

Location: Oslo Public Library,
Grünerløkka

Date: 11.11.2025 **Time:** 18:00

Observer: Lila Fredrika Blom

Observational Notes:

There is a vintage-like wide area on the left side of the main entrance of the library. The area is divided in three parts: the left side – in which it's standing a long rectangular table with chairs on the both sides of it; then, right side of the room – with two big comfortable vintage-leather sofas; and, finally, straight from the entrance space – there are placed few armchairs that are directed toward the main-entrance view.

Deichman Grünerløkka Library is centered in *Schouss plass* park. Windows on the left side of the room, have a view toward the playground in which people of different ages and ethnicity are spending time together and playing diverse games each afternoon until the late evenings; while on the right side of the room, in which there are two previously mentioned vintage-leather sofas, there is a beautiful, romantic view to the little tree-forest.



The image above depicts the right-side area of the room – the place I found appealing and best suiting to observe the environment.

Observer's Comments and Analyses:

We can clearly recognize sociocultural theories implemented in designing Library's place and the space inside it: they are well-created to give opportunities for collaboration, participation and learning – creating unique possibility that bridges people from diverse social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Either inside, or outside the walls of this old-fashioned Library, everyone is gathered to learn both from and about each other by spending meaningful time together. This viewpoint is grounded on constructivist ideal.

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It is usually meant to be quite in the libraries, so it is in here.

There are 2 kids with their female/male guardians; 3 students; 2 older men in their 30s-40s; and a mysterious man – looking like a homeless person peacefully taking a nap in one of these vintage-leather sofas.

Observants are respectful toward other people's needs for privacy, concentration and peace. However, observants are ready to discipline anyone who is producing louder-than-allowed noise, or someone trying chit-chatting, by directing sharp eye-contact or a quite "shhh".

Observer's Comments and Analyses:

This designed space has a purpose not only to welcome those who wants to read and study, but to give a safe and secure place in which anyone is welcome to stay in as long as they want to. This act of kindness, a brilliant, selfless idea is just one of many aspects that portrays the vision of Norwegian norms, attitudes and standards. Again, we can see how sociocultural perspectives are directly shaping social ideologies and architectural needs to implement these ideas. Additionally, people of Norway are open to learn from each other, and occasionally punish and discipline through silent communication. These actions reflect the sociocultural ideology and modesty of interactive and collaborative learning, growing and being.