Social Practice theory as design approach for reducing energy use for indoor climate management in Dutch dwellings

The main goal of this research was to find an answer on the question: "How is it possible to influence the occupants of dwellings by means of architectural design in order to reduce the energy use for managing the indoor climate?"

According to de Jong, a successful social practice design approach should be integrated in society. To promote less resource intensive heating and ventilation installations, one of the measures found in other cultures as well as in history of the Dutch management of the indoor climate is the fact that dwellings are adaptable to the functions they enclose. This can be in the day and night rhythm, but also in winter and summer or in the total function; e.g., making an office building out of an apartment building.

Influencing the routines of the practice of indoor climate management are collectivity, adaptability and individual climate control. Through collectivity people are able to learn from each other, because they can see that they are not the only ones acting. Also, by making a person learned to do during his life (skill) and the material artefacts (stuff). Inspiration to influence and break the routines of the practice of managing the indoor climate can be found in history and other cultures. Important factors to influence the routines of the practice of indoor climate management can be found in history and other cultures. Architectural design is part of the physical environment and this environment appears to have influence on the way people think, feel and act. Architects are the ones creating the physical environment and this environment appears to have influence on the way people think, feel and act. Architectural design is part of the physical environment and this environment appears to have influence on the way people think, feel and act. Architectural design is part of the social practice approach can help to enhance radical innovation in the indoor climate.