

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**A STUDY ON THE LEVEL OF
PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES
AND AWARENESS TOWARDS
PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT**

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ABSTRACT

Environmental problems have become major issues especially for the Municipality that were responsible for waste management in their vicinity. The damaging effects of improper waste management has become apparent nowadays that it has given negative impacts towards our health. The level of knowledge and awareness among our community has diminished to the point that it affects public participation towards solid waste management. Furthermore, the public has shown negative attitudes and unfavourable behaviour towards the management of solid waste. Thus, this study aims to investigate the level of public knowledge, awareness and attitudes towards public participation in solid waste management, utilizing the empirical case study involving the residence living in Shah Alam, Selangor. Questionnaire has been used for the data collection that involves a total of 384 respondents who lives in Shah Alam, specifically in Section 6 and Section 25. The findings of this study revealed the level of public knowledge, attitude and awareness as well as their relationship towards public participation in solid waste management. The level for public knowledge and public awareness are low while the level for public attitudes is moderate. Besides, there is negative relationship between public attitude and public participation and the most influential factors towards public participation in regards of solid waste management is public knowledge.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Preamble

This paper is to study on the level of Public Knowledge, Attitudes and Awareness towards Public Participation in Solid Waste Management, utilizing the empirical case study involving the residence living in Shah Alam, Selangor. Basically, Chapter 1 deals with the background of the study, problem statement, research questions and research objectives, scope of the study, significance of the study and definition of key terms.

1.2 Background of the Study

Solid Waste can be defines as unwanted and useless products in the form of solid that was created from domestic, commercial, industrial, agricultural, mining activities, trade and public services. On the other hand, municipal solid waste is products that does contains wastes from medical, industrial, agriculture and radioactive material. Municipal solid waste can be categories into organic that originates from fruits and vegetables as as inorganic that originates from plastic, paper and glass (Haider, Amber, & Ammara, 2015). Nowadays, Solid Waste Management (SWM) is recognized as major issues specifically in larger cities and it has turned out to be a major and concerning problems and the concept is widely known by municipal authorities all over the world (Haider, Amber, & Ammara, 2015).

According to Odum (2006), increase in the population will resulted in a larger for goods and services thus, it will help in the creation and introduction of new and products to meet the demand of the consumer. As a result, there will be more resources will be used and more unwanted waste being disposed. The main concept for a nation to more environmentally concerned towards the harmonization between human and environment is sustainability. However, for the nations that is still developing as well as under developed nations, improper management of solid waste has caused various