

CHAPTER ONE

INTRODUCTION

1.1 BACKGROUND

The policy of developing Bangkok to be an economic, social and political hub leads Bangkok to have a high of population increase. The people of Bangkok compete with time and need to have many convenient things leading to a lifestyle of consumption which creates a fabulous amount of solid-waste. Moreover, lack of knowledge and recognition of the solid-waste problem and also the integrated process for waste management are the substantial causes of the waste problem.

Even though, the Bangkok Metropolitan Authority Office has set a good plan in order to reduce the waste amount in Bangkok, the waste quantity since the plan was launched has been reduced only a small amount (กรมควบคุมมลพิษ, 2551). Solving this problem by increasing waste collection efficiency and seek sites to dump waste does not direct to the point.

Meanwhile, solid-waste reduction is the actual solution to prevent and solve the problem at the beginning of the line. The solid-waste separation in households is the best solution for reducing wastes due to ease of doing it and saving money.

The solid-waste separation is an important process before disposal which will allow all recycled wastes to be easily collected and returned to usage system by transformation. However, the result of government promoting seems to be incomplete success. Although the waste quantity is reduced every year, it is reduced at low rate compared to overall increase.

People play an important role in doing the solid-waste separation before disposal from their households; however, there are so many people who still lack the correct knowledge and recognition about the solid-waste separation.

As mentioned, the researcher was interested in studying the relationship between the knowledge of solid-waste separation and the behaviors of people regarding solid-waste separation. The objective of the study was to find whether more knowledge of the correct method to separate wastes would make people do more solid-waste separation.

1.2 STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

This study aims to answer the following questions:

- 1.2.1 How often do people separate solid-waste in their households?
- 1.2.2 How much do people know how to separate solid-waste?
- 1.2.3 Is there any relationship between the knowledge of waste-separation and their behavior?
- 1.2.4 What demographic factors are related to their behavior?

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

This research has the following objectives:

- 1.3.1 To examine the frequency of solid-waste separation behaviors among the people in Anusaowaree sub-district
- 1.3.2 To find out the degree of knowledge of solid-waste separation among the people in Anusaowaree sub-district
- 1.3.3 To identify the relationship between the knowledge of waste-separation and the solid-waste separation behaviors
- 1.3.4 To indicate the demographic factors related to their solid-waste separation behavior

1.4 DEFINITION OF TERMS / VARIABLES AND HYPOTHESES

1.4.1 Definition of Terms

The terms in this study are defined as follows:

Community People - people who have resided in Anusaowaree sub-district of Bangkok metropolitan in the south of Sai Mai district, the north of Lad Phrao district, the west of Tha Raeng sub-district and the east of Don Muang and Lak Si district.

Income - a monthly personal income which includes salary, incentive, commission and others. In this study, there are four income groups:

- Low income: income less than 7,000 baht per month

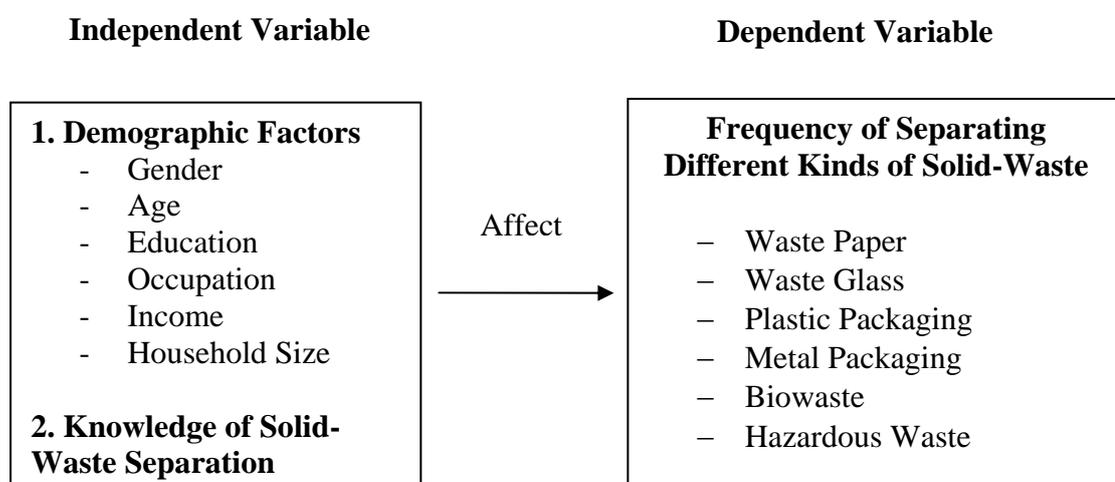
- Rather low income: income ranging between 7,000 – 14,000 baht per month
- Rather high income: income ranging between 14,001 – 28,000 baht per month
- High income: income higher than 28,000 baht per month

Knowledge of Solid-Waste Separation - knowledge about how to deal with waste paper, waste glass, plastic packaging, metal packaging, biowaste and hazardous waste before disposing them.

Solid-Waste Separation Behaviors - refers to frequency of separating different kinds of solid-waste.

1.4.2 Variables

Variables in this study included solid-waste separation behavior as the independent variable and dependent variable as below:



1.4.3 Hypotheses

The research hypotheses of this study are as follows:

Hypothesis 1: Women and men are not different in their solid-waste separation behavior.

Hypothesis 2: Old people and young people are not different in waste separation behavior.

Hypothesis 3: People who have an education of lower than Bachelor's degree and those who have a Bachelor's degree or higher degree are not different in waste separation behavior.

Hypothesis 4: People who have high income and people who have low income are not different in waste separation behavior.

Hypothesis 5: People who have a different degree of solid-waste separation knowledge are not different in waste separation behavior.

1.5 LIMITATION OF THE STUDY

This research aims to study the relationship between solid-waste separation behavior of people residing in Anusaowaree sub-district and their knowledge of waste separation. However, there were several obstacles to data collection made the researcher unable to gather the data from all community types in Anusaowaree sub-district; particularly, flat communities are in military areas where the public is not allowed to enter without permission. Second, the occupations of the respondents were not considered because most of them were company employees.

1.6 SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The results of the research will be beneficial as follows:

1.6.1 The Related Governmental Organizations

The related governmental organizations can use the results of the study as a guideline to develop a solid-waste separation promoting project in order to stimulate people to do efficient solid-waste separation in the future.

1.6.2 Educational Institutions and the Other Researchers

The other researchers who are interested in this area may conduct further study in solid-waste separation to study the difference in the solid-waste separation system in Thailand and in other developed countries.

1.7 ORGANIZATION OF THE STUDY

The study of the relationship between solid-waste separation behaviors of people in Anusaowaree sub-district and the knowledge of waste-separation in this paper is divided into five chapters.

Chapter one consists of the background, statement of the problem, objectives of the study, variables and definitions, scope of the study, significance of the study, and organization of the study.

Chapter two comprises the review of literature relevant to this study.

Chapter three describes the methodology of this study which includes a selection of the subjects, the materials, the procedures used in data collection, and the data analysis.

Chapter four presents the findings of the study derived from the survey.

Chapter five includes the discussions and conclusions of the findings, including recommendations.