The relationship between self-skills and efforts among traditional fishermen in Kuala Perlis, Malaysia

Sharifah Sofiah 'Atiqah Syed Ibrahim[1], Hamidi Ismail[2*], Tuan Pah Rokiah Syed Hussain[3]

[1,2,3]*College of Law, Government and International Studies, University Utara Malaysia, Kedah, Malaysia.*

*Corresponding author: Hamidi Ismail (Email: hamidi@uum.edu.my)

ABSTRACT

Purpose: This study aims to analyze the relationship between aspects of personal life-skills values and the efforts of traditional fishing families in Kuala Perlis in dealing with poverty.

Design/Methodology/Approach: The sample consisted of 333 owners of households of traditional fishermen in Kuala Perlis, Malaysia. A Pearson correlation test was used to achieve the research objectives.

Findings: The findings indicated that the fishermen's efforts were good in dealing with poverty. However, the local fishermen of Kuala Perlis still live in poverty.

Conclusion: According to the study, fishermen's poverty was probably caused by the need for continual improvement in various life skills. This would help them deal with poverty more effectively.

Research Implications: The implication of this study was that traditional fishermen should improve their life skills in order to reduce the poverty they experience. This was proven by Pearson's correlation analysis which showed a positive relationship between the constructs.

Practical Implications: Traditional fishermen need to strengthen themselves with knowledge related to the value of personal skills in order to deal with family poverty.

Contribution to Literature: In the context of literature, this research contributes to the study of poverty among traditional fishermen especially in the aspect of self-skills.

Keywords: *Fisher efforts, Fishermen community, Fishing families, Kuala Perlis, Life-skill, Poverty, Self-skills, Traditional fishermen.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Traditional fishing families experience poverty worldwide. There are several reasons for poverty such as unsatisfactory catches, low income, marketing challenges, intermediaries troubles and unpredictable weather.Malaysia has been implementing policies to eradicate poverty since 1971. The Long-Term Planning Framework (LTPF) first introduced the New Economic Policy (NEP) from 1971 to 1990 which was later replaced by the National Integration Policy (NIP) from 1991–2000. The NIP was then replaced by the National Blue Ocean Strategy (NBOS) in 2001. NBOS uses the Key Performance Index (KPI) for six core National Key Results Areas (NKRA) (Malaysia, 2018). KPI 4 in the core NKRA aims to improve the living standards of low-income people.

The government's role in the policy of eradicating poverty in Malaysia is not a new approach. The initiative began with the LTPF and continued until the formation of the NBOS. Recently, the government has continued to design and implement national-level programmes aimed at reducing poverty. According to the Fisheries Development Authority of Malaysia (FDAM, 2021), many programs have been organized and provided to fishermen throughout Malaysia including those in Kuala Perlis. The fishermen have frequently received support from FDAM in the form of money, advice and related physical facilities to overcome poverty. Kuala Perlis' traditional fishing families continue to live in poverty today. Therefore, this study argues that better efforts may be made to overcome poverty in the present and the future if low-income fishing families have high or positive self-skills. According to studies, successful fishermen have strong human capital characteristics (Darwis & Zulkarnain, 2020).

The problem raised in this study is the ambiguous connection between the importance of the self-skills possessed by the traditional Kuala Perlis fishing families and their initiatives to overcome poverty. Previous studies on factors

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contributing to poverty among fishermen were carried out by Ali-Mohamed (2016) while studies regarding fishermen being the main protein supplier were done by Beveridge et al. (2013) and Tidwell and Allan (2001). In addition, studies regarding the government's policy on the eradication of poverty were done by Hasanuddin, Noor, and Santosa (2013) while Wekke and Cahaya (2015) did a study on fishermen's poverty alleviation programs. Studies to measure poverty were done by Amir Zal, Abdul Rahman, Tengku Anuar, Salleh, and Md Rasdi (2020) while studies on efforts to address poverty among fishermen's families were done by Yusri and Ramli (2016). None of the studies have focused on the relationship between the value of self-skills possessed by traditional fishermen's families (particularly those in Kuala Perlis in the case of the present study) and their efforts to tackle poverty. Thus, this study intends to fill the knowledge gap by analyzing the relationship between aspects of self-skills and efforts among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis to deal with poverty.

2. MATERIAL AND METHOD

The life skill theory is one of the branches of the marginalization theory. However, the former theory focuses more on the value of skills that exist in a person and were obtained from formal education, working experience and mutual interaction in society. This theory proposes that there are several types of life skills that exist in society and all of them are important to make humans' lives more comfortable. The mental health division published a model about life skills (WHO, 1994). The concept was developed into a theory in 1998 which states that everyone possesses the motivation to work hard and survive despite having limited skills (WHO, 1999). This theory can be used by a community to increase the value of self-skills by applying ten constructs.

The theory proposes 10 constructs or criteria (see Figure 1) for assessing a person's personal skills [X_1 to X_{10}]. This theory formed the theoretical framework for this study. The aspect of self-skills value among the poor fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis consists of an independent variable (X) while their efforts in dealing with family poverty are the dependent variable (Y). The X variable consists of 10 interrelated constructs that form the overall self-skill value from the life-skills theory (WHO, 1999). The constructs are problem-solving [X_1], decision-making [X_2], self-resilience [X_3], creative thinking [X_4], self-awareness [X_5], critical thinking [X_6], empathy [X_7], effective communication [X_8], self-confidence [X_9] and stability of thought [X_{10}]. The World Health Organisation (WHO) clarifies the conceptual meaning of the value of self-skills [variable X] in relation to the theory stating that it should be based on positive values in life to solve personal problems, make the best decisions for oneself, be self-resilient, have an appropriate level of self-creativity, self-awareness, a critical mind, self-empathy, effective communication, self-confidence and ensure the stability of thought.

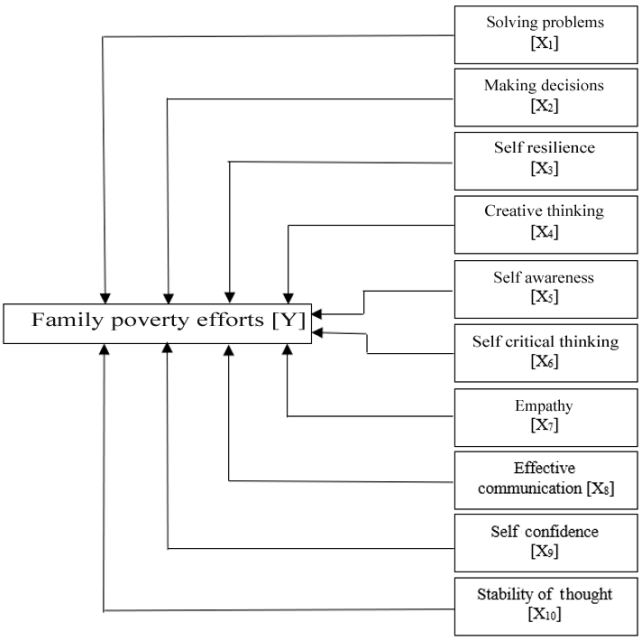

Figure 1. Conceptual framework.

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Table 1. Sample size in both settlements in Kuala Perlis.

Settlement*	Fishing village*	Total family*	Sample %	Sample size
Settlement Seberang Ramai	Kg. Tandiap	170	7.01	n=23
	Kg. Pulau Ketam	132	5.44	n=18
	Kg. Hujung Tanjung	165	6.81	n=23
	Kg. Baru	200	8.25	n=27
	Kg. Seberang Alor	184	7.59	n=25
	Kg. Seberang Jaya	210	8.66	n=30
	Kg. Tengah	270	11.14	n=37
	Kg. Wai	105	4.33	n=14
	Subtotal:	1,436	59.23	n=197
Settlement Tepi Sungai Kuala Perlis	Kg. Bukit Tok Po	134	5.53	n=18
	Kg. Tanah Baru	210	8.66	n=30
	Kg. Seberang Tok Pi	101	4.17	n=14
	Kg. Bahagia	198	8.17	n=27
	Kg. Belakang Kilang	167	6.90	n=23
	Kg. Perak	78	3.22	n=11
	Kg. Kuala	25	1.03	n=3
	Kg. Nelayan	75	3.09	n=10
	Subtotal:	988	40.77	n=136
Total:	16	2,424	100.00	N=333

Note: N= Total sample size; n= subsample size
Example of how to calculate sample size:
1. To get the percentage of the sample size, the number of HoF (Head of Family) of each village is divided by the total number of families (i.e.: 2,424) and multiplied by 100 (to get the percentage). Example: 170/2,424 x 100 = 7.01%
2. To get the sample size, the percentage value for each village is divided by 100 (i.e percent) and multiplied by the total sample size or N (i.e. 333).Contoh: 7.01/100 x 333 = 23 sampel.
Source: Fishermen Association of Kuala Perlis Area (2021)*.

The total number of traditional fishermen's families in the two main settlements is 2,424. Table 1 shows the process of calculating and summarizing the sample size distribution used by the researchers in each fishing village involved. The sample size for the study was 333 owners of households in the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis. Krejcie and Morgan (1970) and Sekaran (2003) used estimations from a sample calculation table to get the overall sample size (N). The sample size was calculated based on a percentage random sampling method (proportionate random sampling). The sample size was based on a target of confidence and accuracy of sampling data as high as 95% and a maximum sampling error of 5% (5% margin of error).

The questionnaire was based on the scope of the operational definition of 10 aspects (i.e. the value construct of life skills) proposed by WHO (1999). The questionnaire consisted of twelve parts: Part A: demography, part B (variable Y: efforts to deal with family poverty) and part C to L (variable X: each self-skill value or independent subvariable X_1 to X_{10}). The Pearson correlation statistical test was used to analyze the relationship between aspects of self-skills and efforts among traditional fishermen's families to deal with poverty in Kuala Perlis. This test was to determine the significance of each construct's level of correlation. If the *p* value is less than 0.05 ($p \leq 0.05$), the researcher needs to reject the null hypothesis (H_0) and fails to reject the alternative hypothesis (H_1 or H_a). Each hypothesis for each measurement was constructed (i.e., as many as ten self-skill) while the overall hypothesis (H_{11}) was the measurement construct of all the ten values of self-skills.

3. RESULTS

The findings indicate a significant relationship between aspects of problem-solving and efforts to deal with poverty among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis. This Pearson correlation statistical test recorded r value of 0.471** (sig. <0.001; p≤0.01). Therefore, the researchers rejected H_0 or failed to reject H_1 (see Figure 2). The fishermen's attempts to overcome poverty were greatly impacted by the characteristics of problem solving because the value of p is not greater than 0.01, whereas, the relationship is positive (r=0.471**).

H_1: There is a significant relationship between the value of solving problems among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

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The Pearson correlation statistical test also found a significant relationship between the aspect of decision-making and efforts to address poverty among the fishermen (r= 0.448**; sig.<0.001; *p*≤0.01). Therefore, H_0 is rejected but the researcher failed to reject or accept H_2. Thus, the value of decision-making significantly influences the fishermen's efforts to deal with poverty as the value of *p* is at a level of no more than 0.01. The result of r=0.448** indicates that there is a direct association and the value of r=44.8%.

H_2: There is a significant relationship between the value of decision-making among the fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

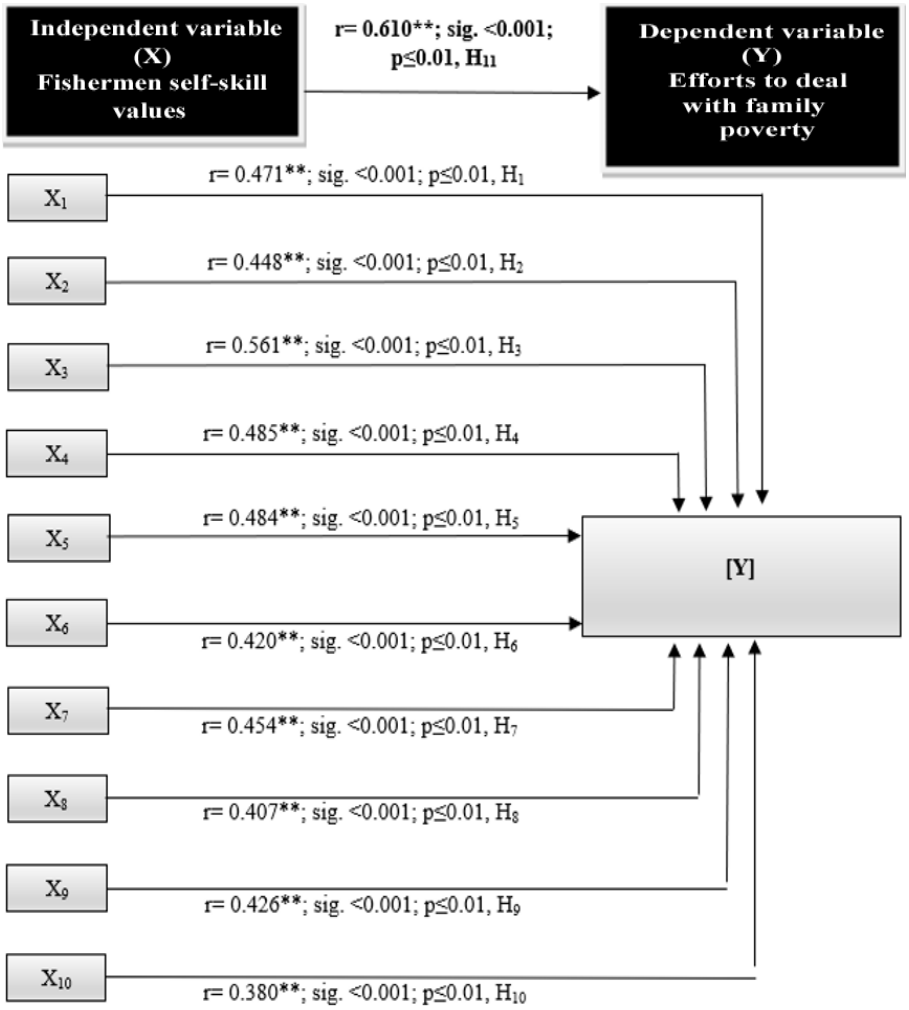

Figure 2. The influence of self-skill values on fishermen's families' efforts.

Note: **Correlation is significant at the level of 0.01.

Researchers showed a strong relationship between self-resilience traits and efforts to address poverty among traditional Kuala Perlis fishing households. The Pearson correlation statistical test is used in this case and its results are as follows: r= 0.561**, sig. <0.001 and p≤0.01. In other words, the researcher rejects H_0 but fails to reject or accept H_3. Therefore, the aspects of self-resilience significantly influence the fishermen's families' efforts to deal with poverty because the value of p is not higher than 0.01. The value of r=0.561** indicates that there is a direct relationship (r=56.1%). It can be implied that the higher the value of self-resilience, the better the efforts among Kuala Perlis traditional fishermen's families to deal with poverty.

H_3: There is a significant relationship between the value of self-resilience among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

A significant relationship was found (r= 0.485**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01) with regard to aspects of creative thinking and efforts among the Kuala Perlis traditional fishermen. In other words, the researcher rejects H_0 but fails to

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reject or accept H_4. The relationship is significant because the value of p is at a level of no more than 0.01. There is a positive relationship (r=0.485**).

H_4: There is a significant relationship between the value of creative thinking among traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

A substantial relationship between the importance of self-awareness and initiatives to combat poverty among the families of fishermen was discovered (r = 0.484**, sig. <0.001; p≤0.01). Therefore, the researchers rejected H_0 but failed to reject or accept H_5. The value of self-awareness also affects or determines the efforts to deal with poverty among traditional fishing families due to the significant value of p at a level of no more than 0.01. The significant positive relationship is shown at a value of r=0.484** with the strength of the relationship around r=48.4%). This positively proportional relationship explains that the higher the value of self-awareness, the better the efforts of Kuala Perlis traditional fishermen's families to deal with poverty.

H_5: There is a significant relationship between the value of self-awareness among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with family poverty.

A significant relationship was found (r= 0.420**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01) with regard to the expectations of critical thinking and efforts to deal with poverty among the fishermen's families. Therefore, the researchers rejected H_0 but failed to reject or accept H_6. The aspects of critical thinking were found to significantly affect the families' efforts to deal with poverty because the value of p is at a level of no more than 0.01. The relationship occurs directly (the value of r=0.420** with the strength of the relationship around r=42.0%). Since the relationship is positive, the researchers denoted that the higher the value of critical thinking, the better the efforts of the families in dealing with poverty.

H_6: There is a significant relationship between the value of critical thinking among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

A significant relationship was found (r= 0.454**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01) with regard to aspects of empathy and efforts to deal with poverty among the fishermen's families. Therefore, the researchers rejected H_0 but failed to reject or accept H_7. Aspects of empathy and efforts to deal with poverty among Kuala Perlis traditional fishing families are significant at the p≤0.01 level. This relationship is direct (the value of r=0.454**, with the strength of the relationship around r=45.4%). It is also possible to infer that traditional fishing families in Kuala Perlis are working harder to overcome poverty as their empathy levels rise due to this positive correlation.

H_7: There is a significant relationship between the value of empathy among the traditional fishing families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

A significant relationship was found (r= 0.407**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01) with regard to the aspects of effective communication and efforts to deal with poverty among the fishermen's families. Therefore, the researcher rejected H_0 but failed to reject or accept H_8. The value of effective communication significantly influenced the families' efforts to deal with poverty. In fact, the relationship is direct (the value of r=0.407** and the strength of the relationship is r=40.7%).

H_8: There is a significant relationship between the value of effective communication among the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

A significant relationship was found (r= 0.426**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01) with regard to aspects of self-confidence and efforts to deal with poverty among the fishermen's families. Therefore, the researcher rejects H_0 but fails to reject or accept H_9. The value of self-confidence significantly affects their efforts to deal with poverty. This relationship is direct (the value of r=0.426** and the strength of the relationship is r=42.6%).

H_9: There is a significant relationship between the self-confidence of the traditional fishermen's families in Kuala Perlis and their efforts to deal with poverty.

A significant relationship was found (r= 0.380**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01) with regard to the aspects of stability of thought and efforts to deal with poverty among the fishermen's families. Therefore, the researcher rejects H_0 but fails to reject or accept H_{10}. The relationship that occurs is also directly proportional (the value of r=0.380** and the strength of the relationship is r=38.0%).

H_{10}: There is a significant relationship between the value of stability of thought among traditional fishermen's families and efforts to deal with poverty in Kuala Perlis.

To summarize the discussion for each self-skill value construct, in a general hypothesis discussion which is H_{11}, the study found that variable X, which is the value of self-skills, affects variable Y which is the efforts to deal with poverty among traditional fishing families in Kuala Perlis. The relationship is significant based on the value of r=

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0.610**; sig. <0.001; p≤0.01. In other words, the researcher rejected H_0 but failed to reject or accepts H_{11}. The relationship as a whole is significantly positive at p≤0.01 level which is the value of r= 0.610** and sig. <0.001. The analysis has accepted H_{11} which means that all ten constructs of self-skills significantly influence efforts among traditional fishing families to overcome poverty.

H_{11}: There is a significant relationship between the value of self-skills among traditional fishermen's families and efforts to deal with poverty in Kuala Perlis.

4. DISCUSSION

The aspects of problem solving significantly affect the fishermen's families' efforts to deal with poverty. The higher the value of problem solving, the better the efforts among the fishermen's families to deal with poverty. Finding personal solutions is a crucial ability because without it a person may experience emotional disturbances that make it difficult for them to succeed in any activity (Paterson, Yeung, & Thornton, 2016). Each person's approach to problem resolution is different because it depends on the nature and context of the problem. Accordingly, creativity requires the basic skills of strategizing to find solutions to a certain matter (Booth-Butterfield, Wanzer, Weil, & Krezmien, 2014; Sweller, 2009).

The importance of decision-making has a substantial impact on efforts to eradicate poverty among traditional fishermen's families. The researcher denoted that the higher the decision-making value, the better the efforts among the fishermen's families in dealing with poverty. However, the psychological approach to decision-making is built on three fundamental aspects: decisions based on will, continuous and integrated processes and logic (Frost, Parsons, & Nanín, 2007). Decision making should also be based on the level of mastery of knowledge (Salthouse, 2010). A person who reaches the age of 60 usually has a high degree of accumulated knowledge due to his or her experience. A positive relationship was proven to exist between knowledge and wisdom in making decisions. Those who are knowledgeable would have the ability to memorize and apply their cognitive thinking (Dougherty, Franco-Watkins, & Thomas, 2008; Schwikert & Curran, 2014). However, cognitive knowledge declines with age but decision-making skills improve (Li, Baldassi, Johnson, & Weber, 2013).

Self-resilience was found to significantly influence the fishermen's families' efforts to deal with poverty with the strength of the relationship around 56.1%. Since the relationship is positively proportional, it can be implied that the higher the value of self-resilience, the better the efforts among the fishermen's families to deal with poverty. In fact, individuals typically possess the necessary abilities to flourish with little assistance from authorities to maintain self-resilience (Klein et al., 2010). A person usually uses certain strategies to achieve expectations even believing that self-sufficiency can make them more resistant to challenges (Zimmerman, 2002). The researchers argue that a high value of self-resilience makes it possible for the fishermen to get out of their challenging problems (Richardson, 2002). In fact, a person with a powerful spirit may easily overcome negative attributes such as being weak minded, lacking self-confidence and easily becoming frustrated when faced with difficulties in life (Zautra, Hall, & Murray, 2010). This viewpoint is consistent with that of Britner and Pajares (2006) who believe that self-sufficiency is an outcome of motivation, feelings, and positive self-behavior. Furthermore, creative thinking was also found to significantly affect the fishermen's families' efforts to deal with poverty among Kuala Perlis traditional fishing families. The study implied that the stronger the value of creative thinking, the better the efforts among the families to overcome poverty because of a positive relationship. The concept of self-creativity is still difficult to translate or test since humans live in various situations, cultures, religions or ideologies (Cadle, 2015). Creative thinking involves four aspects: the availability of a mind-based process, the manufacture of a product, human involvement and a place or premise for creativity to occur (Kozbelt, Beghetto, & Runco, 2010). Research related to creativity requires more innovative thinking based on current human needs. Creativity is a skill that every individual needs to apply in their daily lives. Thus, creativity is an important self-skill (Baer, 2011; Hennessey & Amabile, 2010). A person must either go through a formal education process that progress through time or develop creativity through practical experience. However, only a small number of creative ideas have been developed due to the inefficiency of formal learning methods (Cross, 2006). A person's innovation must be valued by the country or specific parties. Some people may not be able to resolve their own personal problems if they are unable to apply creativity in their daily lives or are limited to using only their pre-existing ideas (Kaufman & Beghetto, 2013).

If we look at the value of self-awareness, it also affects or determines the efforts of the fishermen's families in dealing with poverty. It was a positively proportional relationship which explains that the higher the value of self-

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awareness, the better the efforts of the families to deal with poverty. However, a person's level of self-awareness is correlated with his or her cognitive ability. Psychologists such as Albert Bandura have discussed self-cognitive ability in the context of social cognitive theory. This theory emphasizes the importance of the human cognitive process because it can shape human thought until it decides on the degree of self-awareness that ultimately manifests behaviour (Tsakiris & Haggard, 2005). Community education will develop intellectual intelligence, which will then mold internal emotions. In fact, acquiring knowledge is the first step in the development of self-awareness and behavior (Claassen, 2011; Wyart & Tallon-Baudry, 2009) because knowledge would raise the fishermen's awareness to make improvements, the incidence of poverty experienced by the fishermen is valuable. However, when experience is accompanied by enough knowledge and the will to change oneself for the better, a good level of awareness will develop.

Aspects of critical thinking were found to significantly affect the families' efforts to deal with poverty. Since the relationship is positive, the researchers implied that the higher the value of critical thinking, the better the efforts among the fishermen's families to deal with poverty. Families need to think critically to eradicate poverty because critical thinking is a product of a variety of experiences, realizations, social interactions and self-belief in one's faith and culture (Dewey, 1910). Critical thinking involves a rational process with the consideration of facts for the benefit of oneself and the community. Thus, the advantage of the traditional fishermen's families in this study is that they have experienced poverty are aware of the problem and have realized that they need to change their situation. The fishermen should work to develop stronger willpower since it will enable them to think critically from different perspectives.

On the other hand, aspects of empathy and efforts to deal with poverty among the fishermen's families are significant (r=45.4%). It can be implied that the higher the value of empathy, the better the efforts of traditional fishermen's families to deal with poverty. The concept of empathy refers to deep inner feelings that need to be shared with others (Titchener, 2014). Empathy is a sensation derived from past experiences (Gallese, 2003). Self-empathy is a feeling that is deeper than self-sympathy. Usually, self-empathy will make a person more resilient, stronger and positive and can foster interdependence, love and mutual care among members of society. Therefore, the traditional fishing families need to understand the importance of empathy because they can still live and work in a cultured society depend on friends and neighbours who work in the same field to achieve a higher value of empathy and create a feeling of mutual help and respect.

Furthermore, the value of effective communication has significantly influenced efforts to deal with poverty among traditional fishing families. Since the relationship is positive, the interpretation that can be made is that the better the value of effective communication, the better the efforts of traditional fishermen to deal with poverty. Effective communication between the authorities, coworkers and family members is essential to eradicate poverty. Effective communication refers to one-way, two-way or multi-party communication with a low level of interference (or noise) that occurs either within the fisherman or from his environment (Sigelman, 2012; Trenholm & Jensen, 2013). Family communication is important and the process must be infused with trust. A close relationship between family members is also important because it will determine the success of family communication (Turner & West, 2013). Therefore, it is better to use a distinctive dialect and appropriate timing when talking in the community to ensure that none of the participants experience stress (Crain, 1985).

The importance of self-confidence has a major impact on traditional fishing families' attempts to overcome poverty. This relationship is positive with the strength of the relationship around r=42.6%. The higher the value of self-confidence, the better the efforts among Kuala Perlis traditional fishermen's families to deal with poverty. Self-confidence is a state in which a person becomes more confident due to the influence of their living environment during the process of adulthood. In this regard, Kohlberg's theory of moral development in 1976 explained that maturity determines a person's confidence which usually goes through three stages of development: preconventional, conventional and post-conventional (Crain, 1985). According to Kohlberg's theory of moral development, moral development is based on external factors during the preconventional stage. Children need to uphold positive values in order to avoid punishment and receive rewards at the same time.

The conventional stage is as early as 13 to 14 years old. At this stage, they would expect to get more praise and rewards as a result of good deeds as their self-confidence starts to develop. They will begin to establish relationships with each other. Once they believe or become convinced themselves that the existing actions are good and enjoyable, the existing way of life is maintained even believing that the law that is being practiced is compatible with their life. The post-conventional stage takes place when a person begins to commit to certain

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principles. In short, self-confidence is necessary among traditional fishermen's families and should be developed with the correct method in accordance with local religion and culture.

Stability of thought was also found to significantly influence efforts to deal with poverty among traditional fishing families. The relationship is also directly proportional (or a positive relationship with the strength is around r=38.0%). The higher the value of stability of thought, the better the efforts among Kuala Perlis traditional fishermen's families to deal with poverty. The value of stability of thought refers to the ability to understand something read, heard or seen even a person's sensitivity is related to mental stability because mental stability requires various scopes that consist of aspects of knowledge, focus, memory, evaluation, cause-and-effect relationships, problem solving and decision making (Carlson, Mandell, & Williams, 2004; Sternberg & Sternberg, 2009). In a religious context, all religions place the stability of thought as an obligation for a better life (Dunne, 2011). Stability of thought will exist if a person is in a state of tranquility. Mental stability requires language and communication skills, a healthy state of mind, a normal physique and structural or schematic thinking (Desbordes et al., 2015). Thus, it is necessary to have the perquisites in order to create a mentally stable traditional fishermen's community to effectively deal with poverty.

The researchers found that variable X which is the value of self-skills affects variable Y with regard to the overall results of self-skill value and efforts to deal with poverty. In other words, the relationship as a whole is significantly positive ($p \leq 0.01$ level, $r = 0.610^{**}$) and the analysis has failed to reject H_{11} regarding the efforts to deal with poverty among the traditional fishing families in Kuala Perlis. This means that all ten constructs of self-skills significantly influence the fishermen's families' efforts to escape poverty. It is the responsibility of all parties involved including the fishermen's families themselves to take steps to improve the value of self-skills in order to boost their efforts to eradicate poverty. These findings are consistent with the research of Nivedita and Budh (2016) who found that the value of self-skills determines the success of poverty eradication.

The value of each skill significantly influences the efforts of the fishermen's families to eradicate poverty. This relationship is also in line with the theory of marginalism and with the views of Oscar Lewis in his work "Culture of Poverty in 1966" (Vaisey, 2010). A person's self-worth is important for the fishermen's families to get out of poverty. Low self-worth will make them remain poor. Thus, high self-worth among the traditional fishermen's families will emerge once they have overcome poverty and improvement in all ten life self-skill constructions is essential to this development.

5. CONCLUSION

The discussion above indicates that the efforts to deal with poverty among the traditional fishing families in Kuala Perlis are good. All constructs X are positively correlated with construct Y. However, poverty among the traditional fishermen today in Kuala Perlis persists. According to the researchers, fishermen's poor living conditions are probably caused by a lack of progress in their life skills. This view is proposed based on the analysis using the Pearson correlation statistical test which shows a positive correlation between each of the life self-skill constructs and efforts by the traditional fishermen's families. The researchers propose that for the upcoming study, poverty among fisherman in Kuala Perlis might be further investigated from various perspectives not included in this study.

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INSTITUTIONAL REVIEW BOARD STATEMENT

The Ethical Committee of the Universiti Utara Malaysia, Malaysia has granted approval for this study (Ref. No. UUM/COLGIS/GSGSG/925628).

TRANSPARENCY

The authors state that the manuscript is honest, truthful, and transparent, that no key aspects of the investigation have been omitted, and that any differences from the study as planned have been clarified. This study followed all writing ethics.

COMPETING INTERESTS

The authors declare that they have no competing interests.

ARTICLE HISTORY

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