



MASTER THESIS REVIEW

Type of review: supervisor's review

Author: Kelsey M. Beckmeyer

Title: Public Perception on Target Populations and Homeless Policy Design in Seattle, WA

Author of review: Ing. Mgr. Olga Angelovská

The master thesis presented by Kelsey M. Beckmeyer deals with a live topic of homeless policies and brings a new perspective by using an approach of target population and policy design.

Goal of the thesis is “*to test the impact of public perception of target groups on homeless policy design*” (p.39) and this goal was reached fully. As well all research questions (p.40) were answered in satisfactory manners.

Regarding the topic, the author appropriately selected qualitative approach. I also value the choice of case study as a research design as well as data collection. The author analysed an impressive amount of over 1000 articles, covering ten years period, using discourse analysis and narrative analysis; and over one hundred legislative codes using content analysis. Generally, the third chapter *Research Design and Methodology* is well written. The author describes the coding process and the analysis procedures. Student is also aware of limits of such research and explains why final thesis differs little bit from proposal.

The author used two core theoretical approaches. The first one is the target population and policy design theory; the second is based on the homeless policy design. These theories were not only well described by the author in the second chapter, but in later chapters the author also demonstrated her ability to use the acquired knowledge of the problematic. She contributed to the theoretical discourse by combination of those two approaches (see figure 5 on page 38). The author also mentions several other approaches in the analytical part (for example agenda setting or multiple stream theory by Zahariadis or Kingdon in chapter 4.2.3) which proves in general author's good orientation in theoretical approaches.

Before the analysis itself the author introduces definitions and causes of homelessness (chapter one) and current situation in the United States and in Seattle (chapter four). The description and analysis in the fourth chapter is supplemented by relevant statistical data.



In the fifth chapter the author shows an ability to conduct an independent analysis and personal statements are based on solid data. The author also added appropriate tables to support her findings in case of articles and legislation. I value that author developed the prognosis on potential homeless policy type in the future (p. 79).

The conclusions offered in the thesis are well supported and have creditable value. Kelsey M. Beckmeyer's work demonstrates all the attributes of accurate research. At the same time, the connection of public perception and policy design in case of homeless policy is an interesting contribution to the current debate in this field.

Primary sources and secondary sources cited by the author are relevant to the chosen topic. The structure of the whole thesis is clear and logical. I also value that the overall author's approach to the thesis was very thorough.

For the reasons mentioned above, I recommend the thesis for defence and evaluate it by the grade "excellent".

Date:

Signature: