

14 JULY 2001

Mahathir-Porn

PM CONCERNED OVER EASY AVAILABILITY OF PORN MATERIALS

PUTRAJAYA, July 14 (Bernama) -- The Prime Minister today expressed his concern over the widespread distribution of pornographic materials to the extent even kindergarten children are able to get hold of it.

Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad said he was told of this development even at the kindergarten level by his own grandchild.

"The young are very much influenced by pornography because to themit probably is still a mystery....their emotions are kindled till they go on to do these bad things," he said when speaking at the Budget Dialogue 2002 at the Prime Minister's Department here.

Dr Mahathir urged the people to express outrage and condemnation of recent shocking events such as rape, baby dumping and child abuse and join efforts to prevent them.

"What is more alarming is that these events are becoming more brutal. It is not enough that they rob people of their money and property but they go on to maim and kill," he said.

The Prime Minister said these events went to show that there were people in society, who were easily influenced by negative ways that erode morals and human values.

Dr Mahathir reminded the people of the need to uphold the family institution and not neglect their responsibilities to the family in their pursuit of progress.

Neglecting family responsibilities would give birth to a society with ideas which deviated from the norms and values of a healthy and progressive society.

"The family institution builds a highly moral society that cherishes the noble values of the community," he said.

The Prime Minister also urged the people of various races in this country to foster unity so that eventually there would be a Malaysian-society culture.

"This will ensure that events like those in Kampung Medan recently will not happen," he said.

-- BERNAMA

AFY MAM AAM