**SEEING WASTE PROJECT INTERVIEW**

**Interviewer:** Jonathan Kwangulero

**Date :** 9th December, 2019

**Location :** Sidewalk at Queen Elizabeth Central Hospital

**Interviewer:** Hello, my name is Jonathan Kwangulero. I’m a researcher at the Polytechnic. I’m conducting research investigating attitudes and perceptions towards waste in an urban context. As an important stakeholder in this community, I am requesting that you participate in this research by granting me an interview. The information collected will only be used for research our purposes only.

**Interviewee:** Okay

**Interviewer:** Sure, in order to gauge these perceptions and understandings you will be asked to tidy up the path from that end to that end. You will also be asked to keep any item that you may consider helpful. After this you will be asked to order the objects you interacted with from the most helpful to the most harmful. Then after that we will have an interview that may take 10 – 20 minutes.

**Interviewee:** Yeah.

**Interviewer:** Firstly, what’s your name?

**Interviewee:** My name is Ethel Limbani

**Interviewer:** Okay,how old are you?

**Interviewee:** I’m 38 years old.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what do you do for a living?

**Interviewee:** I’m a street cleaner for Blantyre city assembly

**Interviewer:** haha (laughs) I think our mission is the same, to make Blantyre city clean

**Interviewee:** Haha (laughs) sure!

**Interviewee:** Okay, which object did you see/interact with first and why?

**Interviewee:** The clean shoprite bag because it is easily seen from a distance unlike the other objects because its color. And also it can host flies which may spread diseases like diarrhea

**Interviewer:** Okay, why do you think flies are attracted by that object?

**Interviewee:** It looks like there were leftover and smell of leftovers attracts flies.

**Interviewee:** Sure, which objects did you interact with and why?

**Interviewee:** Mmmh, I interacted with blue plastic bags because they attract and host flies that spread diseases.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewee:** Shoprite bag because it can attract flies as well

**Interviewer:** Ummhu

**Interviewee:** Yeah, maize husks because it can attracts flies.

**Interviewer:** Ummhu,

**Interviewee:** aaha, I further interacted with broken glass bottles, crockery, plastic bottles, soda cans, tin cans, milk bag, and maize cobs with and without kernels for the reason that they are making this place look unclean

**Interviewer:** Okay, can you order the objects you interacted with from the most helpful to most harmful, and their potential uses. What’s your order?

**Interviewee:** Mmmh, I find the 5L bottle useful as I can use it as a container for buying paraffin at filling stations.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewee:** Aaah, that’s all.

**Interviewer:** Okay, please continue ordering, now in regard to harmful objects

**Interviewee:** Sure, I will start with the plastics

**Interviewer:** Okay, which one and why?

**Interviewee:** Okay, yellow shoprite bag because it look way out of place and it does not decompose in soil as such it negatively impact the environment.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewee:** Yeah, the same with other plastics like the milk bag, dirty, broken and clean blue plastic, broken plastic bottles they just don’t decompose.

**Interviewer:** Sure, what else?

**Interviewee:** ummhu, broken glass bottles, glass jars, tin cans, damaged crockery, usable crockery and soda cans are useless and they don’t decompose in soil thereby affecting the environment…. The scrap of cloth is also harmful as it can attract flies once it gets soaked with water.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewee:** Mmmh, I think that’s all.

**Interviewer:** Haha (laughs)Okay. Mmmh, reflecting on the context, was your categorization of each item impacted by this context?

**Interviewee:** No, my categorization was not based on this context, I was looking the overall usage of the item and its harmfulness based on many environments.

**Interviewer:** Okay, mmmh, I have to say you have done a good job of cleaning this place up, and you have shown you are good at your work. Still I see the dry leaves under that tree and a cigarette, why did you leave those and why?

**Interviewee:** Mmmh, it not a big problem to have dry leaves under a tree because they act as manure, and also they decompose easily and fast that no one can be aware that there were dry leaves under that tree in a week or so.

**Interviewer:** Okay, do you think the dry leaves are making this place look clean? Because some of the items you cleared up because they were making this place look unclean.

**Interviewee:** Haha (laughs) the dry leaves look natural and well blended with the tree unlike the other objects.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what about the cigarette?

**Interviewee:** Haha, it’s too small and I didn’t quite see it.

**Interviewer:** Okay, which objects do you feel belong in this context?

**Interviewee:** Aaah, green grass, trees because they are making this place look attractive.

**Interviewer:** Sure, which objects do you feel like are out of place in this context?

**Interviewer:** Okay, rubbish like plastic bags and bottles, glass jars, cans because they are making this place look unattractive.

**Interviewer:** Okay, how do you think these objects got here?

**Interviewee:** Aaah, people sell various things like food, clothes around this place and after consumption they just dispose them carelessly. I know vending is prohibited here, still people sell here illegally. Yeah, I think that’s why we have all these objects here.

**Interviewer:** So you as a street cleaner for city what do you do when you see the vendors littering?

**Interviewee:** Nothing, I just do my job of cleaning because I don’t have the powers to chase them.

**Interviewer:** Okay, how often do you clean this place?

**Interviewee:** Once every day around in the morning.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what do you think can be done to stop littering around this place?

**Interviewee:** People should take responsibility, it’s not city councils responsibility to make this place clean.

**Interviewer:** Ummhu, what do you mean?

**Interviewer:** Street vendors should stop vending here and people should learn to stop throwing objects recklessly.

**Interviewer:** Okay, many thanks for your participation.

**Interviewee:** Welcome.