



## Bali's Garbage Crisis: What Thoughts Prevent Us to Help?

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**Abstract.** Thousands of metric tonnes of garbage remain unmanaged, and despite available solutions, many people are still reluctant to participate in proper waste disposal. This study aimed to identify the reasons behind the unwillingness of different age groups in Kuta Selatan, Badung, Bali to separate their garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories. This qualitative research used surveys and interviews for data collection. The survey involved three age groups: adolescents (10–19) with 15 respondents, young adults (20–39) with 15 respondents, and middle adults (40–60) with 11 respondents. Interviews were conducted with two environmental experts, and the data were analyzed using thematic analysis. The results showed that reluctance across age groups stemmed mainly from limited awareness of the environmental benefits of waste separation and the negative impacts of improper disposal. Adolescents additionally cited the lack of strict policies and penalties. Young and middle adults shared similar reasons, mostly linked to insufficient knowledge and low motivation. Environmental experts emphasized the importance of improving public awareness of waste management practices and enhancing waste management infrastructure through additional facilities and better-quality services. Overall, this study highlights the need for stronger policies, improved infrastructure, and increased public education to boost community participation in waste separation in Kuta Selatan.

**Keywords:** Environmental Awareness; Garbage Separation; Public Participation; Waste Management; Waste Policy.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

According to Bali Provincial Government Bali has generated a total of 1,085,507 metric tonnes of garbage and approximately 18% or 190,726 metric tonnes were not properly managed (Ardiyanto, Prakasa, Achmadi, 2024). According to Kate Giesler in the fall of 2018 locals of Bali have mentioned that it was common for people to burn their trash with over 66,8% of Indonesians burning their trash (Elliot, & Elliot, 2020). It was not illegal to do so, they mentioned that many landfills were getting full so there was no place to put their trash therefore the solution by the locals would be to burn their trash. Moreover, Kate Giesler concluded that most people are unaware of how to recycle and while some people do care about reducing plastic, it is not the biggest concern for everyone. Other than just burning their trash people have also done other things in disposing of the trash themselves including dumping the garbage in the forest and rivers, leaving the garbage on the streets, and burying the garbage in rural areas. Though these were methods of disposing of the garbage themselves there is one method where they do not dispose of it themselves which is by leaving it to be picked up and brought to landfills, while this is also not a perfect method it is the safest out of all said and in Bali, the largest landfill is Tempat Pembuangan Akhir (TPA) Suwung, which is located on the edge of Denpasar, near the ocean (Kate Giesler, 2018).

Because of this phenomenon, it leads to the conclusion that there are complications in managing waste that can be rooted in the lack of facilities to collect, transport, and process the garbage properly, lack of prioritization to develop environmental sustainability, and the lack of awareness on the topic of environmental protection. From the root causes, there are several solutions available that can solve this including the investment in waste to energy technology, seminars to educate the government and the public on methods to manage waste, and create stricter penalties or regulations on recycling and proper waste management. Other than this there was a previous solution to the complications of managing waste which is by Joshua Hussam from the Institute of Energy Futures, College of Engineering, Design and Physical Sciences, Brunel University London, his solution was to separate the non-biodegradable and biodegradable which can result in a reduction in half the quantity of the garbage that needs to be transported to landfills, recycling centers, or incinerators (Jouhara, H., 2017). Despite this effective solution, there is still a weakness of the solution that can be improved which is factors that may cause people to not want to participate in separating waste as in the reasons or thoughts of people not wanting to separate waste since Jouhara did not mention what thoughts can make a person not want to contribute in helping reducing waste. The research question of this research is “What factors cause the reluctance of people to separate their garbage?”. The hypothesis of this research is that people lack knowledge and awareness of the impacts of improper waste disposal and people lack waste management infrastructure. The key objective of this research would then be to identify the reasons for the unwillingness of various age groups to separate their garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable. By achieving this objective this research would be able to figure out some of the main reasons people of different age groups do not want to contribute to the waste management in separating garbage to then provide insights and help in creating more effective waste management strategies that could overcome the obstacles.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

Paul-Michel Foucault, born on October 15, 1926, in Poitiers, France, was a French historian and philosopher whose work critically examined the relationship between power, knowledge, and social control. He was educated in one of France's most prestigious schools, Lycée Henri-IV, before attending the École Normale Supérieure (ENS), where he studied philosophy. Foucault's early life was marked by struggles with mental health, including a suicide attempt in 1948, which led to his hospitalization in a psychiatric institution (Nicki Lisa Cole, Ph.D., 2019). This experience had a profound impact on his intellectual development,

shaping his lifelong critique of medical and psychiatric institutions as mechanisms of social control.

Foucault's placement in a psychiatric hospital challenged his perception of mental institutions rather than viewing them as places for treatment, he saw them as juridical spaces where individuals were categorized, disciplined, and controlled based on socially constructed definitions of "normality" (Michel Foucault, 2015). This early experience laid the foundation for his theory of power-knowledge, which argues that those in power shape knowledge to maintain control over society (Faubion, J., 2024).

One of Foucault's central ideas is that power and knowledge are inseparable (Raine, S., 2024). Unlike traditional views that see knowledge as a tool for enlightenment, Foucault argued that knowledge is always tied to power, it is used to define what is considered "true" and "acceptable" within a given society. Institutions such as schools, prisons, hospitals, and governments use knowledge not only to educate but also to regulate and discipline individuals. This idea is reflected in how modern education systems dictate what is considered "valid" knowledge. According to a blog on NUSites, it is common to hear phrases such as: "You need knowledge, you need an excellent education to get to a good university, and that a good university and a good education lead to a brilliant career."

This suggests that more knowledge leads to more power. However, Foucault disagrees with this idea. Instead, he argues that knowledge is not simply accumulated it is produced and reinforced within specific power structures, meaning that knowledge only holds value if it aligns with the dominant discourse of a society (Lmb., 2020).

Foucault introduced the concept of disciplinary power, which explains how institutions regulate behavior through surveillance, normalization, and punishment (Foucault, Discipline and Punish, 1975). His panopticon metaphor, inspired by Jeremy Bentham's prison design, describes how constant surveillance creates self-regulation even if individuals are not always being watched, they behave as if they are, leading to a society where people internalize control mechanisms.

In the digital age, technology has expanded this form of power. Social media platforms, search engines, and data collection systems function as modern panoptic structures, where users are constantly monitored, categorized, and influenced. The desire for dopamine-driven gratification—such as likes, shares, and instant feedback conditions users to engage with technology in ways that shape their behavior. This aligns with Foucault's argument that power is not just oppressive but also productive it does not simply punish, but it also guides and shapes individuals into particular roles.

Additionally, this theory can be applied to environmental policies and waste management. The failure to address excessive waste is not just due to a lack of information but reflects how power structures prioritize economic and political interests over environmental concerns. Governments and corporations decide what knowledge is considered "important," leading to the neglect of sustainable waste management policies.

Despite its influence, Foucault's theory of power-knowledge has been subject to various criticisms. Critics such as Jürgen Habermas (1987) argue that Foucault presents society as overly deterministic, where individuals appear powerless against societal structures. Habermas contends that people are not just passive subjects of power but can actively resist and transform their social conditions. Unlike Marxists, who see power as primarily economic and class-based, Foucault's power-knowledge theory is decentralized, making it difficult to identify clear agents of change or revolution (Kurt Borg, 2015). While Foucault critically analyzes power systems, he does not offer concrete solutions for resisting or dismantling them. This has led some scholars to describe his work as pessimistic or overly critical without direction for reform. Ian Hacking (2002) argues that Foucault underestimates human agency, failing to acknowledge how people actively resist power and reshape their environments.

While Foucault's early works focused on historical institutions (e.g., prisons, asylums, schools), his later writings shifted toward ethics, self-governance, and the individual's role in shaping identity. In *The History of Sexuality* (1976–1984), he explored how power is internalized by individuals, meaning people regulate themselves even when external surveillance is absent. This marks an important evolution in his thinking from seeing individuals as passive subjects of power to recognizing their capacity for self-governance.

Another major development in his thought was biopolitics, which refers to how governments regulate life itself, including public health, reproductive rights, and population control (Foucault, 1978). In today's world, biopolitics plays a crucial role in data surveillance, pandemic responses, and AI governance, demonstrating how his theories remain relevant in the digital age.

In recent years, scholars have extended Foucault's work to digital technology, examining how modern data collection, social media algorithms, and AI-driven decision-making serve as new mechanisms of power (Michel Foucault, 1972-1977). This suggests that Foucault's insights are not outdated but continue to evolve in response to contemporary challenges. Foucault's power-knowledge theory provides a crucial framework for understanding how institutions shape knowledge, how surveillance influences behavior, and how digital technology reinforces control mechanisms. His ideas remain highly relevant today,

particularly in discussions of social media influence, environmental policy neglect, and the role of data surveillance in everyday life.

However, criticisms of Foucault highlight the need to balance structural critiques with individual agency, recognizing both the constraints imposed by power structures and the potential for resistance. While his early works focused on institutions of control, his later theories evolved to emphasize self-governance and personal autonomy, showing that power is not absolute but can be negotiated.

By applying Foucault's insights to modern technology, governance, and digital culture, this research seeks to explore how power operates in contemporary society and how individuals can critically engage with it to challenge dominant narratives. Back to the root of the problems of complications in managing waste which were the lack of facilities to collect, transport, and process the garbage properly, lack of prioritization to develop environmental sustainability, and the lack of awareness on the topic of environmental protection. Based on what Foucault says about power and knowledge the excessive waste issue is not only a matter of information absence but it reflects how power can structure a prioritization on certain discussions and practices over others. This involves how governments and other organizations could ignore environmental policies and education which can cause a large amount of excessive waste.

### **3. METHOD**

The key objective of this research was to identify the reasons for the unwillingness of various age groups to separate their garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable. Based on the key objective of this research, the type of research which was used will be qualitative research. This method was chosen as the research will focus on the perspectives of people and the data which will be collected during this research will be verbal or textual data with the data collection method of surveys and interviews.

The data was collected by the interviews that were with environmental experts (2 people) with one of them being a teacher in CH. The data that would be collected from the interviews included what strategies can be done to promote waste management, what is the biggest challenge in teaching the community/students about waste management, and what might be the main reason people may be reluctant to manage waste based on your viewpoint.

The data that was collected by the survey were whether they separate their garbage or not, the reason behind not separating garbage if they do not separate their garbage and, what could motivate them to participate in garbage separation by doing surveys with the respondents

of people in Kuta Selatan, Badung, Bali aged in the groups of 10-19 (adolescent), 20-39 (young adulthood), and 40-60 (middle adulthood) (Noam, G., 2001). The survey had 41 respondents in total from all age groups. Therefore the population for this research were residents in Jimbaran, Kuta Selatan, Badung, Bali of various age groups with the sample being 15 people of the adolescent age group, 15 from young adulthood, and 11 from middle agehood in Jimbaran village in Kuta Selatan, Badung, Bali.

After gathering all the data this thesis analyzed the data using the thematic analysis method. The thematic analysis was used as it would be able to find the common patterns within responses and categorize them into topics. The qualitative data was analyzed by firstly organizing the data and highlighting the key points in the survey so then it could be visualized in graphs after using thematic analysis to find the patterns.

#### 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

##### Results

The results provide an analysis of the data collected through interviews and surveys, focusing on the key themes that emerged during the study. The primary objective of this research was to explore the reasons for the unwillingness of various age groups in Kuta Selatan, Badung, Bali, to separate their garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable categories. This section synthesizes the findings, highlights recurring patterns across different age groups, and compares them with the insights provided by environmental experts.



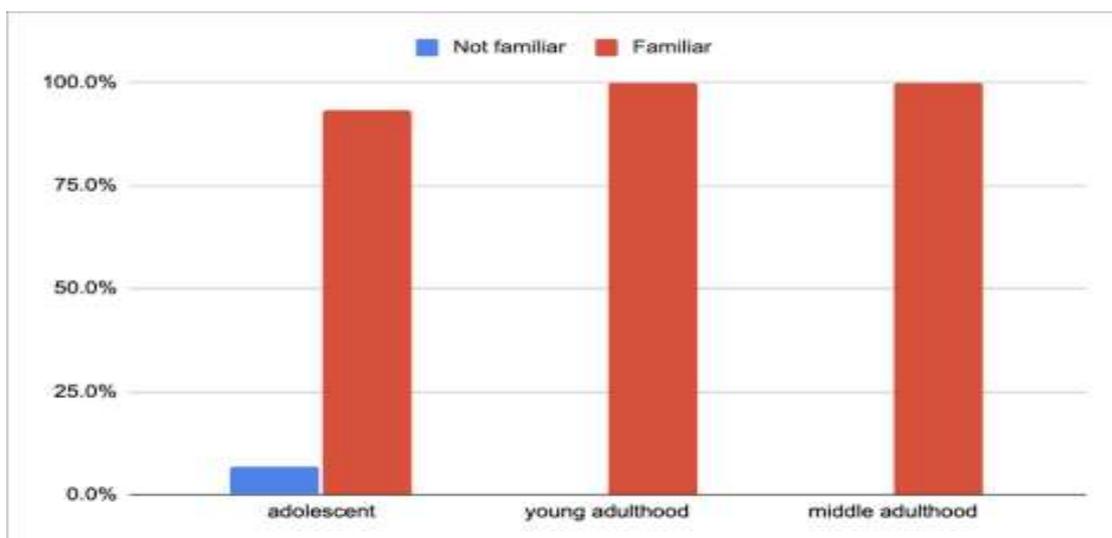
**Figure 1.** Challenges/reasons people do not separate garbage in adolescent age group.





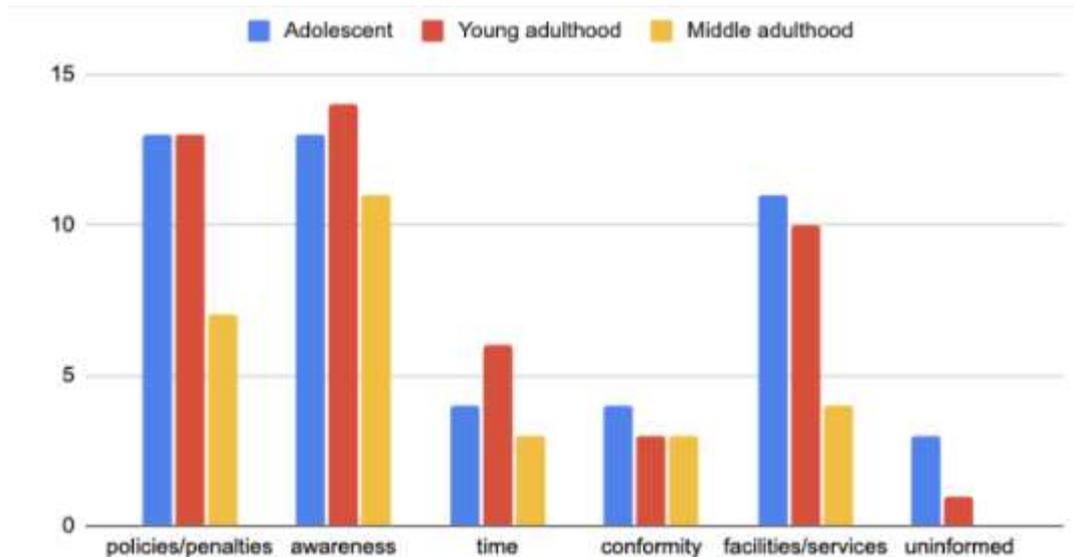
**Figure 3.** Challenges/reasons people do not separate garbage in the middle adulthood age group.

Similarly to the rest, the main answer to the challenge of separating garbage was the lack of facilities and services. Some people found this action also quite pointless because it would end up combined further on in the garbage processing as well as some were unfamiliar with the practice since no one had ever really done it before so it would take a while to get used to if they started doing it in their household. In addition to the lack of facilities and services many of the respondents would prefer if the bins were provided by the government so they would not have to buy so many bins or have better services for garbage separation and pick up.



**Figure 4.** Familiarity with the concept of separating garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable.

Nearly all respondents had a basic understanding of garbage separation with only one respondent (6.7%) in the age group of adolescents not being familiar with the concept as for young and middle adulthood, all respondents had basic understandings on the concept. According to both open-ended questions and non-open-ended questions, there were many factors contributing to their reluctance in managing garbage, mainly when it comes to the facilities and services since some do not have enough garbage bins and not enough recycling and composting centers.



**Figure 5.** Reasons for not separating garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable.

This bar chart visualizes 6 reasons people of 3 age groups may not be separating their garbage. From this, we can see that the main reason is awareness, where it meant that the people were not aware of the environmental benefits of this action and would consider doing this action if more information was shared on how to do this. Young adulthood, which ranges from the ages 20-39 with 15 respondents, had this as their reason the most with 93.33% and middle adulthood thought the same, thinking that not much information was shared about the benefit of this action, and middle adulthood, ranging from 40-60 with 11 respondents, had 86.67% thinking this. The adolescent age group ranging from 10-19 with 15 respondents had a tie on two reasons: the policies/penalties, which were that the government should create more penalties or policies, and if not creating them, then the government should make the current policies more strict. Now looking at the right side of the bar chart, we see that people being uninformed about how to do garbage separation is the least chosen option, with 20% from adolescence, 6.67% from young adulthood, and 0% from middle adulthood, so it seems that lots of people were already aware on how to separate biodegradable and non-biodegradable there were just other issues.

Other than the survey this research conducted two interviews with two environmental experts with the first being a teacher from a school and the second interviewee owning a recycling center. The first environmental expert mentioned that the main issue here was related to the knowledge of people in Bali such as education systems not implementing the curriculum of topics in relation to waste management and people who do have knowledge about waste management not wanting to share it mainly from waste communities. Other than the knowledge of people in Bali the government should be more strict in creating policies and giving punishments and more regulations to tourists as it is often seen that tourists litter around the streets or beaches, continuing on the mindset of everyone also plays a role in this for either caring or not caring since everyone has different backgrounds and receive different education, in social media there are many toxic things there which may also influence a persons mind. From the first environmental experts observations they found that people usually do not want to contribute or listen because they are lazy and would prefer direct benefits like rewards. Balinese people also do not have the best understanding of waste management yet because in some areas people do not receive knowledge about this in in remote areas of villages and even though we may not know if people do or do not it is more likely people living closer to the city receive more knowledge about waste management they just do not want to do it because they are lazy and may think someone else will do it so it will not really take effect if they are the only one not doing it so then public understanding really affects waste management which is why everything will be better if the public understands how to manage waste, the effects of waste, and the benefits.

The second environmental expert also thought that the waste management strategies in Bali could be improved and the public's knowledge about waste management should be improved as they do not care too much since they are unaware of the impact of garbage to the environment and do not care for the environment. People should be encouraged to turn their organic waste to compost and based on the survey some people did not separate their garbage because they were not being encouraged to do so, these responses especially came from respondents in the adolescent and young adulthood age group. Even though Bali has already made several efforts for waste management this environmental expert thought that the quality of waste management is still unsatisfactory since only a few traditional villages have 3R waste processing facilities and the government itself is also not optimal in campaigning and socializing to communities because environmental organizations usually take up the initiative to do that, lastly the second environmental expert thinks that Bali lacks funds for waste management like a lack of waste transport fleets and income of people in cleaning up waste is

not appropriate.

In analysing data this research focused on using thematic analysis, this method of analysis was mainly used to analyze interview transcriptions and open-ended questions in the survey. This was done by understanding the answers given by respondents and after reading through all responses the author has started noting down the key parts which would be included to lead out a theme. Upon completing this process for all the answers the author began putting key ideas for all of them so they could be rechecked and confirmed that they were accurate enough to represent the data therefore the final labels can be made.

Based on these results the author has found that firstly all age groups generally have the basic understanding of the concept of separating garbage however people do not do this for two main causes with the first being awareness which is the awareness of environmental benefits from separating garbage and the second being a lack of facilities and services. Everyone is also barely influenced by people around them with the percentage of people being influenced only 27% and below which counts for all age groups.

The hypothesis at the beginning of the research was “people lack knowledge and awareness of the impacts of improper waste disposal and people lack waste management infrastructure” and after conducting the whole research the findings were aligned with the hypothesis. The findings were aligned with the hypothesis because the findings showed that the main reasons people do not separate garbage is the awareness which is people being unaware of the benefits of separating garbage and impact of improper waste disposal. The environmental experts also thought that this should be improved in Bali as the knowledge from the public still is not the best in terms of knowing how to manage waste, what are the effects, benefits, etc. as for lack of waste management infrastructure this was the third most chosen choice with more people agreeing on this reason when it came down to open-ended questions.

## **Discussion**

Turning back to Michel Foucault with his power and knowledge theory, the author thinks that the findings of the research supports the power and knowledge theory by Michel Foucault. To familiarize again with Foucault’s theory he believes that power and knowledge are inseparably linked, and power is founded through accepted forms of knowledge like scientific understandings and truth. So how exactly did the findings support Foucault's theory on power and knowledge? Well, firstly, we know that one of the main reasons for people not separating garbage is because of a lack of awareness, there is limited knowledge about waste management and a lack of action and initiative. People who have correct knowledge in this setting of waste management would hold a rank of power in influencing behavior. However,

while Foucault's theory helps explain why a lack of awareness limits participation in waste separation, it does not fully account for other systemic barriers, such as the lack of waste management infrastructure, inadequate enforcement of policies, and economic constraints. His theory primarily emphasizes the role of knowledge and discourse in shaping power but does not directly address the practical and logistical issues that contribute to poor waste management behavior. One weakness of this theory in the given context is that it may overlook the role of institutional failures, such as inadequate governmental support and financial limitations, which were significant barriers identified in this study. Nevertheless, the theory remains strong in explaining how awareness and education play a crucial role in influencing public behavior.

Beyond knowledge and awareness, several underlying factors influenced the research findings. One significant factor is governmental enforcement and policy effectiveness. The study revealed that while some policies exist, they are not strictly implemented. Respondents suggested that stricter laws and penalties could encourage greater participation in waste separation. This highlights that knowledge alone is not enough; regulatory frameworks and enforcement mechanisms are crucial.

Another key factor is social influence and motivation. The study found that people are barely influenced by those around them, with only 27% or fewer respondents indicating external influence. This suggests that waste separation is not a widely accepted social norm in Bali. In contrast, in societies where waste separation is embedded in cultural practices, social influence plays a larger role in encouraging compliance.

Additionally, economic incentives and convenience emerged as critical factors. Some respondents mentioned that they would be more willing to separate their waste if they received tangible benefits, such as monetary rewards or government-provided bins. This finding suggests that behavioral change could be encouraged by introducing incentive-based programs or government-subsidized waste separation initiatives.

Furthermore, geographical and infrastructural disparities may also contribute to the reluctance in separating waste. The interviews with environmental experts pointed out that urban areas generally have more knowledge and access to waste management facilities, whereas rural areas may lack exposure to environmental education and services. This regional disparity highlights the need for targeted interventions based on location-specific challenges.

Research by Saputra et al. (2021) on waste management in Jakarta found that limited environmental education and a lack of government campaigns contributed to the public's reluctance to separate waste. Similarly, Yulianto et al. (2020) in Yogyakarta identified

inadequate waste disposal infrastructure as a key factor leading to low adherence to waste separation policies. These findings are consistent with this study, which highlights the shortage of recycling facilities and waste bins as major obstacles. Made and Widiani (2024) further emphasized that although the government in Bali has introduced waste separation policies, weak enforcement has rendered them largely ineffective, a concern echoed by respondents in this research who expressed frustration over the lack of strict implementation.

Overall, studies in Indonesia and other developing nations consistently indicate that low public awareness, insufficient environmental education, poor infrastructure, and ineffective policy enforcement are significant barriers to successful waste separation. These challenges align with this study's conclusions, which emphasize the necessity for improved waste management facilities, stricter regulations, and greater efforts to raise public awareness. While much existing research focuses on governmental responsibilities and infrastructure, fewer studies examine the cultural perspectives that influence waste separation behaviors. This study found that attitudes such as apathy and laziness play a crucial role in waste management decisions. Lee & Wang (2019) in South Korea, where waste separation is widely practiced, demonstrated how social norms shape public behavior, suggesting that cultural influences in Bali should be given more consideration in policy development.

Furthermore, research from Western contexts (Johnson & Becker, 2020) highlights the effectiveness of financial incentives, such as deposit refund systems, in encouraging waste separation. However, Bali currently lacks such incentives, and the findings of this study suggest that financial rewards could be an effective strategy to increase participation. Unlike studies conducted in non-tourist regions, this research also identified tourism as a key factor impacting waste management, as noted by environmental experts. The influx of tourists contributes to increased littering and complicates local waste disposal efforts. Sari & Kusuma (2023) reported similar challenges in Bali's tourism-heavy areas, highlighting the need for tailored waste management strategies in such regions.

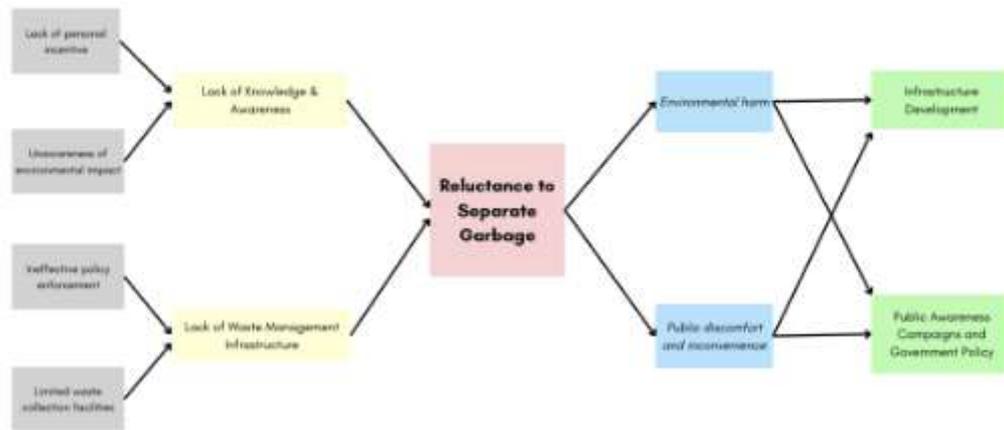
While previous research has largely centered on government policies and infrastructure, this study underscores the importance of cultural attitudes, financial incentives, and tourism in shaping waste separation behaviors. To enhance waste management in Bali, policies should integrate social norms, economic incentives, and customized strategies for tourist areas to ensure more effective waste disposal practices.

The aim of this research was to find out the reasons for the reluctance to separate garbage from different age groups with the earlier problem that led to this being complications in managing waste. So the findings of this research managed to find out 6 reasons people of

adolescent age group, young adulthood, and middle adulthood do not separate garbage where these 6 reasons are policies/penalties, awareness, time, conformity, facilities/services, uninformed. Policies/penalties was the reason that the policies and penalties were not strict enough and there were not enough this reason became the second most chosen for all age groups, for awareness being the most chosen for all age groups aside from adolescents being tied up with policies/penalties and this reason meant the awareness of environmental benefits as well as the impact of improper waste disposal. Time, this reason was people not having enough time and conformity was following others behaviors so like if others did not separate their garbage they would not either, these two reasons were not chosen much but still is not the most least chosen. Facilities/services was the third most chosen option and this reason was if there was not enough waste management infrastructure and from the survey people mainly agreed on this during open ended questions. Lastly uninformed, this reason was the least chosen for all age groups with 0 respondents out of 11 from middle adulthood choosing it and this reason was only if they did not understand how to separate garbage and most people already knew how.

Applying the findings from this research to everyone's actual life can be done with improving waste management strategies as that was also the focus of the research. Firstly is improving facilities and services for waste management which can be providing or ensuring all houses and public spaces have separate bins that are accessible and labeled to make sure the garbage does not end up mixing, then there is the waste collection services the government should create or improve the current facilities in conducting 3R waste processing and having more compost centers around Bali. Secondly for the government they should strengthen the policies and regulations, create more programs in waste management such as rewards which may encourage people to participate, people in Bali also might not be aware of the policies too so the government should share more information on the policies, so enforcing more clear and strict regulations in waste management can also help in waste management. Something almost everyone can do is increase public awareness and education and even though some people are not teachers if they have knowledge in waste management people can help in organization, volunteer teaching, and spreading information through social media like creating videos, posters, articles, etc. and there could be more workshops and seminars for communities to educate them on waste management practices.

Based on the discussion above, below is the diagram to conclude the relationships between the factors causing reluctance to separate garbage, their consequences, and potential solutions.



**Figure 6.** The Conceptual Framework of Reluctance to Separate Garbage.

The diagram above presents a structured cause-and-effect framework explaining why people in Bali are reluctant to separate their garbage into biodegradable and non-biodegradable waste. At the top, the central issue is the "Reluctance to Separate Garbage," which is influenced by two primary factors: Lack of Knowledge & Awareness and Lack of Waste Management Infrastructure.

The lack of knowledge and awareness stems from two key sub-factors: unawareness of environmental impact and lack of personal incentive. Many individuals are either unaware of how improper waste disposal harms the environment or do not see any immediate benefits from participating in waste separation efforts. On the other hand, lack of waste management infrastructure contributes to the problem as well, particularly due to limited waste collection facilities and ineffective policy enforcement. If the government does not provide sufficient bins or establish an efficient waste separation system, people find the practice inconvenient. Similarly, if policies exist but are not strictly enforced, there is little motivation to follow them.

As a result, the reluctance to separate garbage leads to two major consequences: environmental harm and public discomfort and inconvenience. Waste mismanagement contributes to pollution, overflowing landfills, and ecological damage, while also making public spaces unclean and unhealthy for residents and tourists alike.

To address these challenges, the diagram suggests two key solutions: Public Awareness Campaigns and Government Policy & Infrastructure Development. Public awareness campaigns can educate individuals about the environmental impact of waste mismanagement and emphasize the benefits of participation in waste separation. Meanwhile, government-led improvements in infrastructure and enforcement can ensure that proper

facilities are in place and that regulations are followed consistently. By combining these strategies, it is possible to create a more effective waste management system in Bali that encourages public participation and reduces environmental damage.

During the time of this research, there have also been some limitations the first one was the sample size during data collection, the survey had a total respondents of 41 people with 15 coming from adolescents, 15 from young adulthood, and 11 from middle adulthood the issue here was in middle adulthood since it does not have 15 respondents like the others the sample size was quite unequal and 41 respondents itself is not too many responses so from the separate age groups there was not a very large difference in some results however if their answers were actually meant to be similar then it would have been more visible with a larger sample size. For future research, some suggestions from the author would include conducting in-depth interviews with more people whether it is the tourists, locals, environmental experts, etc. This can help them see from their perspectives of waste management for example whether they separate their garbage or not, what are their thoughts behind it, and their experiences that might have played a role in changing their mind.

## **5. CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the main reason adolescents do not separate garbage is because the policies are not strict enough and they are not aware of the environmental benefits, young adulthood and middle adulthood share the same main reason which is being unaware of environmental benefits, as for environmental experts they thought that public knowledge should be improvised and waste management infrastructure should be improved. The research question was “What factors cause the reluctance of people to separate their garbage?” this research has found that the main reason people are reluctant to separate garbage is that there is not much information being shared of the environmental benefits from separating garbage and the impact of improper waste disposal other than this reason there were 5 other reasons from most chosen to least being policies/penalties, facilities/services, time, conformity, and lastly uniformed on how to separate garbage. Acknowledging the limitations of this study, the sample size was relatively small from each age groups therefore findings may not fully represent the population of each age group in Bali, future research can investigate the issue of reluctance to waste separation further with a larger study scale and explore more factors that may influence behaviours in waste management. From this research, figuring out some of the main reasons people of different age groups do not want to contribute to the waste management in separating garbage can help other people create more effective waste management strategies that could

overcome the obstacles to increase participation in waste management. The findings can assist the development of more effective waste management strategies and in the real world people can see this at policy development and community activities, in policy development, they could focus on making stricter penalties and the government should consider improving waste management facilities as well as their availability, community activities help in the education of the community which may be from workshops or seminars to make them aware of the benefits and impacts of improper and proper waste separation increasing waste management participation. In Bali there are not only locals but tourists too so there should be a development in educating tourists on responsible waste disposal and providing guidelines to tourists when arriving at Bali or in public spaces as things like posters so they would be able to see it. Other studies have also shown similar results to this study such as a study by Yulianto et al. (2020) in Yogyakarta where they identified inadequate waste disposal infrastructure as the key factor leading to low commitment to waste separation policies and another study done by Made and Widiani (2024) emphasized how the government in Bali still has weak enforcement of waste separation policies that the government introduced, similarly to this study the author has found that the people of Bali do not separate their garbage due to these similar reasons of unstrict policies and penalties also the lack of waste infrastructure with the most chosen being the lack of awareness from people on the environmental benefits of the action.

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