

An analysis of the Plastic Regulations in Tackling the Soaring Littering of Plastic Shopping Bags in South Africa

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Abstract

Undoubtedly, plastic shopping bags are good because they are durable, smart, and tough. The concern is that people use plastic shopping bags only once and then throw them away into the environment where they cause significant harm to the environment and its inhabitants on land and in the water. Consequently, the government decided to regulate plastic bags usage by imposing a bag levy to encourage reuse and prevent dumping and pollution. However, despite the levy, plastic bag dumping and pollution have not decreased. This paper looks at the Regulatory interventions that have been introduced to address plastic carrier bags waste and both civil and criminal sanctions for holding polluters.

Keywords: Plastic carrier bags, plastic-bag litter, Pollution, Nuisance, Levy, Regulations.

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