
Ending poverty, abolishing inequality

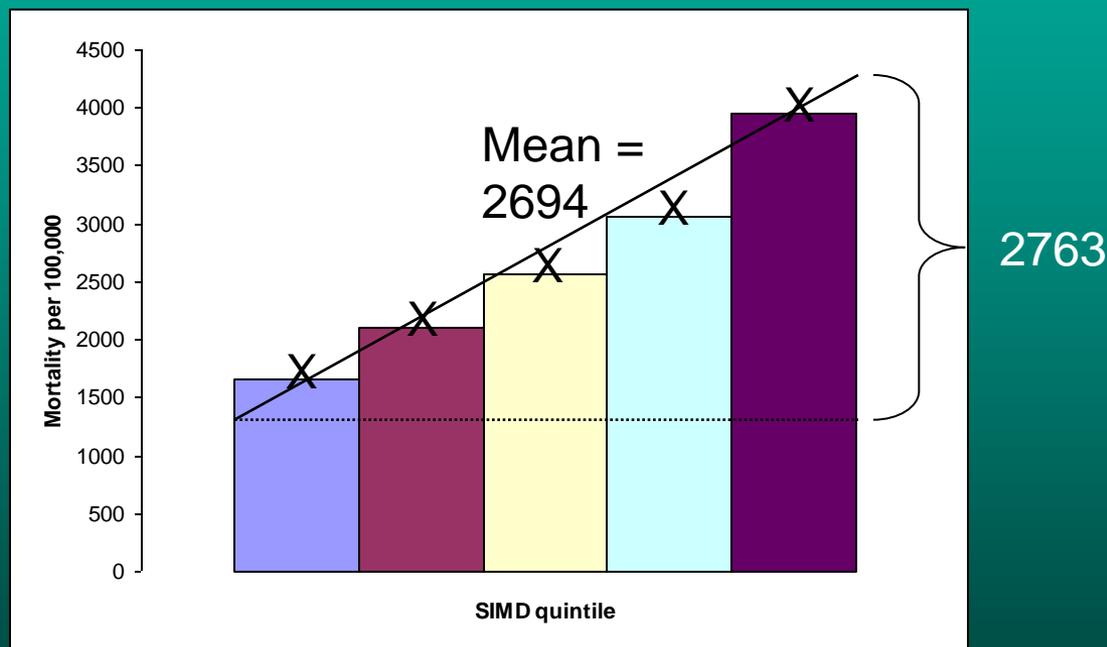
Time for us all to act?

The pathogenesis paradigm

- ◆ “Health is a complete state of physical, mental and social wellbeing and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity”

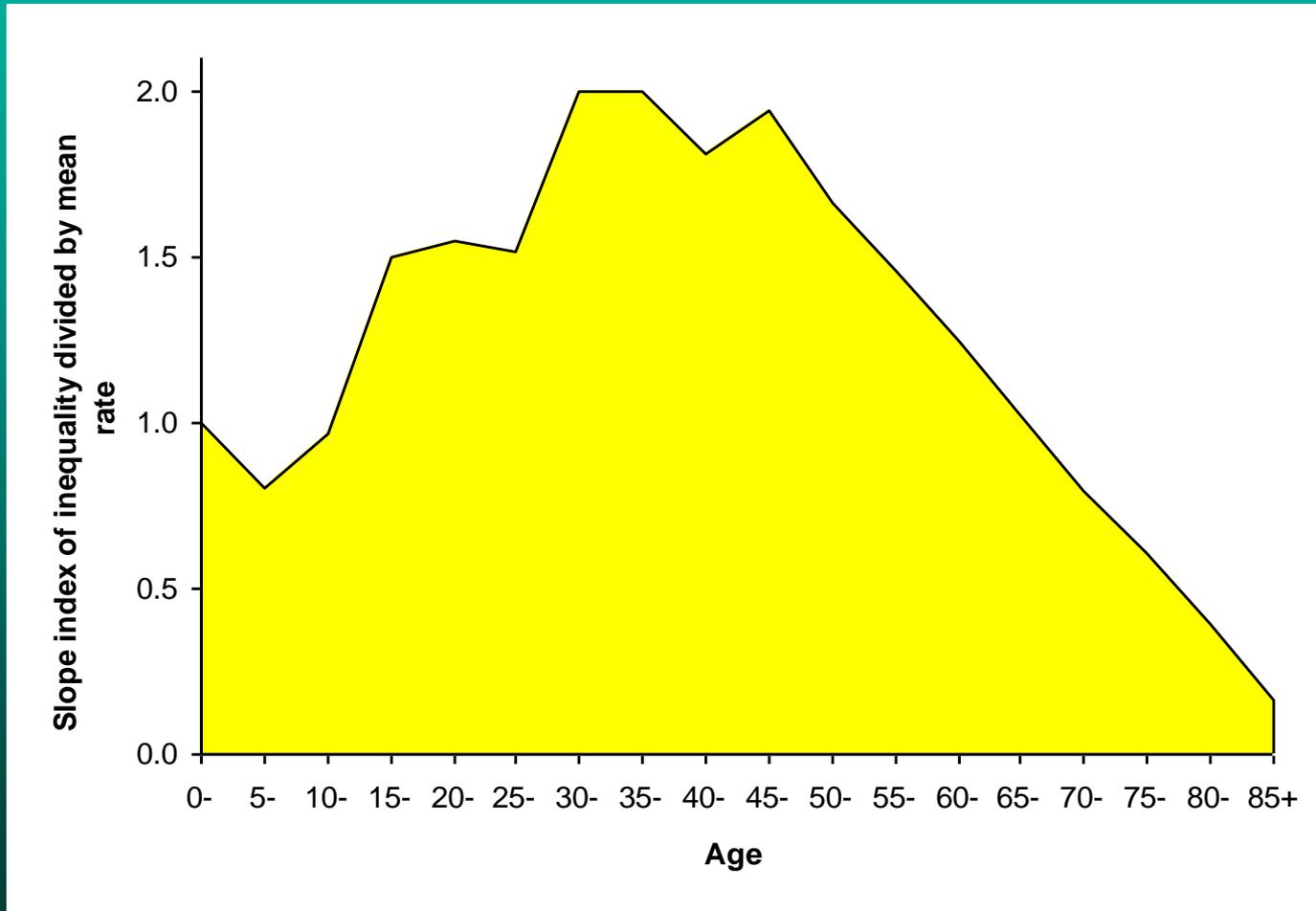
WHO 1948

Slope index of inequality

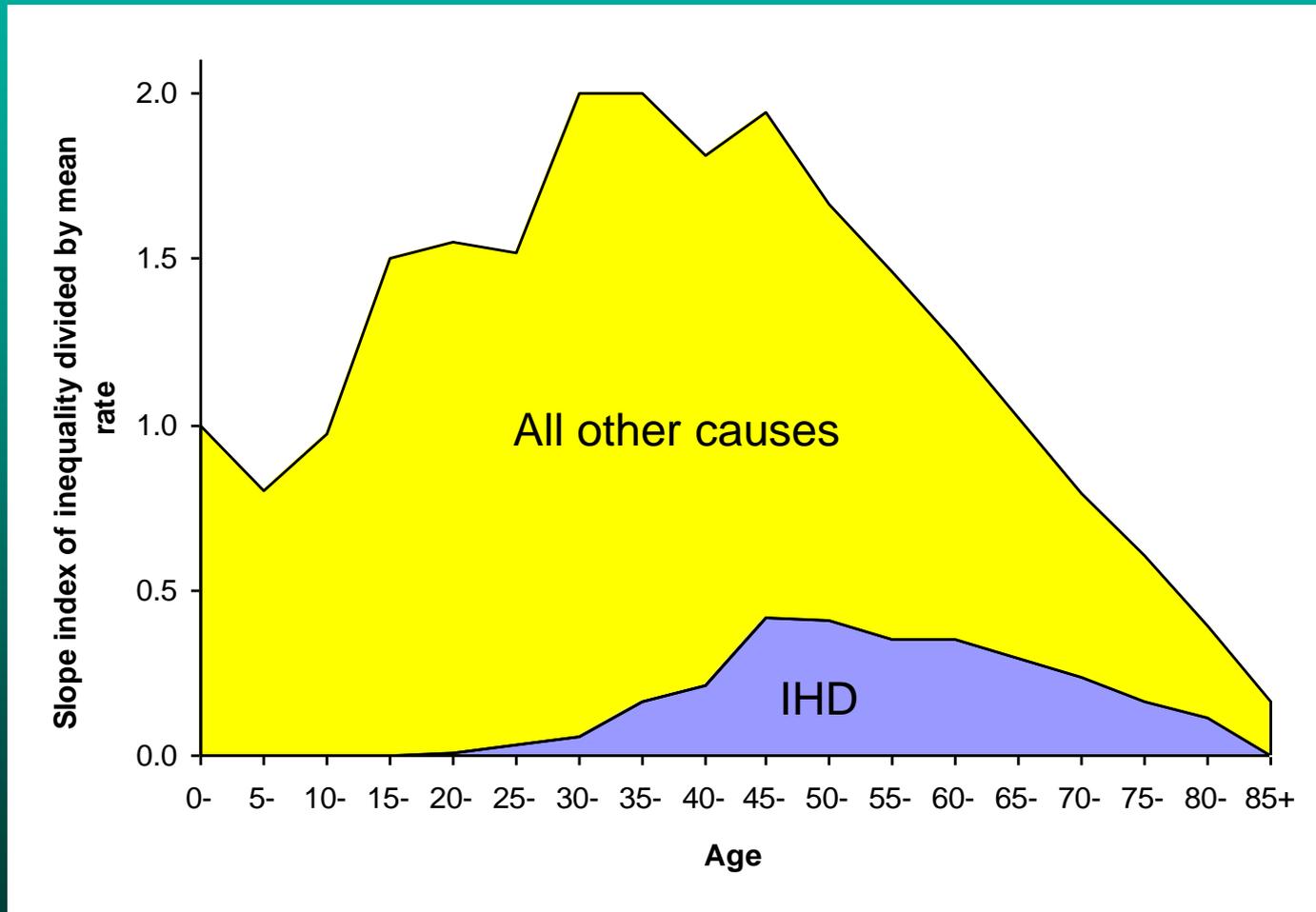


All cause, M65-69
 $2763/2694 = 1.025$

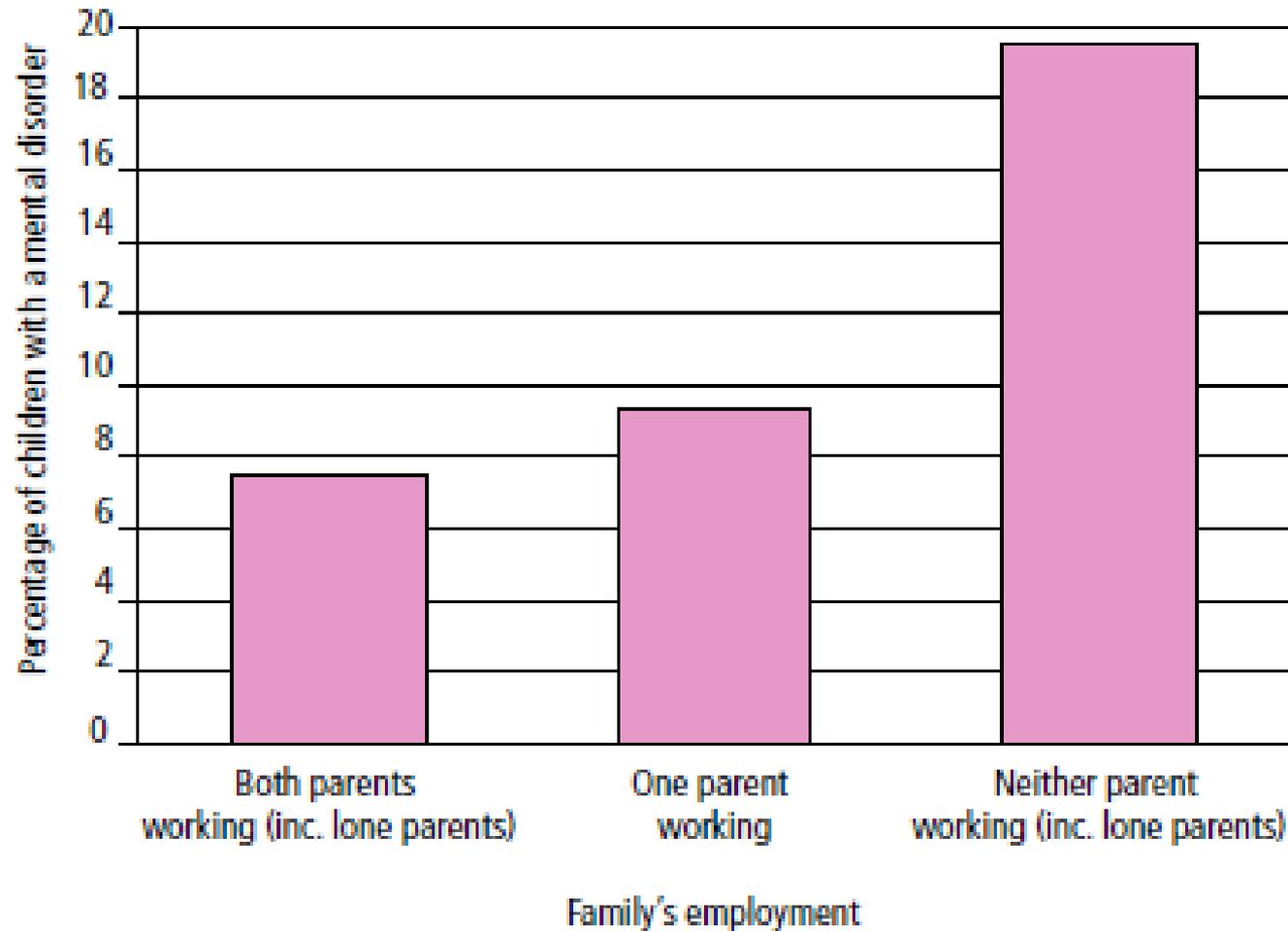
Male inequalities, all causes, all ages



Male inequalities, all ages, by cause



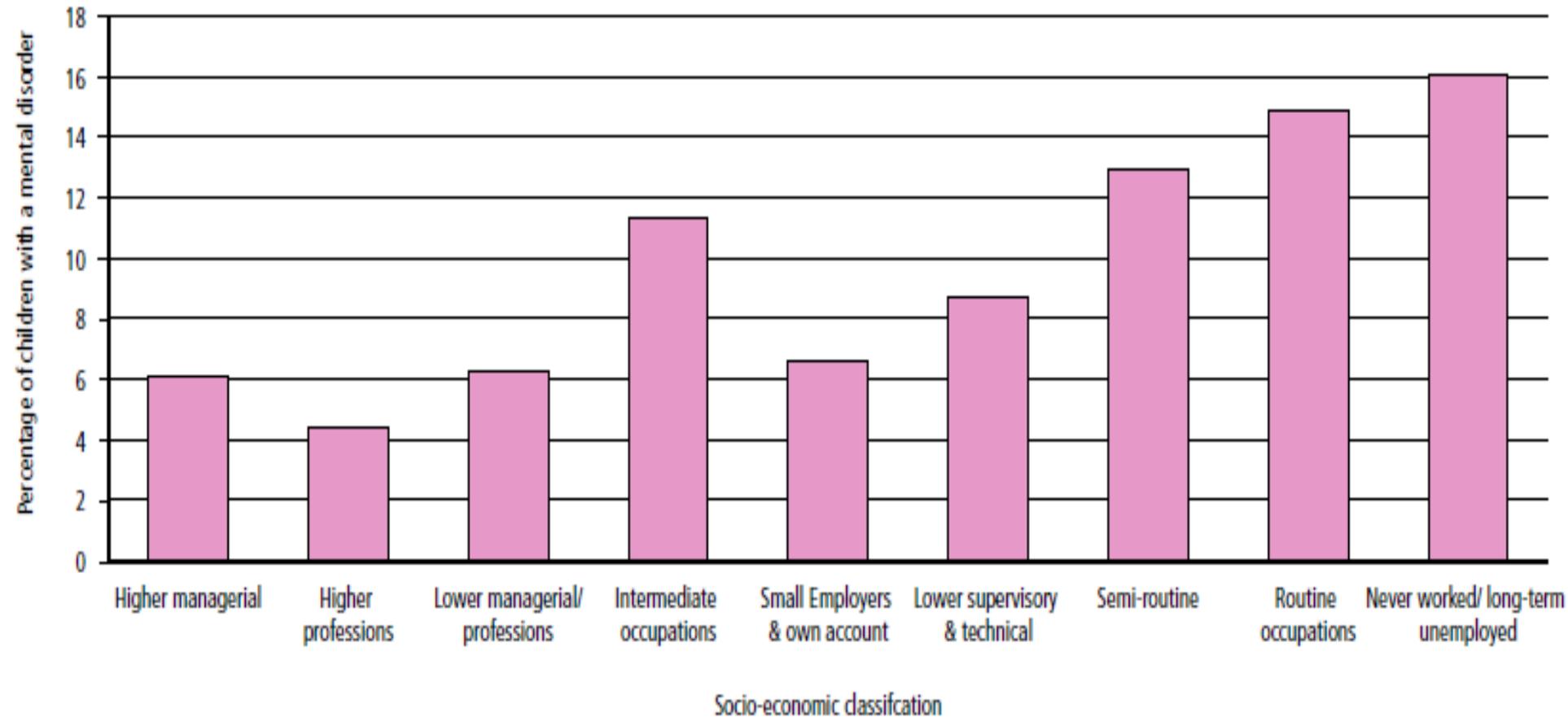
Mental health and Employment



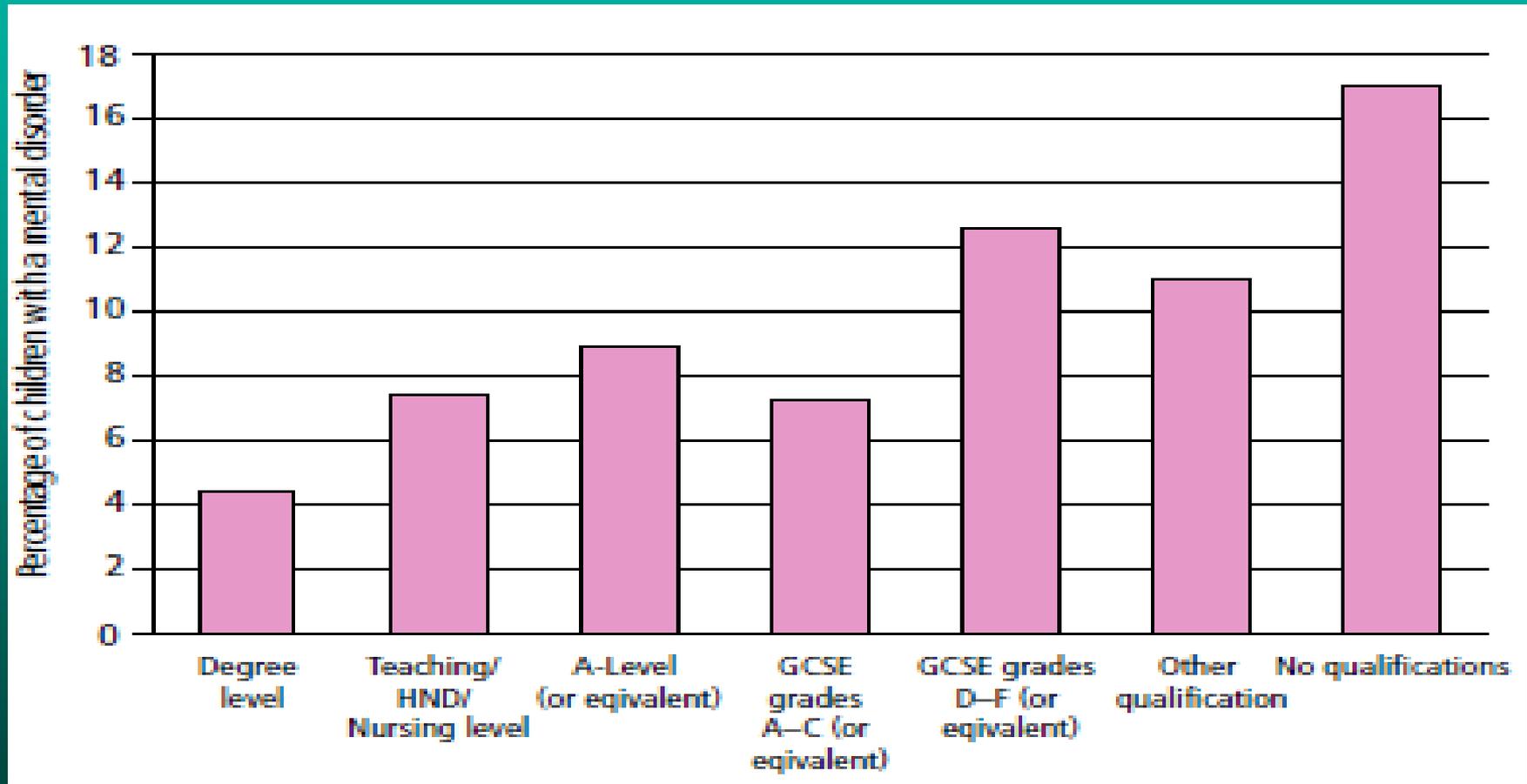
Weekly income



Socioeconomic classification



Educational qualifications



The cycle of alienation

Initial event

Unequal outcomes

Consequences

Mental
health
problems

Loss of self efficacy,
esteem,
control

Chaotic early
years

In
education
offending
health

Worklessness
Poverty

Alienation



Aaron Antonovsky 1923-1994



Sense of coherence....

“.....expresses the extent to which one has a feeling of confidence that the stimuli deriving from one's internal and external environments in the course of living are **structured, predictable and explicable**, that one has the **internal resources to meet the demands posed by these stimuli** and, finally, that these demands are seen as **challenges**, worthy of investment and engagement.”

Health Deficits approach

- ◆ We tend to focus on people's problems, needs and deficiencies
- ◆ We design services to fill gaps and fix their problems
- ◆ They become passive recipients of services
- ◆ We do things to people rather than with them.

Functions of a system

- ◆ To allow a few people to control many
 - eg. Captain of a ship, pilot of a plane
- ◆ Allows production of a great deal of the same thing
 - Goods or services
- ◆ Needs to create consumers or clients
 - ie *Creates* need

Wheatley Group - “Think Yes”

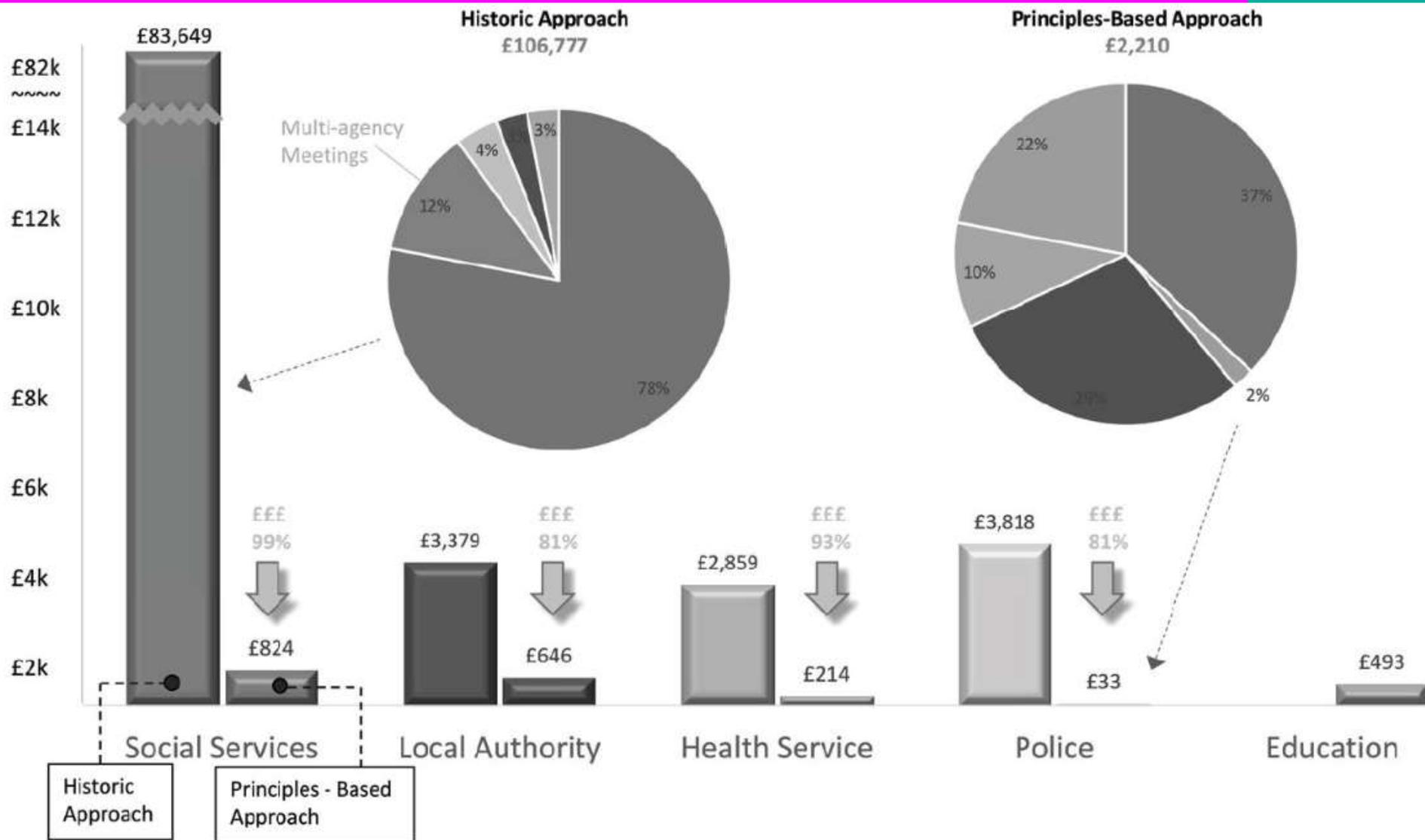
- ◆ “Think Yes” is about empowering our staff to make personalised solutions for each customer, using their initiative and professional judgement and resolving customer issues “on the spot”. Our staff take a great deal of pride in ensuring that any blockages for effective service delivery are removed and share these solutions with each other.”

Beacon and Old Hill Estate (Falmouth)

- ◆ Between 1996 and 2004....
 - Crime down by 50%
 - Post natal depression down by 70%
 - Unemployment down by 70%
 - Child protection registrations down 65%
 - Teenage pregnancies down from 14% to <1%

Cost analysis

Comparing historic approach to new approach



-
- ◆ Give everyone a home
 - ◆ Give everyone a basic wage
 - ◆ Cut bureaucracy and let people help people

The Dutch homelessness initiative

- ◆ February 2006 – budget €216m
- ◆ October 2008 – 6,500 people housed, rough sleeping reduced by 65%, Drug usage down by 50%
- ◆ Financial crisis. Budgets cut. Homelessness rebounds
- ◆ Economic analysis – programme saved the government 3 euros for every 1 spent

100,000 Homes

Home → Our Manifesto

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OUR MANIFESTO

Homelessness in America is a public health emergency. The mortality rate for street homelessness is on par with some forms of cancer, cutting a person's lifespan by an average of 25 years.

Meanwhile, the publicly funded health costs of allowing people to remain on the streets exceed the cost of permanent housing by tens of thousands of dollars per person. With more than 90,000 Americans experiencing chronic homelessness, something has to change.

The time has come to stop managing homelessness and start ending it.



Housing First

- ◆ “The only lasting solution to homelessness is permanent housing. Far too often, however, we attempt to treat the symptoms of homelessness instead of its root cause.”
- ◆ Countless studies have shown that we must offer housing first, not last, if we want to help people out of homelessness.”

Know who is out there

- ◆ Every homeless person is identified by name by someone who assesses their health and vulnerability.
- ◆ Volunteers go out on the streets at night and waken and get to know the rough sleepers.
- ◆ The most vulnerable are prioritised for immediate housing

End homelessness

- ◆ In most cases, the solution to homelessness is apparent – it's implementing it that often proves challenging. Most communities have no clear, intentionally developed process for moving homeless people to permanent housing quickly. Forms, applications and interviews produce stress and delay

The Broadway experiment

- ◆ City of London
- ◆ 13 rough sleepers with 4-45 year history
- ◆ Personalised budget (up to £3000)
- ◆ Personalised support
- ◆ “What do you need?”
- ◆ Build trust and sense of control and ability to make choices

The Broadway experiment

- ◆ “The most efficient way to spend money on the homeless might be to give it to them.”
- ◆ The Economist November 4th2010

“Just give money to the poor”

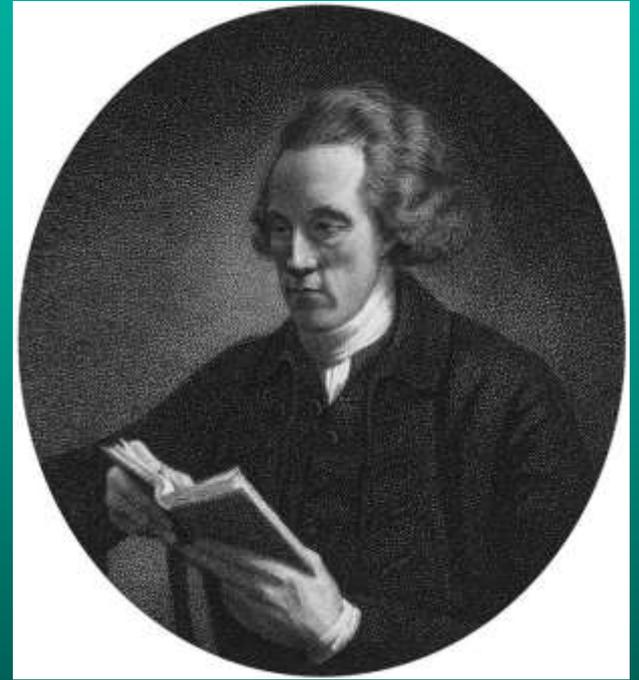
- ◆ Malnutrition down from 42% to 10%
- ◆ Childhood illnesses significantly reduced
- ◆ School attendance up from 58% to 90%
- ◆ Crime down by 42%
- ◆ Possession of livestock up 58%
- ◆ Incomes up 38%

US and Canada

- ◆ Mincome, Canada – reduced domestic violence, better mental health, hospitalisations down 8.5%
- ◆ New Jersey – high school graduations up 30%
- ◆ However, in Seattle divorces increased 50%! (apparently)

Joseph Townsend 1739-1816

- ◆ “Hunger will tame the fiercest animals. “It will teach decency and civility, obedience and subjection ... it is only hunger which can spur and goad the poor on to labour.”



Money makes people lazy?

- ◆ “Some days we don't have anything to eat and we just go and sleep and get up again without eating.”
- ◆ Frida Nembwaya started to bake traditional rolls for just N\$1. Currently she is baking 200 rolls a day, seven days a week. People now have the money to buy from her. She is extending her shack and wants to employ somebody. She also added a small braiding business, sells local sausages and recharge vouchers for cellphones

JK Galbraith and 1200 economists

- ◆ “This country will not have met its responsibility until everyone in the nation is assured an income no less than the officially recognised definition of poverty.....the costs would be substantial but well within the nation’s economic and fiscal capacity.”

Letter to NY Times

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- ◆ “Targeting resources onto needs directs funding to professionals and to services, not to communities. The system needs needs.”

Cormac Russell, ABCD Institute

The conclusion from Mincome

- ◆ “The political right is afraid people will stop working and the left doesn’t trust them to make their own choices”

Prof Evelyn Forget

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- ◆ Go to the people, live amongst them. Start with what they have, build with them and when the deed is done, the mission accomplished, they will say: “we have done it for ourselves”.

–Lao Tze
600BC

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- ◆ “It’s not enough to have the great dream. We’re interested in people who want to wrestle it into reality.”

COLIN MACLEOD
Founder of Gal Gael