

Call for Papers and Peer Reviewers/Referees

International Journal of Consumer Studies, Special Issue on Consumer Issues in Housing

The International Journal of Consumer Studies is designed to provide an international forum for academic and research papers about consumer affairs. It publishes studies of goods and services from a user perspective on topics such as access and awareness, design and quality, information and choice, marketing and advice, rights and responsibilities, and standards and safety.

Housing affects consumers at many levels – as a basic need, in the context of social stratification and mobility, in terms of affordability and debt, and the roles women play in the processes of home-making. The journal is interested in developing a strong body of academic literature related to consumer issues pertaining to housing and invites submissions for a special edition, to be published in September 2009.

Manuscripts are particularly welcome on the following topics:

- Interior design – housing and home-making, aesthetics
- Architecture – preferences of architects and consumers
- Spatiality of the domestic – public and private, space use, floor plans
- Housing and gender issues
- Housing and living environments, land uses, city planning, transport and access to services
- Affordability of housing – access to housing, homelessness
- The life course and housing – lifetime homes, older and young people's housing choices
- Sustainable housing – materials, environmental impact, green and low carbon housing, green design
- Consumer empowerment, social inclusion and consultation
- Housing tenure, security and consumer rights
- Health issues relating to housing
- Housing and consumer debt
- Designing for diversity, disability, and independent living
- Housing and consumer information and consumer education

This list is by no means exhaustive. The journal and editor of this special issue would welcome any work which contributes to a better understanding of the consumer as related to housing. Articles may be theoretical, report on detailed research or reflect on practice. They should add significantly to the research literature in this area.

This issue of the journal is intended for any one with an academic or professional interest in consumer studies, who wishes to write from a local, national or international perspective. This special issue provides an opportunity for academics and professionals to join other eminent authorities in the field who have helped disseminate research studies on consumers related to housing.

Finished manuscripts for this issue should be submitted by **January 31st 2009** to the guest editor of this issue, Hilje van der Horst at the address below.

Call for Peer Reviewers/Referees

The International Journal of Consumer Studies offers an opportunity for interested academics and professionals in the fields of housing to join other eminent scholars and professionals in engaging in the double-blind peer review process. As a referee for the Special Issue you will be asked to review one or two articles and will be provided with guidelines. Interested parties should forward a brief note to the address below. Please indicate up to three topic areas (key words) on which you are confident of being able to provide a considered assessment, and your contact information.

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