

## **Spatial Determinants of Quality of Life in Urban Areas: Does Metropolitan contiguity effect?**

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### **Abstract**

Studies related to the quality of life (QoL) and investigating it in human societies have been of great importance in recent days as an axis for government efficiency. Such studies have always been tried to be increased in human residences by investigating factors affecting the improvement of quality of life both in objective (availability of material facilities), and subjective aspects (satisfaction).

This research has used spatial analysis based on the results of a 20-percent count of statistics by the Iranian Statics Center in 2006 to investigate objective aspects of the objective aspects of QoL and metropolitan affect in urban areas that have contiguity with metropolitan in Iran. Furthermore, there was a great deal of spatial variation in QoL and deprivation index which is not explained by the global regression framework. Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR) analysis was undertaken using an adaptively defined kernel with a bi-square function. The kernel bandwidth was determined by minimisation of the Akaike Information Criterion (AIC) value.

Indicators being used in this research include availability of facilities to families and their home quality. Results show a direct relationship between urban population size and city size rank and contiguity with metropolitan on the availability of facilities to families and their home quality.

The GWR outputs showed that some areas with high QoL were also areas that have contiguity with metropolitan and high city growth rate. Therefore, the GWR results highlighted 'hot spot' areas. On the other hand; cities around metropolitan have better home quality (resistant settlements) and more available facilities to families than other cities.

**Keywords:** Quality of Life, objective quality, subjective quality, Geographically Weighted Regression (GWR)