



percentage of people choosing each seat

| role | seat | A | B | C | D | E |
|---------------|------|----|----|----|----|---|
| confronting | | 41 | 8 | 6 | 20 | 5 |
| collaborating | | 25 | 51 | 19 | 5 | 0 |
| conversing | | 46 | 11 | 42 | 1 | 0 |
| co-existing | | 37 | 5 | 2 | 48 | 8 |

6.5 Statistics showing how the most popular choice of seat is related to spatial roles. This six-seater table has one person already sitting in seat 'X'. Which seat would you choose if you were (A) going to compete at a game, (B) share notes on some papers before a meeting, (C) have a cup of coffee and a chat, (D) work independently in a library? (an experiment replicating work by Sommer)

is that which tends to draw people together, and sociofugal space is that which tends to throw them apart just as centrifugal force throws objects away from the centre of a spinning axis. Actually Osmond could have a claim to be the father of this whole field. His concern about the extent to which patients in a geriatric ward were communicating started all these investigations and gave Robert Sommer the chance to begin the work that was to be reported in his seminal book, *Personal Space*.