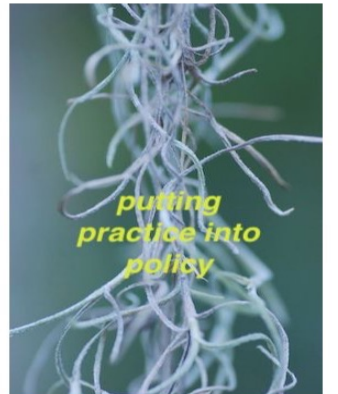


"Mutual Appreciation"
A social innovation
thinkpiece



https://percapita.org.au/our_work/mutual-appreciation-a-social-innovation-thinkpiece/

Exploring ways mutuality and cooperation support ageing



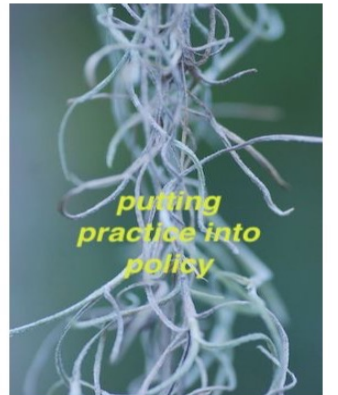


Challenges of an ageing population

- Declining homeownership
- The care deficit: lack of carers, lack of family proximity, lack of funding prioritization
- Social isolation, "loneliness pandemic", physical vulnerability

Gendered retirement

- Women average half the savings of men
- Live longer, but with more chronic health conditions
- Housing is a key tipping point
- 55+ women now the cohort most at risk of homelessness
- Gaps and failures in superannuation, housing and care outcomes.



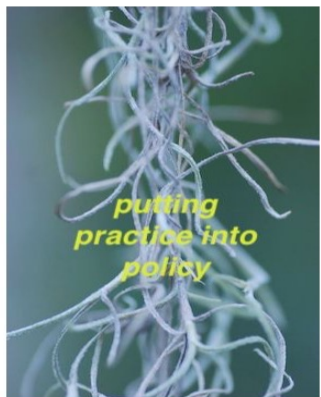


Collective solutions?

'Homeshare' - small-scale cohousing, where weekly support is given to homeowner in lieu of rent

Older Women's Co-Housing (UK) – medium-scale social cohousing community, 15-25 units with some shared facilities

Timebanking: a reciprocal volunteering model supporting older people





"Mutual Appreciation" Our findings:

Homeshare:

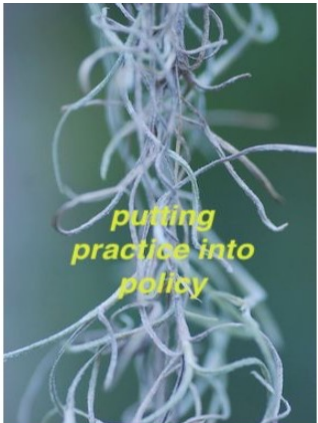
"Great, but not for me"

Timebanking:

*Mixed, with concerns about the
transactional shaping of
volunteering*

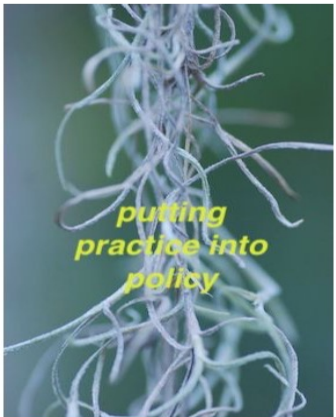
OWCH:

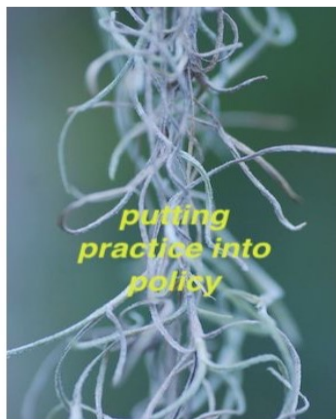
"I'd move in tomorrow!"



'Home'...as a social relationship

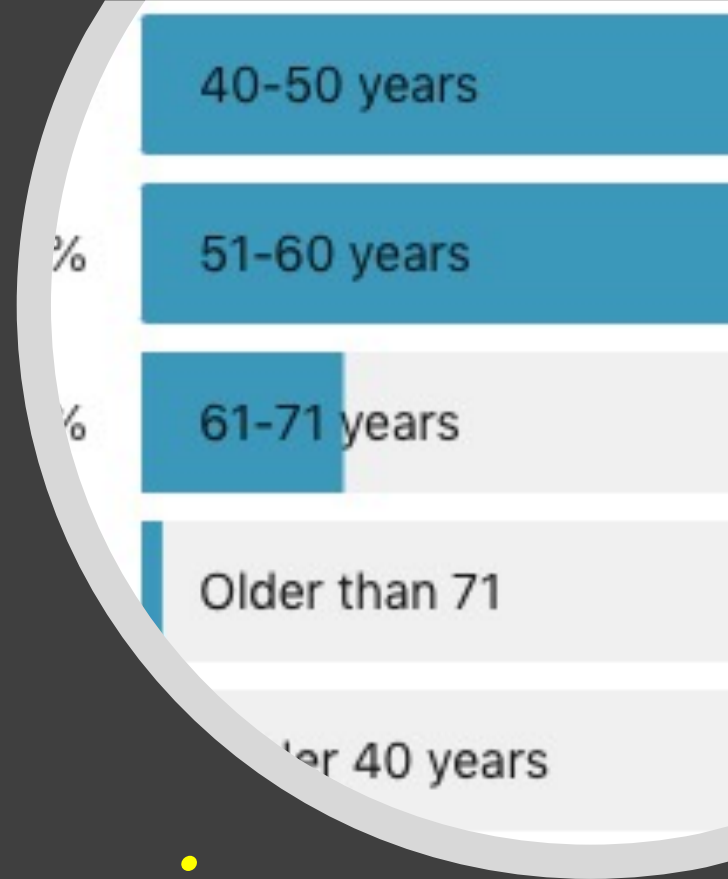
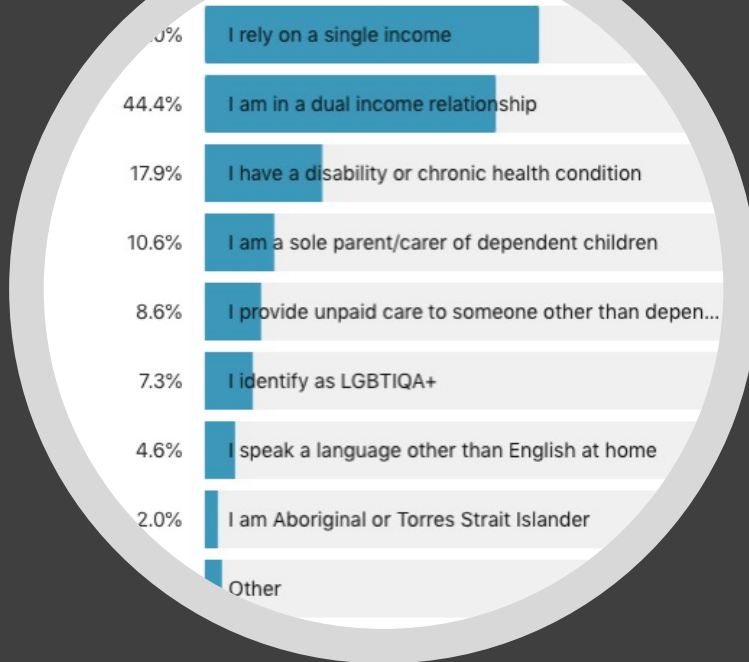
- Autonomy and privacy
- Formal and informal opportunities to connect
- Shared purpose
- Contributing skills
- Meaningful social role
- Reciprocal (dependency)



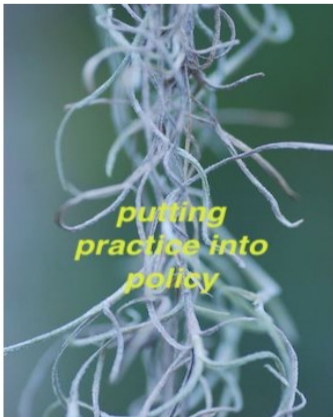


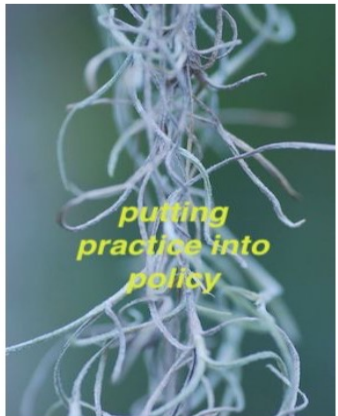
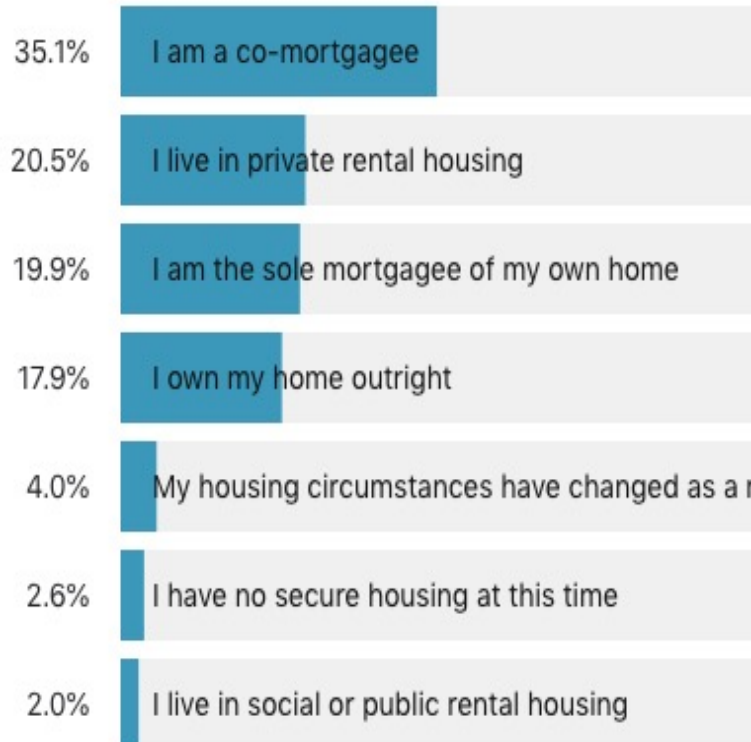
Rethinking 'ageing in place'

Shared costs and responsibilities: *economic*
Conviviality, companionship and purpose: *social*
Ecological rationale: repurposing well-built
suburban housing stock; growing food locally,
sharing vehicles/cycles; kinship and community



*Gendered pandemic:
with long-term (housing)
implications from the
"shecession"*



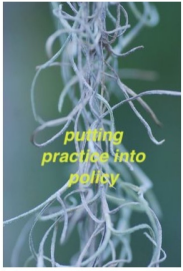


I was told I had to leave where I was living, which was connected to that person's anxiety about Covid-19

Was living alone in CBD, renting. Still renting but now with my daughter. Affected mental health living alone during lockdown.

Had to move twice

I was renting with my defacto. The pandemic made his controlling behaviour much worse; this and the pandemic, badly impacted my mental health. I tried to commit suicide. After 3 weeks in hospital, I packed everything up and moved to Melbourne where I rent a flat with one of my sons.



Publicly- funded
cohousing;
transformative grants;
bedrock support
(Common Equity; CHIA
Vic) universal design
(modifications),
sustainable



- **Lifetime neighbourhoods**
- **Neighbourhood networks over global economies: Buurtzorg, care cooperatives, Timebanking etc.**



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"Generation Expendable?"

due July 2021