

# Culturally Sensitive Housing

## Student Assignment

### Introduction

Forced to flee their homelands for a safer future, families and/or individuals often desire to preserve their culture and traditions in their new homes. However, at times, homes built in the United States do not support these traditions. Difficulties posed by the house plan threaten the cultural identities of these families and create stress in their lives. How can the built environment – culturally sensitive housing designs – support and foster diversity in ways of living and well-being? This interior design project is to encourage research into the space planning and furniture arrangements needed to support change in living accommodations for a particular population in your community.

### Objectives:

1. To research and analyze the traditions within a culture that would need support in their home environment.
2. To design supporting spaces and details for the home.



### Life Skills:

Research, cultural sensitivity, writing skills, space planning and furniture arrangement skills.

### Deliverables

- Client needs (e.g. program)
- Revised ranch-style floor plan (*or notated plan*)
- Written research of local/regional population



### Method

Design the interior of a ranch style home that would enhance the family (or occupants) living, worship, eating/bathing, and functional needs for a specific culture in your community. Remain culturally sensitive to how their juxtaposition of spaces, and furniture needs may shift due to their eating, entertaining and worship traditions. Be aware of the placement and orientation of the front door. Research traditions related to sleeping and eating habits.

### Materials:

Foam core, drafting materials, and rendering markers.

Due Date