

IC - (21155) - GREEN URBAN SPACES IN PANDEMIC CONTEXT: RETHINKING GREEN SPACES FOR CONNECTING PEOPLE AND NATURE

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Background and objectives

In the context of the pandemic, there has been a greater interest in green public spaces. In this context, the purpose of the study was to analyze what people think about when talking about green spaces, what activities they do in them, what they look for when they frequent them and how they would like them to be.

Process and methods (for empirical research)

Research was carried out based on a digital questionnaire that collected information related to the frequency and reasons for using of green spaces, specifically, the use of them during the Covid-19 pandemic in Barcelona city. 102 people answered the questionnaire.

Main results (or main arguments in the case of critical reviews)

The results show us that the group between 25 and 34 years old is the one that refers to a greater use of spaces. 84% of respondents expressed that they missed these spaces. However, 47% respond to the fact that their use in these spaces has not changed pace after the exit of absolute confinement, with 40% having begun to use them more than in the past and a low proportion (13%) who use it less than in the past.

Among the options for using these spaces, 30% chose them as places to clear their minds and walk, 23% as leisure and being with friends and 21% to connect with nature. As for what they would like to find in these spaces, 28% of respondents indicate that they are looking for routes or itineraries to walk, followed by areas of contemplation with 26% and connectivity with other green spaces with 25%.

Implications for research and practice/policy | Importance and originality of the contribution

The observed trend is related to the benefits linked to the restorative effects of nature, as they offer a way to disconnect from the daily routine. Perhaps it is important to rethink green spaces of cities as an interconnected network, rather than separate spaces of urban green.

Palavras-chave : urban green spaces, nature connectedness, covid-19, pandemic context