



HOMELESS WOMEN AND SMALL CHILDREN

FEHÉR, Boróka (BMSZKI)





DATA FROM THE NEEDS ASSESSMENT OF BMSZKI FEMALE SERVICE USERS

N=304; survey in April + July – August 2018

Women

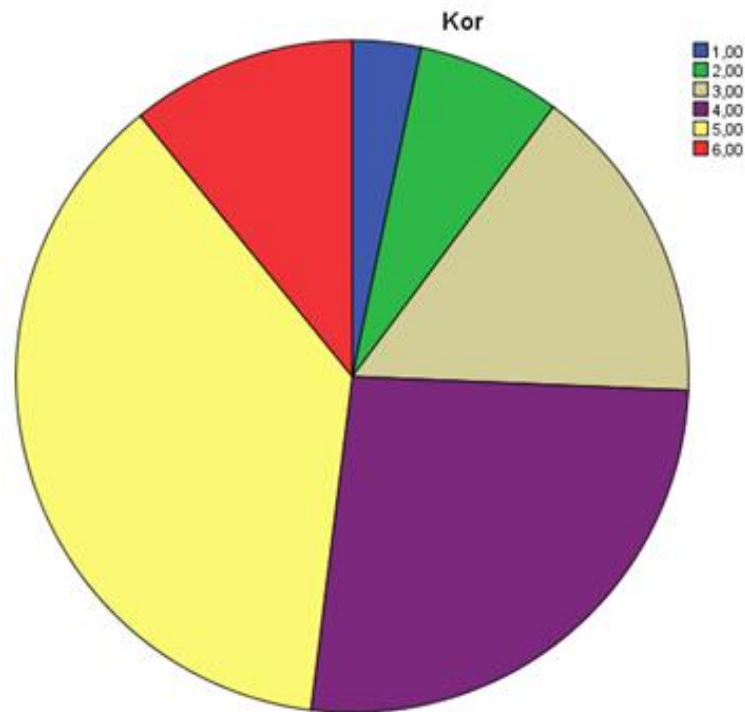
- using day centres (and sleeping rough) (19)
- sleeping at emergency shelters (156)
- sleeping at hostels (129)

+ 21 women from the family temporary accommodation (13 mothers, 8 teenage girls)

(577 women using our night services in the first week of August)



AGE DISTRIBUTION OF WOMEN



1	25-
2	26-35
3	36-45
4	46-55
5	56-65
6	65+

CONTRACEPTION, PROTECTION FROM STD

How to ask the question?

- Do you have a sexual partner? - 31% said yes (16/19 women in day centres/sleeping rough)
- Do you use contraception?
- Do you use protection against STD?
 - 47 women said: „Not really”, „No need for it, I cannot have children”, „I have only one partner”
 - 3 women were pregnant and 1 said she wanted to become pregnant
- The women in the temporary accommodation for families use contraception more (even teenagers) and are aware of what is available

PREGNANCIES

- ❑ Have you been pregnant since you have become homeless? 36 **EVERY EIGHTH WOMAN!**

Out of the 100 women under 45 years of age 30 had been pregnant

- ❑ Have you had an abortion since you have become homeless? 20

- ❑ Have you had a miscarriage since you have become homeless? 19

- Lessons:

- Sensitive topic – work with staff on how to talk about this issue
- Need to raise awareness
- Walk the women through the whole process
- Month of contraception (like „Dry November”)

CHILDREN

45 women have 91 children under 18.

23 kids – no contact

15 kids – 1-6 times in 2017

47 kids – more than 6 times

Age of kids	#
14-18	24
6_14	41
<5	27

Most children live with foster families or institutions.

18 children live with family members (father, grandparents, relatives)

2 children have been given up for adoption

WHAT DO YOU NEED TO BE ABLE TO VISIT YOUR CHILD MORE OFTEN?

- * Financial support – tickets to travel there (20 women) – even within the city of Budapest

- * Counselling on child welfare issues (9 women)

- * A place to stay together with the child (temporary accommodation for families OR A PLACE WHERE THEY CAN BRING THE CHILD FOR A VISIT) (9 women)

- * Gifts for the child

- * Fear of the father of the child



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

