

CHAPTER I: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Throughout the globe, the prison environment has received a great deal of attention in the administration and design of correctional facilities. When visiting several prisons, whether as an imprisoned person, a visitor, an employee, or a researcher, people instinctively recognize that each prison has its environment.

The concept of prison climate contains the notion that how individuals perceive their surroundings is significant. It is defined as the perceived quality of prison circumstances, which includes interpersonal, material, and organizational factors it is the institutional equivalent of a personality (Moos, 2018). Considering that a better prison climate is associated with increased positive behavior and life satisfaction among prisoners, it is assumed that differences in the environment across prisons are crucial to consider. Several researchers believe that it may even be one of the criteria that determine whether prison is more or less survivable (Liebling, 2011). Moreover, since it is believed that the prison climate is associated with release outcomes, it may be utilized as a technique to reduce recidivism rates (Auty & Liebling, 2020). Therefore, prison administrations all over the globe consider upgrading the prison environment to be a significant intervention in improving the well-being and conduct of detainees, as well as the behavior of prison officers.

Rehabilitating people who have broken the law by using drugs is hard because this group has trouble with discipline and breaking the rules (Bukten et al., 2020). Inmates frequently describe incarceration as unhappy, chaotic, overcrowded, secluded, and lacking in access to nature (Van Der Linden, 2015). The purpose of prison systems in many nations is to provide rehabilitation so that when offenders are released, they can contribute to society and do not re-offend.

However, there is a significant difference in a prison's ability to carry out rehabilitation, such as education, training, and job, to attain such aims (Lambert et al., 2015). According to a study by (Buunk et al., 2007), male convicts in a correctional facility felt defeated and had low life satisfaction. A study on the general population discovered that low life satisfaction could be a trigger to future mental illness and have a long-term impact on the likelihood of suicide (Koivumaa-Honkanen et al., 2001).

Inmates who are less satisfied with their lives are more likely to recidivate and commit suicide (Pavot & Diener, 2008). Rearrest rates are higher for former inmates who felt uncomfortable in prison (Listwan et al., 2012). Research by (Gullone et al., 2000) found that male prisoners in an Australian prison were anxious and unhappy. Shortly, the vast majority of prisoners will be allowed to return to society. The economy and society of the nation will be affected if they are not correctly sentenced (Petersilia & 62p, 2000). Increasing one's pleasurable feelings and life satisfaction, by (Diener & Seligman, 2002), is essential if one hopes to achieve their full potential as a human being. Happier inmates were more likely to be released from prison, according to research by (Skaggs & Barron, 2006). As a result, inmates needed to find meaning in their lives while they were incarcerated.

Therefore this section will discuss the background of the study, the problem statement, the purpose of the study, the rationale or the importance of the study results, theoretical approach, research questions, research scope, and hypotheses of research related to relationships between Prison Climate and Life Satisfaction Among Drug-Abuse Inmate in Kajang Prisons. In this study, the researcher wants to study what the domain is the highest Prison Climate score and how much is the relationship with Life Satisfaction. Some researchers conducted this study on drug addicts who were undergoing treatment at

the AADK Recovery Center but a study of prisoners in prison was not conducted. The lack of information has prompted the researcher to continue this study.

1.2 Background Of Study

Drug abusers make up the majority of inmates in Malaysian prison. People have been abusing drugs for a long time, but no one knows exactly when it started. Drug usage situations include open-ended queries concerning the subject, complexities around the issue, and the onset of chronic diseases.

Nowadays, drug use around the world is getting worse. With the changing global dynamics, the phenomenon of new synthetic substances, and the enhanced smuggling techniques used by drug traffickers, the necessity to effectively tackle drug challenges has increased (Sadiron et al., 2019). Unfortunately, because the issue has not been fully handled, the priority of strengthening Malaysians' well-being through addressing Malaysian life satisfaction in the (*Twelfth Malaysia Plan, 2021-2025*, n.d.). Indeed, as a result of drug addicts being sent to prison and dominating the prison population, the problems have gotten worse. 61.5 percent of the 59,187 inmates were there for drug offences (Bilik Gerakan Ibu Pejabat Penjara Malaysia, 2021). Because they are Malaysian citizens, improving the life satisfaction of drug-abuse inmates looks to be a critical aspect of attaining the government's goal. Ineffective treatment programs unfairness in the management of communicable diseases, drug usage in prison, and insufficient numbers of prison staff all contribute to low life satisfaction among drug-abuse inmates (Bahagian Sumber Manusia, 2020).

In addition to severe anxiety isolated living in prison and traumatic situations, drug-abuse detainees also had significant anxiety (Dore, 2010). As a result, for greater resilience, reduced emotional suffering, and improved adjustment to incarceration, a higher level of life satisfaction is required, which can be achieved by focusing on their

prison climate and quality of life (Baharudin et al., 2020a). Despite this, studies on prison climate and life satisfaction among drug-abuse offenders have yet to be discovered to maximize inmates' life satisfaction.

As a result, the goal of this research is to identify the relationship of prison climate and life satisfaction among drug-abusing prisoners. By examining prison climate about inmate life satisfaction, this study attempts to fill a theoretical gap in the literature.

1.3 Problem Statement

It is possible that incarceration will serve both as a direct major barrier and an interactive adaptation in terms of the consequences of inmates' prison actions. The primary purpose of the study was to examine the relationship between the prison social climate and the level of life satisfaction experienced by drug abusers inmates at Kajang Prison. The relationship between the social climate in prison and one's overall level of life satisfaction has not received nearly enough attention.

In Malaysia, the number of people being held in prison, which includes pre-trial detainees and remand prisoners, has been growing steadily since 2012. There aren't any signs that the rate will slow down any time soon. It was reported, 61.5% of 59,187 inmates were incarcerated for drug abuse offences (Bilik Gerakan Ibu Pejabat Penjara Malaysia, 2021). Because of a lack of control over the expanding number of inmates, the prison administration faces a terrible situation. As a consequence of this, Malaysian prisons are overcrowded (Bin Omar, n.d.). In 2015, the prison capacity was exceeded. Furthermore, according to (Omar, 2001), the growth in drug-related crimes is one element leading to prison overcrowding, with a 130 percent increase in drug-abuse prisoners in 2015. People who have been charged with or convicted of drug-related crimes make up a large group of people who are imprisoned in many countries. They are either awaiting trial or are already there (Rich et al., 2015).

Life satisfaction among drug-abuse convicts, who are considered to be Malaysian citizens, seems to be a critical component of the government's goal of coping with the current situation. The reason that inmates have poor life satisfaction is due to a variety of factors including inefficient treatment programs, unequal treatment of infectious illnesses, drug use concerns in prison, expensive management expenses, and a deficiency of prison officers (Bahagian Sumber Manusia IPPM, 2020). Similarly, the issues emerged because drug-abuse inmates are held in isolation and are more vulnerable to outsiders (Baharudin et al., 2020a). As a result, the government must ensure that the communities of convicts are satisfied with their current situation.

In many countries, prison systems strive to provide treatment that allows inmates to reintegrate into society and avoid committing crimes. Nonetheless, there is a considerable variation in prison functionality when it comes to recovery-related activities such as education, training, and labor (Allen et al., 2015). According to previous research by (Buunk et al., 2007), prisoners experienced a significant level of sorrow and low life satisfaction. In reality, research in a large population has found that low life satisfaction can be an early symptom of a mental illness and have a long-term impact on the risk of suicide (Koivumaa-Honkanen et al., 2001). Indeed, prison overpopulation is the most major challenge for prison authorities, hurting the life satisfaction of drug-abuse inmates (*Global Prison Trends 2018 - Penal Reform International*, n.d.).

The growth in drug-related offenses entering prison, in particular, contributed to prison overcrowding (Bahagian Keselamatan dan Intelejen, 2019). Overcrowding happens when a prison's official capacity is exceeded, affecting the prison's day-to-day operations (Fenol et al., 2017). As the number of inmates exceeded the prison capacity, the prison administration

encountered challenges in implementing reformatory and rehabilitative measures. Indeed, the prison administration has been unable to provide offenders with a complete variety of training, work, and educational possibilities due to a lack of space, finances, and technological equipment (Ali et al., 2016). Overcrowding also leads to prisoner aggression, a higher risk of infectious diseases, a lack of living space, and a lack of effective oversight by the authorities (Human Rights Commission of Malaysia, 2016). The situation harmed inmates' life contentment, particularly among drug-abuse convicts, resulting in unproductive citizens' failure to reach their life satisfaction while incarcerated (Baharudin et al., 2020a).

Furthermore, the prison management role's conclusion from many prison climate characteristics is the prisoners' life satisfaction (Ali et al., 2016). Traumatic experiences, extreme anxiety, and poor social contact rates, for example, influenced prisoners' life satisfaction (Pavot & Diener, 2008). Similarly, prisoners with chronic and persistent behavioral issues had extra restrictions placed on them in an attempt to improve their life pleasure. Higher levels of well-being and life satisfaction, on the other hand, can lead to greater resilience and quality of life, reduced emotional discomfort, and improved adaptation to incarceration (Baharudin et al., 2021). As a result, focusing on drug-abuse convicts' prison climate and social support is critical to ensuring their life pleasure.

Despite this, the analysis of prison climate and social support among drug-abuse prisoners is still underdeveloped to improve drug-abuse prisoners' life satisfaction. As a result, the study aims to investigate the relationship between prison climate and life satisfaction among drug-abuse inmates. Similarly, investigating the elements that affect drug-abuse inmates' life contentment, such as prison climate and social support, will be required to understand the factors that affect drug-abuse prisoners' life satisfaction.

1.4 Research Question

1. What are the mean score on the prison climate questionnaire (PCQ) among drug-abuse inmates in Kajang prisons
2. What are the level of life satisfaction among drug-abuse inmates in Kajang prisons
3. What is the indicator for the highest score in life satisfaction among drug abuse-inmate in Kajang prisons
4. What is the relationship between prison climate and life satisfaction among drug-abuse inmates in Kajang prison.

1.5 Objective Of The Study

1. To identify the relationship between prison climate and the level of life satisfaction amongst drug-abuse inmates in Kajang prison.
2. To investigate the significant effect between prison climate and life satisfaction.
3. To identify the mean score on the prison climate questionnaire (PCQ) among drug-abuse inmates
4. To identify the significant effect between prison climate and quality of life
5. To identify the differences in scores of Indicator in Life Satisfaction Among Drug Abuse-Inmate

1.6 Operational Definition

1.6.1 Prison Climate

Conceptual Definition

Prison climate has previously been defined as “the social, emotional, organizational and physical characteristics of a correctional institution as perceived by inmates and staff” (ROSS et al., 2011). In an in-depth examination of world issues, the following dimensions were identified by literature and existing measurement tools. Autonomy, safety and order, meaningful activities, and staff-prisoner relationships all contribute to the prison milieu (van Ginneken et al., 2019). According to prior studies, a positive prison climate is associated with better results in terms of behavior, motivation for treatment, and therapeutic development, as well as overall well-being for those in prison.

Operational Definition

Measurement of prison climate has the potential to be crucial in understanding both what happens in prison and what might happen after release. The moral view that imprisonment is an acceptable punishment in and of itself is expressed in the argument that prisoners are sent to prison for treatment, rather than for punishment when they are sentenced to prison.

In this research, Only 13 items were used to measure two domains' rights, rules, and activities. There are a lot of things to do in prison, and this study looks at some of them. These include work activities, educational activities, exercise, and day programmes.

Actual prison circumstances, on the other hand, will differ depending on the physical structure of the institution, the severity of the regime, and its social organization, as well as the jurisdiction and political perceptions of criminals and those linked with the prison.

As a result, it's plausible to believe that differences in prison climate (or perceptions of prison climate) may have an impact on post-release offending and re-arrest rates, as well as the type of offense committed. During incarceration, it may also influence the impact of imprisonment on self-harm, violent conduct, or drug usage, among other variables.

1.6.2 Life Satisfaction

Conceptual Definition

Life satisfaction is defined as people's cognitive assessment of the overall quality of their lives or the quality of specific domains within their lives for example family, friends, school, and the cognitive component of subjective well-being (Gilman & Huebner, 2003). It was defined as an individual's subjective well-being and a representative of QOL as well as an individual's conscious, cognitive appraisal of the quality of his or her life (Diener & Diener, 1995). According to (Pavot & Diener, 1993), people's happiness judgments are dependent on how they compare self-imposed standards to their perceived living conditions. Life satisfaction is a conscious assessment technique that allows individuals to estimate their range of life satisfaction levels based on a presumptive set of criteria that fulfills the individual's expectations (Pavot & Diener, 1993). According to these definitions, life satisfaction refers to an individual's overall contentment with their life. The importance of life pleasure appears to be particularly high.

Definition Operational

Life satisfaction can be altered by certain actions meant to build on pleasant experiences which have been demonstrated to lessen stress and increase positive life satisfaction among inmates. (Leidenfrost et al., 2016) suggest higher levels of well-being may correlate to increased resilience, decrease emotional anguish, and greater adaption to prison.

In this research, level of life satisfaction among drug abuse inmate in Kajang prison will be identified by used life satisfaction questionnaire. Thus, this information is crucial to developing healthier, more positive correctional settings and reducing reoffending of convicts. The study aims to determine whether there is a relationship between prison climate and the life satisfaction of inmates.

1.7 Summary

The goal of this study was to find out if there is a relationship between the social climate in prison and how happy drug-abusing inmates are with their lives. Due to the fact that drug convicts are one of the concerns and challenges encountered by the Malaysian Prison Department, this study is of great importance to researchers and the Prison Department in particular. Findings derived from the factors analyzed may assist prison rehabilitation personnel in implementing an effective recovery strategy for drug offenders. These results may also be used as a guide for improving the rehabilitation process and ensuring that convicts get an appropriate treatment programme