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PLACE MAKING OF PUBLIC SPACES WITHIN TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT (TOD): A REVIEW

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Abstract

Transit-oriented development (TOD) offers as a method to provide sustainable living and introducing place making as the essential needs of producing good public spaces. TOD may also help to achieve a greater positive outcome that satisfies the community's demand. This study synthesized literature reviews from 1993 to 2021 on the 'sense of place' in creating a quality place making in public spaces. Views taken includes from the concern of methodological and components used to comprehend the association of sense of place within place making in public spaces accompanied by the individual's perception of the place meaning. In conclusion, place making is essential in forming quality public spaces especially in TOD. It enables us to understand the place attachment as in the connection between a person and a place physically and spiritually thus, help to contribute to an effective place making.

Keyword: Place Making, Public Spaces, Transit-Oriented Development, Sense of Place

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INTRODUCTION

TOD is a form of design improvement which is proposed primarily to boost the usage of public transport and accommodation of mixed land-use to construct a diverse and pedestrian-friendly surroundings and in an either urban and sub-urban environment area (Gomez et al., 2019; Jacobson & Forsyth, 2008; van Lierop et al., 2017). Nonetheless, the idea of TOD is already familiarized in Malaysia through the regional and local plans along with the state structure plans (Gomez et al., 2019). One of the approaches made by Malaysia in implementing Transit Oriented Development (TOD) to establish a sustainable living. Transit Oriented Development (TOD) is an evolution that have been applied in a few countries outside of Malaysia such as in Singapore, United States, China, Australia and even India (Rahmat et al., 2016).

Architect and planner Peter Calthorpe disclose the definition of TOD as a mixed-use society within an average of approximately 600-metres walking distance of a transit station and commercial centres (Jacobson & Forsyth, 2008). A mixed-use development that consists of residential, office, retail, public uses and open spaces in the range of walkable distance gives opportunities to both resident and employees to travel conveniently either using transit, foot, bicycle or car (Jacobson & Forsyth, 2008). Improving an environment that is fixated around transit development is crucial for establishing a promising success in any TOD in a habitable compact urban form (Lang et al., 2020). A compact livable neighbourhood is a place where mixed-use transit stops are able to aid the clustering of activities that allows users to do what they need and want to (Lang et al., 2020). TOD is referred to as the effort of place making as it provides entertainment and leisure accommodation, apart from becoming a focal points of the community meeting place (Lang et al., 2020).

This paper aims to reviews potential of place making in public spaces within the TOD-based environment. In order to make full use of the TOD strategy in a country, one must approach the souls of the subjects that will mostly affect the outcome of this means to ensure great benefits to both parties- country and society. Therefore, it is important to understand the priority of place making while creating a public space and its effects on the country's economy and the community sustainable living. The main question discussed in this paper is why place making is essential when designing public spaces in TOD? The last two questions can be verified by being sensible from the societies' perspectives on public spaces and the way a place can affect them physically and spiritually.

- The aim of the paper is to produce the theoretical framework of a placemaking for public spaces in TOD

LITERATURE REVIEW

Public space is one of the most prioritized aspects in Transit Oriented Development (TOD) as it is defined as the connection between buildings and transit stops, hence in a mixed-use development (Mehta, 2014). By helping to connect the uses of the buildings and transit stops around, it encourages an exceptional cooperation of mixed-use TOD because some occupants could have choices to live nearer for a short-distance from either home, school, or other destinations without any use of private cars (Metropolitan Rapid Transit Atlanta Authority, 2010). A space that have clear visuals among the community as they are occupying themselves with social affairs and interactions between each other is also considered as public space (Mensch, 2007).

Public space generally is accessible to many public and it is not restrained by any private parties or individual (Mehta, 2014). The term 'accessible' is a highly significant aspect in public space that is needed to create the word 'public' itself. Whether streets, parks, squares, walkways and even specific places in the city that is openly accessible with no restrictions are considered as public spaces (Polat & Dostoglu, 2017; Toolis, 2017). Public spaces serve as a shared ground for the community from various cultures to converge with each other, which improves the psychological well-being (Toolis, 2017). Thus, to create an effective public space, the government need to understand what makes a public space approachable and practical for the public use. Therefore, this paper will review more on the definition of place making that depicts a successful space for the public usage in a city especially in TOD areas.

Definition of Place Making

Place making holds various significant meanings and definitions according to different authors (Ellery et al., 2021; Fincher et al., 2016), but are still considered under the same scope where they defined place making as a process of whether places are shaping the people or the people are shaping the places (Ali et al., 2020; Schneekloth & Shibley, 1993; Toolis, 2017; Wyckoff & A, 2014). The concept of place making has face variations from considering the physical aspect of a place in forming place making to ease the satisfactions of the community beyond the planning professions (Strydom et al., 2018). Place making is a measure in enhancing the quality of different places in a community as well as the country where the places are based in (Wyckoff & A, 2014). Place making is also considered as a participation and collaboration of the community in reconstructing an adequate environment for the city (Toolis, 2017).

Policy makers and researchers that studies on sustainability further depicts that place making is recognized as an effective mean in accomplishing sustainability goals (Ghavampour & Vale, 2019). Place making is also viewed as the objectives in spatial planning to reshape the identities of the places through controlling the activities, meanings and feelings that are integrated in place

identity (Shamsuddin & Ujang, 2008; Strydom et al., 2018). Place making is broadly refers to the action of transforming a “space” into “place”, by providing a function that can create meanings to the place for the use of the community (Dupre, 2019). It is frequently associated with repetitive keywords such as; a) meaning of places, b) place creation, c) sense of place, d) place images, e) place identity, f) community and e) neighbourhood (Dupre, 2019; Krause, 2014). Based on the theory of placemaking, sustaining a place involves gradually enabling practices that concerns the full cooperation of the residents, employers and employees, community organizations, institutional leadership and even tourists whom are affected by the place (Schneekloth & Shibley, 1993).

There are four different types of place making, which are standard, creative, tactical and strategic placemaking (Wyckoff & A, 2014). Standard place making is practiced for various functions as it is used as an additional means to improve the quality of a place in a long span of time with small projects or activities (Wyckoff & A, 2014). While creative place making covers most parts based on arts installation and streetscape for visual attractiveness, tactical place making is known as the lighter, quicker and cheaper method in place making where it is focused more on the result action of the users in a place and how little changers can affect them spiritually (Wyckoff & A, 2014). Strategic place making however, is a targeted process where it is planned meticulously, involving activities or projects in specified locations for intentional purposes (Wyckoff, 2014). Place making in fact protects the spiritual meaning behind the social construction and the urban quality of a city (Krause, 2014).

Although places would experience changes occasionally, the patterns of the daily routine will still remain and eventually will drive to the feeling of place attachment (Friedmann, 2007). The rhythms and patterns of the habitants’ daily routine that involves the journey of going from one place to another to fulfil their responsibilities as students, employees, and workers would create a place identity (Friedmann, 2007). It is defined as a place that notifies the identity of the individual or the community that are involved in it along with the distinctive features of the place (Shamsuddin & Ujang, 2008). Place identity in place making is sometimes referred on the historical features and locales to maintain the identity of a place. But this can be simply achieved with the collaboration of the locales that have better knowledge and concerns more on the place itself (Kolodziejewski, 2014). Participation of the people is essential in conserving the local identity, facing the challenges and struggles in place making and delivering trendy methods for creating place making (Dupre, 2019).

In ensuring a successful place making, identity of a place takes a lot of means and methods to create, whether it is accidentally or purposely created, by any means, it will still take a large amount of time for the people to acknowledge (Othman et al., 2013). To establish a deep-rooted place attachment towards a place, place identity become one of the factors in piquing the interest of locals to

remain in their neighbourhood. The studies of TOD in Vancouver, Canada stressed the need to avoid changing the area's historical and cultural context where new TODs are built (van Lierop et al., 2017). The history and cultural context of an area or region are vital in maintaining the place identity. Integrating local cultural identity in a modern urban development have a higher chance for further innovation in achieving place making. Singapore is one of the examples of a country that have succeed in creating a place making by reflecting the local cultures, traditions and histories into the Singapore River waterfront (Dupre, 2019).

Sense of Place and Memory Association

Place making is connected with having a good sense of place in such manner that the occupants are encouraged to settle in a specific place (Abdul Latip & Shamsuddin, 2012). The concept of sense of place interpret a connection between a place and a user, which linked the terms of place attachment and place meaning (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013; Raymond et al., 2017). Beside place attachment and place meaning, place dependence are also one the terms that are recognized to establish the sense of place (Kolodziejcki, 2014; Nelson et al., 2020). The community even relate their sense of place over the mix of sentimental attachment, place identification, functional satisfaction alternately these are which persuaded by the surrounding factors (Jorgensen & Stedman, 2006; McCunn & Gifford, 2018).

Sense of place can be measured through a scale of one to four from lacking sense of place to sacrificing for a place (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013), where it increases gradually depending on the individuals' perception towards a place which is influenced by the feeling of place attachment and place meaning. Place meaning can be constructed by the ambient environment of a place and given that the place attachment is affected by the surrounding as well, these two are surely fundamental with each other (Zakariya et al., 2015). Sense of place exist when an individual has physical or emotional attachment to a place that could also represent the feeling of familiarity in a space namely as the second scale in sense of place (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). Considering, place attachment have many levels through the scale of sense of place, it suggests that there could be different meanings of place (Rajala et al., 2020). The consequences of constructing a positive sense of place so that it could indulge into the perception of 'insideness', it can also evolve into a negative impact whereas it creates the feeling of 'outsideness' as mentioned above. 'Outsideness' exist when a user's identity feels conflicted with a place (Erfani, 2020). And having loss of that sense of place could lead to the result of weakening the meaning of a place which leads to the feeling of 'placelessness' (Othman et al., 2013).

Specific behaviours and sensory experience is also used to characterize the terms 'sense of place' itself, putting the senses; smell, taste, feel, sight and

even spiritual dimensions as the components that stimulate the sense of place (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013; Raymond et al., 2017). All of these senses is stimulated by the physical parameters that affect the sense of place such as odour, noise, texture, temperature, size and scale, the components and the diversity of the place, decoration and colours (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). By connecting a place with an individual through spatial behaviour and everyday activities can also strengthen the sense of place (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013).

A place without the existence of people but only structures is defined merely as geographical location and it would have no meaning value in it without the presence of the humans (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). “Topophilia” is a concept that signifies a strong network between a person and the surrounding in the matters of emotions, cognitive and mental (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013; Kolodziejcki, 2014). When a person believe that the place is essential for them, from then on place attachment is created gradually as the relationship between them and the place increases (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). Place attachment is defined as the rate of emotional bonds between individuals and a geographic locale, while place meaning leans more on the symbolic meaning that users attribute to a place (Raymond et al., 2017). Place attachment can be connected to an understanding where a place have the abilities to contribute to the experience of the users through the social setting and physical planning (Shamsuddin & Ujang, 2008). Rootedness is a metaphor used by a researcher in demonstrating the similarities of a root with a person towards their habitats or a place that they have an attachment to, though the connection between the people and the place could either weak or strong (Kolodziejcki, 2014).

According to the sense of place scholarship, both approach of place making which are place attachment and place meaning to create a sense of place are slow to develop (Raymond et al., 2017), since it depends on the individuals’ time length of residency in those places and the meanings that are triggered in the hearts of the individuals respectively. Although both of these approaches would show outcomes after a long term, there is research on engaging sense of place in a faster pace, which is called as the “affordance theory”. This theory fully depends on the real-time result based on the individuals’ perception towards a specific setting, where actions can be initiated without involving the mental process, though it still can influence the attitude of the individuals (Raymond et al., 2017). This is usually assisted by the help of fast-process sensory, such as hear, taste, smell and especially the sight because it is mostly affective using the visual approach as it can be sense from afar.

The synergy between people and place is divided into three dimensions which are cognitive, behavioural, and emotional (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). Cognitive features the synergy between a person and the structural approach, where they make use of their settings to manoeuvre around the place. While behavioural, features the synergy between the person and the activities happening

around them in that place which commonly they are included in too. Lastly, is the emotional aspect which lead to the satisfaction of the place that will eventually result into place attachment.

Cultural, memories and experiences, physical, social communication, place satisfaction, time, interaction and activities are the elements that affect the place attachment (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). This proves that sense of place is considered as a multidimensional concept whereas all the elements that affect place attachment further influence the sense of place (Beidler & Morrison, 2016). Possessing a feeling of attachment to a place mentally, defines the term memory, where it happens to everybody when their brains are processing in recalling experiences (Othman et al., 2013). Hence, when it comes to sense of place, memory is noted as a great factor for the users to be attach to a place mentally. As a result, that particular person has spontaneously reaches the third scale of sense of place as in attachment to a place (Hashemnezhad et al., 2013). A strong sense of place is usually catalysed by social interaction physically and sensually, and creates an emotional response between the individuals and their surroundings which includes the settings or events that occurs there, alongside with the occupants in that particular space (Othman et al., 2013).

Creating Quality Place Making in TOD

Transit oriented development generally developed in an already well-established metropolitan region and given that TOD are impelled by the society, it is fair that the evolution of the city requires the value of sense of place (Dorsey & Mulder, 2013). Places that have a strong sense of place is considered as quality places, where society and businesses would want to be in (Wyckoff & A, 2014). To completely utilize the place as a sense of place given that there are various terms associated with it, one must study in what way do people identify about a place, the cause of the people relying on the place and the meaning inflected to a person on a symbolic degree (Nelson et al., 2020).

There are two form of physical planning that affect the development of image quality place making which are first, through built environment that determines the physical aspect, which target on the public spaces and commercial spaces (Madureira, 2015). Secondly, is through the functionality aspect which target on the function of the community depending on how the physical aspect can provide the quality satisfaction to the targeted community (Madureira, 2015). Good urban design is the solution in designing public spaces for great outcomes on place making (Jacobson & Forsyth, 2008; Madureira, 2015) and also to prevent sprawl happening in a city. Sprawl is described as poor planning on land-use development and often resulted as scattered development (Ewing, 2008), where building spots and transits stations are located somewhat inefficient for the use of the public, thus leaving large empty lands as a gap to reach between destinations. The consequence of sprawl supports more on why good urban

design is crucial in spatial planning especially in developing a sustainable city. Sprawl will affect the accessibility of users from travelling back-to-back from their destinations since it will consume additional time and energy (Ewing, 2008). This will lead to energy inefficiency and air pollution because of the used of private cars will increase since reaching transit station would be far (Ewing, 2008). There would also be lack of functional space as scattered development is considered as a low-density development, whereas there will be either a yard that is too big for private land or a land too small for community gatherings (Ewing, 2008).

Spaces that fulfil the characteristics of quality places such as- the buildings are located in walkable or cyclable distance, build to human scale, and is situated in a dense area where it provide the ability of mixed-use development including transit stations are acknowledged as quality places in terms of good form and can bring the result of comfort and welcoming, allowing authentic experiences in social interactions (Wyckoff & A, 2014). Public transit have been progressively linked to institutional discussion on sustainable movement, sustainable capital, and social equity in which each projects ideas helps to create attractive city centres and high quality places to settle in (Ferbrache & Knowles, 2017). A study shows that place making became a topmost constraint in Washington, DC, Chicago and San Francisco to the first generation of TOD projects in towns with older transit systems (Ratner & Goetz, 2013).

Usually these places must be attractive in terms of visuality, they are located in a unique locations often associated with the genius loci that refers to the soul that preserve the identity of that particular place (Kolodziejwski, 2014), and must be pedestrian-friendly which includes the term of comfortability, safety and accessible (Wyckoff, 2014). Quality place making can be fulfilled by implementing a mixed uses area in a city such as residential zone with a variety housing types that have unique characters, facilities and services, leisure spaces, and entertainment activities (Ali et al., 2020). Small retail, convenience store or movie theatres can be persuasive methods for place making, especially if they are a part of a multi-use or multi-level building rather than secluded structures (Metropolitan Rapid Transit Atlanta Authority, 2010). The essence of place making is that it should be intriguing, prosperous places that are not deserted at 6.00 p.m. especially in the range of the transit stations (Metropolitan Rapid Transit Atlanta Authority, 2010).

However not all activities are needed in the transit area, still, the lively mixes of uses strengthen the link between transit and development, as station areas become “24/7” places, where the society are able to use transit at night and on weekends (Metropolitan Rapid Transit Atlanta Authority, 2010). Unique landscape commonly dominates the visual aspect thereby would benefit in developing a meaning in a place (Kolodziejwski, 2014). The use of green initiatives can help to transform a public space into a sustainable and meaningful place,

besides improving the quality of the neighbourhood and increasing the land values (Dupre, 2019). When the community declare the need of retaining natural areas such as green spaces and water bodies as one within the urban environment in the terms of sense of place, this is circumscribed as biophilia (Kolodziejcki, 2014). Therefore, the involvement of the community in sharing their opinions for a greater experience is vital in creating a sense of place (Kolodziejcki, 2014).

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The literature review was selected from different areas that includes architecture, urban design, environmental geographies, psychology, and sociology. The Google Scholar is a computerized search system that is used as a medium to inquire scholars' research paper and other academic information for references. Besides this, ResearchGate, Academia and Sci-Hub have also been used with the assistance of several keywords such as: Transit Oriented Development (TOD), place making, sense of place, public space, sustainable, memory, identity, attachment and meaning.

This study has been limited to the papers published from 1993 to 2021 to slim down the research where reviews, case studies and theoretical are all included. Literature was gathered to demonstrate the importance of understanding on place making and the effectiveness of it as a strategy to improve TOD.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

According to different researchers, there are numerous concept and definitions on place making that varies depending on the urban context. Nevertheless, they are all deduced as the process of creating a sense of place whereas both concepts lean on each other to accomplish a successful result. Place making can be comprehended as the act of moulding a space by using the spatial form (cognitive) that can hold mixed-function activities (behavioural) thereby would impulsively deliver a meaning (emotional) to the community that are engaged within the targeted area. It is specified that there four types of places making which are standard, creative, tactical, and strategic place making.

Since the process of placemaking have four different types, there are a way in determining which type is the most efficient way. The most productive type of place making to use is depending on what the users want to achieve as their outcome. Since this paper circulates around TOD, strategic place making is the most suitable type of place-making that can be incorporated since it only concentrates in specific places that are able to occupy a mixed-use development in order to attract talented workers (Wyckoff & A, 2014)- in this case is the TOD-based area. The involvement of the community within the planning of creating place making is extremely vital considering that place making is made for the satisfaction of the users and how they themselves would interpret the meaning

behind the settings of the place. Thereupon, place making is affiliated to place attachment that will then produce a positive sense of place.

As we further discuss on the sense of place, it is clear that we can define the sense of place dwells along the terms of place identity, place dependence, place meaning, home place, rootedness, genius loci and biophilia. Place identity basically refers to a multidimensional concept where; a) the genius loci and biophilia is related in informing the identity of a place and, b) the social interaction and daily activities which include the history and culture of the community help to build an identity of a place.

Commonly, the duration of creating place identity would consume a long amount of time either it is made accidentally or purposely. Place identity usually relies on the locales or resident themselves as they are already settled down in that place, hence would strengthen more on the reason why the collaboration of the people is important seeing that their opinions on their experiences would boost the process of place making. Apart from place identity, place dependence also relies on the community that deem the importance of the place in prior to the location of their home, work, and school.

Sense of place scholarship and affordance scholarship are two of the approaches in creating a sense of place. Both approaches are influenced by three aspects of human interaction with the place, which are cognitive, behavioural, and emotional. The only characteristic that differentiates these two approaches are the timespan required to reach the outcome whereas sense of place scholarship consumed a longer period given that the main purpose of this approach is to construct place attachment and place meaning socially.

Meanwhile affordance scholarship immediately perceived the meaning the place, normally through the aid of visual aspect. There are physical parameters that can affect the sense of place which trigger the sensory experience, thus allowing the person to determine the meaning of the place to them. The first scope of physical parameters that affect the vision sensory are the size and scale of the space and its contents, components, diversity which depicts on the activities and routines happening in the place, decoration and colour that leans more on the landscape and how the building is designed. The other parameters are odour that kindles with the smell sensory, noise that provoke the hearing, texture that allows the person to touch and temperature that enables the taste sensory. Nonetheless, these approaches mentioned earlier still pursue the aim of creating place attachment and place meaning.

The scale of sense of place that depicts the individual perceptions of space as a place have four levels, labelling from the negative to positive state of perception, whereas the first level being the lack sense of place, then moving on to the second level that is belonging to a place. On the third level is the attachment to a place as in the feeling of place attachment is gradually increasing until it reached the last level which in turn would result in sacrificing for a place.

Through all these levels, it is reviewed that different levels of place attachment brings different meanings to a place. Sense of place is associated with memory since it is usually triggered by the remembrance of the senses when a user is in a place. Generally, a person would remember a place depending on the memories that are already embedded in the back of their minds, whether they are the positive or negative ones. Although both of these kinds of memories can lead to remembering a place, surely most would want the former to be the catalyst for the person to head back towards that particular place once again. Positive memories of a place that creates an attachment emotionally and physically is another definition for 'insideness'.

According to the entire overall approaches in place making in order to form a sense of place, it is found that the keywords of place attachment and place meaning is fundamental in creating quality place making through good urban design and planning to avoid sprawl development. This could give the result place satisfaction seeing the place provide safe and security, comfort, accessible and sociable which allows authentic experiences to be made if all the terms that are associated with the sense of place is fulfilled. The thorough discussion on place making stated above are based on the theoretical framework shown in Figure 1 below:

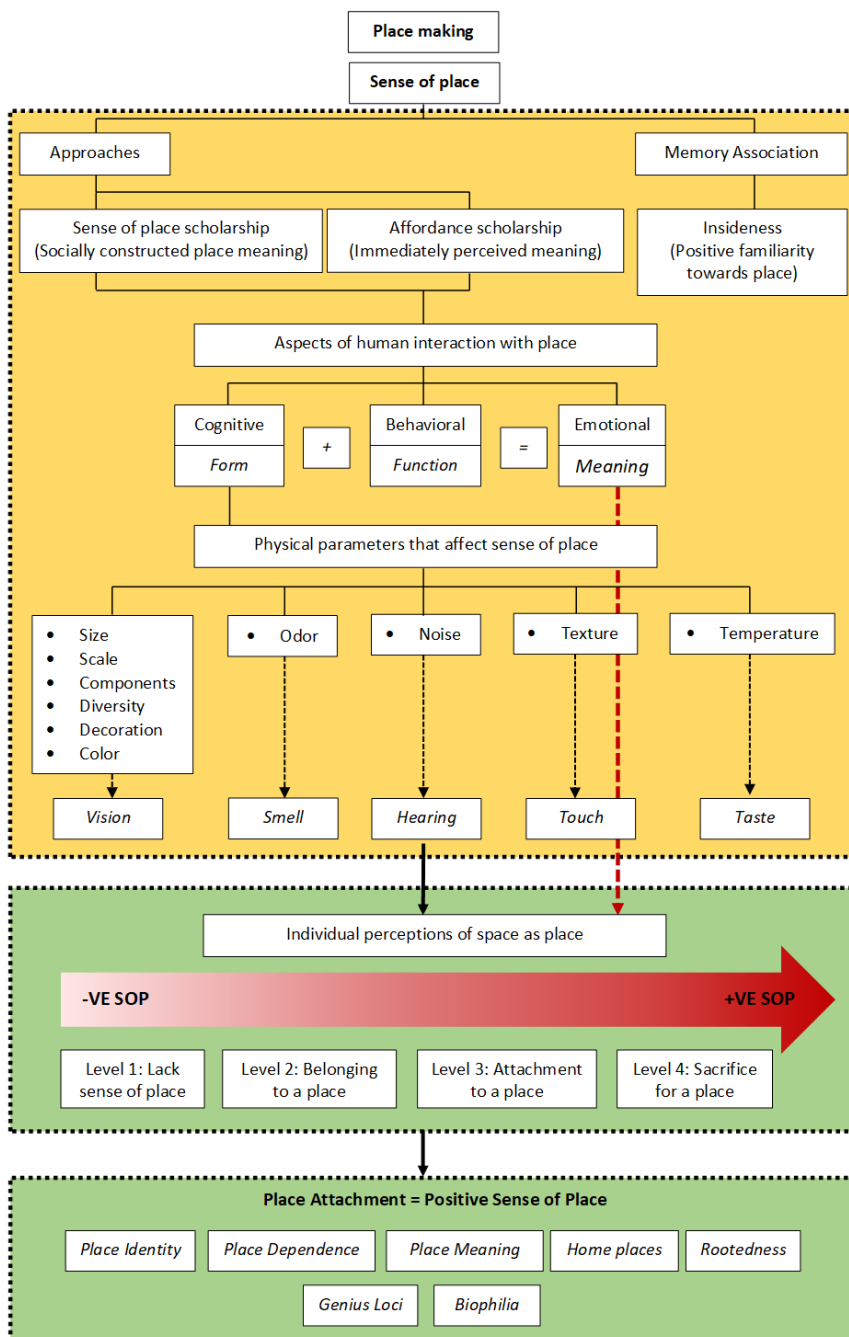


Figure 1: Theoretical framework of place making

CONCLUSION

Why place making is crucial when designing public spaces especially in Transit Oriented Development (TOD)? The result of the findings shows how place making can influence the behavioural of the people through creating a sense of place leading to place attachment and place meaning. Place attachment is acknowledged when people kept returning to that place as it perceives a meaning that portrays the emotional connection between the person and the place, hence, responding to our first main question mentioned previously.

However, the outcome of place making will not be effective unless, it succeeds in achieving a sense of place by implementing the factors that are coherent within the community's satisfaction. Place identity that preserves the locale's physical characters and the neighbourhood's histories and cultures can contribute as an attraction or as the main cause for both community and newcomers to maintain their everyday activities and build new ones respectively. Whilst place dependence pressurizes more on the residents' relation with the place as it offers them home, security, source of income, and institutions. These elements help to establish a connection between a person and a place based on the scale of the individual perceptions of space as a place, which will gradually discern by the people according to the degree of the place meaning to them.

Memories association with a good sense of place may as well assist in making positive place attachment considering they would impact more on the place meaning. Balancing between the needs and satisfaction of the community with good urban design that provides quality place making in terms of cognitive, behavioural and emotional may help in TOD to create a better sustainable living for both parties-society and authorities. It is concluded that this study has described thoroughly on how sense of place can affect the community physically and spiritually and therefore leads to the importance of place making in TOD.

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