

Call for Papers

AAG Annual Meeting, 24-28 February 2012, New York

(Im)Mobilities of Dwelling: Places and Practices

Session Conveners: Dr. Sybille Frank (Technical University Darmstadt), Dr. Lars Meier (University of Munich), Dr. Silke Steets (Technical University Darmstadt)

In an era of rising importance of mobility in everyday life places of residence are still vital. Besides to commute, migrate or travel dwellings are immobile places to rest. At the same time, practices of dwelling have become more and more movable, since, in the case of ultra-mobile people, they are transferred to new dwellings time and again. It is the task of this session to evaluate the significance of dwelling as a social experience in mobile times.

Dwellings can be intertwined with personal biographies, as important places of memories, where belongings are collected and a unique interior is arranged. It is through personal experiences and through the spatial organization of physical objects that dwellings become significant to people. This even applies to transitory modes of dwelling, such as hotel rooms, caravans, doss houses or refugee camps.

In this session we want to encourage presentations that put their focus on the practices of dwelling in societies in transition. We encourage papers that consider the topic of dwelling under the umbrella of broader transformations of society and their manifestations on the level of everyday experiences. We are especially keen to receive proposals that are based on empirical research putting light on one of the following topics:

- Dwellings as places of personal memories and as structuring personal biographies
- The relevance of dwelling in the everyday life, as a place for rest
- Practices that distinguish dwelling in principal from dwelling in secondary residences
- Practices of making oneself at home in transitory modes of dwelling
- Dwellings as places of differentiation and of staging identities
- Dwellings as places of negotiating gender relations
- Dwellings as places of negotiating the private and the public sphere

We are happy to receive abstracts of 250 words maximum by 25th of August. Authors will be notified of acceptance of their abstract for presentation by 5th of September.

Please submit abstracts to: Lars.Meier@soziologie.uni-muenchen.de

This session is sponsored by: Cultural Geography Specialty Group; Development Geographies Specialty Group; Geographical Perspectives on Women Specialty Group; Indigenous Peoples Specialty Group; Public and Private Affinity Group; Recreation, Tourism & Sport Specialty Group; Regional Development and Planning Specialty Group; Sexuality and Space Specialty Group; Socialist and Critical Geography Specialty Group; Urban Geography Specialty Group.