

# The Effectiveness of the Non-Hegemonic Coding on Improving the Passivity and Representational Spaces; Case Study: Baharestan Square of Tehran

Maryam Mohammadi<sup>a\*</sup> - Mostafa Behzadfar<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Associate Professor of Urban Design, Faculty of Architecture and Urban Planning, Art University, Tehran, Iran (Corresponding Author).

<sup>b</sup> Professor of Urban Design, School of Architecture & Environmental Design, Iran University of Science & Technology, Tehran, Iran.

Received 04 October 2018; Revised 26 August 2019; Accepted 03 September 2019; Available Online 20 December 2020

## ABSTRACT

Social space theory is a trialectics view of the space that brings together the perceived, conceived, and representational space. This theory responds to the modernist and capitalist approaches to urban space. If space is limited to its perceived and conceived dimensions, the principal purpose expected from the space that transforms it into a place for the emergence of the lived space and passivity, will be removed. The current paper aims to investigate the dualities of space, non-space, and social or modern capitalist space and coding patterns and their effectiveness on the meaningfulness of space and passivity. The result of this study is to achieve a conceptual and analytical model, based on which one can study the urban space in terms of the effectiveness of the coding pattern on the passivity. Therefore, the obtained model was used in analyzing Baharestan Square as the case study in the following. The research method was qualitative and used experts-oriented (to study the perceived and conceived dimensions of space) and people-oriented (to investigate the representational space). In the first step, the observation technique was used. In the second step, an in-depth interview (interviewing 36 people) was applied. The results of the two sections indicate the space limit and hegemonic coding model for the emergence of the action and passivity concepts in the space. According to the results, to improve the passivity in the space and create the representational space, it is required to consider positive space control consisting of citizen rights and participation right in addition to the spatial occupation and spatial and social justice.

**Keywords:** Social Space, Representational Space, Action, Cultural Coding.

\* E\_mail: M.Mohammadi@art.ac.ir

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The relationship between cultural coding (meaningfulness of the space) and increasing the passivity has been considered presumption in this research paper. To create a meaningful space and social space, non-hegemonic and cultural coding, and cultural signage is necessary for space. Therefore, the non-space concept will be studied in contrast to the space in the current study. Also, the passivity is explained as the result of the space desirability among the expected features from space. The levels of action are also presented. In the following, the relationship between the action and meaning (coding) is explained. Accordingly, the capitalist and modern space of critique and the way out of this space are presented from Lefebvre's point of view. Finally, these two spaces are compared with each other in relation to the action, meaning, and semiotics approach. In the following, according to the abovementioned, the influential factors and considerations are proposed to study the urban space. The current research background is on the several general areas in the social and political philosophy of sciences, including:

- Studying the theory and research in the role and action theory;
- In civil society and public space And
- Also, in collective life, public life, and or the sociability quality.

In the social sciences, the action and its relationship with structure (social and political) have been presented in three general approaches of positivism, interpretivism, and mixed. The desirable pattern that was the third approach was developed by the idea of the theorists such as Antony Giddens (1973), Pierre Bourdieu (1979), and Jorgen Habermas (1984) (Tohidfam & Hosseinian Amiri, 2009, p, 83). There are various theories such as the structural theory of David Linton (1963), Parsons (1951), and Dahrendorf (1998) in relation to the role and individual passivity, psychological and interactive action.

The civil society and public area have been considered from the perspective of the theorists such as Arendt, Habermas, Seyla Benhabib, and Charles Taylor in the political philosophy (Minavand, 2008 quoted by Bandar Abad, Moradi Moshiri, Kavosh Nia, & Aali, 2015, p. 272). At the same time, in the relationship with this perspective to the public space, there is limited research conducted by Habibi (2000) and Bandar Abad et al. (2015). In the first study, the dimension of civil society and its relationship with public space has been addressed. Also, in the second one, the concept of public space has been explained by studying the Frankfurt school.

Some of the qualities and purposes that can be mentioned in action in the urban design are as follows: a public life, collective life, and sociability (Lang, 2002, p. 46; PPS, 2000; Hall, 1982; Forges, 2000). The examples of the conducted studies in these qualities

in the domestic research are as follows: Daneshpour and Charkhchian (2007), Moghaddam, Bahreini, & Einifar, (2012), Mohammadi and Ayatollahi (2014). At the same time, the social logic of space developed by Hillier and Henson (1983) is also related to the significance of sociability (according to Cuthbert, 2005), this theory has been mentioned as one of the single theories in urban design.

Therefore, studying the research background show that despite the significant place of the action and act in the literature of the political philosophy and social sciences, there is limited research in the public physical context. Therefore, the current study aims to analyze the influential factors on creating a passive urban space and emphasize the effectiveness of coding modern in creating such a context.

## 2. THEORETICAL LITERATURE

In this section, the concepts related to the considered concepts of research are studied based on the research purpose. Therefore, first, the positive attributes of space are studied in terms of making meaning, action, and production. In the following, by explaining the action from different points of view and by studying the features of the modern and capitalist space in confronting, the action the coding and its impact on the action emergence are studied. The result of this study is an analytical model in order to investigate the sociability of the urban spaces and the emergence of the action.

### 2.1. Space and Non-Space Duality

First, one must answer this question of how a successful urban space is. The studies show that as one of the aspects of ontology in the philosophy, space has been first into the subjective space from being an objective space in its conceptual evolution, then, it has become an objective-subjective space. The space planning and design in the modern area lead to losing the original concept of space by emphasizing the objective aspects and creating the non-space and anti-space; however, the traditional spaces were the positive and meaningful and identified areas.

#### 2.1.1. The Expected Attributes of a Positive-Passive Space and Meaning Emergence

In general, the positive space is a physical area created meaningful by accepting the two-way relationship between human and environment, and releases the human from alienation and provides a ground for the passivity. As Arendt states: the public space must include both the manifest and common worlds.

- The manifest world (natural world) includes all the internal emotions and dreams of humans that have a transient nature and are not manifested in front of others.

- In contrast, the common world (communication world) is the artificial world of humans in comparison

with the natural world, and it remains in the minds (Bandar Abad, Moradi Masihi, Kavosh Nia & Aali, 2015, p. 275).

### 2.1.1.1. Recognizing Action as a Concept

In Cambridge Dictionary, Action means doing something for a particular purpose. Therefore, having a particular purpose in doing things is hidden in the verbal concept of the action. Action has been explained by various theorists:

- Sociological perspective: the origin of action theory goes back to the ideas of Max Weber (1846-1920) in sociology about social action. Parsons (1920-1979), an American sociologist, was influenced by Weber and published his book titled the structure of social action in 1937. According to Parsons, the action is the directed behavior and meanings that actors consider for objects and individuals. The most important type of action is the interaction action in Parsons's perspective. i.e., the action subjected to other actors (Nowzari, 2002).
- Action in Phenomenology: According to Arendt, the mortal human seeks to do an action that creates a sense of freedom and release in him to be free from mortality (Ansari, 1997). Arendt believes that human activities that play a role in creating the structure of the world and his daily life in the public area are as follows: effort, work, action, or praxis (Ansari, 1997, p. 127). Arendt (1958) states that life without action belongs to the world of the dead because a human is alive with

action and knows himself when he has a dialogue in the public area and the presence of others (Arendt, 2016). In comparison with the activities of work and effort, the action requires condition the most factor of which to occur is the presence of others, pluralist presence in the public spaces. The acting in Greek language means the beginning, ordering, finishing, and bearing. The actor also is a beginner and a risk-taker. The action can free the society from the dead-end in social crisis; action results from joy, and it is not based on necessity or usefulness. The action occurs in public and not in solitude (Shayan Mehr, 2015, pp. 37-38).

- Action according to the theorists of social-critical theory: Habermas divides action into two main groups of instrumental action (in relation to the instrumental rationality) and communicative action (relevant to the communicative rationality) (Poolado, 2009, pp. 50-51). According to Habermas, instrumental rationality is emphasized in capitalism and modernism (Mahdavi & Mobaraki, 2006, p. 2), and naturally, instrumental communications and de-subjecting have been done. In another classification, Habermas has introduced four levels for the action, including purposive action, normative action, dramatic action, and communicative action (Sohrabi & Skafi, 2015, p. 67). In the perspective of Habermas, the action is the result of two modes of work (instrumental) and interaction, and interactive action (Nowzari, 2002, p.71). Table 1 presents Arendt's activity levels using the type of action introduced by Habermas.

Table 1. The Features of Activities According to Arendt

Type of Activities	Purpose	Type of Action	Manifestation Area	Type of Society
Effort	Providing necessary living needs	-	Private territory	Consumer society
Work	Creating an instrument	Instrumental action	Society	Benefitoriented society
Action	establishing a human relationship	Communicative action	Public territory	Humanoriented society

## 2.2. Capitalism and Modern Space and Emphasis on Instrumental Action

According to Lefebvre (2009, p. 187), capitalism also produces its particular space under the management and dominance of the bourgeois (Turkameh, 2014). Space is considered as a body to create and cumulate the capital in the capitalist society. The objectified and economic views to space and city result in creating a space which leads to the far order (Madanipour, 2000), and the objectification of human. Thus, in this space, the emphasis is on the work among the activity types of Arendt and leads to emphasizing the instrumental action only. Hence, space is based on knowledge and power and has an abstract nature. Elden (2007, p. 105) believes that capitalism has always organized the work-life and has spread its control in private life and recreation. That is to say, recreation has been removed from daily life in the space of capitalism. The effectiveness of power and economy on forming

the abstract space: power is considered as the nature of politics. It implies the ability to create a specific event, or it has an influence that is applied to the behavior of others by a human or a group through any tool and in any particular way (Navabakhsh & Karimi, 2013, p. 51). Weber and Parsons introduce power as the social affordance that creates the obligatory decisions and has long-term results (Pishevar, 1997, p. 184). According to Foucault (1980), power is a generator and instrument owned by the government that is utilized to impose the order. Power or implies legitimate deterrence or legislative and military repression to maintain class domination. So power either ensures the legitimate deterrence or is the suppressing organization to maintain the class dominance. Therefore, power is inherently negative and limiting (Navabakhsh & Karimi, 2013, p. 56).

**-Positivist semiotics (non-cultural coding) and the imperfection of meaning:** Lefebvre believes that in recognizing the modern and capitalism, the separation

of the object and subject has occurred. That is to say, there has been a positivistic view, and the social aspects have not been considered (Madanipour, 2000). As a result, the non-cultural coding and signs are non-cultural and non-social and play the role of the functional sign.

- **The political economy of the sign:** In this perspective to space, the signing pattern is formed, following the political economy of the sign pattern that Baudrillard addresses it. According to him, the political economy replaces the symbolic exchange objectivity with the abstracts of the exchange value in which the money and economy of the market found a new territory of the value. Therefore, the abstract values, money and capital, and exchange values rule the society (Sojoodi, 2008, p. 93). Baudrillard distinguished four different reasons in the books titled the System of Objects (1968), the Consumer Society (1970), and for a Critique of the Political Economy of the Sign (1981). The object is transformed into an instrument in the first reason and turns into goods in the second reason. The object also changes into a symbol in the third reason and turns into a sign in the fourth reason (Sojoodi, 2008, pp. 94-95). Since the ruling reasons do not reach the level of different reason in the capitalist society, the symbolic value is not created, and, therefore, the spaces are similar, and the coding is non-cultural.

### 2.2.1. Outflow From the Crisis of the Capitalist or Modern Space: Creating the Social Space and Emphasizing the Communicative Action

Various theorists criticized the capitalist space and abstract space among which, the ideas of the theorists of critical theory such as Habermas, geographers such as Harvey, and philosophers such as Lefebvre can be

mentioned. The emphasis here is on the idea of the social space and Lefebvre's differential space theory.

- **Social space:** Lefebvre argues that space is inherently economic and political. He had been among the dialecticians and Marxist humanists and emphasized the production (Afroogh, 1998). By accepting the two-way relationship between space-time, object-subject, and criticizing the capitalist space, he introduced the social space idea. Lefebvre's social space is a trialectics in which three moments are considered: perceived space, abstract space (conceived space), and representational space (lived space) (Afroogh, 1998, p. 159). This space emphasizes the lived space because the images and symbols are lived directly in that space, and, therefore, it is the users' space. It is a space that is conceived by non-verbal instruments and is the defeated space (Lefebvre, 1991). Thus, the coding is cultural in this space, and the perceptible meanings are emphasized for the users. The action mentioned in this approach is communicative. However, the original concept of action, practice, is also considered.

- **Emphasis on cultural coding and the meaning manifest:** Lefebvre, quoted by Gottdiener & Lagopoulos<sup>1</sup>, believes that the social semiotics is necessary to create a differential space against the modern semiotics. That is to say, the signs cannot be non-social or non-cultural. However, what is culture? Culture is a complex system of signs, is a complicated system of the implication that creates the meanings through its internalized codes and provides the possibility of exchanging the meaning (Sojoodi, 2009, p. 145). Therefore, what is outside of the symbolic area is not perceptible. Thus, every society creates its particular signs in its textural context that are perceptible and decoder for its users. Table 2 presents the capitalist and modern spaces.

Table 2. Comparing the Capitalist and Social Spaces in Terms of Coding and Passivity Patterns

Object-Subject Relationship	Type of Space	Type of Considered Human Activities	Passivity Level	Type of Space	Considered Semiotics Pattern
Separation of sub-jectivity and objectivity	Capitalist space	Working to accumulate the capital	Instrumental action	Similar space	Modern semiotics/ political economy of sign
Combination of the objectivity and subjectivity	Social space	Purpose Practice: realization of the perfect human	Communicative action	Differential space	Social semiotics/ cultural coding

### 2.3. Codifying the Research Model: Explaining the Influential Factors on the Passivity of the Urban Space with an Emphasis on the Cultural Coding Approach

Given the three layers of the social space, it is required to pay attention to the following considerations to codify this framework:

**A) First consideration: the effectiveness of the power dialectic in creating space should not be the eliminating force of the lived space.**

When power plays a key role in creating space, hegemonic coding occurs in space. Power acts as the

limiting and controlling force and can reduce the action to the extent of the instrumental action. Anyway, the power had been one of the considerations of the social space and is an effective element in creating space. However, distancing the power from the pluralistic and civil patterns and tendency to the economy-based pattern leads to the realization of the instrumental action and not the communicative action, and, therefore, the practice is not manifested.

**B) Second consideration: the signage pattern based on culture or the cultural coding of the space**

Since the representational space is the added basis to the capitalist and modern space and the outflow solution

from the crisis of the capitalist space and political economy is the sign, the ground for its manifestation must be provided. Therefore, space must be designed meaningful because humans recognize themselves by meaning and regenerate their lived space and lived world. Thus, the producing context must be cultural so that the concept of the communicative action and practice occurs.

- Recognizing the influential factors in producing space and their measurement method: according to the abovementioned, the following cases must be

recognized in the considered space, and the analysis of the interrelationships between the layers must be conducted (Fig. 1). Given the layers of the social space, one must refer to the people to investigate the lived space, and opinions of the designer and politicians must be considered to study the conceived space.

- Recognizing the signs in space and the meanings that space conveys (investigating the lived experience of the users).

- Studying different types of activities mentioned by Arendt in space and different levels of action.

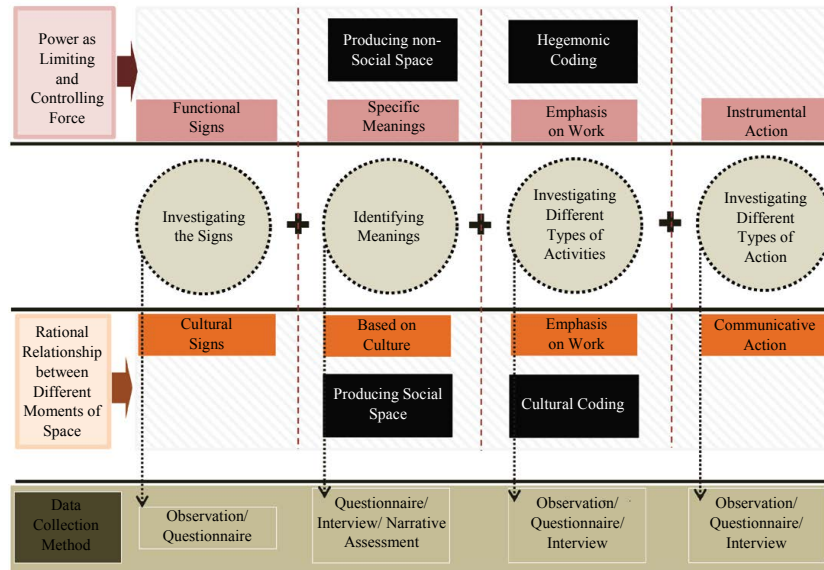


Fig. 1. The Analytical Model of Studying the Urban Space and Identifying Whether the Space Is Social or Not

### 3. CASE STUDY

Given the research purpose, Baharestan Square of Tehran is a proper sample to analyze. The location of parliament as the government house and the historical record of the square show that this square is a political space. It seems that given its role, the coding in this space has been hegemonic and influenced by the power dialectic. Therefore, this square can be a proper context for the investigation based on the codified conceptual framework. Investigating the space of this square will reveal the effect of the power impact, signage pattern, and hegemonic coding on the behavior and practice of the space users and what examples imply in the perspective of the users. The selected square is limited from the south to the Sarcheshmeh neighborhood (and then Sirus intersection and Shush square), from the north to Fakhrabad neighborhood (and then the wooden bridge), from the west to Sepahsalar garden and from the east to Shohada street (Jaleh). The significance of this square is due to the Parliament of Iran. The northwestern side of this square is the place to sell the musical instruments in Tehran, and the Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance is located on the northwestern side of this square. This square is one of the nodes created during the Constitutional

Revolution and has been still considered a sensitive place for over two decades. This square has been one of the main gatherings and associations of the protest groups and government forces.

### 4. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research method is qualitative, considering the nature of the research problem (aspects of social space). Among the three conventional methods in qualitative studies, observation, interview, and documentary analysis (Delavar, 2010, p. 308), the methods of observation and interview were applied simultaneously. The experts-oriented approach and mere observation method<sup>2</sup> were used to analyze the first two moments of the social space (the perceived and conceived space). Also, based on the conceptual framework and qualitative analysis, the situation of the square in multiple aspects was investigated (Landmarks, land uses, accesses, conducted activities in the square, the effectiveness of the power dialectic on forming the square). The observation was done during the day (morning, noon, and evening to realize the triangulation of the data based on the time) to validate the obtained results (relevant to some of the aspects).

The people-oriented approach and interview were applied to study the representational space. In general, the interview is a technique to collect information through direct verbal contact between the interviewer and the interviewee. Among the triple applications of the interview, the interview was used as complementary for the research results (Karimi & Nasr, 2013, pp. 73-74). Since the purpose of this section is to study the third moment of space, the emic approach was applied in the qualitative research to understand, interpret,

and represent the space from the point of view of involved individuals (Salehi, Bazargan, Sadeghi, & Shokouhi Yekta, 2015, p. 25). The pattern of the selected interview among different classifications of the interview (including structural, semi-structural, informal, key informant technique, and retrospective interviews) (Delavar, 2010, pp. 323-324; Karimi & Nasr, 2013, pp. 73-74), is the semi-structured interview (Table 3).

**Table 3. The Emphasized Aspects in Implementing Interview in Baharestan Square**

Row	Interview Components	Descriptions
1	Statistical population and sample size	The target group are the users (and not the employees) of the space. Given the saturation method as the golden standard (Ranjbar, Haghdoost, Alsali, Khoshdel, Soleimani & Bahrami, 2012, p. 238), the space users were questioned.
2	Type of questions in the interviews (Delavar, 2010, p. 324)	- Questions related to the behavior or experience: the influential factors on the presence or not the presence in the space; - Information questions such as the type of activities, gender, occupation, education, and type of presence.
3	Interview validation	The triangulation of the data was used (place and time) to validate the research. That is to say, the interviews were completed in the first days of the week, the last days of the week, and in the morning, noon, and evening. At the same time, the questionnaires were conducted in the square, around the square, and in the closed spaces of the passages.
4	Interviews analysis method	The data analysis of the interview will be interpretive among the three types of quantitative, structural, and interpretive methods, considering the type of interview (Karimi & Nasr, 2013, p. 71). The interpretive approach contributes to the reconstructing of the meanings of the users' perceptions (Salehi, Bazargan, Sadeghi, & Shokouhi Yekta, 2013, p. 19). The following general approaches were used in coding data to organize the information and reduction in this type of analysis, and based on the following approach (in contrast to the fundamental approach): - By reviewing the existing literature on the subject of research, the researcher has ideas about what topics and concepts should be selected for coding and has a theory in mind in advance. Based on them, he defines the codes, then extracts new concepts corresponding to them from the interview data (Karimi & Nasr, 2013, p. 80).

## 5. DATA ANALYSIS

In the next section, to measure the lived experience in the dimensions of the representational space, the interviews are analyzed qualitatively, and the results are presented. The results of this study are presented in detail below.

### 5.1. Analysis of the Dimensions of the Perceived and Conceived Space in the Square Based on the Expert-Oriented Approach

**- Investigating the symbolic elements in the square:** the meaning is manifested in the material and non-material contexts (Lynch, 2002; Lang, 2002). Therefore, the physical and content dimensions must be considered simultaneously to identify the signs. The symbolic elements in this space are the character buildings around the square, most prominent of which are the historical elements such as Shahid Motahhari Mosque-School,

Golestan Palace, Negarestan Garden, Masoudieh Palace, Parliament of Iran, and Baharestan Palace. The central statue of the square and the symbolic element of the war cannon are the cultural signs. Other administrative buildings are also environmental signs. While there are elements of historical identity in the square, other physical elements such as square walls, flooring, and micro-landscape elements are only functional signs that affect other cultural signs in the square (although there are examples of organized walls in the streets leading to the square). It seems that less attention has been paid to the cultural coding and signage in the process of the square space design and management.

**- Investigating the access to the square:** Besides the symbolic and meaning-making factors in the square, what seems to affect the space design under the influence of the power dialectic is the access to the square. Although this square must be the space for people and government confrontation, the access

design patterns of the square are in such a way that this space is a context for motor vehicle traffic, and there is no priority for the pedestrian. Also, pedestrian-oriented sidewalks are inappropriate. The middle space design of the square that is associated with planting trees and grass is not a context for the presence due to the lack of access to the safe middle space. It seems that the limitation of the vehicle traffic and prioritization of the pedestrian is the first solution for space organizing<sup>3</sup>. Despite all the problems, there are representations of practice in the space, such as protesting presence. However, access to the square is desirable due to public transportation. The location of the taxi stations and bus parks has damaged the square image. The presence of the taxi stations in Mostafa Khomeini Street, Ebn-e Sina Street, the metro station in this street, and bus parking and station on the northern side of the square indicate access to public transportation.

**- Investigating the land uses and activities around the square:** In general, the land uses of the square include administrative, commercial, religious, cultural, and recreational-touristic land uses. Although the historical and cultural elements and the Parliament of Iran can provide a desirable context for the emergence of different activities and passivity, the type of land uses, and the functional signage realize the obligatory presence more. The contrast land uses with the space

identity such as the line of the commercial and service land uses in the western margin of Mostafa Khomeini Street and so on obstruct the emergence of the desired action in the square. Therefore, any kind of activity that occurs in this space is related to the work and not practice. Also, the administrative land uses around the square provides the context for the temporary and obligatory presence. However, besides the established activities in the square and its immediate area, the line of selling the musical instruments in the immediate area of the north of the square, selling the copper dishes, and antique stores can be mentioned that gave a particular character to the square. Furthermore, the religious and recreational land uses in the square, and its immediate area provides the ground for social activity and desirable action. The land uses such as Masoudieh Palace, Golestan Palace, Negarestan Garden, Shahid Ali Motahhari Mosque-school, and the green zones in some of these land uses have provided a desirable context for the optional and social presence. However, they do not affect the emergence of communicative action. In the meantime, the parliament building can provide a space for the emergence of communicative action. However, despite the presence of such a context, it seems that the political conditions led to controlling the activities and communication and preventing the emergence of the communicative action (Table 4).

**Table 4. Comparing the Constructive Factors of Space and Its Effect on the Type of Action**

Spatial Factors	Effectiveness on the Type of Activity	Effectiveness on the Type of Action in Space	Coding Pattern in Space
Landmarks in square	Social/ Necessary	Often leads to the instrumental action	Often hegemonic and non-cultural
Access	Necessary- passing activity	Instrumental action	Functional
Land use and activity	Necessary and social	Often leads to the instrumental action	Often hegemonic-functional and non-cultural

## 5.2. Analysis of the Aspects of the Representational Space Based on the People-Oriented Approach

The interview method was used to confirm and validate the research results and prevent the mere interpretive approach. The general characteristics of the interviewees are as follows. 72% of the participants were male. More than half of the participants (55.5%) were in the age group of 35-50 years old. 66% of the respondents were self-employed and, the maximum frequency was allocated to the Bachelor's degree (36%). Generally, slightly more than half of the respondents had higher education (55.5%). Also, more than half of the respondents used the square space for traffic and commuting, and 44% of the respondents were present in the square for administrative affairs or shopping.

**Interviews analysis pattern:** the categories related to the space aspects were identified while rewriting the interviews and coding the concepts considering the theoretical foundations. Through rewriting the

interviews and coding the concepts, according to the theoretical foundations, the categories were identified in relation to the dimensions of the space. Based on the type of questions asked to the interviewees and the components of social space, examples were included in the categories related to each moment of space. At the same time, in order to re-check, the interviews were re-coded based on the general context of the research according to the research problem, i.e. studying sign and meaning, activity, and action. Then, the authors' interpretation was added to the results in the form of action type and coding pattern.

**Findings:** The meaning and type of conducted activities in the square were analyzed in studying the influential factors in creating the lived space. The results show that due to the hegemonic coding type in the space, the activity of the users in the environment is limited and controlled, and the lived space is not realized. As the results of the table indicate, the signs mentioned more by the users and are effective in the square identity is influenced by the hegemonic coding pattern. Also, the prioritization of the activities that occur in the space is

necessary activity and not social. In other words, the users do not affect the meaning of the space and doing the action in the space.

**Table 5. Classification of the Identified Examples in the Aspects of the Lived Space in the Square**

Factor	Example	Frequency	Percentage	Priority	Coding Pattern
Landmarks in the Space	Inappropriate Edge	16	44%	Low priority	Non-Cultural and Function
	Ayatollah Modarres Sculpture	24	66%	2	Hegemonic and Functional Based on the Activity-Political Structure of the Area and in Relation to the Referential Coding.
	War Cannon as a Symbolic Element	19	53%	Low priority	
	Parliament Building	26	72%	1	Non-Cultural yet Hegemonic
	Ministry of Culture and Islamic Guidance	14	39%	Low priority	Hegemonic
Type of Activities	Historical Buildings in the Area	21	58%	3	Cultural
	Mandatory Presence for doing Official Affairs	15	41.5%	3	Instrumental
	Presence for Shopping	18	50%	2	Instrumental
	Presence for Recreation and Visiting	9	25%	Low priority	A Context for the Emergence of the Communicative Action
	Presence for Protesting Actions	9	25%	Low priority	Communicative
	Presence for Recreational Activities	11	30.5%	Low priority	A Context for the Emergence of the Communicative Action
	Passing the Square	26	72%	1	Instrumental

In the following, the responses of the interviewees were reviewed in relation to the influential factors on reducing or increasing the presence and activity in the square space. The inferential analysis of the results in this section was presented, given the first and second moments of the social space separately. These results indicate that what factors affect the reduction or increase of the action in the space.

Considering that this conceived space is the result of the role of the designer and planner, on one hand, and the power dialectic, on the other hand, the responses are classified in the dimensions of the constituent components of the urban design, and these two dimensions. Their frequency is also mentioned.

Then, the categories related to each example are conceptualized, given the theoretical literature of the social space and action concept. For instance, the categories such as servicing, meaning attachment, spatial response, spatial access, spatial occupation, inclusiveness, and spatial justice were identified by the impressive aspect of the planning. In general, the space lacks many of these key concepts. As the frequency of the examples show, the lack of servicing, lack of spatial occupation, and lack of access and spatial access are in the higher priority, and lack of inclusiveness, lack of social justice, and responsiveness are in the next priorities. The discrete in meaning is in the last priority (Table 6).

**Table 6. Identifying the Categories in the Dimension of the Conceived Space**

Type of Space	Component	Example	Frequency	Percentage	Factor	Categories
Conceived Space (Role of Designer and Urban Planner)	Land use	Specialized Shopping Centers	26	72%	Servicing	<b>Categories of the Physical Dimension:</b> Spatial Servicing, Spatial Responsiveness
		Lack of Recreational Facilities	21	58%	Lack of Servicing	
	History	Lack of Attention to the History of the Square	9	25%	Discrete in Meaning, Lack of Sense of Belonging	
	Ecosystem Function	Lack of Green Space	27	75%	Lack of Servicing	
		Lack of Furniture	23	64%	Lack of Space Responsiveness	
Physique	Improper Design of Spaces	16	44.5%	Lack of Space Responsiveness		



Type of Space	Component	Example	Frequency	Percentage	Factor	Categories			
Conceived Space (Role of Designer and Urban Planner)	Access	Lack of Space for Pause	22	61%	Lack of spatial occupation	<b>Categories of the content aspect:</b> meaning cohesion/ spatial inclusiveness/ spatial belonging/ social justice			
		Inappropriate Pedestrian Paths	17	47%	Lack of space responsiveness				
		High Traffic of Automobile	22	61%	Lack of access				
		High Traffic of Motorcycles	26	72%	Lack of access				
		Access to the Square by other Public Transportation	21	58%	Physical access				
	Access to the Square by Subway	28	77.7%	Physical access					
	Society	Inappropriate Space for Women	21	58%	Lack of spatial inclusiveness/ lack of social justice				
		Lack of using the Middle Space of the Square	26	72%	Lack of spatial occupation				
		Conceived Space (Power Dialectic)	Functional	Fencing the Front of the Parliament	15		41.5%	Lack of spatial occupation	<b>Categories of the negative spatial control:</b> hegemonic spatial occupation/ lack of spatial participation/ verbal and behavioral limitation/ lack of attention to the civil rights
				Lack of Using the Green Space of the Parliament Society	12		33%	Lack of spatial occupation	
Society			Presence of Police	23	64%	Spatial control/ security/ order			
	Presence of the Unmarked Police		24	66%	Spatial control/ security/ order				
Creating a Sense of Fear and Security in Space	7	19.5%	Spatial control	<b>Categories of the positive spatial control:</b> regulatory / security					
Presence of the Security Cameras	12	33%	Spatial control						
The Political Nature of Space	18	50%	Spatial control						
			19	53%	Spatial control				

Studying the examples mentioned in relation to the power dialectic shows that various factors have taken the right of spatial occupation from the users and created the negative control of space. According to the perspective of the authors, there are two types of spatial control as positive and negative. The negative spatial control questions the right of occupation and civil rights, while positive spatial control is a context for creating security and regulation. Since the perceived

space is based on the conceived space, it affects the dimensions of the perceived space in the square. The results of investigating this dimension of the space indicate the effectiveness of the access, physical, and emotional components on the presence. In general, more than half of the respondents perceive space as unsafe, insecure, lack of meaning, and crowded. The identified categories in this aspect are as follows: safety, spatial belonging, security, and peace (Table 7).

**Table 7. Identifying the Categories in the Dimension of the Perceived Space**

Type of space	Component	Code	Frequency	Percentage	Factor	Categories
Perceived Space	Access	Unsafe Sidewalk	25	69.5%	Lack of Safety	Safety
		Physical	Identification	25	69.5%	Meaning Discrete, Lack of Sense of Belonging
	Emotional	Loud Noises	23	64%	Crowd	Peace/ Sense of Security
		Insecurity in the Environment	26	72%	Insecurity	

### 6. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

The decision of planner and urban designer is manifested in the spaces in the form of coding in space. The urban space desired by the users is meaningful, a platform for social and sometimes civic behaviors and passivity. In the current paper, if the coding pattern of the designer and planner is not in the meaning score and communicative pattern of the users and is affected by the negative spatial control model and power dialectic, the effective action will be reduced in the space. Therefore, the result of this research makes it clear to urban planners that the representational space is of unique importance and what should be avoided, and what factors should be emphasized during the creation of this meaningful space. In the following, these factors are presented in the form of physical and content factors.

The final research model resulted from the findings and interpretation of the data shows that what factors (main and secondary) lead to the hegemonic coding, necessary presence, and instrumental action. It also shows that what factors lead to creating the lived space and creating a desirable context for the communicative action. In the first step, considering the obtained results in the case study, the influential factors on the lack of creating the lived space are identified through the

dimensions of the perceived and conceived space. Therefore, on the one hand, factors such as security, lack of safety, lack of sense of belonging, and chaos affect this fact in the dimensions of the perceived space. On the other hand, the factors leading to the negative spatial control question the civil rights and limit the participation in addition to the limitation in the behavior and expression. However, the physical and content factors affected by the design and urban planning model are influential in creating the limit in spatial occupation, inclusiveness, spatial justice, and social justice, servicing, lack of sense of belonging, access, and so on.

According to the results of the second step, the influential factors on creating the lived space and passivity were identified. As can be seen in Figure 2, the main elements have been presented with a darker color. For example, the main factor in the power dialectic is the positive spatial control, which manifests itself in two factors of civil rights and participation rights. Two main factors of spatial occupation and social and spatial justice are of significant importance in the factors affected by the planning practice and design. Having the spatial occupation right plays a role in access to space, the sense of belonging, and meaningfulness. Also, justice affects servicing in addition to leading to inclusiveness.

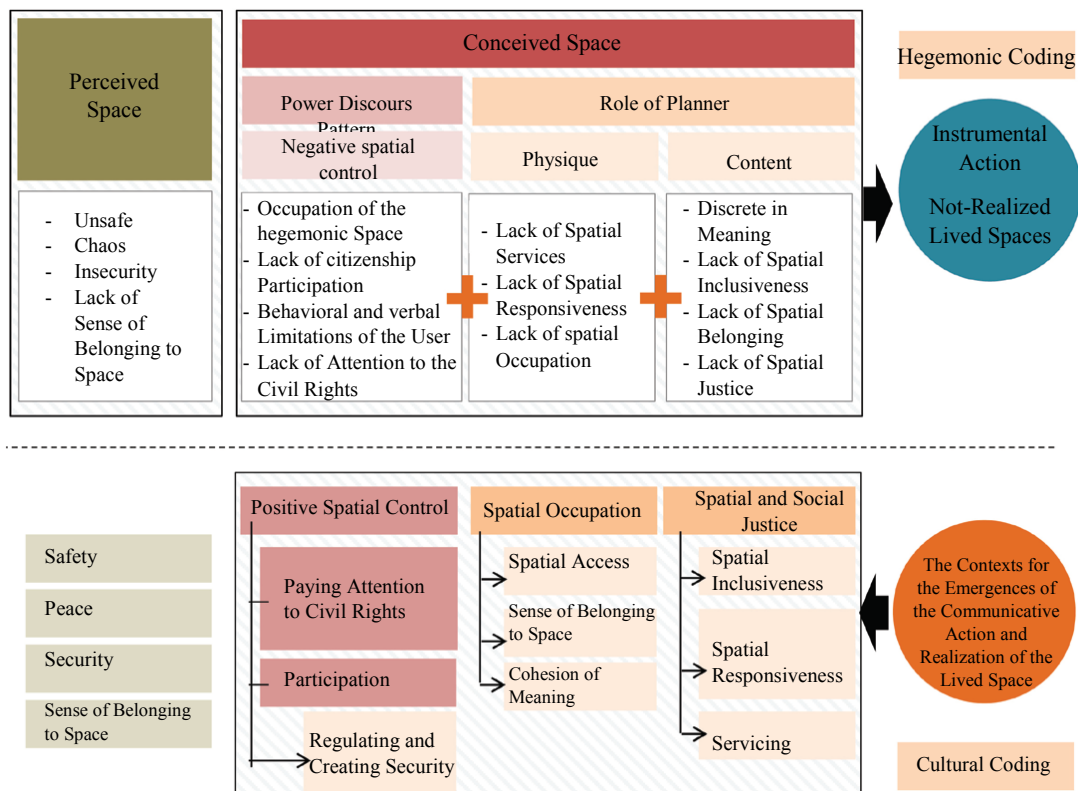


Fig. 2. Influential Factors on the Emergence of Types of Action

## END NOTE

1. Mark Gottendiener and Alexandros Ph Lagopoulos addressed this topic in the book *City and Sign: an Introduction to the urban semiotics* published by Colombia University Publications in New York, 1986.
2. Raymond Gould proposed four degrees of participation: mere observation, observation or participation, participating as an observer, and full participation (Delvar, 2010, pp.321-322).
3. It must be mentioned that in the recently proposed plan, the square space will be a pedestrian street.

## REFERENCES

- Afroogh, E. (1998). Space and Social Inequality. Tarbiat Modares University Press, Tehran, Iran.
- Ansari, M. (1997). The Public Sphere in Political Thought of Hannah Arendt. *Political-Economic Journal*, 117-118, 124-128. <https://www.sid.ir/fa/journal/ViewPaper.aspx?ID=140504>
- Arendt, H. (2006). Special Issue: Hannah Arendt. *Bukhara Journal*, 85.
- Arendt, H. (2016). The Human Condition. (M. Olia, Trans.). Qoqnoos Publishing Group, Tehran, Iran.
- Bandar Abad, A. R., Moradi Masihi, V., Kavash Nia, H., & Aali, H. (2015). Study on the Concept of Urban Public Areas and the Frankfurt School of Critical Theory in Review. *Internatinoal Journal Urban & Rural Management*, 39, 263-290. <http://ijurm.imo.org/article-1-465-fa.html>
- Daliri, K. (2011). The Sructural Factors of Social Action; The Mechanism Review of Society's Effect on Individual in Role Theory. *Journal of Historical Sociology*, 3(1), 153-176. <https://jhs.modares.ac.ir/article-25-9643-fa.html>
- Daneshgarmoghaddam, G., Bahraini, S. H., & Einifar, A.R. (2012), Socialization Analysis of Physical Environment Affected by Natural Perception in the Human Environment. *HONAR-HA-YE -ZIBA Journal-Architecture and Urban Planning*, 45, 25-36. [https://jfaup.ut.ac.ir/article\\_24682.html](https://jfaup.ut.ac.ir/article_24682.html)
- Daneshpour, S. A., & Charkhchyan, M. (2007). Public Spaces and Factors Affecting Collective Life. *BAGH NA-ZAR Journal*, 7, 19-28. [http://www.bagh-sj.com/article\\_64.html](http://www.bagh-sj.com/article_64.html)
- Delavare, A. (2010). Qualitative Methodology. *Rahbord Journal*, 54, 301-329. <http://rahbord.csr.ir/Article/139409171442325000604>
- Elden, S. (2007). There is a Politics of Space Because Space is Political. *Radical Philosophy Review*, 10(2), 101-116. <https://progressivegeographies.files.wordpress.com/2012/08/there-is-a-politics-of-space.pdf>
- Forgas, J. P. (2000). Interpersonal Behaviour: The Psychology of Social Interaction. (K. Beigi & M. Firoozbakht, Trans.). Abjad Publication, Tehran, Iran.
- Karimi, S., & Nasr, A.R. (2013). Interview data analysis methods. *Pazhuhesh Journal*, 4(1), 71-94. <http://pajohesh.nashriyat.ir/node/105>
- Lang, J. (2002). *Creating Architectural Theory: The Role of the Behavioral Sciences in Environmental Design*. (A. R. Eynifar, Trans.). 1st Edition. Tehran University Press, Tehran, Iran.
- Lefebvre, H. (1991). The Production of Space. Blackwell, Oxford, United Kingdom.
- Lefebvre, H. (2009). State, Space, World, Selected Essays. Edited by Neil Brenner and Stuart Elden. (G. Moore, N. Brenner, & S. Elden, Trans.). Minneapolis. University of Minnesota Press, Minnesota, United States. <https://thecharnelhouse.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/Henri-Lefebvre-State-Space-World-Selected-Essays.pdf>
- Lynch, K. (2002). A Theory of Good City Form. (H. Bahraini, Trans.). Tehran University Press, Tehran, Iran.
- Madanipour, A. (2000). Design of Urban Space: An Inquiry into a Socio-Spatial Process. (F. Mortazei, Trans.). Sherekat-e Pardazesh va Barnameirizi-e Shahri, Tehran, Iran.
- Mahdavi, M.S., & Mobaraki, M. (2006). Analysis of Habermas's Theory of Communication Action. *Journal of Social Science*, 8, 1-21. <https://www.sid.ir/fa/journal/ViewPaper.aspx?ID=213305>
- Mohammadi, M., & Ayatollahi, M. H. (2015). Factors Affecting the Promotion of the Socialization of Cultural Buildings, Case Study: Farshchian Cultural Center of Isfahan. *Journal of Architure & Urban Planning*, 15, 96-79. [http://aup.journal.art.ac.ir/pdf\\_12\\_0.html](http://aup.journal.art.ac.ir/pdf_12_0.html)
- Navabakhsh, M., & Karimi, F. (2013). Exploring the Concept of Power in Michel Foucault's Theories. *Journal of Political Studies*, 49-63. <https://www.sid.ir/fa/journal/ViewPaper.aspx?id=110384>
- Nowzari, H.A. (2002). Re-reading Habermas. Nashr-e Cheshmeh, Tehran, Iran.
- Pishavar, A. (1997). Political Sociology. Islamic Azad University Press, Ahvaz, Iran.
- Pooladi, K. (2009). A History of Political Thought in the West. Nashr-e Markaz, Tehran, Iran.
- Ranjbar, H., Haghdoost, A-k., Salsali, M., Khoshdel, A., Soleimani, M., & Bahrami, N. (2012). Sampling in Qualitative Research: A Guide to for beginning. *Journal of Army University of Medical Sciences*, 10(3), 238-250. [http://eprints.ajaums.ac.ir/1408/1/JAUMS\\_No\\_39\\_10.pdf](http://eprints.ajaums.ac.ir/1408/1/JAUMS_No_39_10.pdf)
- Salehi, K., Bazargan, A., Sadeghi, N., & Shokouhi Yekta, M. (2015). Phenomenological analysis of the perception and experience of elementary school teachers' lives of the weaknesses and strengths of the appraisal-descriptive program. *Journal of Research in Educational Systems*, 9(31), 19-68. [http://www.jiera.ir/article\\_49442.html](http://www.jiera.ir/article_49442.html)
- Shayan Mehr, A. (2015). Hannah Arendt. Nashr-e Akhtar, Tehran, Iran.
- Sohrabi, I., & Skafi, M. (2015). The Habermas Comparative Theory. *Journal of Ma'rifat-i Farhnagi Ejtemaii*, 6(2), 63-78. <http://marefatefarhangi.nashriyat.ir/node/219>
- Sojoodi, F. (2008). Applied Semiotics. 2nd Edition. Elm Publication, Tehran, Iran.
- Sojoodi, F. (2009). Intercultural Communication: Translation and its Role in the Inclusion/Exclusion Processes. In *Semiotics: Theory and Practice*. 1st Edition. Elm Press, Tehran, Iran.

- Tohidfam, M., & Hosseinian Amiri, M. (2009). Integration of Action and Structure in the thoughts of Giddens, Bourdieu and Habermas and its Effect on the New Sociology. *Scientific Journal Management System*, 4 (3), 79-107. [http://www.ipsajournal.ir/article\\_95.html](http://www.ipsajournal.ir/article_95.html)
- Turkameh, A. (2014). A Critique of Henri Lefebvre's The Production of Space. A Critique of Political Economy. <https://pecritique.com/>
- Zieleniec, A. (2007). *Space and Social Theory*. SAGE Publications, California, United States.

#### HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE

Mohammadi, M., & Behzadfar, M. (2020). The Effectiveness of the Non-Hegemonic Coding on Improving the Passivity and Representational Spaces; Case Study: Baharestan Square of Tehran. *Armanshahr Architecture & Urban Development Journal*. 13(32), 239-251.

DOI: 10.22034/AAUD.2019.151088.1695

URL: [http://www.armanshahrjournal.com/article\\_120089.html](http://www.armanshahrjournal.com/article_120089.html)



