

Review of: "Analysing the conglomeration of various urban pockets through the lens of environmental design for crime prevention: A case of Kolkata"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to the Editorial Board of the Journal for according to me the privilege of reviewing the paper in question. The subject matter addressed within the manuscript is both timely and pertinent, possessing significant implications for both the academic community and policy planners. Nevertheless, I have observed certain shortcomings pertaining to the manuscript's organizational structure and level of detail. Accordingly, I am submitting my comments, which primarily advocate for substantial revisions aimed at enhancing the quality and rigor of the paper. I also wish to explicitly state that I have no conflicts of interest that could potentially influence my perspective on this manuscript. I am appreciative of the opportunity to contribute to the advancement of scholarship through this review process.

Abstract:

The structure of the abstract is fine, though there is an opportunity for greater conciseness. It would greatly enhance the abstract's quality if the authors could emphasize the methodological innovation underpinning this research. Additionally, a brief touch upon the limitations of the current building regulations in Kolkata/KMC would render the paper more contextually pertinent and relatable.

Full Paper

1. The literature review could benefit from a more extensive approach. Expanding the range of references cited would be advantageous. While the literature review could be integrated into the introduction, it is imperative that it addresses three pivotal aspects:
 1. Articulate the existing knowledge within this domain, encompassing definitions and relevant theories.
 2. Illustrate its application to this specific context by establishing connections with the preexisting body of knowledge/theory. Highlighting research gaps is essential.
 3. Finally, expound on how this research effectively bridges the prevailing gaps.
2. The authors have adeptly assembled an array of literature and provided a summary. However, it is necessary for the authors to proffer their interpretations to substantiate the necessity of this research.

3. Endeavor to avoid references sourced solely from ResearchGate; prioritize the original sources of papers and literature.
4. Uphold consistency in reference formatting, adhering closely to the guidelines stipulated by the journal.
5. There is room for improving the explication of the context. Augment the content with relevant information and references that elucidate the Kolkata Municipal Corporation (KMC), its historical genesis, and its relevance as an apt case study. The integration of a chronological evolution diagram or timeline could be an effective technique to acquaint readers unfamiliar with KMC's background.
6. Within the methodology segment, a well-documented section elucidating Confirmatory Factor Analysis and Model Validation techniques is warranted. Likewise, expound on the survey planning process, offering a rationale for the chosen sampling type and size.
7. Thoroughly elaborate on the correlations existing among various dimensions of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED).
8. The methodology section presently focuses on the study area, while it should ideally elucidate the appropriateness of the methodologies and techniques employed in this specific context.
9. In the ensuing discussion and conclusion, it is imperative to chart a pathway for seamlessly integrating the proposed interventions into the existing building regulations.

By addressing these recommendations with due consideration, the paper will undoubtedly achieve a higher level of clarity, relevance, and overall quality.