

# Review of: "Mobile Phone Recycling and Stockpiling Behaviour in the UAE: A Gender and Age Study"

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**Potential competing interests:** No potential competing interests to declare.

The gathered data concerning mobile phone recycling and stockpiling behaviors among users in the UAE. It underscores different factors, including how long devices are kept, motivations for replacement, methods of disposal, and obstacles to recycling. Although the data presentation is comprehensive, the summary does not delve into interpretive context, address data reliability, or explore deeper connections between variables, limiting insights into practical implications for fostering sustainable recycling practices.

Comments:

Abstract:

1. The abstract provides a concise overview of the study's objectives, methodology, and findings related to factors influencing mobile phone recycling and stockpiling behavior, particularly among different age and gender groups in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
2. The abstract highlights a relevant and important issue—discarded mobile phones and their impact on the environment. It also emphasizes the need for sustainable practices such as recycling and the potential role of user cooperation.
3. The study uses a comprehensive theoretical framework that combines the Theory of Planned Behavior (TPB) with additional factors from the Integrated Business Model (IBM). This demonstrates a robust approach to understanding and analyzing mobile phone recycling and stockpiling behavior.
4. The study collected data from 601 self-administered online survey responses, which indicates a substantial sample size for analysis.
5. The study's findings regarding gender differences in data privacy concerns and device stockpiling are insightful. Women's lower concern about data privacy and higher device stockpiling could be influenced by various factors, including cultural norms and usage patterns.
6. The nuanced findings about the number of stored devices among different gender groups provide valuable insights for understanding how and why people choose to stockpile mobile phones.
7. The study's implications for Reverse Supply Chain Management (RSCM) systems highlight the importance of considering demographic differences in designing strategies for encouraging mobile phone recycling and reducing

stockpiling behavior.

8. The study can contribute to shaping more effective policies and initiatives related to e-waste management and sustainable practices in the UAE and potentially in other similar contexts.

Keywords:

1. Not in order (alphabetical or importance). Make it in a order.
2. Include Discarded devices and e-Waste for the border scope.

Introduction:

1. The introduction provides a comprehensive overview of the context, problem statement, and rationale for the study on mobile phone recycling behavior in the UAE.
2. The introduction effectively sets the context by highlighting the global and local trends of mobile phone usage, its connection to economic growth, and the resulting environmental and health risks of discarded devices.
3. The introduction references existing studies to support the importance of the topic and provides evidence for the environmental and economic implications of e-waste.
4. Statistical data from reliable sources, such as the World Bank and ITU, are used to reinforce the significance of the UAE's economic growth, mobile phone penetration, and its ranking in the ME region and worldwide.
5. The introduction identifies the research gap in the UAE's relatively low publication output on electronic waste recycling and highlights the importance of understanding factors influencing mobile phone recycling behavior in this context.
6. The introduction justifies the use of demographic analysis as a key focus, given the diverse population of the UAE and its potential impact on recycling behavior.
7. While the introduction mentions the adoption of a framework illustrated in Figure 1.1, it does not provide a clear explanation of the framework itself. Readers may struggle to understand the specific components of the framework and its relevance.
8. The introduction references several studies briefly, but it could benefit from a more detailed literature review that delves deeper into the existing research on mobile phone recycling behavior, particularly within the UAE context.
9. The introduction contains a lot of information and citations, which can make it feel somewhat disjointed. Improving the flow and organization of the information would enhance its readability.
10. While economic growth and high mobile device penetration in the UAE are mentioned, the direct link between these factors and mobile phone recycling behavior could be better established.
11. The introduction could provide a more explicit synthesis of the various pieces of information presented to more clearly

connect the dots between economic growth, mobile phone usage, environmental concerns, and the research focus.

12. Research questions (Hypotheses) should be clearly identified in this section, which has been addressed here.

#### Research Data and Methodology:

1. The description of the questionnaire is limited. Details about the content validity, pilot testing, and clarity of the questions are important aspects that should be addressed to ensure the questionnaire effectively captures the intended constructs.
2. The methodology does not discuss how the survey was distributed or how the self-administered questionnaires were collected. Information about the distribution channels and efforts to ensure diverse participation would add depth to the methodology.
3. The methodology does not mention the response rate achieved. A lower response rate could raise concerns about the representativeness of the sample and potential non-response bias.
4. Mention the proper justification for the age grouping.
5. Spealing of Behavior and Behaviour are not similar.

#### Data analysis and discussion:

1. The data is presented in isolation without exploring potential causal relationships or correlations between different variables. For instance, the reasons for not participating in recycling could be linked to demographic factors or attitudes toward sustainability.
2. The excerpt does not discuss the practical implications of the findings. How could these insights inform strategies to encourage mobile phone recycling or address the concerns mentioned by respondents?

#### Conclusion:

1. The conclusion effectively summarizes the main findings of the study, emphasizing the significant demographic differences in attitudes and behaviors related to mobile phone recycling and stockpiling.
2. The conclusion revisits the research objectives by highlighting how the study has illuminated the factors influencing mobile phone recycling intentions, particularly in the context of the UAE.
3. The conclusion highlights the practical implications of the study's findings, emphasizing the relevance for stakeholders in the mobile phone industry, policymakers, and environmental organizations. It suggests that tailored strategies can promote sustainable recycling practices.
4. The conclusion appropriately emphasizes the study's contribution to existing knowledge, specifically by exploring demographic differences in attitudes towards mobile phone recycling and stockpiling. This adds to the understanding of e-

waste management and recycling behavior.

5. The conclusion does not explicitly reference or integrate the broader literature on mobile phone recycling, e-waste management, or behavioral factors. Relating the findings to existing theories or research could strengthen the conclusion's impact.
6. The conclusion does not address any limitations of the study, such as the sampling technique, potential biases, or scope restrictions. Acknowledging limitations can provide a more balanced view of the study's outcomes.
7. The conclusion lacks a forward-looking perspective. Suggesting potential avenues for future research could enhance the broader significance of the study and inspire further exploration.
8. While the conclusion hints at the potential for tailored strategies and the reduction of e-waste, it could be more explicit in suggesting specific policy recommendations based on the findings.
9. While the practical implications are mentioned, the conclusion could better synthesize how addressing demographic differences and designing tailored strategies could lead to improved mobile phone recycling practices.
10. The conclusion could more explicitly emphasize the link between the study's findings and the overall goal of sustainability, both from an environmental and socioeconomic standpoint.
11. While the study explores age and gender differences, it's essential to consider other potential demographic factors that could influence recycling and stockpiling behavior, such as income, education, and cultural differences.
12. To enhance the study's robustness, future research could consider employing mixed methods that combine surveys with qualitative interviews or focus groups to gain deeper insights into participants' motivations and attitudes.
13. Expanding the scope of demographic factors and including a broader range of cultural and socioeconomic variables could provide a more comprehensive understanding of mobile phone recycling behavior.