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**Research Article** 

# Exploring the Black Box of Relationship Between Place Attachment and Residential Renewable Energy Technologies -A Systematic Literature Review

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#### **ARTICLE INFO**

#### **ABSTRACT**

Received: 12 Oct 2024 Revised: 10 Dec 2024 Accepted: 22 Dec 2024 **Introduction**: Place attachment enables people to embrace sustainability discourses and deal with social change and action on renewable energy technologies, often deployed strategically for environmentally friendly consumption behaviors. Despite the growing number of studies examining the influence of place attachment of pro-environmental behaviors and renewable energy technologies, limited studies have explored the effectiveness of place attachment in influencing social acceptance and purchase intention of household renewable energy technologies through a literature synthesis. Thus, there has been no systematic consolidation of the research in place attachment to identify the effectiveness of place attachment established for their role in determining the social acceptance and purchase intention of renewable energy technologies to provide a detailed understanding of how it has evolved over the years to the researcher's knowledge.

**Objectives**: This study aims to conduct a structured review and bridge the gap by examining the evolution of effectiveness of place attachment of renewable energy technologies in the last twenty years and offer further promising directions for future research by bibliometric analysis.

**Methods**: Based on the PRISMA four-stage identification, screening, eligibility, and study inclusion technique, this study explored the usefulness of bibliometric analysis for the analysis of 68 articles.

**Results**: Through bibliometric analysis, the leading authors, outlets, countries/regions, and articles of healthy aging research were visualized over 15 years (2010-2024). It provides a comprehensive overview of the effectiveness of place attachment in renewable energy technology research, demonstrates intellectual advances in the field, and detects promising research directions in the future.

**Conclusions**: The findings of the study identify influential authors, articles, and journals over 15 years (2010-2024), illustrate the intellectual structure of the literature, and better understanding the important of place attachment on renewable energy technology which provide an opportunity to improve energy promotion and transformation around the world to reduce carbon emissions.

**Keywords:** place attachment, renewable energy technologies, social acceptance, purchase intention.

#### INTRODUCTION

Energy is what drives the global economy and is found in the form of electricity and primary energy resources (Wang et al., 2023). According to (Bp, 2021), oil and natural gas reserves could last just 53.5 and 48.8. Although coal is the most abundant fossil fuel, it is also predicted to become extinct in 139 years (Al-abadi & Al-qatrani, 2023). Globally, these fossil fuels contribute 85% of primary energy consumption (Ağbulut & Sarıdemir, 2021). However, these leading fossil fuels combustion that contribute to greenhouse gas emissions and climate change which threaten

sustainable development and even caused millions of deaths and serious diseases as a result of harmful gas emissions (Zhang & Li, 2023). The dominance of fossil fuels threatens the sustainability of energy systems has become a worldwide phenomenon on an ecological and social level (Bashir et al., 2024). According to the International Renewable Energy Agency, energy transition is the process of moving away from fossil fuels and toward zero-carbon energy by the second half of the 21st century (Carrington & Stephenson, 2018). It calls for a transition from fossil fuel-dominated electricity mix to one that is dominated by renewable sources of energy and technologies such as clean fuels and conversions. The displacement of fossil resources by low carbon and, especially, renewable energy resources is imperative to mitigate these threats (Wang & Azam, 2024).

A transition away from fossil fuels involves important issues of social acceptance of technology, and public participation is likely to play a significant role (Rilling et al., 2024). A key aspect of the transition to a sustainable energy future is the adoption and continued use of renewable energy technologies (Al-Emran & Griffy-Brown, 2023). It is therefore important to understand the relationship between economic development and energy consumption, and effectively improve renewable energy transition for a better relationship and sustainable development. A greater understanding of what drives social acceptance and engagement in the renewable energy technology have become increasingly important as the global demand for renewable energy increases, particularly at the household and community levels (Almrafee & Akaileh, 2023; Masukujjaman et al., 2021). It has emerged that residents' attachment to their local community plays a crucial role in influencing their acceptance and purchase intention towards renewable energy (Kim et al., 2023; Parkins et al., 2018; Pei, 2019).

Place attachment refers to the ties between a particular place of residence and the social network of that place, as well as the relationships between interpersonal relationships and social networks defined by Kasarda & Janowitz (1974). Attachment to a place or community can give rise to an individual sense of responsibility for the environment of that place, thereby encouraging environmental sustainability behaviors (Daryanto & Song, 2021). The existing literature on community renewable energy projects suggests that a sense of place attachment can strongly influence consumer pro-environmental behavior and purchase decision-making (Bauwens & Devine-Wright, 2018; Mjahed Hammami & Abdulrahman Al Moosa, 2021). Given the strong relationship between social acceptance of renewable energy technologies and place attachment, there has been increasing studies on the role of place attachment in household sector (Cousse, 2021; Reis et al., 2021; Roddis et al., 2020; Segreto et al., 2020). Besides, there is evidence on the motives of participants in community wind energy projects has shown that it is particularly community identity and attachment, rather than financial motives, that motivate residents to become users (Radtke et al., 2022). Rural residents with low place attachment would have lower acceptance and adoption intentions, would be less willingness to accept and support renewable energy in their communities, and they would not feel comfort at home when using renewable energy compared to consumers with high place attachment (Goudriaan et al., 2023). Considering this, it s not surprising that academic attention to place attachment has been actively increasing, providing in-depth insight into the social acceptance and purchase intention of renewable energy technologies.

From the marketing perspective, adoption of the renewable energy technologies has been seen as a promising and emerging trend due to it contribute to local economic growth and jobs creation by boosting smart grid infrastructure and providing valuable flexibility services to be traded in emerging markets, thus accelerating the low-carbon transition (Reis et al., 2021). In the communities, since rural and isolated areas have a problem with electricity and heat supply, the renewable energy technologies are organized as the solution which including hydro, biomass, photovoltaic and wind (Rahman et al., 2022). It has been proven that place attachment enables people to embrace sustainability discourses and deal with social change and action on renewable energy technologies, often deployed strategically for environmentally friendly consumption behaviors (Hesari et al., 2020; Kim et al., 2023; Le et al., 2023; Nasr et al., 2022).

The existing literature has attempted to investigated different types of place attachment that contribute to proenvironmental behavior, for example community resilience in city emergency (Wang et al., 2023), climate-related civic engagement (Pradhananga et al., 2021), reduce plastic bag consumption (Le et al., 2023), residents household waste recycling intention (Hua et al., 2021; Pei, 2019), urban residents environmental citizenship behaviour (Soopramanien et al., 2023), locals eco-environmental conservation in protected areas (Zhang et al., 2020) and sustainable consumption behavior (Dong et al., 2020). However, the degree of place attachment that influence the social acceptance and purchase intention is challenging due to the differences in some factors, including individual characteristics (i.e. socio demographics, length of residence and social bonds) (Dlamini et al., 2021), social factors (i.e. social capital) (Kuo et al., 2021), physical factors (i.e. presence of place) (Casakin et al., 2021) and contextual factors (i.e. population size and density) (Ma, 2021).

In terms of renewable energy technologies, some studies also found that different types of place attachment have formed different attitudes and actions on community-based renewable energy projects or large-scale renewable energy technologies (Buchmayr et al., 2021; Goudriaan et al., 2023; Roddis et al., 2020; Veelen & Haggett, 2017). It is therefore imperative for place attachment research to go beyond the research boundaries of psychological aspects of behavior motivations and constraints in order to promote an understanding of social acceptance and purchase intention of renewable energy technologies.

Despite the growing number of studies examining the influence of place attachment of pro-environmental behaviors and renewable energy technologies, limited studies have explored the effectiveness of place attachment in influencing social acceptance and purchase intention of household renewable energy technologies through a literature synthesis. Thus, there has been no systematic consolidation of the research in place attachment to identify the effectiveness of place attachment established for their role in determining the social acceptance and purchase intention of renewable energy technologies to provide a detailed understanding of how it has evolved over the years to the researcher's knowledge. Some researchers proven that such a holistic review is crucial to conduct since it allows for a comprehensive systemic review and provides future directions that are instrumental to develop promoting renewable energy technologies and relevant research in the future (Elahi et al., 2022; Wijekoon & Sabri, 2021; Zhang & Dong, 2020).

To provide a better understanding regarding the effectiveness of place attachment that influence social acceptance and purchase intention on renewable energy technologies, this study aims to conduct a structured review and bridge the gap by examining the evolution of effectiveness of place attachment of renewable energy technologies in the last twenty years and offer further promising directions for future research by bibliometric analysis. Comprehensive literature reviews are intended to establish a reference framework for any field of research, however, they are also associated with author judgement bias (Babic et al., 2019; Klamer et al., 2017). Through bibliometric analysis, a literature review can be supplemented with a broader understanding of the intellectual structure that can be visualized by current and future researchers alike (Donthu et al., 2021a; Donthu et al., 2021b). Besides, bibliometric analysis can also be helpful for identifying emerging themes over time from a large body of literature and gain a one-stop overview (Donthu 2021; Ye et al., 2020). Bibliometric analysis has been widely applied in business research (Donthu et al., 2021; Forliano et al., 2021; Kumar et al., 2020), green marketing research (Liu et al., 2023; Qin et al., 2022; Saleem et al., 2021) and sustainable consumption behaviors for household renewable energy technologies (Ashraf Fauzi et al., 2023; Kumar & Harichandan, 2022; Vergura et al., 2023) to visualize cumulative knowledge development across different research fields.

Specifically, articles published in leading green marketing and renewable energy journals on place attachment as the determinants of social acceptance and purchase intention for renewable energy technologies topics are extracted from the Web of Science (WoS) database and synthesised through bibliometric analysis to a) highlight publication trends and outlets, b) investigate the intellectual structures of the evolution and development of effectiveness of place attachment in influencing the social acceptance and purchase intention research for renewable energy technologies, c) explore the direction of future research.

This paper contributes in three ways. Firstly, the analysis method based on bibliometrics can be used to describe the evolution and overall status of the effectiveness of place attachment established for their role in influencing the social acceptance and purchase intention for renewable energy technologies research and can provide more relevant and reliable statistical analysis. Secondly, very few reviews and summaries that concern the place attachment as the determinants of social acceptance and purchase intention for renewable energy technologies to the research's knowledge which emphasize the originality of this paper. Finally, the existing inconsistency in whether place attachment effectively influence social acceptance and purchase intention for renewable energy technologies and a lack of adequate explanation of it. It has been demonstrated in previous studies that individuals may have a sense of place attachment, but social acceptance and purchase intention may not necessarily lead them to make renewable energy technologies acceptance and purchases (Corbett et al., 2022a). Along with the absence of a review addressing this issue, prompted the author to review existing relevant literature on inconsistency as related to social acceptance

and green purchasing behavior and contributes to deeper understanding of the related research and offers scholars orientation for future studies in this field.

The remaining parts of this paper is organized as follows. Firstly, the methodology section provides more details on the data collected and software used. Then, a bibliometric analysis of literature will be presented with performance analysis and science mapping. Finally, the final section of the paper summarizes main findings and discusses limitations of the study as well as future research directions.

#### **METHODS**

An initial step in a bibliometric study is to identify relevant studies consistent with the study's objectives (Donthu et al., 2021a). In this study, the systematic review was conducted and reported using the Preferred Reporting Items for Systematic Reviews and Meta-Analyses (PRISMA) method (Page et al., 2021). PRISMA encourages a transparent and comprehensive process for selecting and including research papers for further analysis (Rethlefsen et al., 2021). Due to its replicability and the possibility of reducing bias, this method has been applied in renewable energy consumption research (Jabeen et al., 2021; Oláh et al., 2020). Thus, this study would follow PRISMA method in four consecutive steps: identification, screening, eligibility and study inclusion (Page et al., 2021).

In order to collect literature data, this study select relevant topic from Web of Science (WoS) databases for bibliometric analysis. In recent years, WoS has become a key data source for bibliometric analysis because of its multidisciplinary nature, comprehensive coverage of data, and extensive citation networks (Pranckutė, 2021). It provides researchers with access to a huge database of bibliographic information from many reputable journals (De Moraes & Kafure, 2020).

In the first step (identification), with the help of the 'OR' notation, a series of keywords such as 'renewable energy technology', 'renewable energy project', 'renewable energy equipment', 'rooftop solar', 'photovoltaic', 'wind-based equipment', 'wind turbines', 'hydropower equipment', 'hydropower project', 'geothermal system', 'geothermal technology', 'tidal energy projects', 'bioenergy technologies' and 'bio-energy systems' have been searched in the WoS database with the term 'place community' and 'social acceptance (purchase intention or adoption intention or installation intention or attitudes) to defined this study's field boundary, i.e., Topic = "place attachment" AND Topic = "social acceptance". Data retrieval for the literature was performed on July 15, 2024, leading to an initial total of 9,394 research publications.

As a second step, papers were screened in accordance with the inclusion criteria. Including only journal articles is based on the highly rigorous peer review process to publish and disseminate novel insights of the highest quality. Subsequently, English-language articles were filtered by applying the inclusion criterion. After the screening step, 3,375 papers have been excluded, leaving 6,019 papers to be review. The third step of the process was to determine the eligibility of the papers. For a research study to be eligible for content analysis, its title, keywords, and abstract must be appropriate to the study's scope. Besides, for the purpose of ensuring objectivity, all authors reviewed inclusions and exclusions. In the proceeding, 343 papers were selected for inclusion and 5,676 papers were excluded. In the final stage, 68 papers were selected for consideration according to their relevance to understanding the effectiveness of place attachment that influence consumers' purchase intention on household renewable energy technologies by the PRISMA guidelines (see Figure 1.).

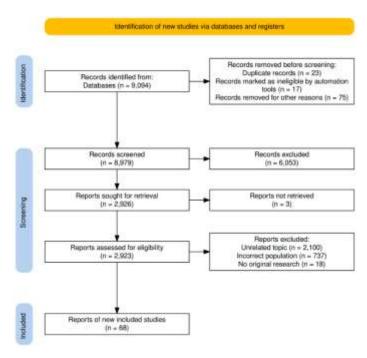


Figure 1. Flow diagram for search from PRISMA

#### **RESULTS**

## 3.1 Performance analysis

## 3.1.1 Public trend

According to Figure 2., the number of articles about effectiveness of place attachment that influence consumers' purchase intention on renewable energy technologies published in 38 journals in the fields of environment, sustainability and energies between 2010 and July 2024 is based on the final 68 journal articles produced by the PRISMA technique. Between 2019 and 2020, the number of articles increased and became a high-point, followed by a decrease after that. In this figure, the pioneering article published by in 2010 took offshore wind technology as an example investigated the role of place attachment in shaping consumer's purchase intention of wind farm.

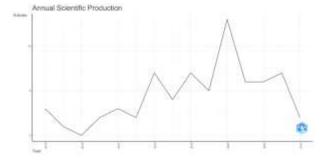


Figure 2. Publication trend

The average number of publications in the first 5 years (2010-2014) was 1.8 publications per year. It may be due to the limited global attention in these years to the relationship between place attachment and purchase intention of renewable energy technologies lead to a lack of early research in this domain. As global warming and climate change worsen, there is growing call for increased use of clean and renewable energy. In response to sustainability and improved quality of life, the researchers in investigate consumer purchase intentions have grown significantly, and more attention is being paid to the between the place attachment and purchase intention of renewable energy technologies. As a result, 25 publications were published between 2015 and 2019, accounting for 36.76% of all publications. Subsequently, it is expected that research into place attachment and renewable energy technologies will continue to see an upward publication trend due to government emphasis and the United Nations declared 2014-2024 the Decade of Sustainable Energy for All (United Nations, 2012). Then, there is a peaked in 2020 with the

highest number of 13 articles. The recent 5 years (2020-2024) contributing 34 publications which is the highest amount among the three period.

## 3.1.2 Three-field analysis

As shown in Figure 3., a three-field plot depicts the connections between sources (left field), keywords (middle field) and countries (right field) mapped with top 10. It provides a useful insight into the association between these top-ranking keywords and the journals they are associated with. Also indicated is the preference of highly ranked journals for studies related to certain specific contexts. The height of rectangle nodes within the collaboration network reflects the frequency of occurrence of a given country, keywords, or sources.

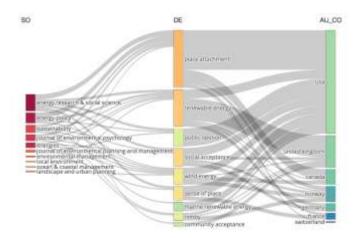


Figure 3. Three-Field Plot

According to the figure, 'place attachment' as a keyword was most frequent in the published articles expect 'renewable energy' while the keywords 'public opinion' and 'social acceptance' following in the top rank. The maximum number of publications featured in Energy Research & Social Science followed by Energy Policy and Sustainability. Regarding the sources on the right, the maximum publications were from the USA followed by United Kingdom and Canada.

## 3.1.3 Number of citations by journals

Journal citation index is a measure of the reputation of the journal and how important researchers consider its articles when conducting research. As for journal representations, Figure 4. shows the top 10 productive contributing of publications on this topic from 2021 to 2024 in selected journals. In Figure 4., the impact of the highly cited sources was visualized, showing that Energy Policy, Journal of Environmental Psychology, and Energy Research & Social Science were in the top three positions with 517, 234, and 179 citations, respectively. An overview of the details is given in Figure 4.

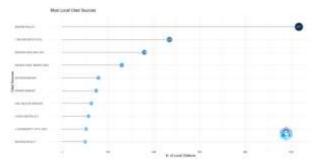


Figure 4. Top 10 Most Cited Source

## 3.1.4 Number of citations by authors

Like the journal citation index, the author impact index indicates the contribution of authors in developing the field conceptually. In addition, it indicates the extent to which researchers have incorporated the studies of the authors into the body of knowledge in this field. Another chart in Figure 5. shows the author impact in terms of citations, indicating that Devine-Wright P., Howes Y., and Batel S. had the greatest impact in this field with 81, 33, and 16 citations respectively. From the result, it is worth noting that most of the contributors' papers is not a single-authored one. In fact, the results of these studies strongly support the view that collaborations facilitate the generation of new insights (Kumar & Harichandan, 2022).

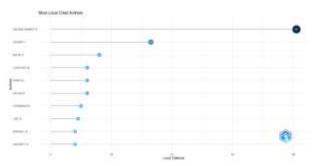


Figure 5. Top 10 Author Impact

## 3.1.4 Number of citations by countries

Globally, bibliometric evaluation of citations by country-level for research have been measuring the performance of researchers with quantitative indicators for several years (Baccini et al., 2019). The top cited countries are outlined in Figure 6. by countries in this topic. The United Kingdom is the highest citation (n = 1250, 46.33%), followed by USA (n = 456, 17.32%), Australia (n = 244, 9.27%), Canada (n = 218, 8.28%), and Germany (n = 128, 4.86%) (see Figure 6.).

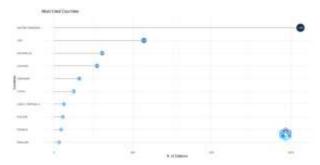


Figure 6. Top 10 Country-level Impact

## 3.2. Science mapping

In this study, co-citation analysis, keyword cooccurrence analysis, and co-authorship analysis were used to analyze the intellectual structure of this topic.

## 3.2.1 Co-authorship analysis

The act of co-authorship serves as a formal form of intellectual collaboration among scholars, so it is important to understand how they interact (Nayak et al., 2022). Analysis of co-authorship is crucial for the advancement of knowledge in a particular field because collaborations between authors often lead to new ideas and advances in knowledge (Donthu, et al., 2021a). Collaboration among scholars forms a network referred to as an "invisible collage". Hence, this kind of research technique can assist in the development of a field of research (Donthu, et al., 2021b).

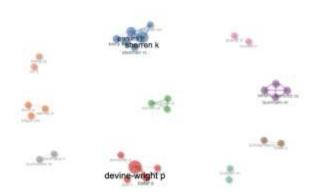


Figure 7. Co-authorship Network

Figure 7. shows collaborations across different time periods between 2010 and 2024. Accordingly, 31 authors out of 185 were included in the co-authorship network when there were at least two authors collaborating on each piece of work in the 68 articles. During the period of 2010-2023, Patrick Devine-Wright, Susana Batel, Etienne Bailey, Oystein Aas and Peta Ashworth made significant contributions by empirically investigating in this topic. Moreover, another large cluster of the co-authorship network shows a significant collaboration between Kate Sherren, John R. Parkins, Richard C. Stedman, Kristina Keilty and Ellen N. Chappell regarding this topic.

## 3.2.2 Co-citation analysis

## 3.2.2.1 Co-citation analysis by papers

An analysis of co-citations is a technique for science mapping that assumes publication themes are similar among publications cited frequently. In addition to revealing the underlying themes of a research field, this type of analysis can help reveal how it was structured intellectually (Donthu, et al., 2021a). Co-citation networks link publications when their references occur in another publication's reference list. Besides, co-citation analysis has the advantage of allowing business scholars to discover thematic clusters as well as discovering the most influential publications (Donthu, et al., 2021c). The co-citation network by papers built using bibliometrix can be seen in figure 8.

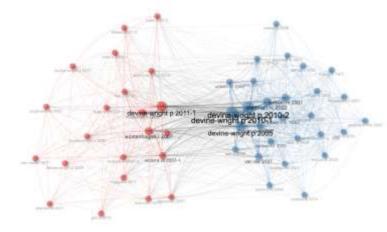


Figure 8. Co-citation Network by papers

From the figure 8., the co-citation can be divided into red cluster (cluster 1) and blue cluster (cluster 2). These clustered papers have been tabulated in Table 1. The cluster 1 consists of a variety of empirical investigations by attitudinal and behavioral aspects of place attachment. Devine-Wright (2011) was the central in this cluster and taking tidal energy as an example analyzed whether place attachment and place-related symbolic meanings play a role in explaining public reactions to the renewable energy technologies. The cluster 2 contains authors who provide the groundwork for understanding the relationship between place attachment and acceptance of renewable energy technologies by illustrating the environmental psychological, theoretical and phenomenological perspective of the place attachment. In the dataset, Devine-Wright (2010) and Devine-Wright & Howes (2010) were identified as key references due to their seminal roles in the development of place attachment and renewable energy technologies. In

the domain of high impact studies, these studies define the intellectual and contextual boundaries that have been explored.

Node	Cluster	Betweenness	Closeness	PageRank
devine-wright p 2011-1	1	237.686	0.014	0.037
wüstenhagen r 2007	- 1	94.727	0.013	0.028
wolsink m 2007-1	1	74.428	0.013	0.023
mclachlan c 2009	- 1	69.218	0.013	0.023
swofford   2010	1	26.006	0.012	0.018
bell d 2013	1	13.69	0.011	0.017
scannell I 2010	1	32.728	0.012	0.012
devine-wright p 2013	1	26.932	0.012	0.017
firestone j 2007	1	10.35	0.01	0.015
wołsink m 2007-2	- 1	18.572	0.011	0.014
bidwell d 2013	1	5.838	0.01	0.01
devine-wright p 2009	1	1.457	0.009	0.011
haggett c 2011	- 1	8.326	0.01	0.014
lewicka m 2011	1	0.834	0.009	0.009
batel s 2013	- 1	7.135	0.01	0.011
batel s 2015-1	. 1	7.92	0.01	0.013
devine-wright p 2017	1	2.858	0.009	0.013
devine-wright p 2020	1	5.79	0.01	0.012
van veelen 2017	1	0.191	0.008	0.011
batel s 2015-2	1	16.718	0.011	0.015
gee k 2010	- 1	1.368	0.009	0.012
jorgensen bs 2001	- 1	1.23	0.009	0.011
devine-wright p 2010-1	2	153.15	0.013	0.046
devine-wright p 2010-2	2	99.08	0.013	0.048
devine-wright p 2005	2	83.797	0.013	0.04
stedman rc 2002	2	28.378	0.012	0.035
gross c 2007	2	24.293	0.012	0.029
van der 2007	2	14.85	0.011	0.029
vorkinn m 2001	2	11.854	0.011	0.032
wolsink m 2000	2	12,539	0.011	0.024
bell d 2005	2	11.051	0.011	0.023
brown b.b. 1992	2		0.012	0.029
warren c.r. 2005	2		0.011	0.025
elis g 2007	2		0,011	0,022
dear m 1992	2		0.01	0.024
devine-wright p 2011-2	2		0.01	0.018
hidalgo mc 2001	2		0.011	0.02
manzo ic 2006	2		0.009	0.018
stedman rc 2003	2		0.01	0.016
wołsink m 2006	2		10000	0.016
cartisle je 2014	2		0.01	0.011
walker g 2008	2		0.009	0.011
altman i. 1992	2		0.01	0.017
haggett c 2008	2		0.01	0.019
proshansky hm. 1983	2		0.009	0.022
davenport ma 2005	2			0.013
fried m 2000	2		0.009	0.018
hernández b 2007	2		0.009	0.016
manzo lo 2005	2		0.009	0.021
tuan yf. 1977	2	1.6	0.009	0.015

Table 1 Cluster Wise Grouping of Co-cited Papers

## 3.2.2.2 Co-citation analysis by authors

Author co-citation network analysis facilitates the aggregation of authors whose work has been cited in conjunction. In the case of such aggregation, topic relatedness can be determined and inferences drawn about contexts that are studied together for the purpose of constructing research frameworks can be made (Donthu, et al., 2021a). Based on the co-citation network of authors depicted in Figure 9., two distinct clusters were identified by bibliometrix. According to Figure 9., Jeremy Firestone and Rolf Wüstenhagen were identified as central of the blue cluster. The red cluster is centered on Patrick Devine-Wright.

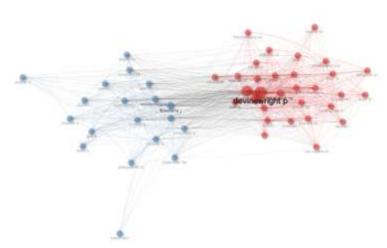


Figure 9. Co-citation Network by authors

## 3.2.2 Keyword co-occurrence analysis

Analysis of keyword co-occurrence focuses on "words", reviewing the actual content of articles (Donthu, et al., 2021a). An item's size indicates its occurrence, and the thickness of a link between two items indicates their co-occurrence. In co-word analysis, the premise is that regularly occurring collective keywords have thematic similarities, thus providing a deeper understanding of a topic's intellectual structure (Donthu, et al., 2021c). The keyword co-occurrence network was visualized in bibliometrix by using 48 keywords of 68 articles (see Figure 10.).

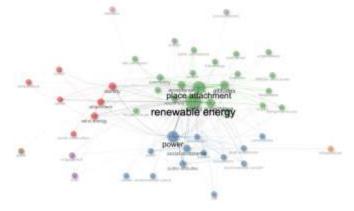


Figure 10. Keywords Co-occurrence Network

Eight clusters were observed in the keyword network, showing a dispersion and diversity among healthy aging studies. Blue clusters at the center of the keyword network contain highly prevalent items such as renewable energy, place attachment, public acceptance and attitudes. The blue cluster adjacent to the green cluster including power, social acceptance and public-attitudes. The red cluster consisted of the items related to attachment, wind energy and identity. The purple cluster contained items associated with engagement and trust. The pink cluster, gray cluster, brown cluster and orange cluster contains behavior, communication, place and infrastructure, respectively.



Figure 11. Word Cloud of Keywords

Additionally, the word cloud reinforces the output by determining the weights or dominances of certain keywords, along with keyword co-occurrence. According to the word clouds, the font size represents the frequency of using certain keywords or concepts in field studies (Donthu, et al., 2021a). As shown in Fig 11., keywords related to the topic have dominated research in recent years. Most commonly used keywords expect the topic "renewable energy" and "renewable energy", including "public acceptance", "identity", "social acceptance", "community", "willingness-to-pay" and so on.

## 3.3 Evaluation of the effectiveness of the place attachment in the renewable energy technologies studies

Based on the method of Morrison et al., (2012) in evaluating the effectiveness of technologies in the final pool of studies, we developed a set of criteria to assess the results (Table 2). The criteria focused on important domains such as analysis, design, and conduct of research. Using the criteria and sample size from each study, this study scored the effectiveness of the technology on a scale from 1 (negative effective) to 3 (positive effective).

Effectiveness Score	Criteria
Positive effective 3	Place attachment was meant to positive improve the outcome measures.
Neutral effective 2	Place attachment was meant to influence the outcome measures but the effect was positive or negative effect not clear.
Negative	Place attachment was meant to negative improve the outcome measures.
effective 1	
No	Place attachment was meant to a minority or no improvement in the outcome
Effective o	measures.

Table 2 Criteria to evaluate the effectiveness of place attachment in the studies

According to the criteria table, the resulted of 68 selected articled have been classified by the effectiveness score.

Source	Kinds of Technologies	Participates	Results	Effective ness score
Devine- Wright (2011)	Tidal energy converters	Two nearby villages in Northern Ireland (n = 271)	Strong place attachment increase positive and supportive responses to the project	3
Fast (2013)	Wind turbines	Western European	Complex social responses (increase supportive responses)	3
Gormally et al. (2014)	Community- based renewable energy	Three communities in Cumbria, UK	Place attachments appear to be positive influential in residents' willingness to participate in local renewable projects and in acceptance of certain renewable technologies	3
Brownlee et al. (2015)	Offshore wind energy	Marine recreationists (n = 483)	Place attachment influence marine recreationists' acceptability of offshore wind energy development positively	3
Frantal (2016)	Renewable energy technologies	Two towns in Czech Republic	Strong place attachment increase the acceptance of certain renewable technologies and anti-coal attitude	3

Carlisle et al. (2016)	Utility-scale solar	Six Southern Californian counties (n = 695)	Place attachment positively influence the public attitudes	3
Keilty et al. (2016)	Hydroelectricit y	Mactaquac Dam and headpond, in New Brunswick, Canada (n = 20)	Place attachment positively influence resident's preference for keeping the headpond intact	3
(Sherren et al., 2016)	Hydroelectric dam construction	New Brunswick, Canada (n = 25)	Individual with place attachment were more likely to appreciate the renewable energy infrastructures	3
Devine- Wright & Batel (2017)	low carbon energy infrastructure	UK adults (n = 1519)	'Global' individuals held strong attachments at local, national and global levels and were characterized by higher willingness to take actions	3
Suesser (2018)	Community- based energy projects.	Reußenköge (n = 51)	Place attachment positive increase public engagement in renewable energy to cope with climate change	3
Firestone et al. (2018)	Wind power project	Coastal Rhode Island and Block Island (n = 420)	Place attachment positive improve support or lean toward supporting the project	3
Suchyta (2020)	Natural gas reservoirs	U.S. (n = 4000)	Place attachment, which was positively associated with renewable energy development	3
Mueller et al. (2020)	Wind turbines	Chignecto region (n = 1000)	Place attachment is significant and positive for wind turbines	3
Wang et al. (2020)	New nuclear power plant	China (n = 388)	Place attachment positively affects the new nuclear power plant	3
Corbett et al. (2022)	Rooftop solar	Los Angeles County (n = 4207)	Place attachment plays important part in real-world decisions regarding rooftop solar positively	3
Goudriaan et al. (2023)	Renewable energy technologies	South-east of Sweden (n = 21)	Place attachment positively support the renewable energy technologies	3
Medugorac & Schuitema (2023)	Renewable energy project	Irish Midlands (n = 1454)	High level of place attachment positive increase the community acceptance of renewable energy project	3
Weeks & Jenkins (2024)	Renewable energy technology	Kern County (n = 256)	Place attachment would positively drive the sustainability transitions	3

Table 2 List of positive effectiveness of place attachment in studies

**Source** Kinds of **Participates** Results **Effectiv Technologies** eness score Suesser et al. Community Reußenköge Have impact but not find negative 2 renewable impacts of a high place attachment on (2017)(n = 332)renewable energy accepting on energy technologies Veelen & Scottish Highlands Place attachment was an important Local 2 Haggett, community-led motivator but different types of place (2017b) renewable attachment formed disagreement energy installations Upham et al. Renewable Place attachment on public perceptions Commentary 2 (2018) of new renewable energy infrastructure energy (literature) infrastructure both positively and negatively **Boyd & Miller** Renewable Two communities in place attachment is an important factor 2 (2018) Australia energy in participants' preferences for energy technology systems but consistent with their (n = 69)perception of the area and landscape Positive and significant effect on wind Liebe & Renewable Germany 2 **Dobers** power; negative and significant effect on energy power (n = 3400)plants solar fields; Fail to find a significant and (2019)negative relationship between place attachment and acceptance of renewable energy developments IJK Roddis et al. Large-scale Place attachment have influence on large-scale solar farms, but it has multi-(2020)solar farms (n = 816)scalar character of community (Cleve Hill acceptance of renewable energy project) **Mjahed** Wind influence energy Northeast Tunisia Place attachment the Hammami & renewable energy project positive or farm (n = 23)Abdulrahma negative depend on whether the renewable energy project enhances or n Al Moosa disrupts the different aspects of place (2021)experience Vespa et al. Renewable Instagram Post Place attachment led to different effects 2 (2022)renewable energy related to energy (n = 1500)infrastructures infrastructures **Hahnel &** Prosumer-United Kingdom (n = Place attachment influence the Fell, (2022) centred 441) and Germany (n prosumer-centred energy model trading electricity = 440) decisions Hurlbert et Renewable Saskatchewan Place attachment influence resident's 2 al. (2023) energy preference for power production sources (n = 48)technology in the future

Table 3 List of netural effectiveness of place attachment in studies

Source	Kinds of Technologies	Participates	Results	Effectiv eness score
Devine- Wright (2010); Devine- Wright & Howes (2010)	Offshore wind farms	Two coastal towns in North Wales (n = 488)	Strong place attachment led to negative attitudes and oppositional behaviour	1
Fast (2013)	Wind turbines	Western European	Complex social responses (reduce supportive responses)	1
Hall et al. (2013)	Wind turbine hosts	Australia	Strong place attachment decreased societal acceptance degree	1
Jacquet & Stedman (2014)	Large development renewable energy projects	Review (literature)	Threat of disruption to place-based identities may spur oppositional behaviour in many cases	1
Brownlee et al. (2015)	Offshore wind energy	Marine recreationists (n = 483)	Place attachment influence marine recreationists' acceptability of offshore wind energy development negatively	1
Batel et al. (2015)	Large-scale renewable energy	UK and Norway of local residents	Place attachment negative influence resident's attitude	1
(Groot & Bailey (2016)	Marine renewable energy development	Shetlands, Orkneys and Scillies (UK)	Attitudes were negative strongly shaped by place-related values	1
Keilty et al. (2016)	Hydroelectricity	Mactaquac Dam and headpond, in New Brunswick, Canada (n = 20)	Place attachment positively influence resident's preference for keeping the headpond intact	1
Bailey et al. (2016)	Low-carbon energy infrastructure	North Somerse (Five focus groups)	Place attachment resulting in negative attitudes and place-protective actions toward such projects	1
Kermagoret et al. (2016)	offshore wind farms	Bay of Saint-Brieuc (n = 73)	Place attachment of communities have more negative opinion about the wind power	1
Devine- Wright & Batel (2017)	low carbon energy infrastructure	UK adults (n = 1519)	Individuals who held stronger local than national or global belonging (dubbed 'Locals') were least likely to take action	1
Bidwell (2017)	Offshore wind energy	Block island (n = 600)	Holding greater levels of place attachment reduces support for the wind farm	1

Northeast U.S. Proved place attachment unsupportive of Lapniewska Bioenergy crop 1 (2019) production bioenergy crops in their community (n = 907)place Hooper et al. Tidal energy Southwest England Strong attachment negative 1 technology influence the development of tidal energy (2020)(n = 963)technology Mini hydropower place Magnani Italy Strong attachment increase 1 resident ' (2020)s anti attitude on minitechnology hydroelectric production **Brennan &** Wind farms Ireland People with a strong sense of place 1 Rensburg attachment were less support wind farms (n = 253)(2020)**Bourdin et** People with high place attachment would **Biogas** Western Area of 1 al. (2020) France led to abandon the biogas plant plant construction construction (14 territorial entities,11 local residents, associations, 8 companies, elected officials and 8 farmers) Klaniecki et Renewable Romania Place attachment revealed negative links 1 between renewable energy conservation al. (2021) energy (n = 374)technologies attitudes and behavioral intentions Wind **Buchmayr** et Onshore People with high place attachment wind, energy 1 al. (2021) offshore neighborhoods negative affect the renewable energy wind, close to an onshore waste-to-energy, technologies and biomass wind park (n =power 200); one located close to an offshore wind park (n =200); neighborhoods of a waste-to-energy facility (n = 161); a power plant using biomass fuel (n = 210) Greece Prados et al. large-scale Portugal, Place attachment increase the negative Two 1 (2022)renewable wind and Israel vision of renewable energy technology in projects and a regional context micro-grid solar photovoltaic project Groh (2022) Wind turbins Germany High place attachment (regional identity) has a lower willingness to pay for electricity (n = 1800)regionally produced electricity

Nilson & Utility-scale solar Place attachment have the strongest New York 1 Stedman, effect on opposition towards utility-scale (n = 421)(2023) solar Gazzani Wind power plant Place attachment negatively influence Carloforte 1 (2024) fisherman accept wind energy (n = 512)

Table 4 List of negative effectiveness of place attachment in studies

Source Kinds of Participates Results Effect					
Source		Participates	Results	Effectiv	
	Technologies			eness	
				score	
Carlisle et al.	Photovoltaic	Six Southern	Place attachment fail to produce	0	
(2014)	systems	Californian counties	significant		
		(n = 594)	effects		
		(II = 594)	effects		
Eaton et al.	Perennial	Pennsylvania and	The results showed no statistically	О	
(2018)	bioenergy	Ohio	significant relationship between place		
	crops	(n = 908)	attachment and renewable energy		
		(n = 900)	development		
Jenkins et al.	Tidal energy	Review	There is a knowledge gap about the utility	0	
(2018)			of place attachment regarding larger,	-	
		(literature)	diverse, and more urban communities		
			about the tidal energy		
Dahans	Diama alama	C			
Dobers	Biogas plants	Germany	Place attachment does not show reliable	0	
(2019)		(n = 942)	effects.		
Ernst &	German energy	Germany	The result showed that place attachment	0	
Shamon	system	Germany	has no significant effect on whether	U	
(2020)	System	(n = 2400)	someone participates in the energy		
(2020)			transition.		
Hurlbert et	Renewable	Saskatchewan	The place attachment effect on renewable	0	
al. (2020)	power	Canada	energy technologies differ between the		
	production		communities and kinds of technologies		
	technology				
Chappell et	Wind turbines	Chignecto area	The influence of place attachment on	0	
al. (2021)			wind turbines showed disappear or		
, ,		(n = 335)	weaken		
Commo de 1	Tanal CC-1.	Manth and Co. I			
Gonyo et al.	Local offshore	North and South	Place attachment would increase the odds	0	
(2021)	wind energy	Carolina	of neutrality		
		(n = 1292)			
Lundheim et	Wind energy	Review	Unclear role of place attachment	0	
al. (2022)	.,		concerning wind energy indicates that	J	
- ()		(literature)	more research must be conducted		
G. 1 1 .	TAT 3 3	NY 11 A '			
Stelmach et	Wage and tidal	North America	Place attachment has risk and benefit	0	
al. (2023)	energy	(n = 2000)	effect on the wave energy technologies		

Kaltenborn et	Wind power	Norway	Place attachment has not significant	0
al. (2023)	technology	(n = 1220)	support or opposition attitude towards wind power	

Table 5 List of no effectiveness of place attachment in studies

### **DISCUSSION**

Literature bibliometric analysis provided a conceptual map of studies in the effectiveness of place attachment on renewable energy technologies. Throughout the last two decades, the role of place attachment has evolved into more focused areas of community scale. It is interesting to note that place attachment related to renewable energy technologies remained a basic theme throughout all periods while showing an unusually low degree of development. Despite moving up the development axis, place attachment had a slower transition to a higher density quadrant.

According to Manzo and Devine-Wright (2020), place attachment refers to the sense of belonging, connection, and meaning associated with a particular place or environment. According to the findings, place attachment is one of important factors that influence community-based renewable energy transition and renewable energy technology adoption or rejection (Corbett et al., 2022; Prados (Maria-Jose) et al., 2022; Suesser et al., 2017). As noted in a study on the social acceptance of wind farms by the public, Devine-Wright (2010) first adopted the place attachment as the determinant in opposition to wind farms and proposed 'NIMBY (Not in My Back Yard)'. NIMBY is an acronym for protectionist attitudes and oppositional tactics adopted by community groups facing unwelcome renewable energy technology development in their neighborhood. Although residents generally agree that these "noxious" facilities are necessary, they should not be constructed near their homes, hence the term "not in my back yard". However, some research found the influence of place attachment on acceptance has been shown to be positive (Brownlee et al., 2015; Fast, 2013; Firestone et al., 2018; Mueller et al., 2020) or both positive and negative (Mjahed Hammami & Abdulrahman Al Moosa, 2021) in recent research reported in terms of wind energy.

Due to climate change, countries across the global have committed to increasing the percentage of energy that comes from renewable sources of energy (Cousse, 2021). Taking tidal energy as an example, Hooper et al. (2020) found strong place attachment negative influence the development of tidal energy technology. However, Devine-Wright (2011) found the place attachment increase positive and supportive responses to the tidal energy project in community. Considering the divergence in support levels between general public and contested local projects, this is a key issue affecting the development of renewable energy. Therefore, more studies done in this area due to the unclear role in place attachment.

The results of studies shown that depending on whether the renewable energy technology enhances or disrupts different aspects of place experience, residents may express positive or negative emotions and attitudes based on the evaluation of change, and they will act accordingly, either supporting or protesting the project. According to the literatures, researchers provide evidence proved that the opponents tended to refer to place-based factors as explanations for their opposition, such as disrupt local visual landscape (Frantal, 2016), the change of large land use (Jacquet & Stedman, 2014), perplexities from local environment, concerns about the increasing electricity production in a community (Gazzani, 2024), perceived potential problems and disadvantages, such as disturbing noise, smell, and increased traffic that may cause property values reduced (Lundheim et al., 2022), unwillingness to change lifestyle (Buchmayr et al., 2021), impact on wild life (Groh, 2022).

Aside from the negative impact of place attachment on public perception of renewable energy technology, place attachment can also motivate people to act in ways that improve local communities environmentally, such as volunteering for ecological conservation to purchase household renewable energy technology (Corbett et al., 2022) and anti-coal activities (Frantal, 2016). In particular, more recent literature investigate beyond the place attachment and discussed a variety of other explanations based on psychological environmental theory. In the study of people's response to renewable energy technology, researchers found environmental attitudes and concerns are considered as crucial factors in forming attitudes towards renewable energy technology, leading to intensive studies on a variety of environmental attitudes (Corbett et al., 2022; Devine-Wright & Batel, 2017; Mjahed Hammami & Abdulrahman Al Moosa, 2021; Prados et al., 2022; Roddis et al., 2020). A place's proximate - its locality - is essential to place-protective action (pro-environmental behavior), which is based on a sense of place attachment and identity (Upham et al., 2018). Another positive attitudes from the economic aspect, some of the renewable energy technology has a

positive effect on local jobs (Buchmayr et al., 2021) and strength regional economy (Groh, 2022). Besides that, previous studies shown that place attachment also have neutral or no effectiveness differ based on various reasons toward different renewable energy technology in different region scale that have been discovered.

Besides the reasons mentioned above, recent research indicated that stakeholder perception of renewable energy technology seems associated with individuals' choices to support or oppose attitudes and behavior under the local scale. Empirical evidence proved that place attachment may influence stakeholder perceptions of renewable energy technology in light of their particular uses and attachments (Vespa et al., 2022). Different stakeholders with specific attachments to those local places have different reactions to potential changes related to renewable energy technology, suggesting that each place level appeals to different emotions and cognitive processes. More specifically, whether residents are the beneficiaries of the renewable energy technology. Taking the solar rooftops as an example, differ from the large scale community-based renewable energy technology, solar rooftop have the advantage of not occupying public and productive land, thus avoiding place-based and visual resistance (Cousse, 2021). In addition, one of the biggest advantages of solar rooftop is that they can not only meet the residents' personal electricity needs, but also can sell the extra electricity to local power companies to make a profit that may increase acceptance attitudes (Wolske et al., 2018).

#### PRPSPECTS FOR FUTURE RESEARCH

The following are possible future directions for research based on the findings: First of all, the relationship between place placement and renewable energy technology is a valuable topic that could be explored further in future research. Recently, there have been an increasing number of articles published in this field, along with dynamic results from bibliometrics. It is therefore necessary to conduct tracing research on them in the future.

Secondly, in terms of geographical diversity, most of the exist studies conduct and concentrated in North America and Europe. For future research in this field, there should be more collaboration between authors from Asia, Africa and Latin America to better understand the differences in place attachment between regions. Besides, while these studies provide insight, they are limited by the "localist" focus on connections with a particular place such as community scope. In many studies to date, however, a focus on local attachments has been emphasized, ignoring the impact of national and global attachments and identities on energy beliefs and attitudes. As a result, multifaceted theoretical and empirical studies should be prioritized this aspect in future research agendas.

Thirdly, there are multiple types of renewable energy technology different from source, such as wind, solar, hydroelectric, tidal, bioenergy and geothermal energy. The forms and generation mechanisms vary greatly among the renewable energy technologies. Besides that, energy storage technology is divided into household energy storage and outdoor energy storage. There are some obvious differences between them in terms of application areas, scale, operation mode, etc. Most of the research in this field focuses on community-based energy storage systems for large-scale municipal or commercial purposes, so future research can focus more on small-scale renewable energy devices for household use. It is important to note that even in same technology the public perceptions of different technologies were different. The researcher could investigate whether major differences in form and function would influence the place attachment in the same type of technology in the future. It is also important to distinguish between large-scale centralized and smaller-scale decentralized pathways of renewable energy technology, as well as examine the full range of factors influencing support for the renewable energy.

Fourth, place attachment appears to be useful for understanding public attitudes and social acceptance towards energy projects form a wide range of existing contexts. However, as it should be noted, the stated public attitude and intention for renewable energy technology is not actually behavior. When consumers are asked to state something in field surveys, their consciousness pertains to their perception of the right answer among various options but does not represent an actual of willingness to purchase or adopt. It may be possible to conduct future studies focusing on determined the relationship between place attachment related to actual payment extra for green electricity, purchase behavior of the renewable energy technology, installation or adoption of the renewable energy technology or usage of renewable energy technology in a wide range of cultures, groups, and organizations.

Lastly, the review indicates that countries have been actively investigating the relationship between place attachment and renewable energy technology. Also, the renewable energy technology has been receiving a lot of research attention worldwide since it reduces environmental degradation. Thus, researchers have focused on identifying

whether place attachment influencing the acceptance of renewable energy technology. However, existing studies may ignore regional difference in place attachment. For example, how do different regions react to the same renewable energy technology? Are the reasons the same across regions? How do people in the same region differ in their acceptance of different renewable energy technology? Do the different reactions to renewable energy technology in different regions reflect regional differences? It is imperative that efforts are made to address these concerns, whether through the expansion of bibliometrics or the improvement of research methods. Moreover, these issues suggest possible research directions in the future.

#### **CONCLUSION**

In recent years, the global environment issue has garnered considerable attention regarding renewable energy has been viewed as promising approach (Adnan & Shahrina, 2021). However, community resistance led by place attachment is one of major obstacle in achieving renewable energy technology and is widely studied in social energy science (Dugstad et al., 2023). There has been a great deal of research on the effectiveness of place attachment in influencing attitudes toward proposed renewable energy developments. According to the result from bibliometric analysis for publications, these studies that focus on relationship with place attachment have resulted in the development of a coherent body of knowledge about renewable energy technology that lays the foundations for relevant theoretical development and knowledge development (e.g. Devine-Wright & Howes, 2010; Batel et al., 2015). By adopting a rigorous methodology based on bibliometric analysis, this study aimed to shed light on the intellectual structure of the relationship between place attachment and renewable energy technology and inspire future research on this subject which included 68 articles from journals.

The findings of the study identify influential authors, articles, and journals over 15 years (2010-2024), illustrate the intellectual structure of the literature, and better understanding the important of place attachment on renewable energy technology which provide an opportunity to improve energy promotion and transformation around the world to reduce carbon emissions.

#### **LIMITATIONS**

In this study, advanced bibliometric analysis and classic content review are integrated to reduce the bias associated with existing single methods. However, along with its contributions to basic features and significant processes in this field, this study also has some limitations.

First, only the WoS database was used in this work which include 68 publications. By combining a broader range of databases, further experiments might shed light on a global perspective. For example, other prestigious web bibliometric databases, Scopus or Goggle Scholar, can also be considered to generate more valuable data. Therefore, bibliometric reviews are further validated and important relevant studies are less likely to be omitted.

Second, bibliometric analysis depends on the reliability of the data, which is directly related to the definition of the search protocol. This paper using "place attachment" and "renewable energy technology" as domain boundaries ensures the high degree of relevance of the final data obtained from this study. In addition, search patterns under topics are based on a comprehensive analysis of title, abstract, and keyword. Since the data search focused largely on place attachment and renewable energy technology, few papers which didn't mention the keyword explicitly may have been excluded. However, there are so many types of renewable energy technology that it is impossible to fully cover them all in the search terms may led to omitted. Therefore, future studies can include all synonyms and more categories of renewable energy technology in their data search criteria. Simultaneously, a more relevant set of results may be obtained by combining different retrieval strings.

Third, although titles, abstracts and keywords covered the studies' main ideas and findings in this paper, it is recommended that future research use full-text papers to detect more information in this field. Finally, Bibliometrics analysis also has inherent flaws. However, bibliometric reviews only provide a broad and macroscopic picture of the current state of research from multiple dimensions, regardless of their impressive visual mapping. Databases that are dynamically updated are heavily used to cover this gap. Consequently, bibliometric results can vary greatly over time for one topic. Even with these limitations, this paper provides researchers with a comprehensive overview of the relationship between place attachment and renewable energy technology, helping them explore the relationship and effectiveness discussed throughout history. Further, possible research areas and future directions are highlighted.

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