

Social studies

One-step-forward-two-step-back game

Sleeping on the sofa

You have been kicked out by your parents because you row with them all the time. You are staying with friends, but it has become a strain as you are sleeping on their sofa and there isn't much room. You're missing out on sleep and your training scheme is threatening to sack you for coming in late.

The questions:

- Do you feel safe in your accommodation tonight?
- Do you feel secure with your housing for the next three months?
- Do you think things will be sorted out in a year or so?
- Do you feel this accommodation meets your needs?
- Do you think anyone will lend you money if you needed it?
- Do you think you will be able to find somewhere else to go?
- Do you have people you feel you can turn to?
- Do you feel that you are fine in other areas of your life?
- Do you think any agencies, charities or services will help you?
- Can you see things getting better soon?

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Rough sleeper

You are a young, rough sleeper with substance abuse problems. You have been on the street for six months and are broke.

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Asylum seeker

You are a young asylum seeker who has just arrived in Britain after being persecuted in your own country. You do not speak any English.

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- Do you think you will be able to find somewhere else to go?
- Do you have people you feel you can turn to?
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Single parent

You are a single parent with two children living in a council flat. The property is too small and you have another child on the way. Your neighbours have made complaints about your children's behaviour, and the council have threatened to take action.

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Lost your job

You have recently been made redundant because the company you worked for went bust. You have applied for housing benefit to help pay the rent until you find a new job, but an administrative problem at the council means the money hasn't come through yet. You can't afford to pay the rent from your savings, and your landlord is threatening to evict you.

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Stuck in one room

You and your partner are living in bed and breakfast accommodation. You feel you can't cope in just one room anymore, but have been told by the council that nothing more is available in the short term.

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