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Explaining the Factors Promoting the Quality of Residential Environments Using the Gender Role Approach in Designing Interior Spaces

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ABSTRACT:

A house is the origin of many bitter and sweet experiences and the place for the formation of people's personality and identity. One of the wonders of creation is the presence of different needs in men and women. Hence, designers and architects need to review architectural design to create mental comfort in houses, which consist of two different genders. This study aimed to investigate gender differences and their impacts on residential spaces to provide suggestions for better housing designs. For this, primary concepts about gender were first raised, and then relevant theories were examined to describe the interaction of the concept of gender in a residential space. In the end, the feasibility of appropriate designs, which help promote the quality of a residential environment, was measured. The study methodology was qualitative, which described a desirable housing space. According to questionnaire analyses and a survey of 20 men and women, it was concluded that women tended to focus on details and kitchens, whereas men valued living rooms and halls. In sum, it was critical to separate public spaces from private spaces and to give characters to spaces. The goal of this study was to investigate the factors that affect desirable housing spaces and residential-architectural criteria in giving gender to spaces. Findings revealed gender differences stemming from cultural, social, and historical aspects; therefore, people's genders, along with other factors such as age, tastes, and needs, should be considered in designing spaces.

KEYWORDS: Residential complex design, gender difference, space design, gender and space interaction