

parity



Australasian Housing Institute

HousingWORKS

A Call for Contributions – September 2018



Australasian Housing Institute
Supporting Housing Professionals

The September 2018 “Marginal Housing: Where to Now?” joint edition of *Parity* and *HousingWorks*

Introduction

Marginal housing has become an important issue because of the ongoing crisis in access to affordable housing and accommodation. The issue of marginal housing is a sometimes a “hidden” issue that only occasionally results in any public awareness or in media and policy responses to it.

Increasing numbers of people excluded from the housing market, people who are unable to access or afford private rental or who are ineligible for, or waiting for the ever-diminishing supply of social housing, are being forced into insecure marginal housing, that is, into boarding and rooming houses (both registered and unregistered), caravan parks and different kinds of shared accommodation.

This is particularly the case for those on benefits but also includes increasing numbers of the “working poor” on low incomes and growing numbers of the elderly, particularly older women. In addition, new forms of marginal housing have developed including overcrowded shared accommodation for growing numbers of international students.

Those in marginal housing not only frequently have to endure sub-standard forms of housing, they frequently live in unsafe and often dangerous situations with little or no security of tenure.

Alongside the growth in the number of people being forced to resort to different kinds of marginal housing, there is also an increasing body of evidence and practice around what is required to respond to the drift into marginal housing. Arguably, the increase in various forms of marginal housing is the result of both the failure of the housing market to provide affordable housing and the failure of government to develop and implement policies that provide affordable and sustainable social housing for those excluded from the housing market.

This evidence base has had clear implications for the development of both affordable housing policies as well as the governance and regulatory framework for different forms of tenure.

The 2018 edition will build on previous publications and research that looked at boarding and rooming houses, caravan parks and the vicissitudes of insecure private rental.

This edition Parity and Housing Works aims to examine the different forms and types of marginal housing as well as the responses of both government and services to the issues faced by people forced into marginal housing.

The hope is to provide a national overview of policy and service responses to marginal housing, examine and discuss what they have in common, as well where they differ.

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A Framework for Discussion

Chapter 1 Conceptual, definitional and enumeration issues

This chapter is to be devoted to the conceptual and definitional issues around what constitutes marginal housing and our understandings of that is marginal housing.

- Is there conceptual clarity and agreement around what actually constitutes marginal housing for the purposes of identification and enumeration as well as implementing appropriate policy and service responses?
- Is marginal housing a useful concept capable of being operationalised for both research and the development of policy and service responses?
- What is the relationship between those forced into marginal housing and the experience of homelessness?
- What groups of people or “cohorts” are most likely to resort to marginal housing? Or to put it another way, what groups are the most vulnerable and susceptible to making use of marginal housing and insecure forms of tenancy?
- Is there agreement and clarity on the number of people in marginal housing? What have the various (and sometimes very different) understandings of what constitutes of marginal housing told us about numbers over time?
- Likewise, is there agreement and clarity on what is driving the continued growth of people in marginal housing and indeed the development of different kinds of marginal housing?

Chapter 2: Policy Responses

This chapter is devoted to the national (where relevant) and state and territory policy initiatives and frameworks designed to respond to marginal housing. These may be an integral part of national, state or territory wide broader housing or homelessness policies.

The aim of this chapter is provide a nation-wide overview and assessment of government policies connected to the response to marginal housing and insecure tenancies.

Chapter 3: Regulating Marginal Housing

The aim of this chapter is to examine and discuss the regulatory response to marginal housing.

The essential question here is the effectiveness of these regulatory responses in terms of protecting the rights and interests of those in different forms of marginal housing. Clearly, the various Residential Tenancy regulations are most relevant here.

- In assessing this, what are the constraints working to inhibit or limit the effectiveness of the various regulatory responses to marginal housing?
- How effective are the regulations in governing those that ignore them, who are, “off the books”, and where relevant, unregistered?
- How effective are the compliance systems enshrined in the various regulatory protocols?
- Is the universally recognised inability to access and provide affordable and sustainable housing the key blockage in the service system preventing an effective response to marginal housing?

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- What is the role of Specialist Homelessness Services (SHS) in terms of the issues of marginal housing given that many SHSs are forced to make use of various kinds of marginal housing because no other accommodation is available?
- How have different local and other levels of government attempted to regulate marginal housing?
- Have these attempts at regulation been successful?
- How have the issues of the regulation of marginal forms of housing, and the compliance to these regulations been negotiated?
- Have those in marginal housing been consulted and involved in the development of the regulations governing marginal housing?

Chapter 4: Conclusions

This chapter is devoted to the discussion of what needs to be done to prevent people being forced into marginal housing and what needs to be done to get people out of insecure forms of marginal housing and marginal housing tenures.

Contributing to September 2018 “Marginal Housing: Where to Now?” joint edition of *Parity* and *HousingWorks*

Deadline: All contributions need to be submitted by COB Friday September 7th, 2018.

Submissions format: All contributions should be submitted as Word attachments to parity@chp.org.au

Word length: Contributions can be up to 1,600 words (including references). This equates to a double page spread. Single page articles can be up to 800 words in length (including references). Contributions of a greater length should be discussed with the *Parity* Editor.

Embedded media: Contributors are able to make suggestions for the placement of relevant hyperlinks, video and other multimedia within their content, which can be embedded in the *Parity* online edition. Any suggestions will be reviewed by and decided upon by the *Parity* editor.

Artwork: Contributors are invited to submit the artwork they would like to accompany their article. Inclusion is dependent on the space being available. If artwork is not provided and is required, it will be selected by the *Parity* Editor.

Referencing

All works that are cited or referred to in an article should be referenced. *Parity* does not encourage contributors to list a bibliography of references used in the development of an article but are not cited in the article. There is simply insufficient space for the inclusion of extensive bibliographies.

In-text citations

CHP uses numbered-citation for all in-text citations.

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- Number references consecutively in the order in which they are first mentioned in the text. The first reference you cite will be numbered 1 in the text, and the second reference you cite will be numbered 2, and so on.
- Identify the references using superscript. For example:
- Trauma is one's lifetime is virtually universal in homeless populations 1
- A number is assigned to each reference as it is used. Even if the author is named in your text, a number must still be used.
- References are listed in numerical order in the Bibliography at the end of the document.
- If the same reference is used more than once, it is given a new number each time it is used. In the Bibliography, use *op. cit.* See example in Bibliography
- The number can be placed outside the text punctuation to avoid disruption to the flow of the text, or be placed inside the text punctuation.
- If a single sentence uses two or more citations, simply identify the references one after the other. Use a space, not a comma to separate the references.

For example:

- International research has found that resilience in a homeless youth sample correlates with lower levels of psychological distress, suicide ideation, violent behaviour and substance abuse.^{4,5}

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Books:

Author's surname, initial(s), year of publication, Title of book, Publisher, Place of Publication, Page number(s).

For example:

1. Seung S 2012, *Connectome: How the Brain's Wiring Makes Us Who We Are*, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, Boston, P.90.

Journal Articles

Author's surname, initial(s), year of publication, 'Title of article', *Title of Journal*, volume number, issue number, Page number(s).

For example:

- Trevithick P 2003 'Effective Relationship Based Practice', *Journal of Social Work Practice*, vol.17, no.2, pp.163-176.

Newspaper articles

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Authors Surname Initial Year of publication, 'Title of article', *Name of publication*, Date and year of publication, Page number(s) or <URL> if applicable.

For example:

- Kissane K 2008, 'Brumby calls for tough sentences', *The Age*, 29 October 2017, p. 8.

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- **With no author:**

Use 'Unknown'

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- Unknown 2008, 'Brumby calls for tough sentences', *The Age*, 29 October 2017, p. 8.

Webpage/document within a website or blog Post:

Author's surname (if known) Initial, 'Page/Blog/Document Title', *The person or organisation responsible for the website*, Year of Publication (if known) <URL>

For example:

- Greenblatt S, 'A special letter from Stephen Greenblatt', *Australian Council of Social Services*, 2017 <<http://acoss.org/media/greenblatt>>

Audio podcast:

Speaker/Hosts surname Initial, 'Title of episode', *Title of Podcast*, Year and date of Publication, <URL> (if available).

For example:

- Todd B 2018, 'What homelessness looks like for women', *Stuff Mom Never Told You*, 14 March 2018 <<https://www.stuffmomnevertoldyou.com/podcasts/what-homelessness-looks-like-for-women.html>>

Online video/film or documentary:

Title Date of recording, Format, Publisher,

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- *Indigenous homelessness* 1992, video recording, Green Cape Wildlife Films

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Johnson George, Telephone interview, 12 August 2018

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- Asante K O and Meyer-Weitz A 2015 op cit. pp. 230-231

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Citing the same reference consecutively

Use *Ibid.* when the same reference appears consecutively. If the page number is different from the first use, cite the page number as well.

For example:

- 1. Florn B H 2015, 'The cost of youth homelessness', *Journal of Adolescence*, vol.17, no.2, pp.163-176.
- 2. *Ibid.* pp.32-33

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For every reference type, give all the authors Surnames and first Initials followed by a comma in the bibliography. The last author listed should be preceded by 'and'. For example:

- Sharp J, Peters J and Howard K 2002, *The management of a student research project*, Gower, Aldershot, England.

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