

Project Group (Number and Name): 39 – Urban Citizenship: How Changing Spaces Reshape Contemporary Democracy

Comment

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Comment:

Cities and villages are two completely different places for our society due to social demarcations. The city, for most people, is where action is, and it is seen as modern, diverse, and active. Meanwhile, the village is usually the exact opposite: the people, and the values are seen as conservative, so modern ways of thinking, such as diversity, are not expected. But what would change if we relocated educational institutions to the countryside? What advantages and disadvantages would arise? Could we create a bridge between villages and cities and integrate villages better into our society? We asked ourselves these questions during the Opening Week and came to the conclusion that in order to create a better community life between all classes, places, and personalities we have to look at educational institutions.

In Germany and other countries, the "best", largest, and most popular universities are in big cities. This is mostly due to the infrastructure, which is helpful for a place where many people come together, additionally, large and well-known universities are more and better funded. Furthermore, the leisure opportunities in small towns and villages are rather limited and student life depends on them these days. But many students have problems financing their studies in the expensive cities in Germany, and there is certain anonymity at large universities, which is something new for everyone since it was different at school.

If we now relocate the universities/colleges to small towns/villages or if we now build small universities in many "small" places, offer housing options and thus enable study life to be reduced to a schoolyard feeling. In this way, we would support the small towns financially, and certain modernity and diversity could also be integrated into these places. For the older people in our society who mostly live in the countryside and are dependent on doctors etc., we could offer an environment nearby where they can get to the doctor, go shopping or get to social events in a short distance.

So our concept aims to relocate the universities/colleges to the countryside in many small forms. In this way, we offer the students a feeling of familiarity and community without overcrowded rooms, expensive apartments, or great anonymity. We relieve the cities and allow the villages and small towns to integrate more into society and break away from the typical stereotypes. Of course, such a visionary and large project entails a

lot of change and problems and can hardly be implemented in our society. However, we take on the idea with a progressive, visionary, and imaginative view to envision a new, more modern, or alternative way of studying.

Video Information

Title of the Video: A different approach

Authors of the Video: Emma Herbele, Natalia Kim, Sofia Nowicki, Amelie Kleinknecht, Jost Hildebrand, Alina Jacobs, Ana-Lena Kneller, Sara Zuccolo, Neele Helmeke, Jonas Wolf, Josef Schade, Amelia Charlotte Wolber, Caterina Battista Panozzo, Emil Michel

Music:

- Comedian, PianoArmor

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