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## Supplementary data

| Temperature ( <sup>0</sup> C) | Stern–Volmer equation       | K <sub>SV</sub> value ( $\mu$ M <sup>-1</sup> ) | R <sup>2</sup> |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|----------------|
| 25                            | $F_0/F = 1.0398 + 0.043[C]$ | 0.043   | 0.9938         |
| 30                            | $F_0/F = 1.0514 + 0.055[C]$ | 0.055   | 0.9936         |
| 37                            | $F_0/F = 1.0881 + 0.061[C]$ | 0.061   | 0.9916         |
|                               |                             |   |                |

| <b>Table S1</b> .K <sub>sv</sub> values | for different temperatures. |
|---|-----------------------------|
|---|-----------------------------|

| Sample      | Added (µgL <sup>-1</sup> ) | Found (µgL <sup>-1</sup> ) | Recovery (%, n = 3) | RSD (%, n = 3) |
|-------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|             |                            |                            |                     |                |
| Tap water   | 50                         | 48.5                       | 97                  | 3.4            |
|             | 100                        | 94.6                       | 94                  | 1.9            |
|             | 100                        | 2.00                       |                     |                |
| River water | 50                         | 46.7                       | 93                  | 3.1            |
|             | 100                        | 00 <i>ć</i>                |                     |                |
|             | 100                        | 93.6                       | 93                  | 4.4            |
|             |                            |                            |                     |                |

**Table S2.** Determination results of ethion in real water samples (n = 3).

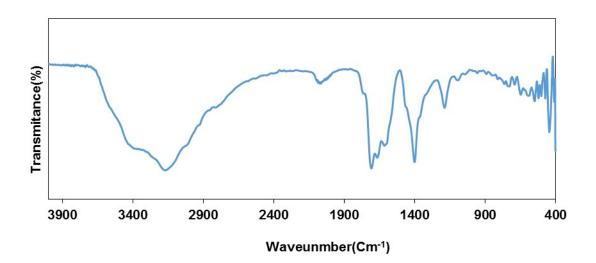


Fig. S1. FTIR spectrum of N,S-GQDs

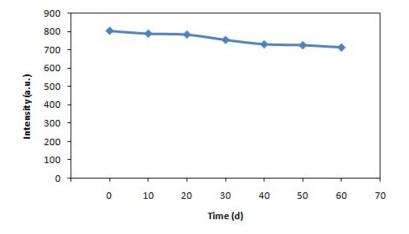


Fig. S2. Stability of fluorescence response of the N,S-GQDs solution with time

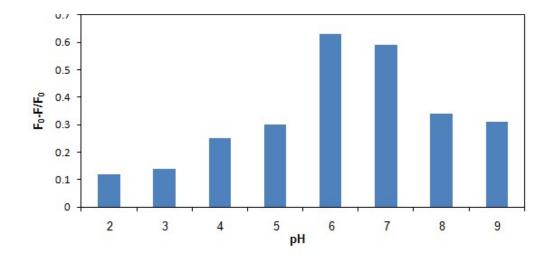
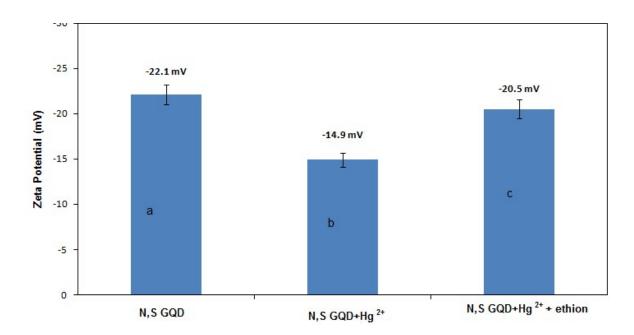
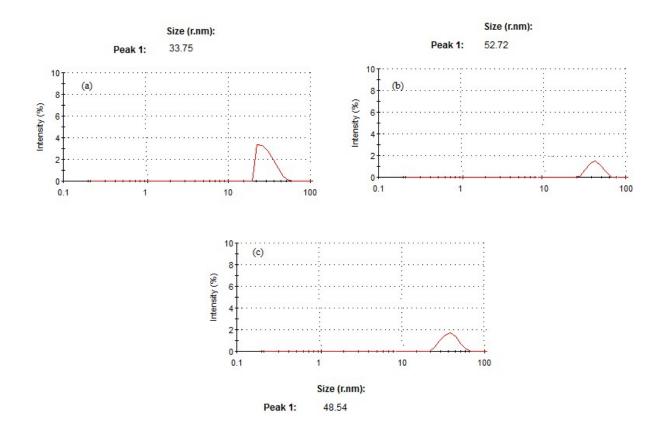


Fig. S3. Effect of pH on the quenching efficiency of  $Hg^{2+}$  ion.



**Fig. S4.** Zeta potential of N,S GQDs (a), in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup> (b), and in the presence of Hg<sup>2+</sup> and ethion (c).



**Fig. S5.** The hydrodynamic size of N,S GQDs (a), in the presence of  $Hg^{2+}$  (b), and in the presence of  $Hg^{2+}$  and ethion (c).

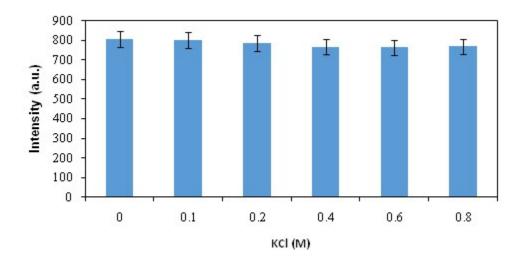


Fig. S6. Effect of kCl concentration on the fluorescence response N,S/GQDs