

ANTHONY HALL

Exploring the psychological impact of Covid-19 on whānau and individuals in social housing or experiencing homelessness

The central aim of this research is to explore how the Covid-19 pandemic and associated lockdown measures in New Zealand have affected whānau and individuals living in social housing or experiencing homelessness. Secure housing for whānau and individuals is widely recognised in literature as being fundamental to healthy communities, and provides a foundation for people to achieve citizen engagement, cooperation, and wellbeing. Access to secure housing not only affects the health and wellbeing of citizens but may also have an impact on a nation's economy. The World Health Organization housing and health guidelines explain that poor health outcomes, due to people living in insecure housing, often results in financial difficulty. Contextually, when communities have a significant number of citizens without secure housing: "This creates a cycle between poor health and household, local and national economic outcomes". In the context of Aotearoa New Zealand, one indicator of the prevalence of individuals and whānau struggling with housing insecurity is the number of applicants on the New Zealand Social Housing Register. As of January 2022, the Government Housing Dashboard showed an increase of 9,578 applicants on the register since March 2020.

Outputs: 1) Ethics approval received, 2) draft methodology chapter to be sent to supervisor

Supervisor - Dr Ottilie Stolte

