

Danish ghetto policies in practice – lasting effects?

Nordregio 18. november 2020

1. half

A historical perspective:
35 years of refurbishments in Danish social housing

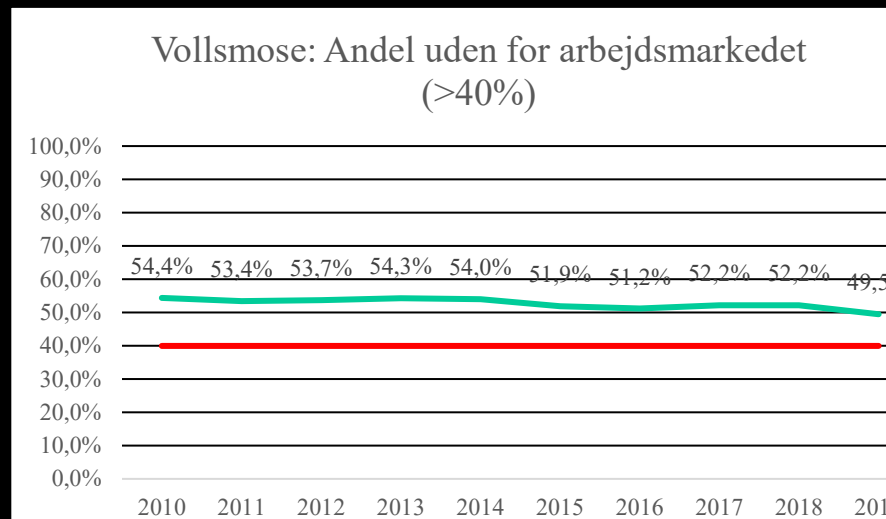
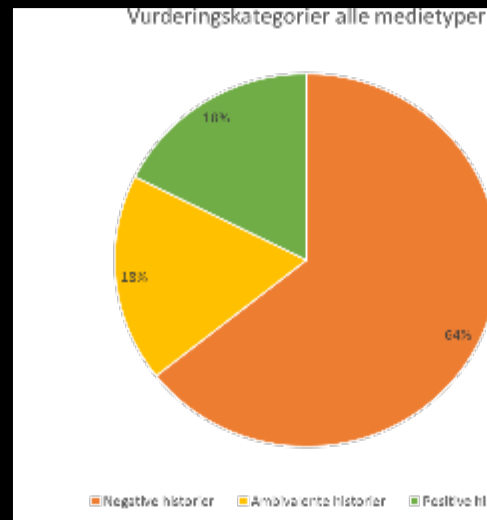
2. half

A presentation of ongoing / planned transformation
in the 15 most disadvantage housing areas in Denmark

My research



My research



Refurbishments: 1985-1999



Refurbishments: 2000-2009



Refurbishments: 2010-2020



2010-2020: Urban strategies

Focus is on the urban neighborhood and not just on the housing estate

This implies working across cadastral boundaries - and in new partnerships

It's about assembling a divided city - mixing all that we have separated over decades



2010-2020: Urban strategies



Urban strategic tools

- Breaking down barriers
- New infrastructure
- New functions
- New attractions – new destinations

Having residents from the rest of the city entering the housing area



- Building mixed income housing – mixed housing types and ownership

Establishing a socially balanced housing area



The Parallel Society Act

The efforts towards mixing are further accelerated by PSA

Objective: No 'ghettoes' in Denmark by 2030.

What is a 'ghetto' ?

A social housing area with at least 1,000 residents where at least three of five criteria are met :

- Ethnic background
- Employment
- Crime
- Education
- Income



'Ghetto'

The 5 criteria - in short:

- *Ethnic background:* The share of inhabitants having non-Western background is higher than 50%.
- *Employment:* The share of unemployment among residents is higher than 40%.
- *Crime:* The share of inhabitants convicted (against the penal law, weapons law or drug regulations) is at least three times higher than the national average
- *Education:* The share of inhabitants with no more than primary education is higher than 60%.
- *Income:* The average income for inhabitants is less than 55% of the average income for the region.



'Tough ghetto'

If a social housing area has been defined a ghetto four years in a row, it will be defined 'a tough ghetto'.

In 2020 we have 15 housing areas defined as 'tough ghettos' in Denmark.

In these 15 housing areas The Parallel Society Act demands municipalities and housing associations to bring down the share of social housing units to 40 pct. by 2030.



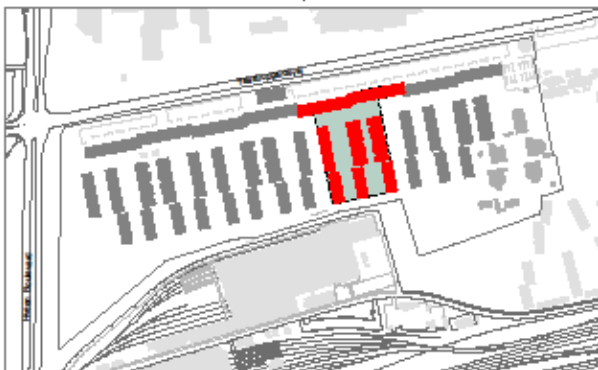
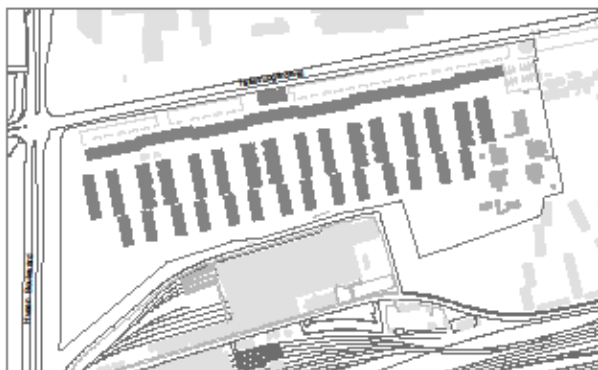
Different strategies towards the 40%

- Demolishing
- Sale of social housing units
- Transforming social family housing units into senior housing units or youth housing units.
- Densification
 - Adding private housing
 - Adding new housing types
 - Adding new functions



New functions

TAASTRUPGAARD



- AKB boligorganisation
- Rives
- Byggefelt for nyt børnekulturhus



Sale to private investors

MJØLNERPARKEN



■ Bo-Vest boligorganisation

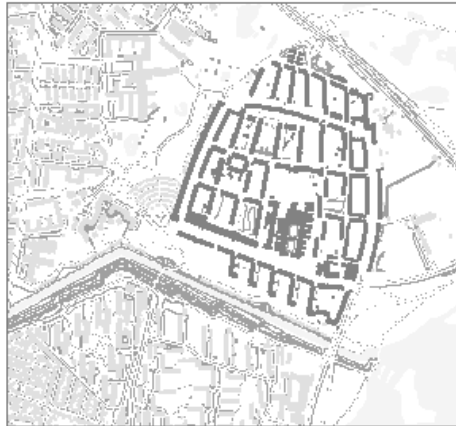


■ Frisalg
■ Nybyggert

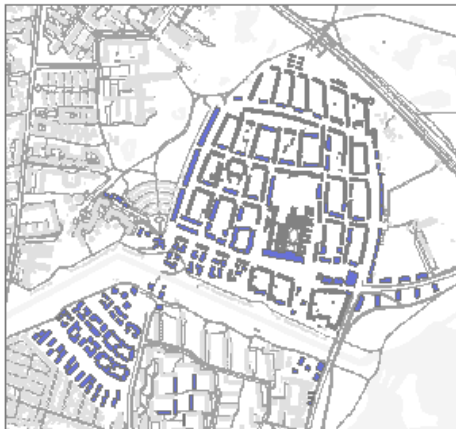


Densification with private housing

TINGBJERG

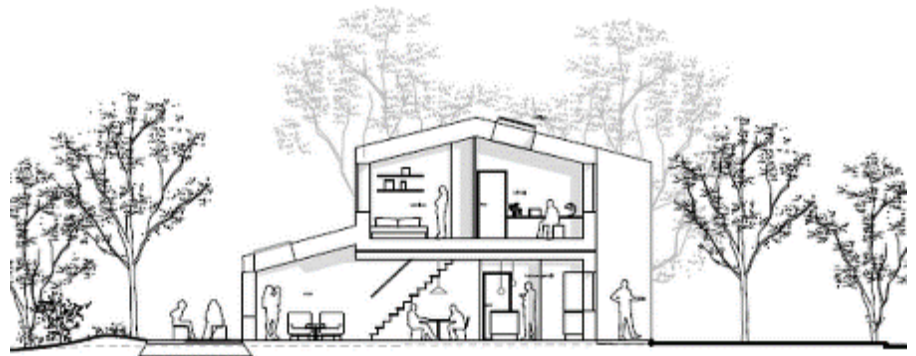


■ Eksisterende boliger



■ Eksisterende boliger

■ Nye private boliger



Lasting effects?

To answer that question you will first have to ask yourself whether you are

- 1) focusing on the social life and status of the individuals
- 2) focusing on the social balance of the neighborhood
- 3) focusing on the physical structures and the perception of the neighborhood

Lasting physical transformation: YES!



■ Almene boliger

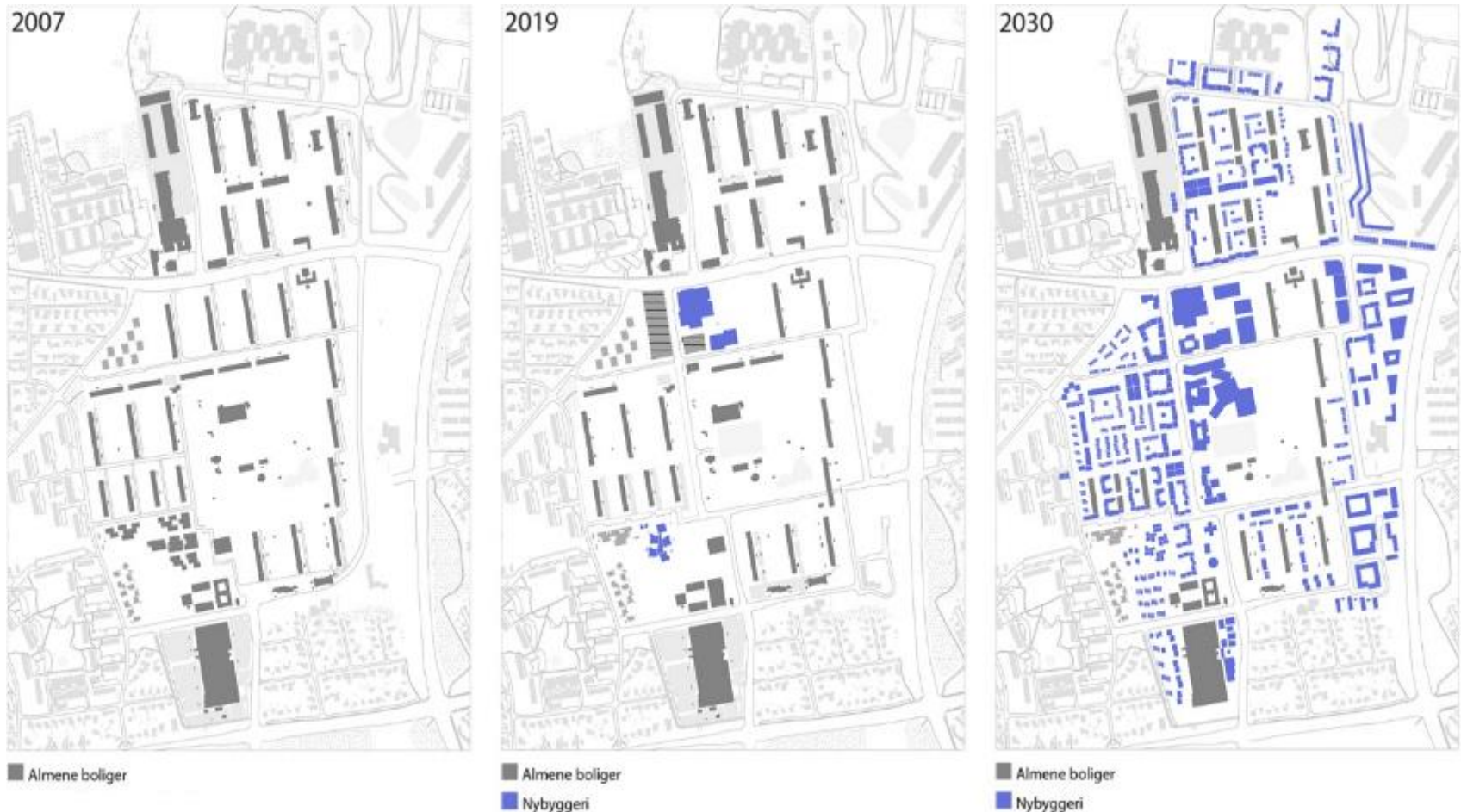


■ Almene boliger
■ Nybyggeri



■ Almene boliger
■ Nybyggeri

Lasting social effects on an urban level: Probably!



Lasting social effects on an individual level: ?



■ Almene boliger



■ Almene boliger

■ Nybyggeri



■ Almene boliger

■ Nybyggeri



Thanks