

Housing & Health Research Seminar Series

The Collaboratory for Research on Urban Neighbourhoods, Community Health and Housing (CRUNCH) at McMaster University invites you to attend this free series of informal seminars on research related to housing and health.

Urban Renewal and Health:

The effects of the Neighbourhoods Law on health and health inequalities in Barcelona



Dr. Roshanak Mehdipanah

Large-scale urban renewal projects are gaining importance as a way to improve the physical, social and economic situations of neighbourhoods. However, due to their complexity and limitations in evaluation methods, there is little evidence linking their effects to health and health inequalities. The purpose of this study was to use a mixed-methods approach to evaluate the effects of the Neighbourhoods Law, one of Europe's largest urban renewal programs to date, on the health and health inequality of residents.

A quasi-experimental design was applied to study poor self-rated health and mental health in Barcelona while comparing them to non-intervened neighbourhoods with similar socioeconomic characteristics. The analysis was also stratified by occupational social class to study health inequalities. In addition, Concept Mapping (CM), a qualitative method, was used to explore the perceptions of residents in intervention neighbourhoods, towards changes that had occurred in their neighbourhoods and their effects on wellbeing.

The results of the study showed that the Neighbourhoods Law had a positive effect on the wellbeing of residents. Furthermore, the use of mixed methods in evaluation contributed to a better understanding of how, why and for who large-scale programs work.

**Tuesday March 24,
2015**

12:30 – 1:30 PM

TSH 112 B

(Togo Salmon Hall, Main Campus)

See crunch.mcmaster.ca for more information, including maps.