

Homelessness and COVID-19: A Comparative Approach

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In the wake of COVID-19, there were widespread fears concerning the vulnerability of those experiencing homelessness, resulting in governments around the world spending unprecedented sums of money on accommodating this population. Whilst there has been consensus regarding the need to provide shelter, the approaches taken to providing shelter seem to have differed from one country to the next, each representing a different form of poverty management.

The present study seeks to compare the approaches to poverty management taken in the context of COVID-19 in Edmonton, Alberta and Bristol, England. Specifically, it will focus on the management of the homeless population in the two cities. Whilst the project is still in its infancy, this paper will: compare the cities of Bristol and Edmonton, evaluate the housing policies in these two geographical contexts, draw out useful points of contrast and comparison, and consider potential directions for this research project.

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