FACULTY OF ARCHITECTURE

This thesis is in the form which has been accepted for the award of the degree.
WOMEN AND MARRIAGE: THE HOUSING
CONSEQUENCES OF OPTING OUT

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ABSTRACT

This thesis reviews the housing-related implications of separation and divorce for women. It argues that the housing circumstances must be placed within a broader perspective of the social and economic consequences and ideological environment surrounding divorce. In the same way, operation of the housing system must be placed within a wider context, particularly in relation to the degree of change in its operational environment within the last 20 years.

The thesis finds that the circumstances surrounding leaving a marriage are personally traumatic, and lead to a period of economic, housing and personal crisis. Over time, although the tendency is for establishment of re-equilibrium, considerable disadvantages prevail for women. The quickest method of establishing re-equilibrium for women is to repartner.
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