

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

**Helena Holgersson**

Department of Sociology, Göteborg University

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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.

– estimated to be published in 2008.

## **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*

## *2. THE CITY*

## *3. THE STATE*

### *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?

# *Points of departure in my analysis:*

## *1. THE HOME*

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### *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:*

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### *Social relations*

Bureaucrats & voluntary workers  
– Fellowmen or professionals/  
benefactors?

### *Spatial practises*

– How are the offices designed?  
– How does hidden refugees act in  
those environments?

*Thank you  
for listening!*

**Helena Holgersson**, postgraduate student

Department of Sociology, Göteborg University, Sweden

E-mail: [helena.holgersson@sociology.gu.se](mailto:helena.holgersson@sociology.gu.se)