

A STUDY OF THE IMPACT OF THIRD SPACES (BARS, CAFES AND SPECIFIC RESTAURANTS ETC.) ON URBAN SPATIAL STRUCTURE: SPECIAL REFERENCE TO CITY OF COLOMBO

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Abstract- As a collection of lively phenomenon city, life is dependent on series of factors which define the urban spatial structure also. Conventional urban planning typically takes the view that the classification of city activities as commercial, institutional, residential, public, etc. But understanding the urban space in the category of third spaces, gives that real meaning of the urban space. According to that classification there are three spaces as first (home), second (Work place) and third (Other) spaces in the urban environment. In urban planning the second space is the mostly concerned space. There are many different activity based locations and those can be identified within the category of 'third spaces', but the ones such as pubs, bars, cafes, special restaurants, brothel houses, illegal drug spots etc. are a special category that is generally regarded as 'not-so-desired' activities in a city but more functioning locations of the city. But this category of third spaces is not getting the attention of the urban planning activities.

Accordingly this paper examines the influence of the third spaces (bars, pubs, and specific restaurants etc.) distribution pattern on the urban spatial structure of Colombo Municipal Council area. In further it describes how these third spaces impact to the urban spatial structure and explores the relationships between the Third spaces location patterns and the spatial structure element of the City of Colombo using Correlation analysis. Through the understanding derived from the analysis, this paper calls for the due attention of the planners and urban designers for planning and designing the city environments to identify the hidden third spaces. And also to identify the vital role of locations of this category of third spaces and the distribution pattern that makes the cities more active and vibrant.

Index Terms- Third Space, Urban Spatial Structure, City Functions, Urban Morphology

I. INTRODUCTION

Conventional urban planning usually takes the view that urban activities can be broadly classified as commercial, institutional, residential, public, etc. This classification is limited in many ways as it does not reflect the real use of the urban space by its inhabitants. In that context, understanding the urban space in a tiered classification: first (home), second (work) and third (other) provides a better conceptualization of urban space to the planners. Even though the first: that is home and the second: that is a work environment, are mostly of the concern in planning work, the third space has not yet gained the adequate attention of the planners, despite the planning implications that they have in the city.

"The Third Space is a term used in the concept of community building to refer to social surrounding which separate from the two usual social environments of home and the workplace." (Oldenburg, 1991)

There are many different activity locations those can be identified within the category of 'third spaces', but the ones such as pubs, bars, cafes, special restaurants, brothel houses, illegal drug spots etc. are a special category that is generally regarded as 'not-so-desired' activities in a city, and therefore, are the least considered in planning. Yet, they are common in all urban areas and have an impact on the structure and the order of functioning of an urban area.

Owing to the fact that these third spaces are regarded unimportant not many studies have paid their attention to the impact that they make in a city. Such attempts are not found in Sri Lankan context. Therefore, there is a gap in the knowledge in conventional planning discipline on the order and the impact of these third spaces in an urban environment.

Bars, pubs, special restaurants like that places are popping up in an urban context with people's needs as third spaces. The no of these places are increasing and those places attract people with adding a high level of functionality to the city. But the locations of these places are not placed with professional interventions and there are relationships of these places with other activities of the area. However the perceptions of most groups are in negative ways related to this places and there is a need to explore the relationship of these places with urban spatial structure.

II. IDENTIFY, RESEARCH AND COLLECT IDEA

The study has been initiated to find out the influence of space making of bars, pubs, restaurants, etc.... for the urban spatial structure. The literature review for this research is based on identify the meanings of two terms, third space and urban spatial structure. And in further this chapter describes the related concepts with third spaces and parameters which determine the urban spatial structure. The field of third spaces and urban spatial structure has described in many types of research, books, journals, and articles. That literature was the platform to explore the relationship between discussing two terms. The literature further described for this research is basically explain the previous studies related to above topics.

The term of third place and the concept, differently defined by different experts of the urban design field.

“The third place is a term used in the concept of community building to refer to social surroundings separate from the two usual social environments of home and the workplace”. (Oldenburg, 1991)

According to Oldenburg (1996), first place is the home. It is where we live and it is a most comfortable environment for us. According to him the second place is the place where we work. It can be a luxury job or very poor job. It does not matter. It changes with the person to person.

“Third place “where people can meet, put aside the concerns of work and home, and hang out simply for the pleasures of good company and lively conversation are the heart of a community's social vitality and the grassroots of democracy” (Oldenburg, 1991) He argues that third places are important for civil society, democracy, civic engagement, and establishing feelings of a sense of place.

“Third places, they are "anchors" of public life and facilitate broader, more creative communication”. (Trancik, 1943; Freidmann, 1987; Oldenburg, 1991).

The contribution (Trancik, 1943; Freidmann, 1987; Oldenburg, 1991) summarizes that the combined effect of common interest, social interaction, and cultural value can contribute to a great extent to achieve dynamic third place or public realm.

As a concept of third places identify the main values of that places in urban design (Carmona, 2001). There have four major values of the third place.

- Character: A habitation with its own character. The character in the townscape and landscape is ensured by responding to and reinforcing locally distinctive patterns of development, landscape and culture.
- Ease of Movement: Accessibility and local permeability by making places that connect with each other and are easy to move through, putting people before traffic and integrating land uses and transport.
- Public realm: A place with attractive and successful outdoor areas. The public spaces and routes that are attractive, safe, uncluttered and work effectively for all in society.
- Continuity and Enclosure: A place where public and private spaces are clearly distinguished. The continuity of street frontages and the enclosure of space by development define private and public areas.

Third place and third space are two different concepts and the person who was talks about are defined it as follows.

“Social space is a social product or a complex social construction based on values, and the social production of meanings which affects spatial practices and perceptions”. (Soja, 1996).

According to Lefebvre (1991), Everyday life is defined as “whatever remains after one has eliminated the all specialized activities.” Everyday life people are using space for their activities. Everyday space suggests similar images of the ordinary places such as the street and the home, which are the familiar setting of our day to day lives. Debord (1981, p.69) pointed out that: “The majority of the sociologist identify the particular activities everywhere and everyday life is nowhere.” And also, Lefebvre (1996) define the everyday spaces which function with the dwellers and the environment.

Third spaces also a category that the acting role in the city and also most of the third spaces like that the bars, pubs, restaurants.....mostly use by the people. That third spaces are very close to the people life and the legally or illegally that places functioning.it is caused to the effect to the urban spatial structure.

In the literature about the location of the third spaces, Oldenburg (1999) said that locality meeting places are vanishing. He calls these spaces third spaces. He said these spaces can be demarcated as places other than home or work that get us over the day. “The third place is a general title for an excessive diversity of the community. Third places provide a place to connect with the people of their groups as well as a habitation to discussion ideas and news. In the studies about the place attachment, Proshansky, (1983) identified that place attachment includes the relationship of feelings, knowledge, views, and activities in a situation to a place. Place attachment typically occurs after people have long or strong practices with a place and the place get great personal meaning (Gifford, 2002). Third spaces also make that the place attachment for the people who use that places regularly. According to Waxman (2004) is said that coffee shops one type of third space in the city. He said that the location of the third spaces effect to the convenience, access to the close area or neighborhood and close facilities, the ability to walk, drive, or cycle to the third space. In the research about the third spaces locations.

Understanding the urban spatial structure

According to Rodrigue (2009), define that “urban spatial structure refers to the arrangement of urban space with respect to the set of relationships arising out of urban form and its underlying interactions which are composed of people, freight and materials, and information”. “Urban form is obviously a major constituent of 'character', that rather than elusive concept so it is important in many conservation planning and design, but also with much wider relevance in non-protected areas”.

According to the Akin, Darcin, Celik, and Mehtap (2012), “Urban structure defines with (CBD, Urban, Suburb, Rural, Outer rural) and also population density wise classification, Land value classification.”

According to the Gehl (2013), urban structure is comprised of three elements:

1. Space is the underlying topography, the natural features and landscape of an area. Space influences the look and character of the districts and neighborhoods, the parks and open spaces that exist upon the land base.

2. Movement is the organization of roads, sidewalks, cycling lanes and pathways as well as the transportation infrastructure and services they lodge.

3. The building form is the variety of building types, as defined by their physical scale, mass, orientation and height, within an area. The interplay between building forms is what creates spaces, defines streets and influences a city's skyline. Public and private space in cities and the degree of connectivity and accessibility.

According to all of the definitions spatial structure is the combination of all systems, patterns, and networks. It has having natural and manmade things such as hydrology system, Road network, Building pattern, land uses and also people's activity patterns. According to the Karajan (2006), When considering the urban structure components, it includes that the topology (Land form, settlement clustering, spaces), Morphology (building forms, environmental patterns) and typology (activity pattern, circulation).

According to the Horton and Reynold (1971), spatial structure includes the linear features (e.g. road networks), nodes (e.g. Shopping centers) and surfaces (e.g. population densities) in short it is included in the whole of the spatial organization and change with the time.

In the broad frame of the third spaces many of the researches based on the behavior of third spaces, third spaces characteristics, and also third spaces as urban regeneration strategy.

According to Swapan (2013), third spaces are used as an urban regeneration strategy. The Lost spaces or neglected space that exists in most cities. Lost spaces are either under used or weakening to provide opportunities to reshape an urban center. He argued using the third space concept how the lost space can be turned into the third place for urban regeneration. According to Mehta and Bosson (2010), examine how the urban design characteristics decide the third-place businesses from other businesses in the Main Street. According to them, findings suggest that third places are relatively high in both personalization and permeability to the street. Rosenbaum (2015), examined the Social Supportive Role of Third Places in Consumers' Lives. He explained that the objective of this was to develop a frame-work which illustrates how and why third places become meaningful to older-aged customers. According to Meshram and O'Cass (2013), explored the empowerment of the senior citizen consumers' through social appointment in third places and their subsequent loyalty to third places.

Most of the researches on this topic are based on the third spaces characteristics, third spaces behavior pattern, third space, and the public spaces.

According to the broad frame of third spaces like bars, pubs, coffee shops, restaurants and many types of economic and social gathering places are in the urban environment. They act the major role in the urban environment. Bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes, spas, brothels, star category hotel like the places which are everyday used places by the people. As third spaces this places act major role in the urban environment. Location of the third space is an important factor which affects the urban structure and the morphology. But that places still have not been considered in the planning or urban designing. Hence, it is a key concern of the planners to recognize to read the space properly and plan it consequently. So this research is attempting to study the relationship between the third spaces and the urban spatial structure.

Methods of Data Collection

Preliminary observation

In the town or city functioning places such as bars, restaurants, pubs, illegal drug spots are dealt with its own users in the city. That case identifies the location and their functions need to see that the situation. And also, illegal activities can't get a statistical data in the offices. Because police record only has what they arrested. This method was carried out throughout the research from beginning to the end. This technique identifies specific characteristics and important aspects of the location of the third spaces. Spaces and functions of that places could be clearly identified and also find out the illegal drug selling spaces.

Interviewing and discussion with people

Through the data and information collected from primary observations and secondary sources list of the groups were selected and they were interviewed following an interviewing and discussing. It is done with the officers of the police department, Officers in the excise department, Officers of Colombo municipal council.... And also informal discussions with ordinary people in identifying the informal activity locations of the city.

Location centered mapping

One of the first exercises conducted was the mapping of Locations of third spaces in the Colombo MC area, showing its spreading pattern, highlighting clusters having more third spaces, crimes. Observations, secondary sources are conducted in a specific period of time and are recorded on prepared maps.

III. RESEARCH RESULTS

The city of Colombo has gained the well-known popularity being an administrative capital which is located in the west coast of the island. Case study area of the research is Colombo municipal council area. Colombo municipal council area consists of the six administrative districts called 1, 2A, 2B, 3, 4, 5 districts and it contains the 47 GN Divisions. In order to examine "Third spaces" within the city, it has to play a role in the urban environment. And also, find out how the "Third spaces" affect for urban spatial structure through a Pragmatic approach. So the research position is to understand the relationships between Third spaces and the city functions. Through the preliminary observations and literature review it was found that Colombo city has the highest number of Third spaces and functions comparing to any other locations when considering the "city functions" it extends to a broader scope. Functions

of the city can be interpreted under social, economic, environment and physical aspects. But as the research gap is defined the need of a study to understand the relationships among, urban structure and the third space.



Figure 01:-Location Map of Colombo city

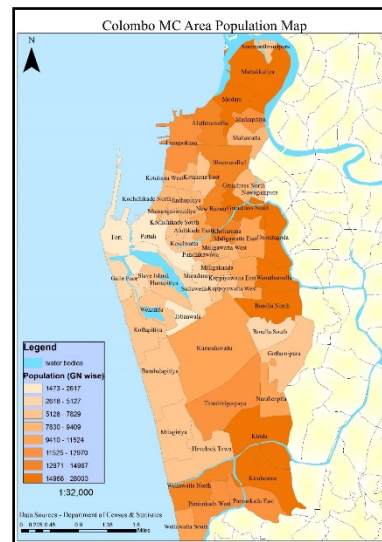


Figure 02:-Colombo MC Area Population

A considerable level of population settled in Colombo district. That population is spreading in the Colombo MC Area. Although CMC attracts a considerable commuter population per day, in terms of residential population it is less in the Colombo core area since this area is using for commercial and official/administrative purposes. Therefore in CMC, comparative to the residential population, the commuter population is high. Towards the periphery of the CMC area there are slums and shanties. For instance Blumenthal, Dematagoda, Grandpass, and Panchikawatha areas consist of slums and shanties which represent the low income population and it leads to creating a high residential population towards the periphery of CMC.

Space Syntax Analysis which describes the spatial arrangement and spatial integration of space have been used in the study to identify the overall creation of urban spaces in each district at each uninterrupted stage of the city UCL Depth Map software has been used for the space syntax analysis. (<http://www.spacesyntax.com>) It examines the integration levels of each axial line in locally as well as globally. Local integration is the indicator of the structural composition of the public spaces at the locality level and its analysis enables to identify the locations that are most and least attractive within the immediate context. Global integration is the indicator of the attractiveness of different public spaces at the overall spatial configuration of the city.

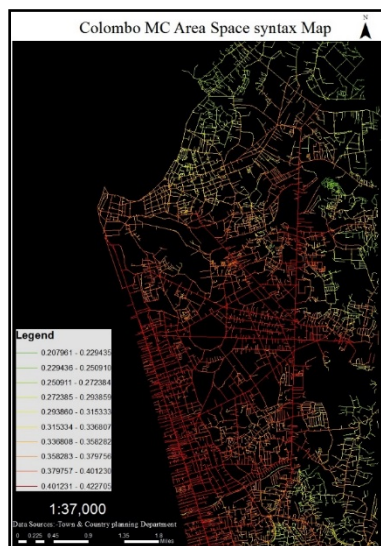


Figure 03:-CMC Area Spatial Integration
 Source: Town & Country Planning Department

Colombo is the commercial hub for inhabitants and also for the commuter population with a variety of activities. In Colombo, there are many third spaces create by people for their needs. With the variation of the third spaces, people use some third spaces as everyday spaces. That places are Bars, Special Restaurants, Pubs, Brothels, Cafes, illegal Drug spots, and Hotels. These places act as everyday using spaces in the city. The third spaces have mapped out using the data collected by field observations and secondary data.

According to the maps, most of the third spaces located in the Colombo city. The locations of the formal and informal third spaces can be identified with some pattern of the city. Mostly Colombo star category hotels are located near to Galle road while most of the restaurants and casinos are located near to the main road network. Galle road is a place where most of the third spaces are located. Also, from Pettah to Aluthkade area is more complex with third spaces. In every town or a city, most of the people are using every day space like Bars, Cafes, and Restaurants. These places can be considered as busy places that exist in cities. Mainly these places located near to the main road since such places are much more commercialized which attract many people. According to Excise Department, within Colombo, every GN division has more than four bars. In night time of the day these Bars, Restaurants are playing a major role for the functionality of the area. Although there are no of legally established third places in Colombo there are many informal and illegal places where people are attracting daily. These places cannot be identified by direct observations. Places like brothel houses, illegal spa centers arrested by the police department.

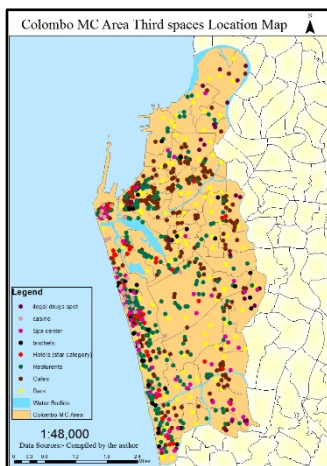


Figure 04:-CMC area third spaces locat Map



Figure 05:-CMC Area Spa center Brothels Location Map

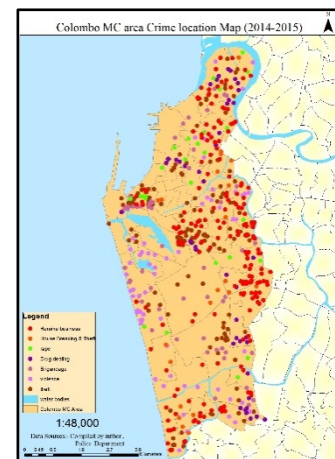


Figure 06:-CMC Area Crime Location Map

In Sri Lankan context, most of the crimes have recorded in Colombo district. According to the police records, there are a high number of the drug dealing businesses. Heroin and cocaine are the major issues for Colombo MC. According to the map of crime location, it reveals that most of the crimes are located in the east - Colombo. Because high rate of population cause to the high rate of the crime rate. Drug dealing is the key category of crime, identified by the police in last few years in many areas of Borella to Mattakkuliya area. Most of the third spaces spread over the Galle road. Near to Bambalapitiya and Kollupitiya, high density of third spaces can be observed while and Pettah and Fort has a higher density of hotels, restaurants, bars than the other areas. Towards the east side of Colombo, Borella and Gothamipura it has third spaces what functions without proper formal approvals. Crime locations map also shows a high density of crime in the pettah to Grandpass area. Most of the theft, heroine and prostitution activities are happening in those areas. But the crime location density is less in Galle road and more crimes are happening in the upper part of the Colombo. Heroine business, vehicle theft, Drug dealing are the main crimes that happens in the places such as Mattakuliya, Borella, Kollonawa, and Mahawattha.

For achieving the Research question of the impact of the third spaces pattern of distribution (Bars, pubs, Special Restaurants, etc.) on urban spatial structure need to find out the third spaces in an area and other factors affect the urban structure. Correlation analysis is the best method which we can use for identifying the relationship between two variables. Using correlation analysis all data compare and get results. In the city level, one by one-third space and other factors relationships show that the different way of changes in the relationships. Bar location of the city and has a positive relationship among crime locations and the spatial integration. But casinos, restaurants, hotels are having week positive relationship among the crime location and the spatial integration. In the cafes, spa locations, heroine dealing places, bar locations are a significantly positive relationship among the crime location it shows that the places and crime location relationship cause to the one factor increases also increase in the other factor. All of the third spaces one by one has a negative relationship among the population and population density factors. As whole restaurants, cafes, hotels are not having a strong relationship among crime location. Illegal drug spot shows that negative relationship among spatial integration. Because

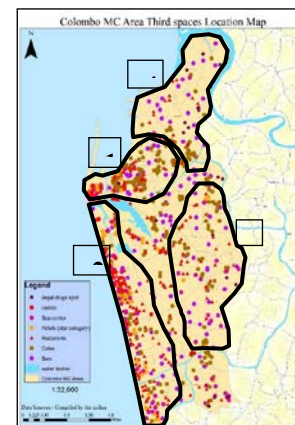
illegal drug spots are always located more not considering places in the city. Brothel houses are an illegal way but located in the most spatial integration places in the city.

Table01:- Correlation between third spaces & factors affects for urban spatial structure

Variable Name	Total Population	Population Density	Crime locations	Spatial integration
Third space				
Bar	-0.123	-0.509	0.533	0.323
Illegal drug spots	0.609	0.038	0.325	-0.152
Casino	-0.264	-0.342	0.166	0.233
Cafes	-0.123	-0.509	0.533	0.276
Restaurants	-0.259	-0.496	0.252	0.356
hotels	-0.321	-0.424	0.197	0.393
Spas	-0.285	-0.678	0.679	0.625
Brothel houses	-0.433	-0.533	0.381	0.599
Heroine dealing places	0.024	-0.293	0.367	0.433

Table 02:- Pearson’s correlation analysis

Variables name	Pearson's coefficient of correlation	Sig. (2-tailed)	Direction of relationship
Total Population & Third Spaces	-0.168	0.221	Negative Weak Relationship
Population Density & Third Spaces	-0.527	0	Strong Negative Relationship
Crime Locations & Third Spaces	0.490	0	Moderate Positive Relationship
Spatial Integration & Third Spaces	0.357	0.008	Moderate Positive Relationship



The cluster-based analysis was another method that used to investigate the relationship between third spaces and other data. In order to proceed the above analysis, five clusters were identified. The demarcations of the clusters are based on the availability of the number of third spaces. The identified five clusters are as below;

Pettah (Pettah, Keselwatta, Kochikade north and south, Aluthkade west and east, Jinthupitiya, and Fort GN Divisions)

Galle Road (Kollupitiya, Bambalapitiya, Milagiriya, Wellawatha north, Wellawatha south GN divisions)

Borella (Borella north and south, Gothamipura, Wanathamulla, Narahenpita GN divisions)

Bloemendhal (Bloemendhal, Grandpass north and south, Mahawatha, Lunupokuna, Madampitiya GN divisions).

According to results add the correlation coefficient values into the chart. It shows how values changing among -1 to +1. Total third spaces. In the analysis of the data can see the most of the correlations are make a negative or positive impact on the city. But it shows that city level impact of the third spaces is very less.

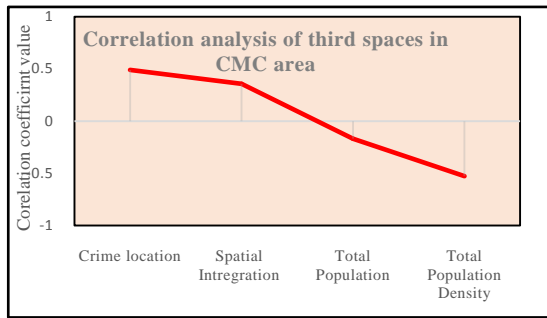


Figure 07:-Total coefficient value chart of CMC

Third spaces locations pattern and the crime location pattern has a moderate positive relationship. It tells that the third spaces or crime locations increases are caused to increase in the other factor also. But deep analysis we can see there has not perfect positive or high relationship. There has only moderate or low relationship among them. Because Sri Lankan context most of the crime happen in the city center and outer city. It is caused to make positive relationship among the third spaces and the crime locations. Another factor is the spatial integration and the third spaces locations. It shows that there has a relationship among each other because accessibility and the location of third spaces basically find the good integration point or Roads. Population and spaces show a negative relationship. It is also seen that more third spaces locate near to Galle road, pettah, and Fort. And the most of them are Low population density sites.

In the cluster analysis can see that different clusters act different actions in the correlation coefficient values. Borella cluster shows that there has not any relationship among crime location and the third spaces location distribution. It shows that third spaces do not affect for the all over the crime increases. All chart show that there has a negative relationship among the population and density. In the cluster of the bloemendhal cluster crime location and the third spaces correlation very high. It means that the environment of drug dealing, heroine business, brothels houses are the main cause for make many crimes. That finding limit to the special areas like bloemendhal. Spatial integration and third spaces mostly have the positive relationship among them. Third space like bars, restaurants one by one how to affect the urban structure show that the relationship differences among the population, spatial integration, and crime locations. Bar locations, spa location have a high degree of positive relationship among the crime locations. Illegal drug spots and spatial integration has a negative relationship. In the field we can see most of the illegal drug spot is not near to more integration places in Colombo.

As a summary in City level, there is no consistency in correlation among factors and third spaces except population of city level. But at the local level there seem to be an impact on third spaces on urban spatial structure.

IV. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The functional contribution of urban spaces are getting importance in every urban area and bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes and illegal drug spots are main throughout that urban spaces. But in conventional urban planning, usually, urban activities are classified as commercial, institutional, residential, public, etc. This classification is limited in many ways as it does not reflect the real use of the urban space. In that context, understanding the third spaces as a category of urban spaces is important. Because the third space and its impacts are not highly discussed under any field. But bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes and illegal drug spots are popping up in urban areas day by day and those places attract people and create good functionality in that urban spaces. The effects from locations of third spaces to the other functions in an urban area are not mentioned by any of scholars. Because of that, there is a knowledge gap between the locations pattern of third spaces and its effects towards other functions and urban spatial structure of the area. Although other countries talked about this third places of bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes and illegal drug spots their main focus is to topics of behavior, social and economic effects, and the character of the place and regenerations of that places. But not with the location pattern of third spaces and their impact for the urban spatial structure and the city. The conventional understanding is where that more populated areas have more bars, etc. or more crimes are related to third spaces But based on this understanding the study is to answer the research question, how the distribution pattern of third Spaces affects the city and the urban spatial structure. To answer this research question firstly the understanding about the patterns and systems of urban spatial structure were got. And their relations with third spaces location pattern. According to the results city level, there is a negative correlation between numbers of locations of third spaces and factors like total population and population density. But the correlation between those factors is in some kind of considerable level. Between the number of third spaces and crimes. There is a positive relationship. In further it denotes the effects on the urban spatial structure.

According to Hughes, G (2011) assaults, and bars density is discovered and find out there has a high correlation among them. That study shows that the distance of the bars, pubs, casinos and distance to casinos have high relationship. Near to that places assaults also high rate. It is done for the New Zealand Hamilton city. But in this study show that crime locations pattern and third spaces pattern are not having a proper relationship. But small special area like Bluemendhal cluster distribution of third space locations pattern shows

that high positive relationship among two variables.

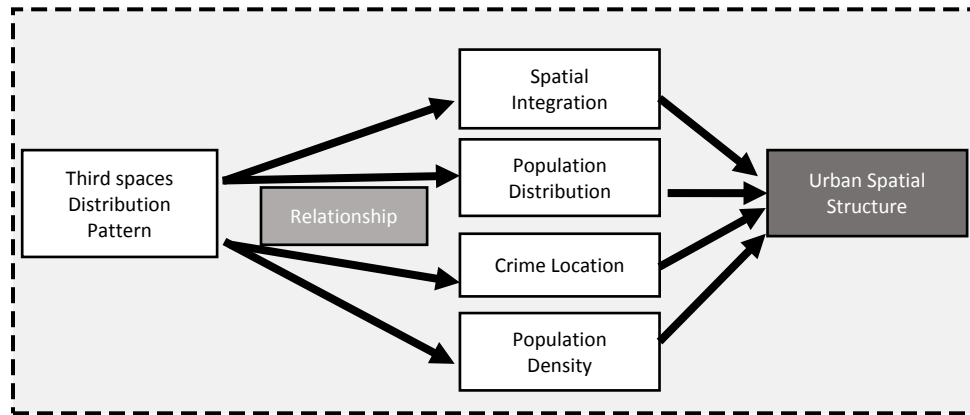


Figure 08:-Relationship among Third spaces distribution pattern & urban spatial structure

According to the variety of the third spaces distribution pattern, those are directly contributing for the functionality of the area. Because of that keep a consideration towards that in an urban planning is also important. As the place between home and work place the role and the spreading pattern of third spaces is impact for the urban spatial structure. These places are highly functioned as everyday spaces and the people attraction of those places are also very high.

Planners and urban designers consideration towards distribution pattern of these places is very less. But when considered the urban environment these places locations can consider as the important but less considered places. The importance of this study is the consideration of the relationship of third spaces locations pattern and changing factors of urban spatial structure. So this study opens up an area for think to urban designers and urban planners about the role of the third spaces and distribution pattern of third spaces and also how the effect on the urban spatial structure. Because there are bars, pubs, restaurants, cafes and illegal drug spots in every town and city. So with having this kind of effect of locations of third spaces with urban spatial structure, the less consideration of planners adding bad impacts for planning interventions. The study can be further expanded into a more detailed wide-ranging analysis focused with other socio-economic factors which are effecting for this third spaces. And also, can be further analyzed with gathering the more information of the informal third spaces.

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