

## **Zero waste and pro-environmental behaviour at campus level: A study of college students' attitudes and behaviours in Suzhou**

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**Keywords:** zero waste; pro-environmental behavior; Suzhou; university campus

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In the past few decades, China's higher education has developed rapidly due to economic development. The number of students in various higher education sections has continued to rise to over 46 million. The campus is a high-density and administratively independent community, and the daily amount of solid waste that the campus produces cannot be ignored. Although there are some studies on the solid waste characterization and recycling potential for a university campus (De Vega, et al. 2008; Zhang, et al. 2020), assessment of solid waste management practice in the university campus (Dahlawi & Sharkawy, 2021), and recycling attitude and behaviour in a Hongkong university campus (Wan et al. 2012), it is little known about how those special group of students' attitudes and behaviours affect the waste on the campus. Therefore, it is of research importance to analyze the factors influencing student behaviour towards solid waste on campus and students' attitudes towards zero waste on campus.

This paper examines the subjective awareness and pro-environmental behaviour of undergraduate students through a questionnaire survey in several local universities in Suzhou. The data from the survey will be analyzed to identify the factors influencing students' attitudes towards waste, thus establishing a possible correlation between the factors. In the study, the solid waste in the university campus was divided into the following types: waste paper in the teaching area, food waste in the canteen, courier packaging waste in the commercial street, a mixture of domestic waste, and food waste in the dormitory area. At the same time, a questionnaire survey was conducted on some high school students to understand the emergence of environmental awareness among the students and the amount of waste on campus as a pure function of teaching.

This research finding will help to improve waste management and recycling in the university campus, thus achieving the goal of a sustainable and green campus, or similar, in the future.

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