

**Location:** Oslo Public Library, Grünerløkka  
**Date:** 11.11.2025    **Time:** 18:00  
**Observer:** Lila Fredrika Blom

### Observational Notes:

There is a vintage-like wide area on the left side of the main entrance of the library. The area is divided into three parts: the left side – where a long rectangular table stands with chairs on both sides of it; then, the right side of the room – with two big comfortable vintage-leather sofas; and, finally, straight from the entrance space – there are few armchairs placed that are directed toward the main-entrance view.

Deichman Grünerløkka Library is centered in *Schous plass* park. Windows on the left side of the room have a view toward the playground where people of different ages and ethnicity spend time together and playing diverse games each afternoon until the late evenings; while on the right side of the room, where there are two previously mentioned vintage-leather sofas, there is a beautiful, romantic view toward the little tree-filled forest.



The image above depicts the right-side area of the room – the place I found appealing and best suited to observe the environment.

### Observer's Comments and Analyses:

*We can clearly recognize sociocultural theories implemented in the design of the library's place and the space inside it: they are well-created to give opportunities for collaboration, participation and learning – creating a unique possibility that bridges people from diverse social, cultural and ethnic backgrounds. Whether inside or outside the walls of this old-fashioned library, everyone is gathered to learn both from and about each other by spending meaningful time together. This viewpoint is grounded on a constructivist ideal.*

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It is usually meant to be quiet in the libraries, so it is here.

There are two kids with their female and male guardians; three students; two older men in their 30s-40s; and a mysterious man – looking like a homeless person peacefully taking a nap in one of these vintage-leather sofas.

The individuals present are respectful toward other people's needs for privacy, concentration, and peace. However, they are ready to discipline anyone who is producing a louder-than-allowed noise, or someone trying to chit-chat, by directing sharp eye-contact or a quiet "shhh".

**Observer's Comments and Analyses:**

*This designed space has a purpose not only to welcome those who want to read and study, but also to provide a safe and secure place where anyone is welcome to stay as long as they like. This act of kindness, a brilliant, selfless idea, is just one of many aspects that portray the vision of Norwegian norms, attitudes, and standards. Again, we can see how sociocultural perspectives are directly shaping social ideologies and architectural needs to implement these ideas. Additionally, people of Norway are open to learn from each other, and occasionally discipline through silent communication. These actions reflect the sociocultural ideology and modesty of interactive and collaborative learning, growing, and being.*