The Everyday Life of ”Hidden Refugees” in the City of Göteborg, Sweden

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"On the Doorstep"

A qualitative urban study about the everyday life of ”hidden refugees” in the city, with a theoretic focus on how spatial practises depend on how individuals relate to people around them.


Empiric data containing:

• 20 in dept interviews
• the respondents “personal maps” of Göteborg
• notes from “walkalongs”
• notes from observations at voluntary organizations
The definition of “hidden refugees”

People who...

- ...once applied for asylum
- ...got their application rejected
- ...refused to be sent back to the country they came from
- ...chose to stay in Sweden although their case was passed over to the police

– defined by the authorities as “having gone underground”
Points of departure in my analysis:

1. THE HOME  2. THE CITY  3. THE STATE
Points of departure in my analysis:

1. **THE HOME**
   - Social relations
     - Family, friends, neighbours etc.
     - friends or foes?
   - Spatial practises
     - The home as a shelter or a prison?
     - Does people spend time at home?

2. **THE CITY**

3. **THE STATE**
Points of departure in my analysis:

1. THE HOME

2. THE CITY

3. THE STATE

Social relations

Strangers

– Protectors, harmless or informers?

Spatial practises

– Does people move freely in the city?

– Where do they feel safe?

– How do they act in public?
Points of departure in my analysis:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1. THE HOME</th>
<th>2. THE CITY</th>
<th>3. THE STATE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Social relations</strong></td>
<td>Bureaucrats &amp; voluntary workers</td>
<td>Fellowmen or professionals/benefactors?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Spatial practises</strong></td>
<td>– How are the offices designed?</td>
<td>– How does hidden refugees act in those environments?</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Thank you for listening!

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