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Head of Consultant Research Group “Evaluation on the effectiveness of i-play community toy libraries in Malaysia” a project under IIUM Consultancy and Entrepreneurship Bureau (2008-09) in progress (will be completed by April 2009)  
Science Education Based on Tawhidic Paradigm for Preschool and Primary School Children: Module Development - a project under UKM Research Management Centre (Nov 2008- July 2011)  
“Conceptualization of a New Integrated Model of Counseling based on the Quran, the Sunnah and Contemporary Counseling Approaches”- FRGS lead by Dr Seeraj, INSTED
ABSTRACT

STRENGTHENING RESILIENCE IN CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OF LOW-INCOME: MAXIMIZING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH PERMATA ECEC PROGRAM

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PERMATA Early Childhood Education and Care (ECEC) Program in Malaysia was launched on the basis of evidence from research and practice which illustrates that early intervention through high quality program enhances children’s social, emotional, spiritual, physical, and cognitive development. PERMATA is a child-focused, community integrated program with the overall goal of increasing school readiness in young children in low-income families, particularly in deprived areas. Despite its various learning outcomes, ECEC main underpinning goal is to produce generations of youth who are able to manage and regulate emotions, possess high EQ skill, and are resilient in facing different challenges in life. Its long-term effect can be better understood as children develop into responsible citizens who will take a much more positive role in the society and are free of social ills that now seem to beset the country. This paper presents some strategies of best practices that have been applied in this program to foster and instill resilience in children mainly; increasing caring relationship, developing social competence, encouraging self-help skills, creating partnership with family and community, and awareness of the existence and supremacy of God.