

## **ABSTRACT**

Solid waste and its management is one of the major environmental issues that have attracted the attention of the people all over the world. This problem can be solved if a change occurs at individual level. Especially this effort at school level is more important as primary years are basic years for the development of any individual personal behavior. The aim of the study was to assess and improve the student's awareness, knowledge and attitude towards solid waste management. For the study male (n=200) and female (n=200) students of 5th grade were selected from a public school in Lahore. Data was collected by a questionnaire to measure the student's awareness, knowledge, attitude and willingness towards waste management at their school and home. A waste awareness and management program (WAMP) was conducted in the school to raise student's knowledge and awareness and to improve their attitude towards solid waste management through exhibition, posters, presentation and composting activities. The questionnaire was statistically evaluated and the results showed significant difference in student's awareness and knowledge and their attitude was changed significantly before and after the WAMP. The male students showed better knowledge and attitude than the female students. Most of the students possessed poor waste management practices as they were not much worried about waste, throw waste carelessly in bins and didn't practice 3Rs. They were motivated by the WAMP and started bringing lunch in lunch boxes to reduce waste and number of donated books and uniforms increased in school to be reused by needy students and recycling news paper and PET bottles at home. The result of the current study showed that such kind of awareness programs not only can improve the solid waste management system of the school but can also generate funds for the school. There is an urgent need to organize such programs at school level to turn the today's youth into responsible and sensible citizens of future.