# Introduction

According to the Cambridge Dictionary, the word “gangster” is a noun which is defined as a member of an organized group of violent criminals. Gangsterism can be defined as a violent phenomenon involved by a group of people whose main reason for existence is to commit criminal acts and violent acts (MacMaster, 2010). The example of the criminal or illegal acts are vandalism, taking drugs, robbery, kidnapping, murder, fight and so on. Gangsterism or gangland activities in Malaysia has been reported frequently. Education Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said that the number of bullying cases in school were 0.06 percent, 0.07 percent and 0.02 percent in 2015, 2016 and first half of 2017 respectively and he said that those cases are relatively small in number and under control (Fernando Fong, 2017). Gangsterism in school has caused a lot of problems to students as well as to the discipline of the school. This may causes the image of the school to drops and the students are difficult to focus during teaching and learning process in school. There are several gangs in Malaysia, among of them the top 10 biggest gangs on Malaysia’s watchlist are Gang 04, Gang 08, Double 7, Tiga Line, Gang 24, Gang 18, Gang 36, Ang Soon Thong, Wah Kee and Sio Sam Ong (The Straits Times, 2014). According to child rights activist James Nayagam, lonely and timid students from the lower-performing classes are usually the target for the gangs to ask them joining by offering them protection and to belong to that particular gangs in order to be protected, they needs to pay for the membership costs as low as RM30(Sheith Khidhir Bin Abu Bakar, 2017). This is due to these kind of students are from poor performing classes and teachers are not paying too much attention to them as in high performance classes.

# Causes

There are several main causes of this issue to happen. One of the main factor is psychological factor for instance negative emotional responses. There are two types of emotion which are positive emotion and negative emotion. Emotional conditions occur when human beings face with different situation or problems for example dispositions, interpersonal relations or interactions with other problems(Tangney, Stuewig, & Mashek, 2007). Negative emotional responses such as angry, pain, tired sad and frustrated are mostly expressed by gangsters especially aggression. Aggression can be defined as the actions that is intended to harm another person (Baron and Richardson, 1994). Frustration is an vital cause of the negative emotion that can lead to aggression. The occur of frustration is when we are not manage to achieve our goals that we have set for ourselves (Rajiv Jhangiani & Hammond Tarry, 2014). How they vent their anger is to commit in gangsterism which may allow them to have aggressive behaviour. Most of the ex-gangsters who were interviewed agree that poor anger management lead to unwanted outcomes such as bullying that may cause others to commit suicide, rob, fight and so on but some of them regret after the incident happened (Durairaja, S., Mat Saat, G. A., & Kamaluddin, M. R., 2019).

Besides, students spend most of their time in school than home. Thus, school will probably be the causes of gangland activities to be happened. The role of the school has become the significant causes of gangsterism in school. Most of the study that did their survey on the school related factors for juvenile delinquency and also gang membership, one of them concluded that the level of student’s academic achievement is a strong predictor for gang membership (James C. Howell, 2010). Low intelligent of them will seek for impulsiveness to risk taking and commit in crime or gangs. This is due to some risk factors such as less attachment to school, less education aspiration and so on (Dr. Sheikh Arshid Ahmad, 2020). Teachers are not paying so much attention to them hence they can do want ever they want although it is illegal as well as aggressive behaviour. This is because no one in the school is telling and correct their mistake immediately. According to the research done by Benburg, Krohn, and Rivera in 2006, they suggest that poor school climates, poor academic quality and large ratio of students to teachers are the large percentage of the factors that affect students to join gangs in school.

# Resolution

To curb this gangsterism in school, the main role is played by parents. Parents must educate their children since they are small to ensure they have a positive and good behaviour, knows to differentiate what are the good or legal and bad or illegal action. So how do parents take action to solve this problems? First of all, parents must list out some of the examples on how joining a gangs can ruin their future for instance lead to criminal records, prison and so on. But most importantly, they must pay more attention to their children by recognizing the sign that their children is involved in a gangs or not, if yes, parents should take action immediately as prevention is better than cure (Matt Friedrichs, 1999). As parent guided their children well and in the correct manner such as being responsible may help a lot in solving this problems. Hence, the number of gangs that happen especially in school can be lowered.

Other than that, the role of school is also consider to be the method to curd gangsterism especially in school as school is said to be second home to students. Researchers suggest that the secondary school must enforce a rule for students to take part in minimum one co-curriculum activity which is a compulsory (Alagappar, P., Len, C.w., George, M., Lee, A.S.H., and Wong, M.S.H.). This approach may help to prevent students from joining gangs in school because they have not much time to spend in the negative behaviour. Most of their time is spend in practicing activities in school which are conducted by teachers. Additionally, school can help students in learning to interact positively with their peers as well as teachers (Veera, S.S., Jamilah, O., and Ismi, A.I.). They will increase their communication skill and healthy relationship skills which are useful for them in their future. This is because they will learn how to say “No” to gangsterism and negative peers that persuade them to take part in crime and other illegal activities.

Furthermore, government, non-profit government organization as well as school also play important characters for the resolution of this matter. The Crime Prevention Foundation vice chairman Tan Sri Lee Lam Thye said that schools should be involved in combating crimes by having activities that are closely related to crime prevention awareness(Peter Soo, 2012). The Ministry of Education (MOE) of our country, Malaysia has collaborated with the Crime Prevention Foundation by taking initiative to set up nearly 6000 Crime Prevention Clubs in primary and secondary school in Malaysia. Lee said that among the activities that the club would organize are visiting the police stations and prisons. This may helps the students to gain their knowledge about what are the punishments could be given when they are commit in crimes. Education Minister Datuk Seri Mahdzir Khalid said that the MOE has also collaborate with the District Education office in schools, improving School Liaison Officer program and increase the number of police cadets in school (Fernando Fong, 2017).

# Reflection

My reflection on doing this case study regarding the gangland activities that happen in school regularly is that students are easily affected by their friends or others which will lead them to commit in negative activities. When they commit in illegal activities especially in gangsterism, their future will be detrimental and their position in community will be dropped, people may look down on them. Students that commit in these may be due to many factors such as they seek for protection, they lack of money, they want to attract others attention and so on. Since these are not being so serious, every roles for instance parents, school, government and others must take actions immediately before it is going more serious. Parents are the most important role to be played. They must instil good attitude, moral value, let their children know about gangsterism and so on since they are small so that they can differentiate between good and bad when they grow up. Parents may accompany their children to take part in activities, talks, campaigns which are regarding to build their personality. When all the cases such as crimes, gangsterism, vandalism, drugs taking and other illegal activities are decreased, people in the country can live in the safe and harmony environment, Malaysia’s tourism will increase as tourists from all around the world will feel safe when visiting Malaysia. Indirectly, our country’s economy will increase as well because tourists will spend their money in our country as they visit Malaysia, Malaysia’s culture which is very unique will be well-known in the world and become attraction to people from other country to visit our country.

# Reflection

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