

## Developing “Kamicakna” Module Based on Community-Based Social Support for Orphans

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**To Link this Article:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.6007/IJARSS/v12-i10/15595> DOI:10.6007/IJARSS/v12-i10/15595

**Published Date:** 19 October 2022

### Abstract

There are increase number of orphanages in Malaysia either under government or private institution. However, there has been lack of attention on community-based social support given to orphans throughout the years. It is important to recognize the importance roles of nations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to orphans especially who stay at orphanages. Therefore, this study aims to focus on developing the “KAMICAKNA” module according to community-based social support for orphans. The past literatures showed that “KAMICAKNA” module should comprise of (i) family support, (ii) welfare support, (iii) psychological support, (iv) motivation support and (v) NGO support. This module can be useful for government agencies and policymakers to support the Malaysian government’s aims to ensure the well-being of children as the nation builders of the future. Besides, this module will assist to achieve Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10 in reducing inequalities within a country.

**Keywords:** Social Support, Orphans, Orphanages, Pahang.

### Introduction

In Malaysia, it is estimated that 64,000 children stay at child-care institution. About 90% of them have a least one living parents (OrphanCare, 2022). Sadly, there are increase number of orphans expected every year. In year 2021, the government revealed that 4,696 children have been orphaned due to Covid-19 (Thestar, 2021). For that reason, most of the orphans choose to stay with family/relative or at orphanages. Mohammadzadeh et al (2019) found that many orphanages are not registered with regulators which lead to the problem to get the accurate number of orphanages in Malaysia.

To support SDG 10 in reducing inequalities within a country, many organizations take the initiatives to provide essential facilities and continuous support to orphanages. However, some orphanages did not get any supports especially when they did not register with regulators (Azlini et al., 2021). If this issue did not solve, the orphans can expose to negative risks for example suffer poor health, physical underdevelopment, and emotional attachment

disorders (Mohammadzadeh et al., 2019). Sahad et al (2018) also found that mental health disorders case is increasing among orphan adolescents who living in orphanages compared to non-orphans. Therefore, caregivers at orphanages play the important roles to up bring orphans for their normal growth and healthy psychological development (van IJzendoorn et al., 2011). However, Sadho (2015) explained lack of attention given from caregivers which lead to the needs of community involvement.

This community involvement can support the orphan's development by enhancing self-esteem and self-confidence. Le and Impett (2015) revealed that community support can builds the closer concern between outsiders and orphans and create more supportive interpersonal relationships.

Besides, community involvement will be more care about others' well-being include be more highly responsive to their orphan's needs. Therefore, this study aims to focus on developing the "KAMICAKNA" module based on community-based social support for orphans. Community-based social support is based on the support from the community, including (i) family support, (ii) welfare support, (iii) psychological support, (iv) motivation support and (v) NGO support.

There is limited literature on the community-based social support of orphans. Past studies focus on social emotion development (Esa, 2021; Hailegiorgis et al., 2018), social well being (Ahmad, 2021), information technological skills (Madzin, 2020) and quality of education (Ahmad & Jamil, 2021; Mokgatle-Nthabu, 2013). From this study, community involvement can strengthen better life of orphans with the strong community ties. Besides, this study can enhance the knowledge about the social support for orphans in orphanages. This study also consists with social engagement theory that support the needs of social interactions with surrounding (Baumeister & Leary, 1995). Ahmad et al. (2018) revealed that social engagement which starts from family, peers, communities and interconnected organizations can lead to a healthy and well-balanced life.

From this study, a proper guideline which relate to KAMICAKNA module can developed. This guideline needs to monitor the continuous community involvement among orphans especially those who stay at orphanages. Besides, this guideline is important to support Sustainability Development Goals (SDG10) in creating a sustainable world for everyone. Besides, having this KAMICAKNA module as guideline also can improve the effectiveness of the programme organized by regulators and the orphanages management to ensure that the health and well-being of children are protected.

### **Literature Reviews**

There is an increasing need for more vigorous and concerted efforts from public and private sector practitioners and policymakers to expand social protection safety nets for the orphans, which relate to community-based social support (Kalomo et al., 2022). Community-based social support interventions focus on changing physical activity behaviour through building, strengthening, and maintaining social networks that provide supportive relationships for behaviour change. It includes setting up a buddy system or a group to provide support. Besides, many programs need to be established to develop support due to the growing number of orphans in countries (Foster et al., 1996). Therefore, this study has proposed that

KAMICAKNA module comprised of (i) family support, (ii) welfare support, (iii) psychological support, (iv) motivation support and (v) NGO support.

### **Family Support**

The family is central to support of children's growth. The involvement and continuous support from family members as the close people around orphans, especially from parents is important to create trust and develop good personality (Nyathi, 2022). However, the support from family has limitation from the orphan's perspective who live in orphanages since some of them being left by parents, loss of parents, and family disintegration (Asif, 2017). Tanga (2013) added that some families shift the responsibilities to take care orphans to the governments and NGOs. Therefore, heir need to play the responsibility towards orphans to influence them to persevere (Balijon & Abulon, 2022). Md-Yunus (2017) found that orphans who stay with relatives particularly grandparents experiencing many negatives impact. However, the impact can be reduced if they keep stayed in their homes with relatives.

### **Motivation Support**

The frequent motivation given to the individual will create regular interactions and feel a sense of belonging (Leary & Baumeister, 2000). Garba and Yakubu (2022) revealed the need of two type of motivation either intrinsic or extrinsic dimension. These motivations are created from personal, historical, and institutional influences which create possibilities of successful and positive aging (Dehkordi et al., 2021). This need is necessary to form and maintain at least a minimum quantity of interpersonal relationships, which is innately prepared (and hence nearly universal) among human beings. In this regard, people are naturally driven toward establishing and sustaining belongingness. Thus, the need to belong may explain the motivation for social interaction in learning through the mechanisms of affiliation to form social bonds and maintain those relationships. The need to belong stimulates goal-directed activities designed to satisfy it. To satisfy that need, people show a tendency to seek out interpersonal contacts and cultivate possible relationships and continue doing so until they have reached a minimum level of social contact and relatedness.

### **Welfare Support**

The orphans need the care and defence of the community to enable them to live comfortably and perfectly, the same as children who have a family or guardian. In Malaysia, the majority of homes for orphans mainly provide social services on a voluntary basis and do not generate profits (Sofian et al., 2013). Therefore, it is trying to give a good and comfortable life by giving protection to the poor orphans and the less fortunate. However, there could be poor orphanage management due to a lack of assistance from the government, NGOs and other assistance from individuals. Besides, Osman et al (2015) found that service delivery performances of government agencies dealing with the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups were categorised under satisfactory level. The overall service performances were still inadequate mainly because the vulnerable and disadvantaged groups had not received services as the latter had been earlier promised, and the services did not achieve the groups' expectations. Besides, Frimpong-Manso (2021) revealed that limited funding received by orphanages able to influence social emotional progress of orphans.

### Psychological Support

Children who live in orphanages, unfortunately, suffer from malnutrition and environmental deprivation of varying degrees (Shukla & Shukla, 2011). Orphans with this deficiency are at risk of suffering from severe anaemia and developmental delays. They do not receive proper physical and emotional care because they are unaccompanied, displaced, and lack family support. If this phenomenon is continued unchecked, it will highly affect the country's development (Shukla & Shukla, 2011). Ouedraogo et al (2022) found that the orphans either at orphanages or not, they have experiencing psychological distress. This result also supported by Akimanimpaye (2021) who revealed the orphans are capable of processing emotions due to their loss. Andersen et al (2020) explained that the quality of care they receive from the centre's caregivers can help children to regain their dignity and psychological well-being.

### Ngo Support

NGOs are non-governmental organisations whose primary mission is to carry out development projects for underserved populations such as the poor, disabled, elderly, and oppressed. Bennell (2021) explained that there are many initiatives taken by government, NGO and company to assist the orphans by organizing nationwide programs till village/community level. Until September 2021, there are currently 82,675 NGOs registered in Malaysia (Thestar, 2021). NGOs have the responsibility to demonstrate a greater commitment to community development activities. A monitoring and evaluation mechanism for NGOs is required to ensure that community development programs and services reach the area's most vulnerable residents (Abiddin et al., 2022). Interpersonal relationship between orphans and NGOs is still present to support orphans and supply various necessities, including providing food banks, medical expenses for abandoned children, counselling campaigns, support for temporary foster caregivers, facilitating adoption and other noble missions.

### Research Framework

Figure 1 showed the research framework for this study. The KamiCakna module consist of five indicators which are (i) family support, (ii) welfare support, (iii) psychological support, (iv) motivation support and (v) NGO support.

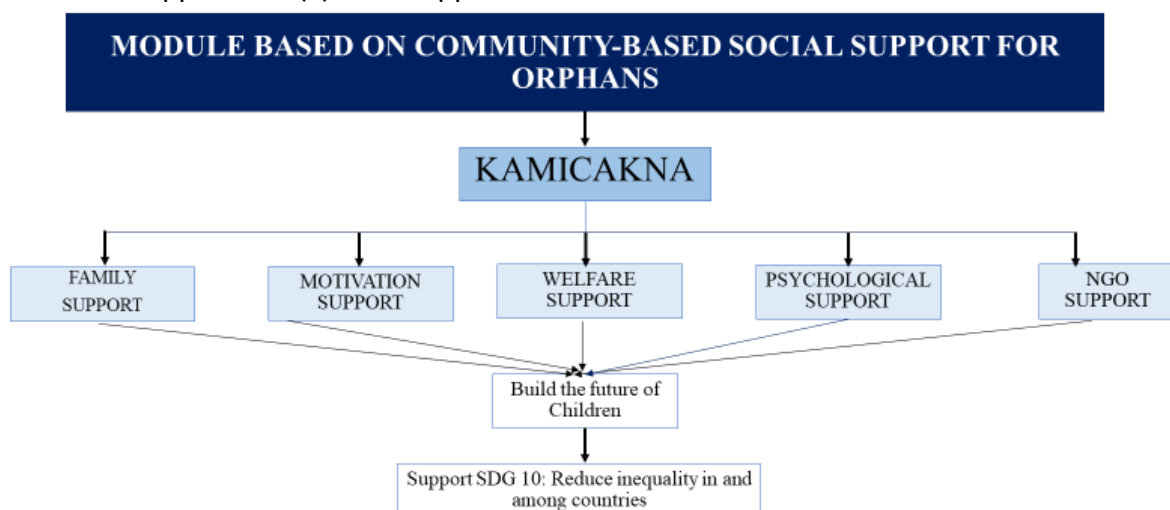


Figure 1: Kamicakna framework

**Conclusion**

The objective of this study is to develop the “KAMICAKNA” module based on community-based social support for orphans. Based on past literatures, “KAMICAKNA” module can consists of community-based social support including (i) family support, (ii) welfare support, (iii) psychological support, (iv) motivation support and (v) NGO support. All these supports are important for regulators in designing appropriate activities and programs to cater to orphans needs in immediate and long-term response. Besides, this module should able to prioritize the orphan’s rights and wellbeing, by diminishing multiple layers of discrimination towards them. In addition, the orphanages can enhance community-based social support at their orphanage indirectly encourage the orphans have better environment for their development. This module also supports SDG 10 in reducing inequalities within and among countries by ensuring no one is left behind include orphans.

**Acknowledgement**

The authors would like to thank the Yayasan Canselor UNITEN (YCU) grant (Project No. 202210046YCU) provided by YCU.

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