

Co-designing Safety

Using co-creation processes to approach gender and safety issues.



Josephina Wilson Master thesis Chalmers Architecture A very special thank you to whom without this project never would have been possible

To the women at Mammaforum who took their time to join the workshops, and to Sabrieh, Nahid and Duha who helped me organize the workshops.

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To my family for always being there

Thank you!

Co-design is about embracing the fact that all people are creative, and if given the right tools everyone has the ability to take part in a discussion and express their thoughts. As a given right in a democratic society co-design is needed in the planning process to reach a social sustainable development (Sanders & Stappers 2008).

Therefore the purpose of this master thesis is to involve a representative group of women in the planning process of densifying the area in which they live in. The focus will be safety issues and how the surrounding environment and buildings can be planned to enhance the feeling of safety. The goal is to experiment with the co-creation processes to approach the question of gender and safety issues.

There is an on-going planning project for densification at Siriusgatan, which is situated in Bergsjön, a suburb of Gothenburg. There are several actors involved in this project, the main ones are Familjebostäder, Okidoki arkitekter and Mammaforum.

Through three workshops we have together experimented with architectural elements in

relation to safety issues. This is important since security issues are considered problematic in the area and a part of building in a sustainable way would be to consider the perceived safety as a parameter for designing (Trygghetsundersökning Östra Göteborg). Regarding issues of safety, women are more likely to feel exposed to violence and insecure situations and therefore this thesis will focus on women in planning.

The result is five design criteria as a response to safety issues that are specific for the area established together with the women. This thesis will hopefully contribute to enhancing their commitment and increasing their possibilities of being able to effect their close living environment.





Co-designing Safety Josephina Wilson © Josephina Wilson 2016 Chalmers University of Technology Gothenburg Sweden 2016 Josephina Wilson has a Bachelor's degree in fine arts from Umeå school of Architecture.

"I have always had a great interest in how politics and architecture correlate. During my master studies the studio that inspired me the most and which I want to continue working with is "Design and planning for social inclusion". During this studio I worked with "Living Lab -Hammarkullen", and the renovation of a building built during the million home programme. I want my thesis to be a continuation of the course. One of my main goals as an architect is to work with people rather than for people. This master thesis puts focus on topics such as gender issues, class differences and ethnicity, which combined contributes to a depth that interests me"

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"No problem can be solved from the same level of consciousness that created it"

Albert Einstein



Reflections



The city of Gothenburg and the housing company Familjebostäder has as a common goal to work more closely with factors related to social sustainability, the project at Siriusgatan in Bergsjön is part of this. There have been several trials to densify this area before, but they have failed due to lack of economical profit. Now they are making a new attempt, to see if it is possible to find a solution that is not economically viable straight away but which in the long run is the better option. To start up this project Familjebostäder has written a report to support social sustainability at Siriusgatan, which is situated in Bergsjön a suburb of Gothenburg. It is a place with lots of greenery and forests hence the nature is very beautiful and important for the area identity. Moreover, during night time this turns into something negative, and there is a big problem with connecting the different housing areas in the neighbourhood with paths safe for walking. In this report (social hållbarhet – en lönsam investering på Siriusgatan) Familjebostäder stress the issue of not working enough with the safety issues and that this is an important part for architecture to support sustainability. Futhermore there is a chapter about dialogue and the importance of involving the local community in the planning process. This thesis therefore works with two of the main targets to reach social sustainability.





The aim is to work with a representative group of women living at Siriusgatan, to co-create a proposal for a living environment where one can feel secure. Furthermore the purpose is to address the elements within architecture that defines security and to explore ways to approach the topic of safety. The goal is to make something physical out of the human interaction and participation, so the

Working with sustainability is important for several reasons. In this project the topics of densification and citizen dialogue are addressed. Densification is important in developing cities because of environmental reasons etc. and citizen dialogue and working with security addresses the social issues, which are especially important to take notice to while refurbishing the million homes programme.

people involved can see a result, and that this result

later can be a parameter for the architects designing

the densification of the area.

This project will be a continuation of the course Design and planning for social inclusion.

Main questions

• How can co-creation as a method be used as a tool to empower the women living at Siriusgatan and create a functional public space that they feel entitled to use?

• Which criteria are needed to transform the environment surrounding Siriusgatan in order to be perceived as safe?

Gender equality

There are different roles for women and men in society today, and it is clear that women to a larger extent than men feel unsafe during day-today activities. This prevents women from using public spaces to the same extent as men, especially during hours without daylight. Therefore this thesis is limited to only working with women in questions relating to safety. Furthermore it is not only a distinction between men and women but also ethnicity, where it is proven that not only do women feel more unsafe than men, but women with another background than Swedish feel the most exposed (Larsson, Jalakas. 2008). This is significant in the case of Siriusgatan and Västra Bergsjön where 69,8 % of the people living there have a foreign background (Göteborgsbladet 2015).

Co-creation

Since everyone cannot participate in the workshops due to lack of time and resources this will occur as limitations for the co-creation processes. Another challenge is to argue for the necessity of these workshops in an early stadge of the project and Familjebostäder are additionally working with citizen participation in other ways. The group of women at "Mammaforum" were considered because of the fact that most of the women who visit them live close by. These women cannot and are not meant to speak for everyone's wishes but will give important knowledge and input from the area. Furthermore with fewer people it is also easier to get to know them better, and therefore get answers more into depth than questionnaires etc. The amount of workshops that are being held are limited due to time restrictions.



Percieved Safety

Working with how safety is perceived is a vital limitation since the topic of social sustainability is too wide and general. It is also up-to-date since the local government of Östra Göteborg (Stadsdelsförvaltningen) recently published a report on the topic. Furthermore it is interesting because it is proven that the most essential reason for a person to feel content with their living arrangement is to feel secure (Tyréns, 2012). Moreover it is important to stress that the focus will lie on safety within the area of Bergsjön and according to the local context, unless stated otherwise.

Siriusgatan

The geographical limits were first drawn by the planning group appointed by Familjebostäder, Okidoki arkitekter and Stadsbyggnadskontoret. It stretched from Siriusgatan towards Kortedala. Further on in the project new limits were drawn, focusing only on the area between the tram stop Gallileisgata and Siriusgatan.

Methods



Co-Creation

In order to succeed with this project, a key part will be to work with the people living in the area. They are the experts on how it feels to live in this specific area, and what roads that are used and not and so forth. To do this efficiently there will be three workshops held with a certain group of women, a selected group that represents themselves but who are also from different backgrounds, living in different areas and of different ages. These workshops will be based on the theories of the book "Codesigning space – a primer" and it will have a spatial and architectural focus. The first meeting will be focusing on 2D drawings, such as plans and general perception of different areas in the neighbourhood. The next workshop will be with 3D elements and the third workshop will be a response and discussion about the material that has been produced from our workshops.



Research and Literature

Reading previous studies on issues of investigation has been crucial to get a broader understanding for the topics



Interviews

Interviews with women of different age and background living in the area, but also people working with the tenants and with the developing project.



Observations

To work on-site is important, therefore there has been a lot of time spent at Siriusgatan.



Diagrams To clarify ideas and to communicate results diagrams have been made.



Sketches

To test the conclusions from the workshops and literature sketches have been drawn by hand and buy using a computer.



Reflections

Social Sustainability

To start off with safety is a wide topic that addresses a great variety of fields. Within this thesis the delimitation has been to focus on how safety is percieved. The aim is not trying to prove why it really is a safe neighborhood according to statistics but rather to address and work with how people feel, and how it in some case affects the way we use public space.

There is a great difference between the notion of safety and security where safety addresses as stated above – the emotional, and security addresses the rational. Security can be how cameras are but up to prevent crime, but does it actually make us feel safe? Do the high fences and great walls make us feel protected? Security is addressed in architecture when building a house or playground for example to prevent injuries. Therefore security is not used further in this thesis.



Siriusgatan, Bergsjön 2015

In the broad question of sustainability there are different aspects to consider, the three main topics are usually of economic, environmental and social character. Social sustainability is the main focus for this theses and therefor the other topics are not mentioned further. Social sustainability in itself is a broad subject which contains multiple angles and perspectives. Boverket (2010) has identified some key points in working with social sustainability within urban development.

- Holistic approach: meaning that the area which is renewed should be seen in a broader context.

- Variation: meaning to create a wide spectre of different functions, designs and housing.

- Identity: To make it possible for one to identify with the neighbourhood one lives in.

- Public participation: To involve the people living in the area in new development projects.

An important aspect when renovating a building is for example to consider what an increased rent could mean for the people living there. If it means that the people in the area with the lowest income cannot afford to live there anymore this will lead to gentrification and increase segregation.

In the report Social hållbarhet- en lönsam investering för Siriusgatan (2015) by Familjebostäder three main aspects are considered as the most important for them to work with according to social sustainability issues. These



three main aspects are attractivity, dialogue, and safety issues. From this report the ideas for this thesis were formed.

Furthermore social sustainability can be linked to the economic aspect of social capital, where social capital means feeling part of something and creating an identity around it. It is about what people you know around you that creates possibilities for future employments and so forth. This becomes a problem when areas are segregated and people are grouped and do not naturally meet people of different class and ethnicity (Göteborgs Stad, 2015).

During the 1930-40s there was an extreme shortage of housing, rapid urbanization and overcrowded living arrangements in Sweden. The living conditions were known to have been one of the worst standards in Europe at that time (Donner, 2000. Nordström, 1938). In order to deal with the situation the state announced a welfare programme to increase the amount of houses that were built, in 1959 the government decided that 1.5 million dwellings needed to be built in a short period of time to meet the demand for housing. Today we call the dwellings built during the period between 1960-1975 for "the million homes programme" (Söderqvist 2008, 243).

The time era is also referred to as "the record years" and during this time the government took The apartments are known to be well planned, with huge pride in these buildings, the new modern large balconies and good links between the rooms Swedish welfare state, with spacious and modern (Hall, Vidén 2005). buildings with high standards for everyone. Furthermore, during the time the economic growth However, there were also the ambitious, big-scale neighbourhoods and new areas that were built stagnated, and what was a shortage of housing became a housing surplus. Negative critique started from scratch during this period, mainly in the to occur about what some thought of as poor bigger cities of Sweden. Bergsjön and Siriusgatan and uniform architecture and it escalated to a is part of one of these areas. The main ideas while provocative debate. Until this day that debate is still building these areas where to create a local centre that should be available within walking distance and very vibrant. The buildings that in the beginning had a great reputation has today in media had parted from traffic. There were also local schools, negative publicity, and with Sweden facing the same day care centres, meeting halls everything to problems as in the 40s, an extreme lack of housing. strengthen the social interaction (Kullberg 2010). The same questions are still as important, and a large amount of dwellings are to be built. What do Reflections we take with us from the past? Which qualities can This thesis is about an area built during the million we keep and which mistakes can we learn from? homes programme, it is important to investigate Another rapid growing problem is that the housing this critically. Nevertheless it is even more stock that was built during the 1960s, and that has important to emphasize that it is an investigation not been renovated, is now leaking energy and in about perceived safety and equality, that could have great need of maintenance (Hall, Vidén 2005). been made in any area. It is important to keep an open mind and not enhance these questions just because it is a million homes programme area, but to separate them and keep it objective.

The majority of the housing that was built during this period is characterized by its location, often in

Introduction

Local Context

the outskirts of the cities, creating suburbs. The car was highly prioritized and traffic strictly separated, with generous parking spaces and roads that circulated the area, creating a car free zone within the housing quarters and the cars travelling round it. But with this said also often creating a barrier for walking or bicycling to other close by areas. Moreover there is a misconception that the million homes programme and the dwellings built during "the record years" were only 10 stories high and made out of prefabricated concrete slabs. Whereas this was not the case, the variety of different homes was excessive. With 66% being multi family housing and 34% single-family homes. Around 50% of the multi family housing buildings were 3 stories high, and they where built all over Sweden.



Western Bergsjön

This project is based in Gothenburg in a suburb called Bergsjön, it is also very close to Kortedala but it does not feel like that. Both Bergsjön and Kortedala belongs to the district Östra Göteborg.

The area where the project is based is called Gärdsås and the street on which the current houses are situated is called Siriusgatan. The area which the planning group of Stadsbyggnadskontoret, Familjebostäder and Okidoki arkitekter are looking at is the area of Gärdsås and into Kortedala, to make the boundaries between these areas smaller. When you stand in Siriusgatan today you would never think that you are so close to Kortedala.

When looking at statistics Bergsjön is sometimes divided into east and west. Gärdsås is located in western Bergsjön.

Gärdsås

Siriusgatan or Gärdsås is situated 10 km from the city centre of Gothenburg, close to Kortedala and part of the district Västra Bergsjön and Östra Göteborg. The apartments at Siriusgaan where built during 1970 and a renovation was completed during 1990. There are different sizes of apartments to rent here and Familjebostäder owns the property.

Below you find the amount of apartments in the area and what types there are.

room: 82 pcs.
 Bedroom apartments: 576 pcs.
 Bedroom apartments: 440 pcs.
 Bedroom apartments: 108 pcs.
 Bedroom apartments: 2 pcs.
 Carpark: 127 pcs.
 Garage: 660pcs.

(Familjebostäder 2015)

Reflections

Referring to the amount of apartments and size, one would not think of this as an area for families. There are many small apartments appropriate for single households, but in reality this is an area with a lot of families living in overcrowded apartments.

People living on the entrance floor. Curtains down which creates boundaries.
Laundry rooms on the entrance floor, next to this there are storages for bikes and prams.
Closed facade, no enteries or activities
Activities: 1. Mammaforum 2. Närbutik Sirius lågpris 3. Hyresrättsföreningen Simhopparen 4. Hyresrättsföreningen Segelflygaren 5. Sanna Servicebutik 6. Parking
Pre-school
Terraces
Garbage

Designated Planning Area for Densification



Figure 1: Okidoki arkitekter

BEF. BYGGNAD

BEF. P-DÄCK

BEF. BYGGNAD INOM PLANOMRÅDET

FAMILJEBOST. TOMT

FAMILJEBOST. BEF BYGGNAD

KOLONIOMRÅDE

HAGE

14

12

- NY TOMT FÖRSKOLA / SKOLA

FÖRSKOLA

SKOLA

FÖRSKOLA I BV.

- NYA BOSTÄDER
- 10KALER I BV.

This image shows the streetlights in the area. It is interesting to see how the areas that later on are pointed out by the women as unsafe are also the areas with the least lights. The forest area is the clearest example, where there are no lights at all. It is also clear on the map that the lights are only placed by the roads, never in the surrounding environment. This is where the largest improvement can be made.



A big barrier today is the many height differences in the area shown in the images above. It creates fantastic views from the apartments at Siriusgatan but also makes it difficult to live there. There are huge accessibility issues that do not meet todays standards.





Focus Area

The amount of people using the tram stop Gallileisgata will change in the future, with the densification of new dwellings, more and more people will use this as their closest tram stop. Therefore there is a need to focus resources here, because it is also one of the places the women point out as one of the most unsafe places in the area. The area to and from the tram stop up to Siriusgatan is also one of the unsafe spots pointed out. There are also many spatial difficulties in this area, due to the limitations in time and resources for this project this area is chosen for further investigation.





Statistics

Western Bergsjön

In the year of 2014, 7667 persons lived in western Bersjön. 73% of all housing in the area was built between 1961-70 the so-called "record years".

53,2 % of the people living in Western Bersjön are born abroad, the most common countries of origin are Somalia followed by Iraq. 69,8 % have a foreign background, this can be compared with the whole city of Gothenburg where 32,4 % have a foreign background. The average income in the area is 159 900 SEK (2014), for women 138 500 SEK and for men 181 100 SEK (Göteborgsbladet 2015).

Overall the men feel slightly safer than women. The largest difference between the genders is seen when it comes down to walking alone outside where one lives at night time. 56% of the women feel safe when they walk outside alone at night compared to 79% amongst men (Trygghetsundersökning östra Göteborg).

Diagram Source The following diagrams in this chapter are taken from the "Safety investigation" made by Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg (2015). The municipality and the department of Eastern Gothenburg. Interviews were held with 1000 people living in the area, the people were over the age of 15.

Reflections

There is a great difference of how safe one feels in their living area, between for example the villa area Utby and Bergsjön with mostly rental apartments. It is also clear that women feel more unsafe than men, and that the areas by the tram stops are places many fear. The average income is one of the lowest in the city and the unemplyment and inhabitants born abroad are very high. Comparing this with statistics from Angered and Biskopsgården the numbers are similar. It is important to know that these numbers grow more extreme every year, and the richer areas grow more richer.

7667 Inhabitants 2014 Västra Bergsjön

15.3% Unemployment 2014 159 900 SEK

Average income 2013

53.2%

Inhabitants born abroad 2014

Safety in the area



Safety in the area - Living arrangements How safe do you feel in the area you live in?



Women being molested



Perceived anxiety, comparing gender Have you worried for any of the following during the last 12 months







Man

Why do you feel unsafe? Most people answered: drugs, loitering youth by the tram stop, scared of



Whom are you scared of?

Most people answered: Drug addicts, neighbours, youth gangs or criminals

isispersoner rasister OTC obehagagliga personer mopedister män som inte respekterar kvinnor



Figure 7

Actors

Contacts

Familjebostäder

Familjebostäder through head of development Mikael Dolietis and project leader Sara Hammon. The initiators to this project and the company that owns the area. During the project I have been sitting once a week at the office at Siriusgatan, meeting the people working on site. There I also met Annika Berntsson who works with social issues in the area and Siv Udén who works with real estates in another part of Bergsjön and with a big renovation project there.

Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg

(Local government in east Gothenburg) They have made "Security walks" previously in the area. They have statistics of the area, the statistics used in this report was made there.

Okidoki arkitekter

The architectural firm that is chosen to develop the drawings, they have also previously made a proposal that was never built.

SP

Kristina Mjörnell Project leader of the research group SIREN, specialized in renovations of million homes programme. Contacted in the beginning of the project as a way in.

Chalmers

Emilio Brandao has been the tutor of this study and he holds a course within the master's program called "Design and planning for social inclusion" in a suburb of Gothenburg focusing on co-design processes.

Paula Femenias researcher in SIREN, a research project that is connected to this project. They will mostly investigate and follow the renovation process at Siriusgatan. Lena Falkheden in charge of gender studies at the master program design for sustainable development.

Charlotta Thodelius, researcher in the field of crime prevention and architecture.

Mammaforum

The organization is a social platform for women who are soon to become mothers. They specialize in women who have arrived in Sweden recently from non-European countries and provide guidance and support before and during labour. I worked with these women during my three workshops. They have been the main actors during this thesis.

Stadsbyggnadskontoret (City planning office)

Part of the municipality of Gothenburg the city planning office is in charge of development projects in the area and work together with Familjebostäder and Okidokiarkitekter in a planning group.

Galaxen

Erne Ahlman is the chairman of this farm that is situated in the middle of the focus area of this thesis, therefore he was an important contact. He has lived in the area for over 30 years and has a lot of thoughts and history to share.

Youth group

Beatrice Klein is the project leader for a group of teenagers and young adults as part of a collaboration between Hyresrättsföreningen and Familjebostäder, the goal is to make the tenants effect their living environment with focus on the younger tenants.





Actors importance and involvement in this master thesis The larger the triangle the more involvement in this thesis







"People create places and places create people" (Macintyre & Ellaway, 2003)

The definition of perceived safety refers to the user and how comfortable he or she feels and the perceived amount of risk. Moreover it is not based on statistics or probabilities but is subjective. This is clearly shown when comparing different neighborhoods in Gothenburg today. Bergsjön has been negatively portrayed in the media where several articles about recently occurred shootings often are published. The increased amount of media publication has a tremendous effect on the perceived safety in the area, since many women are afraid to go outside after sunset. This compared to Linnéstaden or Kungsportsavenyn, which according to statistics are the most dangerous parts of the city, but never the less these two areas are the most popular areas to live in (Göteborgsbladet 2015).

To a large extent research has been made on how unsafe or insecure one feels, rather than actually investigating how safe one feels. This has been criticized because it does not give any indication of what is perceived as safe, only what feels unsafe (Kullberg, 2010).

The feeling of not being safe emerges from a specific space and is connected to a context. The feeling of being unsafe can be created by rumors, experiences, personal relationships and pre assumptions that some places are dangerous. How we relate to the built environment therefore depends on a variety of causes such as the

Perceived Safety



character, lighting, how abandoned a place feels and how well looked after it is but also on sight lines (Boverket 2010).

To feel safe in your home is a basic human need and today this is highly linked with the socioeconomic status. If one does not feel safe at home one is not likely to use outdoor space frequently thus it leads to health problems. Additionally the social control in the area decreases and this has an effect on crime rates. Circumstances such as unemployment, low income and high mobility frequency enhances a negative trend and with people moving in and out it effects the atmosphere amongst the tenants, and the social trust is effected. Social trust can be explained as what we expect other people to do or react. This is why it is important with face-to-face meetings in neighbourhoods, to recognize others and further on this often leads to a feeling of belonging. This can often be linked to class or ethnicity.

Moreover identification with a neighbourhood and perceived safety are also effected by what the journalists write in the local media channels. What the headlines say and how it is communicated has a great influence over how safety is perceived and how it affects the identity of the area. To feel proud of where you live is important when it comes to looking after the area, dirt and vandalism has a high impact of perceived safety (Kullberg, 2010). Built environment has a proven effect on the topic claims Jacobs (1961) who emphasizes the importance of the correlation between private and public space, and how distinct boarders between the two influences crime rates. The placement of doors and windows to the street, she continues, is of importance since it is perceived as if someone is watching. This effect however decreases with the height of the building, where one becomes too anonymous. Several studies show that neighborhoods with small-scale buildings have better control over their outdoor environment and feel more connected to it, compared to neighborhoods with block of flats. The anonymity that is created from the high-rise buildings is known to decrease the amount of social control in the area.

Implementation theories

There are different strategies for how to build environments that are perceived as safe. One strategy is to create strategic meeting places to create a clearer structure in the neighborhood and it has a welcoming feel to it (Tyréns ,2012).

Boverket (2010) state some criteria to consider while developing safety in an area.

- Sight lines helps with orientation and to get an overview of the situation
- Public art enhances identification
- Orientation works together with sight ٠ lines
- Social control You feel an obligation ٠ towards the area and behave accordantly
- Scale relates to social control
- Management If the area is looked after you feel proud of the area

Furthermore women's fear is often used as a reason for renovating an area, it can be used as PR in gentrification processes of how safe the area will become. However the women that they want to move in here are often the white middle-class, there are seldom analyses made of women outside of the privileged category. The question of what feels safe for one woman can be different for someone else. Therefor it is important to investigate different areas and how they specifically can be improved for the people living there. (Listerbon 2015)



Below you find typical places where people feel unsafe (Boverket 2010) In common for schools, playgrounds, parking lots and industrial areas are that they are often disconnected from living quarters, and they are often only used during daytime, so when people go home from work the areas are empty of people. Pedestrian tunnels



Parking lots

Road with heavy traffic or bike/pedestrian roads



Bus stop or tram stop



Playgrounds, during night



Pedestrian tunnels







Schools and pre-schools during night



causes a feeling of being trapped and the bus and tram stops are often built secluded from the living area due to noise, therefore waiting at hours when people do not often travel the areas can feel abandoned.

Industrial areas, office areas and hospital areas

Entrances and the gardens connected to the accommodation

Equality in planning

The needs of women and men differ which means that there is a need for a gender perspective within physical planning. Many public spaces are not available for women, especially not during night. This causes women to use space differently. The amount of perceived safety varies, the largest distinction is between men and women where women feel 4 times more unsafe than men (Brå 2010). The gender issue is related to other aspects such as age, ability to move, economy, education, ethnicity and where you live. Both men and women who live in an area with high socioeconomic status feel generally safer than people living in low socioeconomic areas (Boverket 2010).

However, perceived safety cannot solitary be measured in the build environment but is built up by inequalities in society on different levels. It is therefore difficult to build new areas where the problems disappear. Nonetheless it is possible to integrate a gender perspective on all levels of society and especially on all levels in the planning processes (Andersson, 2005).

Generally speaking men and women's everyday life It is proven that the aesthetics and design of the still differ noticeably (Jensfelt, 1993). Today we tend built environment can lower crime rates. Criteria for this are that the housing blocks are created to build housing further and further away from the city centre, this means that both men and women as neighbourhoods and that in the scale of the have longer distances between where they work, buildings create spaces where people meet regularly, live, train and shop their food thus it takes longer and that you recognize the people that you meet. time to travel between the activities. Generally This is to enhance the amount of social control in the area, which is important in preventing crime. If women spend more time on unpaid work such as driving the children to and from school and their the buildings in the area look like someone is taking spare time activities, cooking, cleaning and so forth. care of them less vandalism occur and therefore With these activities being more and more spread the area is perceived as safer.

Equality



out it might cause negative effects for women. In a planning perspective it is therefore important to plan a good living environment and the area in close proximity to the home so that both men and women can use the facilities.

Different strategies are used when feeling unsafe, the everyday movement pattern might change. Some strategies tend to work against the traffic safety, but improves the perceived safety amongst women. For example cycling home with your lights turned off, or cycle in the car lane instead of the separated bike/walk path. Or maybe you park your bike on the street instead of parking it in the garage.

Studies show that there are some general perceptions of what creates unsafe spaces. Significant for these places are that they miss clear sightlines, there are no people using it, where it is difficult to orientate, run-down buildings or where it is hard to get in contact with the surrounding environment (Boverket 2010).

Co-design, aspiring from the word collaborative different peoples' need to be creative, to use design, means to solve a collective problem different approaches to invite and involve future through the use of tools and facilitation, while users into the design process. According to Sanders collaborating. There are numerous ways to bring & Stappers 2008 it is important to work with the people together to develop ideas together. The following guidelines as a facilitator: "To lead people who are on the "doing" level of terms most often used are co-design, co- creation or participatory design. They all have a common creativity, goal designing for a more social sustainable (in this To guide those who are at the "adapting" level, case) built environment. However they differ from To provide scaffolds that support and serve each other; co-designing seeks to organize different peoples' need for creative expression at the stakeholders to come together and solve problems. "making" level, and While co-creation, is what is done within the To offer a clean slate for those at the "creating level" workshops during the co-designing process where more than two people come together and create The basic notion of co-creation processes is to something (Sanders & Stappers 2008). Participatory embrace the fact that all people are creative, and design meaning that the end users ("legitimate if given the right tools everyone has the ability to but recourse-weak stakeholders") are active in take part in a discussion and express their thoughts the development of the environment or product. (Sanders & Stappers 2008). Focus remains on empowering the people in the "Users and other figures can become part of the community (Soini 2015). A problem here being that "to participate or being active" is not further design process as expert of their experience, but in order to take on this role they must be given defined. Creating a wide spectra of what the topic can imply. Therefore the word is not further used appropriate tools for expressing themselves." in this thesis. (Serviced esigntools 2015)

Co-designing often consists of several workshops, where the participators come from different fields of expertise. The designer or architect then works as a facilitator, trying to create an equal base to work from so that everyone is heard. (Soini 2015). The facilitator's main goal is to create ways for the participants to communicate with each other, share their experiences and ideas, and foremost to be creative. The participants have different levels of creativity, and it is important to facilitate

Introduction





Improved understanding of social sustainability

Nabeel Hamdi states in his short lecture by Unhabitat why participation is needed.

- Defines needs (desires and necessity) What do the people living there actually want and need?
- Get accurate information

The participants know the area better than the designer

• Identifies conflict/ trouble-shooting What previous problems have occurred/ need to be considered?

- Discovers alternatives
- Provides continuity
- Mobilizes interest
- Mobilizes recourses
- Creates partnerships
- Positions problems
- Reduces dependency

After the building is constructed, who will look after it? Who will use it and how?

When owning property the holder often wants control over that piece of land and therefore uses a top-down approach when deciding what is to be built. The owner can be anything from the local government to a private owner. The top-down systems are often inefficient, vulnerable, neglecting the local people and often excluding groups of people. Making the process more democratic is necessary. Co-creation threatens power structures by laying the control to the consumer, end user or customer. It can be very difficult for someone who has had control successfully for a long time to give the power away and imagine it being run in a different manner (Dalal-Clayton, Barry. Dent, David. Dubois, Olivier. 2002).

Co-creation for whom?

Who benefits from these processes? It is important that the co-designer becomes part of the decision making and gets feedback on what their time has contributed to. Why some of the suggestions they made were not chosen to work further with and why the outcome turned out as it did. It is important that the co-creation processes give something to both parties, that the co-creators enjoy the work and that they feel that they have contributed to something is significant.

Co-designing needs a broad team of people working together such as designers, researchers, clients and finally the people who will be the most affected by the new project, the people living in the area.

A problem that may arise when working with co-design is that the people in the group see themselves as more separated than united. This is called Fragmentation, to avoid this it is important to work with design empathy. Moreover design empathy refers to the ability to step into someone else's shoes. To understand how someone else is thinking and why they are acting, thinking and prioritizing the way they do. This implicates that not only does co-design help to create a better design, but it also builds up a social capacity between groups in society.

Mammaforum

Directly translated Mammaforum means mothers' forum and the organisation is a social platform for women who are soon to become mothers. They specialize in women who have arrived in Sweden recently from non-European countries and provide guidance and support before and during labour. The women who work here are called Doulas. They together know 14 different languages and the presence of a Doula during the pregnancy has been proven to decrease the amounts of caesarean sections and the use of anaesthesia during labour, moreover the pregnancy becomes a better experience for the woman. The Doulas are most often hired directly by the couple that are having a baby. The Doulas translate not only languages but also the culture of the Swedish healthcare system.

The organisation is financed by Västra Götalands regionen Hälso-Sjukvårdsnämnderna Nordost Östra Göteborg, Örgryte, Hisingen, Västra Göteborg/Centrum, Partille/Mölndal/Härryda.

Activities that are offered at the center are for example "Swedish with baby", "open daycare" (Öppen förskola) and computer courses. Here the women can come and take courses while the children are with them. However most often women come there for a cup of tea or coffee to meet other women in the same situation.

They also collaborate with other organizations and services connected to childbirth so that the women get the best information possible while expecting a child. (Födelsehuset 2015)







Pre-Workshop I

The main issues when starting this project was to and one night, where they can draw which routes find a group of women, with different ages, backthey normally use during a day. With smiley stickers they can mark out where it feels good to walk and ground and social-economic class. My goal was to have the same 10 women at all the three workwhere it does not feel good. shops. Walking around in the area for the first time 4. They all move to sit around the larger map. it felt as intruding when walking into the courtyards Here they place symbols showing potential probbetween the houses, like they could see that I did lems and positive things. Fika and discussion about result. not belong. For me it was not natural to start a 5. conversation with people. The area, and the court-"Safety walk in 2 groups, because it will 6. yards are also very empty of people during daytime. cover a bigger area. Both groups have a map and a Walking around there are very few businesses in camera. the area, and only a few local shops. That is one of Discussion, what is the result? Choose a 7. the reasons why Mammaforum stood out, and their place to continue working with. It should be the door was open. After looking them up on Internet place with the greatest potential for change, not I decided this would be a good starting point so I necessarily the worst place. The most important contacted them and they were very interested. thing is to be able to argue why.

Time was then spent on designing the workshop, minute by minute and looking at expected outcome and what the answers from the question and exercise I make will be used for, why and for whom?

Two days before the workshop I went to visit Mammaforum again, they had had some difficulties getting the mothers to motivate the women to come in for the workshop on Thursday. They also thought that the planned tour of the area, where they would show me places that did not feel safe, was not a good idea. So the plan for Workshop 1 therefore changed. It seemed better to have more workshops but that they instead are short, so that the women can still attend to their daily activities.

Original time plan for workshop

1. Presentation of myself and everyone in the room 10 minutes.

2. Presentation of Perceived safety, what is safety to them. Here I will show a personal example of how I move during daytime and night time, to introduce activity 1.

3. Hand out small maps of the area, one day

This was the plan originally. Step 6, might not be an option since they where not so positive, so that will be moved as the last point and anyone who wants to come can come.

One hour before the workshop Mammaforum called to say that the translator was sick and that no mothers were there because there was something else going on. The workshop was therefore postponed until Monday 5 of October.

Expected outcome

Following questions needs to be answered during workshop 1.

• Which places are perceived as unsafe and which places in the area around Siriusgatan are perceived as safe.

• What is the general feeling? Is it safe to be outside as a woman during nighttime?

• Which place would you chose to change and why?

Workshop

I started my presentation with only three women present in the room, but shortly after more and more women came and in the end there were 9 women participating in the workshop. I decided to focus on the two exercises, there were a lot of infants and children there too so there was some trouble getting everyone focused. The women participating were of different ages most of them between 20-40 and two that were older. Most of the women could speak Swedish, and some of them got the information translated.

The biggest problem was for the participants to understand the map, to understand where was where. They would rather point outside the window to explain where they walked. I then drew on the map for the women, and asked questions. I went round to all the participants that wanted to show how they used the area. We had to do it one by one, so that they understood the map. The mothers had to sit by their children also when we did the exercises so it worked out better to speak one by one. They came up one by one also to look at the big map so there was not a lot of discussion between them but rather with me, this worked out well. They spoke and I wrote what they said on post its or placed the correct symbols. Therefore the symbols were not misunderstood but placed in the correct place. The

problem here was once again to understand the map, the symbols for tram stop and school worked out well as good navigators.

Most of them did not want to participate in the photos but we arranged some photos where

those who felt comfortable could join. The documentation needs to be better for upcoming workshops, or it needs to be communicated some how.

They thought that the information should have been better, so that more women could come there to join the workshop. They also expressed that it was a great initiative and that Familjebostäder should do it more often.

The hardest part of the workshop was to get the women to point out one specific area to work more with. They thought the whole area needed work. This should have been communicated clearer from me, since it was one of the main goals. Some areas stood out though, that all the women commented on. These areas need to be examined further to see which area has the greatest potential to work further with. ning, they do not feel safe in the area. The women that do go out in the area they go to the tram stop or grocery shop and back, which is the same way to walk. During daytime they walk through the green area of "Galaxen" but during night it does not feel safe, because of poor lightning and a lot of trees that prevents sightlines.

50% of the women did not go out at all during eve-

The discussion often came back to the fact that gang members live in the area, they ride stolen mopeds and park them at Siriusgatan. Everyone knows who they are and they do whatever they want. They also mentioned the fact of criminal activities such as rape, murder and shootings taken place in the area. The latest rape was in the forest close by Siriusgatan. The women do not walk there anymore.

Some of the playgrounds have too many bushes around them so that you cannot see who is sitting on the benches or if there is someone hiding. This can easily be fixed they say.

During winter there is a big problem with the clearing of snow. It becomes very slippery and since the area has so many slopes it becomes unsafe to move around, especially for elderly. One should take in to account the differences of safety and security issues during different seasons of the year. It can be difficult to imagine a nice sunny autumn day at 11 o'clock what it feels like during nighttime in the winter or spring. It is easy just to look out the window and think of what you see now.

Some women take another route to the tram stop





during nighttime, because they do not want to walk where there is poor light. They would rather walk along the houses and close to them where there is good lighting and people see you through the windows.

In some of the buildings the laundry rooms are in the basement and in some they are outside with good sight. They seemed to think the system worked well and it was not considered a safety issue. The same applied to throwing the garbage, which also works well.

It will be interesting to see if in the next workshop they might have thought about the questions that where raised today, and hopefully they will have even more info. They all got my card so that they can contact me if they think of something more.

Not a lot of symbols were used at the workshop, the one symbolizing light, lack of light and forest are the symbols that were used the most.



Reflections

The following questions were asked before the workshop:

1. Which places are perceived as unsafe and which places in the area around Siriusgatan are perceived as safe.

2. What is the general feeling? Is it safe to be outside as a woman during nighttime?3. Which place would you chose to change and why?

1. The places pointed out as unsafe were the places connected to green areas or forest areas. There are two of these areas close to Siriusgatan. In the forest west of Siriusgatan one girl was raped not long ago and the women said that the area is never used. It is a beautiful area, but no lighting. This area is very damp and wet, therefore it is not possible to build anything here. The area has great potential and it is a shame that it is not used. The other area that was marked out as not safe is the pathway they use every day to the tram stop it goes through a green area called "Galaxen" and is very nice during daytime. However during night it is dark and not many people there.

2. The general feeling seems to be that they do not go out during night time if they do not have to and they do not walk around in the area other than to the tram stop and back. Over all they do not feel safe and criminal activities are a big problem.

3. They had problems pointing out one specific area that they thought had potential to change. Mostly they did not care much for the buildings that they live in now, they wanted to know more about what was going to happen. When I asked what area can be improved they all said "Siriusgatan" the whole area. This made me question my intentions to zoom in on one specific area and maybe investigate the whole area on a bigger scale and work with strategies.

What went well and what can be improved?

The presentation went well and they understood why I was there and they appreciated it. The amount of flexibility that I had prepared for was useful and I came there with an open mind. In the end the information that I needed I got, except one specific area, which in the end maybe was not necessary but made me come to the decision to follow another path, which might be more adjusted to the women's needs of the area.

I should have mentioned the densification later, or in another way so that it did not become the focus. On the other hand this caught their interest and it was important for them to know for the following workshops. The exercises did not work as well as I would have hoped, since I did not know the room from before, I thought it would be possible for everyone to sit by a table, but since they had their children with them they had to sit with them. This made the first exercise difficult, also the problems with reading the map made it difficult so I hade to do the exercises one by one which in the end worked out fine but was time consuming.

Documentation can be improved with help from someone. It would be good to be two workshop initiators for the next workshop. It is also important to give the women and doulas more information beforehand so that they can prepare for the workshop, and tell their friends. To create posters to put up in the area is important for the next workshop.

Perceived Barriers

This is an image showing how the women perceive the area. The yellow lines are the only routes that excists for them, the forest and trees are huge barriers and so are the larger roads.











Good sight lines



Safe traffic



Car close by, eyes that see me



Nice nature



Good lighting

ÜİÜ

Surrounded by people



The area is looked after

Pre-Workshop 2

the area even though it is the entrance to their Posters were made to be put up at Mammaforum one week before. This was to give clear information apartments and it effects their tenants since they this time, to avoid confusion for the women feel unsafe there and have to walk though the area coming there. The plan for the second workshop for the daily routines, such as going to the tram stop and shopping groceries. has changed from before the midterm seminar when the main idea was to let them build the area with easy and sketchy materials the way the area There is a lot of greenery in the area such as trees, bushes, wild growth that does not necessarily feels. How high does the tree feel compared to the building and how wide is the road? With the tram contribute to the neighbourhood, but rather station as a reference point the area will be built becomes an unused space that could be used more efficiently to make the people walking here be up. After the midterm presentation I felt that it was able to stop and sit down and to make the street even more necessary to narrow the project down. To be able to make some sort of suggestion or more lively. To concentrate the amount of people design proposal it was necessary to focus this thesis moving through the area to one main street. The on one area, even though the women wanted the area also lacks a square where this path could be a whole area to be considered. The specific area that contribution to this and be a centre for different was chosen due to the densification and according events. to what areas the women found problematic. The choice of focus area was important to make before the second workshop to guide the participants joining the workshop in a clear direction so that they feel that they can contribute and the area is not to big to grasp.

The chosen area lies between the tram stop and the houses at Siriusgatan. Today there are several paths to choose from and there are no clear directions. The sight lines fool you to think that you are heading towards the wrong buildings. There are no signs on where to go, even though with better architecture signs should not be needed. The area just above the tram stop has for a long time been considered as one of the most unsafe places in Gothenburg claims Annika Bengtsson working with social issues at Familjebostäder. She continues that the area is owned by the municipality (park och natur förvaltningen) so they cannot do much about



The main questions for the workshop will be

What would you like to see on you way from home to the tram stop? Where would you like to sit down, or would you rather do something else? What would you like to see when you arrive at the tram stop? The thought is while discussing the result of the first exercise and comparing it to the model that represents reality thoughts will arise about the area close to the tram stop. Then the next exercise will be introduced working with a straight path, imaging this as the path to and from the tram stop but not considering the landscape. What would they like to see there? Photos will be placed along side the path, to see the surroundings. Photos that I have found as inspiration projects of different variety will also be shown.

Why were these exercises chosen?

They were chosen mainly because I wanted to bring in 3D elements, to make it easier to talk about and understand. It was also important to bring in design elements to make the workshops not only something one participates in, but also where co-creation can happen. So that the participants actually can be a part of the design phase. Scale is an important issue when discussing perceived safety, and to show how the area feels in 3D can be a difficult exercise but it can often be shown in another way than how one explains it through words. Especially since there are language barriers.

The second exercise is to clarify the needs and how the specific area is used over time, what activities are going on there today and what activities can happen there in the future.

Expected outcome

Hopefully the women's comments and ideas will contribute to making their voices heard, so that I can create a suggestion based on their ideas to communicate what could be done with the area to increase the safety aspects. The third workshop is then planned to be held later on in the end of November and then present the design results and to get their opinions about it.



Model of the area, made so that the women easier could compare and reflect over their model that was made by the same materials.

We gathered in a circle, some women sitting on the building was that you have to lay your head back to sofa while some put cushions on the floor. Most see them, they are that high. of the women were new to me and the project, so I introduced myself and the project and continued They also pointed out the "zoo" and the square with informing them about the last workshop. This but had troubles building the areas because of the undefined space. They also marked out the roads time I had help from Maria Wikström, together we have held several workshops before, and now she with tape, they made an interesting point when they was assisting with documentation and getting an marked out a road to the square but from there overview perspective. This time seven women came they just randomly placed roads saying "there are to the workshop, some more came in during the so many roads here going up". session while some of them left.

While sitting in the circle post-its where handed out where they wrote their age, their origin and where they live now. They all live at Siriusgatan or spend every day there, either working at Mammaforum or spending time with relatives. They where of different ages from 25 years old to 50 years old. Three of them came from Syria, two from Somalia and two from Iraq. The two women who were the most engaged could identify themselves with us since we where the same age and one of them had worked as an interior designer in Syria. The translator for the women from Somalia was not there, but they understood most of the Swedish so they could participate even if it caused some obstacles in communicating.

We moved to the table, to get up from the floor so that the children could crawl there without putting all the workshop material in their mouths. The first exercise was to build up the area around the tram stop. They constantly talked about the empty areas. Pointing to the areas nobody uses. After they placed Lidl in the model, the hill was the first priority. They discussed how high it should be and the reaction with both the hill and the high brick



After they were finished and felt content with the model we brought forward the model that had been made beforehand made in scale 1:500 to compare, which was difficult since these two models were built in different scales. It was clear that they made the "empty spaces" smaller than they are in reality. Here it naturally became a discussion about the path between the tram and Siriusgatan and it was good to have the model there to explain which paths I meant. Otherwise that exercise did not help much since it was difficult to get a discussion started as we had been discussing while making the model.

The second exercise was introduced through the model of what the area looks like now. Then the stereo foam strip was placed before them with pictures of what the area looks like now placed along the way. They then got many different inspirational pictures to look at and if they liked any they could put them on the path as well. They then drew a lot of different activities that they wanted to see or do when they walked home. The result of the different activities are presented later on. The communication worked better this time, I think it was mainly due to the fact that posters with information where placed in the windows and notice boards and due to the start when we sat down and talked it trough slowly. No powerpoint presentation was needed. It was better to sit down together and then the translator could translate easier as well and it was a calm and relaxed atmosphere.

The outcome was better than expected. The exercises were received well and they were really focused and made an effort to build the area even though they did not speak Swedish they tried with the little Swedish they knew and they talked amongst each other. The language barriers resulted in group formations, since they did not speak the same native language. Body language was a crucial element for this workshop. The most impressive part was when they gave their ideas, and they had a lot of them. In the beginning the activities they thought of were mostly linked to their babies and children such as playgrounds for small children but the signs that were made before the workshop started that had different ages groups and abilities on them. This made them think outside the box and think of groups such as seniors, people with disabilities, youths and different activities for men and women. They also thought of different times during day and night and also of the different seasons of the year, what kind of activities would be appropriate during winter for example.

Since it was not the same women as in the first workshop they did not think it was strange that I chose to focus on this area. Two women were there both times and they thought it was good to narrow and distinct the project. It was also easier for the women to understand when it was a smaller area.

I ended the workshop with showing the suggested densification from Okidoki arkitekter and Familjebostäder. I focused on showing them the area that affected my project and they seemed to like the proposed volumes, but also that they felt that it did not directly affect them. They were glad to be included and interested to see what could possibly be built up in the area.

The model that was made before the workshop of the whole area of Siriusgatan would have been good to use at the first workshop instead of a map because it was difficult for them to read it. The second workshop did not have those problems at all. Overall the atmosphere was more relaxed and everyone understood what was supposed to be done, the purpose was clearer to them.









Workshop 2: Scale



The square also referred to as "the empty space." An interesting aspect here is that they chose to separate the paths going up, pointing at the poor communication and scene of direction.



The "zoo" Galaxen has been made as a large undefined space

ZC

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The hight of this building has been exhilarated. They said "All I know is that i have to lay back my head and look up,up and up."



This area does not exist in reality. It is only a small space between the building below and the high rise. Seen in picture above.





The grocery store Lidl was the first thing they built in the model. It was the reference point for the rest of the buildings.



Workshop 2: Activities

Not chosen

These three were not chosen. They thought cinema was a good idea, but not outside because it would be too cold. The boxing was not an activity for women and they wanted an outside gym for women.



Maps, directions and art They wanted information and maps of the area when you arrive from the tram stop. It should be easy maps or painted in the ground as the pictures show so that it is easy to find your way and to explain directions to others.

Youth and a indoor meetings There are no good places for the youth to hang out in the area, no activities except football. There should be more activities for them. This could be combined in a community house where there is a place for everyone to take a coffe and socialize. It could also be a "sea of balls" (bollhav) where the smallest children could play. Two references that were mentioned was "Barnplats" by Willys Alelyckan and Rymdtorget, Bergsjön.











Physical activities The women would like sport activities for women, such as a gym with tools that suit them. It would also be nice if the slope in winter time could be used for activities such as skiing or slade.

Playground There is a need for a playground for smaller children.

Seniors and accessibility The area is not accessibile today. When older relatives come to visit they either have to take the bus up the hill or not invite them. It is the biggest problem today. During winter it is even worse. Suggestions are stairs with a rail and even roads with seating next to it.

More seating is needed and also activites for seniors, such as boule.

Pre-Workshop 3

Information

• Number of participants: 6

• Main questions: What is good in the new suggestion? Does anything in the new suggestion make the area perceived as safer? What is missing in the new suggestion? If there were to be a community centre for women, what design would it benefit from?

• Assistant: Maria Wikström (documentation and support)

Exercise

Explanation of the project, to recap what has been done before in the other workshops and for the new women that had not been there before.
 Important to get different perspectives and to think outside of yourself.
 Fun and easy to start the discussion.

• Fika because it was the last workshop and to make the atmosphere relaxed.

• Signs were handed out to the women with



Workshop 3

Workshop



silhouettes of different people, in different ages, doing different activities. The assignment was to comment on the proposal through the eyes of the person you received on your sign. This had to be done through answering the questions above.

• Conversation about the community centre for women from their own perspective.

Anything they want to add about the suggestion from their own perspective?
Invitation to the open seminar in January.

Why this exercise?

During the two first workshops presenting the project worked better sitting down and talking about it, rather than presenting it with a projector. This time it was important to present the project and the new design proposal in detail, there was an introduction with pictures showing what we had done before which was necessary. As a compromise of the two earlier workshops, a computer was used but it was more casually shown on the screen. It was difficult to keep their concentration maintained during the session since the children were taking their attention and for some women it was completely new information, and probably not enough to understand it completely, and some women had already seen it twice before and therefore it was not as interesting.

However the presentation was held as quickly as possible, afterwards they asked some questions and then the signs were handed out. This brought the concentration back. They still had some troubles with understanding the whole plan, but together we answered questions. One sign was made to start the discussion, this card was given to Maria Wikström who assisted and documented the workshop. She received the card "Visitor, first time in the area". Taking part in the activity made the women less nervous and after Maria presented her card everyone presented their person, and what they thought should be improved and how the suggestion could make the area safer. We ended the exercise with taking off the signs and zooming in at the community centre for women. After this we took a group photo and the women were invited to the open presentation at Chalmers.





The exercise went well, and everyone had something to say. This time the women were more comfortable with the camera and everything was recorded, both on video and with sound. Four out of six women were present at the previous workshop. This was a great result, because it made it easier for them to give well-founded critique. It was also a sign that they enjoyed the previous workshop.

The thoughts on the design suggestion were that it was still not accessible for old people. It needs to be clearer where the rails to hold on to are, and that there should be a staircase almost all the way. As it is now it is too steep, and they thought since I made it even straighter than it is today it was not good. They would rather walk a longer route that was flatter with the pram than push it up a steep hill as today. This needs to be clearly shown in the design suggestion.

They also suggested that it should be better spots to stop and look at the animals. Galaxen should be more integrated and they have a big area in front of the main building of Galaxen that is not used in a good way. It could be a nice sphere to gather around instead.

Other suggestions were to have a nice space where you could sit outside and observe the view, a place to play tennis or to use swimming baths. They also suggested more lighting, and that the colours



to paint the path in should be fluorescent, so that it would light up in the dark. They said that the highest priority is the playground, they like the one in Angered for example, sometimes in the summer they go there as a day excursion. It is nice because then you can meet other women and sit and talk to them while the children play. Something like that here would be amazing they all agreed on.

We ended the exercise with taking off the signs and zooming in at the community centre for women. They thought it was a good idea, and that it would be used. But they questioned who would build this building. Where would the money come from? We then talked about how this is an inspirational project, of what the area could be. I went for more specific design questions such as questioning the windows? How could we work with the windows so that they would not just be covered with curtains? They said that it was an important discussion because if it was only for women they would want to be absolutely certain, and in control over that nobody would be able to look in, so that they could remove the hijab. They suggested coloured glass that one could see out from, but not in. That would let in light but not sight. The patterned windows I suggested was pattern from Morocco the women pointed out, if the windows were to be covered like this it would have to be a pattern that was not from a specific country and it would still have to cover the window so that you could be sure that nobody could see in.






























Map Used During Workshop

To make it easier to understand how the activites correlate, what the activites could be and to use maps in a more fun way. The colourful triangles are an abstract way of showing how the main path could be highlighted by art, painted or sculptured.





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Meeting with Erne Ahlman living at Siriugatan and chairman of the tenants organisation Segelflygaren and owner of the farm Galaxen.

The farm Galaxen is financed by the municipality and by events that they throw. They have been there since 1978, but the building we sit in which includes a café a ping-pong table and a pool table was built in the early 90s. Now they have paid off the loans and they own the building. The farm includes a lot of different animals such as horses, cows, goats and dogs. During daytime a lot of kindergarten and school kids come to visit them. In the afternoon from 13:30 they are open for the kids in the area. Usually they come there after school to hang out. Two days a week they are open until 20:00 otherwise they close at 15:00. They have all kinds of events here from birthday parties, disco, weddings, concerts to funerals.

He does not agree that the area feels unsafe, he has lived here for 40 years and perceives the area as well looked after with good lighting. The problem with the path within the focus area he claims is the landowners, which differs all over the area. Trafikkontoret, lokalförvaltningen and park och natur each own their part of the area, Familjebostäder owns the land in between the houses at Siriusgatan. Therefore it is difficult to agree on common plans for the area.

Erne tells a story of the area from when it was first built, when there was an escalator from the tram stop up to the houses at Keplers gata. At the time the houses were build the reason they got the permission to build on the top of the hill was to have direct transportation there. In the early 1990s they rewrote





these rules and tore it down because there were no longer any spare parts left and no one wanted to be responsible for it.

He points at the big rock outside the window, close to Siriusgatan, he says that is our landmark. From that stone and through the farm there is an asphalt road that is uneven. That is one of the few problems he sees. Another problem is during wintertime, the hill is the last place that is cleared from snow. It is good that the fences are there at least so that you can hold on to that as you walk down.

As I mention the problem with gangs he says that it is not a direct problem for you and me, they deal with each other and everyone knows that. However the empty square above the tram stop he agrees should be made into something. He says that at first there was a kiosk there but then they tore it down and built a boule pitch, but nobody wanted to play boule there. Now it is just empty.

He also comments on the forest to the west of Siriusgatan which is a great place to walk your dog. There is a reason why there is no lighting there, it was because they do not want to have gangs hanging out there. So by not putting up any lights the idea was that nobody would use it during night. Meeting with superintendent Thomas Pettersson at Polismyndigheten region väst. Thomas creates neighbourhood analyses and has for a long time worked with safety and how to prevent people from feeling unsafe. Currently they have a project called "Trygg i Göteborg" which is a collaboration with the municipality (stadsdelsförvaltningen). Last week they were in Lundby and talked to the people there about safety. Many times the police have knowledge about areas that are not considered while planning or reconstructing neighbourhoods. This was an opportunity to receive feedback and consultation on my proposal. The meeting was held after the first draft of the design proposal was finished and just before the third workshop with Mammaforum. This contact was recieved through meeting with Charlotta Thodelius a researcher at Chalmers.

Thomas says that a problem in the areas built during the late 60s is that they are planned for walking around only during daytime. During night the area is perceived as abandoned and that nobody hears you when you scream. Bergsjön is like an island, surrounded by the large road and forest area. It creates huge barriers. The areas are planned to protect and direct people. For example there are no cars, and crossing a road there is often a tunnel or a bridge. The tunnel is never a good idea, he says, only if the width of the tunnel is wider than the length of the tunnel is it not perceived as unsafe. It has to do with the perspective, when you look in to the tunnel it feels like it gets smaller and smaller. If there is someone standing in the tunnel you have no choice but to pass by closely. This creates a feeling of being trapped. He continues, forest areas are great, but not inside neighbourhoods. It should be something you actively choose to go to, not something you have to pass through everyday.

Another problem is all the dead-end streets in the area. They need to be tied together. It is a good idea to bring in streets with car traffic, but only if it is slow traffic. His experience from being in the area is that nobody strolls around. If you are outside walking you are on your way somewhere. It is very unlikely you see people running in the area.

Concerning lighting, he says, a common mistake is to light up the walkway very bright, which makes the contrast between the light path and the dark surroundings even worse. It is important with even lighting, to spread the light and light up to bushes and trees surrounding the path.

It is good if places for activities are created along the path because it brings more people to the area, which makes it feel safer. He thinks it is a good idea with a community centre for women, however it is a difficult topic because it is a fine line between building something that is for only women and that enhances the distance between men and women. Furthermore with building something specifically for these women could be seen as a statement, that it should be this way, divided. However he does agree that the women that sit inside in the apartments all day need to be able to go outside and meet other people. He thinks that it would be a good idea to have one part for men and one for women and importantly one space in the middle where both of them can meet, so that they can become curious of what is going on where the others are. I explain that the activities that are taking place at the square now are mostly directed to men. If building a community centre for women will give the women a space then maybe the space in-between will work as the mixed space.

Other examples of activities that he thinks of that are good in slopes are amphitheatres that can function as a square or as a stage. When presenting how the activities can be built with the people living there, he thinks that this is really important





for the activities to be used afterwards and that they will be more looked after. However he states the importance of a mixture even here. That there is too much focus on creating a space only for youth or only for seniors. This creates a feeling of them against us, and then people become scared because they do not know each other. It is something we should learn from the Arabic cultures where they take care of their elderlies in a different way and spend much more time together. He suggests activities where different age groups interact and that integration should be a key word while designing this space.



The Youth Group

Meeting with Beatrice Klein, who works as a project leader hired by the tenants organisation and Familjebostäder to encourage and develop the tenants' influence on their living environment. At the moment she focuses on a project involving teenagers, and I meet her to hear more about what they are doing and for future possible collaboration. Their biggest undertaking at the moment is a big "igloo" that you can fill with air, creating a large indoor meeting space. It is moveable and is thought to function as a meeting space for young people. The following Saturday they will show a movie there on the main square Rymdtorget.

I present the ideas of this project and the different workshops made. She is interested, but also wants to be sure that it will be something real before involving the teenagers. Since this is a study it is therefore not relevant to involve the youth yet. She says that they have started a painting / graffiti group in the area, Familjebostäder will hopefully provide them with spaces to paint. They have started by the football pitch where they brought in an artist to help them paint.

For the future this could lead to a great collaboration.

Familjebostäder

The collaboration with Familjebostäder has been broad and several meetings have taken place. I have been attending the planning groups meetings where Familjebostäder, Okidoki arkitekter and Stadsbyggnadskontoret are present. Their main goal was to define the area for future development. I have also had a meeting with Siv Undén who works as a janitress and has been involved in the renovation of the large building at Tellusgatan, where they in different ways have tried to work with the tenants to gather their opinions about what they want to see in the future and informing about the process. She gave some feedback on my work from her experience, it was to try to develop the different activities as different stations that evolve through time, how to make a plan for how they could develop in different stages.

I had one more meeting with Annika Berntsson who works with social issues in Bergsjön. She arranges different activities with the tenants, it can be anything for a "clean up" day or homework studies for the children after school. She gave me different people to contact, for example Siv Unden, Beatrice Klein and Enre Ahlman.

I have also presented the project for several leaders within the company to bring the ideas of the women forward, and for this project to continue after this thesis ends.











Analyses of Current Situation



1. Empty square, area not used, not looked after.

2. Steep hill. Accessibility issues, ice during winter

3. Fences. Create boarders but good to hold on to during winter

4. Undefined asfalt space. Need of structure and a clear entrance.

5. Too many trees, area not used. Does not feel safe.

6. Too many trees, area not used. Does not feel safe.

7. Too many trees, area not used. Does not feel safe.

8. Undefined slope. Devided by too many paths.

9. Undefined slope. Devided by too many paths.

10. Too many trees, area not used. Does not feel safe.

11. Galaxen. Needs more advertisment

12. Small playground. Common in the area.

13.Nedre Sirius and Övre Sirius are not connected.

Observation of Paths





Transformation Plan

merged together in a spatial sequense. They are placed in order to mix different groups of people and to make a clear path filled with people that feels safe The strategies introduced on page 88 explain why the different activites are placed where they are placed.



Zoning

1. Tram stop Square

- 2. Community center for women
- 3. Activity for seniors (Ex. Boule court)
- 4. Activity for teenagers (Ex. Tennis court)
- 5. Main Square

- 9. Housing development
- 10. Road for cars
- 6. Playground 7. Seating area (1)3 $\left(4\right)$ 10 6 (7)5 9 (8)

User Connected to Activity

	Activity	İ		
Zone I	Tram stop Square		X	
Zone 2	Community center		X	
Zone 3	Activity for senior	Х		
Zone 4	Activity for teenagers			
Zone 5	Main Square	Х	X	Х
Zone 6	Playground			
Zone 7	Seating area	Х		
Zone 8	Ramp			Х
Zone 9	Housing development			
Zone 10	Road for cars			
	Painting the path			
	Obstacle course			

The "groups" of people investigated are seniors, women with child, disabled people, children and teenagers. The diagrams shows which group was thought of as the main co-designer for this activity and the most probable users. It does not show who can and cannot use public space

When are the zones active?

	Activity	Day time	Night tin
Zone I	Tram stop Square	Ÿ	
Zone 2	Community center	۲	Ŷ
Zone 3	Activity for senior	Ÿ	
Zone 4	Activity for teenagers	Ň.	Ň.
Zone 5	Main Square	Ŷ	
Zone 6	Playground	Ŷ	
Zone 7	Seating area	Ÿ	
Zone 8	Ramp	÷۲	
Zone 9	Housing development		Ŷ
Zone 10	Road for cars	Ň.	Ŷ
	Painted path	Ŷ	Ŋ.
	Obstacle course	Ŷ	

1	1
	X X
Х	Х
Х	
	Х
Х	







These five design strategies have been developed based on the three workshops, observations of the area and consultations with engaged people. In this chapter the design strategies are all explained and illustrated.

Grow with Time

- Engage and involve people
- Listen to different groups of people
- Make them take responsiblity

Plan for a Safer Environment

- Eyes on the street
- Better lighting
- Looking after the area

Orientation

- Hierarchy
- Defining spaces

4

Make Space for Women -Meeting place -Public / private space

Benifit from the Landscape -Accessible -Different seasons -Adventure



It is only beneficial if the set of activities from the tram stop to Siriusgatan takes time to build, one by one. They should evolve from each other, realizing the need and engaging more and more people living in the community over time.

It is important for initiatives to grow from different places and situations encouraging the bottom up approach, to feed the local activities. Mamma forum, the youth group and Galaxen are excellent examples of organisations that already are working in the area. How can they grow and develop further? Can they aspire to new activities and new groups? To involve these groups in the new planning proposal is essential.

Therefore in this project it is proposed to paint a living map on the street. This could be done with the youth group and an artist for example. It is a good starting point for the project and does not have to be done after the new roads are built, it can be done straight away. It is an excellent way to inform people that something new is happening in the area, and that the neighbourhood





is changing. To have discussions with the people that live in the area about what Familjebostäder or the municipality are planning to build and what people think about it. So while painting people will come up and ask; "what are you doing?" Then informal conversations can take place; there can be questionnaires to fill in or big posters to draw on. The teenagers and their parents and siblings can be proud of their accomplishment, this also help to decrease vandalism in the area. However, it is crucial to inform them that the area might be rebuilt and that this sort of painting will not last forever.

Another activity proposed is the obstacle course (Swedish: Hinderbana), which could be developed with the children at the school near by. This is also something that is easy to remove or change if the area was to be renewed. These sor of activities can be the start, and then this awakes ideas amongst others that there is a possibility to change the area and hopefully it will create a positive spiral of activities and involvement of their close living environment.









The feeling of safety connects to lighting, which should be improved in the area not only along the path but different types of light. It could be a lit up tree or bench showing of the surroundings as something to be proud off and enhance, rather than hide them. The beautiful nature can be attractive and feel safe even during nighttime. However light is not the solution to everything. A big part is solved when you feel like someone is looking after the area. That the spaces become activated and are looked after. Another part is the "eyes on the street", the feeling of social control and that somebody sees you.

In this suggestion the row houses and the road with cars brings in "eyes on the street" and light and people during all hours. It is not like other activities that are mostly active during daytime. In the other

community center also works as a safe node where activities will be going on even during evenings. It will light up the area and attract women to the other wise male dominated square.

For everyone to feel safe it is important to create activities that involve different people of different ages. Therefore the activity for the youth and the elderly are placed next to each other. There is also a fountain where the children can bath during summer and during wintertime it can be an ice skating rink, if the water is turned off it can also work as a stage with the theater surrounding it, creating seating space for elderly and parents. This will be a natural meeting space for everyone living close by, and it also links to Galaxen and their activities.





The strategy is to define the spaces within the area. To gather the activities at one central place, creating a hierarchy in the road system so that it is easier to find your way. To direct people, but not decide where they will go. To gather as many people as possible in the main path, so that when you walk there you do not feel alone. Creating activities in the green areas that were not used before.

A good example of this is the huge playground. Today there are small playgrounds everywhere, instead it would be good to create a larger one. There are so many children in the area and creating the playground close to Galaxen it invites the children to enjoy their activities as well. The scenes of direction will increase with the remaking of the road system but also by painting or sculpturing the map on the current roads. By creating the main square this becomes the natural meeting and reference point.



4



Women should be more present in public space. There should be natural meeting places for them here. They should be part of creating and designing these spaces.

Today the square by the tram stop is empty, there are not many businesses close by but they Discussing this with the police Thomas Pettersson, all have one thing in common; they attract only he thought it was important to also create a place men. Therefore a women's community centre is where both men and women can meet. Giving the proposed as a prolonging of Mammaforum but for women a central place at the square, where there women of all ages weather they are mothers or not. already are a lot of men, enables this. In front of The space should be designed with the women in the potential women's community centre a new the area, examples of activities that can take place square will be created where naturally both men here are: café, gym, dance hall, kitchen for cooking and women will meet. together, meeting hall. The building should be





exclusively only for women and within the design it is important to work with public and private space and to respect the women that will use the building by adjusting the windows and openings so that they feel comfortable.





Be positive. It should be a joy to climb the hill everyday for everyone. If you have problems walking, there should be a rail and seating, if you are a child it should be a never-ending adventure, and if you are a teenager there should be activities to engage in and places to hang out.

To make the area accessible has been crucial, especially after workshop 3, therefore a ramp has been suggested from the new houses and Övre Sirius down to Galaxen. Today during winter it is a big problem for everyone to walk up and down the hill, due to this a staircase was important with a rail to hold on to.

New seating areas have been created, for example by the horse paddock and playground. The activities suggested are meant to work both during summer and winter and hence the ice-skating on the fountain and some of the hill is left of picnics in the summer or sledge riding in the winter.





Site plan





Reflections

Reflections

Research

The relationship between gender and safety was an interesting combination from the beginning, the problem being that both variables were too wide. To limit the texts caused difficulties, to make the texts compact and with some depth was crucial. Furthermore it was important to focus on the main goal; foremost the co-creation and secondly the design.

The question of working with safety issues at all as an architect arose several times, it is problematic because the fact that the main issues often are mostly more socially connected, than connected to the built environment. However, some parts are connected to the built environment but changes that can be made often come down to a deeper social issue or installing more lights and cutting down trees. In reality it is seldom an architect is hired for these things or they are introduced too late in the process.

In workshop 2 and 3 I focused on how the environment could be improved rather than focusing of what is unsafe. We talked less about safety, though it was brought up to discussion by the participants several times. This worked better than to force the topic onto them, rather using the elements in the literature that is suggesting different ways to improve safety. We worked with safety issues without using the word as a target. This was also important because in working with safety it can increase the feeling of being unsafe, assuming that the area is unsafe from the beginning.

The topic of gender was constantly present during the process even though it was not the highest priority. It came back in a defined way in the design proposal as the women's community center. Unfortunately there was no time to develop the suggestion further, if this project were to continue it would be an interesting aspect to investigate further. Architecture can encourage women to use public space more by creating spatial opportunities, here is where the co-creation processes took it one step further.

Co-creation processes

The conclusion that is most evident from this thesis is the fact that the co-creation processes can help to build up trust and to develop an interest and a deeper understanding for urban planning amongst people. This was clearly shown in the third workshop when the women opened up more and they did not mind us filming or taking photos as before. It is also clear that it is a good way to gain empathy of different groups involved in the planning process, it helps to fill in a gap of today's segregation and to start to approach and understand different groups of people.

In the third workshop it was important to get closure, to get feedback on the design for me, but also for them to see what their suggestions led to. Working further with this project it is important to continue working with different ways to give and receive feedback. It is a key aspect for co-design to work and to build up trust.

There have been difficulties in organizing the workshops, and sometimes it has led to misunderstandings. The first workshop was the most problematic one when it came to misunderstandings and communication problems, it also contained the least fun exercise and it was difficult for the women to understand the map and to see what the project was going to be. I think that is why almost none of the women from that workshop came back. However, I learnt a lot about the group during the first workshop and how to handle the fact that there were babies everywhere for example, so that workshop 2 and 3 went really well.

Furthermore it is crucial to keep in mind that the group of women consisted of different women every time. The women were from different countries and of different ages but they all belonged to the same socio-economical group, and they were all from Arabic countries, mainly Syria, Iraq and Somalia. This was mainly beneficial because it is a "group" that is discriminated and seldom heard in planning processes. There has been a substantial problem during this report to discuss the fact of different ethnicities and how to write in a politically correct manner, none offensive but still in an investigating way. The fact that not only is there gender discrimination in planning processes, but also an ethnical discrimination. Muslim women who are unemployed / on maternity leave, and do not speak the language are often left out. It bothers me that it is difficult to talk and write about it in a direct way, because it is an oblivious barrier of culture and communication and a matter that needs to be respected but never neglected or diminished.

There is always a problem when involving real stakeholders in a student project, one can never guarantee the participants anything. I stated this clearly from the start to all women at Mammaforum. The exercises were also formed in a way to make it realistic in an appropriate way.

Consultation

The most comprehensive part of this thesis has been the amount of contacts and people that have been involved in the project. It has taken both time and energy leaving less time for designing. However the design could be based on many different actors' opinions, and if this was implemented more often in the profession it would probably go more smoothly with the decision making and less appeals from the public. Yet the project has taken many turns and many decisions have taken longer time because it has always been dependent on others. Nonetheless the result and design has therefore been more motivated and well grounded.

Design Proposal

The design strategies that have been raised in this project are designed as a meeting point between a bottom up approach and a top down approach, trying to involve actors from all sides. To encourage the bottom up approach by enabling community centers and a strategy how to involve different groups of people to design the different activities that they would like to see in the area. The suggestions I have made for activities are to be discussed further when the group that will use it will be involved. The top down actors, here Familjebostäder, Okidokiarkitekter and the municipality has by this thesis also been made aware of the fact and impact the co-creation processes can have and they have developed an interest to work further with it.

Due to time some limitations have arose during the process. In the design strategies this was mainly seen within the women's centre that was not developed further, but also in the lighting suggestions which were not developed further. The discussion with the police officer helped a lot here, and one way to work further with this is to involve the police, a light specialist and the tenants to work with how the lighting can be approved in the area, working with areas outside of the main paths also to get a softer more spread out light.

Working process

The working processes has been constantly interrupted by all the meetings, I tried to plan leave room for adaptation, so that the direction of the project would be able to change as the workshops went on. This worked well, and I was never stuck in the process thanks to all the different actors. In the beginning it was a problem getting information and help in time from both Familjebostäder and Okidokiarkitekter because of me working in a very intense tempo, and they had not gotten as far in the process as I thought from the beginning. Due to this fact I early on in the process decided not to be depending on answers from the companies but rather have my own process parallel to theirs. This made it possible for my project to run smoothly and in the tempo it required to finish it in time.

Future Implications

To pursue this project there are some aspects to be considered. The fact that several different actors own the land is the main problem of maintenance today, to look over the ownership here and what the possibilities are for improvement is crucial.

The contacts and approaches built up during this project are important to continue working with. To broaden the area, and look beyond the focus area of this thesis is vital, this was one criteria from the women during the first workshop, and comments on the surrounding areas have been shared during the two other workshops as well even though I did not choose to focus on that this time.

It is important to start the work with the tenants as soon as possible, to start engaging people in the process. For them to see that things improve



even for them. A good thing to start with is the painting of the streets, it is a clear way to show that something is happening and we want you to be involved. It is also a good way to have informal discussions about what is going to happen.

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Images If nothing else is mentioned the images are taken or created by the author.

Figure 1 : Okidoki arkitekter Figure 2: Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg 2015 Figure 3: Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg 2015 Figure 4: Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg 2015 Figure 5: Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg 2015 Figure 6: Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg 2015 Figure 7: Stadsdelsförvaltningen Östra Göteborg 2015 Figure 8: http://fodelsehuset.se (collected 2015-10-(05)Figure 9: http://thumbs.dreamstime.com/ thumblarge_1149/11495491.jpg Figure 10: http://www.1001gardens.org/2013/01/

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