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Mystified over law's aim

[NAFISAH MOHAMED Suva, Fiji](#)

Dec 30:

WITH reference to Rose Ismail's comment "A Setback for Muslim Women" (NST, Dec 25), I am flabbergasted by the intent and purpose of the Islamic Family Law (Federal Territories) (Amendment) Bill 2005.

I am hard-pressed to explain to foreigners why after spending millions on pre-nuptial courses and exams for Malaysian Muslims, a male Muslim can now break the marriage contract merely by SMSing his wife for a divorce.

Life & Times

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Ever heard of any other contract that can be nullified by SMS? I "laud" the "innovation" (bida) of our religious authorities. And now, this new Islamic Family Law!

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It used to be that a Muslim man had to prove he could provide for and treat his wives equitably before taking on a second, third or fourth wife.

Now it would seem that the Malay man is to be subsidised by his first wife when taking on another wife, with or without her consent.

It is most "flattering" to Malay women that Jakim acknowledges them to have financial clout and to realise the diminished role and responsibility of Malay men as head of the household and primary breadwinner. We Malaysian Muslim women have come that far, it would seem.

Education

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NIE

Malay men should be ashamed of themselves in wanting to be subsidised, not only by the Government but now also by their wives, in providing for them and their subsequent wives and families. And to have control of their property as well.

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Even Saudi Arabia is better on this score. Women in Jeddah own 50 per cent of all property.

Perhaps this is Jakim's acknowledgement that Muslim women, despite inheriting just 1/8 share of family properties, are more savvy in their property management than their men; and since women now comprise 60 per cent of undergraduates, will have better jobs and incomes than their husbands.

NSTP Papers

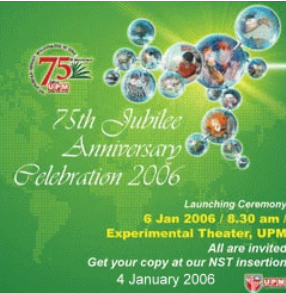
Business Times

Berita Harian

Harian Metro

The Malay Mail

Give Jakim credit for its foresight in realising that in Malay women is a well of prosperity husbands can mine in the name of "gender equality" when they have frittered away their own funds and properties. Thank Jakim for keeping our Malay men happy making other women happy in the name of one big happy family.




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