

Investigating the relationship between personality factors and environmental knowledge and ecological behavior among Zayed University students in Abu Dhabi

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Abstract

Objectives. This study aimed to determine the degree to which personality traits have an impact on the levels of environmental knowledge and ecological behavior among students at Zayed University.

Design. A cross-sectional study design.

Method. In total, 101 students completed two questionnaires, namely, General Ecological Behavior and the five factor personality factor questionnaires in order to assess their ecological behavior and personality traits respectively.

Results. The findings showed that students had higher scores in environmental knowledge and values. They reported lower scores in environmental behavioral intention and responsibility feeling. Using regression analysis, the results indicated that openness and neuroticism were associated with the levels of environmental knowledge, while agreeableness was associated with environmental intention.

Conclusions. Overall results imply that some personality factors are associated with the mechanism of ecological behavior among Zayed University students. Therefore, it is crucial to encourage upgrading environmental education where personality factors are taken into account.