

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES AMONG JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS IN VARIOUS SCHOOLS IN DAVAO CITY AND COTABATO CITY, PHILIPPINES

Zaidamin Bagundang
University of Mindanao
PHILIPPINES
zaidaminbagundang@gmail.com

Jara Chanta Geoca
University of Mindanao
PHILIPPINES
hellojcpat@gmail.com

Marcel Rose Mabida
University of Mindanao
PHILIPPINES
marcelroseabida28@gmail.com

Dr. Joel S. Pardillo
University of Mindanao
PHILIPPINES
forester005365@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Solid waste management has become one of the Philippines' most critical environmental concerns in the present period of rapid urbanization. In view of the foregoing, educational institutions integrate solid waste management concepts and environmental education in their curriculum, as mandated by R.A. No. 9003 and R.A. No. 9512. In this study, the Grade 7 students showed a high level of awareness on solid waste management with weighted average of 3.59 or very high showing that students have high awareness on the importance of SWM for a clean and green environment, except on the laws and ordinances where students rated them as low, which means that they are not so familiar on the contents of said laws and ordinances. On the other hand, proper waste segregation, clean-as-you-go, waste recycling, and reusing and recycling waste into a new product obtained a Good weighted score. These indicate that students are very good at the following practices such as 1) segregation and identification of biodegradable and non-biodegradable wastes, non-recyclables and non-harmful waste; 2) reutilization of compostable waste such as fertilizers including reusable items instead of single use; 3) generating funds out of plastic waste, metals, and tin cans and 4) converting old items into new products. This implies that students have very good practices in solid waste management.

Keywords: Solid waste management, ESWM awareness and practices, Junior High School SWM.