



THE FORMING OF SPONTANEOUS SOCIAL INTERACTION PLACE IN *KAMPUNG* TRANSITION AREA, PRAWIROTAMAN, INDONESIA

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Abstract:

Prawirotaman is a traditional urban settlement in Yogyakarta. In the 19th Century, it was a Sultan's soldier family settlement. Nowadays, it is a tourism destination known as a tourism village that serves tourism facilities, such as homestay, cafe, pub, and other tourism businesses. This transformation affects the locals in using the transition area as a place for social interaction activities. The transformation of Prawirotaman is a key to observe how the residents form the spontaneous social interaction place through the tendency of transition area use. While this paper emphasizes primarily the identification relating to the variables 1) boundary element, 2) spontaneous interaction, and 3) territorial depth, this research proposes a comprehensive conclusion for reflecting the forming of transition area at the kampung in accommodating the social interaction in term of the kampung settlement transformation. Thus, the fundamental question of this research is how the spontaneous interaction places occurred, the factors and typology. The primary data collection was collected through field observation and interviews to find the sample of potential interaction space. The method of data collection in this research uses snapshot observation and ArcGIS for redrawing the satellite map and spatial analysis. The finding results there are general typologies that describe the forming of spontaneous interaction places in Prawirotaman, namely 1) Filtered visual transparency, 2) Full visual transparency, 3) Closed visual transparency, 4) In the transition area.

Keywords:

Spontaneous Social Interaction, Interaction Place, Kampung, Boundary Elements, Territorial Depth

Introduction

Transitional space is a marker of the boundary between outside and inside the house that can be significant for users (Maliki, Abdullah and Bahauddin, 2015). Its function, as an intermediary, forms this area for a semi-public space. The transition area is eventually intended and functioned as a meeting spaces for pedestrians (Utami, Indradjati and Poerbo, 2018). In a similar vein, the transition area, such as a street, becomes an important place for people's activity in the neighborhood area (Li, Ratti and Seiferling, 2017). It shows that the transition area can be related to the community's social activity, particularly in the kampung. Middleton (2018) states that social experience is encouraged by pedestrian activity and community bonds. Thus, the multi-function of transition area relates to the lens of community behavior in social interaction. In another word, it contains overlapping activities representing the daily life of residents. At kampung, the transition area has flexibility in function besides accessibility. It preserves the social system of kampung (Rahmi, Wibisono and Setiawan, 2001), social existence and daily living (Hickman, 2013). Meanwhile, social space can be defined as the relationship between space and community in the specific circumstances, where the social activity is performed (Schatzki, 1991; Osti, 2015), interaction activities, environment, and social fabric (Madanipour, 1996; Setyohadi, 2007).

Kampung Prawirotaman is an urban traditional settlement which administratively in Mergangsan, The City of Yogyakarta, Indonesia. In the 19th Century, it was a Sultan's soldier family settlement, then became Batik Village in the 1960s until the 1970s. Nowadays, Prawirotaman is a tourism village wherein tourism facilities, such as homestay, cafe, pub, and other tourism businesses (Figure 1). In 2020, the growth of hotels reached up to 12.70%, or there are 53 hotels excluded the supporting tourism facilities (e.g., restaurant, cafe, pub).

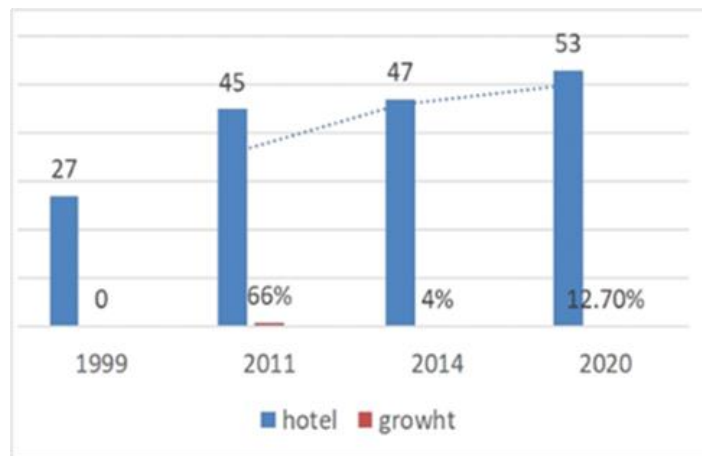


Figure 1: The Growth of Hotels in Prawirotaman

Source: Observation, 2021

The majority of tourism accommodation and the supporting facilities face the main street that becomes a center of tourism activity. It results from a function shifting of the transition area, from residential to commercial (Figure 2).



Figure 2: The Function Shifting of Transition Area in Prawirotaman as Tourism Area

Source: Observation, 2021

Thus, this transformation affects the locals in using the transition area as a place for social interaction. For instance, the closing of terrace for gathering (figure 3a), the demolition of the post of voluntary patrol called *ronda* post for homestay parking area (figure 3b), privatization of public street (figure 3c), the closing of semi-private space for public access (figure 3d). Privatization in Kampung is influenced by economic pressure and activity expansion (Setiawan, 2006).

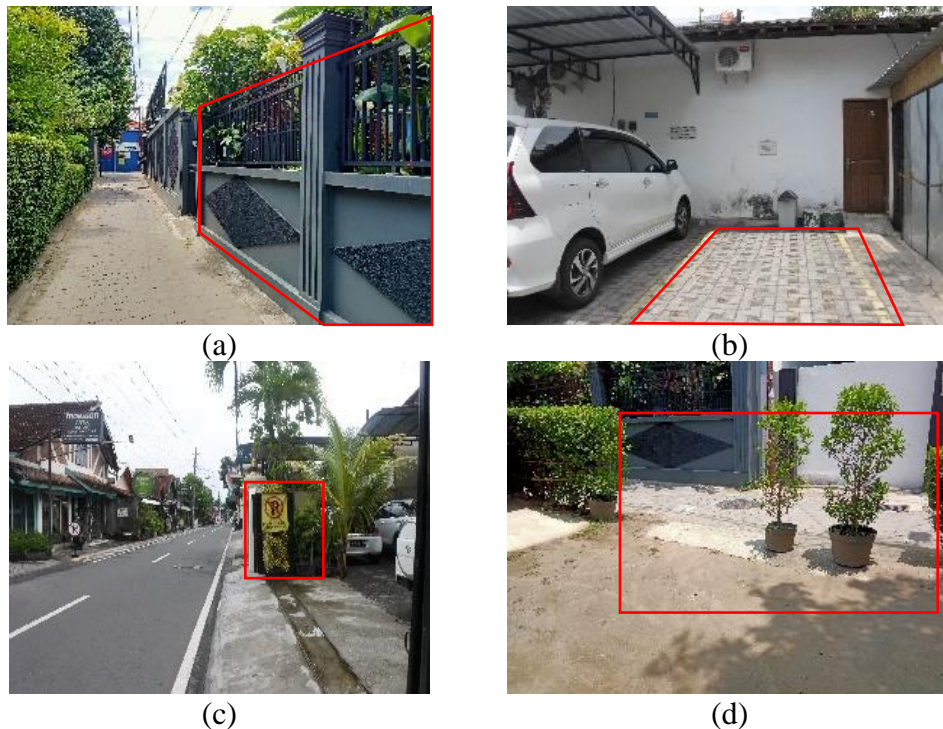


Figure 3: The Transformation of Transition Area Use

Source: Observation, 2021

The use of area transitions for interacting activities has occurred from the past to the present. This finding shows that transition area is a part of neighboring life in Prawirotaman (Figure 4).

1981



2021



Figure 4: Transition Area and Neighboring Life in Prawirotaman.

Source: Observation, 2021

In Prawirotaman, residents spend their leisure time having routine social interaction by using the transition area to gather. Transition area creates a social interaction among neighbours in a neighbourhood (Pendola and Gen, 2008). This routine social interaction mainly occurs in the afternoon. Quoted from one of the residents named Dewi, “*Many interactions between residents occur in the afternoon, gather or just say hello when they meet on the alley*”. Regardless of the transition area use and the social interaction as neighboring life in the kampung, this condition generates the various social interaction activities along the transition area. A resident named Kuncoro added that “*Some of the social interaction in the afternoon occurs in the alley and house yard.*” Therefore, this finding shows that there is still the forming of spontaneous interaction place in the kampung transition area (Figure 5). This condition based on the residents hereditary habitual for social interaction using the transition area despite their neighbourhood has transformed. A kampung becomes a place of a community that shows a sense of togetherness (Hutama, 2018).



Figure 5: The Interaction Activity on Prawirotaman Transition Area: Alley, House Yard And Terrace: (a) Alley Side, (b) Terrace Functioning as *Warung*, (c) House Yard
Source: Observation, 2021

Therefore, this research discusses how the forming of spontaneous social interaction place in the transition area of Prawirotaman during kampung spatial changes, consisting of (1) what the factors affect, and (2) how the typology of spontaneous interaction place? This research uses a qualitative approach to identify transition areas within the kampung relating to the resident social interaction activity. Therefore, this research will cover the transition area of Kampung Prawirotaman, namely alley, house yard and terrace (Figure 6).

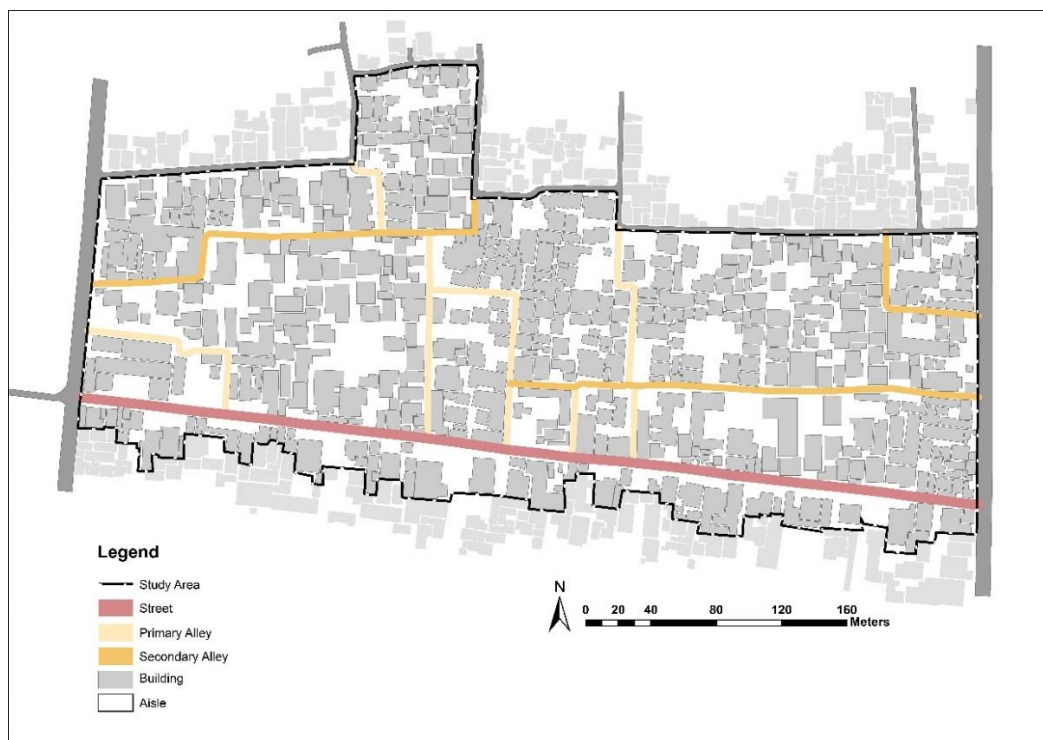


Figure 6: The Scope of Observation Area

Source: Observation, 2021

The method used is a combination of visual and spatial analysis to obtain the relationship between public transition area (alley) with private transition area (house yard and terrace) relating to the forming the spontaneous interaction place (Figure 7). Moreover, ArcGIS for redrawing the satellite map and mapping the interaction spot. ArcGIS geoprocessing functions to calculate cross-sectional proportion and street wall continuity (Harvey, 2014) that represents in coordinate grid form (Budiyanto, 2019).



Figure 7: The Transition Area of Prawirotaman: (a) Public Transition Area, (b) Private Transition Area

Source: Observation, 2021







Results and Discussion

Boundary Element

Various types of boundary elements formed the transition area in Prawirotaman. Meanwhile, the material and height of the boundary determine the openness and the connectivity between transition areas that stimulated spontaneous interaction between residents. This condition can be understood through the sample of boundary elements in Prawirotaman, consisting of material, openness, connectivity, and height (Table 3). The findings show that the boundary element connects the house yard and terrace to the alley. Moreover, the material type and the height of the fence cause the level of openness between transition areas. For example, elements 1 and 2 serve the high openness that causes the high visibility between transition areas. In contrast, elements 3 and 4 with the solid material have low openness. Likewise, elements 5,6,7,8,9 are without openness.

It means that social closeness between residents can be predicted through the boundary elements of their houses. For instance, the locals tend to maintain the openness of their transition areas (e.g., elements 1,2,3,4). It can be understood that the boundary element only functions as a marker of territorial ownership. Meanwhile, non-locals tend to close the private space as a defense to the surrounding transition area. As a result, the transition area experiences various levels of transparency that determine the forming of spontaneous interaction place in Prawirotaman.

Table 1: The sample of Boundary Element in Prawirotaman Transition Area

	Element 1 greenery high yard to alley 0.5 m	Element 2 cement and iron railing high terrace to alley 0.5 m	Element 3 Cement and iron railings low terrace to alley 2.00 m
			
(1) Material	Element 4 Iron railings	Element 5 Cement and iron railings	Element 6 Iron railings and wooden board
(2) Openness	low	none	none
(3) Connectivity	yard to alley	yard to alley	yard to alley
(4) Height	2.00 m	H: 4 m	2.5 m
			
(1) Material	Element 7 Cement and wooden board	Element 8 Cement and iron railings	Element 9 Cement and iron railings
(2) Openness	none	none	none
(3) Connectivity	yard to alley	yard to alley	yard to alley
(4) Height	2.5m	2.5 m	4 m
			

Source: Observation, 2021

Spontaneous Interaction Activities

During observation, it was seen that spontaneous interactions in Prawirotaman tend to occur in the transition area within the kampung area. The interaction pattern in Prawirotaman are 1) passing interaction, 2) pause interaction, 3) pause and sustain interaction (Figure 6). It means that spontaneous interaction in Prawirotaman is temporal interaction while moving and will be followed by further movement to another space.



Figure 8: The Spontaneous Interaction Pattern in Prawirotaman: (a) Passing Interaction, (b) Pause Interaction, (c) Pause And Sustain Interaction

Source: Observation, 2021

Moreover, the interaction spaces happened spontaneously along the kampung transition area which is formed by social activities among residents within the kampung. In addition, the kampung residents have interaction while doing their daily activities. This finding inferred that the daily activities affects the forming of spontaneous interaction space. The potential transition area for spontaneous interaction in Prawirotaman are alley, *warung* at house terrace, yard and terrace (Figure 9).

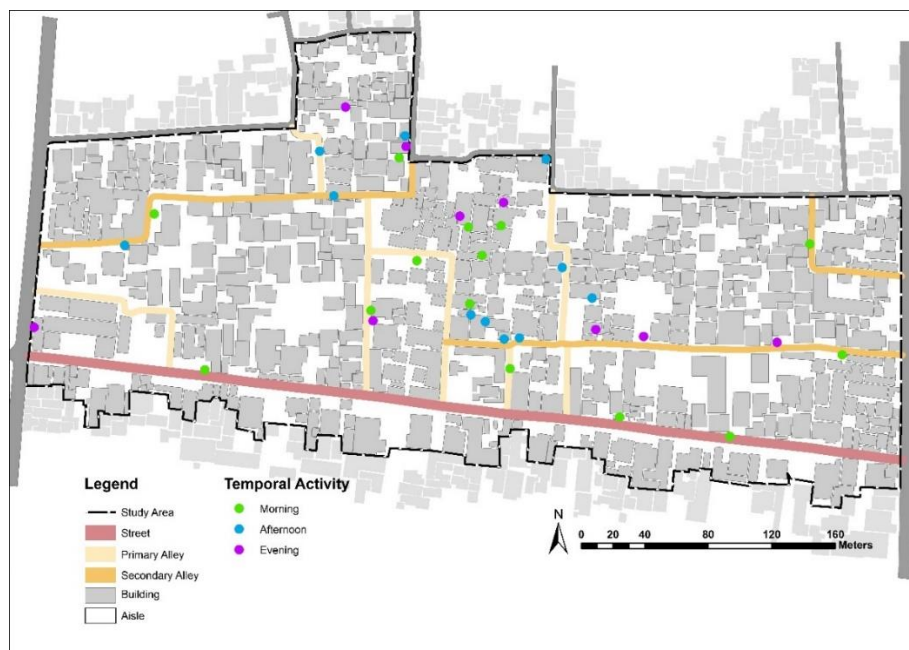


Figure 9: The Potential Transition Area for Spontaneous Interaction

Source: Observation, 2021

This finding reveals that the irregular building configuration in kampung creates the transition area that forms the spontaneous interaction space. In other words, the boundary element and the connectivity depth stimulate the forming of spontaneous interaction place within the kampung neighborhood.

Territorial Depth

The spontaneous interaction place in kampung is caused by how the residents use the transition area to support daily needs where the flexibility of the kampung transition area to be accessed. It is inseparable from the territorial depth formed between the public transition area (e.g., alley) and private area (e.g., house yard and terrace). Territorial shows the ownership of the transition area (Yeang, 2000). During observation, it found that there was various type of territorial depth in Prawirotaman, namely 1) house direct to the transition area. The house without a terrace, yard and boundary element faces directly to the alley or aisle. 2) house with terrace faces directly to the alley or aisle, 3) house with terrace and boundary element (fence) faces alley (Figure 9). These findings indicate that the territorial depth also causes the forming of spontaneous interaction place in Prawirotaman. Especially, the territorial depth with high visual transparency and high connectivity between public transition areas (e.g., alley) to the private transition area (e.g., house yard and terrace).



Figure 10: Territorial Depth in Prawirotaman

Source: Analysis, 2021

Forming of Spontaneous Interaction Place

Relating to the findings above, spontaneous interaction in Prawirotaman is influenced by the boundary element, spontaneous interaction activities, and territorial depth. Hence, the typologies of spontaneous interaction place in Prawirotaman are:

- (1) **Spontaneous interaction place with filtered visual transparency.** The boundaries between transition areas still provide opportunities for spontaneous interaction (Figure 11).

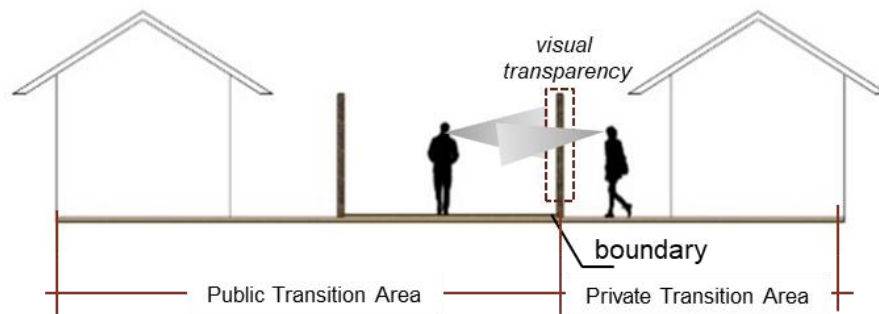


Figure 11: Filtered Visual Transparency

Source: Analysis, 2021

- (2) **Spontaneous interaction with full visual transparency, without or low boundary.** Thus, spontaneous interactions can optimally occur between transition areas (Figure 12).

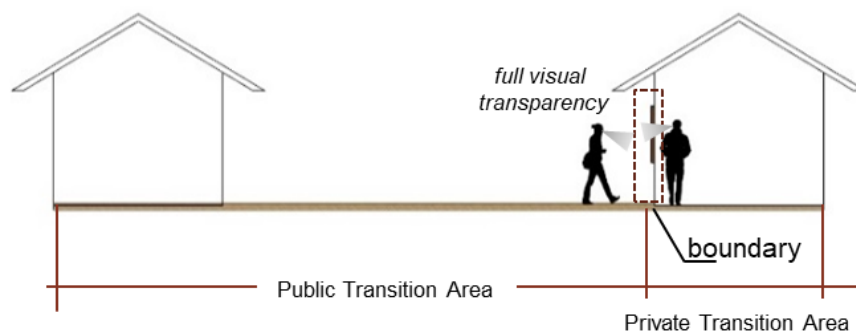


Figure 12: Full Visual Transparency

Source: Analysis, 2021

- (3) **Spontaneous interaction with closed visual transparency.** The boundary has solid material that limits the range of space. Thus, spontaneous interactions cannot occur (Figure 13).

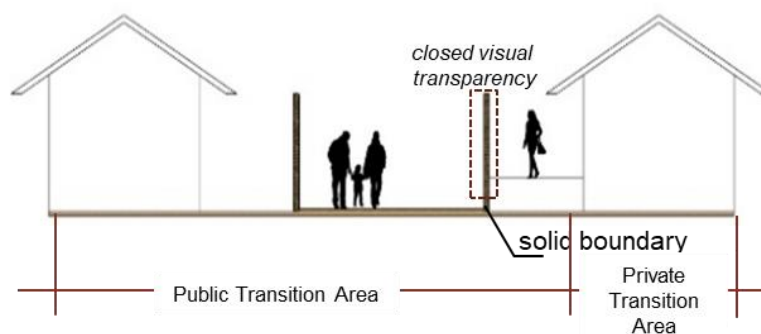


Figure 13: Closed visual transparency

Source: Analysis, 2021

- (4) **In the transition area.** The transition area becomes a place for spontaneous interactions (Figure 14).

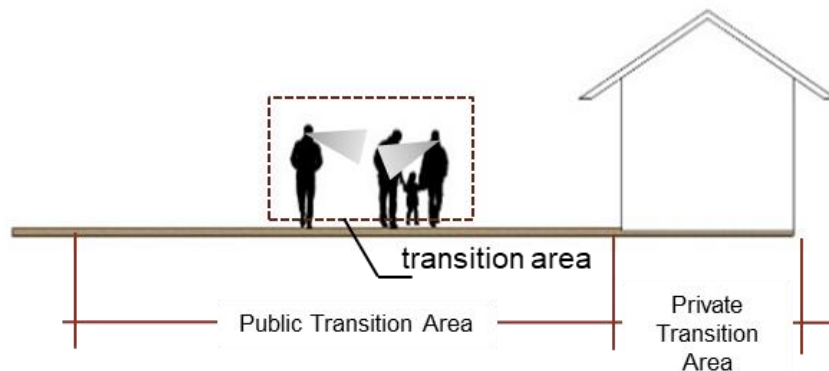


Figure 14: In the transition area

Source: Analysis, 2021

Conclusion

As result, the spontaneous interaction in kampung was formed by the boundary element and the residents' perceptions toward transition areas as a place for daily social activities. Therefore, the transition area becomes a representation of the spontaneous interaction place in the kampung neighborhood relating to the physical (transition area and boundary element) and the social relationship between neighbors. Although Prawirotaman has undergone spatial changes, namely reducing interaction space, there is still the forming of spontaneous interaction spaces that maintain social life between residents. It is influenced by several factors, namely (1) boundary elements, (2) daily spontaneous interaction of community, and (3) territorial depth. These three factors form various interaction typologies, which form a spontaneous interaction space in the kampung (Figure 13). In other words, the spontaneous interaction place in kampung is formed by the residents' habitual interaction that occurred through their daily activities and the willingness to open their private territory. These factors form the connectivity and transparency between the public transition area (alley) and the private transition area (house yard and terrace) that causes spontaneous interaction.

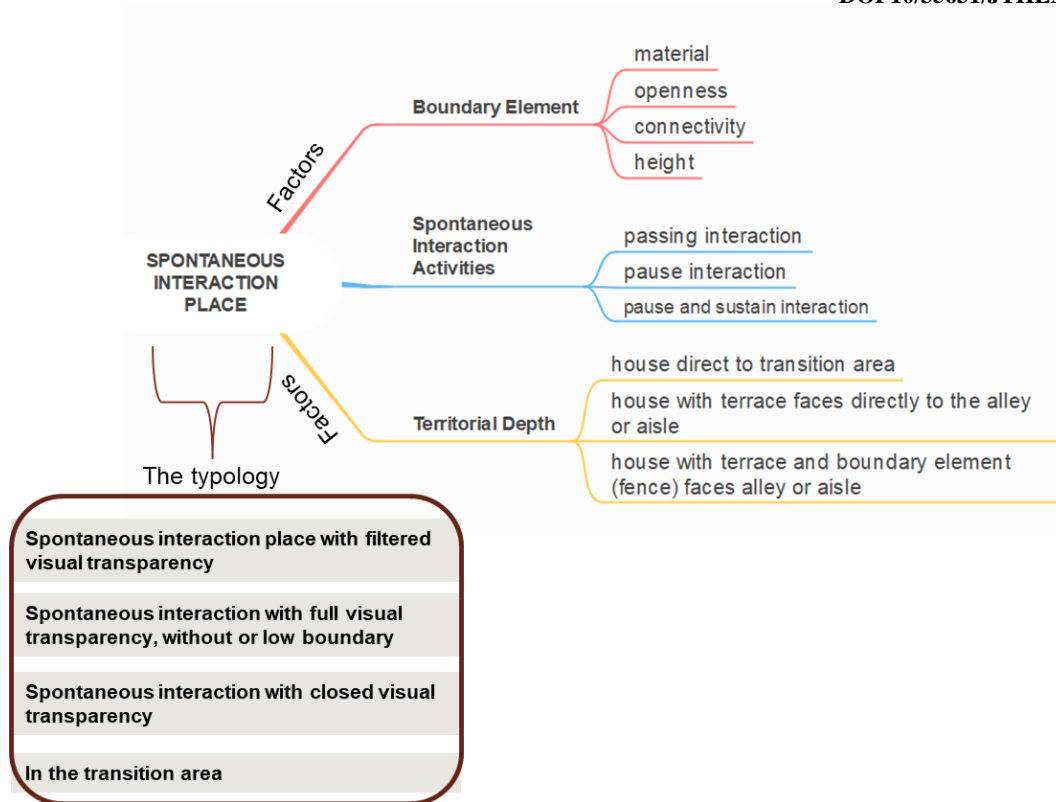


Figure 15: Factors and Typology of The Forming of Spontaneous Interaction Place

Source: Analysis, 2021

Furthermore, the forming of spontaneous interaction place in kampung sustain the authenticity of kampung life in the City of Yogyakarta where the residents are closely related to the culture of gathering. These conditions meet the criteria of sustainable cities and human settlement by UN-Sustainable Development Goal 11 for making cities sustainable.

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