

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**MANAGING MUNICIPAL
HOUSEHOLD SOLID WASTE
TOWARDS SUSTAINABLE
ENVIRONMENT:
A STUDY ON HOUSEHOLDS IN
SECTION 17, SHAH ALAM,
SELANGOR**

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Thesis submitted in fulfillment
of the requirements for the degree of
Master of Science

Faculty of Business Management

August 2015

ABSTRACT

Municipal solid waste management is one of the most challenging issues and problems faced by many governments of the developing countries across the world. Improper and poor municipal solid waste management in most developing countries has left a serious and negative impact on the environment. Consequently, it has been identified as one of the main environmental issues in Malaysia. The main objective of this study was to examine the factors that affect municipal household solid waste management in Section 17, Shah Alam and the impact on the environment. This study examined the relationship between (i) households' lifestyle, (ii) attitude and awareness towards municipal household solid waste management, (iii) the provision of facilities and services provided for municipal household solid waste and the impact on the environment. A total of 379 households in Section 17, Shah Alam, Selangor selected as the sample for this study. A set of questionnaire was distributed to the respondents and analyzed. The results demonstrated significant relationships between households' lifestyle, attitude and awareness towards municipal household solid waste management, the provision of facilities and services provided for municipal household solid waste and the impact on the environment. The results also revealed that households' lifestyle was the most significant factor that affects municipal household solid waste management impacting on the environment. Findings from this study would be beneficial to the Shah Alam City Council (SACC) in providing the most effective municipal household solid waste management.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

First and foremost, Alhamdulillah, I am grateful to The Mighty Allah S.W.T for enabling me to complete my Master journey. This thesis is the creation of a Master research which has been started on 23th August 2012 and it would not have been possible to be written without any help and support of the kind people around me, to only some of whom it is possible to give a special dedication here.

My deepest appreciation and gratitude goes to my main supervisor, Prof. Madya Dr. Hajjah Ku Aziliah binti Ku Mahamad, for her wonderful support, encouragement and supervision. I am taking this opportunity to extend my appreciation towards her patience and tolerance from the beginning of my study. May Allah S.W.T bless her for what she has done, Amen. I am also indebted to my co-supervisor, Prof. Madya Yon Bahiah Wan Aris, for her support and consistent guidance in understanding the fundamental of research study. Not forgotten, Dr. Siti Asiah Said, all the panels and examiners for their guidance that enables me to complete this thesis.

I would like to thank my beloved parents, Encik Mohd Rasid Bin Mohd Amin and Puan Zaliha Binti Abd. Ghani and my siblings, Nur Aida Suraya Binti Mohd Rasid, Nurul Nasuha Binti Mohd Rasid, Nur Zahidah Syamimi Binti Mohd Rasid, Muhammad Muzammer Bin Mohd Rasid for their invaluable advices, support, sacrifices, and encouragement which has given me the strength and inspiration to complete this study. My fiancée, Nurul Farehah Binti Anuar for her great patience at all time has made five years of this relationship and also her unequivocal support and motivation.

My friends, thank you so much for the wonderful friendship; Nurulaien Hj Abd Aziz, Khairunnisa Yussof, Siti Musliha Idris, Muhammad Nasyar, Nik Mohd Rabani, Mohd Mustaqim, Fakrul Fauzi, Muhd Azmi, Irfan Aziz, and Fatin Nadiyah, I will never forget how supportive my friends for their continuous motivation and other friends whose names I did not mention here. Thank you very much indeed.

I would like to acknowledge the Shah Alam City Council (SACC) especially Encik Ahmad Bin Nordin, the Officer at Jabatan Pembangunan Bandar, Bahagian Pengurusan Sisa Pepejal, Shah Alam City Council. His knowledge and guidance in this field during this study has brought me to this extend. I also would like to acknowledge Universiti Teknologi Mara (UiTM) and Ministry of Education Malaysia (MOE) for funding my master's studies.

Last but not least, my special thanks to all the administration staffs, Faculty of Business Management (FBM), Universiti Teknologi MARA, Shah Alam, for their support and guidance given to me and also to all virtual friends on Facebook (Post Graduate Support Group), for always being there whenever a friend was in need. Thank you very much.

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CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

Municipal solid waste management is one of the most challenging issues and problems faced by many governments of the developing countries across the world. It has become a global concern and continues to be a crucial challenge for the governments of the developing countries throughout the world (Wang, He, Kim, & Kamata, 2011). Malaysia is one of the most successful developing countries in the Asian region that is forging ahead to become a developed country by the year 2020. The fast paced population growth, steady economic expansion, low unemployment rate, rich biodiversity and natural resources as well as stable political environment are making Malaysia at par with many developed countries (Hamatschek, 2010). However, the issue of municipal solid waste management is certainly no exception for the government of Malaysia. According to Agamuthu, Fauziah and Khidzir (2009), the amount of municipal solid waste generated in Malaysia has increased more than 91 percent over the past 10 years. Similar to other developing countries, the increasing population, rapid economic growth, tremendous urbanization and development in Malaysia have led to the increasing amount of municipal solid waste and affected the environment adversely (Abdullah, 1995).

According to Eeda and Siong (2012), municipal solid waste management is a universal problem. It has been identified as one of the main environmental issues in Malaysia (Agamuthu et al., 2009). Improper and poor municipal solid waste management in most developing countries has left a serious impact on the environment and reduced the quality of life, especially for lower income residents in both urban and rural areas (Altaf & Deshazo, 1996; Visvanathan, Tubtimthai, & Kuruparan, 2004). Several studies conducted by previous researchers indicated that improper and poor municipal solid waste management, which includes low collection of solid waste coverage, irregular collection of solid waste, improper transfer of solid waste and inappropriate disposal of solid waste, is certainly one of the main