

# The Need of Green Space (n-Green) among French and Indonesian Urban Dwellers

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This study was about to compare pro environmental perception in a developed country (France) and a developing country (Indonesia) in attempt to draw psychological profiles on Green Psychology, thus revealing the need for green space (n-Green) in public spaces to fulfill psychological needs. 356 French from 7 cities and 809 Indonesians from 9 cities participated in the study. All the participants were given the G-PubS/V-ALPs to measure individual perception of green factor in public places in satisfying their needs in three different ways :1) for mental development, 2) for social interaction, and for 3) physical health. A high n-Green score indicates a great need for green space.

The main hypothesis is that there is a significant difference on the need for green space (n-Green) between Indonesians and French. Results indicate that n-Green scores are higher among Indonesians. Findings show that most Indonesians use public spaces for physical health while French prefer to use them for mental development and social interaction. Indeed their perceptions strongly affect their n-Green score, as indicated by the determination coefficient ( $R^2$ ) of each human perception variable of Mental development ( $R^2=0.926$ ), Physical health ( $R^2=0.902$ ), and Social interaction ( $R^2=0.869$ ).

Additional analysis also found that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) affects both societies as revealed in correlations between n-Green and Type of Mobile Communications ( $r= -0.225$ ;  $p<0.01$ ), number of mobile accounts ( $r= -0.064$ ,  $p<0.05$ ) and Frequency Accessing Internet ( $r= +0.178$ ;  $p<0.05$ ). It can be concluded that the more accounts one has, the more one needs green space to satisfy psychological

needs. By contrast, the more advanced the type of mobile communications devices one has and the more frequently one accesses the Internet the less one needs green space.

ANOVA has also been used to detect differences between and within groups/sub groups in both societies. These differences include Gender, Nationality, Marital Status, Religion, Country of Origin, Residency, Field of Study, Internet Access, Occupation, Job Position, Organizations, Activities, Color Preference, and perceived function of public space. Some variables show the same results for the most in-need and the least in-need groups in both countries, but some show the opposite. Differences among the French populations are not considered to be different among Indonesians and vice versa. There are differences between the people of Northern and Southern France in regard to their n-Green level and their perception of public space for mental development and for physical needs. However there are no differences between the two groups regarding social interaction. There are also differences between all groups regarding city scales, the exceptions being Medium City and Small City, a phenomenon which could be explained by the effect of city density.

## Keywords

*Need of Green space (n-Green), Green in Public Space (G-PubS), Verte Appliquée aux Lieux Publics (V-ALPs).*

## Reference

Halim, D.K. (2011). *Human Perception on Green Psychology in Public Spaces: A Comparative Study between French & Indonesians living in the Cities*. Sarbucken-Germany: Lambert Academic Publisher.