

THE CONTRIBUTION OF WOMEN CONTRACTORSS IN THE
CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

LIM WOE SOON

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ABSTRACT

Since 1970, Malaysia women's participation in the labour market has increased sharply. Nevertheless, the number of registered women professional in construction industry is still low, not to mention the women's involvement as contractor. This research was conducted to study the contribution of women contractors in the construction industry. The objectives of this study are to identify the demographic background of women contractors in the construction industry, to investigate factors that constraint the upward mobility of women contractors in the construction industry and to determine the factors that motivate women in the construction industry as contractor. Questionnaires have been used as an instrument of data collection and 291 contractor's firms in Johor which are registered under CIDB Malaysia have been selected as respondents in this research. The data were analysed by using Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 17.0 and Microsoft Excel 2007. In general, finding shows that the contribution of women contractors in construction industry is still at the medium level. It was also found that long working hour and competitiveness of the construction industry cause significant impact on upward mobility women contractors in construction industry. Furthermore, the research finding also shows that there are several factors that can motivate women's participation in the construction industry as a contractor; there are "family support", "flexible working hour" and "training". Nevertheless, appropriate steps should be taken to provide spiritual support and cooperation from all aspect; society, government and family in order to attract and retain more talented women in construction industry.

ABSTRAK

Sejak tahun 1970, penglibatan wanita dalam pasaran buruh telah meningkat dengan pantas. Namun begitu, penglibatan profesional dalam bidang pembinaan masih kurang diceburi oleh golongan wanita seperti mana juga kontraktor wanita. Oleh sebab itu, kajian ini telah dijalankan untuk mengenalpasti tahap penglibatan kontraktor wanita dalam industri pembinaan. Objektif bagi kajian ini adalah untuk mengenalpasti demografi latar belakang kontraktor wanita dalam industri pembinaan, menyiasat faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi penglibatan kontraktor wanita dalam industri pembinaan, dan mengenalpasti faktor-faktor yang boleh menarik perhatian kontraktor wanita untuk menceburi industri pembinaan. Kaedah yang digunakan untuk mendapatkan data ialah menerusi pengedaran borang soal selidik. Sebanyak 291 syarikat kontraktor yang terdiri daripada gred yang berbeza serta berdaftar dibawah CIDB Malaysia telah dipilih sebagai responden bagi kajian ini. Data yang terkumpul diproses menggunakan perisian SPSS versi 17.0 dan perisian Microsoft Excel 2007. Secara keseluruhan, hasil kajian menunjukkan bahawa penglibatan kontraktor wanita dalam industry pembinaan masih tergolong dalam peringkat sederhana. Selain itu, hasil kajian juga turut membuktikan bahawa terdapat beberapa faktor yang menghalang penglibatan mereka iaitu masa kerja yang panjang dan persaingan yang tinggi dalam industry pembinaan. Hasil kajian juga menunjukkan bahawa terdapat beberapa faktor yang boleh meningkatkan penglibatan kontraktor wanita di dalam

industri pembinaan iaitu sokongan daripada keluarga, masa kerja yang fleksibel dan memberikan latihan kursus. Oleh itu, langkah-langkah yang sewajarnya perlu diambil untuk memberi sokongan kepada mereka. Selain itu juga, kerjasama daripada semua pihak termasuk masyarakat, kerajaan dan keluarga