



Fuel Poverty and the Right to Adequate Housing

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The Right to Adequate Housing

International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights 1966

Article 11(1):

The States Parties to the present Covenant recognize the right of everyone to an adequate standard of living for himself and his family, including adequate food, clothing and housing...

What is 'Adequate' Housing?

UN Committee on Economic,
Social and Cultural Rights
General Comment No. 4:

Availability of
Services,
Materials, Facilities
and Infrastructure

Affordability

Habitability

Fuel Poverty is a Human Rights Problem - so what?

- Additional motivation for intervention.
- Empowerment of the fuel poor.
- Law and policy appraisal.
- Remedies.

Questions for a Rights-Based Fuel Poverty Research Agenda

- What are the effects of fuel poverty on other human rights obligations – rights of the child, rights of persons with disabilities?
- Do UK fuel poverty policies meet human rights standards?
- What are the available legal and political remedies?
- What would a human rights based approach to fuel poverty look like?

Ben Christman and Hannah Russell, 'Readjusting the political thermostat: fuel poverty and human rights in the UK' 2016 2(2) Journal of Human Rights in the Commonwealth 1-18