

COOP
DESIGN
RESEARCH

—
M.Sc.
PROGRAM

THE BEDROOM

FOR YOUR SLEEP ONLY?

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ABSTRACT

Our use and understanding of a dwelling is constantly shifting, in slowly emerging transitions. These historical shifts can be traced to social and technological factors. This research is focussed on the bedroom, within a dwelling, and its evolution from a shared, communal space to an intimate individual private space.

German bedrooms serve many purposes in dealing as sleeping space, as 'centrepiece' of a house and as a symbol of status. Formal research on this topic leads to questions on the use and design of bedrooms, and will improve interior architectural responses in the field.

The topic is framed through the structure of sociological and ethnographic lenses. Focussing on technological and cultural developments as demonstrated by Ikea, I will ask how do they influence reactions to spatial design relative to contemporaneous social change, and vice versa; how is the answer influenced?

This research will add to scholarly research a very personal and important aspect of Interior Architecture. As theory inspires and assists creativity, it will lead to thoughtful design, a deeper understanding of the space in history and its potential future transitions.

Keywords: dwelling, bedroom, multifunctionality, change, Ikea catalogue