

Krzysztof T. Konecki, Lodz University

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Teaching Visual Grounded Theory. The Case - Process of Visualisation of Homelessness

Lecture at Universidad Internacional SEK, Quito; 6.04.2011.



Introduction – the goals

- # Showing the homelessness from the perspective of homeless people
- # Using the visual method of research
- # Analysis of visualisation process of homelessness; analysis of visual images

Introduction - about project

- # Teaching by projects – showing by hands
- # Research Project realized by students of social work on „Visual Aspects of Constructing and Representing of Social Problems and Visual Construction of Identity in the Situation of Social Exclusion” June 2008 – February 2009.
- # Narrative and open – ended interviews and photos of the present, past and future time (self) and conditions of life, interviewee - directed photography
- # Teaching intimate familiarity and sensitivity of two kinds
- # Some research on „auto – photography” among homeless (Radley, Hodgetts, and Cullen, 2005; Johnsen et.al., 2008).
The problem of cameras given to homeless.

Introduction: statistics – *statistical images*; special programs – *social support images*

■ Approximate statistics about homelessness:

- In 2005 the support organizations helped 87 238 persons (55 148 men, 18270 female, 13 829 children, Julia Wygnańska, 2006: 9).
- The estimations of homelessness is on about 60-70 th. people in Poland, the half of this population is in the shelters and second half lives somewhere in potting sheds, ducts, staircases, etc. <http://www.racjonalista.pl/index.php/s,11/t,6439>
- the number of beds in dosshouses and shelters 23 669 (in Poland, 2006).
- the number of deaths from cooling down – 190 (2004-2005)
- the number of persons getting the aid from non- governmental institutions in Warsaw, 3702 (in 31 march of 2006).
- There are governmental programs against the proliferation of homelessness (Against Homelessness Protection Program). It includes payment for an electricity, food, rent, clothes, cleaners, repairs of apartments, etc.
- Homeless people have free health care if they access to „Individual Program of Homelessness Leaving”.
- There are Centers of Social Integration – they can manufacture and merchandise their production (35 such Centers in Poland).
- There are also Social Cooperatives (50 in 2006). The aim is to create the possibility of work and social integration for the excluded citizens.

Introduction – statistics; special programs

■ **Approximate statistics about homelessness (statistical images)**

=The causes of homelessness according to quantitative research are:

- **47% because of family problems (conflicts)**
- **26 % because of unemployment**
- **17 % because of addiction**
- **13,5% because of the free choice**

The estimation of leaving the homelessness is about 2-3%.

<http://www.racionalista.pl/index.php/s,11/t,6439>

- **There are many organizations helping of homeless people, The Doctors of Hope, Monar, some of them are religious in character as Caritas, St. Brother Albert's Aid Society.**

Introduction – phases of becoming homeless (on the basis of interviews)

1. Prephase – phase of normality (good childhood)
2. Emerging the primary causes of homelessness(alcoholism, family problems, unemployment, illness).
3. Emerging the most direct causes (not paying rent, eviction from the home.
4. The persistance of homelessness – psychological support of the process (lamenting, fatalistic perspective, excuses for drinking, shame).
5. Coming to the suface – recovering from alcoholism, work, future perspective - planning.

Comparison of pictures in sequences – artificial sequencing.

- # Seeing the sequence of pictures we generate comparative process and categorical (pattern) thinking.
- # We can have natural sequence coming from **naturally photographed action in process**, or artificial sequence.



Natural sequence

Research on human – animals interactions, K. T. Konecki (

<http://www.qualitative-research.net/index.php/fqs/article/view/1154>

F:\Filmy do prezentacji-Touching and gesture exchange\Wymiana gestów-zabawa\Intencjonalność zabawa_wieś_wymiana gestów_gra-piłka nożnaMOV04196.MPG)

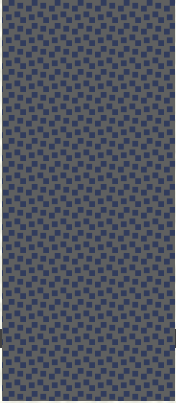
K. Liberman ethnomethodological research on Tibetan philosophical dialectics and debates (www.thdl.org/DebateTutorials F:\debates-Liberman-movies\II.1 9.05_23-46 Ch 6 Ls sing.mov)

Natural sequence; K. Liberman research on Tibetan philosophical dialectics and philosophical debates

(F:\debates-Liberman-movies\II.1.9.05_23-46 Ch 6 Ls sing.mov)



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Artificial Sequence – visual images of homelessness by homeless people...



1



2



3



4



5



6



7

Artificial sequence from internet photos, practical classes, students of social work

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Artificial sequence, cont.

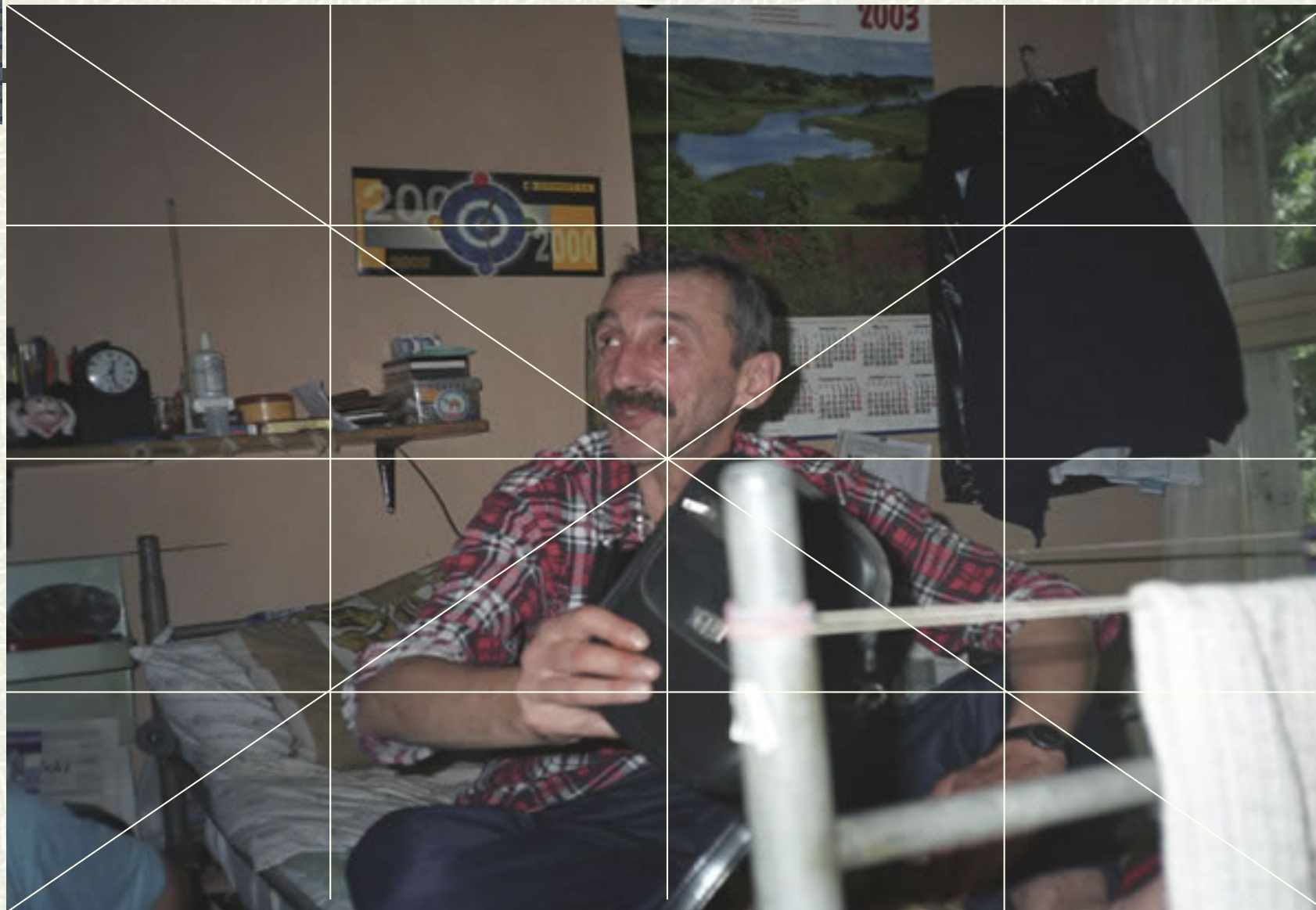
Artificial Sequence

- # Only two pictures from the street life
- # The rest from the shelter, 11 pictures
- # Four pictures with the bench
- # Two pictures with bed
- # Seven pictures with food, see 4,5,6,7 and 11, 12, 13

Artificial sequencing. Analysis.

- # We create **artificial sequence for comparing things or acts.**
- # We tried to prepare and to make students sensitive to the topic of homelessness by presenting them some pictures and analysing them together in the group session.
- # We start from detailed description of photos

Description of Photo 10. Homeless with the bag sitting at the bed; bedding; to be confined for space.



2nd in the sequence

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Description of Photo 10. Homeless man with the bag sitting at the bed.

Description of the Photo.

Photo represent a homeless man with a bag. The head of homeless is at the centre of photo (almost, view from planimetric division). Homeless is smiling, showing slightly his teeth (has moustache), is looking up, the head is turned slightly at right side. He sits at the bed with the legs astride. He keeps the bag in the hands. He has a watch and is dressed in flannel shirt. He is neat, shaved, with clean hands and nails. There are seen at the bottom part of the picture (in three – part horizontally divided picture plan) a piece of the bag and a part of an arm of bed. There is a shelf with the objects on the left side of the photo (the centre of a horizontal plan). Part of the shelf hangs above of bed. There are some objects on the shelves: a clock, a lamp (? probably), a jar, a box (? probably tea box), radio, and “a head – decoration”. There is a clock with the poster behind (poster with the inscription 2000) on the wall (this is an upper side of the horizontal – from planimetric division of the picture). The clock shows the 12.28 time.

Above a head of homeless from the left side of photo we see calendar from 2003. with the landscape of forest and lake. On the right side of photography there are hanged on a hook the dresses (jacket, beneath shirt and short overcoat probably ?). Further on the right side there is a window and we see the leaves sun lighted.

On the right side of the picture there is put a towel (probably?) on the arm of the bed (down of a plan of the picture).

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Open Coding

Bag (**Private objects; property**); „Framed head”
Smiling (expression of emotions – contentment)
Sitting at the bed (**private space – public space**);
Keeping the bag, watch (**Private objects**); Being near

Arm of a bed – **the boundary of private space; shelf (private objects)**

Shelf – (**Public space/private space**)
Clock – (**private objects**)

Clock, time (**private objects**).

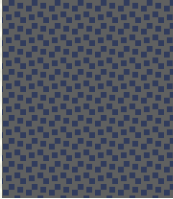
Calendar (**private objects**).

Division of the space. (**Private space – public space**)
Dresses.

Private space – public space.

And start analysis to create categories

Very helpful is writing memos



*Memo to Photo 10. „Homeless man with the bag sitting at the bed”
Lack of division on private space and public space. Private objects,
property, bedding.*

If we take into consideration the distinction private – public we see on the photo the mixture of private and public space. The dresses of homeless man are hanged on the hook and are clearly seen at the background to a visitor. Similar situation is with a towel on the arm of the bed. The right side of photography (divided vertically on two symmetrical part) shows us private objects, that usually in our culture are kept in private space not available do the public view. We usually do not present to the strangers interior side of our wardrobe.

On the left side of the photography (close to the lenses of camera) we see the private objects available also to publicity (shelf with private objects). We can observe here so called “durnostojki”, the objects that are usually decorative objects in our homes put on/near chimneys, shelves, some recesses in the wall, etc. These object are to present our identity to the publicity. The majority of these objects in a shelter has functional character, not so much decorative (clock, radio, lamp), although some are decorative (head – decoration). The private space is mixed with public one. The homeless people have small chances to keep the private objects in private space not visible to public eyes. The only one closed private place is a bag, that homeless keeps in the hands. The rest of objects, even these far situated from the objective of the camera, are suitable for publicity and observable, what is documented by photography.

Analysis

- # After detailed description we analyse further photos in the sequence and found the visual process of „contrasting”
- # The homeless life from the perspective of homeless people



1->1

Photo 1. Raking the rubbish up; work. Contrasting homeless people and „normals”;
opposition of “normals – homeless”

(<http://zik.com.ua/pl/news/2008/04/15/133504>)

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13->2

Photo 2. “Contrasting” and showing separation; Easter at the shelter; situating at Easter celebration; food. Homeless at the background, normals (officials) in the forefront, more light on normals.

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8->3



Photo 3. “Contrasting”; normals and homeless situating themselves separately at the station; bench; benching.

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Photo 3.1 Natural “Contrasting”. Homeless are everywhere in the city of Lodz, there is no districts without homeless people (picture from the research project).

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12->4

Photo 4. Work on Contrasting; door as a division line between scene and coulisses (ante-room); food; three photographers at work; Easter Celebration (<http://www.bezdomni.ovh.org/easter.html>).

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Category from the sequence – „Waiting Atmosphere”



3 -> 5

Photo 5 “Waiting atmosphere”; relaxing - on the bench; benching, place for doing nothing; bending the body forward and keeping the elbows on the knees or thighs.

Category from sequence – Waiting Atmosphere



6 -> 6

Photo 6. Homeless sleeping at the table. “Waiting atmosphere”, food, “eating and sleeping”.

Category from the sequence – Waiting Atmosphere



9->7

Photo 7. Sitting at the bench. Benching. Place of waiting and place for doing nothing. Group character of “waiting atmosphere”. Relaxing - by smoking; homelessness by different age, delicate smiling, bending the body forward and keeping the elbows on the knees or thighs.

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http://www.ltf.com.pl/wystawy_w_galerii/w_o_obiektyw_bezdomnego.html)

Code from the sequence - Concentration on food

5 -> 8



Photo 8. Concentration on food. Food. Food - Eating.

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The code from the sequence - Concentration on food



7->9

Photo 9. Concentration on food. Food. Food – Eating (charity event).

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Comparison for More General Concepts - visual representation of social position.



Photo10. Homeless with the bag sitting at the bed; timid smile, smiling, showing teeth, not looking at the camera, timid style of self presentation; bedding; to be confined for space.

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Comparisons for More General Concepts. Artificial Sequencing, analogical comparisons

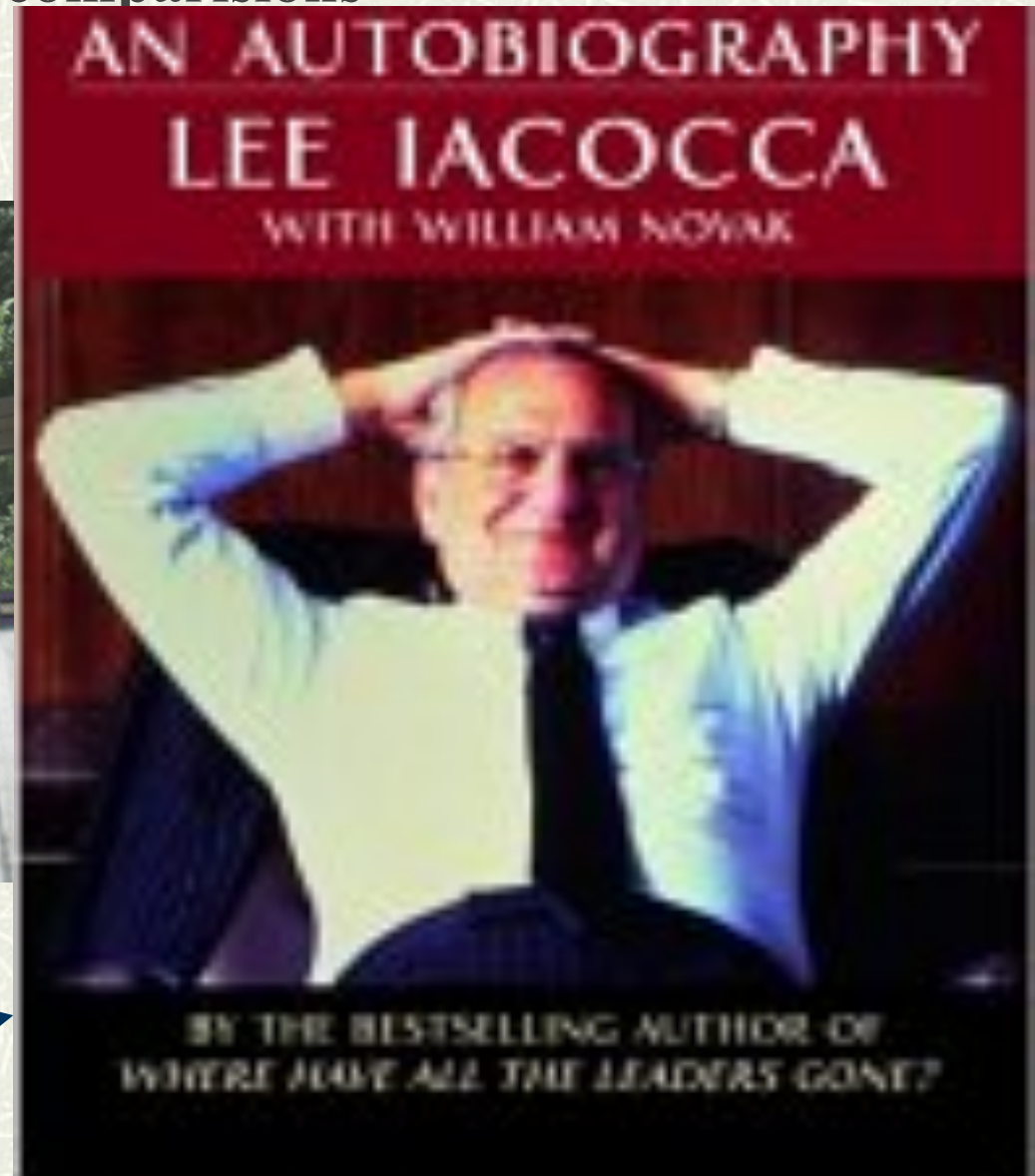


Photo 11. Lee Iacocca from the front page of the Autobiography, smiling, not showing teeth, “above position”, „you viewer do not belong to my group” superiority, assertiveness, “formal–informal” pattern of self - presentation, direct look at the camera.

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Saturating a category

- # We can also saturate category with pictures referencing to properties of category.
- # Homological open comparisons.
- # **Analysis of „physical conditions of homeless life”**

Saturating a category „physical conditions of homeless life”

- # The category is connected with instances that indicate following properties:
- # “concentration on food” (photo 8, 9, 13),
- # the lack of division on private and public space (photo 10 and memo to this photo, photo 12, photo 14),
- # “relaxing place” (photo 5, 7),
- # food (photo 6, 12),
- # “to be confined for space” (photo 12, 15),
- # place for celebrations (photo 2, 13);
- # “places for nothing to do- for benching and bedding” (bench, photo 5; bed, photo 14, 15),
- # lack of private objects/property (interviews).

Saturating a category „physical conditions of homeless life”



Photo 12. To be confined for space; food, private objects; decoration.

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Saturating a category „physical conditions of homeless life”



Photo 13. Concentration on food. Life in the shelter. Easter celebrating. Table, place for celebration. Organized celebrating. Celebrating.

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Saturating a category „physical conditions of homeless life”



Photo 14. Life in the shelter; privacy; lack of division of private and public space; to be confined in space; bed; **bedding** (photo from the research project, from Shelter of St. Brother Albert's Aid Society in Łódź).

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Saturating a category „physical conditions of homeless life”



Photo 15. Life in the shelter; to be confined in space, private/public space, private objects, bed, bedding (photo from the research project, from Shelter of Albert's Aid Society in Lodz).

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Saturating a category „physical conditions of homeless life”; importance of a bed!

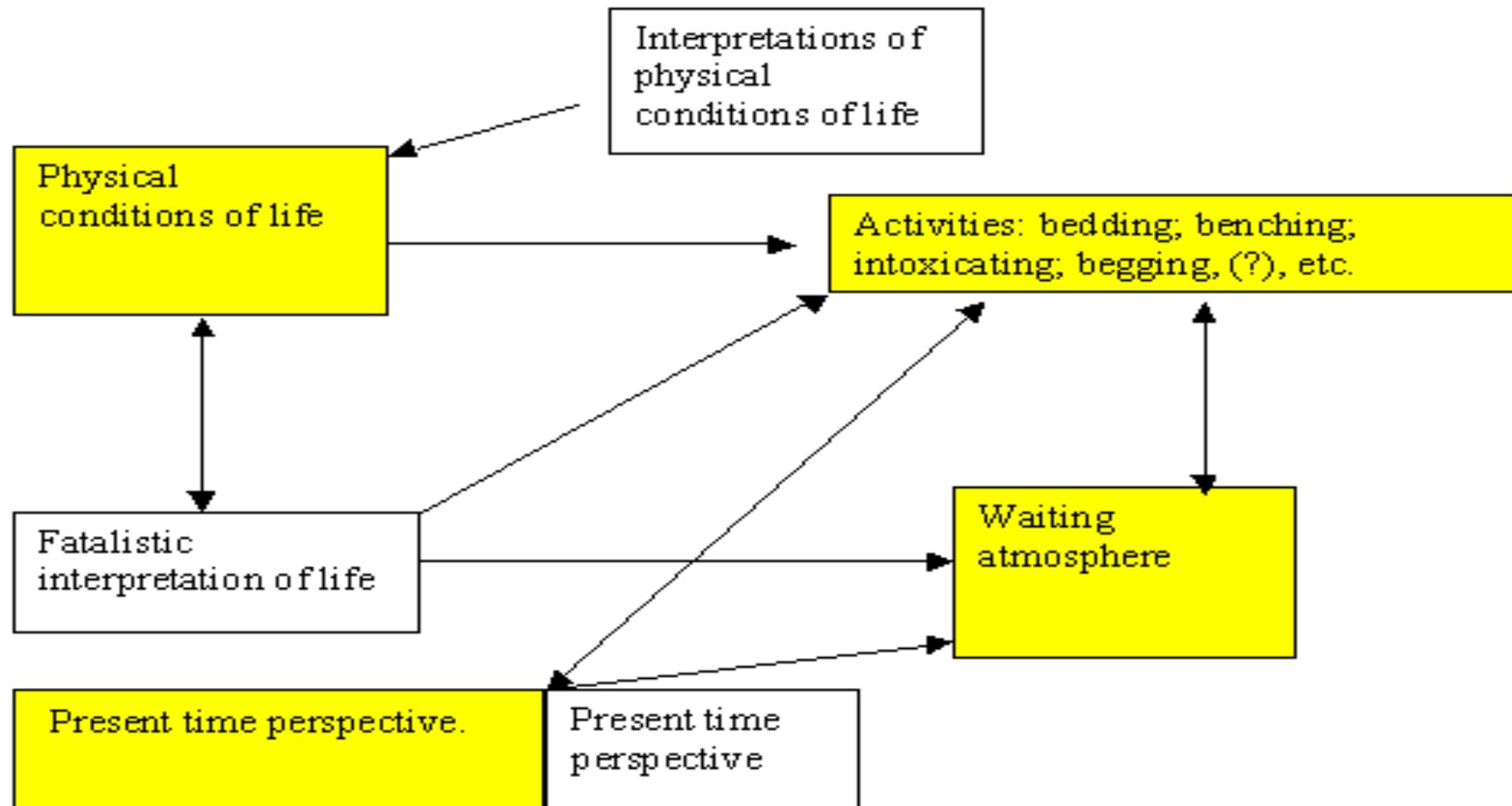


Photo 16. Private place; private object; the centre of private life, bed; the place for bedding (photo from the research project, from Shelter of St. Brother Albert's Aid Society in Lodz).

Some hypotheses on importance of physical objects and space

- # **Interactions with objects -> “The physical conditions of life” induce some kind of actions:**
- # 1. If the bed is a centre of the everyday life, than the “bedding” is one of the most important activity of homeless people. Similarly is with a bench or a kerb, that induce the act of “benching” or „kerbing”, and with the street that induce „walking”.
- # 2. Consequently “the waiting atmosphere” is co-created by physical objects and space of living and also by activities induced by interpretations of this physical surroundings, e. g. benching or bedding, kerbing, walking.

Initial Diagram 1. The connections between categories (the yellow boxes indicate the visual background of data for generating the categories; white boxes indicate the interviews as a base for generating the categories).



Outside of shelter - comparisons

- # However these physical conditions of life are connected only with living in a shelter or a dosshouse.
- # **If we go outside of a shelter to other places of living** by homeless we can see others things, e.g. the place of living, how homeless people prepare food in the ruins? How they are dressed when there is cold outside, and where no closed house can protect them from the cool weather?



Photo 17. The three hobos in Chicago; jungle, 1929.



Photo 18. The place of living the homeless – hobo; allotment; shed (photo from the research project).



Photo 19. The place of living the homeless – hobo; ruins, close to the railway station of Lodz Fabryczna (photo from the research project).

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Photo 20. The place of spending time during raining and cool weather, at nights and place for drinking (photo from the research project).
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Photo 21. Homeless man is sitting on a kerb, (kerbing), bottle of vodka, drinking place (a place is close to the Faculty of Economics and Sociology, Lodz University; photo from the research project).

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Photo 22. The shoes – collecting things. (“They can be helpful. I found them today”; photo from the research project, homeless living outside shelters).



Photo 23. Shed that is close to railway station of Lodz Fabryczna. The place of living (homeless living outside shelters, photo from the research project).

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Photo 24. Railway station of Lodz Fabryczna. The place of staying and living (homeless living outside shelters, photo from the research project).



Photo 25. Dust-bins give the possibility to get something valuable and exchangeable for money, the place of work (homeless living outside shelters, photo from the research project).

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Photo 26. Homeless sitting on the kerb; kerbing (homeless living outside shelters, photo from the research project).

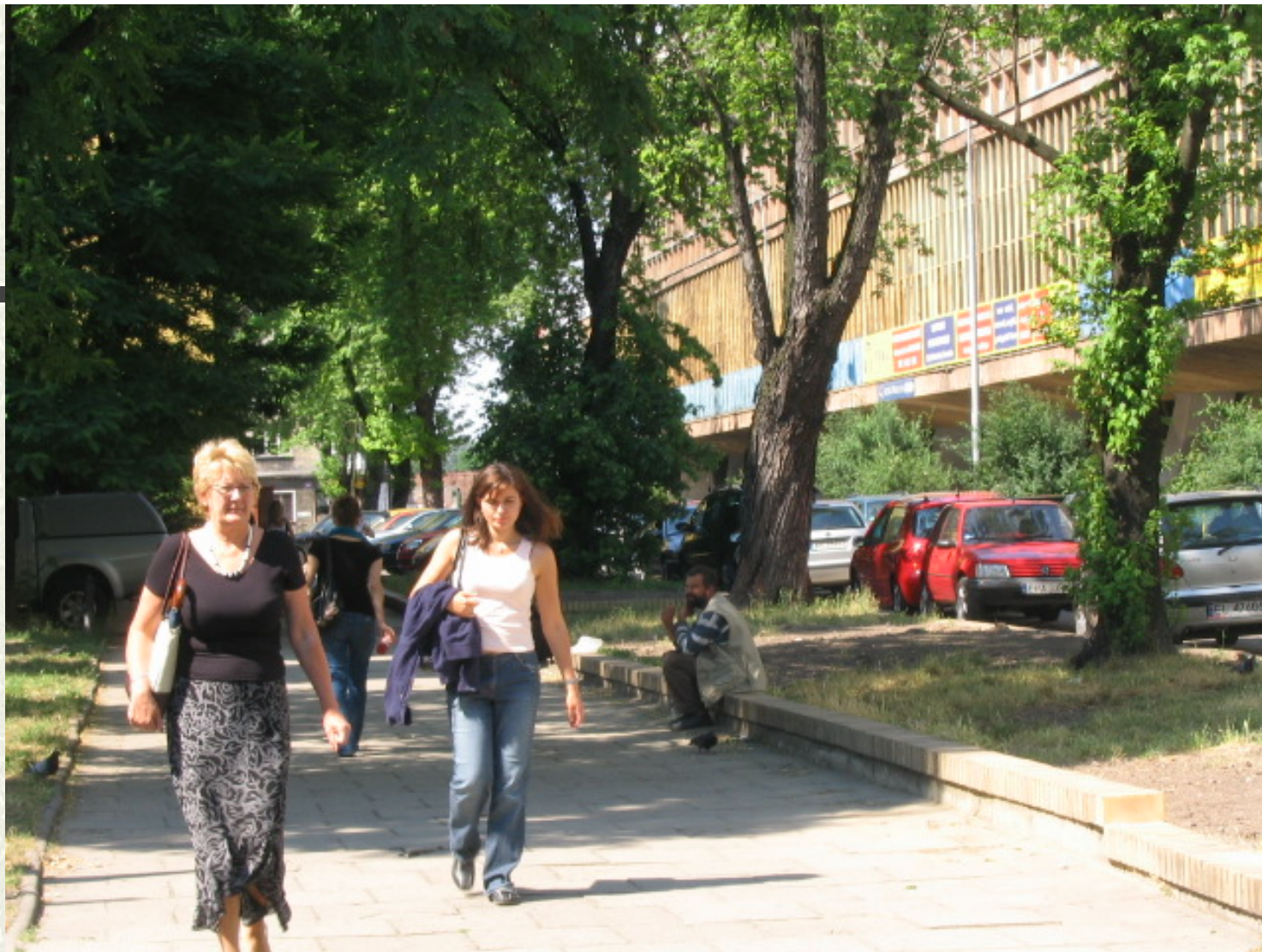


Photo 27. Homeless sitting on the kerb; (kerbing); space close to Faculty of Economy and Sociology UL building (homeless living outside shelters, photo from the research project). The photographer has been a little bit embarrassed to take a photo and she took photo of homeless man by only situating him at the background (see and compare also picture 26).

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Photo 28. The place of living and spending time. Mess, bottles of vodka, newspapers, cigarettes' packs, the place of drinking; intoxicating. (homeless living outside shelters, photo from the research project, Krzysztof T. Konecki, Ziemiński, interview 3).



Photo 28.1. The place of living and spending time. The fountain at the Freedom Square, where the homeless people wash themselves and drink water. The fountain is also attractive place for new married couple to drink the water for happiness in future life. The physical object has at least two meanings (two images), practical and magical for different users... (Interview, 7.11.2008).

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 29. The place where the homeless lived before... (perspective of the past; photo from the research project).

Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 30. Photo of the picture from their „previous life” (perspective of the past; photo from the research project).

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 31. Reality of living on the street (present time perspective). Working in the dust –bins (photo from the research project). Present time perspective seemed dominating among homeless.

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 32. Future place of living – the future perspective (photo from the research project).

Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 33. The most liked place in present time, laundry. No references to past and future.

Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 34. Collection of photo - cameras in a shelter; photographic club; present time, photographing (photo from the research project).

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 35. Cobblestones in the pavements and a pond in front of a shelter constructed by homeless man. Proud in the present time (doing the picture the student has captured unintentionally the tent in front of which one of the homeless is sleeping; photo from the research project).

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time



Photo 36. A seat of the photographic club and the place of residence of the homeless man (photo from the research project).

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time (past, presence, future only connected with homelessness).



Photo 37. The homeless woman (Lady Peron) at the railway station (December, 2008). She wants to be among people because is afraid of a danger. She travels a lot; visited Irleand („I love Irleand”, she has an Irish souvenir pined up do the scarf), Italy („they are very noisy”), France („they have a very bad social care”), now is preparing to go to Spain („there is warmer”). (photo from the research project).

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Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time (future connected still with homeless life).

I will go now. What I can do here? Tell me please, I will be frozen soon. And a bandits could kill me, there was one that wanted to throw me on the rails. „I break your legs and hands and kill you and throw on the rails” – he said. „Why you kill me? – I asked. „What have I done to you? What I am owing you? I see you for the first time.” So it was young man and wanted to kill me, you see. So, I am sitting here, there is booking office and somebody working there, if she has not been here, I would not sit here... (Excerpt from the interview with Lady Peron).

Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time — The hope for the future, alley of sobriety

Some homeless have hope for the future and have future perspective. Some of them want to treat their alcoholism and leave homelessness and try to work. Thesis: the future perspective is connected with abandoning of the habits petrifying the homelessness.



Alley of sobriety; every tree is a symbol of a person that won with alcoholism (The Association of „Border”).

„I am thinking about future, there are special enterprises for sick people, so I can go, and work as guard at the entrance or so...” (excerpt from interview with homeless that is after therapy, not drinking now).

Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time – The hope for the future



Certificates of finishing of Intensive Therapeutic Program – future perspective started since here and now

Contrasting visually time perspectives. Co-constructed sequences of visual images of time – The hope for the future



The figure of Jesus built by the inhabitants of the „Border”; close is The Alley of Sobriety

Invisibility (under cover of).

Generally homeless do not want to be photographed. Are often very ashamed and annoyed when asked for taking picture. They want to be invisible, and not to attract the attention of „normals”. They would like their „stigma” to be invisible...

Invisibility (under cover of night, travelling)

Homeless woman have not agreed to take photo of face. She has shown the objects to be photographed connected with her everyday life (nurse, 54 years old, can not find an official job, working illegally peeling onions, travelling at night by trams).

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Invisibility (under cover of surrounding)

The places where the homeless woman lives (the dustbins, playground)



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Invisibility (under cover of surrounding)

The places where the homeless woman lives (backyard,)



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Invisibility (under cover of surrounding)

The places where the homeless woman lives (staircase that is always open and it is possible to spent night there)



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Invisibility (personal explanation of causes of becoming homeless, lack of communication and visibility to other homeless)

„It happens in this way, that my sister got sick and I had to take care of her. She lived somewhere else, and at that time my sister and her husband moved in to me. The sister died, and I was left with a nephew and brother in law to help them. My daughter with a son-in-law procured bereaving me the apartment. Moreover , so, I had bad luck in life and I cut dead tree, for what I was sentenced for ten months of prison. So I am homeless now, without any help. So far I had no opportunity to contact other homeless people. I have no contact. Do not communicate”. (nurse, 54 years old, can not find an official job, working illegally peeling onions, travelling at night by trams, 4 months without apartment).

Invisibility (invisibility at crowd, technics of covering the stigma – immersing in crowd; under cover of surrounding – **covering up** ←property of invisibility)

„and in the center of the city a lot of people walk, and always it is about that how I walk on the street look at me, and I feel so normal walking with them. It is known, how a normal person and not poor or sad. Everybody has its problems, those people and me too, we must take care of our interests. (homeless women from Radwanska street, 60 years old, she refused to take her picture and pointed to the dustbins, where she stay a lot, looking for food, cans and dress, she found a scarf and was very happy because of the cold weather, interview done 28.12.2008).



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Invisibility

However the stigma is visible; they have usually with them carts and bags for the findings from dustbins, they have worn out faces, dirty hands and dress, etc.



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Invisibility (working at night, under cover of night)

„Do you agree for the pictures?

I do not know, I would have to ask my daughter... Hehe (laughter), without teeth. When I will have money I make teeth for myself...” (homeless woman having children, collecting refuses from dustbins close to The City Office, Pasaż Schillera; 22.00 in the evening, January, 2009).

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Invisibility

Homeless usually prefer to take photos of objects than themselves. When asked for the pointing the objects they say, that they have nothing to be photographed. And show their surroundings and some physical objects



Invisibility

„Under cover of surroundings”; Direct surrounding; The Center of Association of „Border” (Granica)



Invisibility

Direct surrounding; Under cover of surroundings. The Center of Association of „Boarder” (Granica)



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Invisibility

Direct surrounding; Under cover of surroundings. Monar
– Pabianice.



The room of the interviewee, the shelf with his property: „I am not able to do anything when I am drunk... The all people turn away from me.” (homeless during during the therapy).

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Invisibility –of self in interaction (under cover of animals)

To avoid talking about themselves some of them talk about other things e.g. dogs and prefer the dog to be photographed than themselves: „He (the dog) will be more photogenic than me”. There seemed to be a compatibility between their lack of self openness and self protected visibility to others.

„The dog is of mine colleague. He, he (laughter)... In reality he is the only creature that has so un-selfish feelings. I can not give him even the food, because I do not have one... However he comes to me. He feels good, and me is good, warm... Only he is not speaking, but maybe a little bit speaking. ... Because in summary he is not speaking, but is open, fuck.. Looking at my eyes, sincerely, it has no secrets, nothing is cover. With people is that everybody has something hidden... Especially woman (laughter and after silence)... ” (excerpt from interview with homeless man leaving in the closet)

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Invisibility – invisible deep - self in interaction

Under cover of animals



Invisibility – Under cover of animals



„I love animals,so. Everywhere I have been always a cat or doggie come to me and I always feed them, and stroke, talked to them and cuddled to them. And here is one dog, oldie Dzekus and four cats. Birds also I feed.” (homeless living at the Catholic parish, working for a rector of the parish)

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Invisibility – under cover of work (proud from work)



„I do not have much work with igniting the stove. It is interesting. New generation of stove. I have here such small chair, and even it is so modern I keep an eye on the stove to nothing happen.” (homeless living at the Catholic parish, working for a rector of the parish, fascinated by the stove)

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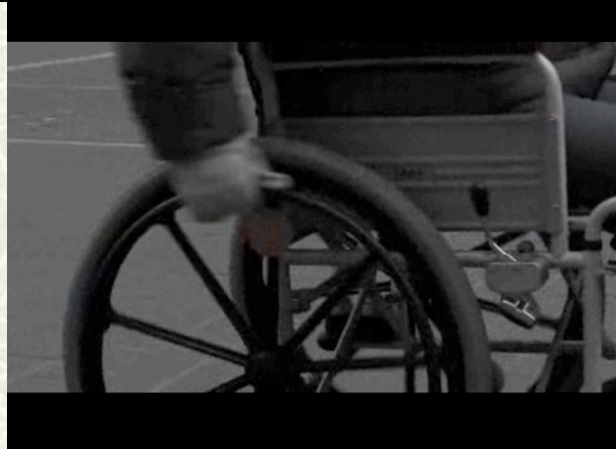
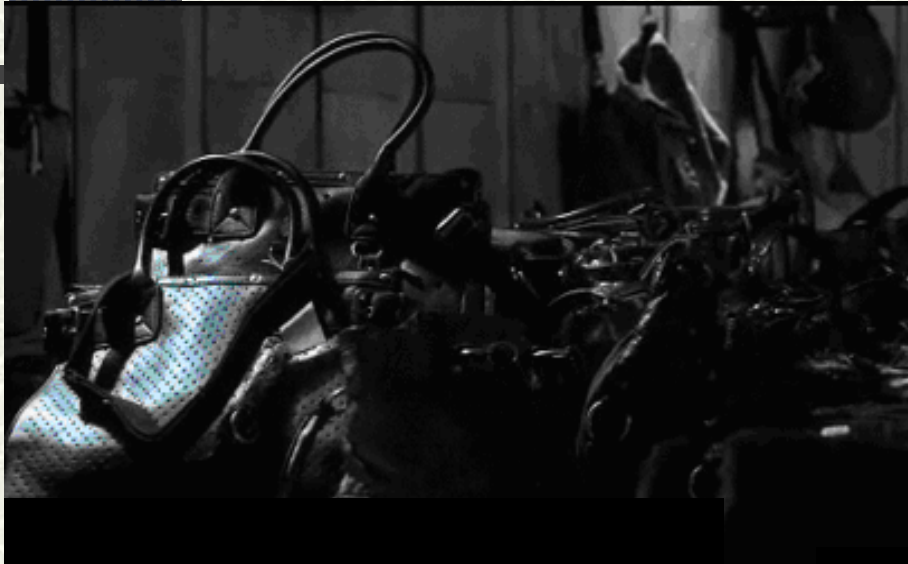
Esthetization of homelessness (movie „My name is Jarek” by Michał Środek i Paweł Piskorski, contrasting with nature) (<http://su8.pl/jarek/>)



„I was born in hospital and was abandoned at once. My mother done a career, singing in „Mazowsze” choir... She considered me as a mistake in her life... Later I got to the nun’s orphanage and was beaten with rosary, with a big rosary that they wear...”

There is esthetization proces done by **contrasting** of story about harsh life of the character with the calmness of nature where the homeless is fishing (at the audio background are singing birds).

Visual Esthetization of homelessness (movie by *Michał Środek i Paweł Piskorski*, contrasting with abundance, plus closing up) (<http://su8.pl/jarek/>)



There is esthetization proces done by **contrasting** of story about life of the character with the luxurious shop windows in the direct environment where homeless is begging (underpass) and with the main street in Łódź, Piotrkowska.

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Visual Esthetization of homelessness (movie continued, *contrasting with normality, cars on the street and workers*) (<http://su8.pl/jarek/>)



There is esthetization proces done by **contrasting** of story about life of the character with the normal life of the street: „Later my child was born. She (his woman) killed it. She was alcoholic. When I was at work she strangled the boy because it annoyed her. She was sentenced and went to prison. And I went to travel through Poland”

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Visual Esthetization of homelessness (movie continued, *contrasting with normality, prayers in a church, closing up of the legs of the character*) (<http://su8.pl/jarek/>)



There is esthetization proces done by **contrasting** of story about life of the character with the normal life of the street and with the religious institution. The authors use the common sense procedure of contrasting to underline the importance of some topics or problems.

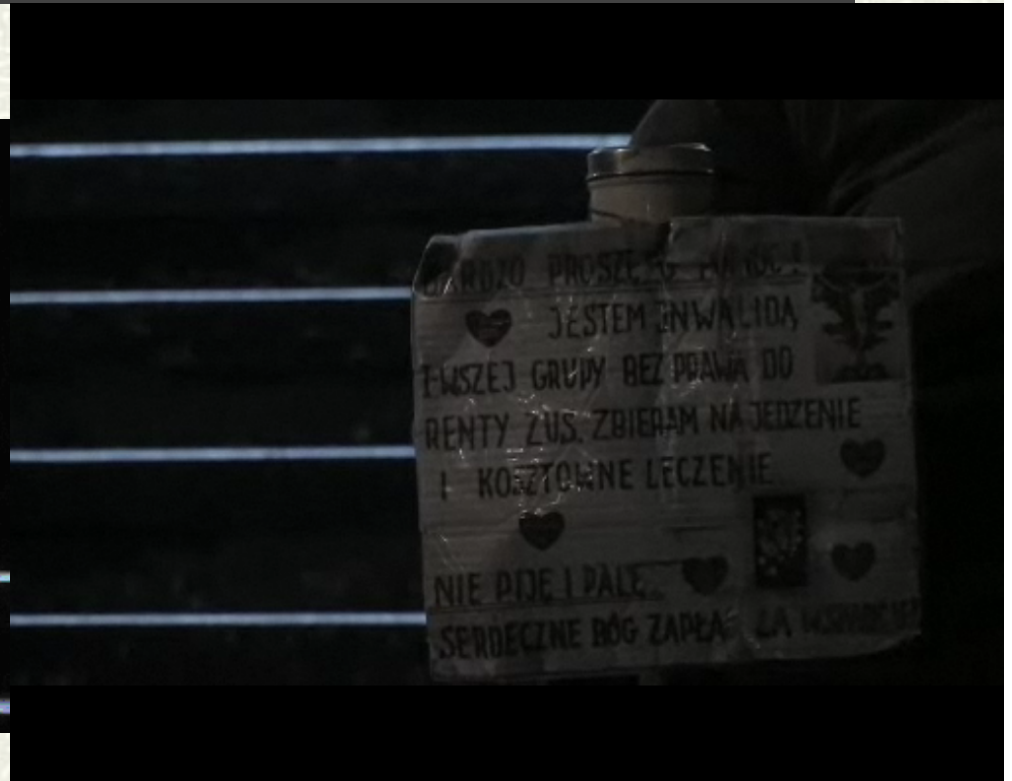
Esthetization of homelessness (movie continued)

„Typical scenes” from homeless life, begging, public places.



There is esthetization proces done by **showing „typical scenes”** from homeless life and typical places, i.e. public place as the underpass. However these scenes are streotypized. Generally homeless people do not want to beg (almost never admit to it), and want to be invisible.

Tactics of esthetization of homelessness (movie continued)
Closing up. Stereotype of typical homeless - beggar (props – a dog and a „calling for help paper”).



There is esthetization proces done by technical tactics as **closing up**, to the dog of homeless and to the sheet of paper with following inscription: „I am asking for the help very much. I am handicapped person without the rights to the pension. I am collecting the money for food and costly treatment. I do not smoke and drink. God Bless you for support!”

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Tactics of esthetization of homelessness (movie continued)

Closing up of injection. Stereotype of typical homeless – with health problems, showing the illness



„I got to know that I have a cancer, my bones were attacked... And once again I landed at the railway station...”

Tactics of esthetization of homelessness (movie continued)

Closing up. Stereotype of typical beggar (props –collecting box, wheelchair)



There is esthetization proces done by technical tactics as **closing up**, the collecting box fixed to the chair. Story at the same time is continued: „I did not believe in anything, I believed in the strenght of my fists and in the stealing, when I did not earn on the street. I have already atoned (ABBÜßEN) for it.” (at the soundtrack we can hear religious songs).

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Tactics of esthetization of homelessness (movie continued) Closing up. Concentration on food, stereotyping continued...



The food is cheap, 1 kg 0,6 Euro (offal: lungs, windpipes, etc.)

Tactics of esthetization of homelessness (movie continued)
Contrasting (praying people in a church) and exemplification of memories (showing the objects from the past).



The memories could be exemplified by some visual images connected with the narrated stories or facts (The Baltic Sea). „Later I went to Gdynia. I lived at the boulevard. There were the meetings of the nazists. I heard very often how they shouted Sieg Heil! Sieg Heil! Later they went to the city and hunt for homeless. They did cleansing...Later came the day of nervous breakdown, I wanted to kill myself...”

Esthetization. The happy end – leaving the homelessness; images of coming back to the „civilized nature” (semi - romantic view).



Marek found a carer and live in her apartment. At the end of the movie we see the pictures from nature where Marek is fishing and with his carer they prepare a barbecue party.

The last words of the story: „I want to be quiet. We must dream. The dreams keeps us alive.

(Only 3% of homeless people leaves homelessness.)

Krzysztof T. Konecki

Esthetization. The social advertisements. Verbal Emotional appeal and visualization of cold weather outside.



„They say that the death by freezing is the most beautiful. Because the man is so cold. So when he is dying he is getting warmer and warmer. www.bezdomni.pl this is the only one address that we have, help to homeless people.” (text from advertisement)

<http://www.bezdomni.pl/movies/bezdomni30.mpg>

<http://www.kampaniespoleczne.pl/kampanie.php?>

[kampania_id=221&action=szczegoly&PHPSESSID=a9d7ff8f067a9](http://www.kampaniespoleczne.pl/kampanie.php?kampania_id=221&action=szczegoly&PHPSESSID=a9d7ff8f067a9)

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Esthetization. The social advertisements. Verbal Emotional appeal and visualization of cold weather outside, and death.



The character has at the background the bridge and river. He is speaking: “The last winter 250 persons were frozen to death. (light the candle). www.bezdomni.pl this is the only one address that I have. (darkness, candles at the background under the pillar of the bridge). Help to homeless people.” (text from advertisement)

<http://www.bezdomni.pl/movies/bezdomni15.mpg>

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Conclusions

- # Visuality of homelessnes life is connected with contrasting of „normals and homeless people”
- # „Atmosphere of waiting” is the pattern of interpretation coming from the photos
- # Conditions of life could be better described by „pictures” than by oral descriptions
- # There is concentration on present time perspective

Conclusions

- # Invisibility – the visual research uncovered the „invisibility” dimension of homeless everyday life.
- # Esthetization of homelessness is done by combination of visual and oral devices (contrasting stories/words with different visual images).
- # The esthetization is connected with using contrasting device (with nature, normals, abundance), stereotypes (begging, concentration on food), emotional appeals, romantic view of nature, and technical visual devices as closing up, exemplifications of memories.

Homeless visual view, / Esthetic view

focus on everyday life/ focus on problems,

Practical approach / stereotypes

- ✦ Confined space, lack of privacy
- ✦ „street work” (collecting things)
- ✦ Invisibility (covering up, shame)

- ✦ „Waiting atmosphere” (bedding, benching, kerbing, walking).
- ✦ Mainly present time perspective
- ✦ Food
- ✦ Contrasting naturally „natural differences” -

- ✦ Illness,
- ✦ „begging” and emotional appeals
- ✦ Visibility (for presentation of problem)

- ✦ Suffering and death (emotional appeals)
- ✦ Possibility of homeless leaving, future perspective
- ✦ Food
- ✦ Contrasting for creating the emotional appeals

Thank you very much!

QSR



Krzysztof T. Konecki



Thank you

Krzysztof T. Konecki
