



Dutch viewer saying he never suspected Malaysian schools would also have the worst elements of the West.

# Dangerous desire

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## Obsessive love a recipe for disaster, says expert

By REENA RAJ

THE stabbing of a Subang Jaya student by her classmate on Monday was a classic example of obsessive love, says an expert.

She had spurned his love, said crime analyst Kamal Affendi Hashim, and "if he couldn't have her, he was not going to let someone else have her".

Kamal said obsessive love is obsession, rather than love, and it makes the person insecure, possessive and even aggressive.

"Such behaviour is quite common. When one is obsessed with something or someone, that person will never ever be able to handle rejection. That person will derive satisfaction in destroying the very thing or person he is obsessed with."

On Monday morning, the 17-year-old girl from SMK Subang Jaya was

stabbed in the face, neck and abdomen with a sharp object, believed to be an ice pick, by her former boyfriend.

It is believed that he had become enraged after she broke off their relationship a month ago and thereafter rebuffed his attempts to get together with her again.

The girl is recovering in hospital.

Kamal said the culprit cannot be classified as insane as he knew exactly what he was doing.

"An insane person does not know the consequences of his actions. In this case, the suspect knew his weapon could kill or cause grievous hurt," he added.

A member of the Mental Health Foundation Board, consultant forensic psychiatrist Dr Benjamin Chan, said a juvenile in search of an identity would do anything to make a name

for himself.

"They will want to be arrested because they think that makes them a hero," said Dr Chan. "Violent behaviour is something carried forward from their past.

"Some of them would be on psychotic drugs like ketamine because that helps shed some inhibitions, causing them to become angry and violent."

For male juveniles, Dr Chan added, winning the affection or attention of girls is like adding feathers to their cap. And as such, they would react aggressively to rejection.

"TV shows are really bad. Some young minds are unable to tell right from wrong. They see 'heroes' killing the bad guys as well and they perceive themselves as such, without actually being able to differentiate between reality and fantasy," added Dr Chan.



KAMAL AFFENDI: It's an obsession



WEE: Education Ministry will investigate

## Parents must share blame, says professor

THE Malaysian education system is crumbling. One of the reasons, said Prof Emeritus Tan Sri Dr Khoo Kay Kim, was the shift away from the stricter British education system to the more open American system. Schools have become obsessed with academic excellence at the expense of instilling moral and cultural values. And because of that, sex and violence have reached alarming proportions in Malaysian schools.

"The American schooling culture is being idolised. I suppose that has much to do with television, which carries mostly American movies and pro-

grammes," said Khoo, commenting on a recent case where a Form Five student was stabbed by a classmate because she spurned his love.

He also warned that a straight As student was not necessarily a good role model as "there have been several cases of top students being violent".

Academic excellence was not always a reflection of the student's character as well.

Khoo also blamed the attitude of parents for the increase in violence. He said it was not uncommon these days for parents to take the side of

their children in disciplinary cases and this has resulted in a total lack of respect for authority. In some cases, he pointed out, the aggression had been even against teachers.

Meanwhile, Deputy Education Minister I Datuk Wee Ka Siong said the ministry was looking into the matter. While the police would investigate the criminal element of the case, the ministry would look into the disciplinary aspects.

Describing it as a rare incident, Wee said the ministry would decide only after receiving reports from the school and police.



KHOO: American schooling culture idolised