Performance analysis of the role of urban activists in controlling and planning for Sadism in Zanjan City with the MACTOR model: A Case Study of Bisim Informal Settlement Neighborhood)

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Abstract

Today's modern city is grappling with environmental and geographical issues arising from human settlements, which is resulted from urbanization. One of the problems that has imperceptibly taken root in cities is the issue of sadism, which is defined as a disease, a crime, and a traumatic act and so on. If there is no control, prevention and management, it will spread and multiply and impact on the nerve and body of the city. Therefore, current article has aimed to investigate the role of urban actors and activists in controlling and planning the issue of sadism. The current research method is practical in nature, but from the point of view of descriptive-analytical method. According to the prevailing conditions, twenty experts were considered. The criteria of investigation are the performance, role and activism of politics (political activists) in planning and controlling sadism. The validity of the questionnaire was confirmed through ten elites and its reliability was obtained through Cronbach's alpha with a value of 0.902, which is acceptable. Besides, MACTOR software was used to analyze the data. The results of the MACTOR software output show that the actors who have the most effect in the planning and managing sadism in the first place are the activists of the Deputy of Culture, Deputy of Health & Welfare and secondly of Department of Education and security institutions along with other actors that have been investigated. Each of them can play a role in controlling sadism with their policies and influence on each other.

Keywords: Sadism, Informal settlement, City, Urban Activists, Zanjan City

Introduction

The action and behavior of urban people has been a manifestation of the influence of society on individuals which during the evolution and development of a person's personality takes place under the influence of environmental-geographical, social, cultural, etc. factors. Therefore, the individual reflects these changes and influence in the society in various forms and it plays a major role in the transformation of urbanism and the creation of a new space (Rouholamin et al., 2023). These reflections can have positive aspects as well as negative ones and are effective in the balance of spatial convulsions. Therefore, it can be inferred that human performance and action are resulted from vital structures that shape and nurture the behavioral foundations of the individual and reflect them into the society in the form of social actions and influence and control the urban psyche, nerves and body. The resulting consequences are relied on the lives of individuals and this cycle prevails wherever there is individual life. The subject of riots, urban convulsions, bedlam and disturbances such as crime, vandalism, chaos, theft and so on have been widely and mainly noticed by managers, planners and security officials of the city (Rouholamin et al., 2023). However, one of the objects that has not been paid much attention, but affects the city and the urban space in different ways, is the sadistic subject hidden in the urban life—that has played a role in applying special effects of convulsions to the urban space. This issue is not only limited to a unique geography, and wherever there are human footprints, a platform can be provided for the production of sadism, but we should not neglect the role of environmental factors, economic, political and geographical conditions in strengthening and intensifying this problem (Pokaichuk et al., 2023). Sadism is a severe type of hostile psychopathy that has an alternating pattern that is out of the normal state under the specific conditions of the person, which is basically when the person is involved in structured issues related to past events (Chester et al, 2018). Chasgo-Smirgol considered sadism as a universal dimension of the human mind and a pervasive temptation, a clinical entity like a seed that exists in all of us— a seed that can germinate and spread under certain environmental conditions (Foulkes, 2019). Studies show that sadistic acts and their consequences in many cities of the world have exceeded expectations. Social prohibitions against sadistic acts have been increasingly developed in Western culture since the 14th century (Erin et al., 2016). Sadistic includes all the wrong behaviors that are seen in the society to hurt people and is one of the social disorders, which on the one hand harms the psychological balance of people, and on the other hand disrupts the normal functioning of the society (Judaki, 2021). Considering the mentioned cases in societies like Iran, where the statistics of violence and aggression are much higher than the desired norms, the emergence of sadistic is not far from expected, considering that Iran is a multi-ethnic country and its political history is tied to the active role of these people at various times, and despite the cultural differences and the interweaving of these differences, the destructive effects of this heterogeneity such as deprivation of security, theft, etc. are going on in the city (Phan et al., 2023). According to the report of the forensic medicine in July 2017, 72 conflicts that lead to injuries were reported every hour (Ahmadi et al., 2017). Therefore, in order to manage and plan for such issues, the society needs the interventions of urban activists and planning to control this disease in different dimensions.

Because the neglect of urban managers and the weakness of cultural and social institutions can fuel the sustainability of acute problems in society, especially in informal settlement areas (Heydari et al., 2021). The mentioned cases are defined as security and criminology issues in our society. Examining this issue as the performance of public abuse and sadism in urban society has not been done as expected (Cinar et al., 2023). Through the multiplicity and variety of sadistic aspects and the role of the environment and environmental attributes in strengthening and intensifying it, a less privileged area and the informal settlement of Besim neighborhood in Zanjan city, with the aim of investigating the role of urban activists, has been taken into consideration to control sadism. Due to the spatial structure and location of Bisim neighborhood and the interweaving of layers with many differences, this coordinate of the city has made it prone to different actions. Of course, it should be noted that only informal structures and a geography are not exclusively condemned to the sadistic problem, and any geographical location can be a platform for sadism (Foulkes, 2019). The existence of some economic, social and functional gaps of urban activists in unofficial structures has led this article to investigate this problem in this geography. The aforementioned claims are based on recent pieces of research and investigations conducted by the researcher regarding vandalism as one of the aspects of sadism (Naderlo et al. 2022).

Therefore, the main question of the research is raised as follows: What is the place of planning practice from the point of view of urban activists in the management and planning for sadism?

Theoretical Framework

Every criminal act with a traumatic nature in human society is of the characteristic of location. That is, it requires coordinates where the seed of abnormality is placed, the sperm is formed, cultivated and then propagated, and this process is fueled by nothing but the environment and appropriate environmental patterns. Therefore, Jacobs (1961) was one of the pioneers of this idea, who in his book Death and Life of American Cities discussed the issue that there is a close relationship between crime and the physical environment that can be controlled and measured (Parsi et al., 2017). One of the manifestations and forms of abnormality and delinquency is sadism or people abuse, which has existed implicitly among people in the society, and the negative side of this action is still colored and institutionalized in the form of culture in the society, and the environment plays a significant role in strengthening and intensifying this psychological issue. One of the environments that intensifies sadism from many dimensions is informal settlements. Informal settlements have a long history in the world. Since its formation, it carries titles such as car settlements, marginalization, abnormal housing, etc. (Imanpour, 2021). The characteristics of unofficial housing are unstable and dense housing, lack of physical infrastructure, lack of social services and poor residents (Ono et al., 2020). All these factors provide the basis for the occurrence of sadistic actions and fuel its stability. As a result of strengthening, intensifying and multiplying these actions and thoughts in the society, this type of disorder will take on the characteristics of culture (Guillen & Arbaiza, 2023). Sadistic behaviors become a cultural category when this transfer of pain to others and the feeling of pleasure in people is institutionalized as an

automatic process; that is, everyone enters the same stream of chains and everyone tries to transfer the damage to another (Naderlo et al., 2022) Therefore, Fromm's theory, proposing that personality is mostly a product of culture, is a very important issue. In fact, mental health is to the extent that society can respond to the basic needs of people. If a society cannot respond to people's needs, many crises can take place. Fromm considers sadism as a result of social failure and believes that weak and helpless people are the drivers of this act (Yilmaz et al., 2020). If sadism is not managed and controlled, it can emerge in a cultural or customary way in the society, that is, the people of a society find widespread pleasure by transferring harm and suffering to others; or by dominating others, they show power-seeking. As a result of these actions, brutality appears in the society and finds a spatial appearance, therefore, the existence of structures in the society that stimulate sadism can be one of the factors that strengthen sadism even more. In this regard, Sutherland believes that: abnormal behavior is learned through interaction with other people in a communication process, and this learning of criminal behavior and the method of committing a crime are sometimes very complex and sometimes very simple, and it includes special orientation to motivations, justifications and attitudes. Sutherland's theory is of two main elements: The content of what is learned, which consists of special techniques for committing a crime, i.e. appropriate motivations, justifications and attitudes, and more generally, interpretations in favor of breaking the law and another process that learning requires socializing with other people (Golkhandan, 2018). He also believes that offense and crime will be learned through transmission and by being in a social environment with the lower classes of society and being influenced by their subcultures. Culture should not be considered only as a factor in learning, because people are not only influenced by culture, but also influence it (Froutan, 2015). From his point of view, much of wrong-doings are transferred from one person to another; it means that if a person is exposed to criminal factors in his immediate environment, his chances and probability of breaking the law will increase. He admits that in order for a person to become a criminal, he must first learn how to commit a crime and this education is obtained through action and reaction with other people and groups (Ruzbeh, 2018).

Review of Literature

Table 1- Review of Literature

Authors	Year	Title	Result
David S. Chester C. Nathan DeWall Brian Enjaian	2018	Sadism and aggressive behavior: Inflicting pain to feel pleasure	Sadism appears to be a strong predictor of aggression motivated by the pleasure of causing pain. Such sadistic aggression ultimately backfires and has a more negative impact.
Lucy Foulkes	2019	Sadism: Review of an elusive construct	Sadism often provokes antisocial behavior, which takes a significant toll on victims. Understanding exactly what

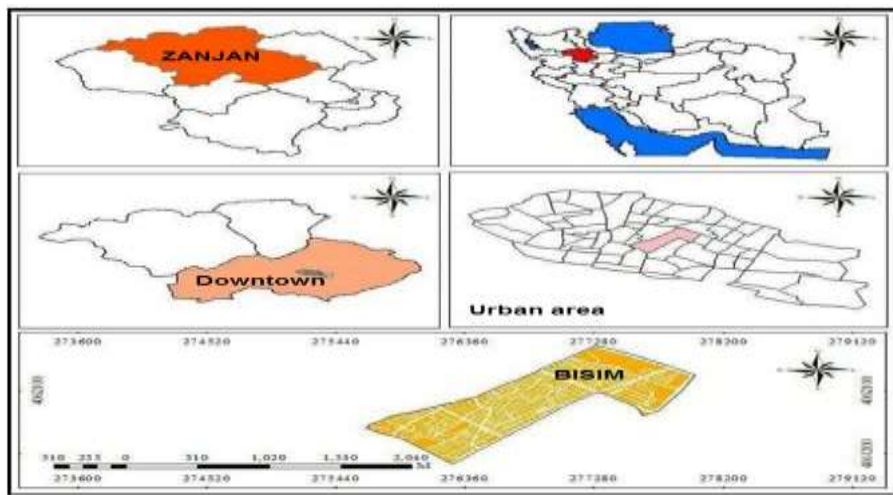|			sadism is, and whether or not it can be treated, is vitally important.
Delroy L'Paulhus Dutton	2016	Everyday sadism	The research results show that sadism is evident in contemporary societies and may even be normally distributed.
Ansari	2018	The role of sadism, masochism and sadomasochism in the sexual delinquency of women in Noorabad Mamsani	Most of the studied people have experienced family violence and consider the existence of moral deviations in the family and the impossibility of marriage as the most important factor in committing sexual crimes
Ashouri	2020	Prevalence of group B personality disorders in people suffering from sadomasochism in Tehran in 2019-2020	The results show that sadomasochism was related to age, gender, education, duration of familiarity with its symptoms and antisocial personality.

Research Methodology

The current research is practical in nature, but from the point of view of descriptive-analytical method. Information collection was done by library method based on books, articles, documents, documents and websites and field method using questionnaire tool. The statistical population of this research is the people living in the informal settlement of Bisim neighborhood, but due to the specialization of the subject, the elite community was used to collect information and distribute the questionnaire. The sampling method was non-probability and snowball sampling. The experts of this group include university professors, urban and urban planning experts, experts of relevant bodies, and so on. There is no explicit rule depending on the number of experts and depending on the purpose of Delphi, access resources and scope, prevailing conditions. etc. the participants are estimated between 15 and 50 people (Heydari et al., 2021). In the current research, according to the prevailing conditions, twenty experts were considered. The criteria of investigation are the performance, role and activism of politics (political activists) in planning and controlling sadism. The validity of the questionnaire was confirmed through ten elites and its reliability was obtained through Cronbach's alpha with a value of 0.902, which is acceptable. To analyze the data, MACTOR method and software has been used so that the strategy table of the actors, which includes goals and motives, has been made. It should be noted that the relevant objectives are extracted from the materials and notes of the upstream documents related to actors such as (the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, Municipality, Governorate, Welfare, Ministry of Education and Culture, Deputy of Cultural Affairs, Deputy of Health, Security Institutions) and have been identified in relevance to the actors competition scene. Then, the convergence and divergence were analyzed to evaluate the relationships of the actors and to provide

strategic recommendations regarding the subject under study in relation to these goals in the competition scene regarding the future and presented in the form of tables, charts and graphs.

The scope of the study

The figure below shows the location of the Bisim area map. This area is located in the northeastern part of Zanjan. The area is located in the southeast part of Kuche Meshki, between Etemadieh and Shoghi neighborhoods, and in District 3. According to the census of 2016, Bisim neighborhood has a population of 18,404 and 5,921 households that accommodates this amount of population in an area of 81.7 hectares. The history of the formation of this area goes back to 1971 with the intensification of the migration of villagers to the city. The largest number of immigrants entered this region between 1971-1986, and after that, the eastern part of Bisim region was developed with winding and dead-end alleys. Therefore, it is another area that is among the informal settlement areas (Naderlo et al., 2022).

Figure 1- Map of the location of Bisim neighborhood

Findings

In this part of the research, the analyses obtained from MACTOR software are discussed in the form of tables, maps and graphs, which shows the role and position of the actors in relation to the goals, as well as the position of the goals themselves.

The matrix below shows the MDII matrix. This matrix is the effectiveness and susceptibility of the actors, which shows these two important indicators (Li and Di). The higher the numerical value of Li, the greater the impact and influence of that actor, and vice versa. As the matrix shows, the actor of culture deputy in this matter with a numerical index of 131 has connections, power to control and liability to influence and create interference in the performance of actors compared to other actors. On the other hand, in row Di, the highest numerical index is specific to the municipal actor, which shows the susceptibility of these actors from others with the number 119.

Table 2- Matrix of direct and indirect influence (MDII)

li	Educational institutions	Health institutions	Cultural institutions	Security institutions	Provincial Government	Municipality	Rehabilitation institutions	Media	
99	15	12	13	12	15	18	13	15	**Media**
123	20	15	15	17	17	19	17	20	**Rehabilitation institutions**
76	13	11	10	11	12	14	12	13	**Municipality**
82	11	10	10	11	12	13	10	11	**Provincial Government**
99	15	13	13	14	15	15	13	15	**Security institutions**
131	21	15	15	18	18	20	18	21	**Cultural institutions**
114	18	15	15	15	16	17	15	18	**Health institutions**
112	18	15	14	16	17	17	15	18	**Educational institutions**
836	113	91	90	101	119	96	96	116	**Di**

The state of the actors, which is specified in Figure 2, shows effectiveness, susceptibility of them. According to this map and the coordinates of the placement of the actors of the Culture, Welfare and Health Deputies, it is clear that they are superior and effective actors, that is, in the field of controlling sadism in informal settlement areas, these actors can play a significant and effective role. On the other hand, the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, the municipality and the governor's office are among the defeated or intermediary actors that have the least amount of influence and the most amount of susceptibility, which means that these organizations can act in different ways with the influence of other institutions in controlling and reducing sadism. Finally, the stances of Ministry of Education and the security institutions show that these institutions have a bilateral feature: they have both high effectiveness and high susceptibility. The most important actors for our purposes are bilateral and dominant actors who play a major role in controlling sadism in informal settlements.
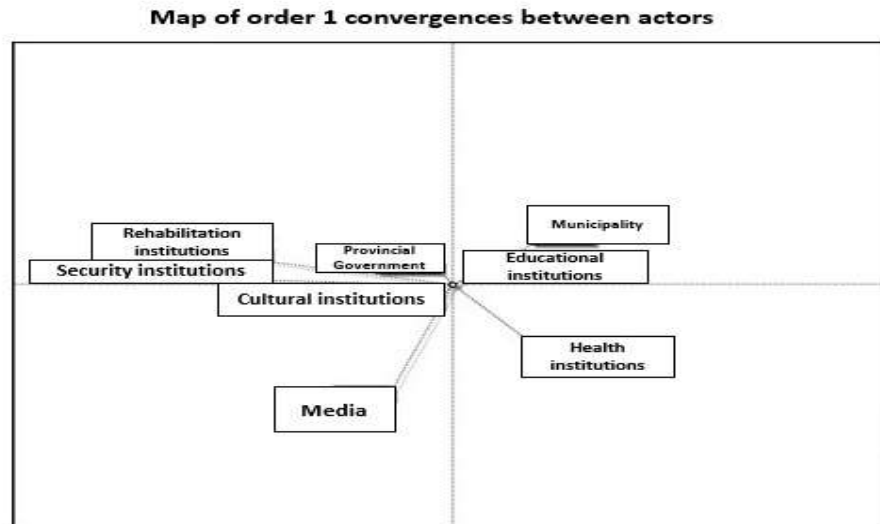
Map of influences and dependences between actors

Figure 2- The map of the location of the actors

The following matrix, the first order matrix (1MAO) expresses the stance of the actors in relation to the goals and shows the number of actors in favor, against and existing positions. According to this matrix, all the actors agreed with the goals of control and planning for sadism, there was no opposition to the desired goals, and there was no opposition to each other, and the actors have the same agreement.

Table 3- The first order matrix of the position of the actors in relation to the goals

	Prevent the generalization of violence	Eliminate reinforcing factors	Increasing normative behaviors	Increased sense of security	Reducing risk for vulnerable people in society	Creating Cultural Space	Creating an informed society	Creating a learning community	Achieving an active and effective society	Creating local organizations and continuously improving them in order to use resources	MAX
Media	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Rehabilitation institutions	1	1	1	1		1	1	1	1	1	10
Municipality	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Provincial Government	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Security institutions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10

Cultural institutions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Health institutions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Educational institutions	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	10
Agree	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	
Disagree	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Positions	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	8	

The matrix (1CAA) shown in the table below is a convergence matrix of actors that determines the degree of agreement between actors regarding the goals, whether the subject actors have an agreement regarding the goals or not. According to the following table and the obtained results and analysis, all the actors have the same agreement on the subject of sadism control and planning, and the numbers indicate the convergence of the actors. The goals are accepted by urban activists and from their point of view these goals should be achieved by planning to control sadism. As Figure 3 shows the map of convergence and its intensity between the actors of the subject around one axis, it is obvious that there is a coherent convergence between the actors towards the goals.

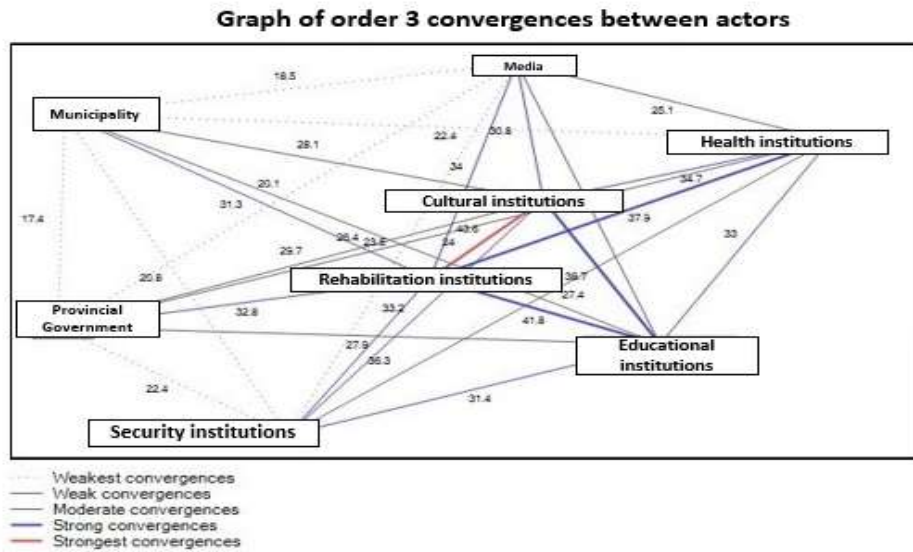**Table 4 - Convergence matrix between actors**

	Media	Rehabilitation institutions	Municipality	Provincial Government	Security institutions	Cultural institutions	Health institutions	Educational institutions	Li
Media	15	13	18	15	12	13	12	15	99
Rehabilitation institutions	20	17	19	17	17	15	15	20	123
Municipality	13	12	14	12	11	10	11	13	76
Provincial Government	11	10	13	12	11	10	10	11	82
Security institutions	15	13	15	15	14	13	13	15	99
Cultural institutions	21	18	20	18	18	15	15	21	131
Health institutions	18	15	17	16	15	15	15	18	114

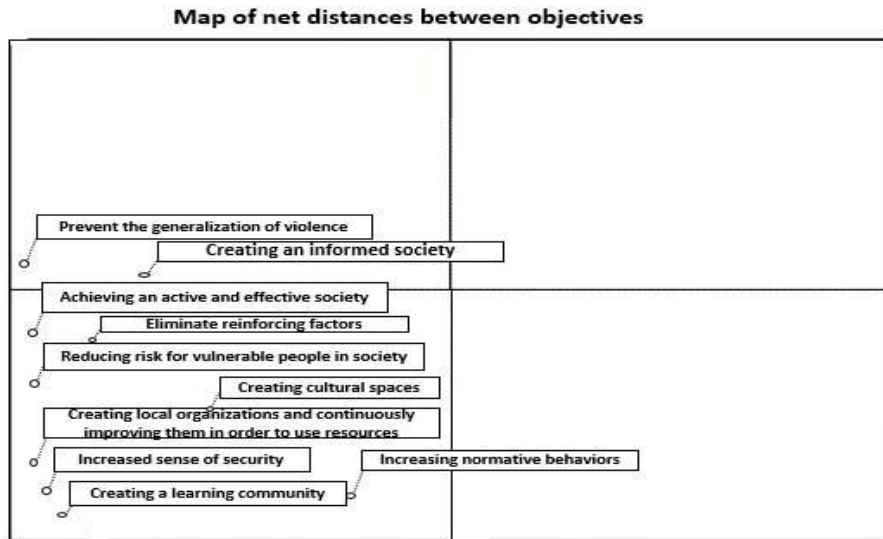| Educational institutions	18	15	17	17	16	14	15	18	112
Di	116	96	96	119	101	90	91	113	836

Figure 3- The convergence map of the actors

Figure 4 shows the graph of convergence between actors and the intensity of this convergence with the help of lines and dash lines. As is evident, actors with a greater degree of convergence are marked with a red line, and in this matter, the Ministry of Culture and Welfare had a strong convergence with each other, that is, it can be said that despite all the agreements between the institutions, the two institutions of the Ministry of Culture and Welfare have a stronger agreement regarding the goals of controlling sadism. Depending on the thickness and color of the lines, the intensity of their convergence with other actors is determined.
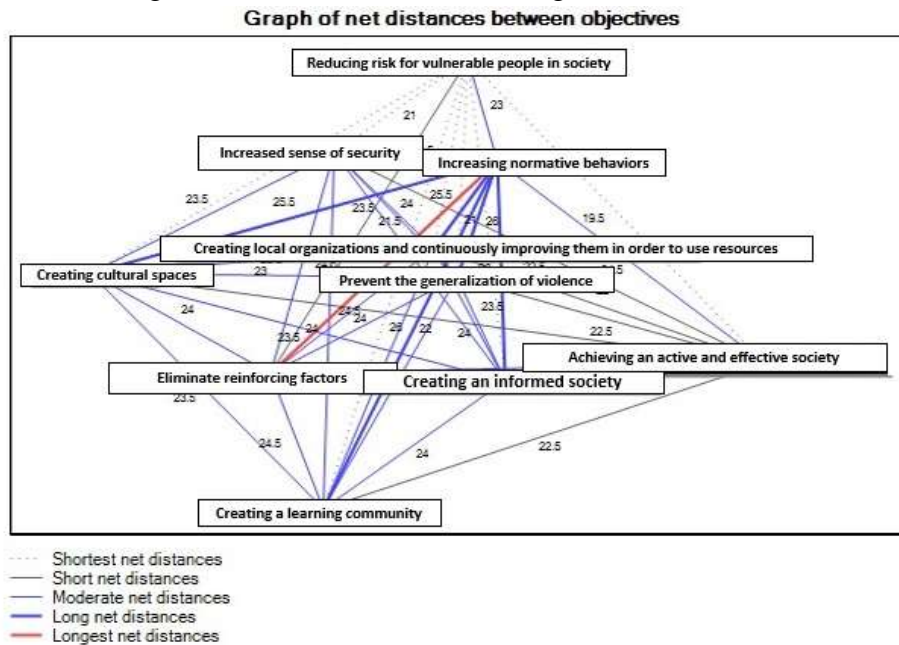
Figure 4- Graph of convergence of actors

The other part shows the net distance analysis between the goals. This map is used to specify the goals that the actors have the same position with respect to them and shows the goals that have convergence. As is evident in the map, goals that are more convergent, their actors agree more on them and have a greater desire to achieve them, and the probability of these goals happening is higher, while the goals that are divergent on the map are beyond the agreement of the actors and the willingness of the actors to achieve these goals is low. Following these explanations of the goals of creating a learning society, preventing and dealing with violence, strengthening the sense of public security, eliminating the underlying factors of strengthening, creating an informed society, creating local organizations, achieving informed communities and reducing the risk of vulnerable people are among the goals that from the point of view of the actors, they can be used to control sadism and plan for it, as it was mentioned earlier that the actors agree with all the goals, so there is no divergence of goals. Figure 5 depicts the convergence of these goals.

Figure 5- Net distance map between targets

Figure 6 shows the net distance analysis between the goals. So, the weakest convergence to the strongest convergence between the targets is shown with lines. According to the figure below, the greatest convergence between the goals of developing normative behaviors and eliminating underlying factors is a reinforcement for controlling sadism in informal settlement areas, which means that the most attention of the institution should be around these goals, and after that, goals such as creating learning communities, creating conscious communities and creating cultural spaces are considered important and other goals are examined according to the net distance with other goals.

Figure 6- Graph of convergence between goals

In this section, according to the existing concepts, extracted from the goals, specific strategies have been determined based on the extracted goals. The goals have been developed according to the review of the current situation to answer and control the upcoming problem, which are described in Table 5.

Table 5- Determining strategies and policy areas

| Strategy Code | Strategy | Planning Goals | | Policy-making |
		With Physical Manifestation	Without Physical Manifestation	
1	Forming a city commission jointly between interpreters to manage the anomaly		Achieving active and effective communities in empowerment matters	Coordination of effective devices in the matter of planning
2	Research in the fields related to such topics		Creating an informed society	Supporting academic projects and research
3	Promotion of social education and learning	Establishing local organization and its continuous improvement in order to use resources (human, physical)		Strengthening non-governmental organizations
4	Promoting awareness by media		Developing normative behaviors	Plan implementation and related production
5	Using the city's cultural opportunities	Creating cultural spaces in the city		Organizing useful neighborhood centers (mosques, libraries)
6	Using the religious missionaries of the city in the direction of creating culture in religious communities		Creating a cultural learning community	Training and improving the level of literacy of religious missionaries (the clergymen) and using them to spread culture

7	Increasing and controlling the mental peace of the community		Reducing the vulnerability of vulnerable people in society	Establishing counseling, awareness and prevention centers
8	Using health ambassadors in these communities			Supporting and investing in people who work and research in this field
9	Academic research focusing on the anomalies prevailing in these structures			Supporting (spiritually and financially) and organizational investment on university projects
10	Expanding security forces as much as possible in these dilapidated structures	Preventing and dealing with violence		Formulating of regulations
11	Continuous monitoring		Strengthening the sense of public safety	Bolding the presence of the police in worn textures

Conclusion

According to the studies conducted in relation to how to control and plan for the problem of sadism in an informal settlement area of Bisim, from the perspective of the elites, it can be concluded that some institutions, including the Deputy of Culture, the Deputy of Health, the welfare of the municipality, the governor's office, security institutions, education and the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, which can have a controlling approach in urban issues as an activist by influencing and being influenced by each other and plan to manage a phenomenon. The investigation of the role of urban activists was carried out according to a series of objectives, and the results of the investigations and analyses show that the most controlling role for the problem of sadism in informal settlement areas can be played by the activists of the Deputy of Culture, Deputy of health & welfare; thus, through some policies in the field of spreading the correct culture, strengthening non-governmental organizations, or building counseling and prevention centers, or organizing useful neighborhood centers in order to inform people in these areas about the nature of sadism as a disease. These findings are in line with the results of Aliverdinia's research (2014), which considered the management and reduction of convulsions and social issues possible through the intervention and dominance of the welfare organization and the health community and doctors. In the second place, Education Department and security institutions in the field of planning for sadism in the informal settlement area of Bisim have bilateral characteristics that have both effectiveness and high susceptibility that they can plan for the problem of sadism in the scope of their organizational performance. For example, Education Department, which repeatedly plays a role in the education and upbringing of members of the society, can be

useful in order to improve the social literacy of individuals, and sadism is nothing but a phenomenon that has infiltrated human societies. And also the police, by monitoring, reminding the strong role of the law in the vital areas of people, can play a deterrent role to a great extent, especially in the context of informal settlements. During the field observations, the low presence of law enforcement agencies, etc., could play no significant role. This part of the claim in the research is in line with the findings of Naderlo et al. (2022) who, during the study of the problem of vandalism in informal settlements of Bisim, concluded the sadism as a result of the absence of law enforcement agencies. Other urban institutions, such as the municipality, the governorate, and the Islamic Republic of Iran Broadcasting, which have a dominant characteristic and are more effective than other institutions, can play a role in controlling and preventing sadism as a manifestation of crime and disease.

Also, the results of the present research are in line with the results of the research of Mousavi et al. (2020), Safari et al. (2021), in relation to the management of challenges, crime and social issues by urban activists.

Finally, according to the mentioned cases and the views of Fromm and Sutherland, sadism is a problem that exists as a seed inside people, and this seed needs a spatial structure and reinforcement and intensification drives to find a spatial appearance. Therefore, it is not possible to exclusively consider a specific time, place and coordinates for this phenomenon and conclude against a specific geography. Therefore, if a control and management program is not considered by urban activists for the phenomenon of sadism, according to Sutherland's theory of cultural transfer, this multiplied phenomenon takes the form of culture and disrupts the urban nerve and system because when a category culturally penetrates among people, it is transferred to different members of the society as a learning process.

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