

VISUAL POLLUTION



Al-Mustaqbal University



THE FUNDED
PROJECT:

"THE ROLE OF
UNIVERSITIES
IN FACING
THE
CHALLENGES
OF CLIMATE
CHANGE"

**A STUDY ON: THE IMPACTS OF VISUAL POLLUTION
FROM WASTE SITES ON THE MENTAL AND
PSYCHOLOGICAL PERFORMANCE OF SCHOOL
STUDENTS**

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The impacts of visual pollution from waste sites on the mental and psychological performance of school students

Abstract

It is well-known that the environment, both inside and outside the school, has a direct impact not only on the health of students but also extends to affect their learning and understanding levels. Therefore, this study aimed to investigate the impact of visual pollution from illegal waste disposal on the mental and psychological well-being of high school students. A sample of 400 students from a school located in the center of Babylon Governorate during the academic year 2023-2024 participated in the survey. A questionnaire of 15-item visual pollution scale was used to collect data, with responses categorized as "frequently applies," "sometimes applies," and "does not apply at all," and scored as 3, 2, and 1, respectively. Data analysis was conducted using SPSS, calculating mean scores, standard deviations, and Pearson correlation coefficients. The results indicated statistically significant negative effects of visual pollution on various aspects of the students' well-being, with significance set at a level of 0.05. This study concludes that visual pollution resulting from illegal waste disposal sites negatively affects the well-being and performance of high school students, impacting their ability to understand lessons and their mood throughout learning hours. Municipal departments should address this issue by finding solutions to prevent illegal waste disposal and by increasing public awareness of the negative impact of visual pollution on society.

Three points were highlighted from this study:

Descriptive analytical method using a 15-item visual pollution scale questionnaire was applied (please see the supplementary file)

The sample included 400 students for a secondary school in Babil Governorate, Iraq, during the academic year 2023-2024.

The performance and learning level of high school students are negatively affected by visual pollution from illegal waste disposal sites.
