

A Study on the Life Adjustment of Students Who Graduated from Malaysia National Secondary School to Universities in Taiwan

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The purpose of this study is to explore the life adjustment of students who graduated from Malaysia National Secondary School to Universities in Taiwan. A Qualitative Research Method was conducted to six students who graduated from Malaysia National Secondary School by using in-depth interview, to understand the difficulties that the study subjects encountered throughout their academic career based on their narratives. The study adopted personal experiences of the researcher and the interview outline as research instrument. The research results are concluded as below:

1. Motive to study in Taiwan and early life adjustment

The motives of study subjects to take further studies in Taiwan mainly related to the lower tuition fees and scholarship system offered in Taiwan. The main difficulties experienced in their early life adjustment were the difference of food culture, seasonal climate change, and the feeling of loneliness to study alone in Taiwan.

2. Experiences in school

There is a gap between the expectations of study subjects with the actual environment that they experienced in campus, especially the difference in use of language during the lessons, which affected the ability of learning. This depressed the study subjects as it is indirectly become a hindering factor for them to interact with classmates. Additionally, the environmental quality of school dormitories is also a factor that will affect the ability of learning. Consequently, most of the study subjects would like to live in off-campus accommodation which is more freely and convenient.

3. Life adjustment

The study subjects mainly develop and expand their social network through the participation in societies and communities. They are relying on the income earned from part-time jobs, and the scholarships offered to resolve their financial pressures.

The developments in technology enable them to keep in touch with their family conveniently through computer, cell phone, and etc., which help to alleviate their homesickness.

4. Grow and change

The study subjects are motivated with the cares that they obtained from their family and beliefs. Moreover, they have learnt to be a perpetually positive, optimistic, independent, outgoing, and enthusiastic person when dealing with difficulties during their study in Taiwan, and thereafter grow and change from experiences.

Keywords : Graduate from Malaysia National Secondary School, Life adjustment