

# **The Influence of Educational Environment and Leisure Activities on Youth Welfare in Indonesia and Malaysia**

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## **ABSTRACT**

This study aims to determine the effect of the educational environment and leisure activities on the welfare of Indonesian youth. The educational environment in this study refers to the social environment such as family, peers, and the community. Leisure activities are related to educational, sporting, and recreational activities, diversity, community, and economy. Meanwhile, welfare is focused on education, health, family life, social relations, and economic relations. The population of this study was Indonesian youths represented by students from Indonesian colleges. The research sample was 1224 students from higher education institutions in Indonesia in the western, central, and eastern regions of Indonesia. The questionnaire was examined to be adopted and adapted from the instrument developed by the UKM team, and modified according to the research objectives. Based on the results of the validity analysis conducted by the UKM team, it is known that the scale of the educational environment ( $\chi^2 = 135.030$ ,  $\chi^2/df = 1.337$ ,  $p = 0.000$ , CFI = 0.969, TLI = 0.944 and RMSEA = 0.012), leisure activities ( $\chi^2 = 158,696$ ,  $\chi^2 / df = 0.772$ ,  $p = 0.000$ , CFI = 0.983, TLI = 0.968 and RMSEA = 0.075) and welfare ( $\chi^2 = 1208.01$ ,  $\chi^2 / df = 4.99$ ,  $p = 0.000$ , CFI = 0.942, TLI = 0.934 and RMSEA = 0.058.) has reliable validity. The collected data were analyzed using MANOVA and structured equation modeling (SEM). Although in general, the results of the analysis show that there are no significant differences in the conditions of the education environment, leisure activities, and welfare, this study found that there are significant differences in dimensions such as participation in community activities and entrepreneurship between Indonesian and Malaysian youth. Besides, the results of the study indicate that there is a significant effect of the educational environment and leisure activities on the welfare of Indonesian youth. Based on these results, we suggest the importance of involving the family environment to increase leisure time activities so that they can have a positive impact on the development of Indonesian youth.

*Kata Kunci: educational environment, free time activities, students.*