

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

Isu perumahan merangkumi pelbagai aspek yang boleh didalami. Atur cara perancangan serta kemudahan perumahan bagi orang ramai mampu meninggalkan kesan, khususnya, kepada kesejahteraan individu serta semangat kejiranan sesebuah komuniti dan secara amnya, kepada pembangunan sosial and ekonomi sesebuah negara. Oleh itu, kajian serta analisa terperinci haruslah dijalankan bagi mendekati cara serta mengenal pasti konsep yang boleh diperkenalkan dalam isu perumahan kepada orang awam. Pengenal konsep *gated communities* atau komuniti berpagar kini menjadi trend yang semakin popular. Rata-rata pemilik rumah di Malaysia senang dengan konsep ini, tetapi ada pula pihak tertentu yang memandang serong kemudahan tersebut kerana mengaitkannya dengan golongan berada serta elit sahaja. Beberapa pengkaji dan ahli akademik telah membahaskan peranan komuniti berpagar yang menaikan banteng fizikal seperti dinding, pagar serta jeriji bagi tujuan keselamatan dan secara tidak langsungnya mewujudkan status sosial yang mungkin menyumbang kepada perpecahan sosial di kalangan komuniti yang berjiran. Kajian ini bertujuan mengenalpasti sejauh mana pengasingan sosial berlaku di antara sebuah komuniti berpagar serta komuniti tidak berpagar berjiran terpilih dengan menggunakan model interaksi sosial di mana interaksi antara komuniti berpagar dengan komuniti tidak berpagar berjiran tersebut diukur. Kajian yang dijalankan mendapat respon daripada 64 orang responden. Dari jumlah yang dikaji, hanya 18.2% (12 orang responden) menunjukkan berlakunya interaksi dengan komuniti bersebelahan yang tidak berpagar. Keputusan ini menunjukkan yang interaksi sosial amatlah rendah antara kedua-dua komuniti yang bersebelahan dan ini adalah penunjuk bahawa komuniti berpagar amatlah terasing daripada komuniti tidak berpagar yang bersebelahan. Kajian juga menunjukkan bahawa responden tidak mempunyai kenalan atau saudara mara di kawasan komuniti tidak berpagar yang mengharuskan mereka berinteraksi atau melakukan apa-apa aktiviti dengan komuniti tersebut.