

PROBLEMS OF THE CLOSE QUARTERS

LACK OF PRIVACY OLD MEN AND FAMILIES HOUSED SAME BUILDING
THERE HAD TO BE WHISPERED ARGUMENTS x
FAMILY PROBLEMS BECAME COMMUNITY PROBLEMS
EVERYBODY GOT TO KNOW A LOT ABOUT THEIR NEIGHBORS
MOTHERS HAD TO GET CHILDREN UNDER THE COVERS TO BAWL THEM OUT. x
ALL THE FAMILY IN ONE ROOM WAS A PROBLEM
LIKE LIVING IN A HOSPITAL WARD.
SOME PEOPLE BUILT BLANKET WALLS AROUND THEIR BEDS.
LIVING THIS WAY WAS LIKE HAVING YOUR DIARY PRINTED IN THE PAPER. x
SPEAKING TO THE FAMILY WAS LIKE MAKING A PUBLIC ADDRESS.
EVERYONE HAD TO GET USED TO BABY CRYING FAMILY TROUBLES SNOORS x
LOVE JOY AND TEARS
IT WAS LIKE HAVING FIVE FAMILIES IN ONE ROOM.
UNCOMPLETED PARTITIONS CAUSED A VERITABLE SYMPHONY BABBLING SOUNDS x
YOURS AND YOUR NEIGHBORS.
THE LACK OF SOUND INSULATION BETWEEN ROOMS BECAME A SOURCE OF A
CONSIDERABLE NUMBER OF PROBLEMS.
THE PARTITIONS BETWEEN APARTMENTS KEPT NEIGHBORS OUT OF SIGHT
BUT NOT OUT OF HEARING. THERE WERE NO CEILINGS IN THE ROOMS AND
THAT PORTION ABOVE THE DIVIDING PARTITIONS AND THE UNDERPART OF
THE ROOF OVERHEAD WAS OPEN FROM ONE END OF THE BUILDING TO THE
OTHER. THIS CREATED A SORT OF BUILDING WIDE INTERCOMMUNICATION
SYSTEM CARRYING THE SOUNDS OF EACH ROOM OF THE BUILDING INTO
ALL THE OTHERS.
ONE PERSON SNOORING OR A BABY CRYING BECAME A BUILDING WIDE
COMMUNITY PROBLEM.
EVEN A FAMILY SQUABLE COULD BECOME A BUILDING WIDE CONCERN AS x
RESIDENTS TOOK SIDES.
SOME DEVELOPED UNIQUE METHODS OF COMMUNICATION TO KEEP FAMILY
ARGUMENTS FROM BECOMING BUILDING WIDE KNOWLEDGE.
PENCIL AND PAPER ARGUMENTS WAS ONE METHOD INSTEAD OF GOING PUBLIC x
BY TALKING. THEY FOUGHT IT OUT WITH NOTES PASSED BACK AND FORTH.
SOME USED SIGN LANGUAGE INSTEAD OF WORDS.
MOTHER OR FATHER WOULD TELL OFF A SON OR DAUGHTER IN NO UNCERTAIN
WORDS UNDER THE COVER OF A FEW BLANKETS TO MUFFLE THE SOUND.
IMAGINE HAVING ALL FAMILY CONVERSATIONS IN WHISPERS.
WE HAD BEEN ABLE TO INSULATE THE JAPANESE FROM ALL NON-JAPANESE
INTERFERENCE FROM THE OUTSIDE BUT FAILED TO PROVIDE THE PRIVILEGES
OF PRIVACY FROM THEIR OWN NEIGHBORS HERE IN THE CENTER.
THE ONE EQUALIZING FACTOR WAS THE KNOWLEDGE THAT EVERYONE ELSE IN x
THE CENTER HAD THE SAME PROBLEM.
WE DIDNT HAVE PRIVACY BUT WE HAD EQUALITY OF NON-PRIVACY.
THIS WAS A HANDICAP THAT EVERYONE HAD.
THIS CREATED AN ATMOSPHERE LIKE LIVING IN A GLASS HOUSE OR LIKE A
BIRD IN A CAGE OR A FISH IN A FISH BOWL.