



## Cultivating a Caring Attitude to the Environment and Waste Management in Public Elementary School (SDN) Godog, Garut, Indonesia

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### Abstract

Environmental problems are often encountered around us, but not everyone feels that these problems must be solved together. The holding of environmental education is expected to make community groups more concerned about cleanliness and health in their surrounding environment. This form of community service at SDN Godog 1 – 2 is carried out due to the fact that the school environment looks unorganized and the lack of waste management around the school. School streets that should look neat and clean are not visible, even around this school road is used as a dumping ground for scattered garbage without any trash cans. The method used in the implementation of this community service is the follow-up study method with a participatory approach. By providing material on the importance of managing waste, proper waste sorting and counseling on the dangers of waste that has polluted the environment. Students are taught directly the practice of managing waste using used bottles as handicrafts, cleaning the school environment and preserving the environment. By carrying out education about caring for the environment, it is hoped that students can play an active role in protecting the school environment by taking part in the practice of cleaning the environment, sorting out used snacks and reducing the use of plastic waste that has been rampant and polluting the surrounding environment. Because with the creation of an attitude of caring for the environment at an early age, it is hoped that environmental problems will reduce this waste and make a generation that loves environmental cleanliness.

*Keywords:* Care for the environment, Waste management, sorting waste

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### 1. Introduction

Garbage is one of the environmental problems resulting from human activities, both individuals and groups that must be controlled, because sooner or later the problem of waste management will get bigger in proportion to the increasing number of people (Hoorweg and Bhada-Tata, 2012; Fagnani and Guimarães, 2017; Grodzińska-Jurczak, 2003). So far, the waste management system only collects, transports and disposes of to the Final Processing Site (TPA) (Sekito et al., 2013; Desa et al., 2013; Zhang et al., 2011). Meanwhile, waste management at the final processing site has not been fully completed and is still the task of the government and the community. so that all the waste in the TPA does not pile up too much.

By holding waste management education or waste for students in the school environment (Meidiana and Gamse 2010; Demirbas, 2011). It is hoped that they can raise awareness that waste what we produce must be managed and minimized as small as possible so as not to pollute the surrounding environment (Putri et al., 2020; Rautela et al., 2021). Not only in the school environment, but this caring attitude towards environmental problems is also expected to be beneficial for the students' family environment and can be applied in everyday life (Rada et al., 2016; Hantoko et al., 2021). Implementing habits as early as possible can bring big changes for future generations who are more concerned about the environment and understand how to sort waste by type, so that it can be processed into compost (Widayat et al., 2021; Jiang et al., 2021).

Schools can act as waste banks with the active role of principals, teachers and staff (Raharjo et al., 2017; Budihardjo et al., 2019). They will maximize efforts to minimize waste in the school environment, so students will indirectly be encouraged to more sensitive to environmental cleanliness (Mukminin, 2014; Jeramat et al., 2019). The caring for the environment can be done using the methods of moral knowing, moral feeling and moral doing which are being practiced at SDN 3 Bancarkembar, Banyumas district. Which is now more sensitive to the school environment and creates a comfortable and orderly teaching and learning process.

A comfortable place is a place that is free from garbage and all kinds of disturbances that can cause disease. Especially during a pandemic like this which demands that all those present in schools, both teachers and students, must be in a healthy body condition to participate in teaching and learning activities (Tan, 2001; Vanapalli et al., 2021). Therefore, the cleanliness of the school environment must be a concern for all involved in the continuity of teaching and learning activities.

Based on the results of interviews with the principal of SDN Godog 1-2 which was carried out on October 5, there were 352 students consisting of grades one to six each, there were 2 classes, namely class A and B who still did not understand about waste management and disposing of garbage. without sorting it out first. The lack of a caring attitude towards the environment and ignoring the garbage that is scattered around the road near the school makes garbage pile up without a container to hold the garbage. Pedestrians or motorcyclists are often seen throwing their trash on the road carelessly (see Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** The road ahead of SDN Godog 1-2

The purpose of this community service is to instill an attitude of caring for the environment and being able to manage waste wisely, so that waste does not become an environmental problem that can invite diseases around the school environment. Especially in the rainy season which can cause mosquitoes to breed in the pile of garbage and cause unpleasant odors. As for the efforts made by the team in the service program, namely by providing socialization about the importance of sorting waste, reducing the use of single-use plastic and implementing environmental clean-up habits.

## 2. Methodology

This community service will be held on October 8, 2021 at SD Negeri Godog 1-2 which is located on Jl. Ahmad Yani Timur, Karangmulya, Kec. Karangpawitan, Garut Regency, West Java, Indonesia (See Figure 2), with a target program of 92 children from grades 4 to 6.



**Figure 2.** SDN Godog 1 – 2

The method used to obtain the data is by observation, socialization and the practice of cleaning the environment around the school. Observations were carried out by asking questions to the principal of SDN Godog 2, namely Mrs. Pupu, S.Pd to obtain a description of the condition of the students, which were the objectives of the activity and to socialize the service plan to be carried out in order to determine the time and other needs that must be prepared to support the implementation. event. Then practice cleaning the school environment to educate children directly which is interspersed with some games.

### 3. Results and Discussion

The activity is held on Friday and introduces students to JUMSIH or Clean Friday, which is now being implemented by the school as an embodiment of a program to love the school environment in order to create a healthy and clean environment. The event began with a speech from the principal and continued with morning exercises as a warm-up before the main event started. The presentation of the material was carried out in the middle of the ceremonial field with demonstrations of several examples of waste that can be grouped into several types of waste including, separating organic and non-organic waste which students often encounter in school canteen snacks.

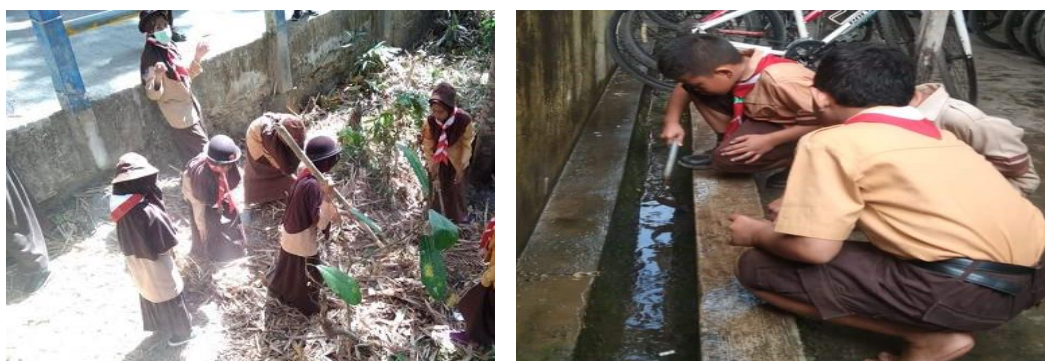
Gina Nuraini as a speaker gave an example of how to sort waste and dispose of it in a trash can according to its type, then followed by students who tried to practice it directly. Not only sorting waste, the speaker also explained the dangers of garbage which has now polluted the soil and water around them, which is dangerous for all living things including animals and plants that live in symbiosis with one another.

Students are also given an understanding to always use environmentally friendly materials compared to using plastic. Because plastic is a material that is difficult to decompose and becomes a big problem because it is cheap and easy to get, so plastic waste is very much found around schools. They are also encouraged to bring their own drinking supplies from home, this is an action that can reduce the waste of used drinking bottles that they buy every day. After the material was finished, they continued with making creations using used bottles that they had brought home before. The participants' practice of making art from trash can be seen in Figure 3.



**Figure 3.** The participants' practice of making art from trash

After the craft was finished, the event was closed by holding a Clean Friday in the school environment, starting with cleaning the classroom, terrace, field and around the water flow in the school. Not only students who practice *JUMSIH* but teachers and administrative staff also take part in practicing and supervising the *JUMSIH* program, they work together to clean the school environment. Although there are still some students who play around in the implementation of this *JUMSIH*, the event can be carried out quite conductively and the garbage that was scattered and mixed is now starting to be neatly arranged (See Figure 4).



**Figure 4.** Students clean the school environment

#### 4. Conclusion

After the socialization regarding waste management, now students are not only studying in the academic field, but they are also receiving moral education about caring for the environment. Participate in managing waste as well as possible as they have practiced at school, to maintain cleanliness and health in the environment where they study.

Not only the role of teachers and school staff, but the participation of parents also needs to play an active role in forming this habit. Because the environment is very influential on the growth of the child's character, parents should also set an example for their children by applying it directly at home. So that future generations can protect the environment and the problem of waste is no longer a burden on the shoulders of the government alone, all people who have donated waste must also participate in solving problems and managing their waste as well as possible.

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