SPATIAL PRIVACY ON INSTITUTIONS FOR UNACCOMPANIED TEENAGE GIRLS IN MASHHAD-IRAN

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ABSTRACT

Nations, according to their beliefs and to their community found a solution to shelter unaccompanied teenage girls regardless of its suitability and positions. This study intends to provide some insight into the ways to improve designing of residential care for unaccompanied teenage girls according to their preferences in Mashhad, Iran. The main difficulty in the context of Mashhad and Iran is the lack of private places and large number of children in residential care. A quantitative approach has been conducted to study the effect of privacy on teenage girls aged 12- 18 (n=67) living in 5 selected residential care in Mashhad. This research suggests new application and directions and appropriate size in terms of spatial privacy for teenage girls in the future.

Keywords: residential care, privacy, teenage girls, preferences

INTRODUCTION

Through the ages, all human communities in different parts of the world have faced children who have been deprived of their parents permanently or temporarily. Children are considered as the future of the population; and obviously, the future of the community is one of the most important issues for people. Although taking care of unaccompanied children is highly recommended in the world, in Iran this matter has not been tackled in a sufficient and effective manner that could be partly due to the rapid rise in the number of children orphaned as a result of poverty, corruption, and increasing drug addiction among adults. In this research, teenage girl's (12-18 years old) spatial privacy requirements based on their spatial privacy preferences were investigated. Then, the guidelines for spatial privacy for teenage girls were recommended.

MOTIVATING AND BACKGROUND PROBLEM AND LITERATURE

"Orphanage" is the place which refers to as any form of residential care such as hospital wards, nurseries, foundling homes, or boarding homes. Tolfree (1995) stated that "residential care can be defined as a group living arrangement for children in whom care is remunerated by adults who would not be regarded as traditional cares within the wider society". Miles (2001) mentioned that "an orphanage implies residential care only of children that have no parents. Yet it is rare to find children with no parents or extended family. More common are, separated from parents and family amidst war and conflict". Therefore, there is no clear distinction between residential care system and orphanage. Other alternative names are group home, child care institutions, children's home, and rehabilitation centre and youth treatment centre. As Sepehr (2001) mentioned, children in residential care in Mashhad are those whose parents are substance abusers, children of parents who are missed for whatever reason (unaccompanied children, orphaned or semi-orphaned by war, natural disasters, accident or death), children of divorce and family breakdown where a single parent is unable

to cope financially and has little or no support, children whose parents feel unable to cope (have abandoned or rejected them), or who are considered to be too poor to look after them. In addition, several aspects of Iran's social system have contributed to the yearly increase in the number of unaccompanied children. This is because of various reasons such as lack of financial provisions for the families, high number of family members in poor families, increasing addiction and poverty in Iran. Because of these, the family simply cannot afford to feed another person.

Currently, in Iran there are two types of organizations supporting unaccompanied children: a government-owned institution named Behzisti Organization and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). According to official records from Behzisti organization in Mashhad, 856 orphans are being kept in 26 institutional care canters in Mashhad.

Noosh Abadi (1998) mentioned, the orphaned girls in Iran suffer more from depression, agitation and fear and are less socially compatible in comparison with the girls of the same age in normal families. As Binesh (2001) found the main problem in Mashhad is the lack of private places for unaccompanied children in residential cares (usually large numbers of children live in one place). Some of the studies mentioned about the problems of unaccompanied children in Iran. As Binesh (2001) stated that some places and buildings in Mashhad have been constructed or specified by main organization or private sphere as residential child cares, but majority of them have not been designed basically for this purpose which resulting in unsuccessful residential care of children who are deprived of parental care. For example, in Mashhad just 3 institutions (government and non-government) out of 11 (for girls) were designed for the purpose of institutional child care (Ali Asghar nursery, Shokoofehaye Iman nursery and Khaneye Freshtegan orphanage). Furthermore, the regulations of main organization for protecting children could not improve the unaccompanied children requirements in terms of privacy. In addition, the main organizations of Iran do not follow their own rules and standards to build child care institutions and only economical issues are considered as a criterion for building orphanages. Binesh (2001) mentioned that lack of spatial privacy as one of the most important factors arises from the overcrowding in orphanages in Iran.

In fact, the guidlines for orphanage construction, which proposed by Behzisti organization are not described precisely. The size and the other specifications of orphanages in regard to spatial privacy are not included in these guidelines. Therefore, there is no official accepted standard for spatial privacy for orphanage construction. The lack of appropriated standard for teenage girls leads to keep teenage girls along with kids below 12 years old. Consequently, this atmosphere is unpleasant for teenage girls. Most of the teenage girls complain about the noisiness of the orphanage. Moreover, teenage girls suffer from lack of spatial privacy.

THEORETICAL FRAME WORK
In this research two theories were adopted to design the questionnaire. First, the privacy regulation theory had been developed by Altman was adopted (Altman, 1975, 1977). The theory could be summarized in five main points: 1) this theory states that privacy is a temporal dynamic process of interpersonal boundary. That is a process that people regulate interactions with others, they changed how open or closed they are in response to change in their internal states and external conditions. 2) Desired and actual levels of privacy were differentiated by Altman. The desired level of privacy is the amount required for serving a person's needs and role requirement and actual level refers the amount of privacy that a person achieves 3) Altman described the privacy as a non-monotonic function. It means that more privacy is not necessarily better. When there is too much privacy, a person may engage

in crowding. On the other hand, when there is too little privacy, a person may prefer social isolation. In fact, the goal of privacy regulation is to obtain the optimal level. 4) Altman believes the nature of privacy is bi-directional. It means privacy is involving inputs from others and output to others. 5) Privacy can analyse at two different levels. One refers to an individual's privacy; the other is a group's privacy. Second, Westin (1970) theorized that the need for autonomy, or power to control and regulate one's life, is one of the psychological functions of privacy. (This includes both perceived and actual control). Westin described four states of privacy: 1) Solitude: Freedom from observation by others. 2) Intimacy: involving pairs of people rather than one person. 3) Anonymity: Avoidance of identification in public places. 4) Reserve: concealment of information about oneself to others. In addition Westin identified four psychological functions of privacy: 1) the need for autonomy: The power to control and regulate one's life. 2) The need for emotional release: To be able to relax from social roles "off-stage," thus protecting the vulnerable aspects of behaviour. 3) The need for self-evaluation: To be able to experiment with various social roles "off-stage." 4) The need to allow for limited and protected communication with other to be able to secure confidential communication with others.

PRIVACY DEFINITION AND SPATIAL PRIVACY FOR TEENAGE GIRLS
Westin (1970) described that the first category of privacy is the solitude condition, where a person is alone and isolated from watching by the other people. Intimacy as the second type involves separation and isolation of a tiny group (a husband and wife from others). The third category is regarded as anonymity which happens while a person is lonely even as is lost in a crowd or in a public place, and is not willing to be renowned. Westin (1970) mentioned four functions of privacy as personal autonomy. Those are about self-independence and self-identity. The second function is emotional release which allows individuals to relax from public positions and to be off stage and to swerve from regulations and customs in a protected fashion. Self-evaluation as the third function entails the combination of various experiences and opportunities to arrangement upcoming actions. And at last, Westin stated the limited communication gathering is the one which makes available the chance to allocate confidences with assured individuals. Pastalan (1970a) extended Westin's definitions of privacy. These include (1) antecedent social happenings such as relations of role and role responsibilities, (2) organism factors for example motivation to escape identification, (3) mechanisms for realizing privacy, e.g., physical withdrawal, the use of non-verbal behaviours, etc., and (4) environmental factors for example crowdedness of the space and confinement. Proshansky (1970) proposed that privacy is needed for optimizing the autonomy of making choices and behavioural options, and therefore allowing organize by people over their group activities. Rapoport (1972) mentioned that privacy is the ability to organize contact, to have choices, to have equipments, apparatus to avoid not needed communication and to realize required interactions. Marshall (1972) described the six types of privacy: solitude, seclusion, intimacy, anonymity, reserve, not neighbouring. Smith (1994) mentioned that physical privacy could be defined as "preventing intrusions into one's physical space or solitude". This would include such concerns as: preventing intimate acts or one's body from being seen by others for the purpose of modesty; apart from being dressed, this can be achieved by walls, fences, privacy screens, cathedral glass, partitions between urinals, by being far away from others, on a bed by a bed sheet or a blanket, when changing clothes by a towel, etc. King (2004) mentioned that private can refer to that personal to people which is confidential and to which knowledge is restricted, keep from general view or public knowledge, something not open to the public.

Silverstein (1967) and Van der Ryn (1967) quoted that one of the most important troubles is the ceaseless be deficient in privacy. In these studies, students described that there was basically no place to go to be alone. They cannot be alone in their rooms for the reason that is

where their roommates are. Apartments contain common areas. Students might go to the dining room; the kitchen; the living room and the bath to permit their roommate the restricted make use of the bedroom. Van der Ryn (1967) also noted a motivating sex difference in using corridors by genders. Girls wear to go into the hall, Girls will knock on room doors and stay to be allowed in, but boys do not. Boys, alternatively, believe no suet differences and are similarly relaxing in different periods or wear or remove their clothes in their rooms as well as the common corridors spaces. In this subject, gang bathrooms, which are not intrinsically a difficulty, pose more cause inconvenience for women than for men. Besides, Rapoport (1969) suggested that privacy should be examined in relation to age and gender but also as part of the study into spatial arrangement and configuration. Wolfe's (1978) found privacy as a chance to feel and reflect raises with age from the age of 4-17. Though, the 8-12 age groups considered a private place regularly as a place to be alone while the 13-17 age groups believed the alternative of being alone or with others in a private place. Lieberg (1994) mentioned that 13-17 year old Swedish girls desired private favourite places but boys were more expected to choose public places. Alexander (1977) mentioned that a teenager desires a position in the dwelling that has more independence and autonomy and is more a base for autonomous action than a child's bedroom or bed alcove. They need a place from which they can come and go as they please, a place surrounded by which their privacy is respected.

King (2004) studied that a sense of privacy develops naturally with age. Children are less cognisant of their bodies in anticipation of they become sexualized. They feel the need to use space in a different way to protect their new sense of self want teenagers to act responsibly and know that they cannot if they are constantly policed and watched by adults. In addition, sometimes people want to be alone in the confident parts of the house, the toilet or bathroom. In the meantime, people can accept some activities together, such as reading, whilst being totally silent and, obviously, reading different things. Just being in the same room together makes it a shared activity. Watching a film together is also often more enjoyable than watching alone. Ghavami (1998) found that the orphan children, who have emotional problem, do not like open doors and are afraid of big space. They look for closed spaces to feel more secure and safe. Not particularly favour from one space to the other space such as passing from inside of building to the outside. These kinds of children feel lost in big and crowded spaces. Orphans need space to sit alone and do their desired activities such as listening to the music, reading. They need some space in which they can spend time with their friends. This is particularly important for orphans to interact with other people.

Kaya & Weber (2003) mentioned that if the people actual level of privacy is greater than the desired one, they will feel lonely or isolated; alternatively, if their actual level of privacy is smaller than the desired one, they will feel annoyed or crowded. Laufer& Wolfe (1976) and Newell (1994) mentioned that the availability of privacy is also closely related to the achievement and development of self-identity and self-esteem.

The summary of the literature review is as follows: 1) It is very important at the ages of 12-18 to distinguish between the private and the public. A person seeks an optimal level of privacy. When there is too much privacy, the person may engage in crowding. When there is too little privacy, the person may prefer social isolation. 2) The goal of privacy regulation is to obtain the optimal level.3) Privacy can be analysed at two different levels. One refers to an individual's privacy; the other is a group's privacy. 4) Physiological states necessary to sustain life; it provides the necessary behaviour settings; and it supports the psychological states through the use of symbols. 5) Field characteristics alter the physical environment through shape, orientation, size, and environmental conditions. Barriers carry on people apart or connect them together, physically and symbolically, through walls, screens, objects, and

symbols. 6) The six separate forms of privacy include: solitude, seclusion, intimacy, anonymity, reserve, not neighbouring.7) An environmental factor to distinguish the optimum level of privacy is studying about crowdedness and confinement. 8) When studying about privacy concerning the design of orphanages, the followings must be taken into consideration: girls, tend to arrange their furniture symmetrically, they prefer to place beds so that the head is near a corner when they sleep; all students in multiple-occupancy rooms prefer to arrange their desks out of the line of sight of other desks in the room and generally up against a wall to reduce the incidence of visual distractions by the movements of others; room doors open into the corridors and can face the wall or the door to the opposite room, and if doors face each other, then occupants have visual access or alternately lack of visual privacy when the doors to both opposing rooms are open; the place should be free from distractions and movements of others; it should be free from noises from such sources as telephones, plumbing, and typing; it must be equipped with personal control of heat, light and ventilation; it is better to be adequately equipped with desk and shelf space, and near needed materials; it must have pleasant furniture, visual decor, etc. 9) The child's world is not some single space or room; it is a continuum of spaces including the sidewalk, and the outdoor play area of their houses, the indoor play space, and their private space in the house where they can be alone with a friend, the bathroom and the kitchen. 10) Safety: not only the private sphere of home but also a local sphere. The local sphere included neighbourhoods, familiarity with the surroundings and people.

AIM OF THE PRESENT STUDY
The main aim of this study is to investigate and recommend strategies to enhance the privacy for teenage girls of the existing child care institutions in Mashhad, Iran.

METHOD
RESPONDENTS
This research was conducted in 2008 in Mashhad-Iran. The research population was unaccompanied teenage girls, 12- to 18-years old, in the institutions of Mashhad. There are three types of residential care in Mashhad including: Residential nurseries, children home and orphanages. Two hundred and forty teenage girls were accommodated in governmental and non-governmental institutions in Mashhad. One hundred and thirty two individual out of 240 teenage girls (12- to18- years old) were accommodated in governmental institutions. Five institutions were selected by governmental authorities in Mashhad (Behzisti Organization). Three orphanages out of five were supported by the government, Ali Asghar nursery, Resalat orphanage and Shokoufehaye Iman orphanage, and the rest were supported by non-governmental organizations, Khaneye Freshtegan orphanage, Farzandane Ali children home. Khaneye Freshtegan orphanage has been recognized as a best institution of Mashhad by governmental authorities (Behzisti Organization) is supported by non-governmental organization. Sixty seven individuals, teenage girls, responded to the questionnaires. Therefore, forty nine and eighteen participants were accommodated in the governmental and non-governmental institutions respectively. The distribution of participants is presented in Table 1.

Mixed quantitative and qualitative approach was used in analysing the data. The dependent variable in this study was the level of teenage girls' expectations regarding their existing spatial privacy in institutions in Mashhad which is associated with the factors considered in Altman's (1975 & 1977) and Wesin's (1970) theories and the other research studies. Independent variables are those factors which are important in orphanage design in terms of privacy (individual and group privacy), and are related to aforementioned theories. The size of the bedrooms, the number of the windows, the colour of the bed rooms, the view of the

windows, the number of the teenage girls in each room, the size of the dormitory, the number of the rooms and bathrooms according to the size of the institution.

DATA COLLECTION
Systematic field observation and questionnaire techniques were employed for data collection. Data on the form and pattern of activities and location of the space in selected institutions in Mashhad were collected using systematic field observation. This observation was non-participant observation. Questionnaire technique was employed to evaluate the individual's and group's spatial privacy. Using questionnaires will provide gathered data of two kinds; structured and unstructured. Open- ended questions will achieve unstructured data. Therefore, according to architectural viewpoint individual and group's privacy in this study can be classified into two scales: Units scale and Building scale. The scores are assigned on four items as follow: Strongly agreement, somewhat agreement, strongly disagreement and somewhat disagreement. The first part of questionnaire was designed to evaluate teenage girls' preferences about their privacy at their own room, e.g. the number that each teenage girl prefers to live with (single room or living with one or more than one person), their preferences for the number of the windows, for the height of the wall and size of their own rooms and for their closets dimensions, and their preferences for sharing their equipments such as library with others and finally their expectation of design and privacy at their rooms, were included. Also, the ending question in this part was an open-ended question that requested participants to explain about the items which are important to their spatial privacy at their own rooms. The second part of the questionnaire was designed to collect information on the circumstances of the teenage girls' dormitory and orphanages. The teenage girls' preferences for the number of the bathrooms, as well as their inclination for existence of places such as living rooms, TV rooms were questioned. Ultimately, they were asked about their spatial privacy satisfaction at their institutions. In the second part, the open-ended question asked participants to give a comment about their preferences for designing their dormitory. The staffs and board of trustees of each institution were asked to answer the questionnaire for validation purpose. As a limitation of this research, unaccompanied teenage girls, staffs and board of trustees abstained to have face to face interviews and preferred to fill out paper based-questionnaire.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS
Collected data from the questionnaires was subjected to descriptive statistical analysis and analysis of variance (Kruskal-Wallis test) using proc NPAR1WAY of SAS 9.1. Descriptive statistics was done using proc FREQ of SAS 9.1. To analyze open-ended questions, the analytical and researcher-based approach was used (Kvale, 2007). In this section, the contents of the open-ended questions are classified by comparing corresponding literature. Finally, the result of these selected institutions have been compared with the best result among them (Khaneye Freshtegan) and comparing this selected institution with Behzisti, the Iranian standards and the international standards and finally recommendations was given to improve designing expectations.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
The first set of analysis (part one of questionnaires) examined the use and effectiveness of current designing and size of teenage girls' own rooms regarding to existing privacy and their satisfaction about this subject. The second set of analysis (part two of questionnaires) examined sizes and location of the places at the selected institutions in terms of spatial privacy. The results of matching statements of experts and staffs with conclusion of close-

ended questionnaires and also field observations are as follows: The results of analysis which is about preferences of teenage girls for living alone at 5 selected institutions shows that the majority of children would like to live alone and have single room. On the other hand, the other result on the subject of those teenage girls would like to have a bedroom that they can live there with one of their friends, shows that the majority of teenage girls would like to share their rooms with one person. Exploring this possibility, it has been found that the tendency is not statistically significant (n=67, pr:0.21> chi-square: 0.05).

The other result shows that the majority of teenage girls at five selected residential care (n=67, pr=0.59> chi- square: 0.05) and staffs disagreed to share their rooms with more than one person. As comparing, these results showed that the teenage girls prefer to live with one person. The other result concerning the children preferences for sharing the room with the other friends which the application of that room just for sleeping shows that the majority of teenage girls and staffs disagreed about this subject. The result of the other analysis concerning to the children preferences for living alone at their rooms however they would rather not share the other activities such as library with the other friends and live alone at their room (such as studying and reading their books at their rooms) shows that majority of teenage girls living at five selected institutions and staffs agreed. The other result on the subject of to the children preferences for living at their room which has a lot of windows, explains that majority of teenage girls and staffs, at five selected institutions agreed (n=67, pr: 0.31> chi-square: 0.05). The other result about the children preferences for living at their room which has only one window, because the noise of the outside would be caused to disturb them shows that majority of teenage girls at five selected institutions and staffs disagreed. The result of the analysis which about the children preferences for living in their room which has the separated area for studying at the same room and they do not like to use the other place as a library, shows that majority of teenage girls at the five selected institutions agree with this idea. In this result, the majority of staffs disagreed about this subject. The other result on the subject of teenage girls' satisfaction for existing spatial privacy at their current area of the room explains that majority of teenage girls living at five selected institutions were satisfied. Also, it is tested the teenage girls' preferences for owning the room which the area is more than their current room (more than 12 m^2) according to the number of the children, shows that majority of respondents (teenage girls) at the four selected institution agreed. However, at Khaneye Freshtegan (n=11) majority of them disagreed.

Additionally, about questionnaires of staffs (for validation of teenage girls answers), majority of them agreed. In this result, it means that at 4 institutions, the size and amounts of the rooms' area are not sufficient for children. The result of analysis concerning teenage girls' preferences for owning the bedroom which the area is less than their current room (less than 12 m^2), if they live alone there, shows that majority of teenage girls and staffs at five selected institutions disagreed. The other result regarding teenage girls' satisfaction about the height of the wall at their current bedroom (2.80 m) explains that the teenage girls are satisfied about the height of their current wall at their rooms. The result of the analysis which regarding to teenage girls' preferences to have a bedroom which has higher wall (more than 2.80 m) which they feel more comfortable at their room shows that majority of teenage girls at the five institutions and staffs disagreed. Alternatively, the other result on the subject of teenage girls' preferences to have a bedroom which has lower wall (less than 2.80 m) shows that majority of teenage girls at the five institutions and staffs disagreed. The result of analysis which on the subject of teenage girls' preferences to have a room in close proximity of living room and also the other room of the children explains that majority of respondents (teenage girls) at the five institutions and staffs agree. On the other hand, the other result regarding to teenage girls' preferences to have a bedroom away from the living room shows that majority of

teenage girls at the five institutions and staffs disagreed. It means that the children would not like to have a room away from the living room. However, according to the analysis variance results there was a considerable difference between five orphanages(n=67, pr: 0.001 < chi-square: 0.05). Moreover, the result of the analysis concerning to teenage girls' preferences to have a room away from the other room of the other children shows that majority of teenage girls at the five institutions and staffs disagreed. In addition, the other result about teenage girls' satisfaction about the size and amount of their current closet shows that teenage girls who are living at 4 institutions are not satisfied on the subject of the size and amount of their current closets. However the children living at Khaneye Freshtegan institution are satisfied about their current closets. The result of the analysis which regarding teenage girls' satisfaction about existing spatial privacy at their current rooms explain that the children livings at the 4 institutions are not satisfied about existing spatial privacy at their current rooms. However, the children living at Khaneye Freshtegan institution are satisfied.

The other part of questionnaires takes account of information regarding circumstances in scale of teenage girls' dormitory and orphanages. According to Behzisti organization (the main organization for caring unaccompanied children in Iran) rules, just 10 people should live in one dormitory, however, the residential cares do not follow this rule. The result of analysis concerning to teenage girls' preferences about to have a place in dormitory that they can watch TV with their friends and this room would be separated from living room ,explains that majority of teenage girls and staffs at 5 institutions agreed.

The other result regarding to teenage girls' preferences about living in a dormitory with maximum 10 people shows that majority of teenage girls at five institutions and staffs agreed. According to obtained result, teenage girls accepted to live with more than 10 individuals in a dormitory if the privacy of them individually have been respected (n=67, pr: 0.79> chi-square:0.05).In addition, the result of analysis shows that majority of teenage girls at the five institutions and staffs disagree regarding teenage girls' preferences about living alone and the teenage girls would not like to live in public area (n=67, pr: 0.08> chi-square:0.05). According to obtain result at the four institutions regarding to teenage girls' satisfaction about the number of the bathrooms and wash rooms at their dormitory shows that Majority of respondents have been satisfied.

Majority of teenage girls at the four institutions are unsatisfied regarding to teenage girls' satisfaction about the atmosphere of their institutions which without any noise and they feel comfortable there. However, at Khaneye Freshtegan orphanage, majority of them have been satisfied. According to obtain result, majority of teenage girls at five institutions have been satisfied regarding to teenage girls' satisfaction about spatial privacy at the yard of their dormitory which they feel comfortable there. On the other hand, according to the analysis variance results, there were some significant differences between orphanages (n=67, pr: 0.002 < chi- square: 0.05). The majority of the children who lives at Resalat orphanage and Farzandane Ali children home disagree with this idea. According to field observations, at Resalat orphanage and Farzandane Ali children home, 26 and 14 girls are used in a 55 m^2 and 42 m^2 bedrooms, respectively. However, the younger children go to the yard for playing at Farzandane Ali children home. Also, there are some bathrooms in the yard which the children can use them. At that time, the teenage girls do not have private place there. In addition, at Resalat orphanage, who wants to go to the office or visit the children have to pass from the main yard. Then, there is not any private place at the yard for teenage girls. According to the obtained result which regarding to teenage girls' satisfaction about spatial privacy at their living room in the dormitory which they feel comfortable there, majority of teenage girls at the four institutions are unsatisfied. However, at Khaneye Freshtegan, majority of them are

satisfied. Furthermore, the other result regarding to teenage girls' satisfaction about the existing privacy at their dormitories, majority of teenage girls at the four institutions are unsatisfied. However, at Khaneye Freshtegan orphanage, majority of them are satisfied.

Moreover, some variable are evaluated with two open- ended questions. One of this includes teenage girls own rooms and the other one in evaluated some variables in scale of residential care. On the first part some variable are evaluated as follow: teenage girls' preferences for the size of the bedrooms, number of windows at their bedrooms, color of the bedrooms, preferences for living with the other children, for the view of the windows at their bedrooms, for the other requirements in terms of spatial privacy at their bedrooms. In part two, some items have been asked: teenage girls' preferences for the size of the residential care in terms of their spatial privacy, number of the children at their institutions, noise and also teenage girls are asked regarding their spatial privacy at the yard of the residential cares and for the number of the bedrooms and bathrooms and the other requirements at their residential care.

CONCLUSIONS AND IMPLICATIONS FOR PRACTICE AND ADVANCEMENT OF RESEARCH

The field observation and the results of the questionnaires of respondents in this study, shows that one of the critical problems at institutions in Mashhad is lack of private places. This was due to the fact that most institutions in Mashhad and its neighboring areas only emphasize the economical elements rather than the appropriate location and size of space for teenage girls. Therefore, further study in this subject should be conducted to seek accurate information to balance the ways the spatial privacy elements in teenage girls spaces and economical and standards elements are used in institutions. Besides, it was aimed to obtain the preferences of teenage girls as residents towards the spatial privacy at institutions in Mashhad and to provide implications on the reconsideration of the existing institutions and the development of new institutions which emphasize on the spatial privacy elements. Findings of the present study showed that a large number of respondents unsatisfied regarding to spatial privacy towards interior spaces and location of their institution. Undoubtedly, it is vital for designers, architects and those parties who are involved in institutions planning, development and management to identify and understand the teenage girls' needs and preferences. These important aspects are not only useful for planning the development of institutions for unaccompanied teenage girls but also can be extended to other dormitories for teenage girls. However, this study served as the steppingstone for planning institutions and the spatial privacy in Mashhad based on the unaccompanied teenage girls' preferences. In order to obtain the measurement of spatial privacy as the main finding of the present research, the best institution with highest rating (Khaneye Freshtegan) was compared to four other selected institutions. The results of this study verified that the participants' backgrounds (especially age, which became a critical issue in this study their visual preferences). Therefore, it might be necessary for the designers and architects to plan and design the institutions spaces according to teenage girls' needs while taking careful note of their age. In conclusion, it can be stated that the suitable size of area for unaccompanied teenage girls in terms of privacy are in table 2:

Teenage girls' privacy preferences at their dormitory are:

1)   A middle size study bedroom for 2 people according to the Iranian standards for room about 12m2.

2)   Bedrooms with lots of windows (according to climate in Iran for choosing sizes for windows).

3)   Location of the bedrooms in close proximity from the living room.

4)   TV room separated from main living room.

5)   Teenage girls choose the pink color for bedrooms.

6)   Separating elder children from younger ones (teenage girls from the others).

The result of this study exposed a high validity because it employed more than one type of questions and methods which supported each other to ensure reliable results. There are many other elements or issues associated to the spatial privacy and teenage girls' preferences. Further studies should also explore these elements and issues, especially the issue of the teenagers' age and their preferences in order to best implications for planning and designing institutions regarding privacy consideration at institutions in the world. It is hoped that the finding of this study assist the policy markers, architects, and institution developers and institutions managers to improve their awareness on the teenagers' needs towards the spatial privacy at their institutions. The improvement of the designing institutions as identified in the present study can only be achieved if all the parties involved are willing to play their roles accordingly.

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Table 1. Distribution of participants (teenage girls) at five selected residential care

Institution name	Classification	Participants number
Ali Asghar nursery		26
Resalat orphanage	Governmental	15
Shokoofehaye Iman nursery		8
Farzandane Ali children home	Non-governmental	7
Khaneye Freshtegan orphanage		11

Table 2. Recommended Measurements for some Areas and Elements

	Governmental Rules in Iran for Houses (Fateh & Daryoush,2009)	Standards in the world for Youth Hostels and Houses (Neufert,2000)	Suggestion
Area		**Measurements**	
Dormitory floor area per person	-	$3.1m^2$(D)	$20m^2$
Sitting and Dining room	$10m^2$ for each person	$2m^2$ (D)	$2.91m^2$
Teenagers' Bed rooms	$12m^2$ for each person,$4m \times 3m$ and 2.80 Height	$8m^2$ for each person	$6.50m^2$ for each person, 2.80 Height
Warden's Bedroom	$12m^2$	$8m^2$	$9m^2$ include bathroom
Kitchen	$2m^2$ for each person	Minimum $8m^2$	Minimum $10m^2$ for 5 person
Entrance Hall	-	$0.2 m^2$ for each person	$0.5m^2$
Bathrooms and washrooms	$4m^2$ for each washrooms	$3.80m^2$ for each washrooms 1 shower and washroom for 1 person 1 WC for 3 person	$2.10m^2$ each washroom $2.10m^2$ each bathroom 1 shower for 6 person, 1washroom for 2 person 1 WC for 3 person
Elements		**Measurements**	
Closets	-	$1.20m \times 0.8m$ Wide	$1.80m \times 0.75m$ Wide
Beds	-	$2.78m^2$	$3.00m^2$
Windows	-	$1.70m \times 1.5m$	According to climate (Kasmayi,2003)