A Comparative Study of Cognitive Abilities Among Public and Private Preschool in the State of Selangor, Malaysia

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Abstract:

Preschool industry is another booming business that has been given high focus from Malaysian government. The purpose of this study is to identify the differences of level of cognitive abilities between public and private preschool and also how the environmental factor which is socioeconomic status affect the level of cognitive abilities between these two types of preschool. This study will involve 200 preschoolers from 10 districts in the state of Selangor from different socioeconomic background. The 6 year old children are chosen as the respondents by using simple stratified sampling. McCharly Scales of Children Abilities (MSCA) instrument is used to assess the level of cognitive abilities by looking at four different scales-Verbal, Perceptual-performance, Quantitative and General Cognitive Index. Pearson correlation test will be used to find any significant relationship and T-test is to determine whether any significant differences between research variables. 2-way ANOVA analysis is ran to find out which preschool shows better cognitive performance. This study is expected to benefit people from different level such as policy makers, preschool providers, teachers, parents, future researchers and anyone who interested about preschool industry in Malaysia.

Keywords: COGNITIVE ABILITIES; PRIVATE PRESCHOOL; PUBLIC PRESCHOOL; SOCIOECONOMIC FACTORS

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