

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**AWARENESS AND PRACTICE
ON HOUSEHOLD SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT
AMONG RESIDENTS IN RURAL AREAS AT ALOR
PONGSU, KERIAN DISTRICT**

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Project submitted in fulfillment of the requirements for
the degree of
**Bachelor in Environmental Health and Safety
(Hons.)**

Faculty of Health Sciences

January 2023

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

In the name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful.

First of all, I would like to honor and thank Allah SWT for empowering me, and finally, I managed to finish the final year project. I would also like to thank my parents Mohammad Bin Hassan and _____ for their support. With the encouragement and enthusiasm, they gave me made me more motivated to finish my final year project.

A thousand thanks are also given to my final year project supervisor, Mr. Mohd Izwan Bin Masngut. He gave me a lot of advice and always helped when I faced any problems while completing this final year project. He also sacrificed a lot of time to check every result of my work to ensure that my final year project runs smoothly from the beginning till the end of my final year project. In addition, I would also like to thank all the faculty members of the Department of Environmental Safety and Health, Faculty of Health Sciences such as lecturers and staff who always share their knowledge and provide precious advice to me.

My sincere thanks and appreciation also to all my respondents who are willing to be my respondent for this final year project. Thank you for your cooperation and willingness to help me with this final year project. Thank you also to all my friends who always supported and helped me throughout my studies. Finally, I would like to thank everyone who was directly or indirectly involved in this final year project. Thank you so much.

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ABSTRACT

Introduction: As we know, improper household solid waste management causes various diseases to humans and causes a bad impact on the environment. This often happens in rural areas, where they do not have an effective waste management system like urban areas, which causes most rural residents to still practice traditional ways to manage their household solid waste, such as burning in the backyard. **Method:** Descriptive correlational study design was used as the method for this study. The data was collected in December 2022. The number of respondents was needed for this study is 142 and has been chosen by simple random sampling. The data were collected by face-to-face interview by using the questionnaire. After finishing collecting the data, the data were analyzed by using SPSS Version 28.00. **Results:** Results from this study show that residents in rural areas at Alor Pongsu, Kerian District toward awareness and practice on managing solid waste at home were at moderate levels. Mean awareness on household solid waste was 6.965 (SD = 3.209) and the mean for practice level was 2.429 (SD = 0.593). For relationship between socio demographic with awareness level, it has been show that age ($p < 0.001$), marital status ($p < 0.001$), education level ($p < 0.001$), problem in household solid waste management ($p = 0.038$) and training on household solid waste management ($p < 0.001$) were significantly correlated with awareness level. For the relationship between socio demographic and practice level, it has been found that training on household solid waste management ($p = 0.003$) was significantly correlated with practice level. **Conclusion:** Conclusion, this study highlights the importance of household solid waste management awareness and practice among rural residents towards good sustainable management of household solid waste practice.

Keywords: Awareness, Practice, household solid waste management, diseases, environment, rural areas

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND OF STUDY

The number of people throughout the country has recorded a rapid increase and now exceeds 7 billion people worldwide. In addition, world prosperity has improved over the last few decades, resulting in more resources and waste. Rural areas need more attention to household solid waste management. This is because according to the World Bank, it stated that 46% of the people in the world were still living in rural areas (Mihai et al., 2017). Collecting waste, transporting waste, treating waste, disposing of, managing waste, and monitoring waste is the term for waste management. This term usually refers to man-made materials, the process of which is usually done to reduce their adverse impact on health of human, the environment, or aesthetics (Adogu et al., 2015).

Household activities that are done almost every day by humans such as cleaning, cooking food, house sweeping, burning fuel and other activities have contributed to the production of household solid waste at their home. Not only that, but humans also produced household solid waste by discarded equipment, used clothing, discarded old furniture, and used products such as newspapers and old books. Proper waste management can only be achieved if the household separates the waste and practices reuse, recycling, and composting waste at home. However, due to a lack of facilities, source isolation programs usually do not exist in local communities (Viljoen et al., 2021). The main reasons for poor level in management of household solid waste in communities are lack of sufficient infrastructure, inadequate awareness, reduced involvement of major household stakeholders, and inadequate coverage of collection systems. In order to reduce waste production and