

The influence of the daily live context on the Sense of Place in a neighbourhood

A case study in Noorderpark, Hoogezand

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Supervisor

Bettina Bock

Author: C.C. van der Sluis

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Abstract

The newly merged municipality Midden-Groningen is setting out to tackle the quality of life and welfare problems in the region. A region that on average has more poverty, more unemployment, lower life expectancy and fewer opportunities. This study aims to make a start with the well-being, by focussing on the relationship between the inhabitants and their neighbourhood, because people's relationship to their living environment has an important role in their well-being. This research specifically looks into the influence of the daily life context on this relationship between inhabitants and their living environment, the so-called Sense of Place.

To get data on the relation and daily life context, a survey was distributed among inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. A door-to-door approach was taken to increase response among the inhabitants of the neighbourhood. The data was collected and analysed in SPSS with several tests such as ANOVA, and T-tests. The results showed that only a relatively small group of the respondents feels a (strong) attachment to their neighbourhood. Additionally, the results show differences in Sense of Place, for groups that are higher educated, older groups, and people with a higher income. The neighbourhood of Noorderpark seems to not sufficiently provide activities or possibilities for inhabitants to do what they like in the neighbourhood.

These results suggest that looking into the Sense of Place of inhabitants in a particular place will give some insight into what is lacking in that place. By continuing to look into the relationship between inhabitants and the neighbourhood, the municipality can find bottlenecks and obstacles in that relation. Solving those will create a more liveable neighbourhood, which will influence the well-being concurrently.

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1. Introduction

The newly merged municipality Midden-Groningen is setting out to tackle the quality of life and welfare problems in the region. A region that on average has more poverty, more unemployment, lower life expectancy and fewer opportunities (Ubels, 2020; Midden-Groningen, 2019). In addition, the region deals with population decline and an ageing demographic. Two demographic trends are mostly influencing the ageing of the population, namely increased life expectancy and decreased fertility (Hockey, Philips, & Walford, 2013). North East Groningen is one of the so-called top-shrinking regions (BZK, sd; Meier, 2013) and the population decline in the Northeast Groningen region is expected to decrease up to 16% by 2040 (Bulder, 2017). Both the ageing and the population decline in the region might influence the liveability in the region, as Bulder describes the consequences as closing facilities, vacant buildings, etc. are affecting the perceived liveability (Bulder, 2017). Liveability describes the satisfaction with one's environment, both on the social as the physical aspect. Adding to that liveability relates to the demand by inhabitants that are either met or not, like facilities and services (Ubels, Bock, & Haartsen, 2020).

Dealing with these problems and changes are neighbourhoods such as the Neighbourhood Noorderpark in Hoogezand-Sappemeer, a neighbourhood where problems in the physical environment and socio-economics converge. The neighbourhood consists of many buildings, due for renewal, which date from the '50s and '60s of the last century. Many residences in the neighbourhood are outdated and homeowners, and housing corporations, at times lack sufficient financial resources for renovation and sustainability (Midden-Groningen, 2019; Midden-Groningen, 2020). Residents in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark, more than elsewhere in the municipality of Midden Groningen, deal with unemployment, lower incomes, poverty, debt problems, health issues, nuisance, and use of WMO (Social support Act) facilities (Ubels, 2020).

Different places, like the home and the neighbourhood, influence a person's sense of identity and their quality of life (National Research Council, 2002). Adding to that Rollero & De Piccoli (2010) state that people's relationship to their living environment has an important role in their well-being. For the municipality to overcome the problems and challenges and to improve the quality of life in the neighbourhood, it is important to understand and know what the wishes and needs of the inhabitants are, which helps the municipality to be able to cater to them. These wishes and needs depend on, or are influenced by, people's daily lives and their connection to the neighbourhood they are living in. The wishes and needs might differ per person, as does their relationship with, and their daily experiences in, the neighbourhood as well. For now, the connection to the neighbourhood and the residents' daily lives remain unclear, hence the need for this research.

In the field of geography, it is stated that we as people, through the interaction and social connection to a place, provide meaning to a particular space that then can be considered a place, thus a place is a space that has meaning. People interact and connect with places in different ways and the experience and the attachment to a place by individuals has been researched a bunch. Different concepts and terms have been used, such as sense of community (McMillan & Chavis, 1986), topophilia (Tuan, 1974) and Sense of Place (Jorgenson & Stedman, 2001). Sense of Place is an umbrella term that is generally used to describe the relationship between people and places (Jorgensen & Stedman, 2001). It says something about the meaning a certain place holds to an individual.

People-place bonds or relations are created through daily life interactions (Di Masso, Dixon, & Hernández, 2017). When looking into the daily life of inhabitants, something can be said about how and where inhabitants spend their time. These outcomes are understood to influence the inhabitants' Sense of Place. Tuan (1975) described that the common experiences of life add up to a profound Sense of Place. Furthermore, he explains, that it requires participation and time to get to know a place, which also influences the Sense of Place. In other words, human activity within a place influences the forming

of a Sense of Place (Sampson & Goodrich, 2009). Looking into the daily lives of inhabitants this research aims to investigate behaviours and habits and understand how they influence inhabitants' experience of their living environment.

So while the daily life context influences people's Sense of Place, this in return influences the well-being of people. The newly merged municipality Midden-Groningen is setting out to tackle the quality of life and welfare problems in the region. This research is part of a bigger research by Hiska Ubels, a senior researcher in the chairgroup Living Environment in Transition (LiT) at the Hanze University of Applied Sciences. Ubel's research is the framework in which this research falls. This research will provide knowledge on which her study can be built. She then will be conducting a participatory action research in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark with the residents and directly involved organizations (Ubels, 2020).

The objective of this study is to look into the influence of the daily life context on the Sense of Place of inhabitants in a neighbourhood. For this research a case study is used, the Noorderpark neighbourhood in Hoogezand-Sappemeer. The research aims to find a relationship between the daily life context on the one hand and the experienced Sense of Place on the other. This will give the municipality resources on which they can build their research into the quality of life and well-being of the neighbourhood and add a new perspective to a relatively under-researched dimension in the place literature.

This leads to the following main research question:

“To what extent and how does the daily life context influence the Sense of Place of inhabitants in the Neighbourhood of Noorderpark?”

To answer the main question a couple of sub-questions have been formulated that will help to set up this research and construct a conclusion based on the main question:

Sub-question 1: What are the important characteristics of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood?

Sub-question 2: What is the perceived Sense of Place in the neighbourhood?

Sub-question 3: Which characteristics of the inhabitants influence the Sense of Place?

Sub-question 4: What daily life trends can be found among the inhabitants in the neighbourhood?

Sub-question 5: What daily life activities affect the inhabitants' Sense of Place?

Before Ubels participatory action research can take place in the region it is important to unravel the relation between residents' daily life context and their Sense of Place. This research aims to explain the characteristics of the inhabitants and their daily lives, which in turn might explain differences in inhabitants' Sense of Place, with the case study of the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. For this research, a quantitative research approach will be taken, to calculate connections between inhabitants and their neighbourhood, whilst explaining the influences of demographics and daily life. A semi-structured survey, with open and closed questions, will be used to provide a rich array of information about the inhabitants' demographics and daily lives in the geographical context of the neighbourhood. Besides the concept of daily life, the survey will consist of questions about the Sense of Place and the demographics. All the collected data will be analysed by using SPSS.

The entirety of this research, together with the participatory action research, will show the municipality how important it is to take into account the daily context and in it the individual differences. This research will help provide the municipality with data on the Sense of Place and the

daily life context of inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark, which shows the social relevance. Overall it is important to support upcoming policy with evidence and research outcomes as policy without legitimacy and representation have little chance of success (Nanzer, 2004), which this research will contribute to as preliminary research.

Furthermore, this research is situated in the ever-growing place literature. The already existing place studies often attempt to better understand the relationship between people and place. These complicated people-place relationships have been measured using terms like Place Attachment, Place Identity, Place Dependence and the overarching umbrella term Sense of Place (Ardoin, 2014). Delving deeper into the place literature shows that habitual routines and behaviours that make up the everyday influence the way people value the places they are in (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016). This temporal dimension, how everyday life and experience affect the Sense of Place, has been under-researched in the sociospatial context. Therefore there is a need for greater knowledge of the everyday routine to enhance the understanding of the impact of the daily life on the Sense of Place. This will create a unique contribution to the concept of Sense of Place, to additionally create a concept in which daily lives and Sense of Place become intertwined, which is the scientific relevance of this research.

2. Conceptual framework

This research focuses on understanding the inhabitants' connection with a place. Additionally, this research looks into the embedding of place connection in the inhabitants daily life. Figure 1 shows the model for this conceptual framework. In the multitude of theoretical conceptualizations and empirical approaches within and between different fields, this chapter provides an overview of the literature on the Sense of Place and the concept of daily lives. To aid readability this chapter is divided into those two main areas. They delve deeper into the definition and meaning of Sense of Place, the development and measurement, and the effects of Sense of Place. With the literature it is endeavoured to demonstrate the variability within and between the daily lives of individuals that make up a neighbourhood.

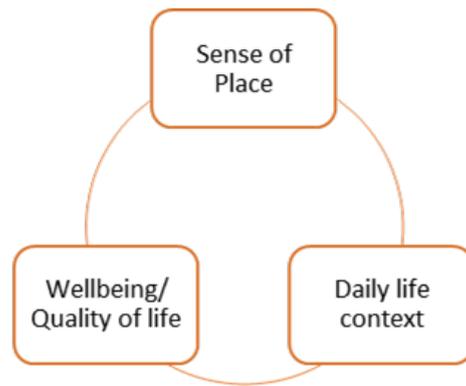


Figure 1: Conceptual framework model

2.1 Sense of Place

As explained in the introduction, we as people, through the interaction and social connection to a place, provide meaning to a particular space that then can be considered a place, thus a place is a space that has meaning. It gets formed by meaning and values that people give to a space, that in itself has no value (Tuan, 1977). A place can be a home, a park, or a region or any part of the globe (Shamai, 2018). Places are not static and are ever-changing partly by the many rhythms of people present in the places (Edensor, 2010). Places exist through people, but people need places to exist as well. Sack (1997) calls the human race 'homo geographicus', which he describes as the concept that humans cannot exist without places and vice versa.

A place and its characteristics influence many different aspects of an individual's life. For instance, the well-being of individuals is majorly influenced by peoples relationship with their environment (Rollero & De Piccoli, 2010). Different places deal with different opportunities and disadvantages. Findings show that quality of life on several domains, such as environmental and social relationships, is better for individuals living in a small town, in comparison to bigger towns and population density affects health and quality of life (Gattino, De Piccoli, Fassio, & Rollero, 2013). Adding to that results show lower levels of psychological health and relational and environmental quality of life due to higher population density (Fassio, Rollero, & De Piccoli, 2013).

The living environment, however big or small, is often the place a person spends a certain amount of time in their daily life. Within this space, you find the home, the neighbourhood and the communities (Nanzer, 2004). The living environment is often where people spend a big part of their life. Some people (like farmers, retired, house moms) spend more time within their living environment than others. Residents that have lived somewhere for a longer period tend to feel more at home in their place. Also ancestral connections to their home influence the idea of feeling at home (Hay, 2009). The place of residence is the place where the building of interpersonal relationships take place, thus an important place for an individual (Gattino, De Piccoli, Fassio, & Rollero, 2013).

What attracts individuals to a place is dependent on many different aspects, and dependent on the different needs for different life stages as well. Overall, neighbourhoods that are considered to be attractive usually contain good housing quality, green places, the area having a good image outward, and availability of amenities (Shamai, 2018).

Meaning of Sense of Place

Similarly to individuals searching for different places that fit with their needs and their wishes, individuals perception of a place differs as well. The relation to, or the meaning of a place is different from person to person. Sense of Place is a concept that is regularly used to measure or map this. In the last couple of decades, there has been a myriad of researches done on the relationship between people and their surroundings and environment. Within the plethora of papers and reports on the Sense of Place, there are many different definitions and meanings given to the concept. This subparagraph looks into these definitions and explanations to demarcate the concept of Sense of Place in this research.

The term Sense of Place has been around for decades while up to now it has been evolved and used in different fields (Kudryavtsev, Krasny, & Stedman, 2012). Over half a century ago Lynch (1960) is considered to be one of the first that coined the words Sense of Place. Then a decade later Tuan (1974; 1976; 1977) focussed on the experiential aspect of the term Sense of Place, by describing the difference between a objective space and the subjective place. In this same paper Tuan also argued that places, same as humans, can have a personality, but that only people can have a Sense of Place. This affective bond between people and place Tuan eventually called Topophilia (Tuan, 1974). At the same time Relph (1976) discerned aspects of Sense of Place, like Place Attachment, which he described as the relationship or tie between people and place.

Two decades ago researchers already stated that there has been a long ongoing debate on the definitions and concepts regarding how people relate to a place (Jorgenson & Stedman, 2001; Hidalgo & Hernandez, 2001). Within these discussions place usually has a positive connotation, and therefore the Sense of Place tends to be perceived as a positive bond between individuals and place (Vanclay, Higgins, & Blackshaw, 2008). This bond or relationship between people and their environment, explained Cross (2001), can be seen as transactional because people are influenced by their environment and vice versa. This bond has been researched frequently and many researchers before them gave their own definitions and explanations on the relationship between individuals and place.

Since the concept has had such a long history in its development within different fields, it has become known or referred to by other names like Place Attachment, topophilia and much more (Cross, 2001). There is the concept of 'rootedness', which is a similar concept to Sense of Place (McAndrew, 1998). Even though there are many different concepts and measurements that are tantamount to Sense of Place, this research will confine itself to the concept of Sense of Place.

More recently, researchers continue to further define the Sense of Place. Song, Wang, Fernandez & Li (2021, p. 1) say it's a "useful construct to understand human perception of place". Here the focus lies on how people understand their surroundings. Nanzer (2004, p. 362) explains the Sense of Place as a concept about the emotional attachment to their living environment, or in her words "the manner in which individuals relate to or feel about the places in which they live". Knox and Marston's (2016, p. 49) definition is closely related to Tuan's (1977) explanation on the experiential aspect of the concept: "a Sense of Place refers to the feelings evoked among people as a result of the experiences and memories they associate with a place and to the symbolism they attach to that place". Gattino et al (2013) describe Sense of Place as a multifaceted and complex phenomenon. Adding to that the writers describe the concept as an affective link with place or environment, which influences the predisposition to remain and where individuals feel safe and comfortable. So there is not a simple definition for Sense of Place, though there are many different ways to measure and study the Sense of Place (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005). The aspects of the connection to a place (attachment), the way a place helps form a person (identity), and how a place provides (dependence) are important aspects of Sense of Place that are of importance in this research.

Sense of Place is influenced by different values, perceptions, and experiences (Shamai, 2018). And since all humans differ from each other and all experiences are different there does not exist a single Sense of Place (Cross, 2001). The concept of Sense of Place is subjective since it has to do with the acts of feeling, thinking, believing, ideologies, and perceiving (Shamai, 2018). The subjectivity of the concept of Sense of Place is what makes a house a home, and a district a neighbourhood.

Sense of Place in the existing literature has been split up into three different subscales, or pillars (figure 2), which are Place Attachment, referring to the human emotion and the development of the bond between a person and a place, Place Dependence, which touches upon behaviour and the suitability of a place in pursuing a person's interest or goal, and Place Identity, which refers to acquiring or adopting beliefs and an identity influenced by their environment and (Nanzer, 2004; Song, Wang, Fernandez, & Li, 2021).

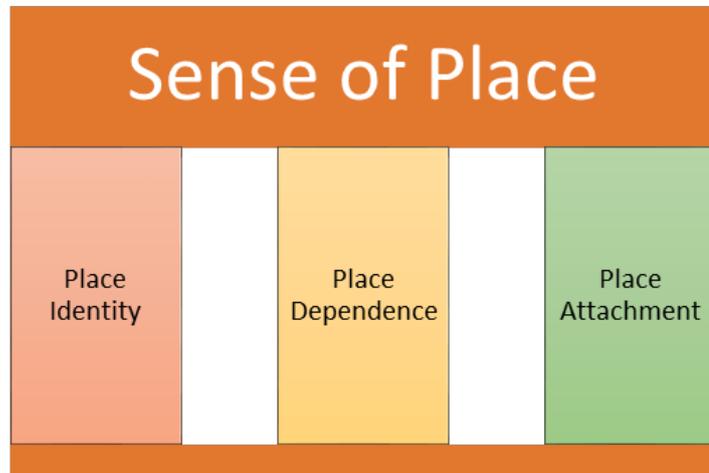


Figure 2: Sense of Place and its pillars: Place Identity, Place Dependence, and Place Attachment

Over the years the concept of Sense of Place has been thoroughly explored. The concept of Sense of Place is used to frame this research. There is made use of the research of Jorgenson & Stedman (2001), in which they considered Sense of Place to be the umbrella concept containing the concepts of Place Identity, Place Dependence, and Place Attachment, which will be explained next.

Place Identity

The first pillar in the Sense of Place construct is Place Identity. Proshansky (1978) explained Place Identity as the part of our identity that relates to place. Place Identity is formed by cognitions of the physical world, like memories and feelings, together with the environmental past of the person (Hay, 2009). Attachments based on personal history with a place are also called biographical relationships by Cross (2001). Personal experiences not only develop an attachment to place, but in turn attachment to places helps to become a part of an individual's identity. Memories and experiences often revolve around locations and people. These take place at home, school, work, and so on. When all added up these become a unique sum that influences the development of an individuals identity (Nanzer, 2004).

These biographical relationships require time to develop and are therefore stronger in communities where an individual has spent more time. Moreover, where Place Attachment can develop over limited visits or a relatively short time of residence, Place Identity takes more time. It requires either many more visits or a long-term habitation within a particular place (Nanzer, 2004). Therefore the assumption can be made that recent movers to the neighbourhood can have diverse degrees of attachment to the neighbourhood, though a strong Place Identity most probably still needs to grow over time.

Place Dependence

The second pillar is Place Dependence. Stokols & Shumaker (1981) explained Place Dependence as the degree of importance cause of its functional value. As Jorgenson & Stedman (2001) showed in their research, where people depend on a place due to the opportunities to realize recreational activities. When a place, in comparison to other potential areas, is more satisfying in meeting the needs and goals for an individual, this influences their Place Dependence (Nanzer, 2004).

People will move to places that they deem liveable, offering a range of amenities and services they need (Ruth & Franklin, 2014). In return, the liveability of a place is strengthened by the extent to which preferences or demands are met (Ruth & Franklin, 2014).

In a similar manner Cross (2001) speaks of amenity migrants, an example of people with a commodified relationship to a place. Though they might arrive for the amenities, their relationship might change over time, but if they continue to relate to the place as a place that can be consumed they are more likely to move to a place with more amenities.

When getting older there is another form of sense of dependence (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016). Getting older means needing another set of services. Through the different life stages, individuals can experience different needs and goals. These preferences and demands vary among the individuals, due to the transition between stages of life courses (Ruth & Franklin, 2014).

This pillar seems to be influential by people's daily activities and life stages, since daily life, activities and different stages of life come with different needs and wishes. For more on the daily life context, see chapter 2.2.

Place Attachment

Many researchers refer to Place Attachment when talking about the Sense of Place. In this research, the concept of Place Attachment composes one of the pillars of the overarching concept of Sense of Place. Hidalgo & Hernandez (2001) describe Place Attachment as an affective bond or link between people and places. Place Attachment is also described as being influenced by long-time emersion in and the acceptance of the cultural system of the place of habitation (Nanzer, 2004), which is in line with the description by Hay (1998) who deems the experience with a place important. The daily life of individuals and their taken activities form the basis through which individuals develop relationships with other individuals, but also their environment, which influences the emotional attachment to a place (Nanzer, 2004).

Development and influences Sense of Place

Many aspects influence an individuals' Sense of Place. Elements such as length of residence, community, age, social background, and education have been identified as influential on the Sense of Place. Adding to that elements of sensing and bonding, which happen over time (Tuan, 1977), have been identified in developing Sense of Place (Hay, 2009). As stated before there is no such thing as one Sense of Place, it is a combination of experiences and interpretations, which differ for every single individual. Places can be sensed differently by different people and groups (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005), because of the different individual circumstances between humans.

The time of residence can be seen as an important factor in the development of Sense of Place. Certain aspects of a living environment start to mean something to individuals when living in the same place for a longer period, other individuals become part of the neighbourhood, shared values begin to represent the uniqueness of the neighbourhood, and in turn, start to become part of the individuals residing there. When a person has been living in the same place for a longer period they start to develop a Sense of Place (Nanzer, 2004). Lewicka (2005) likewise found that long term residence affects strengthening the Sense of Place and the paper by Shamai and Ilatov (2005), also describes a higher attachment to the place of residence with a higher length of residence. Moreover, in research done by Kudryavtsev et al (2012) an education program in the Bronx demonstrated that the development of Place Attachment takes time, as was in line with prior research done by Tuan (1977) and Hay (1998). In another research by Hay (2009) he added the aspect of feeling at home after a long residence, which also influences the Sense of Place.

Though the time of residence has a positive influence on the Sense of Place, moving away and coming back might also have an impact in influencing the Sense of Place positively. Gustafson (2009) stated that when an individual has moved away from a place and later returns, they might experience the place differently after, which influences their relationship with the place. This might bring forth a redefining of appreciation for their home. Therefore more frequent travelling could be associated with a more positive Sense of Place (Ardoin, 2014).

Age seems to influence the development of Sense of Place. In a study by Nanzer (2004) respondents above the age of fifty showed higher levels of Sense of Place than respondents under fifty. These outcomes are in line with the results by Shamai and Ilatov (2005), who found that the older the respondents were the more attached to the place they were, something that Lager, Van Hoven & Huigen (2016), also found in their research.

Another aspect of age is getting older, which is accompanied by different paces in life. These differences of paces, or rhythms, could have consequences on the sense of belonging to the neighbourhood of the older adults (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016). More on rhythms and the possible influence of age on Sense of Place in the paragraph on daily lives.

The community and a strong network within a place can influence the Sense of Place of individuals and influence the time of residence since people want to remain living in an area with a community they like. Hay (2009) has stated that people with developed networks are more likely to remain living in their place of residence than others who have a history of mobility. Adding to that he described the community as a visible aspect that influences Sense of Place (Hay, 2009). Another important detail explained in the research by Hay (2009) is the bigger influence of the quality of community life than the size of community life on the development of Sense of Place.

In a research done by Nanzer (2004), also on the Sense of Place and its three pillars Place Attachment, Place Dependence, and Place Identity, the data shows that women, in comparison to men, have a higher level of Place Attachment and Place Dependence, where men tend to have a higher degree of Place Identity. This difference did not impact the overall feeling of Sense of Place, which is distributed equally among both genders. Similar outcomes were found in another research done by Wartmann (2018) and Purves, where they found no significant differences between men and women.

Demographics such as ethnic and cultural background, which are an example of social and cultural variables, also influence the Sense of Place, both the existence as the intensity (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005). Nanzer (2004) similarly found the racial background to be of influence when measuring Sense of Place. This is in line with what Mehnen, Mose & Strijker (2013) found, namely that the Sense of Place of natives is perceived higher than non-natives.

Where education seems to influence Sense of Place, average income has not been unveiled to be another factor of influence in the development of Sense of Place. In a study by Nanzer (2004) individuals who had attended college appeared to have developed the highest levels of Sense of Place in comparison to the rest of the respondents with an obtained education lower than college. In research in Michigan into the Sense of Place, there was no evidence found that Sense of Place would be positively related to income (Nanzer, 2004).

Sense of Place for many is more than time of residence, gender or education. Aesthetic appreciation of the place has gotten important for one's Sense of Place as well (Hay, 2009). Furthermore, the majority of people living in a place tend to develop an attachment, every person with their unique Sense of Place, but for some their Sense of Place might be limited due to the fact they simply do not like their place of residence (Shamai, 2018), or due to discrimination, not fitting in as a result of religion, skin colour, norms and values, sexual identity.

Effects of the Sense of Place

A positive side effect of the different aspects of Sense of Place, research shows, is that these contribute to behavioural intentions and pro-environmental behaviours (Stedman, 2002; Kudryavtsev, Krasny, & Stedman, 2012). Researchers have suggested that a positive Place Attachment has a positive effect of people wanting to protect and conserve the place they like (Stedman, 2002).

Health wise, studies show that the Sense of Place of older adults influences their health and their wellbeing (Hockey, Phillips, & Walford, 2013). This knowledge is of even more importance regarding the location of this research's case study, and the goals of the entire project, namely the improvement of well-being in the neighbourhood. Hoogezand, and the neighbourhood of Noorderpark, is located in an area dealing with population decline, demographic change, and an ageing society. More on this in the methods chapter.

Measuring Sense of Place

The measurement of the concept is deemed difficult since it is an intangible concept (Wartman & Purves, 2018). Some measures use a ranking procedure in the measurements of Sense of Place (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005). Others measure in an ordinal scale, usually going from the lowest level of Sense of Place up to the most intense meaning of Sense of Place (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005). Shamai and Ilatov (2005) state that most measurements of Sense of Place do not entail the negative feeling towards a place. There is already the presumption that living in a particular place, or having been to a place results in some form of a connection, if only very little. Though research has been done on a bipolar spectrum, from a negative to a positive Sense of Place (Shamai, 2018).

Sensing the environment can be made clear through what respondents like and dislike about their place, and how they become aware of their own Sense of Place (Hay, 2009). For this reason, many kinds of research methods consist of qualitative data to measure Sense of Place. And even though the theory surrounding and about the concept of Sense of Place is relatively rich, the quantitative application of the concept is rather poor (Stedman, 2003). Both the researches by Nanzer (2004) and Jorgenson & Stedman (2001) made use of qualitative research by using statements to measure Sense of Place, which this research will use to construct its survey as well.

2.2 Daily lives

Sense of Place has been well researched in the last couple of decades. Many aspects and influences of and on the concept have been explored, for instance, there has been research done on the negative Sense of Place, Sense of Place and governance, and much more (Mehnen, Mose, & Strijker, 2013). What has been lacking in the research into the Sense of Place is the relation to the aspect of daily lives.

This research focuses on the locale within a place, which Agnew (2002) describes as the setting in which a group of people experiences everyday life. That is the notion of Sense of Place through everyday life (figure 3). Mehl & Conner (2012) describe looking into the daily life context to add a valuable perspective on behaviour and habits. An individual's daily system consists of actions that they do in particular places. Inhabitants might leave in the morning to go to work, others go to school, some might stay at home. When looking at the daily lives of a group, in this research within a neighbourhood, the outcomes will describe the activities and important places in the daily lives of inhabitants. These activities and locations in their daily lives might help in saying something about the Sense of Place.



Figure 3: Interconnection between Sense of Place and the daily life context

So Sense of Place may be related to activity patterns (Lewicka, 2005). Many activities within the everyday life take place within or around the place of residence. And Levebre (2004) spoke about how for many work is a big part of everyday life as well. Local travel patterns, such as for work, are another relevant topic that can help to gain insight into the sensing element of Sense of Place (Hay, 2009). People who are employed have their days filled up, but after retirement the older generation finds new activities, and with that new locations, to structure their everyday lives, something that makes life meaningful and eventful again (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016).

As stated before living in a place for a longer period influences the Sense of Place. But living in a place often means creating habits and structure in everyday life, for instance with work, school, leisure time, etc. Cross (2001) states that Sense of Place is something that is created by individuals through time. Getting accustomed to or making something a habit helps in this process. The Sense of Place is also reinforced by recurring events. Everyday life consists of activities usually in a routinely manner in familiar places (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016).

Daily life methods provide different kinds of information than traditional methods do, and provide a valuable perspective on behaviour and habits (Mehl & Conner, 2012). Adding to that, cognitive mapping has been used as a tool to understand many aspects, including Sense of Place (Powell, 2010). Mapping daily lives can contribute to understanding the Sense of Place in this research among inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. And additionally, it will provide a new branch within the Sense of Place literature.

What is considered a liveable neighbourhood varies among the inhabitants due to the different stages of life course they find themselves in, which come with different needs and preferences (Ruth & Franklin, 2014). Different ages and different life stages ask for different amenities. The place of residence might mean different things to individuals for this reason, as their dependence might have changed due to their (reduced) mobility. And though globally there is an agreement about the minimum requirements for liveability, when it comes to desires for a liveable or desirable city there is less consensus and is more open for interpretation (Ruth & Franklin, 2014). Many researchers have shown the significance of place in older people's lives (Hockey, Philips, & Walford, 2013).

There is rhythm when there is an interaction between a place, a time and an investment of energy (Lefebvre, 2004). Or in other words, every person living their everyday life has a rhythm. These rhythms that Levebre refers to are described as pacemakers by Parkes and Thrift (1979), because they are the pace of everyday life. The different rhythms influence the experience of everyday life, which in turn might influence an individual's Sense of Place.

The daily rhythm slows down among the older adults due to experiencing life no longer dictated by work or raising a family. This results in a stark contrast between the rhythms and daily lives of older adults, and the younger and working population (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016). With a multitude of different rhythms, there forms a polyrhythmic neighbourhood life (Lefebvre, 2004). Something that Jacobs (1961) speaks of as the place-ballet, the space-time routines of individuals coming together. There often is a clear contrast between the different rhythms in everyday lives. The older generations rhythms and daily lives differ quite a bit from the younger adults, with whom the older adults compare their lives while explaining the change and difference in rhythm (Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016). Thus, social groups in a neighbourhood differ in (the rhythm of) their daily lives and the way they use a place. This can explain differences in Sense of Place between groups and individuals, but can also lead to mutual conflicts and in this way influence the quality of life (and the Sense of Place). Sense of Place and quality of life is therefore also achieved in social interaction, but most importantly, not only in interaction with a place.

This research will use the concept of Sense of Place as an umbrella term (Jorgenson & Stedman, 2001) describing the relationship between the inhabitants of the neighbourhood Noorderpark in Hoogezand. The three pillars through which the Sense of Place can be described and calculated will be the basis on which this research looks into the relationship between people and place in Noorderpark. Additionally, this research will look at the experiences and activities in the inhabitants' daily lives in the neighbourhood. When people have the possibility to choose a place to live, often the decision is based on rational or functionality, for example for work, or school, or retirement (Antonsich, 2011). Though these places become the place where everyday life takes place and this influences the affective and emotional attachment. This temporal dimension, how everyday life and experience affect Sense of Place will be the main focus of this research.

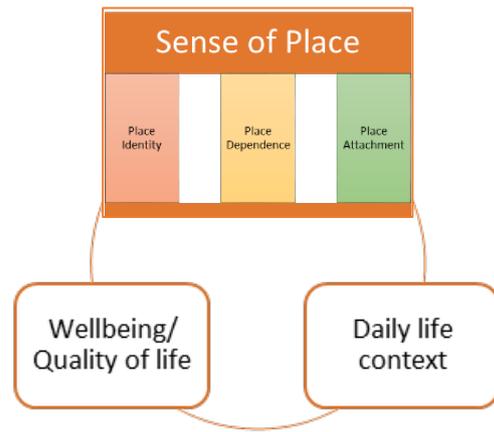


Figure 4: The final model with Sense of Place and its pillars

3. Methodology

3.1 Introduction

In this study, a quantitative research was conducted to answer the question to what extent the daily life context influences the Sense of Place. This involved a literature study and a survey among the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Noorderpark.

For this research a case study is used, the Noorderpark neighbourhood in Hogezaand-Sappemeer. Residents in this neighbourhood, more than elsewhere in the municipality of Midden Groningen, deal with unemployment, lower incomes, poverty, debt problems, health issues, nuisance, and use of WMO (Social support Act) facilities (Ubels, 2020). To overcome these problems and challenges, and to improve the quality of life in the neighbourhood it is important to understand and know what the wishes, needs and experiences of the inhabitants are. This is expected to be related or connected to the Sense of Place and the daily life context. Therefore the objective of this study is to look into the influence of the daily life context on the Sense of Place of inhabitants in a neighbourhood. The research aims to find a relationship between the daily life context on the one hand and the experienced Sense of Place on the other. The formulated main question of this research that fits with the objective is: "To what extent does the daily life context influence the Sense of Place of inhabitants in the Neighbourhood of Noorderpark?". To discover how everyday life and experience affect Sense of Place a quantitative approach has been used in this research.

3.2 Research area and respondents

This research focuses on the local scale, namely the neighbourhood Noorderpark in Hogezaand-Sappemeer. This neighbourhood was chosen in the broader context of the research of a senior researcher at the Hanze University of applied sciences. This town, and neighbourhood, is located in the North-Eastern part of The Netherlands in a municipality called Midden-Groningen. As in many areas in Europa, the peripheral areas within the Netherlands are facing trends like population decline and ageing (Bulder, 2017). These trends put a big pressure on the liveability in these areas (Bock, 2019).

In 2020 there were 3.415 inhabitants living in the neighbourhood. The survey for this research was distributed among 1580 households. In total 137 inhabitants (completely) filled in the questionnaire, which gives a response of almost 9 percent. Among the respondents there is a rather evenly spread of age groups. 76 women and 61 men filled in the questionnaire. There is an over representation of higher educated residents, and a under representation of the lower educated residents. Additionally there is an over representation of home owners and therefor as well an under representation of tenants in the neighbourhood. In line with significantly more higher educated respondents, whom on average own more homes, the average time of residence is significantly high as well. In line with these outcomes the respondents earn more than the average in the neighbourhood. The characteristics of the respondents within the neighbourhood of Noorderpark is further analysed and explained in 4.1.

With the under and over-representation of certain groups in the neighbourhood, most of the streets in the neighbourhood (see the full list in appendix C: Overview respondents per postal code) are well represented by the respondents. The researcher probably managed to acquire this due to the door-to-door approach, which is explained in 3.3.

3.3 Data collection

This research consisted of a literature study on the Sense of Place and the daily life context and a survey among the residents in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark in Hogezaand. This chapter describes the process of the distribution of the survey and the collection of data.

Literature study

To gain insight into the field of place and Sense of Place, and the daily life context, papers and journals have been collected through the worldwide library application SmartCat, which is provided by the University of Groningen. This literature study was the basis for the conceptual framework on which the survey was designed. Because this research is a part of a much bigger approach by the municipality of Midden-Groningen, papers and reports on this topic were also examined.

The survey

The neighbourhood of Noorderpark is a big neighbourhood, with over 1500 households. For this reason, the exploration of data is done through a survey, which was distributed among the inhabitants of the neighbourhood of Noorderpark through a door-to-door approach.

The experience gained by reading multiple similar kinds of research on Sense of Place was used in creating the survey. The survey, which took approximately 20 minutes to complete, was divided into three parts, starting with the Sense of Place, followed by the daily lives and finally with questions on demographics.

The survey consists of both open and closed questions. Closed questions, like the ones on the daily lives, the Sense of Place and certain specific demographics, will be used to provide statistical analyses. The open questions, which data was added to SPSS and coded, that go more in-depth into the different subjects, will provide more a narrative behind the statistics, which together will contribute to a more whole description of the Sense of Place within the neighbourhood and the influence of the daily life context on it.

The survey exists of three parts: part one on the Sense of Place, part two on the daily life context, and finally the third part on the demographics. Part one of the survey, the questions on the Sense of Place, made use of a multidimensional scale. So in line with prior empirical studies, as explained above, this research uses Sense of Place as an umbrella concept containing various concepts, such as the concepts of Place Identity, Place Dependence, and Place Attachment. And thus this research made use of a concept with 3 subsections, and therefore exists of a multidimensional scale of attributes, together making up the Sense of Place as done by Nanzer and (2004) and Jorgenson & Stedman (2001). This way the concept is broken down into different parts, which helps to achieve a better understanding of the broader spectrum of the concept of Sense of Place (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005). Nanzer and Jorgenson & Stedman have used a set of statements that, counted up together, build up the measurement of Sense of Place. The statements were adjusted to use in this research. Additionally, questions on the likes and dislikes of the neighbourhood, the self-reflection of their attachment (to check with the Sense of Place outcomes with the statements), the motivation to remain living in the neighbourhood (Hay, 2009; Shamai, 2018) and whether their attachment to the neighbourhood has changed over time (Mehnen, Mose, & Strijker, 2013) were adjusted from other researches as well. These questions are some examples of questions that provide a deeper understanding of the Sense of Place.

Added to that some questions outside of Sense of Place, but closely relating to it, have been included as well. Such as questions on the perceived liveability, as done in research by Ubels, Bock and Haartsen (2020), and whether people are more attracted to their home or their neighbourhood, adjusted from Mendoza & Bartolo-Ruiz (2012).

Within researching Sense of Place it is possible to distinguish different levels of Sense of Place among inhabitants within the same neighbourhood. This means giving a number to the individuals' Sense of Place, which makes it measurable. And with that, this research can define and distinguish different influences of demographics and daily routines on the Sense of Place. For the part on the Sense of Place, a semi-polar approach has been used, which means that Sense of Place is investigated between the

range from not having a sense of up to the highest most intense meaning of Sense of Place (Shamai & Ilatov, 2005).

The second part of the questionnaire was based on the inhabitants' daily life. Firstly the inhabitants were asked about the activities in their daily life. The addition to this question was based on the questionnaire done by Lager et al (2016): Could you describe a normal week of your life. This question was made quantifiable. The research by Lager et al (2016) yielded rich insights into everyday life, which is also needed in this research to make assumptions on the relationship between the Sense of Place and the everyday life of inhabitants. The inhabitants are asked to ascribe a location to their activities.

In the final part of the survey, many demographical questions had been formulated. This is to investigate the differences and similarities in Sense of Place between and among different groups within the neighbourhood. Additionally, these outcomes can be used to compare to prior research to look for similar outcomes. Similar outcomes might indicate the validity of the questionnaire and this research.

Many questions used in the survey on the demographics were based on other questionnaires in the Sense of Place literature, and basic demographic questions, such as the questions on income, level of education, marital status and gender (Gattino, De Piccoli, Fassio, & Rollero, 2013; Lager, Van Hoven, & Huigen, 2016). These questions helped to map the neighbourhood's inhabitants' basic demographical information and increase validity.

Research process

The sampling strategy and the survey instrument aimed to collect a diverse collection of data that is representative of people-place relation, daily activities/life, demographic characteristics, etc. For this reason, the researcher went through the entire neighbourhood to deliver the letter inviting people to participate in this research by filling in the questionnaire. The researcher tried to strengthen the response by going door-to-door.

Before going into the neighbourhood a pilot was done with the survey, with a variety of people similar to the target audience in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark, elders and youngsters, higher and lower educated, etc. After this pilot questions were worded differently so that all could be able to understand them and the questionnaires could be filled in by all the inhabitants.

The fieldwork, going door-to-door, took place between July 9th and July 18th at all different times of the day, with predominantly sunny weather conditions. This possibly resulted in people not opening their doors because they were either in the garden or away. Though due to the good weather there were many people also in their front gardens which therefore were easy to approach. Within the neighbourhood, some inhabitants did not speak Dutch (well), because of which the researcher either spoke Dutch slower and in simpler terms, or she would switch to English. With other inhabitants, the researcher would speak in dialect, if this made the conversation easier.

On the invitation letter, there was a link and a QR-code provided that led the inhabitants to the webpage where they could fill in the survey (see appendix 1). But while going door-to-door, the researcher provided the inhabitants with the additional option of filling in the survey on paper.

Before the inhabitants could fill in the questionnaire they were asked to sign a formal consent. In the online version, the respondents could not go any further if they would not agree to it. In the paper version, the first page was the informed consent. This also provided the respondent with the choice to agree and continue, or not. In this informal consent, it was explained to the respondents that the rapport and the data will be shared with the municipality and Hiska Ubels after this research is finished.

The survey was filled in through Analyzer, an application by the Hanze University of Applied sciences. The data then was imported from the application into an SPSS database, onto the personal researchers drive provided by the Hanze University of Applied Sciences, where the researcher works. As soon as the research has been approved by the supervisors, all data, besides the final report will be shared with the municipality and Hiska Ubels, after which it will all be deleted from the personal drive of the researcher.

The neighbourhood of Noorderpark is quite a sizeable neighbourhood. For this reason, a handful of people were recruited to walk through the neighbourhood going-to-door and delivering the letters. All these people were provided with a list of streets and numbers (see appendix 3), to right down to whom they talked and which houses only received a letter, because the inhabitants weren't home. Adding to that, the people were provided with a little notebook in which they could write down things that stood out, such as streets in which people opened doors more or things that were said in conversation with the inhabitants. They could also note down, why inhabitants declined the invitation to fill in the questionnaire if this happened.

The researcher visited every household in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. Owners who did not open their doors received a letter in their mailbox, inhabitants that did open the door were introduced to the researcher, the research and were kindly asked to help the research by filling in the survey. For the homeowners that were unable to fill it in online a paper version was provided, that would be picked up later in the week by the researcher.

Eventually, around 300 people opened the door and the researcher had a conversation in which she could elaborate on the research. Around 50 inhabitants that opened the door let the researcher know they did not want to fill in the survey. Around 1200 did not open the door, or lived in a flat, which resulted in the letter being left in the owner's mailbox.

Walking through the entire neighbourhood took more than a week. Every day spent in the neighbourhood resulted in a new set of inhabitants filling in the survey. The big numbers at the end are also including the paper versions added to the dataset manually.

3.4 Data analysis

This subchapter focuses on the data analysis, through which the results were reported. The data analysis will be explained through data cleaning, data coding, and finally data analysis.

Data cleaning

A total of 167 respondents had (attempted) filled in the survey. The data collected was added to an SPSS database. The incomplete surveys were taken out. The main reason being the incomplete picture they might provide, mostly when using filters or doing comparisons. This could only provide a partial and (potentially) an distorted image. The incomplete surveys could have been a sign the survey was too complicated to fill in, or that the participants were less engaged than the participants who did fill in the survey. Another explanation could have been the length of the survey, which might have made respondents quit prematurely.

Eventually, 30 of the 167 surveys filled in were deemed unusable. One of the reasons was people quitting the survey before agreeing to the informed consent. The first question in the survey revolved around the informed consent. Respondents were asked to check a box, with which they indicated to have read and agreed with the information they had been provided. Without the agreement, the respondents could not go on with the survey. Therefore, 6 respondents that had not filled in the first question were eliminated from the data.

Some open questions followed, which people had the choice of filling in. After that, a Likert scale question came next. This question as well had to be filled in, or respondents could not proceed. 9 respondents that did not fill in from this question onwards were also eliminated from the dataset.

At the end of the survey, the respondents were asked to fill in their postal code. This is to check whether the respondent is an inhabitant of the neighbourhood of Noorderpark and to add a variable with which to filter and compare the other data. 15 respondents who had not filled in this question, therefore, were removed from the data list.

Finally, the researcher found a mistake in the survey system. The survey ended by clicking on the 'end survey' button, but many respondents did not do so. Therefore their surveys were considered incomplete, even though they had been fully completed. These 12 'incomplete surveys' were changed into completed when all fields had been filled in.

With some cleaning up of the data, this meant 137 respondents remained.

Data coding

The reverse coded items in question 12 were recoded so that questions that were formulated negatively were used on the same scale as the positively formulated questions. After this the values in question 12 were divided into three themes: Place Identity, Place Dependence, and Place Attachment scores, which together creates the Sense of Place score. Questions 1, 3, 6 & 9 are to measure the Place Attachment, questions 4, 7, 10 & 13 measure the Place Identity, and questions 5, 8, 12 & 14 are Place Dependence. Questions 2 & 11 were formulated on smaller scales, namely the street, to compare. Questions 6, 10 & 14 were negatively formulated but later recoded through transform, recode into same variables. New variables were made from 4 questions together: Place Attachment, Place Dependence, Place Identity, through transform, and compute variable.

Data analysis

In SPSS several tests were done. The analysis of the survey data will be done firstly through descriptive statistics to identify patterns, without searching for a cause or prediction (Hay, 2009). This will help to keep the results valid. Here the Sense of Place measurement was done per age or gender. Also, the three different constructs Place Attachment, Place Identity and Place Dependence have been looked into with descriptive analytics to determine differences among demographics. These outcomes were compared to existing data and outcomes to examine representativity.

Then there was made use of oneway ANOVA to compare average intensity levels among subgroups of Sense of Place (Hay, 2009). The dependent variable Sense of Place can be better understood if the sub-constructs and their mutual relationship are better examined.

For the Sense of Place, people could score 1-5. The respondents were categorized by the strength of their Sense of Place. 1-2.49 a limited Sense of Place, 2.5-3.49 a neutral Sense of Place, and 3.5-5 a positive or strong Sense of Place. This way the strength of place could be contrasted against other demographic variables, like gender, age, length of residence, and later the daily activity. To explore the connection and differences among Sense of Place averages and other variables averages the one-way ANOVA test was used. Also, a regression method has been computed to study the Sense of Place multivariate relations using the independent variables, such as age, years of residence, educations level, etc.

Nanzer (2004) used Cronbach's alpha to test whether the instrument was reliable to measure the Sense of Place. For this research, this measurement was done again.

3.5 Ethics

Ethical considerations are of importance in any research and therefore this research was conducted using the Netherlands Code of Conduct for Research Integrity 2018 (KNAW, et al., 2018). This code was the basis on which this research was organized and how the respondents were approached.

Since this research will be used for further research, and to comply with the code of conduct, it was very important to obtain informed consent from the respondents. The survey was set up in such a way that respondents could not continue with the survey unless they had read all the information provided to them and approved this by giving their consent. When a respondent did not want to approve or comply with the terms of the research they could just close the survey. The informed can be found in the survey, provided in appendix B.

To increase inclusiveness and increment response among all generations, a paper version of the survey was offered to the inhabitants of the neighbourhood as well. The preference for the researcher was for the respondent to fill in the online version to reduce possible errors in the processing of the paper version. Nevertheless, the possibility of filling in a paper version was provided to all respondents.

To increase response and to make sure the approach was inclusive for all the researcher provided an email address and phone number. This would serve as a helpdesk, which could be approached by respondents with questions or comments.

Extra attention was put in to ensure the anonymity of the respondents due to the personal nature of this research. Respondents were asked to share demographical information about themselves, share their opinion on their neighbourhood and give some information on their daily life. To ensure anonymity a survey tool, to which the researcher was provided with a license through her employment at the Hanze University of Applied Sciences (HUAS), was used to obtain the data from the respondents without obtaining data that could trace back to individual persons.

Furthermore, answers to open questions were only used in the report if they could not be traced back to individuals in the neighbourhood. And after the research is done the report will be handed over to the municipality, the housing cooperation, and the senior researcher that will continue on this research. All data obtained will be deleted.

Due to COVID-19, there were extra rules and regulations of importance to ensure the safety of both the researcher and the respondents during the data gathering process. Supervision and conversations with people of interest predominantly took place online. The door-to-door approach took place in the summer after the regulations from the Dutch government had been lifted. Nevertheless, the researcher maintained the 1,5-meter distance, since this regulation was still in effect.

4. Results

This chapter focuses on the results from the survey in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark that was filled in by 137 respondents. The results are divided into five parts, one for each sub-question. The chapter starts with a description of the characteristics of the inhabitants in Noorderpark. Then the Sense of Place in Noorderpark is measured, following by the influence of the inhabitants' characteristics on the Sense of Place. Finally, this chapter takes a look at the daily life in Noorderpark and its influence on Sense of Place.

4.1 Characteristics of inhabitants in Noorderpark

This paragraph on the characteristics of the inhabitants in Noorderpark is based on the first sub-question: What are the important characteristics of the inhabitants in the neighbourhood? This part will describe and explain the respondents' data on age, gender, country of origin, education, housing situation, households, and gross income. This will form the basis on which the analysis of the Sense of Place will be done.

The average age of the respondents (n=137) was 51.28 (SD 19.769). The oldest was 96 years old and the youngest 19. 34% of the respondents is younger than 40, 40% of the respondents is between the ages 40 and 67, and 26% is 68 or older (figure 5). Data from Allecijfers (sd) (figure 6) shows that a significant majority of inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark are above the age of 25 (Allecijfers, sd). The age groups in both bar charts (respondents vs inhabitants Noorderpark) differ from each other, though what can be seen is that the group of older adults (40-67/45-65) is bigger in the respondent group, and the younger adults (>40/25-45) is a bit smaller. The elderly group (>67/65+) is in both graphs the smallest, yet still of significant size. Besides the differences between the younger and older adult groups, all groups in the neighbourhood are significantly represented by the respondents.

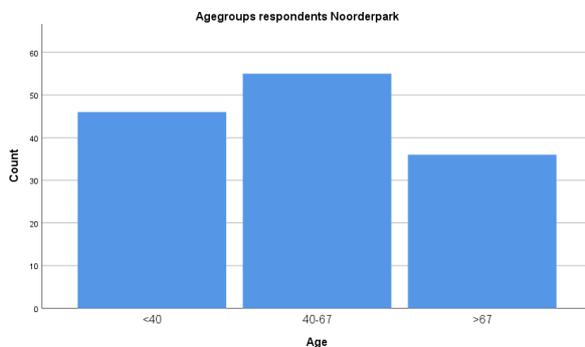


Figure 5. Agegroups respondents Noorderpark

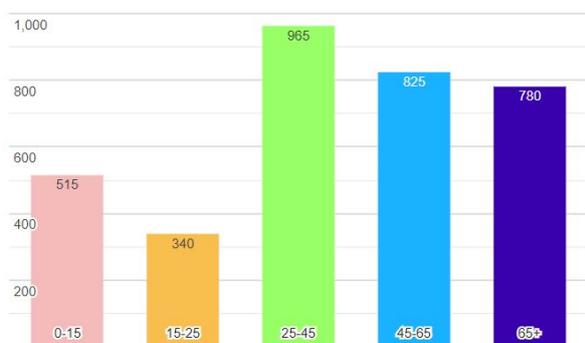


Figure 6. Note: Inwoners naar leeftijd - buurt Noorderpark. Reprinted from Allecijfers

76 women filled in the survey, and 61 men, with no significant difference in age groups between the two genders, $X^2(2)=4.283$, $p>.05$. In the door-to-door approach, many of the respondents that opened the doors were often women. The researcher, therefore, had many interactions and/or conversations with women, which might have influenced the bigger group of female respondents. Additionally, it is known that women are more responsive to online research, regardless of the purpose of the study (Smith, 2008).

The country of origin of the respondents is predominantly The Netherlands (91%). Other answers were Armenia, Bosnia, Brazil, Canada, Germany, Netherlands-India, Poland, Romania and Russia. 2 respondents wrote no country of origin. Morocco, Dutch Antilles, Surinam, and Turkey were not named, even though these are the most represented inhabitants with a migration background in the neighbourhood, next to western. This means that people with a migration background coming from those last-named countries are not represented at all in the group of respondents.

The highest completed level of education (figure 7) shows a normal distribution among the answers of the respondents. It shows that about half (51%) of the respondents have done MBO or something similar (post-secondary vocational education), similarly to the reality in the neighbourhood (figure 8) (Allecijfers, sd). About a fifth (19%) has done high school, and another fifth (23%) has done HBO or WO (university of applied sciences or university). The latter shows a bigger representation among the respondents than the reality in the neighbourhood, where only an eighth is higher educated. And thus with the data that remains it shows that the lower educated are underrepresented by the respondents because there is a bigger group of lower educated in the neighbourhood (Allecijfers, sd).

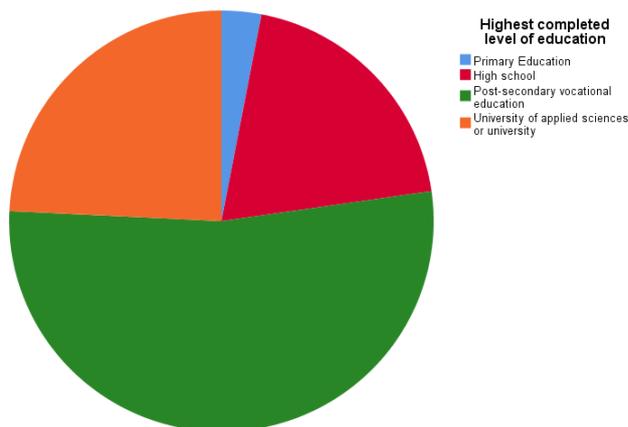


Figure 7. Highest completed level of education.

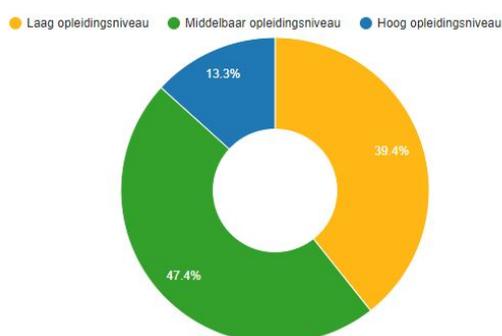


Figure 8. Note: Opleidingsniveau van de inwoners van 15 tot 75 jaar. Reprinted from Allecijfers.

More than half (57%) of the respondents (figure 9) are living in an owner-occupied home. The other 59 respondents are renting their homes, from Groninger Huis (3%), Lefier (35%), and private owners (5%). This is a skewed image of the reality in the neighbourhood (figure 10), where about a third (32%) is owner-occupied and two thirds (68%) is rental (Allecijfers, sd). This means the owner-occupied group in the neighbourhood is over-represented by the respondents, and thus the tenants are underrepresented. This overrepresentation of owner-occupied has possibly some correlation with the over-representation of the group of higher educated respondents.

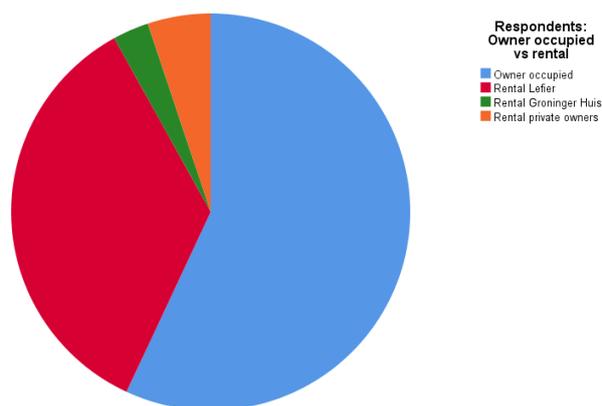


Figure 9. Respondents: owner occupied vs rental.

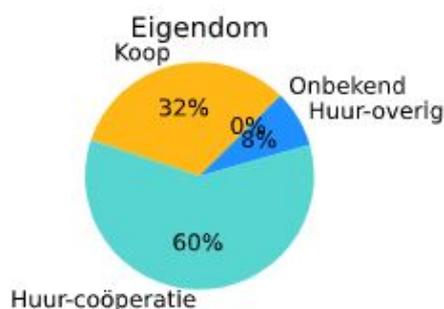


Figure 10. Note: Woningen naar eigendom. Reprinted from Allecijfers.

On average the respondents have been living 18.5 years in the neighbourhood (SD 19.04). This high average possibly comes from the big group of homeowners in the group of respondents. Homeowners tend to live a long(er) time in the same home. In 2008 the Dutch Association of Real Estate Agents (NVM) found that homes change owners every 20 years on average (NU.nl, 2008). Some respondents had recently moved there, and respondents that have been living for 74 years in the neighbourhood. The latter might have been the first residents of the neighbourhood since it was built in the '50s and '60s. Half of the respondents live 12 years or less in Noorderpark, and a quarter 3 years or less.

On average the respondents have moved 4.77 times (SD 4.487), with the majority of people having moved 1, 2, 3 or 4 times. For some Noorderpark might be the place they ended up in and will live, or have been living for a long period, as is the case for many homeowners that have been living in the Neighbourhood for decades, or new homeowners that have settled down in the neighbourhood. For others, Noorderpark might be a temporary place of residence, after which they will find a place of residence afterwards. When it comes to moving within the neighbourhood, the respondents indicated to not have moved a lot inside the neighbourhood, with 0.56 times (SD 0.930).

The reasons for moving are diverse. There are some work or study-related moves. Some people are living in the neighbourhood due to moving out of their parental home on their own or moving in together with a partner. Many respondents indicated to have left a rental home to purchase one of their own. With this, some respondents indicated to have done so for more space, a garden, settling down and starting a family. Others are living in the neighbourhood because of a divorce, having lost their partner, or dealing with health issues.

More than half (53%) of the respondents live in terraced houses (rijtjeshuis). Almost a fifth (18%) live in a semi-detached house (twee-onder-een-kap). Only one respondent indicated to be living in a detached house. Smaller groups of respondents are living in a block of flats (7%), an apartment (10%) or a senior apartment (6%). Other answers were corner homes (4%), a duplex home (upstairs), and different versions of flats. Again, these outcomes probably show the influence of the over-representation of owner-occupied homes. In the neighbourhood, there are fewer single-family homes (38%) than multi-family homes (62%) (Allecijfers, sd), but the data from the respondents show a bigger group of single-family homes.

A little more than a third (37%) of the respondents live in a household with a partner without children. As described, there is a big group of older respondents, which might explain this big group. A little less than a third (31%) indicated to be a single person household. About a fifth (21%) lives with their partner and at least one child, and one respondent indicated that they are expecting their first. There are also single-parent households with children (9%) among the respondents. Two respondents are living with their parents.

Only a few respondents (4%) indicated to be living on welfare. About a third (30%) are living below the middle income. About a fifth (22%) of the respondents are living with a middle income (about 36.500 gross income per year). A small group (15%) has above middle income. Though the picture is incomplete, due to the fact that about a third (30%) of the respondents rather not say what their gross income is. The average gross income in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark is 19.500 euros (Allecijfers, sd), which is below the middle income. The data from the respondents that did answer show that a significant group (37%) has a higher income than average in the neighbourhood. Again, this probably can be linked back to the fact that the respondents on average are higher educated and on average live more in owner-occupied homes.

4.2 The Sense of Place in Noorderpark

This second paragraph on the Sense of Place will provide a narrative on the second sub-question: What is the perceived Sense of Place in the neighbourhood? This paragraph will explain and measure the respondents' Sense of Place and the attachment the respondents have to the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. Firstly, the Sense of Place will be measured on the respondents' data. Then the results dive deeper into the three subsections, or pillars, of Sense of Place to create more of an understanding of what the measurement of Sense of Place is based on.

Attachment and liveability

But before getting into the measurement of the Sense of Place let's take a look at the attachment and liveability in the Neighbourhood of Noorderpark, which will help visualise the living environment in the neighbourhood according to the respondents' answers.

Attraction to the neighbourhood

First, let's start with what attracted the respondents to the neighbourhood. Some respondents came to live in the neighbourhood purely for the home: *"Puur voor het huis. Als ik een andere omgeving had kunnen kiezen had ik dat gedaan."* The garden that came with the home, or the view of the home, all factors have been named often. Some respondents put it differently, it was a coincidence or a little bit of luck. Others called it an emergency solution, they found a home in the neighbourhood that was affordable, after a divorce for example. Some simply put it that it was the house they were offered by the housing association. Another reason for coming to the neighbourhood was due to age: *"Wonen nu in appartement wegens hoge leeftijd en deze stond in noorderpark."*

The location has also played a part in some decisions to come to the neighbourhood. It is close to Groningen, and other vital places. Some respondents indicated that the nearness of facilities played a big part in their move to the neighbourhood: *"Sinds 1956 ben ik verhuisd naar het Noorderpark. Hier waren in die tijd allerlei voorzieningen dicht in de buurt. Op loopafstand vond je aan de Hoofdstraat van Hoogezand alle nodige winkels, zoals kruideniers, kappers, schoenmakers, damesmodezaken, drogisterij, opticien, lingeriezaak, banketbakker, tabakswinkel, een warenhuis en een paardenslager. Voor gemeentelijke zaken was het gemeentehuis van Hoogezand dichtbij."* Though one respondent also commented on the fact that by now some, if not most, of those facilities have closed their doors: *"maar alle winkels ter hoogte van het Noorderpark (aan de Hoofdstraat) zijn daar inmiddels weg. Heel jammer."*

Family and friends were a big factor for some respondents in moving to the neighbourhood. Either they already lived in Noorderpark or close by. The affordability of their home has been named often by the respondents: *"Toen wij een huis wilden kopen, was de vraagprijs in deze wijk heel gunstig. En we wonen er vanaf 1995 en nog steeds geen verhuisplannen."* Both buying a house and renting a home seems to have been a pull for some respondents to come to the neighbourhood. For quite a few respondents the location of their job made that they chose to come to live in Noorderpark. And then there were the respondents that indicated to have been living either for a long time or forever in the neighbourhood.

Attachment (through time) to the neighbourhood

Of the respondents about a quarter (23%) claimed to not be attached to the neighbourhood whatsoever. 51% indicated to be a little or moderately attached. Only a quarter (26%) of the respondents has a (strong) attachment to the neighbourhood of Noorderpark.

The gender of the respondents shows no significant difference in the attachment to the neighbourhood. An ANOVA test did show a significant difference in attachment to the neighbourhood

between the age groups, $F(2, 109.541) = 7.96, p < .001$. Contrasts showed that there is a weaker attachment of respondents up till the age of 39 ($M=2.24, SD=1.09$) than the respondents between the ages of 40 till 67 ($M=2.78, SD=1.06$). This difference could probably be explained by the fact that older adults more often have lived a longer period in the same place, which influences attachment. As shown in 4.1 there is a big group of homeowners, and the average time of residence in the neighbourhood is high, which might indicate that their attachment to the neighbourhood has grown over time.

The respondents themselves indicated that their attachment predominantly, for 52% of the respondents, has not changed since they have come to live in the neighbourhood. About a fifth (20%) said that their attachment to the neighbourhood got weaker, and another fifth (21%) said their attachment has gotten stronger. Small groups of respondents indicated their attachment to the neighbourhood to be much stronger (2%), or much weaker (6%).

Even though there is a big group, as explained before, that does not necessarily feel a strong attachment to the neighbourhood, still, a big majority of the respondents (73%) indicated that they want to continue living in the neighbourhood for a longer period. Though a quarter (27%) does not want to keep living in the neighbourhood for much longer. Reasons for wanting to move out of the neighbourhood predominantly have to do with (the size and quality of) the house (and garden). Some indicate they want to move to a bigger or newer home, or that they want to buy a home, instead of renting: *“Omdat we graag zouden willen verhuizen naar een groener plekje met een grotere tuin.”* The other way around is also mentioned, respondents that want to move to a smaller home that is more accessible, with everything on the ground floor: *“Gewoon vind het huis te groot voor mij zelf.”* Another reason for the wish to move is the (social) environment. Some respondents complained about the safety and maintenance of the neighbourhood. Respondents spoke of “bad things” happening in the neighbourhood. In conversations in the door-to-door approach, inhabitants spoke of increasing criminality and increasing use of drugs within the neighbourhood. In the survey, some even spoke about the lack of child-friendly places to play. Adding to the reasons for moving out of the neighbourhood some respondents want to move to, or closer to, Groningen. But overall the respondents that are thinking about moving indicate to be in search of, as one respondent answered: *‘een nettere/veiligere sociale omgeving’*.

On the other hand, the house and its affordability are what attracts many respondents to stay in the neighbourhood. They like their home (and the garden and/or view), they have furnished it to their liking, or made it lifetime-compatible: *“Hebben nu goede woning en zijn tevreden ermee. We hebben de woning binnen en tuin buiten nu naar onze smaak gemaakt.”* Some spoke of the affordability of the home, especially in these times. Others simply answered they had bought a house in the neighbourhood: *“Ik heb een koophuis, je gaat niet zomaar weg.”* Some other respondents answered with conditions. They explained their wish to remain living in the neighbourhood as long as they remained in good health. Others wrote about their wish for the revival of their “woongenot”, or their comfort of living to be of importance to continue living in the neighbourhood: *“Als het woongenot terug komt wil ik hier wel langer wonen.”* Others explained their wish to remain living in the neighbourhood due to living close to family and friends, and having built their social life there. The very Dutch answer that the neighbourhood is “gezellig” passed the revue a couple of times. While some respondents are willing to move due to the feeling of unsafety as explained before, some respondents answered they wish to remain living in the neighbourhood because they do feel safe in their quiet and familiar surroundings. They have gotten used to their environment and the people around them: *“Ik woon hier nu 6 jaar en ben zowel aan de plek als aan de mensen gewend geraakt.”* Another seemingly important factor that keeps respondents in the neighbourhood is the fact they live close to work. Being close to the highway, and important facilities close by was named as of importance to living in the neighbourhood as well. Finally, some respondents answered they simply had no reason to leave the neighbourhood.

Liveability in the neighbourhood

So, many respondents indicated to not feel very attached to the neighbourhood, but the majority does want to continue living in Noorderpark. The answer to that disconnect might be found in the liveability in the neighbourhood. Half of the respondents (50%) namely indicated to be satisfied with the liveability in the neighbourhood. Only two (2%) respondents were very satisfied. About a quarter (27%) indicated to not be satisfied nor dissatisfied with the liveability in the neighbourhood, in fact, they would consider themselves neutral in their perception. A little less than a fifth (18%) were dissatisfied and a handful (4%) were very dissatisfied with the liveability of the neighbourhood. Interestingly the respondents seem to be happy, or at least are not unhappy, with the liveability even though they would not consider themselves very attached to their neighbourhood.

When it comes to the respondents that are not satisfied with the liveability in the neighbourhood, they often speak of their fellow neighbours, maintenance and trash in the streets, and lack of facilities seem to influence the dissatisfaction the most. Cars driving too fast or in opposite direction, garbage on the street, lack of maintenance on homes and gardens by homeowners, but also a lack of maintenance in the green areas in the neighbourhood. Also, the companies and businesses in the neighbourhood are a nuisance to some. A respondent spoke of the “verpaupering”, or the impoverishment that is striking in the neighbourhood. Some respondents indicated a negative liveability due to their fellow neighbours. Neighbours making too much noise or no unity among neighbours. The neighbourhood is lacking stores or shops. Especially old people indicated to be missing this. In conversations with some older inhabitants in the door-to-door approach, they indicated that the stores were too far away to do their daily shopping alone. Some would be helped by their children, who would do their grocery shopping for or with them. But this also meant becoming dependent, which they did not like. Another example of the neighbourhood being made less accessible for the elderly is the lack of mailboxes. One inhabitant explained that she would have to walk too far to simply post a card. Other facilities absent for the respondents in the neighbourhood are sporting facilities, or possibilities to walk their dog. Finally, some respondents spoke of the lack of parking possibilities.

There were also arguments for a positive liveability in the neighbourhood. Again the inhabitants of the neighbourhood were named: *“De meeste mensen in deze wijk zijn heel normaal en vriendelijk.”* Also respondents would write about the quietness of the neighbourhood, the presence of young families with kids, greenery, places to play for kids. There were respondents indicating the closeness of the highway and shops: *“Leefbaarheid positief: de meeste mensen in deze wijk zijn heel normaal en vriendelijk. Je zit dichtbij een snelweg ideaal voor werkgelegenheid. En de meeste winkels zijn lekker dichtbij.”*

Sense of Place in Noorderpark

Now that there is a picture drawn of the attachment and liveability in the neighbourhood let's take a look at the Sense of Place. The Sense of Place of the inhabitants is calculated through three subsections: Place Attachment, Place Identity and Place Dependence. The respondents answered four questions for each subsection on a five-point Likert scale. On average the respondents have a stronger Place Attachment with a mean of 3.23 (SD=0.77) than Place Identity or Place Dependence. The average Place Identity among respondents is 2.77 (SD=0.88), and the average Place Dependence is 2.70 (SD=0.72). Overall the respondents' Sense of Place is measured to be 2.90 (SD=0.71). A Reliability check shows a Cronbach's Alpha of 0.871, which shows it is internal reliable. A factor analysis shows that there were indeed three factors extracted, in this case, Place Attachment, Place Dependence, and Place Identity.

Place Attachment

To measure the Place Attachment in the neighbourhood the respondents were asked four questions in this subsection. Measuring the Place Attachment gave a mean of 3.23 and a standard deviation of

0.77. The respondents remained rather neutral on the Likert scale for Place Attachment. The mean indicates that the respondents scored a little higher than the median. The respondents scored high on the wish to remain living in the neighbourhood. About half of the respondents like living and are happy living in their neighbourhood, and half the respondents do not think other neighbourhoods are better for them than Noorderpark. More on those measurements next.

The first asked the respondents whether they were happy living in Noorderpark. Almost half (45%) were neither happy nor unhappy. 49% of the respondents indicated they were (very) happy living in the neighbourhood, only 7% indicated they were unhappy. It is interesting to see a shift happening when the respondents were asked the same question, but this time about their street. The group that remained neutral before shrunk (26%), and the group that is happy living in their street increased significantly (64%). 10% was not happy in the street they are living in. In conversations with the door-to-door approach, inhabitants did indicate that the neighbourhood of Noorderpark is very big, and therefore they feel more connected to their street or a smaller part within the neighbourhood.

Next, the question is whether the respondent would like to live in the neighbourhood for much longer. The respondents were asked about this before, as can be read in attachment & liveability. The majority wants to stay (59%), a small group does not (18%).

Then a question was asked whether inhabitants thought if there are other neighbourhoods better for them than Noorderpark. The biggest group (39%) remained neutral, but the majority (49%) found that there were no other neighbourhoods that are better for them than the one they are living in right now. Yet a small group of respondents (12%) that are living in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark indicated that there are other neighbourhoods that they consider to be better than Noorderpark.

Finally, a question was asked whether the respondents like living in Noorderpark. This question was similarly answered as the first, where they were asked whether they were happy in the neighbourhood. Exactly half (50%) of the respondents like living in their neighbourhood, similar to the 49% that indicated to be happy living in the neighbourhood. 12% do not like living in the neighbourhood, which is a slightly bigger group than the 7% of inhabitants that indicated to be unhappy in the neighbourhood. The other respondents (51%), similarly to the 45% of respondents on the first question, indicated to be neutral on the matter.

Place Identity

For Place Identity, the measures show an average Place Identity that scores a little below the median with a mean of 2.78 and a standard deviation of 0.88. Respondents overall do not seem to feel very connected to the neighbourhood, nor do they feel like the neighbourhood has influenced who they are, their identity. Interestingly the street seems to be of more importance to the respondents than the neighbourhood does, possibly showing the influence of the size of the neighbourhood

Whether respondents feel connected to the neighbourhood of Noorderpark is very evenly spread. The big majority (42%) remains neutral. Similar groups of respondents feel connected (29%) or not connected (31%) in various degrees. It is clear that respondents do not feel like there is a strong connection between themselves and the neighbourhood.

Adding to that the respondents seemingly do not feel like living in the neighbourhood has influenced, or made them, who they are. The big majority (56%) disagrees to varying degrees. 32% of the respondents remain neutral. Only 12% of the respondents indicate that living in the neighbourhood has influenced whom they are to varying degrees.

Similarly to one of the questions for Place Attachment, the respondents were asked about the meaning of the neighbourhood to them on two levels: whether the neighbourhood and/or the street mean little

to the respondents. Here again, it shows that the respondents seem to have a stronger connection to their street than the entire neighbourhood. A majority (40%) indicated that the neighbourhood has no meaning to them. 31% remain neutral and 29% of the respondents do feel like the neighbourhood is of meaning to them. When it comes to their street 47% finds that their street is of meaning to them (an increase of 9% compared to the neighbourhood), 27% remain neutral and only 26% do not feel like the street has no meaning to them.

Apparently, there is a difference in the connection to the street inhabitants are living in, in comparison to the neighbourhood they are living in. A Cronbach's Alpha analysis showed that the answers on the street were significantly different from the answers on the neighbourhood. It showed a big change in the overall measurement of Place Identity if the questions on the street would be deleted, showing the difference between the answers on the connection to the street in comparison to one that is more focussed on the neighbourhood. Respondents showed a stronger connection to the street they were living in than the neighbourhood. Possibly due to the size of the neighbourhood.

Only a small group of respondents (22%) indicated that their neighbourhood is important to them. For 37% the neighbourhood has no importance to them. A big group of respondents (42%) is neutral in the matter.

Place Dependence

The lowest score in the Sense of Place was the Place Dependence with a mean of 2.70 and a standard deviation of 0.72. The respondents indicate that Noorderpark might not be the best place to do the things they like, though they do not necessarily believe that they can do the things elsewhere either.

A third (33%) of the respondents indicate that they cannot take part in activities they like in their neighbourhood. 44% remained neutral. 23% of the inhabitants on the other hand do feel like they can take part in activities they like in their neighbourhood. When it comes to doing things they like in the neighbourhood the respondents answered similarly. 32% of the respondents find that Noorderpark is not a good place to do the things they like to do. 51% remained neutral and 17% does think that the neighbourhood is a good place to do the things they like to do. For both the things they like to do and specific activities, only a very small group of respondents indicated that Noorderpark is the right place to do so.

When comparing the neighbourhood of Noorderpark to other places and neighbourhoods, the majority of the respondents indicated that they believe that Noorderpark is not the best place to do the things they like (58%). Only 8% of the respondents stick with their own neighbourhood. Interestingly only 29% of the respondents believe that another neighbourhood can provide more possibilities to do the things they like. 21% does not believe so.

The strongest factor in Sense of Place

As explained before measuring Sense of Place is based on the three different subsections, or pillars: Place Attachment, Place Identity and Place Dependence. The means for each of these subsections have shown that Place Attachment scored the highest among the respondents, and Place Dependence the lowest. To understand the significance of the differences within the Sense of Place a couple of Paired sample t-tests were done.

Firstly a paired sample t-test was conducted to compare the respondents Place Attachment and Place Identity. There was a significant difference in the scores for Place Attachment ($M=3.2$, $SD=.77$) and Place Identity ($M=2.77$, $SD=0.88$) conditions; $t(136)=9.02$, $p=0.000$. These results suggest that the Place Attachment among the respondents was stronger than their Place Identity.

Another paired samples t-test was conducted to compare the Place Attachment and Place Dependence among respondents. Again, there was a significant difference, this time in the scores for Place Attachment (M=3.2, SD=0.76) and Place Dependence (M=2.69, SD=0.71) conditions; $t(136)=11.21$, $p=0.000$. Once more these results suggest that Place Attachment scored higher among respondents than Place Dependence.

Finally, a paired samples t-test was done to compare the Place Identity and Place Dependence of respondents in the neighbourhood. This time there was no significant difference in the scores for Place Identity (M=2.77, SD=0.88) and Place Dependence (M=2.69, SD=0.71) conditions; $t(136)=1.363$, $p=0.175$. Here the results suggest that Place Identity and Place Dependence do not differ much from one another, unlike Place Attachment, which respondents scored higher on, and which is the strongest factor in the score of Sense of Place.

4.3 Sense of Place and characteristics inhabitants Noorderpark

This is where the data dives into the influences of the different characteristics of inhabitants on the Sense of Place. This paragraph focuses on the third sub-question: Which characteristics of the inhabitants influence the Sense of Place? Characteristics such as gender, age, education, owner-occupied vs rental, time of residence, type of home, and income will be discussed, in combination with the Sense of Place.

The gender of the respondents (Figure 11) seems to not have a significant influence on the Sense of Place mean of the respondents, $F(1, 135)=0.052$, $p=0.820$. For this dataset though, the boxplot shows that the female respondents do have a wider spread of Sense of Place, especially in the lower measurements of Sense of Place, but the men have more outliers.

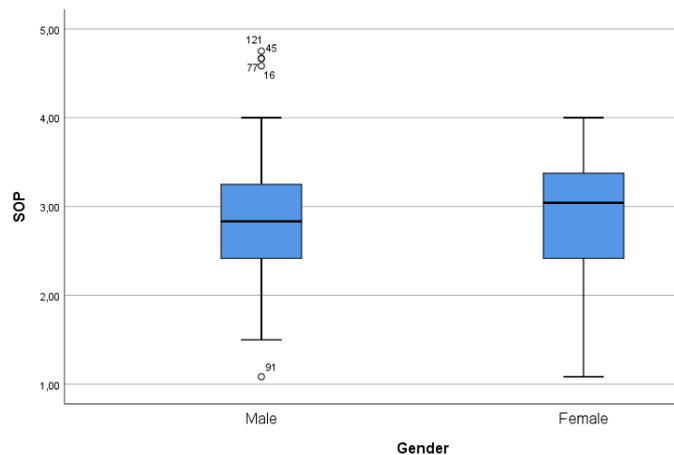


Figure 11. Sense of Place per gender.

Looking at the mean Sense of Place by age, sorted by gender, the bar graph (Figure 12) suggests an increase in Sense of Place by age, both for male and female, though a slightly stronger increase for females.

A one-way ANOVA was conducted to compare the mean Sense of Place score between the age groups <40, 40-67, >67 conditions. There was a statistically significant difference between the groups $F(2, 134)=4.478$, $p=0.13$. A Tukey post hoc test revealed that the mean

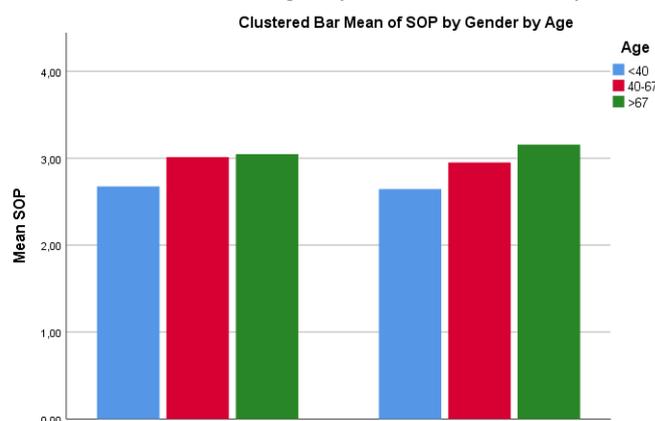


Figure 12. Sense of Place per gender per age group.

Sense of Place was statistically significantly lower for the <40 group (M=2.6576, SD=0.68476; $p=0.016$) compared to the >67 group (M=3.0926, SD=0.6877). There was no statistically significant difference between the <40 ($p=0.064$) and >67 ($p=0.701$), compared to the 40-67 (M=2.9727, SD=0.70857) group. Though not all differences are significant, the difference in Sense of Place between the younger group and the older group is significant. It is quite probable that the time of residence has an influence here as well.

The older respondents might have already lived longer in the neighbourhood, which would influence their Sense of Place as well.

The number of years lived in the neighbourhood (Figure 13) does not seem to be a significant factor on the Sense of Place $F(52, 84) = 1.32, p=0.122$. Though plotting the individuals in a graph, with the mean Sense of Place on the y-axis, and years of residence in Noorderpark on the x-axis, with the different genders as 2 separate groups, there is a small difference in gender, and an increase in mean SOP per years in Noorderpark,

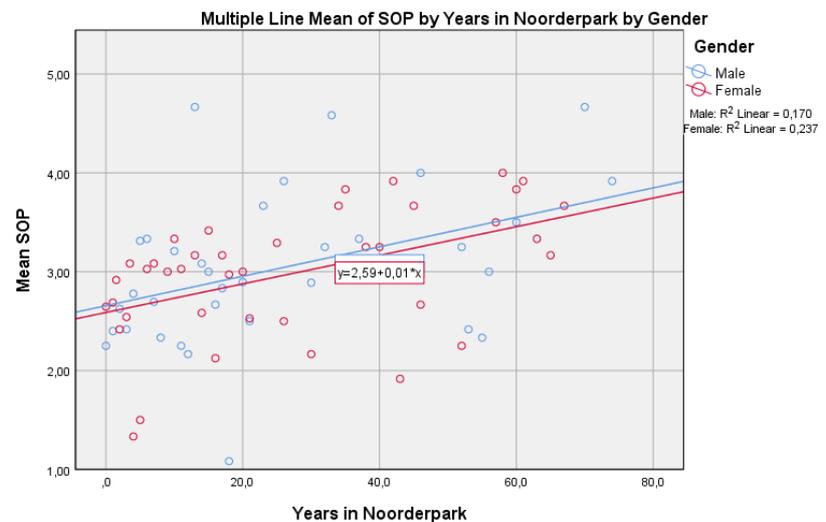


Figure 13. Multiple lean mean of Sense of Place by years in Noorderpark by gender.

which does suggest that there is a slight influence of years of residence on the Sense of Place, especially in combination with the age of the respondents, as explained before.

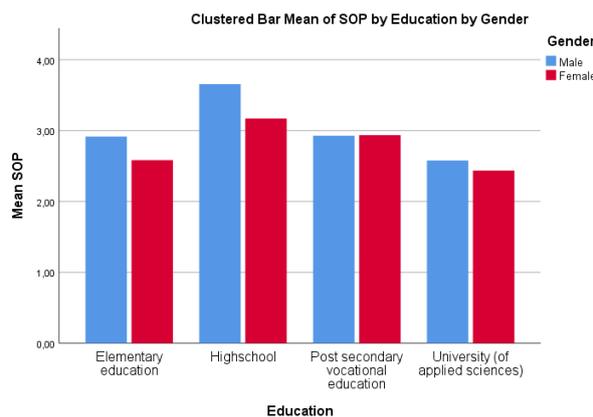


Figure 14. Sense of Place by gender by Education.

When it comes to education and the Sense of Place (Figure 14), there seems to be a difference between higher educated and lower educated respondents. A one-way ANOVA showed a significant difference between the Sense of Place and various variables of education $F(4, 136) = 5.220, p=0.001$. The respondents that had done university or university of applied sciences scored significantly lower in their Sense of Place ($M=2.5026, SD=0.13226$), compared to the respondents that have studied post-secondary vocational education ($M=2.9321, SD=0.65098; p=0.027$), or high school ($M=3.3013, SD=0.64251; p=0.000$). The group of respondents

with a university or university of applied sciences degree is overrepresented, as explained in 4.1. Though the outcome that the higher educated respondents score lower on the Sense of Place scale is interesting. Some studies show that higher educated people have a bigger radius of action in their leisure activities (Keune, Boonstra, & Overgaag, n.d.) and therefore spend less time in their neighbourhood. This might influence the development of their Sense of Place

As explained in 4.1 the owner-occupied group in the neighbourhood was found to be over-represented by the respondents, and thus the tenants were underrepresented. Though the difference in Sense of Place between the group of respondents that are tenants ($M=2.83; SD=0.78$) and the group of respondents that are home-owners ($M=2.95; SD=0.66$) was not significant ($t(135) = 0.95; p=0.34$). According to this outcome, this would mean that when it comes to the Sense of Place it does not matter whether a person owns a home or when they rent a home. However, this outcome is based on a dataset with a higher representation of residents that live in an owner-occupied home.

The dataset of the respondents showed that a significant group had a higher income than the average within the neighbourhood (Figure 15). Again, this probably can be linked back to the fact that the respondents on average are higher educated and on average live more in owner-occupied homes. When combining the income to the Sense of Place a significant difference can be found between the different

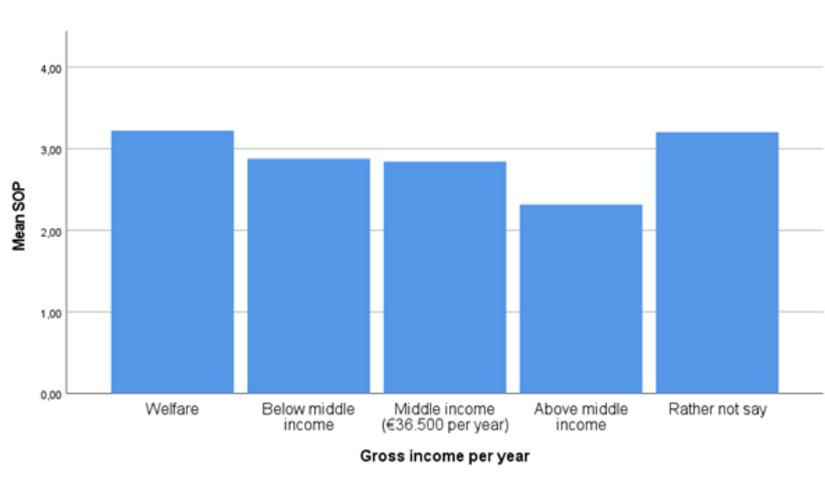


Figure 15. Sense of place per gross income per year.

income groups ($F(4, 136) = 6.419, p=0.00$). Significant differences were found between respondents living on welfare ($M=3.22, SD=0.63$) and respondents with an income higher than the middle income ($M=2.32, SD=0.58, p=0.03$). Respondents with an income below the middle income ($M=2.88, SD=0.60$) did also have a significant difference in their Sense of Place in comparison to respondents with an income higher than the middle income ($M=2.32, SD=0.58, p=0.02$). And finally, there was a significant difference in Sense of Place among respondents that have an income higher than the middle income ($M=2.32, SD=0.58$) and respondents that did not want to provide information on their total gross income ($M=3.20, SD=0.67, p=0.00$). Interestingly the respondents with higher income seem to have significantly lower scores on the Sense of Place than many other groups of incomes. The groups of respondents living on welfare and respondents that did not want to provide their gross income seem to score relatively higher. The type of housing does not seem to have any significant influence on the respondents' Sense of Place ($F(6, 136) = 0.538, p=0.778$).

4.4 Respondents daily life in Noorderpark and Sense of Place

This chapter delves deeper into the fourth sub-question: What daily life trends can be found among the inhabitants in the neighbourhood? First, the different activities within the daily context are presented, after which these activities are further explored by location. And finally, this chapter will also focus on the last sub-question: What daily life activities affect the inhabitants' Sense of Place? The findings on the daily life in Noorderpark is put into the context of the concept of the Sense of Place.

Daily life activities

When it comes to the daily lives of the respondents ($n=137$), a few (9%) indicated to be studying, about half of the respondents (53%) work, and about a third (31%) has retired. The latter was to be expected with the high amount of older adults in the group of respondents. Only a small number of residents indicated to be on sick leave (2%), temporary unemployed (2%), or on maternity leave (2%). 5% of the respondents stated to be living on disability checks. 15,3 of the respondents indicated to be a househusband or -wife. A small amount (7%) of the respondents is a caregiver (mantelzorger) in their daily lives.

A big majority (44%) of the employed ($n=73$) respondents indicated to have a permanent contract, 4,4% of the respondents have a temporary contract, and 2% has a 0-hour or flexible contract. 3% of the respondents are self-employed. On average the employed respondents work 30,11 hours a week ($SD 11.157$), ranging from 0 to 45 hours a week. The biggest groups work 40, 36 or 32 hours a week, which is pretty significant. Relating this to the characteristics of the inhabitants, explained in 4.1, the

high amount of work hours does make sense, with the high amount of higher educated, big groups of homeowners, and a higher gross income, in comparison to the average in the neighbourhood.

The respondents have many differing jobs. From healthcare, government, education, IT, and much more. Due to the pandemic we have been living through the past year(s), some respondents indicated to be working from home: *“Ik ben een IT-consultant, ik werk voornamelijk vanuit huis sinds Corona. Dat gaat straks veranderen dan ben ik 2 dagen op kantoor en 2 dagen thuis aan het werk.”* - *“Ik werk als klantcontactmedewerker voor een overheidsinstantie. Dit doe ik momenteel vanuit huis.”* Working from home, and therefore spending more time in the neighbourhood could have affected the respondents' Sense of Place. Many of the respondents that study have a job on the side as well, like housekeeping, in the local diaper factory, a clothing store, a call centre or they work at their internship place for their studies.

There is a big group of respondents that do not work (n=64), due to being retired or for other reasons, such as unemployment or sick leave: *“Ben momenteel eigenlijk op zoek naar werk en verwacht dat ook weer snel te hebben.”* The biggest group of non-workers were the retired (n=42). In the door-to-door conversations with some respondents some pointed out that life had slowed down and they had time to enjoy their retirement, or as one respondent wrote in the survey as a short description of their daily life: *“Genieten”* or *“Uitrusten”*. Another respondent had a more stoic description: *“Geen beroep: gepensioneerd. Geen nauw omschreven bezigheden. Zoals mensen aan het eind van hun bestaan gewoonlijk doen.”* Others have activities that they (like to) do on a regular basis, like walking their dog, shopping, or working out: *“Gepensioneerde, ga soms sporten en winkelen vind ik ook wel leuk.”* As explained in 2.2, Levebre (2004) wrote on these different rhythms in the neighbourhood. Getting older also often means a difference in the place-time routine. This change might affect the relationship between the person and the neighbourhood, due to the possible change in activities in and dependence on the neighbourhood.

A handful (12%) of respondents spend their time (very) often on volunteer work. Some of the respondents that indicated to do volunteer work at the same time indicate that they cannot work any longer due to a disability: *“Ik ben afgekeurd en zit in de WIA. Ik doe drie maal in de week vrijwilligerswerk in het verzorgingstehuis.”* One respondent writes that they get back something from volunteering as well: *“Vanwege mijn slijtage kan ik mijn beroep als verzorgende ig niet meer uitoefenen. Ben afgekeurd. Ga ik twee keer per week naar een vrijwilligerwerk om tussen de mensen te komen met verschillende culturen.”* Another respondent wrote that their health determines the amount of time they can spend on volunteer work: *“indien mogelijk vrijwilligerswerk als mijn gezondheid dit toelaat.”* And the pandemic seemingly has had an influence on the volunteers as well: *“niets meer door corona als die pandemie over is dan misschien ander vrijwilligers werk.”*

Whereabouts of daily life

As explained before, a small group of respondents indicated to be studying. When looking at the location of their studies, equal groups are studying in the municipality (12) and Groningen (14). Six respondents indicate to be studying in the neighbourhood. This might have been influenced by the pandemic, due to which studies, even when resided somewhere else, predominantly took place at home for many students. 7 respondents indicate that their studies take place somewhere else.

There was a big group of respondents that indicated to be working. Similar groups indicated to be working in the municipality (24), in Groningen (24) and somewhere else (29). Only 5 respondents work within the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. Same as with education, work for some had to take place from home during the pandemic, therefore this number might be even smaller or non-existent in a non-pandemic situation.

When it comes to the household, the majority (95) of respondents indicated that this takes place in the neighbourhood. Though there were still 20 respondents that said it takes place in the municipality. One respondent explained that they had their household elsewhere. 21 respondents considered the household did not apply to them, which probably indicates that their partner takes care of it. When looking back at the hours worked by the employed respondents, this possibly can be explained by the fact that the majority of employed respondents work full time, and their partners possibly do the household.

Bringing kids to school is only applicable for the ones who have children, therefore 102 respondents indicated this activity did not apply to them. A group of respondents this big was to be expected since there are many older adults among the respondents, and 68% (seen in 4.1) of the respondents indicated to have no children in the household. Of the ones that do have children in the age range where they still bring them to school the two biggest groups bring their kids to school in the neighbourhood (12), because there is an elementary school there, and in the municipality (18). Some respondents take their kids to school in Groningen (4) and elsewhere (1). Interestingly, the majority of kids taken to school does not take place in the neighbourhood.

One of the reasons respondents indicated to have chosen Noorderpark to live was family and friends. A big majority (54%) indeed indicates that visiting their friends and family predominantly takes place in the municipality. 10% of respondents even visit their friends and family mainly in the neighbourhood. There was also a group that indicated they visit friends and family elsewhere (23%). Only 6% have to travel to Groningen to visit their social contacts. A possible (solitary) concern are the nine (7%) respondents that indicate that visiting family and/or friends does not apply to them. These numbers show that the majority of social contacts take place in the neighbourhood or the municipality.

Sporting activities predominantly take place in the municipality (47%). Only 2% of the respondents indicate to sport in the neighbourhood, and 4% travels to Groningen to do so. 10% sports elsewhere. Many respondents indicated they like walking and/or cycling. They do so in the surrounding area, but also far away. Interestingly the limited amount of respondents that do their sporting activities in the neighbourhood is somewhat in line with the respondents score on Place Dependence, in which the respondents indicated that there is a lack of possibilities to do the activities they like in their neighbourhood. One of these activities quite clearly seems to be sporting activities.

Another form of activity could be considered a hobby. Respondents indicated that 12% of them do hobby related activity predominantly in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. 30% finds ways to do their hobby in the municipality, and 6% travels to Groningen to do so. 20% of respondents find themselves elsewhere when doing their hobby. In line with sporting activities and the Place Dependence, again, respondents seem to not be able to, or want to, spend the hobby-related activities within the neighbourhood.

Grocery shopping predominantly takes place in the municipality (80%). It is interesting to see that 7% of respondents indicated that they do their grocery shopping in the neighbourhood since there are no (more) supermarkets in Noorderpark, something that other respondents had indicated to have been a big loss in the recent years for the neighbourhood: *"Boodschappen onmogelijk in de wijk"*. 9% of respondents go elsewhere for grocery shopping. Interestingly nobody goes to Groningen.

As indicated before, some respondents indicated volunteer work (n=23) as part of their daily life. When looking at the whereabouts of this activity, it appears this takes place in the municipality mostly (57%). Though some respondents do volunteer work in the neighbourhood (26%) and elsewhere (17%). This suggests that when respondents do volunteer work it takes place (relatively) close to home. Additionally, caregiving or formal care is done by a group of respondents (n=26). This also seems to be

relatively close to home. 50% of respondents do so in the neighbourhood, and 38% in the municipality. 2% gives care to others elsewhere.

In the comments underneath the question, the respondents clarified their answers. It is interesting to see the diversity. Some spent most of their time in and around the house where others are barely at home or in the neighbourhood. Something that was not asked specifically, but came up in the comments, was going to church, which respondents indicated to do outside the neighbourhood.

Daily life and Sense of Place

There is a big group of older adults that have retired among the respondents. The lack of possibilities of activities and/or amenities (such as supermarkets, mailboxes) within the neighbourhood might influence the liveability of these older adults. The lack of possibilities of activities affected the Sense of Place, through the subsection of Place Dependence, where the need to do what you like in the neighbourhood and the possibility to do activities is of importance.

Many activities seem to take place outside of the neighbourhood, which does explain the Place Dependence of the respondents. Sporting activities and Hobby related activities seem to take place outside of Noorderpark mostly. This might be due to the preference of respondents to do so or the lack of opportunity in the neighbourhood.

Activities that are about helping others, such as volunteer work or caregiving tend to take place close to home mostly, predominantly in the neighbourhood and the municipality.

There are some clear similarities in locations for some activities, and big differences for others. An ANOVA analysis on the location of work showed a significant influence $F(4, 132)=2.537$, $p=0.43$. Though the posthoc tests show no significant influences between the different locations. This does not mean that there is no significant influence among all the residents in the neighbourhood. The respondents in this research were over-represented with higher educated, more homeowners and higher paid.

And finally, a series of ANOVA analyses showed no significant influences of Daily life activities locations on the Sense of Place. There is however something to say about the Place Dependence, as explained before, due to the apparent lack of activities, or possibilities within the neighbourhood.

Conclusion

The neighbourhood of Noorderpark is a big neighbourhood, with over 1500 households. With some residents living there since the beginning when the neighbourhood was built in the '50s and '60s of the last century, many others living there recently, a quarter even three years or less. The affordability, more space for your money, and family and friends living close by seem to be the main reasons why respondents moved to the neighbourhood. For the elderly, the neighbourhood provides living spaces that are attractive for older age. The majority of homes in the neighbourhood are rental, though the survey was filled in more by residents that own their homes, making homeowners over-represented in this research. Additionally, having more homeowners, the average time of residence was relatively high with 18 and half years. The respondents were mostly post-secondary vocationally trained, which is similar to the reality in the neighbourhood. Among the respondents, there was an overrepresentation though of the higher educated inhabitants. Moreover, probably due to the big group of higher educated, the respondents on average earn more than the average within the neighbourhood.

Only a quarter of the respondents indicated to have a (strong) attachment to their neighbourhood, and half of the respondents were moderately attached. For 52% of the respondents, their attachment had not gotten stronger or weaker over the time they had lived in the neighbourhood. Even though most respondents are not strongly attached to the neighbourhood and there does not seem to be a big increase in attachment, about three-quarters of them want to remain living in the neighbourhood, and half are (very) satisfied with the liveability.

The calculation of Sense of Place showed on average a neutral Sense of Place among the respondents, with an average score of 2.9, on a scale of 1-5. Respondents scored highest on the pillar of Place Attachment in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark, with a 3.23. Followed by Place Identity 2.77, and Place Dependence with 2.70. The Place Attachment turned out to be the highest of the three pillars, due to many of the respondents liking, and being happy living in, the neighbourhood and their wish to continue living in the neighbourhood. The average connectedness to the neighbourhood, the lack of influence of the neighbourhood on respondents identity, and the limited importance of the neighbourhood for the respondents resulted in a lower score for Place Identity than Place Attachment. The lack of activities, possibilities and services provided in the neighbourhood has probably influenced the lower scores of Place Dependence.

The gender of inhabitants did not have a significant influence on the difference in attachment to the neighbourhood, though a wider spread of Sense of Place scores is measured among the female respondents in Noorderpark than for the men. Age does have a significant influence on the Sense of Place, the older respondents seem to be more connected to their neighbourhood than the younger respondents, which might be influenced by the time of residence within the neighbourhood of the older adults. Respondents with a higher education degree score lower on Sense of Place than respondents with a post-secondary vocational degree or a high school diploma. This possibly could be influenced by the fact that higher educated people having a bigger radius of action in their leisure activities, spending less time in the neighbourhood. In this research, there was no significant difference found between homeowners and tenants when it comes to the Sense of Place. Interestingly, there was a significant difference found in income and Sense of Place. Respondents on welfare scored significantly higher on Sense of Place than respondents with an above middle income. This quite possibly is in line with educational degree differences.

When it comes to the daily lives of the respondents in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark, only a very small group of respondents indicated to be studying. When it comes to work, similarly all around the globe, more people worked from home due to the pandemic. The majority works either in the municipality or in Groningen. The employed residents mostly work full weeks, with an average of 30

hours a week. Next to the employed, there was a big group of respondents that do not work, either because they have retired or for other reasons like unemployment or sick leave. Many respondents had chosen to live in the neighbourhood to be close to friends and family. Visiting friends and family, therefore, takes predominantly place in the neighbourhood or the municipality. This is in line with where volunteer work and caregiving or formal care takes place as well. The lower score on Place Dependence showed that the respondents feel like the neighbourhood does not provide (enough) opportunities to do what they like. Both sporting and hobby-related activities seem to predominantly take place outside of the neighbourhood. This might be due to the preference of respondents to do so or the lack of opportunity in the neighbourhood, which would influence the Place Dependence. Other activities were grocery shopping which is done in the municipality mostly since there are no stores in the neighbourhood (anymore). When it comes to daily life activities and the locations where these take place, the only activity that showed any significant influence on the Sense of Place was the activity of work. Though there were no significant differences between the different locations where the work takes place for the respondents.

Overall the Sense of Place within the neighbourhood scored an average grade of 2.90, on a Likert scale from one to five. The neighbourhood seems to lack sufficient possibilities for the inhabitants to do what they like and perform activities such as sports and hobbies. This possibly influences the inhabitants' dependence on the neighbourhood. Moreover, there seems to be a big group of inhabitants that wants (to continue) to live in the neighbourhood long term, which influences the Place Attachment.

The municipality of Midden-Groningen wants to work on the wellbeing of its inhabitants, which is closely related to the relationship between the neighbourhood and its inhabitants. They therefore should continue to look into this relationship. What is clear is that the neighbourhood requires some actions on providing for the needs of inhabitants, regarding amenities (supermarket and mailbox for elderly) and activities to sport and do their hobbies. By continuing to look into the relationship between inhabitants and the neighbourhood the municipality can find bottlenecks and obstacles in that relation. Solving those will create a more liveable neighbourhood, that will influence the well-being concurrently.

Discussion

This research set out to measure the residents' Sense of Place and connect this to the inhabitants' daily lives. The method to measure the Sense of Place, based on methods by Nanzer (2004) and Jorgenson & Stedman (2001) turned out to be fruitful. Having the residents rank certain statements on a Likert scale the Sense of Place of each individual, and therefore for the whole dataset of respondents, could be measured. The method to ask inhabitants about their daily life activities and the locations in which they predominantly take place was useful in providing an image of the daily life context of inhabitants in the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. Though analysing the outcomes of Sense of Place and the daily life context proved difficult. Not much significant proof was found about the influence of the daily life context on the Sense of Place. For future research, respondents should be asked about the intensity of their daily life activities. This will probably provide more data on the daily life context with which the Sense of Place can be measured because it is clear that the different rhythms and activities in life do vary among residents.

The group of respondents were not entirely representative of the entire population of the neighbourhood of Noorderpark. There was a higher percentage of higher educated, more homeowners, and, besides a few different nationalities in the respondent group, the neighbourhood was underrepresented by inhabitants from different nationalities. Therefore the outcomes represent a part of the neighbourhood, but readers have to bear in mind that not all 3.415 inhabitants experience the neighbourhood the same way as the set of respondents do.

This research took place during the pandemic years. The door-to-door approach was taken to collect as many respondents as possible while following up the measurements set up by the government at that time. Not only did the pandemic influence this research approach, but it also possibly influenced the inhabitants daily life context and/or their Sense of Place. The employed might had to stay at home the last year, and the students possibly had to study from home. The retired might have found themselves alone at times, due to not being able to visit family and friends. Inhabitants might have seen more of the neighbourhood because of more walks through it, or less because the community centre and its activities were closed. All things considered, the pandemic must have an influence, though how and on what scale is not clear.

This research main focus area was the neighbourhood of Noorderpark in Hoogezand. As mentioned before, this neighbourhood consists of over 1500 households, which makes it a big neighbourhood. In the outcomes, it was visible that many respondents had a stronger connection with their street than with the entirety of Noorderpark. Therefore it would be interesting to find out more about the inhabitants' Sense of Place on a smaller scale for residents.

The reader should also bear in mind that the study is based on a subset of inhabitants of the neighbourhood. As explained before the group is not entirely representative of the entire population. The researcher did approach many different inhabitants of the neighbourhood in their door-to-door approach, unfortunately, it is not unexpected that certain population groups more often fill in surveys than others.

This research shows that not all respondents felt attached or connected to their neighbourhood. As explained in the theoretical framework, the living environment en feeling at home has a big influence on one's wellbeing. Certain trends in the neighbourhood, such as drugs and nuisance, often named as reasons for not feeling as attached to the neighbourhood, therefore need to be dealt with.

Also, this research has shown that the daily life context does have some form of an influence on the inhabitants' Sense of Place, though there is still much unknown. Therefore the suggestion for follow-

up research, coming forth out of this research, is to delve deeper into the specific influence of where inhabitants spend their time, and this influence on the inhabitants' Sense of Place.

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Appendix

Appendix A: Letter

Beste inwoner van de wijk Noorderpark,

Mijn naam is Chantal van der Sluis en ik ben een master student culturele geografie aan de Rijksuniversiteit Groningen. Voor mijn afstuderen doe ik onderzoek naar de invloed van het dagelijks leven van inwoners op hun woonbeleving in Noorderpark. Deze enquête is onderdeel van het onderzoek dat Hiska Ubels vanuit de Hanzehogeschool uitvoert samen met bewoners over de leefbaarheid in Noorderpark en ideeën voor verbeteringen. De gemeente maakt plannen voor wijkvernieuwing en wil graag meer weten over hoe u uw woonplek ervaart.

We hopen dat u mee wilt doen, want uw mening is belangrijk. Wij willen graag weten wat de wijk voor u als inwoner betekent. De uitkomsten van dit onderzoek delen wij met u en met de gemeente.

Voor dit onderzoek willen we u vragen een online vragenlijst in te vullen. Dat zal ongeveer 15 tot 20 minuten duren. U kunt hiervoor kiezen uit twee manieren:

1. Onderaan de pagina staat een link die u kan intypen in uw internetbrowser
2. Onderaan de pagina staat een QR-code die u met uw mobiele telefoon, tablet of Ipad kunt scannen en u naar de juiste webpagina leidt

Uw persoonlijke gegevens en antwoorden blijven anoniem. Alleen de onderzoekers van dit onderzoek hebben toegang tot uw vragenlijst.

Heeft u vragen of opmerkingen? U kunt altijd contact met mij opnemen: 06 376 630 33 of c.c.van.der.sluis@pl.hanze.nl

Alvast hartelijk dank voor uw deelname aan dit onderzoek!

Met vriendelijke groet,

Chantal van der Sluis

Link	http://bit.do/noorderpark
QR code	

De vragenlijst kan ingevuld worden tot uiterlijk zaterdag 17 juli

Appendix B: Survey

Onderzoek: Het leven in de wijk Noorderpark

Mijn naam is Chantal van der Sluis (student RUG) en ik doe voor mijn studie onderzoek naar het dagelijkse leven in de wijk Noorderpark. Hoe ervaart u uw woonplek, wat betekent uw woonplek voor u? De gemeente maakt plannen voor wijkvernieuwing en wil graag meer weten over hoe u uw woonplek ervaart. Uw mening is daarom belangrijk.

Fijn dat u mee wilt doen aan dit onderzoek!

Doel onderzoek

We hopen dat zoveel mogelijk inwoners van Noorderpark deel willen nemen aan het onderzoek. Hierdoor krijgen wij en u goed zicht op wat de wijk voor de inwoners van het dorp betekent. De uitkomsten kunt u ontvangen, zodra het onderzoek is afgerond. Daarnaast is het belangrijk om uw ervaringen te delen zodat de gemeente hiervan kan leren en met deze kennis bij u in de wijk aan de slag kan.

Vragenlijst

Deze vragenlijst bestaat uit 3 delen: persoonskenmerken, beleving in de wijk en dagelijks leven. De vragen bestaan uit open vragen en meerkeuzevragen. Het invullen van de vragenlijst duurt ongeveer 15 tot 20 minuten. U kunt zelf kiezen welke antwoorden u wel of niet geeft. Er zijn geen goede of foute antwoorden. Wel geldt: hoe eerlijker en spontaner hoe beter.

Vertrouwelijkheid

Belangrijk voor u om te weten: uw bijdrage is en blijft anoniem. Uw persoonlijke gegevens komen op een beveiligde database waar alleen onderzoekers bij kunnen. Uw deelname aan dit onderzoek is vrijwillig. U kunt altijd met het invullen stoppen door uw internetbrowser te sluiten.

Vragen of opmerkingen?

U mag mij altijd vragen stellen over het onderzoek. Mijn mailadres is: c.c.van.der.sluis@pl.hanze.nl. Mijn telefoonnummer is: 0637663033

Door het aanvinken geeft u toestemming aan het onderzoek en kan u verder met de vragenlijst:

Ik ben 18 jaar of ouder en ik heb de informatie op de vorige pagina goed gelezen en begrijp de informatie.

Deel 1: Vragen naar persoonskenmerken

Wat is uw leeftijd?

Wat is uw geslacht (kruis aan)?

- Man
- Vrouw
- Anders, namelijk

Hoe lang woont u in Noorderpark (vul een getal in)?

Wat is uw postcode?

NB: Voor het verwerken van uw gegevens hebben wij uw postcode nodig. Uw gegevens worden anoniem opgeslagen.

Woont u in een koop of huurwoning?

- Koop
- Huur
- Anders, namelijk

In wat voor type woning woont u?

- Vrijstaand huis
- Tweegezinswoning of twee-onder-een-kapwoning
- Rijtjeshuis
- Portiekflat
- Appartement
- Senioren appartement
- Anders, namelijk

Wat voor huishouden heeft u?

- Alleenstaand zonder inwonende kinderen
- Alleenstaand met inwonende kinderen
- Stel (samenwonend of getrouwd) zonder inwonende kinderen
- Stel (samenwonend of getrouwd) met inwonende kinderen
- Anders, namelijk

Wat is uw land van afkomst?

- Nederland
- Marokko
- Antillen
- Suriname
- Turkije
- Anders, namelijk

Wat doet u in het dagelijks leven (meerdere antwoorden mogelijk)?

- Ik studeer
- Ik werk
- Ik zit in de ziektewet
- Ik ben gepensioneerd
- Ik ben tijdelijk werkloos
- Ik ben langdurig werkloos
- Ik doe vrijwilligerswerk
- Ik ben mantelzorger
- Ik ben huisvrouw/man
- Ik ben met zwangerschapsverlof
- Anders, namelijk

Kunt u een korte beschrijving geven van wat u doet in het dagelijks leven (bijvoorbeeld: wat is uw beroep)?

Indien u betaald werk heeft, in wat voor dienstverband werkt u (meerdere antwoorden mogelijk)?

- Loondienst vast
- Loondienst tijdelijk
- 0-uren / flexibel / oproep
- Als zelfstandige /ZZP
- Niet van toepassing
- Anders, namelijk

Indien u betaald werk heeft, voor hoeveel uren per week is dit (vul een getal in)?

- Geen commentaar

Hoe vaak doet u vrijwilligerswerk in uw vrije tijd?

- Heel vaak
- Vaak
- Soms
- Zelden
- Nooit

Wat is uw hoogst afgeronde opleidingsniveau?

- Basisonderwijs
- Voortgezet onderwijs of vergelijkbaar (bijvoorbeeld: VMBO, LTS, huishoudschool, LEAO)
- MBO of vergelijkbaar (bijvoorbeeld: MTS, MEAO)
- HBO of WO
- Anders, namelijk

Wat is uw bruto inkomen?

- Bijstand
- Onder modaal
- Modaal (€36.500 bruto per jaar; 2.816 bruto per maand)
- Boven modaal
- Zeg ik liever niet

Hoe vaak bent u in uw leven verhuisd (vul een getal in)?

Deel 2: Vragen naar de beleving in de wijk

Wat vindt u het allerleukst aan de buurt Noorderpark (open vraag)?

- Geen commentaar

Wat vindt u het minst leuk aan de buurt Noorderpark (open vraag)?

- Geen commentaar

Wat is de reden dat u in Noorderpark woont (open vraag)?

Geen commentaar

Hoe gehecht bent u aan uw huidige woonplek?

Niet gehecht
 Zwak gehecht
 Beetje gehecht
 Erg gehecht
 Heel erg gehecht

Hoe is uw band met de wijk veranderd sinds u er bent komen wonen?

Zwakker
 Beetje zwakker
 Hetzelfde
 Beetje sterker
 Sterker

Wilt u hier langere tijd blijven wonen in de wijk, en waarom?

Ja
 Nee

Wat maakt dat u hier wel of niet nog langere tijd wilt blijven wonen (open vraag)?

Geef bij de volgende uitspraken aan wat voor u geldt (1=helemaal mee oneens, 2= oneens, 3= neutraal, 4= eens, 5= helemaal mee eens)

	Helemaal oneens	Oneens	Neutraal	Eens	Helemaal eens
1. Ik ben blij dat ik in de wijk Noorderpark woon	<input type="radio"/>				
2. Ik ben blij dat ik in mijn buurt/straat woon	<input type="radio"/>				
3. Ik zou graag nog een lange tijd in de wijk Noorderpark willen blijven wonen	<input type="radio"/>				
4. Ik voel me verbonden met Noorderpark	<input type="radio"/>				
5. Ik kan in mijn buurt meedoen aan activiteiten die ik leuk vind	<input type="radio"/>				
6. Er zijn voor mij betere wijken dan Noorderpark	<input type="radio"/>				
7. Het wonen in Noorderpark heeft mij gemaakt tot wie ik ben	<input type="radio"/>				
8. Noorderpark is een goede plek om de dingen te doen die ik het leukst vind	<input type="radio"/>				
9. Ik woon graag in de wijk Noorderpark	<input type="radio"/>				
10. Noorderpark betekent weinig voor mij	<input type="radio"/>				
11. Mijn buurt/straat betekent weinig voor mij	<input type="radio"/>				
12. Om de dingen te doen die ik leuk vind is er geen andere plaats beter dan Noorderpark	<input type="radio"/>				
13. Noorderpark is belangrijk voor mij	<input type="radio"/>				
14. Ik geloof dat een andere wijk meer mogelijkheden kan bieden om de dingen te doen die ik graag doe	<input type="radio"/>				

Hoe tevreden bent u met de leefbaarheid in de wijk?

- Sterk ontevreden
 Ontevreden
 Neutraal
 Tevreden
 Sterk tevreden

Deel 3: Vragen over uw dagelijks leven

Waar spelen de volgende activiteiten voor u het meeste af?

	In de wijk Noorderpark	In de gemeente	In de stad Groningen	Elders	Niet van toepassing
School/studie	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Werk	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Huishouden	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Familie/vrienden bezoeken	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Sport	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Hobby	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Boodschappen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Kinderen naar school brengen	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Vrijwilligerswerk	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Mantelzorg	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

Heeft u nog andere activiteiten die deel uitmaken van uw dagelijkse routine? Waar spelen deze af? (open vraag)

Geen commentaar

Wat wilt u nog graag meer zeggen over uw leven thuis, in uw straat, buurt of de wijk Noorderpark? Waar bent u tevreden mee? Wat wilt u graag anders zien?

Wilt u het eindverslag ontvangen?

Nee

Ja → E-mailadres:

EINDE VRAGENLIJST

Bedankt voor het invullen van de vragenlijst!

Appendix C: Overview respondents per postal code

Straat	Huisnummer(s)	Postcode(s)	Aantal Resp.
Adriaan van Ostadestraat	1 - 15	9601XN	1
Aert van der Neerweg	2 - 21	9601EW	0
Albert Cuypstraat	1 - 142	9601XT	9
Barentszstraat	1 - 96	9601GA - 9601GD	5
Bartholomeus Vd Helststr	1 - 143	9601CA - 9601CD	4
De Houtmanstraat	1 - 45	9601GE - 9601GJ	6
De Ruyterstraat	2 - 126	9601HB	0
Eekelshof	1 - 36	9601HV	4
Ferdinand Bolstraat	1 - 64	9601JT - 9601JW	3
Frans Halsstraat	1 - 80	9601HM - 9601HP	3
Gabriël Metsustraat	1 - 63	9601JH - 9601JK	1
Jacob van Ruysdaelstraat	1 - 138	9601XL - 9601XM	7
Jan Steenstraat	1 - 54	9601XZ	5
Johannes Vermeerstraat	1 - 63	9601VA - 9601VC	2
Judith Leysterstraat	2 - 83	9601JB - 9601JG	11
Keyserstraat	2 - 12	9601HL	1
Meindert Hobbemastraat	1 - 64	9601JL - 9601JN	0
Paulus Potterstraat	1 - 60	9601JP - 9601JS	4
Pieter de Hooghstraat	2 - 16	9601XW	0
Rembrandtlaan	1 - 196	9601XA - 9601XD	3
Rembrandtplein	1 - 184	9601XE - 9601XJ	4
Tasmanstraat	1 - 77	9601GR - 9601GV	9
Trompstraat	2 - 42	9601GW	5
Van Heemskerckstraat	2 - 145	9601HA - 9601HG	29
Van Linschotenstraat	1 - 95	9601HH - 9601HK	4
Van Noortstraat	1 - 104	9601GK - 9601GP	7
		9601	9
		9601DL	1
Totaal			137

Appendix D: Maps of the Neighbourhood Noorderpark

