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The Effectiveness of Children's Drawings as an Inspiration Source for Product Design; An Analytical Pilot Study

Najwa A. Abdelkader,

Assistant Professor, Helwan University, Egypt. naabdelkader@uqu.edu.sa

Shuruq G. Nahhas,

Assistant Professor, Umm Al-Qura University, Saudi Arabia. sgnahhas@uqu.edu.sa

Abstract:

Children's artistic expression has always carried many distinctive aesthetic and creative values. Children express their visions of themselves and the outside world using their imagination through drawings. Many artists from schools of modern art were influenced by children's drawings. These schools include Expressionism, Fauvism, Cubism, Abstract, Surrealism, and others. Artists focused on the use of many characteristics of children's drawings, including flatness of shapes, imagination, exaggeration, distortion, and symbolism. They also focused on the use of structural systems for children's drawings. Despite all such interest in children's drawings by many artists, children's drawings didn't receive the same degree of attention in the fields of design. **Objective:** the study was designed to take advantage of the aesthetic and artistic values in children's drawings as an inspiration to design their products. This is to emphasize the importance of the artistic and expressive values of children's drawings and the possibility of using them as an inspiration for many design ideas. This helps to enrich the innovative designs in a different childlike style, which may be closer to the child's heart and reflect his/her own world. **Methodology:** This study relied on the analytical experimental method, by analyzing drawings of children in the middle and late childhood age to understand their artistic, aesthetics, and imaginative aspects. Then, creating innovative designs using Adobe Illustrator, based on the same style as the original graphics and addresses the designs by changing several factors depending on the final products. For example, by changing the colors, adding new shapes and elements, repeating each unit to create various patterns. Then, employing each design in different products, such as toys, wallpaper, wall arts, pillows, clothes, accessories, pins, and others. **Conclusion:** This study concluded that inspiring children's drawings in the design of their products support their association with their artwork and strengthens their overall aesthetic sense. The use of Adobe illustrator has also helped to process images' designing in terms of colors and adding elements, maintaining their quality and use on a variety of products. The designs of the implemented products, inspired by children's drawings have won the admiration and attention of the specialists as well as the children themselves. This proves their effectiveness and success at the technical level and the level of aesthetic preference of the child. In conclusion, the researchers stressed the need to pay attention to children's drawings and encourages their artistic production through exhibitions and art centers in schools, particularly kindergartens, which enrich children's creativity and develop their aesthetic sense.

Keywords:

Design Inspiration, Children's drawings, Product Design, Children's Product

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