Because of human consumption and production activities, wastes have always been associated with human existence. The more human consumed and produced, the more wastes are generated. Wastes that are not properly managed can create serious health or social problems in a community. Food wastes attract pests. People can get seriously sick from badly managed waste problems. If they have to leave the community to spend time in hospital, the patient and their families can be badly affected by the separation. If wastes are managed well, the cost of fixing problems does not become a burden on everyone’s finances.

Based on the findings of Bautista (2012) entitled Solid Waste Management of Public Elementary Schools in Dinalupihan, Bataan, it was found out that the respondents often reuse materials in school to lessen the potential wastes. With this in view, it implied that the teachers and pupils have realized the importance of reuse as part of solid waste management. They were aware on how to lessen the potential waste by reusing things found in the school. However, collection, segregation, disposal, recycling and reduction of unwanted materials were practiced occasionally. Meaning, public elementary schools appeared to be “luke warm” in solid waste management.

Considering that the Philippines suffers major human-caused environmental degradation which improper disposal of wastes aggravates the condition, at the early age, pupils should be taught to get involved in activities about caring and protecting the environment. The study
revealed that public elementary schools have a fair performance in solid waste management and therefore recommended to improve the cited practices.

Aiming to improve the waste management practices in the school I am affiliated with, my former school head, Mr. Alfredo De Leon spearheaded “Linis Kapaligiran”, his SHDP Project. Within a few months after its implementation, solid waste management at Hermosa Elementary School was improved. If implemented accordingly in the coming years, we can assure better schools in terms of waste management.

References:

Linis Kapaligran- SHDP Project of Mr. Alfredo E. De Leon, Principal IV