

Can Physical Space Create Social Change?

An Honors Thesis (HONR 499)

by

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Abstract

Some of our society's richest and poorest individuals share the same public spaces on a daily basis with one continually refusing to acknowledge the other. It has become evident, that despite the fact that they coexist, negative stigmas surrounding poverty and a transient lifestyle prevent the two groups of people from interacting and making connections that would benefit the community. By creating a safe space for these interactions free obligation and judgment, a foundation for a kinder, more inclusive community can be formed. I use the current lack of communication and understanding between drastically different socioeconomic classes as the underlying problem to be solved and design a multi-function community center as a physical solution.

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