**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:** Yeah.

**Interviewer:** Okay, 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 *female*

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

**Interviewee:** I’m 59 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…Make Blantyre city clean

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

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

**Interviewee:** I interacted with the plastics first.

**Interviewee:** Okay, be specific, which plastic?

**Interviewee:** The clean blue plastic because it is easily seen from a distance unlike the other objects because its color.

**Interviewer:** Okaaaay, which objects did you interact with and why?

**Interviewee:** Mmmh, I interacted with soda cans, tin cans, damaged and usable crockery, scrap of cloth, plastics bottles, shoprite bag, maize husks, grass bottles, sugarcane chafe for the simple reason that, all the objects I have mentioned were making this place look unclean so as I cleaner by profession I feel irritated when I see such garbage in town.

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

**Interviewer:** Okay, no problem, there is only one thing I can keep and find useful

**Interviewer:** Ummhu, what’s that?

**Interviewee:** It’s the 5L bottle for the reason that I can use it as a container for drinking water.

**Interviewer:** Ummhu, which objects do find harmful?

**Interviewer:** The most harmful object here is the blue plastic because it doesn’t easily decompose in soil since thin plastic takes more time to decompose as compared to thicker plastic.

**Interviewer:** what is your order of blue plastic?

**Interviewee:** Dirty plastic first as it can attract flies that may cause diseases. After that it`s broken and new blue plastic because they are useless and it doesn’t decompose in soil.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewer:** Okay, followed by that it’s the tin cans, and soda cans for the reason that they negatively affect the environment because they don’t decompose. At the same time, they are useless.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewer:** broken grass, grass jars, damaged crockery because they are making this place look unclean, and are useless.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewer:** mmmh, that’s all.

**Interviewer:** Okay, reflecting on the context, was your categorization of each item impacted by this context?

**Interviewee:** Generally, we have two categories of items here, useful and harmful, and this context didn’t impact my categorization because under any context they will remain in those categorizes.

**Interviewer:** Okay, what else?

**Interviewee:** Okay, looking around I can see some objects which you didn’t clear up. Which objects did you leave and why?

**Interviewer:** Dry leaves, maize cobs with and without kernels, maize husks because they decompose in soils. And these objects can not spread diseases like cholera.

**Interviewer:** Okay, why do you say they can’t spread diseases?

**Interviewee:** It’s because these object can decompose in soil, and when the material is turning to soil the material does not contain pathogens that spread diseases.

**Interviewer:** Okaaay

**Interviewer:** On the same, these objects can be manure for the soil if left on soil. And some individuals use these objects to make organic fertilizer.

**Interviewer:** Okay, how do that work?

**Interviewer:** I’m not conversant with the process, but people in the agriculture business mix these objects with cattle dung to make the fertilizer.

**Interviewer:** Okaaay,

**Interviewee:** Yeah, and it is even better than inorganic manure because its water retention is better than organic manure.

**Interviewer:** Okay, I placed cigarettes on the area, why did you leave it?

**Interviewee:** I did not see that because it is too small and even if I had seen it I wouldn’t have cleared it up because it is manure for the grass.

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

**Interviewee:** Ummhu, green grass, flowers because they making this place look attractive.

**Interviewer:** Okay, which objects are out of place in this context?

**Interviewer:** Plastic bags, plastic bottles, glass bottles

**Interviewer:** What makes you say you these objects are out of this place?

**Interviewee:** Mmmh, these objects are making this place look unclean and at the same time they can help spread diseases like cholera.

**Interviewer:** Okay, how do you think these objects can help spread diseases?

**Interviewee:** These objects may host flies that spread diseases.

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

**Interviewee:** People in Blantyre dispose rubbish carelessly and I don’t know why. Like I clean this place and come back an hour later it, and it will seem as I did not clean, it bothers me a lot.

**Interviewer:** Okay, lastly, how do you think we can stop this?

**Interviewer:** The city council should make strict rules to punish those that thrown rubbish carelessly once found.

**Interviewer:** Haha (laughs) okay, what else?

**Interviewee:** People should be responsible when it comes to waste management; it’s not only the city councils responsibility but also the citizen’s responsibility.

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

**Interviewee:** Welcome.