

Host Book

NEW LIFE 
Copenhagen

This book belongs to

A quote you would like to pass on:

New Life Copenhagen

HOST BOOK

Your guidebook



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Social Environmental
Behavior Patterns

Dear Host,

Thank you for opening your home to one or more unknown guests. And thereby giving them the opportunity to come to Denmark and participate in the climate conference. Everybody needs a place to sleep and by opening your own door, you open the possibility for change to happen. It remains to be proven what we can actually change anything – but we can only change the future if we stand together.

Your hospitality makes democracy happen.

NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN is a community and a social experiment. NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN is you. Together with your guest(s). And all the other hosts and guests. And all the things we can do together. If the experiment works, NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN will be a powerful act to teach and remind us that the basis for real sustainability is collectivity. And that life can be lived differently if we want it to be.

In just a few days, a 'new life' will unfold in your home. Or maybe your guest(s) have already arrived? A person you have never met will live and sleep in your home. A guest who is not coming because of you, but because of our common home. This planet.

When was the last time your planet sent you a visitor?

Yes, we know, it does not happen very often. Therefore we have made this book to help you. Help you look at things anew. We see it as a form of guidebook working with different aspects of the human meeting.

In one sense, the book you hold in your hand is an evaluation of sharing. For the following days, you will share the basic elements of your everyday life with one or more new people. This book will help you register and reflect on the collective aspects of your meeting, as well as its relation to the larger context that made this possible and necessary – the climate challenges, the conference and the human actions trying to deal with all of this.

So. Open your book, like you opened your home. With a curious and hospitable mind. Enjoy looking at and learning from each other. Bring the book with you and fill out the questionnaire during lunch, on the bus or before going to bed. Take notes. Think. Share it all with us and your guest. If you like.

Sixten Kai Wich

Chin Shun

Martin Brock

NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN: A SOCIAL EXPERIMENT

NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN is an art festival and social experiment organized by the artist-run community Wooloo.org.

NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN takes place in thousands of Danish homes during the United Nations Climate Change Conference from December 7th to 18th, 2009.

NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN does not involve any actual exhibitions or physical works of art. Instead, we invite our participants to live together - and to live in new ways.

IT IS VERY COLD IN DECEMBER

One of the greatest challenges for a broad, democratic climate conference has been to secure accommodation for the estimated 30,000 people coming to Copenhagen. The hotels are booked by representatives from the most powerful nations and organizations leaving lesser funded visitors options such as the floors of sports halls and schools.

And yet thousands of activists have been unable to secure any type of accommodation for themselves. And if you don't have a place to stay in Denmark in December, it is very hard to come here.

That is why we started NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN in early 2009 and began asking private Danish families to open up their homes for the climate guests. Today, this initiative has created free housing for more than 3,000 activists

and climate campaigners coming to Copenhagen from over 100 countries.

LIGHT BULBS ARE NOT THE ISSUE

The conference in Copenhagen symbolizes both the hopes and the difficulties inherent in reaching any form of major global agreement within our current system. Nation states are unwilling to commit to legal limitations of their energy consumption and instead of discussing the real sources of this problem, mainstream climate discourse is concerned with pressuring individual citizens to make marginal changes in their behavior.

For years, we have heard suggestions for what we and our low-energy light bulbs can do - now is the time to start asking what our politicians can do for us!

That is why the Copenhagen conference is so incredibly important. The climate crisis is not just a threat for humanity but also our greatest opportunity: the opportunity to create transnational commitment around a radical re-thinking of a destructive economic system that thrives on exploiting natural resources and people.

The way we are told to wash our clothes is a distraction from what is truly possible - an opportunity to live our lives differently. With this purpose in mind, NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN would like to question the conditions that constantly shape and inform our actions. If we begin by thinking small, perhaps we can end up somewhere big.

So, let's begin our experiment with Denmark.

HOW DENMARK OF YOU

Imagine that you know nothing about Denmark (That might be very easy for you!). Then imagine that you explore this foreign place and talk to the people living there. You ask them if they would mind to have a stranger living with them for a few days?

“I would like to know who they are”, they reply. “Maybe you could show me a picture of them? Or make a website with profiles? Then I can choose someone who looks nice!”

“No, that is not possible”, you answer. “They have to be strangers. You have to trust them. That is the whole point.”

“Okay”, a few thousand people respond. “We will be willing to host strangers. But we want to ask you something in return. From the 7th to the 18th of December 2009, we want you to forget everything you know about Denmark. “

“That is very easy”, you say.

“Good”, they say. “Once you have forgotten everything, we want you to imagine that ‘denmark’ is a word. An adjective. We want you to say the sentence: ‘How denmark of you!’

“We want you to tell us what it means?”

THE ART OF LIVING

The mission of NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN is to empower our participants to develop alternative modes of constructing reality.

The first step to this end is the production of hospitality. To experience NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN, you have to participate. There is no way around this. You have to come to Copenhagen or you have to open your home to a visitor from another country.

It is through this meeting, once the need for shelter has been satisfied, that NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN opens up as a structure of ideas. To further explore this social architecture, we have created an Open Call asking for ways to challenge this human meeting. This includes both the large-scale meeting of thousands and the intimate meeting of guests and hosts.

In late 2008, we posted this Open Call for social concepts on Wooloo.org, our web-platform used by more than 13,000 international artists. We soon began to receive the first suggestions for rules, rituals and guidelines for interaction. The rest came organically when the many guests started contacting us with their reasons and agendas for coming to Copenhagen.

Out of all the many ideas we have received from locals and visitors alike, we have selected the following to share with you. By doing this, our aim is not to represent a set of fixed cultural conclusions, but to create a model for a fluid cultural landscape. A way for you to experience, to envision and to live a new life.

We invite you to join us in this challenge, and to participate in the projects that make up NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN.

SUPERFLEX (DK)

Superflex uses the context of the climate conference to educate us about a new ecological alternative to cremation and casket burial. In the form of a contract, the artist group responds to the increasing amount of goods marketed towards our 'green' conscience. The contract asks if you - in case of death during the climate conference - would commit yourself to being buried in an ecological way. During the climate conference a public campaign will ask people to sign up for this climate friendly alternative. Ecological burial is developed by Swedish biologist, Susanne Wiigh-Mäsak and is expected to be implemented for the first time in 2010.

MARISA OLSON (US)

Marisa Olson will host a mysterious housewarming party engaging both activist, diplomatic, and tourist audiences alike. Olson will appear as a young woman of Scandinavian origin, dressed in ultra-bright neon, opening the doors to her blacklit temporary house situated on the City Hall Square in Copenhagen. After the housewarming she will live here for two days in NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN's only public housing.

The "warm reception" will reflect on the backdrop of the UN Conference's agenda and the role of spectacle and personality in the proceedings. When did humanity conceive of the "environment"? And when did people start worrying about it?

RAKETA (S)

Raketa has infiltrated the NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN matching system and selected ten hosts and guests for their exclusive Home Away Resort. Here the roles of home and away are investigated and turned upside down. Raketa travels to Copenhagen to meet the participants and throughout the conference period provides them with instructions and special services that will make the guests feel at home and make the hosts feel like being in their own homes for the first time.

OPEN DIALOGUES (UK)

Open Dialogues will perform a series of 1,000 interviews conducted throughout the climate conference with the diverse participants of NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN. With their exploratory approach, Open Dialogues seeks to build up an archive and stream of statements, situations and reflections upon imagining and realizing new ways of living and thinking.

CLIMATE JUSTICE FAST! (Global)

Climate Justice Fast! is an international hunger strike taking place from the 6th of November to the end of the climate conference on the 18th of December. Activists from Bangladesh to Mexico are eating no food and will drink only water to call for strong and just action on the climate crisis. Four of the fasting activists and a medical assistant are staying with a NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN family in Copenhagen. On December 7th - the first day of the climate conference and one month after the fast began - the hosting family will fast for 24 hours in sympathy for the activists and we invite all of our participants to do the same.

FRANCISCA ANGELICA CANCHUMANI RICSE (PE)
Angelica is a peruvian shaman and healer coming to Copenhagen as one of twenty representatives of indigenous interests at the conference. After reading her coca leaves she is convinced that several ritual insumes are needed for Copenhagen. In one of them her hosting family and other New Life participants are invited to take part. She is 70 years old and has never travelled anywhere before.

SIGNA (A/DK)

The book you hold in your hands is made in collaboration with the Nordic Institute of Social Environmental Behaviour Patterns a.k.a. the performance duo SIGNA. The intention of the publication is to examine and evaluate the extensive encounter of hospitable families and climate activists from all over the world. Who are you? What is your background and what are your dreams? Why are you here? What will come out of all this? And can this book possibly act as a tool - through the questionnaire following on the next pages - to influence the outcome and experience of your meeting?

LEARN MORE AT WWW.NEWLIFECOPENHAGEN.COM.

NEW LIFE COPENHAGEN is organized by the artists-run community Wooloo.org.

Artistic direction: Wooloo Productions (Sixten Kai Nielsen & Martin Rosengaard) in collaboration with Christian Skovbjerg Jensen.



**Nordic Institute of Social Environmental
Behavior Patterns**

Investigation No. 365/IV, Mod. 01-24

Name
Year of birth
Country of origin
Occupation
Host address
Home address

Find an item in the home of your host which you find strange.

Count and compare to your own home:

Host		Guest
<input type="text"/>	radiators	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	electrical apparatus (over 500 W)	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	square meters	<input type="text"/>

Ask the host to show you an object with a particular story or personal value.

Are young people generally more selfish than their parents and grandparents?

Yes

Don't know

No

What do you think is the best age to be?

Are you afraid of getting old?

Yes

Sometimes

No

When did you first become an adult in your mind?

What did you want to be when you grew up?

Do you consider the climatic impact of a long life?

Yes

No

Do you have a pension plan?

Yes

No

What is your ethnic background?

Are friends more important than family?

Yes Don't know No

Are you pressured by your family to act in a certain way?

Yes Sometimes No

Do you usually have any influence on family matters?

Yes Sometimes No

How many members do you have in your family?

Have you ever seen your mother or father cry?

Yes No

Are you concerned that your children will be victims of an environmental catastrophe?

Yes No

Do you have a love of your life?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you believe in love at first sight?

Yes

Maybe

No

Would you ever consider marrying or dating someone from another culture?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do women usually work after getting married in your country?

Yes

Don't know

No

Have you ever felt that you knew someone the first time you met them?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you think arranged marriages are a good idea?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you think getting married means giving up freedom?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you think that you will change if you get married?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you think it is okay for a couple to live together before getting married?

Yes

Don't know

No

Do you think love is necessary to have a good marriage?

Yes

Don't know

No

Do you approve of same-sex marriages?

Yes

Maybe

No

In your opinion is marriage for life?

Yes

Don't know

No

Do you think it is okay for couples to kiss in public?

Yes

Maybe

No

Is it important that you share political views with your loved one?

Not at all

Very much

Are you passionate about your beliefs?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you ever try to impose your beliefs on others?

Never

Always

Do you believe:

in God?

in the after-life?

in coincidences?

in heaven?

in hell?

in miracles?

in bad luck?

that your ancestors are watching?

in angels?

that everything has a soul?

other:

Were you in the military?

Yes

No

Would you like to be in the military?

Yes

Maybe

No

Have you experienced war?

Yes

No

Has anyone you know been a victim of war?

Yes

No

Has anyone in your family ever fought in a war?

Yes

No

Do you think war is ever justified?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you think terror is ever justified?

Yes

Maybe

No

Would you go to war to save the climate?

Yes

Maybe

No

Have you ever been in a disaster?

Yes

No

If yes: what kind of disaster?

Are you prepared for a disaster?

Yes

Don't know

No

Do you think disasters can help build a community?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you have extra food and water in your house?

Yes

No

Do you have an electric generator in your house?

Yes

No

Do you know where the evacuation area is in your area?

Yes

No

What is the worst disaster you could imagine?

Have you ever received a bribe?

Yes

No

Have you ever bribed someone?

Yes

No

Have you ever been the victim of a crime?

Yes

No

If yes: which crime?

Did you ever need the help of the police?

Yes

No

Have you ever felt let down by the police?

Yes

No

What do you think is the worst crime a person could commit?

Have you ever done anything illegal?

Yes

Don't know

No

If yes: what did you do?

Should a demonstration always be peaceful?

Yes Don't know No

Do you believe in hunger strikes as a mean to create attention to urgent matters?

Yes Sometimes No

Do you believe in public suicide as part of a demonstration?

Yes Sometimes No

Would you risk going to prison fighting for the climate?

Yes Maybe No

Would you risk your life fighting for the climate?

Yes Maybe No

Do you feel safe in Copenhagen?

Yes Don't know No

Is it ever okay to break the law?

Yes Don't know No

Are you afraid of death?

Not at all

Very much

Do you think that there is anything worth dying for?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you often think of death?

Not at all

Very much

Do you want to know the date of your death?

Not at all

Very much

Do you believe that you will be born again?

Yes

Maybe

No

Have you written a testament?

Yes

No

Do you have a life insurance?

Yes

No

Would you let anybody die in your place?

Yes

Maybe

No

On account of your beliefs or some other reason, do you look forward to dying?

Not at all

Very much

Would you consider donating your organs after your death?

Yes

Maybe

No

Would you want your cremated remains to be part of a fireworks show? (It's possible in San Francisco)

Yes

Maybe

No

Would you like to have your body frozen, so that you could be brought back to life in the future (cryogenics)?

Yes

Maybe

No

Would you consider being buried in a new ecological and climate friendly way?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you think people should rather be cremated than buried?

Yes

Don't know

No

What is the most dangerous thing in your home?

How many different homes have you lived in?

How many rooms are there in your home?

Do you like to invite people to your home?

Yes Sometimes No

Have you ever invited a stranger into your home?

Yes No

Are you proud of your home?

Yes Sometimes No

Could you build a house for yourself?

Yes Don't know No

Could you live without electricity?

Yes Don't know No

What activities did you do together with your host?

Did you notice any cultural differences?

Not at all

Very much

Did anything in the home of your host surprise you?

Would you have liked to get to know your host better?

Yes

No

What subjects did you talk about?

Did you tell your host about your cultural background?

Yes

No

What did you like best about your host?

Could there be another world war in the future?

Yes

Don't know

No

Can a climate disaster be avoided?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you believe that you will keep in touch with your host in the future?

Yes

Maybe

No

Are you afraid of the future?

Not at all

Very much

Are you planning any changes in your life?

Yes

No

Do you feel that your goals are realistic?

Yes

Don't know

No

What is your biggest goal in life?

Do you know the neighbors who live near you?

Not at all

Very much

Does your community have special days to get together?

Yes

No

Does your community welcome strangers?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Have you ever helped a neighbor?

Yes

No

Would you offer a beggar any job you had to be done in your home?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you feel that New Life Copenhagen is a community which you are now part of?

Yes

No

Which other communities are you part of?

Who is the most beautiful person alive today?

Who was the most beautiful person in history?

Is beauty related to power?

Not at all

Very much

Do you wear jewelry?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Have you ever bought secondhand clothes?

Yes

No

Have you ever bought imitation brand clothing?

Yes

No

Do you consider yourself beautiful?

Not at all

Very much

Do you think sunblock is important?

Yes

No

Do you own a car?

Yes

No

Do you have a bicycle?

Yes

No

How old were you when you went on your first flight?

Do you prefer to travel alone?

Yes

Sometimes

No

What are 3 countries that you would never visit?

What are 3 countries that you would like to visit?

Do you think tourism will harm the earth?

Yes

Don't know

No

Would you ever think of immigrating?

Yes

Maybe

No

What is your biggest fear in life?

Are you apprehensive about walking outside after dark?

Very much

Not at all

Do you always lock your house?

Yes

Maybe

No

Are you afraid of:

insects?

heights?

illness?

darkness?

thunder?

terror?

accidents?

loneliness?

inflation?

other:

Have you ever been discriminated against because of:

- your gender?
- your education level?
- your race?
- your religion?
- your appearance?
- your sexual orientation?
- other:

Have you ever discriminated against somebody?

- Yes No
-

Is discriminating against a certain group of people ever justified?

- Yes Sometimes No
-

Do you think males and females are equal?

- No No
-

Should immigrants have the same rights as native citizens?

- Yes Don't know No
-

Do you think it is acceptable for children to work on the street selling flowers and singing?

Yes

Sometimes

No

How many children do you have?

Should criminals and morally corrupt people be prevented from having children by law?

Yes

Sometimes

No

How many hours a week do you spend doing things with your children?

In an overpopulated world, should people be free to have as many children as they want?

Yes

No

Is it acceptable for parents to spank their children?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you think a mother is a better "stay at home parent" than a father?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you have any long distance friends?

Yes

No

Do you make friends easily?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you think it is possible to have a best friend of the opposite sex without becoming girl- or boyfriend?

Yes

Maybe

No

Do you trust all of your friends?

Yes

No

Are you nervous when introduced to someone new?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you consider yourself a good friend?

Not at all

Very much

Have you ever told a lie to help a friend?

Yes

No

Have you made any new friends through New Life?

Yes

No

Is it a good idea to borrow money from friends?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Is it a good idea to borrow money from family?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you have a credit card?

Yes

No

Would you like a world without money?

Yes

Don't know

No

If you got one billion Euros, what would you do?

Do you gamble?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you consider yourself:

poor?

middle-class?

rich?

Do you invest in the stock market?

Yes

No

Do you put money in the bank?

Yes

No

How much money do you have on you now?

Do you enjoy shopping?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Are you afraid to lose your money?

Not at all

Very much

What will happen to your money after you die?

Would you rather have:

more time?

more money?

more skills?

Do you enjoy "playing the devil's advocate"
(debating for the fun of it)?

Never

Always

Would you describe yourself as an argumentative
person?

Not at all

Very much

Are you easily persuaded in an argument?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you consider yourself a social person?

Not at all

Very much

Did you have any interesting conversations with your
host?

Yes

No

Do you get a kick out of provoking others?

Never

Always

Does it annoy you when someone interrupts you when
you are speaking?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you often question the way things work?

Never

Always

Do you like to improve things?

Not at all

Very much

Do you consider yourself a happy person?

Not at all

Very much

Do you listen to other people's conversations on the street?

Yes

Sometimes

No

Do you think you manage your time wisely?

Not at all

Very much

Do you get bored easily?

Yes

No

Are you good at getting things done in time?

Not at all

Very much

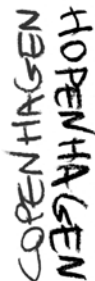
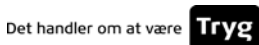
Find the 3 biggest differences between the home of your host and your own home.

Count and compare to your own home:

Host		Guest
<input type="text"/>	water tabs	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	electrical apparatus (under 500 W)	<input type="text"/>
<input type="text"/>	lamps	<input type="text"/>

Find the most desirable object in the home of your host and explain him or her about your choice.

Thank you for the kind support:



THE DANISH ARTS FOUNDATION