

THE REACTION OF RESIDENTS TO THE NUISANCE IN LINYUAN AREA

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This study is intended to probe into the local community people's view points about nuisance, self-perceived risk, awareness of environmental pollution, degree of satisfaction about government and the factories, attitude and actions about environmental protection behaviors. The study takes the Linyuan incident taking place in Kaohsiung as an example and takes samples out of the residents age over 18 in three villages who received compensations in the Linyuan pollution incident and four neighboring villages for comparison. Highlights of the survey findings:

1. The sample area — a zone of farming and fishery in combination, has been subject to Linyuan Industrial Zone pollution for many years and heavy economic losses. The compensations for Linyuan incident were, however, given without any accredited surveys. This leads to an unfair feeling to residents in the comparative areas (especially those of high risk awareness) — fast differing from the results of residents, live in the comparative areas, believed Linyuan industrial zone's people took compensation as the main point of protests, but 5% residents, live in the sample area, claimed that compensation was not their main appealing

point.

2. Residents inside the sample area show the highest awareness of health and economic damages.
3. The residents show the highest awareness of pollution inside the zone and the least acknowledge of environmental policies.
4. Once there is a pollution incident, the residents are mostly inclined to the desires of getting compensations from the factory.
5. Around half of the residents were discontented with government and factories, especially those inside the sample area, old timers in the zones, age 36-55, high awareness and high self-perceived risks.
6. The residents were more in favor of individual prevention and more in disagreement with collective protest. Inside the sample area, however, the fishermen and those of high self awareness of health were more in favor of collective protests, and showed higher rates in such actions. Youths, females, less old dwellers and those of high environmental pollution awareness are more in favor of individual prevention and actions. (*J Natl Public Health Assoc (ROC)*: 1991; 10(5): 269-285)

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