

CHAPTER II :

LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

A literature review can provide ideas for replication, where it can further validate the findings of past studies or further expand the scope of past studies. It can give ideas to researchers to construct better research questions than previous studies and guide researchers to further improve research procedures. It can be a similar study to be done in different fields or different subjects. By doing a literature review, a researcher will gain an idea of the variables to be studied.

In addition, the purpose of the literature review is also to obtain information on the research work that has been done based on the theory, study design and methods of collecting and analyzing data. Thus, in this chapter, the researcher will report on the history of research from within and outside the country.

2.2 Literature Review

Several studies have been conducted locally and abroad on the level of acceptance of students with PPDa programs and attitudes towards illicit drugs.

According to literature sources (AADK, 2007; Abdul Halim & Mohd Muzafar Shah, 2008) on the dangers of drugs it was found that students who were stuck with drug abuse were found to have identifiable symptoms. Drug addicts will go through changes in terms of appearance, attitude, habits and behavior. This knowledge is also important to be mastered by teachers and students in schools so that they can keep themselves away from drugs. Some common signs that can be detected have been listed by the Anti-Drug Agency (2007) as follows: Deteriorating school and workplace attendance, deteriorating work quality, discipline and work results, irritability for no reason, constant yawning and lethargy. Avoiding responsibility, deterioration of appearance and personal hygiene. Habits like to hide anything done or owned and lose appetite, underweight, glassy and watery eyes or dim and sunken eyes. Scars and injection sites on the arms and fingertips change color as a result of smoking marijuana. Side by side with those who are known to be addicted to drugs and solicit excessive money from family members as well as like to borrow from friends or steal easily sold items from home, school, workplace, relatives or family. Likes to visit remote places for no reason such as stores, small rooms, ground floors of buildings with the intention of taking drugs.

In a study by the Drug Policy Research Center, analyst Jonathan Culkins and colleagues in 2002 (in L. Roleff, Tamara, 2005) identified drug prevention programs as beneficial in reducing drug intake, alcohol and smoking. According to him, the prevention program is estimated to have succeeded in reducing tobacco use by 2.3 percent, alcohol consumption by 2.2 percent and cocaine by 3.0 percent for life. However, the overall effect of the prevention program is estimated to have only managed to reach 15 percent for life compared to the higher percentage of awareness after the end of the intervention. This PPDa program should be able to cultivate the

spirit of student identity which in turn can form pure values, noble and praiseworthy character, noble spirituality and have feelings of love and affection for themselves, family, society, religion, race and country (Mohd Muzafar Shah & Abdul Malek, 2005).

Other studies conducted abroad on drug abuse programs in schools showed positive effects such as the 'Healthy School and Drugs' project in the Netherlands. School children began experimenting with tobacco, alcohol and several other types of drugs between the ages of 12 and 15. Through the 'Healthy School and Drugs' project in schools, there was a reduction in the number of students who consumed tobacco and eventually quit when the intervention period ended (Cuijpers, Pim et.al, 2002).

To this day, drugs have been a major threat to the country. Drug abuse is spreading in our country day by day involving various levels of society. According to Ibrahim (1997) drug addiction is not just a group low-income, has even spread to the more affluent and across ages and genders. This suggests that, every individual is potentially involved with drug abuse regardless of age position over gender. According to the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP), Malaysia is ranked fifth in the Southeast Asian region with the highest number of drug addicts.

2.3 Level of Acceptance

The level of acceptance refers to the degree a person wants to partake in the program. As described earlier, this study will focus on four major drug prevention programs PPDa. The level of acceptance is an arbitrary measure. How does one measure how much a program is accepted by the participants? The researcher can only rely on perceptions survey. Hence the following statements may describe the feelings of the respondents toward the four PPDa programs.

- I enjoyed myself fully in this program

- I took part actively in this program
- I have learned many things in this program
- I believe all the students should attend this program
- This is a very useful program

2.4 Attitude

The literature in the field of psychology and personality indicates that attitude was and still is a favorite topic for study and research. In spite of that, it is often clouded by ambiguity and confusion. Fishbein and Ajzen (1975) attributed the state of confusion to the fact that there is no one universally acceptable definition for attitude. Psychologists like Fishbein and Ajzen (1975), Gagne (1985), Rosenberg and Hovland (1980) and Vollmer (1974) defined attitude in terms of components or domains. The domains most often mentioned are:

- (a) The *cognitive*, what a person believes about the attitude object. According to Nikkiah & Redzuan (2009), the cognitive component involves the evaluation of an object or event based on one's knowledge and beliefs as well as the intellectual evaluation. It also encompasses beliefs, knowledge, stereotypes and evaluations.
- (b) The *affective*, what a person feels about the attitude object, how favorable or unfavorable it is evaluated. Some described this as the emotional/feeling component that will give emotional reactions to objects / events such as love, hate, anger, worry and so on.
- (c) The *behavioral*, how a person actually responds to the attitude object based on (a) and (b). The behavioral component is the result of a person's beliefs,

knowledge and feelings towards an object/event experienced. The result of the affective and cognitive relationship will produce a person's behavior.

Based on the above definition of attitude, the researcher developed the following tripartite model for attitude towards illicit drugs.

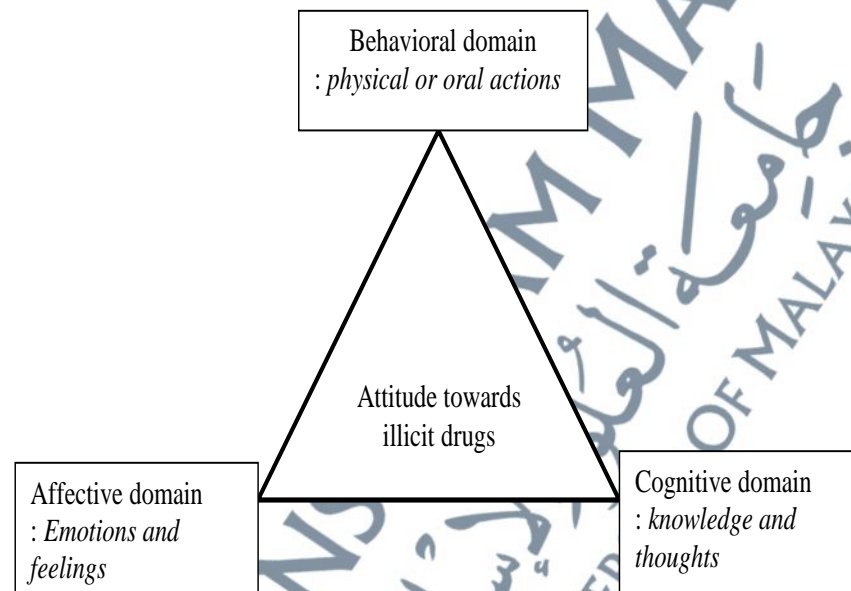


Figure 1: The tripartite model of attitude towards illicit drugs

2.4.1 Attitude towards illicit drugs

Based on the tripartite model in Figure 1, attitude towards illicit drugs will also be formed by interactions between the three domains. Psychologists who support this model are also not in agreement as to how the domains interact. However, the researcher would like to propose that the cognitive domain will develop first, follow by affective and behavioral. Hence further discussion will follow the sequence suggested.

2.4.2 Cognitive domain in attitude towards illicit drugs

In this domain are the knowledge and information received by a person. He can choose whether to believe it or not. For example, society is often told to avoid cigarettes because continuous inhalation of the smoke may cause lung cancer. If a person chooses to believe it, he will avoid cigarettes. If not, then he may end up being a chain smoker. Likewise, is the case for drugs addiction. Those who ended up as drug addicts usually can tell their stories of not believing that drugs are addictive. Again, it starts in the mind. Thus, to measure the cognitive domain, the researcher proposes questions like the following:

- I think illicit drugs are not harmful to health
- I am sure I can stop taking illicit drugs at any time I want to
- Illicit drugs give me energy to study and work
- I am not ashamed even if I am addicted to illicit drugs
- Taking illicit drugs is just like smoking – no big deal

2.4.3 Affective domain in attitude towards illicit drugs

Affective domain includes all the emotions and feelings associated with illicit drugs. Words that suggest emotions are like “hate”, “love”, “so cool”, “best”, “heavenly” and “hell”. Besides words, a person’s emotion can also be inferred from his demeanor. He may cry, laugh, shout or swear. To evaluate this domain, the researcher proposes statements like the following:

- I hate illicit drugs
- I love illicit drugs
- Taking illicit drugs is so cool

- Illicit drug is the best
- I cannot live without illicit drugs

2.4.4 Behavioral domain in attitude towards illicit drugs

Finally, the behavioral domain will see the manifestations of both the cognitive and affective elements. This most likely will be tangible actions that can be seen by others. It can be physical or oral actions. For example, the person will start to hang out with other addicts, he may be violent when provoked, he may enjoy sleeping more than normal and he may not eat like normal. The researcher proposes these statements as indicators to the behavioral domain.

- After taking illicit drugs, I am full of energy
- When I am high on drugs, I do not even need to eat
- I prefer to hang out with others who are also taking illicit drugs
- I hate others who tell me to avoid drugs
- I do not care even if I go to jail because of drugs

2.5 Conceptual Framework of the Study

This study aimed to look at the level of acceptance of students with PPDa program and attitudes towards illicit drugs among high school students. Based on this goal, a theoretical framework was selected to serve as the basis for the study. In addition, concepts written based on any theory/model or combination of theories/models are considered more scientific and focused. Thus, this model has been used in this study to underlie the psychological factors studied that is the ABC Tripartite Model by Feldman which includes three main components namely cognitive, affective and behavioral to form attitudes (Jain, 2014).

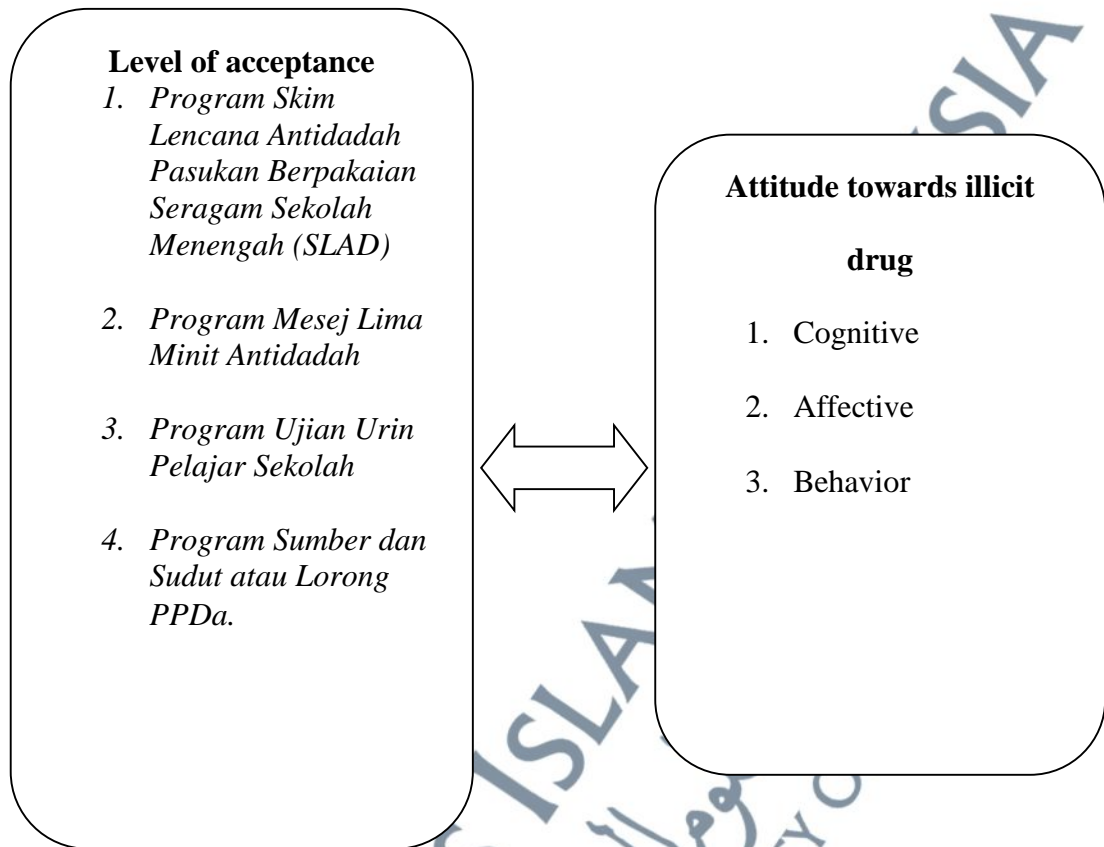


Figure 2: Conceptual framework that shows the level of student acceptance with the PPDa Program and attitudes towards illicit drugs among secondary school students

2.6 Summary

This literature review has many short-coming due to the fact that the researcher is not able to locate any previous studies directly related to this topic. It seems to be an area few people are interested in or the concept seems too intangible to measure. However, the researcher hopes that the result of this empirical study will be able to contribute more towards the knowledge based of future drug prevention programs.