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2/10/16
CONSTRUCTED ENVIRONMENTS



In my room back home, I have a 1.5' x 2' framed cork board filled with pictures, messages, pins, and stickers full of memories that show who I am today. This cork board hangs above my desk, to the left of one out of two windows in my room. While dorm shopping, the first item on my list was a cork board. It was important for me to have to one in my dorm that had both elements of home and who I am today at The New School. If the viewer looks closely, they can see a picture at the middle bottom of my cork board in my room, to give me a warm feeling of home. This relates to the idea of “symbolic ecology”, referred in *Design and Order in Everyday Life*, with a network of items that give us a feeling of our past selves.



Pictured above is my roommate's bed. We live on the seventh floor and she's on the top bunk. We have a perfect view of the Empire State Building our dorm, and from her bed she has a pretty good view of it as well. In her home in Jersey City, New Jersey, she can see a partial view of the Empire State Building, so that reminds her of home. She also makes her bed feel like home by posting pictures of her friends, family, and boyfriend, tickets of events that she attended in high school, pages from fashion magazines her mother gave her, and a poster of her favorite movie. She likes to read and work on her computer up there. This relates to the idea of "architecture of consciousness" referred in the reading, "Power of Protest", along with the idea of "color and form" in Design and Order in Everyday Life.



As I stated before, my roommate lives in Jersey City, New Jersey. Her commute home is 3 path stops starting at 14th street and ending at Grove Street in Jersey City. When i asked her about a space that makes her feel at home, she actually mentioned this path station. She goes home every weekend, and feels the sense of home based on the familiar surrounding followed by habitually going home. This loosely relates to the idea of the "modern moment" mentioned by Appadurai in his text, considering most people live in the "modern moment" on the train.