SOCIAL SEGREGATION OF GATED AND GUARDED COMMUNITIES

(A CASE STUDY IN PJS 9, SUBANG JAYA)

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ABSTRACT

Housing possesses many aspects to itself. Housing planning and provision to general public affects the well being of the individuals, the neighbourliness of the communities and the overall socio-economic development of a country. Therefore it is of utmost importance to study and analyse various approaches and concepts practiced to provide housing to the general public. Development of gated and guarded communities is known to be the latest popular trend in the Malaysian housing sector and these communities are being increasingly criticized for housing the affluent and the “snobbish” sectors of the population. A number of researchers and academicians have discussed the roles of gated communities in creating social segregation by erecting walls, fences and gates to keep out the urban improper and to create social status. This study aims to find the extent of social segregation between a selected gated and guarded community and the adjacent non-gated communities adopting a social interaction model where the level of social interactions between the residents of the gated and guarded community and its adjacent non-gated communities are measured. The study showed that out of the 64 respondents of the survey, only 18.2% (12 respondents) interact with the residents in the adjacent non-gated communities and this result shows that there is only very low level of social interaction and this is an indication showing that the studied gated and guarded community is socially segregated from its adjacent non-gated communities. Also it is identified that the perception of the respondents for their segregation which are that they have no friends or family members in the adjacent non-gated communities and they have no particular reason or activity which require them to interact with the residents in adjacent non-gated communities.
ABSTRAK