

LET'S ADOPT A ZERO TOLERANCE TO LITTER (OPINION)



A lady irresponsibly drops trash along a road in Kampala. (Photo courtesy of Tree Adoption Uganda).

Dear Editor,

It is true that trash is one of the top environmental challenges that Uganda is currently grappling with. And, it is not like as if nothing is being done about it but sometimes, individual actions only exacerbate rather than help get rid of the trash that litters the City streets, drainages and even the entrance to peoples' homes! Kampala Capital City Authority (KCCA) does commendable work in having garbage trucks haul away this trash on a daily basis in addition to the countless street sweepers and cleaners who are employed to ensure that the streets sparkle. According to statistics provided by KCCA, they collect approximately 1400 tons of waste a day.

However, countless times, you will see an adult munching away at a “*chapati*” and carelessly tossing away the “*kaveera*” in which it had been wrapped. Another time, you observe an empty mineral water bottle flying out of the window of a bus or a taxi. These are just but two actions which leaves proponents for a clean and green Uganda questioning such ill mannerisms. If one knows that one will consume something and then fail to dispose the packaging material in an appropriate place, then why can't one forego it?

The naysayers may actually think this is unattainable but there are countless Ugandans that carry their trash with them-be it in their bags or pockets until they locate a trash can or rubbish pit.

Celebrated British writer C.S Lewis once envisioned that, “There are far better things ahead than any we leave behind.” So, the onus falls upon each individual Ugandan to embrace transformation by the sharp tools of change. There has never been shame in doing the right thing, the right way. Together, we can make Uganda cleaner and greener.

Tree Adoption Uganda