



Homelessness:

Homelessness in Barcelona and the social (dis)integration: a quantitative-qualitative investigation on the phenomenon

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Introduction



What? One year researching on homelessness and social (dis)integration in the city of Belo Horizonte, Brazil; and now observing the similarities and differences of the phenomenon in Barcelona.



How? Semistructured interviews. We have a background of 102 interviewees. Basically interested in hidden patterns of homelessness such as educational trajectories, intergenerational disadvantages, language acquisition and literacy, etc.



Goals? Emphasise the need for qualitative research in the study of the phenomenon and improve/diagnose the quality of public services.

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Similarities and Differences

Similarities:

- range of age (19-60);
- male profile (80-90% men);
- schooling level (elementary/primary);
- strict restrictions to access the public services (time, documents, no visits, no pets, etc).

Differences:

- immigrants;
- irregular administrative status (no papers/incomplete documentation);
- multi-linguistic environment (interpersonal conflicts escalate);
- different cultural backgrounds, religion/no religion, "double immigrant identity" (family/real);
- different social grammar for interpersonal relations, to find a job, family, understanding of the interviewees about deservedness in public services.



Similarities and Differences

Exploring two possibilities of a semi-structured questionnaire in Barcelona:

- **Possibility 1: Hidden Patterns of Homelessness in Qualitative Research.**
- **Possibility 2: Public Policies and Qualitative Research.**



Similarities and Differences


Discussion on qualitative data and public services:

- Capturing complex educational trajectories
- Understanding intergenerational disadvantages
- Revealing barriers to language acquisition and literacy
- Identifying hidden cognitive and emotional factors
- Bridging institutional blind spots with human narratives

desintegração
e autonomia

população em
situação de
rua no Brasil

Desintegração e autonomia em Belo Horizonte



desintegració i
autonomia
persones al
carrer a
Barcelona

Desintegració i autonomia a Barcelona



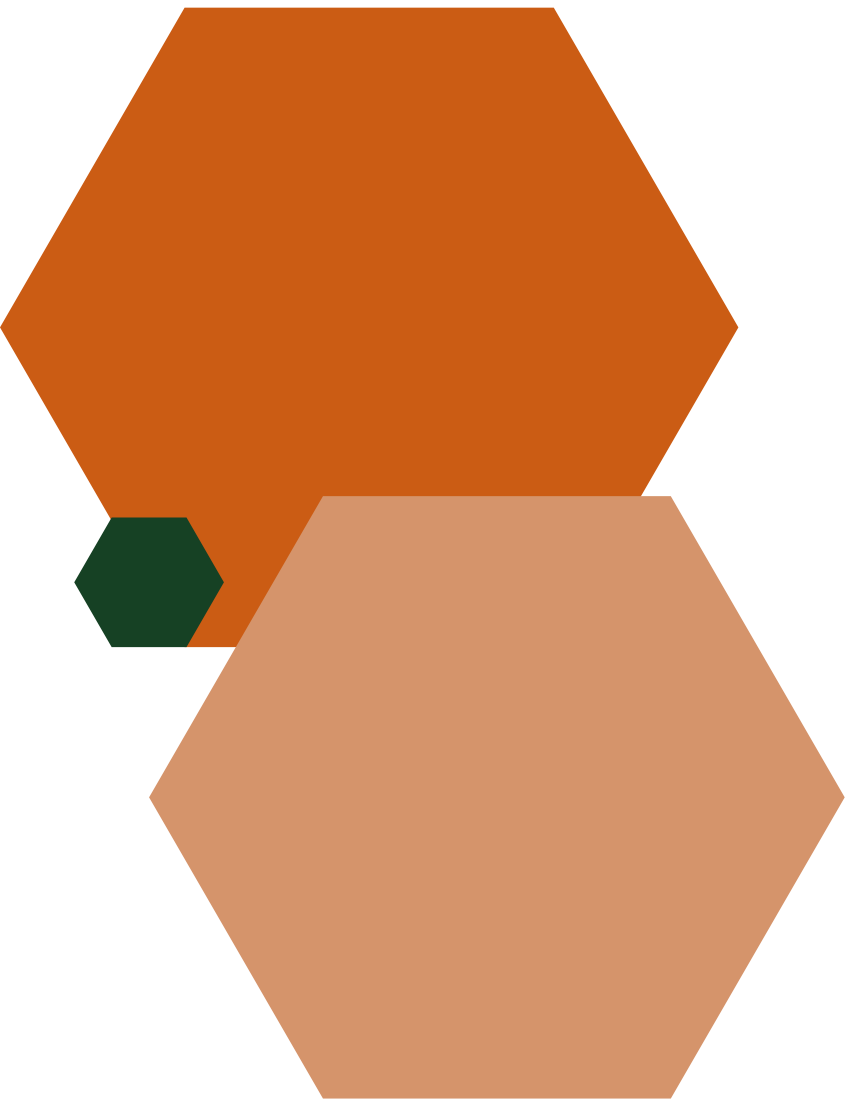
IMPACT

- **Right to visibility:** Many interviewees experienced physical and psychological violence before becoming homeless, as well as a widespread lack of verbal interaction within the family unit.
- **Right to privacy:** The absence of a male role model in the interviewees' family life during childhood was highlighted as a common element in many cases.
- **Right to physical integrity:** Homelessness is a multidimensional phenomenon that cannot be explained solely by structural factors. There are prior social and psychological fractures that do not appear in the quantitative data from sample counts and censuses.
- **Right to a home**
- **Right to a family**
- **Right to housing**
- **Right to public services**
- **Right to the commons of the city**



PRELIMINARY CONCLUSIONS

- **Limitations of structural data:** Administrative data on age, educational level, economic situation, and skin color are not sufficient to fully explain the life trajectories of homeless individuals.
- **Importance of studying life trajectories:** It is essential to analyze individual life courses in order to understand the processes of social disintegration that can lead to homelessness.
- **Emotional, cognitive, and linguistic factors:** Elements such as limited emotional education, cognitive deficits, and difficulties in verbal communication within families during childhood were identified, which may have negatively affected social and interpersonal interaction skills prior to living on the street.





Moltes gràcies!

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<https://www.instagram.com/crisp.ufmg/>

<https://open.spotify.com/show/08kfV9vcmBXKh8CQ3n8zaH>

