



Welfare Conditionality

SANCTIONS, SUPPORT AND
BEHAVIOUR CHANGE

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- First PhD seminar/event
- Edinburgh 26th-27th March 2015



An ESRC large grant



Housing strategies of homeless migrants:

A comparative study of Central Americans in Massachusetts and Eastern Europeans in Scotland

2 Cases: Migrant homelessness in US and UK

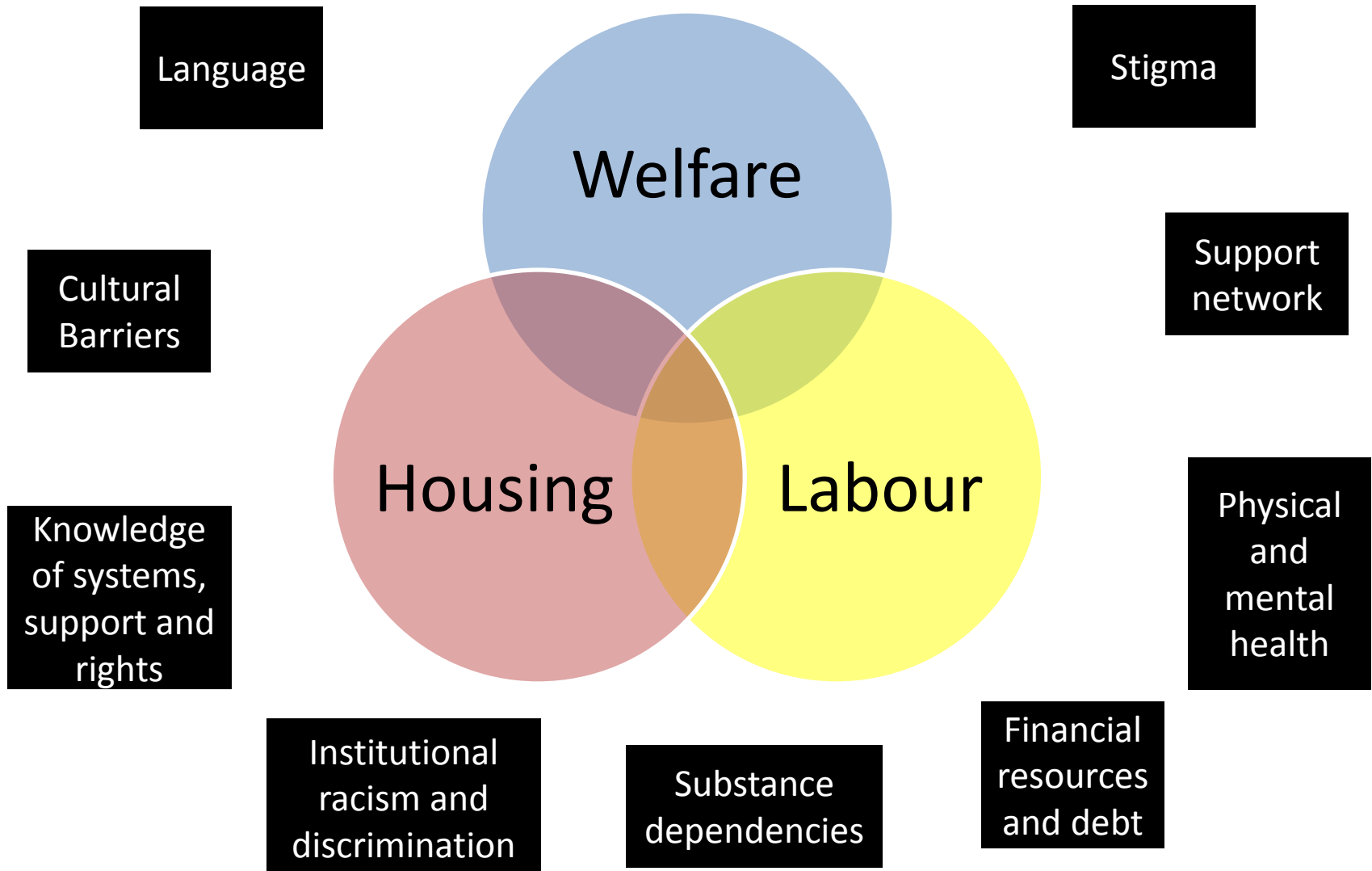
'Mimose' (AIDS Action)

- Fled Honduras and trafficked to Florida (illegal entrant)
- Condo foreclosed, exhausted help from family in Boston
- Shelter homeless to state public housing

'Marek' (Fife Council)

- Migrated from Poland for work (not registered on WRS)
- Lost job and tied accommodation
- Homelessness application accepted but not eligible for HB
- left TA to 'camp' in park

Research Question 1: Causation (UK and US)



Conditionality... the legal bit

1. Immigration control

1. Do you need leave but don't have it?
2. No recourse to public funds?
3. Temporary admission?

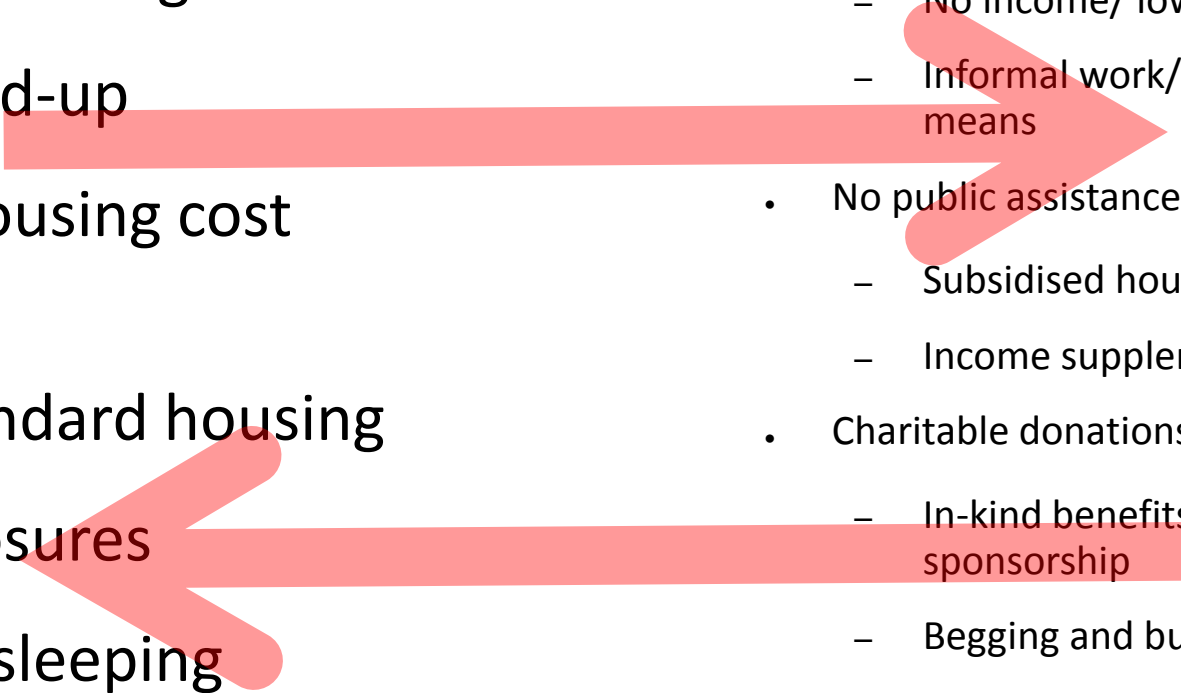
2. Right to reside

1. Are you exercising your treaty rights?

3. Habitual residency

1. In UK 'appreciable period of time'?
2. Have a 'settled intention to live in the UK'?

Research Question 2: Housing strategies

- Overcrowding
 - Doubled-up
 - High housing cost burden
 - Substandard housing
 - Foreclosures
 - Rough sleeping
 - Emergency shelters
- Limited earnings
 - No income/ low wages
 - Informal work/ Illicit means
 - No public assistance
 - Subsidised housing
 - Income supplements
 - Charitable donations
 - In-kind benefits/ sponsorship
 - Begging and busking
 - Personal resources
 - Savings and other assets
 - Friends and family
- 

'Subsistent' homelessness: making opportunity when there are few options?

- What degree of choice do people have?
- Are homeless migrants de-prioritising housing?
- Is homelessness a survival strategy?
- What is 'having a home' being sacrificed for?
- 'Subsistence homelessness'- forgoing housing in order to achieve other necessities
- 'Shelter poverty'- forgoing necessities in order to keep a roof over your head

Research Question 3: role of the state

- Human rights: State should intervene to ensure a basic standard of living is protected for all persons regardless of legal status
- Citizenship: Intervention conditional upon meeting social obligations (ie duty to protect dependent on legal status)
- Utilitarian: Minimise costs and maximise benefits in both case number and expenditure
- Paternalism: State should protect people from consequence of poor decision making

Investigating 'subsistent' homelessness

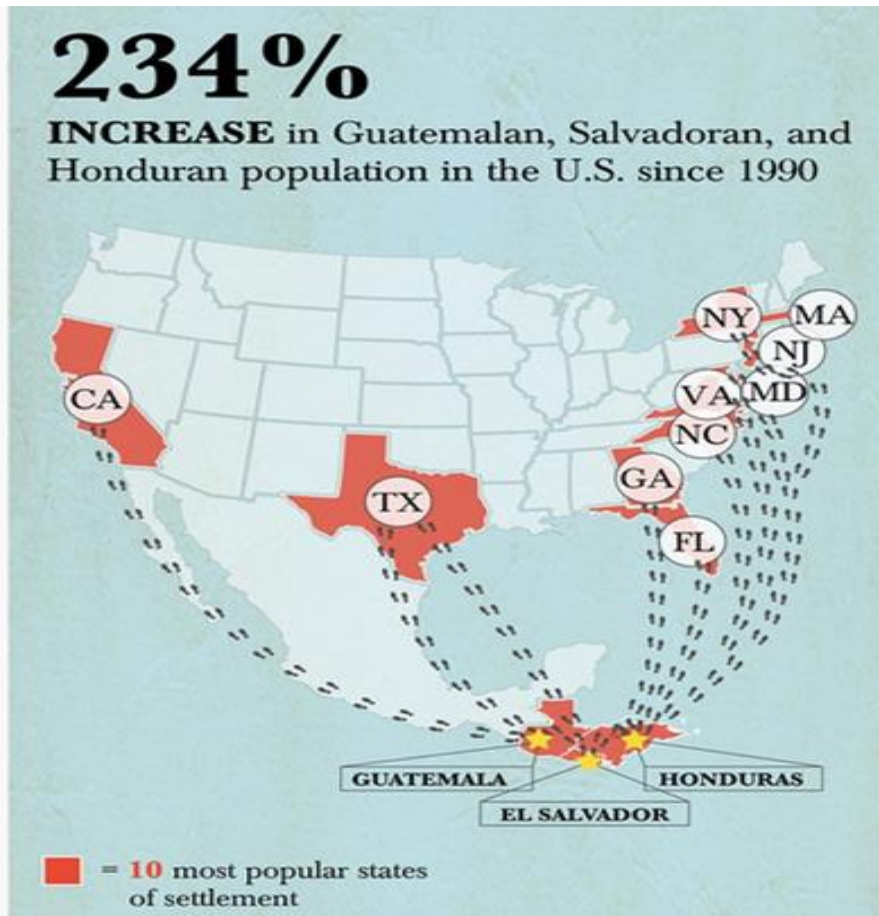
Research questions

1. What causes migrant homelessness?
2. What are the housing strategies of homeless migrants?
3. What is the role of the state in responding to migrant homelessness?

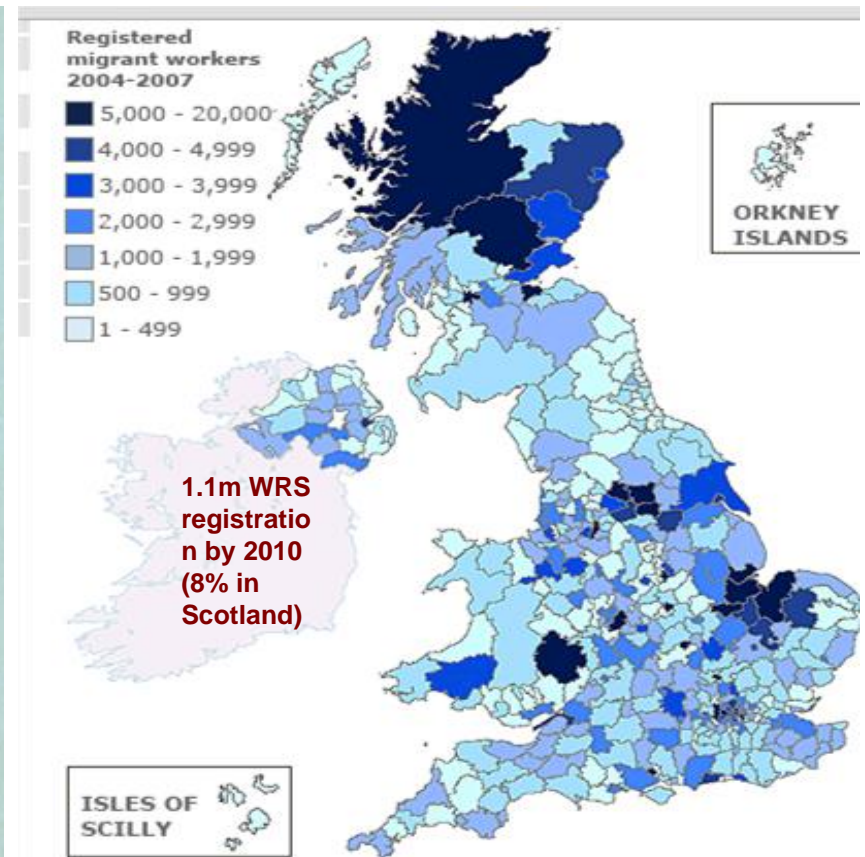
Methodology

- Comparative research
- Case studies
- Key informant interviews
- Life story interviews

Case studies: Central Americans in the US and Eastern Europeans in the UK



2000-2012: Central American population up by **72%** in Massachusetts compared to 30% for US



2001-2011: Polish population up by **2,105%** in Scotland compared to 890% for UK

Interviews and participant observation

	Edinburgh Scotland	Boston Massachusetts
National key informants (15)	Policy makers- Scottish Government (2)	Policy makers- Massachusetts State (2)
	Voluntary sector (2)	Voluntary sector (2)
	Academics (2)	Academics (2)
Local informants (15)	Local authority (3)	City government (3)
	Voluntary sector (3)	Voluntary sector (3)
Migrants (30)	Literally homeless (7)	Literally homeless (7)
	Precariously housed (7)	Precariously housed (7)
Total (60)	30	30

The best laid plans...

Task	Month	Year	Location
Literature review	Jan-Dec	2014	Edinburgh
Major progress report	Jan	2015	
Self assessment and presentation	Feb		
Ethics form and risk assessment	Feb		
Instrument design and sampling (KI interviews)	Feb-Mar		
Key informant interviews- Edinburgh	Mar-Apr		
Analysis of KI interview data	Apr-May		
Instrument design and sampling (KI interviews)	May		
Key informant interviews- Boston	Jun-Jul		Boston
Analysis of KI interview data	Jul-Jun		
Instrument design and sampling (LS interviews)	Jun		
Participant observation and Life story interviews- Boston	Jun-Aug		
Analysis of LS interview data	Sep	Edinburgh	
Instrument design and sampling (LS interviews)	Sep		
Participant observation and Life story interviews- Edinburgh	Oct-Dec		
Analysis of LS interview data	Dec-Jan		
Minor progress report	Jan		2016
Analysis and write-up	Feb-Dec		
Draft thesis submission	Sep		
Edit and finalise thesis	Oct-Nov		
Thesis submission	Dec		
Seminar presentation	Jan	2017	