Seeing the Homeless: The Biography of a Street Person

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Abstract
Reviews the book, Stuart: A Life Backwards by Alexander Masters (see record 2006-08635-000). The greatest triumph in the work reviewed here is that the book provides the reader with an intimate, poignant, if often disturbing view of one homeless man in England. The biography reveals—without glorifying or victimizing—this one homeless person in all of his complexities and contradictions, his strengths and weaknesses. Stuart was not written specifically for psychologists or professionals of any discipline. It is a best-selling nonfiction book in England, the subject of a forthcoming Home Box Office/British Broadcasting Company drama, and a recently released book in the United States. Masters's primary purpose is to tell the story of how, when, and why Stuart changed from a “real happy-go-lucky little boy” (p. 5) into a “thief, hostage taker, psycho and sociopathic street raconteur” (p. 6). Although the book was not developed for psychologists, it yields important insights for researchers and practitioners in the area of homelessness, for community mental health providers, and for therapists who work with challenging-to-serve clients. The story of Stuart will be particularly illuminating for psychologists who serve clients with co-occurring mental health and substance abuse disorders, personality disorders, and history of childhood sexual abuse. (PsycINFO Database Record (c) 2007 APA, all rights reserved)

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Nursing Standard 2009; 23(49): 61.

Seeing the person
This award winning documentary about homeless people is frank, funny, and fascinating. These three words describe these unrehearsed conversations with people on the street. Filmed in the Los Angeles, Santa Monica, and South Bay areas, “The Homeless” is a non-judgemental look at the lives of these people as told by themselves. Are homeless people forced into this condition by the circumstances of their lives? Or are they simply petty bums, theifs, and vagrants? You decide. This docu won “Best Bicycle Production” at the 2001 Torrance Public Access Foundation Awards. Build your own opinion about homeless people living on the street by yourself now! The Homeless. What should you do if you see a homeless person? A warm greeting and a word or two can make all the difference. March 29, 2018. By Liam Geraghty. @Lazergun_Nun. Homelessness is still a very real issue. The sight of someone living on the streets is commonplace but there are a number of ways where you can have a big impact on someone’s life for a small investment in time. Taking action on homelessness. Homelessness puts an enormous strain on mental health with long hours of loneliness, isolation and sleep deprivation. The first way to help is simple one – speak up! A warm greeting, some simple small talk or even just asking a personal question can make all the difference. Don’t just take our word for it.