A Cross-Sectional Study on the Level of Knowledge, Attitude and Practice toward Recycling of Household Waste in Kuching South City.

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AP Dr Ong Puay Hoon

Dr MD Mizanur Abd Rahman

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Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences

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AP Dr Ong Puay Hoon

Dr MD Mizanur Abd Rahman

Department of Community Medicine and Public Health

Submitted in part fulfillment for the
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Abstract

Various studies on the socio-demographic characteristics and level of knowledge, attitude and practice (KAP) of public towards recycling of household wastes have been conducted in some states in Malaysia such as Kuala Lumpur, Kedah and Penang. As there is no similar study in Sarawak, a cross sectional study with convenient sampling is done to explore the KAP towards recycling of household waste in Kuching South City. A total of 104 participants were selected for answering written questionnaire. Majority of the participants are females (65.4%), people aged 41-60 years (59.2%), Chinese (75%), diploma or degree holder (43.3%) and private sector servants (36.5%). The levels of knowledge and attitude of the respondents were moderate while their level of practice towards recycling was good. There were no significant differences between the levels of knowledge, attitude and practice on recycling with socio-demographic characteristics, expect occupation (p= 0.002) and age (p= 0.008). Government servants (70.8%) had higher level of knowledge and respondents below 45 years old (78.4%) showed higher level of practice. Black and white papers were the most collected wastes, while polyethylene terephthalate plastics were the least collected waste. Wastes collected during study duration were equivalent to only RM2207.76. Progressive promotion and publicity efforts like advertisements in newspapers should be done to enhance public level of KAP on the importance of recycling.

Abstrak

Beberapa penyelidikan berkaitan dengan ciri-ciri sosial demografi dengan tahap pengetahuan, sikap dan amalan (KAP) masyarakat terhadap mengitar semula sampah-sarap rumah tangga telah dijalankan di sesetengah negeri yang terletak di Malaysia seperti Kuala Lumpur, Kedah dan Pulau Pinang. Memandangkan ketiadaan kajian berkenaan dikendalikan di Sarawak, kajian ini bertujuan untuk menjelajah KAP terhadap mengitar semula sampah-sarap rumah tangga di bandar Kuching Selatan. Seramai 104 orang responden telah dipilih untuk menjawab soal selidik dan kebanyakan mereka terdiri daripada pihak perempuan (65.4%), kumpulan yang berumur antara 41-60 tahun (59.2%), kaum Cina (75%), pemegang diploma atau ijazah (43.3%) and pekerja swasta (36.5%). Tahap pengetahuan dan sikap terhadap mengitar semula responden adalah sederhana, manakala tahap amalan mengitar semula mereka adalah baik. Perbezaan antara tahap pengetahuan, sikap dan amalan di kitar semula dengan ciri-ciri sosial-demografi adalah tidak significan kecuali pekerjaan (p= 0.002) *dan umur* (p= 0.008). *Kakitangan kerajaan* (70.8%) *mempunyai tahap pengetahuan yang tinggi dan responden di bawah 45 tahun* (78.4%) *mempunyai amalan mengitar semula yang lebih baik. Kertas hitam putih paling banyak dikumpulkan manakala polyethylene terephthalate plastik adalah di sebaliknya. Sampah yang dikumpul semasa kajian dijalankan adalah setara dengan RM2207.76. Usaha publisiti seperti menerbitkan iklan di akhbar haruslah dilakukan secara progresif untuk meningkatkan tahap KAP masyarakat tentang kepentingan mengitar semula.*

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