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EFFECT OF ROAD TRAFFIC NOISE ON SCHOOL CHILDREN AND TEACHERS

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ABSTRACT

Noise pollution is a problem for the students, teachers and the surroundings. Although, a perfect school should be measured with a conducive environment, which is free from noise pollution and any other sources of environmental pollution must be considered when selecting the right location of schools.

The intention of this research is to investigate the effect of road traffic noise pollution on schools and their impacts on the occupants of the schools within the vicinity.

The research identifies the environmental problems that we understand the concept of noise, its definition, the measurement and evaluation on the actual sound levels and also the occupant responses to those noise levels. Besides that, this research also identifies the characteristics of noise, by determining the sources of noise within school areas and the effects of noise pollution to occupants especially on the learning and teaching processes. This research involves a qualitative and quantitative methodology.

The quantitative study was carried out by using an integrated Sound Level Meter, type SIB1001000. This instrument is to measure sound levels in different locations was the school areas. Its purpose is to identify each location and its proximity to sources of noise. From the discussion and survey that have been carried out and after making comparisons on the sound level and its sources in this particular location, most of the respondents are disturbed by the road traffic noise.

The qualitative study was to examine the perceptions of the occupants of sampled Secondary Schools around Klang Valley namely the teachers and students about the noise environment of their schools. 100 questionnaires were distributed and almost the same total of 100 respondents responded and returned for analysis. This survey was made possible with the help and cooperation from the teachers of the schools concerned.