

THINKING SOCIAL REAFFILIATION – A SOCIOLOGICAL PERSPECTIVE BASED ON SOCIAL WORK WITH HOMELESS PEOPLE

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PLAN

- Introduction
- 3 Momentums regarding homelessness and research
- Analyzing homelessness policy and its actors
- Addressing human rights and doing public sociology?
- Conclusion



MOMENTUM I – THE VAGRANT



PUBLIC ATTENTION TO HOMELESSNESS?



VEXLIARD AND THE SOCIOLOGY OF VAGRANTS - 1957

- Ethnography in the streets
 - Many encounters
 - Long term
 - More than 60 life trajectories
- Not a homogenous group - sociological analysis vs psychiatric diagnostics
- Explanations?
 - Personal aspects, psychological dimensions
 - Processes of desocialisation
 - Socials exclusion
 - Repression vs assistance – adaptive behaviour
 - Interaction processes

ALEXANDRE VEXLIARD

**INTRODUCTION
A LA SOCIOLOGIE
DU VAGABONDAGE**



LES INTROUVABLES

THE 1990S

- Closure of begging depots: Wortel, Merksplas, St. Hubert
- Closure of psychiatric beds (Busquin law)
- Lack of space for asylum seekers (abolition of financial aid)
- Creation of low threshold services
 - (creation of Pierre d'Angle in 1988, Samusocial in 1999, street work (Diogenes 1995), day services, showers, hygiene services, social restaurants, supported housing, etc.)

NEW ISSUES '90-'00

- In addition to the traditional and new profiles
 - *women, large or single-parent families, domestic violence, over-indebtedness, middle class, mental health problems, mental disability, etc.*
- rarely accidentally homeless
 - *broader sociological and psychological mechanisms*
- difficulties in reorientation
 - *access to housing, work, care remains difficult*
- post-housing follow-up becomes a job in its own
- dramatic economic situation, housing crisis, migration
- Increase in the average length of stay

AS A RESULT, ...

- => The arrival of many people "from above"
 - (small self-employed people, middle class people on the verge of breaking up, young people and women who are victims of domestic violence, etc.)
 - and "from the side"
 - (refugees, patients leaving psychiatric hospitals, disabled people, etc.)
- causes a certain amount of pressure, which results in the sector being emptied "from below (De Backer, 2008)

**EMPLOYÉE À TEMPS PARTIEL,
MAL LOGÉE À TEMPS COMPLET.**

DÉSORMAIS, AVOIR UN EMPLOI NE NOUS GARANTIT PLUS D'AVOIR UN LOGEMENT DÉCENT.

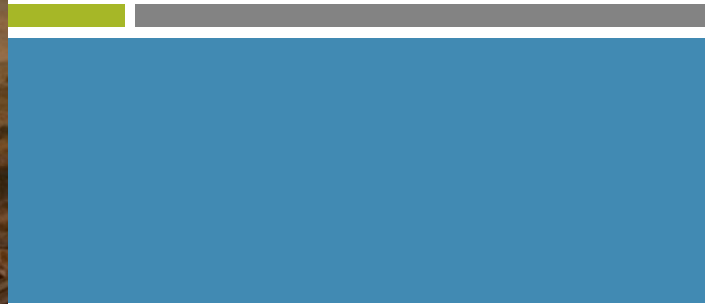


**Fondation
Abbé Pierre**
pour le logement
des défavorisés

AGISSONS !

LAZARSFELD, JAHODA, ZEISEL - THE UNEMPLOYED OF MARIENTHAL – 1931-34

- It is difficult to compare at present the precariousness of the unemployed in Marienthal with the contemporary situation. Talking about a survival strategy is more appropriate in situations where the small amounts of social benefits did not allow for food.
 - The breeding of rabbits as well as the intensive use of gardens made it possible to increase its nutritional intake a little.
 - The dogs and cats of the village disappear.
 - Cabbages or potatoes are stolen from the fields.
- Precariousness affected people's survival to such an extent that it had important effects in several areas of village life.
- previously - strong activity of workers' movements, - the social, cultural and political participation of citizens
 - increase in misery: *"when material misery increases, membership of an association is motivated more by the search for a material interest than by the expression of an opinion"*. The most basic social or cultural expenditures are excluded on the basis of compliance with a strong strict regime that barely allowed to survive.
 - More concretely, this means that people went out less, went less to lively parties or meetings of the workers' movement, they borrowed fewer books from the library, etc.
- Strong differences between women and men



THE REFORMERS – LE PLAY

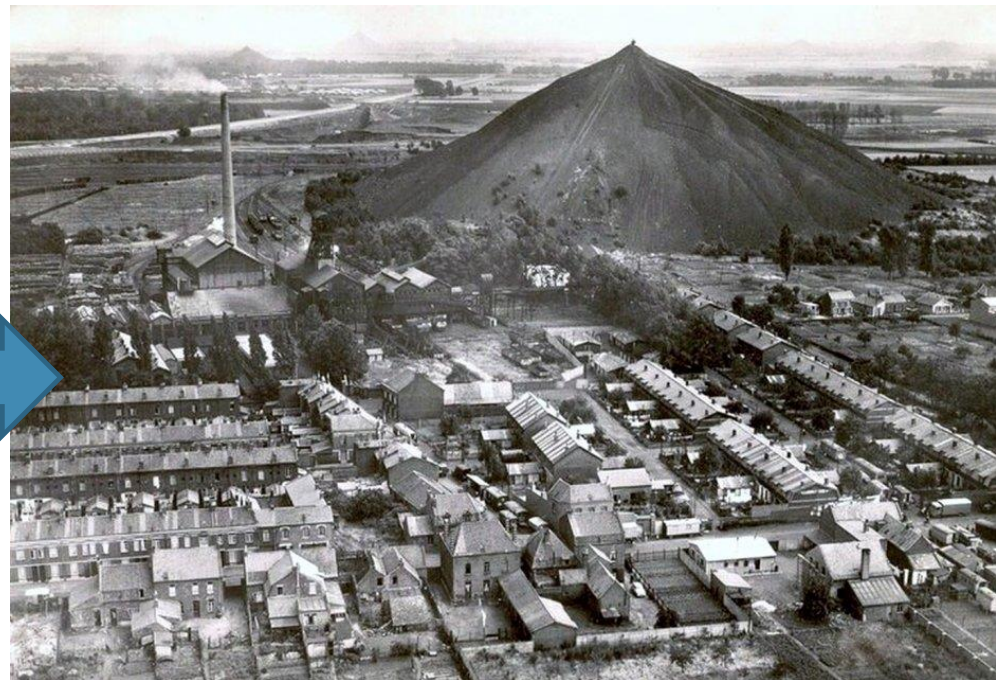
- The nuclear family ensures both continuity and movement. It is the social form capable of ensuring the stability of societies.
 - The Play advocates the return to the right of aînesse in matters of inheritance, against the Napoleonic Civil Code, continuator of the Revolution of 1789, which orders the equal division of property and promotes, in its eyes, social instability.
 - favorable to the multiplication of children, the original family has a material center: the home.
 - conservative reformism of Le Play
- => social hygienism

REFORMERS – IMPROVEMENT OF THE WORKERS' CONDITION

=> space, air, light, water

Influence on social life, morality of workers

Preserving their health as a productive force



THE HISTORY OF PUBLIC WELFARE - IN RELATION TO THE EVOLUTION OF SOCIAL POLICY THINKING

- From the Benevolent Commission, to the Public Assistance Commissions (CAP) to the PCSWs (A for Aid) to the PCSWs (action)
 - Integration revenue and the "last safety net"
 - Then, a long list of direct and indirect aids necessary for people's survival/health/well-being
- A rights-based approach (housing, work, culture, dignified life, etc.) aimed at integration
 - A diversification of direct and indirect roles
 - and
 - A questioning of the role of the PCSWs on several axes
 - Budgetary
 - Role
 - Orientation
 - Stigmatizing the poor



MOMENTUM 2 - PROFESSIONALIZATION



EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR A MORE COHESIVE SOCIETY

- It was clear that something was missing between the street and the other welfare bodies.
- Onkelinx" law 1993 dealing with an "emergency program for a more cohesive society
- Several measures for the homeless:
 - in particular, the obligation to provide housing to any person who finds himself or herself on the street
 - The determination of the competent PCSW
 - granting of a minimex ("street minimex")
 - Possibility of requisitioning empty buildings

SUMMARY OF ANDREA REA'S PROPOSALS 2001

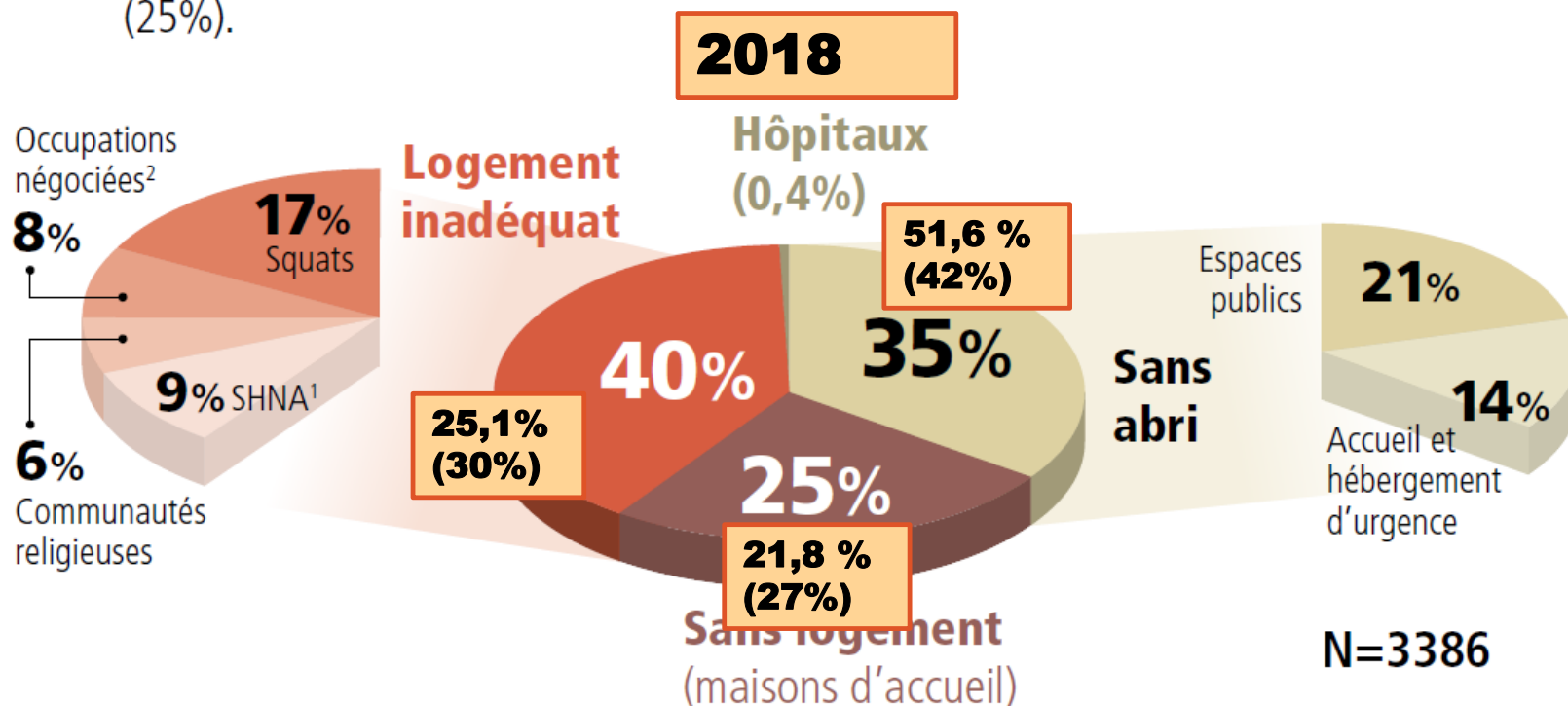
- Typology of situations
- Cloche, Brique, Galère
- Specific approaches for different audiences
- Classification of services
- Access to basic rights,
- listening to the homeless,
- three levels of intervention (prevention, immediate shelter and integration of beneficiaries),
- synergy with other policies (housing, employment, care, education, culture...),
- specific articulation with housing policy,
- clarification of missions, integration into a global system,
- PCSWs are the front-line institutions,
- Policy/Politics must ensure coordination and consultation between communities and other ministers of different powers, etc.

FEANTSA – WORKING ON COMPREHENSION AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS

- Between social vulnerability and risk factors that are situated at different levels (see also ETHOS):
 - **structural** (socio-economic mechanisms, migration, definition of citizenship)
 - **institutional** (availability and procedure of access to services, leaving the institution, structural organization of the sector, etc.)
 - **relational** (family situations and relationships, separations and breakdowns etc.)
 - **personal** (socio-economic positions, citizenship status, migratory origin, mental health, addictions, disability, illnesses, gender, age, etc.)

OPERATIONAL CATEGORY		LIVING SITUATION		GENERIC DEFINITION
Conceptual Category	ROOFLESS	1 People Living Rough	1.1 Public space or external space	Living in the streets or public spaces, without a shelter that can be defined as living quarters
		2 People in emergency accommodation	2.1 Night shelter	People with no usual place of residence who make use of overnight shelter, low threshold shelter
	HOUSELESS	3 People in accommodation for the homeless	3.1 Homeless hostel 3.2 Temporary accommodation 3.3 Transitional supported accommodation	Where the period of stay is intended to be short term
		4 People in Women's Shelter	4.1 Women's shelter accommodation	Women accommodated to experience of domestic violence and where the period of stay is intended to be short term
		5 People in accommodation for immigrants	5.1 Temporary accommodation/reception centres 5.2 Migrant workers accommodation	Immigrants in reception or short term accommodation due to their immigrant status
		6 People due to be released from institutions	6.1 Penal institutions 6.2 Medical institutions (*) 6.3 Children's institutions/homes	No housing available prior to release Stay longer than needed due to lack of housing No housing identified (e.g. by 18th birthday)
		7 People receiving longer-term support (due to homelessness)	7.1 Residential care for older homeless people Supported accommodation for formerly homeless people 7.2	Long stay accommodation with care for formerly homeless people (normally more than one year)
	INSECURE	8 People living in insecure accommodation	8.1 Temporarily with family/friends 8.2 No legal (sub)tenancy 8.3 Illegal occupation of land	Living in conventional housing but not the usual place of residence due to lack of housing Occupation of dwelling with no legal tenancy illegal occupation of a dwelling Occupation of land with no legal rights
		9 People living under threat of eviction	9.1 Legal orders enforced (rented) 9.2 Re-possession orders (owned)	Where orders for eviction are operative Where mortgagee has legal order to re-possess
		10 People living under threat of violence	10.1 Police recorded incidents	Where police action is taken to ensure place of safety for victims of domestic violence
	INADEQUATE	11 People living in temporary/non-conventional structures	11.1 Mobile homes 11.2 Non-conventional building 11.3 Temporary structure	Not intended as place of usual residence Makeshift shelter, shack or shanty Semi-permanent structure hut or cabin
		12 People living in unfit housing	12.1 Occupied dwellings unfit for habitation	Defined as unfit for habitation by national legislation or building regulations
		13 People living in extreme over-crowding	13.1 Highest national norm of overcrowding	Defined as exceeding national density standard for floor-space or useable rooms

➔ **3386 personnes** ont été dénombrées dans la nuit du 07 novembre 2016, dont **35% de sans-abri**, **25% sans-logement** et **40% en logement inadéquat**. Un quart des personnes résident en maisons d'accueil qui, malgré une diminution de 5%, demeurent la forme d'hébergement la plus importante dans l'aide aux sans-abris (25%).



SOCIAL EMERGENCY MEASURES '00

- Linked emergency
 - 24-hour social emergency service
 - Association of PCSWs possible (see small municipalities)
 - Intervention procedure
 - Forms of collaboration on the ground (cf. networking)
 - Links with the police
 - Street work
- Between direct response, crises and the place of low-threshold reception
- Non-take-up
- Links to health, housing, support services for victims of violence
- Links with seasonal plans
- Links with migration

NETWORKING APPROACH '00

- Early 2000
 - Chapter XII Association (cooperation with PCSW and non-profit actors)
- First the big cities (Liège, Charleroi, Namur, “Brussels”...) then extension
 - Modes of cooperation
 - PCSW
 - Day/night care
 - Shelters
 - Orientation
- Often also drug abuse (see policy of big cities)
- Hospitals, Housing, etc.
- Research and evaluation

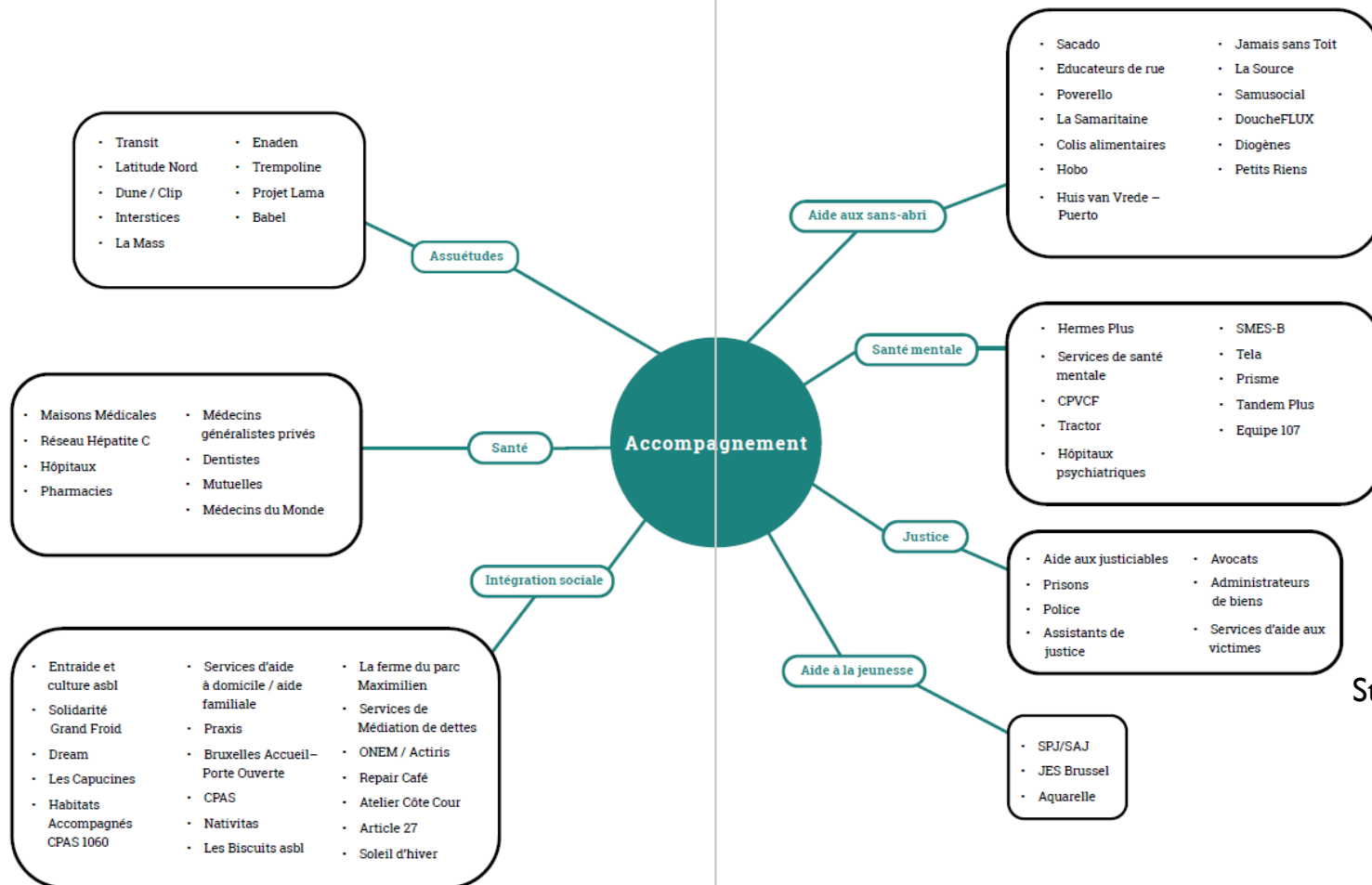
THE ACTORS NETWORK

- Public policy : not just 'top-down' policy, not just 'bottom-up' development of actors on the field
- ⇒ Multiple levels
 - Bureaucratic, militant, religious, professional, politicised, bilingual, etc. sector
- divided between approaches, ideologies and registers of social and political action, but this does not hinder cooperation
- ⇒ Obligation to coordinate themselves, to find "small local orders"
 - + knowledge and complementarities
 - - political (and inter-personal) conflicts that can block everything

“the network can be a solution to urban problems by touching on normative, legal, sanitary, humanist and citizen dimensions. - The state remains the guarantor of social justice”. (Shirley Roy)

SERVICES GATHERED IN BRUSSELS AROUND HOUSING FIRST

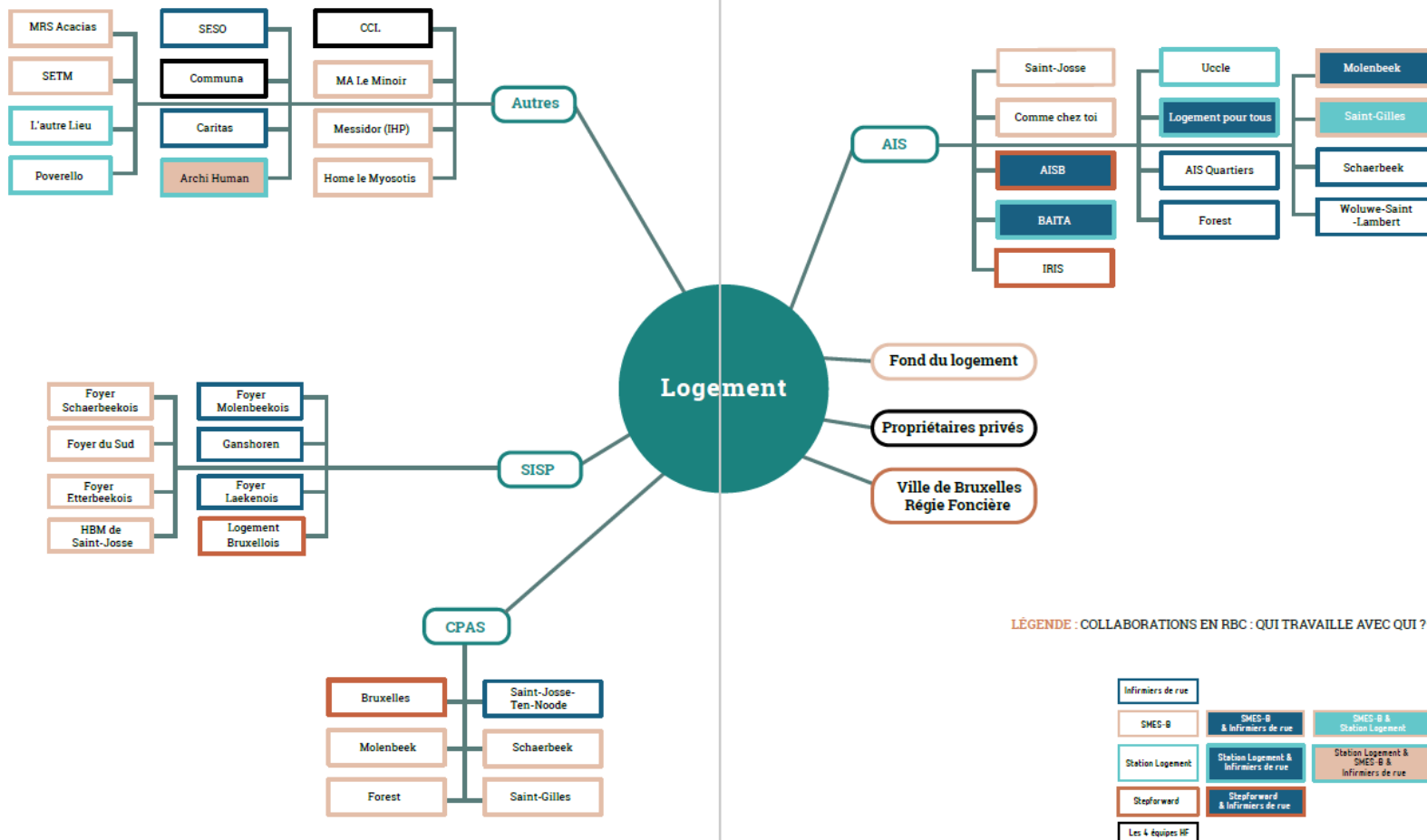
FIGURE 6 : COLLABORATIONS EN MATIÈRE D'ACCOMPAGNEMENT DES LOCATAIRES



Strada, 2018

HOUSING FIRST AND HOUSING ACTORS

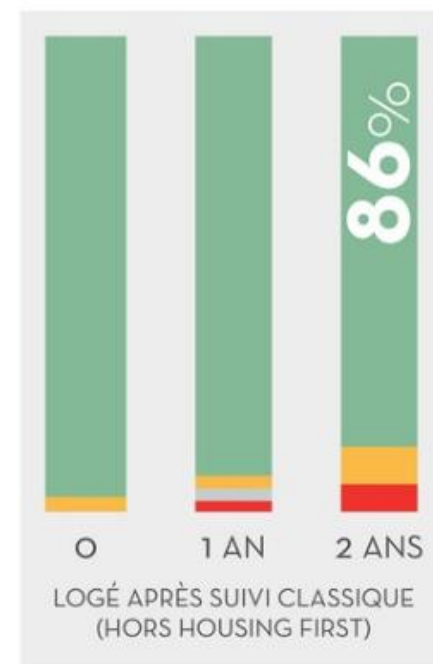
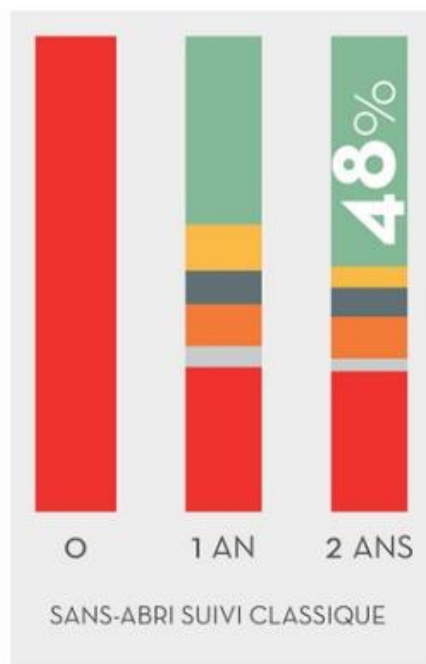
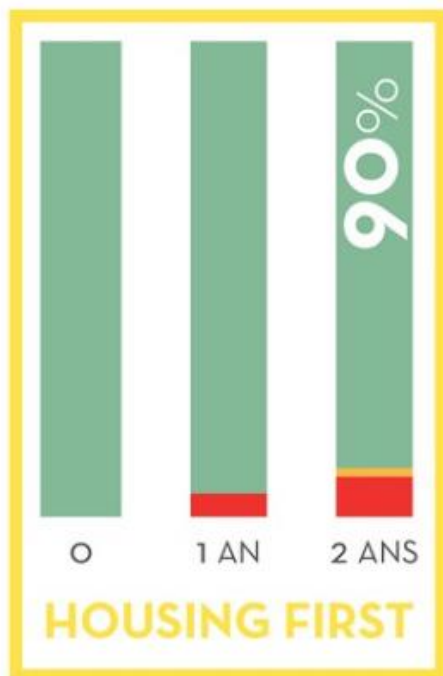
FIGURE 7 : COLLABORATIONS EN MATIÈRE DE LOGEMENT



Strada, 2018

100%

0%



SANS-ABRISME
(RUE/ABRI DE NUIT)



SANS LOGEMENT
(PRISON)



LOGEMENT PRÉCAIRE/
INADÉQUAT



SANS LOGEMENT
(HÉBERGEMENT
COURT SÉJOUR)
Exemple: maison d'accueil.



SANS-LOGEMENT
(HÔPITAL/CURE)



LOGEMENT ADÉQUAT



MOMENTUM 3 – TOWARDS HUMAN RIGHTS?

FROM 2013 ONWARDS



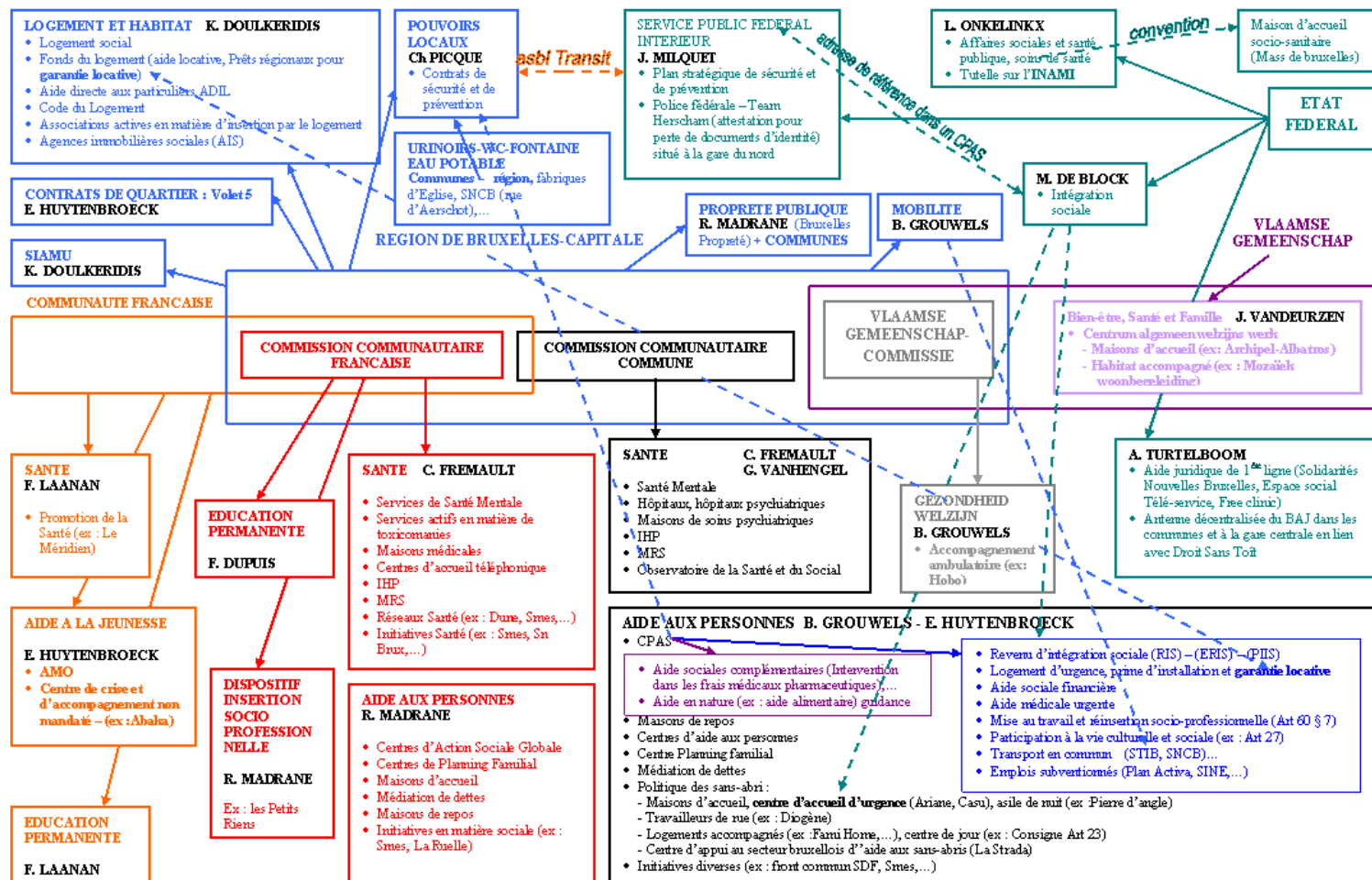
Belgian definition of homeless person

- R.D. of 21 September 2004 concerning the granting of an installation allowance by the PCSW
- *"Any person who does **not have his own accommodation**, who is **unable to obtain it by his own** means and who therefore has no place of residence, or who is temporarily living in a reception centre until accommodation is made available to him"*.
- Policy orientations
 - Prevention
 - Intervention
 - Housing First/Led



ANALYZING HOMELESSNESS POLICY AND IT'S ACTORS





Sources : T. Lahaye (COCOF) - La Strada / Mise à jour : A.M.A. 2013

PUBLIC POLICY ANALYSIS

- The concept of governance
 - Bottom-up
 - Top-down
 - ⇒ policy made by complex relations between situated actors
 - ⇒ Conflict and cooperation
 - ⇒ Bargaining, negotiation, ...
- Welfare pluralism (Alcock, May & Rowlingson, 2008)
 - Multiple actors => comparative analysis
 - From a “provider culture” to larger analysis of interconnections between users and providers
- New modes of public policy regulation – from government to governance (cf. multi-level urban governance; Damon, 2002 ; Musselin, 2005; Grisel&Waarts, 2012)
 - new forms of cooperation between public authorities and other actors
 - more neutral, analytical way, as an “umbrella term”
 - various styles of coordinating action or “modes of governance”
 - command, competition, cooperation, negotiation and others (Mayntz 2003).

INDIVIDUALIZATION – PUBLIC POLICY IN SEARCH OF INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ACTORS?

- Ulrich Beck (1986)
 - individualization is a collective destiny
 - This invites us to rethink the link between individual trajectories, institutions and social structure
 - The concept of "social vulnerabilities"
 - major concept for Beck (2008:26 - 29) and Castel (2003),
 - social inequality has to be analysed throughout structural difficulties that face individuals
 - Amartya Sen
 - Resources and conversion factors may strengthen individual capabilities
- ⇒ *structural, institutional and organizational contexts that promote or hamper the capacity for action (capabilities) are created and reshaped by a socio-historical process of building public policy (Blumer)*

I. AT AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL:

FORMS OF SUPPORT – A BROADER VIEW ON THE WELFARE STATE

Different supports define individual capabilities/vulnerabilities

(Castel, 2003; Martucelli, 2008; Sen, 2009)

- ⇒ Family, friends, neighbours, ...
- ⇒ Community services, local activities, schools ...
- ⇒ Linkages to different non-governmental and public welfare services
- ⇒ The role of social movements as a collective actor
- ⇒ The constitution of the welfare state (on regional, national and European level)

I. AT AN INDIVIDUAL LEVEL: TWO PREFERRED MODES OF ANALYSIS

1. Pathways and temporalities

(Bilge, Blanchard, Bidart, Bessin, Grossetti, etc.)

- Biographical approach on social challenges (Martucelli, 2010)
- Longitudinal view on different domains: parenthood (or close networks), work and social integration in different spatial contexts

2. The constitution of support networks at a proximity level

(Bonvalet & Lelièvre, 2012; Young & Willmott, 2010 (1957); Fol, 2010)

2. AT AN ORGANIZATIONAL LEVEL: SOCIAL POLICY IN URBAN (OR LOCAL) CONTEXTS

- The city as an political actor and a local society (Grafmeyer & Authier, 2008 ; Fijalkow, 2007)
- Understand the « game of regulations » between actors, social groups, local, regional and international institutions (Hassenteufel, 2008 ; Lascoumes & Le Galès, 2007)
- Segregation, gentrification and exclusion are linked to social inequality in urban spaces (Pannecoucke & Wagener, 2014)
 - policy developments towards « social mix » are rarely efficient
 - Need of a new approach of social development (« *sociale stijgingsperspectief* ») between city development and participation of residents

COMBINING THE TWO LEVELS

- A question of linkages between actors/organizations on different scales
 - Individuals are not just beneficiaries of public policy => they play an active role
- ⇒ A comprehensive multi-level approach on social policy



ADDRESSING HUMAN RIGHTS AND DOING PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY?



BURAWOY – FOR PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY (I)

■ Four types of sociological knowledge

I. Professional

- Response to critical sociology: lesser moral and more methods
- Structural Functionalism (Talcott Parson, Robert K. Merton)
- Poverty: the latent function of dirty work (Herbert Gans) ; dysfunction: health and social problems
- Empirical Research, new methods, mid-range theories
- “The original passion for social justice, economic equality, human rights, sustainable environment, political freedom or simply a better world, that drew so many of us to sociology, is channeled into the pursuit of academic credentials.”

2. Critical

- Conflict and social movements, structures of social and economic inequality—class, race, and gender
- Historically: “searching for order in the broken fragments of modernity, seeking to salvage the promise of progress”
- more radical interpretations of Weber and Durkheim, and incorporation of Marx into the canon
- examine the foundations— both the explicit and the implicit, both normative and descriptive—of the research programs of professional sociology

BURAWOY – FOR PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY

3. Policy (or expert)

- Sociology in the goal defined by a client
 - Between specified tasks, manipulation and the possibility to work on a broader research agenda

4. Public

- complement and not the negation of professional sociology
- Public sociology brings sociology into a conversation with publics, understood as people who are themselves involved in conversation.
- Discussion with with and invisible social groups, actors, neighborhoods (I would add some policy actors) – Habermas: *Communicative Action*
- constitute ourselves as a public that acts in the political arena

BURAWOY – DIVISION OF SOCIOLOGICAL LABOUR

	Academic Audience	Extra-academic Audience
<i>Instrumental Knowledge</i>	Professional	Policy
<i>Reflexive Knowledge</i>	Critical	Public

LINKS WITH POLANYI

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Michael Burawoy

Table 1: Sociology versus the Market

	<i>First-Wave Marketisation</i>	<i>Second-Wave Marketisation</i>	<i>Third-Wave Marketisation</i>
<i>Fictitious Commodity</i>	Labour	Money	Nature
<i>Locus of Response</i>	Local Community	Nation State	Global Civil Society
<i>Rights</i>	Labour	Social	Human
<i>Orientation of Sociology</i>	Utopian	Policy	Public
<i>Science</i>	Speculative	Positivist	Reflexive
<i>Geographical Locus/Origin</i>	Western Europe	United States	'Semi-Periphery'
<i>World Context</i>	Colonialism	Imperialism	Globalisation

THE FUTUR OF SOCIOLOGY - BURAWOY

The world needs a public sociology that engages audiences from all parts of the globe: a sociology that stands on the shoulders of a dynamic academic sociology, inspired by an essential critical sociology, while at the same time holding the sociology of expertise to account for political action.



BACK TO HOMELESSNESS

MARTIN WAGENER, KOEN HERMANS, CAROLE BONNETIER, NANA MERTENS,
JOSEPHA MORIAU



HOUSING FIRST IN BELGIUM IN A NUTSHELL

- Individualised case work : opening up rights to homeless people
- First experimentation in 2013 - 2016 in the framework of the Federal Plan to Fight Poverty: implemented in 5 large cities at the beginning.
 - Supported by Housing First Lab
- Logic contrary to the so-called "staircase logic": First people are brought back into housing, without conditions, to move towards recovery and maintenance in housing
- Housing First: 141 tenants and 93% retention in housing after 2 years
- Unconditional but individualised care: Loneliness, social isolation
- New experiment started in February 2020: "social affiliation process among HF tenants: development of new methodologies": 7 test projects (Liège, Charleroi, Namur, Brussels, Gent, Kortrijk, Limburg)

SOCIAL AFFILIATION: BEYOND HOUSING

- 'Social re-affiliation': essential to the exit of homelessness
 - Importance of the notion of social ties and questioning of the simple notion of housing
 - Social workers' findings: loneliness, social isolation,...
 - Post-housing services increasingly present

SOCIAL AFFILIATION: THEORETICALLY

- Concept directly related to that of social disaffiliation: much studied in french sociology
- **Castel**, *"a strong correlation between the place occupied in the social division of labor and participation in networks of sociability and systems of protection that 'cover' an individual in the face of the vagaries of existence."*
- This distribution of places is approached by Castel through three forms that cover different "zones" of social cohesion:
 - First, the **integration area** is marked by the association of stable work with solid relational integration. However, this area is also marked by the fear that unemployment may affect the most stable;
 - secondly, ever larger sections of the population risk falling into precariousness, **social vulnerability** being defined as "an intermediate, unstable area, which combines the precariousness of work and the fragility of local supports";
 - thirdly, Castel retains the lack of integration, that is to say the exclusion of categories of the population who are therefore in a position of **"social disaffiliation"**

SOCIAL AFFILIATION: THEORETICALLY

- Importance of social connection: Gardella
- Even if they are excluded from "*highly integrative social groups in modern societies*" (Gardella, 2019: 3), this does not necessarily include a situation of total exclusion from the social.
- "*It is clear that the exclusion of certain highly integrative social groups in modern societies (such as the family, profession and employment, but also politics and religion) increases the risks of suffering from trying material and relational situations. [...] The sociological analysis of the refusal of accommodation proves that the desocialization vis-à-vis certain groups, in situations of exclusion and poverty, is only one stage of a more general process, which continues with a resocialization in new groups or collectives; even if they are less valued and less structured (and therefore less visible) than the most institutionalized social ties (such as family, work, political and religious associations, etc.).* (Gardella, 2019: 3)

PAUGAM – SOCIAL TIES – MODES OF RECOGNITION AND PROTECTION

Type of social tie	Forms of protection	Forms of recognition
Filiation bond	Family and intergenerational solidarity, proximity	Being someone for family Affective recognition
Elective participation bond	Between pair solidarity, elective being together	Being someone for friends/pairs Affective recognition and similitude
Organic participation bond	Stable work, social protection	Recognition based on work and social status
Citizenship bond	Juridic and political protection (human rights ; (civil, political and social)	Recognition of the sovereign individual

FOCUS ON SIX LIVING DOMAINS

- Relationship to housing - daily life
- Neighbourhood – city – mobility
- Social relations
- Health
- Leisure/socio-cultural activities
- Income/Socio-professional integration/training/volunteering

A TOOL FOR OBJECTIFYING SOCIAL WORK - PROJECT DATA

- At project level (based on a questionnaire sent to the coordination)
 - Collective actions with people housed in Housing First
 - Actions in direct consultation functions with other services (service networks).
 - Actions in relation to a larger territorial scale (local social policy, region, regulatory framework, etc.)

A TOOL FOR OBJECTIFYING SOCIAL WORK – HOUSED PEOPLE DATA

- At the level of individuals (based on a questionnaire sent to Housing First project 'teams')

- Demographic variables (age, gender, household type)

- Type of dwelling, lease,

- Income

- Known illnesses and treatment

- Diploma

- 6 areas of social affiliation

1.1 Rapport au logement- vie quotidienne

Domaine	Accompagnement classique et/ou HF affiliation	Appréciation de réalisation 0 = « pas du tout » et 3 « tout à fait »	Prévu	Brève description
Administratif	HF ☐ HF-AFF ☐	0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐	oui ☐ non ☐	
Relogement chercher et garder un logement	HF ☐ HF-AFF ☐	0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐	oui ☐ non ☐	
Logement Entretien et appropriation du logement	HF ☐ HF-AFF ☐	0 ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐	oui ☐ non ☐	

THE SOCIAL AFFILIATION STAKES FOR RESIDENTS

- It can be particularly complicated to leave the habits taken on the street where forms of recognition and support have been put in place,
- Sustainable entry into housing and social affiliation are part of the same process, the success of which consists in feeling "at home".
- Sociologist Pascale Pichon highlights four essential properties of "home": **planning, attachment, appropriation and anchoring** ("4 A" in french).

SEMI-STRUCTURED INTERVIEWS WITH THE COACHES INVOLVED IN THE VARIOUS PROJECTS

- Highlight the specificities of the support in relation to what is already being done in the projects
- Identify the impact of the organizational context on the deployment of this support
- Highlight the partnerships that are formed as a result of the support and the way in which they contribute to the empowerment of the people concerned
- Other...

+ focus groups

THE STAKES OF SOCIAL AFFILIATION FOR HOUSED PEOPLE

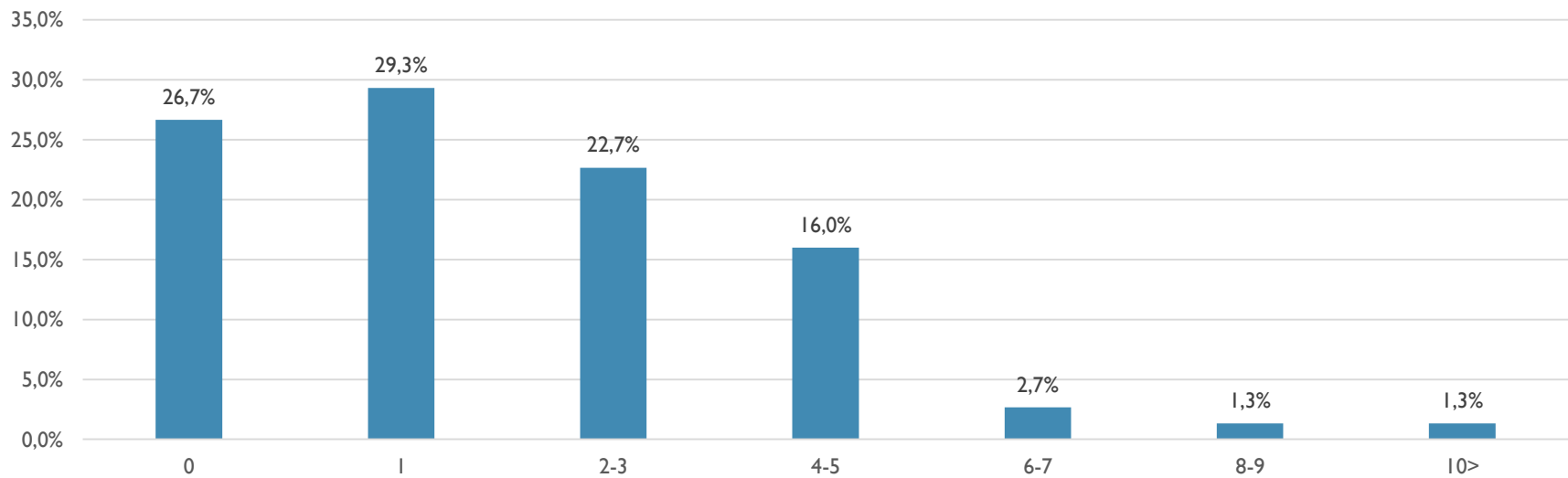
- It can be particularly difficult to leave the habits developed on the street where forms of recognition and support have been established,
- Sustainable entry into housing and social affiliation are part of the same process, the success of which is to feel 'at home'.
- Sociologist Pascale Pichon highlights four essential properties of 'home': accommodation, attachment, ownership and anchorage ('4As').

GLOBAL DATA

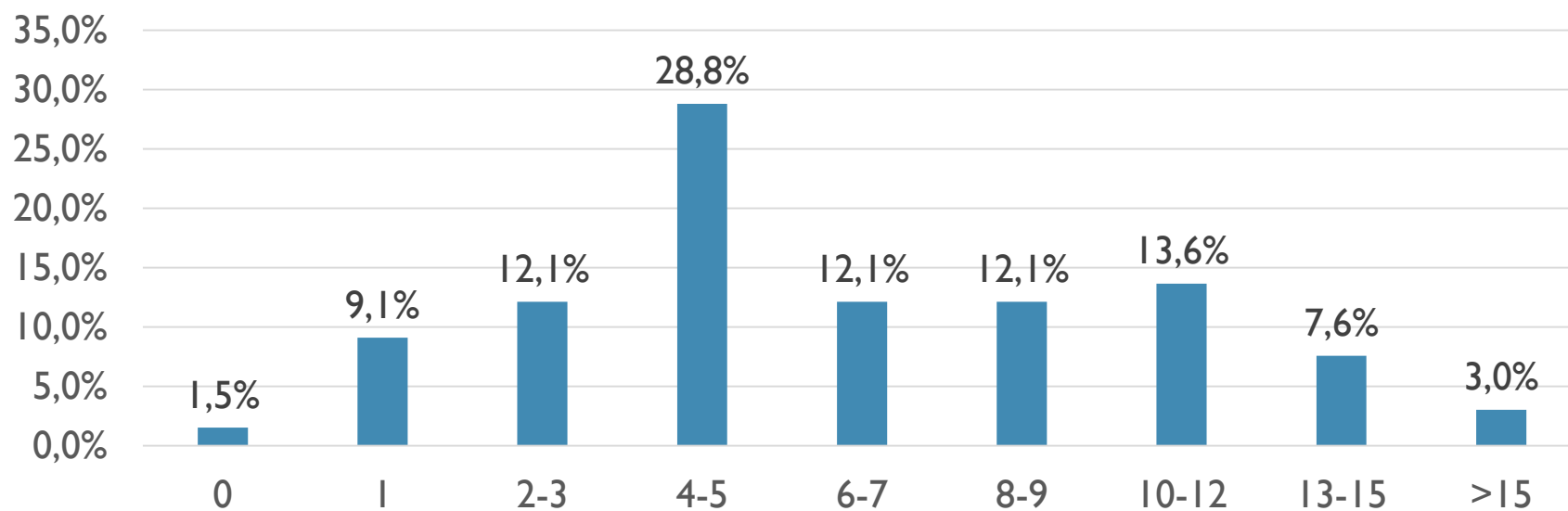
- Nationality: 81 Belgium, 4 Morocco, 1 Algeria, 1 Turkey
- Birth: 70 Belgium, 1 Algeria, 1 Colombia, 2 Hungary, 6 Morocco, 1 Poland, 1 Turkey, 1 Macedonia
- Sex: Men 62 (73.8%), Women 22 (26.1%)
- Resident partner: 89.2% no (Companion 8; friend 2)
- Children: sometimes custody, often little/no contact; placement
- 21.4% have pets

DURATION OF BEING HOUSED

Duree dans le logement - années



DURATION ON THE STREET



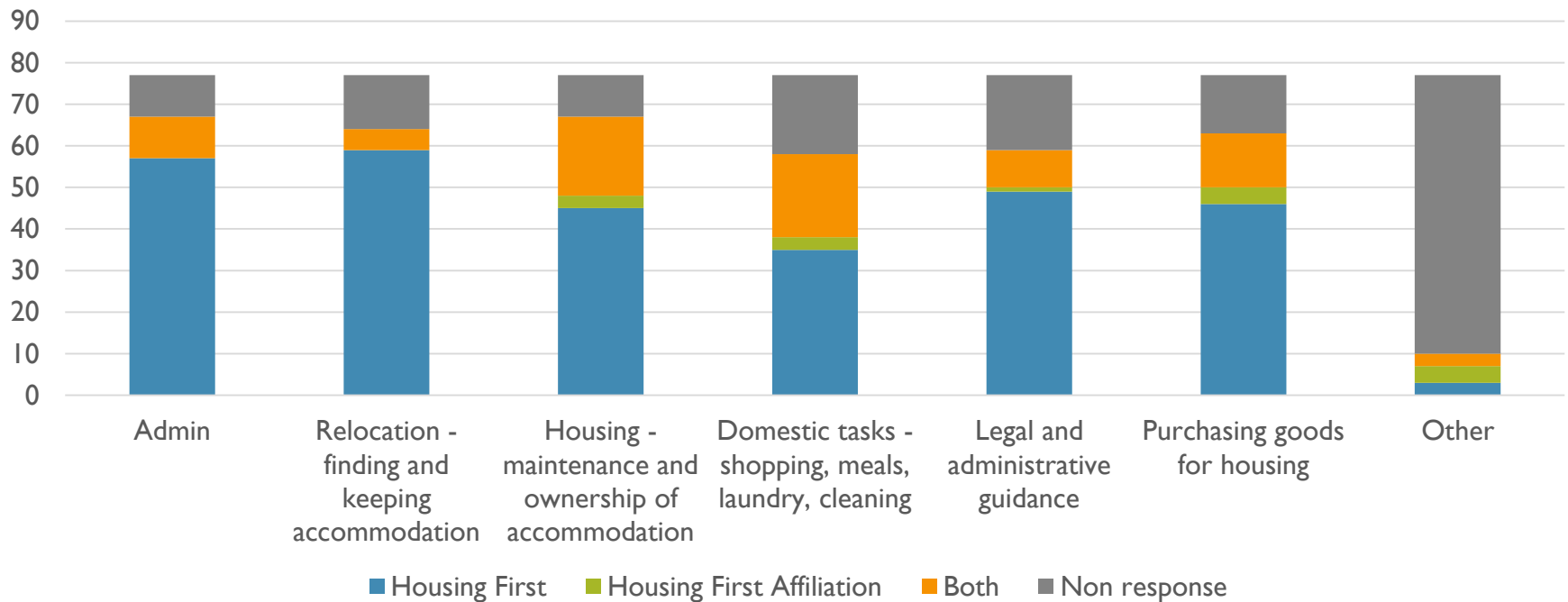


TYPES OF SOCIAL TIES AND PROJECT ACTIONS

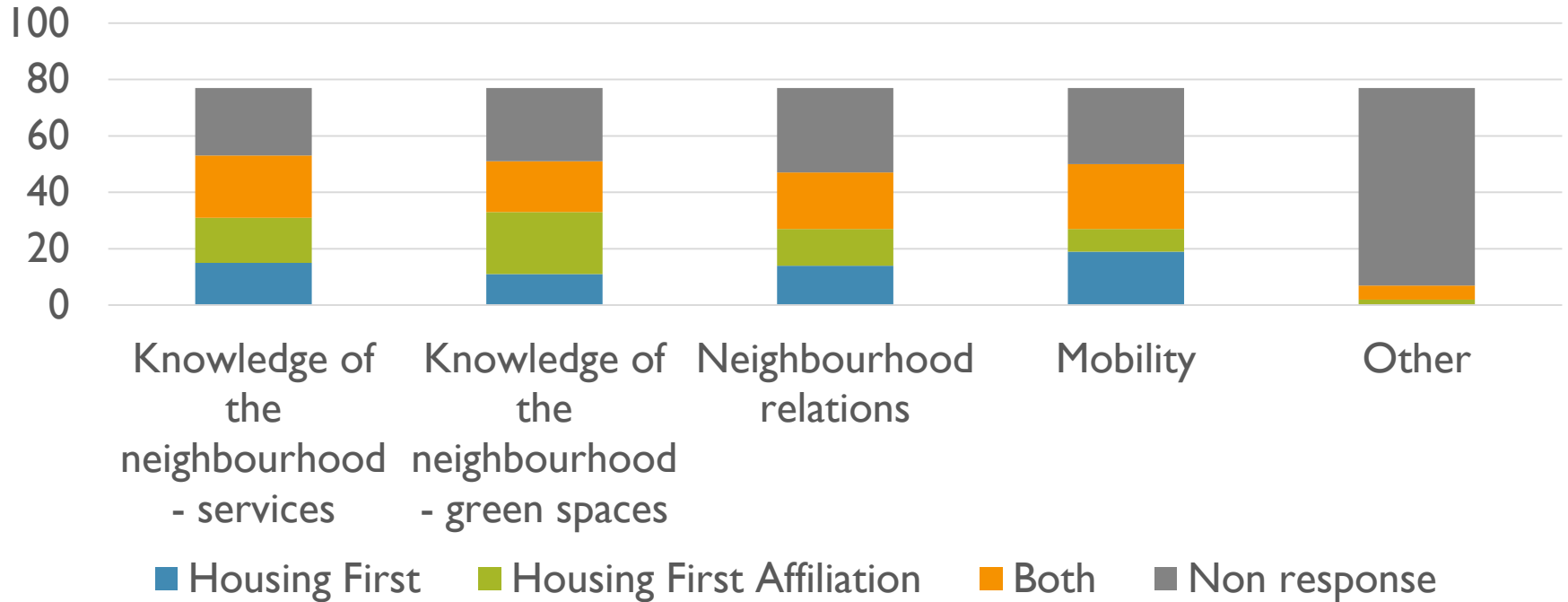
FROM THE QUESTIONNAIRES COMPLETED BY THE TEAMS



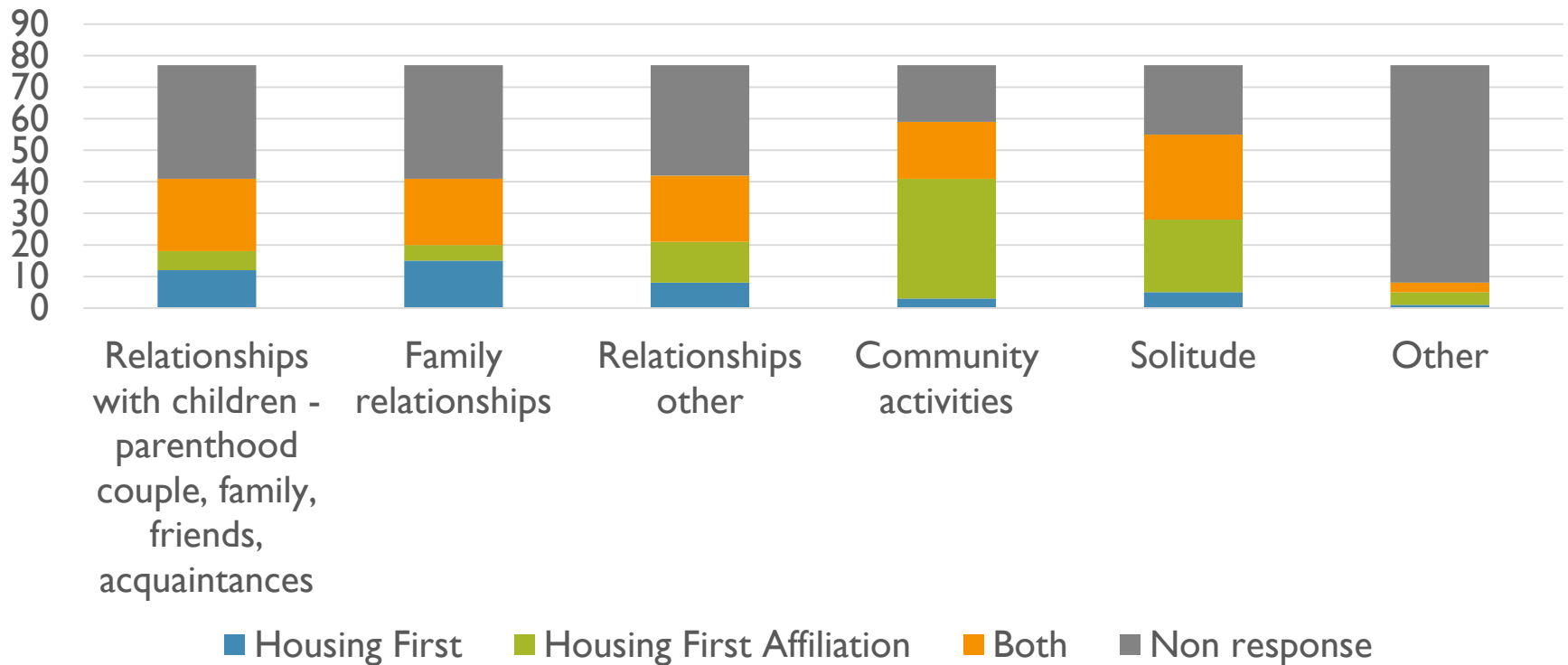
RELATIONSHIP TO HOUSING -



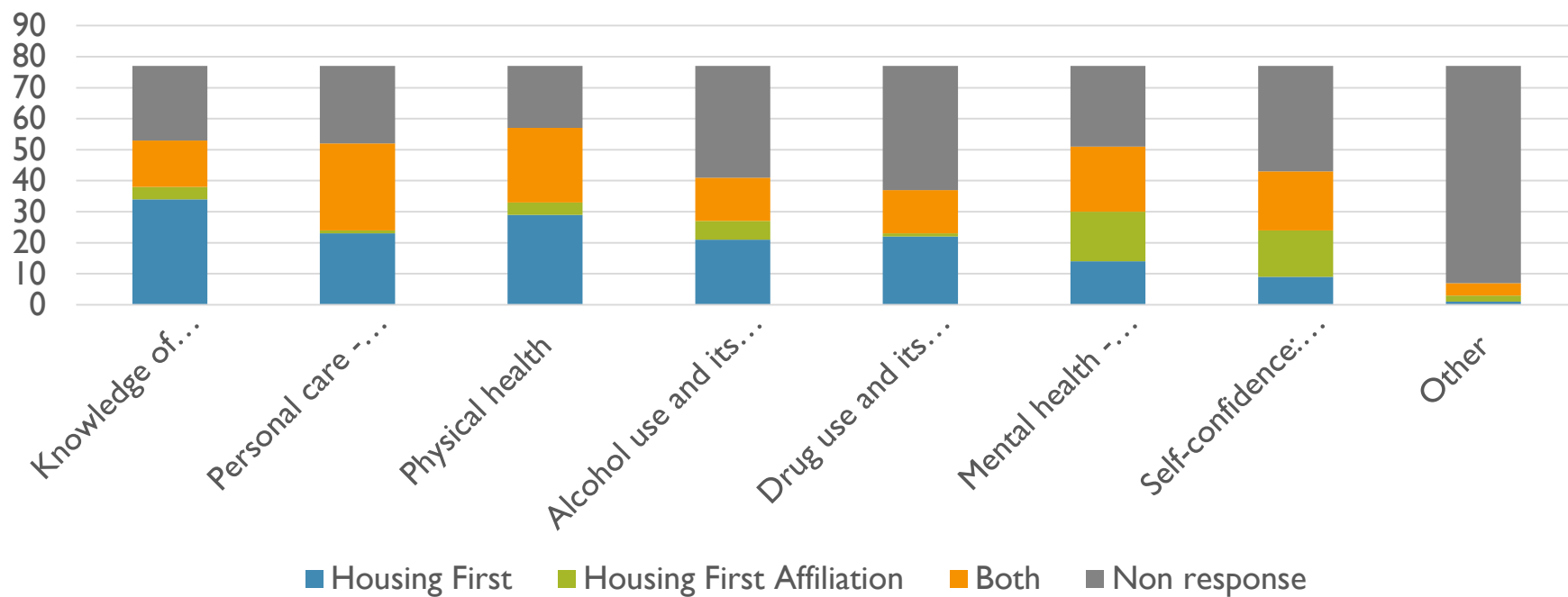
NEIGHBOURHOOD - CITY -



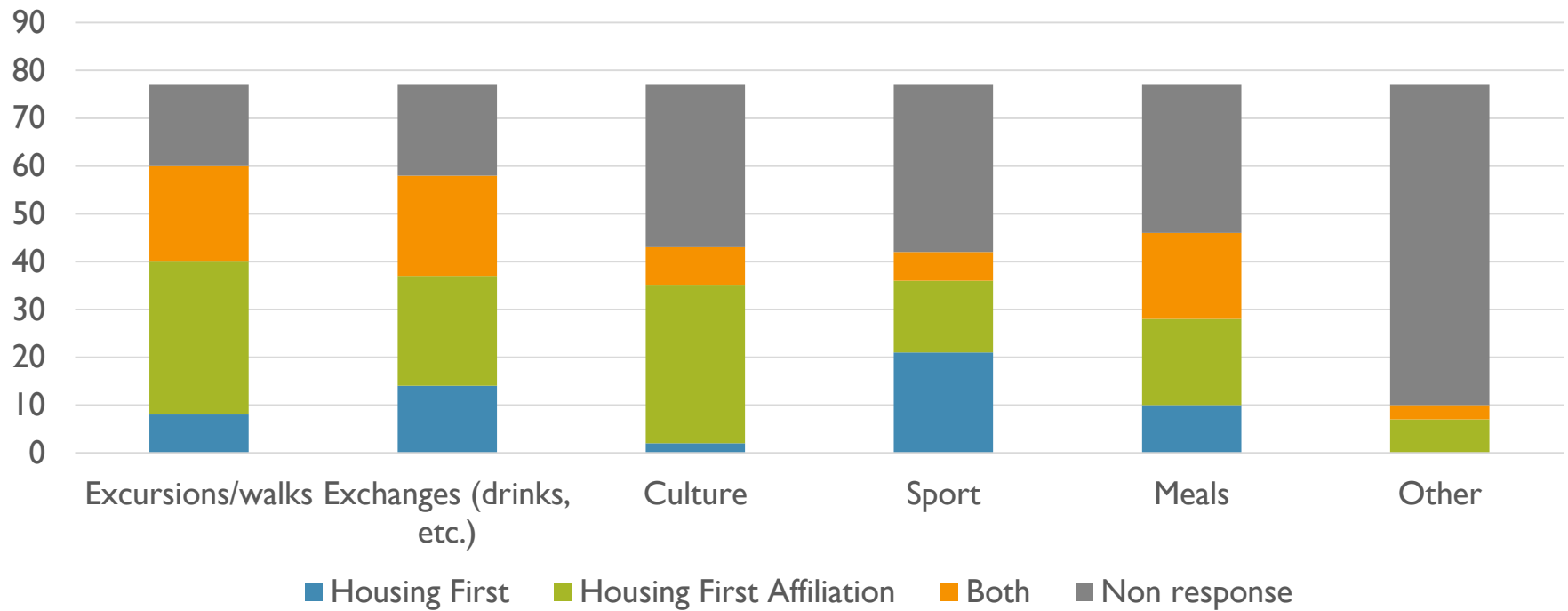
SOCIAL RELATIONS



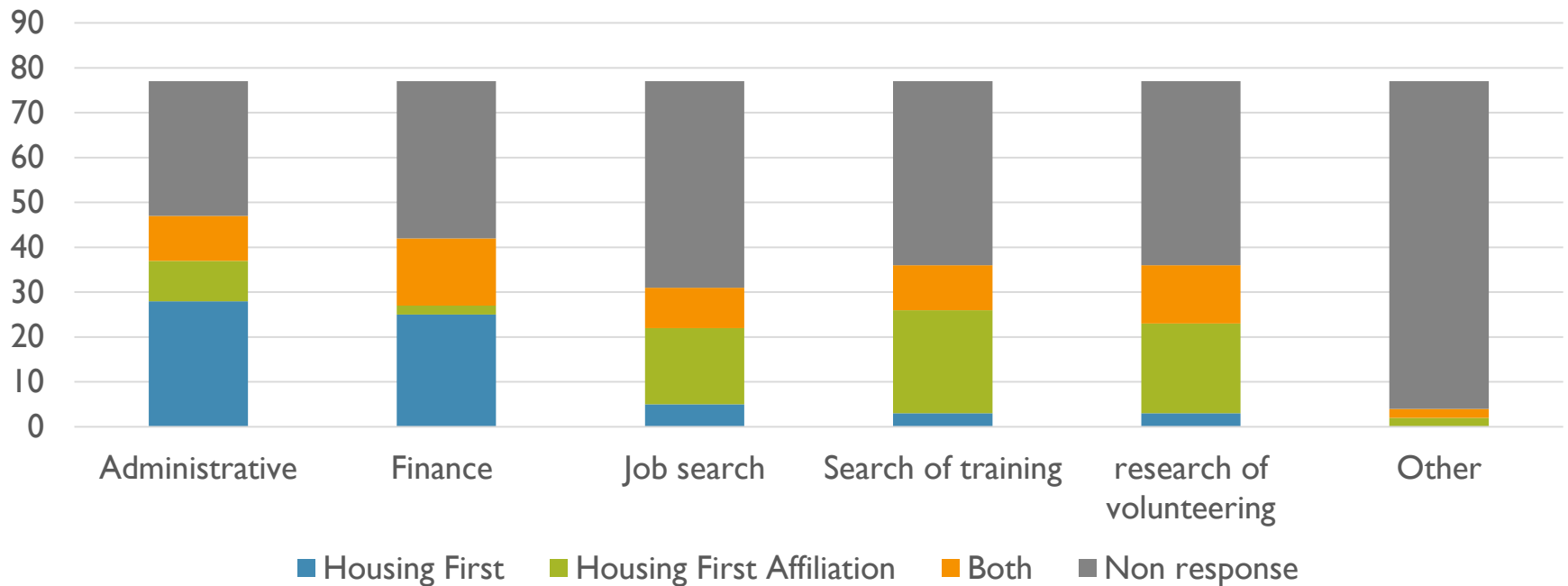
HEALTH



LEISURE / SOCIO-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES



INCOME / INTEGRATION

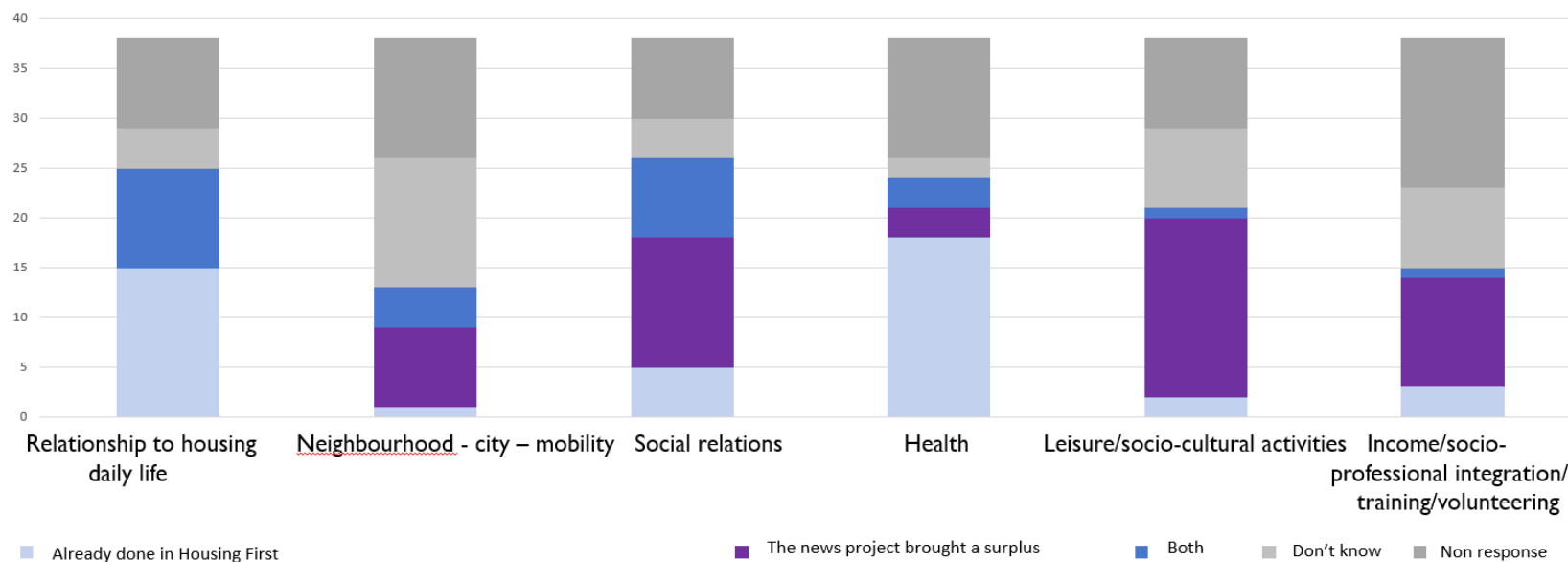




INTERVIEWS WITH HOUSED PEOPLE



ACTIONS UNDERTAKEN IN THE "CLASSIC" HOUSING FIRST AND REAFFILIATION PROJECT - INTERVIEWS WITH RESIDENT BENEFICIARIES



HOUSING, DAILY LIFE, NEIGHBOURHOOD, CITY AND MOBILITY



The **relationship with housing**, rather the responsibility of the traditional HF team.

The social affiliation coach works in complementarity with the HF team.

The social affiliation coach has a role to play in terms of "**material arrangements**" (P. Pichon)

■ Already done in Housing First



Neighbourhood, city, mobility:

Still not much invested by the coaches according to the interviews...

... but in which impacts are nevertheless perceptible according to the residents.

■ The news project brought a surplus

■ Both

■ Don't know

■ Non response

SOCIAL RELATION AND HEALTH



Social relations, a dimension that is transversal to all the others but little addressed as such.

It's all about "attachment!"

Autonomy is built from "a continuity of experience, by managing positive and negative attachments". It is therefore a question of "reinscribing people in the long temporality of their life course by ensuring that the past, present and future can once again come together without excluding each other". (E. Gardella)



La santé, un domaine essentiellement assuré par l'équipe logement mais qui relève aussi de l'affiliation sociale dans le cadre d'une vision holistique de la santé.

Already done in Housing First

The news project brought a surplus

Both

Don't know

Non response

LEISURE, SOCIO-CULTURAL ACTIVITIES, EMPLOYMENT, TRAINING AND VOLUNTEERING

Leisure and socio-cultural activities, at the heart of social affiliation.

An area that has been heavily impacted by the health crisis and distancing measures.

Creative social workers with a strong emphasis on peer learning.

Socio-professional integration, the holy grail?

Contrasting positions according to the projects,

The risk of confronting residents with institutions/organisations whose criteria are too far removed from their habits.

Intervention in these areas of life has an impact on the residents' "**anchoring**", i.e. their "social and territorial registration, which opens up the possibility of participating in the life of the city, of feeling a recognised member of it" (Maurine Morin). (Maurine Morin)

■ Already done in Housing First

■ The news project brought a surplus

■ Both

■ Don't know

■ Non response

A SUPPORT MISSION WHOSE CONTOURS ARE SHAPED BY INTERACTION WITH THE

Considering the 'Social Affiliation' scheme as an attempt at social innovation, we can deduce that it does not rest on the shoulders of a lone social worker but that it relies, on the contrary, on a whole network of actors.



Importance of the institutional framework on the implementation of the system and on the content of the support



Heterogeneity of institutional configurations in the different projects

A SUPPORT MISSION WITH CONTOURS SHAPED IN INTERACTION WITH THE SOCIETAL CONTEXT

- ✓ **Housing First principles that do not necessarily resonate well with social action and socio-professional integration agencies (wel-workfare dilemma)**

*"It's a **challenge to bring the HF public outside the homeless network**. I have to say I was afraid because just the fact of consumption... in HF you don't demand that people don't consume anymore, and then almost everywhere there is this rule that you can't consume. There are few places where this is not the case. [Social affiliation coach, Brussels]*

*"You have to **be flexible** and that's what's complicated with the institutions (...). Somehow, as a coach, with the very broad framework I have, I can adapt to people and offer them either mini-trainings or activities, taking into account that yes, the person might show up 30 minutes late, but at least he or she has shown up. [Social affiliation coach, Namur]*

*"There are people who have disability incomes, there are people who have mutual health insurance incomes, so I wonder about the risks... It's a fear of theirs but it's also a fear of mine, **I ask myself: what are we doing? I wonder: what are we doing? Are we pushing towards training, towards employment, at the risk that they might lose stable income, which they might have all their life?** [social affiliation coach, Charleroi]*

A SUPPORT MISSION WITH CONTOURS SHAPED IN INTERACTION WITH THE SOCIETAL CONTEXT

✓ Stereotypes of homelessness weighing on Housing First residents

*"Already when I had them on the phone [refers to a literacy association], when I explained the project, I really felt that... I had the impression that, in terms of thresholds, it would not be possible for them. I was astonished, **I told them: just because they are part of such a project, because they have a history of homelessness, doesn't mean that they are not capable...**" [Social Affiliation Coach, Namur]. [Social Affiliation Coach, Namur]*

*"There is a lot of work to be done in this respect [concerning the awareness of structures in the medico-social sector of homelessness]. The street public, drug addicts, in the imagination, in the **stigma**, it is a public that is not glamorous, that is not reliable, that has a deplorable hygiene, that is dishonest, these are the stigmas that these people carry. If there's a robbery somewhere, it might well be the one who doesn't have any money. It's stuff like that. And then, people don't necessarily welcome this public in the same way. I've seen that a lot, even in hospital. [Social affiliation coach, Liège]*

CONCLUSION

- Social affiliation support: a fight against the "denial of recognition" of Housing First residents as former homeless people,
- Having a place to live is a prerequisite for leaving the "street career" but it is not enough,
- Social affiliation support would benefit from starting as soon as the person enters housing,
- Ideally, this should be done by specific social workers as part of an interdisciplinary team providing support without time limits.

All this was largely impacted by the health crisis...



CONCLUSION



TOWARDS PUBLIC SOCIOLOGY?

- Combining academic sociology...
 - Advancement of theoretical issues
 - Scientific funding
- ...with critical argumentation...
 - Dubet's view of social injustice
- ...often funded through policy...
 - Work on actual policy problems (BLUMER)
- ... in aiming a more public sociology
 - Engage dialogue with different actors and incorporate the sociologist into the field of analysis