Original Research Article

A Theoretical Analysis of the Concept of Place and Place Management in a New Approach to Criminology of Place[*]

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Abstract

Problem statement: Insecurity has been one of the most enduring concerns of urban life over time, and security is one of the most important indicators of the quality of life in urban spaces. Meanwhile, the fields of criminology, environmental criminology, and place-based crime prevention approaches have undergone various changes. Place-oriented and micro-centric analysis of urban crimes is one of the new operational strategies to prevent crime. At present, concepts such as "place" and "place management" have found valuable roles in criminology. Despite their roles, they have been less considered. In the current readings of the concept of place, it has been reduced to its traditional macro- and meso-scale readings, and on the other hand, the technique of place management lies in the isolation of theoretical introduction and empirical application among domestic texts.

Research objective: This article aims to analyze these two key concepts theoretically in the form of a correct epistemological classification system in line with the knowledge of environmental criminology and the criminology of place.

Research method: This study is qualitative and based on library studies and document analysis. Also, this study focuses on the systematic use of secondary documentary data for discovery, extraction, and classification in three basic conceptual areas, including "the concept of place," "the concept of place management," and "the approach of criminology of place."

Conclusion: According to the results, the concept of place in specialized and interdisciplinary criminology literature has two levels: traditional reading and modern reading. Also, in modern readings, "place" has jumped significantly in at least three areas of "conceptual growth," "knowledge growth," and "utility growth" and requires a coherent reading. Therefore, place and place management are scientifically traceable from at least three angles: "criminology of place theories," "crime prevention theories," and "theories of policing." In sum, through the theoretical positioning technique, both the semantic-conceptual system of "place" and its objective network were analyzed and interpreted.

Keywords: *Security, Crime Prevention, Criminology of Place, Place, Place Management.*

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Introduction

Today, many experts and city managers believe that in the third millennium and the future age of mankind, many of the objective and subjective realms of the future environment of human life will take place in cities and megacities and the subsequent extensive urbanization. The consequence of this vast urbanization, in addition to the possibility of enjoying a better quality of life, are known challenges and dangers, such as "crime" and the lack of "security", along with other challenges, such as widespread viral diseases, terrorist incidents, or wars. Based on this, security, on the one hand, has always been in a direct, albeit hidden, relationship with civilization, urbanization, and cities and urban spaces (Carter & Hill, 1979; Garland, 2001, 106; Emsley, 2005, 57) and in the modern readings of the factor of security and its governance, there is a tendency towards a "multivariable" and complex reading (Johnston & Shearing, 2003, 32-33), and the challenge of "urban security" as an "urban policy" is now one of the most important recent major concerns in the context of these cities and public urban spaces (Cochrane, 2018, 141; Kashani Jo, 2016, 95, 105). Along with city builders, in criminology, crime is basically not a constant phenomenon throughout history and has a variable form depending on the social, political, and economic criteria in societies (Muncie & McLaughlin, 1996, 2) and the "linear assumptions" of the occurrence of crime are changing; In postmodern criminology, linear dynamics no longer has a place in the etiology of crime, and the cause of crime is not linear and predictable (Najafi Abrandabadi & Goldouzian, 2018, 9, 42). Among the existing definitions and in the Webster's dictionary, any action in violation of the law governing that action is defined as a crime (NCPI, 2001, 9). In the literature of law and urban planning, "crime" refers to the behavior contrary to social order and accompanied by punishment or protective measures (Goldouzian, 1970, 143), and "security" refers to being free from risk and the relative lack of threat against assets and properties (Carmona, Heath, Oc & Tiesdell, 2003, 345) in addition to the protection of properties, friends and family (ibid) which has a humane origin. According to the well-known environmental criminologists, Paul and Patricia Brantingham, crime consists of four components: "law", "offender", "target" and "place (situation)" (Gilling, 2005, 39-40). Unlike the element emphasized by "law" in the classical perspective and the element emphasized by "offenders" in the positivist school, the other two elements, namely "the targets or victims" and "the place" were less important until the birth of the school of environmental criminology, however, they have been re-reviewed in more recent studies (ibid). On this basis, the "place" element has been the focus of "environmental criminology" in the last fifty years (Groff, Weisburd & Yang, 2010, 8) and this focus has led to more recent achievements in criminology. These achievements include the revision and turn of the traditional "mid-scale" presuppositions regarding the general existence of undesirable neighborhoods and environments in cities towards the "micro-scale" approaches, such as "approaches to place of crime". Despite the mentioned international theoretical advances, until now, modern readings of concepts such as "place" and "place management" have been less popular among urban security specialists in Iran. In this field, sufficient knowledge has not been formed and most of the texts in urban planning and architecture are still focused on environmental crime prevention techniques, such as CPTED. From this point of view, there is a research gap in domestic literature, which requires more specialized analysis. The conclusion of the research in this section is that the conceptual and semantic commonalities of these modern concepts of criminology, due to the lack of previous readings, have a valuable but unknown theoretical richness that can be gathered and analyzed. Therefore, this study seeks to understand the current state of common knowledge of these two concepts through a logical, interpretive, and descriptive scientific study. The interpretation carried out is based on opinions and theories of

criminology of place, focusing on the role of place in crime and criminality, so that the characteristics and common theoretical components of the concepts can be extracted and classified (Figs. 1&2). Based on the introduction and the stated research problem, the questions of this study are as follows: a) In the course of theoretical ideas of environmental criminology as well as theoretical models regarding place-based prevention of crime, what position and major developments have the concepts of "place" and "place management" had before? b) What are the theoretical components of the concepts of "place" and "place management" in modern criminological readings of place, and what are their connections with each other? The figure below shows the pattern of extraction and gradual discovery of the existing gap and the main claim of the research.

Theoretical Foundations
• Criminological theories

In the literature of interdisciplinary criminology texts, "crime" is usually considered a complex phenomenon (Brantingham & Brantingham, 2010, 279; Muncie, 1996, 59-60) and therefore requires a theory to understand and explain (Tilley, 2009, 3).

Fig. 1. Cheap motel, the scene of the murder in the valuable classic film "Psycho" by Alfred Hitchcock. Source: Hitchcock, 1960.

Fig. 2. An example of a crime scene - the proximity of liquor stores and money exchange centers to a bus stop - Los Angeles. Source: Loukaitou-Sideris, 2012, 10.

One of the notable points in this specialized literature is the multiplicity of different views on crime from different angles and the presence of different theories in this field, which is also consistent with the rotations made in different definitions and readings of crime. Accordingly, in the course of criminological thoughts, four schools exist in this field, which are the traditional or classical school, the positive models or the positivist school, and the ecological and environmental school, as well as the models emerging from contemporary times (Carrabine, Cox, Lee, Plummer & South, 2009, 51, 68, 90, 137, 385). Different theories in the field of crimes have been formed following the revision of classical theories based on the "inclination and free will of criminals" in committing crimes and moving towards the "relative freedom" of criminals in this field and recognizing the various limitations governing them (ibid). This basic orientation brings with it a more open field in understanding the phenomenon of crime and how it is formed, after which the phenomenon of crime tends to become more complex and present itself in a larger circle of elements. Therefore, the notions of the ubiquitous opportunities for crime are removed (Bannister, O'Sullivan & Bates, 2019, 317). In this context, after the decline of theories based on biology and clinical trials of criminals in the 18th and 19th centuries, the theoretical areas of new criminology are centered on sociologists and include the opinions of the Chicago school (Carrabine et al., 2009, 51-101). Along with these schools, the contemporary schools of criminology are also emphasizing the need to develop new models for policing, by examining crime control programs from the perspective of crime prevention models, and they seek to reduce crime and, consequently, the number of criminals (NCPI, 2001, 18-19). In the following section, considering the centrality of the role of "place" in the research, criminological theories have been classified into two major sets of "classical approaches to place" and "modern approaches to place", and new approaches to the role of "place" in crime are identified and introduced (Fig. 3).
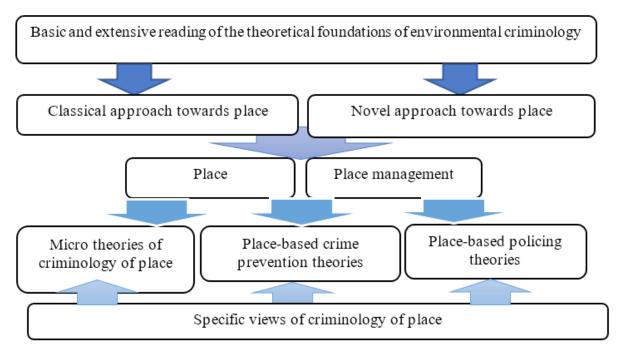
Fig. 3. Pattern of recognition, classification, and analysis of the main research concepts. Source: Authors.

• **The classical approach to place - general opinions of criminology (the general role of place in crime and crime prevention)**

In the classical approaches of criminology, the term 'place' is defined and classified as a normal element and an ordinary actor along with other elements in the occurrence of a crime, and it lacks basic and key importance in the formation of a crime as a distinguishing role. On this basis, according to these theoretical opinions, "place" has not been considered at the center of criminology and does not occupy an independent position. In this approach, the major approaches of "macro-scale" crime analysis and "meso-scale" crime analysis are known among criminologists. In macro approaches, the place is seen without details and at the highest spatial and local level. In those approaches, the place and the disorder within it are interpreted with environmental characteristics and at the neighborhood scale, or in the form of investigating crimes at the neighborhood level with reasons such as income inequality, social disorder, or the inaccessibility of jobs, or the unfavorable quality of neighborhood urban spaces (Kikuchi, 2010, 9). In fact, "space" and "neighborhood" are central in this reading of place

and their role in the crime. In terms of the position of the theory in this approach, following the introduced theories of criminology, attention to the environment and place in the general opinions of criminology can be traced from the ecological and environmental schools, which are introduced in the Table 1.

• **Special and modern opinions of criminology (the specific role of place in crime and crime prevention)**

In modern approaches to criminology, the place is classified under "micro-scale criminological opinions". On this basis, from the 1960s onwards, in line with the difficulty in perceiving and understanding how the various requirements of crime occur, and can be controlled, new revisions in the knowledge of criminology are accompanied by a revision of the special role of place in crime. With the birth of the criminology school in the 1970s and 1980s, instead of biological analyzes of offenders or sociological analysis in classical and positivist schools; This time, the crime and its immediate environment, the cause of the crime event, the settings of the crime, and the identification of "particular places of the crime" are analyzed (Bottoms & Wiles, 2002, 621; Carrabine et al., 2009,

Table 1. Comparative comparison of classical theories in the field of environmental criminology from the angle of place and place management. Source: Authors.

N0.	The name of the theory	Focus on place dimensions		Dominant focus and key approaches of the theory in crime prevention (ordered by priority)
		yes	no	
1	Crime pattern theory	✓	-	Environment and place
2	Routine activity theory	✓	-	Mixed approaches and place
3	Defensible space theory	✓	-	Design and place
4	Broken windows theory	✓	-	Place, environment, and management
5	Rational choice theory	✓	-	Mixed approaches and place

138; Sidebottom & Wortley, 2016, 157-175; Boba Santos, 2017, 74). Therefore, "place" as one of the constructive and key elements in the environment is reconsidered important and re-reviewed (Gilling, 2005a, 39-40). On this basis and in line with empirical criminological research, referring to the "micro-scale" analysis of the place of crime, such as neighborhood blocks, an intersection, or a common bus stop, becomes more common (Weisburd, Groff, Yang, 2012, 39; Loukaitou-Sideris, 2012, 93-94; Askari & Rajabi, 2016, 94). In this context, the place is redefined as other new concepts such as the physical features of places (Kikuchi, 2010, 10) or "particular locations and addresses" (Paulsen, 2013, 16-17) and the local micro-texture of place in neighborhood units (Weisburd & Telep, 2014, 2827-2828). The result of these achievements is the emergence of new hypotheses regarding the existence of large crime-free areas, even at the level of deviant and super-malignant neighborhoods, and the rejection of arguments regarding the inclusive concept of "dangerous neighborhoods in cities" and the " assumption of the intractability of crime", contrary to the meso-scale approaches of crime analysis. In fact, they turn towards the "controllable nature of the crime" (Mazerolle & Ransley, 2005, 207-208; Wilcox, Cullen, Feldmeyer, 2018, 210). This movement also brings with it a wave of new theories with new roles for a place in explaining crime, which is explained in the next part of the article.

Research Background

In the background of the research, except for the existing collection of theoretical texts, such as the experimental test of criminological theories (Alivardinia & Alimardani, 2017, 1), a significant number of domestic texts have dealt with the category of crime from the perspective of macro and meso and with approaches such as zoning crime-prone spaces or hot points, the patterns of crimes or the distribution of crimes, which is not in line with the direction of this research. On the other hand, there are few applied studies done from the micro perspective of location in crime, which can be referred to as Ahmadabadi et al.'s research (Ahmadabadi, Salehi Hikoi & Ahmadabadi, 2007) or Kalantari, Shia & Rafiyan (2021). In the meantime, a few have theoretical dimensions and have focused specifically on the dimensions of place and place management or crime prevention techniques. In this context, it is possible to specifically refer to the study of Afrasiabi (2011), Afrasiabi & Yarahamdi (2012), Moghimi (2017), and Kalantari, Shia & Rafiyan (2020). In those studies, the theoretical perspective of the studies is mainly oriented towards the three categories of "place, crime, and management of place". The field of foreign studies also has a wide range that has not been examined in this section due to the length of the text. In a critical summary, it can be stated that in the texts produced in Iran, less is focused on the theoretical concept of crime, and generally, more is

focused on the applied studies on the distribution of crime and the analyses that observe it from the perspective of macro and meso, in most of which a common orientation can be seen. The smallest intellectual field is related to the direct or indirect measurement of "place and place management in crime". In addition, although in all existing texts, "place and the importance of place" in crime are mentioned in some way; "place-based theories" are usually not seen in the texts. This matter indicates that this topic is unknown among Iranian authors and theoretical and empirical researchers. Despite the tendency towards micro-scale analyses, and due to the lack of a strong theoretical load, the analyzes have again gained a "macro-scale" orientation, such as focusing on the entire city level, or a "meso-scale" one, such as focusing on the "neighborhood". Furthermore, the role of place, the weakness of supervision, and the management of the place have not had central weight in the texts. In any case, these texts have introduced some of the dominant crime places such as "problematic parks" and have reminded us of the evident weakness of management over these "crime-prone places".

Research Methodology

The approach of this study is qualitative (Creswell, 2014, 5). Based on the qualitative nature of the research, the documentary research method was used in this study. In this method, the researcher collected data about actors, events, and social phenomena from sources and documents to discover, extract, classify, and evaluate document data in a systematic and orderly manner (Sadeghi Fassaei & Erfanmanesh, 2015, 63, 69). The importance of this systematic use of documents is to move from the mere collection of data, in which a hidden set of scattered dimensions and capacities of the subject of study is targeted, and then patterns are introduced for extraction, classification, and evaluation. Therefore, the documentary data of the research was based on the two central issues of "place" and "place management in crime" to analyze, extract components, classify,

and also identify previously unexpressed relationships between these basic research concepts. The documents in this study included the texts in the form of specialized textbooks, reference books, academic theses, refereed scientific articles, and other scientific articles in the fields of environmental criminology – especially criminology of place- as well as reports and case studies of successful criminological police experiences in combating place-based crimes. In the document review process, while focusing on both mentioned concepts in accordance with the obtained heuristic patterns, a new classification and evaluation in the form of "organized conceptual clustering", "conceptual lexical system" and "conceptual network" was put on the agenda as a coherent repositioning of concepts. The research outputs were also categorized into three axes: criminology of place theories, place-based crime prevention theories, and new place-based policing theories. Also, in terms of methodology, the research employed the capabilities of review-interpretive approaches for a more accurate reading to locate, aggregate and recognize the capacities of the subject and data of the research (Littell, Corcoran & Pillai, 2008, 1). The nature of this study is process-oriented and has an inductive and comparative logic. It should be noted that in the text of the article, in addition to observing coherence in the type of expression of the outputs of the article, the capacities of analysis and interpretation have also been used in accordance with conceptual analysis.

Research Findings

This section includes definitions and theoretical understandings of the central concepts of the study and extension of specific theoretical opinions in the field of criminology of place are of interest. Based on this, the conducted revisions and new opinions in this area have been reviewed and they can be generally classified into three categories. First: opinions and theories of criminology of place; Second: opinions of spatial prevention of crime; And third: new theories of place-based policing.

Micro opinions and theories of criminology of place

In this field, parallel to the recent advances in criminology with the emphasis on micro-urban environments, new researches focus on the deep understanding of the new role of place and the recognition of the neglected features of place in crime in a large circle called micro-theories of criminology of place. Based on this, from an analytical point of view, with the transformation of the "element of place" in general opinions of criminology, i.e., classical approaches to place, to "the concept of place" in special opinions of criminology, i.e., modern approaches to place, a lexical system has been formed gradually that explains what place is in crime, and has resulted in the birth of "criminology of place". The final result of this rotation is the development of subjective and objective dimensions of place in the form of a "conceptual-objective network of place" in crime. In the following, theoretical developments in this field are examined. The theory of crime pattern and the theory of crime hotspots pioneered by Lawrence Sherman are among the first significant texts in this field regarding the development of the nature of place and the discovery of the non-randomness of crime distribution and the concentration of its distribution pattern around specific hot spots and clustered places (Weisburd & Telep, 2014, 2827; Boba Santos & Santos, 2014, 5159). Following the aforementioned study and focusing on specific addresses in crime, from the 1990s onwards, more theoretical reflection is formed regarding the recognition of place and its management. Another pioneering study in this field is the study of John Eck (Eck, 1994) in the development of the concept of place and the concept of "place manager", along with the development of the Routine Activity Theory and the crime triangle. In continuation of this process, efforts for focusing on recognizing the nature of place have continued since the middle of the 1990s, and recognizing the features of the place, facilities in place, and clustering of place are being re-attested in this period (Eck & Weisburd, 1995, 8; Felson, 1995). Parallel to the initial development

of the concept of place, the concept and approach of "place management" finds a footing in this field in a theoretical form among the literature and criminology texts before the 2000s (Mant, 1998), and continues to grow in criminology theories, as well as in the field of specialized literature on crime prevention and modern policing approaches. In this regard, renewed attention is paid to the "law of crime concentration", as well as the concentration of crime in "place" and "dominant places in crime" in the beginning and middle years of the 2000s and 2010s (Weisburd et al., 2004; Weisburd, 2015). Corroborative evidence has also been gathered from the testing of this characteristic of the place in the span of different cities of the world (Amemiya & Ohyama, 2019, 2). Along with the emergence of these new concepts, paying attention to the role of facilities in crime and the birth of the concept of "Risky Facilities", after the middle years of the 2000s, is also significant in this field. According to John E. Eck, risky facilities include a small part of a category and group of similar properties and places where crimes often occur at an extraordinary level (Eck et al., 2007, 226). This concept is based on principles derived from the concentration of crime in certain places, such as the "theory of crime concentration", in which only a small part of the facilities causes the formation and accumulation of the highest level of crime and disorder in the environment (Bichler et al., 2013, 438). Among the other theoretical developments of place in this field is the development of the third crime triangle, and the formation of the concept of "super controllers" to control and monitor the elements of the second layer of the crime triangle, which includes "managers" to be supervised (Sampson, Eck & Dunham, 2010, 37- 44). Also, in this new direction, the focus of theoretical texts on the concept of "place" and the clarification of the position, importance, and role of micro-places continue to grow in the early years of the 2010s (Loukaitou-Sideris, 2012, 85; Hillier & Ozlem, 2012, 111). The birth of the concept of criminology of the place was formed along the

special focus of criminology on micro levels, such as crime addresses or intersections, as well as emphasizing the diversity of crime events (Weisburd, Groff & Yang, 2012, 39; Wilcox et al, 2018, 164-167). In this new reading, even the formation of crime in "crime-prone areas" requires both elements of "neighborhood texture" and opportunities arising from "particular places and addresses" in the artificial environment (Paulsen, 2013, 16-17). From another point of view, a comprehensive look at the result of all these developments shows the formation of a "conceptual network of place" in the mutated literature of criminology of place. This method of criminology has its own unique advantages, such as the more significant role of place in crime control, in the form of focusing on place compared to focusing on other categories involved in the occurrence of crime, such as reforming the offenders (Wilcox et al., 2018, 140). In addition, in this regard, places with a history of crime have six times the ability to predict future crimes compared to criminals with a history (Kikuchi, 2010, 1). In line with this matter, deeper attention to the definitions and general features of "place" in crime has been placed on the agenda of later studies in this field (Eck & Guerette, 2012, 166-170; Eck, 2015, 224-226). Objectification of this "conceptual network" of place has also been formed in some of the specialized texts of this field in the 2010s. Based on this, the "crime scene" is not only a site and a "one-dimensional" space, but the crime scene itself has "supporting places" or "composite places" and this fact further strengthens the importance of the place in the crime. Places are divided into three types of "Pooled Places" such as large places like neighborhoods, "Proximal Places" such as "street segments", and " Proprietary Places" (Eck & Guerette, 2012, 166-170). Also, according to the recent studies of other researchers in the field of criminology, proprietary places cover four levels or four other roles, including "crime sites", "converging settings", "comfort spaces" and "corrupting spots", for the formation of the crime event (Madensen & Eck, 2013, 570-571; Herold,

Biehl & Madensen, 2017, 7). In fact, "crime" has two levels of concealment, the first level of which is in the crime sites, and the other level is formed with the help of the other three mentioned places as an "objective network of crime places" and as the "mixed-use of places" (Figs. 4 & 5). In fact, "place" has two conceptual and objective dimensions at the same time (Table 2).

• **Opinions and theories of place-based crime prevention**

In addition to the opinions and theories of criminology of place, place in the opinions and theories of place-based crime prevention field has also grown significantly, especially from the perspective of the concept of "place management", and the main origin of the concept of "place management" returns to the theories and approaches of crime prevention (Carrabine et al., 2009, 138). In this context, since the 1990s, different approaches to "crime prevention" have been born in the criminology literature, which can be at least

Fig. 4. Graphic representation of the connections of the "objective crime place networks" required in the occurrence of crime. Source: Herold et al., 2017, 14.

Fig. 5. Graphic representation of the "network of real places" in the occurrence of crime. Source: Herold et al., 2017, 26.

Table 2. The conceptual and objective network of place in the modern literature of criminology of place. Source: Authors.

No.	Conceptual-objective network of places	Examples	No.	Conceptual-objective network of places	Examples
1	Hot Spots	Sherman et al. (1989)	8	Crime Sites	Madensen & Eck (2013)
2	Risky Crime Facilities	Eck & Weisburd (1995) Eck, Clarke & Guerette (2007)	9	Convergent Settings	Madensen & Eck (2013)
3	Cluster Oriented	Eck & Weisburd (1995)	10	Comfort Spaces	Madensen & Eck (2013)
4	Troublesome Places	Eck & Guerette (2012)	11	Corrupting Spot	Madensen & Eck (2013)
5	Pooled Places	Eck & Guerette (2012) Madensen & Eck (2013)	12	Crime Place Networks	Herold, Biehl & Madensen (2017)
6	Proximal Places	Eck & Guerette (2012) Madensen & Eck (2013)	13	Mixed Use Places	Herold, Biehl & Madensen (2017)
7	Proprietary Places	Eck & Guerette (2012) Madensen & Eck (2013)	-	-	-

divided into four major categories: crime prevention through social development, community-based or locally-based crime prevention, situational crime prevention, and reintegration programs (UNODC, 2010, 12-15). Paying attention to the category of place management in the late 1990s has been along the growth of crime prevention techniques, including techniques that focused on the situational crime prevention approach (Cornish & Clarke, 2003, 89-90). According to Clarke, "situational crime prevention" is beyond and more extensive than "CPTED", because it involves the entire range of the environment and objects involved in crime, and therefore, the entire "legal and management system" as well as "design solutions" are considered important (Salehi, 2008, 150). Situational crime prevention is one of the new approaches in this field and is related to the physical features, the role of physical opportunities of the situation and place, and the conditions in the range of decisions and choices of the offenders in the crime situation (Clarke, 1980, 449, 460). In fact, the techniques and methods of "situational crime prevention" have emerged with an emphasis on the "management of the environment" and the management of criminal opportunities compared to other opportunities (Moghimi, 2017, 159; Benson, Madensen & Eck, 2009, 183). So

basically, the theories of situational crime prevention are looking for why some criminal opportunities are more attractive to criminals than other opportunities (ibid). However, it should be noted that the birth of the concept of place management and, here, the prevention technique of "place management" is not only of the nature of prevention, because in terms of its nature, "place management in crime" is rooted in the tools of "surveillance" over space, which is also defined as a tool for strengthening and intensifying or surveillance as a consequence for secure urban spaces (Lee & Herborn, 2003, 31, 33, 36; Welsh & Farrington, 2009, 9). In this regard, the use of supervisors in the form of "The Stadswacht[1]" or "Neighborhood Watch" programs are very closely related to the "place management" technique. Also, in addition to the situational crime prevention approach, the place has played a role and interacted with other new approaches to prevention, including in the fields of partnership-oriented crime prevention. From this point of view, the nature of crime prevention is not only limited to the actions of organizations but also includes and is related to many public, social, private sector, and citizen policies (Gilling, 2005, 82, 113, 125). The birth of the recent approaches of "crime prevention partnership" (Cochrane, 2018, 168) "preventative

partnerships" (Garland, 2001, 17, 147) asset-based approaches, and resource mobilization for the place (Arefi, 2001, 24, 29) "partnership-oriented" approaches in deprived neighborhoods (Webster, 2006) and in more precise technical language "partnership-based crime prevention", are among the developments and results of mixing the factor of "place" with the category of prevention, especially in the field of physical social damage and crimes. Indeed, "place management" is quite in line with paradigm shifts such as the return from "disciplinary combat" with crimes toward "crime prevention partnership" (Graham & Clarke, 1996, 175). In fact, in addition to prevention and monitoring, place management also has a partnership aspect. Another part of similar patterns of prevention has manifested in the same context in the new forms of "own the place prevention" or "own the crime prevention" or "prevention of the perpetrator" (Eck & Guerette, 2012, 166-170). In addition to these three developments in this field, following the theoretical growth of the concept of place management, there are still theoretical gaps in terms of definitions and the manner of its application in the direction of urban public security, and therefore, since the mid-2000s, numerous studies have been conducted on this subject. From this point of view, the technique of "place management" in practice is not unrelated to the "nature of the place", "the features of the place" or "the manager of the place", rather these propositions interact with each other both in thought and in practice. On this basis, for example, "place managers" are people who are either "owners of the place" and have assumed the secondary function of "surveillance of the place" through themselves or their job (Scott, Eck, Knutsson & Goldstein, 2008, 235-236; Welsh & Farrington, 2009, 9) or are "caretakers of the place" and conduct "behavior controlling" in given situations (Clarke & Eck, 2005, 129). In another operational definition, "place management" is introduced as a set of actions in processes, which the owners, the employees, and others use to establish the functions of a place to "organize" the social and physical environment of a certain situation (ibid., 2007, 19). In this period, after the emergence of the concept and technique of place management prevention, "operational models" from the concept of place management were born, specifically focused on the target places and hot spots of crime, such as the "Madsensen model" (Madsensen, 2007) or the relational model of place (Kalantari, 2019, 190-191) (Table 3).

• **Opinions, approaches and policing techniques in the field of place and place management**

From another point of view, the concept of "place" and the approach or technique of "place management" are not unrelated to policing operations. In fact, another area very close to the two specialized categories of "place" and "place management" refers to the field of public security operations and the dominant body that governs it, i.e., the police organization and policing operations. Also, there are similarities between "situational crime prevention" and "new models for policing". In this regard, in addition to the change in policing methods, perceptions of security have also gradually changed. From this point of view, the technique of "place management" is completely aligned with

Table 3. Theoretical dimensions of place management technique in the modern literature of criminology of place. Source: Authors.

No.	Theoretical dimensions of place management (in crime)	No.	Theoretical dimensions of place management (in crime)
1	Prevention Oriented	7	Organization Oriented
2	Situational Oriented	8	Regulation Oriented
3	Crime Environment	9	Suppression Oriented
4	Partnership Oriented	10	Reaction Oriented
5	Surveillance Oriented	11	Enabler Oriented
6	Control Oriented	12	Promotion Oriented

changes in the view of concept of "mentality of security ", and in the type of governance for urban security. Also, instead of the major and significant role of the government, its views are more aligned with the presence of multiple security-establishment forces and "network governance" in the form of interactions between the two domains of public police and private police, for private and public places (Johnston & Shearing, 2003, 10, 17, 23, 31-32). In this context, contemporary schools of criminology have also emphasized the need to develop new methods of policing, and by scrutinizing crime control programs from the perspective of crime prevention, they have sought to reduce crime and the number of criminals (NCPI, 2001, 18-19). In the new ideas of this field, the control of crime opportunities is not only limited to the agency of the police, rather the assistance programs for employees of business areas also have a high potential to reduce crimes (Weisburd et al., 2012, 188). On this basis, levels of "partnership" with the set of forces outside the police structure have been emphasized. Simultaneously with these developments, from 2000 onwards, collaborative goal setting in the form of community safety partnerships has taken place globally to attract citizens, especially with the approach of reducing crime and fear of crime at the level of local communities (Carmona, de Magalhães & Hammond, 2008, 20). In the field of the management of urban centers, experiences like the technique of using guards and human agents in the guarding of urban public spaces, such as using street wardens or square -public space- wardens, are part of the new practical measures in the form of surveillance and indirect policing for better management and more monitoring of the space (ibid). On the other hand, following the recognition and influence of the features of the place, such as the concentration of crime in particular places, policing operations also tend to focus on monitoring a relatively limited range of places in place-based policing operations (Weisburd & Telep, 2010, 14) and the place-based crime prevention process (Eck

& Guerette, 2012, 167-168). The formation of similar concepts in this field, such as police patrols around hot spots and policing operations around these spots, is also in this direction (Weisburd & Braga, 2006, 225). Based on this, the concept of "place" has opened its foothold in modern policing. Following all kinds of place-based policing methods, new models of policing were born, such as third-party policing, or community policing in the form of police partnerships with the presence of partnership elements and the participation of forces other than the police, such as members of a community and civic organizations (Buerger & Mazerolle, 1998; Mazerolle & Ransley, 2005, 42; Skogan, 2006, 28-34). Also, following the distancing between policing measures and approaches such as case-based police patrols, search and arrest, operations and rapid response (Braga & Weisburd, 2006, 146), and turning to newer and micro-scale models under the title of problem-oriented policing operations, the more innovative framework of the "[5] I" model compared to the "SARA model" indicates the presence of the factor of practical participation and the willingness of the police for partnerships and involving more groups other than the police to control crimes (Scott et al., 2008, 236; Ekblom, 2011, 83-101; Schneider, 2015, 374). In fact, according to the distribution of multiple factors in the phenomenon of crime and the distribution of its shaping and controlling among other actors and institutions, there is a need for levels of partnership with the set of external forces (outside the police structure) in the direction of more effective crime control in "problem-oriented policing" (ibid). Based on this and according to the analysis, there is a very noticeable connection between the third person in "Third-party policing" and the category of "place manager" and "place management in crimes". The set of police efforts to persuade or compel a set of institutions, public housing companies, or non-organizational people such as parents, property owners, owners of pubs and taverns, and store owners to accept responsibility along with education as part of the process of crime prevention and reduction

of problems caused by it, has also been cited in the definition of "third-party policing" as a part of major changes in the type of legislation (Mazerolle & Ransley, 2006, 191,198). In fact, the concept of "crime control nodes" exists in this type of operation (Table 4).

Conclusion

The category of crime and insecurity is still one of the lasting challenges in the current cities, and in future cities, due to the majority of its population being urban, it will continue to be one of the most important categories in the field of urban policy. The theoretical literature of criminology is indicative of the collection of various theoretical efforts to improve and understand the occurrence of crime from different angles. In non-physical fields, the formation of "development-oriented criminology" and "community-oriented preventions" are examples of these developments and turns. In the physical field as well, in parallel with moving away from the idea of the complete freedom of criminals from any restrictions and doubts about the similarity of the conditions that constitute all types of crimes for all types of offenders, the knowledge formed in the field of criminology has grown and enriched, and so far, this theoretical course has gone through the three dimensions of macro-scale view, meso-scale view, and micro-scale view. In the recent literature of the last fifty years and the current main attitudes, criteria, and characteristics such as place and its management have gained a very significant role and a significant volume of texts are dedicated to deepening the knowledge of the place. In fact, the dimensions of urban crime analysis from the perspective of small places are now the most dominant form of crime analysis and crime prevention at the level of world literature. In the modern reading of

the concept of place, the place is extremely prominent and at the same time, it has grown significantly in the level of "concept", "usefulness" and "knowledge" in the world literature. The concept of place management is also derived from the developments that have grown in the field of place-based prevention of crimes. Nevertheless, despite this extraordinary leap in this field, there are noticeable theoretical gaps among the domestic texts. This study has filled this gap through a research study with common documentary methods and library sources. On the one hand, this gap points to the existence of popular meso-scale approaches and applied texts in the analysis of urban crimes in Iran, and on the other hand, it points to the fact that the central concepts of the study, namely the two concepts of place and place management, are unknown. In fact, the existing level of knowledge of the country in these two fields is only sufficient for the general opinions and theories of environmental criminology, and the specific opinions of environmental criminology with the central role of the "criminology of place" have not been introduced, even in a preliminary form. The research verdict in this field has not only focused on this claim, rather with the help of the document analysis strategy, it has extracted and classified the existing studies in the field of the concept of place and the limited resources around the concept of place management, and also, the implicit conceptual semantic network in the new opinions of criminology has been introduced in the form of an intellectual and correct epistemological system. The findings of the research in this field show that place and place management each have a theoretical conceptual network at the conceptual level, and due to the practicality and the extraordinary role of place and its management in estimating, forecasting,

Table 4. Network concepts extracted from the new place-based policing approaches and techniques. Source: Authors.

No.	Conceptual network of place and policing operations	No.	Conceptual network of place and policing operations
1	Mentality of Security	5	Hot-Spot Policing
2	Police Innovation	6	Police Partnerships
3	Problem-Oriented Policing	7	Third-Party Policing
4	Place-Based Policing	8	Crime Control Nodes

and preventing the event of a crime, they have also experienced a growth in usefulness at the objective level. In fact, a kind of "conceptual growth" has become the background for the scientific growth of these concepts. Having these two levels of growth has also reflected the growth of usefulness and objectification of the concepts of place and place management in the field of daily life. This network of concepts born in the new development of the criminology of place is completely connected in all three expanded conceptual, scientific, and utilitarian sub-domains, and the growth of one concept in one sub-domain causes the birth and growth of another concept in other sub-domains. And, here, a unified reading of these concepts is needed for analysis and recognition, which is discussed in this research. On the other hand, in addition to the investigated dimensions of the place and the clarification of the conceptual-semantic network and the objective network of the presence of "place" in space, the research has also analyzed and identified the set of possible and implicit definitions and understandings in the concept of "place management". Scientific growth in these two fields has been traced at least in three perspectives: criminology of place theories, crime prevention theories, and the field of policing operations. In general, this research, while classifying and aggregating all these theoretical findings by passing through scattered views, has provided the starting grounds for more theoretical understanding of this intellectual system and the operational expansion of these concepts, such as the use of "modern place processing" in criminology, the use of "new spatial awareness" among citizens, and also the use of new place-oriented readings for newer debates and arguments with this approach, especially inside our country (Table 5).

Table 5. Aggregated network concepts of the new approach of criminology of place based on the time of emergence. Source: Authors.

No.	Time	Example	Invented concept and degree of concentration of texts	Analytical scale
1	1920-1970	Chicago School Burgess (1916) Shaw and McKay (1942)	Aggregate-level Places	Meso
2	1970-1980	Brantingham & Brantingham (1975) Bottoms & Wiles (2002)	Environmental Criminology Revisiting Place Role Particular Places	Meso
3	1980-1990	Sherman et al (1989)	Hot Spots Clustered Places	Meso & Micro
4	1990-2000	Bottoms & Wiles (1992) Eck (1994) Felson (1995) Mant (1998) Johnston & Shearing (2003)	Relation of crime and place Place Concept Place Entity Place Manager Place Management Concept Mentality of Security	Micro
5	2000-2010	Cornish & clarke (2003) Weisburd et al (2004) Clarke & Eck (2005) Mazerolle & Ransley (2005) Weisburd &Braga (2006) Eck et al. (2007) Madensen (2007) Sampson, Eck, Dunham (2010) Weisburd & Telep (2010) Weisburd et al (2012)	Place management Concept Law of Crime Concentrations Third-Party Policing Police Partnerships Crime Control Nodes Hot-Spot Policing Eck's Crime Triangle Place Management Model Place-Based Policing Place Conceptual Network	Micro
6	2010-2020	Payne (2010) Hoke (2013) Weisburd et al (2012) Eck & Guerette (2012) Madensen & Eck (2013) Weisburd (2015)	Place Management Concept Criminology of Place Place Concept Model Place Conceptual Network Place Conceptual Network Law of Crime Concentrations	Micro

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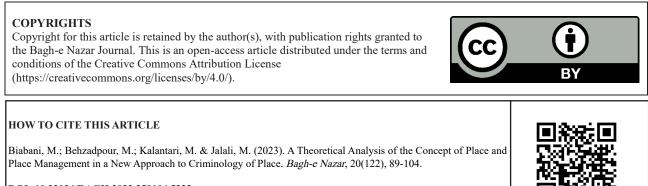
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