THE NARRATIVES OF TWO FEMALE STUDENTS IN A MALE DOMINATED DISCOURSE

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ABSTRACT

This research explores the narratives of female architecture students with an insight to their path and their silent voices for being in a male dominated discourse. The objectives behind this research follows three specific aspects which are firstly to explore the gender issues in the architecture industry which according to general assumption is a male dominated industry, then secondly it is to identify the problems and challenges faced by female undergraduates enrolling in male dominated discourse because being a part of a male dominated scene would make it harder for a female to gain recognition, and finally to explore the inner desire and plans of female architecture students from being an architect in future. So with this in mind the chosen methodology is an in depth qualitative study based on the narrative approach to ensure that the most compiling and in depth data can be collected from the participants. Through this research multiple dimensions are examined to extract the best concepts out of the research: exploring, restorying, interpreting and recontextualizing. Among the findings that would be highlighted through this research is that there exists an unspoken preconception and stereotype in the female participants’ lives that holds them back as students in a male dominated discourse. Consequently, their personal narratives provide ways of understanding and listening to their silent voices.