KULLIYYAH OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY

CSCI 2304 – Intelligent Systems

Semester 2 2020/2021

Group Name: Adventurers

Project Title: The Psychological Impact of COVID-19 Among IIUM Students

Section: 1

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1.0 Introduction

Covid-19 is an infectious disease caused by a newly discovered coronavirus. It is reported that this disease sparked in Wuhan, a city of China that began at the end of 2019. Covid-19 can easily be transmitted through droplets when an infected person cough, sneezes, or even exhales. A person can easily get infected by touching a contaminated surface, it gets even worse if the person then touches his/her eyes, nose, or mouth. World Health Organization (WHO) has declared this situation as a pandemic and ordered the whole world to implement a lockdown.

On 18th March 2020, Malaysia has established the Movement Control Order (MCO) for all states. This is done for the safety purpose of the citizens from getting infected by this dangerous disease. Our country has recorded more than 300,000 active cases since the pandemic, and more than a thousand people died from this disease. Regarding the lockdown, the authorities have set rules to freeze all physical activities such as meetings, physical classes, etc. Other than that, the learning environment also changed to online learning which could bring new experience to students. The benefit of it can be such as testing and improving latest communication technology, ease of access, and save time to go to classes. On the other hand, availability of devices in a household must be taken into consideration. Not only that, online learning could also bring a new lifestyle for students, which they can just learn by a click of button rather than hundreds or thousands of steps to classes. This can bring a lot of changes to the student's psychological impact on how they adopt to the new situation.

2.0 Problem Statement

The psychological impact of students in IIUM is a main concern in this research, to ensure students lead a healthy life. However, due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the students are not able to engage in their normal physical activities such as going to classes or eating at cafes as most of the students are requested to continue with their studies online and stay at home.

The sudden change in the mode of teaching and learning due to the lockdown, and isolation have increased anxiety level and created extreme stress to the students. Other than that, depression amongst IIUM students not only affect their academic performance but also associated in the increase in suicidal attempts. The researcher has observed many mental health issues impacted on some students as their mental health is slowly deteriorating during the lockdown. Therefore, this research investigates the psychological impact among students in IIUM and argues that a bad mental health amongst IIUM students is due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

3.0 Objectives

- ✓ To collect data about the IIUM students experience during this pandemic period.
- ✓ To know whether in 2021, the IIUM student's mental health is more critical than in 2020 or vice versa.
- ✓ To predict the likeliness of mental health disorders forming amongst IIUM students should the Movement Control Order (MCO) is prolonged.
- ✓ To analyze data on how the long duration of the pandemic will affect the mental health of IIUM students.

4.0 Proposed Methodology / Technique

The proposed methodology adopts a simple quantitative research to explore the experience of the respondents from IIUM. The survey approach was used in the research. The main source of data includes an online survey questionnaire directed to students of IIUM. The online survey questionnaire to be used to collect data from the respondents is through Google Form.