

## **„Queering gender blindness“: About bringing gender – and not gender stereotypes – into green building research**

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In the research project “Build to Satisfy” a method of agent based modelling is used to study the influence of attitudes, knowledge, decision-making structure and mutual influence of users in green office buildings. Another aim of the project is to consider gender and diversity aspects as well in the research process as in the resulting agent based model.

A first approach to ‘consider’ gender aspects is to look into existing literature in the field of energy and environmental research in general and in studies on green office buildings in particular to find gender- and/or diversity-relevant studies.

The following recurrent themes have been retrieved from existing literature and studies in the field of energy and environment:

- Participation in relevant professional fields and political discourses
- Access to resources and energy (incl. North/South-discussion)
- Individual differences in perception and behaviour
- Social practices of technology usage

A second step is to analyse how gender and diversity have been integrated in the respective research settings and papers. The actual form of integrating gender and diversity varies from using gender and other social categories as independent variables in statistical procedures to reflecting gender and diversity issues on a meta-level.

The third and most challenging task will now be to suggest ways of how researchers and professionals can overcome a ‘gender blindness’ but to bring gender and diversity issues into green building research and planning without perpetuating stereotypes. This paper presents work in progress and wants to discuss the general question of how to actually make queer technology research without simply going back to ‘gender blindness’.