

<http://www.ibf.uu.se/enhr2000/abstracts/Gottschalk.html>

Georg Gottschalk, Susanne Palsig Jensen, Anja Dahl, Eigil Boll Hansen

Danish Building Research Institute

Danish Institute of Gerontology

Institute of Local Government Studies

e-mail: n/a

Study of the well-being of older people in co-housing.

In Denmark, an increasing number of middle-aged and older people are interested in living everyday life closer to their neighbours than is customary, in the form of co-housing communities. People living in a co-housing community may be defined as a group of people living in a type of housing with an agreed social network where residents participate in certain activities, practical tasks and/or facilities, and furthermore consider themselves to be a co-housing group. In the context of this report, two types of co-housing communities or schemes have been defined as people living in a network based on their housing environment _

0. either with several generations – but non-family: inter-generational - called age-integrated co-housing community.
0. or with other older people in a co-housing group established specifically for ageing – called senior co-housing schemes.

This analysis comprises older people (60+) in both types of co-housing community, and in various types of tenure, location, layout and design. Staffed "co-housing communities", where admission is based on present need for nursing and care are not included. The main task of this research project is to analyse how older people living in co-housing schemes are coping with their everyday life, compared with older people living in other forms of accommodation.