

A STUDY ON THE ASSESSMENT OF THE KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDE AND AWARENESS ON SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT OF COLLEGE STUDENTS

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ABSTRACT

Through a survey questionnaire, this study determined the environmental awareness and knowledge on solid waste management (EA and SWM) and assessed littering attitudes and practices (LAP) of 384 college students. Using descriptive statistics, results revealed that for EA and SWM, the general population indicates idea on SWM at 85.4%, SWM is not a problem at 51.8%, “satisfactory” opinion on the janitors, on solid waste disposal, on the sewage treatment and on the SWM in the university at an average of 74.6%, the waste disposal in the university is twice weekly at 48.7%, waste items not reused at 71.1% and dirtiness not felt due to solid waste at 60.4%. The “sometimes” behavior for the not littering attitudes and practice indicates an occasional practice of important pro-behavior for not littering. Students do not reuse waste items indicates lack of awareness with regard to what solid waste materials can be recycled. It is recommended that a program on solid waste management be developed in the university to initiate and expand recycling practices and other conservation actions. On good behaviors of not littering, it is recommended that the university creates programs that will involve the whole school community in environmental stewardship.

Keywords: Environmental awareness, environmental stewardship, littering attitudes and practices, recycling practice, solid waste management.