

# OLDER ADULTS OUTDOORS

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# City outdoor as a place for Older adults leisure activities

- **Leisure activities** Studies concentrate on "modern" activities, while neglect the traditional forms of leisure.
- **living environment** and older adult Studies dealt mostly with the physical elements and green parks, reflect an assumption that the elderly going out mainly to walk in the "open air".

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# The aim

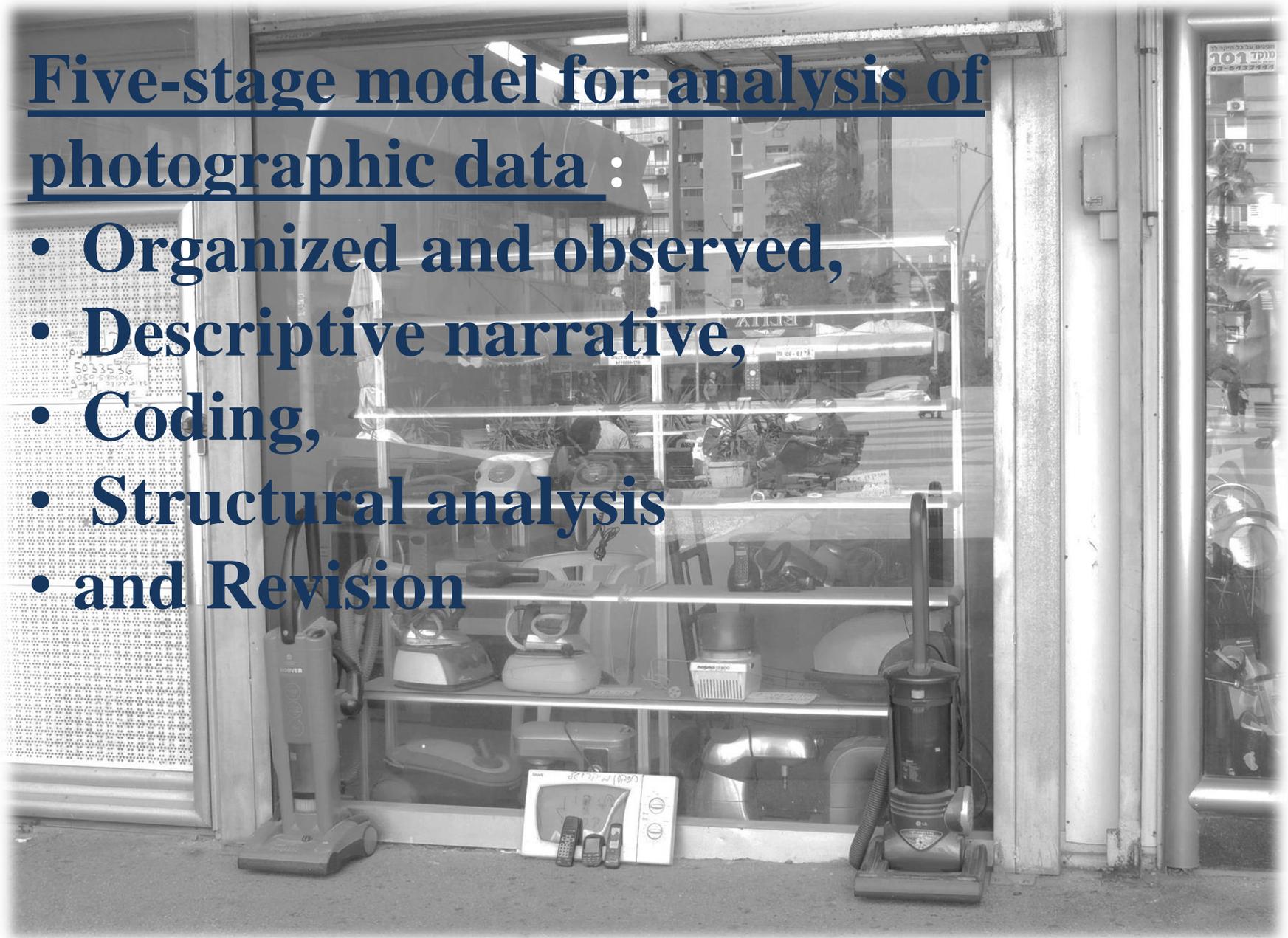
Shedding light on the social phenomenon of older adults •  
spending long hours in urban commercial spaces.

# A visual research method

- A tool for observational studies that uses the camera to gather information (Collier & Collier, 1986; luc, 2011).
- Involves the production, organization, and interpretation of images (Prosser, 2007).
- It adopts the perspective that photographic images provide information that can answer research questions that cannot be answered otherwise (Tinker, 2013)

# Five-stage model for analysis of photographic data :

- Organized and observed,
- Descriptive narrative,
- Coding,
- Structural analysis
- and Revision



# Creating a catalogue

| coding                   | Scene Description  |
|--------------------------|--|
| <b>Aloneness</b>         | An older adult alone, without any interaction with another person  |
| <b>Gathering</b>         | A scene composed of several older adults who have gathered, apparently at random, in one place, for example, sitting on benches that are near to one another; but they are not engaged in a conversation or addressing each other. |
| <b>Alone on the road</b> | People who are in motion, alone (walking to a shop, roaming, etc.)   |
| <b>Together</b>          | spending time together in conversation, spontaneously, in changing and temporary groups.   |
| <b>Meeting</b>           | few people who come together in a meeting planned in advance with the intention of participating in a social gathering for the purpose of card games, dominoes, etc  |
| <b>Being led</b>         | Older adult who, due to their impairment, were led to the site by their caregivers, without having the ability to express their own wishes   |

# Main Results



- Older adults constitute the majority of the people staying in the outdoor commercial centers.
- While approximately 72% of the young people were moving and appeared to be crossing the areas to pass through them, only 10% of the older adults were in motion.
- The majority of the older adults, arrived alone . 49% of them remain alone even when they among other elderly.
- There are gender differences in patterns of Aloneness and social participation

49% are staying all by them self



Aloneness, (17%) sitting alone, without any interaction with another person



**Gathering: (22%)** several elderly who have gathered, apparently at random, in one place



# Alone on the road: (10%) in motion, alone (walking to a shop, roaming, etc.)



**Meeting:** (32%) a meeting planned in advance with the intention of participating in a social gathering for card games, dominoes, etc.



- **36% of all men, compared to 6% of women**

**Together:** (25%) spending time together in conversation, spontaneously, in changing and temporary groups



- **34% of all women, compared to 17% of men**

# Implications :How Aloneness looks ?

- **An** elderly, women and men, alone, steps out into the city street in order to be among people, and continue to be part of the community. A common spending time, for many elderly, although so far was not presented in the literature.
- The **spontaneous gathering** of elderly in the open urban spaces, can be used for service supply: culture, social, welfare , health & information.
- Environment cultivating and adjusted design of street furniture, will enables and encourages more elderly to get out and participate in the city life.