

SEMINAR PROGRAMME

2025-2026

Feminist Approaches to Housing Research and Practice

Working Group_Gender & Housing_ENHR



Brochures, formulaires de candidature, 1975-1980, archives de la Women's School of Planning and Architecture, collection Sophia Smith, SSC-MS-00306, collections spéciales du Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts, Smith College Special Collections. Référence : Stéphanie Dadour, « La pédagogie est politique : la Women's School of Planning and Architecture » in *Archives of Women Artists, Research and Exhibitions magazine*, [En ligne], mis en ligne le 5 septembre 2025, consulté le 21 octobre 2025. URL : <https://awarewomenartists.com/magazine/la-pedagogie-est-politique-la-womens-school-of-planning-and-architecture/>

This seminar is organised within the framework of the ENHR (European Network for Housing Research) Gender & Housing Working Group. It aims to explore the intersections between gender and housing, drawing on feminist, intersectional, and interdisciplinary approaches. Coordinated by Claire Hancock, Saila-Maria Saaristo, Chloé Salembier, and Lidewij Tummers, the working group brings together diverse perspectives from urban studies, human sciences, planning, and gender theory.

We meet online throughout the year and once a year during the conference organised by the ENHR. In 2026, the ENHR conference will take place in Oslo (Norway) – 30/06 to 03/07/26.

For further details about the sessions or the working group, please contact the working group coordinators:

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Seminar 1 - PROPERTY

A feminist take on property relations: how to make visible the gender wealth gap?

Tuesday, 25 November 26 – 2 PM till 3:30 PM

Chair of the session: Anne Kockelkorn, Beatriz Van Houtte Alonso & Tahera Bilger

Link: <https://u-pec-fr.zoom.us/j/95422049567>

Abstract: In their seminal publication, *The Gender of Capital* (2019, translated to English in 2023), sociologists Cecile Bessière and Sybille Gollac reveal how families perpetuate the gender wealth gap despite egalitarian law. Their work is based on qualitative and quantitative finding across different social strata in France, including families running SME, and was pursued over a time span of 20 years. It is so groundbreaking because reliant data on wealth inequalities is hard to come by. It entails investigating matters considered confidential and private, such as the legal practices of notaries, tax accounts and divorce lawyers, and a couple's time allocation for career and care-work. One thing, however is clear: the gender wealth gap unfolds through and within housing, as the site where care-work and asset-accumulation collide. And it unfolds through what Bessière and Gollac term "family wealth arrangements", that is, the long-term strategies of families to preserve, maintain and increase their wealth and power.

As housing scholars and researchers in the spatial disciplines – geography, architecture and urban history – we are impressed and inspired by Bessière and Gollac's work, but face challenges when translating their long-time, in-depth approach to our disciplines. In this session, we seek to focus on these challenges and involve all the seminar member in a collective discussion surrounding the gender wealth gap in property relations and housing wealth. A small disclaimer: Much, but not all of it seems to be related to the very first step, that is, making gender inequality in family wealth arrangements *visible*. Which knowledge in legal studies do we need? What training in anthropological qualitative inquiry? What skills and datasets to follow evolutions over long periods of time, what strategies of mapping?

Seminar 2 – THE QUEERNESS OF HOME

Monday, 23 March 26 – 9:30-11AM

Chair of the session: Hugo Soucaze, Emma Peltier & Quentin Brouard-Sala

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/4bmbdxke>

Abstract: In this session, we will present the book: Stephen Vider, *The Queerness of Home: Gender, Sexuality, and the Politics of Domesticity after World War II*, UC Press, 2021, and engage in a dialogue with: Dolores Hayden, *The Grand Domestic Revolution*, MIT Press, 1981, to initiate a discussion from a queer-feminist perspective on domesticity.

Seminar 3 – MAPPING INEQUALITIES

Methodologies for mapping and spatialising inequalities

Wednesday, 15 April 26 – 3 PM till 4:30 PM

Chair of the session: Claire Hancock, Joana Lages & Saila-Maria Saaristo,

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/34yzf4ap>

Abstract: This session aims to explore various methodologies for mapping inequalities, encouraging discussion about their respective strengths, limitations, and suitability. Using experiences with self-census approaches and social cartography—especially in marginalised urban areas—we will analyse how these participatory methods can uncover spatial and socio-economic disparities often missed by official data. The discussion may also cover participatory mapping practices such as relief maps and initiatives inspired by Iconoclasistas and Jane’s Walk. Suggested readings include both theoretical and practical resources, such as the [Collective Mapping Manual](#) by Iconoclasistas and the chapter on “Counter-mapping: Dismantling Dominant Narratives” in [Methodologies for Housing Justice Resource Guide](#) (Roy et al., 2020).

Seminar 4 – HOME-WORK

Friday, 29th of May - 2 PM till 3:30 PM

Chair of the session: Irène Berthonnet, Marta Malinverni & Chloé Salembier

Link: <https://tinyurl.com/4bmbdxke>

Abstract: The session introduces Charlotte Perkins Gilman as a first-wave feminist and social scientist. We explore how her life led her to question the spatial organisation of Housework, in connection with a broader feminist perspective on the status of women in the family and society, and rooted in the progressivism of the early 20th century. Perkins Gilman is associated with what Hayden (1981) labelled “material feminism,” a term we will attempt to link to a community of scholars and feminists contemporary to Perkins Gilman, discussing whether material feminism constitutes a genuine school of thought and illustrating architectural proposals that challenge the issue of domestic labour.