

Public Abstract

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Title:AUTHENTIC THRESHOLDS: INTERIOR DESIGN CLIENT INVOLVEMENT IN THE CREATION OF SENSE OF HOME

For middle-class householders interested in elevating an image of their status, residential interior designers may be viewed as destroyers of authentic sense of home. By contrast, designers may seek to contribute to the sense of home of house owners, the positive feeling of belonging, comfort, and security associated with personal living space, rather than focus on anonymous status and image. To understand the motivation and outcomes of residential interior design work, a deeper understanding of perceptions owners have of sense of home and their involvement to create that sense of home is required. Current literature, however, says very little about the perceptions and preferences of physical attributes that contribute to their sense of home as they are working with an interior designer. This study seeks to utilize qualitative research methods to gather and analyze data in order to answer the question, For those owners who have used residential interior designers for their dwellings, what perceptions and preferences of physical attributes do they believe contribute to their sense of home and what was their level of involvement in its creation?

Keywords: sense of home, physical attributes of house, client involvement, interior design