metropolis •



THE CONSEQUENCE OF INEQUALITIES - Gemma Pinyol, migration and diversity consultant at Instructies

According to Pinyol, we cannot expect that economic growth will be the solution to inequalities. Instead, we should improve education from 0 to 3 years-old, increase basic services and eradicate corruption.

Pinyol also insisted on the importance of data to assess the situation regarding inequality and to analyze which policies should be implemented and where. The researcher shared an original way of showing the data, a map that shows life expectancy in different parts of London, taking as a reference the different metro stops that cross the city (<u>Tubecreature: Lives on the Line</u>).

It is also important to notice that the different indexes that determine social problems, such as drug abuse, homicide rate, life expectancy or even gender-based violence, are not directly associated with the fact that a society is rich or poor, but with the inequalities within society itself (Figure 1). Hence, social problems reflect the consequences of inequality and not the wealth of a society.

Worse Index includes: USA Life expectancy Maths & literacy Infant mortality Homicides Imprisonment Index of health and social problems Portugal Teenage births Trust Obesity UK • Mental illness (inc. drug and Greece alcohol addiction) Ireland Social mobility New Zealand Austria France Australia Germany Denmark Canada Italy Belgium Finland Switzerland Netherlands Sweden Japan Better High Low Income inequality Source: Wilkinson & Pickett, The Spirit Level (2009) THE EQUALITY TRUST

Figure 1: Index of social problems and income inequalities