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Sharing conventions for energy efficient lighting?

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SusTrans

As a matter of change:

Lighting and energy

- Since 2009, a part of the [EU Eco-design Directive](#) has been leveled at (domestic) lighting – *in order to reduce energy consumption; ambitious standards for energy efficiency*
- [EU Green Paper](#) 2011 (Lighting the Future) seem to suggest [struggles](#) in terms of uptake of energy efficient technologies (such as CFL and LED).
- Many reasons, but one of them may be that *lighting is more than energy* (eg. Bladh and Krantz 2008, Bille and Sørensen 2007, Wilhite et al 1996, Gram-Hanssen 2005)

Yes, lighting is more than energy...

- Accepting that lighting is more than energy will allow us to understand some of the **lighting patterns** we find within the home
 - Eg. Wilhite et al (1996) show that lighting patterns are connected to **cultures**.
- But **how** do these patterns evolve? And **why**? And **why** are there difference within cultures?

Lighting is part of social practices

Two Case studies:

- Low energy households in Stenløse
- Households in an ecological community in Roskilde
 - Interest in households and thereby *everyday activities*
 - qualitative interviews, *touring the house*.
- Interviews and subsequent analysis performed through a social practice theoretical lens (related to energy consumption).
 - Focus is therefore on *practices*

What is the same?

What appears the same across the case studies:

- Within our home, we perform **day-to-day activities**, in **which lighting takes part of**. The activities (dining, socializing, cleaning, cooking) are **meaningful** to us. When we talk about light, we talk about it by means of the activity it is intended for. It is never just a matter of energy consumption.
- **coziness** related to light sources and color temperatures seem **unquestioned and routinized**.
- **Layout** of lighting systems and lamps

What differs?

What differs across the case studies?

- What is considered the ‘normal’ light (CFL vs Incandescent) and what is considered ‘pleasant’.
- The deployed lighting technologies
- Energy savings as ‘an extra mile’ or ‘something you of course pursue’.
- When and why eg LED’s are rejected.

Why is this?

- The same access to information about lighting and energy efficiency
- Both contexts are results of energy or environmental considerations of some sort.
- Not a matter of individual “environmental attitudes”
 - Then why is there a somewhat significant difference in terms of energy efficient lighting and associations to this?

Sharing 'conventions'..? What does that imply?

- A principle of being environmentally responsible *among* residents in the community (not an individually driven approach)
- How?
 - Living 'together' – talking about experiences
 - Taking part in various activities ensuring a environmentally friendly community
 - Wenger: *Communities of practice* – learning as social competence and personal experience
 - Being part of a community
 - Engagement
 - Alignment of local activities (*it is about constructing a whole*)
- **Understanding lighting and energy efficiency in relation to practices (not only within the household but perhaps also beyond)**
 - Interconnected vs. detached relations in terms of initiatives and action (Roskilde vs Stenløse)
 - Potentially: Forum for sharing and/or experimenting

Thank you!

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