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Designing "Unity Haven": A Hostel for Transgender Individuals and Girls

Yasmeen Khan[1], Sucheta Nigam[2]
Interior Design Student, Associate Prof., School of Architecture Planning & Design, Sanjeev Agrawal Global Education University,

Abstract: ***The purpose of this study article is to examine the significance of creating inclusive environments for transgender people and females, with an emphasis on hostel settings. The study addresses the difficulties transgender people encounter in conventional hostel environments, such as insufficient privacy, prejudice, and awkward social situations. In order to promote social interaction and respect individual boundaries, the "Unity Haven" hostel aims to establish a secure, welcoming, and encouraging atmosphere. With a focus on privacy, comfort, and utility, this study looks at the design components, process, and planning considerations required to create such a place.***
Keyword: ***Unity heaven hostel, transgender, Social interaction, Female-friendly hostels***

I. INTRODUCTION

A. Interior Design Definition

The field of interior design is broad and includes improving a building's interior to create a more aesthetically beautiful and useful space. It takes into account how to employ layout, furniture, colors, materials, textures, and space to give the occupants a well-balanced and cozy environment. Interior design plays a crucial role in enhancing people's overall quality of life by creating environments that are not only aesthetically pleasing but also functional and supportive of their requirements.

B. The Concept of Hostels

"Hostel" comes from the Old French word "ostel," which means "inn." Hostels are inexpensive lodgings where people, frequently tourists, share rooms and communal spaces like restrooms and kitchens. Hostels are intended to be social places where visitors can engage with one another. Hostels have changed since they were first established in 1909 by German educator Richard Schirrmann to accommodate a wider range of visitors, including workers, students, and tourists from different backgrounds.

C. Transgender Identity and its Significance

An individual whose gender identity is different from the sex they were assigned at birth is known as a transgender person. The internal perception of one's gender, which may or may not correspond with the expectations of society based on physical characteristics, is known as gender identity. In shared housing settings like dorms, where privacy, safety, and identity respect are occasionally jeopardized, transgender people frequently encounter major obstacles. It is essential to comprehend these difficulties while creating inclusive environments.

D. Role of Color Theory in Interior Design

In interior design, color theory is essential because it helps designers create environments that elicit the desired emotional reactions. It entails comprehending how colors interact and impact emotions. Green and blue hues, for instance, are soothing, while warmer hues like orange and red may enliven a room. Choosing a color scheme that works for transgender people and girls can encourage inclusivity, security, and relaxation.

II. REVIEW LITERATURE

CHOU SHU, GUNASAGARAN SUJATAVANI, ZAINAL ABIDIN SITI (2021) according to the paper presently Interior design is more associated producing and offering a beautiful area for their clients.

POYNER CHRISTOPHR & KJELLGREN RICHARD (23 Oct 2018) This paper shares stories from 20 LGBT+ people in Scotland, focusing on their homelessness and housing issues, not health.

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DASARI TWINKLE & REDDY G. CHENNA (31 May 2018) according to the paper, compares "I Am Vidya", India's first transgender autobiography by Living Smile Vidya, and the life story of MANOBI BANDOPADHYAY, India's first transgender principal, showing their struggles and achievements.

TURPIN JOHN, **(**September 2007) A male-focused architectural narrative frequently obscures the achievements of female designers in the 20th century. The history of interior design is still little documented, despite the feminist movement's influence on reassessing women's responsibilities. This underrecognizes many of the accomplishments made by women and emphasizes the need for further recognition in this sector.

O'Connor Zena (11 April 2011) Claims about color effects, like red energizing or blue calming, often lack strong evidence and depend on context, culture, and personal experiences. Reactions to colors vary widely and aren't universal. Modern research shows color impacts are subtle, so it's important to consider updated studies and individual differences in design decisions.

III. PURPOSE AND NEED FOR UNITY HAVEN

A. Issues Faced by Transgender Individuals in Hostels

When transgender people stay in conventional hostels, they frequently face a number of difficulties. These difficulties consist of: Lack of gender-neutral restrooms is one of the biggest issues transgender people encounter in traditional hostels. Given that these facilities are usually gender-segregated, transgender people may feel unsafe or uncomfortable in these settings, raising serious concerns about their safety. Additionally, other hostel visitors frequently treat transsexual inmates with hostility and intolerance. This conduct can make their stay more unpleasant by intensifying emotions of uneasiness, worry, and estrangement. Roommate interactions might also lead to further distress. Relationship tension might result from misunderstandings, disrespect for individual boundaries, or uneasiness brought on by gender identity discrepancies, all of which can increase emotional stress. Lastly, the lack of private areas in a lot of hostels adds to the sense of unease. Transgender people frequently feel frightened in these communal living settings if there are no designated spaces where they may escape and freely express themselves. This makes it even harder for them to unwind and flourish.

B. Importance of Providing a Safe Space for Transgender Individuals and Girls

Creating a welcoming and comfortable space for transgender women and girls is essential to advancing their wellbeing. Such folks can find a place of respect, safety, and support in a well-designed hostel. The various needs of different groups must be acknowledged, and areas must be designed to accommodate their privacy and comfort in order to create a happy, stress-free environment.

C. Goals of Unity Haven

Unity Haven aims to:

The goal of Unity Haven's design is to give transsexual people and girls a safe, quiet, and cozy place to live. The hostel's emphasis on privacy and safety will provide inhabitants with a sense of calm and security, enabling them to feel comfortable in their living space. The intention is to create a welcoming and inclusive community where healthy social interaction is promoted and individual boundaries are respected. This strategy guarantees that each resident can interact with others while still feeling comfortable and unique. The setting will be created to make inhabitants feel comfortable in both public and private areas, giving them the opportunity to unwind and express themselves without worrying about criticism or discomfort. For Unity Haven to be a place where everyone can live with dignity and confidence, privacy and security must be balanced.

IV. OBJECTIVE AND DESIGN GOALS FOR UNITY HAVEN

A. Design Goals

The design of Unity Haven aims to create a welcoming and functional space with the following goals:

The goal of Unity Haven's design is to create safe, cozy spaces that value both privacy and practicality. Every room will be soundproof, providing inhabitants with a private, peaceful area to unwind in peace. Additionally, the rooms' designs will be adaptable to a range of requirements and tastes, guaranteeing that each person may enjoy a comfortable environment. The common spaces will be planned to provide a welcoming and inclusive community that respects each person's right to privacy while promoting civil social interaction. The design will let residents select room arrangements that best meet their privacy needs, which would further improve comfort. In order to create a peaceful and stress-free environment, aesthetic considerations will be crucial. Neutral hues, natural materials, and soothing décor will all help to foster peace and relaxation.

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B. Features of the Hostel Design.

Unity Haven will include the following design features:

Unity Haven will put comfort and inclusivity first by offering gender-neutral restrooms that honor each resident's needs and privacy. Transgender people and other citizens will be able to use the restrooms without any discomfort or worries thanks to these facilities. The apartments will be soundproof to further increase the sense of security and give inhabitants a quiet, private space away from outside noise. A neutral color scheme will be used in the design, along with earthy hues, pastels, and soft lighting to create a relaxing and stress-relieving environment. The hostel will also have accessible design features to make sure that everyone who lives there can comfortably traverse and enjoy the space, regardless of physical ability. With the help of these well-considered design elements, an atmosphere that promotes each resident's dignity and well-being will be created.

V. HYPOTHESIS AND BENEFITS OF THE DESIGN

A. Benefits for the Owner

The design of Unity Haven offers several advantages to the owner:

Unity Haven may serve an underprivileged population and profit from the rising demand for inclusive lodging. By providing secure, encouraging environments, the hostel can draw consistent customers and maintain profitability. The owner can also improve the company's reputation and long-term profitability by fostering a positive brand image by helping underserved communities.

B. Benefits for Transgender Individuals and Girls

Unity Haven will provide the following benefits for its residents:

Unity Haven will put comfort and safety first by offering secluded, secure areas that reduce the possibility of discomfort or harassment. By providing an atmosphere where inhabitants feel appreciated and accepted, the hostel will promote a strong sense of belonging and emotional well-being. Unity Haven will assist residents focus on their professional and personal development by addressing social dynamics and privacy, which will make them feel less stressed and anxious.

VI. METHODOLOGY

A. Understanding the Needs of Transgender Individuals

Interviews with two transgender people, Isha Gajbe, shivanya and Tanya Kanojia, were done to make sure the design satisfies their unique demands. They talked about the problems they had finding suitable roommates, the discomfort of being misunderstood, and the absence of private areas in typical hostels.

B. Design Process

I first went to the hostel and spoke with the manager there. I asked her if I might come to the hostel. I measured the rooms and furniture, observed the hostel's interior, and noted the color of the walls, the flooring, and the security. I spoke with two teenage students at the desk about their like and dislikes of the hostel. After all this was done, I thought of my own design, what things should be made that are affordable and eco-friendly.

My own design was inspired by the idea of a clothespin, which would allow transsexual people to live together and away from negativity without worrying or overanalyzing. As part of my concept, I created interior furniture wall decorating and flooring elevation.

VII. SITE ANALYSIS AND PLANNING

A. Location and Urban Context

Unity Haven is intended to be situated in cities with diverse populations, such as Bhopal and Indore, where there is also a growing consciousness of LGBTQ+ problems. For transgender people and girls who need a safe place to live, these cities are perfect because they are close to centers of employment and education.

B. Site Constraints and Opportunities

Unity Haven's primary limitations include space and financial restraints, which could have an impact on the hostel's size and amenities. Nevertheless, these difficulties can be overcome with economical design solutions and appropriate space planning, guaranteeing functionality within the constraints of the available resources. However, the site's closeness to business areas, public transportation, and educational institutions offers a number of advantages that increase the hostel's appeal and accessibility to a wider spectrum of possible tenants.

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C. Environmental Considerations

Through the use of water-saving fixtures, energy-efficient materials, and as much natural light as possible, the design will prioritize sustainability.

VIII. DESIGN PROCESS AND SOLUTIONS

A. Layout and Floor Plans

The hostel will have large, bright rooms that can be readily rearranged to suit various needs. Strategic placement of communal areas will promote contact while maintaining privacy.

B. Interior Design Elements

Furniture: Adaptable space configurations are made possible by modular furniture.
Lighting: Ambient lighting that is gentle and helps people relax.
Materials: To establish a cozy and welcoming ambiance, natural materials such as stone, cotton, and wood are used.

IX. LIMITATIONS AND CHALLENGES

A. Design Limitations

Time, space, and financial constraints are examples of design limitations. These will be resolved by giving priority to necessary features and coming up with innovative design solutions.

B. Social and Cultural Challenges

There may be opposition to Unity Haven's design in some cultural situations, especially in more conservative communities. Overcoming these obstacles will need community engagement and education.

X. CONCLUSION

Creating a hostel that is welcoming to transgender people entails giving comfort, security, and inclusivity first priority. In shared living situations, transgender people frequently have particular difficulties, including worries about safety, respect for their gender identity, and privacy. Hostels must therefore be designed to meet these needs while creating a friendly atmosphere.

The interior design of such a hostel should prioritize solitude, which can be accomplished through clever room layouts, soundproof rooms, and neutral hues that encourage inclusion and relaxation. Soft, peaceful hues like green and blue can be used to create a calming environment and make transgender individuals feel comfortable. Careful thought should be given to the materials, textures, and furnishings that represent the diversity and demands of the people who will occupy the space in order to create a warm and respectful atmosphere.

Along with aesthetic considerations, the plan should put practicality first, paying close attention to places like lounges, restrooms, and communal areas to make sure everyone can use them safely. Since hostels are frequently public places where people can connect, design features should also encourage engagement and socialization.

The ultimate objective of creating a transgender-friendly hostel is to offer a setting where transgender people can experience support, respect, and worth. Hostels that combine inclusive design with an emphasis on comfort and safety can provide a supportive and empowering living space for everyone.

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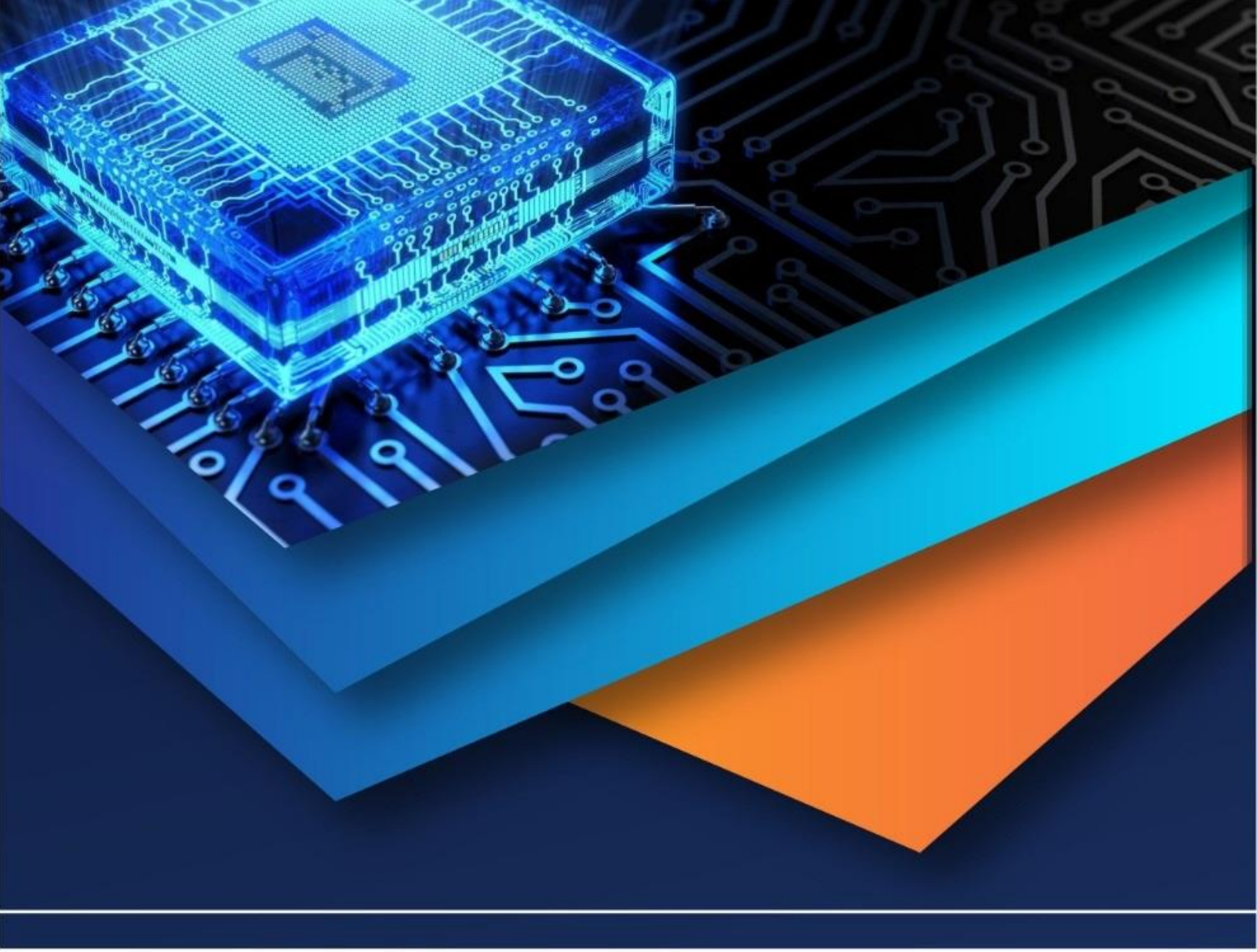

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