

# Graduation Plan

Master of Science Architecture, Urbanism & Building Sciences



## Graduation Plan: All tracks

Submit your Graduation Plan to the Board of Examiners ([Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl](mailto:Examencommissie-BK@tudelft.nl)), Mentors and Delegate of the Board of Examiners one week before P2 at the latest.

The graduation plan consists of at least the following data/segments:

Personal information	
Name	Fija van der Laan
Student number	4307003
Telephone number	
Private e-mail address	

Studio		
Name / Theme	Dwelling – Dutch Housing	
Main mentor	Pierijn van der Putt	Architecture: research
Second mentor	Theo Kupers	Architecture: design
Third mentor	Sjap Holst	Architecture: Building Technology
Argumentation of choice of the studio	Interest in the social and technical complexity of the field of Dwelling and Housing Design.	

Graduation project	
Title of the graduation project	Housing for One-Parent Families – collective housing in M4H region, Rotterdam
Goal	
Location:	Rotterdam
The posed problem,	One-parent families, families in which a second parent is not or barely present, have difficulties in finding a suitable home. The housing market often does not meet the requirements as the current stock is based on the merely traditional families. In addition, the financial vulnerability of the one-parent families and the rising house prices make it increasingly difficult for them to find a suitable home. For Rotterdam as a city, it is important to keep families in the city. Therefore, a respond to the need for modern one-parent family housing is required.
research questions and	How can a collective residential building and home for one-parent families in a high-density urban environment contribute both to the housing wishes and living requirements of the families as well as the inclusiveness of the future city of Rotterdam?

	<p>Sub: How can a collective residential building and home for one-parent families make a positive contribution to the life of a growing child?</p> <p>Sub: How can a collective residential building and home for one-parent families make a positive contribution to the life of a single parent?</p> <p>Sub: How can a collective residential building and home for one-parent families make a positive contribution to the life of a family as a whole?</p> <p>Sub: How can the presence of one-parent families in Rotterdam contribute to the inclusiveness of the city?</p>
design assignment in which these result.	To develop a collective residential building design for the Merwe-Vierhaven area in Rotterdam for one-parent families that meets the housing needs and wishes of both the children and the parents and that contributes to an inclusive city.
<p>[This should be formulated in such a way that the graduation project can answer these questions. The definition of the problem has to be significant to a clearly defined area of research and design.]</p>	

## Process

### Method description

The first step in the research is to map out the housing needs and wishes of the single-parent families. This should result in an investigation on the problems they encounter, and how those problems can be solved with the help of the designed and built environment.

In order to create a complete investigation of the needs of one-parent families, it is important that the two groups within this family are also treated separately: namely the single parents and the children. The first steps in the research towards this investigation are based on personal stories, surveys, existing literature, handbooks and online forums, and reference projects.

After the investigation of the needs of the families, the design will be developed based on those findings. Architectural design will be used as a tool to experiment. The experiments will be mirrored to literature research and reference projects in order to test them.

### Literature and general practical preference

The main pieces of literature in the project are:

Richard Sennett – Building & Dwelling – Ethics for the City

Marlies Rohmer – Building for the next Generation

Jan Gehl – Life between Buildings and Cities

Susan Golombok – Modern Families – Parents and Children in New Family Forms

I rely on the knowledge and skills that I have acquired during my architectural study career in the recent years. This is largely derived from the Bachelor in Architecture at TU Delft and the Master in Architecture in Delft until now. In addition, I gained my experiences during internships, by participating in contests and by an exchange.

Furthermore, I will test my project using reference projects. And finally, I will draw new knowledge through the knowledge, experience and skills of my tutors.

### Reflection

1. What is the relation between your graduation (project) topic, the studio topic (if applicable), your master track (A,U,BT,LA,MBE), and your master programme (MSc AUBS)?

To design and ensure housing for one-parent families (graduation topic), contributes to the inclusive city of the future (relation to the studio topic). The Dwelling studio focusses specifically on the living/dwelling in the houses, buildings and spaces which are designed within the studio. This covers an important topic within the architectural field (relation to the master track: architecture). By doing this project, I will complete my academic master degree on the faculty of Architecture of TU Delft (relation to the master programme).

**2. What is the relevance of your graduation work in the larger social, professional and scientific framework.**

Trough the research I did until now, the need for attention to the engagement, a factor to which the designed environment contributes, of specific social groups, in this case the one-parent families, in the Netherlands has been proven. This counts especially for the cities. This project contributes to the knowledge about how these homes should be designed and how we involve people in need in a sustainable and sensible way in the inclusive city, a city that wa are ultimately work towards in the present time. Further research in the next semester takes it a step further by the actual creation pf design handles which can be used in future designs.