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Effect of litters on environmental quality in Nigeria: A case study of Iyana-Iba, Lagos State

Environmental quality refers to the standard of the local area and includes all issues that might affect the appearance of the area or how people perceive the area. An aspect of solid waste management that has become almost intractable to local authorities in Nigeria is street littering. Data was collected for a period of five days in Iyana-Iba, Lagos and were focused on several questions bordering on street littering (why they littered, what they littered, where they littered, etc.) and their personal information (age, sex, income status, educational levels etc.). Data collected during this research was analyzed using univariate and multivariate models. Results showed that the litter problem was quite intense in all the streets surveyed. The level of education, age and income of subjects were major determinants of their littering habit. This research shows that subjects littered the streets for several reasons (absence of bins, inefficiencies of local authorities, ignorance, weak legislation, anger, stress, etc.). It was also found that there is no relationship between education and littering attitude, hence; littering attitude of both highly educated participants and the lower cannot be marked out distinctively different; it thus means that all were found to have negative attitudes. This research showed that population growth with uncontrolled and unplanned urban expansion of the area created the problems of waste management. The solid waste generation and roadside disposal system in this study area fall below acceptable standard. Non-biodegradable fractions of the municipal solid wastes are the major problems in solid waste management because plastic, polythene and e-waste materials constitute physical nuisance to the environment. In addition, most of these non-biodegradable materials contain high levels of chemical elements which some have been implicated in the etiology of many ailments peculiar to humans.

Biography

Imumolen Christopher Irene is currently working in West Africa Sustainable Energy Professionals, Nigeria. He holds Bachelor Degree in Mechanical Engineering, Master's Degree in Material Engineering and PhD in Engineering & Research. He has worked as MD: JPTS International, Technical Adviser Oil & Gas Monitoring with State Government Nigeria, Africa Director: Accreditation Services for International Colleges and University UK, General Secretary: West Africa Sustainable Energy Professionals, President: Onshore Offshore Oil and Gas Professionals Nigeria and UN Climate Negotiator

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