



With the cost of housing increasing relative to income, a decrease in the size of the traditional family unit, a more mobile working population and an increase in life expectancy globally, there has been a growing awareness of the need to match the requirements of the house owner to the size of the house more precisely. Over the past five decades the average Irish house size has increased from 62sqm in 1975 to 106sqm in the Celtic Tiger era, with the average again to 88sqm in 2016 (CSO 2016). As a 'one size fits all' approach to housing begins to be challenged, my research examines the potential role of the Tiny House Movement. This social and architectural initiative, which has gained much momentum in the United States since the 1990s, is critically examined in the Irish context, and particularly in terms of its wider implications for land use, construction costs, changing demographics and alterations to the family unit size.