

ENGAGING ENVIRONMENTAL CITIZENSHIP BEHAVIOUR: REFLECT THROUGH DOMESTIC WASTE DISPOSAL PRACTICES OF YOUTH IN SRI LANKA

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Linking Environmental Citizen Behaviour (ECB) and waste disposal mechanism is relatively unknown among youth. The study examines the extend of ECB and waste disposal practices among Sri Lankan youth and compares the ECB and waste disposal methods of the youth. A quantitative cross-sectional online survey was adopted to collect data from students in Sri Lankan universities. ECB was measured with a modified version of the eleven-item scale developed. Measurement properties were assessed using confirmatory factor analysis. Descriptive statistics, cross-tabulation analysis and mean comparison analysis were utilized as data analysis techniques. Relative to eco initiative and eco helping, low practice was reported to eco-civic engagement. Presence of low and moderate ECB, the probability of using waste collection arrangement was high. Respondents with higher level of ECB, applicability of composting the waste is relatively high. However, dumping waste outside premises was also high among highest ECB. Compared to individuals with high and low ECB, burning waste was higher for moderate ECB. The findings suggest that there is a certain level of ECB that is necessary for waste disposal method selection, however when the ECB level optimized, it may affect waste disposal negatively. The joint inspiration of ECB and waste disposal is relatively unknown. In Sri Lanka, which is a developing context, there is a lack of studies about the connection between ECB and waste disposal.

Keywords: *Environmental citizen behaviour; Waste disposal; Youth developing context; Descriptive analysis*
