Chapter 13
Practice as a Criterion of Truth: The Choice of a Comfortable Dwelling

ABSTRACT

The conditions of comfort for representatives of all psychotypes and subtypes are determined. They can be extended to the main estates of modern society. The same conditions are fundamental in determining the goals of designing a dwelling, including its relationship with the environment, style, functionality, transformability, and controllability, space-planning solutions, color solutions, selection of materials and equipment, and subject content. Peaceful relations in the family, in society, with the environment, are an essential condition for comfort. Possible conflicts and the opportunities to resolve them by using the dwelling are given and classified. Rational spending of money to get the most comfortable dwelling is a very essential component of our comfort/discomfort! And the solution to these problems, based on the theory of self-organization, is also given in this chapter.

BACKGROUND

In the previous sections, the creation of a wave model of self-organization scenarios proceeded from the abstract to the concrete. First, axiomatics was considered, then general scenarios, then a scenario of the evolution of the mind and human behavior, which was checked using anthropological and historical data, as well as special markers. Very long periods were considered.

Can this theory be used “here and now”? Its usefulness cannot be limited by a better understanding of human evolution or worldview, but it should bring practical benefits to our contemporaries.

And here a very interesting task is the choice (design, construction) of the dwelling. Data on the channels of interaction with the environment, psychotypes, social groups, behavioral patterns, needs and motivations - these are ready-made and very important information for the correct determination of housing requirements for different focus groups. And, as dealers say, the key to sales success and the guarantee that spending a lot of money, a person will receive exactly what will make his life as comfortable and happy as possible (Kolcaba, 2003; Miller, 2009).

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Complementation the general approach with individual testing data (Chapter 12), it can identity of a particular customer, and make the choice of dwelling even more accurate. The technique used there was based on popular tests (there are the numerous alternatives provided in the scientific literature and popular online services). It is only important that their results be included in the process of a psychological portrait compiling, which was discussed in chapter 12.

Associative thinking is the most important professional quality of people of art. And the architect is looking for material embodiment of timeless ideas and imperishable beauty that he feels (Ikonnikov, 1985; Iovlev 1996; Potaev, 2008; Tetior, 2008; Vityuk, 2015; Kavtaradze, 2017). At the same time, style, functionality (Panero & Zelnik, 2006), transformability, space-planning solutions, color solutions (Buymistru, 2008), materials, furniture and so on are some associative connections between the needs and motivations of a person and environmental conditions. The potential of such a system is the financial and other resources involved in its organization.

Below, numerous examples of such associations will be considered, and this will enable the potential customer to explain to the architect what exactly he needs.

Special attention to the fact that the needs and motivations of a person do not remain unchanged, changing both during life (Morris, et all, 2013) and shorter periods. These changes and their periods are studied by chronobiology and chronomedicine (Zidermane, 1988). Accordingly, it is necessary to pay attention to the potential for the transformation of the home, as well as the possibility of regulating environmental parameters (Gagge, Stolwijk & Hardy1967; Leroux, 1970; Shimko, 1990; Reimers, 1994; Godish, 2001; Panero & Zelnik, 2006; Alexander, Ishikawa & Silverstein, 2014; Humphreys, 2016; Visloguzov, 2016; Colin Ellard, 2017). Modern technologies of internet of things, smart house, and smart city allow to do this. (D’Ulizia, Ferri, Grifoni, & Guzzo, 2010; Acharjya, Geetha, eds.; 2017; Maddox, 2018; Pal, Funilkul, Charoenkitkarn, & Kanthamanon, 2018).

The correct construction of relations returns to one of the branches of psychology - conflict studies, and even mathematics - the theory of catastrophes; however, it is possible to consider this problem in the paradigm of the theory of self-organization (Mkhitaryan, 2017).

And finally, the optimization problem. Mathematicians (Shtoer, 1992), economists (Podinovskiy & Nogin, 1982), psychologists (Grant, Halvorson & Higgins, 2014; Sadiq-Khan, 2017), designers (Norman, 2006; Alexander, Ishikawa & Silverstein 2014) pay great attention to it. The theory of self-organization is no exception (Mkhitaryan, Badeyan & Kovalyov, 2004); the approaches developed within its framework were used to solve this problem.

COMFORT / DISCOMFORT CONDITIONS AND DESIGN AIMS

The Concepts of Comfort and Discomfort

In determining comfort state, it is necessary to proceed from the fact that a human, being a complex system and obeying the laws of self-organization, at the same time remains a part of the “human-dwelling-environment” system. A comfortable state of a human will be called a condition characterized by the following features:

- harmony of human, dwelling, and environment;
- bodily and mental health;
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