



WESTERN SYDNEY
UNIVERSITY



Institute for Culture
and Society

Ageing, Home and Housing Security Amongst Single, Asset-Poor Older Women

The project

We hear a lot about the housing affordability crisis facing young people. But how are older people fairing?

Dr Emma Power from the Institute for Culture and Society is investigating the housing and homemaking experiences of single older women who live on a low income and do not own their home. This project is funded by the Australian Research Council through its Discovery Early Career Researcher Award (DECRA) grant scheme.

Dr Power says that although many older Australians have benefited from home ownership during a period of enormous growth in housing prices, growing numbers do not own their own home and are at risk of housing insecurity and even homelessness.

“Older women who live on a low income, such as the pension, and do not own their own home are particularly at risk,” Says Dr Power.

Dr Power says that people exiting home ownership, whether because of financial hardship or life changes such as a relationship breakdown, are amongst the most housing vulnerable in our homeownership society. The unaffordable nature of housing in Sydney means that this group often has less choice about where they will live and the type of housing they live in. Lack of choice can result in a loss of community and pose a huge risk to well-being as people age.

The project, *Ageing, home and housing security amongst single, asset-poor older women*, will explore women's experiences negotiating housing security and making home in the increasingly unaffordable city of Sydney.

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The Institute encourages collaboration from Australian and international institutions, and students interested in postgraduate studies.