The importance of safety and security in urban space

Kamil Kiełek
Ph.D. Student, Jan Kochanowski University of Kielce, Poland.
Email: kamil.kielek.96@gmail.com

Abstract

Purpose of the study: This article presents the main determinants of security and safety in the public space of the city. The main objective is to examine the importance of security in the public area of the city and to discuss how it can be achieved.

Methodology: In the article was used a literature review mainly on the urban public area as one of the most critical aspects of the city. "Desk research" is the method that was used to analyze.

Main findings: From the considerations, the urban public space can be a place of excellent security or an area of crime and fear. Key factors affecting safety in urban public regions are visibility and design.

Application of the study: This rticle refers to the behavior of citizens in urban spaces. As more and more hackers attack both companies and individuals, everyone needs to take the necessary precautions. The use of aids such as cameras and lighting can help to warn residents of possible hazards. Article's content may be helpful for residents to work together to create a safer environment.

Originality/Novelty of the study: Safety and security must never be compromised in public places in the city. Aspects of public space are an essential part of life and must be secure for safety and well-being. The reasons for applying precautions in urban areas in this article suggest that security should not be neglected, as it can lead to large-scale accidents and tragedies in the absence of adequate safety measures. This article may stimulate further research and study in the field of public security and contribute to other interesting scientific contributions on the subject.

INTRODUCTION

The meaning of safety and security in the urban public space can vary depending on the context. In general, however, safety refers to the physical well-being of individuals, while security refers to the protection of property and possessions. In an urban setting, public spaces are typically those areas that are open and accessible to all, such as parks, sidewalks, and plazas (Lekareva & Zaslaskaya, 2018). It can also refer to the physical safety of people and their belongings in these spaces. The safety and security of these spaces are essential to the health and vibrancy of cities. When people feel safe in public spaces, they are more likely to use them. There are a few ways to increase security and protection in city public spaces. One way is to improve lighting in public areas. This can deter crime and make people feel safer. Another way is to increase police presence in public places. This can also prevent crime and make people feel safer. It is essential to design public spaces in a way that promotes natural surveillance. This means that there are no places for criminals to hide and that people can see and be seen by others. Urban public space is increasingly used for recreation, socializing, and working. However, it is also a place where people go to feel safe and secure. This has led to a growing focus on safety and security in urban public spaces, as well as the need to create environments that are both safe and welcoming. As the world becomes increasingly digital, more people are spending time and money in urban public spaces. But what happens when those spaces become dangerous or unsafe?

The main purpose of this article is to explore the meaning of safety and security in urban public spaces and discuss how they can be achieved.

DISCUSSION

Urban public space is one of the most important aspects of a city. It's where we exercise, socialize, and go about our daily lives. Unfortunately, this space is also increasingly subject to threats and dangers. In this article, we explore the meaning of safety and security in urban public spaces and discuss how municipalities can protect their citizens. We also provide some tips on how we can keep ourselves safe when we're out and about in the city. Urban public space can be a place of excellent safety and security, or it can be the site of crime and fear. It all depends on the context in which it is used. Many people feel safe walking around their neighbourhoods because they know the people who live there and trust them not to hurt them. This kind of community-oriented safety is also found in many city centres, where residents know one another and are willing to help if something goes wrong. However, this sense of security doesn't always exist in urban public spaces outside our homes or neighbourhoods (Kacharo, Teshome & Woltamo, 2022). Many people feel uncomfortable walking around large cities at night for fear of being mugged or attacked. And even during the day, some areas can still be unsafe thanks to high crime levels (incredibly violent crimes). One key factor contributing to safety in

an urban public space is visibility: Urban planners want streets to be brightly lit at night so pedestrians will see potential dangers ahead and avoid them, just as drivers should see obstacles on the road while driving safely.

Another important factor is design: Poorly designed streets don't allow for easy navigation by wheelchair users or those with prosthetic devices; they're also tricky to cross without getting lost due to confusing intersections or lack of signage/bicycle parking facilities nearby. Urban public space can be a source of both safety and security for people who live in or visit cities. It can help to reduce crime rates, provide social opportunities, and promote healthy lifestyles (Kacharo, Teshome & Woltamo, 2022). Safety in urban public spaces is enhanced by security cameras and lighting that can alert residents to possible danger. These devices are often linked with other systems, such as sensors that detect unauthorized entry or activity, or alerts sent through mobile phones when someone enters or leaves an area designated as safe. In addition to physical safety hazards, urban public spaces may pose psychological risks due to fear of violence or theft. By selecting certain areas as safe places, city governments can help minimize these dangers while allowing people the freedom to move around within their community. For urban public space to serve its purpose as an essential part of civic life, it must be well-maintained and regularly monitored so that it remains accessible and enjoyable for everyone who uses it.

In today's society, it is increasingly vital for people to be aware of their safety and security when in public spaces. With more and more hackers attacking businesses and individuals alike, everyone must take the necessary precautions to stay safe. Understanding the security and safety of the city's public spaces is vital to ensuring that we remain both healthy and safe while using them. Urban public spaces are a vital part of our cities, and they need to be as safe and secure as possible. Unfortunately, this isn't always the case. This is because urban public spaces are often unprotected from crime and vandalism (Beqaj, 2016).

To combat these problems, it's vital for businesses and residents to work together to create safer environments in which everyone can enjoy their cityscape. Here are a few tips to help us to keep our heads when all around us seem unsafe:

- Always use common sense when interacting with strangers. If something doesn't feel right, don't do anything until we've had a chance to think things through.

- Avoid walking alone at night or during busy times of the day - these are hazardous areas for criminals looking for easy targets. Stick close to others whenever possible, and if we feel uncomfortable walking in a room, reach out for help.

- Be careful what information we share online - whether it's personal photos or descriptions of our personality traits. Always ensure that any information transmitted is private enough not to be found by unauthorized parties.

- Educate ourselves and our friends about the dangers of crime in urban public spaces so we know what to watch out for when we're out there.

- Secure our property by installing security cameras or locks on gates/doors leading into our property. This will help deter criminals from entering uninvited and committing crimes against us or our possessions (Beqaj, 2016).

- Report any suspicious behavior immediately to the police (or security personnel if applicable). Criminals won't feel comfortable carrying out their deeds knowing they could be caught at any time!

- Keep an eye on social media (and other online communities) for updates regarding Crime Alerts or Security Warnings in specific parts of town - This way, we'll always have up-to-date information about potential safety threats near where we live or work (Svensdotter & Guarali, 2018).

As the world's population continues to grow and urbanize, safety and security issues in public spaces are becoming more common. There are a variety of reasons for this. First, cities are becoming more crowded and denser, which makes it easier for criminals to hide and commit crimes (Minton, 2018). Second, there's an increase in cybercrime (attacks that use the Internet or computer networks to steal or damage property), which can have a devastating impact on businesses and individual lives. To maintain peace and order in cities, it is essential that we must develop adequate safety and security strategies. Here are some critical steps that we can take:

- Establish clear guidelines for acceptable behavior in public spaces. This will help everyone understand what's allowed and what's not allowed.

- Make sure everyone who lives or visits urban public spaces knows their rights and responsibilities (including the right to record footage of events). This will help deter criminals from committing crimes in public spaces.

- Keep an eye on social media platforms for updates about security incidents happening in cities – this will allow us to plan and prepare for emergencies.

There are many common challenges that businesses face when it comes to safety and security. These can include issues with data protection, malware attacks, physical theft or vandalism, social engineering scams, and more. To manage these risks effectively, it's essential to have an urban security policy in place that sets out clear guidelines for addressing each type of risk (Navarrete-Hernandez, Vetro & Concha, 2021). Furthermore, we need to put in place measures such as ID scanning at entrances and using strong passwords (with a mix of upper and lowercase letters as well as numbers) to help protect our data from unauthorized access. We should also regularly monitor our system for signs of compromise (such

as unusual activity on our computers or suspicious emails), and take appropriate action if necessary (Martinez, 2019). Overall, taking the time to understand our specific business situation and creating tailored policies to protect both assets and customers is the best way to ensure safety and security for ourselves and our team.

CONCLUSION

To sum it all up, safety and security can never be compromised in any urban public place. The importance of these norms has also been acknowledged by the Supreme Court as it laid down guidelines for providing adequate security to people at public spaces like malls, markets, and railway stations. It is time now that this mindset gets rooted in our system too. We should work towards making each city a safe one where we are free from any form of harassment or crime. Public space is a critical part of our lives and must be kept safe and secure for the safety and well-being of all. Recent events have shown us how dangerous it can be not to take precautions when in public spaces, no matter how familiar we feel with the area. General security is an important responsibility that we all share. As citizens, we have to report anything out of the ordinary or suspicious to authorities so that they can do their job correctly. Public spaces are often used by people for socializing, studying, playing, and many more. Due to their importance in the daily life of citizens, the designers have come up with new designs and installations on safety and security in these spaces. These new designs mustn't be just aesthetically pleasing but also practical for the users. The only way to ensure such an outcome is by making sure all stakeholders, from government bodies to cities' residents, work together toward creating safe environments where everyone feels secure and happy. We can say that safety and security should not be taken lightly. In the absence of adequate safety measures, it may lead to large-scale accidents and tragedies. People often fail to notice the lack of sufficient security in parks and other public spaces because they have become so accustomed to such facilities being safe. The frequent attacks against women across different cities are a testament to how vital it is for authorities to step up their efforts in to ensure better security at public places like parks, bus stops, etc.

REFERENCES

1. Beqaj, B. (2016). Public Space, public interest and Challenges of Urban Transformation. *IFAC-Papers online*, *49*(29), 320-324. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ifacol.2016.11.087
2. Kacharo, D., Teshome, E., & Woltamo, T. (2022). Safety and security of women and girls in public transport. *Urban, Planning and Transport Research*, *10*(1), 1-19. https://doi.org/10.1080/21650020.2022.2027268
3. Lee, S. (2021). The safety of public space: urban design guidelines for neighborhood park planning. *Journal Of Urbanism: International Research on Placemaking and Urban Sustainability*, *15*(2), 222-240. https://doi.org/10.1080/17549175.2021.1887323
4. Lekareva, N., & Zaslavskaya, A. (2018). New meaning of urban public spaces. *Urban Construction and Architecture*, *8*(2), 130-134. https://doi.org/10.17673/Vestnik.2018.02.22
5. Martinez, P. (2019). Challenges for ensuring the security, safety, and sustainability of outer space activities. *Journal Of Space Safety Engineering*, *6*(2), 65-68. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jsse.2019.05.001
6. Minton, A. (2018). The Paradox of Safety and Fear: Security in Public Space. *Architectural Design*, *88*(3), 84-91. https://doi.org/10.1002/ad.2305
7. Navarrete-Hernandez, P., Vetro, A., & Concha, P. (2021). Building safer public spaces: Exploring gender difference in the perception of safety in public space through urban design interventions. *Landscape And Urban Planning*, *214*, 104180. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2021.104180
8. Svensdotter, A., & Guaralda, M. (2018). Dangerous Safety or Safely Dangerous. Perception of safety and self-awareness in public space. *The Journal Of Public Space*, *3*(1), 75-92. https://doi.org/10.5204/jps.v3i1.319