



Explaining the ecological citizenship approach in promoting environmental health (Case study: district 1 of Tehran metropolis)

Hosseini, A^a, Maroofi, M.,^b Parizadi, T^{c, 1}

^a Master of Urban planning, Azad University, Qazvin, Iran. (and CEO of Aso Shahre Midia (ASM) Consulting Engineers)

^b MSc of Social Policy, Allameh Tabataba'i University, Tehran, Iran.

^c Assistant Professor, Department of Human Geography, Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran.

Research Article

Extended Abstract

Objective: Tehran metropolis as the largest metropolis in Iran has environmental problems such as air pollution, waste segregation, traffic, reduction of natural spaces, the occurrence of chronic diseases and The formation of ecological citizenship in the metropolis of Tehran is one of the important approaches to urban environmental protection that can help improve the root and long-term environmental issues and promote the environmental health of the metropolis. The use of participatory approaches in the form of local communities to promote environmental health is a radical response to solving the environmental issues of metropolises. Ecological citizenship as the latest approach to citizen participation in the field of urban environment plays a critical role in achieving the health of the urban environment at the level of metropolitan areas. The main purpose of this study is explaining the ecological citizenship approach in promoting urban environmental health indicators in the neighborhoods of district one of Tehran.

Methods The apply research method is quantitative-survey, the data were collected by questionnaire. The statistical population includes the residents of 26 neighborhoods in area one of Tehran metropolis, which according to the latest statistical data, has a population of about 450,000. According to the 2016 census of the Iran Statistical Center, the population over the age of 18 in this area was equal to 487508, which was calculated by the Cochran's formula, was 383, which was distributed in a quota ratio to the population over the age of 18 in each neighborhood. In the data analysis method, graphs, tables and descriptive statistical indicators were used, and in the inferential section, hypotheses and questions were analyzed using statistical tests such as one-sample t-test and Pearson correlation test. Finally, multiple regression test was performed to determine the contribution of each variable in explaining the dependent variable.

Results: The results show that the neighborhoods of the region have a relatively good situation in terms of two variables of ecological citizenship and promotion of urban environmental health. The results also show that the ecological citizenship index has a positive correlation with all dimensions of the urban environmental health promotion index, except for two dimensions of social participation and activity in neighborhood charities, the significance of which is more than 0.00, and their significance is equal to 0.000. Finally, the regression model shows that the variables of ecological citizenship explain the variable of improving the health of the urban environment. Ecological participation with 0.616, ecological belief with 0.303 and ecological awareness with 0.133 have the highest value in explaining the variable of improving the health of the urban environment.

Conclusion: The present study showed that the improvement and strengthening of ecological citizenship indicators in the inhabitants of urban neighborhoods lead to a joint action in the protection of the local environment and as a result, the health of the urban environment is achieved. It can be concluded that the most important strategy to promote the health of the urban environment is to strengthen ecological citizenship indicators, which can implement the slogan "prevention is better than cure".

Keywords: Ecological Citizenship, Participation, Environmental Health, Tehran Metropolis.

¹ Corresponding author at: Kharazmi University, Tehran, Iran, P.C: 1571914911. E-mail address: tparizadi@khu.ac.ir (Parizadi, T).

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