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IN DEFENSE OF HOUSING

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- The commodification of housing is a relatively new thing (since 1950s), historically housing was not an independent sector of the economy - it was rather a by-product of larger social/economical relationships – unity of labor and domesticity. (Madden & Marcuse, 18) “Housing is the precondition for both work and for leisure. Even in early capitalist society – housing was shaped by the organization of work rather than being produced as a commodity in its own right. In exchange for labour, property owners provided housing for their workers on terms ranging from exploitative to friendly (Madden & Marcuse, 21). Slowly, housing was disembodied from the circuits of work and production to become a direct bearer of economic value itself (Madden & Marcuse, 22). \*The market value of housing is not a function of the work that occurs within\*.

- Globalization of housing - housing is not part of global economic networks so it responds to global signals and not to local ones - such as being used for investment and disengaged with community (34).

- Controlling one’s housing is a way to control one’s labor as well as one’s free time, which is why struggles over housing are always, in part, struggles over autonomy.” (Madden & Marcuse, 12)

- Public regulation over the housing market is essential – as it is a domain of struggle between different and unequal groups – deregulation would cause massive displacement and residential segregation (Madden & Marcuse, 50).

- Housing as tool for bolstering social order (Madden & Marcuse, 125)

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Steven Madden, Peter Marcuse, *In Defense of Housing,* (New York: Verso, 2016).