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MAIN CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS AND ADAPTATION OF HOMELESS TO ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

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Abstract

The problem of homelessness occurs in every country in the world, regardless of the type of governance, economic situation or cultural tradition. At the turn of the 1980s, there were socio-economic changes in Poland and the marketization of the economy, which resulted in the collapse of the economy and the liquidation of a number of enterprises, resulting in numerous redundancies. In addition, there were changes to the housing law, which involved the possibility of eviction. As a result of the above changes, i.e. the loss of permanent work and subsequent threats of evictions from rented premises and the inability to deal with the new economic situation, a homeless group was formed. The aim of the field research, at a

randomly selected group of 10 homeless people, was to assess the quality of life of these people. This group did not have a permanent place of residence and did not use shelters, night shelters or social care homes. The research was carried in the city of Wrocław, Duszniki Zdrój, Kłodzko and the Szczytna commune. The study group was in the 35-71 age range, the research was carried out on the terrain, ie the natural environment of individual subjects. The examined persons had vocational and basic education. The study contains the results of qualitative research based on the well-grounded theory, thanks to which the hypotheses were created during the research, which allowed for in-depth analysis of the conducted conversations and observations as well as participant observation. The results of the study showed that 7 homeless people indicate dependence on the previous system for the main cause of homelessness. Along with political and economic changes, they lost their jobs and shelter (they lived in the State Farms and workers' hotels). This is not the only cause, but the most accented. They also show great adaptability in relation to environmental, housing and nutritional conditions, showing resistance to both infectious and systemic diseases.

Keywords: causes of homelessness, health of the homeless, homelessness

INTRODUCTION

This study contains the results of qualitative research on a 10-person group of men qualifying as a homeless person. All subjects are people who do not use OPS. The first part of the study contains information on homelessness in Poland based on the literature of the subject. The second part presents the results of qualitative research of the group studied, based on the paradigm of the well-established theory.

CHARACTERISTICS HOMELESSNESS

Homelessness is a multi-state problem. An unwanted, shameful problem, albeit occurring all over the world, in all countries regardless of economic position, type of government and type of health care system. In the 1980s (period of severe censorship), the problem of homelessness "did not exist" in Poland. The ideology of socialism did not allow the problem to be exposed. Socialism, after all, satisfied all needs, all citizens of People's Poland [1]. The problem was neglected and marginalized for many years. At the turn of the 1980s, there were socio-economic changes in Poland, as well as marketization of the economy, which resulted

in the collapse of the economy and the liquidation of a number of enterprises, resulting in numerous redundancies. In addition, there were changes to the housing law, which involved the possibility of eviction. As a result of the above changes, i.e. the loss of permanent work and subsequent threats of evictions from rented premises and the inability to deal with the new economic situation, a homeless group was formed. It was not until grassroots interventions that they mobilized to register the first non-governmental organization - Towarzystwo Pomocy im. Adam Chmielowski (today's St. Brother Albert Society). Currently, about 100 organizations, mostly non governmental organization: Polish Red Cross, Caritas Polska, Towarzystwo Pomocy im. Brother Albert, Monar, Polish Social Welfare Committee, People People, Helping Hand. Hiding the problem of homelessness by the Polish state resulted in the creation of certain stereotypes in society. According to the law of group processes, there was categorization, which affected the perception of the homeless as a separate group (not ours) and emphasized any differences between groups. As a result, it boils down to the assimilation and perception of a man not our group, as more different than it is in reality. It results from the lack of cognitive abilities, thanks to which we could react in a different way to a single person. With these assumptions, when meeting a foreign person, we perceive it stereotypically ascribing it to features that we consider to be common to all members of the group. Categorization leads to discrimination not in our group [2]. In a survey conducted in 2011 by the Department of Social Research and Living Conditions published by the Central Statistical Office, in which 13.3 thousand Poles took part, to the question: "What group do you consider discriminated against?" - 23.8% of respondents answered that definitely so discriminated against they are homeless; 42.9% of respondents said homeless people are being discriminated against [3]. The state is our society, since 66.7% of the society thinks that the homeless people are the most discriminated social group, it is worth investing in all kinds of educational programs, especially for young people and schoolchildren who do not have such deeply rooted stereotypes [4].

CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS

Defining the causes of homelessness is problematic. Public opinion on the causes of homelessness is unambiguous. He becomes homeless because such a choice is made. It is a secular approach, grounded in stereotypes and lack of knowledge about the scale of the phenomenon. According to M. Porowski, it is difficult to find out what is the cause of

homelessness and what results from homelessness [5]. Homeless people do not stay overnight, it is a long-term process influenced by the individual's vulnerability to external and internal factors. A. Przymenski believes that the reasons for this phenomenon should be analyzed at the macro- and micro-social level [6]. The macro-social conditions may include the labor market (and including unemployment), the growing wave of evictions and resettlements, not adapting the housing market to the needs of people with low economic status. In none of the publications on the macro- and micro-social causes, the author did not find the causes of homelessness caused by the previous system of governance, which he was incapacitating, limited independent thinking, creativity and individuality. Analyzing the number of homeless people of various ages, I noticed along with prof. I. All-my-mother's guardian, huge disproportions between the age group 41-60 and the other age groups. 41-60 years (8052 people); 61-74 years (2576 people); above 75 years old (431); 19-40 years (3308) [7]. The age group of 41-60 years was born and brought up in the socialist system. At the age of 20-40 she collided with freedom and independence, to which she was not adapted in any way. Until the 1990s, it was the state that decided where we would go on holiday and who, what car would we drive, or where to live. "You gave" to eat, a roof over your head and free medical care, on which the memory of a person tears a tear in the eye. Thus, the causes of homelessness can be seen in socio-economic changes in Poland at the turn of the 1980s. The liquidation of the State Farms and workers' hotels deprived thousands of people of work and residence. In an equally difficult situation are children from orphanages who after reaching their adulthood have to leave the institution that raised them. Since the family is a social cell fulfilling an educational, emotional and caring role, the children's orphanages can be treated as children originating from dysfunctional families, and according to J. Śledzianowski, it is one of the main conditions contributing to homelessness [8].

You can also list prisoners staying in penitentiary institutions, many of whom have nowhere to return after serving a sentence. The reluctance of potential employers to employ them is associated with former prisoners [9].

It is worth mentioning the reception centers for refugees, who are 16 in Poland. A foreigner is provided with care in these centers for a month, and then ... very often these people are taken to the street [10].

The repatriates are the next group of potential homeless people. After returning to their native land, they receive little support from the state, with a little luck they are placed in locks that

do not meet the housing standards [11].

Also the evolving problem that contributes to the enlargement of homeless people is eviction.

The statistics of the Ministry of Justice include the following eviction data:

- Code evictions from business premises in 2004: 824 issued, 802 completed, 325 left to be executed.
- Codex evictions in 2004: 33 976 issued, 33 872 completed, 16 878 awaiting execution.
- Administrative evictions in 2004: 7181 issued, 8045 completed, 10 656 awaiting execution.
- including evictions for the pavement in 2004: 4359 issued, 5264 completed, 7137 awaiting execution [12].

The micro-social causes include impermanent family ties that have an impact on relationships in society; lack of ability to move on the labor market, which makes it difficult to raise funds for living; lifestyle, which should include the abuse of alcohol and other psychoactive substances.

ADAPTATION OF THE ORGANISM ON THE EFFECT OF ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS

Improving the physical efficiency of the human body requires physical activity 2-3 times a week. Homeless people can, through their lifestyles, increase their physical capacity. Maybe it is not a typical "physical recreation", but they certainly have better physical performance than people who lead a sedentary lifestyle. In addition, physical activity raises unspecific (serological and cellular) body immunity and reduces susceptibility to colds. By increasing its physical capacity, the efficiency of effort adaptation mechanisms increases, which makes it easier to withstand various environmental factors [13].

One of such factors is temperature. The climatic zone in which we live is characterized by large temperature fluctuations from -10; -20 degrees Celsius and below +10; +20 degrees Celsius and above [14]. Such temperature differences annually pose a challenge for the human body, especially for people who do not have a permanent place of residence, that is, for homeless bezdachowców. The temperature drop to -5 degrees Celsius in which the body fluids freeze is dangerous and results in the lack of adaptation to these changes in freezing of homeless people in the autumn and winter period. Low temperatures reduce mucosal permeability and increase resistance in peripheral vessels, which impairs oxygenation of tissues and removal of metabolites, which can cause frostbite of parts of the body exposed to

low temperatures and hypothermia. [15]

Equally unfavorable is the effect of high temperature on the human body, especially heat waves. The blood volume is increased and the peripheral vascular resistance is reduced by reducing the diastolic blood pressure. This leads to an increase in the internal temperature of the body, which may lead to eg stroke, but people with high physical performance have a lower internal temperature than people with low physical capacity who are exposed to the same high ambient temperature. As a result, the body later reacts to an unfavorable environmental factor, which is high temperature, and hence, it is able to stand up longer and unbearably bear such a load.

METHODS, TECHNIQUES AND RESEARCH TOOLS

T. Konecki in "The established theory and the context of the discovery. The natural history of a certain study "wrote:" The search for new phenomena in the "social body" also requires the use of unconventional actions, or, you can use the wording, "throw" into a specific environment, to discover new dimensions and social conditions. "[16] - and so did the researcher.

The study contains the results of qualitative research based on a well-grounded theory giving orientation in understanding phenomena and explaining their causes. The hypotheses were created during the research, which allowed for an in-depth analysis of interviews, free interviews, recordings, photographs, observations and participant observation. By analyzing the symbolic interactionism of individual cases, one can learn more about the real causes of homelessness through the emergence of a causal process theory. On the other hand, observation and active observation showed the manner of undertaking activities in the everyday life of homeless people and their adaptation to unfavorable living conditions affecting the health of the examined group. The course and length of the conversation depended on the respondent's openness and commitment to the conversation. At the outset, the respondent was informed about the anonymity of the research, which aroused greater confidence and willingness to present the real state of his view of the world. During the first meetings, the author noticed that he arouses greater empathy of this less communicative social group, which are homeless, when he does not bring a card and a pen to the meetings, which attributes are associated with the offices of socially excluded people. More freedom in

relations gave the recorder, which the author used with the permission of the interested. The author's empathy and ease of movement in interpersonal relations and the sincere curiosity of getting to know the history of the homeless resulted in cycles of meetings accented with cheap wine and chatter to the dawn.

The selection of the sample was deliberate. A common feature of the respondents is the state of homelessness of a non-fitness type, i.e. homeless, who occasionally or not at all use the opportunity overnight in shelters for homeless people, or night shelters. The sample consisted of 10 men aged 35-71 with families but not having contact with her, with basic or vocational education.

ORGANIZATION AND RESEARCH

The research was carried out in the city of Wrocław, Duszniki Zdrój, Kłodzko and the Szczytna commune. The study group were men themselves in the 35-71 age group, studies were carried out in the area of existence, i.e. the natural environment of individual subjects. This group did not have a permanent place of residence and did not use shelters, night shelters or nursing homes, which made it difficult to reach and carry out research. In the case of the homeless from Wrocław, the first conversations and photos were made in the sub standard premises in terms of size and aesthetics, which belonged to a friend of three homeless, assisted by numerous rodents and insects rich in various species. Further interviews with this group took place on the Odra River, near ul. Nowowiejska in Wrocław, which the author accepted with great relief.

Conversations with the homeless from Kłodzko took place at the PKP Kłodzko city center, and on the Bystrzyca Kłodzka river.

In Duszniki the author met three homeless people in the allotment gardens, on the Bystrzyca Dusznicka river and in the car workshop. The other two homeless stayed in Szczytna commune in the village of Łężyce. He spent 12 hours with these homeless people to observe behavior in their natural environment. All homeless people agreed to carry out research and access to the material collected by the researcher. The research was carried out by one person.

FINDINGS

After analyzing the material from the conducted research, the author noticed that two groups differed among the respondents, differing in their way of thinking, lifestyle and adaptation to the conditions in which they came to live. A common feature for both groups was the state of homelessness. The first group consisting of three men in the initial stage of homelessness (2 years) referred to as group A, and a group of seven men in the phase of chronic and permanent homelessness (7-20 years) called the group Z. Socio-demographic characteristics of both groups. They are male specimens. Three of them exceeded 30 years of age (35,36,36 years), five years of age (52,54,54,56,6,60), one aged 62 and one 71 years. Four of them declare vocational training the other six basic. These people are mostly lonely, only one subject is in an informal relationship, two homeless are bachelors, five are divorced, and the other two are widowers.

An element that was surprising for the researcher was the fact that the men of both groups do not seek, and even avoid contact with people of similar status. There are no peer relations among them, they do not group together creating hierarchical relationships: Mr. Mariusz: "I do better than with a friend, and besides, people are not afraid of me, because they know ... I do not pose a threat to them and they pity, they will give slice and some clothing on the back and let you sleep in the boiler room as cold ... "However, there is a difference in the reason for such isolation between groups. The Z group staying in the chronic and permanent phase of homelessness evidently reconciled with their fate, and many years of experience of homelessness taught their behavior and coexistence among the local community. Group A, on the contrary, does not allow himself to think that they are in a state of homelessness, thinking that it is temporary and transient. They are typical social actors who try to manipulate their impressions and the environment (including the author), thus acting on the interaction with the community, constructing visions of their own reality that is inconsistent with the actual state. Mr. Tomasz: "... I drank a little and my fiancée threw me, but he will forgive me and I will come back and I will not drink anymore and I will not touch her ..." - two years have passed since the fiancée.

It could be compared with the defense mechanisms of the body before admitting to the consciousness of the actual state.

The behavior of both groups is consistent with the trajectory of entering homelessness created by the author:

1. Beginning - a period of rebellion, lack of acceptance of the existing situation and not

admitting the thought that homelessness directly concerns me.

2. Developing the search period, awareness of the facts and willingness to change, the best time to get out of homelessness.

3. Finishing - complete reconciliation with the fate of the homeless, characteristic of the phase of permanent homelessness over 10 years, after such a time, the body is fully adapted to the homeless environment, which means that they do not see the need to change existing situation. According to the author, this is the main reason for staying in homelessness. They are typical non-institutional homeless, that is, they do not use any institutions, even in health and life threatening situations.

Mr. Mariusz: "... and they respect me here and they like me and help ... what I will change in my old age ... I do not remember how I live normally ... and I will not go to this lady (employee of OPS), and what will be revealed ... she will not even he knows that I am ... ".

The answer to the bothering question: "Why do homeless people from the Z group have an aversion to any changes if they live in such difficult conditions?" - gave participant observation, namely 12 hours spent with the homeless. The author's insights were revealing. The homeless person's main goal is to live the day and focus all his energy only on this goal. Absorbed completely in the basic physiological needs conditioning the vital functions of the body (pyramid of A. Maslow's needs: food, water, oxygen, sexual needs, lack of tension, sleep) do not think in perspective and have a different list of priorities from people living in favorable conditions. During the day, the homeless guy defeated about 20 kilometers (the author also), taking into account the fact that it was one of the standard days in the life of this group, one more conclusion regarding physical condition arises. It is known that physical recreation 2-3 times a week increases the efficiency of the body. In addition, physical activity raises unspecific (serological and cellular) body immunity and reduces susceptibility to colds. By increasing your physical capacity, the efficiency of effort adaptation mechanisms increases, which makes it easier to withstand various environmental factors. This fact may explain the lack of infectious diseases of the respiratory system in men from the group Z. However, this group complained of infectious diseases of the skin, including lice, scabies, bacterial and inflammatory skin changes, psoriasis and parasitic diseases. The very low level of personal hygiene has a huge impact on these changes. Lack of hygiene also led to the fatal condition of the teeth of the examined group.



Picture 1. Scars after inflammatory skin lesions-Roman years 58



Picture 2. Bacterial skin lesions and scars after the inflammation - Maciek 36 years old



Photo 3. Fungal lesions of the foot nail plate-Roman 58 years



Photo 4. Fungal lesions of the hand nail plate - Roman 71 years old



Picture 5. The condition of dentition - Maciek 36 years old



Photo 6. Skin changes as a result of low temperature - Maciek 36 years old

However, group A with a relatively short homelessness to the group Z paradoxically assessed

its health condition unfavorably. They complained of muscle and joint pains, heartburn, abdominal pain and frequent colds, but they did not have skin lesions and were more often hygienic than members of the Z group. The author noticed that they use ties with society that were created before entering homelessness. Mr. Krzysiek: "... and sometimes I will meet my schoolmate, his woman will wash my clothes and give me a bath, and if we have a drink, I will sleep with them ..."

Unfortunately, the dominant feature in both groups was alcohol abuse. Alcohol consumption is on the agenda, and the origin of alcohol is often unknown. The homeless from group A tried to fight the addiction in various ways: pharmacologically, through a strong will, which lasted for a few days and with the help of addiction therapists. Mr. Stanisław, 62, attended AA meetings for half a year. He died in December 2011 as a result of intoxication with an illegal mixture of methanol and spirit, known on the local market under the name F16. He waited with impatience and hope for a place in the Social Welfare Home. Mr. Stanisław: "... it is difficult for me on these plots, but if I get a place in the Help House, maybe I will find a job and somehow ..."

Group Z does not fight with addiction treating alcohol as an anesthetic, allowing to survive the hardships of everyday life. Consumption depends on the availability of alcohol. Mr. Janusz: "... how much I drink? ... how much is ... then I do not want to eat, and humor is and sleeps better in my kingdom ..."



Picture 7. Kłodzko. Accommodation under the viaduct in front of the railway station

The alcohol dependency syndrome is a disease entity that, together with the duration of homelessness, becomes more acute, contributing to the dysfunction of the whole organism, resulting in psychophysical disorders. Also alcohol is one of the main causes of homelessness. Analyzing the biography of individual subjects, this psychoactive drug is a thread that goes on throughout their lives.

Group A evidently lost the possibility of a normal life through alcohol, quarrels at home, loss of job and, consequently, financial liquidity. They admit that this addiction complicated their existence. Unexpectedly for the researcher, men from the group Z for a moment of breakthrough in their lives pointed to systemic changes in Poland at the turn of 80-90. Most of them were associated with hotel workers and state farms, were born and grew up in the times of the PRL in a system that incapacitated, limited independent thinking, creativity and individuality. These people talk about helplessness, the lack of an idea to enter into new political and economic systems, to take away their job and place of residence, along with the

liquidation of many enterprises.



Picture 8. PGR in the city of Łężyce, Szczytna commune

Mr. Mariusz: "... I was born here, only I could do it here, I have no education ... how PGR shut us down ... they did not give us in return, they banished like dogs and I'm wandering around ... here the whole village had a job, and now everyone is bidding "

DISCUSSION

The method of conducted research is not very often used in qualitative research. The grounded theory has its opponents and supporters, which is why it was difficult for the author to find studies based on the paradigm of grounded theory. However, comparing the results of the author's research on socio-demographic characteristics with other studies of qualitative and quantitative research, one can observe a large convergence in the results of the research. According to A. Duracz-Walczak, 80% of the homeless population are men between 40 and

60 years old. The author's studies were attended by male subjects whose mean age was 51 years.

M. Porowski showed that vocational and basic education is the leading education of this social group, in the results of the author's research, the respondents had only vocational and basic education. The research presented above also confirmed that in the leading number of cases they are lonely people, emphasizing marital breakdown and widowhood as the cause of loneliness. Only one man declares having a regular partner. Similar causes of loneliness were noted in their works by M. Pisarski (1993), Śledzianowski (1995) and Przymeński (2001).

However, some discrepancies in the author's research results relate to the relationship between the stages of homelessness, and the use of social assistance, the main causes of homelessness, and the health of homeless people considered through the prism of adaptability.

M. Jażdżikowski believes that as the time of staying in homelessness increases, the need for social care increases, and the permanent phase of homelessness characterizes people deprived of motivation and independent functioning in their natural environment, and in almost 50% they benefit from social assistance. The author's observations are completely different, the results of my research showed a different approach of people in the phase of permanent homelessness. It has been observed that the homeless are not motivated enough, and perspective thinking is alien to them, it may be due to the full adaptation in their natural environment, entailing a reluctance to use the possibility of any help. What is proof of full adaptation, maybe it is related to the creation of a specific dynamic stereotype based on the first signaling system that protects the behavior of vital signs and simple emotional states such as pain, aggression, fear of such a lifestyle can be compared to the people of pickers with this that they do not create any hierarchical community.

Based on the results of the author's research and careful analysis in the search for causes of homelessness, the author is able to say that factors leading to homelessness are dichotomic and synergistic at the same time, however, according to research, the most stressed cause of homelessness was the change of the economic system, why not seriously into account in any publication known by the author.

Also, the health condition of homeless people examined by the author was not the worst, and with the duration of homelessness was more stable than in the initial phases. A different view was included in the master's thesis "Health profile of homeless people living in the Men's

Hostel for them. St. Brother Albert in Wrocław "Alicja Kurtasz. The author believes that homeless people in the chronic and permanent phase are characterized by greater health deficits than people in the initial phase. The author in his research proved that people staying in the permanent and chronic phase assessed their health condition much better than in the initial phase. Discrepancies in the results of the research of both authors can be found in various groups of homeless people.

Based on the results of the study by Ireneusz Całkosiński contained in the publication "Impact of environmental factors on diagnostic indicators of the human body" and their own conclusions from the conducted research, the author is able to confidently say about the adaptive potential for extreme weather conditions as well as nutrition and living. It should also be noted, after analyzing the homeless' s life on adaptation possibilities to the diversity of climatic features occurring in Poland, taking into account local climate features, eg coastal climate with foothill climate, also determines the survivability of the homeless in the autumn and winter when the temperature drops below -5 degrees Celsius and freezing of body fluids, and thus freezing. This especially applies to those who fall asleep at this temperature in the open air or unheated gazebos, especially when under the influence of alcohol or drugs. This type of problem does not apply to homeless people from the milder climate zone, eg Mediterranean. There is a correlation between the climate zone and the quality of life because the availability of food, especially vegetable and better quality is greater in relation to the climate occurring in Poland.

CONCLUSIONS

According to the author's assessment, the quality of life of homeless people in comparison with the quality of life of people with a similar education, but not in a state of homelessness, shows psychosocial behavior disorders. The lifestyle of homeless people enables them to survive below the lowest standard of living without any prospects of improving the quality of being due to lack of motivation and higher emotional and aesthetic experiences.

The observed behaviors characterizing the examined group of homeless people were apparently related to the disturbance of emotional states of higher CNS functions related to the development of the second signaling system, i.e. reading with understanding, abstract thinking, aesthetic and cultural experiences as well as social behavior. On the other hand, the first signaling system plays a dominant role, which protects the behavior of vital signs and

simple emotional states such as pain, aggression and anxiety. This is connected with the body's adaptive possibilities leading to pathological adaptation, i.e. mechanisms leading to psychophysical changes, often irreversible. Changes that occur in the body allow survival and only survive. Therefore, the author believes that the Homelessness and Social Welfare Programs aimed at helping the homeless in breaking out of the social margin and returning to normal functioning in society do not work. The researcher is of the opinion that one should go to the needy, not wait for them. The solution could be to spread the role of STREETWORKER, who through his charisma and empathy could play the role of the missing link between the homeless and various institutions to help them.

Often we ourselves find ourselves in a situation which for others seems unacceptable and either we endure in it without being aware of the pathology of the phenomenon, or someone or something is a catalyst that takes us from stagnation and wakes us to action and willingness to change after which we do not we are able to understand why we have not made changes before.

Mr. Janusz: "... and what will I go there (MOPS) and ask and have a document, and in general ... you see, I do not have time, I have to live the day and I do not like people get in the way ... I know they do not like us , they avoid, they turn their heads ... "

SUMMARY

The problem of homelessness occurs in every country in the world, regardless of the type of governance, economic situation or cultural tradition. At the turn of the 1980s, there were socio-economic changes in Poland and the marketization of the economy, which resulted in the collapse of the economy and the liquidation of a number of enterprises, resulting in numerous redundancies. In addition, there were changes to the housing law, which involved the possibility of eviction. As a result of the above changes, i.e. the loss of permanent work and subsequent threats of evictions from rented premises and the inability to deal with the new economic situation, a homeless group was formed. The interest in the problem of homelessness is increasing, and numerous qualitative and quantitative research is carried out, which enables the introduction of real help aimed at those in need.

This study includes a definition of homelessness, the scale of the phenomenon in Poland. Based on the literature of the subject, the causes of homelessness as well as the adaptation of the organism to changing environmental factors have been cited.

On the basis of own research, the author's assessment of the quality of life of homeless people was presented comparing with the quality of life of people with similar education, but not being homeless, shows psychosocial behavior disorders. The lifestyle of homeless people enables them to survive below the lowest standard of living without any prospects of improving the quality of being due to lack of motivation and higher emotional and aesthetic experiences. In addition, the study results showed that 7 homeless people indicate dependence on the previous system as the main cause of homelessness. Along with political and economic changes, they lost their jobs and shelter (they lived in the State Farms and workers' hotels). This is not the only cause, but the most accented. They also show great adaptability in relation to environmental, housing and nutritional conditions, showing resistance to both infectious and systemic diseases.

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