Will my home remain my castle?

Tenants' interviews topics regarding an eco-friendly refurbishment strategy in a neighbourhood in Germany

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Background and Objectives

The German federal government wants to achieve a nearly climate neutral building stock by 2045. Within the *Energy Transition Construction research initiative* projects are funded such as the presented pilot study in which a solution for an energetic refurbishment is tested.



For an old building ensemble in Munich with 220 apartments a housing company is planning a refurbishment based on a socially compatible, energy saving and innovative-technical modernisation concept. Radiators are planned to be replaced by an energy-saving wall heating system in the facade providing a basic room temperature.

Method and Sample

The interdisciplinary research focus is on tenants' comfort requirements, attitudes, and energy-related behaviour based on a qualitative as well as quantitative approach. In March 2020, interviews were conducted with a total of 12 individuals from 10 households.

Results

Despite a positive attitude towards a climate-friendly refurbishment concept, the interviewees feared:

- Reduced comfort and environmental control, e.g. regarding room temperature, ventilation behavior or furnishing
- Limited effectiveness of the concept when an additional heating source is needed to raise the room temperature
- Disturbances in everyday life during the refurbishment phase due to dust, noise or reduced space

Discussion

The fears of the interviewees concerned different levels which should be addressed in further activities such as the written survey or information and practical support strategies.

Visiting possibilities of the test apartment and a visualization of the possible use of the wall area are planned.









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