



What Does it Mean to be a Person Here? Or What Would Urban Planning for Health Look Like

Eamonn Campbell
Area Planner
Glasgow City Council



Overview

- The context of public health theory and practice: The “Glasgow Effect”?
- The context of a history of Govan
- The context of planning theory and practice
- Possible responses to the challenge of health, health inequality and urban planning in Govan / Glasgow

The Glasgow Effect?

- Health inequality
- Low life expectancy / high morbidity
- Spatial distribution of inequality / health inequality
- A factor greater than comparable former industrial regions in UK and Europe
- But why?

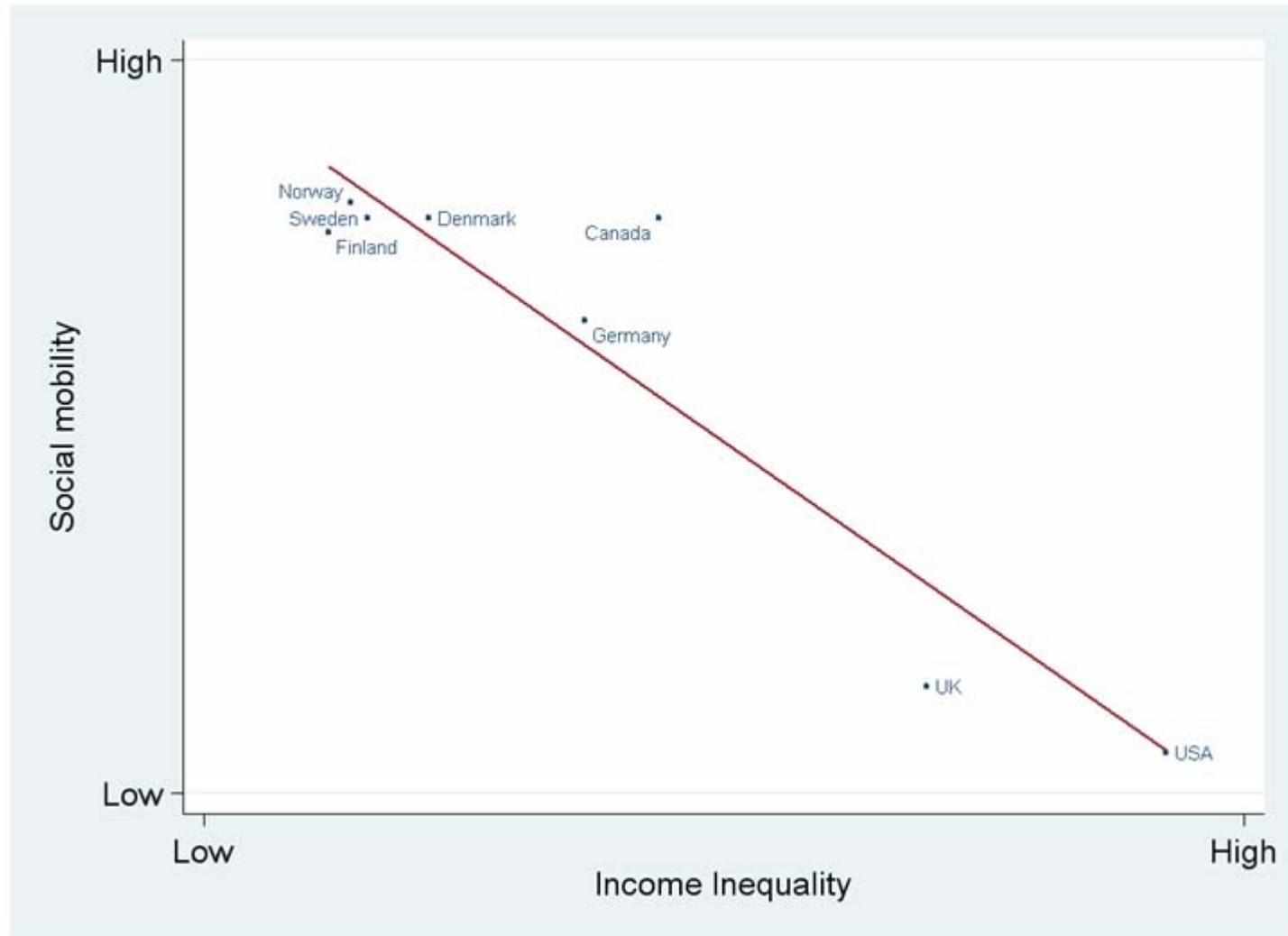
Salutogenesis

- Aaron Antonovsky
- What creates health rather what destroys it?
- What are the things that create the whole human condition within which an embodied person can fulfil their potentials – mental, physical, spiritual?
- People who are lucky to have these tend to be healthier

Considering Health as a Verb

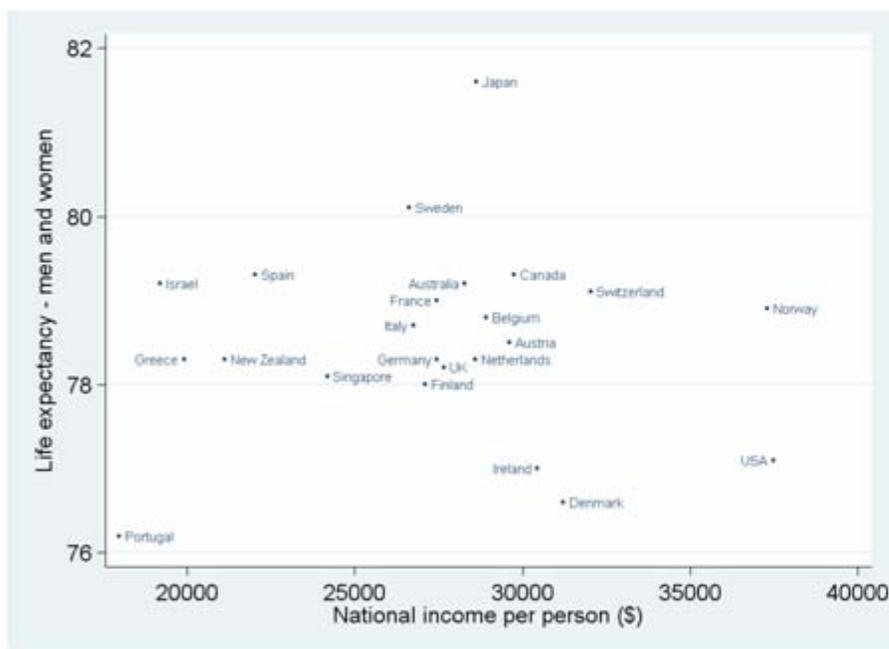
- The ability to respond to the circumstances of life
- This is primarily socially determined
 - Social structure
 - Social environment
 - Material factors
 - Work

Social Mobility is Higher in More Equal Rich Countries

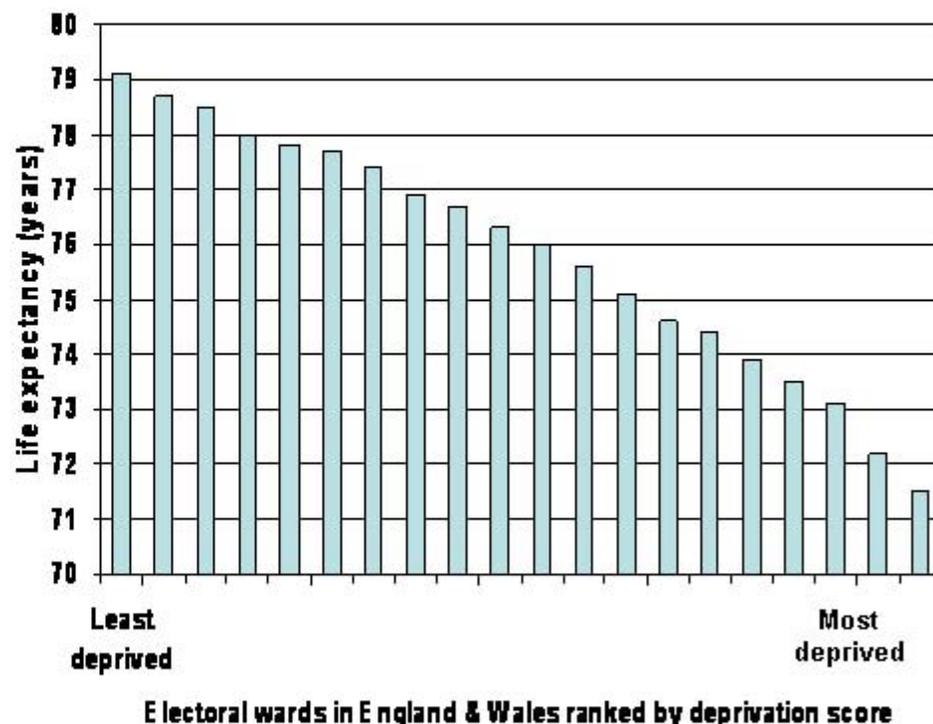


Health is related to income differences *within* rich societies but not to those *between* them

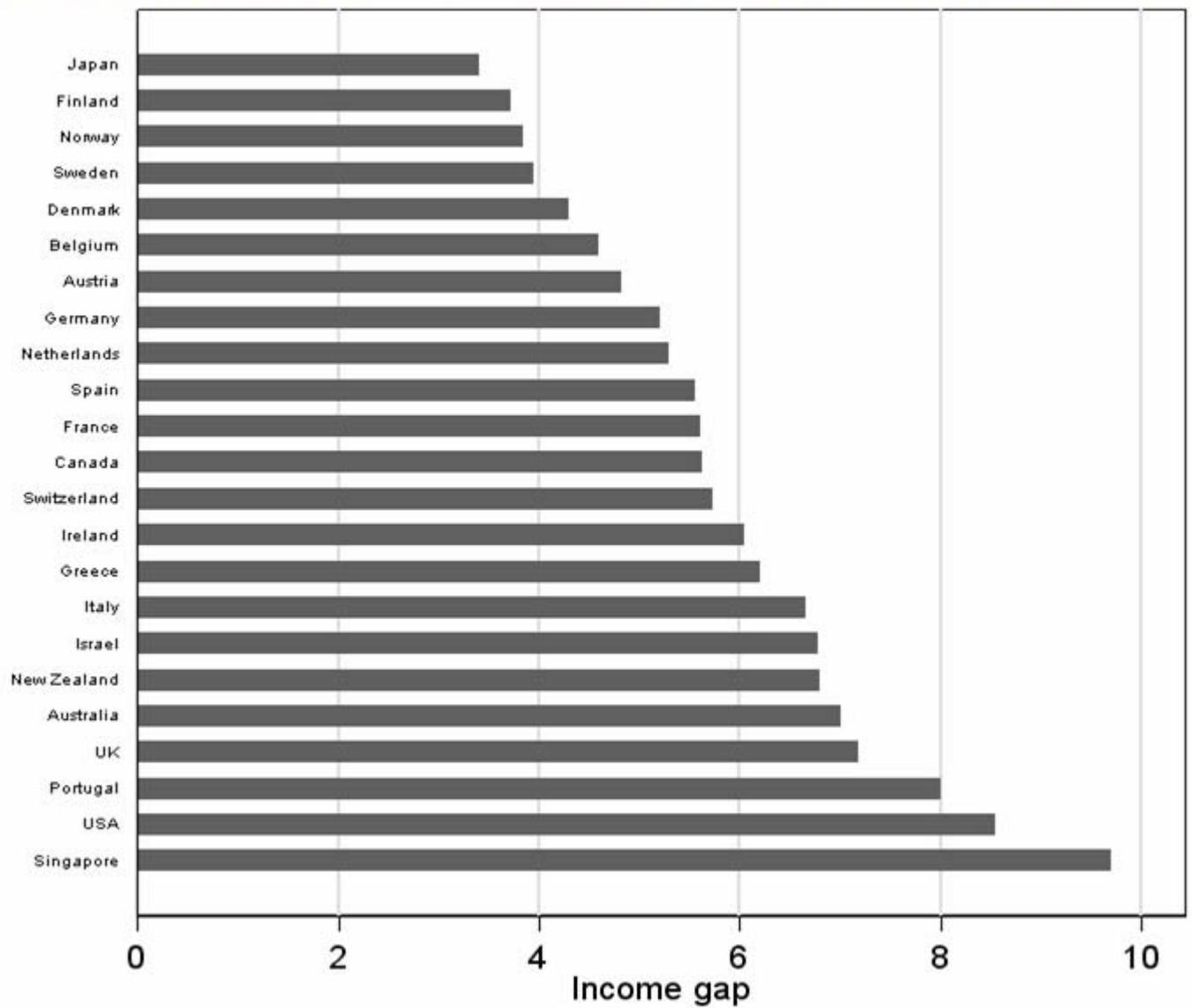
Between (rich) societies



Within societies



How much richer are the richest 20% than the poorest 20%?

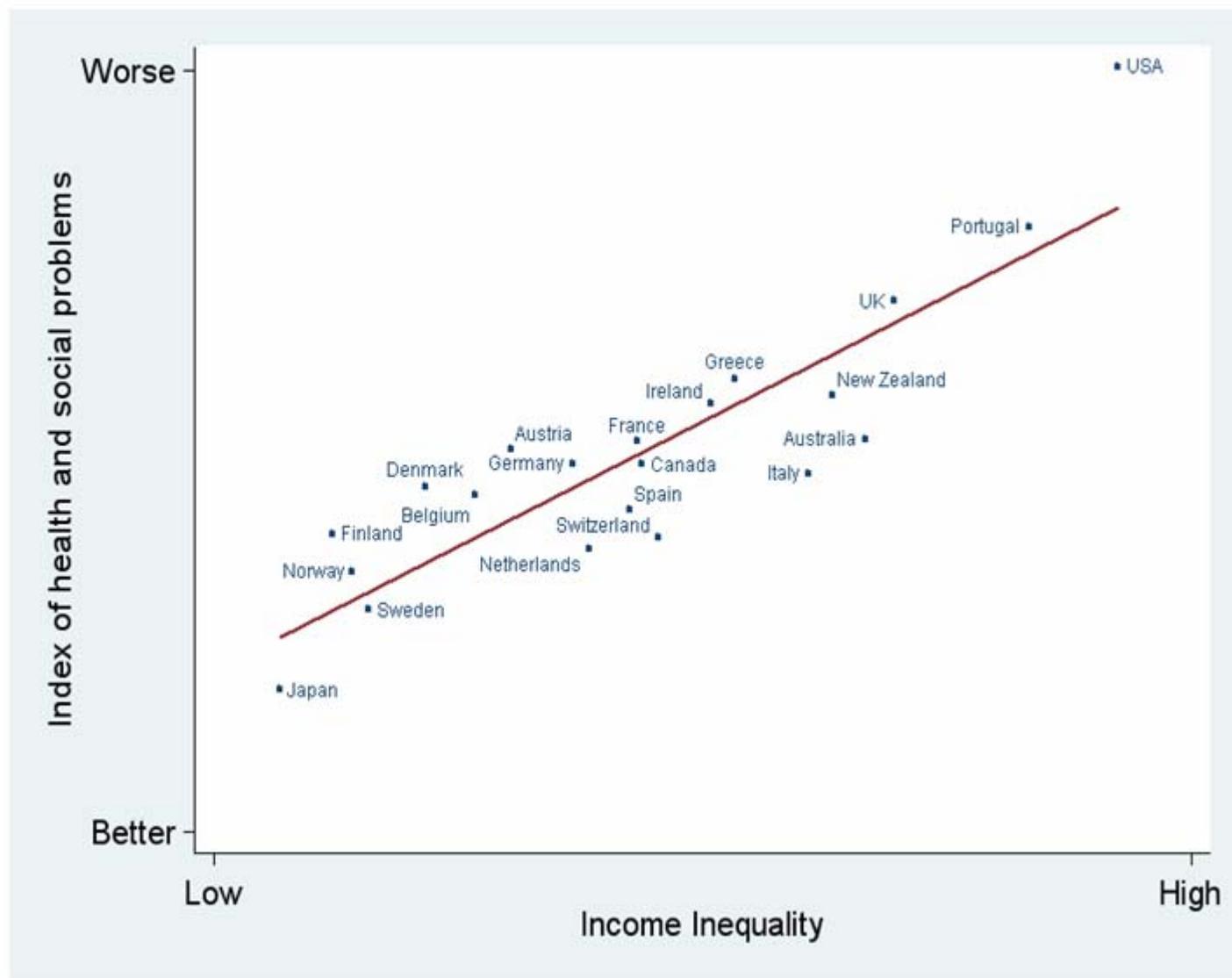


Source: United Nations Development Program

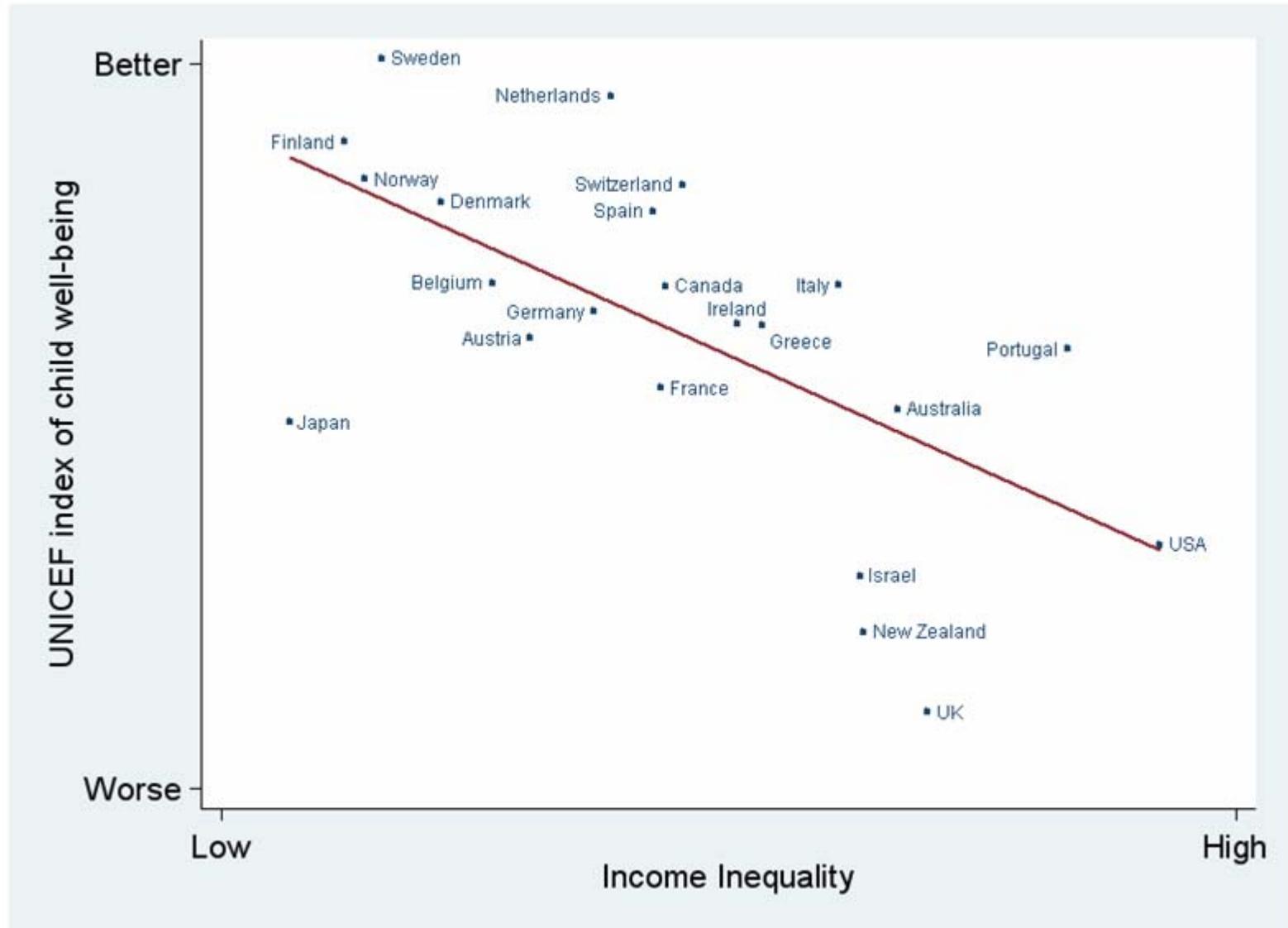
Health and Social Problems are Worse in More Unequal Countries

Index of:

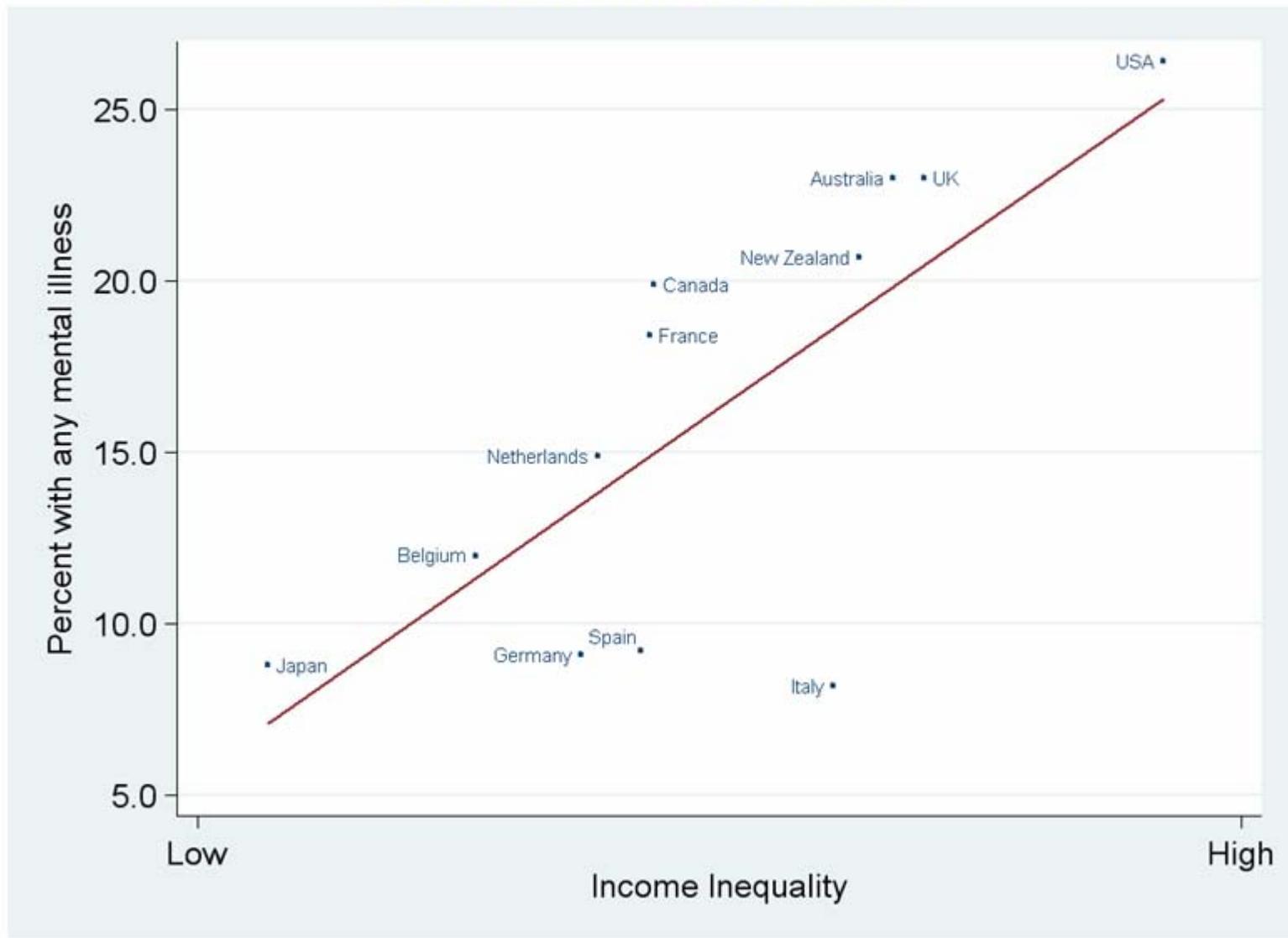
- Life expectancy
- Math & Literacy
- Infant mortality
- Homicides
- Imprisonment
- Teenage births
- Trust
- Obesity
- Mental illness – incl. drug & alcohol addiction
- Social mobility



Child Well-being is Better in More Equal Rich Countries



The Prevalence of Mental Illness is Higher in More Unequal Rich Countries



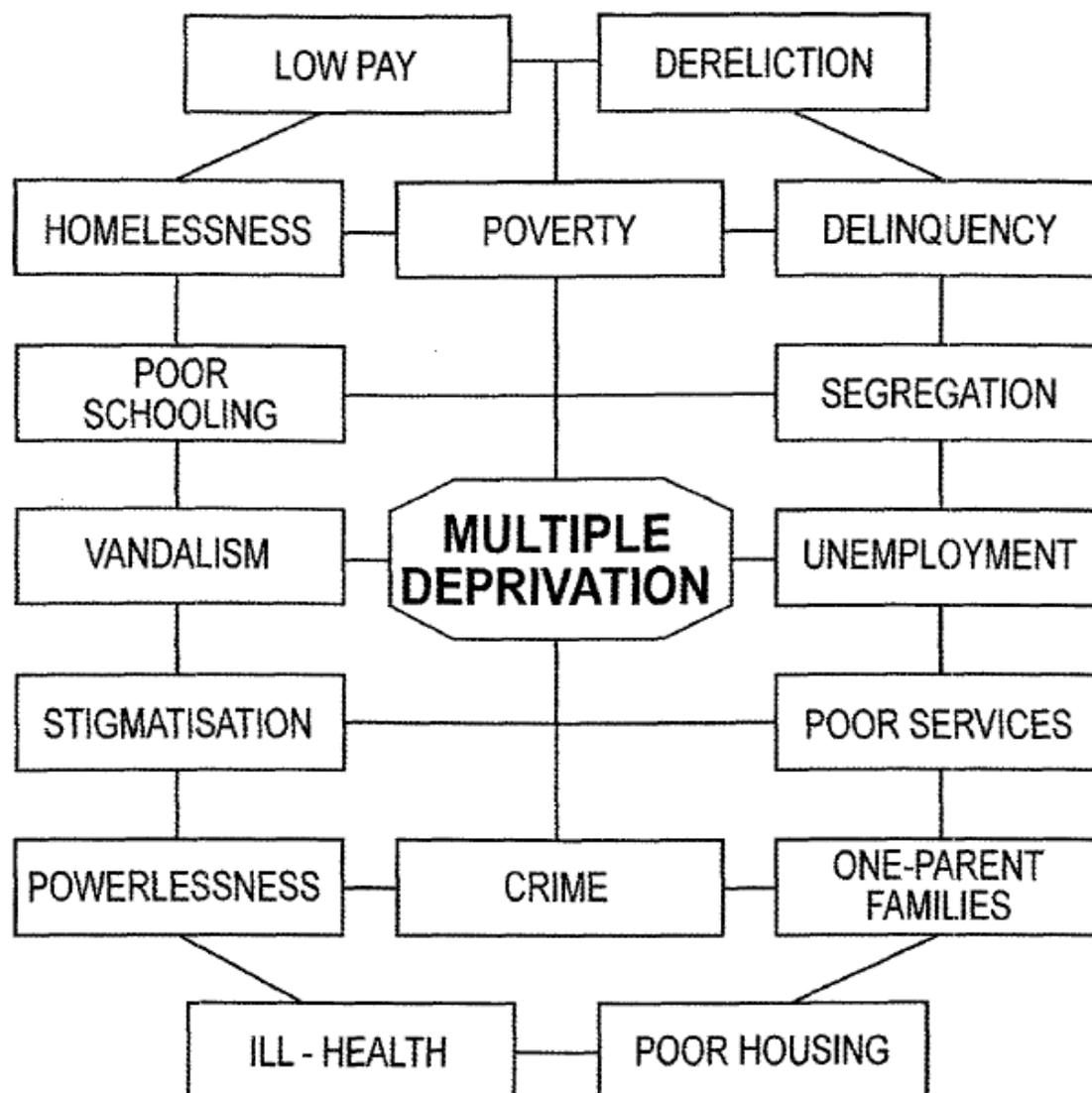


Fig. 1. The anatomy of multiple deprivation.

term persistence of environments of disadvantage in the city. In Glasgow many of the same areas have featured consistently among the most disadvantaged in the city for almost half a century. Nothing provides a more compelling commentary on the effectiveness of past anti-deprivation strategies, nor affords a clearer signpost for future action.

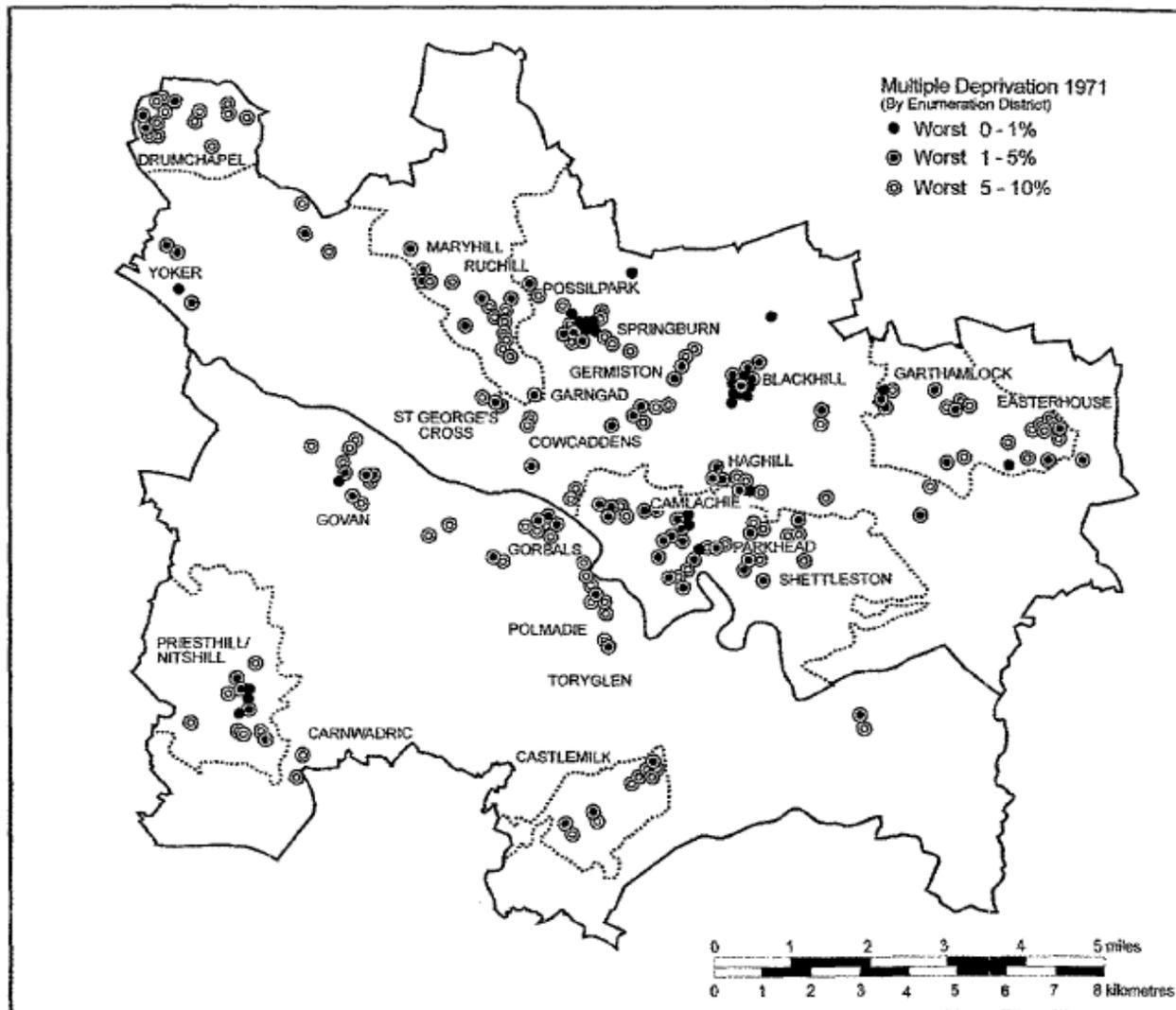


Fig. 2. The geography of disadvantage in Glasgow in 1971.

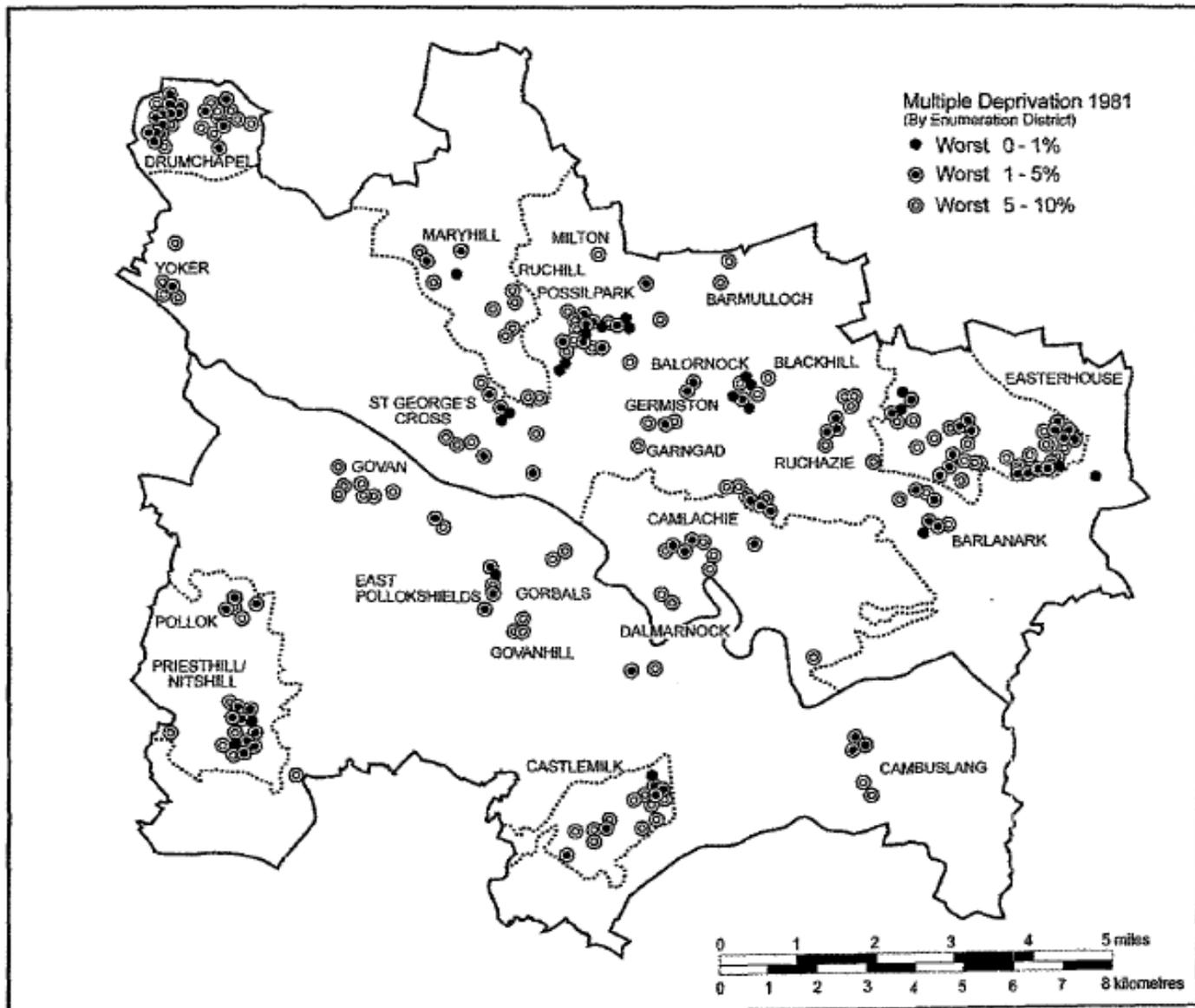


Fig. 3. The geography of disadvantage in Glasgow in 1981.

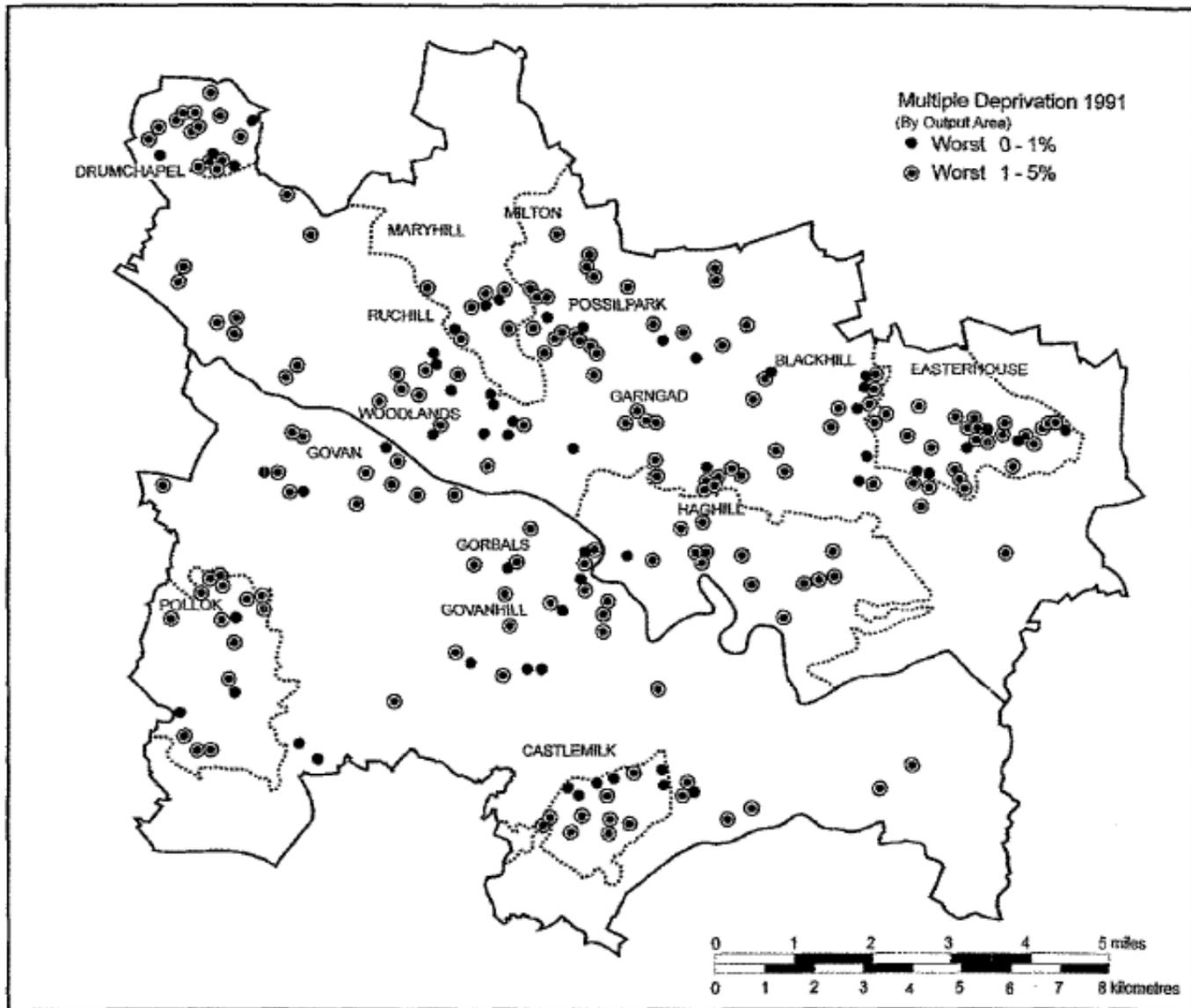


Fig. 4. The geography of disadvantage in Glasgow in 1991.

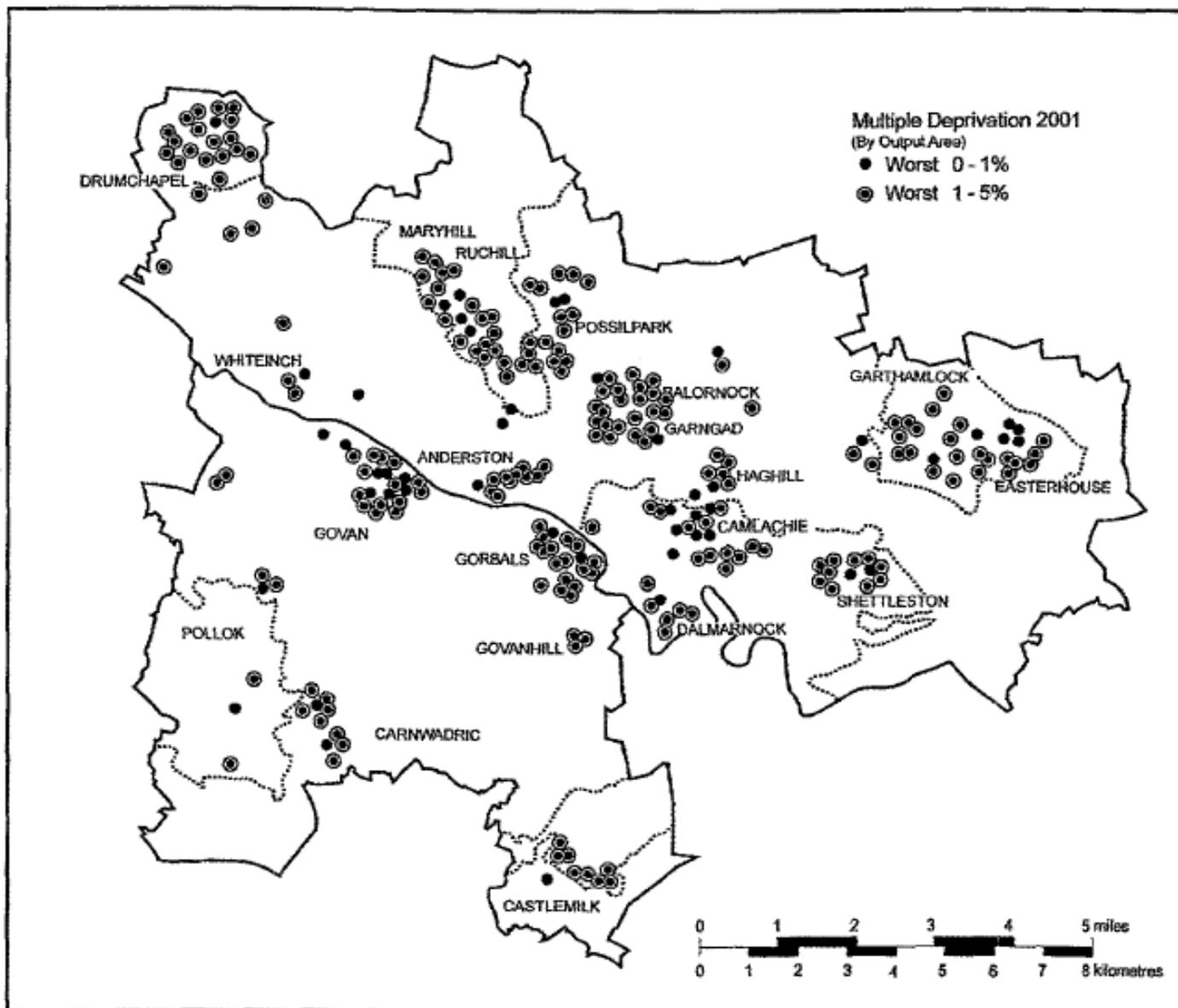
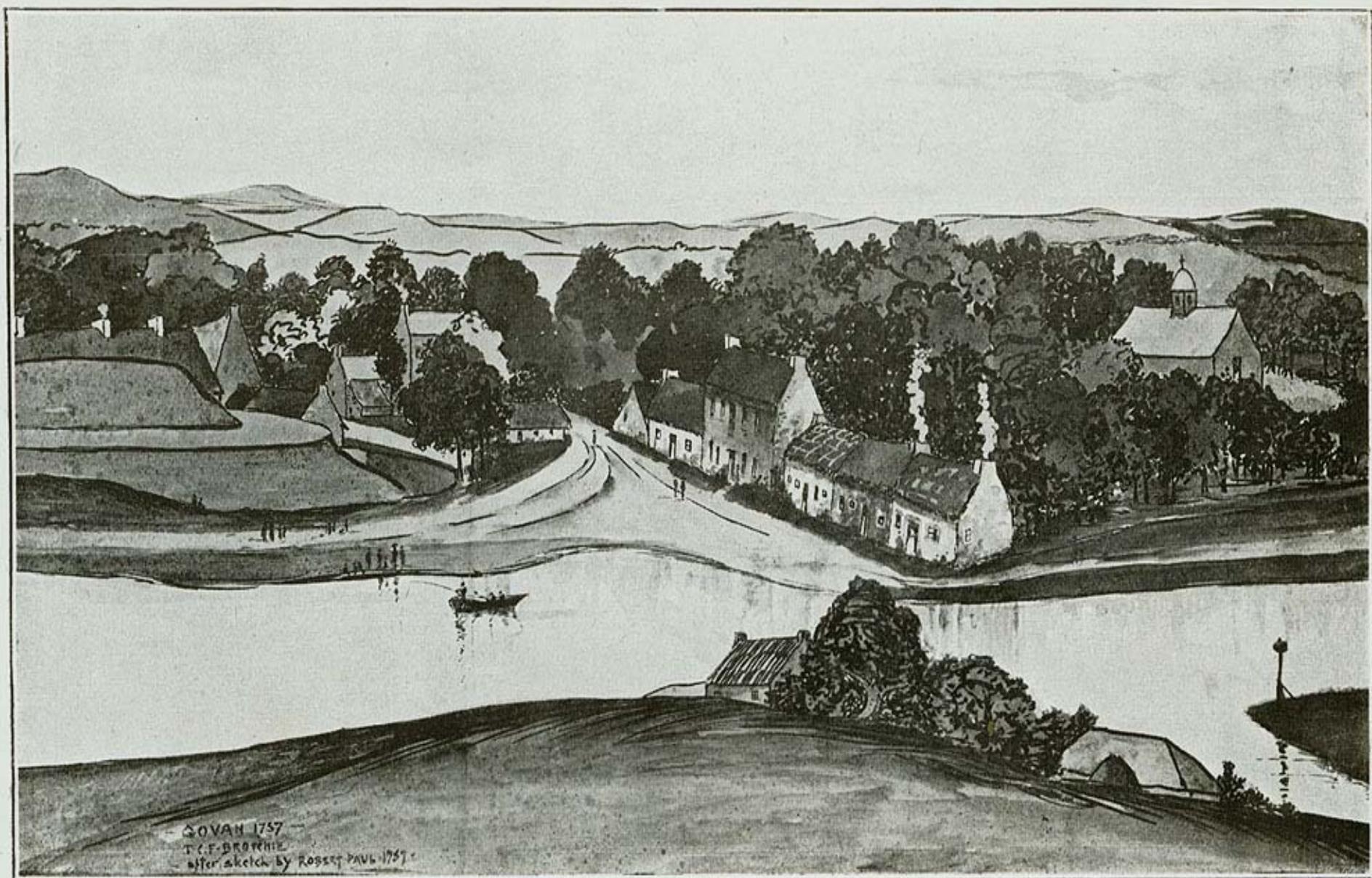


Fig. 5. The geography of disadvantage in Glasgow in 2001.

A History of Govan

- Ancient
- Early Modern
- Modern Industrial
- De-industrialising period
- What next?





GOVAN 1757 -
T.C.F. BROTHIE
after sketch by ROSSET PAUL 1957.



Circular Four
Callaghan, Glasgow
OBAN







1950's





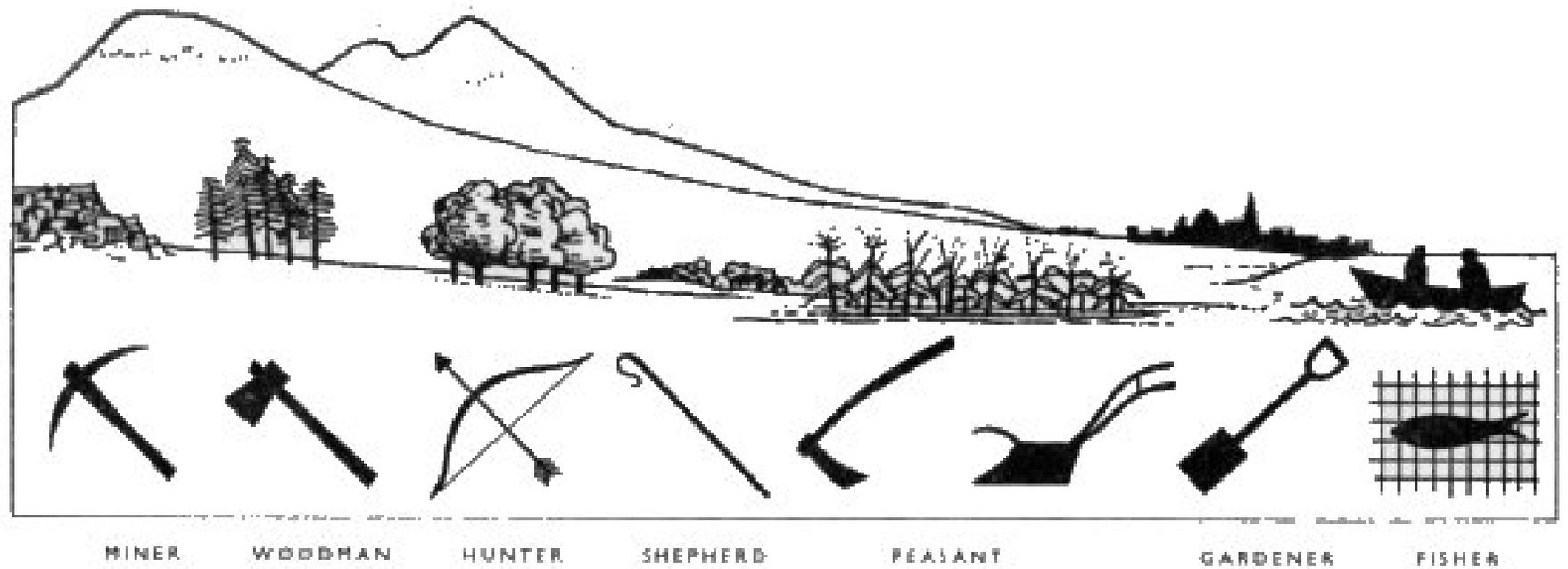
Planning Theory and Practice

- The meaning of the urban?

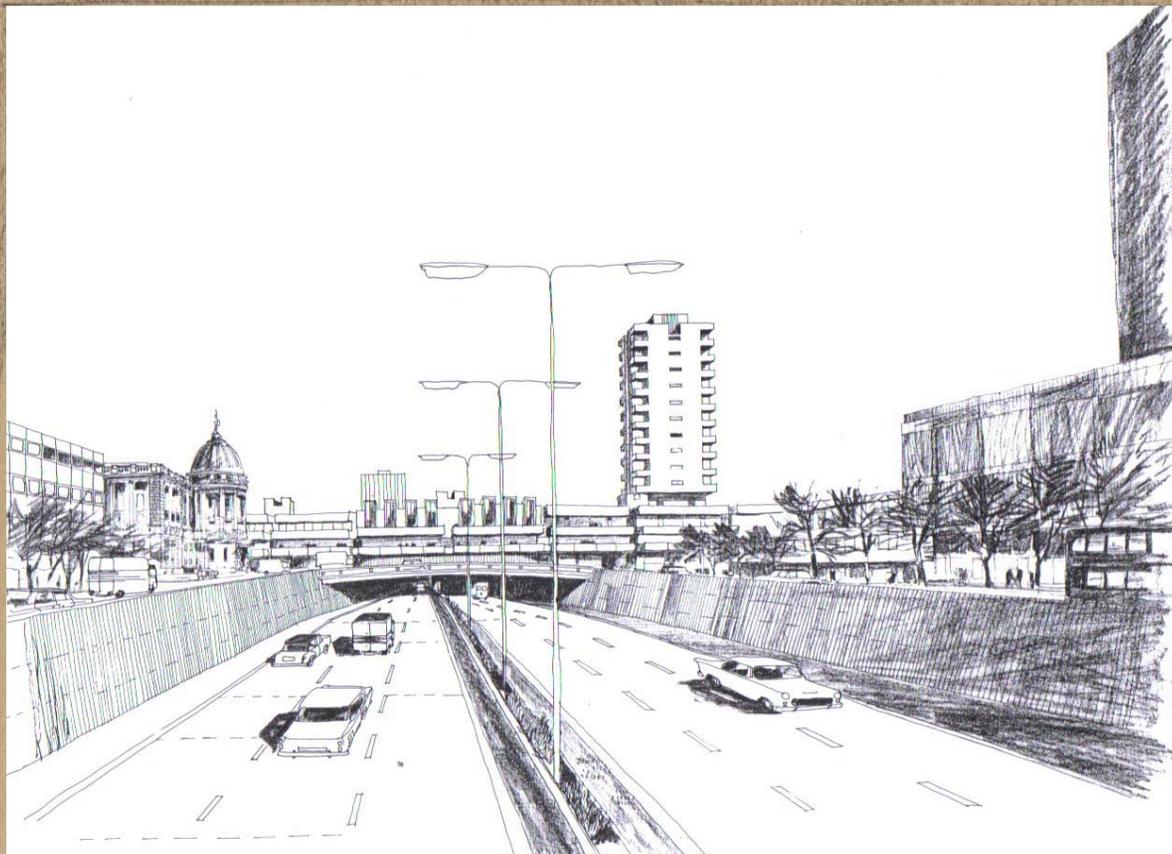


The City as physical object and as an environment which constantly shapes the relationship of human subjects to each other (society) and is in turn constantly reshaped and new social meanings created by the political, economic, social and physical actions of that society.





The Valley Section with basic occupations



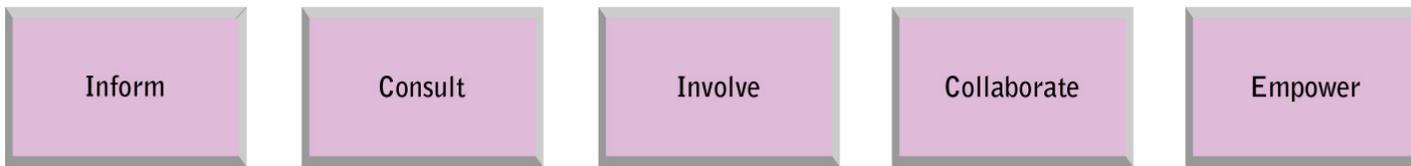
“Being included in the society in which ones lives is vital to the material, psychosocial, and political empowerment that underpins social well-being and equitable health.”

WHO “Closing the Gap in a Generation” Exec Summary P.24

Spectrums of Engagement

- Doing for others
 - Empowerment
- Doing with others
 - Generative / Creative

Spectrum of Community Engagement / Doing for Others Axis



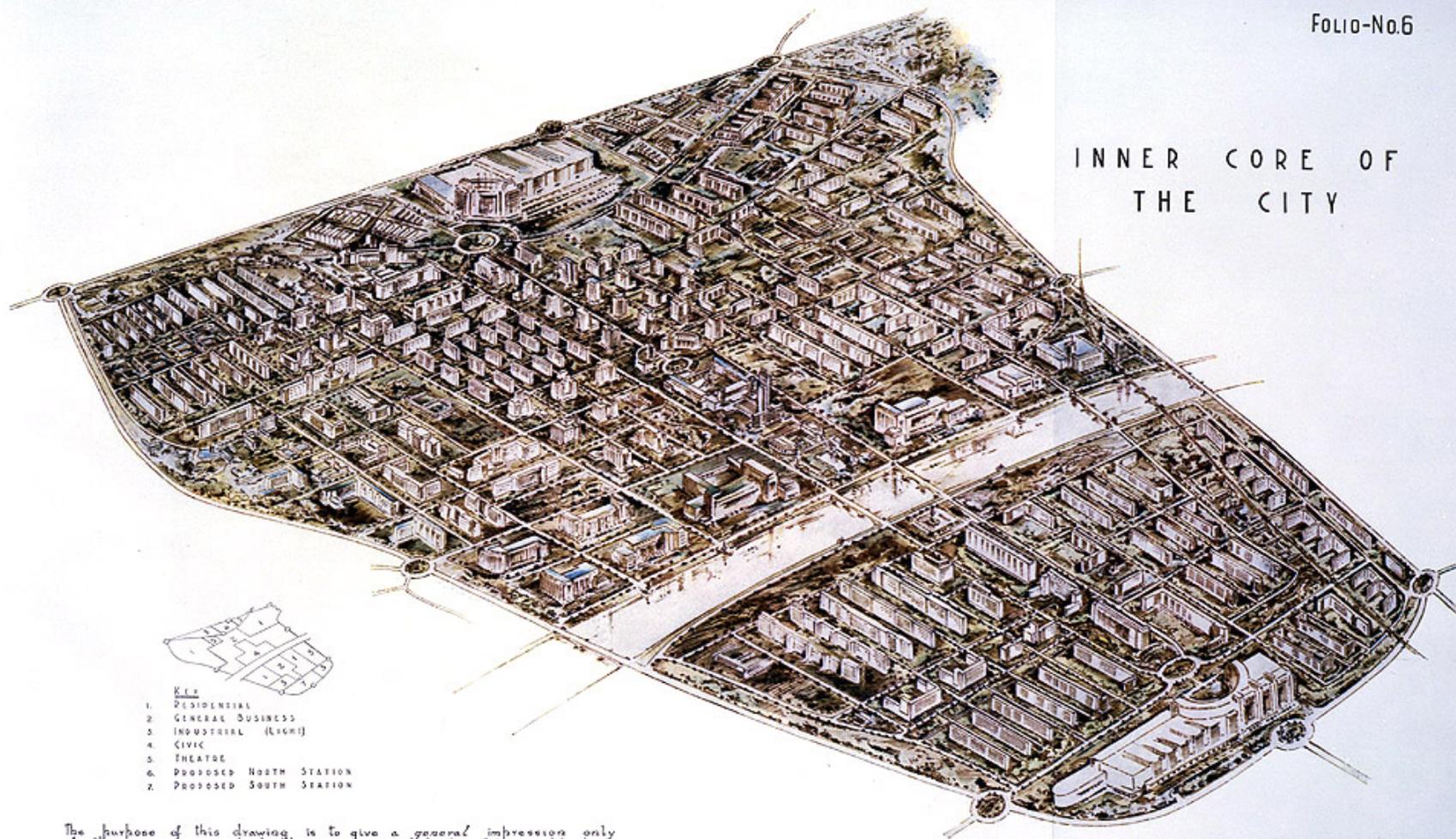
Goal of Process / Doing with Others Axis



CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF GLASGOW FIRST PLANNING REPORT

Folio-No.6

INNER CORE OF THE CITY



- KEY
1. RESIDENTIAL
 2. GENERAL BUSINESS
 3. INDUSTRIAL (LIGHT)
 4. CIVIC
 5. THEATRE
 6. PROPOSED NORTH STATION
 7. PROPOSED SOUTH STATION

The purpose of this drawing is to give a *general* impression only of the manner in which the inner core of the City might be developed. The lines of the roads are not strictly in accordance with the proposed lay-out — notably the Southmost portion of the ring road.

ROBERT BRUCE, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.M.C.E.
Master of Works and City Engineer.
Office of Public Works.
City Chambers, Glasgow.



“The worth of the physical product cannot be assumed to lie in its physical qualities, but rather in the relationship between the object and the user.”

From “Housing as a Verb”
J.F.C Turner, p159

The Dutch Cycling Question?

When a city is shaped by social, political, economic and physical forces over time to create an environment where all citizens have equal access to movement through a safe, cheap and healthy mode (cycling) what is it that is being distributed?





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Access?

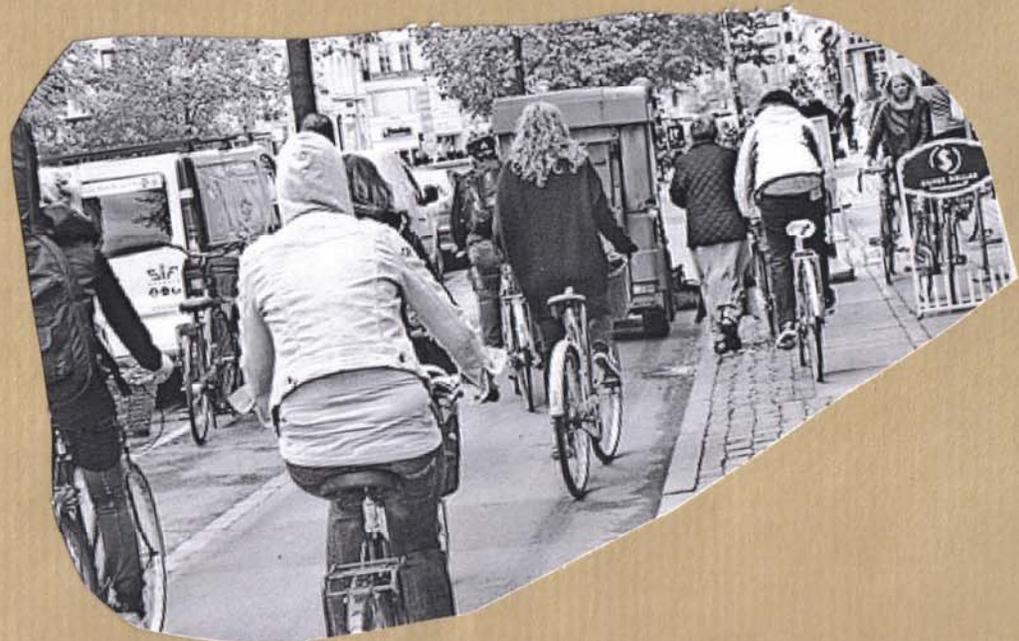
Safety?

Opportunity?

Ability to participate in social life?

Mobility as social status indicator?

Health?



What Next for Planning

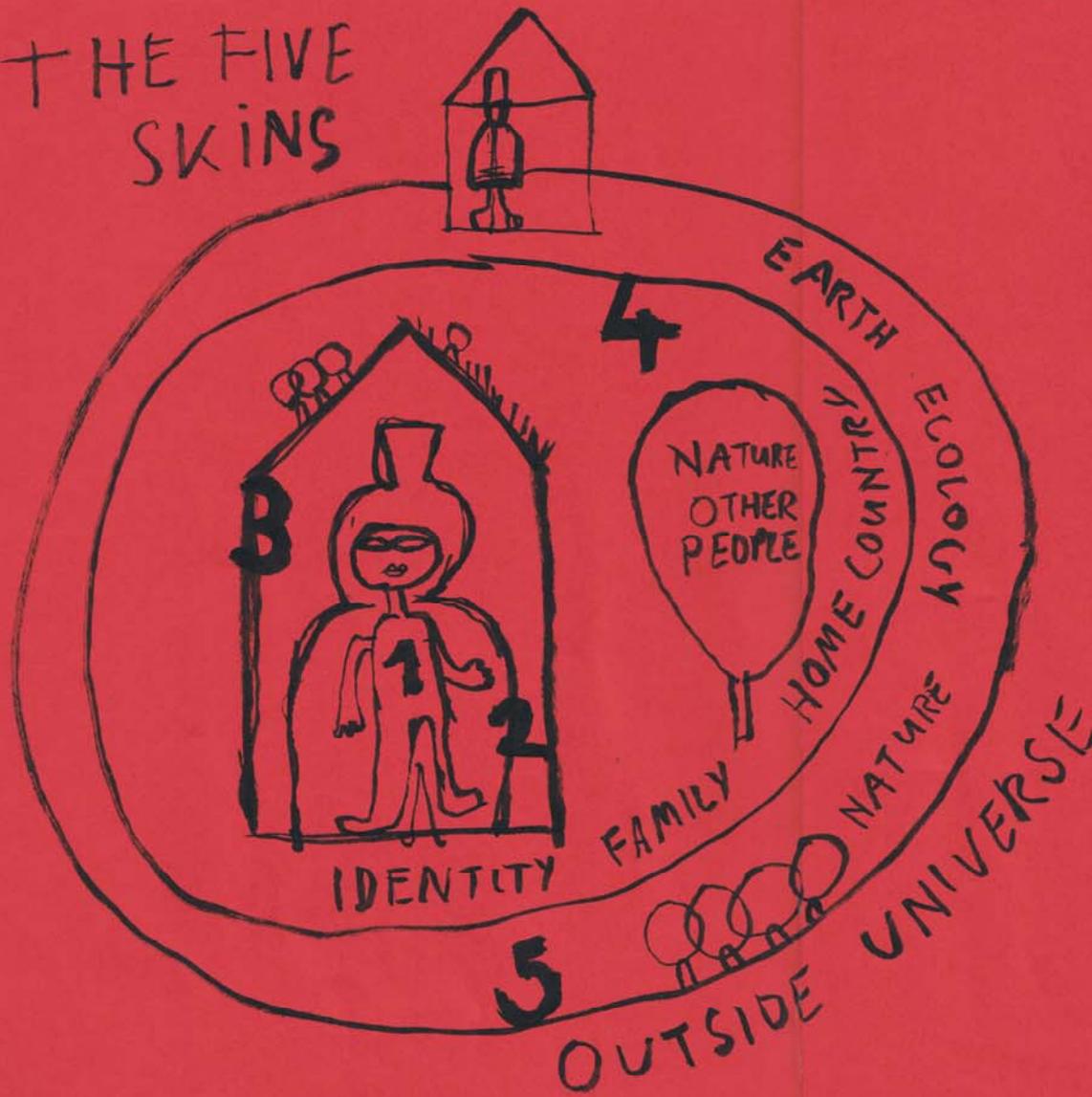
- Using human health a primary indicator of success
- Adopting a salutogenic approach to urban planning
- A more participatory and democratic model of planning
- A more holistic appreciation of the meaning of place and human being
- The role of the professional practitioner?

“If planning is not about the redistribution of the resources or the benefits of an unequal society, then it can only be an instrument of bureaucratic conservatism.”

After the Planners

Robert Goodman; Intro to British
Edition by John A.D. Palmer

THE FIVE SKINS



- 1 EPIDERMIS
- 2 CLOTHES
- 3 HOUSES
- 4 IDENTITY
- 5 EARTH

From "Hundertwasser: The Painter King" with "The Five Skins" by Peter Schjerve

