

Changes in Housing-User Profile and Its Spatial and Social Effects in Istanbul

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Globalization and effects of changes in life-style on urban environment; in parallel with incessantly increasing rate of migration, have led to some problems such as unmethodical expansion of cities and merger of suburban areas to urban ones. Social, economic, cultural and technological changes in cities have changed housing pattern and its customers. Suburban areas faced this rapid alteration and transformation especially after 1980. Turkey, as a developing country, experienced these remarkable changes in the process of globalization and the mentioned problems are entrenched patterns in Istanbul. In consequence, problem of housing with regard to the its social and cultural aspects should be investigated. This study aims at scrutinizing the changes of relation between houses and their users in Ikitelli region, a popular suburban area attracting enterprisers, in Istanbul after 1980. This paper mainly focuses on the changes of quarters in the vicinity of mass housing projects and how they are affected by these new housing patterns. Housing characteristics, user profile, changes in the region, and expectations of users in Ikitelli are the main parameters to be studied. Ikitelli was situated in a suburban area in 1960s; where concentration of central business district (CBD) in city center and movement of industrial estate to this area caused a rapid increment in its population. Due to the fact that the area is open to improvement, it is a matter of paramount importance to evaluate the future housing allocation planning, considering today's conditions. The study is supported by interviews with residents of the district. It was revealed that the changes in the region cannot keep the pace with existing urban transformation project and it is rather people-oriented since it is clear that where people cannot adopt themselves to the mandatory social, economic and cultural alterations, this may lead to further changes and problems in their urban life, particularly from the point of social relations.

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