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THE ROLE OF SOCIAL CAPITAL IN SUSTAINING TACTICAL URBANISM IN INDONESIAN KAMPUNGS

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Abstract

In the Global South, Tactical Urbanism (TU) interventions are often confined to superficial changes within a specific area, failing to tackle the underlying structural and policy-related issues. This paper discusses TU as a survival mechanism and compares two cases, Kampung Warna-Warni Jodipan (KWJ, the Colourful Kampung) and Kampung Tridi. The study moves away from Western-centric models using a blend of Silva's theory, Quality of Life (QoL) indicators and Social Network Analysis (SNA). The study found that the main focus for successful urban development is to improve the social relations between residents, instead of physical transformation. What stands out is the gender-inclusive and decentralised decision-making processes and participatory 'Organic Resilience' of KWJ with 81% citizen participation and 0.436 network density. By contrast, Kampung Tridi has suffered ecological problems because of its rigid, top-down hierarchical management style. To be effective in addressing local issues, TU initiatives need a paradigm shift toward a more institutionally integrated approach to co-production with planning regulations that are adaptive to local creativity.

Keywords: Tactical Urbanism; Social Capital; Co-production; Sustainable Regeneration; Informal Settlements; Quality of Life

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INTRODUCTION

Tactical Urbanism (TU) provides a flexible alternative to rigid urban planning policies. However, when considering thematic kampungs in Indonesia, this phenomenon can be in the form of what Steinbrink (2012) conceptualizes as ‘Global Slumming’ where urban poverty is aesthetically commodified. Superficial physical interventions that aestheticize urban poverty tend to deflect attention away from more profound socio-economic structures and do little to redress the basic issues of spatial and political inequality (Dovey & King, 2012; Roy, 2011). These interventions are inherently temporary and often do not translate into long-term structural change (Stevens & Dovey, 2023), especially in the absence of formal institutional mechanisms to sustain early grassroots enthusiasm and motivation (Fitri & Sari, 2025). In addition to economic inefficiencies, the inevitable decay of these temporary interventions can lead to physical environmental disorder, which is known to undermine local social cohesion and have a negative impact on the subjective well-being of residents (Mouratidis, 2021).

Sustaining TU requires an institutionalized co-production model (Watson, 2014; Cariello et al., 2021), where formal administrative structures partner effectively with grassroots initiatives. In this context, building community resilience requires effective participation driven by local ability and capacity building (Kadir & Ni, 2024), as well as the transition from isolated bonding capital to more inclusive bridging capital (Putnam, 2000; Woolcock & Narayan, 2000). While existing literature highlights the role of trust and social capital in fostering collective action within Malang’s rural tourism villages (Prayitno et al., 2022; Permana et al., 2025), empirical evidence remains limited regarding how the micro-structures of local social networks influence the long-term trajectory of TU development in dense, urban thematic kampungs.

This research is a comparative case study of two riverbank settlements in Malang, namely Kampung Warna-Warni Jodipan (KWJ, the Colorful Kampung) and Kampung Tridi. Both communities share the same ecological and socioeconomic baseline as they evolved into vulnerable settlements along the Brantas River that are threatened by flooding and displacement. Controlling for variables like geographic context, the timing of initiation (both transformed in 2016) and the type of external stimulus (CSR paint sponsorships) helps to identify the reasons for their developmental gap. Controlling for these variables, the structure of local governance and social networks remains the main mechanism accounting for their divergence. We posit that inclusive, decentralized social network with high bridging capital increase community resilience. Conversely, hierarchies restrict openness and collective action and tend to stagnate when external support is withdrawn. This research frames TU as an adaptive mechanism for the Global South using Silva’s (2016) evolutionary perspective

and the three dimensions of Social Network Analysis (SNA) rather than a temporary design intervention.

This study highlights the essential role of decentralized social integration, particularly the involvement of women through the Family Welfare Movement (PKK), which exemplifies Simone's (2004) concept of 'People as Infrastructure.' By examining these network dynamics, this research underscores the urgency of shifting urban policy frameworks toward more agile and adaptive planning, utilizing short-term interventions to reduce the risks of failure (Stevens et al., 2021) while ensuring sustained community resilience.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Tactical Urbanism

While policy experimentation is common in the Global North, Tactical Urbanism (TU) in the Global South is often a survival response to the lack of government action (Miraftab & Hall, 2009; Lydon & Garcia, 2015). In Indonesia, this "Organic Tactical Urbanism" uses dynamic spatial changes to improve neglected kampungs and build community identity (Fitri & Sari, 2025; Putra et al., 2019; Scannell & Gifford, 2010; Boano & Talocci, 2014). However, if this local solidarity does not turn into long-term partnerships with the government, these efforts can become just surface-level fixes for poverty (Woolcock & Narayan, 2000; Watson, 2014; Rahil et al., 2020), reflecting Simone's (2004) concept of 'People as Infrastructure'. This analysis captures how these temporary interventions evolve into more permanent institutional forms by applying Silva's (2016) seven-phase schema (Specialising, Following-up, Adding, Settling, Claiming, Monitoring, and Merging). This evolution shows that grassroots initiatives must be included in standard city governance (Stevens et al., 2021; Cariello et al., 2021).

Social Capital

The foundation of social capital includes social networks, trust, and community norms, which are crucial for organizing collective action, advocating for participatory democracy, and for community responsiveness to adaptive challenges (Putnam et al., 1993; Putnam, 2000; Jungsberg et al., 2020; Prayitno et al., 2022; Liu et al., 2022; Chen et al., 2024). In the context of Kampung Warna Warni Jodipan (KWJ) and Kampung Tridi, the social structure is primarily centred on social design, sustainable tourism, and poverty alleviation (Prayitno et al., 2019, 2023). Strengthened social capital, community cohesion, and civic participation create synergy for participatory tourism governance that effectively integrates ecological preservation with local economic development (Ari, Prayitno, et al., 2024; Ari, Purnamasari, et al., 2024). Strong social networks, inclusive and equitable participatory practices, and especially informal networks

of women, are associated with the social welfare of the community (Ari et al., 2022).

Quality of Life

Quality of Life (QoL) is a combination of personal assessment of the living environment (Abdullah et al., 2024) and social perception of the city (Serag El Din et al., 2013). This study evaluates QoL across five interrelated dimensions, environmental well-being (Henderson & Loreau, 2023; Musa et al., 2015), social well-being (Burke et al., 2010; Keyes & Shapiro, 2004), physical well-being (Serag El Din et al., 2013; Randall et al., 2021), economic well-being (Wang et al., 2025; Osman et al., 2019) and subjective well-being (Martin Ginis, 2025; Mouratidis, 2021), to rigorously assess urban liveability. This multi-dimensional framework allows a complex comprehension of how tactical urbanism interventions contribute to the holistic improvement of residents' everyday experiences.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This study aims to develop an exploratory, mixed-method, comparative case study of two thematic kampung settlements in Malang. It intends to analyse the unique development processes and outcomes of each kampung from the viewpoint of the local community. Data collection consisted of field observations to assess the quality of the existing infrastructure as well as semi-structured, in-depth interviews. In total, 34 participants were interviewed: 16 from KWJ (Colourful Kampung) and 18 from Kampung Tridi. Participants were selected through purposive sampling based on their active participation in tactical urbanism. The participant group represents a cross-section of the community which includes members of the Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis), neighbourhood leadership (RT/RW), the Family Welfare Movement (PKK), religious associations (tahlil group), and independent residents.

To systematically assess tactical urbanism and Quality of Life (QoL), qualitative interview narratives were transformed into a 5-point Likert scale. This quantification acts as an analytical compass, providing an objective baseline to systematically compare the structural performance gaps between the kampungs via comparative radar plots. To avoid arbitrary judgements, respondents' statements were strictly matched against detailed, predefined parameters developed during a preliminary survey. The coding was conducted independently by two primary researchers familiar with the local context. To ensure inter-coder reliability, any subjective discrepancies in score assignments were resolved through rigorous consensus-building discussions involving a senior researcher. This rigorously quantified data was used to evaluate Silva's (2016) seven-variable tactical urbanism framework (specializing, following-up, adding,

settling, claiming, monitoring, merging) and five QoL dimensions (ranging from physical to subjective well-being). Finally, Social Network Analysis (SNA) was used to examine social capital by mapping the social structure of each village according to certain criteria to measure social participation, network density, and centrality (degree, closeness, and betweenness).

In an effort to operationalize the tactical urbanism framework of Silva (2016) in the thematic kampungs of Indonesia, the seven theoretical dimensions were translated into concrete and observable indicators. These indicators were also used to inform the evaluation rubrics for the 1 to 5 Likert scale scoring (see **Table 1**).

Table 1: Operationalization of Silva's (2016) Tactical Urbanism Dimensions

Tactical Urbanism Dimensions	Operational Indicator	Likert-Scale Extremes (1 = Poor to 5 = Excellent)
1. Specializing	Problem clearly identified and functional/symbolic purpose relevant to community needs.	1: Top-down, irrelevant to real problems. 5: Bottom-up, highly visionary and participatory.
2. Following-up	Presence of collective maintenance mechanisms, community stewardship, and life-cycle management.	1: Abandoned without maintenance mechanisms. 5: Adaptive, structured, and sustainable maintenance.
3. Adding	Introduction of different physical elements (paths, landmarks, nodes) and their role as active social infrastructure.	1: Sporadic and unintegrated additions. 5: Holistic, synergistic, and functionally integrated.
4. Settling (Effect)	Lived Space and the integration of new infrastructures in daily routines and their psychological appropriation	1: Rejected or completely ignored by residents. 5: Fully integrated, meaningful, and iconic to the community.
5. Claiming	The degree to which citizens participate in planning, decision-making and resource contribution.	1: Non-participation (manipulative/top-down). 5: Full citizen control and proactive ownership.
6. Monitoring	We have proactive feedback systems, responsiveness to issues and adaptive learning.	1: No monitoring or feedback mechanism exists. 5: Systematic monitoring utilized for future adaptation.
7. Merging	Quality of collaboration, role sharing and synergy among multiple stakeholders (citizens, government, private sector).	1: Isolated processes with high conflict/mistrust. 5: Synergistic and integrated governance network.

Source: Author's construct based on Silva (2016)

To explicitly map the social capital of the community, Social Network Analysis (SNA) was performed using the UCINET 6.742 software to generate network metrics and sociograms. The network boundary was defined socio-geographically, restricted to active residents and key community stakeholders within the administrative borders of KWJ and Kampung Tridi who are involved in tactical urbanism. Within this network, a 'tie' (edge) was defined as an active communicative and collaborative relationship, operationalized¹ through shared participation (co-affiliation) in local civic organizations such as Pokdarwis, the Family Welfare Movement (PKK), and youth groups. Data for these ties were collected during the semi-structured interviews via affiliation surveys, where the 34 selected participants identified their active organizational memberships and coordination channels, which were subsequently converted into binary adjacency matrices.

Three specific SNA metrics were selected to evaluate the governance structures. Network Density was measured to justify the level of overall community cohesion and mutual trust, indicating strong bridging capital. Betweenness Centrality was applied to identify 'gatekeepers' or bottlenecks in communication. This identified actors that dominate the flow of information on a disproportionate scale. Lastly, the Network Centralization Index (NCI) was chosen to quantitatively validate the level of structural dependency, indicating whether a kampung is functioning in a vulnerable, centralized and top-down framework or resilient, decentralized structure.

ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

KWJ (Colourful Kampung) and Kampung Tridi have had a similar trajectory in their evolution to tourist villages from informal slum settlements. But there were significant differences, despite these common origins. The characteristics of the development of KWJ (Colourful Kampung) are more stable than Kampung Tridi, especially in the management phase. Meanwhile, the development characteristics of Kampung Tridi have several problems, such as uncertainty regarding external support that affects the sustainability of the tourist village. Details regarding the developmental timelines of both kampungs are presented in **Table 2**.

Table 2: Comparison of KWJ (Colourful Kampung) timeline and Kampung Tridi timeline

Timeline	Comparison of Two Kampungs
Phase 1 (Pre-Tourist Before 2016)	The KWJ (Colorful Kampung) at this stage was recognized as a slum area along the riverbanks. Major issues include the absence of a waste management system, the community's habit of disposing waste into the river and the long-standing eviction threats that have persisted since the 1990s. Meanwhile, the Kampung Tridi was also recognized as a slum settlement and carried a negative social image. It was often referred to as the "Dayak Kampung" due

Timeline	Comparison of Two Kampung
Phase 2 (Initiation & Development 2016-2017)	to low levels of public safety, the prevalence of alcohol consumption, and the community's limited concern for environmental cleanliness. The initiation of tourism development in KWJ (Colourful Kampung) began with an idea proposed by students from the University of Muhammadiyah Malang through the GuysPro community. This idea subsequently received full support from the CSR program of PT Indana Paint through the "Decofresh Warnai Jodipan" initiative, along with the provision of new infrastructure, including a glass bridge connecting the area to the Kampung Tridi. Meanwhile, the initiation of tourism in the Kampung Tridi began with the painting of its main gate, facilitated by donated paint from Nippon Paint and supported by the former Mayor of Malang. The remaining paint was then used by a local artist, Mr. Eddy Gimbal, to create 3D murals along the main entrance of the settlement. These murals later became the new identity of Kampung Tridi and attracted the attention of the Mayor of Malang at the time, prompting a large-scale painting program from August to December 2016, sponsored by PT Indana Paint.
Phase 3 (Management 2017-now)	The local Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis) of KWJ (Colourful Kampung) which comprises of local residents is responsible for the management of tourism such as ticket management, activities of repainting, cleanliness, and the development of local MSMEs. Revenue from entrance fees is still used to support routine maintenance, for example, regular repainting, so the tourism appeal is being maintained and visitor numbers remain steady, largely international tourists, which is proof of this. Meanwhile, management of the tourist village such as ticket sales, parking, and monitoring in Kampung Tridi is handled by the Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis) formed in 2017. However, there are also several problems in its implementation, such as the lack of financial transparency by tourism managers, uneven development and uneven economic benefits. The problem can occur due to a rigid leadership structure, especially because the neighborhood head (RW) is also the Chair of the Tourism Awareness Group (Pokdarwis). Besides, PT Indana Paint also stopped supporting the repainting in the early 2025 due to the expired contract.

Source: Survey Results, 2025

The infrastructure at KWJ (Colourful Kampung) and Kampung Tridi facilitates activities in the village both related to everyday life and also the functions as tourist villages. The various infrastructure includes blue, grey, green, and social. The primary blue infrastructure for both settlements is the Brantas River; once heavily polluted, it has seen gradual improvements due to regular community cleansing efforts. While these infrastructural categories are present in both kampungs, their specific characteristics differ according to the particular tourism demands and spatial constraints present at each site. Overall, the infrastructure at KWJ is more systematically and comprehensively maintained than at Kampung Tridi. The infrastructure of both villages is illustrated in **Figure 1**.

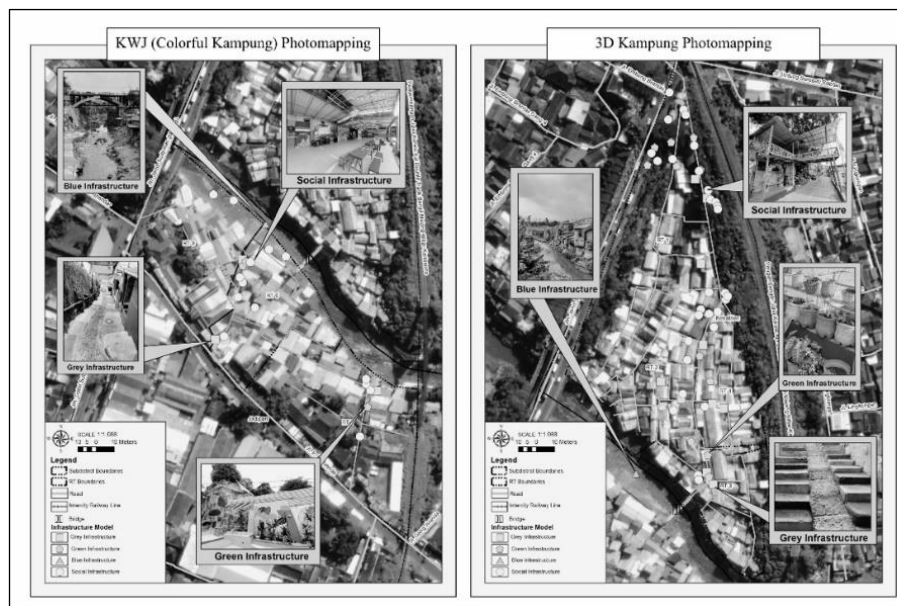


Figure 1: Comparison of KWJ (Colourful Kampung) infrastructure and Kampung Tridi infrastructure

Source: Survey Results, 2025

Precarious riverbank settlements are often characterized with entrenched infrastructural deficits and extreme flood vulnerabilities (Dangol, 2024). To address these very issues, Kampung Warna Warni Jodipan (KWJ) and Kampung Tridi employed tactical urbanism to transform their slum areas into themed tourist destinations. Although the starting conditions are similar, our results reveal a quite different evolution in the seven tactical urbanism dimensions (Silva, 2016; see Table 3). At the start of the Specialising phase, both settlements demonstrated good adaptability (KWJ: 4.44; Tridi: 4.28). However, differences increased during the maintenance period. KWJ was able to Add (4.00) and Follow-up (4.25) by successfully improving its environment. The downfall of the area's tourism inclusivity is due to the poor maintenance in Kampung Tridi. Meanwhile, KWJ moved forward into a more vibrant and creative tourist hub.

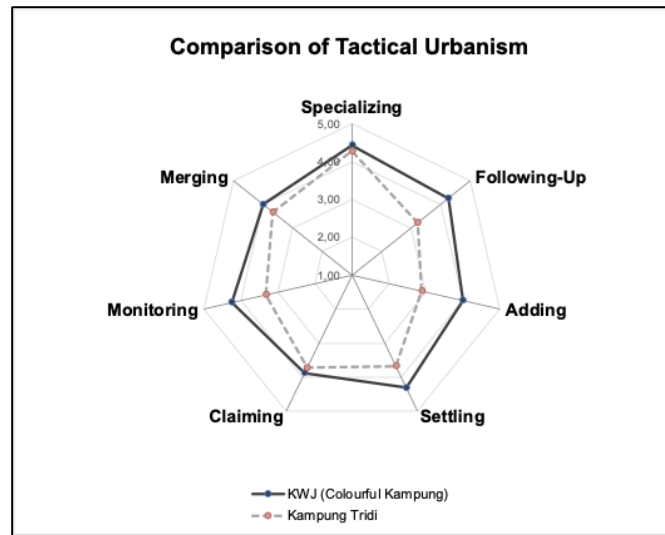


Figure 2: Comparison of Tactical Urbanism
Source: Author's Analysis, 2025

Table 3: Comparison of Tactical Urbanism

Kampung	Specializing	Following-Up	Adding	Settling	Claiming	Monitoring	Merging
KWJ (Colourful Kampung)	4.44	4.25	4.00	4.31	3.88	4.25	4.00
Kampung Tridi	4.28	3.22	2.89	3.67	3.72	3.33	3.67

Source: Author's Analysis, 2025

In addition to infrastructure differences, the two kampungs are also differentiated by governance metrics. KWJ scores higher on Settling (4.31 vs. 3.67), Merging (4.00 vs. 3.67) and Monitoring (4.25 vs. 3.33) which means KWJ has become a resilient community that merges successfully with municipal governance systems. Its decentralised trust networks promote high levels of civic engagement and collective governance of the commons (Cariello et al., 2021; Permana et al., 2025). However, Kampung Tridi's hierarchical structure lacks culture of continuous progress and mutual responsibility (Silva, 2016). This centralised approach might, at first, enhance internal cohesion (bonding capital), but it does not generate the 'bridging' social capital necessary for integration into broader institutional networks (Woolcock & Narayan, 2000; Fitri & Sari, 2025). The inherent brittleness of this system was exposed in early 2025 with the withdrawal of corporate sponsorship, leading to infrastructural decay in the face

of bad communal self-management and adaptive feedback loops. Such poor governance mechanisms in the end reduce overall habitability, with unchecked aesthetic clutter increasing psychosocial distress (Mouratidis, 2021) and negatively affecting Quality of Life measures across relevant domains (see Table 4). It is important to point out that these QoL scores are not subjective interpretations by the researcher but coded outputs from the interviews that represent the perceptions of the residents in relation to their living environment. The qualitative narratives of the respondents were converted to the 1 to 5 scale systematically on the basis of predefined rubrics to make the structural comparison objective.

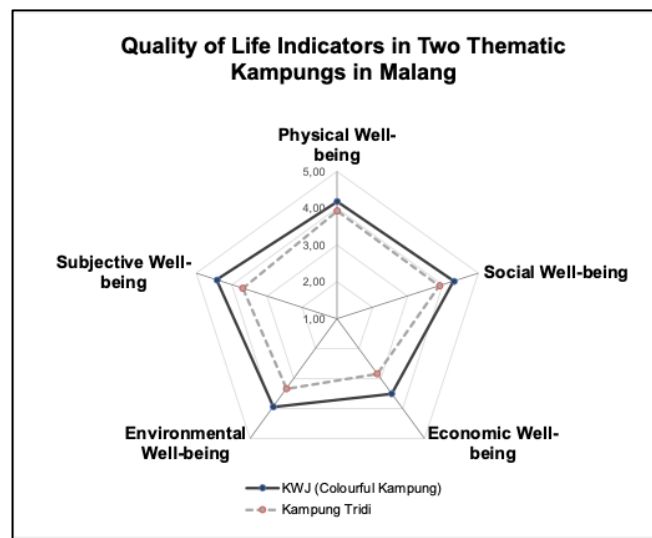


Figure 3: Quality of Life Indicators in Two Thematic Kampung in Malang
 Source: Author's Analysis, 2025

Table 4: Quality of Life Indicators in Two Thematic Kampung in Malang

Kampung	Physical Well-being	Social Well-being	Economic Well-being	Environmental Well-being	Subjective Well-being
KWJ (Colourful Kampung)	4.18	4.31	3.50	3.94	4.42
Kampung Tridi	3.93	3.90	2.83	3.34	3.69

Source: Author's Analysis, 2025

Another aspect underlining the differences between the settlements is the quantitative indicators of Quality of Life (QoL). The economic (3.50 vs. 2.83) and social well-being (4.31 vs. 3.90) of KWJ are substantially higher than Kampung Tridi's. Tridi's centralised leadership provides sufficient internal

‘bonding’ capital, but severely lacks the ‘bridging’ capital needed for external economic growth and collective social integration (Woolcock & Narayan, 2000; Keyes & Shapiro, 2004). In contrast, KWJ has a decentralised approach that transforms spatial improvements into active economic assets, thus strengthening Sen’s (1999) theory of agency. KWJ also uses social networks to develop strong collective action (Permana et al., 2025; Kadir & Ni, 2024). Moreover, Tridi’s lower Physical (3.93 vs. 4.18) and Environmental Well-being (3.34 vs. 3.94) scores vis-à-vis KWJ (Musa et al., 2015) reflect Tridi’s infrastructural deficiencies. Therefore, Tridi (3.69) has a lower level of Subjective Well-being than KWJ (4.42) due to the poorer living conditions (Randall et al., 2021; Mouratidis, 2021). Tridi’s stagnation is a case of the ‘aestheticisation of poverty’ (Roy, 2011) and echoes Croce and Guastavino’s (2025) argument that top-down strategic urbanism often leads to cosmetic interventions that lack basic liveability. Social Network Analysis (Zhou, 2023; see Figure 4) was used to empirically analyse participation, density, and centrality for these different social systems.

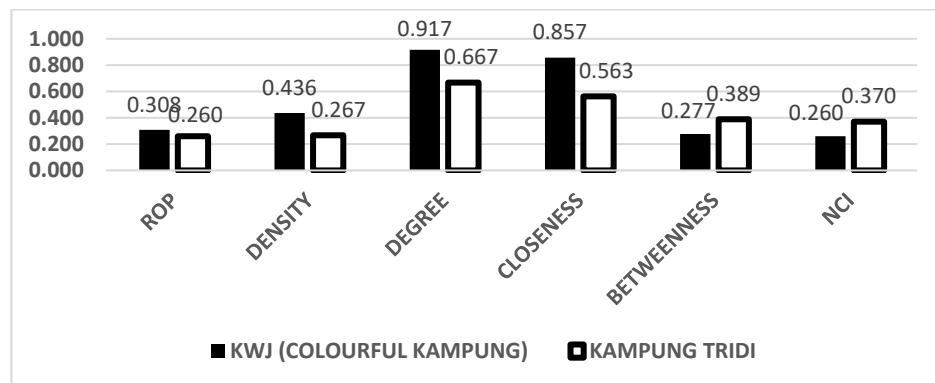


Figure 4: Social Capital Condition
Source: Author's Analysis, 2025

Social Network Analysis reveals that KWJ has a more evenly distributed and naturally inclusive social capital than Kampung Tridi with a centralised and fragile network structure. The data analysis reveals that KWJ enjoys a much higher level of community engagement (81%) than Tridi (56%). So, the KWJ community takes part in civic life actively. KWJ has a Rate of Participation of 0.308, while Tridi has 0.260. In addition, the network density of KWJ is 0.436. This implies that members in KWJ are closely connected. This helps in communication and sharing of information. As pointed out by Permana et al. (2025), dense networks build trust and that trust pushes collective action. In contrast, Tridi has a lower network density of 0.267. Tridi is limited by poor communication channels and by a reliance on a few key personnel. This structural fragility is consistent with Woolcock and Narayan (2000) who state that

communication is centralised and limits the widespread of information. This means that the Tridi community is highly dependent on a few key individuals, and this makes the overall structure fragile. Figure 5 displays the sociograms of the two kampungs, highlighting the central nodes and the main communication channels. It is then possible to investigate what these network structures mean at the actor level.

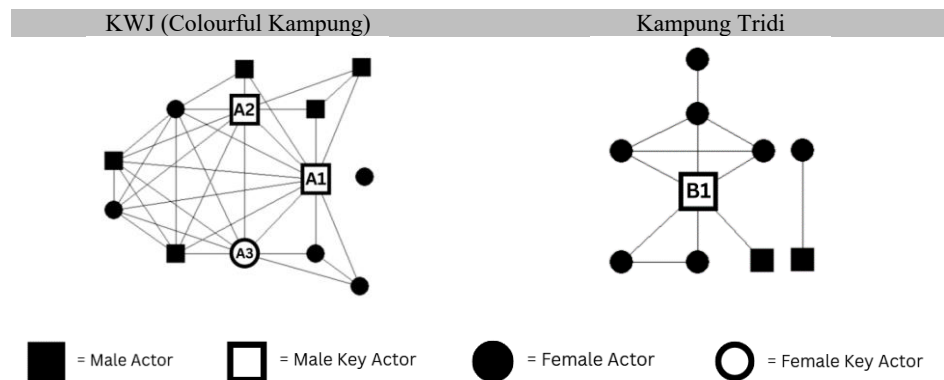


Figure 5: Visualized Social Networks
 Source: Author's Analysis, 2025

The network of KWJ is more dynamic and responsive than Tridi's, as the degree centrality of KWJ is 0.917 while Tridi is 0.667. The closeness centrality of KWJ is 0.857 and that of Tridi is 0.563. Tridi, however, has a higher betweenness centrality (0.389 compared to 0.277) and is overly dependent on a single control point. Moreover, Tridi has a Network Centralization Index (NCI) of 0.370, which is much higher than KWJ's 0.260, showing that power is highly centralised (Fitri & Sari, 2025). The Tridi hierarchy is centralised and is led by the Neighbourhood Leader (RW) and head of Pokdarwis. Therefore, the hierarchical structure results in poor communication, complex financial arrangements, and dissatisfaction among the community (Fauzi, 2024; Rami et al., 2023). This centralised framework limits community participation (Alyani & Herlily, 2019; Huang et al., 2025) and negatively impacts tactical urbanism, as shown by Tridi's low scores in Adding (2.89) and Monitoring (3.33). This negatively affects the Economic (2.83), Environmental (3.34), and Social (3.90) dimensions of Quality of Life. This suggests the negative impact of traditional and rigid urban planning approaches on human well-being (Serag El Din et al., 2013).

KWJ works very differently. KWJ implements a decentralised governance system by involving neighbourhood leaders (RT/RW), youth groups (Karang Taruna), and the Family Welfare Movement (PKK). This supports the

development of ‘Organic Tactical Urbanism’ (Fitri & Sari, 2025). KWJ is an example of Simone’s (2004) idea of ‘People as Infrastructure,’ in which social capital is dispersed and work is distributed across these groups. This implies that “Organic Resilience” is self-directed and not constrained by strict orders. KWJ’s case ultimately shows that tactical urbanism in the Global South must be more than cosmetic. It has to be based on inclusive networks, not the control of a single person.

CONCLUSION

The main factor causing organizational problems in Kampung Tridi is its hierarchical leadership structure, where a single authority directs the organization in a top-down manner. While exclusive top-down decisions can ease short-term execution, this approach is characterised by a severe lack of transparency and open communication, which inevitably fosters resistance and dissatisfaction within the community. Such governance also substantially increases the centralisation of the network by eroding mutual trust. Often, a lack of civic interest is cited as the cause of stagnation in community operations, but it is more accurately a systemic obstruction to collective capacity. This is especially evident when residents are assigned roles but are structurally unable to perform well in them, a finding that is consistent with Kadir and Ni (2024).

Moreover, the sustainability issues of Kampung Tridi is in accordance with the findings of Rahil et al. (2020) which stated that the communal social value is essentially diminished when residents are not fully engaged. This lack of engagement is reflected in Tridi’s low Tactical Urbanism scores for Adding (2.89) and Monitoring (3.33), which at the same time degrade the overall Quality of Life. This supports the argument by Mouratidis (2021) that top-down urban interventions often overlook community well-being leading to the deterioration of physical environments and increased psychosocial stress among residents.

On the other side is Kampung Warna-Warni Jodipan (KWJ) with ‘Organic Resilience’. The resilience comes from the absence of any centralised authority. The system has various communities such as neighbourhood leaders (RT/RW) and the Youth Organization (Karang Taruna). This type of inclusive leadership model largely eliminates the systemic vulnerabilities of centralised models. This situation is consistent with Simone’s (2004) notion of the people and the social networks in which they are interconnected as the basic infrastructure of a community. Furthermore, as Putra et al. (2019) point out, when residents actively participate in grassroots place-making, it fosters a more robust and sustainable neighbourhood identity. To summarize, the KWJ project demonstrates that successful urban regeneration is based on the building of mutual trust and social capital and not on rigid top-down instructions.

Some steps need to be taken to maintain this kind of community resilience and to link short-term changes with long-term city plans. First, local governments should support tactical urbanism not only by providing funding for cosmetic changes but also by supporting local capacity building and ensuring that these small-scale interventions are integrated into larger city plans. For example, they can ensure that local waste management efforts are included in formal municipal public works. Second, there is a need to make planning rules more flexible. This would allow communities to make contextual changes without going through too much red tape. Finally, collaborative initiatives in the kampungs of the Global South should be based on an institutionally integrated, decentralised model of co-production. In this context, local groups, such as neighbourhood associations and youth organisations, are given decision-making power and control over the way they operate. The government acts as a facilitator, providing equitable regulatory structures. Ultimately, this approach ensures that the transformation of cities is supported by the state while remaining firmly rooted in the strengths of the people themselves.

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