

# Rising Scholars

# Werkstattgespräch

15.6.2022, 12:30-14:00, hybrid

## Survival by design: Women in Tiny Houses

Alice Wilson

**Abstract:** My thesis explores the tiny house movement as an individual and collective response to the pressures of neoliberal life. I interrogate how tiny houses enable women in particular to resist unsustainable cycles of work-earn-spend. The research is framed by Colin Ward's work on self-help and anarchism (Ward 1985; 1990), as well as Foucault's work on heterotopia (1984). Drawing on interviews with thirty women from Europe, the UK, US, Australia, and South Africa, I explore the growing place of the tiny house movement in the popular imagination, and how its liminal status at once expands and undermines its subversive social and spatial potential. Individually, tiny houses offer an imperfect yet compelling alternative for their inhabitants. Collectively, the tiny house movement potentially advances a more just and equitable approach to housing by providing inspiration for those seeking to question apparently unassailable ideas about how we should live.

Alice Wilson is a guest resident at our department with Anna Urbaniak and an early career researcher from the sociology department at the University of York. In her presentation Alice will explore the unique stories of the women she interviewed for her thesis and will examine the specific gendered lens of designing, building, and living in a variety of tiny houses. Alice is looking forward to a lively discussion of her first findings with peers.

Das **Werkstattgespräch** findet am **15.6, 12:30-14:00, hybrid** statt.

Vor Ort: Besprechungsraum im 4. Stock am Rooseveltplatz.

Online: Meeting-ID: 664 2149 8736; Kenncode: 175268

<https://univienne.zoom.us/j/66421498736?pwd=UjBaTGtxODZnOFVCVFRLVnFKVlhldz09>

**Was sind die Werkstattgespräche?** Die Werkstattgespräche bieten die Möglichkeit aktuelle Forschung zu diskutieren. Egal ob offene Fragen, scheinbar unlösbare Probleme, Interpretationen von empirischem Material, Skill-Sharing oder Vortragsproben – beim Werkstattgespräch geht es ums Debattieren, Probieren und Analysieren. Wir wollen gemeinsam in entspannter Atmosphäre unsere Forschung voranbringen! Gerne kann während des Werkstattgesprächs auch das Mittagessen verspeist und Kaffee getrunken werden. **Wir freuen uns auf zahlreiche Teilnahme!**

**Hannah Quinz und Marlies Zuccato-Doutlik**

Anmeldungen für die Nutzung eines Werkstattgesprächs jederzeit an:  
[marlies.zuccato-doutlik@univie.ac.at](mailto:marlies.zuccato-doutlik@univie.ac.at) oder [hannah.quinz@univie.ac.at](mailto:hannah.quinz@univie.ac.at)