Environmental Education: A Correlational Study among Environmental Literacy, Disaster Knowledge, Environmental Sensitivity, and Clean-Living Behavior of Post Tsunami Disaster in Aceh Communities, Indonesia

Rusli Yusuf1*, Muhammad Yunus1, Maimun Maimun1, Iwan Fajri2, 3

1Department of Civic Education, Universitas Syiah Kuala, Kopelma, Darussalam, Banda Aceh, Aceh 23111, Indonesia
2Department of Civic Education, Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia, Bandung, Jawa Barat 40154, Indonesia
3Center of Disaster Studies, Universitas Islam Negeri Ar-Raniry Banda Aceh, Aceh, 23111, Indonesia

Received: 8 May 2021
Accepted: 24 June 2021

Abstract

This research aims to determine the correlation between literacy, disaster knowledge, and environmental sensitivity towards clean living behavior of communities in disaster-prone areas. The data was collected through questionnaires and analyzed by statistical software. 385 respondents from three different regions, coastal, urban, and inland took part as respondents. The results indicated that more than half of the people have a very high attitude towards cleanliness (%) 63.10, environmental literacy 61, and environmental sensitivity 52.70. but less than half respondents 45.50% had good knowledge about disaster. Environmental education variables have marginal homogeneity between environmental literacy and disaster knowledge (49%), disaster knowledge with environmental sensitivity (28%), and environmental sensitivity with clean living behavior (23%). There are no significant differences in coastal, urban, and inland communities’ attitudes towards environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, and disaster knowledge. However, the perspective of clean-living behavior was significantly different between the three areas. The people aged 46-65 years have a better clean-living behavior and disaster knowledge. Based on gender, the male group had a better knowledge of clean-living behavior, environmental literacy, and disaster knowledge, while the female group had a better environmental sensitivity. The research revealed that there is a common understanding of environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, and disaster knowledge in coastal, urban, and inland communities. The
results also indicated that people in cities have a better understanding of clean living compared to rural and coastal communities.

**Keywords**: environmental literacy, disaster knowledge, environmental sensitivity, clean living behavior

---

### Introduction

The tsunami in Aceh, Indonesia that occurred on 26 December 2004 has provided valuable lessons for the people of Aceh in particular and Indonesia in general. International assistance to accelerate the recovery of Aceh development in various development sectors has provided community independence to manage post-recovery Aceh development. The development of the environmental sector is one of the important points to foster a public attitude in maintaining environmental cleanliness and safety. Previous research has not been carried out to evaluate public awareness in maintaining the safety of the post tsunami disaster environment. This research is a topic of environmental education related to environmental literacy, disaster knowledge, environmental sensitivity, and clean-living behavior. The four components of environmental education are problems often complained by the local government, but the fundamental problems have not yet been really answered.

Moreover, community members need to be responsible for creating awareness, appreciating, and understanding the importance of a healthy natural environment, manifested through environmental literacy [1]. Therefore, it is necessary to improve environmental cleanliness behavior following stipulated expectations [2]. The disaster knowledge and its relationship with environmental behavior is another important aspect. By understanding disasters and their mitigation, the community would prepare earlier when the disaster happened. Considering Indonesia as a disaster-prone area, it is essential to improve every individual's knowledge through environmental education [3].

Furthermore, environmental knowledge is a vital variable mediated by various emotions that promote its behavior [4]. It is possible for any community that lacks environmental knowledge to be destructive and cause disasters. However, human nature’s positive aspect improves policies used in overcoming environmental problems. Religious leaders and scholars also need to embrace environmental knowledge and a pro-environmental attitude [5-6].

Pro-environmental is affected by environmental knowledge obtained from formal educations [7]. Therefore, creating a positive community behavior requires adequate efforts to build environmental concern. Because it is determined by environmental knowledge and sensitivity as expressed in the action to manage the environment [8]. Besides, a positive environmental attitude realized through environmental knowledge is mainly felt when there are materialistic values and high self-awareness [9]. Therefore, the ability of the community to understand and overcome these problems involves the possession of positive knowledge and attitudes towards the environment pursued through related literacy [10].

Consequently, appropriate environmental behavior is observed in its proper management, supported by environmental literacy skills [11]. It is also correlated with environmental knowledge and attitudes towards the environment [12]. Increasing knowledge, developing habits, skills, and attitudes, and forming values related to the environment need to be pursued through environmental education [13]. Some countries integrated environmental education in the subjects such as science, biology, geography, ecology, and social sciences [14]. In comparison, other countries designed it as a separate education [15]. In Indonesia, the K.13 curriculum was developed to design an integrated learning process and create a well-behaved community, including a positive behavior and attitude towards the environment.

Studies and policies regarding environmental issues such as disaster education and school safety management [16], sustainable school disaster preparedness [17], as well as evaluation of building performance for post-disaster reconstruction [18], have been carried out. People in Indonesia, particularly Aceh, did not fully understand the concept of disaster knowledge, environmental literacy, sensitivity, and cleanliness behavior. Mostly carried out after the tsunami attacked Aceh in 2004. Furthermore, the research on public and Islamic school students’ environmental literacy following programs from the central government has also been carried out [19]. After over 17 years of the disaster, the pro-environmental awareness among young generations seems to fade away and decline gradually. Because a natural disaster can repeat itself, the knowledge about it must be sustained in the school curriculum. The young generations should be aware of the repeating catastrophe in the future.

Maintaining pro-environmental awareness in the future required the proper knowledge associated with environmental behavior and attitudes. Therefore, this research is crucial because it aims to identify how the Acehnese community’s environmental literacy and disaster knowledge correlated with environmental sensitiveness and pro-environmental attitudes.

Environmental literacy is an individual’s knowledge of environmental concepts, problems, attitudes, cognitive abilities, beliefs, skills, and behaviors related to this context [20]. It is also defined as the ability to understand, interpret environmental systems, and take appropriate steps to maintain, restore, or improve these conditions [21]. Scholz and Binder [22] defined it from two perspectives. Firstly, the knowledge of
environmental work methods is the central pillar of science. Secondly, science also contributes to explaining how humans interact with the environmental systems to create environmental literacy. Environmental literacy tends to carry out research, investigations, and analytical skills to learn about the environment and ways of dealing with its problems (NAAEE, 2000). Adequate knowledge about the environment is essential because humans are making a significant contribution to the environmental issues through industrial waste, domestic waste, and vehicles. Therefore, raising awareness among the community is in great need and crucial [23].

Several studies imply that environmental literacy is carried out to prepare individuals or communities to understand better and overcome environmental problems [24]. The community’s poor environmental literacy is associated with several factors, such as lack of environmental content of curriculum at all education levels, uninformed community with proper knowledge of environment and disaster, and inadequate environmental-related information published through mass media [25]. According to Simmons [26], The attributes of environmental literacy include 1) Attitudes towards the environment, 2) Ecological Knowledge, 3) Socio-political knowledge, 4) Environmental knowledge, 5) Cognitive skills, 6) Responsibility towards environmental behavior, and 7) Additional determinants of behavioral responsibility. Therefore, this research explores environmental literacy’s effect on disaster knowledge and sensitivity towards environmental cleanliness behavior in the community.

DL is described as knowledge or experience related to events that are harmful to human life, thereby leading to casualties and other losses caused by natural and non-natural factors [24]. Disasters due to biological factors are often caused by earthquakes and floods, and climate changes [27]. It is also caused by improper behavior in protecting the environment and lack of disaster knowledge, which causes damages [28]. Therefore, there is a need to prevent, reduce or avoid potential losses due to disasters, which is realized by ensuring rapid and appropriate assistance for victims and obtaining quick and effective recovery procedures [29]. In a more superficial dimension, disaster is also interpreted as an event that causes environmental damages, misery, or human discomfort.

Furthermore, people often encounter disasters due to their poor environmental cleanliness behavior. In order to overcome this problem requires disaster knowledge based on individual experiences in the form of evaluation, attitudes, points of view, commitment, and motivation. It has been realized that knowledge development is one of the solutions in reducing disaster risk. Therefore, knowledge management plays an essential role in ensuring the availability and accessibility of accurate disaster risk information through effective learning [30]. However, this research focuses on finding the relationship between community behavior regarding environmental cleanliness and disasters knowledge.

Geographical literacy tends to instill disaster knowledge in students. While nurses and other health personnel need to embrace disaster education and training methods. Moreover, other studies stated that the use of all phases of knowledge management ensures its benefits in reducing the disaster’s impact and increasing resilience [31]. Based on the literature, no research has been carried out on the relationship between disaster knowledge and environmental cleanliness behavior and attitudes. Therefore, this study is focused on the aspects previously mentioned.

A person’s sensitivity to the environment is often interpreted as an environmental attitude. In addition, environmental attitude or sensitivity is described as the beliefs, responses, effects, and actions of a person related to their environmental activities [32]. These attitudes are shown in the mindset or response to environmental problems [33]. Consequently, an individual is able to address all matters related to the environment, including the natural, political, economic, and cleanliness aspects. Therefore, as earlier reported, this study also tries to find a relationship between environmental attitudes and cleanliness using the Environmental Attitudes Inventory.

The results of this research have also been frequently realized, although they have not been proven to relate to disaster knowledge and community behavior regarding environmental cleanliness. Furthermore, it was concluded that environmental attitudes are related to environmental knowledge. Conversely, knowledge associated with nature promotes each individual’s ecological attitudes and behavior [34]. Some other studies have also reported that students actively maintain and preserve the environment due to awareness [35-38]. One of the aspects examined in this research is the effect of environmental sensitivity on community behavior regarding environmental cleanliness.

Clean living behavior is considered as one of the variables associated with all forms of environmental health care [39]. The community still displays certain behaviors that do not comply with environmental cleanliness standards, such as inadequate ventilation, unhygienic beds, and overcrowding. Some people still do not understand the importance of clean water, sanitation, and environmental cleanliness [40]. However, certain behaviors such as littering, shabby, and inadequate bathing environment, with poor toilet facilities, leads to an unclean community. Therefore, in this research, the concept of environmental cleanliness behavior is defined as the behavior of members of a society in their environment with respect to cleanliness.

Several research results on environmental cleanliness behavior were obtained as a basis. There is a relationship between individuals and their clean behavior in society. Subsequently, there is a metaphorical relationship between environmental cleanliness, morals, and behavior [32]. Pro-environmental behavior relates to
humans with a compelling sense of empathy towards animals and surroundings. Some other studies reported that the students' environmental behavior needs to be improved by working together in the community [41]. There is a positive correlation between energy-saving behavior and greenhouses, although enormous changes need to be made in human behavioral patterns based on the environment [42]. Based on the literature review, environmental cleanliness behavior, especially in the Indonesian communities, also needs to be determined.

This research focused on investigating whether environmental literacy and disaster knowledge of the Acehnese community impact the Acehnese community’s environmental sensitivity and clean-living behavior in three areas of Aceh province. The purpose of this study was to evaluate the correlation between environmental literacy, disaster knowledge, and environmental sensitivity toward the clean-living behavior of the community at Aceh province.

**Material and Methods**

**Respondents**

This research was carried out in nine regencies or cities in Aceh province. This province consists of rural areas located north of Sumatra Island in the Indonesian archipelago's westernmost part. The total population was represented by randomly selecting nine regencies from the center (Bener Meriah, Gayo Lues, and Aceh Tengah), the urban (Aceh Besar, Banda Aceh, and Pidie), and coastal areas (Aceh Jaya, Aceh Barat, and Nagan Raya). Following the minimum sample size, 385 participants were selected based on the following assumptions (a) residents of disaster-prone areas, (b) regions with the most waste producers, (c) more than 16 years old, and (d) have lived in the current location for at least three months. The final sample characteristics are shown in Table 1.

**Research Instruments**

The instruments were developed based on the work conducted by Tuncer et al. [43], which was intendedly designed to measure the environmental literacy. The knowledge of disasters was evaluated using a survey questionnaire adapted from a disaster preparedness evaluation tool developed. The instrument for assessing environmental sensitivity was developed accordingly. While assessing the community’s clean living behavior the respondents were asked to choose alternative answers according to their respective situations and their understanding of environmental issues. The instrument was developed based on certain community conditions and adjusted to each variable’s needs with 50 items. All items were developed based on 5 Likert’s scales with the following criteria: 5 = strongly agree; 4 = Agree; 3 = Neutral; 2 = Disagree; and 1 = Strongly disagree.

The reliability and environmental education variables were analyzed using statistical software (SPSS) version 22. Respondents’ attitudes or knowledge data (age, gender, and area) regarding environmental literacy, disaster knowledge, environmental sensitivity, and clean living behavior were analyzed using the Kruskal-Wallis test. Meanwhile, the ranking was analyzed using the Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test. The correlation between variables was determined using path analysis by software analysis of a Moment Structures (AMOS) 23.0.

**Results and Discussion**

**Instruments’ Validity and Reliability Test**

Descriptive statistical analysis was carried out to obtain an understanding of the overall data. Table 2 showed that clean living behavior had an average value of 3.86, which exceeded the environmental literacy (3.63, SD 0.41), disaster knowledge (3.49 SD 0.55), and environmental Sensitivity (3.66 SD 0.50) variables. The results showed that the community has a high environmental behavior regarding cleanliness in urban, inland, and coastal areas. It is determined and also affected by environmental sensitivity and literacy. The instrument’s reliability and validity were assessed, as depicted in Table 2.

After being distributed based on the variables, the data was analyzed to categorize each variable’s trend. It is referred to as the calculated average score. Therefore, organizing the tendency of respondents’ answers into scales was carried out using the following formulation: minimum score = 1; maximum score = 5; and scale width = \( \frac{5-1}{5} = 0.8 \). Trend scale categories with interval 1.00-1.80 (very poor), 1.81-2.60 (poor), 2.61-3.40

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Demographics of the Research Sample</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Gender</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Male</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>36.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Female</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>63.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Age (years)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18-25</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>28.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26-45</td>
<td>190</td>
<td>49.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46-65</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>15.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65+</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>6.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Area</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coastal</td>
<td>105</td>
<td>27.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>45.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inland</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>23.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Environmental Education: A Correlational Study...

Based on the data analysis, the trend distribution in environmental literacy and sensitivity, disaster knowledge, and community’s environmental behavior.

Marginal Homogeneity of Variables

This research examines the sensitivity of people living in coastal, urban, and inland areas to protect the environment. Environmental education variables assessed include environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, disaster knowledge, and clean living behavior. People from the three regions have relatively high affinity and activity to protect the environment based on research findings. Specifically, each environmental education variable is considered to have different perspectives from the people who live in these three areas.

### Table 2. Reliability and validity scores of instruments and descriptive statistics of research variables.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Variable</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean</th>
<th>St. Dev</th>
<th>Min</th>
<th>Max</th>
<th>Number of items</th>
<th>Cronbach’s alpha</th>
<th>Validity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clean Living Behavior (CLB)</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>3.86</td>
<td>0.43</td>
<td>2.87</td>
<td>4.87</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.914</td>
<td>0.775</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Sensitivity (ES)</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>3.66</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>4.9</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.912</td>
<td>0.754</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental Literacy (EL)</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>3.63</td>
<td>0.41</td>
<td>2.75</td>
<td>4.75</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>0.947</td>
<td>0.821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disaster Knowledge (DK)</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>3.49</td>
<td>0.55</td>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>0.934</td>
<td>0.721</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(moderate), 3.41-4.20 (high), 4.21-5.00 (very high). Based on the data analysis, the trend distribution in environmental literacy and sensitivity, disaster knowledge, and community’s environmental behavior.

### Fig. 1. Marginal homogeneity of environmental education variables. Environmental literacy and disaster knowledge groups have better marginal homogeneity, followed by a disaster knowledge group with environmental sensitivity and environmental sensitivity with clean living behavior. Bar (Distinct value) and bar error (standard deviation).

### Fig. 2. Environmental education perspective of coastal, urban and inland communities. The three regions have the same environmental education perspective related to environmental literacy, disaster knowledge, and environmental sensitivity. In contrast, clean living behavior has different viewpoints among the three coastal, urban and inland areas.
Generally, Fig. 1 presents the marginal homogeneity between environmental education variables. Environmental literacy with disaster knowledge has excellent marginal homogeneity. Then proceed with disaster knowledge with environmental sensitivity and followed by environmental sensitivity with clean living behavior. In Fig. 2, it is generally illustrated that the attitudes of people who live in coastal, urban and inland areas. These three regions tend to have the same philosophy regarding environmental education (environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, and disaster knowledge). Meanwhile, the perspective of clean-living behavior shows that there are differences between the three areas.

Based on the evaluation of the homogeneity variable, it shows that environmental literacy with
disaster knowledge has a perfect marginal homogeneity. Disaster knowledge with environmental sensitivity has a good relationship, and environmental sensitivity with clean living behavior has a low relationship (Fig. 1). In Fig. 2, the same commitment from the people who live in the coastal area to understanding environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, and disaster knowledge. The attitude of clean living behavior shows that there are differences between the three regions. This difference is because the people living in the three regions have experienced different ways of understanding clean life attitudes according to their respective cultures.

Clean living is closely related to the area’s state and condition inhabited by the community, including awareness and commitment to clean living [44]. Moreover, people living in coastal, urban, and inland regions can be determinants of a clean living’s attitude or behavior. The research findings explained that disaster knowledge has a close relationship with environmental education variables, environmental literacy, and environmental sensitivity. It assumed that respondents who live in coastal, urban and inland areas have good attitudes or knowledge about disasters. This attitude tends to be influenced by environmental literacy and environmental sensitivity, while disaster knowledge always affects clean living behavior [45].

Fig. 3 shows the respondents from the three regions (coastal, urban and inland) have a culture of clean living behavior (CLB) and knowledge of disaster knowledge (DK) that is different from the three regions (coastal, urban, and inland). This difference shows that the culture or attitude of the community dramatically affects clean living behavior. Besides, respondents from coastal areas specifically have a good understanding of environmental literacy (EL), and environmental sensitivity (ES) compared to urban and inland regions. However, these attitudes are still good in both areas.

In Fig. 4, it can be seen that respondents aged 46-65 have sufficient knowledge or culture of clean living behavior (CLB), and knowledge of disaster knowledge (DK) compared to other age groups. It is estimated that those over 40 years of age have a relationship with previous life experiences about disasters to provide knowledge about these two aspects. Furthermore, at the age of 15-25, respondents have a good understanding of environmental literacy (EL) and environmental sensitivity (ES). Age 15-25 years old is considered a phase of adaptation learning to the environment, so this study’s findings correlate with good behavioral responses to the environment.

In Fig. 5, it is reported that the male and female types have sufficient knowledge of clean living behavior (CLB), environmental literacy (EL), and disaster knowledge (DK) compared to the female group. The female group had a better understanding of environmental sensitivity (ES) than the male group. These two characteristics are influenced by life behavior factors, experiences, and public and environmental safety activities. Even though the two have different attitudes towards environmental education variables, they still have a sense of environmental safety.

Data from Figs 3, 4, and 5 reported that people’s knowledge (area), age, and gender regarding environmental education in coastal, urban, and inland regions have different perspectives on their understanding of clean living behavior and disaster knowledge environmental literacy also environmental...
sensitivity. This difference shows the culture or attitudes between communities towards environmental education, apart from being influenced by regional demographics and community behaviors practiced from generation to generation [46]. This study also found that over 40 years of age have excellent environmental education knowledge because over 40 are thought to have good intelligence and experience related to environmental care related to previous life experiences about disasters [47]. The results of this study correlate with good behavioral responses to the environment. Next, the male group understands environmental education related to clean living behavior, environmental literacy, and disaster knowledge. Meanwhile, the female group has a good experience of environmental sensitivity. These findings show that the attitudes between men and women have the same commitment to protecting the environment's safety.

Based on the analysis of the research results, it shows that the three research areas of coastal, urban, and inland generally have high knowledge or attitudes towards clean living behavior (63.10%), followed by environmental literacy (61%), environmental sensitivity (52.70%), and disaster knowledge (45.50%). It is assumed that clean living behavior can contribute to environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, and disaster knowledge. Increased understanding of clean living behavior can serve as a reference for people to always live in a clean environment and sensitive to the environment [49].

Fig. 6 explains that people who live in the coastal, urban, and inland areas have high knowledge or attitudes towards environmental education variables. Clean living behavior (63.10%), environmental literacy (61%), environmental sensitivity (52.70%), and disaster knowledge (45.50%) is a highly committed environmental education tool. Based on the criteria level, the highest understanding of clean living behavior (63.10%) is followed by environmental literacy (61%), environmental sensitivity (52.70%), and disaster knowledge (45.50%).

Table 3. Wilcoxon Signed Ranks Test of environmental education in areas of coastal, urban, and inland, Aceh Indonesia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Variable evaluation</th>
<th>Area of Research</th>
<th>Ranks</th>
<th>N</th>
<th>Mean Rank</th>
<th>Sum of Ranks</th>
<th>Assumed of Value</th>
<th>Statement</th>
<th>Sig. (2-tailed)</th>
<th>Conclusion analyses</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Disaster Knowledge - Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</td>
<td>Negative Ranks</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>192.05</td>
<td>41674.50</td>
<td>Disaster Knowledge &lt; Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>217 respondents knew about environmental literacy, which affects their knowledge about disaster</td>
<td>p&lt;0.05 (0.000)</td>
<td>Understanding disaster knowledge with environmental literacy; there are significant differences between coastal, urban and inland communities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Disaster Knowledge and Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</td>
<td>Positive Ranks</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>168.40</td>
<td>24755.50</td>
<td>Disaster Knowledge &gt; Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>147 respondents knew about disasters which increase their environmental literacy</td>
<td>Understanding disaster knowledge with environmental literacy; there are significant differences between coastal, urban and inland communities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>168.40</td>
<td>24755.50</td>
<td>Disaster Knowledge = Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>A total of 21 respondents knew that disasters related to environmental literacy</td>
<td>Understanding disaster knowledge with environmental literacy; there are significant differences between coastal, urban and inland communities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on the analysis of the research results, it shows that the three research areas of coastal, urban, and inland generally have high knowledge or attitudes towards clean living behavior (63.10%), followed by environmental literacy (61%), environmental sensitivity (52.70%), and disaster knowledge (45.50%). It is assumed that clean living behavior can contribute to environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity, and disaster knowledge. Increased understanding of clean living behavior can serve as a reference for people to always live in a clean environment and sensitive to the environment [49].
Table 3. Continued.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table</th>
<th>Environmental Sensitivity - Environmental Literacy</th>
<th>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</th>
<th>Environmental Sensitivity - Disaster Knowledge</th>
<th>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</th>
<th>Environmental Sensitivity - Disaster Knowledge</th>
<th>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Negative Ranks</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>187.49</td>
<td>34310.00</td>
<td>Environmental Sensitivity &lt; Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>A total of 183 respondents aware about environmental sensitivity, which is influenced by the environmental literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive Ranks</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>189.46</td>
<td>36566.00</td>
<td>Environmental Sensitivity &gt; Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>193 respondents had environmental sensitivity properties to improve understanding of environmental literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>9</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental sensitivity = Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>A total of 9 respondents had environmental sensitivity related to environmental literacy knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>385</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Negative Ranks</td>
<td>165</td>
<td>188.57</td>
<td>31114.50</td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior &lt; Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>165 respondents already had a clean living behavior which was influenced by the environmental literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive Ranks</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>178.40</td>
<td>35680.50</td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior &gt; Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>200 respondents had a clean living behavior to increase understanding of environmental literacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior = Environmental Literacy</td>
<td>20 respondents had clean living behavior related to environmental literacy knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>385</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Negative Ranks</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>165.90</td>
<td>23889.50</td>
<td>Environmental sensitivity &lt; Disaster Knowledge</td>
<td>144 respondents had environmental sensitivity, which is influenced by knowledge of disaster knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Positive Ranks</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>185.45</td>
<td>38945.50</td>
<td>Environmental Sensitivity &gt; Disaster Knowledge</td>
<td>210 respondents had environmental sensitivity characteristics to increase their understanding about disaster knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>31</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Environmental sensitivity = Disaster Knowledge</td>
<td>31 respondents had environmental sensitivity attitudes related to the disaster knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>385</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clean Living Behavior - Disaster Knowledge</td>
<td>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</td>
<td>Negative Ranks</td>
<td>129</td>
<td>171.94</td>
<td>22180.00</td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior &lt; Disaster Knowledge</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td>--------</td>
<td>----------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Positive Ranks</td>
<td>234</td>
<td>187.55</td>
<td>43866.00</td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior &gt; Disaster Knowledge</td>
<td>210 respondents have the nature of clean living behavior to increase their knowledge about disasters</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior = Disaster Knowledge</td>
<td>31 respondents had a clean living behavior attitude related to disaster knowledge</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>385</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>The understanding of clean living behavior with disaster knowledge is that there are differences between people in the coastal, urban and inland areas</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Clean Living Behavior - Environmental Sensitivity</th>
<th>Coastal, Urban, and Inland</th>
<th>Negative Ranks</th>
<th>172</th>
<th>187.85</th>
<th>32311.00</th>
<th>Clean Living Behavior &lt; Environmental Sensitivity</th>
<th>172 respondents had clean living behavior, which was influenced by the knowledge of Environmental Sensitivity</th>
<th>p&gt;0.05 (0.718)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Positive Ranks</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>176.73</td>
<td>33755.00</td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior &gt; Environmental Sensitivity</td>
<td>210 respondents had a clean living behavior to increase their understanding of Environmental Sensitivity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ties</td>
<td>22</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Clean Living Behavior = Environmental Sensitivity</td>
<td>31 respondents had clean living behavior related to Environmental Sensitivity</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>385</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>There is no difference in understanding clean living behavior with environmental sensitivity between the people of the coastal, urban and inland areas</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
in the three regions reached 19.50%, followed by environmental sensitivity (13.20%), disaster knowledge (8.30%), and environmental literacy (8.10%). The rest included in the criteria was level moderate and poor.

The data analysis, which was performed using AMOS 22.0, aims to predict the correlation between the variables used. It is based on the view that this research fulfilled all requirements, theoretical basis, sample size, and proposed assumptions. Therefore the Amos software was considered appropriate [40]. Following the analysis results, the correlation model of the variables, namely environmental literacy and sensitivity, disaster knowledge, and environmental behavior, is obtained in Fig. 7.

Fig. 7 shows the relationship between environmental education variables analyzed in this study. These results interpreted that the culture of clean living behavior can be a reference for increasing knowledge of disaster, environmental sensitivity, and environmental literacy. Environmental literacy has a positive relationship with environmental cleanliness behavior. These results show that environmental cleanliness behavior is affected by environmental literacy in society. This finding is also consistent with previous studies, which stated that environmental literacy significantly affects environmental behavior and promotes its emergence in every individual [41]. These behaviors are affected by various factors [50-52], educational level [53], pro-social [52-54], and cultural conditions of the community including the existing policies in an area.

However, other studies stated that as an essential aspect of environmental literacy, awareness causes individuals to consider their environment, receive related information, correctly understand and evaluate problems, and consciously regulate their behaviors [55]. Community environmental literacy is a determining factor affecting regional development in clean living behavior [56]. Furthermore, these variables play an essential role in creating better public health.

Disaster knowledge has a positive relationship with clean living behavior. It means that individuals with adequate environmental cleanliness behavior are also affected by appropriate knowledge of disaster. This finding is also supported by the research, which stated that environmental knowledge affects behavior through different pathways and tends to possess implications or interventions that seek to enhance environmentally friendly behavior [57]. Another research stated a significant relationship between sanitation knowledge and a person's educational level. Subsequently, formal education offers the essential knowledge and a better understanding of the environment [58].

Increasing environmental knowledge is effectively carried out through outreach or socialization with certain institutions in overcoming related problems. There is a relationship between environmental knowledge and citation practices. Individuals that possess environmental knowledge tend to have a better

Fig. 6. Scale trend of respondents’ attitudes towards environmental education perspectives. In general, majority of respondents have relatively high attitudes or knowledge about environmental literacy, disaster knowledge (45.50%), environmental sensitivity, and environmental behavior in both coastal, urban, and inland areas.

Fig. 7. The correlation path analysis of research questions model of environmental literacy (EL), disaster knowledge (DS), environmental sensitivity (ES), and clean-living behavior (CLB). Value (r) indicates a correlation, and value (p) indicates significance.
awareness of environmental management. Meanwhile, knowledge (objective and subjective) affects pro-environmental behavior [57-59].

Environmental sensitivity has a positive relationship with environmental cleanliness behavior, which is strongly supported by sensitivity. It is consistent with previous studies that stated that environmental behavior is affected by certain attitudes and actions [60]. People’s recycling waste behavior correlates with social norms. However, some other research stated that students from developing and developed countries have differences related to external factors such as culture, and environmental structure, which tends to affect their behavior towards the environment [61]. Sensitivity to environmental problems is related to consumer choice behavior in purchasing environmentally friendly products [62]. The environmental awareness, product features, promotional activities, and prices positively affect consumer behavior in making friendly purchases [63].

Environmental literacy also has a positive relationship with environmental sensitivity. Generally, people have good environmental sensitivity because they possess adequate environmental literacy. Previous studies supported this research, which stated a significant relationship between environmental literacy and attention. The framework that connects environmental literacy is formed based on attitudes and behavioral intentions [64]. Moreover, environmental experience has a significant effect on its literacy, and mass media is serving as the primary source of information [65].

Explicit attitudes affect behavior through environmentally friendly behavior pathways. Individual acquisition of responsible environmental behavior triggers changes in the context of environmental literacy related to global politics. Students that spend much time watching television and interacting with electronic media do not show any concern for the environment. Furthermore, environmental literacy positively affects green consumption behavior both partially and simultaneously [66-67].

However, environmental literacy has no relationship with disaster knowledge. These results show that disaster and environmental knowledge have different dimensions. These findings are consistent with previous studies, which stated that no significant difference was detected in undergraduates’ environmental knowledge from two universities. Community environmental awareness is inseparable from natural conditions, particularly in rural areas. Therefore environmental education needs to be embraced at an early age to create awareness and patterns of behavior in accordance with expectations. Disaster knowledge as part of environmental knowledge greatly assists the community in environmental literacy. Therefore, one of the methods used to avoid this disaster is to abandon their current thoughts and behavior. In addition, education is the most effective tool for creating a sustainable environmental system.

Conceptual knowledge acquired in an educational institution has no natural effect without applying reality. On the contrary, people who acquire disaster knowledge directly through family and community socialization tend to handle these issues effectively. The people of Simeulue-Aceh, Indonesia, demonstrated that we could offer relevant disaster knowledge, thereby minimizing casualties during the 2004 tsunami. This knowledge is manifested in the community through attitudes and sensitivity to the natural environment. Furthermore, this condition was different in other Acehnese communities because the inhabitants of Banda Aceh City, the west coast, and the central region had numerous victims due to the natural disasters. The leading cause is that a person’s environmental and disaster knowledge was not adequately integrated with attitudes and environmental sensitivity in daily activities.

Disaster knowledge has no relationship with environmental sensitivity. These results indicate that environmentally sensitive people do not necessarily possess the proper understanding of the disaster. This research is supported by previous findings, which stated that environmental concern is not related to disaster preparedness. The teacher has a satisfactory level of environmental knowledge. However, the level of action displayed is poor. The environmental knowledge is insignificantly related to environmental attitudes [68]. Furthermore, another research stated that environmental school students had poor preservation and utilization attitudes than those in non-environmental institutes [69].

However, some other research reported that tourists’ appropriate environmental knowledge of the Penghu Islands is associated with stronger environmental sensitivity, which is positively related to their attachment to certain places [70]. This condition is thought to be different because the research subjects are tourists that already knew the destination. Moreover, it is inversely proportional to this research subject: the local people with environmental sensitivity do not harmonize with their knowledge.

Conclusions

The research findings illustrated that environmental literacy, disaster knowledge, and environmental sensitivity are positively correlated with clean living behavior. Literacy about the environment, disaster knowledge, and environmental sensitivity are essential aspects of encouraging clean living behavior. The government, therefore, should pay intention to the elements by incorporating the concepts into the school curriculum as early as possible at the primary level. Moreover, the most significant correlation showed by disaster knowledge with environmental literacy, environmental sensitivity with disaster knowledge, and clean living behavior with disaster knowledge (p<0.05). It indicates that environmental literacy is crucial
to increase the environmental sensitivity among the Acehnese people of Indonesia. The research findings recommended that environmental education programs be integrally loaded to the school curriculum, and people should repeatedly be informed through multi-channel social media elements by involving various government agencies and non-governmental organizations regarding environmental aspects. The community needs to be provided with an in-depth knowledge of disaster and environmental sensitivity related to its cleanliness. Collaboration between institutions, significantly higher educations, other non-formal institutes, and government agencies related to the environment is intended to increase disaster knowledge and environmental literacy, sensitivity, and cleanliness behavior in the Acehnese community, Indonesia.

Acknowledgments

This research was funded by Universitas Syiah Kuala through “Penelitian Lektor Kepala” scheme, grant number: 121/UN11.2.1/PT.01.03/PNBP/2021.

Conflict of Interest

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

References


44. LARSON L.R., STEDMAN R.C., COOPER C.B., DECKER D.J., Understanding the multi-dimensional structure of pro-environmental behavior. Journal of Environmental Psychology, 43. 112. 2015.


Environmental Education: A Correlational Study... 425


58. NOGAMI T. What Behaviors We Think We Do When a Disaster Strikes: Misconceptions and Realities of Human Disaster Behavior. In Integrating Disaster Science and Management (pp. 343-362). Elsevier, 2018.


60. NURWAQIDAH S., RAMLI M. Environmental Literacy Mapping Based on Adiwiyata and Non Adiwiyata at Junior High School in Ponorogo. KnE Social Sciences, 3 (15), 179, 2019.


64. OTTO S., PENSINI P. Nature-based environmental education of children: Environmental knowledge and connectedness to nature, together, are related to ecological behaviour. Global Environmental Change, 47, 88, 2017.


