

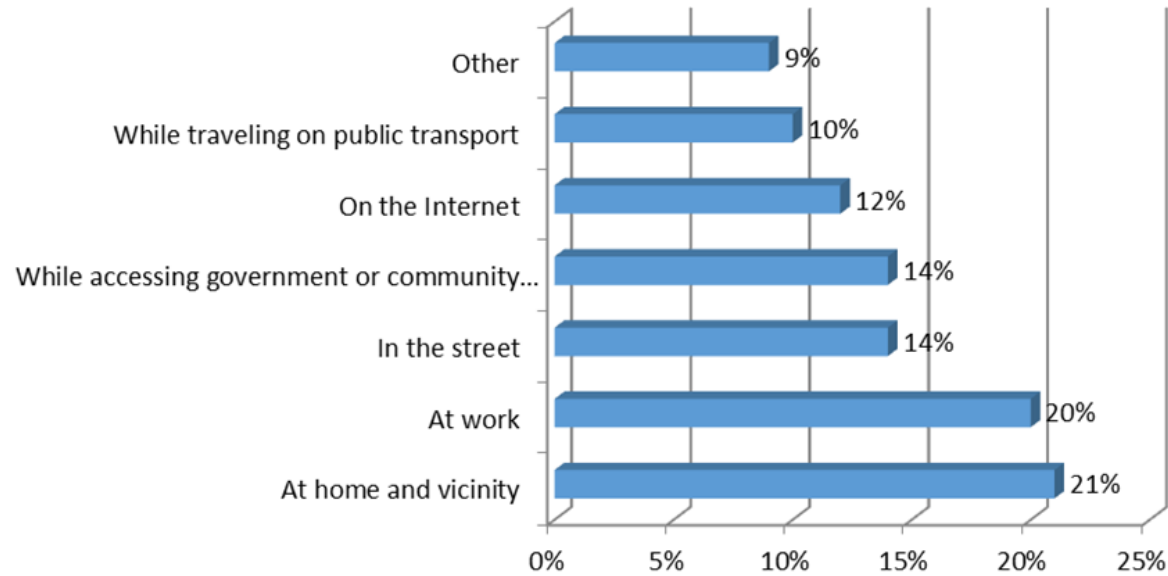
Racially motivated anti-social behaviour in social housing in Ireland

Teresa Buczkowska
Immigrant Council of Ireland

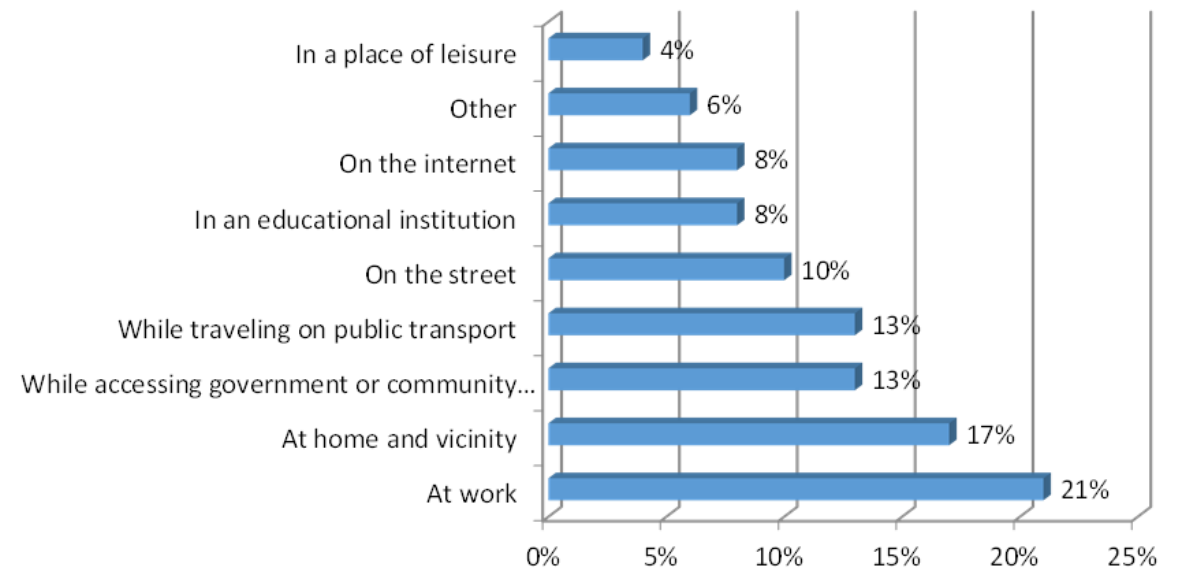
Immigrant Council
of Ireland



ICI statistics of all racist incidents for 2013



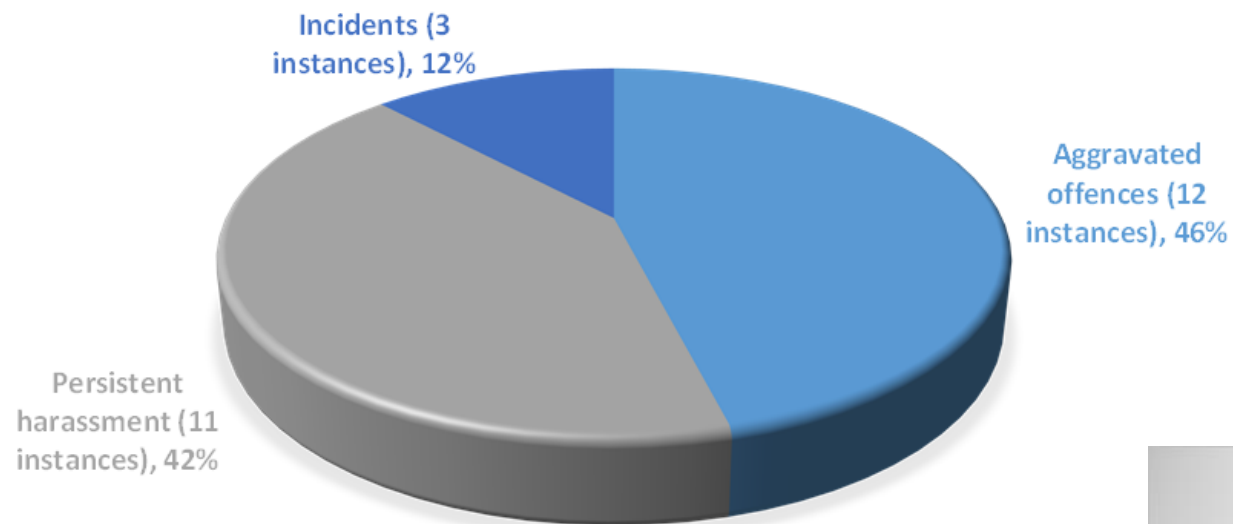
ICI statistics of all racist incidents for 2014



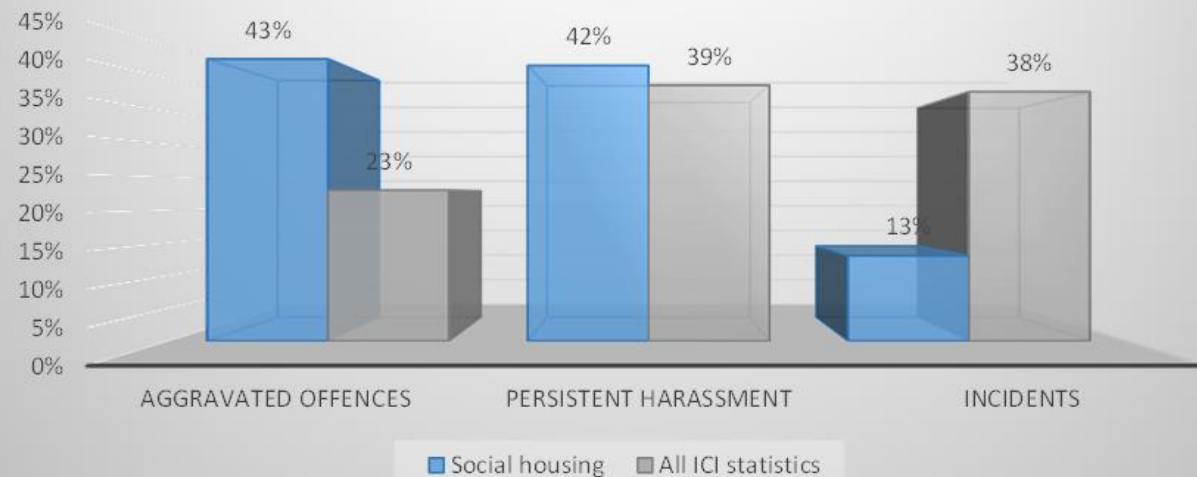
Racism in housing 2013-2014

- 54 cases in total (198 victims)
 - 26 cases in social housing
 - 16 private rented accommodation
 - 12 accommodation owned by the victims
-
- 92% victims in social housing experience ineffective interaction with the authorities

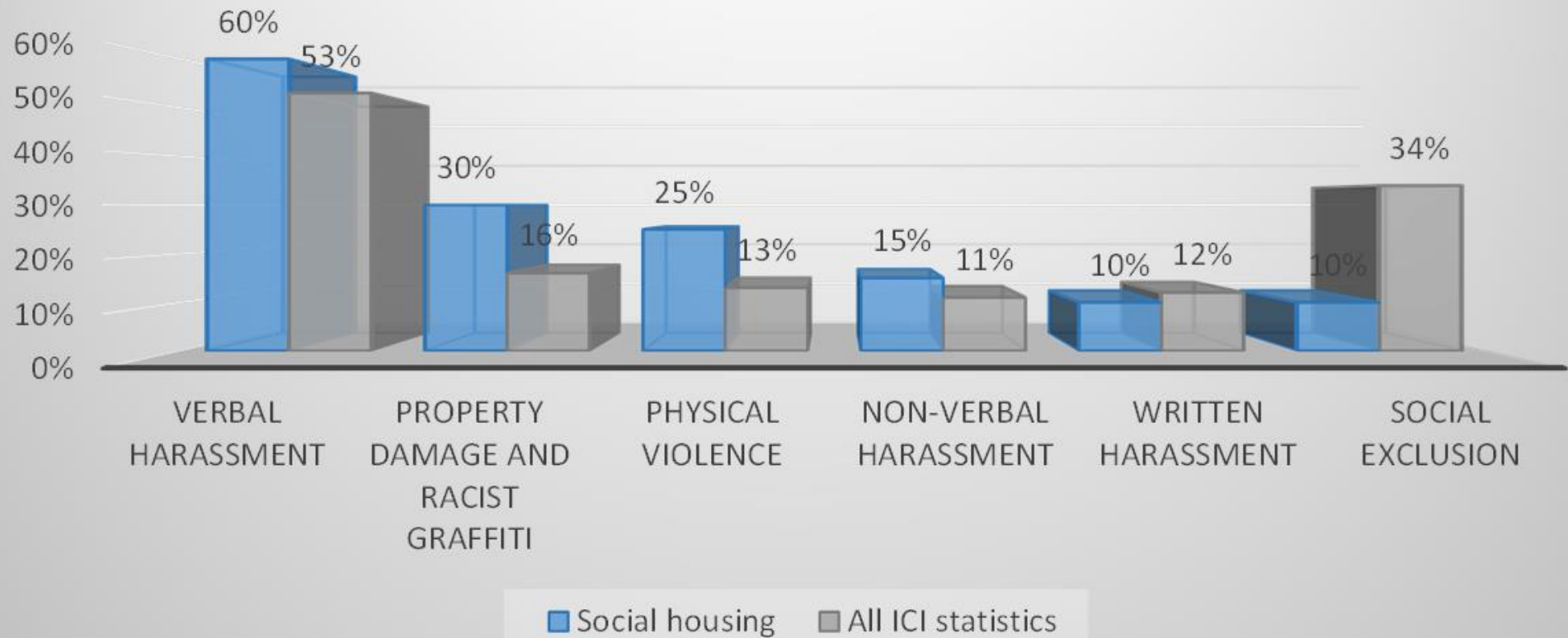
CLASSIFICATION OF RACIST INCIDENTS IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014

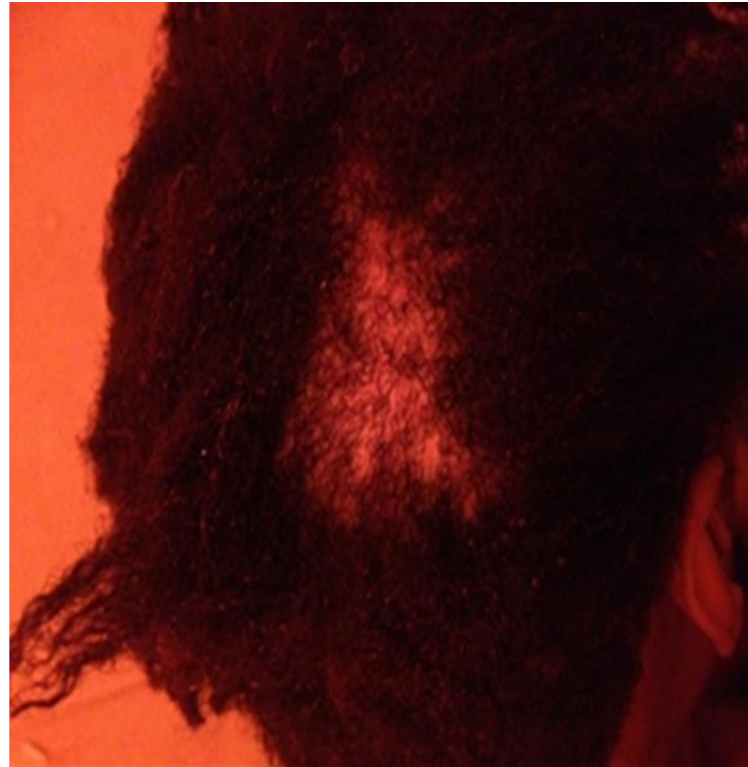


CLASSIFICATION OF RACIST INCIDENTS: ALL ICI STATISTICS VERSUS SOCIAL HOUSING STATISTICS 2013-2014

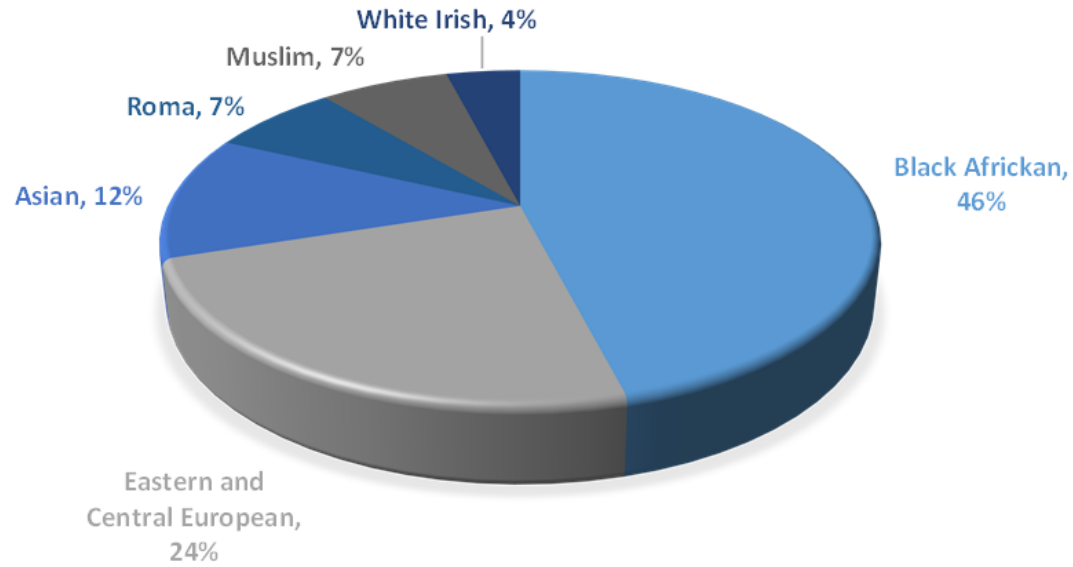


NATURE OF RACIST INCIDENTS IN SOCIAL HOUSING VERSUS ALL ICI STATISTICS 2013-2014

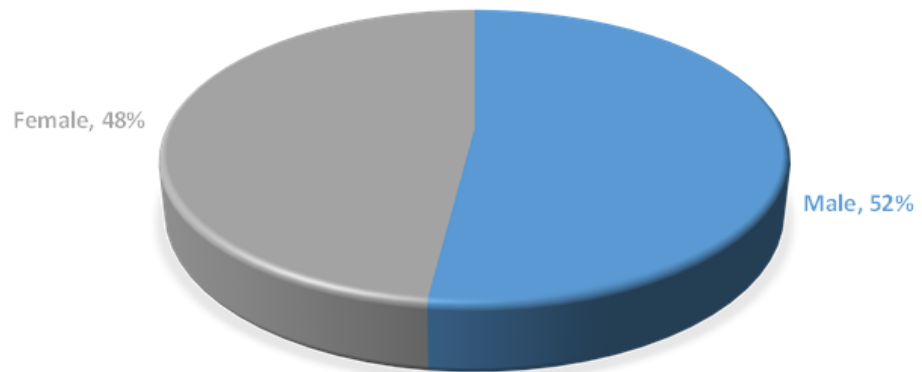




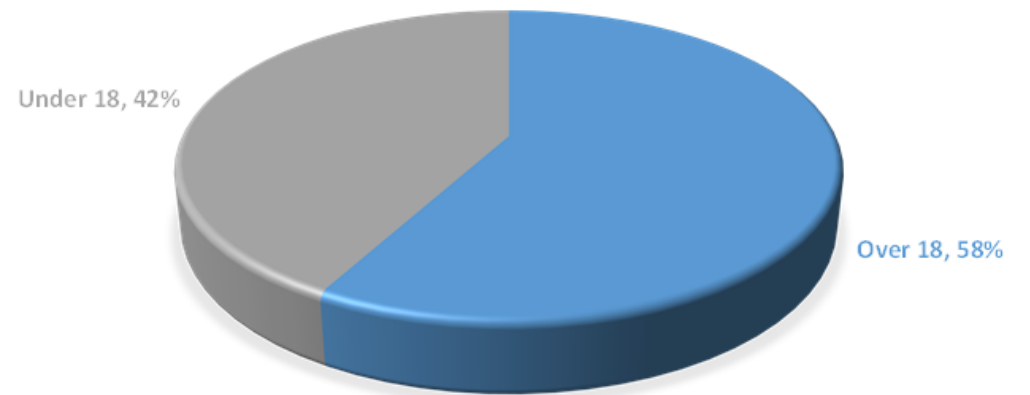
ETHNIC BACKGROUND OF THE VICTIMS OF RACISM IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014



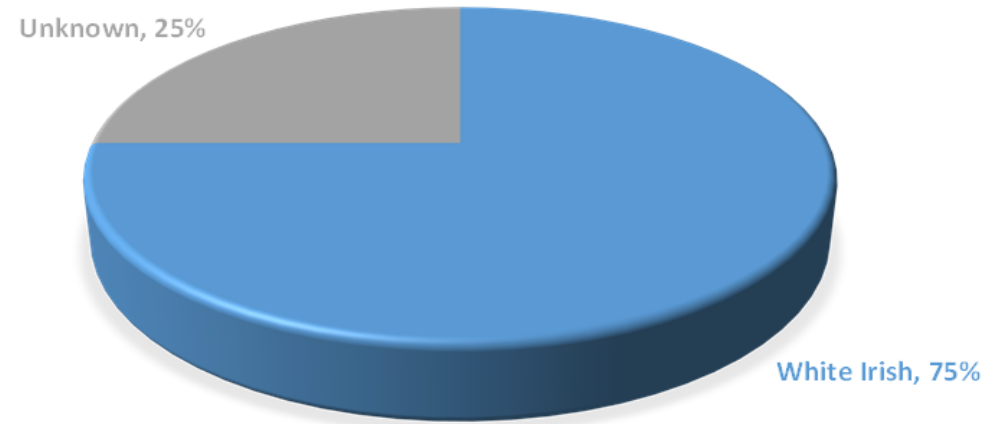
GENDER OF VICTIMS OF RACISM IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014



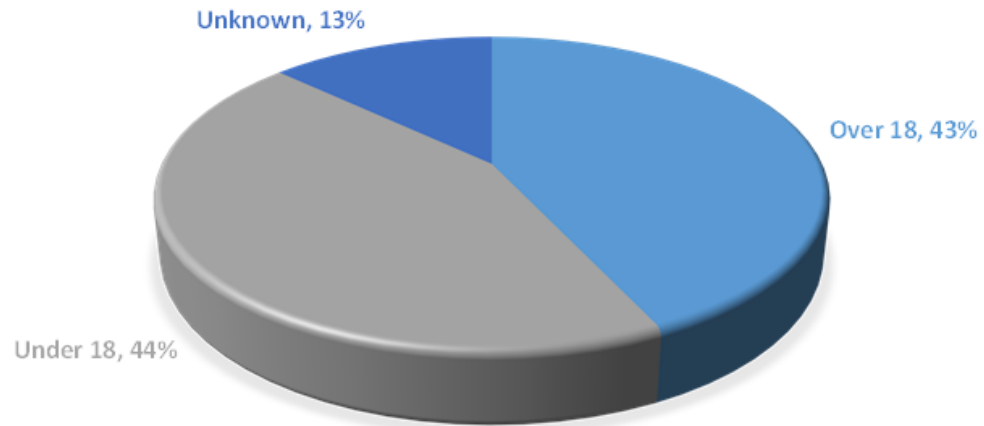
AGE OF VICTIMS OF RACISM IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014



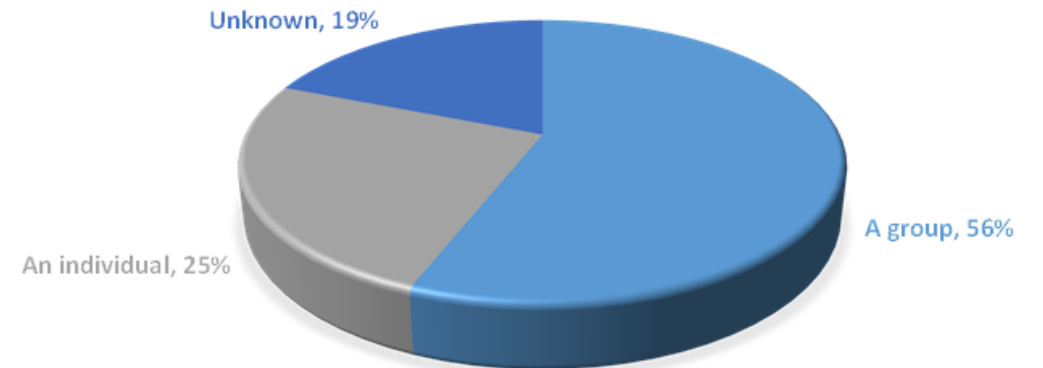
ETHNIC BACKGROUND OF PERPETRATORS OF RACISM IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014



AGE OF PERPETRATORS OF RACISM IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014



THE MANNER IN WHICH RACIST OFFENCES HAVE BEEN CARRIED OUT IN SOCIAL HOUSING 2013-2014



The impact of racism in social housing

'My kids are scared, they do not eat and are crying at night. They are afraid to go outside the house, my son cries and doesn't want to go to the school because he is afraid. This is a horror what is happening here. I'm afraid for my family, my partner is neurotic. I already cannot withstand mentally. I'm afraid that there will come the moment that I go to this group of minors and I start to fight with them, and I do not know how it will end' (Lukasz 2014).

Is racism an issue in social housing?

- *'it's never been an issue' (P9)*
- *'it's not in the forefront, it's not a part of the daily life of the complex' (P6),*
- *'the number of people coming from outside of Ireland would be incredibly small' (P6).*

Lack of data on nationality and ethnicity

- DCC does not register nationality: *'we don't identify non-nationals on our waiting or letting lists'* (P11).
- A dearth of official data in terms of allocations by nationality in particular areas

Why is not seen as an issue in social housing?

- **Racism is underreported**
- The question of confidentiality can deter people from making complaints.
- The absence of 'racially motivated' from the definition of ASB:

Action regarding complaints taken by LAs

- The ICI clients reported slow progress with the complaint and investigation process, lack of understanding, often changes of the area managers, incidents have not been correctly recorded in the file
- The issue of transfers on Exceptional Social Grounds (ESG) is contentious, lack of supply, sending wrong signal

The role of the Guards

- The length of time for a patrol care to arrive
- Failure to take a case seriously or record it properly
- The weakness in Ireland's current legislative structure to pursue racism as a crime
- Few examples where the intervention of the Guards was positive

Conclusions

- Racism in Housing situated in the broader legislative context
- Absence of the definition of racism in the ASB strategy
- Failure to take racism seriously, lack of training
- Victim support
- It is everyone's business, multi-agency approach

Where do you see your department on the journey?

- Discomfort about the issue / denial
- First signs of a problem / acknowledgment
- First attempts to resolve / action
- Multi-agency approach / strategic partnership

What would help you
move on your journey?

Name/Email address

- What are your next steps? (Your organisations next steps).
- Would you like ICI's support in addressing this issue? When to contact you to follow up?
- Something good in your area
- Any reflection on the day?