

Questions on notice from Right to Food Coalition

1 Evidence of the relationship between food insecurity and mental health conditions.

References:

Tarasuk, V., et al. (2018). *The Relation Between Food Insecurity and Mental Health Care Service Utilization in Ontario*.

This research concluded that household food insecurity is a robust predictor of mental health service utilization among working-age adults in Ontario, and recommended policy interventions to address the underlying causes of food insecurity and the particular vulnerability of individuals with mental illness.

Althoff, RR et al. (2016). *The role of food insecurity in developmental psychopathology*. Preventive Medicine 92.106-109.

This review considers research on food insecurity as it relates to child psychopathology and its risk factors, including parental mental illness, poor diet and metabolic health. It discusses possible mechanisms by which these conditions may influence each other and explores interventions including provision of high quality food to vulnerable households.

Carter, K.N., et al. (2011). *The association of food security with psychological distress in New Zealand and any gender differences*. Social Science and Medicine 72 (9): 1463-1471.

This study found a strong relationship between food insecurity and psychological distress after adjusting for confounding demographic and socio-economic variables.

Muldoon, K.a., et al (2013). *Food Insufficiency is associated with psychiatric morbidity in a nationally representative study of mental illness among food insecure Canadians*. Social Psychiatry and Psychiatric Epidemiology 48 (5): 795-803.

This study found that adults experiencing food insufficiency had a higher chance of having a mental health diagnosis; 24% of those with poor food quality had a mental health diagnosis, and 35% of those experiencing food insufficiency.

2 Impact of gentrification

Breyer, B, Voss-Andreae A. 2013. *Food Mirages: Geographic and economic barriers to healthful food access in Portland, Oregon*. Health & Place. Volume 24, November 2013. Pages 131-139 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/24100236>

This paper considers 'food mirages', areas where 'grocery stores are plentiful but food prices are unaffordable for low-income households'

Cohen N. 2018. *Feeding or starving Gentrification: the role of food policy*. CUNY Urban Food Policy Institute.

<http://www.cunyurbanfoodpolicy.org/news/2018/3/27/feeding-or-starving-gentrification-the-role-of-food-policy>

This issues paper describes the worldwide phenomenon of gentrification, its impact on low-income communities and the role of food in gentrification. It identifies policy and planning initiatives to preserve affordable food.

3 **Junk food marketing in low SES.** Reference provided by Dr Muthayya separately

4 **DPI report.**

I was unable to find the original reference in relation to the work from the Department of Primary Industry. Instead I attach a recent analysis of food growing in peri-urban areas by an expert in this field.

Sinclair, I. *Growing Food in a Residential Landscape. 2015.* Presentation to State of Australian Cities Conference, a peer-reviewed conference.