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Wake-up call for parents on sex education

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KOTA KINABALU: Recent findings where 10 per cent of the 6,025 National Service trainees had admitted to involving in sex is a wake-up call for parents to give proper sex education to their children.

A total of 89.6 per cent of trainees had sexual involvement since in secondary school.

Malaysian Association for Maternal and Neonatal Health president Professor Madya Dr Harlina Halizah Siraj when disclosing this yesterday, said Syariah was the best prescription to prevent this case from becoming even worse in the country.

"Our environment has changed a lot where our kids are open and easily exposed to sexual activities that could lead to adultery and baby dumping.

"We should understand that our children are growing up and it is our responsibility to explain the function of the human body in a proper way. We might need books to give the best explanation to them," she said at the UMS seminar on women's rights at Dewan Resital at the university yesterday.

Harlina was one of three

speakers who spoke at the seminar entitled: 'Baby Dumping and Adultery-Syariah as Prescriptive'.

Harlina said Islam had exposed its followers as early as seven years to understand the basic human body and sexuality.

She said Muslims who learn their prayers must know their body condition before performing the prayers.

Muslims must understand menstruation, sperm and other basic terms to make sure that their prayers are perfect in front of God.

"It is more appropriate if the mother can have a conversation with the daughter while the father will handle their son.

"Parents should know their responsibility to teach and educate their children so that they will not turn to other people who may have a different way of explaining. Our

children are our responsibility, not other people's," she said.

Harlina, who is also the Jamaan Islah Malaysia vice president, said if there was no proper sex education at home, the younger generation would face other challenges such as baby dumping, AIDS, unregistered children and abortion.

From 2000 to 2008, the National Registration Department had recorded 257,000 babies without a father's name.

Harlina said it was urgent for people to be aware of the sexual and social problems in the country by knowing the four factors of the problem.

She said the main factors were the individual who was making the decision, the family as guardian, chances and space in the environment and the influence from friends.



Harlina