

Dad concerned over UMS undergrad son's antics

JOHOR BARU: A 45-year-old *kereta sapu* (unlicensed taxi) driver from Johor Baru has been losing sleep ever since his undergraduate son started dabbling in get-rich-quick direct selling some time ago.

What worries Ho most is the dubious nature of the direct selling scheme and that his son has been lying to him and borrowing money from friends and relatives to raise RM30,000 needed to purchase certain products that enable him to recruit more members and get commission from the scheme.

Ho said his 21-year-old son, a second-year student of Universiti Malaysia Sabah, was an honest and filial son until he was coerced into paying RM2,000 to join the scheme.

Now he is a sweet-talking salesman only dreaming of making it big, he said.

"My son told me that if he recruits five mem-

bers, he can get 10 per cent of the new recruits' joining fee as commission, and if he then pays up RM30,000 (for products), he will become a senior executive and enjoy up to 50 per cent in commission," said Ho.

"My son wanted to borrow RM10,000 from me to advance his 'career' but I have a feeling it (the direct-selling) is a trap."

He said the scheme sounded too good to be true and believed it could be a scam.

Ho said after he rejected his son's requests for RM10,000 and the title of family land to borrow money from a bank, his son turned to relatives and friends for help.

Apart from warning relatives and friends against lending his son money, Ho urged the government to enact a law to bar university students from taking up direct-selling.