



Film-making and Ethnographic Methods in Homelessness Research and Practice

Dr Carin Tunaker

Porchlight/University of Kent

@Porchlight1974 @CTunaker



Porchlight 

Changing attitudes • Changing lives



What we do

Porchlight works across Kent and the south east to support people who are homeless, vulnerable and isolated.

We help children, adults and young people with housing, education & employment, and their mental health and wellbeing.

We support around 5000 people a year.

Our work across Kent





The Paradox of Progress: LGBTQ Youth Homelessness in South East England

January 2017

School of Anthropology and Conservation,
University of Kent



Homeless Youth

Challenges

Stigma

- Mental health
- Medication
- Diagnosis
- Youth as 'hoodies'
- Class
- Ethnicity (e.g. Traveller-Gypsy)
- Lack of knowledge and understanding
- Family problems/rejection
- "Non-help-seeking"

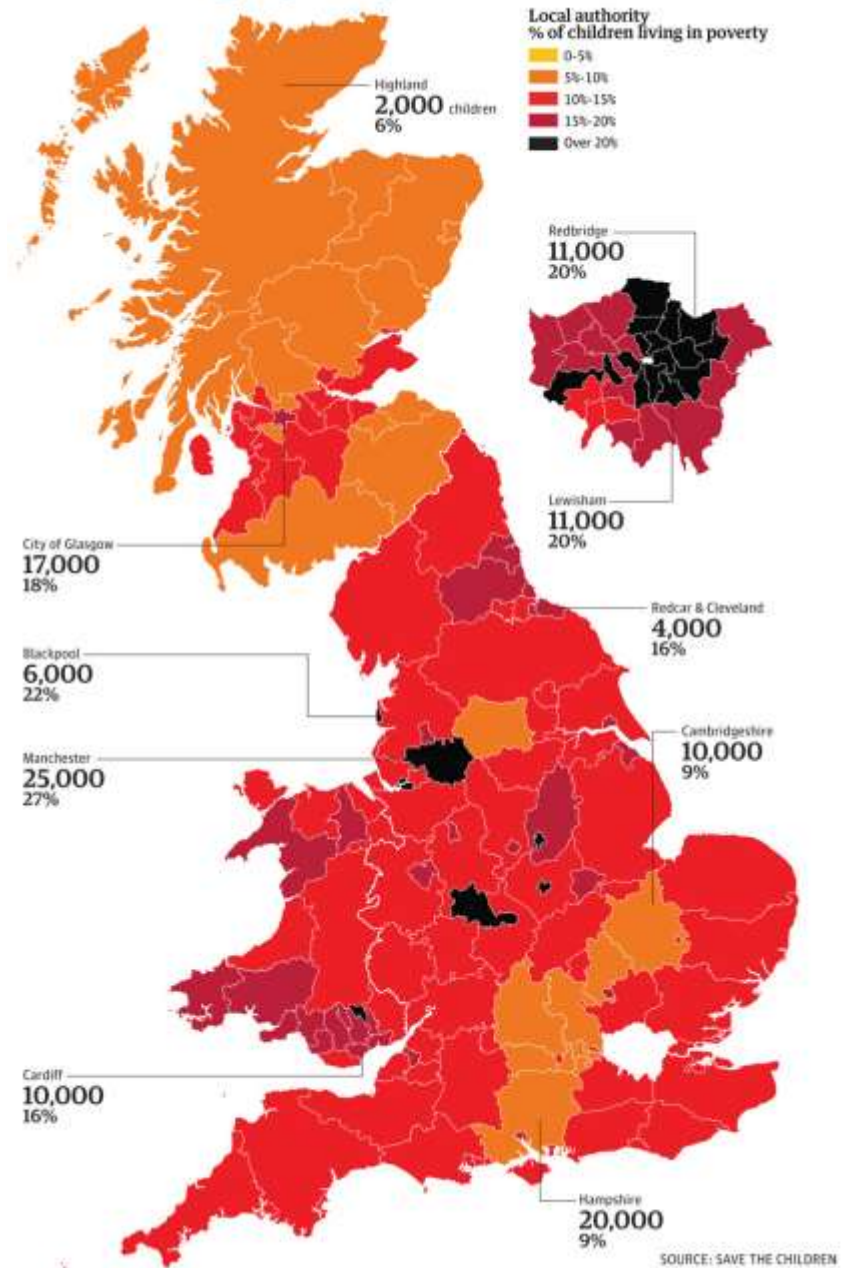
Complex needs

- Substance misuse
- Gangs
- CSE
- Trafficking/Modern Slavery
- DV/abuse
- Offending
- NEET
- Bullying
- Sexuality
- LGBTQ
- Chaotic lifestyles

Areas of deprivation are hotspots for gangs, social exclusion, youth offending, NEET, CSE

How does this affect motivation, self-esteem and aspirations?

Children living in poverty



ACE

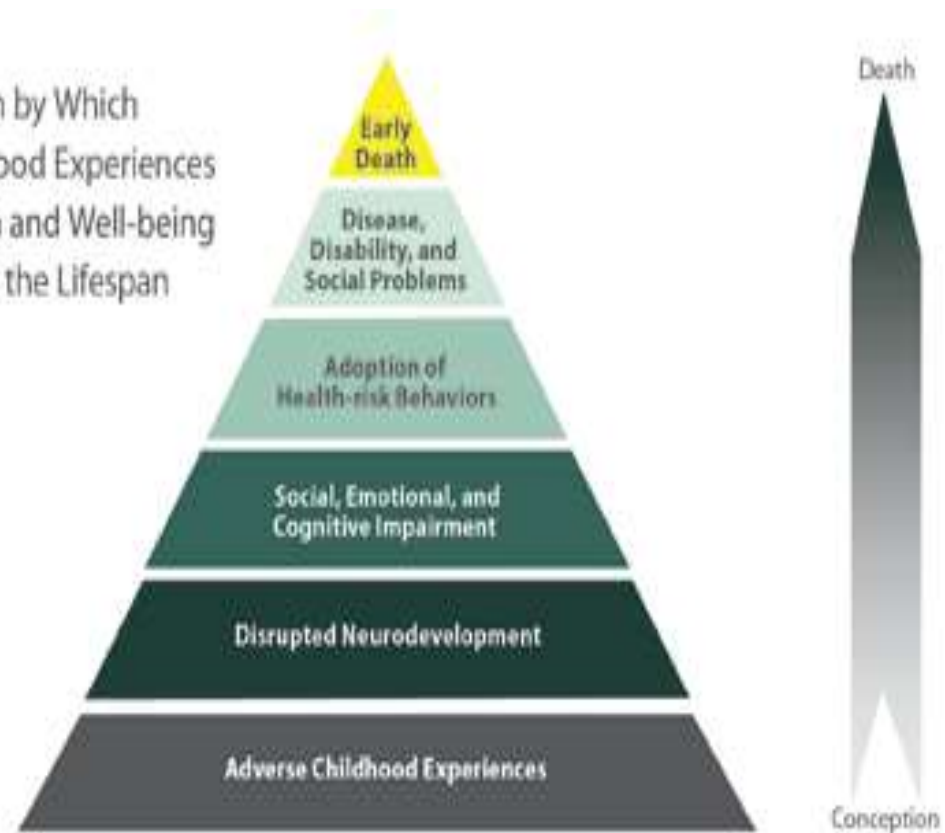
Personal Trauma

- Physical
- Verbal
- Sexual
- Physical Neglect
- Emotional Neglect

Family Related Trauma

- Parent who is an alcoholic
- A parent who is a victim of DA
- Family member in Jail
- Family member with a mental health diagnosis
- Disappearance of a parent through divorce, death, abandonment

Mechanism by Which
Adverse Childhood Experiences
Influence Health and Well-being
Throughout the Lifespan





Participatory Filmmaking and Visual Anthropology



HOMELESS YOUTH

**A film by Carin Tunaker and Prem Konieczny
and young homeless people from Porchlight**

**Wednesday 5th of November, 4PM
Lupino Screening Room, UKC
Email cbst4@kent.ac.uk for tickets**

See the film 'Homeless Youth' and read about the process of making it:
www.ukvisualanthropology.com

Why use participatory film in research?

- Elicitation technique
- “Breaking the ice”
- Involvement/empowerment/support (self-esteem and confidence)
- Building trust (Wheeler 2009)
- Continuous feedback
- Screening and feedback (de Maaker 2000)
- Social action (applied anthropology)
- Co-production of knowledge



The ability to view immediately one's own self speaking on videotape assists individuals to see themselves as others see them. This self image conveys the impression immediately that one's own knowledge is important and that it can be effectively communicated.

These video techniques create a new way of learning, which not only build confidence, but show people that they can say and do things that they thought were not possible before.

Snowden (1984)



What is obvious to them might not be obvious to you
(and vice versa)

carin.tunaker@me.com

@Ctunaker

www.porchlight.org.uk

@Porchlight1974

www.thebeyouproject.co.uk

www.kent.ac.uk/sac

@KentSAC

www.ukvisualanthropology.com