Happy Homes, Happy Society?

Call for Papers for a Conference on November 12-13, 2020, London. Deadline: June 7, 2020

1. Conference Theme
The leading question for the conference is ‘to what extent does the quality of domestic life (family relationships, environment, technical tools, housing style) influence individual and social happiness, in the context of current changes?’

2. Aims & Issues for Study
Happy Homes, Happy Society? The contribution of domestic life in a time of social changes aims to:

- Reflect on the transformations of happiness concept
- Ask ourselves why the economy recently began to be interested in the subject of happiness
- Point out that the quality of domestic comfort is one of the most important factors influencing human lifestyles, wellbeing and happiness
- Ask ourselves whether the use of technological innovations is increasing the degree of happiness in family life and study its impact on relationships with previous generations
- Underline the importance that building, designing and urban planning take into consideration the quality of family life and the opportunity of encounter and mutual assistance
- Reflect on the link between housework and happiness

Home Renaissance Foundation welcomes descriptive, theoretical, empirical or practical nature papers from experts, early career and doctoral scholars in a wide range of academic subjects and professional fields including Architecture, Economics, Education, History, Politics, Philosophy, Sociology, Psychology, Technology, Human Ecology, Urban Planning to recognize the importance of homelifestyle in building a happy society. Cross disciplinary approaches are encouraged, as well as those papers aimed at suggesting public policies or private actions to improve happiness of the home members and their impact on society.

A list of sample issues for study follows:

Anthropological and Sociological Aspects of Happiness
• Are happiness and wellbeing the same thing?
• Measuring individual and social happiness: what are the indicators?
• Poverty and happiness in the home
• Home and its role in children’s happiness. Why is this important?
• The elderly as “creators” of happiness for children and young people

Home automation and wellbeing at home

• Technology and housework: new solutions for reducing physical and cognitive efforts
• The quality life of elderly people and systems for home automation: usability and accessibility
• The contribution of SMART technologies to make easier (or difficult) happiness in the home
• Domotics and the right to privacy
• Children, Internet and happy relationships in family life
• The digital divide between generations: how to recover the dialogue
• ICT introduction and the socio-economic inequality among families: a reason for dissatisfaction?
• Dinner time, family dialogue and mobile phone use

Architecture and global housing challenges: wellbeing and happiness

• How to design a happy home: new family needs in a time of social changes
• Suburbs: ugly and unhappy? A challenge for the urban planners
• Changes in the concept of comfort in history of the house architecture
• Be homeless/Have home ownership: the relationship between housing and the satisfied life

Happiness in the urban context: fear and trust and happy neighborhood relations

• Loneliness and the decline of relationships in the “Amazon Age”
• The Social Street phenomenon: towards common management of public spaces
• Neighbourhoods as a melting pot: new ways for more fulfilling social interaction

Happiness and housework

• Interdependency and gratuitousness: psychological and educational outcomes of housework
• Desperate homemakers? How to work more happily at home
• The home care as a way for acquiring social skills and as precondition for hospitality
• Why tidying up can change the domestic life: space, objects, emotions

3. Submissions Procedure and General Guidelines

a) Important dates
• Conference: 12th-13th November 2020
• Proposal submission deadline: 7th June 2020*, 5:00pm GMT (London Time)

For proposals selected, notification will be sent before 20th June 2020 by Home Renaissance Foundation.
*As a response to the changed working and social conditions imposed by COVID-19, we are extending the deadline for Call for Papers to Sunday 7th June. We would, however, be pleased to receive proposals for papers as soon as possible.

• Paper submission deadline: 1st September 2020, 5:00 pm GMT (London Time)

To ensure that your submission is received and reviewed, please read the guidelines and instructions in the pages that follow carefully and feel free to submit early. The Scientific Committee members will review all submissions before making a final decision. We regret

5th at submissions that do not follow the guidelines will not be reviewed.

b) Submission procedures

Step 1:

Please register your proposal (between 300 and 500 words) with Home Renaissance Foundation by the Proposal submission deadline (in the previous page) to research(at)homerenaissancefoundation(dot)org

Please read through the research proposal and submission guidelines before sending the proposal template (Appendix A) with your cover letter. Home Renaissance Foundation will send a confirmation e-mail and submission identification number.

Step 2:

If your proposal is selected, please ensure you send your final paper (between 6000 and 8000 words) with the Submission Cover Letter (Appendix B) and the Submissions Identification Number by the Paper submission deadline (in the previous page) to research(at)homerenaissancefoundation(dot)org

c) Submission guidelines

Format: All submissions (proposal, papers, and revised papers) should be sent in pdf or docx format.
Proposals: All proposals need to be accompanied by a coverletter (guideline in Appendix A).
Papers: All papers will be used for the nomination process. Papers should not exceed 8000 words (including references, appendices and other material). It would be helpful to clearly indicate how the paper links with the overall theme of the conference.

Contact

For further enquiries, please e-mail:
research(at)homerenaissancefoundation(dot)org
Or our conference website: www.hrfconference2020.org

Further Information (PDF)