

Review of: "Examining the Comparative Effect of the Built Environment on Crime Prevention in Plotted Development, Especially for Women's Safety at Both Hot and Cold Spots"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The subject of this research is quite contextual and highly useful for the urban planners/ designers. However, it needs to be refined on several fronts. Following are my observations. Italic fonts show text copied from the paper.

Minor observations

1. "... a girl is beaten to death, driven to suicide, or burned alive in India"– Provide source of this knowledge.
2. "...researchers have proved that the built environment plays a role in facilitating crime" - Provide source of this knowledge.
3. "...before and after situation of the city implementing CPTED is observed. 1st use of any acronym -"CPTED" - should be expanded.
4. Figure 1 (a) poor map resolution - illegible legend
5. Figure 1 (b) Pl. rephrase Area-1, Area -2, and Area -3: this does not get mention in the text body anywhere
6. Refer to the para (page no. 5/13) *This observation was conducted in ... and 76 hot spots were identified and analyzed for comparative analysis.* – Please observe economy of words.
7. Table 1 Level 1 shows 'strongly agree' Revise it to 'Strongly Disagree'
8. "...and yellow (refer to Fig.). To analyze the cold spots,..." missing Fig. no."

Major observations

Abstract section

1. Abstract needs to be re-written incorporating the methods, results, discussion/conclusion, etc.

'Introduction' section

1. Refer to the para (page no. 2/13) –"*Many theories have been established by theorists in the past ... effect of the built environment on crime prevention in the Indian context is yet to be explored*" This is the main para to derive the

research gap – the main driving force why the researcher has taken up this study, hence this para should be expanded to substantiate the research gap. i.e. *“the effect of the built environment on crime prevention in the Indian context is yet to be explored”* – a stronger substantiation of this research gap is required.

2. Refer to the para (page no. 2/13) – *“Addresses of hot spots were collected to analyze the surroundings ... and from this, a hot spot and cold spot map was prepared.”* This para is not introduction. Please move it to the Methodology section.
3. The present ‘Objective’ and ‘Aim’ – as shown do not fully address the research topic. While ‘Aim’ is a general statement of purpose, “Objective” should be explicit and specific – expand your objective by selecting specific aspects/ parameters and indicators of the built environment affecting crime (prevention) which you want to analyze in this study in the context of the place (i.e. UP/ India), by giving substantial reasons, gaps, etc.

‘Methodology’ section

1. Refer to the para (page no. 2/13)- *“In 2017, an important study was conducted to assess the role of crime prevention ... residential, commercial, and recreational concerning the distance of the crime spot was examined (Yusof & Fauzi, 2019).”* This para is not Methodology. Please move it to “Introduction” section- to substantiate your research gap, as stated above. Methodology section should contain only the methods adopted by you.
2. Refer to the para (page no. 5/13) – *Perception Survey Data Collection “A total of 14 questions were framed to assess the dependency of the crime ... to yield 44 questions for the independent variable of the built environment.”* - This is too much of description – leaves the reader in a bad state of speculation. Kindly think of putting the actual questionnaire here to give the reader a clear picture of your research survey.
3. Refer to the para (page no. 8/13) “*... and the most problematic parameters in the hot spots were identified”* Parameters of urban block considered for assessing its crime preventing abilities should be enlisted here.

‘Result of Built Assessment’ section

1. In the built environments assessment, the marking process should be accompanied with a live example otherwise the whole process remains enigmatic to the reader.
2. Please add some street level views of surveyed hot spots and cold spots to give a clear idea to the reader - of the morphology analyzed with respect to the color code allotted i.e. marks obtained.
3. Result of Perception Survey – This section provides only the survey statistics, albeit which should have been presented through charts/ graphs instead of such a cumbersome text. However, where is the result of the actual perception survey i.e. on the Likert scale?

‘Discussion’ section

1. The literature provided in this section is not Discussion – it is ‘Results’. Please move it to the Results section.
2. In Discussion - compare your findings with that of others past studies (refer your introduction section), and highlight

what is your new finding, if any.

General comments

1. Figure 5 gives a holistic picture of the weightage-hierarchy of the physical factors in affecting crime (prevention) based on women's perception. It would be interesting and more rational to see how this hierarchy changes in different land uses i.e. the public area of Gomtinagar, the urban village of the neighborhood, and the residential area.
2. The title of the paper, apart from being too long, needs to be reviewed since the analysis incorporates only women related crime whereas the title claims a general crime prevention, though with emphasis only on women.
3. Most of the Figures generally do not correlate to the body of text anywhere. This is a serious fallacy.
4. Language needs to be improved substantially

'Methodological comment

1. Figure 5 is the only data showing overall weightage of the physical factors in crime (abatement) which is based on women's perception. A correlation analysis should be conducted based on actual crime data in different locations and their physical parameters to get the more realistic scenario.

----- ALL THE BEST

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