

# Women's Homelessness: A Macro Perspective

Alicia Kalmanovitch, MPA, MSW, RSW

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# Objectives

- Women's homelessness from a macro perspective
- Context
- Money
- Housing
- Opportunities for change



## The Ecological Model

Adapted from Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, 2004

#### Individual

Attitudes and beliefs, behaviours, personal history

#### Relationship

Friends, partners, family, peers

#### **Community**

General attitudes, systems such as police, justice, health care, and child welfare, employment opportunities, poverty

#### **Societal**

Inequalities based on gender, sexual orientation, race, ability, religious and cultural beliefs



### Homelessness



**Unsheltered:** absolutely homeless (streets, park, vacant buildings) or not fit for habitation (cars, garages, tent)



**Emergency Sheltered:** Overnight shelters, Domestic Violence Shelters, Disaster Shelter



**Provisionally Accommodated:** temporary accommodation or lacks security of tenure (Hospital/Jail/Couch Surfing)



At Risk of Homelessness: not homeless, but imminent risk of homelessness or does not meet public health and safety standards (sudden unemployment, eviction, violence at home)



























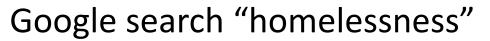














### Women's Homelessness



Canada: 35,000 people

27% women

Alberta: 5,367 people

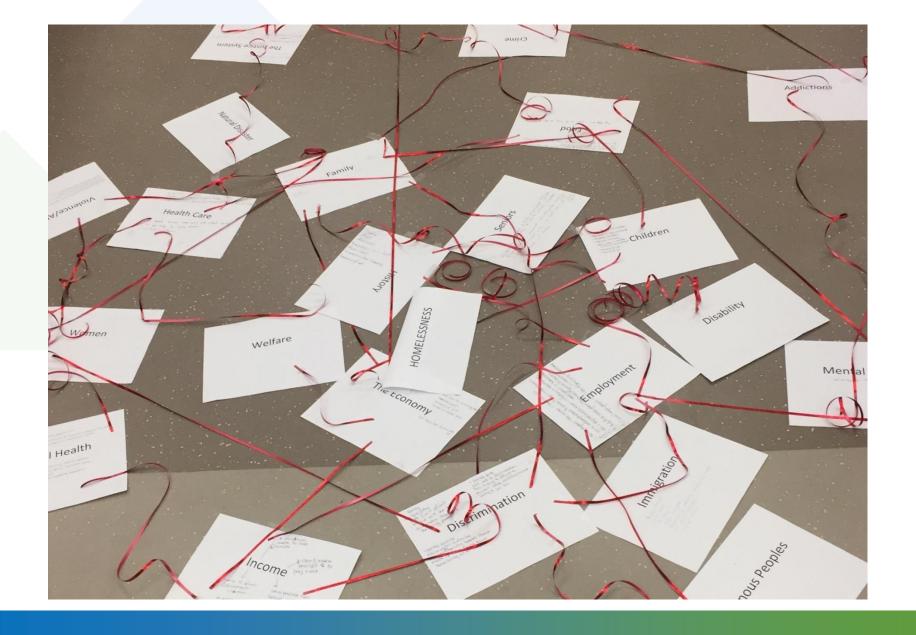
24% women

Calgary: 3,430 people 25% women

# Possible reasons for underrepresentation:

- Hidden homelessness
- Identity
- Safety/fear











Money

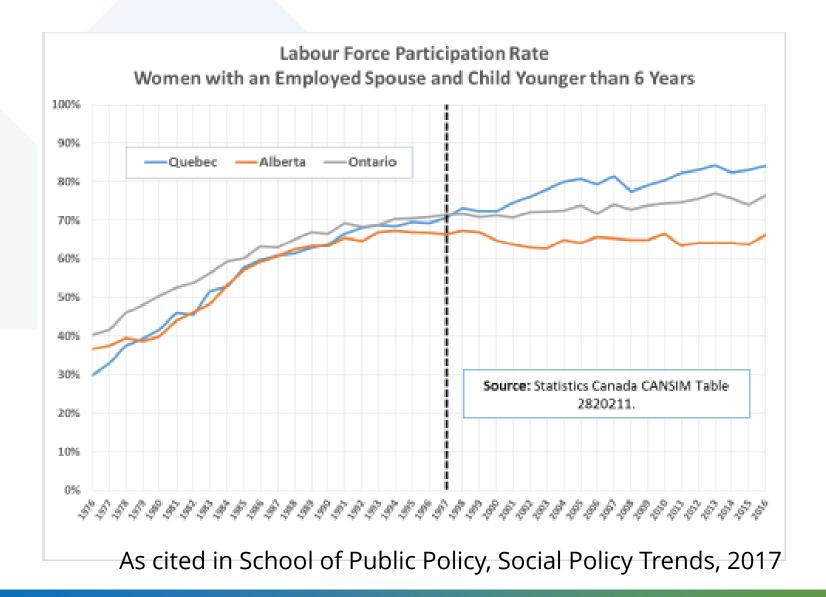


# The Gender Wage Gap

Maclean's, 2018

|              | Wage 1      | Wage 2      | Difference |
|--------------|-------------|-------------|------------|
|              | \$0.92      | \$1.00      | \$0.08     |
| Wage (\$/hr) | \$15.00     | \$16.20     | \$1.20     |
| 1 day        | \$120.00    | \$129.60    | \$9.60     |
| 1 month      | \$2,400.00  | \$2,592.00  | \$192.00   |
| 1 year       | \$31,200.00 | \$33,696.00 | \$2,769    |









## Women's Income

- Employment
- Trafficking
- Children
- Family Structure
- Income support







# Women's Housing

- Safety
- Culturally appropriate
- Affordability
- Children
- Discrimination



## **Moving Forward**

- Ask people what they need
- Understand the broader context
- Safe, affordable, appropriate housing
- Women's emergency shelter beds
- Remove barriers
- Increase communication between agencies
- Address oppressive comments/practices



# Thank you

Alicia Kalmanovitch
Research and Policy Analyst
aliciak@calgaryhomeless.com
403.718.2934



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