Review of: "Designing for Social Sustainability: How Urban Environments Influence Crime"

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Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

The authors investigate how urban environments influence crime. The authors discuss the potential implications of the relationship between environment and social outcomes in the design and planning of urban environments. They carry out a case study of Midland, a suburb of Perth (Western Australia).

Some aspects that can improve the quality of the article are:

1.Authors should justify or analyze within a city whether heat island areas provide a significant positive correlation between land cover and temperature, long-term crime, and population density.

2. The authors indicate that local data on crime, temperature, and vegetation cover are analyzed and that validity was made through an evaluation of the field literature. Justify how the local data is obtained; and because such data cannot bias the results.

3. What results are expected with the economy improving or worsening, or economic downturns, recession and inflationary pressures (and other critical events), employment, morbidity, apathy in reporting and the perception that the authorities do not act.

4. What weight in the results have thermal mass, orientation and blue grids, often ignored in the normative literature, for design and development characteristics.

5. The authors do not believe that urban design affects changes in macro and microclimates and that urbanization and loss of greenery, which cause urban heat islands, are also important. How can these variables affect the results?

6. Including in the conclusions recommendations that highlight the potential impact of local heat and vegetation cover on urban criminal behavior could benefit designers and policy makers,

7. Add in the recommendations a planning of police resources and how it can contribute to obtaining positive results.

8. Enrich the state of the art with impact references such as:

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-Su, N., Li, W., & Qiu, W. (2023). Measuring the associations between eye-level urban design quality and on-street crime density around New York subway entrances. Habitat International, 131. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.habitatint.2022.102728

-Cantarero-García, G., Mollá, M., & González-Lezcano, R. A. (2023, January 13). Smart citizen in architecture and landscape. Method design based on spatial intelligence and universal accessibility learning by students with intellectual

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-Silva, P., & Li, L. (2020). Urban crime occurrences in association with built environment characteristics: An African case with implications for urban design. Sustainability (Switzerland), 12(7). https://doi.org/10.3390/su12073056

-Yu, D., & Fang, C. (2022). How Neighborhood Characteristics Influence Neighborhood Crimes: A Bayesian Hierarchical Spatial Analysis. International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health, 19(18). https://doi.org/10.3390/ijerph191811416

-Fernandez-Antolin, M. M., del-Río, J. M., & Gonzalez-Lezcano, R. A. (2019). Influence of solar reflectance and renewable energies on residential heating and cooling demand in sustainable architecture: A case study in different climate zones in Spain considering their urban contexts. Sustainability (Switzerland), 11(23). https://doi.org/10.3390/su11236782