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RIVISTA DEL DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN ARCHITETTURA, ARTE E PIANIFICAZIONE DELL'UNIVERSITÀ
DEGLI STUDI DI PALERMO - DIPARTIMENTO DI ARCHITETTURA



AGENDA 2030 Contraddizioni & Goals

INFOLIO

RIVISTA DEL DOTTORATO DI RICERCA IN ARCHITETTURA, ARTI E PIANIFICAZIONE

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Progetto grafico

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Per questo numero:

Curatori

Salvatore Di Maggio

Samuele Morvillo

Rita Tolomeo

Carmen Trischitta

Impaginazione

Salvatore Di Maggio

Samuele Morvillo

Rita Tolomeo

Carmen Trischitta

Contatti

infolio@riviste.unipa.it

Sede

Dipartimento di Architettura (D'ARCH)

Viale delle Scienze, Edificio 14, Edificio 8

90128 Palermo

tel. +39 091 23864211

dipartimento.architettura@unipa.it

dipartimento.architettura@cert.unipa.it (pec)

In copertina

Agenda 2030

Chiara Palillo

La Rivista

In folio è la rivista scientifica di Architettura, Design, Urbanistica, Storia e Tecnologia che dal 1994 viene pubblicata grazie all'impegno dei dottori e dei dottorandi di ricerca del Dipartimento di Architettura (D'ARCH) dell'Università di Palermo (UNIPA).

La rivista, che si propone come spazio di dialogo e di incontro rivolto soprattutto ai giovani ricercatori, è stata inserita dall'ANVUR all'interno dell'elenco delle riviste scientifiche dell'Area 08 con il codice ISSN 1828-2482. Ogni numero della rivista è organizzato in cinque sezioni di cui la prima è dedicata al tema selezionato dalla redazione della rivista, mentre le altre sezioni sono dedicate all'attività di ricerca in senso più ampio.

Tutti i contributi della sezione tematica sono sottoposti a un processo di *double-blind peer review*.

Per questo numero il tema selezionato è:

"Agenda 2030: Contraddizioni e goals"

L'Agenda 2030 è un piano d'azione adottato dalle Nazioni Unite nel 2015 e rappresenta una sfida a livello globale per porre fine alla povertà, proteggere il pianeta e garantire uno sviluppo sostenibile per tutti entro il 2030. L'Agenda ha stabilito 17 Obiettivi di Sviluppo Sostenibile (SDG) per affrontare sfide globali come la povertà, la fame, la disuguaglianza, il cambiamento climatico e la perdita di biodiversità.

Attraverso i 17 Goals, si punta ad un'evoluzione in modo equilibrato delle tre dimensioni dello sviluppo sostenibile - economica, sociale ed ecologica - nonché a porre fine alla povertà, a combattere l'ineguaglianza, ad affrontare i cambiamenti climatici e a costruire società consapevoli che rispettino i diritti umani. Tale impegno richiede la partecipazione di tutti i soggetti coinvolti, dal settore privato a quello pubblico, dalla popolazione civile agli operatori dell'informazione e della cultura.

L'Agenda 2030 è un esempio di problema complesso che richiede un approccio interdisciplinare. Per raggiungere questi obiettivi, infatti, è necessario che i governi, le organizzazioni, la società civile, le aziende, le comunità scientifiche e tutti gli altri attori coinvolti collaborino per sviluppare soluzioni integrate e sostenibili, anche per superare ostacoli o possibili contraddizioni riscontrate nel tempo. L'Agenda può, infatti, presentare dei limiti a causa della sua attuale visione prettamente antropocentrica, contraddicendosi sugli studi che richiedono invece una visione integrata dell'intero ecosistema. In questo contesto, l'architettura svolge un ruolo cruciale nel raggiungimento di questi obiettivi, in quanto può aiutare a creare città sostenibili e vivibili, promuovere l'uso di energie rinnovabili e contribuire alla conservazione delle risorse naturali.

I paper contenuti in questo numero condividono riflessioni e avviano un dibattito su una nuova visione dei goals presenti in agenda, sui possibili limiti riscontrati, sulle possibili sfide e contraddizioni, partendo da esperienze in contesti locali, azioni progettuali e ruolo della tecnologia e dell'innovazione tecnologica, processi di partecipazione attiva nel raggiungimento degli Obiettivi di Sviluppo Sostenibile.



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Immagine di apertura: di Esmail Kalate Rahmani

Developing a Grounded-base Model about Official Public Participation in the Administration of Community Affairs. Case of study: Sarshur Neighborhood in Mashhad, Iran

Sezione I - Il tema

Esmail Kalate Rahmani
Mina Ramezani
Elnaz Khalili

This study was conducted in a traditional neighborhood, Sarshur, in the center of Mashhad, Iran, in 2019–2021. The research used the method of systematic grounded theory to produce a grounded-base model through local and substantive theory of the official public participation of the residents of this neighborhood in the development of community affairs. The result shows that the process of official public participation in this neighborhood follows a substantive theory, which can be called topic-based grounded theory.

Keywords: Public participation, Sarshur neighborhood, Grounded theory

Introduction

Mashhad, the second-biggest city in Iran, is the most popular tourist destination in the country, and 25 million people visit the city every year, mostly for the sake of the Holy Shrine of Imam Reza. The complex situation of texture around the shrine, where the heavy accumulation of capital has led to the expropriation of property from the local people and the aggravation of social damage, has turned the location from a place for residents to a place for pilgrims and tourists. Social problems such as insecurity, lack of attention to the economic interests and demands of the people living and working in these contexts, and the influx of accommodation centers, including hotels, guest houses, etc., have made strategic planning based on people's participation more necessary than ever. The country of Iran, and especially Sarshur neighborhood, due to the long history of tyranny and top-down governance, does not have any record of official participation of people in the administration of city affairs. Only in the last few years have we seen forms of official participation in the form of neighborhood social councils, which have been examined in this article through direct observation. Although the forms of informal participation have led to the limited cooperation of the residents, the lack of formal participation has

caused problems in this neighborhood. Problems such as worn-out urban buildings, abandoned and dilapidated parts, the influx of hotels, and the transformation of most parts and buildings into places for pilgrims have caused original residents to leave the neighborhood or to suffer from social problems (Rahnama et al., 2016, p. 25). Failure to pay attention to the real needs of the neighborhood residents and mandated urban planning has led to the fading of official participation and people's disappointment in official participation in development. On the other hand, the emptying of the location from its main residents causes the informal participation of the people in the affairs of the neighborhood to fade, especially in holding ceremonies and celebrations, which once held everywhere but now have been restricted to the mosques. It seems that one of the ways out of the current situation of the surrounding urban tissues of the Holy Shrine, especially in the Sarshur neighborhood, is to know about the process of official participation of the residents and formulate a theory that can be used in urban planning and administration of the neighborhood. By identifying the process of formal public participation and presenting a theory in this regard, the mechanism of people's entry into the decision-making process is smoothed, and a theoretical model is created to act on the phenomenon of public participation. Therefore, the

problem of this research is to know the process of formal public participation of the residents of the Sarshur neighborhood, in which they have taken an important step towards public participation in the administration of local affairs since November 2019 by forming the neighborhood social council. In this article, after understanding the process of public participation by using grounded theory, a theory has been produced about the public participation of the people of the Sarshur neighborhood.

Theorizing has a long history; however, as Malekian asserted, theory generation is closely related to basic research and is a completely scientific approach based on systematic methodology and steps of experimental science and humanities research methods (Malekian, 2008, p. 15), and qualitative grounded theory is one of these methods. Shariatmadari, mentioning the basics of theory generation in an article entitled How to Generate Theory, considered the interpretation of information to be a prerequisite for theorizing (Shariatmadari, 2009, p. 13). The grounded theory method is one of the interpretive research methods. In a study addressing the challenges of theorizing and adding science to Iran's scientific productions, the researchers stated that it is possible to generate a theory through scientific research, and in this process, it is essential to pay attention to the classification of data, previous theories, methodology, and to present the geography of discussion (Sadeghi, Jamshidi, & Kalantari, 2012, p. 69). All the issues raised by the researchers in theory generation are followed by the method of grounded theory. Alikhani and Eskandari, in their study in 2014, theorized marital disputes with grounded theory. They collected data using semi-structured interviews and simultaneously analyzed the data through constant comparison. The theory proposed in their paper was presented as a main variable with two levels of individual-couple and interactive and five main classes (Alikhani, Eskandari, 2014, p. 10). In 2018, in an article, Fathullah investigated the principles and topics of theory generation and theorizing in the realization method. In this review, he concluded that the development of knowledge in various fields requires the development of comprehensive theories in a way that provides solid and defensible foundations. In this article, grounded theory was considered a method of theory generator (Fathullah, 2018, p. 10), which can be used to present a theory about public participation.

In the Persian language, expressions and concepts such as public participation, collective participation, civil participation, political participation, participation in public affairs, participation in national affairs, participation in collective efforts, collective cooperation, collective companionship, collective aid, public aid, and collective action are used with a slight difference in the same

semantic context and equivalent to public participation. In addition to all these concepts, public participation can be defined as an organized process in which society members participate consciously, voluntarily, and collectively with specific goals, which leads to the sharing of power resources (Sedighi and Ameri, 2016, p. 37; Gheisari, 2019, p. 34). In the field of social action, public participation is divided into formal and informal types (Asadpour, Entezari, Ahmadi, 2018; Pirahari, 2016). In English sources, this action-based classification of public participation is seen as formal and informal public participation (Erats, 2013). Informal public participation is based on custom, habit, tradition, and religion, and it exists among members of society in an institutional and spontaneous form. In this type of participation, the government has no role in directing and organizing affairs, and it is the responsibility of the people to do the tasks (Alavi-Tabar, 2000, p. 51). Informal public participation is a stimulus that makes people act. This stimulus is usually introduced by government organizations to attract and increase people's participation in various affairs in the form of special programs. Official participation can be mandatory or voluntary, although voluntariness is one of the main characteristics of effective participation (Alavi-Tabar, 2000, p. 52). In the end, the main question of this article can be posed in this way: "What model and theory does official public participation in the Sarshur neighborhood of Mashhad follow?"

Research Method

The present article is developed-theoretical in terms of objective, and it is qualitative in terms of descriptive-analytical nature, which was done with the grounded theory method. Systematic grounded theory is considered one of the critical strategies of qualitative research (Edwards & McCall, 2021, p. 93). The basis of grounded theory is the simultaneous collection and continuous comparison of data and the formation of concepts. The purpose of this article is to produce a theory about the official public participation of the people of the Sarshur neighborhood. The data collection tool in this research is systematic observation (Najafi and Rudsari, 2016), and its analysis method is multi-layer coding with constant comparison (Strauss & Corbin, 2017). To observe the official public participation process, a regular observation form was used, and for multi-layer coding, an open, axial, and selective coding process was used. Open coding is a detailed, line-by-line reading of the data and breaking it into the smallest possible components (Khaki, 1990, p. 212). In axial coding, which is based on the Strauss and Corbin model (Figure 1), the data is used to find the central phenomenon, which is then linked to the

categories that were found. These categories include causal conditions, context conditions, intervening conditions, strategies, and consequences.

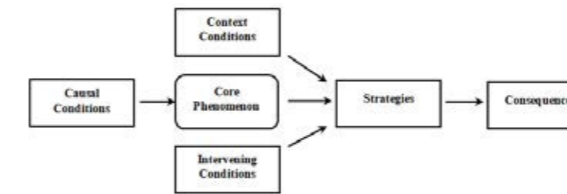


Figure 1. Axial coding pattern based on Strauss and Corbin's paradigm model, adopted from Creswell, 2012

Selective coding is for integrating and refining categories (Strauss & Corbin, 2017, p. 165). In this process, the categories are integrated and related as a single theory. In this method, data collection and analysis are done at the same time. In order to start the process of data collection and analysis, the most frequent process of formal participation, which is the meetings of the social council of the Sarshur neighborhood, was chosen. In this study, 10 direct observations were

No.	Observations
1	The meeting for the election of the social council of Sarshur neighborhood in Qalam library on 01/11/2019
2	Neighborhood council meeting (Designation of thematic and strategic working groups) 22/12/2019
3	Neighborhood council meeting (Preparation for spring) 21/01/2020
4	Neighborhood council meeting (Examination of executive regulations and how to hold meetings) 18/06/2020
5	Joint meeting of the council and the facilitation office (Visiting Nourian's historical house) 27/06/2020
6	Joint meeting of the council and the facilitation office (Projects proposed in note 22) 14/01/2021
7	Joint meeting of the council and the facilitation office (Reviewing the actions of the facilitation office) 02/09/2021
8	Joint meeting of the council and facilitation office (Large-scale projects of the 6th Council) 21/10/2021
9	Neighborhood council meeting (Beautification of Sarshur market road) 15/11/2021
10	Joint meeting of the council and the facilitation office (Urban services review) 17/12/2021

Figure 2. Observation data of formal social participation Source: authors' data, 2023

made based on the observation guide form, and in response to each direct observation, a dialogue with the participants was conducted in the form of an indirect observation of the official public participation process. Referring directly to the neighborhood and the facilitation office, as well as the municipal organization and the community affairs department, and visiting the head of the department, the researcher could obtain the necessary letters for the cooperation of this organization and the facilitation office with the researcher, so that she was permitted to attend the meetings as a free observer. The urban planning officer of the facilitation office, who cooperated with the neighborhood social council to manage the council meetings at the end of each month, provided the researcher with basic information about the meetings and how they were organi-



Figure 3. Part of the social council meetings of the Sarshur neighborhood. Source: Facilitation Office of Sarshur Historical Neighborhood, 2023

zed, which was an effective step in the direction of the necessary coordination in the direction of participatory observation. Figure 3 shows photos of six meetings of the neighborhood social council.

In these observations, it was the process of public participation in the context of the Sarshur neighborhood that induced the codes of this analysis at the same time as data collection. Therefore, the event and problem raised at each meeting were not taken into consideration, and the focus of this research was on the

participation process itself. At each meeting, the topic, which had been determined before, was discussed and investigated in the presence of guests related to the position. At the end, the topic of the next meeting was determined, and the summary of the discussions and decisions was recorded in the report of the meeting, which was then signed by all those present at the meeting. The neighborhood council also had a virtual group on WhatsApp for more communication and coordination. Participating in each meeting, the researcher took notes on observations in the form of field notes and recorded the events. Handwritten notes were then imported as text in the Office Word software. This way, the process of data analysis and coding was accelerated. Then the initial coding of the obtained texts

#	Open codes	#	Open codes	#	Open codes
A1	Collective decision	A36	Difference of opinions	A71	Presence history
A2	Laws approved by councils	A37	Coordination	A72	Referring to 137
A3	Individual role	A38	Common values	A73	Contractor punishment
A4	Membership	A39	Majority idea	A74	Collective decision
A5	Empathy	A40	Using computer	A75	Police presence
A6	Upstream organization	A41	Political atmosphere	A76	Making suggestions
A7	Expressing opinions	A42	Nonverbal communication	A77	Political conversations
A8	Similar opinions	A43	Communication with the upstream organization	A78	Demanding
A9	Disagreements	A44	Presenting ideas	A79	Number of votes
A10	Questioning	A45	Writing a meeting report	A80	Expressing thoughts
A11	Voting	A46	Approval of suggestions	A81	Reconsidering
A12	Approving	A47	Correcting affairs	A82	Eligible to vote
A13	Best place and time	A48	Rejecting proposals	A83	Clarification
A14	Conversation	A49	Chairman of the council	A84	Spiritual motivation
A15	Distraction	A50	Suitable place	A85	Accepting costs
A16	Raising a question	A51	Sound pollution	A86	Right of joining
A17	Taking turn	A52	Sessions' guests		
A18	Priority of upstream organization	A53	Members' presence and absence		
A19	Religious beliefs	A54	Similar question		
A20	Responsibility	A55	Crowded sessions		
A21	Improper management	A56	Divine reward		
A22	Critics	A57	Being voice of others		
A23	Disruption of the meeting	A58	Conveying the messages		
A24	Reasoning	A59	Asking questions		
A25	The internet	A60	Effective suggestions		
A26	WhatsApp group	A61	Council statutes		
A27	Debate	A62	Being responsible		
A28	Sense of duty	A63	Phone ringing		
A29	Volunteering	A64	Speech		
A30	Teamwork	A65	Simultaneous talking		
A31	Instagram	A66	Free time		
A32	Collectivism	A67	Different opinions		
A33	Clarification	A68	Respect for elders		
A34	Age and job difference	A69	Agreed time		
A35	Opinions	A70	Not being convinced		

Figure 4. Open codes from observing the official public participation process. Source: Data of the research, 2023

was started, in which labeling was done to put the data in the form of concepts. Since the observations were arranged for the official public participation process of the attendees, not many embryonic codes could be identified in the text, and most of the codes are suggestive.

Research Findings

The results of this study are shown in three parts, as required by the grounded theory method: open coding (which is split into two parts: primary coding and categorization); axial coding; and selective coding (the stage where the theory is created).

First Stage: Open Coding

Open coding itself is divided into two parts: primary coding and the production of major categories, which are discussed below.

Primary coding: the codes at this stage should have a conditional and comparative nature of the data (Khaki, 2016, p. 215). The codes at this stage are divided into two categories: embryonic codes and suggestive codes. Embryonic codes are words or phrases in the text taken from the expressions of the person being interviewed or observed. Suggestive codes are labeled and conceptualized by the researcher based on the concepts in the collected data.

The results of the first stage of open coding (initial coding), which were achieved through labeling with embryonic and suggestive codes and deepening the analysis obtained with analytical notes, are presented in Figure 4. In the first column of the table, a code is assigned to each row, which is used in the categorization stage. The data obtained from direct observation and the text of the observations are given in the next column. It should be mentioned that duplicate codes and data have been removed, and the final open code is presented at the end. At this stage, a total of 247 codes were identified, and after removing similar items to avoid repetition, 86 open codes remained.

Generating major categories (categorization): By continuously comparing the codes and identifying their similarities and differences, 22 categories were extracted from the primary data. The results of this categorization are shown in Figure 5.

Second stage: Axial Coding

At this stage, according to the Straussian grounded theory method, causal conditions, contextual conditions,

intervention conditions, strategies, and consequences are identified and characterized.

Central phenomenon: It is an event or incident that is meaningful about a set of strategy/action interactions or action reactions. In this study, the central phenomenon is the process of formal public participation in Sarshur neighborhood, which is caused by the sense of cooperation among the residents, and according to Ibn Khaldun, the sense of human cooperation is social by nature (Azad Ermaki, 1997, p. 79).

Causal or causative conditions: For the central phenomenon, the causal or causative conditions are those events that affect the central phenomenon. For example, attending a party and being offered drugs is a causal condition for a person to become addicted to drugs (Strauss & Corbin, 2016, p. 153). In connection with the phenomenon of participation, Durkheim, with the theory of social solidarity, considers participation as the way of acting, thinking, and feeling that are outside the individual and have the power of coercion and obligation, and through that, they impose themselves on the individual. From this definition, it is clear that Durkheim searches for participation in the realities outside of individuals (the external environment) (Alafian, 2000, pp. 91–92). In other words, causal conditions are conditions that affect a person under pressure from the outside environment. According to the definition of the causal conditions and external pressure on the individual, through the analysis and discussion of 22 indicators obtained in connection with the central phenomenon of public participation, it was determined that 5 categories are part of the causal conditions of the central phenomenon of the formal public participation process: belief in teamwork and collective wisdom, respect for differences and diversity of viewpoints, the role of individuals and membership, individual motivations, correction, and revision.

Intervening conditions: These are those conditions that mitigate or change the causal conditions (especially the central phenomenon and its drivers) (Strauss & Corbin, 2016, p. 153). This means that any change in the conditions that cause the main event and its strategies is seen as an intervening condition. In Max Weber's school of understanding, participation is associated with the concept of probability, meaning that the degree of this probability can be reduced in different conditions and based on different factors, or even completely excluded in some cases (Mousavi, 2011, p. 64). It seems that this possibility implies intervening conditions. According to the definition of intervening conditions and the concept of probability, among the remaining 17 categories, those that can cause sudden positive and negative changes

No.	Indicators	Codes	Categories
1	A1+A14+A30+A32+A17+A74	Collective decision-making + discussion + group work + collectivism + turn-taking + group opinion	Belief in teamwork and collective wisdom
2	A5+A9+A36+A34+A68+A67	Empathy +disagreement+ difference of opinion+ age and job difference+ respect for elder+ difference of opinion	Respect for differences and diversity of views
3	A8+A37+A38+A39	Alignment of opinions+ coordination + shared values+ majority opinion	Achieving a general consensus, majority opinion
4	A6+A18+A43+A85	Upstream organization + priority of the upstream organization + communication with the upstream organization + spending the municipality	Orders by upstream organization
5	A40+A42+A64	Use of computer + non-verbal communication + speech	How to present the content
6	A2+A45+A49+A61	Laws approved by councils + preparation of meeting minutes + chairman of the council + statutes	Laws approved by councils
7	A12+A46+A48+A60	Approving + Approving a suggestion + 8Rejecting a suggestion + Effective suggestion	Approving/Rejecting suggestions
8	A3+A4+A52+A86	Role of people + membership + guests of the meeting + Right of membership	Role of people/ Membership
9	A53+A55+A71	Attendance and absence of members + Business of the meeting + History of attendance	Attending
10	A19+A28+A56+A57+A58+A84+A29	Religious belief + Sense of duty + Divine reward + Being the voice of others + Conveying the message + Spiritual motivation + Volunteering	Individual motivations
11	A10+A16+A20+A54+A59+A62+A78	Asking + Raising questions + Answering + Similar questions + Asking questions + Being responsive + Demanding	Demanding
12	A15+A51+A63	Distraction + Sound pollution + Mobile ringing	Distraction
13	A23+A21+A65	Disruption of the meeting + Improper management + Several people talking at the same time	Improper management
14	A13+A50+A66+A69	The best time and place + suitable place + idle hours of members + agreed time	Suitable time and place
15	A70+A72	Members not convinced + Reference to 137	Severe differences of opinion/taste
16	A47+A73+A74+A81	Correction of affairs + Punishment of the contractor + Presence of the police force + Revision	Correction and revision
17	A7+A76+A80+A44	Expressing opinions + Making a suggestion + Expressing thoughts + Presenting an idea	Expressing idea and thoughts
18	A41+A77	Political atmosphere + Political conversation	Heavy atmosphere
19	A11+A35+A79+A82	Voting + votes + number of votes + eligible to vote	Voting
20	A22+A24+A27+A16+A78	Criticism + reason and reasoning + debate + raising questions + demanding	Conscious/rational participation
21	A85+A33+A83	Municipal spending + transparency + clarification	Building trust
22	A25+A26+A31	Internet space + WhatsApp group + Instagram page	Cyberspace

Figure 5. Categorization of Formal Public participation Process
Source: Data of the research, 2023

in the causal conditions include the instructions by the upstream organization, the way of presenting the content, high disagreements, distractions, mismanagement of the meeting, and a heavy atmosphere.

Contextual conditions: They are a set of conditions that come together at a specific time and place to create a set of situations or issues that people respond to with a strategy (Strauss & Corbin, 2016, p. 154). In other words, contextual conditions are those spatial and temporal characteristics that create a platform for the emergence of strategies when a person faces a central phenomenon under the influence of causal and interventional conditions. The contemporary American sociologist Lipset mainly focused his attention on the social contexts of participation. According to him, by creating grounds for participation in social events, the participation rate of social groups is significantly higher (Lipset, 1995, p. 187). By examining the remaining 11 categories, the contextual conditions include laws approved by councils, appropriate place and time, presence, and virtual space.

Strategies: The most important labels are strategies. Strategies are defined as purposeful and intentional actions that are carried out to solve a problem (here public participation), and by taking them, a central phenomenon is formed (Strauss & Corbin, 2017, p. 155). In other words, the strategy, action, or interaction shows how people act towards the central phenomenon and explains how each person causes the central phenomenon to be realized. Parsons expresses his thoughts in the form of social interaction theory, which is based on assumptions that can be used to analyze any type of social action, such as participation. According to Parsons, we can understand and classify all types of social behavior, provided that we can obtain the classification of values that guide people in choosing their actions (Azkia, 2000, p. 95). It seems that part of this classification is the result of people's strategies. Out of the remaining 7 categories, only 3 show how people engage in formal public participation based on dialogue: voting, expressing opinions and thoughts, and questioning.

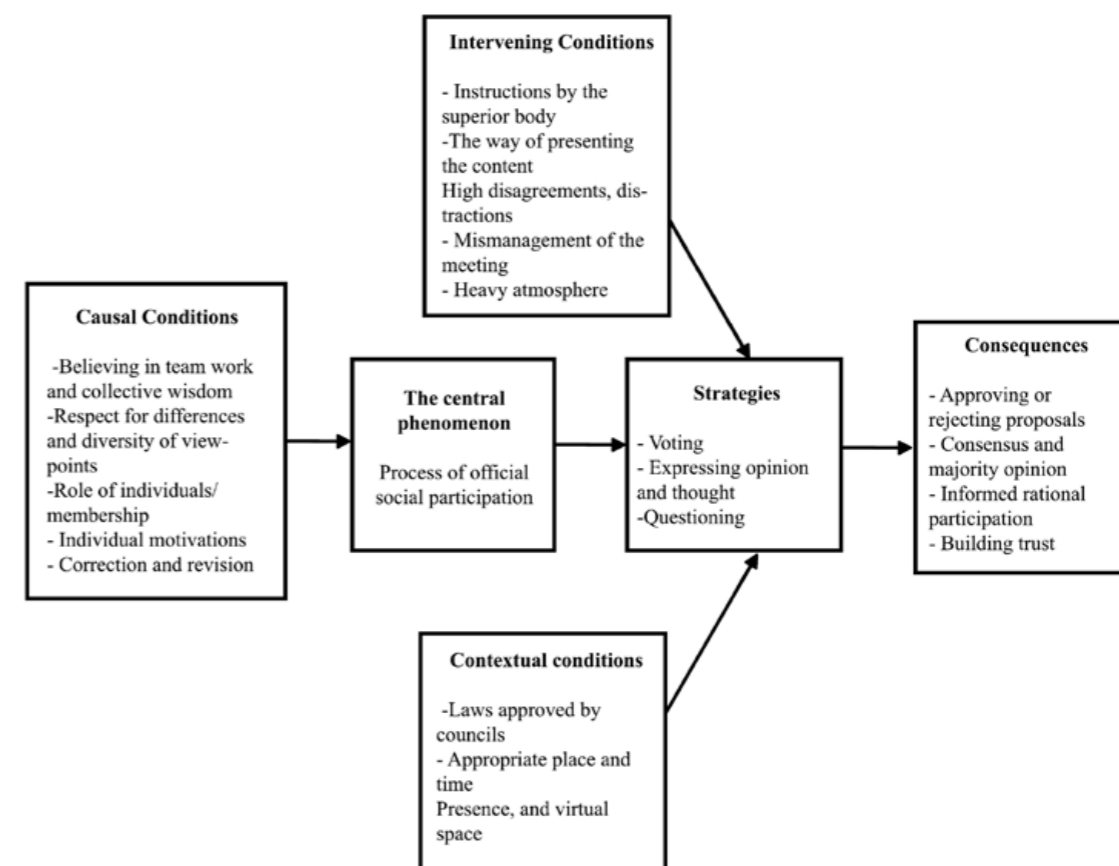


Figure 6. The central coding model of the formal public participation phenomenon

Consequences: Consequences are defined as the output or results of strategies (actions or interactions). In other words, it can be said that the result of implementing strategies is consequences (Strauss & Corbin, 2016, p. 155). Regarding the participation of citizens in his studies, Inglehart pays special attention to both the nature of transformation and its consequences. The final result of repeating the consequences of participation is a change in the social foundation and a change in governance (Inglehart, 1994, p. 152). The remaining 4 categories are those that indicate the consequences of the strategies: approving or rejecting proposals, reaching consensus and majority opinion, informed or rational participation, and building trust. All the above content can be displayed in the form of a diagram and a conceptual model in the form of Figure 6.

Third Stage: Selective Coding (Theory Generation)

The direct observation of the collective behavior of the people of the Sarshur neighborhood revealed that the formation of voluntary groups and institutions plays an important role in shaping formal and structured public participation (Przeybilovicz et al., 2022, p. 23). The formation of these institutions and the voluntary activity of people in them leads to the phenomenon of official public participation of the people of the neighborhood, whether it is due to the belief in teamwork and collective wisdom (Ostrowski, Woolley, & Haan, 2022), or due to reasons such as individual motivation of people or membership and acceptance of social roles (Mutopha & Zhu, 2022, p. 2). Respecting the differences or reforming and revising the urban environment (Katika et al., 2022) can always be distinguished by three types of strategies on behalf of people in the matter of participation.

The first strategy is to vote on a specific issue (Kayran & Nadler, 2022, p. 206); the second strategy is to express opinions and thoughts on the topics discussed (Galimberti, 2022); and the third is to ask questions about the topics under discussion (Glimmerveen, Ybema, & Nies, 2022). In this process, to achieve the result, a single topic is selected for voting, expressing opinions, and questioning, and public participation based on dialogue is always limited to a single topic (Quick and Bryson, 2022), so having a topic is a deep concept that connects strategies in a larger theoretical framework. Therefore, the formal public participation process of the people of the Sarshur neighborhood can be proposed as a special form of topic-based theory. The contextual conditions for the emergence of strategies based on this topic-based model can be found in the laws approved by councils, the presence of members, and the existence of suffi-

cient time and an appropriate place. At the same time, cyberspace, in addition to the role of communication and information, is a context and a platform for participation (Lagard & Hoik, 2022) and, accordingly, for participatory topic-based strategies. Broad extra-local issues such as the interventions, orders, and priorities of upstream organizations, including the municipality, as well as local and internal issues such as distractions, heavy atmosphere, improper management of the meeting, and the way of presenting materials, are among the most important interfering factors in these strategies, which can affect the consequences of topic-based strategies. Formal public participation with topic-based strategies, in the event of no interventions, results in consequences such as the approval and rejection of measures on a specific issue (Kiss et al., 2022), achieving a consensus or a collective decision, informed and rational participation of members (Optiz, Pfeifer, & Gies, 2022), and finally building trust between people and the institutions involved (Canel, Brandiarian, & Murphy, 2022).

Conclusion

It can be concluded that public participation is a complex social phenomenon. Simplifying and limiting this phenomenon to purely economic participation or limiting it to a questionnaire in urban development plans ends up as rhetorical and worthless participation. In this article, the process of public participation realized in the Sarshur neighborhood through the social council of this neighborhood is investigated. This study determined that the official public participation of the people in the neighborhood follows a topic-based grounded theory, which can be a grounded-base model. This model tells us that in order to apply official public participation in the neighborhood in all dimensions of development, it should be noted that the process of formal social participation in Sarshur neighborhood is very new, and currently it is applied only through the neighborhood social council with limited powers. The governance atmosphere of Mashhad city is still governed from a top-down viewpoint; therefore, in order to attract the official social participation of residents, it is necessary to pay attention to the grounded-base model prepared in this article, which is built into the current governance atmosphere of Mashhad city. Throughout this article, we use the term "theory," which refers to theory in grounded theory methodology. Grounded theory is a title that Strauss and Corbin labeled for a theory extracted from a specific context. Thus, this theory is extracted from specific data and context (here, Sarshur neighborhood) and is not applicable to other places

(here, other neighborhoods). In order to apply this theory to other localities and the surrounding context of the holy shrine in Mshhad city, it must be turned from a substantive theory to a general one, which can be a title for another article. In connection with the present issue, the following suggestions are made, which can be used for further papers:

- Evaluating the topic-based grounded theory in other neighborhoods around the holy shrine in Mshhad city to generate a general theory in the field of public participation of the residents of the surrounding context of the holy shrine.
- Applying the topic-based grounded theory as grounded-base model in the administration of Sarshur neighborhood, especially by the facilitation office and the neighborhood council.
- Identifying the process of informal public participation in the Sarshur neighborhood and presenting a grounded theory about informal public participation.

*Esmail Kalate Rahmani, PhD
Department of Art and Architecture
Islamic Azad University of Kerman, Iran
rahmani.abs@gmail.com*

*Mina Ramezani, PhD Student
Department of Architecture
University of Palermo, Italy
mina.ramezani@unipa.it*

*Elnaz Khalili, PhD Student
Faculty of Arts and Architecture
Department of Urban Planning
Islamic Azad University of Mashhad, Iran
elnaz.khalili7@yahoo.com*

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