

An aerial photograph of a historic European city, likely Amsterdam, featuring a dense cluster of buildings with red-tiled roofs and a canal in the foreground. The scene is captured during sunset or sunrise, with a warm, golden light illuminating the sky and the water. A large, semi-transparent dark blue triangle is overlaid on the top right portion of the image, containing the title text.

# Mild Intellectual Disability and homelessness

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City of Amsterdam

FEANTSA Policy Conference

18-19 May

Gdańsk, Poland

# Data Homelessness Amsterdam region (N=900.000)

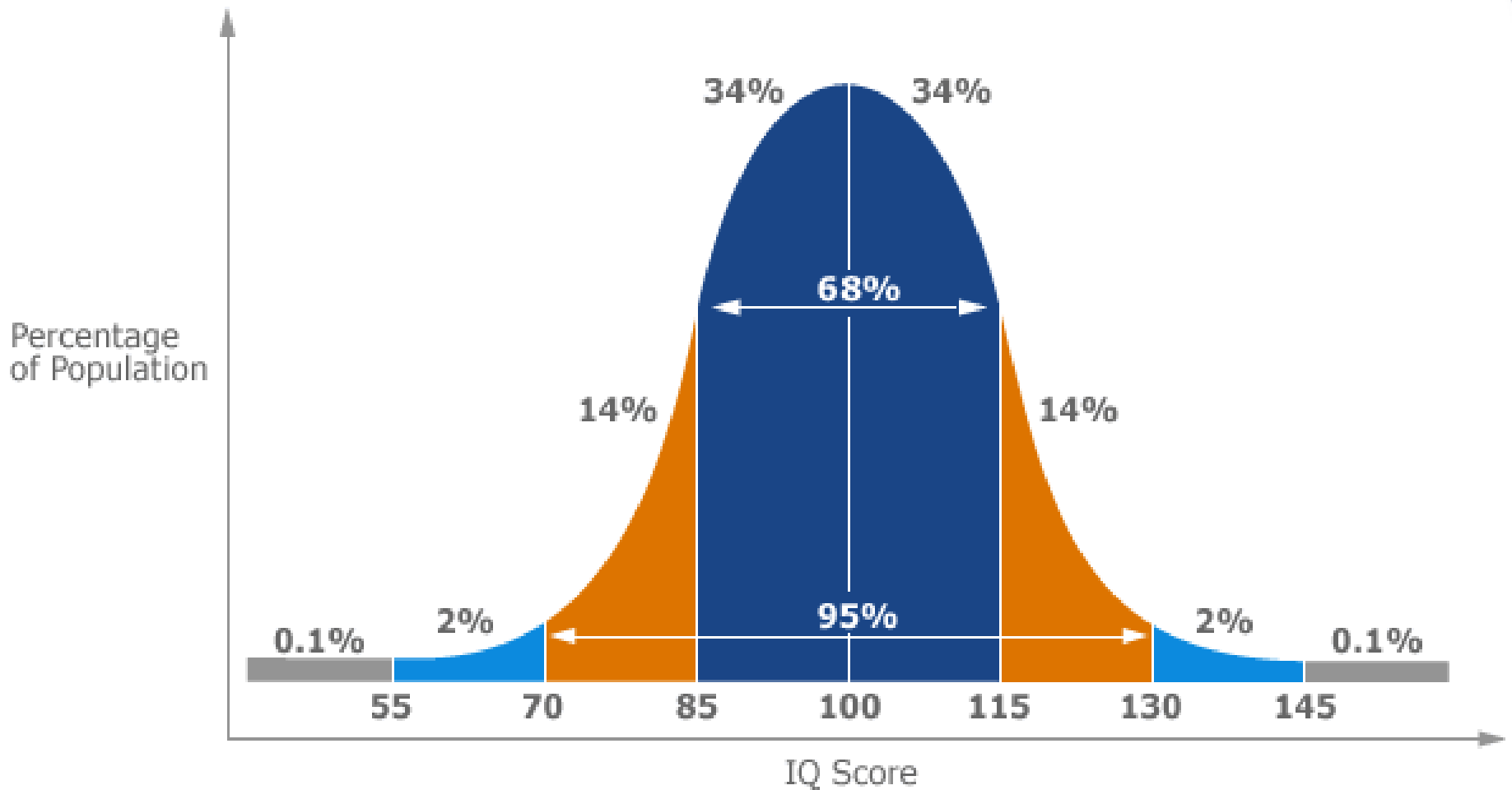
	Homeless sheltered	Mental/psychiatric illness
Guided housing	807	336
Group housing	185	217
24hrs settings	217	1.086
Physical care	118	218
Families	83	
Families 24hrs	89	
<b>Total</b>	<b>1.499</b>	<b>1.857</b>

# Definition Mild Intellectual (or Learning ) Disability (MID)

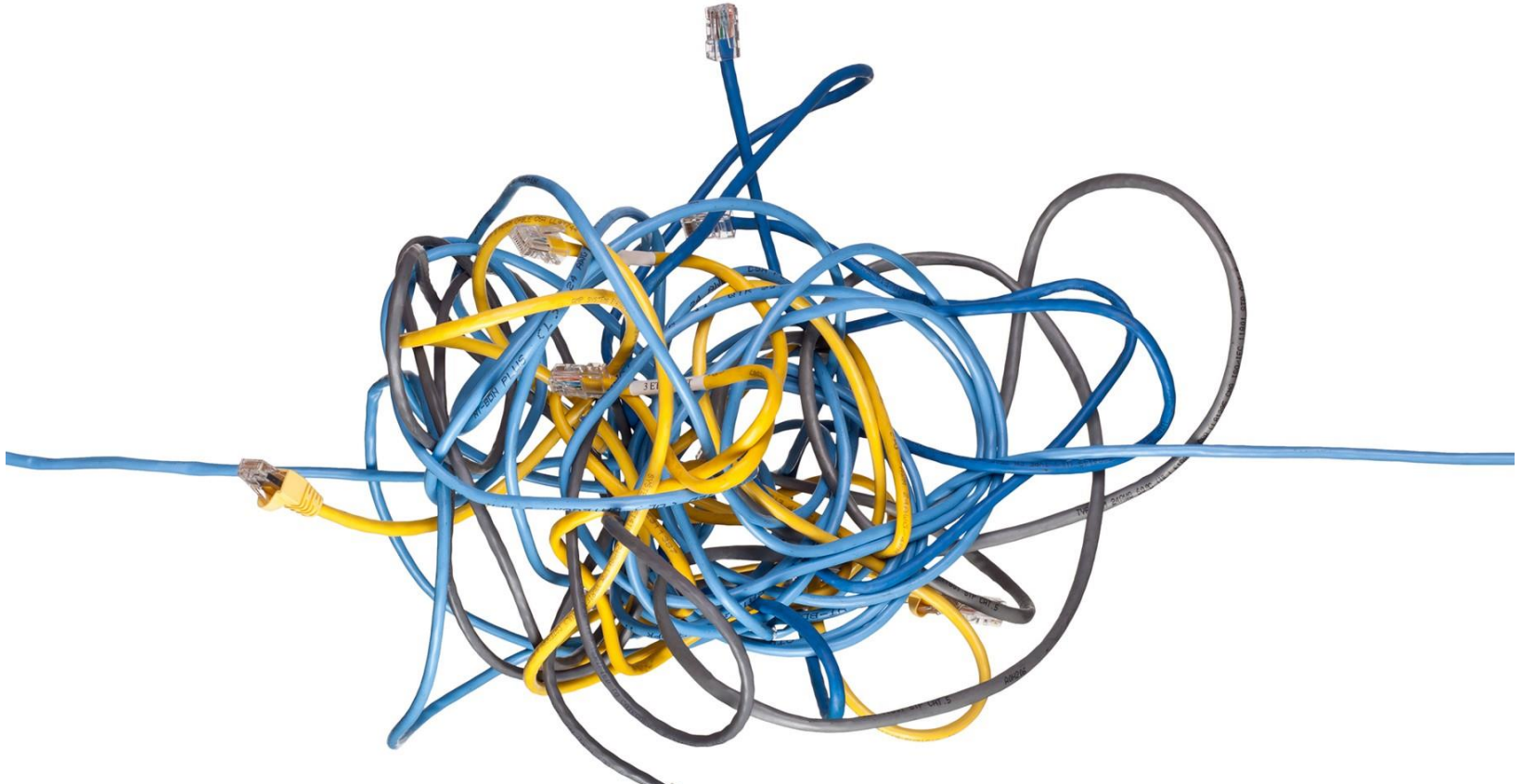
- **IQ under 85 in combination with poor social adaptability, additional psychiatric problems and an assumption of longterm need for care**
  - (Moonen & Versteegen, 2016)
- **Social vulnerable people with limited cognitive skills**

# Prevalence

**IQ Score Distribution**



# Urban complexity



....not the ideal partner for an IQ < 85

# Typified

- Low social & relational skills
- Low ego-strength
- Susceptibility for peer pressure
- Lack of problem awareness & -insight

.....often hidden behind withdrawn behaviour or streetwise vocabulary and behaviour

# Risks of...

- School dropout
- Unemployment
- Detention
- Debts
- Loverboys
- Young motherhood
- Eviction...
- **Homelessness**

**40%**

# Screening

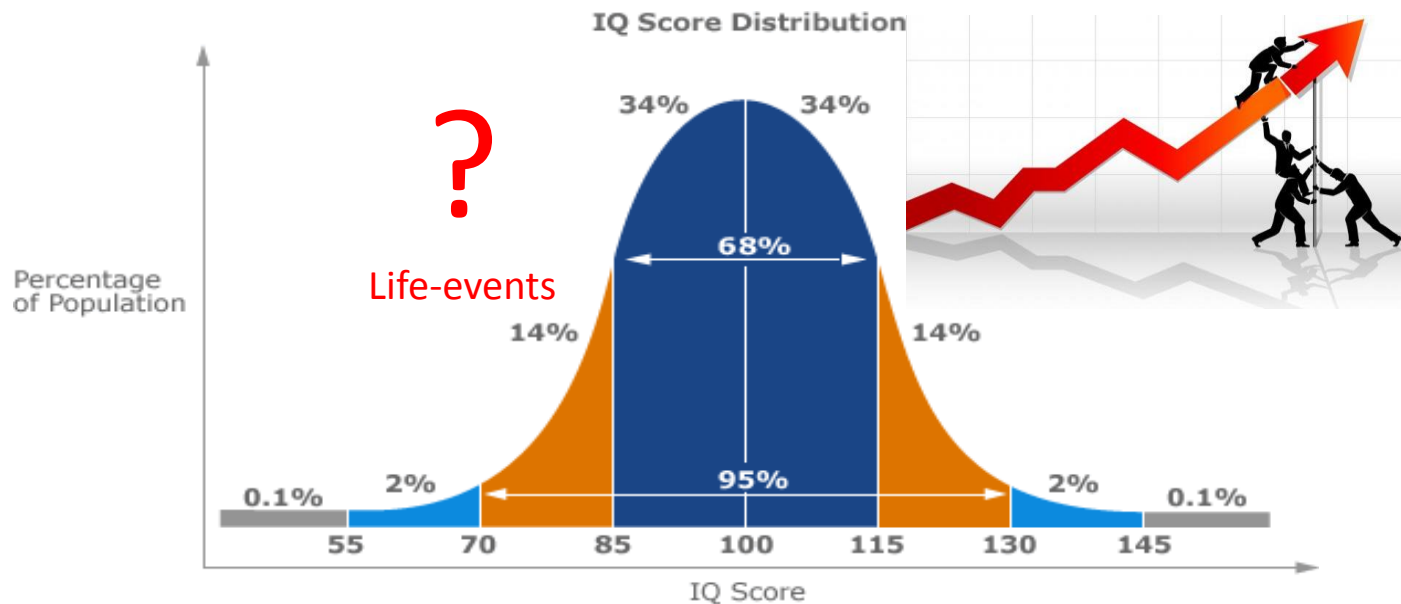
- SCIL > screeningsinstrument on mild learning disability
  - 25 points set of questions
  - proven indication of possibility of lower IQ's
  - Easy to apply and score
  - Scores under 29 proved 80% MID
  - Score under 15 proved 94% MID

**Prevent stigmatizing**



# Influence of stress on skills

- Recent evidence in biological and social science
  - Stress severely compromises ability to effectively solve problems, juggle priorities, make plans, manage impulses and follow through to complete longer term goals.



# Mission for professionals & organisations

- Reduce stress
- Do not trust on self-reliance dogma
- Create awareness and expertise in your facilities

Guideline Effective Interventions for Youngsters with MID:

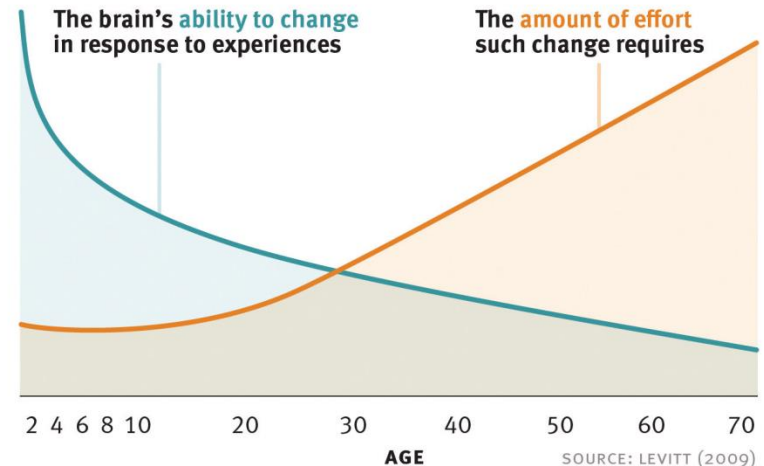
- More extensive assesment on all aspects of life
- Adapt to their level of communication
- Make practice/exercise material tangible / real
- Give structure and simplify
- Enlarge and strengthen the social network

# Mission for city policy

- Acknowledge the challenge for people with MID and the assignment for policymakers
- Learn from users with MID
- Simplify your infrastructure of support
- Contract experts on MID on policymaking
- Learn from existing practices
- Contract facilities with service level agreement on MID

# Amsterdam-case

- Early recognition/screening
  - Primary school
  - All front offices
  - Training awareness
  - Applying instruments
- Improve accessibility
  - Communications
  - Websites
  - Systems
- Hiring of users on all policy issues
- Contracting experts and suppliers in neighbourhoods
  - Awareness / Pathfinding / Prevention



Center on the Developing Child  HARVARD UNIVERSITY

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# Questions