

## DRUG-ABUSE INMATES *MAQASID* SHARIAH QUALITY OF LIFE: A CONCEPTUAL PAPER

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### Abstract

**Purpose of the study:** The primary aim of this study is to explore the feasibility of *Maqasid* Shariah Quality of Life (MSQoL) in the drug-abuse inmates' research. MSQoL is a recent theory formulated in terms of quality of life. Therefore, MSQoL proceeds to examine the association of family social support and prison climate rehabilitation on quality of life among drug-abuse inmates.

**Methodology:** This study conceptually focused on a comprehensive analysis of MSQoL, family social support, and prison climate rehabilitation among drug abuse inmates.

**Main Finding:** Researchers propose a model of MSQoL from dimensions of religion and life. Also, this research aims to link both dimensions to family social support and prison climate rehabilitation.

**Applications of this study:** This study will make practical contributions to the Malaysian Prison Department on aspects related to improving drug-abuse inmates' quality of life on designing appropriate policies and strategies.

**Novelty/Originality of this study:** The current research provides a theoretical framework for prospective researchers engaged in prison studies. Since the quality of life has become the government's priorities under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (2021-2025), the promotion of a new model is essential for a better quality of life of Malaysians.

**Keywords:** *Maqasid Shariah, Quality of Life, Social Support, Prison Climate, Drug Abuse, Inmates.*

### INTRODUCTION

Quality of life was defined differently by different authors based on their views and background ([Abrefa-Gyan et al., 2016](#); [Karim et al., 2019](#); [Mohamad, Karim, et al., 2017](#); [Muller, 2020](#); [Power, 2020](#)). Characterized as the values, experiences, happiness, living conditions, accomplishments, usability, and spirituality of cultural contexts ([Fumincelli et al., 2017](#)); happily within the environment ([Kane, 2001](#)); well-being, happiness, ethics, and fulfillment ([Frank, 1980](#)); and a beneficial consequence in life ([Abrefa-Gyan et al., 2016](#)). World Health Organization (WHO) stated that quality of life as the persons' perception of their position in life within the scope of their culture and value systems as well as their aims, aspirations, values, and concerns which include physical, psychological, and social well-being as the smallest element ([Post, 2014](#)).

Meanwhile, [Mohamad, Karim, et al. \(2017\)](#) defined quality of life as goodness in life and achievement in living as a Muslim. There is no mutually agreed concept of quality of life. Previous studies exposed that quality of life components play a crucial role in supporting effective prevention, treatment approaches, and policies for inmates' recovery ([Ayobami Obadiora, 2018](#); [Laudet, 2011](#); [Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016](#); [Preedy & Watson, 2010](#)). The assessment of drug abuse inmates quality of life is essential as a mechanism to accommodate their needs ([Mohamad et al., 2015](#)). Improper methods will only provide unreliable, insufficient, and ineffective treatment approaches to heal drug abuse inmates ([Mohamad et al., 2015](#)). A current study narrowed down the concept by applying *Maqasid* Shariah Quality of Life (MSQoL) as mentioned in the Holy Quran, which is the primary source of guidance to all Muslims ([Mohamad & Ali, 2016](#); [Mohamad et al., 2015](#); [Mohamad, Omar, et al., 2016b](#)).

It is eminent that the quality of life of inmates is lower than the general public. Improved quality of life is associated with happiness. The government's priority under the 12<sup>th</sup> Malaysia Plan (2021-2025) is to share a prosperity initiative encompassing one of three dimensions, namely social re-engineering, which comprises improving the well-being of all Malaysians ([Ministry of Economic Affairs, 2019](#)) also a better quality of life among drug abuse inmates. An appropriate prison climate and social support will engage inmates with positive impacts of quality of life ([Mohamad, Karim, et al., 2017](#); [Wallace et al., 2016](#)) can be applied by *Maqasid* Shariah Quality of Life (MSQoL) approach ([Karim et al., 2019](#); [Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016](#); [Mohamad, Awang, et al., 2017](#); [Mohamad et al., 2018](#); [Mohamad, Omar, et al., 2016a](#)).

Drug abuse has been present in human society for a long time; however, the specific time of human misuse drugs has not been fully proven ([Nurdeng & Nurfatin Afza, 2018](#)). The scenario becomes open-ended questions regarding the issue and appearing chronic diseases. Drug abuse leads to health deterioration negative social consequences, the poor quality of life ([Karim et al., 2019](#); [Mohamad, Karim, et al., 2017](#)); psychological problems; related with psychiatric disorders, infectious diseases, and pain conditions ([Zibbell et al., 2015](#)); and, exhibiting Anti-Social Personality Disorder (ASPD) ([Smith et al.,](#)

2017). A study by [Brazão et al., \(2019\)](#) found that ASPD is the most common diagnosis among inmates. They also might tend to experience stress and suicidal idealization ([Jahn et al., 2015](#)). Previous research by [Glenn et al., \(2013\)](#) has shown that ASPD ranges between 1% to 3% in the general population, but it is a significantly higher prevalence in the prison population which reported 35% to 47% ([Fazel & Baillargeon, 2011](#)).

[United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime \(2019\)](#) stated that approximately 275 million individuals worldwide between the age of 15 to 64 years old had abused drugs, 31 million experienced Substance Use Disorder (SUDs), and 22,923 individuals in Malaysia exploited new substances. Malaysia Annual Drug Report 2017 reported that methamphetamines were listed as the top misused drugs 55.2% with Malay being the largest group of 81%, and dominated by adult males ([National Anti-Drug Agency \(NADA\), 2018](#)). In reality, drug abuse remains a significant challenge for the Malaysian government despite the punitive sanctions against those caught ([Mohamad, Awang, et al., 2017](#)). It is not easy to deal with the issue due to the changes involved in the aspects of legal policy and methods for implementation. The government has set up a special task force to promote drug addiction decriminalization by applying the separation of drug addicts and traffickers in prison and rehabilitation centers ([National Anti-Drug Agency \(NADA\), 2018](#)).

Prison inmates in Malaysia comprise of a majority of drug abusers. It is notable that in the prison landscape, more than half of the population convicted with various drug offenses ([Mohamad, Mat Ali, et al., 2017](#)). The number of drug offenders had increased steadily from 2015 to 2018. There were 45.3% of inmates committed to drug offenses in 2015, 49% in 2016, and 53% in 2017 ([Morgan & Morgan, 2018](#)). In 2018, there were 41,292 drug abuse inmates 61.5% from a total of 67,121 inmates ([Jabatan Penjara Malaysia, 2019](#)). The increasing number of drug abuse inmates leads to overcrowding issue ([Omar, 2014](#)), and thus, impacting institutions and creating pressures in treatment quality, basic needs, incidents risk, and inmates rehabilitation ([Morgan & Morgan, 2018](#)).

On the other hand, [Eriksson et al., \(2017\)](#) claimed that in most scenarios, the community wished inmates had constructive turns in prison, and thus, that could help them to contribute to a better country. Therefore a better quality of life of drug abuse inmates is vital as a mechanism to accommodate their needs ([Mohamad et al., 2015](#)). Thus, improving quality of life among drug-abuse inmates is essential which connected with social support from family ([Armiya'u et al., 2019](#); [Fazillah et al., 2018](#); [Mohamad, 2018](#); [Mohamad, Karim, et al., 2017](#)) and prison climate rehabilitation ([Ali et al., 2016](#); [Auty & Liebling, 2019](#); [Ross et al., 2008](#); [Sauter et al., 2019](#)).

## LITERATURE REVIEW

### *Underpinning Theory*

In this regard, as mentioned previously, many applied researchers explaining the quality of life in many fields with various definitions, interpretations, and controversies. Thus, the researchers focused on *Maqasid* Shariah Quality of Life (MSQoL) ([Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016](#); [Mohamad, Awang, et al., 2017](#)) as the underpinning theory of this study. MSQoL based on human needs consists of five elements: religion, life, mind, lineage, and property ([Mohamad & Ali, 2016](#); [Saat et al., 2019](#)).

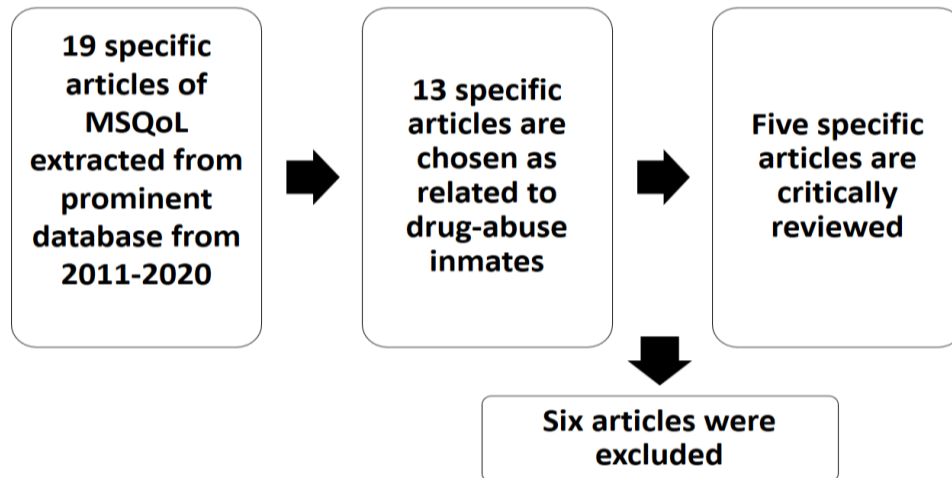
The first principle is to protect religion, as humans need to put their religious interests first in their daily life. Second, preservation of life by preservation of the soul and assumes that life is a trust from the Almighty. Third, protect the mind by protecting it from things that will damage the mind, nurtured with positive values, and useful knowledge. The fourth protects the lineage in the social system of society by not doing the negative things that harm the offspring. Fifth, it protects the property from destruction, and the property is lawful ([Saat et al., 2019](#)).

### *Methodology to establish a research framework*

As presented in table 1, the MSQoL study based on noteworthy databases related to the quality of life. The researchers searched on such as SAGE, Springer, Taylor & Francis, and other related resources.

Studies based on the importance of this field are chosen, which focused on MSQoL and drug abuse inmates. The full analysis involves authors, years of research, sampling, items, research techniques, variables, and findings. The relevant studies focused on 2011-2020 since MSQoL gained dissemination in the quality of life research. The researchers shortlisted 19 documents related to MSQoL.

Nevertheless, there are only 11 articles linked to drug-abuse inmates while the other six articles been excluded due to similarities among those documents, and the materials are not accessible. As shown in Table 1, the researchers narrowed to review five specific documents that relevant.



**Figure 1:** Flow chart for paper selection

**Table 1:** List of studies on *Maqasid* Shariah Quality of Life (MSQoL)

Author	<a href="#">(Mohamad et al., 2015)</a>	<a href="#">(Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016)</a>	<a href="#">(Nor Azman et al., 2017)</a>	<a href="#">(Karim et al., 2019)</a>	<a href="#">(Mohamad et al., 2019)</a>
Sample	196 drug abusers	248 drug-abuse inmates	1,753 drug-abuse inmates	451 drug-abuse inmates	465 drug-abuse inmates
Sampling method	Not mentioned	simple random-sampling	simple random-sampling	simple random-sampling	Not mentioned
Original item	158 items	51 items	80 items	27 items	29 items
Final item	66 items of; 6 Religion; 7 Life; 7 Mind; 4 Lineage; 5 Property	51 items; 11 Religion; 9 Life; 10 Mind; 12 Lineage; 9 Property	80 items; group together called General Quality of Life Index (GQLI)	27 items of; 3 Religion; 7 Life; 5 Mind; 7 Lineage; 5 Property	29 items of; 6 Religion; 7 Life; 7 Mind; 4 Lineage; 5 Property
scale	ten-point Likert-scale	ten-point Likert-scale	ten-point Likert-scale	ten-point Likert-scale	ten-point Likert-scale
Scale coded	1 - strongly disagree to 10 - strongly agree	1 - strongly disagree to 10 - strongly agree	1 - strongly disagree to 10 - strongly agree	1 - strongly disagree to 10 - strongly agree	1 - strongly disagree to 10 - strongly agree
Statistical method	Covariance-based SEM (CB-SEM); Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA); Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA);	Covariance-based SEM (CB-SEM); Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA);	Factor Analysis (FA); Multiple Linear Regression (MLR);	Covariance-based SEM (CB-SEM); Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA); Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA);	Covariance-based SEM (CB-SEM); Partial Least Square-SEM (PLS-SEM)
Sub-constructs	14 sub-constructs; 3 Religion; 3 Life; 2 Mind; 3 Lineage; 3 Property	14 sub-constructs; 3 Religion; 3 Life; 2 Mind; 3 Lineage; 3 Property	Group together	Group together	Group together
Variables	Quality of life	Quality of life	Social support; quality of life	Mental health as a mediator; social support; quality of life	Quality of life
Results	Proposed MSQoL	Validated MSQoL	FA listed five	mental health	CB-SEM is more

Author	(Mohamad et al., 2015)	(Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016)	(Nor Azman et al., 2017)	(Karim et al., 2019)	(Mohamad et al., 2019)
	model	model	major index categories; the resulting low quality of life index	partially mediated social support and QoL	suitable for MSQoL measurement model validation and confirmation.

#### *Application of statistical methods discussion*

Based on preliminary studies, all research findings use the quantitative method from 2011-2020. Due to the results of Table 1, the study uses mostly CB-SEM and only one study that compares CB-SEM with the Partial Least Square - SEM (PLS-SEM) method. CB-SEM and PLS-SEM are recognized in specific by structural equation modeling. However, these methods differentiated by the conceptualization of the measurement model and the study purpose. Most researches seem to use the established theory of hypothesis (Dalila et al., 2020). Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) is used by researchers to verify the measurement model and evaluate the causal impact of each construct involved in the study. Researchers also considered Post-Hoc assessments to investigate the effect of the proposed model of drug-abuse inmates' quality of life.

Many of the past studies evaluated MSQoL using the Exploratory Factor Analysis (EFA) to identify and summarise the data by grouping the correlated variables and the Confirmatory Factor Analysis (CFA) to test the proposed hypothesis (Awang, 2015). EFA has significant deficiencies and a composite value of loading factor that does not uniquely yield results and does not have a global fit of fitness (Aimran et al., 2017). Therefore, it is critical to define the adequacy of the proposed model with the data. EFA may develop a model's correlation between variables, although it might be inconsistent with the model of the hierarchical component. Besides, reliability and validity cannot be applied smoothly compared with CFA (Mohamad et al., 2019). Thus, the researchers concluded to use the CFA approach for this study (Mohamad et al., 2019).

#### *Sampling methods and measurement discussion*

Most studies utilized some form of random selection by a probability sampling method based on simple random sampling for data collection, which focuses on the quality of life of drug-abuse inmates. Participants were required to answer all questions concerning their quality of life experience. The study indicates that the sample size is between 196 and 1,753 respondents through a direct questionnaire. Most research findings utilized Krejcie and Morgan's formula to measure the minimum sample size (Chua, 2006) rather than other latest methods that make sample sizes more efficient while using the empirical hybrid method.

This study also used a probability sampling method based on a simple random sample. This sampling occurs where the target population is homogeneous in terms of study interest (Awang, 2012a). The sampling frame for the current study is a list of all cases in the population from which the sample is drawn (Saunders et al. 2011). A sample comes from a list of names detailed by the Malaysian Prison Department consist of drug-abuse inmates in 15 drug-cases prisons in Peninsular Malaysia. A sample must meet the requirement of Malaysian, convicted, charged under drug cases, adult, and competent of reading and writing in Bahasa Melayu as the questionnaire is self-administered. A sample also needs to be Muslim as MSQoL instrument referring to the Quran and Hadith (Kurniawan & Dewi, 2018; Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016; Mohamad et al., 2015).

#### *Measurement discussion*

Based on table 1, the total items of the MSQoL instrument are between 27 to 80 items. The large number of items related to last six years (Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016; Mohamad et al., 2015; Nor Azman et al., 2017) and in previous year research used a small number of items (Karim et al., 2019; Mohamad et al., 2019). Current researchers considered the small number of items as suits with the purpose of current research.

MSQoL is a new concept that consists of five dimensions and 14 sub-constructs (Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016; Mohamad et al., 2015). Studies found that Islam, Iman, and Ihsan is a sub-construct of religion dimension. Meanwhile basic needs, recreation and sport, and safety of oneself and family for life dimension. For attitude and character related to mind dimension, while a lineage connected with a friendship, law enforcement, family relationship sub-construct, and management, production, distribution under property dimension (Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016; Mohamad et al., 2015). The current study focused on religion and life dimension of MSQoL as it related to family social support and rehabilitation progress in prison climate. Thus, related items from previous studies are taken for further research; religion and life of MSQoL (Karim et al., 2019; Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016; Mohamad et al., 2015; Mohamad, Awang, et al., 2017), family social support (Alami et al., 2019; Dahlem et al., 1991; Yang et al., 2018; Zimet et al., 1988), and rehabilitation progress in prison climate (Williams et al., 2019). Table 2 below illustrates items that are related.

**Table 2:** Related Questionnaires items

Coded	Item related
<b>Religion</b>	
R1	I read the Holy Quran every day
R2	I perform the five daily obligatory prayers
R3	I perform the optional, voluntary prayers
R4	I fast for a full month during Ramadan
R5	I perform the optional fast
<b>Life</b>	
L1	I participate in recreation programs
L2	I exercise to keep fit
L3	I fill my free time with exercising
L4	I can calm my mind with exercising
L5	I practice the Sunnah dietary habits as a form of medicinal treatment
L6	I practice the readings of the verses from the Holy Quran for health
L7	I practice the readings of the verses from the Holy Quran for safety
<b>Prison Climate Rehabilitation</b>	
P1	I want to change
P2	Treatment programs do not work
P3	Inmates here maintain a sense of purpose
<b>Family Social Support</b>	
S1	My family really tries to help me
S2	I get the emotional help and support I need from my family
S3	I can talk about my problem with my family
S4	My family is willing to help me make decisions

All studies employed a 10-point rating scale of 1, “strongly disagree,” to 10, “strongly agree.” Current research also will use a 10-point rating scale because a sufficient questionnaire range for Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) was to occur within an interval of 1 to 10 ([Awang, 2012b](#)). Rather than all studies mentioned, some previous studies also have used the 10-point SEM rating scale ([Awang et al., 2016](#); [Negash et al., 2008](#)). For the current research, MSQoL measurement was written in Bahasa Melayu since most of the drug-abuse inmates do not entirely understand English. The translation of MSQoL followed guidelines given involves processes of forwarding translation, back-to-back translation, and bilingual professional language ([Jalaludin et al., 2013](#)).

## DEVELOPMENT OF RESEARCH MODEL

MSQoL represents a holistic approach ([Dusuki & Abdullah, 2007](#)) compared to the Malaysian Quality of Life (MQoL) only covered the objective approach which declines to measure subjective feelings related to the quality of life. MSQoL focused on five key dimensions covering life as Allah commands and practical to apply in all aspects of life ([Dusuki & Abdullah, 2007](#); [Mohamad et al., 2015](#)).

Whereas, social support plays an essential role in encouraging inmates to move from prison to the public ([La Vigne et al., 2009](#)). However, inmates often lose their support from their families due to a long history of drug abuse and involvement in crime ([Lichtenstein et al., 2002](#)). Family social support plays a significant role to deal with QoL ([Kim et al., 2017](#)). Social support can be gained from family, friends, and significant others ([Alami et al., 2019](#); [Bugajski et al., 2019](#); [Canty-Mitchell & Zimet, 2000](#)). Social support also proven played important roles for the inmates during incarceration ([Dadi et al., 2019](#); [Richie et al., 2019](#)).

In addition, the prison climate is an underlying terminology, which embraces social, emotional, organizational, and physical characteristics of a rehabilitative institution perceived by inmates and staff ([Ross et al., 2008](#)). In addition [Williams et al., \(2019\)](#) mentioned that prison climate distinctions expressly for therapeutic purposes and those solely for containment which may influence many other areas of prison life, including riots disruptions and general chaos. Therefore, current research narrowed the connecting relationship of family social support, prison climate rehabilitation, and MSQoL for quality of life among drug-abuse inmates.

MSQoL theory ([Mohamad, Ali, et al., 2016](#); [Mohamad et al., 2015](#); [Mohamad, Awang, et al., 2017](#)) used to test the hypotheses of the study. The model achieves a reasonable degree of reliability and validity ([Mohamad et al., 2015](#); [Mohamad, Awang, et al., 2017](#)). MSQoL associated with family social support and prison climate rehabilitation, as shown in



Figure 2. The researchers only concentrated on the two dimensions of MSQoL, religion and life, as it is relevant to the current study. Therefore related hypothesised are:

**H1:** There is a significant effect between prison climate rehabilitation and MSQoL.

**H2:** There is a significant effect between family social support and MSQoL.

**H3:** There is a significant effect between prison climate rehabilitation and family social support.

#### Religion

Religion is a religious life, a part of human nature, regardless of race, gender, and age. A person may feel hollow and lose the dignity of life without a religion (Mohamad & Ali, 2016). In other words, without a strict commitment to religion, humanity could never reach a high degree of society. Hence, religion as guidance is in human nature, and Islam is the religion that can fulfill this natural human need that requires life guidance to save them from destruction (Mohamad & Ali, 2016). Relevant hypotheses based on the model suggested are:

**H1a:** There is a significant effect between prison climate rehabilitation and religion.

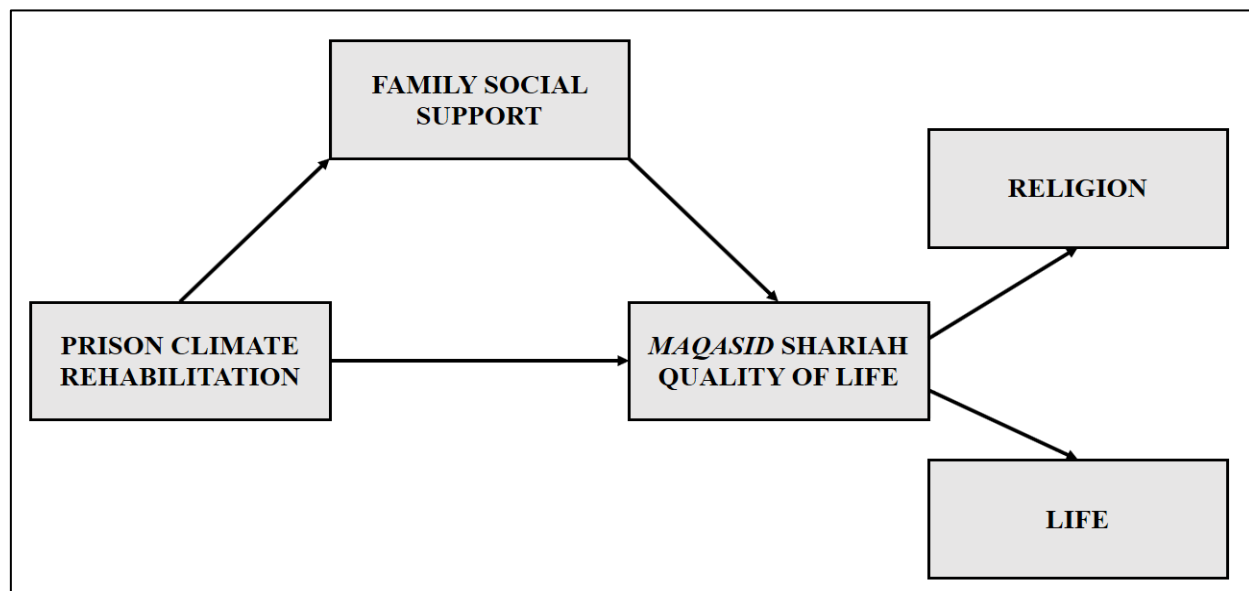
**H2a:** There is a significant effect between family social support and religion.

#### Life

Life is an invaluable gift to humankind from the Almighty. A person must appreciate and protect life by avoiding harmful activities (Mohamad & Ali, 2016). The protection of life can be seen from fulfilling the essential needs of the individual in the aspect of physical, mental, moral, and social needs, as well as preventing anything life-threatening (Amin et al., 2015). Three critical aspects of life-related consist of basic needs, individual and family safety, and, sports and recreation (Mohamad & Ali, 2016). Relevant hypotheses based on the model suggested are:

**H1b:** There is a significant effect between prison climate rehabilitation and life.

**H2b:** There is a significant effect between family social support and life.



**Figure 2:** Research Model Proposed

## CONCLUSION

Prison authority has a plethora of approaches such as revised related policies and procedures for a better quality of life of drug-abuse inmates. Current research provides information on prison climate rehabilitation and family social support and its effect on the quality of life, specifically on religion and life dimension. Even though the original measurement of MSQoL consisted of five dimensions, religion and life seemed much more prominent in the quality of life analysis of drug-abuse inmates as it significantly explored the capability link with the social support and prison climate of drug-abuse inmates.

## LIMITATION AND STUDY FORWARD

It is not without its limitations, like some other earlier studies. Firstly, this study was under progress, meaning the predicted outcome may not be consistent with the proposed framework. Secondly, this study applied the limited method to the model of the research. Also, for future research, the systematic literature review, meta-analysis, a qualitative and mixed-method analysis should be considered by future researchers for estimating all effects simultaneously.

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## AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION

All writers have a particular contribution to the paper. The first author proposed the concept and wrote literature reviews. The second author was accountable for writing the methodology and reviewing the work, and the third author was responsible for general editing several times before submission.

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