



THE INFLUENCE OF ADULT EDUCATION ON THE INCREASE OF SOCIAL INCLUSION

De invloed van volwasseneneducatie op
de toename in sociale inclusie

Prof. Dr. Maurice P.V.M. de Greef



Social inclusion, concerns who?

- Homeless
- Out of work
- Illiterate

Homeless
Please Help
God Bless you!
JESUS Loves all

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Social inclusion, concerns who?



Poor social network

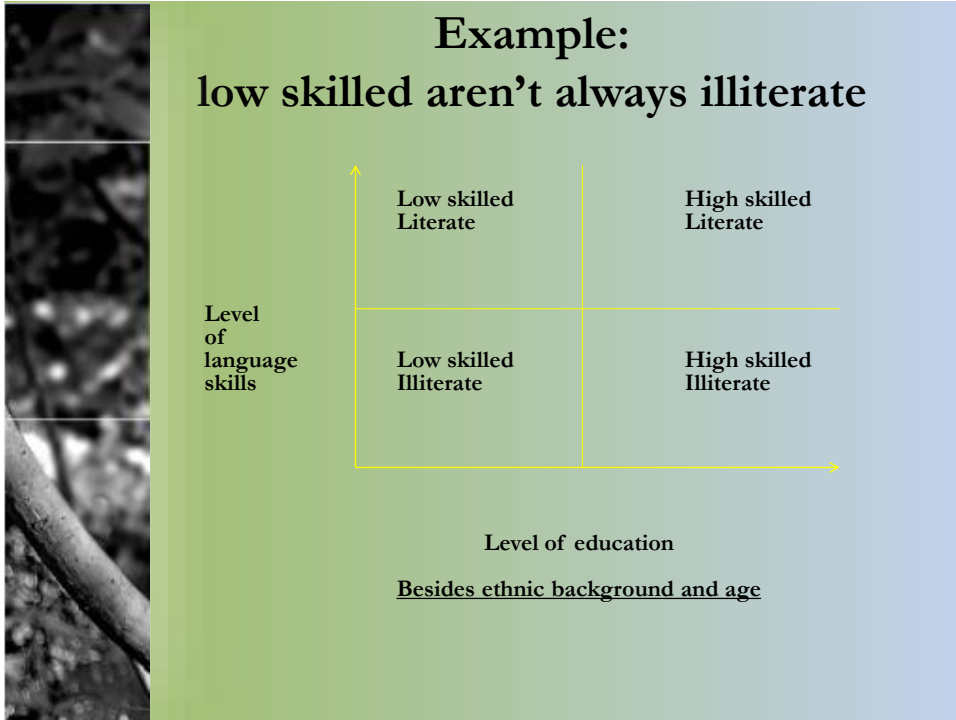
Lonely

Working and living abroad



Definition of different target groups is needed





But is there a problem?

- ✓ **EU: 24% European citizens at-risk of poverty**
(Eurostat, 2012)
- ✓ **NL: Gap quality of life between low and high skilled**
(Bijl et al., 2011)
- ✓ **European Commission (2010): Europe 2020 strategy in order to lift up 20 mln. people out of social exclusion and poverty** → ‘vulnerable adults’ e.g.:
 - **22% citizens industrialised countries: illiterate**
(UNICEF, 2008)
 - **25% of today’s fifteen years old inadequately skilled above 25** (EARLALL, 2011)
 - **Migrants experience differences in life**
(Dahlstedt & Bevelander, 2010)
 - **Elderly with health and financial problems can risk social exclusion** (Dannefer, 2003)

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An example: costs of illiteracy

Cost benefit ratio in cooperation with MU, PWC and SEO in the Netherlands

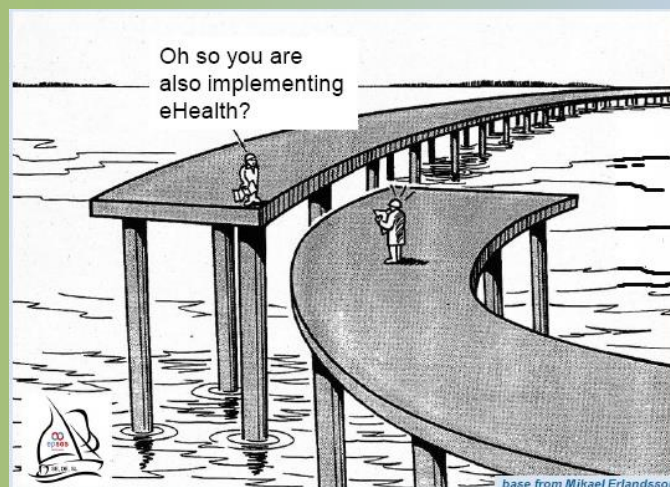
Costs of illiteracy in Netherlands:

- ✓ Health
 - ✓ Visits to hospital and family doctor: 127 mln
- ✓ Labour market
 - ✓ Productivity: lower productivity/unemployment/taxes: 353 mln
 - ✓ Social insurances: 76 mln
- ✓ Crime: 0.4 mln.

Total: 556 Million Euro

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What works?



Basic skills education as a lever



Basic skills

Digital skills

Language skills

Nilsson (2010), OECD (Christian, 1974), Kumpulainen (2010)

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Social inclusion

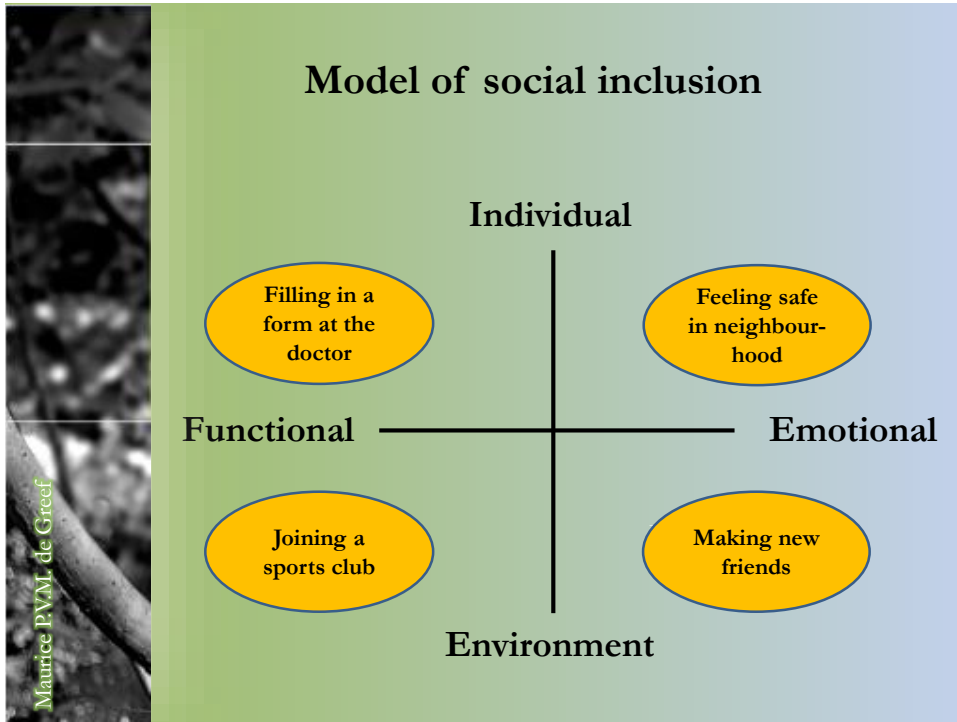
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A process,

- ✓ in which citizens try to cope and control resources and services,
- ✓ have and connect to social relationships,
- ✓ feel included in the (local) area and
- ✓ take part in its activities

Van Houten (2008), Ogg (2005), Levitas et al. (2007), The World Bank (2007)

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First results of study: it works!


Scientific research among circa 5000 learners (pre-test and post-test)

- ✓ 60% to 80% of learners has better language skills in practice
- ✓ 40% to 60% of learners has better place in society (social inclusion)
- ✓ 20% of learners has better position on labour market
- ✓ First results show:
 - ✓ 25% to 40% has better state of physical health
 - ✓ 40% to 50% has better state of psychological health

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The Ugly Duckling?



Hans Christian Andersen, 1843



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Thank you for your attention

