

*Full Length Research Paper*

# Explaining the role of cultural, social and economic factors on quality of residence in urban neighborhoods: A case study of Kerman

Afsoon Mahdavi<sup>1\*</sup> and Farah Habib<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

<sup>2</sup>Department of Art and Architecture, Science and Research Branch, Islamic Azad University, Tehran, Iran.

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The residential environments provide the main tools for developing different types of life indicators such as health, family, job, and leisure. These environments can create or provide the appropriate conditions for increasing the satisfaction of their dwellers by accessing the required criteria. In various cities of Iran, the lack of consideration to the qualitative criteria of dwelling in the trend of progressions resulted from the industrial developments caused by the construction of unidentified residence environments. In this paper, by explaining the effective factors on the quality of residential in the neighborhood units, by emphasizing social, cultural, and functional – performance factors, each of the elements was divided into the sub-elements study and these indicators are evaluated in different parts of Kerman city. After completing the library – based studies and an open interview with the experts and managers, the qualitative criteria of assessment from the theoretical principles were measured, such as: the homogenizes cultural, social, economics, and the quarter services. The research method is analytic-descriptive and the aim is to improve the quality of residence. A questionnaire with 40 questions was completed, validity of the questionnaires was confirmed by social sciences professors and its stability was confirmed by Cronbach. The questionnaires were generated among 387 of statistical population according to the Cochran formula. The results were analyzed by Pearson's correlation and a multiple linear regression (MLR) model and they show a significant correlation between the variables affecting the quality of habitation.

**Key words:** Social capital, economic capital, cultural capital, quality of residence, quality of life, neighborhood units, urban planning.

## INTRODUCTION

Today, the spread of industrialization process that is come with the mass production of various goods and services in the quantitative aspect has brought many difficulties for

modern human. This diversity and complexity of industrial development have been the reason of much turmoil that despite the fact of development of life quantity, its quality

\*Corresponding author. E-mail: [afsoon.mahdavi@yahoo.com](mailto:afsoon.mahdavi@yahoo.com); [f.habib@srbiau.ac.ir](mailto:f.habib@srbiau.ac.ir)

is affected. The qualitative aspects of urban contexts and residential neighborhoods are the most important sectors that are affected by the turmoil of the world of industry and mass production. In Iran country, the transformation of urban contexts in recent decades due to urbanism policy programs and strategies for their implementation (which are influenced by economic and financial conditions) have caused residential neighborhoods disruptive. This fragmentation is not limited only to the physical structure; it has penetrated the social, economic and cultural sectors. So the residential neighborhoods which in the past had a fundamental role as the urban life cells of residents, with starting the twentieth century and emergence of new cities during industrial period provided unhealthy life conditions. The subject of quality and its assessment have been interesting topics for urban planners in recent years. Environmental assessment will increase the awareness of suitable cities for living (Delotto, 2010, 148). In order to evaluate the environmental quality, there are different factors and standards such as physical, social, cultural and economic criteria and residential environments in urban districts are no exception; despite the importance of this issue, the role of neighborhood and its internal relations in various fields (social, economic, cultural, etc) and impact on life quality have not been considered yet (Manley and van Ham, 2012). It should also be noted that in assessing the degree of satisfaction of residential environments, personal and family characteristics, individual differences in taste and needs have a significant impact on (Whit and Michael, 1978). In this research, we have tried to make a comprehensive review of factors affecting life quality in the various sectors and their importance is considered. Hence in the research hypotheses the existence of district services and social, economic and cultural harmony (same classes' level) and also social interactions are expressed as effective factors in quality of life.

### Research hypotheses

#### Main hypotheses

1. The social, cultural and economic homogeneity (same classes' level) in the urban contexts will improve life quality.
2. The existence of neighborhood services improves life quality in urban contexts.

#### Secondary hypotheses

1. The existence of neighborhood services increases social interactions.
2. There is a relationship between social interactions of citizens and quality of life in urban contexts.

### Neighborhood and Habitat

Each city is formed by neighborhoods which have resemblances and differences from cultural, social, economic and also functional points of view. There is a perfectly simple explanation of neighborhood which believes the city will be formed by adjacent houses in a specific geographical area. District is created by accumulation of more or less continuity, close communication, strong relationship of neighborhood and informal incorporation of group of people. Auguste Comte has a more comprehensive definition of neighborhood. He defines it as a population living in a specific part of city and having organized a formal and informal network of social interaction and are illustrating their common identity with organization of general region. Perception of neighborhoods has to be influenced by time passing or may be needs opinions transformation between generations (Manley and van Ham, 2012). District is a relatively known area at the heart of the city with life sensation which meets the resident's demands (Ghasemi esfahani, 2011, 93). Residence means belonging to a real place. The act of living in or belonging to a specified place is residence and this sense of belonging is also formed in districts and these districts and desired neighborhood units are confluence of social, commercial, skeletal and environmental interactions. There are different aspects involve in creating each residential district with different factors, and finally their relationship will affect the quality of residence. In this paper, the effective factors in quality of residence from social, cultural, commercial and functional points of view will be evaluated.

#### The district services of elements (operational-functional)

Each neighborhood or district that is chosen according to people's needs and demands requires some services and functional elements to be useful in order to satisfy its residents' needs and these elements are effective factors of creating district structure (Habibi and Masaeli, 2000, 115). The skeleton of each district is formed by two elements:

- 1-distinct elements (e.g. primary school-mosque)
- 2-distributive elements (e.g. commercial center, park, sport and medical center)

The Supreme Council of Architecture and Urbanism of Iran enactment (2012), district defined services (Table 1).

The quality of residence is influenced by district elements and also spaces quality and treatment of residents affect positively mental satisfaction. In fact there is a straight and positive relationship between district elements, their access and quality of life in districts and as much as these elements are well organized in districts and are easily accessible can promote the quality

**Table 1.** District services according to urban planning system of Iran.

Function	Definition
Educational	Preschool educations (kindergarten-nursery school), primary school
Commercial	Daily shopping unit (super market, grocery, bakery, butchery) offices (post, telephone services center, news stand, beauty salon, surgeries
Sport	Small play parks
Clinic	Medical centers
Park	District park
Religious	Mosques, churches, chapels
Urban facilities	Fossil-fuel power station, water and wastewater plant, public toilets
Transportation and storage	Pedestrian, district parking spaces and metro station

**Source:** Supreme council of architecture and urbanism of Iran enactments (2012)

of life of citizens.

### Social factors

Social relationships and humanity connection are known as important and serious factors in life and residence of people, although industrial and modern life consequences have faded the human relationships in current years. So researches and investigations have increased on this issue and they expressed social interactions as principal and also believe these relationships are inseparable from district properties and human society. Francis Fukutama (born October 27, 1952) knows the words of trust, patient, equality, lawfulness, group membership and social activities as social principles.

Bullen (2000) believes each district communities with high social principals have these properties:

1. People feel being part of the district.
2. They feel being useful and helpful and also their abilities will be promoted for real participation in district.
3. Districts belong to them and they have safe feeling inside.
4. Many networks of mutual relationships are formed (Khakpoor, 2009).

Urban planners have to attempt more to create a compatible space to promote and encourage the cultural and familial groups and hence increase the social capitals (Edward, 2011, 207). The way of growth and development of districts and population heterogeneous and their positive and negative effects will be impressive in local and commercial imbalance and others district issues like creation, protection and development of social capitals. In modern societies, urban life will decrease social relations and the communication network of people seems time-worn in comparison to prior periods and this has caused the development of social isolation in district level. This is obvious that economic-skeletal approach of urban planning without attention to cultural-social issues

to restore this decay is ineffective. Today, in order to eliminate the fault, some urban planning and management councils, political and neighborhood expansion movements are formed around district which is the smallest unit. People's dignity in a society is defined as another element which has affected the residence quality and social relationships. According to the 'Base Exclusivity' theory, any features that distinguish them in groups based on the task, it can act as an agent in the separation of the base and the dignity of people. The base features due to cultural patterns and the type of work being performed are determined. So, the individual's dignity in a society can be effective for their interactions and also for the amount of these acts and how they interact with other certain groups. In other words, it can be said that the homogeneity of society in terms of social classes makes these interactions easier, which they themselves are due to cultural and economic factors. In this regard, Plato believes the ethnic and cultural homogeneity of citizens will cause more unity for them, and on the other hand heterogeneity will increase local conflicts within the urban population (Fakoochi, 2006, 147). Some researchers believe that within the low income families, there is a lower tendency to respect privacy and there is no attempt in order to confront with social heterogeneity (Liao et al., 2014).

### Cultural factors

Ahmed Taleblbrahimi à Al Jazeera (Arab world scientist) defines culture as: *'to know, human are going to where is important as much as to know, human are coming from where and culture ties this bygone issues and also will provide the ability to leap into the future'*. The important issue in the nature of culture is the cultural motifs that through community and training are transferable, therefore culture is contained of spiritual and material motifs of social life that a person was born and bred there and within this way he/she will be given a cultural identity. The relationship between human and cultural aspect is a

phenomenon in which human and environment are partner to form it (Hall, 2011, 4). Culture is a focal of social relations and lifestyle of social units. Aspects of cultural objective and subjective can be the facilitator of feeling, thought and action of cultural funds. Culture is always defined as most important factors of urban life and cultural changes are obvious in societies (Habib and Khastoo, 2014). Culture is known by Bourdieu (1930-2002) as a capital which provides an exclusive access to rare rewards and has the ability to be transmitted between generations. In Bourdieu's point of view this capital is not equally spread within the social spaces as well as the commercial capital but this unequal spread of cultural capital is not the reflection of commercial inequality but on the contrary it reflects the distinction strategy and class-struggle in a specific culture. Bourdieu believes that cultural capital includes special skills, tastes, how to talk, academic degrees and the ways in which a person can distinguish him/herself from others through it. Cultural capital is a collection of terms, information and privileges which a person uses to protect or achieve a social situation. In other words, cultural capital is permanently owned by a class, group, tribe or clan. By adding up above factors it can be said cultural capital has a close relationship with social capital and person dignity and at the same time it is affected sensibly by commercial capital. (Authors)

### **Economic factors**

Karl Marx (1818-1883) believes that the objective and secular condition of life brings prosperity. International researches illustrate that there is a positive correlation between wealth and satisfaction. Bourdieu's view has certain resemblances with the Marxism concept of capital and contains production capital usable in objects production and services. He believes the private situation of person is specified according to volume and kind of his/her capital and will specify their class firstly in family and then in society (Momtaz, 2004). Richard Wilkinson and Kate Pickett in the book of *The Spirit Level* (2009) have studied the income inequality impacts on the health of the community and made it clear that societies with more equal income, with lower income levels, are happier and healthier than the societies with higher levels of income but unequal income. In their opinion equality and homogeneity have more effect on life quality. They obviously insist on the effective role of social equity in order to protect the freedom and prosperity in different societies and believe that the absence of this equity weakens people's lifestyle and trust plummeting with violence increasing. Ockenfels (German economist) believes the most people are concerned about their financial situation in comparison to others (relative income). Individual's position is determined according to income level and consumption and in the opinion of most people; the importance of confirmation stamp which is

achieved by higher level of income is more than other benefits of this ability. Societies with homogenous economic can provide more peace for their occupants and this issue is a requirement of better quality of life.

### **Social, cultural and economic homogeneity**

Homogeneity in Moeen Encyclopedia (second biggest Persian language encyclopedia) means uniqueness, similarity and uniformity. Class is a collection of people who have the same position in terms of social and especially economic aspect; however there are different meaning of class due to the presenter's attitudes and trends. In Weber opinion, class is the wisdom power manifest in the economic field. So if individuals with these indexes have a similar position, from class division they will be known at the same level or called homogeneous. This research is seeking to prove the hypothesis that class homogeneity enhances the life and quality of residence. In this regard, *Social Exhaustion* theory argues that different people with different social - economic levels in urban areas face different stressful factors and as well as the theory is expressing that social – economic dissimilarities in cities and urban areas have different opportunities to resources access and available services of town; on the other hand, the *Spatial Separation* theory leads separated social, economic groups will minimize social decay. Accordingly, it can be concluded that the social, cultural and economic homogeneity and similarity (classes with same level) of the residential areas can increase subjective and objective comfort and can be effective to improve the quality of residential environment (authors). In other words, social, cultural and economic heterogeneity will cause great gap between the various social groups in residential areas and this grouping and class dependency is introduced based on indexes like income, education, occupation, place of residence and housing; and as much as this gap is less, the quality of life is higher. Taken together with theoretical foundations of research and due to the role of impressive factors which affect the quality of life can be understood the significant role of economic, social, cultural factors (Dwira and Abdul, 2013). Hence with emphasis on the role of this homogeneity in order to improve the quality of life, the functional-operational elements are in Table 2.

### **Research background**

To check residential quality, studies of environmental quality as well as life quality can be noted. These studies have mainly evaluated the quality of both objective and subjective aspects and in all the cases human attitude and their mental perceptions are playing major role. Table 3 summarizes the results of measurements of residential quality in domestic and foreign environments.

**Table 2.** Effective factors and indexes in quality of life according to research hypotheses.

Aspect	Criterion	Detailed-criterion	Index
Functional-skeletal	Access-Transportation	Driving	Situation of neighborhood connection network Access to neighborhood public services Quality of connection network Quality of pedestrian access to neighborhood services
		Pedestrian	Adequate walking time to neighborhood services Adequate co-operation of public services and pavement width Adequate cooperation with other services
	Co-operation	Collaboration	Incompatible cooperation of larger context services with residential area
	Neighborhood services	Neighborhood services	Mosque-primary school Daily commercial building Parking Green area Sportive Facilities and equipment's(garbage collecting)
Social	Trust	Confidence	Local council Neighbors
		Neighbors relationship	Mourning ceremony participation Celebration participation Keep in touch with neighbor Sense of responsibility to the neighbors
	Social interactions	Others	Freshness and vitality of the community Hospitality
		Association	Association Common goals Attend meetings of the local council
Economic	Income rate	Income rate	How much the inessential stuffs can be afforded Afford the life expenditure
	Properties	Properties	Dwelling Vehicle
Cultural	Education	Education	Academic degree Attend studying(relative-parents)
	Interest in cultural issues	Interest in cultural issues	Cultural information's Cultural meeting Participation

Source: Authors.

### The introduction of urban contexts of Kerman City

According to the specific conditions of cultural and climatic issues of the Kerman, it was hosted the different groups that have lived in different parts of the city many years ago. This matter can be seen through many

Moslems, Zoroastrian and Jewish's who are living in different neighborhoods of the city. Kerman with a great historical background contains many variable contexts. This research is divided into 5 sections; this division is based on field studies and individual investigations such as urban development plan, comprehensive plan and

**Table 3.** Research conducted on quality of life assessment.

Conclusion	Examined indexes	Subject	Researcher
Public green space with 0.785, type of people who are treated daily with 0.755 and quality of green space with 0.734 have the highest correlation with the satisfaction of residential environment.	Social environment, access to services, green space and social relations	Effective factors in the satisfaction of residential environment	Fleury-Bahi et al. (2008)
Building density with 0.654 in density field, adolescents deviation with 0.753 in social security field and the lack of neighborhood interests with 0.551 in the field of social facilities have the highest correlation with the environment dissatisfaction.	Social-spatial density, social security, social facilities	Assessment of effective factors on negative impact of the environment	Bonnes et al. (1991)
Age is major predictor of satisfaction of residential units and neighborhoods and it is achieved that elder people are more satisfied than youngsters. The impacts of socio-economic situation and sex are too low	Age, sex, socio - economic	The impact of individual characteristics in evaluation of residential units satisfaction	Pull and Cavalini (1989)
Be ownership of housing is the strongest predictor of satisfaction and age has low power to be a predictor as well as income.	Ownership of housing units, income, age, geographical location of housing units	The impact of demographic variables of residential units in European countries	Davis et al. (1982)
In the field of the urban quality, the greatest impact is belonged to the physical and spatial characteristics and the least effect is from content characteristics. In the field of the residential environment quality, the greatest impact is belonged to the exterior facilities of residential unit and the least effect is from interior variables of residential unit.	Urban environment, residential environment, the urban environment quality	The quality measuring of urban environment in new cities (case study: Hashtgerd City)	Moludi J (2010)
Satisfaction with the quality of the residential environment based on the location of the .inner, outer and central parts is different	Access to different activities-functions, access to medical center, access to educational center, easy access to ... major urban centers and	Analysis of residential satisfaction in Yazd City	Arasteh and Azizi (2013)
The impact of policies of land use in shape of public transport model, the impact of these two methods on residential environment	The population density, access to public transportation, land use	Residential choice	Cooper et al. (2001)
Quality of urban life is the concept for solving the problems of urban areas, control and prevent environmental degradation	Urban life, economic, social and ,political mobility	Quality of urban life for a neighborhood	Hamamseragel et al. (2013)
Using logit model to evaluate the residents' satisfaction with the traditional neighborhood and research shows that satisfaction with traditional neighborhood residents is more than other and in this study it is concluded that the most important features of satisfaction for the neighborhood residence is attractive appearance, safety. Any initiated plan of neighborhood depends on attracting residents		Neighborhood satisfaction in suburban and traditional environments: characteristics of effective assessment in Eight neighborhoods, California	Kristin et al. (2010)

Table 3. Cont'd

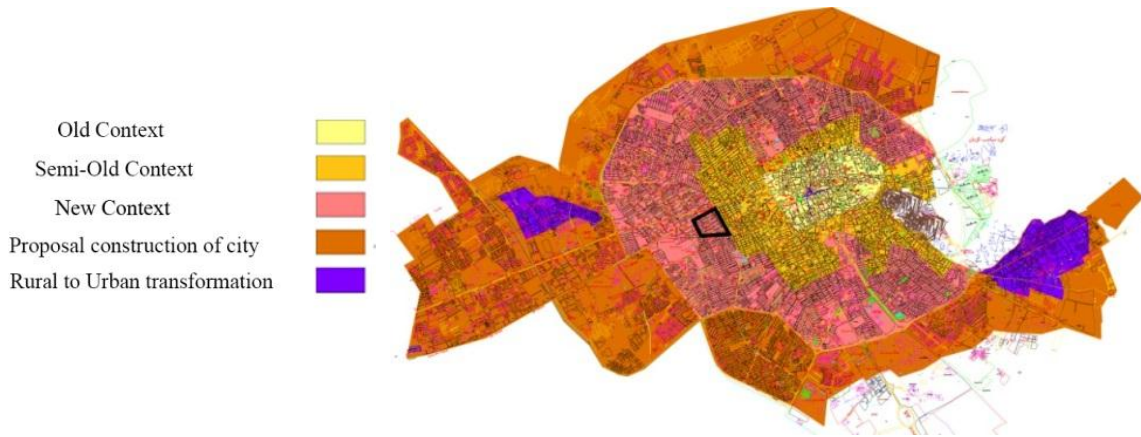
<p>In this study, using a linear regression model to assess the characteristics of residential satisfaction and the results illustrate that the majority of residents are not so happy with component such as supportive services, public facilities, community and neighborhood facilities.</p>	<p>Supportive services, public facilities, community and neighborhood facilities</p>	<p>Satisfaction assessment in design of new and low-cost public housing, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</p>	<p>Mohit et al. (2010)</p>
<p>This paper explores the inequalities of the following three aspects: residential, housing property and residential satisfaction by using the multiple linear regression model and the results show that inequality in the residential environment is based on income in Dalian City</p>		<p>Inequalities in residential environment and satisfaction of citizens, Dalian City, China</p>	<p>Li et al. (2013)</p>
<p>This research evaluates the residential satisfaction in public housing, which is considered in three different categories: 1) people with high-income 2) people with average income 3) people with low income And the multiple linear regression Model is used to analyze it. And the results show that residents are dissatisfied with their housing conditions and residential satisfaction and the quality of life for residents of low and moderate income will be increased through the provision of basic social amenities and infrastructure facilities in public housing projects.</p>		<p>Assessment of residential satisfaction in public housing, Nigeria</p>	<p>Eziyi and Egidario (2013)</p>
<p>In this study, the multiple linear regression Model is used to assess residential satisfaction that is an important part for the person these studies have shown that residential satisfaction, affected the personal characteristics and residential aspects (environment)</p>		<p>The impact of differences in residential satisfaction</p>	<p>S.J.T. Jansen (2014)</p>
<p>The analysis of these features were performed through Spearman correlation and multiple linear regression, the findings confess that the majority of residents while enjoy the facilities and services at a high level but almost are unhappy.</p>	<p>Socio-demographic background, physical characteristics of the housing units, social environment, public facilities, social environment</p>	<p>Assessment of residential satisfaction with public housing in Maldives</p>	<p>Mohit and Azim (2012)</p>
<p>The aim of this study is to identify criteria for residential satisfaction and housing benchmarking which is needed in the overall planning of an area that has been assessed by the Cross-sectional study and results show that satisfaction criteria of resident area including housing design, public facilities, social security and interaction are non-physical criteria.</p>		<p>Residential satisfaction of middle-income population (case study: Madan-Qhazvin)</p>	<p>Dwira and Abdul (2013)</p>
<p>In this study indicators that are intended to assess the performance of housing development were analyzed by statistics and the results show that the quality of physical characteristics is essential through the housing environment</p>		<p>Assessment of residential satisfaction in Lagos, Nigeria reviews and suggestions to improve housing</p>	<p>Adesoji (2012)</p>

Source: Authors

Kerman old context plan (Table 4). New urban development of the city of Kerman is divided in 2 phases,

**Table 4.** Variance analysis of regression model between economic, social and cultural homogeneity of residents and life quality.

P	F	R2	R	Average Square	Freedom Degree	Total Square	Changes Source
				15.89	3	47.66	Regression
0.001	6.84	0.051	0.226	2.32	380	882.88	Remaining
				-	383	930.55	Total



**Figure 1.** Kerman areas division based on growth and urban development.

from 1335(1955-56) to 1364(1985-86), when the master plan of the city was approved in the General Council of Architecture and Urbanism and the directions are clear about the overall development of the city. It should be noted that the construction of Mehr housing has been in place since 1385(2005-6) in the old context of the city. The fifth category of the urban context contains 2 rural contexts, Sarasiab and Mohammad Abad. Due to the development of the city on the boundary of this village in recent years, they have been introduced as part of the urban fabric.

It should be noted at the beginning of the study, 50 questionnaires containing of 35 questions were asked in the study area in experimental way. According to experts' opinion and professors at Social sciences, the study was modified and final 40 questions on a Likert collection were asked again.

The questionnaire consisted of 193 female population (50.26%) and 191 (49.74%) males, totally 400 people; 69.3 of them were married and 30.7% were singles (Figure 1).

**The statistical population of samples and sampling method**

The statistical population of research consisted of all citizens living in the city of Kerman (534,441) according to the population and housing census of 2011.

In this research, the required sample size is equal to

384 people by Cochran'formula and used method in order to study were *randomly – classified* method according to selection size of different stages of urban development is expressed as,

$$n = \frac{Nt^2 pq}{Nd^2 + t^2 pq} \quad n = \frac{513063}{1337.06} = 384$$

$$N=534441 \quad q=0/50 \quad P=0/50 \quad \alpha = 0/95 \quad z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}} = 1/96 \quad d=0/045$$

**Research achievement**

To measure and prove the hypothesis, indicators related to each part of hypothesis are tested and their relationship through 'Pearson' correlation and 'Linear regression' model are analyzed. To demonstrate the effects of social, cultural and economic homogeneity on life quality, the results of this homogeneity are also presented.

**The main hypothesis (1)**

There is a relationship between social, cultural and economic homogeneity of residents and the life quality of that area.

Linear relationships between economic homogeneity (shown by X1), cultural homogeneity (shown by X2),



**Table 5.** Coefficients of Regression model between economic, social and cultural homogeneity of residents and life quality.

Criterion variable	Predictor variables	$\beta$	T	Significance level
Life quality	Economic homogeneity	0.05	0.767	0.444
	Cultural homogeneity	0.055	0.835	0.404
	Social Homogeneity	0.17	3.11	0.022

social homogeneity (shown by X3) and life quality (shown by X4) are determined by 'linear Regression' model:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \beta_3 X_3 + \varepsilon$$

In this model, to determine above relation, statistical hypotheses are:

H0: The model is linear Regression.

H1: The model is not linear Regression.

H01:  $\beta_1 = 0$       H02:  $\beta_2 = 0$  H03:  $\beta_3 = 0$

H11:  $\beta_1 \neq 0$       H12:  $\beta_2 \neq 0$  H13:  $\beta_3 \neq 0$

Since the calculated  $P$  value from test (0.001) is less than significant level (0.50) in this area, H0 is rejected and the result is a meaningful linear regression model (Table 1). It means there is a significant linear relationship between the economic, cultural, social homogeneity of residents and their life quality. Multiple correlation coefficient ( $r$ ) is equal to 0.226, which represents the relationship between the economic, social and cultural homogeneity of residents with life quality. Due to the R value, that is equal to 0.051 then the economic, social and cultural homogeneity of residents explain the variance of 5.1% of life quality; that is to say the economic, social and cultural homogeneity of local residents had 5.1 percent impact on the quality of life.

According to multiple regression coefficients with Procedure of simultaneous entry and gained regression coefficients it is concluded that the social homogeneity of life quality can be significantly predicted, but through the economic and cultural homogeneity at the same time cannot predict significantly life quality (Table 5).

How much is the economic homogeneity of the citizens?

According to the results of data analysis, about 6/39 percent (152) of respondents were economically heterogeneous and around 4/60 percent (232 people) are homogeneous (Table 6).

How much is the cultural homogeneity of the citizens?

According to the results of data analysis, about 40.9 percent (157) of respondents were culturally heterogeneous and around 59.1 percent (227 people) are homogeneous (Table 7).

**Table 6.** The distribution of economic homogeneity.

Economic homogeneity	Distribution	Percent
Heterogeneous	152	39.6
Homogeneous	232	60.4
Total	384	100

**Table 7.** The distribution of cultural homogeneity.

Cultural homogeneity	Distribution	Percent
Heterogeneous	157	40.9
Homogeneous	227	59.1
Total	384	100

**Table 8.** The distribution of social homogeneity.

Social homogeneity	Distribution	Percent
Heterogeneous	140	36.5
Homogeneous	244	63.5
Total	384	100

How much is the social homogeneity of the citizens?

According to the results of data analysis, about 36.5 percent (140) of respondents are socially heterogeneous and around 63.5 percent (244 people) are homogeneous (Table 8).

## The main hypothesis (2)

There is a relationship between neighborhood services and quality of life. Data analysis shows that the correlation coefficient Pearson between neighborhood services and quality of life is equal to 0.291 with (significantly) amount of 0/001 smaller than significant level of 0.05. At this level the  $H_0$  hypothesis is rejected and it is proved there is a significant relationship between

**Table 9.** Statistics of Pearson correlation test relating to the relationship between neighborhood services and quality of residence.

Variable	Quality of residence			R <sub>2</sub>	Relation	Relation type
Test	Pearson					
	Correlation coefficient	Significant amount	Number			
Neighborhood services	0.291	0.001	384	0.084	YES	Direct

**Table 10.** Statistics of Pearson correlation test relating to the relationship between social interactions and quality of residence.

Variable	Residence quality			R <sub>2</sub>	Relation	Relation type
Test	Pearson					
	Correlation coefficient	Significant amount	Number			
Neighborhood services	0.244	0.001	384	0.059	YES	Direct

**Table 11.** Statistics of Pearson correlation test relating to the relationship between neighborhood services and social interactions.

Variable	Residence quality			R <sub>2</sub>	Relation	Relation type
Test	Pearson					
	Correlation coefficient	Significant amount	Number			
Neighborhood services amount	0.075	0.144	384	0.005	NO	----

neighborhood services and quality of life. In addition, a positive correlation coefficient indicates a direct relationship between these two variables. It means as much as more neighborhood services exist, the residence quality will be better. The determination coefficient between two variables is equal to 0.084 ( $R^2 = 0.084$ ), that is 8.4% of the residence quality changes due to neighborhood services, or with neighborhood services can improve the residence quality by 8.4% (Table 9).

#### **Secondary hypothesis 1: Is there any relationship between social interaction of citizens and quality of life?**

Data analysis shows that the correlation coefficient Pearson between social interaction of citizens and quality of life is equal to 0.244 with (significantly) amount of 0/001 smaller than significant level equal to 0.05. At this level, the  $H_0$  hypothesis is rejected and it is proved there is a significant relationship between interaction of citizens and quality of residence. In addition, a positive correlation coefficient indicates a direct relationship between these two variables. It means as much as more existing interaction of citizens, the quality of residence will be better. The determination coefficient between two variables is equal to 0.059 ( $R^2 = 0.059$ ), i.e.5.9% of the quality of residence changes due to social interactions, or with social interactions can improve the quality of residence

by 5.9% (Table 10).

#### **Secondary hypothesis 2: Is there any relationship between the neighborhood services and the social interaction of citizens?**

Data analysis shows that the correlation coefficient Pearson between the neighborhood services and the social interaction of citizens is equal to 0.075 with (significantly) amount of 0.144 smaller than significant level equal to 0.05. At this level, the  $H_0$  hypothesis is rejected and it is proved there is not a significant relationship between the neighborhood services and the social interaction of citizens. In addition, a positive correlation coefficient indicates a direct relationship between these two variables (Table 11).

#### **Conclusion**

From the result of the study, the underlying assumptions like the impact of social, economic and cultural homogeneity and role of neighborhood services for improving the quality of housing are determined. From each of the secondary hypotheses of the research, that is, the subset of the main hypotheses, the relationship between social interactions and quality of life is proved, but the results did not demonstrate any relationship

between neighborhood services and increase of social interaction. It can be concluded that the same level of social classes impact people's mental comfort as well as social interaction, which lead to improvement in the quality of the residential environment. On the other hand, access to the neighborhood services increases citizen's comfort objectively, leading to the improvement of environmental quality, but these services do not increase social interaction in areas such as centers of old neighborhoods. It can be suggested that by improving the quality of urban spaces in services and facilities centers and promoting social interaction could help increase the quality of life in urban areas. Also the creation of homogeneous neighborhoods in terms of socio-cultural classes will increase spiritual security, reduce mental stress of citizens and also promote the quality of life. These will lead to increased uniformity, social interactions and cultural exchanges which are considered as effective solutions. And these events will be possible in public spaces of the neighborhood service centers.

### Conflict of Interests

The authors have not declared any conflict of interests.

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