

# Just Adaptation: Setting the Scene

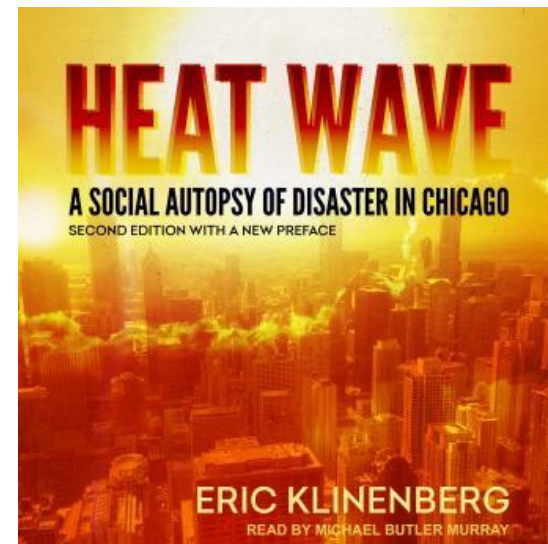
Sarah Lindley, March 2024

# What is climate justice?



# The Example of Heatwaves – greatest cumulative death rates from extreme weather-related hazards in Europe

- Heat waves do not affect everyone equally
- Focus has tended to be on what and where rather than who and why
  - very old, very young & people with pre-existing illness
  - ‘Social autopsy’
    - low income
    - building stock
    - isolation
    - neighbourhood characteristics
- Effects are intersectional
  - Some groups face multiple challenges
  - Complex & dynamic inter-connections & feedbacks



OVERVIEW

Socially vulnerable groups sensitive to climate impacts



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People on low incomes



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People in poor health



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Older people



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Tenants in social or private rented housing



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Neighbourhoods without much greenspace



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People who are socially isolated



FIND OUT MORE

People with low personal mobility



FIND OUT MORE

Young children and babies

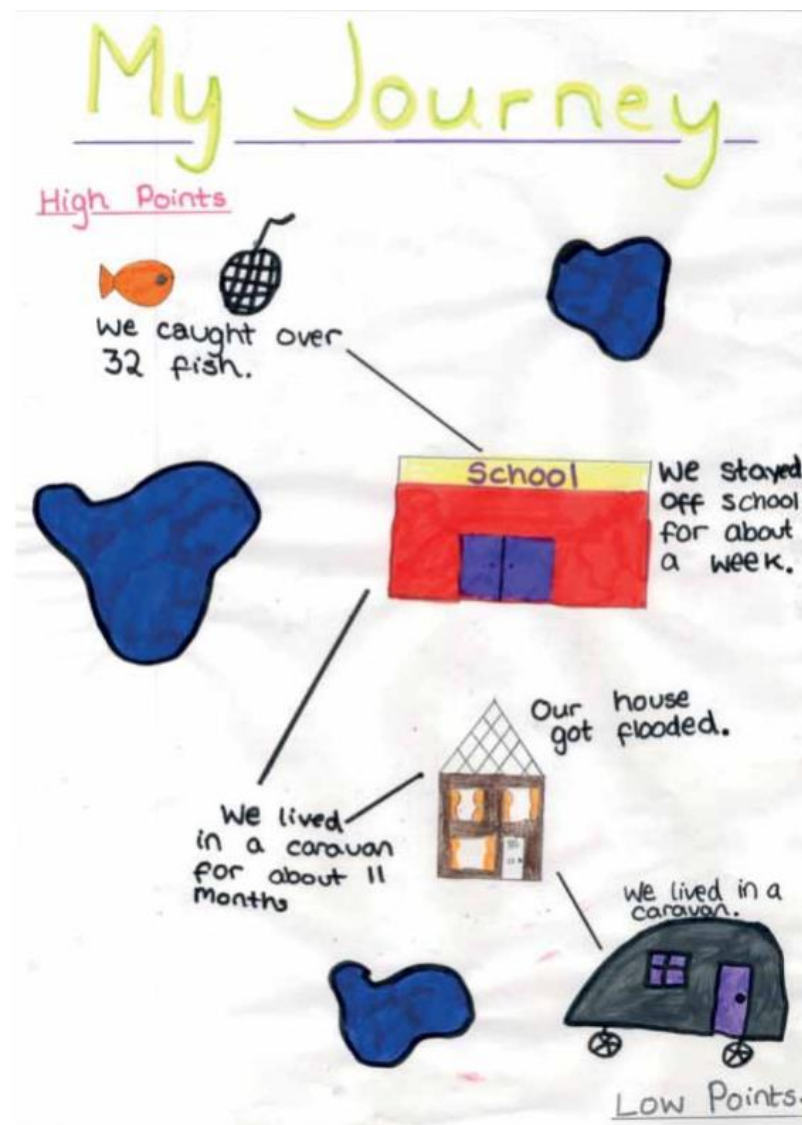


Some of these characteristics tend to cluster explaining higher mortality rates in some areas than others

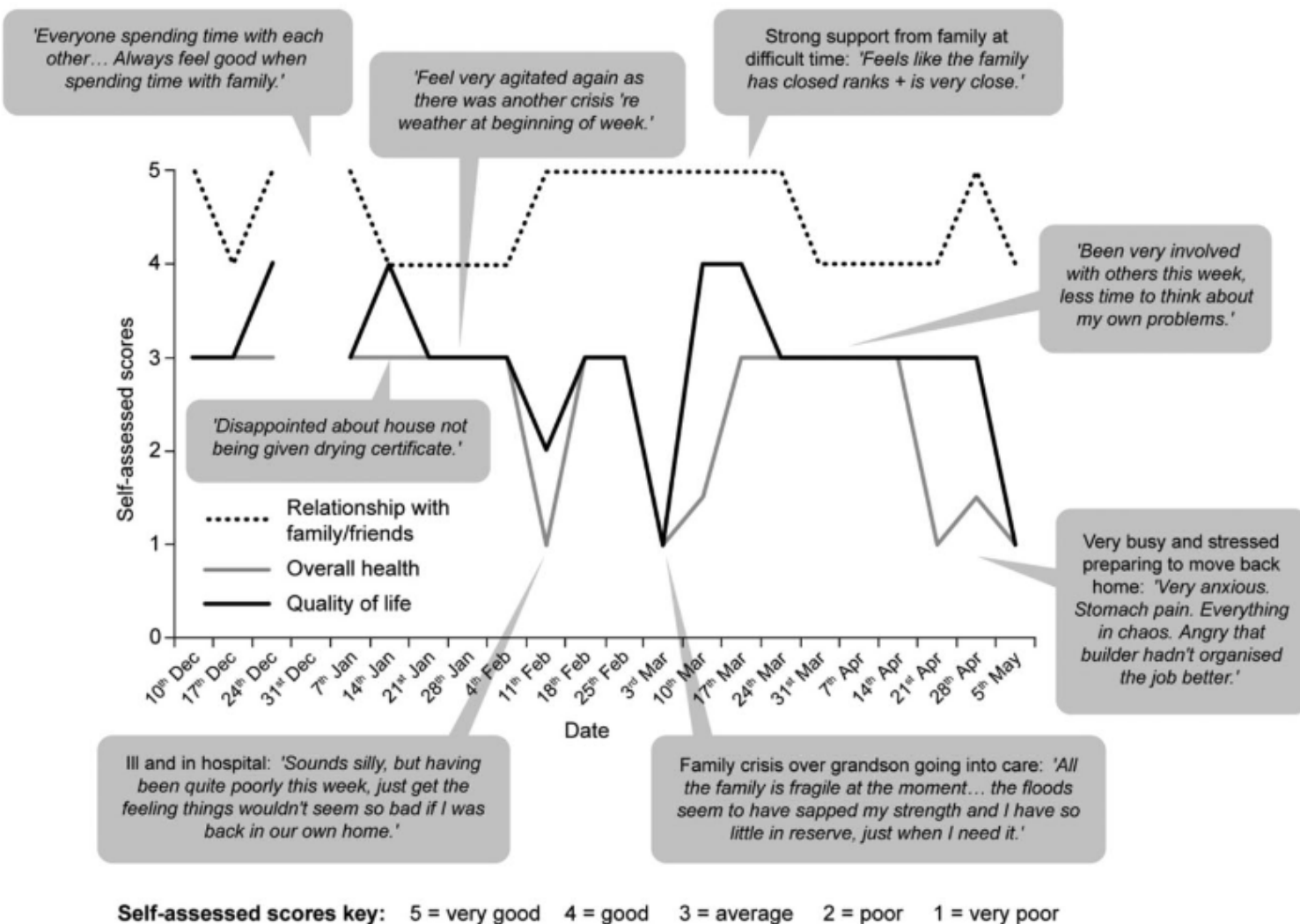
[www.climatejust.org.uk](http://www.climatejust.org.uk)

# Lived Experience of flooding - children

- Education
- Social Networks
- Relationships

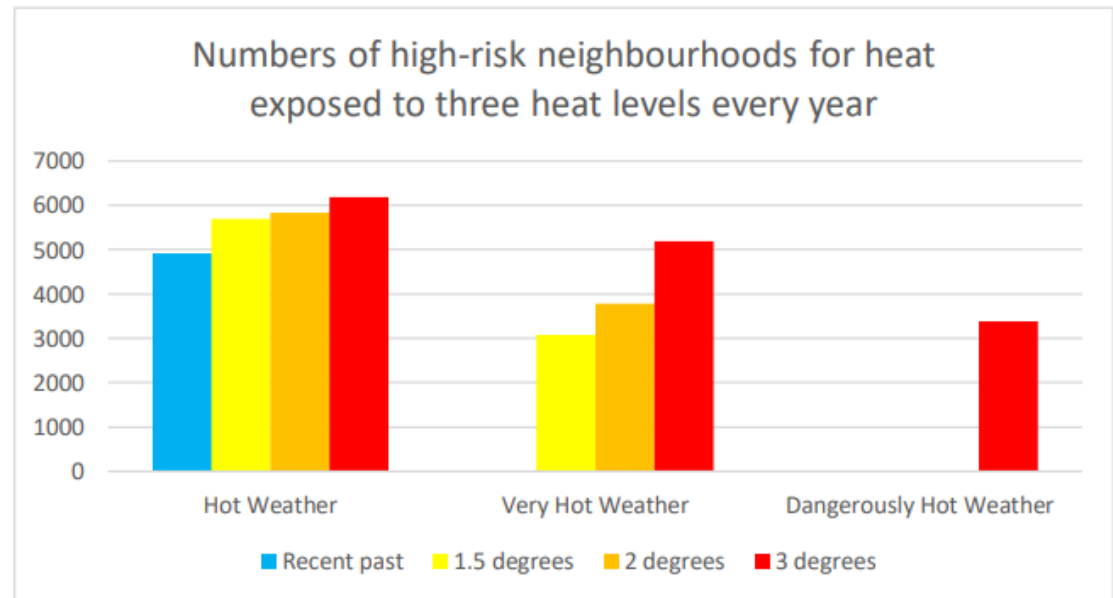


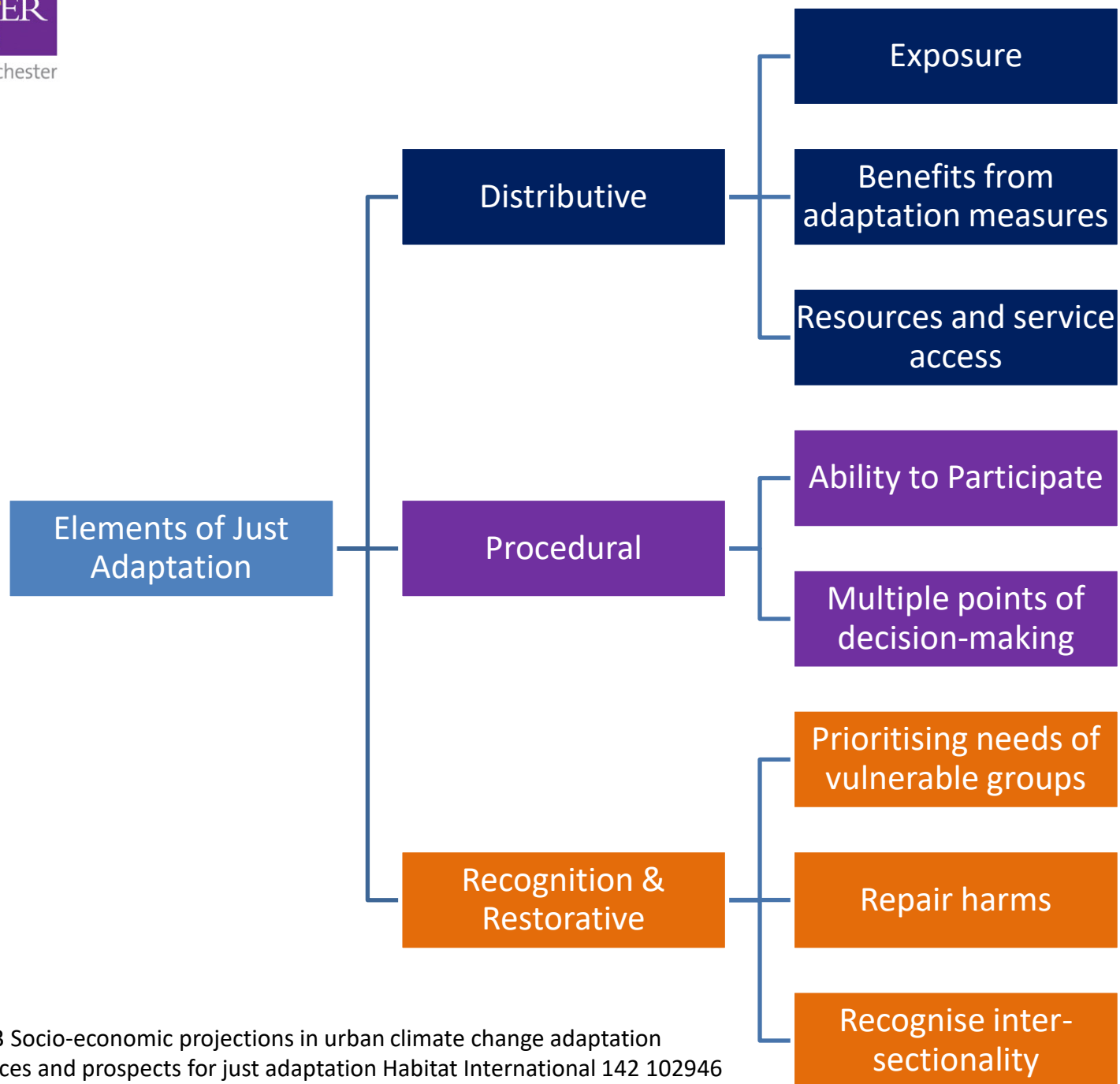
# Lived Experience of flooding- adults



# Exposure for top 20% most vulnerable neighbourhoods

- 'High risk' neighbourhoods, i.e. top 20% most socially vulnerable
  - 12.4 million people
  - 28% people of colour compared to 9.5% on average across England
- Increasing exposure for selected thresholds
  - 'Hot' 24.5 °C
  - 'Very hot' 27.5 °C
  - 'Dangerously hot' 30 °C







Amorim-Maia, et al (2022) Intersectional climate justice: A conceptual pathway for bridging adaptation planning, transformative action, and social equity Urban Climate Volume 41, 101053

# Many entry points for (in)justice in the adaptation process

Preparing for adaptation	Assessing Risks and Vulnerabilities	Identifying, assessing and selecting options	Implementation and monitoring
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Political support</li> <li>• Initial information</li> <li>• Setting up processes</li> <li>• Setting up resources</li> <li>• Identifying &amp; engaging stakeholders</li> <li>• Communications</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Past, present and Future impacts</li> <li>• Vulnerable sectors and groups</li> <li>• Conducting risks and vulnerability assessments</li> <li>• Determining adaptation goals and objectives</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compiling options</li> <li>• Choosing an assessment framework</li> <li>• Prioritisation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financing</li> <li>• Examples</li> <li>• Commissioning</li> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation processes and indicators</li> <li>• Developing learning</li> </ul>

What?	Who?	Where?	When?	How?	Why?
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# Assessment of adaptation options: case of Barcelona

#	Intervention	Description	Outcomes and beneficiaries	Lessons learned
P1	Climate Shelters	Climate-responsive indoor and outdoor public spaces for vulnerable populations	219 climate shelters; 95% population within 10-min walk. Low-cost, no structural changes, use existing spaces. Transform patios, more resilient schools.	Population unaware of the network and not using it as shelter. Public skepticism about the program. Accessibility and inclusivity issues.
P4	Superblocks	Street-calming, green hubs and squares, spaces for meeting, playing	217 traffic-calmed school environments; 900 play areas, 245 km bike lanes, 75% 30 km/h limit; lower air/noise pollution. Green axes could boost greening benefits.	Benefits for health and wellbeing can be tainted by gentrification risks if not addressed by housing and local economic development policies. Distribution and procedural concerns.



**FIGURE 2** Superblock in Sant Antoni. Interventions include plant beds with trees and shrubs, tables and seats, traffic-calming elements and play areas. Source: Ajuntament de Barcelona.