



Housing – A Critical Perspective.

08-09 April 2015

Abstract / Initial Proposal Form:

1. Paper / Proposal Title: Through the lens of lived human experience: United States case studies of supportive housing and shelters

2. Format: Written paper

3. Author(s) Name: Jill Pable

4. University or Company Affiliation: Florida State University

5. Abstract (300 words):

United States permanent housing as well as facilities that house persons that are homeless are the subject of current media attention and discussion, and several cities have recently declared a state of emergency regarding the growing problem of homelessness. The architectural design of these housing types require that the physical environment complements on-site policies and programs, which relies on a deep understanding of residents' point of view for success. While architectural case studies can examine built projects through many lenses including sustainability, budget, or neighborhood context, it is less common to analyze a project through indicators related to quality human experience. This author believes that examining spaces this way can help reveal building qualities that provide comfort and enable recovery for future residents.

This presentation will share the findings of a series of nation-wide case studies that examine and identify the personal level of architectural experience that the interior environment provides. These characteristics, often identified by researchers as essential for quality human experience formed the framework of the inquiry:

- Dignity/self esteem
- Empowerment and personal control
- Security, privacy and personal space
- Stress Management
- Sense of Community
- Beauty and Meaning

Four case studies were completed, examining projects in the east, middle section and west coasts of the U.S. and each provides a photographic tour of the building with commentary that identifies the project's features that attend to these six characteristics. The case studies also took into consideration the perceptions of organization directors and staff, offering a broad biography of a building project's considerations from multiple perspectives. Data gathering included a staff pre-questionnaire, and on-site photography and interviews with five stakeholder groups: the architect, the interior designer, staff member(s), the program's director, and one or more residents. The presentation will contrast and compare the four locations and invite discussion with participants.

7. Author(s) Biography (200 words each):

Jill Pable

Professor, Florida States University, Department of Interior Architecture and Design

Jill Pable, Ph.D., FIDEC, ASID is a professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Interior Architecture and Design at Florida State University. She holds B.S. and M.F.A. degrees in Interior Design and a Ph.D. degree in Instructional Technology with specialization in architecture. She is the author of the textbook *Sketching Interiors at the Speed of Thought* and co-author of the instructor reference book *Interior Design: Strategies for Teaching and Learning*. In 2009 she served as national president of the Interior Design Educators Council and is a Fellow of IDEC. She was included in the 30 Most Admired Design Educators in the 5 States in the 2015 annual *DesignIntelligence* rankings. Her research focuses on the design of environments for the disadvantaged and she is the originator and project lead for *Design Resources for Homelessness*, a research-informed online resource for architectural designers and organizations that create facilities for homeless persons (designresourcesforhomelessness.org). She believes that design can make life more interesting, fulfilling and humane.