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STUDIES

Does Urban Consciousness Help Understand The Citizens' Role in Planning?

DİLEK BEYAZLI & ŞİNASİ AYDEMİR

Faculty of Architecture, Department of Urban and Regional Planning, Karadeniz Technical University, Trabzon, Turkey

ABSTRACT *Planning theories and concepts have been evolved from the classical planning to post-modern planning. Which planning theory is appropriate to which community under which circumstances is still a matter of debate to be accentuated, particularly in developing countries. However, planning practice in Turkey is based on comprehensive planning theory, which is a bureaucratic and top-down approach. On the contrary, the contemporary planning approach espouses participation of the local citizens and locale. Public participation as a planning tool has not yet taken its place in Turkish planning rules and laws. So, public participation depends on the goodwill of local planning authorities and is practiced at a limited level. Having limited participation should be closely related with the quality of participants, recognition of planning site or community, awareness of problems of that community and the level of being. So, the following assumptions are of interest of this paper which is thought to be important in planning. Whether urban consciousness is a possessed merit or acquired afterwards, could citizens be enlightened in this matter. Whether being urban and having urban consciousness contribute to the solution of the urban problems through participation in the planning and plan-implementation processes. Whether the level of being urban is similar throughout the community or in the city. Whether being urban is related to the place where people live and to their social status, and if yes, whether being urban could be mapped/charted. Elaboration on the above assumptions/ questions is the essence of this paper and the analytical parts of the study will clarify them.*

1. Introduction

Spatial planning with a new look is extremely important in point of laying claims that make citizens become part of the process as stakeholders guided by community values who find themselves in visions and objectives of the community (Ersoy, 2007, p. 165).

In the participatory planning approach, it is anticipated that all community sections will take part; however, it is not clear how to realize this. In present-day cosmopolitan communities, it is difficult to achieve real participation. Nonetheless, it is not clear at what stage and level the stakeholders take part in the planning process. There are some stakeholders who are not organized (like NGOs) and stay out of the decision-making process, too. How this unorganized part of community should be represented and how their advantages should be advocated are not clear in the above process (Gedikli, 2007, p. 271).

It is expected that the more democratic and educated individuals and communities can willingly supervise and observe the planning process and implementations of local authorities by expressing their opinions on their living environments and living standards.

Caring communities' and individuals' desires, fancies and living environment to interpolate him/her among planning actors created new concepts emerging from participatory planning approach, cooperation and governance.

The participatory planning approach has been experimented with at different scales, but the outcomes have not been satisfactory, because of the following:

- projects are not understood and supported by the public
- the rules, methodology and principles of participation are not governed by planning regulations and laws
- the failure in making people conscious of participation
- the desire to reach "ends" in a short time period
- the desire or preferences of rapid and problem-free planning processes
- the negative (tendentious, manipulated) examples

Active participation of all the actors is essential for the success of the process. At this point, the role of the citizen who believes the necessity of participation and who feels an ownership of the city is of paramount importance. If an individual understands well his/her position in the city, if she believes the advantage of having the right to comment on the formation of the environment in which he/she lives and if he/she struggles for this, this means, then, that the process of urban consciousness has started.

Urban planning problems are the concern of macro- and micro-scale planning/plans. But those problems could not be solved completely and partly stay being problem(s) that items from such plans are not appreciated on the level of urban consciousness; sufficiency/insufficiency of methods of social science, architecture, urbanism and economy to discuss the concept.

From the above statements, answer to the following will be given:

- Which factors influence urban consciousness?
- Whose consciousness is aided by planning?
- Whose and why planning?
- How are the interactions between city and citizens, citizens and becoming conscious?
- How can urban consciousness be gained?
- The level of urban consciousness of different groups differs from each other.
- What kinds of individual's attributes influence the level of urban consciousness? etc.

The aim of the study is to highlight the properties/features of consciousness, in general, and urban consciousnesses, in particular, and then relate that to urban affairs such as urban planning and participation in planning processes and implementation.

It is known that urban consciousness is related to many other concepts in the literature. Being responsible to the city, being respectful to the city/city dwellers, state of belonging to the city, city culture, city life, dependence on the city, being a city dweller, etc., are the concepts in the literature which are considered within the scope of urban consciousness. This empirical study also supported these views. It is known that urban consciousness is related to many other concepts in the literature.

2. The Theoretical Context

The concept of "urban consciousness" and many similar concepts are interconnected. In the literature, such concepts are related to the city, city dweller, urbanity, feeling of belonging to the city, place and community attachment, city culture, city life, devotion to the city, etc. Some of the conceptual insights on this matter are elicited by Doolittle and MacDonald (1978), McMillan and Chavis (1986), Chavis and Wandersman (1990), Giuliani and Feldman (1993), Chipuer and Grace (1999), Tittle and Grasmick (2001), Peterson and Reid (2003) and Pretty *et al.* (2003).

According to Hummon (1990), a shared culture of place is most consistent with our findings. We conclude by noting the kinds of contributions that such a culturalist perspective can make us understand the link between the size of place and individual characteristics. Urbanity refers to social, psychological and behavioural characteristics of individuals such as cognitive patterns, values and ways of behaving and interpersonal relationships that supposedly distinguish citizens from others. Most traits usually posited as distinguished urbanities from others do, in fact, seem to covary with size or type of locale, though the causal nature of these relationships is more uncertain (Tittle & Grasmick, 2001, pp. 313–314).

Tittle and Grasmick (2001) examined the six indicators of urbanity, each of which is a factor-weighted composite of several items. The six indicators are deviant behaviour, anonymity, tolerance, alienation, strength of community social bonds and involvement in deviant subcultures. Community social bonds to the larger community are measured with four items: community attachment, perception of community spirit in the area, feelings of "belonging", perception that most people in the community have an interest in people like the respondent.

As Webber (1970, p. 537) points out, the spatial city, its high-density concentrations of people and buildings and its clustering of activity places appear, then, as the derivative of the communications patterns of the individuals and groups that inhabit it.

According to Gans (1970), the planner has only limited influence over social relationships, but he/she cannot determine the intensity or quality of the relationships. This depends on the characteristics of the people involved. The characteristics of the residents can be affected to some degree by subdivision regulations, lot-size provisions, facility standards or by any other planning tools.

> The values, the ways of life, the institutional arrangements and the kinds of activities
> that characterize people living in high-density clusters amidst large concentrations

of buildings have been traditionally quite different from those of people living on farms or in small settlements (Webber, 1970, p. 535).

According to Parfect and Power (1997), in order to be informed that debate and intelligent consideration take place on such issues, it is of course necessary that the participants/*dwellers may have* awareness of processes involved in resolving the issues at hand. This is true for all participants—dwellers as well as professional, layman and expert.

When an individual starts to act responsibly as expected of him/her as a city dweller, he/she will have taken the first step in doing consciously what is necessary for participating in the planning process. At this point, before all else, an individual's level of responsibility is shaped according to his/her social environment, living quality of the city, inner and outer factors that stem from urban culture as well as the personal characteristics and socio-economic status.

Planning is a comprehensive process and its social context must never be undervalued. It should be borne in mind that the consequences of physical planning cause changes not only in the spatial dimension but also in the social dimension, that is, those are unlikely to be sufficient on their own to restore the conditions of cities (Kaplan *et al.*, 2004) such as health, individual behaviour, social fragmentation, so on (Wirth, 1938).

As Giuliani and Feldman (1993, p. 268) state, human geographers are often cited together as evidence of people–place bonds and positive effects on psychological well-being, and the positions differ. As Fried (1982, p. 168) noted, "the sense of continuity is not necessarily contingent on the external stability referring to the working class and the urban neighbourhood environment". Janowitz and Kasarda (1974) include three elements as measures of community attachment: feeling of belonging, interest in the home area and sentiment about leaving (Giuliani & Feldman, 1993, p. 268).

Gerson *et al.* (1977, p. 139) include social ties among the components of attachment, which they defined as "individuals" commitment to their neighbourhoods and neighbours. On the other hand, Unger and Wanderman (1985) consider neighbouring as a super ordinate concept including social, cognitive and affective components, which in turn includes a sense of mutual aid, sense of community and attachment to place. Proshansky *et al.* (1983) show these bonds as an enduring and changeable process related to the construction and maintenance of the identity in a changing social and physical environment (Giuliani & Feldman, 1993, p. 268).

Doolittle and Mac Donald (1978) developed the 40-item Sense of Community Scale (SCS) to probe communicative behaviours and attitudes at the community or neighbourhood level of social organization. The basis of the SCS was what had been called the "critical dimension of community structure" (Tropman, 1969), and it was to be used to differentiate low, medium and high SCS neighbourhoods on its five factors: informal interaction, safety (having a good place to live), prourbanism (privacy, anonymity), neighbouring preferences and localism (opinion and a desire to participate in neighbourhood affairs) (McMillan & Chavis, 1986, p. 6).

As Hébert and Sears (2010, p. 1) state, citizens vary in their sense of belonging to the local community, to the nation. Almost all citizens will feel some sense of attachment to all of these, but each citizen will find his/her primary sense of belonging in one and that may vary among individuals or across groups. Citizens vary in terms of participation and engagement in society. Our concept of citizenship defines to what or whom we give our loyalty, how we relate to other citizens and our vision of the ideal society. The concerns

are not so much with the legal definition of citizenship as with some normative sense of good citizenship.

Four major domains of citizenship are commonly distinguished: civil, political, socio-economic and cultural or collective dimensions (Hébert & Sears, 2010, pp. 1–2):

The civil domain of citizenship refers to a way of life where citizens define and pursue commonly held goals related to democratic/environmental conceptions of society (interms of participation in planning for public). The political domain of citizenship involves the right to vote and to political participation, as a responsible electorate, on decision-making processes of local authority's involvement in planning. The socio-economic domain of citizenship refers to the relationship between individuals merits in the societal context and to the rights of participation in political spaces. The cultural or collective domain of citizenship refers to the manner in which societies take into account the increasing awareness of his/her living environment, so cultural citizenship refers to awareness of a common cultural heritage and common way of life.

The ongoing debate on citizenship makes reference to all or any of these domains so as to deal with issues of citizen's rights and responsibilities, city identity and respecting the others and the city.

What the above statements and contributions can point out is that urbaneness and urban consciousness are products of the environment in which they live/have been living. The Turkish city has been distinguished by a particular set of these characteristics. Yet, depending upon the specific purposes of our examination, not all these characteristics are necessary conditions of urbaneness.

3. The Methodological Context

This study attempted to test whether the above-mentioned concepts and conceptual explanations hold true for the city of Trabzon.

The following assumptions are the main interests of the paper to be clarified empirically.

1. What are the relationships between being a native urban dweller and urban consciousness?
2. Do being a native urban dweller and acquiring urban consciousness have a causal relationship?
3. Is urban consciousness directly related to the living standards and qualities of the environment in which citizens are living?
4. Is the higher urban consciousness related to the higher state of belonging to the localities (neighbourhood, city, etc.).
5. Does urban consciousness become valuable if the individual converts the problems that she/he encounters observes or considers in his daily life into action when she/he participates in the planning process.

3.1 *Study Area*

The city of Trabzon was chosen as the field of work of this study (Figure 1). Trabzon is one of the major of cities of the Eastern Black Sea Region of Turkey. Trabzon, historically, has been a trade centre between Euro-Asia, Black Sea countries and Europe though the Black Sea and the Danube. Since 1990, economic and cultural relations have flourished among

Factor I

Factor II

Factor III

Factor IV

Factor V

Factor VI

Factor VII

Factor VIII
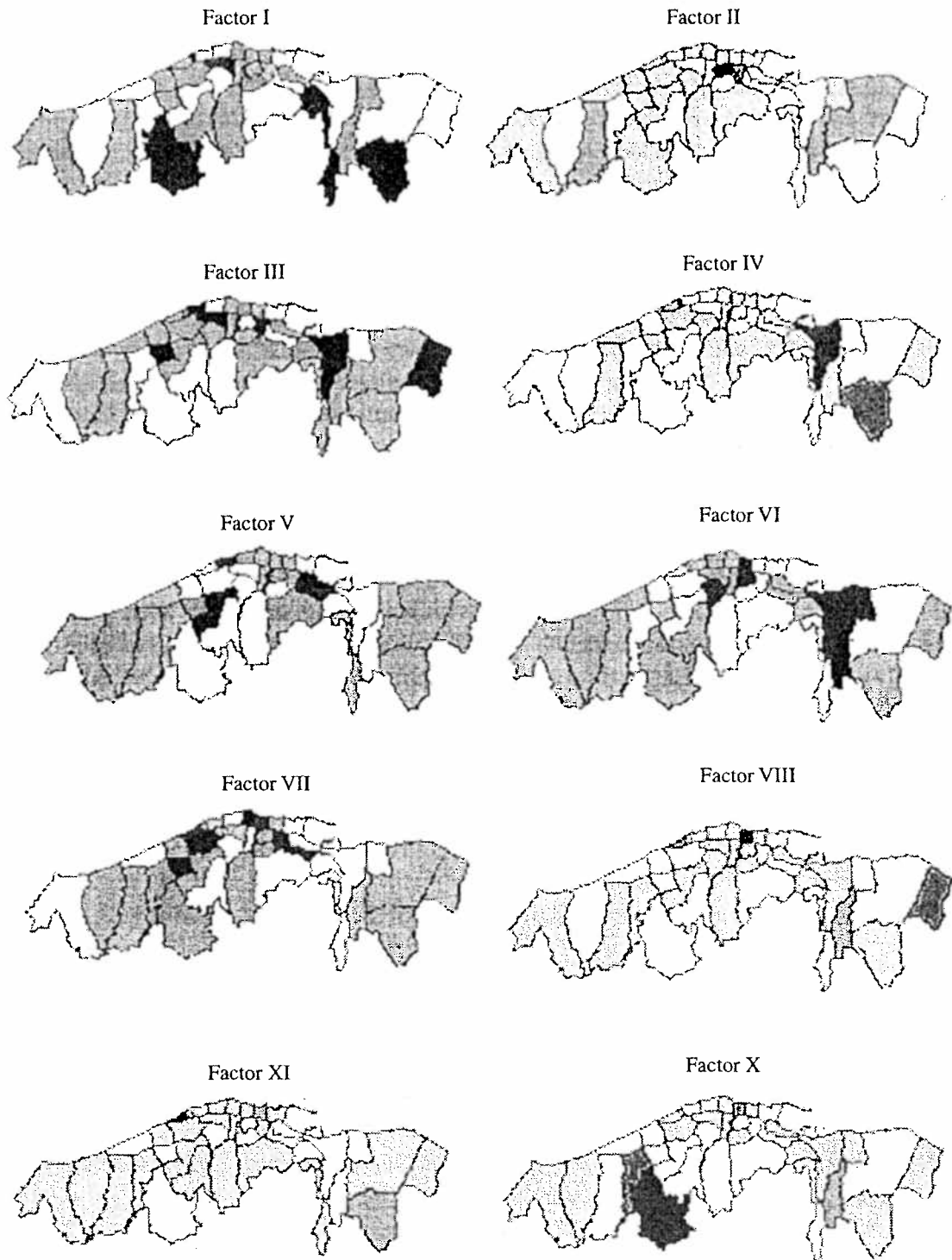
Factor XI

Factor X

Figure 1. Factor surfaces.

BSEC (Black Sea Economic Cooperation) countries. Main economic activities of Trabzon are agriculture, fishery, trade and services, including health care and university education (Karadeniz Technical University).

Socio-economic profile of Trabzon: low level of urbanization or lack of urban agglomeration, large intra-regional disparities and urban residence with employment mean a semi-regular cash income. The region is well known for its very mobile population.

A large number of families have children who permanently reside elsewhere, usually outside the region, in one of the western metropolises, either to study or to work (JICA & DPT, 2000).

Self-assessment of the respondents is usually positive as proved by their attribution of mostly positive characteristics to the Black Sea people. They are so individualistic and so atomized that potential for association between people into small groups is rather low. Also, a dominating leader is usually lacking in the society, and the sense of community and solidary between members of the community is weak. The people are rather indifferent towards urban and community issues. This is an obstacle to sustainable community development, for which the essential condition is effective public and collective participation (JICA & DPT, 2000).

3.2 Method

Fieldwork was carried out in 39 neighbourhoods of the city using a random sampling technique. The appropriate sample size estimated 1372 (significance level 99%, sampling error 3.5%). Distribution of the sample population between neighbourhoods was determined by the ratio of neighbourhood population to city population, then 1372 sample population assigned to neighbourhoods by their respective ratios.

When we look at the analysis of the frequency distributions of the responses to the questions that elicited subjects' socio-economic structures, that 58.4% were male, 41.4% were female and 82.9% were married. Cars were owned by 59.1% of the household and, in general, were primary school or high-school graduates, and the majority were middle-aged.

In order to test the assumptions set earlier, the "questionnaire" technique is employed. Then, the data that were obtained through the questionnaire were analysed by using the Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS v.12.0). A data matrix of 100 variables × 1372 observation constructed from the coded questionnaire. The data matrix was used to extract factors and cluster structures which are well-known multivariate statistical analysis techniques (Kaplan *et al.*, 2004).

"Factor analysis is based on the idea that it is possible to statistically manipulate the empirical relations among several indicators to reveal a common unobserved factor or hypothetical construct" (Riazi, 1999, p. 97). This method can also be used in the measurement of spatial similarities/dissimilarities. In this way, the researcher may seek relationships between the neighbourhood, city, region, etc., and may establish a relationship between the data and the space (Taylor, 1977).

On the other hand, the main aim of factor analysis is to investigate the latent root of the interdependence between the variables. For this reason, factor analysis can also be called as a "data reduction" method which investigates the interrelationships between the variables in the data sets. In this way, by combining the interrelated variables it provides an empirical basis for obtaining fewer but independent variable sets (Balci, 2003).

Principal component analysis (PCA) was chosen as the factor analysis model, which aims to summarize most of the original data by converting them, into initial factors (Table 1). The Varimax rotation method is used, initial factor loadings are produced and the new variables for 10 factors, are named using factor loadings over 0.40 (Tables 2–5). The factor scores are created for each factor and used to display factor

Table 1. Initial factors and Eigenvalues

Component	Initial Eigenvalues		
	Eigenvalue	Variance %	Variance %
1	8,045	18,291	18,709
2	4,578	10,445	29,357
3	3,308	7,659	37,051
4	3,163	7,419	44,406
5	2,886	6,623	51,118
6	2,175	5,336	56,175
7	1,951	4,651	60,712
8	1,871	4,255	65,062
9	1,588	3,922	68,757
10	1,517	3,469	72,284
11	1,452	3,319	75,660
12	1,304	2,989	78,691
13	1,233	2,906	81,558
14	1,001	2,468	83,885

Significance of bold values is that these factors are selected by reason of eigen value or Bold values are selected factors by reason of eigen value.

surfaces (Figure 1). On the other hand, factors are grouped by "Hierarchical Clustering" procedure, which groups individuals (factors) according to their characteristics.

4. Interpretation of the Level the Consciousness by City-wide Factor Analysis

In the PCA that was carried out by focusing, as a general rule, on the factors whose eigenvalues were higher than 1, 14 factors were obtained. However, because a 72% of descriptiveness was achieved with the factors having eigenvalues higher than 1.5, the calculation was limited to 10 factors (Tables 1 and 2).

In factor analysis, the "eigenvalue" is the measure of deciding point of the number of factors that is sufficient to explain the case with component loadings and their various and total cumulative variances. A default eigenvalue is taken as 1.00 to decide the number of factors. After that, remaining components variances (explanation power) are negligible.

Table 2. Names given to factors

Factors	Variance (%)	
Factor 1	18,291	Living in the city
Factor 2	10,445	Social devotion/urban society
Factor 3	7,659	Claims on ownership of the city
Factor 4	7,419	Advising city authorities
Factor 5	6,623	To become urbanized
Factor 6	5,336	Emotional and social possessions
Factor 7	4,651	Responsibility towards the city
Factor 8	4,255	Being organized
Factor 9	3,922	Loyalty in the city
Factor 10	3,469	Participation in the city

Table 3. Factor loadings (F-I)

Variables	Factor loads
Recognition of landmarks at east-west	0.872
Recognition of historical places	0.848
Recognition of official institution	0.828
Participation to urban activity programmes properly	0.643
Recognition of landmarks at south	0.555
Self-contribution to decision-making on urban development	0.467
Use of communication term frequently	0.444
Participating in city council meetings properly	0.429
Those who have strong emotional relations with the city	0.412
Those who have properties that can not leave the city	0.408
Those who go to the cinema at the weekends	0.403
Those who know most of his/her neighbours	−0.453
Staying in the same neighbourhood 6–25 years	−0.557

Table 4. Factor loadings (F-II)

Variables	Factor loads
Friends living in city that individual may require help	0.835
Having strong social relations	0.804
Membership to the neighbourhood beautifying association	0.646

Table 5. Factor loadings (F-III)

Variables	Factor loads
The length of the stay in the city	0.565
Awareness of the insufficiencies in municipal services and being able to complain	0.559
Considering the city as one's home affect	0.507
Feeling alienated in the city when one has no social ties	−0.876

Initially, 14 factors are extracted, but it is assumed that 10 factors are enough to explain the case with 72.28% variance (in most social science researches, almost all variance is accepted to be reasonable). On the other hand, the more the number of factors the more difficult it is to name the factors. In this case, 10 factors are assumed to be reasonable.

The 10 factors are: living in the city, social devotion, claiming ownership of the city, advising city authorities, to become urbanized, emotional and social gains, responsibility to the city, being organized, loyalty and participation in the city.

4.1 *Factor I: Living in the City*

According to Cuba and Hummon (1993), a place/city that has become integrated into one's self-identity is reflected in "I" and "me" statements regarding the place. Such

personal positioning with respect to place can indicate that the person's construction of self-identity has included that place: this one is not the place for me. The physical surroundings in which one chooses to situate one's self can communicate the qualities of self to self or to others (Pretty *et al.*, 2003, p. 275).

As indicated by Pretty *et al.* (2003, p. 275), one's town is not the place "for me" suggests that one's town is not constituted as part of one's self-identity.

Factor I was formed by variables such as the ability to describe the landmarks and focal points of the city, visiting the historical places, supporting the city administration and being self-sacrificing in decisions that guide urban development, participating in city council meetings, believing in the concept of planning, the definition of being a city dweller and feeling well in the city (Table 3).

Factor I, which reflects the characteristics of the "perception of the city space" and the "ability to read the city", which is related to many variables from participation in urban affairs to planning process and which is named in this study as "living in the city" or "well-mannered citizen", accounted for approximately 18.3% of the total variance, and its distribution of the factor space of Factor I is shown in Figure 2. Soğuksu, Gülbaharhatun, Gazipaşa, Cumhuriyet, Yeşiltepe and Çarşı neighbourhoods, respectively, are the ones in which Factor I scores are the highest (Figure 1). The Soğuksu neighbourhood is a settlement area which is far from the city centre. Because of its geographical position, detached and single houses are common, and Soğuksu neighbourhood is preferred by families who have relatively high incomes and who want to escape from the stresses of city life such as Gazipaşa, Cumhuriyet and Çarşı neighbourhoods.
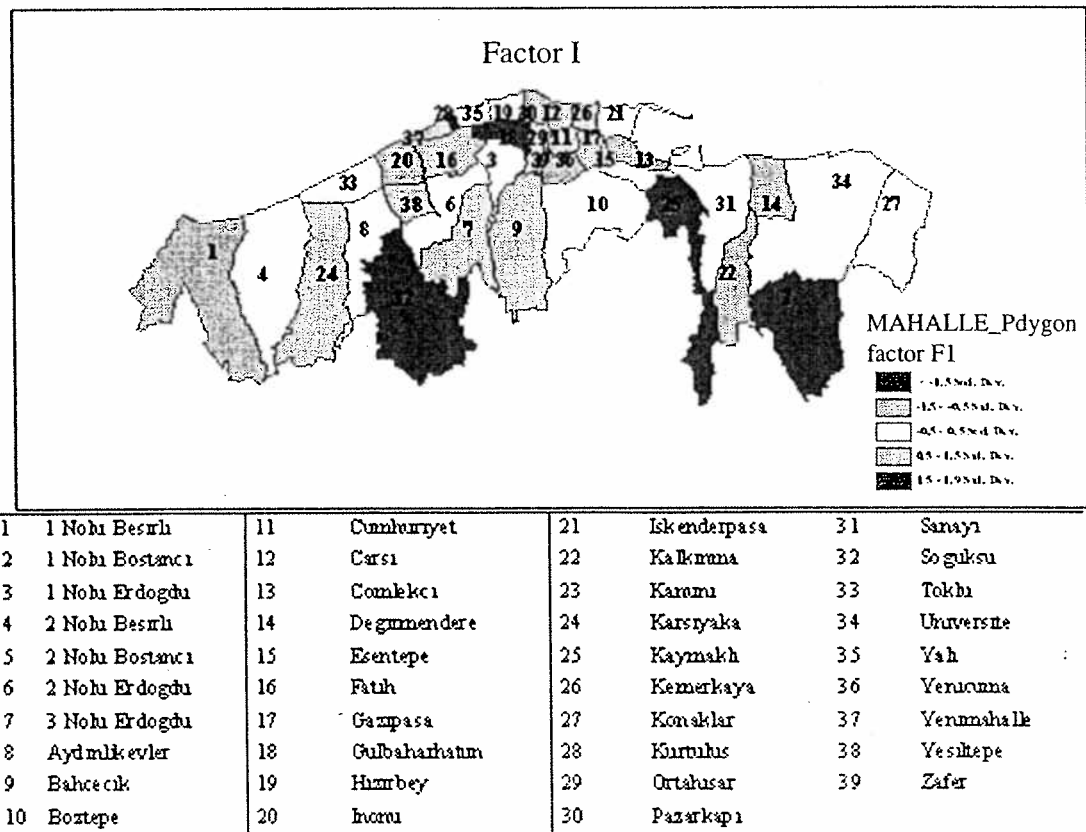

1	1 Nohı Besırlı	11	Cumhurıyet	21	Iskenderpaşa	31	Sanayı
2	1 Nohı Bostancı	12	Carsı	22	Kalkınma	32	Soğuksu
3	1 Nohı Erdogdu	13	Comlekcı	23	Karanu	33	Tokhı
4	2 Nohı Besırlı	14	Degırmendere	24	Karsıyaka	34	Unıversıte
5	2 Nohı Bostancı	15	Esentepe	25	Kaymaklı	35	Yalı
6	2 Nohı Erdogdu	16	Fatıh	26	Kemerkaya	36	Yenıcuma
7	3 Nohı Erdogdu	17	Gazıpaşa	27	Konaklar	37	Yenımahalle
8	Aydınlıkevler	18	Gulbaharhatun	28	Kuruhus	38	Yesiltepe
9	Bahcecık	19	Hızırbey	29	Ortahısar	39	Zafer
10	Boztepe	20	Inonu	30	Pazarkapı		

Figure 2. Factor surface of F-I.

The people living in these neighbourhoods prefer walking in order to avoid the heavy vehicle traffic in the city and they also prefer the milieu in which some landmarks exist near the city centre.. Bostancı 1, Kaymaklı, Değirmendere, Kurtuluş, Bostancı 2, Beşirli 1 and Çömlekçi neighbourhoods are the ones where the factor scores are the lowest. Bostancı neighbourhood, which is far from the city centre, has a character of agricultural settlement. Değirmendere and Kaymaklı neighbourhoods are in the industrial districts where "living in the city" factor is the lowest.

The above-mentioned neighbourhoods are generally populated by those who work in the industrial areas and are preferred because of their close proximity to the workplaces. As far as we understand from the data obtained through the questionnaires, these people do not have much contact with the city centre and therefore the problem of "not being able to read the city" was observed.

4.2 *Factor II: Being Ourselves: Social Devotion*

Consider a community organizer, whose prime task is the creation of a sense of community. First, she/he talks to people in an area to find out their problems and concerns, that is, what would reinforce and motivate them to work together (integration and fulfillment of needs). The community organizer calls for meeting concerned neighbours with an announcement that explains whom the meeting is for. This sets the boundaries for belonging (McMillan & Chavis, 1986).

We have incorporated Bell's (1998) two forms of solidarity, interests and sentiments, to explain voluntary participation on behalf of public goods. In doing so, community sentiments and interests have been aligned with the two solidarities (Ryan *et al.*, 2005, p. 297). One of the most fundamental questions in the life of an individual is "Where do I belong?" Often the answer is related to one's bonds to a certain social community and a particular place. A sense of belonging enables people to orientate themselves in the world. Being part of a community also means intimate bonds to a place, independently of the scale of the meaningful space (Arponen, 2003, p. 52).

"Factor II", which is more an indicator of a transition from "consciousness I" to "we-consciousness", consists of variables such as individual's status in social life, communal relations in the city, membership to the neighbourhood beautifying association, setting up neighbourly ties, knowing the neighbours and loving the city (Table 4). Attaining a "being ourselves", having a sense of community and neighbourly relations are the characteristics of "Factor II".

"Factor II" accounted for 10.5% of the total variance that comes to the fore in Cumhuriyet, Üniversite, Bostancı 2, Karşıyaka, Fatih and Bahçecik neighbourhoods. Cumhuriyet neighbourhood is as old as the city and the rate of home ownership is high, which explains positive scores in terms of neighbourly relations and sense of community. The University neighbourhood (the campus) is a place where the level of education is high and institutional unity is intense. Compared with other neighbourhoods, Karşıyaka and Bostancı 2 neighbourhoods acquired their urban characteristics relatively recently; solidarity, sense of neighbourliness and togetherness, which are the essentials of mostly rural way of life, can be seen rather intensely in these neighbourhoods (Figure 3).

Kalkınma neighbourhood has become a student-populated district due to its close proximity to the university, and that Soğuksu neighbourhood has detached houses can be considered among the reasons for the lack of neighbourly relations.
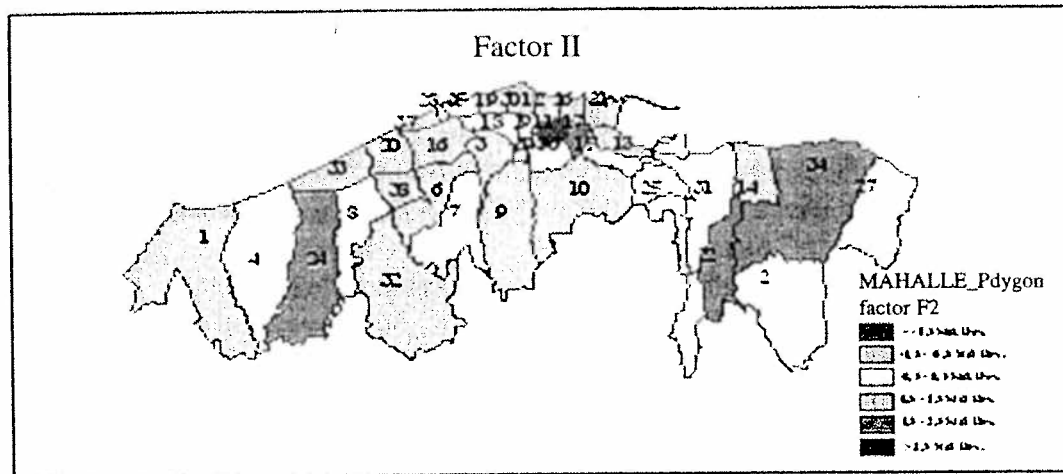
Figure 3. Factor surface of F-II.

4.3 *Factor III: Claiming Ownership of the City*

Bonding and the emotions associated with it are central to the concept of attachment (Altman & Low, 1992). However, unlike sense of community, the cognitions are not related to the social environment of place only (Fried, 2000; Pretty *et al.*, 2003, p. 275).

This factor accounts for 7.7% of the total variance. Variables such as the length of stay in the city, awareness of the insufficiencies in municipal services and being able to express discontent about those loving the city, participating in the city council meetings and considering the city as one's home affect this factor positively. On the other hand, the variables of "feeling alienated in the city when one has no social ties" affect this factor negatively. This factor was named as "claiming ownership of the city" (Table 5).

In Gazipaşa, Kemerkaya, Pazarkapı, Beşirli 2 and İnönü neighbourhoods, "Factor III" scores are higher. Gazipaşa, Kemerkaya and Pazarkapı neighbourhoods are the oldest districts, and Beşirli 2 and İnönü neighbourhoods are upper-class neighbourhoods in terms of social facilities and city services. On the other hand, in Gülbaharhatun, Konaklar, Sanayi, Yalı, Yeşiltepe, Çömlekçi and Kurtuluş neighbourhoods, the "claiming ownership of the city" scores are negative (Figure 4).

4.4 *Factor IV: Advising City Authorities*

Factor IV accounts for 7.4% of the total variance. Variables such as opposition to the plan and planning process, feeling alienated to the city due to not being informed of the decisions taken by the local government, thinking of being a city dweller and living in a city affect this factor positively; factors such as believing the concept of planning and feeling responsible for the development of the city affect this factor negatively (Figure 1, Table 6).

4.5 *Factor V: To Become Urbanized*

According to Gist and Halbert (1961), urban people are the products of their environment; urban environment reflects the interests, activities and values of the people who live in the cities. These are the two sides of urban society: the social and personal. They are
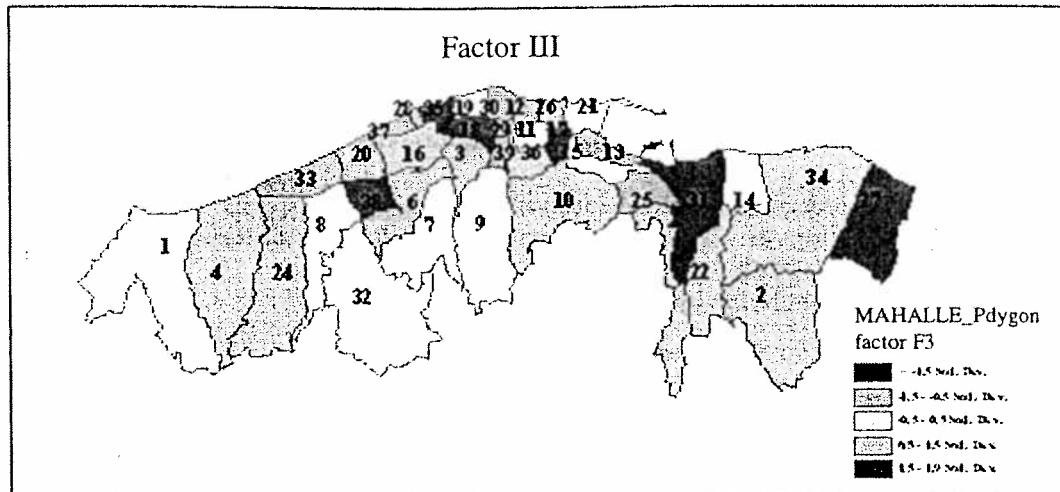
Figure 4. Factor surface of F-III.

complementary, inseparable and interdependent. Each side is complex; the two add up to an extraordinarily complex whole.

Stevenson (2001) states that the origins of the modern concept of citizenship are inextricably linked with cities and urban life since the times of the emergence of citizenship as a cultural and political membership of the Greek polis. Yet, curiously, this has often been overlooked in the contemporary debate about cities. The debate on "urban regeneration", for example, has tended to focus mainly on cities as physical and economic entities. It has generally less emphasis on the ties between the citizen and urban as an artefact, symbolic space, repository of memory and shared meaning, local political system and social ecology with particular networks and dynamic.

As well as the city dwellers' desire to participate voluntarily in the planning studies of the city administration, this factor shows that city dwellers should believe in the necessity of organization for institutional and administrative purposes. The variables of the "level of sensitivity of city dweller's behaviours" (warning those who spit, throw rubbish around the sea, make noise, smoke in the forbidden areas and harm the green spaces), "being alienated to the city as a result of not being informed about urban matters/activities" and "to become urbanized" make up Factor V, accounting for 6.6% of the total variance (Figure 1, Table 6).

4.6 *Factor VI: Emotional and Social Gains*

Neighbourly relations should be positive; no benefits, but many social and emotional costs, result from life in an atmosphere of mutual dislike or coolness. Beyond this point, however, the intensity of relationships should not be a subject for planning values. Whether neighbours become friendly, whether they remain friendly or whether they are only polite to each other should be left up to the people who come to live together (Gans, 1970, p. 507).

McMillan and Chavis (1986) extended the concept to include emotional safety derived from membership, the sense of belonging and identification with the community of interest, personal investment in the community leading to stronger bonds and some kind of common symbol system, which unite a community. In addition, the authors suggested

Table 6. Factor loadings (FIV–X)

Variables	Factor loads
Factor IV	
Those objecting to the process of development planning or plan amendments	0.829
Those feeling alienated from the city due to not being informed about the decisions taken by the local government	0.561
Those thinking to be a city dweller as living in a city	0.425
Those feeling responsible for solving urban problems	−0.414
Those having confidence in planning	−0.589
Factor V	
Those warning the people who contravene urban behaviours	0.916
Those feeling alienated from the city as a result of not being informed about urban activities	0.590
Those using communication sentences frequently	0.506
Factor VI	
The people who do not want to leave from the city because of its social environment	0.885
Those going to cinema at the weekends	0.514
Those having strong emotional bonds with the city	0.498
The people who do not want to leave from the city as they have the urban culture	0.447
Factor VII	
Those playing sports regularly at the weekend	0.767
Those assuming the responsibility at solving urban problems	0.744
Those considering the city as one's own home	0.426
Factor VIII	
Those communicating well with the people who have their own socio-cultural structure in the city	0.848
Those working in foundations or non-governmental organizations	0.680
Those being aware of the rights of city dwellers	0.553
Factor IX	
Those not thinking to leave from the city	0.843
Those whose length of stay in the neigbourhood is 5–10 years	0.578
Those making self-sacrifice their own rights for urban development	0.430
Those being aware of the rights of city dwellers	0.405
Those visiting to the historical places frequently	−0.412
Factor X	
Those visiting to the historical places frequently	0.838
Those considering the city as one's own home	0.617
Those visiting to the historical places frequently	−0.445

that the more people interact, the more likely they are to form close relationships. As this interaction becomes more positive, the bonds become stronger. So, community's success and its current status increase. Those who give time and effort to community organizations and events will be more concerned about seeing the positive effects of these events than are those who have not been involved (Obst *et al.*, 2002, p. 89).

Factor VI is characterized by variables such as not being able to leave the city because of one's social ties with her/his environment, going to the movies at weekends, emotional bonds with the city (feeling calm, comfortable, free and in a friendly environment) and having a feeling of ownership of the city culture, which can all be called emotional and social gains of the citizens (Figure 1, Table 6).

4.6 *Factor VII: Responsibility to the City*

The roles taken up to get involved and to help to solve the city problems, considering the city as one's own home, active involvement in foundations and associations other than in fellow countryman associations, feeling responsible to the city and complaining and remarking about the problems in municipal services can be called as the factor of "responsibility to the city" (Figure 1, Table 6).

4.7 *Factor VIII: Being Organized*

According to McMillan and Chavis (1986, p. 10), the sense of belonging and identification involves the feeling, belief and expectation that one fits in the group and has a place there, a feeling of acceptance by the group and a willingness to help the group. It may be represented in the reciprocal statement "It is my group" and "I am part of the group".

> Personal investment is an important contributor to a person's feelings of group membership and to his or her sense of community. Personal investment places a large role in developing an emotional connection (such as in home ownership) and will be considered again (McMillan & Chavis, 1986, p. 10).

Variables such as an individual's status in the city, her/his level of relations with other people, active involvement in foundations and associations other than his/her fellow countryman associations, his/her awareness of the rights of city dwellers and participating in social programmes in the past few years fall under the factor of "making a social environment and organization" (Figure 1, Table 6).

4.8 *Factor IX: Loyalty to the City*

In Relph's (1976, p. 34) work, the relationship becomes obvious when she/he stresses that people are their place and a place is its people. Here, the concept of place refers to a politicized, socially conducted environment with the acknowledgement of underlying processes and structures. When a place is viewed through experience, belonging, sense of place and meaning characterize the interplay of the people and the place (Arponen, 2003, p. 53).

Fried's (1963) famous study of the interaction of a working-class community with its local environment in Boston's West End is a case in point. Fried found what he called a "sense of spatial identity", related to feeling of social group identity, in the attitudes of local people towards their environment and the places within it. He contrasted his feeling of identity or attachment to the settings of a particular territory with the typically selective and individualized middle-class use of space (Fried, 1963).

Territoriality is established through boundaries, rules, people, social processes, communication and places. To reach beyond the visible territorial order of societies and communities we have to be able to "read space", and furthermore, we need to become sensitive to everyday life experiences. Especially when focusing on localities as meaningful places, ways of communicating and reproducing territoriality other than formal institution-tied ones should also be examined. For example, territorial awareness

and consciousness among the people may arise and be reproduced in everyday conversation among people. (Arponen, 2003, p. 46)

"Not considering leaving the city", "the length of stay in the neighbourhood', "renouncing some rights in decisions that guide the city" development, "being aware of the rights of citizens/ city dwellers" and "the length of stay in the city" have positive effects. "Factor IX" which accounts for 3.9% of the total variance is the variable of "having a relationship with the city space"–"devotion to the city" (Figure 1, Table 6).

4.9 *Factor X: Participation in the City Affairs*

According to Giesen and Eder (2005, p. 5), if citizenship is viewed from the perspective of civilized society, it refers to a practice of participation in common affairs and of public debate about political issues. This model considers citizenship not as a matter of formal right or entitlement, but as a practice of active participation in which different individuals engage to a varying degree. Strong institutions are necessary to make participation work, namely a polity that demands loyalty to the common cause to be realized through the participation of all.

"Factor X", which is affected positively by the variables of "active participation in urban planning processes" and "considering the city as home", can be called as "participation in to the city affairs". Variables such as "visits to the historical and touristic places in the past years", "not being able to leave the city because of being a property owner in the city", "having an urban culture" and "being alienated to the city because of not being informed of the decisions taken by the city administration and of the city activities" affect the factor negatively (Figure 1, Table 6).

5. Determining the Level of Urban Consciousness in Neighbourhoods by Weighted Factor Scores

The "weighted factor values" were obtained by multiplying the factor values (scores) that were obtained through the analyses with the factor's ratio of explanation of the total variance. This process was repeated for 10 factors and at the end all values were added up and the "weighted total factor value" was obtained. In this way, a factor score for each neighbourhood was calculated. The spatial distributions of the total factor values of urban consciousness are shown in Figure 5.

It is quite interesting that the first two neighbourhoods, Çömlekçi and Zafer neighbourhoods where the levels of urban consciousness are low, are in the city centre. The functional structure and texture of Çömlekçi neighbourhood have changed after the opening of the Sarp (Georgian) border gate, and Zafer neighbourhood has an insufficient infrastructure for social facilities. Quality of living is the lowest in these two neighbourhoods.

Because of the relations that have not been established between the space and its user, it was an expected finding that the level of urban consciousness was low. The responses elicited by the item in the questionnaire "In which neighbourhood would you want to live?" showed that Beşirli 1 neighbourhood is the most preferred one. This neighbourhood is known as one of the prestigious neighbourhoods in Trabzon. However, it is an isolated place populated by the upper income group, a place without any neighbourly relations and therefore the level of urban consciousness is the lowest.

Figure 5. Factor surfaces of urban consciousness.

By using the factor scores, a hierarchical cluster analysis was performed. While the first cluster was between Factors 7 and 9, Factors 3, 6, 4 and 8 were later added to this cluster (Figure 6). Responsibility to the city, devotion to the city, feeling of ownership to the city and the emotional and social gains are in the social dimension of the city; inspecting the

Figure 6. Clustering of factors (dendrogram using average linkage).

city, city organization and participating in the city are in the administrative dimension and living in the city, social devotion and to become urbanized are in the values dimension.

The clusters of the factors resemble the process that is defined in Figure 7 as "the process of individual's finding the truth and reflecting it to his actions". The cycle of perception–thought–behavior–right action and the cycle of responsibility–devotion–claiming ownership–emotional and social gains (inspection, organization, and participation), living in the city and to become urbanized, which were formed as a result of cluster analysis, contain similar findings (Figures 7 and 8).

The first cluster shows the relations that are established with the city in the gains of perception and thought. In this dimension, the individual who has a feeling of belonging for the city will develop a feeling of ownership to the city and will feel responsible for the city. While these factors are effective in the thought dimension, the individual only contributes to the city at the stage of putting his thoughts of being a city dweller into action. The organization, participation and inspection factors are important when the individual is putting his thoughts into action.
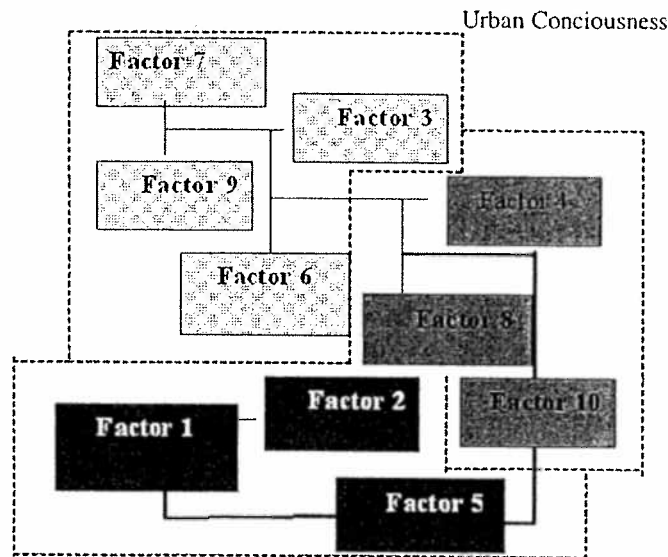

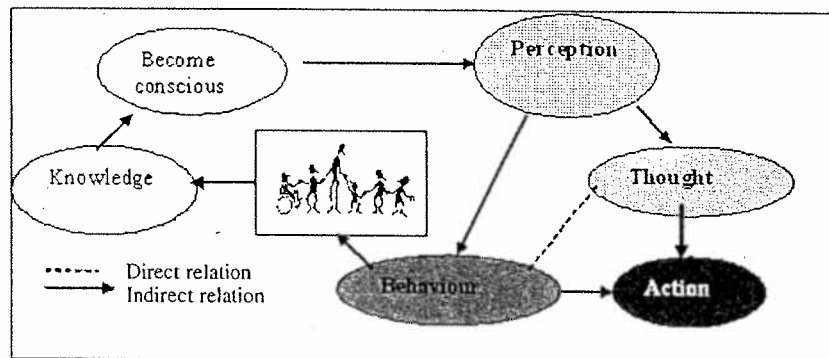**Figure 7.** Clustering and grouping of urban consciousness.

Figure 8. Cycle of becoming conscious of an individual.

The last stage for an individual who has realized all these is to form groups in the city and to perform a sound action by way of acquiring well-mannerism and "we-consciousness". At this point, it is possible to observe how effective the factor of "becoming a city dweller/showing citizen's behaviour' is. The process in Figures 7 and 8 shows an agreement with each other.

For urban consciousness, first becoming conscious in the perceptual and intellectual dimensions and then changing this consciousness into action becomes important.

5. Conclusion

The objective of this paper was to understand citizens' willingness to participate in urban issues, and if so, whether citizens were aware of what has been happening in their living environment and whether they are satisfied with those.

Eliciting citizens' personal attributes such as consciousness, awareness and responsibilities towards their living environments (neighbourhood, city) and philosophical bases of urban consciousness was done through literature and a field study has been conducted.

It was found that the findings of the study are supportive of, and complementary to, the findings of the related literature.

Urban consciousness is an abstract concept that has many measurable components and these components can be associated with the milieu in which we live. In conclusion, the empirical study carried out in Trabzon has revealed that the distribution of consciousness of the people within the urban areas is not uniform and variations between individuals and neighbourhoods have been demonstrated by means of factor analyses.

In addition, the findings of the study complement the qualities that are supportive of the assumptions set for in the introduction. Urban consciousness is a merit that is acquired in time; the more the length of stay in the same neighbourhood, the higher the urban consciousness.

Living in the city for a long time and urban consciousness have causal relations; outer/neighbourhoods are mostly settled by newcomers/migrants who are not much involved in city affairs as those in the older neighbourhoods.

Higher consciousness is not much related to the citizens' status; participation in the planning process and other city affairs becomes valuable. The findings that were obtained through factor analysis gave statistically reliable results. These are as follows.

The highest factor values of urban consciousness were found in the Kemerkaya, Cumhuriyet and Gazipaşa neighbourhoods, which are the oldest traditional neighbourhoods surrounding the historical city centre (Figure 5).

The factor of "living in the city" reflects the characteristics of the perception and readability of the city which encompasses many components such as participation, urban behaviours, planning and urban gains.

New stimulants are necessary to affect the individual's perception and emotional gain, which should be considered as richness of the individual.

Developing "social devotion" which is explained by variables such as "consciousness", "having a sense of being a part of the community" and "giving importance to neighbourly relations" make up the core of the process of transforming the ordinary individual into a more conscious one. We know that planning has an effect on developing a sense of neighbourhood, not only in terms of the arrangement of physical activities but also in

terms of the arrangement of social activities. To increase neighbourly relations, this approach will increase the sense of devotion and sense of being a part of the community.

To enhance the individual's desire to participate by means of providing advice during the planning processes, the policies should consider it essential to include the opinions of individuals in the decisions taken at the institutional and administrative levels. Acquiring municipal behaviours and being aware of the responsibilities towards the city are effective factors with regard to urban consciousness. The established cultural structure and characteristics of the city are very important for such gains. Those who live in the city and those who will come to the city need to be trained and oriented in this regard.

It is known that those who follow city news through the local media have higher levels of urban consciousness; therefore, the local media could be used effectively in such issues.

In urban society, "consciousnesses", "creating a social environment" and "organization" are parts of the process that develop naturally. Obtaining the rights altogether and contributing to the common sense were declared at the Habitat II (1996) conference. Starting initially from the concept of "urban devotion", every urban society should aim to organize and share responsibilities with others.

If a general evaluation is made, it can be said that lack of urban consciousness is one of the main problems in planning. Instead of creating short-term solutions, it would be more useful to investigate the reasons behind the problems and to create solutions even if this takes a longer time. In this context, it is necessary that the notion of urban consciousness be understood and necessary steps must be taken to improve/strengthen the reflections of each component on the individuals and spaces.

It can be expected that urbanization creates the participatory behaviour which is an urban type of behaviour. Individuals' reactions to the decisions that will affect their lives in the urban life and their level of utilizing the urban services and of organization are indicators of urban consciousness (Güçlü, 2002).

The spatial differences in consciousness, individuals' level of education and social status can be seen in the factor surface maps that were produced based on the results from factor analysis. Contributing to urban events, urban planning and plan applications and extending this attitude from the close proximity of one's house to the whole of the city are the social responsibility of the citizens who are sensitive to the city and who has acquired urban consciousness.

Conscious citizens themselves feel some sort of responsibilities to their living environment, neighbourhood and the city. Conscious people will keep eyes on city affairs by their consultative actions at planning departments' hearings and planning process.

Becoming aware of urban consciousness, sensitive to the city, participate in planning and implementation process is the social responsibility of the citizens.

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