

INTEGRATION OF THE SOCIO SCIENTIFIC ISSUE APPROACH IN ENVIRONMENTAL CHEMISTRY LECTURES TO STRENGTHEN STUDENTS' ENVIRONMENTAL CARING CHARACTER

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ABSTRACT

The character of caring for the environment needs to be instilled in every individual to achieve natural balance, repair environmental damage, and be sensitive to social conditions. This research seeks to integrate the Socio-scientific Issues (SSI) approach in environmental chemistry lectures. The integration of SSI in learning activities allows students to reflect on the role of individuals in preserving nature through science content. This will foster an environmentally caring character through discussing controversial issues in the local context in learning activities. Designed as a quasi-experimental research with a posttest only design, there were two sample groups that were given treatment in this study. The experimental class lectures on environmental chemistry using the SSI approach, while the control class lectures without the SSI approach. In this study, researchers analyzed the integration of the SSI approach towards students' environmentally caring character. The instruments used are RPS, handouts and questionnaires related to students' environmentally caring character. The collected data was analyzed using descriptive and statistical techniques. The results of the research show that (1) the environmental caring character of Chemistry Education Study Program students who take environmental chemistry courses is dominantly at a good and very good level, (2) there is no significant difference in the environmental caring character of students who take SSI integrated environmental chemistry courses with students who take lectures. environmental chemistry without SSI integration.

Kata Kunci: *socio-scientific issue*