

The Rise of Cafes in Waduk Cengklik: Exploring The Implication for Locals

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ABSTRACT

This research examines the rapid increase in the number of cafés around the Cengklik Reservoir and explores the implications for the local community. This research uses a qualitative survey method by collecting data from 10 interviews with local residents. The results showed some positive impacts for local residents. The findings show that although the proliferation of cafés has spurred local economic growth and created new jobs, it has also created some challenges such as the increased intensity of passing vehicles. The conclusion of this study is that the emergence of cafes around the Cengklik Reservoir has a positive impact on local residents covering three aspects: economic, environmental and socio-cultural



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1. Introduction

Imagine a peaceful lake, with calm waters reflecting the green trees and plants around it. A beautiful natural place in the middle of the busy city. This is the Cengklik Reservoir, a big lake located in Boyolali. For a very long time, this large body of water has been an important part of the local community's way of life. It has supported their jobs and livelihood activities, been a part of their cultural traditions, and provided a peaceful escape from the rush of daily life.

However, something new and unexpected has been happening around the calm shores of the Cengklik Reservoir in recent years – lots of new cafés or coffee shops have been opening up. Like mushrooms popping up after rain, trendy cafés have been quickly appearing, attracting both locals and visitors with the offer of tasty drinks and the chance to enjoy the pretty lake views.

While this sudden increase in cafés has certainly brought new business and job opportunities, as well as a lively social scene to the area, it has also raised some worries about the possible impacts on the local community living there. This study aims to take a closer look at this café growth, exploring the various effects it may have on the residents living near the Cengklik Reservoir.

By examining economic, social, cultural, and environmental perspectives, this research seeks to understand the links between the café development and the well-being of the local community. From looking at potential new jobs and income opportunities, to changes in community relationships, lifestyle, and cultural traditions, every aspect will be explored.

Moreover, the study will carefully assess the environmental impacts of all these new cafés, looking at strains on natural resources, waste management, and the overall balance of the reservoir's ecosystem. By listening to the perspectives and experiences of local residents themselves, this research strives to find a balance between business growth, social well-being, and protecting the environment.

Exploring these impacts is very important, as it can help guide decision-making and ensure that the café industry growth around Cengklik Reservoir is sustainable and aligns with what the local community needs and wants. By untangling the complex connections of this café phenomenon, this study aims to contribute to ongoing conversations about responsible development that allows for progress while still preserving local ways of life and the natural environment.

2. Method

This study employed a qualitative approach to explore the impact of the cafe boom on the local community around Cengklik Reservoir. The research was conducted focusing on in-depth interviews to capture the nuanced experiences and perspectives of key stakeholders. A total of 10 interviewees were carefully selected to represent diverse viewpoints within the community. The sample included three long-time residents, three business owners, and seven local residents.

Semi-structured interviews were conducted with each participant, lasting approximately 10-20 minutes. The interview guide covered three main themes: economic impacts, environmental concerns, and socio-cultural changes brought about by the proliferation of cafes. Questions were designed to elicit detailed narratives and personal insights, allowing for a rich understanding of the phenomenon. All interviews were conducted in the local language to ensure participants could express themselves comfortably and accurately..

3. Finding and Discussion

Factors influencing the proliferation of cafes

Several factors have contributed to the rise of cafes in the Cengklik Reservoir area. First, the natural beauty of the reservoir has made it an attractive destination for both locals and tourists, creating a demand for places to relax and enjoy the scenery. This scenic appeal has encouraged entrepreneurs to open cafes to cater to visitors looking for a pleasant spot to have a drink and take in the views.

Second, changing lifestyle trends, particularly among younger generations, have led to an increased interest in cafe culture. Many people now seek out unique and Instagram-worthy locations for socializing and working remotely, which these lakeside cafes can provide.

Third, improvements in local infrastructure and accessibility have made the area more reachable, allowing more people to visit and potentially increasing foot traffic for businesses. This improved access has made the reservoir a more viable location for cafe owners to set up shop.

Fourth, the success of early cafes in the area likely sparked a domino effect, with other entrepreneurs seeing the potential for profitable businesses and following suit. This clustering of cafes has created a reputation for the area as a cafe hotspot, further driving interest and foot traffic.

Lastly, local government policies or initiatives aimed at boosting tourism and economic development in the area may have encouraged or incentivized the establishment of new businesses, including cafes, around the Cengklik Reservoir.

These factors combined have created a favorable environment for the growth of cafes in the area, leading to the cafe boom we're now seeing around the Cengklik Reservoir.

Impact on the Locals

To gain a comprehensive understanding of the cafe boom's impact on the Cengklik Reservoir area, we conducted in-depth interviews with various local stakeholders, including long-time residents and business owners. Their insights provide a nuanced perspective on how this phenomenon has affected different aspects of life around the reservoir. In the following sections, we will explore the economic, environmental, and socio-cultural implications of the cafe boom, as revealed through the experiences and observations of the local community. By examining these three key areas, we can paint a more complete picture of how the rise of cafes has transformed the Cengklik Reservoir area and its inhabitants. From new job opportunities and changing land use to shifts in social dynamics and cultural practices.

Researchers differentiate interviewees into two, namely long-time residents and business owners because these two local types are affected differently. The table below shows the negative and positive impacts of the proliferation of cafes in Cengklik Reservoir based on the type of local population.

Table 7.1 *The impact of the proliferation of cafes in economic, environmental and socio-cultural aspects on long-term residents and business owners*

Type of Local	Aspect	Impact	
		Positive	Negative
Long-time Residents	Economy	Increased property values	Inequality between immigrants as cafe owners and long-time residents only as parking attendants
			Only a few cafes employ local residents
			Not all residents have benefited equally from the economic growth
			The local residents without the skills or capital to participate in the cafe industry may feel left behind
	Environment	Increased environmental awareness	Increased air pollution
		Beutification of the area	Some natural or agricultural areas have been converted for commercial use
		Improved waste management	Because it is a place visited by many

			tourists, this causes many vehicles to pass by and cause noise
			There is a lack of land for children to be able to carry out activities freely due to the large number of vehicles passing by
			Noise pollution occurs when some cafes play music too loud until late at night
	Socio-culture	The development has brought modern amenities that benefit the local community, such as better internet connectivity	New work patterns in cafes (e.g., late hours) can interfere with traditional family time and roles
		It is a matter of pride because the area is known to many people from various regions	
Business Owner	Economy	Many business owners report significant increases in revenue due to the influx of visitors attracted by the cafes	Visitors drawn by the cafe culture often have different expectations, requiring businesses to adapt their services.
		The cafe boom has allowed some owners to diversify their business, adding new services or product to cater the changing market (food stall for anglers, grocery stall, etc)	
		Some business owners also have the opportunity to supply gas or food ingredients for cafes	
	Environment	Increased environmental awareness	More visitors mean more vehicles, leading to concerns about air quality and noise pollution.

	Beutification of the area	Some natural or agricultural areas have been converted for commercial use
	Improved waste management	There is a lack of land for children to be able to carry out activities freely due to the large number of vehicles passing by
		Noise pollution occurs when some cafes play music too loud until late at night
Socio-culture	Many cafe owners have incorporated traditional local dishes into their menus, helping preserve and promote local culinary heritage.	The cafe industry has introduced new work patterns (like late hours) that sometimes conflict with traditional family and social structures.
	The influx of new ideas and practices has led to modernization in various aspects of local life, which some view positively.	
	It is a matter of pride because the area is known to many people from various regions	

Table 7.2 Accumulation of *The impact of the proliferation of cafes in economic, environmental and socio-cultural aspects on long-term residents and business owners*

Type of Local	Aspect	Impact	
		Positive	Negative
Long-time Residents	Economy	1	4
	Environment	3	5
	Socio-culture	2	1
Business Owner	Economy	3	1
	Environment	3	4
	Socio-culture	3	1

The proliferation of cafes in the Cengklik Reservoir area has had varied impacts on different segments of the local population, particularly long-time residents and business owners. These impacts span economic, environmental, and socio-cultural aspects, with both positive and negative outcomes observed.

For long-time residents, the economic impact appears to be predominantly negative. While there has been an increase in property values, which is positive, the negatives outweigh this benefit. The cafe boom has led to economic inequalities, with immigrants often becoming cafe owners while long-time residents are limited to roles such as parking attendants. Employment opportunities for locals in these cafes are limited, and not all residents have benefited equally from the economic growth. Those without the necessary skills or capital to participate in the cafe industry feel left behind, highlighting a growing economic divide within the community.

Environmentally, long-time residents report a mix of positive and negative impacts. On the positive side, there's increased environmental awareness, beautification of the area, and improved waste management. However, these are offset by significant negative impacts including increased air and noise pollution, conversion of natural and agricultural areas for commercial use, and a lack of safe spaces for children due to increased traffic.

Socio-culturally, long-time residents note some positive impacts such as improved amenities like better internet connectivity and a sense of pride in their area becoming well-known. However, they also face challenges with new work patterns interfering with traditional family time and roles.

For business owners, the economic impact is largely positive. They report significant increases in revenue due to the influx of visitors, opportunities for business diversification, and new supply chain roles. However, they do face challenges in adapting to changing customer expectations.

Environmentally, business owners report similar positive impacts to long-time residents, but they also acknowledge significant negative impacts including increased vehicle traffic leading to air and noise pollution, and the conversion of natural areas for commercial use.

Socio-culturally, business owners see more positives than negatives. They appreciate the opportunity to preserve local culinary heritage through their menus, view the modernization positively, and share the sense of pride in the area's newfound popularity. However, they do acknowledge that new work patterns can conflict with traditional social structures.

In conclusion, the impact of the cafe boom is complex and multifaceted. While it has brought economic opportunities and some environmental and cultural benefits, it has also led to significant challenges, particularly for long-time residents. The disparity in impacts between long-time residents and business owners suggests a need for more inclusive development strategies that ensure the benefits of such economic growth are more equitably distributed within the community. Future development plans should also address the environmental concerns raised by both groups to ensure the long-term sustainability of the Cengklik Reservoir area.

4. Conclusion

The rise of cafes near Cengklik Reservoir has brought both positive and negative changes to the area. While it has created new business opportunities and attracted more visitors, it has also led to some problems for the local community.

On the bright side like some businesses are doing well and making more money. Also, The area looks nicer and is becoming well-known. Additionally, there's more awareness about taking care of the environment. However, there are also downsides like not everyone is

benefiting equally from these changes, here's more pollution and noise from increased traffic, and some natural areas are being replaced by buildings.

The research shows that business owners generally see more benefits from these changes compared to long-time residents. Many locals feel left out of the economic opportunities and are concerned about how their community is changing.

Looking ahead, it's important to find ways to balance the growth of cafes with the needs of the local community. This might include creating more job opportunities for local residents, protecting the natural environment, preserving local culture and traditions, and last ensuring that the benefits of tourism are shared more equally. In the end, the goal should be to develop the area in a way that improves life for everyone living near Cengklik Reservoir, not just cafe owners and visitors.

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