

## Community Interpretation Study of Parks and Destries in Medan City

**Novalinda**

Faculty of Science and Technology, Universitas Pembangunan Panca Budi Medan, Indonesia  
[novalinda@pancabudi.ac.id](mailto:novalinda@pancabudi.ac.id)

### Abstract

*Indonesia is a country with various ethnic cultures and religions. And the city of Medan is one area that has a diversity of ethnicities and religions, with this difference sometimes it will cause a difference and the principle of how to understand the interpretation of an object problem park is open land that is used to get pleasure, joy, and comfort both in housing (houses/residential complexes) and in the city. And the park is equipped with facilities that support the community and the environment. And the link between the park and its environment is the pedestrian. Pedestrian is a word that is absorbed in a foreign language which means pedestrians, which is closely related to open spaces in a city, This study examines the local wisdom found in the community in utilizing the use of parks and destrins which are a form of human behavior and the natural environment and seeks to be able to provide concepts and strategies that can be used by the community to help increase awareness to participate actively in improving the quality of the environment. surrounding. Community Interpretation of Parks and Destroying is a method or way of how people view using parks and pedestrian paths as facilities to enjoy the feel of a park, this is because pedestrians are the main indicator for the progress of civilization and future city development. For this reason, it is necessary to anticipate it by carrying out several approaches to the community.*

### Keywords

indonesia; culture; residential and complexes



## I. Introduction

The city of Medan is the 3rd (third) largest city after the city of Surabaya, with a diversity of people both in terms of ethnicity and religion. The terms Deli City and Tobacco City are synonymous with Medan City. Medan city has a landmark by the regional drinking water company (PDAM) for the North Sumatra area, which was established in 1908. It is a building in the form of a circular tower. In addition to this building, there is another place in the form of a park which is also famous in the city of Medan, namely Taman Ahmad Yani which is in the middle of Medan city. for the community to be able to interact and socialize as well as a source of urban respiration.

Open space is part of the space in the formation of a city that is used as parks and recreation, conservation of land, and other natural resources and historical and aesthetic purposes (Green, 1959). Open space in a city is one of the requirements for the formation of a healthy city. The identity of a city can be seen from the arrangement of its open spaces that are not only beautiful but also healthy, comfortable, economical, and sustainable. The participation of the quality of the community is the main element in the creation of open spaces or parks.

Parks are cheap and free recreation areas in our society. And the park is made on empty land that is designated as a playground, recreation area, sports a comfortable gathering place. But if the park is no longer comfortable for the public to visit, it can be concluded that there is a lack of existing facilities or the existing facilities are no longer suitable for use, even seem terrible.

Plants that are not well cared for, tree branches, and fallen leaves are not cleaned and trimmed. Material on the walkway for pedestrians is damaged/broken so that it can be dangerous for visitors who carry out activities. Also the absence of other supporting facilities such as garden chairs, garbage dumps so that garbage is everywhere, lighting is not optimal and at night the state of the park becomes dark and only dim lighting from natural lighting. Sometimes the garden divider/fence is partly lost taken by irresponsible people, the park is used as a place to live for the homeless. It becomes increasingly shabby and there is no more aesthetic in the park.

This situation becomes a negative value that invites higher crime rates, becomes an area for muggings and pickpockets, and other acts of violence. What's worse, parks like this are used as places for young people to commit immoral acts.



**Figure 1.** *Abandoned City Park*

Pedestrians are used for the community for pedestrians. The pedestrian path, especially for pedestrians in the city center, has a certain meaning. Where if this route feels safe and comfortable, it will support city activities that reduce community dependence on the use of vehicles. But the function of the pedestrian is sometimes misused by the community by using the pedestrian as a parking lot, selling, even alternative access for motorbikes when traffic conditions are jammed so that this route switches functions as it has been determined. Walking traffic is disrupted, and the space for movement is narrow. Not to mention the less than optimal lighting at night so this pedestrian path is not visible. Not comfortable and safe when crossing the area.

For pedestrians that are located close to public traffic lanes, they are usually damaged by the release of several concrete blocks, moldy so that sometimes it is slippery when it rains, breaks due to tree roots that are getting bigger/older so that the pedestrian path becomes damaged and endangers the people who live in it. traverse or use the area. Pedestrian used as a stall to sell is not a new problem in a city. Where food and soft drink vendors intentionally put carts or selling equipment in the pedestrian area. Pedestrian paths will be narrower and have less space for movement/limited.



**Figure 2.** *Inappropriate City Parks Full of Garbage and Irregular*

## **II. Review of Literatures**

### **2.1 Definition of Interpretation**

Interpretation is the process of mediating and conveying messages that are explicitly and implicitly contained in reality. Bringing something from uncapturable to catchable is related to interpretation. And the process includes three (3) things, namely saying, explaining, translating.

- Saying has the function of showing the meaning of saying, telling, revealing, letting it appear, revealing something which is a message of reality.
- Explaining in interpretation trying to do something by including external factors such as explaining a text.
- Translating in interpretation trying to translate a text to human life.

So that Interpretation is a perspective in interpreting, interpreting, or formulating problems with an object produced. Interpretation can be carried out or carried out by anyone depending on the way of looking at and the background of how to interpret the object of a problem that is conveyed either with symbols or in the form of images that can be understood. (Source: person's name, Year). For example, in this case, it is given a symbol or a sign is prohibited, entering, prohibited from selling, prohibited from being passed, and prohibited from parking in a place or land or other supporting equipment.



**Figure 3.** *Installation of Symbols in City Parks*



Every human being has an active mind so that they can immediately interpret the delivery of the message even though there are different ways of expressing judgment, this opinion is a natural thing.

## **2.2 Interpretation in Society**

When someone gets an experience that is sufficient or even more than enough, the understanding of this interpretation is more complete and objective, but if the person has not experienced it then the interpretation is shallow or difficult to understand. Likewise, experienced by some of us as a modern society. Modern society is a society that has been able to blend in with good knowledge of science and keep up with the times so that the application of an interpretation in modern society is considered to be quite easy.

Everyone has the right or the community has the right to express their opinion on a matter or case without having to agree with others.

However, if this interpretation is carried out with the wrong target, it will harm many people. For this reason, making interpretations in society must require certain methods or steps, such as:

- a. Liberate the community or people in issuing all their opinions.
- b. Conclude a society that is understandable and reasonable, not from personal conclusions.
- c. Try to avoid forms of interpretation that influence, corner the other party to avoid misunderstandings.

Society is a group of individuals who live in an area who interact and socialize with one another and are well organized. For this reason, the community plays an important role in group life. Community is a collection of people who all have the same goal (Fadrusiana *et al*, 2019). Community participation is the key word for development to be successful (Kelvin, Dewi Rostyaningsih in Angelia *et al*, 2020). Soekanto in Ismail (2019) social change refers to changes in social aspects, community governance, and group behavior patterns.

## **2.3 Parks and Destinations in Big Cities in Indonesia**

Parks and destinations are part of an outdoor space, where this outdoor space is divided into 2, namely:

- a. Hard materials in the form of stone, gravel, sand, concrete, asphalt, and so on.
- b. Soft materials such as grass, soil, and so on.

A park is a place or open area that is used as a gathering place and activities of a group of individuals or more. Used as a place for learning, health or therapy facilities, playing, some are also equipped with sports facilities, gazebo, fountains as well as other decorations that add to the aesthetics of the garden. The garden is equipped with several types of plants to decorate the garden:

1. Short shrubs, zero to ankle-high plants
2. Border plants, plants as space dividers
3. Tree plants, function as a roof
4. pergola plants, vines, and creepers
5. Pineapple plants, leaf shape, and the beauty of the leaf arrangement
6. Palm family, the most beautiful and perfect plant
7. Bamboo family, plants with clumps and small leaves
8. Aquatic plants, plants that are always in the water

The existence of parks by the community as a positive influence where there is social and economic interaction, especially parks in cities. Parks are created or shaped intentionally by humans, with various materials that are combined.

A good garden that is clean and comfortable and safe is also equipped with several facilities such as:

1. Garden benches, made of concrete, wood, or stone
2. Garden lights, used as a light at night as well as decorative
3. Ponds and fountains, as garden decorations can also give a cool feel
4. Stairs function, as a connecting device between floors and the difference in floor height at the entrance of an area
5. Good dumping ground
6. Well-maintained trails used as jogging tracks
7. Equipped with toilets and prayer rooms if needed to be built

In addition to various types of plants to decorate the garden, the grass is also needed as an erosion barrier and ground floor covering. There are several examples of types of grass:

1. Bermuda golf grass, grass suitable for planting on sports fields such as golf courses
2. Agrotis grass, suitable for planting in highland golf courses
3. Elephant grass, suitable for planting on the playground
4. Manila grass, planted on the playing field at home
5. Bone grass, grass that can resist erosion grows on the edge of river water
6. Elephant grass, used as an erosion barrier

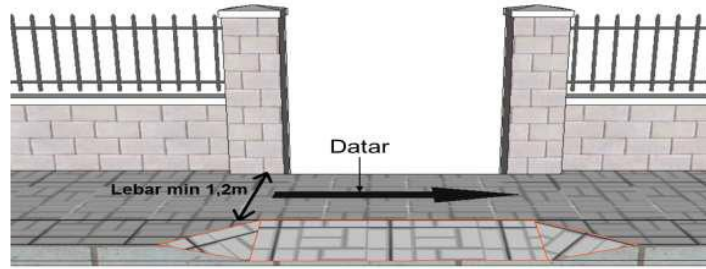


**Figure 4.** *Green Open Spaces in the City*

To enter the location of the park, it is best to give the floor shape so that between the garden and the entrance it is not too high. According to the Guidelines for Building Construction Materials and Civil Engineering in the Technical Planning of Pedestrian Facilities by the Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing No: 02/SE/M/2018 V Date: February 26, 2018 The function of placing the ramp at the park entrance for pedestrians is:

- a. Provide high change facilities well
- b. Provide convenience for pedestrians who use wheelchairs

There are several examples of floor grades according to the Manual for Technical Planning for Pedestrian Facilities, Building Construction Materials and Civil Engineering, Ministry of Public Works and Public Housing, 2018 as follows:



**Figure 5.** Entrance and ramps of Kerb/Ramp that are perpendicular

Destrian is an environment that is closely related to the social environment or the behavior of the community and the economy. Where the behavior of this community can determine whether to make the community active and interact with each other in the environment or not. For this reason, the community is also the one who determines how to use it and how to create a decent, decent and based on human values.

Pedestrians are given special lanes without being disturbed by other road users such as cars and motorbikes. And the arrangement of this pedestrian is very calculated, lest the pedestrians feel unsafe and comfortable. If this pedestrian path is supported by a sense of security, beauty and has attractiveness and decorative chairs for pedestrians, shaded roofs, and lamps with maximum illumination, the community will feel satisfied and can also reduce dependence on vehicle use and create a safe environment and can reduce air pollution.

Giving unobtrusive color differences on the block tile floor also needs to be considered to know the boundaries clearly and add beauty. If needed, special lanes for disability are also available around the pedestrian.

## 2.4 Parks and Destries in Medan City

The city is a public space where in the city there is a group of individuals called the community. So to create, determine and use the space is the community itself. And the park is an important space or area, where the park also has an influence on the community, especially for the city community. Because the park can accommodate all community activities such as socializing in an environment

The city of Medan is the 3rd (third) largest city after Surabaya where the development of the city is always carried out with good and neat planning carried out by the local Regional Government Organization (OPD) starting from the sub-district, village and neighborhood heads.

Some of the gardens and destrins in the city of Medan are quite good and adequate, but some still need to be rearranged caused by the community itself. Such as special pedestrian paths that are used by some people as parking lots and street vendors (PKL).

Some examples of good parks and restaurants in the city of Medan:

### a. Beautiful Cemara Bird Park

This park is located in a residential area in the city of Medan, this park is managed by a housing administrator. The garden is equipped with several types of animals, and there is a large fish pond in the middle of the housing, cranes and pigeons adorn the edges of the pond. Near the garden pond there is a temple that is quite famous in Medan city called Maha Vihara Maitreya. The park is quite neat where pedestrian paths, traffic, selling people have been placed on their respective lanes.

### **b. Ahmad Yani Park**

This park is located in a downtown area that is bustling with all the city activities. So that this park is the lungs of the city of Medan, which neutralizes air pollution from city vehicles. This park is equipped with a statue of the hero of the Revolution, General Ahmad Yani Nasution as a garden decoration. The statue is placed in the center of the garden which is made with a difference in the height of the ground or slightly hilly

### **c. Sri Deli Park**

A historic park for the people of Medan City, where in ancient times this park was owned by the ruler of Tanah Deli which is now the City of Medan. This park was formerly used as a garden to decorate the Deli royal palace, the palace was named Maimun Palace.

This park is equipped with a fairly large pond and is equipped with a pedestrian path around the pond decorated with flowers as a space barrier for pedestrians and decorated with ornaments such as statues and decorated beams as well as ground cover or grass barriers that are not allowed to be stepped on or passed by for pedestrians foot.

## **III. Research Methods**

Research is a way of finding an opinion by carrying out several stages or an investigative process to reach a conclusion that will later lead to various interpretations from the visiting community. And this interpretation will lead to a social action carried out by the community. For this reason, the purpose of this research is to find the best way to represent the community without provoking a view of the interpretation of parks and detriment so that people can act more wisely and responsibly in using public facilities.



**Figure 6.** *The renovated Merdeka field park*

Data collection is the most important step in conducting research. Without data collection, the research task cannot be carried out properly. The research procedure was carried out as follows:

- Field Survey, is a very important initial stage in planning, by conducting this field survey we will find out the existing problems.
- Data Compilation (Field and Reference), This is the stage of collecting data from the field survey which is then compiled into a tabulation for each data selection.
- Documentation, a process of providing data that is accompanied by evidence.



- d. Data analysis is a way of processing data compilation by adding documentation as evidence so that problems in a study find solutions.
- e. Discussion and Discussion, here all data and other completeness are discussed together in the form of discussion so that a conclusion or the best decision is obtained.
- f. Making Conclusions is the final result and the idea of the whole research
- g. Research Report., a report or a researcher's responsibility that has been carried out. By making a report that can be understood by all people.

## **IV. Discussion**

### **4.1 Community Interpretation of Parks**

From the problems raised in the park above are

#### **a. Level of Public Awareness**

Raising awareness from the community about the use, existence and function of the park must always be carried out in the form of regulations or just a warning. And residents as users of the facility must participate in maintaining and supervising not only the city government. So that the function of the park can be realized as it should be, namely as a place of recreation and relaxation.

#### **b. Hygiene Problem**

Garbage is scattered and spoils the view of a park, making it look dirty. Even though there have been special trash bins in the park, there are still scattered and careless disposal, this is a problem that needs to be addressed together. The trash can should be divided into several trash bins from plant waste in the form of leaves and tree branches where this samaph is made permanent, different from trash bins for visitors. This requires concern from all parties, both park visitors and cleaning staff.



*Figure 7. Visitors and Cleaning Officers*

#### **c. The Existence of Immoral and Criminal Acts**

The park as a place of recreation is sometimes used as a place of immorality, especially for young people who are in love. And some parks can also be places that invite criminal acts such as muggings and pickpockets, so that park security is not a priority, so visitors are the ones who must feel alert and careful and take care of themselves and their belongings.



#### **d. Sanitation Facilities**

A park is a place where people socialize, gather, and interact. The activities carried out are various, for that we need a good facility. Toilets are part of the sanitation facilities that are needed in the park as well as the provision of clean water. So that visitors who come will not find it difficult if they want to just wash their hands or urinate.

#### **4.2 Society's Interpretation of Destroying**

From the problems raised in the above treatment, they are:

##### **a. Street Vendors and Parking Lots**

Pedestrian lanes for pedestrians have become a habit of being abused in their function as a place to trade and also as a parking lot. And if there is a traffic jam, it is sometimes used as an alternative for motorbikes because the pedestrian lane is next to the vehicle traffic lane. For this reason, it is necessary to have an arrangement that allows this not to be carried out, such as the installation of balls, the difference in floor height and also equipped with signs that are easy to understand by the general public.

And for street vendors should be given a special land for them to sell so as not to interfere with activities for pedestrians as well as parking lots.

##### **b. Selection of Destroying Materials**

In the selection of materials for cleaning, there should be conditions:

1. Has long enough quality / durable to avoid spending a larger budget.
2. Can withstand the effects of vehicle traffic movements such as dust and wind
3. Colors and textures should contrast with the road
4. Non-slippery surface to avoid pedestrians when it rains or due to other reasons.
5. Has a strong bond with road material
6. Minimize glare
7. Meets safety requirements and is relatively easy to maintain.

Facilities that also need to be considered from the results of this discussion are drainage or drainage lines. Drainage is a dewatering facility that is adjacent to or under a pedestrian facility that functions to regulate the passage of water, either waste water or rainwater, so that it does not cause flooding and puddles around the pedestrian area.

##### **c. Controlling the Installation of Billboards and Baleho**

The installation of billboards and billboards with a size large enough and arbitrarily on the pedestrian path can interfere with the movement of pedestrians, so there is a need for good enforcement in the form of regulations and sanctions for residents who try to violate them.

As well as more supervision from related agencies as well as advertising entrepreneurs should know which areas are allowed for the installation of the billboard.

#### **4.3 Community's Interpretation of Lily Suheri Park in Medan**

Lily Share is one of the composers from Medan in the 40s, who was born in Bogor on December 23, 1915. She once founded a Community Care for Children and Deli Rivers (Kopasude) which became a collection of students and artists in the city of Medan. As a form of gratitude from the people and the Medan City government to remember him, a park was made with the name Lily Suhaeri Park. Which is located on the Red Cross Road (Electricity Intersection) Medan city.

But the state of this park now seems to be abandoned like it is not maintained, when it rains there are puddles of water that become muddy, the garden grass is bushy and rising and the buildings are not maintained. In the past, this city park was a nature reserve park that was always used as a place for the activities of Medan city artists to be creative. However, at this time several outlets appear to be closed, there are no more activities. At the front or entrance to the park, there is an unpleasant smell, and many taxis are waiting for passengers because the park is close to hospitals, entertainment venues, and hotels. The fence that surrounds the garden is starting to break down and rust.

Pedestrians around this park are also very unfit for pedestrians, apart from being unsafe from material problems, they are also damaged by being pushed by the roots of old trees. The pedestrian path is also used as illegal parking which is used by some people. For this reason, it is hoped that there will be follow-up from the authorities to immediately renovate so that the existing damage does not get worse. And it can restore the function of this park to its proper place, so that later people can use it as a place for recreation, play or just sit back and enjoy the beauty of the park.



**Figure 8.** Lily Suhaeri Garden Sculpture and Yard

## V. Conclusion

From the results of observational research as well as data collection and also the different perspectives of the community, conclusions can be drawn

1. People's views are quite diverse about parks, but it becomes a positive value with the existence of a park in a city as a cheap recreation place, and helps from city pollution
2. While the pedestrian path is dominated by pedestrians and street vendors (PKL) which are more towards commercial activities because it has become the behavior of the community.

## References

- Angelia, N., et al. (2020). Analysis of Community Institution Empowerment as a Village Government Partner in the Participative Development Process. *Budapest International Research and Critics Institute-Journal (BIRCI-Journal)*. Volume 3, No 2, Page: 1352-1359.
- Ari Nova Firnanda, R Suharyadi, Kajian Penelitian Kondisi Jalur Pendestrian Dengan Menggunakan Indeks Walkbility (Kenyamanan Pejalan Kaki Di Kawasan Pendidikan Yogyakarta)

- Fadrusiana, E. G., et al. (2019). Strengthening Tolerance Attitude through Jaga Sesama Community. *Budapest International Research and Critics Institute-Journal (BIRCI-Journal)*. Volume 2, No 4, Page: 143-149.
- Harlia Febrianti, Journal V Tech (vision Technology Volume 1 No 2 Desember 2018) Perspektif Masyarakat Terhadap Keberadaan Taman Kota Sebagai Ruang Terbuka Hijau Di Kota Jambi(Studi Kasus Pendestrian Jomblo. Taman Perumnas Dan Taman Area Remaja)
- Ir. Veronica A Kumurur, Rumput Lansekap, Untuk Lapangan Olah Raga Taman dan Area Parkir
- Ismail. (2019). Social Changes in the Post-Tsunami Banda Aceh City. *Budapest International Research and Critics Institute-Journal (BIRCI-Journal)*. P. 45-50.
- Natalia Tanan, ST., MT, Pedoman Perencanaan Teknis Fasilitas Pejalan Kaki, Bahan Konstruksi Bangunan dan Rekayasa Sipil, Kementerian Pekerjaan Umum, Dan Perumahan Rakyat, 2018.
- Poespoprodjo, I.Ph., S.S, Interpretasi, Beberapa Catatan Pendekatan Filsafatnya
- Rona panduri, Djoko Suwandono, Jurnal Teknik PWK Volume 4 Nomor 2 2015, Perilaku Masyarakat Dalam Penggunaan Jalur Pedestrian Di koridor Jalan Prof, H, Soedarto, SH
- Siti Lestari, Syukur Umar, Andi Sahri Alam, Warta Berita, Volume 4 Nomor 1 Juni 2016, Persepsi masyarakat Terhadap Aspek Sosial Ekonomi Ruang Terbuka Hijau Taman GOR, Di Kota Palu Provinsi Sulawesi Tengah
- Suzanna Ratih Sari, Dhanoe Iswanto, Djoko Indrosaptono, Peningkatan peran Serta Masyarakat Dalam Pengelolaan Ruang Terbuka Kota Yang Sehat.
- Veronica Widi Prabawasari, Agus Suparman, Seri Diktat Kuliah Tata Ruang Luar 1