MY IMMIGRANT NEIGHBOUR:
Social interaction and public spaces in multicultural neighbourhoods

July 2014  Urban regeneration  Susana Somoza Parada
WHEN IT COMES TO DIVERSITY...
WHEN IT COMES TO DIVERSITY...

LESS IS A BORE!

Gabriele Galimberti photos. *Delicatessen with love*
Introduction
Key notions for problem field

- immigrants
- multicultural environments
- morphological considerations
+ immigrants
Multicultural environments

Source: Pictures by author
Multicultural environments

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Multicultural environments

Source: Pictures by author
Morphology

+ buildings constitute open space
+ low-rise buildings
+ one façade facing public space
+ smaller blocks
Combination of key notions

- High shares of immigrant population
- Multicultural environment
- Historical urban fabrics
- Lack of public space
How can public spaces facilitate interaction between groups with different cultural backgrounds in multicultural neighbourhoods?

Problem statement

+ lack of qualitative public space
+ lack of places that could facilitate interaction
Theoretical framework
Public space

streets

cafes + shops

public facilities
+ social life and social groups diversify, public spaces equally diverse
+ change in physical space, social space follows
Multicultural cities

- different groups have different claims
- accommodate difference in public space
- interaction in everyday-life public space
- involvement – social engagement
Analytical framework
Analytical framework

- city scale
- quarter scale
- available space
City scale

+ local scale
+ greenery
+ integration
+ values
+ public
+ transport
+ define open space
+ add & improve public space
+ larger & smaller interv.
Public space
Public space
Public space
Quarter scale

+define open space
+add & improve public space
+ larger & smaller interv.
Available space
Available space
Available space
Available space
Design concept

+ colonizing space + pedestrian priority
+ diversify public space
+ improving local-scale greenery
+ improve housing stock
+ parking buildings
Quarter rules

- Define the border
- Densify NW corner
- Pedestrian permeability
- Pedestrian network
- Generating open space
- Improving housing
- Add bus lines
- Parking buildings
Block rules

+ common for all
+ existing blocks
+ new blocks
Defined edge

Max. pedestrian permeability

Public space access

Public facilities visibility

Housing typology diversification

Public space diversity

Block rules - Common for all
Block rules - Existing blocks

- **Private buffer**
- **Bring it to the edge**
- **Max. ground floor coverage**
- **25% of inner courtyards**
- **Diversify use in ground floor**
- **Height of new buildings**
- **Follow the slopes**
Block rules - New blocks

- Max. ground floor coverage
- Diversify use in ground floor
- Height of new buildings
- Façade transparency
Inner space
Applying the rules - low
Applying the rules - high
Colonizing space - Streets
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Colonizing space - Streets
Southeast corner
Southeast corner
Southeast corner
Applying the rules - high
Diversification of space
Diversification of space
Diversification of space
Diversification of space
Diversification of space
Diversification of space
Thank you!

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