MALE, FEMALE, OTHER
An Analysis of Gendered Space in Asia

by

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ABSTRACT

The values of society affect the way the environment is shaped. This is especially so with the advent of the Feminist movement where the relationships between men and women and the perceived roles of each gender have been redefined, thereby creating a shift in the way the built environment is designed. The intention of the dissertation is to explore the relationship between Gender and Architecture on a localised scale, that is Asia and trace the changes in space conception through time.

Through case studies of traditional Asian housing, contemporary dwellings and public space, the production of gendered space in Asia will be explored. By comparing and contrasting, it can be determined how social changes affect spatial design and vice versa. Do gendered spaces still exist today in an age of ‘political correctness’ and where gender stereotypes are slowly disintegrating? What is the direction that Architecture is taking with regards to contemporary societal values? Is gender even an issue today when it comes to design?

The recognition of such spaces increases awareness of the effects of the inter-relationship between Gender and Architecture. The categorisation of Space as being Male, Female or Other establishes this understanding and emphasises the importance of the social aspects and implications of Architecture in the Asian context.

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