

UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE – THE
ASSOCIATION BETWEEN
SOCIOECONOMIC STATUS AND
ADULT HEALTH IN SARAWAK**

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

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DECLARATION BY STUDENT

Project entitled Environmental Justice- the Association between Socioeconomic Status and Adult Health in Sarawak, Malaysia is a presentation of my original research work. Whenever contributions of other are involved, every effort is made to indicate this clearly, with due reference to the literature, and acknowledgement of collaborative research and discussions. The project was done under the guidance of Dr. Abdul Mujid bin Abdullah as the Project supervisor. It has been submitted to the Faculty of Health Sciences in partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Degree of Bachelor in Environmental Health and Safety (Hons).

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ABSTRACT

Background: Environmental justice is a degree of fairness to all people in terms of quality of life such as levels of income, laws, legislations and degree of development. Evidence of placement of polluting facilities at lower class population or lower income groups are in the area where there are in a higher environmental risks. **Objective:** The main objective of the study was to assess whether health effect varied by household income. **Methods:** A cross-sectional study was conducted on the participants using purposive sampling because of the inclusive and exclusive criteria. Questionnaire was used in the study to identify the demographic data, the level of income and health status, while interview was done to know the purpose of their stay in Kuching or in Samarahan. Spearman correlation was used for the non-parametric data to identify the correlation between health status and level of household income. Independent t-test was also used to identify the means of the household income of the participants in each area. **Results:** There are no significance ($p>0.05$) and negligible correlation ($r=0.016$) between income and health status for participants in Kuching. For Samarahan, there is significant relationship ($p<0.05$) and negligible correlation ($r=-0.205$) as well. The independent t-test results shows that there were significant difference for both health status and household income with ($p< 0.05$) **Conclusion:** Environmental justice is a serious issue in the community because of the results that have been collected. Laws and legislation needs to be enacted more sternly to make sure that there are no double treatments in varying communities.

Keywords: Environmental Justice, socioeconomic status, Kuching, Samarahan, -Distributional Justice