

Abstract (in English)

The presented dissertation focuses on investigating the relationship between social housing and the quality of life of its users. The aim is to determine whether social housing programs provide residences that enable users to live the life they aspire to. The study draws inspiration from the expectations concept proposed in 2020, which captures the principles of the philosophical and economic capability approach. Quality of life is assessed by potentialities, defined as the lifestyles achieved by users. This study also theoretically anchors the phenomenon of homelessness and delves into social housing's segment, the role of local self-government, and the strategies for implementing social housing systems.

A deductive qualitative analysis serves as the research methodology, with findings derived from 32 semi-structured interviews with program participants and housing support social workers. The study uncovers the social reality of local social housing users and their pursuit of a valuable life. The research confirms the enhancement of so-called housing freedoms among program users and describes the potentialities achieved through access to standard housing. It identifies conversion factors that either enhance or jeopardize housing users' quality of life. Notably, 73.3 % of users experience harmonious expectations leading to a comprehensive recovery from homelessness. In contrast, 13.3 % have stereotypical expectations, underscoring the role of adaptive preferences, and another 13.3 % face unsaturated expectations, placing them at risk of housing loss and persistent inadequate living conditions (n = 18 households). The study also sheds light on the values associated with a good life within the housing context.

In the discussion, these findings are situated within a broader theoretical dialogue on life quality and housing freedoms. The dissertation posits significant theoretical and practical implications for developing effective social housing programs, emphasizing housing loss prevention and the role of social work in this sector. In conclusion, the dissertation enriches the academic discourse on social work related to housing and offers innovative perspectives on researching social programs in the Czech Republic.