

Life Style

Singaporeans with a high level of empathy can choose to prioritize the environment

👤 Vaagisha Singh • 6 hours ago



According to a study conducted by a team of researchers at Nanyang Technological University (NTU Singapore) in Singapore, Singaporeans with a high level of empathy prioritize the environment over the convenience and comfort of themselves and their families or communalities. Will choose. Worker.

Eight out of ten (79%) of respondents to a series of surveys said they would like to buy an energy-efficient air conditioner, even though it is cheaper than traditional air conditioners.

To reduce carbon emissions, more than 8 out of 10 (82%) have room temperature from optimal 23 ° C, even though children and colleagues know

they are more comfortable in cooler environments. Keep at 25 ° C.

Researchers acknowledge that saving on utility bills is the main reason people make energy-saving choices.

However, the findings provided a counterpoint to the concept. Their statistical analysis showed that respondents' preferences were related to their level of empathy and chose to spend more money to minimize carbon dioxide emissions.

The findings are important in understanding Singapore's public attitudes towards the country's efforts to reduce household energy consumption, the authors say. Due to resource shortages, city-states have embarked on national initiatives such as the Singapore Green Plan 2030, which also focuses on energy sustainability for a more livable and sustainable future.

The result of the joint research is *Energy research and social sciences*, A scholarly publication by Elsevier.

Georgios Cristopros, an associate professor at Nanyang Technological University, who led the study, said: "Recommended" settings to save power.

It seemed clear that parents prioritized the needs of their children. But at least for Singaporeans, the opposite turned out. The higher the empathy of a Singaporean, the more likely he or she will consider the overall or long-term environmental or social impact and ultimately choose to abandon the comfort of the child. I will. "



The main driving force of this environmentally friendly behavior is empathy, which we define as "the basic human temperament of experiencing warmth and concern for others." The more sympathetic Singaporeans are to others, the more likely they are to take action to support "greater

goodness” and contribute to making Singapore a resilient and sustainable society. ”

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The research team obtained results after conducting an experimental survey of 520 Singaporeans. The sample included the majority of homeowners (87%), close to Singapore’s national figure (91%).

Other actions that make up the energy-saving behavior include turning off electrical equipment when not in use (89%) and locally grown vegetables rather than European and US vegetables to reduce carbon dioxide emissions. Includes choosing (62%).

The team also noted that age, education, and being a homeowner influenced their preference for energy-saving options. Elderly, higher-educated and public housing owners of Singapore tended to prefer energy-saving options.

To further validate their research, the NTU team will conduct additional research on a wider range of behaviors, including responding to environmental, organizational, urban, economic and social threats.

The team is also exploring the possibility of examining findings in different geographic and cultural contexts, such as people’s attitudes towards measures to curb Covid-19.

Source:

[Nanyang Technological University](#)

Journal reference:

Sharma, S & Christophoulos, G. , (2021) Your Care and Earth Care: Empathic concerns and emotions related to Singapore’s energy conservation preferences. *Energy research and social sciences*.. doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2020.101879..

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