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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

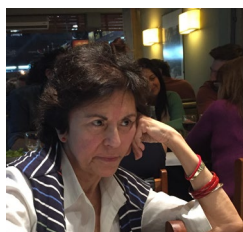
VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 2: Room C224 - Housing First (1)

Chair: **Volker Busch-Geertsema, DE**

Silvia Maria Schor et al, BRA/ ES: Homelessness and Housing Exclusion. Housing provision for homeless people in São Paulo city and the Communal Housing First Model



Silvia Maria Schor holds a PhD in Economics is Assistant Professor in the Economics Department, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration, University of São Paulo, SP, Brazil. She is also coordinator of the Social Housing Research Area at the Foundation Institute of Economic Research (Fundação Instituto de Pesquisas Econômicas), University of São Paulo and the coordinator of the Brazilian Network of Researchers on Homelessness Population.

The first program for public provision of housing for homeless people is underway in the city of São Paulo. In the form of a pilot project, it is the responsibility of the Mayor of the city and results from the request of social movements, academic researchers and the São Paulo Public Prosecutor. The diverse set of programs grouped under the name of Housing First was one of the references to establish the understanding that the provision of housing is an indispensable condition for public policies intended for homeless people. The right to housing advocated by the social movements, the Public Prosecutor's Office and the academy was strongly supported by the formulations already consolidated in these programs and has benefited, in addition, from the experiences in the various countries in which the program has been implemented. Particularly it has allowed ways to make the model being implemented flexible, keeping in mind its two fundamental supports: the immediate provision of housing and the constitution of a team to go along with the beneficiaries. This flexibilization made the program similar to a Housing First Communal model as a result of local restrictions. The present paper describes the model being implemented, identifying the restrictions for its design and operationalization. The constraints of the model are innumerable. First, the scale at which the provision of housing becomes necessary: the population of street people in São Paulo exceeds 17,000 people. Second, income transfer programs for the population are practically nonexistent; Third, there is a need to build a working methodology for the follow-up social work teams, under a new conception of the role of social assistance. And last but not least, given the significant housing deficit in the city of São Paulo, civil society raises ethical issues to the allocation of public resources for the provision of housing to the homeless population. The implementation process has been accompanied by a joint committee of civil society and the prefecture for the construction of a methodology for monitoring and correcting design errors.

Isabel Baptista, Marcus Knutagard and Nicholas Pleace, PT/SE/UK: Housing First in Europe: An Overview of Implementation, Strategy and Fidelity



Nicholas Pleace is a Professor of Social Policy and the Director of the Centre for Housing Policy at the University of York. He has been part of the editorial committee for the European Journal of Homelessness and the research team for the European Observatory on Homelessness since 2010. He is also a member of the Women's Homelessness in Europe Network (WHEN). Nicholas has been researching homelessness in the UK and Europe since the mid 1990s and has published widely on the subject. He has undertaken a wide range of service, strategy and programme evaluations, working particularly with homelessness service providers, and his

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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

recent work has included research on the socioeconomic integration of homeless people, Housing First and comparative pan-European research."



Isabel Baptista is an independent researcher with over twenty years' research experience and in poverty and social inclusion topics, homelessness issues, analysis of governance mechanisms, social protection policies and systems, and gender based violence. Beyond research and publication activities, she was the national expert of the EU Network of independent experts on social inclusion between 2004 and 2013 and coordinated the Portuguese team of the ESPN (European Social Protection Network) between 2014 and 2018. Currently, she integrates the Network Core Team of the ESPN as Social Inclusion Leader. She represents Portugal in the European Observatory on Homelessness (EOH) and is a member of the editorial team of the European Journal of Homelessness. She is also a member of the Women's Homelessness in Europe Network (WHEN). At the national level, she participates in the inter-agency team responsible for monitoring the implementation of the 2nd National Homelessness Strategy in Portugal, approved in 2017.

For **Marcus Knutagard's** CV please see the plenary session.

Based on questionnaire responses from 16 EU member states and from Norway and the UK, this presentation reports the results of a study supported by the Housing First Hub Europe exploring the nature and extent of Housing First services across Europe. The research reports the degree to which Housing First is integrated into wider homelessness strategy at national and local level, examines European Housing First fidelity in relation to the Housing First Guide Europe 'core principles' and the Tsemberis Fidelity Scale, presents data on the scale of Housing First services and maps the spread of Housing First across Europe. Alongside examining the opportunities for expanding use of Housing First, the research also looks at some of the challenges, which include the adequacy and reliability of funding and finding sufficient, adequate and affordable housing supply.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 3: (ROOM TBC) Housing First (2)

Chair: Freek Spinnewijn, BE

Leo Bothén, Håkan Källmén, Ulla Beijer, Mats Blid, SE: The Effect of Housing First Program in Stockholm Regarding Recovery



Leo Bothén is a medical student, soon to be physician. His background is in care assistance and mathematics. He wrote his master thesis on homelessness for Håkan Källmén, comparing Housing First against treatment as usual in Stockholm.

Ulla Beijer has been an author to a large number of scientific articles and reports about homeless men and women during the last 20 years, including an article in the *Lancet Infect Dis* (2012) together with colleagues at Oxford University, UK. She defended her thesis "Homelessness and health: analysis of mortality and morbidity from a gender perspective" in 2009. Together with colleagues at Karolinska Institutet she is involved in a three-year EU-project, HOME_EU, about Housing First.

Homelessness is a global, common and complex problem without a clear solution. In Sweden there are more than 33 000 homeless people and there are no clear solution to the problem. The traditional Swedish way to help people out of homelessness has been the Staircase Model (SM). In this model, participants have the opportunity to eventually get an own apartment, after a long period of sobriety, and after staying in a drug-free accommodation, and in a training apartment. An alternative treatment for homelessness is Housing First (HF). In HF, apartments are first given to the participants without prerequisites, followed by intensive housing support. We aimed to test if HF had a superior effect on recovery, compared to SM. This was a pretest-posttest study spanning 18 months with 18 participants. Recovery, measured with Recovery Assessment Scale (RAS) was the primary outcome and Social Support for Recovery (SSR), Alcohol Use Disorder Identification Test (AUDIT) and Drug Use Disorder Identification Test (DUDIT) were the secondary. Statistical significant differences were found in both the positive change of recovery for HF (+10.28, $p=0.041$) and the negative change for SM (-3.00, $p=0.042$). There was no difference found in the secondary outcomes. In conclusion, Housing First was superior to SM in terms of recovery for the study population.

Joan Uribe and colleagues, ES: Difficulties and Limits in the Implementation of a Housing First Program in a Context With a Lack of Public (social) Housing and its Effects



Joan Uribe Vilarrodona holds a PhD in social anthropology and is an Associated Professor in Universitat de Barcelona. His professional activity is leading projects and facilities on homelessness, at the same time he is a manager in Consorci de Serveis Socials (public body). Beyond his other commitments he is a member of the research team on Primer la Llar (housing first) project, in Barcelona.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Barcelona City Council is the first public administration in Spain to implement a Housing First program known as Primer la Llar. Is a three-year pilot project accompanied by a qualitative research from two different perspectives. On the one hand, it studies the effects that the program has on people in their recovery process and on the other, the professional practice in the process of change and adaptation. The program has 50 homes, all of them from the private market. This fact, together with the collapse of access to the public social housing park, produces uncertainties and difficulties for the program due to the lack of housing in the city. After the outcome of the first and second phases, we can see how the Primer la Llar program has been an opportunity to implement social innovation, which is based on providing housing for the most vulnerable people in a situation of strong social exclusion, which would otherwise have been very difficult. However, the viability and sustainability of this type of programs goes beyond the pilot nature, and requires commitments in terms of public housing policy and alliances between sectors and actors, which should be considered in the design of the program. These structural, political and organizational issues directly affect the managers of the program in the city council, the organizations that directly manage the program, in the support and accompaniment of the teams, and in the recovery processes of the participants, creating new uncertainties in them that make it difficult to exit to the program. The dialogue between both researches characterizes the peculiarity of the program. With this, we intend to provide a reflection and enrich the Housing First debate: "What is second?" in the programs implemented from the first European pilot experience.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

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Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 4: (ROOM TBC) Housing Rights and Right to the City

Chair: Eoin O'Sullivan, IE

Nicolás Palacios, SE: Public Space and the Banning of homelessness in Copenhagen: Struggle and revindications of alternative spatial practices



Nicolás Palacios is a Political Scientist from the Pontificia Universidad Católica, Chile and a master's in human Geography from Lund University. His work is in the intersection of politics, critical urban geography and geographies of everyday life.

Since April 2017, legislation fining people in 'encampments' in public spaces was enacted in Copenhagen. This regulation was tightened by July 2018, becoming an effective ban, where the subject of the fine was expelled from the administrative limits of the municipality. The measure comes as an ineffective way to deal with homelessness, as it does not address the conditions that lead to it, working as a de facto ban on homelessness, displacing people from one local area to other, in a country where homelessness has been slowly but steadily rising (SFI, 2017). To analyse this phenomenon, in what is deemed to be the post-welfare Nordic States in transition (Beaten et.al, 2016) a series of interviews to different intermediate organization representatives who deal with homelessness related issues on a daily basis, have taken place, as well as an analysis of official documents from Copenhagen municipality linked to their urban life strategies for the period 2009-2015 and 2015-2025. This phenomenon is framed under actually existing neoliberalism (Brenner, 2002) encompassing austerity measures, rollback neoliberal approaches to social services and practices of annihilation of space by law (Mitchell, 1997) raising questions in relation to who has the right to the city? And what is the place of the homeless in this new landscape. In this paper, I argue that the criminalization of homelessness forces homeless people to rethink their relation to public space and develop new spatial practices., not just as a form of survival but as well as tools of everyday resistance (Scott, 1989).

Tamara Walsh, AU: Homelessness, Evictions and Human Rights Law



Tamara Walsh is a Professor of Law at the University of Queensland in Australia. Her research focus is on social welfare law and social justice, and her studies examine the impact of the law on vulnerable people including people experiencing homelessness, people on low incomes, and children and young people. Most of her studies are sociolegal and empirical in nature, and she draws on human rights discourse and social exclusion theory to explore the influence that the law has on complex social problems. She is the lead researcher of a national project on the criminalisation of poverty and homelessness, and she runs the UQ Deaths in Custody Project.

Homelessness in Australia has increased by 4.6 per cent in the past five years. Despite this, the amount of public housing stock has substantially decreased relative to household growth. Existing housing and homelessness services in Australia are unable to cope with demand. One third of the people who approach specialist homelessness services are not provided with any assistance at all, and the wait for public housing is up to ten years in some cities. For those who do obtain public housing, this is may not be a stable form of accommodation. Many people are evicted from public housing to homelessness, often for 'no reason'. There is no right to housing recognised in Australian law, so there is often no legal recourse available to people who experience evictions under these circumstances. This study considers the extent to which human rights arguments can prevent evictions to homelessness. Two (soon to be three) Australian States/Territories have Human Rights Acts. Whilst they do not include a right to housing, they do protect other rights including the rights of children and the right to protection from arbitrary interference in one's family or home. In this study, I compare the outcomes of housing cases for people who live in States/Territories with human rights legislation, with those who do



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

not. I will discuss the extent to which legal responses, including human rights laws, can help bring about positive outcomes for people who are affected by homelessness and evictions



European
Observatory on
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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden
Bios and Abstracts



European
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Homelessness



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 5: (ROOM TBC) Methodology and Research Ethics

Chair: **Joe Doherty, UK**

Clíodhna Bairéad, IE: Single Homelessness in the Dublin Region: Using secondary analysis of administrative data to examine individual's pathways through homelessness.



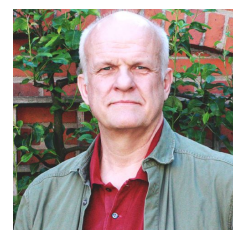
Clíodhna Bairéad is a Social Policy PhD candidate in University College Dublin, her research is partnered with Focus Ireland. Her current research uses the theory of homelessness as a form of statelessness to examine homeless service users patterns of service usage and entry, exit and re-entry into homelessness in the Dublin region.

Over the past five years, homelessness in Ireland has escalated into a national crisis. As the numbers of people experiencing homelessness grows annually, questions as to how people enter and exit homelessness have become more prevalent in national consciousness. The primary focus, thus far, throughout the crisis has been on families who experience homelessness. Since 2018 single people's experiences of homelessness has been examined in more detail using secondary analysis of administrative data. This data is collected from the Pathways Accommodation and Support System (PASS). This system, started in 2011, allows people who experience homelessness to access emergency accommodation through a centralised system. PASS also allows support services to record engagements, support plans and key working progress. Through examining this data, it is possible to examine the commonalities and differences of those who experience homelessness. This unique research project uses statistical analysis to demonstrate the pathways different groups of single people take through homelessness. Aspects of individual lives that are considered to have a possible impact on these pathways (including: age; gender; ethnicity; reason for homelessness; and previous accommodation) have been selected. Analysis of these details are examined in relation to experiences of homelessness (such as length of time in homelessness and exit type) in order to identify patterns which may affect exits from homelessness among this cohort. An original data set has been compiled from PASS data with the cooperation of the Dublin Region Homeless Executive. Initial analysis is being completed on years 2016-2018.

Marcus Knutagård, Arne Kristiansen, Carina Nilsson & Ann-Kristin Sörensen, SE: Ethical and Methodological Challenges in Action Research on Homelessness Services



Ann-Kristin Sorensen has for several years been a tenant in Helsingborg's Housing First program. She has participated in an action research-oriented project for developing service user involvement in a municipal homelessness service. Nowadays she is a social worker in a homelessness service in Helsingborg.





European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Arne Kristiansen, PhD, is associate professor in Social Work at Lund University. His research includes homelessness, substance abuse and service user involvement. He cooperates with several service user organizations, which he involves both in social work education and in research projects



Carina Nilsson is a social worker with a bachelor's degree in Social Work from Lund University. She has been coordinator of the Housing First program in Helsingborg and has been involved in action research projects in collaboration with Lund University.

For **Marcus Knutagard's** CV please check the plenary section.

Action research has another objective than dominating concepts in social science research – where the research aspects of the study are emphasized rather than creating change, and where objectivity, neutrality and avoidance of bias are important notions in the research process. The action research approach also means that the researchers will cooperate with various actors, such as social workers and service users. This collaboration poses ethical and methodological challenges that are not as explicitly relevant to conventional social science research. One example of an ethical challenge is the questions about confidentiality in the activities being investigated. Methodological challenges can, for example, entail that researchers, social workers and service users have different expectations and views on how the research should be conducted and how the activities should be developed. Another challenge is that, although it is often the practitioners that take the initiative and invite the researchers into action research projects, the researchers often have greater influence on the research design. The aim of this paper is to examine, analyze and reflect on how social workers and service users view their involvement in a research project to develop homelessness work in the city of Helsingborg in Sweden. A substantial conclusion is that it is of great importance to maintain a continuous dialogue between service users, social workers and researchers, not least to support the service users and the social workers in their role as peer researchers. The project was carried out in 2014 to 2017 and its purpose was to improve the social housing program in Helsingborg by implementing core principles and core elements from the Housing first philosophy.



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Homelessness



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

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Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 6: (ROOM TBC) Measuring Homelessness (1)

Chair: Lars Benjamisen, DK

Patrick Hunter, Ian Cooper, CA: Understanding Chronic Homelessness in Canada



Ian Cooper, PhD is the Manager of Data Analysis and Results Reporting for Reaching Home, the Government of Canada's homelessness program. Before joining Reaching Home in 2018, he spent most of the last decade in regional economic development. Ian's PhD (Sociology) focused on labour migration and inclusive development.

Patrick Hunter, PhD is Senior Policy Analyst at the Employment and Social Development Canada. Since joining Employment and Social Development Canada in 2011, Patrick has pursued the advancement of knowledge on homelessness and the means to address it. Patrick coordinated the introduction of national Point-in-Time Counts in Canada, and is now working on the development of a Canadian homelessness data strategy that aims to support national and local data needs. Patrick has a PhD in Psychology from the University of Toronto.



Analyses of new data from shelters and Point-in-Time Counts in Canada has led to a re-evaluation of the understanding of chronic and episodic homelessness. Chronic homelessness typically refers to long-term periods of homelessness, whereas episodic homelessness refers to shorter, recurring periods of homelessness. Both are associated with greater barriers to housing, more frequent use of homelessness services, and more frequent interactions with emergency services (e.g. paramedics, police). As a result, governments across various jurisdictions have prioritized housing and services for people in these situations.

Evidence for chronic and episodic homelessness came from the work of Kuhn and Culhane (1998), who used cluster analysis to identify patterns of shelter stays in two cities. This finding has been replicated in other communities, including in Canada (Aubry et al., 2013). While numbers vary between communities, those experiencing chronic and episodic homelessness represent a small minority of shelter users compared to the majority experiencing temporary shelter use.

Since these definitions were derived from patterns of shelter use, they may not accurately reflect patterns of homelessness (including homelessness experienced outside of shelters). In many cases, episodic homelessness measured by shelter data may be the result of incomplete information about an individual's history of homelessness. For example, if a person were experiencing homelessness outside of shelters between shelter stays, this would not be reflected in shelter stay data. Consequently, the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness may be significantly underestimated.

This session will include a discussion of recent data from shelters and homeless counts that suggests that patterns of homelessness described only by shelter data may not reflect patterns of homelessness per se. These data reinforce the importance of collecting data beyond shelter use to understand homelessness. Implications for research and policy will be discussed.

Marion Giovanangeli and colleagues, FR: The New French Street Counts: Figures, Lessons, and Perspectives



Maxime Gennaoui has been working for the Parisian Social Service Agency (Centre d'Action Sociale de la Ville de Paris) for two years, specializing on the issues of migrant integration and homelessness reduction. He has actively taken part in the creation and the development of the Parisian homeless streetcount, and the spreading of its methodology in France. He has also participated in the events of the C.O.S.T. action "Measuring Homelessness in Europe" in Brussels and Zagreb.



European
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Homelessness



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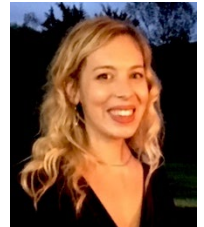
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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Marion Giovanangeli is a Ph.D. student in Sociology at Paris Dauphine University, France. Her main research interests are homeless families, homeless streetcounts and the social history of Parisian shelters. Since 2015, she has been working for the CASVP, the Social Service Agency of the City of Paris, where she is conducting research on impoverished families and housing policy. She is a key member of the task force that organised the homeless streetcount in Paris (La Nuit de la Solidarité).



In 2018, the city of Paris organized the first ever French homeless street count, using a distinct methodology involving 1500+ volunteers and 500 professionals to conduct a headcount and a survey of the unsheltered in one night (point-in-time). Using a similar methodology, three other French cities followed suit in 2018 and 2019 (Metz, Grenoble, Rennes) and, on February 7th this year, Paris successfully organized a second edition, while extending its perimeter. This paper proposes to discuss 1/ the main striking quantitative and qualitative elements that transpire from the 2019 Parisian count 2/ the consequence of these findings in terms of local public policies 3/ the significance of the spreading of this specific methodology on the comparability of figures in France and in Europe.

First, conducting a count exhaustively at the level of the whole municipality while involving numerous stakeholders (public services and 50+ NGOs) allowed for a consensus on local figures, something that was notably difficult to achieve in the past. The relative similarity in terms of figures (3035 in 2018, 3245 in 2019 for the same perimeter) also hints at the strength and reliability of the method used, while questioning the difficulty to balance the need to increase the number and types of areas covered with the hazard of communicating on therefore automatically growing figures. The 2019 edition further sparked a conversation on the definition of homelessness (sheltered v. unsheltered), its duration, its determining factors and its profiles (12% women were, for example, counted, which was more than we expected).

Second, the city of Paris opened several new facilities, whose objective directly stem from the findings of the first count. For instance, the municipality opened 12 'haltes de nuit', that are new types of temporary shelters on the model of New York City's safe havens. As the response to the large number of available and willing volunteers, it also created a new kind of community center – 'La Fabrique de la Solidarité' – that acts as a hub to inform, train and recruit Parisian volunteers, and to connect them with NGOs. These unpredictable developments shed light on the multiplicity of potential positive externalities of these counts.

Last, we'll mention the impact of this newly available set of data on our ability to compare homelessness and its evolutions, not only between French cities but also at the European level.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 7: (ROOM TBC) Measuring Homelessness (2)

Chair: Volker Busch-Geertsema, DE

Olga Nešporová, Petr Holpuch, CZ: The First General Count of Homeless People in the Czech Republic in 2019



Olga Nešporová works as a senior researcher in the family policy team of the Research Institute for Labour and Social Affairs in Prague. She obtained her PhD. in social anthropology from the Faculty of Humanities, Charles University in Prague. She is currently leading the Research of Homeless People in the Czech Republic project commissioned by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, as part of which the first ever national count of homeless people in the Czech Republic was conducted in early 2019.

Petr Holpuch works at the Research Institute for Labour and Social Affairs in Prague. He is responsible for the methodology employed for the collection of census data on homeless people in the Czech Republic. Petr designed methodology for the collection of data on homeless people in Prague as early as in 2010 and published his own research on the day-to-day lives of homeless people in the city. As a researcher in the field of homelessness, Petr employs the invaluable experience that he gained during his previous career as a social worker.



Several counts of homeless people have taken place to date in various towns and cities across the Czech Republic using various methodologies and conducted at different times. However, no systematic attempt has been made to unify the partial and non-comparable data gathered from individual counts. Therefore, there was a lack of reliable information on the scale of homelessness at the national level. A previous attempt to count homeless people as part of the general population and housing census of 2011 enumerated only one section of the homeless population – those receiving accommodation-based services for the homeless; it did not consider persons living rough. Our intention was to gather new relevant data on homeless people throughout the whole of the Czech Republic following a request from the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs. We included the roofless and houseless persons conceptual categories according to the ETHOS typology. We focused on the following operational categories: people living rough, in emergency accommodation (night shelters), in accommodation for the homeless and in women's shelters. The count took place in the second week of April 2019. Since the count was performed in towns with significant differences in size, number of services provided for the target group and the number of social workers and others available for conducting the count in the field, the methodology had to be adjusted to suit the various specificities. We applied four general scenarios (some with subcategories): scenario 1, register-based census, scenario 2, single-contact count at previously identified places, scenario 3, single-contact count at previously identified places supplemented by counting at institutions for homeless people, and scenario 4, the capture-recapture method. Our presentation will focus on the methodological aspects of the count and the introduction of the results.

Susanne Gerull, DE: The Life Situation of Homeless Persons - 1st Systematic Examination in Germany



Susanne Gerull is professor for theory and practice of Social Work at the Alice Salomon University of Applied Sciences (Berlin/Germany) since 2008 with a focus on poverty, unemployment, homelessness and low-threshold social work. Before her doctorate she worked as a social worker for homeless people in two social welfare offices in Berlin.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
UNIVERSITY



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

In 2018, the 1st systematic examination of the life situation of homeless persons has been conducted in Germany. The theoretical basis has been the life situation approach, which considers the multi-dimensional nature of various areas of life in their interaction and thus enables a holistic representation of the life situation of persons. In this study, a life situation index was developed that connects different indicators of the life situation of the persons questioned and thus enables the classification into five life situations, ranging from very good to very bad. The study has been planned in a participative procedure in which homeless persons were involved. A total of 1,135 questionnaires were evaluated.

28% of the persons questioned in our study have been in a below-average (bad/very bad) life situation, while 19.7% have been in an above-average (very good, good) life situation. Particularly noticeable here are the differences in the objective and the subjective data: Many of the respondents subjectively assessed their situation worse than the objective data would suggest. According to a principal component analysis, the main factor impacting the life situation as a whole is the existential and ontological security of the homeless persons examined. Correspondingly, in the statistical analysis of data, those who live rough or in similarly precarious living and housing situations were identified as the most vulnerable group. Surprisingly, the life situation of long-term homeless persons is not as bad as the situation of persons who have been homeless for a medium-term period. Their adaptation efforts, which have also been identified through the collected subjective data, may also be used as resources in the aid for homeless persons. The findings are an argument in favour of providing homeless persons with their own living space as quickly as possible again so that precarious life situations cannot manifest.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
UNIVERSITY



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 8: (ROOM TBC) Migration and Homelessness (1)

Chair: Eoin O'Sullivan, IE

Jana Turk and Duin Ghazi, FI: Tackling Structural Factors of Migrant Housing Exclusion in Finland: Lessons Learnt from Katto-project



Duin Ghazi has an LLM in International Human Rights Law from Lund University, Sweden. She is currently working at Network of Multicultural Associations Moniheli as Manager for Katto-program. The program aims to prevent homelessness among migrants in Finland by sharing, producing and gathering information on housing related issues and providing trainings for professionals. Katto-program also advocates and campaigns in order to achieve positive changes and to inform the public and policymakers on migrant homelessness.

Jana Turk currently works as Casework Coordinator for Katto-program under Moniheli ry – a Network of Multicultural Associations. Katto-program aims to prevent homelessness among migrants in Finland by distributing information, giving one-on-one guidance and educating service providers. Jana has a background in Study of Religions and holds a BA in Oriental Studies from the University of Vienna as well as a MA in Study of Religions/Intercultural Encounters from the University of Helsinki.



Along with Y-foundation, major political parties, have set the objective to cut in half the amount of persons experiencing homelessness in Finland by 2022, and to eradicate homelessness by 2026. According to statistics, Finland seems to be on a good path to do so: over the past decade, homelessness has continuously been decreasing. However, among migrants the situation looks less promising: Migrants have been being overrepresented in the homelessness statistics: In 2018, 23,7% of homeless individuals were migrants and 39% of homeless families were migrant families, whereas only 7% of the Finnish population are migrants. Furthermore, in 2018, homelessness has increased among migrants living outside the city of Helsinki. This disproportionateness and these recent developments pose the question, whether gatekeepers to migrant housing have been taken into account when setting the aforementioned objective.

Overall, risk factors for homelessness do not differ greatly between the majority population and minorities. However, due to lack of knowledge about the Finnish social service system and language barriers, migrants might face bigger difficulties in navigating the social service system. These factors may also hinder the access to understanding and exercising one's rights, and thus, make migrants more prone to be exploited by shady actors. Yet another structural gatekeeper to equal access to the housing market is discrimination. In this paper, we explore ways to tackle these factors specific to migrant homelessness, drawing on the lessons learnt from Katto-project, a three-year project (April 2016–April 2019) aiming to prevent homelessness among migrants in Finland.

Annika Lindberg, Lisa Marie Borrelli, Martin Joormann, SE: Sleeping Rough in Sweden: An intersectional Analysis of Homelessness among Groups with Different Citizenship and Residency Statuses in Stockholm, Gothenburg and Malmö



Annika Lindberg is a doctoral candidate at the Institute of Sociology, University of Bern. Her doctoral research focuses on deterrence and coercive state measures targeting rejected asylum seekers in Denmark and Sweden via an ethnography of migration detention and departure centres. She is co-author of the collaborative ethnography *Migrants Before the Law: Contested Migration Control in Europe* (Eule, Borrelli Lindberg and Wyss 2019) and the research report 'Stop Killing us Slowly: A research report on the motivation enhancement



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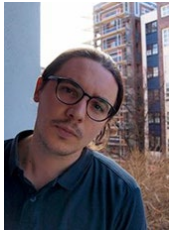
14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

measures and the criminalisation of rejected asylum seekers in Denmark' (Suarez-Krabbe, Lindberg and Arce, 2018).

Lisa Marie Borrelli is a postdoctoral researcher at the HES-SO Valais-Wallis, Switzerland. She completed her Ph.D. at the Institute of Sociology, University of Bern. Her doctoral dissertation looked at ambivalent laws and emotions of street-level bureaucrats working on irregular migration in the Schengen Area. She conducted ethnographic fieldwork with police and migration authorities in Italy, Switzerland, Germany and Sweden and has further conducted ethnographic research Lithuania and Latvia. She has also been a visiting researcher at the Centre for Migration Law at Radboud University, Nijmegen, and visiting graduate student at the Centre for the Study of International Migration at UCLA with the support of the Swiss National Science Foundation Doc.Mobility Grant (172228).



Martin Joormann has recently completed his PhD in Sociology of Law, and Lund University published his thesis, entitled *Legitimized Refugees - A Critical Investigation of Legitimacy Claims within the Precedents of Swedish Asylum Law*, as a book (2019, Media-Tryck). Besides his PhD, Martin published the article 'Asylstaffetten – A longitudinal ethnographic study of protest walks against the detention of asylum seekers in Sweden' (2018, *Justice, Power and Resistance*). Since January 2019, he is the book review editor and responsible for the social media outreach of this journal, while continuing his work as editor (e.g. *Retfaerd – Nordic Journal of Law and Justice*) and peer reviewer (*Refugee Review* and *Nordic Journal of Migration Research*) for other publications.

Throughout Europe, we are witnessing growing homelessness among migrants holding different citizenship and residency statuses (COMPAS 2015; Edgar et al 2010; ECRE 2016). This study focuses on Sweden, where homeless persons holding precarious legal status are excluded from long-term welfare projects and instead subjected to criminalising and securitising state interventions. Examples include the criminalization of begging, which targets mobile EU citizens, and the withdrawal of access to housing and welfare benefits for rejected asylum seekers, which is used as a way of pressuring them to leave Sweden 'voluntarily'. Not only are these urgent issues for how they render the situation for already marginalised groups more precarious; homelessness and migration have long been treated as distinct fields, analytically as well as policy-wise. This calls for an intersectional analysis of the causes, dynamics, and experiences of homelessness among migrant populations, on the one hand, and of how homelessness has become a tool for states to regulate 'unwanted' migration, on the other. Therefore, this work in progress explores how legal and policy regimes variably produce homelessness among persons holding different citizenship and residency statuses in Sweden. It builds on preliminary findings from interviews with state and nonstate agencies tasked with controlling or providing support to homeless persons in Stockholm, Göteborg and Malmö. Thus, the study highlights how legal residency status stratifies rights and access to services and how such differentiations intersect with social class, gender and ethnicity.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 9: (ROOM TBC) Homeless Policies (1)

Chair: **Isabel Baptista, PT**

Kathy Reilly, IE: People, Policy and Place: Examining Homelessness beyond the Capital in Ireland



Dr Reilly is a lecturer in human geography at the National University of Ireland Galway. Her research interests centre on themes relating to social justice and marginality and she has worked with migrant communities in Ireland in the past. More recently Dr Reilly's work has focused on issues surrounding Ireland's current homelessness crises and she is currently leading an Irish Research Council funded project entitled Deconstructing Homelessness: Finding a Place for Geography?

The number of people experiencing homelessness in Ireland is currently at a crisis level. This sharp rise is reflected in trends globally, and the Irish state's response to homelessness has been an attempt to adopt a Housing First Approach. Given that the responsibility for addressing homelessness in Ireland has been devolved to a series of regions (represented by local authorities, the health service executive (HSE) and NGO service providers, among others) tasked with developing and implementing a series of action plans, the adaptation of a Housing First Approach has been less than rigorous. Contextualised by national data, this paper focuses on three regional contexts in Ireland (West, South-West and Mid-West Regions), challenging Dublin-centred and Dublin-led understandings of the current crises. Examining qualitative data from four case-study sites in Ireland (Dublin, Cork, Limerick and Galway), this paper incorporates a multi-stakeholder perspective drawing together key findings from the 'Deconstructing Homelessness: Finding a Place for Geography?' project. The paper draws together four elements considering Irish policy, NGO awareness campaigns, community service perspectives and the voice of the homeless person. Central to this analysis is an exploration of homelessness as a societal crisis experienced right across Ireland; challenging Dublin-centred narratives and explicating the importance of place. Furthermore, reflecting on European recommendations, the paper highlights the damaging effect of narrow definitions of homelessness in Ireland, discussing the impact of such limited interpretations on local services and national policy interventions.

Nienke Boesveldt, Chahida Bouhamou, NL: Client Perspectives on Dutch De-institutionalization



Dr. Nienke Boesveldt is Assistant-Professor (ISS, UU). After a social policy career, in 2015 she earned her doctoral degree based on her thesis 'Planet Homeless. Governance Arrangements in Amsterdam, Copenhagen and Glasgow'. Currently she leads a 5-year prospective study on de-institutionalizing and decentralizing responsibilities on homelessness in Dutch municipalities, and three times a year an Executive Program for Policy Makers, with study trip to Finland.

Chahida Bouhamou (1987) is a student-assistent and a Master Student (ISS) at Utrecht University. After a bachelor in Public Administration, and a few years of work experience, she decided to do the Master Social Policy and Public Health. Chahida is committed to bring policies closer to citizens and to make it possible for the citizen's perspective to play a greater role within these policies. Currently, she is working as a student-assistent in a 5-year prospective study on de-institutionalizing and decentralizing responsibilities on homelessness in Dutch municipalities. She also has the ambition to do a PhD on this topic.



In the Netherlands, clients of supported housing and homelessness services are increasingly stimulated to live independently (with municipal support) in the neighborhood. In our study, clients have been asked about their experiences

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Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

with current de-institutionalization trends. With previous research identifying positive evidence but also several barriers towards independent living, our duo-peer interviews provide a good insight into how these clients exactly experience such barriers. Based on 58 client-interviews, we were able to identify the level of support for de-institutionalization.

The largest group of clients, under the current conditions, did not see de-institutionalization as a feasible development.

Interviewed clients do clearly indicate under what conditions they see transitioning to independent housing being feasible.

Necessary conditions to be met are the 'right' incentive, more outflow-oriented support and guaranteed continuity of support, when living independent. Additionally, supported housing clients mention increased autonomy as a condition to be improved, whereas homeless clients mention wanting more customized support.

This research has also shown that residence in emergency accommodation such as night shelters contributes to homeless persons being in in favor of right-away de-institutionalization irrespective of current conditions. Contrary to this, several supported housing clients indicate never wanting to live independently again, due to several factors mentioned during the interviews.

This research provides valuable insight into the experiences of clients, making the way for more person orientated support for clients. Policy implications indicate debating the need for a variety of housing led options for de-institutionalization of currently residing persons. It also shows how additional conditions for realizing the twofold purposes of de-institutionalization, welfare state revision and improved well-being, still need to be met.

Pedro José Cabrera, Santiago Bachiller, ES/Argentina: Challenges for Public Policies Tackling Homelessness in Latin America: a Comparative Analysis



Santiago Bachiller is searcher of the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET, Argentina). Ph.D (Universidad Autónoma de Madrid, España) and graduate (Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina) in Social Anthropology. Professor of the Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero, Universidad Nacional Patagonia Austral y Universidad Nacional General Sarmiento (Argentina).

Pedro José Cabrera is Professor of Sociology at the Universidad Pontificia Comillas in Madrid and former Director of the School of Social Work. He is expert in issues of poverty, social exclusion, homelessness and prison. He was correspondent in Spain of the European Observatory on Homelessness for many years, and is currently advisor and member of the International Advisory Committee of the European Journal of Homelessness.



To live as homeless, or houseless, or "on the streets situation" (situación de calle), as the problem of homelessness is designated in Latin America, means to be facing the strongest social vulnerabilities. In spite of the relatively low number, homeless people in rich countries are an extraordinary opportunity to understand the historical, political and cultural limits in which development of the Welfare States has occurred. On the other hand, we can observe that difficulties to design, implement and evaluate public policies tackling with homelessness, are not only present in countries with higher levels of economical development, but that also need to gain access throughout enormous difficulties among countries of the Southern Hemisphere. This communication offers a comparative analysis in terms of homelessness, analysing the policies implemented in the heart of the Member States of the European Union, and contrasting them with the ones that are starting in six Latin American countries (Brazil, Uruguay, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica and Paraguay) that are part of the RedCalle, a project funded by the EU to coordinate and stimulate the implementation of public policies in this área, which has allowed us to carry out visits and fieldwork in these six countries.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness HELSINGBORG



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden
Bios and Abstracts



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 10: (ROOM TBC) Homeless Policies (2)

Chair: **Nicholas Pleace, UK**



Ingrid Sahlin, SE: Moving Targets (subtitle requested)

Ingrid Sahlin is senior professor at the School of Social Work, Lund University. One of her main research interests is housing exclusion in relation to homeless policies, including social constructions of their target groups. Currently she is involved in research into local policies and practice for refugee housing in South Sweden and how these may affect local homeless policies.

Categorising homeless people and housing situations is considered necessary in science, research and national and local statistics, as well as in planning for interventions and supplying suitable accommodation.

However, despite different motives and original functions, these categories tend to interact with each other and the political discourse. This paper examines and reflects on the changes of some classifications of homeless people in the Swedish context through a qualitative analysis of a survey of municipal policies and practices in the region of Skåne, located in the south of Sweden, in relation to national policies and legislation. The empirical material consists of responses to a questionnaire, policy documents and political board proceedings gathered from most of the 33 municipalities' homepages, as well as national state investigations, propositions and laws. The main question is who and what is included or excluded through varying and changing definitions and categories of homelessness and housing conditions. Such effects are not necessarily intended, but nevertheless crucial for the people involved. One example is the sharp border introduced through the municipal obligation to care for unaccompanied refugee children, as opposed to adult refugees, which sometimes means that they are evicted when they reach the age of 18. Another one is the act obliging municipalities to receive and settle certain 'newly arrived' migrants with residence permits during their 'establishment period' (supposed to last two years). After this, they risk exclusion from municipal accommodation, just like migrants who were not assigned by the Migration Board. Third, the meaning of 'own accommodation' and 'adequate housing' is clearly relative to the categorisation of the target group.

Isobel Anderson, UK: Delivering the Right to Housing? Why Scotland Still Needs an 'Ending Homelessness Action Plan'



Professor **Isobel Anderson** leads the Home, Housing and Communities research programme at the University of Stirling, where she has worked since 1994. She has personal research interests in homelessness, housing policy and inter-professional working to meet the complex needs of those who are vulnerable in the housing system. She is on the International Advisory Board of the European Journal of Homelessness.

In the early 2000s, Scotland's Homelessness Task Force developed a modernised legislative framework for homelessness which was widely regarded as world-leading in enshrining the right to housing in law. To be implemented over a ten-year period, the programme would strengthen the existing legal framework so that by the end of 2012, all homeless households would have equal priority for housing. While the key aspect of abolishing different categories of 'priority need' was largely achieved (Anderson and Serpa, 2013), early indications were that without an expanded supply of affordable housing, an unintended outcome of the strengthening of the legislation would be that some homeless households would simply spend more time in temporary accommodation (Anderson, Dyb and Finnerty, 2016). Moreover, even the modernised rights based approach to preventing and addressing homelessness in Scotland did not eradicate the most acute forms of street homelessness, often experienced by people with highly complex health and social care needs, in addition to their need for housing (Macias Balda, 2016). By 2017, the Scottish Government had constituted a new multi-agency 'Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Action Group' to address the most pressing aspects of homelessness. This paper reviews the work of that group and the early implementation of its 2018 'Ending Homelessness



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Together' action plan. Using a policy analysis framework and drawing on the evidence base to date, the paper analyses the context in which Scotland had to embark on further homelessness policy review and assesses the potential for meaningful progress on ending homelessness over the five years from 2018-2023.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 11: (ROOM TBC) Theories of Home and Space

Chair: Nóra Teller, HU

Laura Helene Hojring, DK: From Homelessness to Homeliness



Laura Hojring has worked in the field between homelessness and architecture since she graduated from The Aarhus School of Architecture in 2006. Through the research field of architectural anthropology, she explores and communicates about the social aspects and consequences of the built environment in relation to social exclusion and homelessness, most recently with the PhD-thesis: "Homeless and homeliness - stories about architecture and people".

An essential goal, when offering a homeless person a housing solution, is for them to achieve a feeling of being at home. But what is a home? And how can a house affect the feeling of homeliness? Through the PhD-thesis "Homeless and homeliness - stories about architecture and people" I have investigated how four different types of housing influence the residents (homeless and former homeless) feelings of being at home. The case studies are set in a Danish context and consists of four housing types: A night shelter for women, a hostel for men, permanent housing with support and apartments in social housing. Based on qualitative interviews and architectural analysis the research shows that the notion of home can be used as a measurement for the way a housing solution works. The difference between feeling at home or not, is the same as defining whether a dwelling fits or doesn't fit the residents needs and preferences. In this article I define six categories that influence the feeling of homeliness and make it possible to operationalize the notion of home. A notion, which is otherwise often understood as something fluffy and imperceptible. The six categories are: Safety and territorial control, privacy, community and social interaction, identity, everyday life, and time. These six categories can be used to understand the connection between residents personal and individual housing needs, in relation to the framework a housing solution offers, based on its architecture, and its geographical, social and organisational context.

Roberta Bova, IT: Homelessness: the Importance of Network and the Expectations in the Future



Roberta Bova has gained her PhD in International Cooperation and Human Rights at the University of Bergamo, Italy, with the thesis "Vulnerability and Recognition" (February 2014). Nowadays her research interests mostly concern the micro-level analysis of migrants and homeless people' decision-making, in relation with the institutional and civil society's policies.

This paper exposes the conclusions of an anthropological research I realize in collaboration with the University of Bergamo (North of Italy); it started in September 2012 and is still going on. The research pointed to investigate the role of the social network in homeless people life, how they feel like at the homeless shelter and their expectations in the future. The research methodology was based on ethnography and the analyses of the narrative interviews. The ethnography shows different trends: the number of Italians is growing and the homeless female population as well; a lot of people came from a parental background of poverty, low education and drugs abuse. Many of the non EU homeless rarely made experience of the street life when they were just arrived in Italy. Instead, they became homeless after, when they have exhausted their social network or they have lost their job.

I also caught a great number of narrative interviews; from their analysis I understand that many people postponed the entering in a homeless shelter because they were suffering for the stigmatization. In the everyday life instead, the most significant problems were

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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

related to cohabitation. Many people interviewed were looking for reaching more autonomy and were conscious that this implied to earn a living, but also to find a new context of friendship, actually many people had broken their previous relationships and were afraid to spend the next years in solitude.

In conclusion, I understand that nowadays most of the social services are devoted to emergency and primary support, and scarce resources are addressed to projects of social integration and autonomy reinforcement. Furthermore, the entire society is not in touch with this phenomenon and sometimes homeless are excluded also from their relatives and friendship networks. These are main the causes of homeless chronic vulnerability.

Johannes Lenhard, FR: The Economy of Hot Air Vents – Homeless People's Struggle for Surface-space at Paris' Gare du Nord



Dr. Johannes Lenhard is centre coordinator and post-doctoral research associate at the Max Planck Cambridge Centre for the Study of Ethics, the Economy and Social Change. While he spent between 2012 and 2018 focused on research with homeless people in London and Paris, his new project is turning to elites. With fieldwork in Munich, Berlin, London, San Francisco and New York, he is currently examining the behaviour of venture capital investors.

A very particular kind of space was contested at Paris' Gare du Nord among the group of homeless people I worked with for two years during my doctoral fieldwork. Many of them were struggling for surface-space on the hot air vents emanating heat around the train station. During the winter months, warm spaces were a scarce commodity which fuelled competition among my rough-sleeping informants. The hot air vents were particularly sought after: they were part of the free, public space and they were secure due to the continuous presence of police at the train station.

The advantages of public, well-policed space often turned into the opposite, however: conflicts arose not only among the homeless people but also between the homeless population trying to profit from the warm spaces and the train station staff and police. These conflicts – violent as they could be on the outside – were indicative of deep fault lines in the make-up of the city space: between public and private space, between what home is for one person and a transit space for another, between defending the property rights of the train station and home-making practices carving out emergency shelter.

In this paper, I want to present strategies I observed: from rendering oneself invisible, claiming space using objects to 'cleaning' people away with water in the morning and announcing spatial orders. Who at what point manages to claim ownership to the surface-space of the hot air vents using which strategy? I want to present a view at housing exclusion from the very margins.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
UNIVERSITY



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 12: (ROOM TBC) Women and homelessness (1)

Chair: **Mike Allen, IE**

Boróka Fehér, HU: Homeless Women in Hungary – Gendered Service Provision Failures



Boróka Fehér has worked with homeless people in Hungary since 1999. She is currently a policy officer of the Policy Department of the Budapest Methodological Centre of Social Policy (BMSZKI), the homeless service provider of the City of Budapest, as well as a senior lecturer at the Institute of Social Work and Deaconry, Károli Gáspár University of the Reformed Church in Hungary. She is a member of the February 3rd research team, carrying out the only annual survey among homeless people in Hungary. Her field of special interest within the field of homelessness and housing policy is the situation and services available for homeless women, empowering and participative ways of working. She is a member of FEANTSA's Women's Cluster. She holds a PhD in Social Work and Social Policy.

The presentation summarizes the findings of qualitative research about the life stories of homeless women. It is based on an analysis of 100 entry interviews with women who have moved into a temporary hostel in Budapest (mixed or single sex, with a partner or alone). The age of the women is between 18 and 80 years old, with more young women included than their real proportion to gather more information on their relationships with their minor children. Although the interviews focused on a generic, non-gendered needs assessment (addressing housing, employment and financial needs), in most cases women also told their key worker about their past experiences from childhood, intimate relationships, children etc... Do we pose the right questions to women using our services? Do the questions we ask play a major influence on the structuring of the care plan of users? If so, might care plans address some of the vital issues homeless women face? Based on the findings of these interviews, policy recommendations shall be formulated.

Paula Mayock and Sarah Sheridan, IE: Women Negotiating Power and Control as the 'Journey' through Homelessness



Dr Paula Mayock is an Assistant Professor at the School of Social Work and Social Policy, Trinity College Dublin. Her research focuses primarily on marginalised youth and adult populations, with a strong focus on homelessness. She is founder and Co-director of the Women's Homelessness in Europe Network (WHEN www.womenshomelessness.org) and author of numerous articles, book chapters and commissioned research reports.

Dr Sarah Sheridan is Research Coordinator for Focus Ireland – an organisation which works directly with those experiencing homelessness. Her PhD was a qualitative longitudinal study of women's homelessness in Ireland. Prior to this, she was researcher on a biographical and ethnographic study of women experiencing homelessness, led by Dr Paula Mayock, Trinity College Dublin.



While gender is increasingly recognised as influencing the ways in which homelessness is experienced, the research base on women's homelessness remains significantly underdeveloped. Little is known about women's trajectories through homelessness and even less about their interactions with homelessness services and other systems of intervention. This paper examines homeless women's service interactions based on a biographical longitudinal study of women's homelessness in Ireland. Sixty women were recruited and interviewed at baseline and 'tracked' over a three-year period between 2010 and 2013. At the point of follow-up, forty women were re-interviewed and reliable information was attained on the whereabouts of an additional nine



European
Observatory on
Homelessness HELSINGBORG



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

participants. Over the course of the study, ethnographic observation was conducted in a number of strategically chosen service sites. Informed by poststructuralist theory, we present findings that reveal the complex way in which women engaged with the individuals and structures they encountered as they moved through the service system, very often along trajectories of unresolved homelessness. Their narratives uncover the loss of control experienced by a large number, particularly with the passing of time, and the manner in which they responded to these 'techniques' of control. The themes of infantilisation, surveillance and objectification are examined as are the actions taken by women in their efforts to resist stigma and negative stereotyping. The paper concludes by reflecting on dominant constructions of the 'unaccommodated woman' and considers the extent to which responses to women experiencing homelessness are underpinned by the notions of 'deserving' and 'undeserving' women.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 13: (ROOM TBC) Women and Homelessness (2)

Chair: **Isabel Baptista, PT**

Renée de Vet, Mariëlle Beijersbergen, Danielle Lako & Judith Wolf, NL: Does the Level of Social Quality Differ between Homeless Women and Men before and after Shelter Exit?



Renée de Vet is a researcher at Impuls, the Netherlands Center for Social Care Research, part of the Radboud university medical center. She holds a master's degree in forensic mental health science and is nearing completion of her doctoral research. Renée has 10 years of experience in conducting research on social and health care services for socially vulnerable people, including homeless people and abused women.

Little is known about women's homelessness. Homelessness among women is more often hidden and published findings are mainly focused on homeless men. To help fill this evidence gap, we assessed whether women in homeless shelters differed from men on factors that constitute the quality of their daily life. Furthermore, we tested whether differences between women and men remained or changed after shelter exit. Factors were selected based on the framework of social quality. Van der Maesen and Walker defined social quality as the extent to which people are able to participate in social relationships under conditions which enhance their well-being, capacities, and potential and enables them to shape their own circumstances and contribute to societal development. For this longitudinal analysis, we used data from a randomized controlled trial conducted in the Netherlands. As part of this trial, 183 adults, who were about to move from a homeless shelter to (supported) independent housing, were recruited and followed up for 9 months. We found that, before shelter exit, women were younger than men, lower educated and more often unemployed. They were more likely to have children in general and to have minor children staying with them. In the past year, they had been victimized more often than men. Even though men had used alcohol excessively or cannabis more often than women, women's health seemed to be worse than men's health: Women had higher service use, less satisfaction with their health and empowerment, lower self-esteem, and higher psychological distress. Changes over time on these social quality factors were similar for women and men, suggesting that a gap in social quality remains after shelter exit. Opportunities for homeless shelter organizations to improve women's social quality during and after their shelter stay will be discussed during this presentation.

Magdalena Mostowska, Katarzyna Debska, PL: Regulating Women's Behaviour in Crisis Accommodation in Poland

Magdalena Mostowska is a sociologist, lecturer and researcher at the Faculty of Geography and Regional Planning at the University of Warsaw. She has completed a couple of research projects on the homelessness of Polish migrants in the EU member states. She is a member of the Women's Homelessness in Europe Network and is currently researching women's experiences of homelessness in Poland.



Katarzyna Dębska is a PhD student at the Institute of Sociology, University of Warsaw. She prepares her PhD thesis "Class reproduction in a family. Inheritance, status change and life paths of siblings. Currently she participates in a research project "Dynamics of women's homelessness in Poland".



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
UNIVERSITY



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 14: (ROOM TBC) Youth Homelessness

Chair: Nóra Teller, HU

Naomi Nichols, Jayne Malenfant, CA: A Social Research & Development Approach to Preventing Youth Homelessness and Fighting Intersecting Forms of Institutional Exclusion



Naomi Nichols is an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Education at McGill University. My research is about the policy and institutional contexts that shape the lives and development of youth, but particularly youth living in poverty and experiencing homelessness and other structural forms of marginalization.

Jayne Malenfant is from Kapuskasing, Ontario, Canada. She is a PhD Candidate at McGill University's Faculty of Education. Her research focuses on issues of institutional access for precariously housed and homeless youth, with a focus on schools, and draws on her own experiences of housing instability as a teen.



20% of Canada's homeless population is made up of young people between 13-24 years of age, with at least 35,000-40,000 youth experiencing homelessness in any given year. Historically Canadian governments and communities have responded to the problem of youth homelessness by providing temporary emergency services. Given that 75% of homeless youth experience multiple episodes of homelessness throughout their young lives, conventional crisis-driven interventions clearly are not working. The inability to effectively address youth homelessness represents Canada's most urgent youth equity issue. Research is unambiguous: homelessness rapidly deteriorates young people's health, and homeless youth experience strikingly higher mortality rates than housed youth. Using a range of participatory youth research strategies (including institutional history interviewing, contribution analysis and causal chain development), our research identifies key structural and systemic drivers of youth homelessness as a means of helping public systems make the shift from crisis response to homelessness prevention and housing stabilization for youth. To achieve this aim, the research challenges paradigmatic standards in evidence-based service delivery, governance and policy-making in Canada. Rather than offering tools that support or evaluate the existing approach, our project seeks to foster a flourishing social research and development (R&D) ecosystem that supports equitable approaches to homelessness prevention and housing stabilization. In this presentation, we will: 1) describe how we used a combination of institutional history interviewing (n=30 youth participants) and causal chain contribution analysis to identify specific municipal, provincial and federal inter-institutional and policy junctures – in education, child welfare, (mental) healthcare, housing and criminal-legal systems – that shape conditions of housing precarity for youth; and 2) articulate our emerging theories of prevention, through which we specify an array of structural and systemic factors, which undermine or enable housing stability for youth in the province of Quebec; and 3) describe our proposed efforts to use findings to design and user-test prevention-oriented intervention prototypes.



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Observatory on
Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Naomi Thulien, Stephen Hwang, and Andrea Wang, CA: Beyond a Home: Facilitating Socioeconomic Inclusion for Young People Transitioning Out of Homelessness



Dr. Stephen Hwang is a physician specializing in general internal medicine and the Director of the MAP Centre for Urban Health Solutions at St. Michael's Hospital, which is dedicated to improving the health of people experiencing poverty and disadvantage. His research focuses on interventions to end homelessness and to improve the health of people experiencing homelessness. Dr. Hwang is a Professor of Medicine at the University of Toronto.



Dr. Naomi Thulien is an Assistant Professor at the McMaster University School of Nursing in Hamilton, Canada. Naomi is a nurse practitioner and researcher committed to tackling the social structural inequities that cause and perpetuate youth homelessness. Her program of research focuses on testing interventions designed to improve social integration outcomes for young people who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.



Andrea Wang earned an Honours Bachelor of Science degree from McGill University and recently completed a Master of Public Health at McMaster University. Her work currently focuses on assessing support programs for youth transitioning out of homelessness, which has been identified as a priority in homelessness research in Canada. In her community, she is involved in implementing a youth after-school education program and local housing policy analysis for an advocacy group.

Dominant societal discourse purports that the most significant way to improve the life trajectories of young people experiencing homelessness is to simply provide them with tangible supports like a home. However, the limited longitudinal research conducted in this area challenges this assumption, illustrating that formerly homeless young people continue to experience significant challenges – particularly when it comes to mainstream socioeconomic inclusion – even after they are “successfully” housed. Moreover, something that is rarely acknowledged is the fact that tangible supports can easily be taken away (e.g., change in government funding). In contrast, once acquired, intangible assets (e.g., self-efficacy and a sense of purpose) are inherently less dependent on external forces.

The goal of this Canadian pilot study was to assess whether and how an intervention focused on strengthening intangible, identity-based assets (e.g., sense of control and purpose, self-efficacy and self-esteem) impacted the socioeconomic inclusion of young people who had experienced homelessness. Over the course of six weeks, nineteen young people who had left homelessness within the past three years participated in weekly leadership and career development training sessions. The intervention was carried out by an organization not associated with the homelessness sector, meaning there was less stigma around accessing this program.

Study participants were followed every three months for nine months post-intervention. Significant improvements were seen in markers of socioeconomic inclusion such as community integration and self-esteem, and these improvements were sustained over time. Qualitative findings included themes of reconstructing identity, regaining control, and reaffirming potential.

In this presentation we discuss our study findings and put forward that the current approach of focusing predominantly on tangible supports like housing is simplistic and short-sighted given the complex nature of youth homelessness. We argue that ending and preventing youth homelessness demands attention to both tangible and intangible factors.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 15: (ROOM TBC) Service Needs (1)

Chair: **Lars Benjaminsen, DK**

Saija Turunen, Maria Ohisalo, FI: Welfare of the Residents in Scattered Site Housing



Ph.D. **Saija Turunen** is a researcher in the Y-Foundation. She currently co-leads the Research work cluster of the Housing First Europe Hub. Her research interests include women's homelessness, subjective well-being and social integration.

Housing is often seen as the first step towards welfare after being homeless. Despite the wide array of data available about residents in a scattered site housing, up until now, there has been no systematically collected data on welfare available in the Y-Foundation, Finland. Moreover, welfare research mainly focuses on areas that can be objectively measured and less attention is paid to subjective welfare. In many research settings, people who have experienced homelessness could be viewed as 'hard to survey'.

The aim of this research is to investigate the subjective welfare of residents in scattered site housing. The research is to explore the quality of life of the residents. In particular, the focus is on health, finances and issues of everyday life as well as the services that the residents use and the benefits they receive. A further aspect of the study is to explore trust and the attitudes that residents have towards other people and officials.

The results of this research will provide a better understanding of the issues, both positive and negative, that the residents in scattered site housing are facing in their everyday lives. The data will be used to further develop the housing advice services to answer the needs of the residents. This information will also be utilized when designing preventative measures to aid housing stability. The ongoing research started at the end of 2018 and includes residents who have moved into their apartments in last few months. Participation is voluntary.

Malte Moll Wingender, DK: Consequences of Longer Stays in Shelters – a Full Population Study



Malte Moll Wingender works in a cooperative analysis institute in Copenhagen called Analyse & Tal, and is board member in the European Anti-Poverty Network in Denmark. As a sociologist he works across different methods, but has specialized in statistical analyses on registry data. His focal areas are social vulnerability, inequality and poverty.

Temporary housing, such as shelters, has received criticism for keeping people in a homeless situation for too long without progress towards reintegration in society and housing rehabilitation. However, the criticisms lack evidence – at least in a Danish context. This study is the first to explore statistically whether and how the duration of stays in shelters affects housing rehabilitation and housing stability. The study utilizes the extensive registry data available for research at Statistics Denmark. This allows us to look at the full population of individuals in 2012-2016, who have been registered in a shelter for a shorter or longer time period. The population is limited to 8.000 people who stayed in a shelter for at least one month. Their change of addresses in the years following is used as a measure of housing (in)stability. After leaving the homeless shelter, the majority of the population changes their address more than once during the first three years. 45 percent changes address at least three times within three years. However, this varies heavily across the length of the stay. Among the group that stayed in a shelter for more than a year, only



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Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

25 percent changed their address three times or more. In general, the results show that longer stays are associated to fewer changes of address subsequently. The study points at some possible explanations for this association. Firstly, people who stay longer are more likely to find own housing after leaving the shelter. Secondly, it seems easier to get treatment for physical and mental illness or treatment for drug and alcohol addiction while staying in a shelter or immediately afterwards. Thus, the study indicates that long term residency in a shelter plays an important role in the housing rehabilitation process.

Vanessa Cenjor del Rey, ES: Homelessness and Good Care: a Possible Relation



Vanessa Cenjor del Rey holds a BA in Political Science and Administration and BA in Sociology. She is committed to social action and believer and supporter of the European social policies. Nowadays, she is Research & Evaluation Director at RAIS Hogar Sí. Previously, she was the Coordinator of the Fund for Non-Governmental Organisation (Active Citizenship Programme), the EEA Financial Mechanism in Spain managed by the NGO Platform of Social Action. Also, she was co-founder of Encuentro Europa, a consultancy for European matters.

Countless studies have proven the difficult relation between having a good health condition and being homeless. Living without a home is a constraint on the health status of people, and the barriers faced by roofless and houseless people in their attempts to access to health care are many.

Being discharged from the hospital represents a particularly sensitive moment for people lacking a place to fully recover. In order to fill this gap of the public health services RAIS started a programme to cover the needs detected in relation to the difficulty of homeless people in accessing their health rights.

With the aim of testing the results of the program a longitudinal design with pre and post-test measurements has been implemented, including a follow-up 6 months after the entry to the service, one upon exit as well as a follow up 6 months afterwards. The size of the sample has not been predetermined, since it has rested on the capacity of the programme itself. Specifically, on the users joining Espacio Salud for one year (May 2017-May 2018) in Madrid and Murcia. In May 2018 the inclusion of people into the evaluation was closed at 45 persons.

The results will refer to sociodemographic characteristics, health, quality and conditions of life, functioning, access and use of resources, satisfaction with the programme, perceived health by people with oncological diagnosis and biomedical indicators.

The aim of this research is, therefore, to test if the activities implemented within the programme are suitable for the recovery of health and other related aspects of the lives of those taking part on Espacio Salud and, in this case, to prove the importance of these programmes in order to ensure the access to health rights for homeless people.



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 16: (ROOM TBC) Homelessness in Nordic Countries

Chair: Eoin O'Sullivan, IE

Jens Hauch, Ilja Sabaj-Kjær, DK: Nordic Homeless Monitor



Jens Hauch is Deputy Director of Kraka and responsible for Kraka's analysis work. Jens himself primarily prepares macroeconomic analyses. He is a Cand. Polit. and Ph.d. from the Department of Economics, University of Copenhagen. Jens has previously been chief consultant in the Danish Economic Councils.

The purpose of the study was to compare the development of homelessness in the four Nordic countries; Denmark, Sweden, Norway and Finland. The comparison is based on national data from the four countries and is presented in ten key indicators for homelessness. The study also includes interviews with leading experts from the Nordic countries and a literature review of the leading research on the field. Selected results from the study: Contrary to the development in Denmark and Sweden, the number of homeless people are going down in Norway and Finland. In Denmark, the share of homeless people has increased by 27 pct. since 2009, while it in Norway and Finland has fallen respectively 36 and 13 per cent since 2006 and 2005. Denmark has the largest increase in homelessness among young adults. The share of homeless young adults has increased from 150 to 263 for every 100.000-young adult from 2009-2017. Norway has almost half as many homeless young adults, with only 135 homeless young adults for every 100.000-young adults in 2017. The duration of homelessness is considerably longer in both Denmark and Sweden than in Norway. In Norway homelessness lasts seven months or more (i.e. long-term homelessness) for 41 per cent of all homeless people. The corresponding shares in Denmark and Sweden are respectively 67 and 76 per cent. With 10 and 11 pct. of the homeless population being rough sleepers, Denmark and Finland has the highest share of rough sleepers among the Nordic countries. More than 50 pct. of the homeless population in Denmark has a mental illness. In comparison around a third of the homeless population in Sweden and Norway has a mental illness.

Sten-Ake Stenberg, SE: Risk Factors for Housing Evictions: Evidence from Panel Data



Sten-Åke Stenberg is a professor of Sociology at the Swedish Institute of Social Research, Stockholm University. His research interest is focused on social marginalization in the housing and labour market. He is currently leading a national project about evictions and homelessness in Sweden.

A large number of individuals are evicted from their homes each year. Yet, virtually all prior studies addressing risk factors for being evicted have been based on individual-level, mostly cross-sectional, data. Using Swedish longitudinal municipal-level data, this study assesses whether the associations between various social and demographic risk factors and evictions found in previous studies hold when accounting for temporal and spatial variations. Panel regression analyses show that increased levels of unemployment, social assistance reciprocity, low education, single households with children, and crime are



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Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

significantly associated with more evictions. Increased levels of single households without children, family disruption, and individuals with foreign background were not found to be significantly related to more evictions. The results of this study advances our understanding about the correlates for being evicted and may thereby inform policy efforts designed to prevent eviction and stem its consequences.



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Observatory on
Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 17: (ROOM TBC) Mobilizing Knowledge to Support Integrated Systems Approaches to the Prevention of Homelessness and Housing Exclusion (2)

Chair: **Albert Sales, ES (TBC)**

Patrick Fowler and Daniel Farrell, USA: Designing Innovative Homelessness Prevention Systems for Youth



Patrick J. Fowler, PhD, is an Associate Professor in the Brown School and Division of Computational and Data Sciences at Washington University in St. Louis. His research aims to prevent homelessness and its deleterious effects on child, family and community well-being. Trained in child clinical-community psychology, Fowler uses innovative methods that rigorously investigate policies and programs intended to promote housing and family stability.



Daniel Farrell is a Senior Vice President of Assessment, Diversion and Research at HELP USA, an American non-profit provider with programs that provide transitional, permanent housing and homeless prevention services to people at risk, literally homeless and formerly homeless adults and families. Daniel is responsible for multiple transitional housing, shelter and homeless prevention/rapid rehousing programs in multiple US cities including New York City, Philadelphia and Las Vegas serving over 10,000 homeless or at risk single adults and families each year. He is also an Adjunct Professor at the Hunter College School of Social Work, and a graduate from the New York Institute for Psychoanalytic Self Psychology. He has published multiple papers on homelessness, most recently a book chapter titled, Relational Theoretical Foundations and Clinical Practice Methods with People Experiencing Homelessness.

Communities around the globe increasingly adopt policies that shift homeless services from 'after the fact' responses towards efforts that quickly mitigate or prevent homelessness. Movement upstream reflects a growing body of evidence demonstrates the utility of prevention models, as well as emerging insights into contextual factors that facilitate policy changes. Although expansions in prevention practice and policy are promising, a potential threat to broader dissemination concerns the inherent complexities involved in redesigning existing service systems. Communities face difficult decisions regarding how best to tailor and target prevention resources that meet the demands of multiple populations with different needs. Communities simultaneously balance concerns regarding efficiency (i.e. greatest return from services) and fairness (i.e., equitable distribution of resources).

This presentation focuses on youth homelessness prevention to illustrate the challenges and opportunities for innovative systems transformation. Youth homelessness remains stubbornly high in communities across the globe, despite considerable efforts to mitigate through homeless services. Inadequately housed youth typify variability that challenges customized services; emerging adulthood presents unique developmental considerations that differ from families and adults, while youth also vary considerably from each other, such as parenting youth, runaway youth, and institutionalized youth. Tensions arise regarding how to allocate resources that broadly protect youth. Fortunately, systems design thinking provides strategies to manage and learn from the complexities. The presentation provides case studies on the design, implementation, and evaluation of youth homelessness prevention systems in multiple communities. Examples will highlight common and unique components that facilitate complex decision-making, and particular emphasis will be placed on evaluation frameworks that provide rapid information for program improvement. The presentation will conclude with a reflection on the implications of systems design thinking for global policies that



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



LUND
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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

promote homelessness prevention. The second of two presentations on homelessness prevention ensures productive feedback on emerging evidence from policy and practice developments.

Francesca Albanese, UK: Prevention or Cure? A Year on from the Homelessness Reduction Act in England



Francesca Albanese is currently the Head of Research and Evaluation at Crisis, the national UK charity for homeless people. She oversees Crisis' external commissioning and in-house research and evaluation function including management of the Homelessness Monitor series and longitudinal project on the Homelessness Reduction Act. Francesca has worked in housing and homelessness policy and research for the past twelve years, at Crisis, Shelter and Homeless Link and completed her PhD in housing policy in 2007.

Introduced in April 2018 the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) shifts the statutory approach to homelessness across Local Authorities in England from crisis management to preventative action, widening the eligibility of those seeking assistance. However, trends in local authority statistics show that the instability and precariousness of the private rented sector is increasingly contributing to the rise in homelessness in England, whilst lack of affordable housing supply and changes to welfare policies limits the options many local authorities have in preventing and ending homelessness.

This paper presents the baseline findings of a three-year research project research currently being undertaken by Crisis' exploring the implementation of the HRA across six Local Authority areas in England. The study is using a mixed methods approach and findings from the first year are based on surveys and interviews with over 500 service users and staff working in the six case study areas. The research looks at the delivery of the HRA and its impact on housing outcomes. It considers the approaches Local Authorities are taking to prevent and relieve homelessness under their new duties, and identifies and explores the tension between the new legislation and the realities of the local housing market. As Local Authorities are constrained by the housing supply available to them, their ability to provide sustainable outcomes for homeless households becomes harder to deliver suggesting a potential conflict between the HRA and the current housing market.



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Observatory on
Homelessness



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

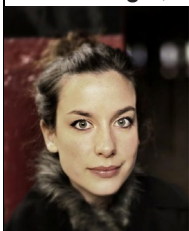
VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Seminar 18: (ROOM TBC) Migration and Homelessness (2)

Chair: **Mike Allen, IE**

Emilie Segol, FR: Profile and Future of Migrants in Paris Emergency Camps



Emilie Segol, a French national, has been working as a statistician for the French Observatory on Homelessness (at Samusocial de Paris) for three years. Her work focuses on integration of the homeless, and the specific constraints faced by homeless people with disabilities. She is currently conducting a survey on the profile of homeless people using the metro in Paris as shelter, and one on the profile and future of the migrants evacuated from emergency camps in Paris (2015-2016). Emilie graduated with a Master's degree in economics from La Sorbonne Paris University in 2015.

In spring 2015, the French Government adopted administrative support and accommodation policies in an attempt to provide an answer to the so-called migration crisis that had sprung a few years before. This resulted in successive closing of migrant population camps in Paris. The newly homeless migrants were sheltered in dedicated emergency accommodations. The current study analyses first the profile of migrants that were moved from camps in Paris in 2015 and 2016. Then, it focuses on the factors leading to their potential early exit from the accommodation facility at their disposal. The data come from the organisation commissioned to monitor the progress of the administrative requests made by the migrants relocated in emergency centres. The fully-anonymised data provides information on both the demographic characteristics and administrative situation of the population that has been sheltered between the first evacuation in June 2015 and the creation of the first sorting centre aiming at sheltering and supporting migrants through their asylum-seeking process in November 2016. The first results show a relatively homogeneous profile of the migrant population that was moved from the camps: they are single young men (96%), aged under 30 (70%) and mostly coming from the following five countries: Sudan (43%), Afghanistan (30%), Eritrea (9%), Somalia (6%) and Ethiopia (3%). By November 2016, two-thirds of the sheltered population were no longer in the accommodation facility. More than half of them (53%) had joined the asylum seekers facility or obtained international protection. The others left willingly or were excluded from the centre in which they resided. Phase two of the study, which is underway, aims to identify which factors (asylum procedure type, geographical origin, age, etc.) led some of the migrants to exit the accommodation facility before the end of their asylum-seeking process. Such analyses could be balanced against the outcomes of other European countries' migration policies.

Karolina Mróz, PL: Romanian Romani Residents of Wroclaw Programme



Karolina Mróz is The head of the Wroclaw's president's advisory group, expert in the field of intersectoral public policies, midwife of dialogue. She coordinates the Roma Program in Wroclaw - the largest displacement and integration of the Roma community in Europe since the 1960s. In 2018, she represented Poland in the field of Dialogue Building and Conflict Management in Local Communities in the International Visitor Leadership Program of US Department of State. She is also co-author of several city strategies, interdisciplinary analyses and Foresight Wroclaw 2036/56.

Since 1994 Wroclaw has been the destination of Romanian Roma citizens economical migration. In range of their social exclusion – lack of professional skills and even basic competences, they had built and settled an illegal encampment which expanded after Poland and Romania joined EU. After 25 years there were living about 150 people (adults and children) in horrible social situation

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European
Observatory on
Homelessness HELSINGBORG



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

also causing a lot of conflicts with local community. That became a wider conflict between local and national government and also between local government and NGOs or activists. The House of Peace Foundation as a conflict-management focused NGO attended the process with mediation and facilitation methods which resulted the cross sectoral "Romanian Romani Residents of Wroclaw Program" developed by the stakeholders and activists. The Foundation became a program leader coordinating cooperation between institutions, NGOs, schools, and delivering training houses and assistance to families who decided to start their own journey to self-independence. On April 2018 encampment ceased to exist and the last of 31 families moved in to the house rented by Foundation from the private landlord. During the year some families resigned and left Wroclaw or rented house by themselves and now we work with 23 families (to the end of 2020). This is the biggest resettlement in Europe since the 1960s and probably the first program with such task/goal oriented approach. It is a method mixture between housing first/rapid rehousing and family assistance to independence. We are based very strictly on the polish law and rights and duties for EU citizens. The family's support is a direct assistantship focused on 7 pillars: Documents, Trainings flats, Health, Education, Social benefits, Job activation, Integration. The total grant amount for this program is EUR 1.6 million and it is fully financed by the resources of the Wroclaw Municipality (a documentary about the program is available at: <https://youtu.be/2aNjle9ycwY>)



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

Poster presentations

Lea Lengyel, HU: Homeless mothers. Motherhood for homeless women and their relationship with their children



Lea Lengyel is a PhD student in the Doctoral School of Sociology at Eötvös Loránd University, Faculty of Social Sciences. She is writing her doctoral thesis on the on the feminine self-concept of homeless women. She studies questions related to only women, such as motherhood, relation to society's expectations towards women (doing laundry, cooking, cleaning), questions of appearance (hairstyle, clothes), and period poverty. She also works as a social worker at a homeless shelter for women in Budapest.

The presentation is centered on homeless women's childbearing, especially in cases when the women get pregnant after they become homeless. The contact types that can be seen will be also presented. Women living at night shelters and in public places make up the sample of the study and women living in shelters for mothers are not part of it. The place of taking samples is special because for this study narrative interviews have been conducted with women and (future) mothers, who spend most of their days without a shelter, so keeping contact with their children is special, as well.

Regarding the outcomes, it is important to determine two groups: group one contains women, who became homeless after their children grew adults and group two contains those, who became homeless besides their minors or had children as a person without shelter. In the former case, the time of pregnancy, birth giving and babyhood were peaceful with greater probability, so kids might have had traumas less probably during primary socialisation. While in the latter case, the fetus can already experience needs, and the mother questions her short and medium-term vision and preparation for motherhood.

The presentation will discuss how homeless women who brought up their children in their homes live their motherhood and how live those who had to be separated from their children right after giving birth or before their children reached adulthood. The way how their own childhood, their probable upbringing in an institute determines their relationship with their children will also be examined. The result of the research showed that there is a correlation between the childhood experiences, primary socialisation environment of the women examined and their own childbearing and keeping contact with their children. It has also been revealed that the presence of an abusive partner or husband can traumatize a mother in such a degree that she can override her own pregnancy and birth giving story in her memories.



Wendy Ann Webb, UK: Life's hard and then you die: PhD exploring end of life priorities for people experiencing homelessness within the United Kingdom

Wendy Ann Webb is a final year PhD student at the University of Worcester in the UK. Wendy also works as a Palliative Care Nurse in Worcester and volunteers with the homeless community in Birmingham. Her passion is to improve end of life care for people experiencing homelessness in the UK.

People experiencing homelessness (PEH) consistently fail to access palliative care services (Care Quality Commission, 2017). They are dying on the streets and in hostels without adequate support. While there is ample literature surrounding the

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European
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Homelessness



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

barriers to appropriate end of life (EoL) care (Klop et al., 2018), the EoL priorities of PEH in the United Kingdom (UK) remain poorly understood (Care Quality Commission, 2017) This study aims to bridge the gap in knowledge. The central question of this study is: 'What matters most to PEH in the UK as they consider EoL?'. Only when the answers to this important question are understood, can the problem of PEH in the UK dying without adequate support and with very little dignity or choice begin to be addressed. The aim of this interpretive phenomenological study is therefore to explore the EoL concerns, fears, preferences and priorities of a sample of PEH in the UK. This qualitative PhD project is a phenomenological study underpinned by the philosophy of French phenomenologist, Maurice Merleau-Ponty. Data have been collected through semi-structured, audio-recorded, face-to-face interviews with 21 participants (PEH) across several UK counties. Data have been analysed iteratively using thematic analysis. Findings have been reported as 8 themes: Spiritual concerns; Practical concerns; Fear of needing care; Fear of being forgotten; Preference for dying suddenly; Preference for being somewhere comfortable where people know me; Prioritising autonomy and self-determination; Prioritising authenticity. Findings are currently being interpreted using Merleau-Ponty's philosophy. Following interpretation of the findings, a deeper understanding of the EoL concerns, fears, preferences and priorities of PEH in the UK will facilitate the provision of accessible, culturally relevant, person-centred support for PEH with advanced ill-health in the UK.



Christina Carmichael, UK: The paradoxes of 'independence': Exploring service user and practitioner perspectives on pathways out of homelessness.

Christina Carmichael is a PhD researcher in the School of Social Work at the University of East Anglia. Using qualitative methods, her research explores the 'on-the-ground' experiences of homelessness practitioners and service users in the context of the post-2010 austerity programme. Prior to this, Christina was a support worker at a homeless accommodation provider in London.

In England, homelessness service provision is dominated by a rhetoric of 'independence', with 'independent living' generally promoted as the most desirable outcome for service users and a focus for service providers. This emphasis is reflected within broader public and policy discourses, where social and supported housing are consistently presented as inferior options that encourage a culture of dependency. It can also be seen in the increasingly demanding and time-specific targets around 'move-on' being placed on services by statutory funding streams. Drawing on data from forty qualitative interviews with homelessness practitioners and service users, this poster presentation examines participants' perspectives on pathways out of homelessness. It is identified that the pervasiveness of this 'independence' rhetoric is highly problematic, and has led to irreconcilable demands and paradoxes. First, and despite a strong emphasis on 'move-on', service users reported being "stuck" in homelessness services, and practitioners spoke in terms of a system "backing up" due to a lack of appropriate housing options and broader health and social care provision. Additionally, it is noted that moving service users without appropriate resources in place has resulted in a dramatic increase in "revolving-door" homelessness. More broadly, questions are raised as to whether independent living is an appropriate or viable goal for all service users, particularly those with long histories of institutionalisation. For some service users, a life without services is a daunting prospect and, importantly, may not represent what they actually want. Overall, it is argued that we must avoid criticising service users' inability to reach the target of independent living, and instead recognise (a) the structural barriers that are inhibiting 'progress' and (b) the need for



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

a broader range of long-term options. The biggest challenge, however, is perhaps the pervasiveness of this rhetoric, which means that alternative approaches may struggle to gain traction or acceptance.



Kelly-Marie Roberts, MT: Findings of Arts-Based Participatory Research with Homeless People in Malta

Kelly-Marie Roberts is an experienced community education professional who has worked with marginalized and disadvantaged communities in Bolivia and Eswatini (formerly Swaziland), and has worked with homelessness prevention and outreach organisations in Scotland, Estonia, and Malta. Her Participatory Action Research with Homeless People in Malta was undertaken in fulfillment of her International Masters in Adult Education for Social Change (IMAESC), an Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters from the University of Glasgow, University of Malta, Tallinn University, and the Open University of Cyprus (2017-19).

It has been noted by researchers and practitioners from various backgrounds that the dominant research paradigms of educational research and social research often fail to represent the perspectives and voices of marginalised people. This work attempted to do research differently by contributing to the lifting of lesser-heard voices to offer new empirical research to the conversation on homelessness and housing exclusion in Europe. This work is inspired by the principles of cultural democracy and critical pedagogy (Freire), two core elements of community development practice.

This is emerging research led by an early-career researcher working closely with the YMCA in Malta. This presentation offers attendees an insight into a complex reality and shares the story of a group of people acutely affected by housing exclusion in Malta. Attendees will gain insight into the practical possibilities and limitations of arts-based participatory research with people experiencing homelessness. Methodological and practice challenges that arose during the course of the project will be discussed, among these ethical issues of voice, representation and ownership. At the heart of this project is a passion for community empowerment and a belief in the possibility for art and for stories to stimulate collective and individual action.

This presentation is an account of a praxis and its findings. As an exploratory study, this research offers attendees a real-world example of what arts-based participatory research and action learning can look like, what these processes can achieve, even – or especially – in disadvantaged community settings. As Berman (2017) notes: “voices and stories from the field provide a bottom-up approach to unlocking theories and contribute to making a compelling case for the role of arts in creating social change” (p. 2).



Patricia Puente Guerrero, ES: Criminal victimisation experiences among homeless people as a function of the place where they spend the night. Analysis from Hindelang, Gottfredson and Garofalo's Lifestyle/Exposure Model of Personal Victimisation

Patricia Puente holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminology and Master's Degree in Criminology and Criminal Justice System. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in Psychology as a student and is currently enrolled as a PhD student in Law and Social Sciences at the National Distance Education University (Spain).



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden
Bios and Abstracts

Lifestyle/Exposure Model of Personal Victimization, proposed by Hindelang, Gottfredson and Garofalo, suggests that lifestyles are related to the probability of being in places (streets, parks and other public places) at times (particularly during the night) when risk of victimisation is high. This proposition has been applied to victimisation of homeless people, considering the place where the individual spends the night as an indicator of their lifestyle which is related to their level of exposition to risk of victimisation, and hence to the victimisation experiences they actually suffer. Accordingly, on the basis of data from the latest Survey to Homeless People, conducted by the National Institute of Statistics in 2012, the hypothesis was tested that homeless people who reported usually spending the night in public places, as compared to those who slept in care facilities and other places that are intended for that purpose, would have suffered victimisation events to a larger extent. The findings replicated previous research and supported the hypothesis: once adjusted for the influence of different sociodemographic and other lifestyle-related characteristics, it was found that the odds of having been victim of a crime were significantly higher among those who pertained to the first group. Finally, the implications of these results are analysed in the light of the currently dominant care model for homeless people, discussing the potential advantages an approach based on a Housing First model could yield.

Nadia Ayed, UK: Homelessness and social capital



Nadia Ayed's PhD will explore social capital in the context of homelessness. She is interested in understanding how social capital manifests in homeless communities, its associated benefits/disadvantages and how it may relate to mental distress.

Homelessness has been well documented to have detrimental effects on mental health; including elevated rates of depression, alcohol and drug dependence and psychoses. The relationship between homelessness and mental illness seems bidirectional; whereby homelessness is both a risk factor for mental illness but also an outcome. As rates of homelessness are rising, it is increasingly important to develop an effective strategy to alleviate mental distress in those affected and to reduce homelessness.

One innovative and unexplored avenue is to explore homelessness through the lens of social capital theory; broadly conceptualised as the social relationships within groups and communities. Social capital can be divided into: bonding (ties amongst individuals within a homogenous group), bridging (ties amongst individuals of heterogeneous groups) and linking (ties with institutions of authority and power such as the government). It can further be divided into structural (extent and intensity of associational links or activity) and cognitive (perceptions of support, reciprocity, sharing and trust).

There is a robust body of research implicating social capital in the aetiology of mental illnesses and more generally highlighting the importance of social connectedness for one's well-being. However, there is an evident dearth of research exploring social capital in the context of homelessness. Exploring social capital in homeless people can help to highlight already existing support networks. For example, homeless individuals living in hostels are known to form positive and reliable friendship. Such



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
UNIVERSITY



FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

resource-orientated approaches, which identify existing strengths and resilience, contribute to a shift away from more deficit-focused models of homelessness and mental illness.

I'll present plans for the PhD project, summarise existing research and discuss limitations, avenues for exploration and the importance of resource-orientated approaches. I'll also provide preliminary findings from my systematic review which focuses on how the concept of social capital has been applied to homeless research.

Amanda Shields, UK: "Nothing about us, without us!": Promoting Engagement and Inclusion with People who are Homeless in a Current Research Study in Northern Ireland



Amanda Shields is a currently a PhD Candidate at Queen's University Belfast, Northern Ireland within the School of Social Sciences, Education and Social Work. Amanda is also a social work practitioner with experience in the homelessness and substance use sectors.

Throughout the process of undertaking a research study on the relationship between homelessness and substance use in Northern Ireland, many opinions and perspectives have emerged as to how to conduct this study. The aspiration was to speak directly to individuals who currently experienced homelessness, with one phase of the study using surveys.

"Don't survey homeless people; they are too chaotic and transient. You won't get a good response and consent will be impossible to obtain. Survey practitioners instead" – this was a suggestion from the research steering group who advised on the methodology of the study. Despite practitioners striving towards social justice and anti-oppressive practice through their work with homeless individuals, it appears that judgements exist within this sector about the need and ability to actively involve individuals who are homeless in research that is about them. Whilst concerns about consent and engagement were important factors to consider in planning the study, this paper will argue that regardless of the complexities in surveying this population, it is vital not to exclude these individuals from research and find ways in which we can enable them to have a voice. This paper will present the researcher's experience of engaging with homeless individuals, alongside methods used to recruit them to complete surveys. Additionally, the concerns around obtaining informed consent from individuals who are homeless and under the influence of a substance will be presented, discussing how as a social worker the researcher has used the Mental Capacity Act (Northern Ireland) 2016 as a basis to mitigate any potential ethical disputes throughout this process. In order to highlight how this study has been successful in its aim to involve homeless people in research that is about them, some preliminary findings will also be offered.

Catalina Ramírez Vega, ES: Home building by homeless people at public spaces (co-author: Dr. Tomeu Vidal Miranda)



Catalina Ramírez Vega is a PhD student at the University of Barcelona. She holds a Master's degree in Community Psychology from the University of Chile and Psychology from the University of Costa Rica. She has worked as a professor at the School of Psychology and the Graduate Program in Psychology at the University of Costa Rica and as the coordinator of the Master Program in Community Psychology, University of Costa Rica.

■ European Federation of National Associations Working with the Homeless AISBL

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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden
Bios and Abstracts

In this communication we intend to present preliminary results about the processes of construction of home in the public space of people in street situation in San Jose, Costa Rica, through interviews in movement. From the scientific literature are several concepts that propose to account for the links between people and places. This is how in the research that is developed we start to define how the public space and the home are understood, to later, point out some of the conceptualizations about the term, most prominent in the literature on the person environment, the attachment to the place and Finally, describe the model of appropriation of space.

To achieve the proposed objective, we seek to describe the experiences of people living on the street, understand their conception of the public space and the private space, identify the spaces through which they travel daily, the uses they make of them and the meanings they give, as well as the relationships they establish with the people who also occupy them. To achieve these objectives and by virtue of the dynamics of life of the participants, we have chosen to use a series of techniques, namely: walking interviews, photography of significant places, participant observation and informal conversations. Because of its characteristics, each of these techniques per se and their combined use fully fits with the objective of producing the necessary information that allows knowing the different spaces that they travel in their daily life as well as the links they establish with them and in them.

In this communication, we will focus on sharing two things: first, the preliminary results found in San José, Costa Rica; from the interviews in movement and the photographs and, second, methodological reflections with respect to the whole process of information production as well as the scope and limitations of the techniques used.

Hannah Browne Gott, UK: Pathways through Health and Homelessness Services: Intersectional Analysis Using Administrative Data



Hannah Browne Gott is a PhD candidate in Human Geography at Cardiff University, funded by the Economic and Social Research Council and Administrative Data Research Centre. My PhD uses administrative data to understand how homeless people suffer from structural violence through their interactions with the institutions of health, housing and criminal justice. My broader research interests focus on issues concerning poverty, social justice and housing, specialising in Human Rights approaches.

It is recognized that those experiencing homelessness will have complex trajectories through multiple agencies, including emergency health services and homelessness services (Hwang 2001). Research into intersectionality and health states that forms of disadvantage, such as race, class and gender, impact on the quality of these services – in effect creating health



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

inequalities (Bauer 2014). This complex interaction between health and homelessness services, as well as the interaction between different forms of discrimination, has begun to be explored for those experiencing multiple exclusion homelessness (Fitzpatrick et al. 2011). Overall however, homelessness people's journeys through these services has yet be understood on a large scale.

This paper is unique in using a longitudinal, linked administrative data set; which will problematize and update our understanding of the complexity of linkages between homeless and health services. The use of linked administrative data is at the forefront of research into homelessness, building on methods utilised by scholars such as Culhane (2016). This paper presents the initial findings of a project using individual level data from a UK local authority including: homelessness services, emergency services and local health services. Using intersectional quantitative analysis on administrative data, this paper allows a longitudinal analysis of more than 12,000 homeless people's experiences in housing and health services.

The findings of this paper outline the pathways between health and homelessness services for a diverse and disadvantaged group of service users. This paper's results draw on the distinct ability of linked data administrative data to outline these heterogeneous and complex pathways of groups experiencing intersectional disadvantage including: female headed households with children, people with substance misuse issues and black and ethnic minority service users. The findings allow a greater understanding of both the problematic and caring impacts of health and homelessness services for diverse groups of service users.

Laura Rapo, FI: Housing first paradigm in frontline social work. Analysis of social work documentation for homeless young adults



Laura Rapo is a researcher, social worker and activist. She is currently writing her doctoral dissertation on youth homelessness in Finland. Her interests include ending all violence against women, cycling, traveling and music.

Housing first was initially adopted in Finland with two consecutive, national level programmes PAAVO 1 and 2 that had local applications. One could describe this method as a top-down enforcement. The programmes focused in decreasing long-term homelessness and preventing homelessness. As a small country with relatively small homeless population and extensive, publicly funded social services, this focused approach has produced considerable results. Hence, it is interesting to view how the paradigm reflect to the frontline workers working with homeless youth. I am using critical discourse analysis as a method of analysis, specifically Norman Fairclough's approach. As a data I am using about 90 social needs' assessment written for homeless youths in Helsinki. Service needs' assessments are a significant part of social work documentation and practice in Finland. The social needs' assessment constitutes as social events where social workers through actions, text and corroboration with the client produces an artefact. These social events take place in frontline social work in Finnish institutional setting. I will answer the following questions: How do social workers represent the situations of homeless youths? How do the representations reflect Housing First paradigm? My presentation will be based on my article with the same title. The article is part of my PhD dissertation titled Homeless young adults in urban environment: support, space and coping strategies.

Håvard Aaslund, NO: Collective participation to encounter homelessness – resources and identity



European
Observatory on
Homelessness



HELSINGBORG



LUND
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FEANTSA

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts



Håvard Aaslund has a master's degree in social work and is currently a PhD student at Oslo Metropolitan University and a lecturer in social work at VID specialized university. He is interested in homelessness, social housing, alternative housing, youth participation, substance use and participatory research methods. His current research is about collective action among people experiencing homelessness.

User participation is a central value in the Norwegian strategy to combat homelessness and housing exclusion, specially highlighted when it comes to people with problematic use of substances, new housing projects and inter-disciplinary cooperation where non-profit sector is highlighted because of close relations with the users. Earlier research on «user-led» housing projects revealed that both «users» and partners struggled to explain and define what users actually had to decide, (Ausland, 2010; Eriksen, 2017; The National Board of Health and Welfare, 2006). The discourse on participation is claimed to have been put in a neoliberal framework (Kamali & Jönsson, 2018). Homelessness and substance abuse are issues often met with fatalism and constructed as an identity problems (Parsell, 2010; Selseng & Ulvik, 2018; Teixeira, 2017), which limits autonomy and opportunities for participation.

This presentation is based on a case study of a project initiated by homeless people to establish their own temporary housing accommodation, based on participatory action research following the emergence and organization of the project over a period of 3 years. The case shows an example of participation that expands the understanding of what participation can be in the homelessness and substance use area. At the same time, real user involvement is a resource-intensive and person-dependent process in which democracy, autonomy and self-help are developed over time in collective processes. In this process, both the opportunities for identity formation and access to resources and organizations play a role. The study presents challenges with linking user-organized initiatives closely to established organizations and short-term projects. Non-profit sector can provide crucial resource for user involvement, but it also involves challenges for the organizations and the risk of co-optation for self-organized movements. This calls for a critical discussion about tension between the symbolic capital and the value of user participation in non-profit sector.

Tove Samselius, SE: Family homelessness and conditional welfare in Sweden: The experience of female lone parents in greater Stockholm



Tove Samselius is a PhD candidate in social work at Malmö University and a Policy Advisor for Save the Children Sweden. Her research concerns women and children's poverty, housing exclusion and migration. Tove previously worked for a British grassroots lone parent organisation with support services as well as policy and research.

Lone parent mothers with a foreign background and their children are disproportionately affected by homelessness in Sweden and are more likely than any other group to seek help from social services. However, support from social services for emergency accommodation is granted through the means-tested social assistance system and is therefore conditional on the parents' ability to demonstrate their 'worthiness of support'. Very little Swedish research exploring mothers' views on their homelessness experiences and interactions with welfare agencies exists. There is also an urgent need to better understand how gender, migration, housing, and, welfare regulations inter-relates within specific urban contexts at a deeper experiential level in Sweden.

14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts

In this paper, I will discuss the gendered and racialized nature of family homelessness in Sweden, as well as, the lack of recognition of the needs and vulnerability of an at-risk population. The paper draws upon qualitative research undertaken with lone parent mothers with experience of homelessness, housing exclusion and poverty in the region of Stockholm. The findings raise questions around the impact of Swedish homelessness policies in relation to vulnerable families, and, the limitations of a gender-neutral approach to social policy which fails to recognise how social divisions and power relations shape access to housing and other resources. Furthermore, it asks whether current social service practice which put emphasis on individual responsibility and parental shortcomings are adequate in addressing the needs of homeless female headed lone parent families.

Coline van Everdingen, NL: The profile and mental health of the Dutch homeless service users: the results of cross-sectional research



Coline van Everdingen (1968) qualified as a medical doctor in 1993 and as specialist in Public Health in 2001. Working as an independent researcher, she conducted more than 400 interviews in 8 identical field studies among the Dutch homeless service users from 2015 to 2017. As a PhD candidate at Maastricht University, she now uses this data to analyze the exclusion mechanisms and describe the needs for recovery in the context of the current system and care provision.

With her co-author, Prof. Dr. Philippe Delespaul, Coline aimed to use a cross-sectional research to give insight into the pathways into homelessness, the health, resources, and needs for recovery of the current Dutch homeless service (HS) users. A snowball-method was used to engage the adult HS users in 7 cities from 2015 to 2017. Semi-structured interviews by the same researcher (CvE, a medical doctor) were used to collect biographical information and to assess the HS user's health with the Community Mental Health Questionnaire and the Homelessness Supplement. It yields a broad assessment of the mental and physical health, and the social situation, covering all dimensions of positive health. All of the 436 participants had experienced homelessness. 98% still were homeless: 8% slept rough, 67% in a night shelter, and 23% were houseless. The majority was male (81%), single (89%), had a migration background (52%), a low education (82%), and was persistently unemployed. Preliminary data point out that comorbid conditions were high. In the majority of the participants, mental illness, substance related disorders and one or more chronic physical conditions were present. Intellectual disability was found in a substantial part of the participants. The majority had been previously homeless. Traumas were common: in one third past life events still invoked a sense of horror. HS users were socially isolated: half of the participants had only one or no informal helper at all. Many participants had history of psychiatric admissions or ambulant mental care, but did not receive mental care at present. Considering this complex pattern of severe needs, most were best served in comprehensive long-term integrated care for serious mental illness. Serious mental illness is a common problem in the mainly chronic or episodic HS users in the Netherlands. In addition to housing, other care needs should be met to promote sustainable recovery.

Hannah Obert, DE: Images of Relationship among Homeless Women and their Consequences



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14th European Research Conference Helsingborg, 20th September 2019

VENUE: Helsingborg Campus of the University of Lund, Sweden

Bios and Abstracts



Hannah Obert studied Social Work (Master) in Essen, Germany at the University Duisburg-Essen. Currently she is working at the Institute for Social Work and Social Politics as an academic associate (Qualitative Research Methods) at the University Duisburg-Essen. Her research interest concerns the topics methodology of qualitative research, urban sociology and the sociology of gender as well as service user research in social work.

Female homelessness is still underrepresented as a subject of social research. The available article discusses the images and practices of relationship among homeless women. It's based on the master thesis "Images of relationship among homeless women – An objective-hermeneutic reconstruction". The fact that homeless women are underrepresented is no incidence. Female homelessness is often covered through entering sexually transactional or forced relationships. The dominance of male homelessness, leads to the aggravation of the hazardous situation homeless women find themselves in. The survey showed in particular the impact of gender role stereotypes on causing female homelessness. Their own blueprints of womanhood are tied to perceptions of being weak, dependent, clueless and in need of protection which in turn leads to high and lopsided expectations of their male partner stereotypically "taking care of them" – not only as a protector, but also being responsible for arrange their joint life. In case those images flounder on reality (if the partner isn't fulfilling the expectations towards his role or if the partner "breaks away" through separation or if he's violent towards his female partner), this loss of the relationship as a base of the daily life may trigger a downward spiral towards homelessness. Additionally the situation of being homeless leads to the development of differentiate images of relationship. Case in point: the aforementioned forced or transactional relationships, which women think they have to enter in order to survive. Some women may be able to alleviate their situation within those relationships. But often this will lead to an increase of dependency and the danger of relationship violence. Homeless women may therefore find themselves in a dilemma struggling for independence while at the same time trying to escape the dangers they face while being recognized as "sexually available" woman. This contribution is supposed to show the entanglement of the images of relationship of homeless women and the situation of being homeless as a woman.

Maximum attendance is 230 persons. Early registration requested from June 15, 2019.

No field visits will be organised. A photo exhibition will be displayed at the conference venue.

DEADLINE for registration: August 31, 2019.