

Well-Being of Occupants of Low-Income Housing Projects in Colombo

M. T. U. Perera^a, T. G. U. P. Perera^{b*}

^aCentre for Real Estate Studies, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka

^bDepartment of Estate Management and Valuation, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka
tgup@sjp.ac.lk

Abstract

The purpose of this study is to assess the well-being in terms of economic, social, and environmental aspects of the displaced community from low-income housing projects in Colombo, Sri Lanka. For this purpose, the primary data was collected by interviewing 25 resettled households who were living in low-income housing projects and observing them. The secondary data was collected via articles, books, newspapers, gazette notifications, etc., to data utilization and further validation of the study findings. Using the thematic analysis method, the study findings were ascertained. The key findings of the study revealed that the relocation of people from informal settlements to new homes could be seen as a testament to the positive and negative effects of the financial, social, and environmental changes that have taken place in their lives. This study is important to identify the basic problems of the new housing families in the city of Colombo and to be able to provide the information needed to make resettlement housing plans and infrastructure to minimize those problems in future housing projects.

© 2022 The Authors. Published by Department of Estate Management and Valuation, University of Sri Jayewardenepura.

Keywords: Urban poverty, Low-income housing, unauthorized houses, wellbeing, Sri Lanka

Introduction

The importance of urban design in fostering well-being cannot be overstated. In modern civilizations, however, the cornerstone of urban planning is firmly rooted in well-being (Pacione, 2003; Gilchrist et al., 2015; Azcarraga et al., 2019). While this is becoming more commonly acknowledged in a growing body of multidisciplinary literature, there is still a need to further describe and comprehend the relationship between urban planning and well-being, as cities and urban aspects proliferate, making it more difficult to investigate in a focused fashion (Geropanta et al., 2021). The most prominent approach to urban planning and development is the resettlement of low-income communities in high-rise housing, which is regarded as a primary urban policy in many economies' planning frameworks (Horayangkura, 1988; Gugler et al., 2004; Wegelin, 2012; Cestero, 2019). However, resettling low-income groups in new dwellings has the propensity to bankrupt communities, disrupt social structures, degrade the environment, and lead to violent conflict, all of which are detrimental to human well-being (Yuen and Yeh, 2011; Bhugra et al., 2019). The sensation of pleasant feelings such as happiness and satisfaction, as well as the realization of one's capabilities, having some influence over one's living, having a sense of meaning, and having meaningful connections, has been classified as well-being (Plough, 2020). It is a long-term state that permits an individual or a group to grow and thrive.

Resettlement housing can be linked to a desire to create a distinctive space, interact with others, or pursue a trend (Beier et al., 2021). The resettlement housing projects under the Colombo Urban

*Corresponding author: tgup@sjp.ac.lk

Regeneration Program are primarily focused on the present study. The relocation of urban slums has been a developmental problem in several developing regions during the last few decades. Sri Lanka is undertaking significant infrastructure upgrades following 30 years of internal strife, notably in Colombo, where some of these developments have resulted in the resettlement of various shanty or slum settlements into high-rise structures (Samaratunga, 2013). However, high-rise public housing is not a universally acceptable choice for housing for low-income residents, and high-rise housing developments for low-income communities have had high-profile disasters (Austen, 2019). Therefore, high-rise housing must be thoroughly investigated in order to have a comprehensive understanding of the low-income community's post-resettlement situation (Power, 2013). Existing research has conducted studies on the general social factors as well as their livelihood issues (Kumarasuriyar, 1981; Samaratunga, 2013; Samaratunga and Hare, 2013). Conversely, the roadmap for a better and more sustainable future for Sri Lanka is comprised of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which address socioeconomic problems including poverty, inequality, climate change, ecological degradation, peace, and equality. Recent events in Sri Lanka, however, have raised serious questions about whether the country is prepared to face the obstacles in the way of fulfilling its national pledge to the SDGs. Against these backdrops, the present study aims to evaluate the well-being in terms of economic, social, and environmental aspects of the displaced community from low-income housing projects in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

Literature Review

Concept of Wellbeing

Well-being has been defined as a combination of positive and functional sensations, as well as the advancement of one's abilities, possessing some influence over one's life, having a perception of identity, and having valuable relationships (Gunnell, 2011). Accordingly, wellbeing is rapidly expanding across several academic areas, yet the topic of how to define it poses concerns (Bullington, 2018; Kouali et al., 2020). The multidisciplinary investigation looks at previous efforts to describe wellbeing and gives an overview of the key theoretical perspectives from Aristippus' writings to the present (Bennett and Nikulinsky, 2019). For example, according to hedonic scientists, wellbeing comprises subjective happiness and entails the experience of pleasure against displeasure, which is generally defined to include all judgments about good/bad events in life (Ryan and Deci, 2001; McGregor et al., 2007). Happiness is not attributable to physical hedonism since it may be gained by accomplishing goals or reaching desired outcomes in a number of circumstances. Eudaimonic wellbeing concentrates on value and self-realization, and it is described primarily in terms of techniques of thinking and doing that offer pleasure. It is based on Aristotle's idea that happiness comes from doing what is good (Rydin et al., 2012). Several well-being theories and definitions were produced in response to the foregoing historical foundations, and three fundamental ideas may be determined, viz., economic wellbeing (Ludwig et al., 2012; Alba and Foner, 2015; Fields, 2018), social wellbeing (Graham and Crown, 2014; Kilpatrick and Emery, 2021), and environmental wellbeing (Bartos and Wood, 2017), in the context.

Economic Wellbeing

In the early nineteenth century, Alfred Marshall described economics as a study of humans going about their daily lives, while the economics of happiness gained popularity as a research area (Marshall & Royal Economic Society, 1996). The study of well-being economics emphasizes elements of individual and community behaviour that is most closely related to the attainment and utilization of objective (money, employment) needs for happiness. Furthermore, economic well-being is a part of social happiness that may be measured in monetary terms. In addition, national production was thoroughly measured to assess the country's well-being (Alba and Foner, 2015). While economic progress improves people's objective living conditions, it also enhances their views of their living conditions. Countries with higher rates of financial satisfaction increase

also have high levels of overall life satisfaction growth (Bruni et al., 2021). Accordingly, there are three forms of economic wellbeing: advancing and adapting Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and appropriate metrics for economic prosperity; creating measures effectively related to particular attributes of quality of living, such as basic necessities; and constructing more extensive indicators of wellbeing by incorporating predictors related to objective living conditions, length of life, education, and other attributes (Fields, 2018).

Social Wellbeing

The article is based on Keyes' Social Well-Being, which was published in the *Social Psychology Quarterly* in 1998. Keyes defined social well-being as "the appraisal of one's situation and behavior in society" and established the five categories from social well-being theory (Keyes et al., 2002). i) social integration (the quality of one's relationship with society and community is measured by social integration (Keyes, 1998) on the ground of values and beliefs, the person feels like they belong to a group or community. This group might consist of the individual's neighborhood, friends, groups, or the whole society), ii) social acceptance (a broad category for constructing society based on the personality and qualities of others, it implies that the person has high regard for others and has faith in their ability to be trustworthy and hardworking. This leads to a good outlook on society and a broad belief in it), iii) social contribution (the assessment of one's social worth (Keyes, 1998), in this sense, the individual believes that he or she is a contributing part of society. The individual believes he or she can contribute to the commonwealth. This suggests that the person believes he or she is capable of doing particular tasks and taking on societal responsibilities), iv) social actualization (the assessment of society's potential and trajectory individuals think that through people, government, and institutions, a society's entire social potential may be fulfilled. The individual, in turn, contributes to this realization and feels hopeful about the future of society) and v) social coherence (a concern for understanding about the world and an assessment of its quality, structure, and functioning (Keyes, 1998), People believe they have a stake in the world they live in and that they can comprehend it. Even though they are aware that they do not live in a perfect world, they establish objectives and seek to give meaning to their life). Accordingly, Keyes, (2002) defined social well-being as our desire for positive social lives that comprised meaningful relationships with family, community, and society as a whole.

Social well-being is split into two categories: social adjustment and social support (Lam, 2019). Social adjustment is defined as personal happiness in relationships and the ability to be fulfilled in social responsibilities (Johnson et al., 2017). Social support, on the other hand, refers to the aspects of one's social network interactions as well as the sense of security that comes with them. It relates to how socially active we are and how connected we feel; a connected person is someone who is supported in society (Graham and Crown, 2014). Accordingly, the capacity to practise one's ideas and practices in society, as well as stable interpersonal connections, all contribute to social well-being. As a consequence, social ties and networks affect overall professional progress and career pathways, as well as creative self-realization. Therefore, a person's appraisal of their social relationships, conditions, and performance in a social group can be defined as social well-being. It alludes to how members of a person's social network, neighbourhood, or community assess the quality of their connections with others (Kilpatrick and Emery, 2021).

Environmental Wellbeing

The meaning and use of the term "environmental" are frequently related to some type of human effect on natural systems. This context contrasts it from the term "ecological," which refers to the interconnectedness of parts within a process (Hensher, 2020). "With regard to environmental well-being as a recovery term," the authors propose that an ecological meaning of well-being be pushed that is more in line with natural restoration (Maciejewski and Drimie, 2019). Environmental wellbeing could be described more particularly as a state of equilibrium, adaptability, and interconnectivity that enables human society to meet its requirements while not

surpassing the potential of its assisting ecosystems to proceed to rebuild the facilities required to meet those demands, nor by our behaviour lessening biological inclusivity (Bartos and Wood, 2017). A lack of basic services, such as open drains, absence of walkways, unregulated rubbish disposal, polluted surroundings, and so on, contributes to hazardous living conditions. Houses may be built in hazardous regions or on unsuitable terrain, such as riverbanks, near dangerous chemical plants or garbage dumps, or in landslide-prone areas (Page, 1995). The arrangement of the pattern may be problematic owing to a lack of ventilation, air, noise, and a high density of deteriorating components.

Well-being is a multidimensional, subjective value concept (McGregor et al., 2007). Its conceptual heterogeneity is potentially limitless, because assessing one's well-being is a moment in time for a given group, in a specific place, usually based on a variety of criteria and aspirations that change depending on culture, race, gender, and so on. For every individual, well-being may be dependent on meeting such criteria and aspirations, where one can be fulfilled, resulting in a sense of happiness, while others are not yet gratified and/or out of reach, resulting in a sense of need. Even when several interests and desires are addressed, a long-term, lasting sense of happiness is rarely felt since other needs and desires are to be met shortly. As a result, the concept of well-being varies not just among persons, but also across geographic areas and time. Therefore, the present study aims to evaluate the well-being theory with reference to the low-income housing community in Colombo, Sri Lanka. These findings examine the three main pillars of well-being: social, economic, and environmental through a qualitative study.

Methods

Study Context

Over half of Colombo's population resides in the underserved settlement, which accounts for 9% of the city's overall geographical area. Urban Development Authority (UDA) has identified 68 815 informal sector families residing in 1499 units. Under this program, these communities are transferred to new housing developments. The current study has chosen one cluster of underserved settlements in the Colombo MC Area. It is close to the Thotalaga junction in Henamulla. The four low-income settlement clusters were known as 233 Watta, 157 Watta, 219 Watta, and 169 Watta. Hence, there were around 850 dwellings spread across 9 acres of land. They were placed in the Muwadora Uyana and Randiya Uyana housing projects in 2014 and 2016, and in the Mihijaya Sewana and Methsanda Sewana housing schemes in 2016 and 2019.

Figure 01: Case Study Area



Figure 02: Muwadora Uyana



Figure 03: Randiya Uyana



Figure 04: Mihijaya Sewana



Figure 05: Methsanda Sewana



Data Collection

For the precise attainment of the study's objectives, semi-structured interviews were performed with low-income communities in Colombo low - income housing development projects, among other primary data collection methods. The interview guide was created to collect information that can be utilized to establish plausible research objectives. Accordingly, 25 interviews were primary conducted. Hence, the observation methods are often utilized in qualitative research work, and this study used observation to further substantiate the data. Thus, the data collection was conducted November to December 2021 during the COVID 19 pandemic context in Sri Lanka. Conversely, secondary data was acquired by examining and evaluating previously published secondary materials such as journal articles, books, government documents, previous studies, and the websites. This type of study takes time since it is sometimes a lengthy effort to obtain reliable and relevant data. However, in order to access the needed facts related to the study objectives, the collected material was organized and presented.

Data Analysis

The present study used a thematic analysis method to analyze and synthesize the interview data. Thematic analysis is a process for studying qualitative data that comprises examining a data set for repeating patterns, understanding them, and reporting them (Braun and Clarke, 2006). It is a model to describe data, but it also includes judgment in the selection of codes and the creation of themes. Thematic analysis is unique in that it may be performed to a wide spectrum of research topics, models, and sample sizes and can be employed within a variety of conceptual and

epistemological orientations (Braun & Clarke, 2014). As per the aim of the present study three main themes were identified based on the wellbeing theory; they are social wellbeing, economic wellbeing and environmental wellbeing.

Findings

Attaining Economic Well-being

According to the study's findings, individuals who obtained an income from a steady job before obtaining new residence maintained their typical economic well-being, while those living in poverty remained poor. The major causes for this are a lack of new employment and revenue sources, as well as a lack of industry or manufacturing processes based on new residential development projects. A resident of the Mihijaya Sewana housing scheme in Henamulla said that, *“we have acquired housing, but we have not found new employment. As a result, the economic situation remains unchanged”*. It is really reasonable. Addressing the housing catastrophe will not fix the financial decline. Conversely, the resident of Randiya Uyana housing scheme in Henamulla, said that *“I can't say that our economic condition has much improved. But I believe we have reached a societal tipping point where the economic situation may be remedied.”* Thus, there were also people who lost their jobs as a result of the installation of new housing. A Muwadora Uyana Housing Scheme homeowner reported that they offered a new house for his demolished house but no new store for the existing shop in the house. He continued on to say that the shop was an important part of his life. *“We had a business, a tiny food store, while we lived in the huts. We inquired when we broke into the business whether we could locate a shop for this shop. Many people went to the Urban Development Authority to discuss this, and they just told us to submit an appeal and maybe find a business.”*

Many slum residents make a livelihood by laboring for wages and are now in danger of losing their jobs. The reason is employment losses caused by the COVID-19 outbreak. A resident of Methsanda Sewana stated that they would not be able to work as laborers. *“Previously, we had a lot of labor-related duties.” There was little possibility for labor after moving to these residential complexes. All of the unemployed have gathered in one location. It's incredibly tough these days since there is no money.”* Some people who used to rely on home-based businesses have been able to maintain their businesses in their new houses. They will be able to continue producing leather goods, Jewellery, and crafts. Furthermore, the ownership of housing complexes has made it easier for certain people to get work while making it difficult for others. It was noted that the shift was caused by persons living in slum regions occasionally transferring to more distant apartment complexes. A resident of Muwadora Uyana Housing Scheme said that *“I was working in the railway sector and now I am looking for a new job since it is difficult to access the job after settling into the housing complex”*. The overall image of the study in terms of financial well-being can be represented since the permanent livelihoods of slum dwellers residing in the neighborhood of the Henamulla region were not severely affected. Those who formerly earned money by working on minor byways near shanty dwellings have lost the ability to do so under the new housing project. Many individuals have lost their employment as a result of the COVID 19 outbreak, which is increasingly being recognized as generating an economic disaster inside their dwellings.

Attaining Social Well-being

In comparison to certain elements, there are good developments on the social level. It should also be emphasized that some housing complexes have led to social status shifts, while some housing is inferior to previous living. Ordinary individuals living in apartment complexes confront significant challenges as a result of the increased proliferation of drugs and opiates. People claim that this has produced several difficulties, including the entry of various unknown persons into the housing complex, destruction to its property, and damage to the people's property. However, the drug usage and trafficking have dropped in comparison to the past, as has the number of

unidentifiable people in some housing locations. It is really heartening to see how quickly societal acceptability has risen. Thus, there is a greater respect while interacting with institutions. Educators receive higher recognition in school; higher recognition in the workplace; removal of barriers to marriage; permanent residency addresses; the right to vote; government protection; and accountability. A resident of the Muwadora Uyana housing scheme stated his experiences as *"a fantastic success to have solved the housing problem, which was the main challenge we had. Now, we have good social acceptance and recognition" but there are further hindrances; Crime occurs in these residential buildings always. Last year, I remember a major Sri Lankan gangster was shot dead in an apartment complex. Therefore, we continue to feel alone.*" Therefore, it can be verified that the crimes and other illegal cases still records there.

Conversely, some housing residents have complained about the worse condition of their housing, and they say that they have fallen into hell due to these new settlements. A resident of "Methsanda Sewana" housing scheme said that *"It should be surrounded by a wall, and there should be parking in the main yard. They have not yet grown. We were just getting settled. A CCTV camera system would be useful. The light meter on the rear was disconnected from all cables. A three-wheeler was taken last week while parked in the yard. Prior to that, the side mirrors and hinges of two automobiles were removed. Theft occurs in all places. The police department created a campaign to remind people to take care of their goods. There are drug traffickers everywhere"*.

Sub-family unit problems are widespread in practically all housing complexes whenever it pertains to social well-being. Even though numerous families dwell in the same house while living in shanties, the number of houses provided for new housing is not depending on the number of families. Therefore, sub-families have no possibility to settle in the new housing complex. As the end, this has become a societal issue, and individuals are continuing to submit appeals with the Urban Development Authority. However, the Urban Development Authority's policy is to provide a house to house rather than to provide houses based on the number of families. However, if the total square footage of the shanty dwellings reaches 450 square feet, another residence will be considered. As a result, when people are relocated into new housing complexes, their sub-families become extremely vulnerable. A resident of the Mihijaya Sewana housing scheme in Henamulla said that, *"Our family has eight members with two families, but we got this house only. If we had our previous house, we could go up more floors.* Another significant issue with shifting individuals to new housing complexes is that pupils must select a school for the second time. This is due to the fact that shanty inhabitants frequently transfer to housing complexes that are further distant from their dwelling places. Therefore, their living cost also have increased. A resident of Randiya Uyana Housing stated that *"We are unable to bring our son to school because now we are living in very far away to the school and we previously resided within walking distance of the school. We now have to pay for additional transportation costs to get him to school"*. However, the social well-being of the people remains a concern owing to a variety of issues. Since social welfare may be attained by providing the social aspects that individuals require living, such as a decent human environment, a crime-free environment, legal security, and social acceptability.

Attaining Environmental Well-being

An examination of environmental well-being finds that, although one aspect has improved, another has yet to make considerable progress. The Kelani River overflows and the surrounding regions are prone to floods owing to precipitation accumulation, which merely causes traffic congestion. The same may be said about air pollution and traffic congestion in general. A resident of Muwadora Uyana Housing Complex shared his experience after settling in the new housing scheme as *"it is a strange place to sleep in. Buildings are going up all over the place. The noise and dust it generates are constantly so close together"*. Conversely, many individuals are enthusiastic about the environment in the new housing complexes, as opposed to the environment

ruined by floods and rains. This is because slums and shanties are almost often found in low-lying places that are prone to flooding. A resident of Mihijaya Sewana described a number of flood-related experiences that enabled them to understand the state of their lives: *"We were at 233 watta at the time. A flood can be caused by just two rainstorms. There were a lot of creatures breeding like way at the time. We used to take our kids to a temple or a school. The wounds take a long time to heal, and the kids don't have a means to go to school during that time, just as we don't have a way to eat or drink."* Noise pollution is a significant threat to human survival. It was proven that such errors might arise not only as a result of huge building projects, but also as a result of neighbors' careless actions. The finest illustration of this is when loudspeakers and high-volume radios disrupt families. Any complaints have been received by the Urban Development Authority in this respect. In this aim, a unique awareness effort has been created. The main argument here is that newcomers bear a significant amount of responsibility for preventing such issues. We may deduce from remarks made by a resident of the Randiya Uyana housing project about these challenges that these issues can be solved with the help of the same community. *"Due to the deafening noise in front of our homes, we have requested that the Urban Development Authority replace our residences. Many individuals also keep their dogs indoors. Some individuals keep animals other than dogs and cats, such as cocks and pigeons. They litter everywhere throughout the apartment complex, just like those animals. That is a major issue"*. The housing complex does not allow pets; however, the foundation of this environmental issue is that certain people who do not obey the rules are also imprisoning others. Furthermore, while being aware of the necessary processes for waste disposal, many individuals fail to follow them, resulting in serious pollution and odour. It may be inferred that just a portion of the characteristics that influence environmental well-being have been attained. However, it may be deduced that environmental issues are arising in housing premises as a result of inhabitants' negligence and failure to follow rules that apply to high-rise living.

Conclusion

In comparison to other countries in the globe, Sri Lanka has had relatively sluggish and uneven growth. As a consequence, many people are forced to deal with the negative consequences of these unstructured situations. It has impacted the community's economic, environmental, and social well-being. Therefore, the purpose of this research is to look at the economic, social, and environmental well-being of residents in new housing developments. Several inferences could be drawn from analyzing chosen samples within a given range. When we discuss the state of the economic well-being of residents in general, it is clear that things have not improved. The COVID 19 pandemic, which has wreaked havoc on people's life in recent years, has had a substantial influence on economic well-being as well. Another issue is that the employment prospects of new housing recipients have remained unchanged. Despite the fact that they now have new homes, they have not generated any new occupations or sources of income except than continuing to work at their present jobs. People's social well-being continues to be a source of attention due to a number of factors such as drugs, crimes housing spaces and so on. The environmental wellbeing is achieved some level; however, it is disrupted by the people themselves. Low-income housing developments in Colombo, however, have yielded tremendous results in terms of well-being.

Acknowledgement

Centre for Real Estate Studies (CRES), Department of Estate Management and Valuation, University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka.

References

- Alba, R., & Foner, N. (2015). Economic well-being. *Strangers No More*. <https://doi.org/10.23943/princeton/9780691161075.003.0003>
- Austen, B. (2019). *High-risers: Cabrini-green and the fate of American public housing*. Harper Paperbacks.
- Azcarraga, C. A., Diaz, D., & Zambrano, L. (2019). Characteristics of urban parks and their relation to user well-being. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 189, 27-35. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2019.04.005>
- Bartos, A. E., & Wood, B. E. (2017). Ecological wellbeing, childhood and environmental change. *Children's Health and Wellbeing in Urban Environments*, 234-246. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315571560-17>
- Beier, R., Spire, A., & Bridonneau, M. (2021). *Urban resettlements in the Global South: Lived experiences of housing and infrastructure between displacement and relocation*. Routledge.
- Bennett, A., & Nikulinsky, L. (2019). Wellbeing, young people, and music scenes. *Handbook of Music, Adolescents, and Wellbeing*, 187-196. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198808992.003.0017>
- Bhugra, D., Ventriglio, A., McCay, L., & Castaldelli-Maia, J. (2019). *Urban mental health*. Oxford Cultural Psychiatry.
- Braun, V., & Clarke, V. (2006). Using thematic analysis in psychology. *Qualitative Research in Psychology*, 3(2), 77-101. <https://doi.org/10.1191/1478088706qp063oa>
- Braun, V., & Clarke, V. (2014). What can “thematic analysis” offer health and wellbeing researchers? *International Journal of Qualitative Studies on Health and Well-being*, 9(1), 26152. <https://doi.org/10.3402/qhw.v9.26152>
- Bruni, L., Smerilli, A., & Rosa, D. D. (2021). *A modern guide to the economics of happiness*. Edward Elgar Publishing.
- Bullington, J. (2018). Well-being and being-well. *Routledge Handbook of Well-Being*, 58-67. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781315724966-6>
- Cestero, R. (2019). An Inclusionary tool created by low-income communities for low-income communities. *The Dream Revisited*, 335-337. <https://doi.org/10.7312/elle18362-103>
- Cho, J., & Trent, A. (2014). Evaluating qualitative research. *The Oxford Handbook of Qualitative Research*, 676-696. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oxfordhb/9780199811755.013.012>
- Fields, G. S. (2018). Economic well-being. *Employment and Development*, 249-274. <https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780198815501.003.0014>
- Geropanta, V., Karagianni, A., Mavroudi, S., & Parthenios, P. (2021). Exploring the relationship between the smart-sustainable city, well-being, and urban planning: An analysis of current approaches in Europe. *Smart Cities and the un-SDGs*, 143-161. <https://doi.org/10.1016/b978-0-323-85151-0.00010-5>
- Gilchrist, K., Brown, C., & Montarzino, A. (2015). Workplace settings and wellbeing: Greenspace use and views contribute to employee wellbeing at Peri-urban business sites. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 138, 32-40. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.landurbplan.2015.02.004>
- Graham, C., & Crown, S. (2014). Religion and wellbeing around the world: Social purpose, social time, or social insurance? *International Journal of Wellbeing*, 4(1), 1-27. <https://doi.org/10.5502/ijw.v4i1.1>

- Gugler, J., Professor of Sociology University of Connecticut Professor of Development Sociology Josef Gugler, & Josef, G. (2004). *World cities beyond the west: Globalization, development and inequality*. Cambridge University Press.
- Gunnell, K. (2011). Psychological needs as mediators? The relationship between leisure-time physical activity and wellbeing in people diagnosed with osteoporosis. *Research Quarterly for Exercise and Sport*, 82(4). <https://doi.org/10.5641/027013611x13275192112302>
- Hensher, M. (2020). Human health and ecological economics. *Sustainable Wellbeing Futures*, 188-208. <https://doi.org/10.4337/9781789900958.00021>
- Horayangkura, V. (1988). Cultural housing preferences in low-income resettlement communities in Bangkok, Thailand. *Housing and Society*, 15(2), 145-157. <https://doi.org/10.1080/08882746.1988.11430014>
- Johnson, D. S., Acott, T. G., Stacey, N., & Urquhart, J. (2017). *Social wellbeing and the values of small-scale fisheries*. Springer.
- Keyes, C. L. (1998). Social well-being. *Social Psychology Quarterly*, 61(2), 121. <https://doi.org/10.2307/2787065>
- Keyes, C. L., Shmotkin, D., & Ryff, C. D. (2002). Optimizing well-being: The empirical encounter of two traditions. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 82(6), 1007-1022. <https://doi.org/10.1037/0022-3514.82.6.1007>
- Kilpatrick, S., & Emery, S. (2021). Community wellbeing and social enterprise. *Social Enterprise, Health, and Wellbeing*, 67-84. <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003125976-5>
- Kouali, D., Hall, C., & Pope, P. (2020). Measuring eudaimonic wellbeing in sport: Validation of the Eudaimonic wellbeing in sport scale. *International Journal of Wellbeing*, 10(1). <https://doi.org/10.5502/ijw.v10i1.776>
- Kumarasuriyar, R. C. (1981). *Effects of public policies and practices on low-income housing in Colombo, Sri Lanka*.
- Lam, B. (2019). Correction to: Social support, well-being, and teacher development. *Social Support, Well-being, and Teacher Development*, C1-C3. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-981-13-3577-8_8
- Ludwig, J., Duncan, G. J., Gennetian, L. A., Katz, L. F., Kessler, R. C., Kling, J. R., & Sanbonmatsu, L. (2012). Neighborhood effects on the long-term well-being of low-income adults. *Science*, 337(6101), 1505-1510. <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.1224648>
- Maciejewski, K., & Drimie, S. (2019). Ecological infrastructure as a basis for the African wellbeing economy. *Transformational Infrastructure for Development of a Wellbeing Economy in Africa*, 53-72. <https://doi.org/10.18820/9781928480419/02>
- Marshall, A., & Royal Economic Society. (1996). *The correspondence of Alfred Marshall, economist*. Cambridge University Press.
- McGregor, J. A., McKay, A., & Velazco, J. (2007). Needs and resources in the investigation of well-being in developing countries: Illustrative evidence from Bangladesh and Peru. *Journal of Economic Methodology*, 14(1), 107-131. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13501780601170115>
- Pacione, M. (2003). Introduction on urban environmental quality and human wellbeing. *Landscape and Urban Planning*, 65(1-2), 1-3. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0169-2046\(02\)00231-1](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0169-2046(02)00231-1)
- Page, T. (1995). Ecology, policy and politics: Human wellbeing and the natural world. *Ecological Economics*, 12(3), 254-256. [https://doi.org/10.1016/0921-8009\(95\)90161-2](https://doi.org/10.1016/0921-8009(95)90161-2)

- Plough, A. L. (2020). *Well-being: Expanding the definition of progress: Insights from practitioners, researchers, and innovators from around the globe*. Oxford University Press, USA.
- Power, A. (2013). *Hovels to Highrise: State housing in Europe since 1850*. Routledge.
- Ryan, R. M., & Deci, E. L. (2001). On happiness and human potentials: A review of research on hedonic and Eudaimonic well-being. *Annual Review of Psychology*, 52(1), 141-166. <https://doi.org/10.1146/annurev.psych.52.1.141>
- Rydin, Y., Bleahu, A., Davies, M., Dávila, J. D., Friel, S., De Grandis, G., Groce, N., Hallal, P. C., Hamilton, I., Howden-Chapman, P., Lai, K., Lim, C., Martins, J., Osrin, D., Ridley, I., Scott, I., Taylor, M., Wilkinson, P., & Wilson, J. (2012). Shaping cities for health: Complexity and the planning of urban environments in the 21st century. *The Lancet*, 379(9831), 2079-2108. [https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736\(12\)60435-8](https://doi.org/10.1016/s0140-6736(12)60435-8)
- Samaratunga, T. C. (2013). *High-density high-rise low-income housing: An appropriate city planning solution for Colombo, Sri Lanka?*
- Samaratunga, T. C. (2013). *High-density high-rise low-income housing: An appropriate city planning solution for Colombo, Sri Lanka?*
- Samaratunga, T. C., & O'Hare, D. (2013). 'Sahasapura': The first high-rise housing project for low-income people in Colombo, Sri Lanka. *Australian Planner*, 51(3), 223-231. <https://doi.org/10.1080/07293682.2013.820204>
- Vlahov, D., Boufford, J. I., Pearson, C. E., & Norris, L. (2011). *Urban health: Global perspectives*. John Wiley & Sons.
- Wegelin, E. (2012). *Urban low-income housing and development: A case study in peninsular Malaysia*. Springer Science & Business Media.
- Yuen, B., & Yeh, A. G. (2011). *High-rise living in Asian cities*. Springer Science & Business Media.