firstly, it could be that they have grown up children or secondly, they have arranged a proper and reliable childcare for their under school age children.

A mother will only make the decision to work if the cost of childcare is lesser than the wage received from particular employment. If the cost of the childcare is higher than the