

Study: Troubled teens having sex

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KUALA LUMPUR: A study of troubled teenage schoolgirls has found almost all of them have had sex.

All but one of the 887 schoolgirls in a Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM) study revealed that they have had sex, said Dr Khaidzir Ismail, a specialist in children and youth psychology.

"It was sad and shocking to find that all, except one, of the respondents admitted to having experi-

enced sex," he said.

"This is a painful finding but it is a reality that we must accept."

Khaidzir had conducted a three-month study, which ended in December, to profile "high-risk female youth".

The study took 20 students with disciplinary problems from different schools around an unnamed state as its respondents.

"It also found that the problems

committed by these students were due to external pressures, such as coming from broken homes," Khaidzir said.

The study also revealed that most of the respondents, from Form One to Form Five, took drugs, were involved in pornography, secret societies, vandalism and truancy.

Most of these high-risk female students were poor in their academic achievements, communication skills,

and had low self-esteem and self-control as well as problem-solving capabilities, he said at his office in Bangi near here yesterday.

The study is understood to be a state government initiative to handle the deterioration of moral values among female youth in the state.

The state government aims to formulate a special training module to improve moral values among young women. — Bernama



Khaidzir Ismail