The Ministry of Public Statement tried to overcome the problems of urban settlement through the approach of “1000 Towers” program, which is the provision of 1000 units of apartments for urban people. However, it is a pity that, that approach was only from its physical aspects; meaning that when the government provided those apartments, it paid its attention only on the technical and economic aspects. Whereas, on the other side, people who will live in those apartments are people that have the habit of neighbourhood life with specific and unique socio-cultural behaviors that had been constructed for so long. When they live and use the apartments, they need a long adaptation process, even in a certain extent; it may cause prolonged stress for the inhabitants.

Government policy to provide apartments for the low economic people deserves to be appreciated, however, from the aspect of design approach, it still requires further attention. The mass apartment construction on one side causes problems because not all prospects of inhabitant have the same perception and aspiration; as a result, the well-prepared apartment design is eventually unable to accommodate the needs of its inhabitants.

This research tries to reveal the behaviors of the inhabitants, why they have the tendency of changing form and pattern of their spatial arrangement especially at the Pekunden Apartments of Semarang. The research results do not reveal only the background of inhabitants motivation, however, they also reveal what the changes of form and pattern of spatial arrangement look like and the impacts emerging after the changes.

The result of the act of revealing of inhabitants motivational background and occurring changes of form and pattern of spatial arrangement will be used as the evaluation materials for improvements of the design of apartment, not only in Pekunden, however they are also for other apartments that have not been built yet.

Keywords: slum settlement, apartment, form and pattern spatial arrangement.

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