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Part 1

Urban areas have developed mostly because of population growth and commerce. Urban areas comprise of cities and towns and hence must include the surrounding regions. However, several theories have been linked with the growth of urban areas, including the concentric zone model, multiple Nuclei theory, and demographic transition theory. Burgess (2020) developed the concentric zone theory and argue that urban growth starts as a sequence of rings originating from the central business district. Similarly, Burgess was the first sociologist to research why a particular group of individuals resides in specific urban regions. While Chicago was the city being examined, the central business district was in the center and comprised of shops and businesses. Other rings extended outside the central business district. The region following the central business district was referred to as the transition zone being made up of a combination of commercial and residential houses. Moreover, the areas were associated with high crime rates and poverty. The next region was the uptown district where working men and their families resided. Secondly, the next region was made up of residential areas consisting of single-family houses and also garages. Lastly, the commuter section entailed the suburban area where the upper class was residing.

Another theory that explains the growth of the urban area is the multiple nuclei theory, which was developed by Harris and Ullman in 1945 (Murphy, 2017). Multiple nuclei theory has a different perception compared with concentric zone theory. They argue that an urban area's growth is not based on a single nucleus, but numerous distinct nuclei, and thus every nucleus will act as a development point. Furthermore, the central business district is not the only center since there will always be several development centers progressing within the metropolitan region. Moreover, urban land use is characterized based on land use, making people specialized in

different categories, hence several smaller development centers in the outskirts of the city. The nuclei can comprise of government centers, ports, or localities trades.

The next theory explaining the growth of urban areas is the Hoyt sector model. This model is a modification of the concentric zone model; however, it does not agree that urban areas grow in concentric rings but in sector form (Lagad, 2020). Nevertheless, the center of the city is still the central business district, but the sectors are characterized by diverse economic activities. Although the whole town can be viewed as the circle and other neighborhoods as sectors emanating from the central business district (CBD). From the CBD, the next sector is referred to as the transportation and industry, then low-class residential sector, and this provides habitat for lower-income individuals. The fourth sector is the medium-class residentials, and lastly, the high-class residents mostly in modern suburbs.

What are the benefits of understanding the models of urban structure?

Part 2

People have moved to urban areas in search of jobs and developed infrastructure. According to Mishra et al. (2015) ¹ half of current world's population are comfortable living in urban areas where by 2050, two-thirds of world population is likely to be residing. Therefore, these do come with several challenges, including inadequate water to cater to the high population rate, waste disposal challenges and increased energy consumption. Similarly, increased population in urban areas leads to an increased poverty rate because job opportunities will be limited as well as the government is unable to deliver services to all individuals. Also, high energy consumption causes augmented air pollution with increased effects on human health. While health plays a significant role in every person's life, the ever-growing population increases

health risk; also, waste disposal is not taken care of appropriately, causing increased health hazards.

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