Designing Child-Friendly Neighbourhoods

Exploring best practice for designing child-friendly high density neighbourhoods

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By 2030, it is estimated that 60% of the world's population will live in urban settlements, a large portion of which will be under the age of 18 (UN, 2016). As more families with children chose to live in cities, it is vital for city planners and architects to consider the needs of our youngest citizens in the planning and design of cities. Issues such as increasing traffic, lack of outdoor play space and inadequate family-friendly apartments are ones which are often neglected in our rapidly urbanising environments. How and if we consider these issues in the design of cities, will determine the livability of cities for families and the healthy development of children.

By investigating best practice from cities around the world, this project will explore the applicability of design guidelines and social policies which address the health and well-being of families with children living in high density neighbourhoods. This research will contribute to the advancement of knowledge surrounding this under-researched topic and challenge perceptions which determine future planning strategies.

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