

Why Citizenship Matters

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Concurrent Session B2i: 30 minute talk with Q&A
Thursday, October 15, 2015, 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

1. Citizenship is the most important **goal** for our work together.
2. True citizenship welcomes **difference**, creates **equality** and is inclusive of all.
3. Citizens work together to **understand** how citizenship can be opened up to everyone.
4. Our recent work has, to some degree, helped more people to **achieve** citizenship.
5. But if we take citizenship seriously then this may change **how we carry out our work.**



What are we doing



What is our goal

There are lots of good ideas and nice words that groups use to say what they think we should all be trying to achieve.

- Happiness
- Care
- Love
- Inclusion
- Empowerment
- Fulfilment
- Better Outcomes
- Increased Social Value
- Community Connections
- Greater Contribution
- Lives of Meaning
- Normalisation

But the most important
goal is **citizenship**



Why

Because to be a citizen means
you are part of the community
that decides what its goals are.

If you are not a citizen you are outside and any goals that are set are not your goals (although they may still be set *for* you).



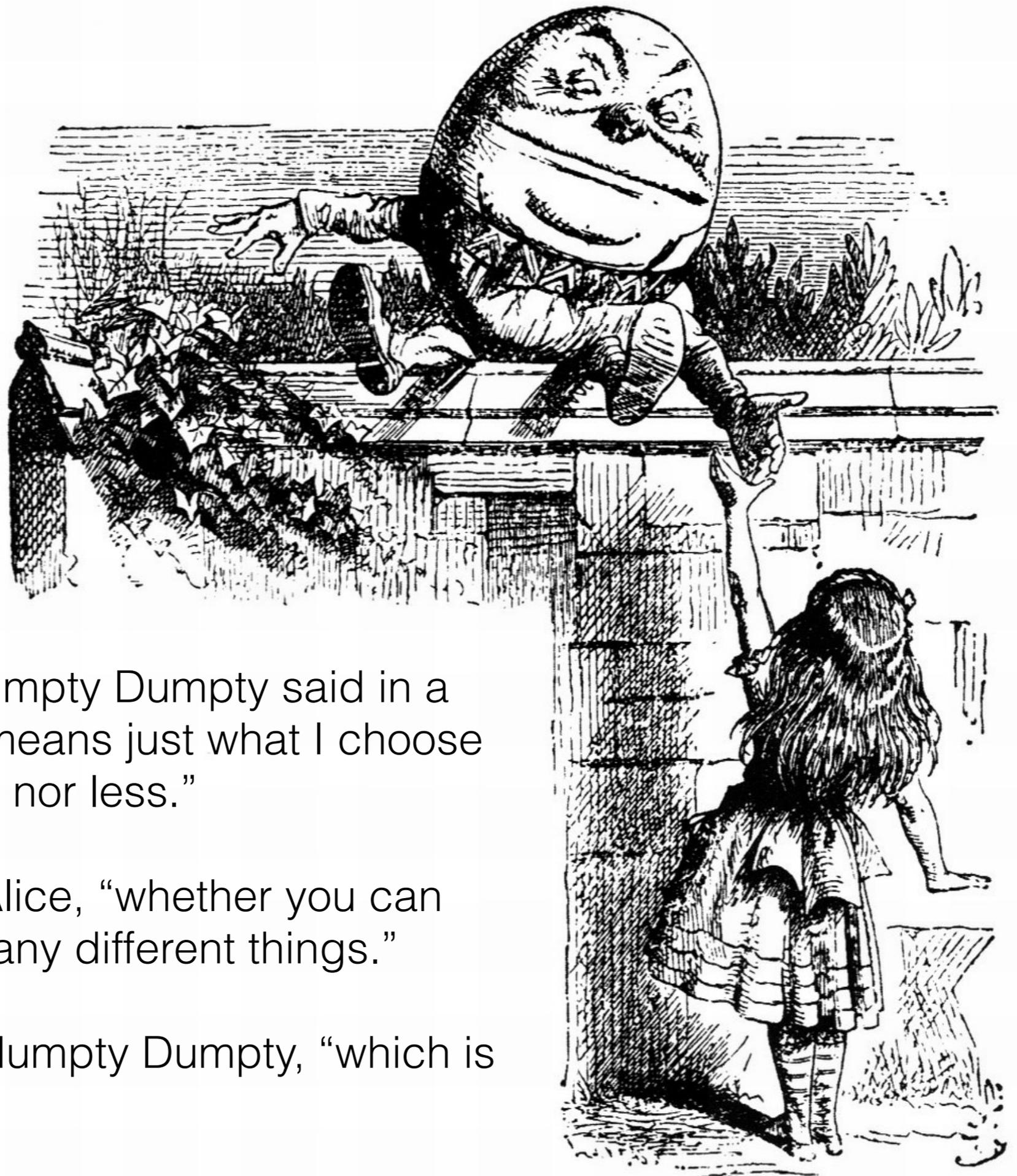
What kind of citizenship

The idea of citizenship has a long history and it has been used and abused by many different societies.





What is the true meaning of citizenship?



“When I use a word,” Humpty Dumpty said in a rather scornful tone, “it means just what I choose it to mean - neither more nor less.”

“The question is,” said Alice, “whether you can make words mean so many different things.”

“The question is,” said Humpty Dumpty, “which is to be master - that’s all.”

Citizenship is the best route to equality

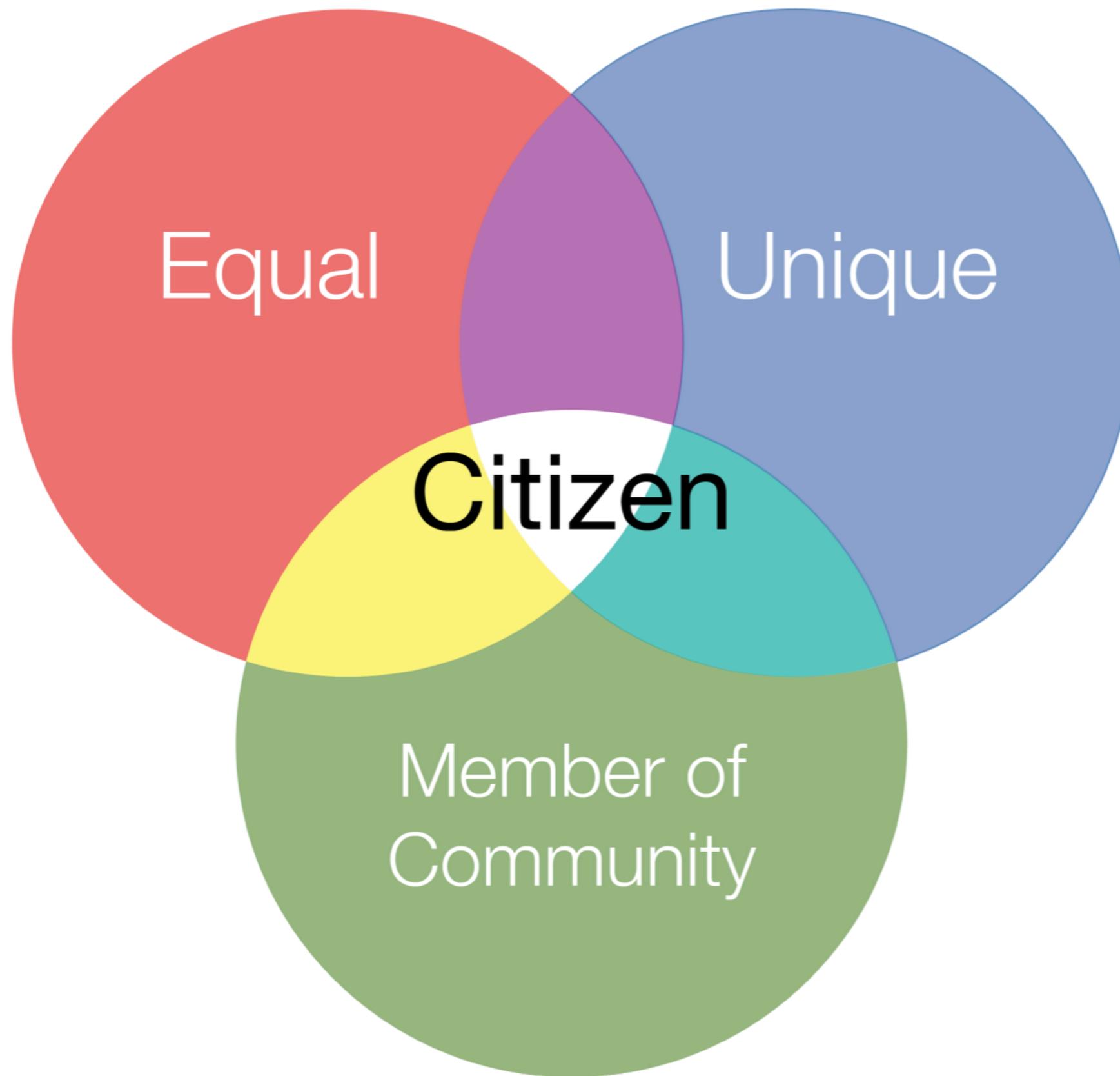


In a community of citizens we don't all have to be the same - we can all be different and yet treat each other as equals. Equality is a status we create together - in community.



“Aristotle explains that a community is not made out of equals, but on the contrary of people who are different and unequal. The community comes into being through equalising, *isathenai*.”
[Nicomachean Ethics 1133a 14]

Hannah Arendt,
The Promise of Politics



See Duffy S (2015) Putting Citizenship at the Heart of the Welfare State. Sheffield, The Centre for Welfare Reform.

“Citizenship grows when people who are different recognise they are equal and start to work together in that spirit.”

“Citizenship dies when people abandon those who are different to injustice and retreat into passivity.”

Understood correctly, citizenship enables us to be equal - and different - unique. Citizenship frees us from the idea that we must conform to a standard.

Instead we can learn to live together with respect: as free and contributing members of the community.



How can we be citizens

Citizenship is valuable.

But it has a price. It is not enough to just call people 'citizens', rather we must work to make sure that everyone can be valued as an equal.

Citizenship is 'Universalised' Social Role Valorisation (SRV)

- Both pay attention to how our status is 'constructed' by society and both seek to increase status of people with intellectual disabilities. **But**
- Citizenship demands we reject social devaluation for **everyone**, rather than just avoiding placing people in devalued roles.
- Citizenship demands that we all have **a duty to act** as a citizen and to welcome others as citizens.

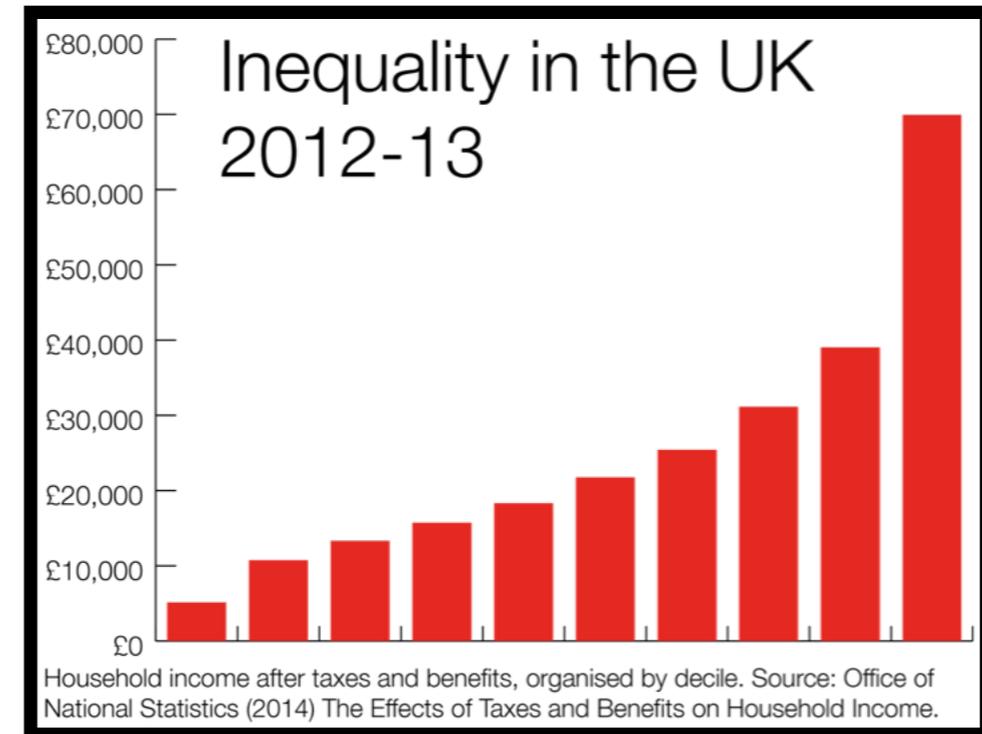
Some things are bad for
citizenship.



Glamour and Fame

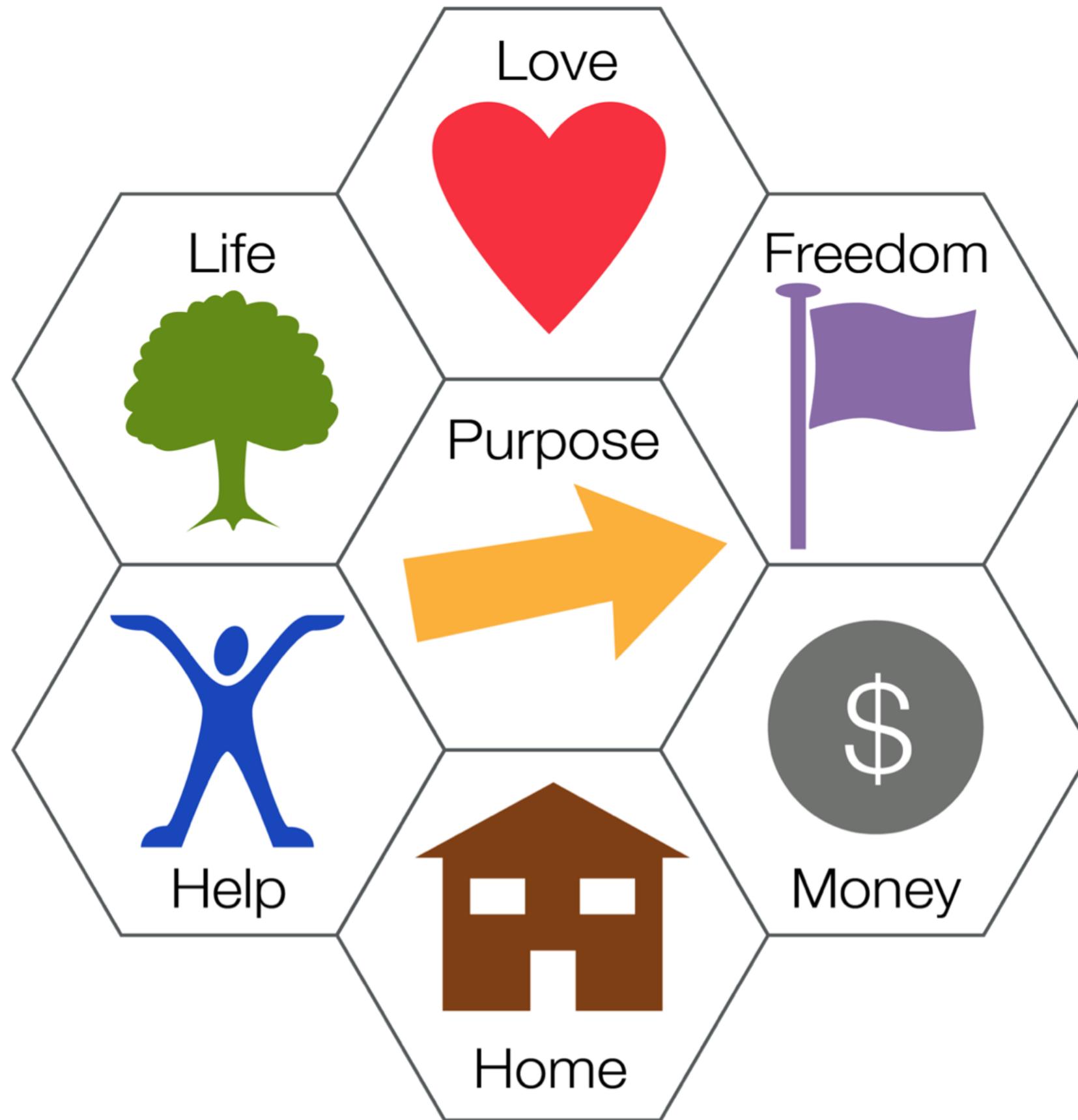


Tyranny



Income Inequality

Some things are good for
citizenship.



The Keys to Citizenship from Duffy S (2006). Keys to Citizenship. Sheffield, The Centre for Welfare Reform.

We make citizenship real by

1. Finding our sense of **purpose**
2. Having the **freedom** to pursue it
3. Having enough **money** to be free
4. Having a **home** where we belong
5. Getting **help** from other people
6. Making **life** in community
7. Finding **love**

This protects our **status**

1. Our life is seen to have **meaning**
2. We are not on **someone else's** control
3. We can **pay our way** - we're not unduly dependent
4. We have a **stake** in the community
5. We give others the chance to **give**
6. We **contribute** to the community
7. We are building the **relationships** that sustain community

This kind of citizenship is entirely practical and sustainable.
It is possible to achieve the keys to citizenship for everyone.
Not only does it not rely on the exclusion of others it benefits from the inclusion of all.



Citizenship

Social Model of Disability

Social Role Valorisation

Independent Living

Dignity

Normalisation

Recovery

Rights

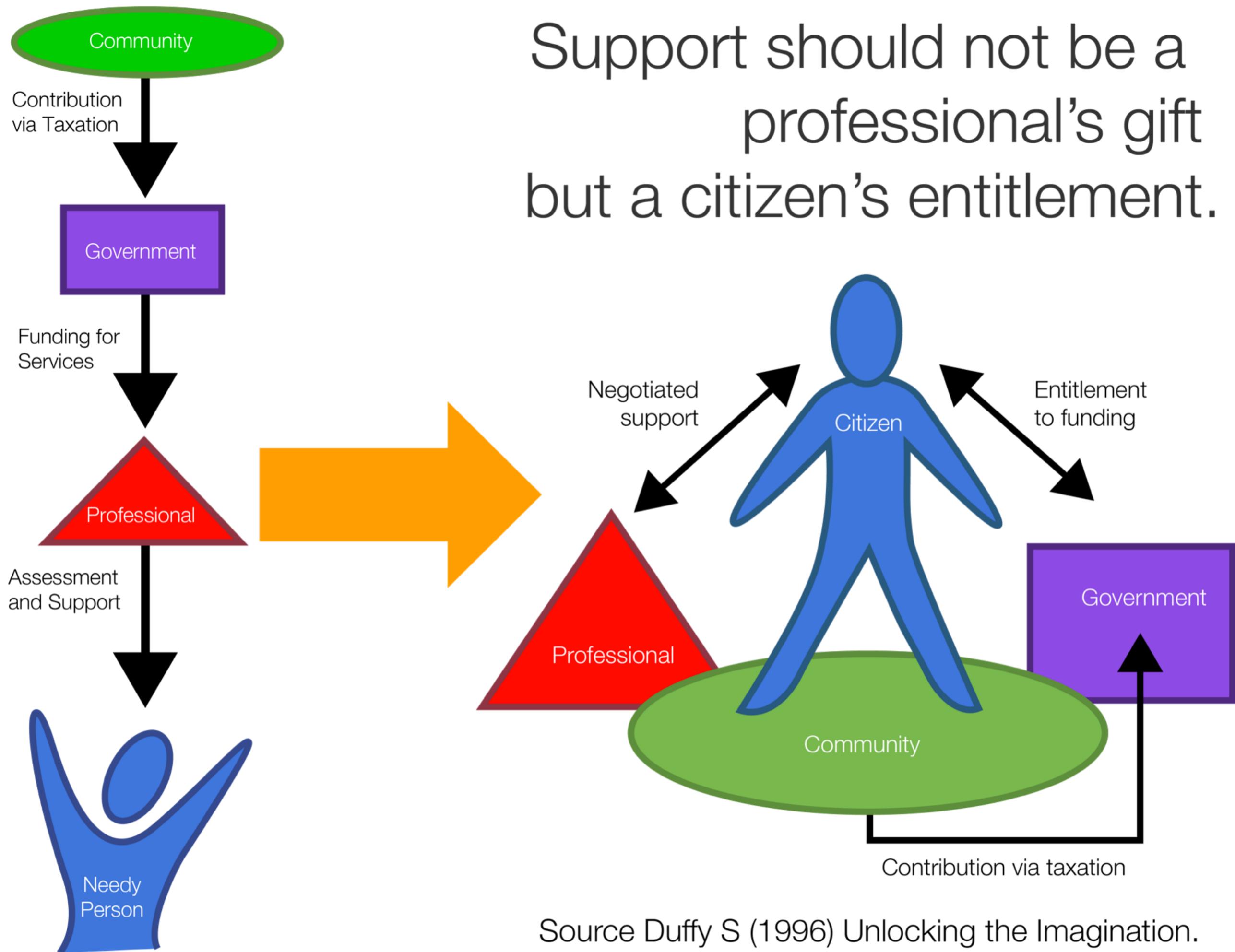
Inclusion



What about
self-directed support

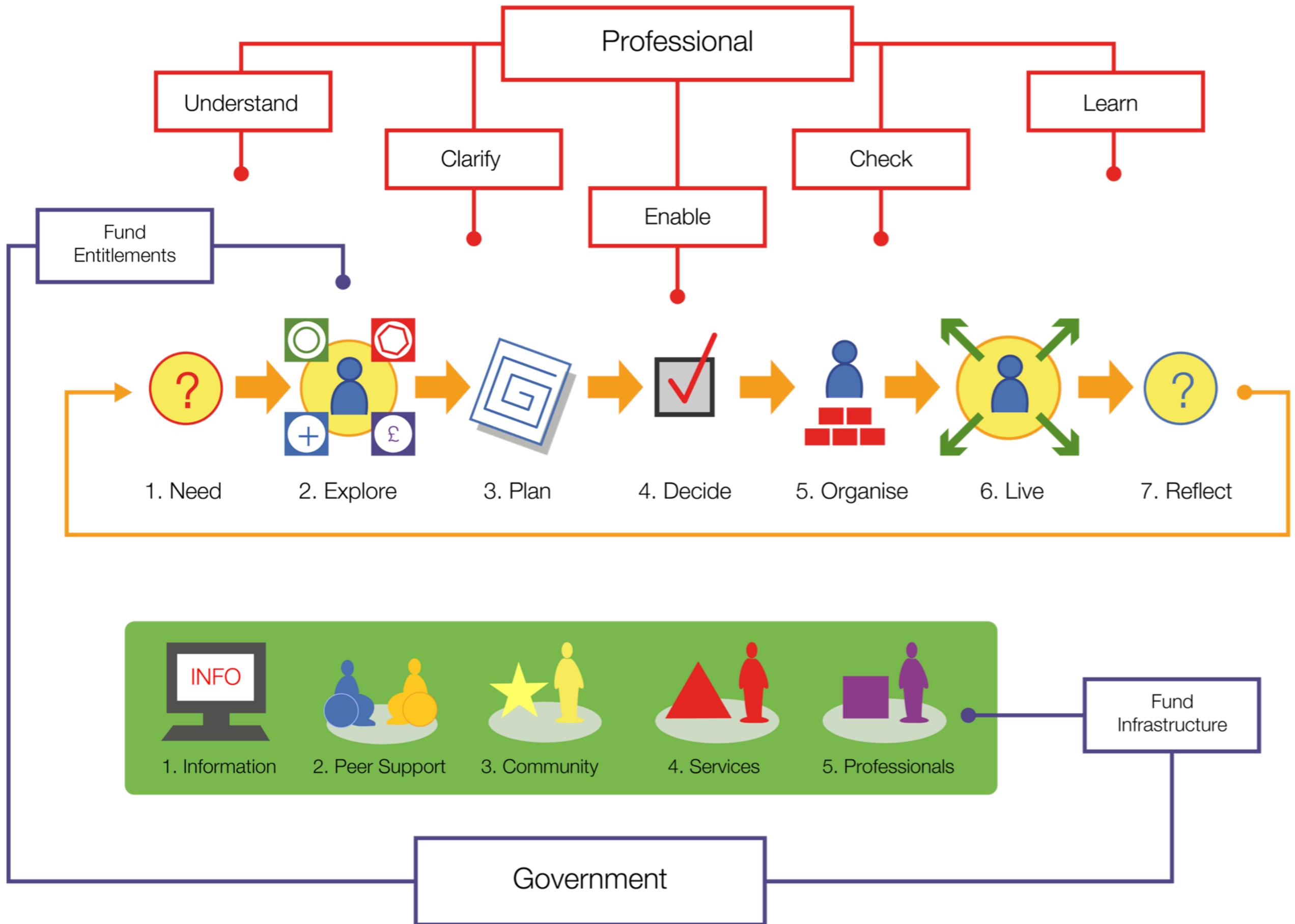
For many of us self-directed support has always been about helping people achieve citizenship.

Support should not be a professional's gift but a citizen's entitlement.



Source Duffy S (1996) Unlocking the Imagination.

This often influences the design of different systems of self-directed support

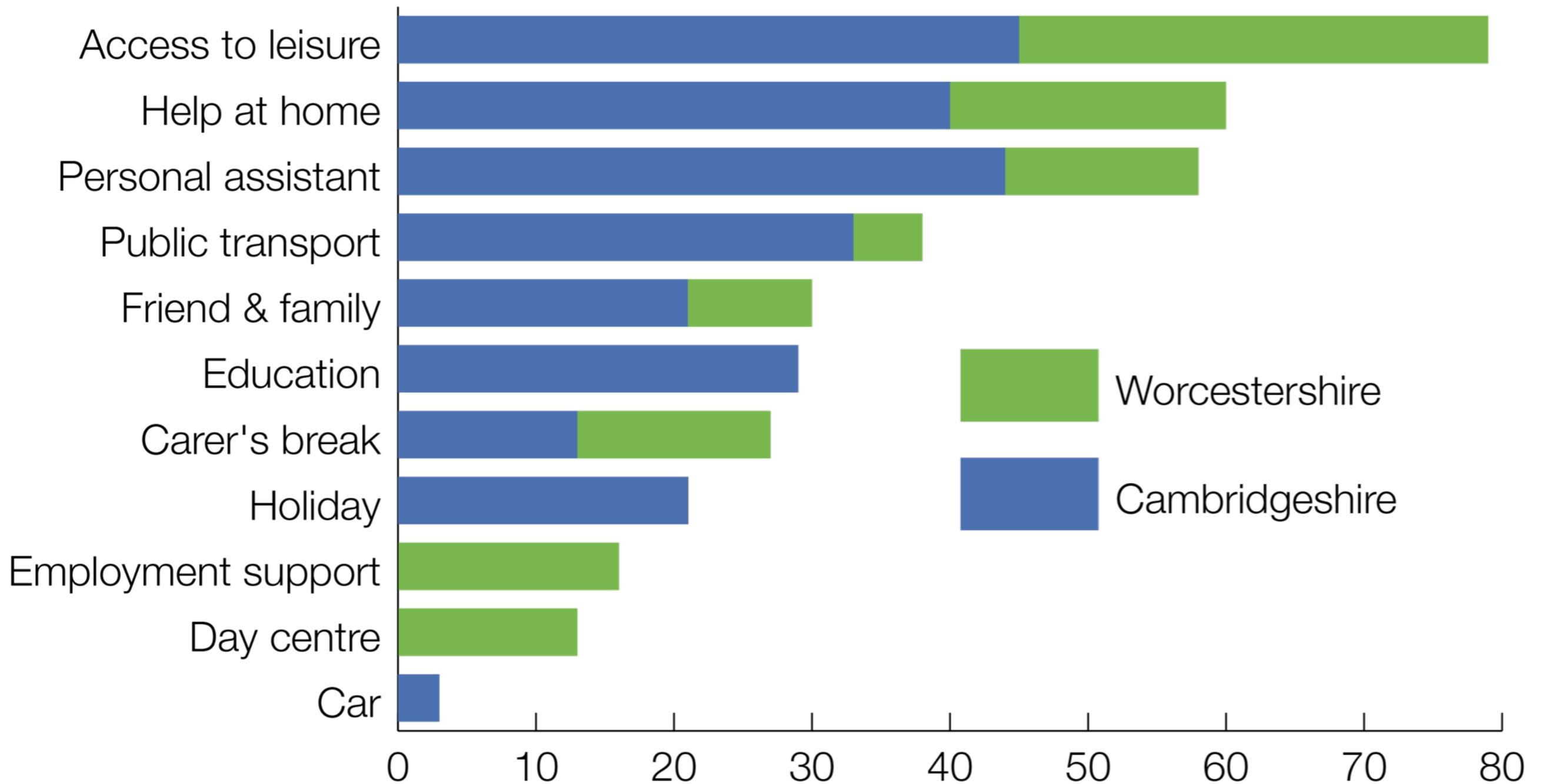


Self-Directed Support as a Full System. Source: Duffy S (2013) Travelling Hopefully: best practice in self-directed support. Sheffield, The Centre for Welfare Reform

- **Purpose** - enabling people to set their own goals
- **Freedom** - overcoming problem of mental capacity
- **Money** - moving resources from systems to citizens
- **Home** - enabling people to live where they choose
- **Help** - people directing their own support
- **Life** - increasing participation and contribution
- **Love** - strengthening families, friendships & relationships

Often research on self-directed support suggest some improvements in 'signs of citizenship'.

Use of Individual Budgets (Worcestershire & Cambridgeshire, 2008)



Data has been combined from Pitts J, Soave V and Waters J (2009) *Doing It Your Way: the story of self-directed support in Worcestershire*. London, In Control Publications; and Hay M and Waters J (2009) *Steering My Own Course: the introduction of self-directed support in Cambridgeshire*. London, In Control Publications.

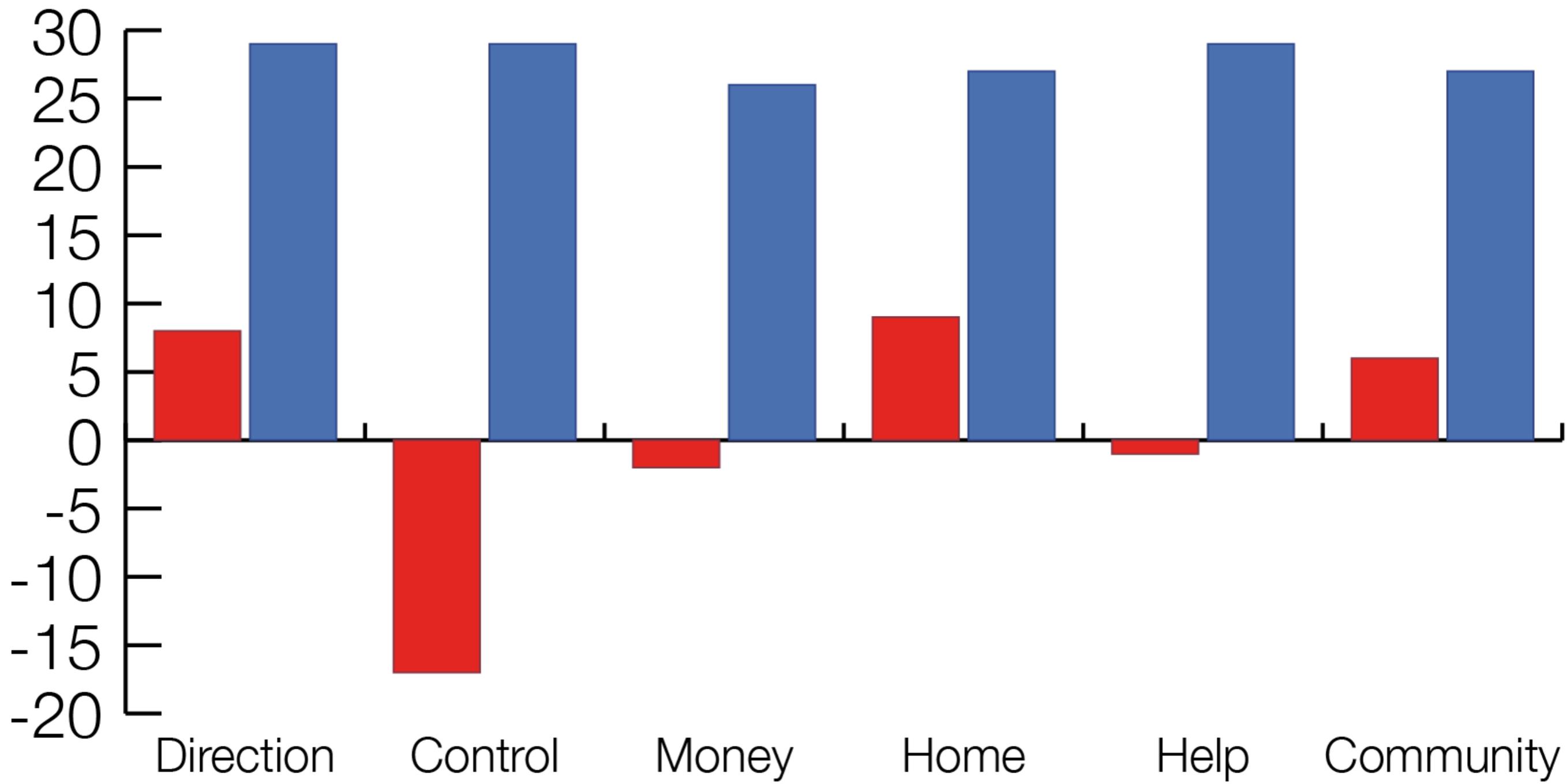


What next

Systems cannot be tricked into treating people as citizens. Self-directed support will need strong foundations if it is to be truly effective.

This means, for example

1. We must be able to **define and measure** how effective we are being in achieving citizenship.
2. We must recognise that this is about equipping people **to act as citizens.**
3. We must connect our efforts to **wider social and democratic reforms.**

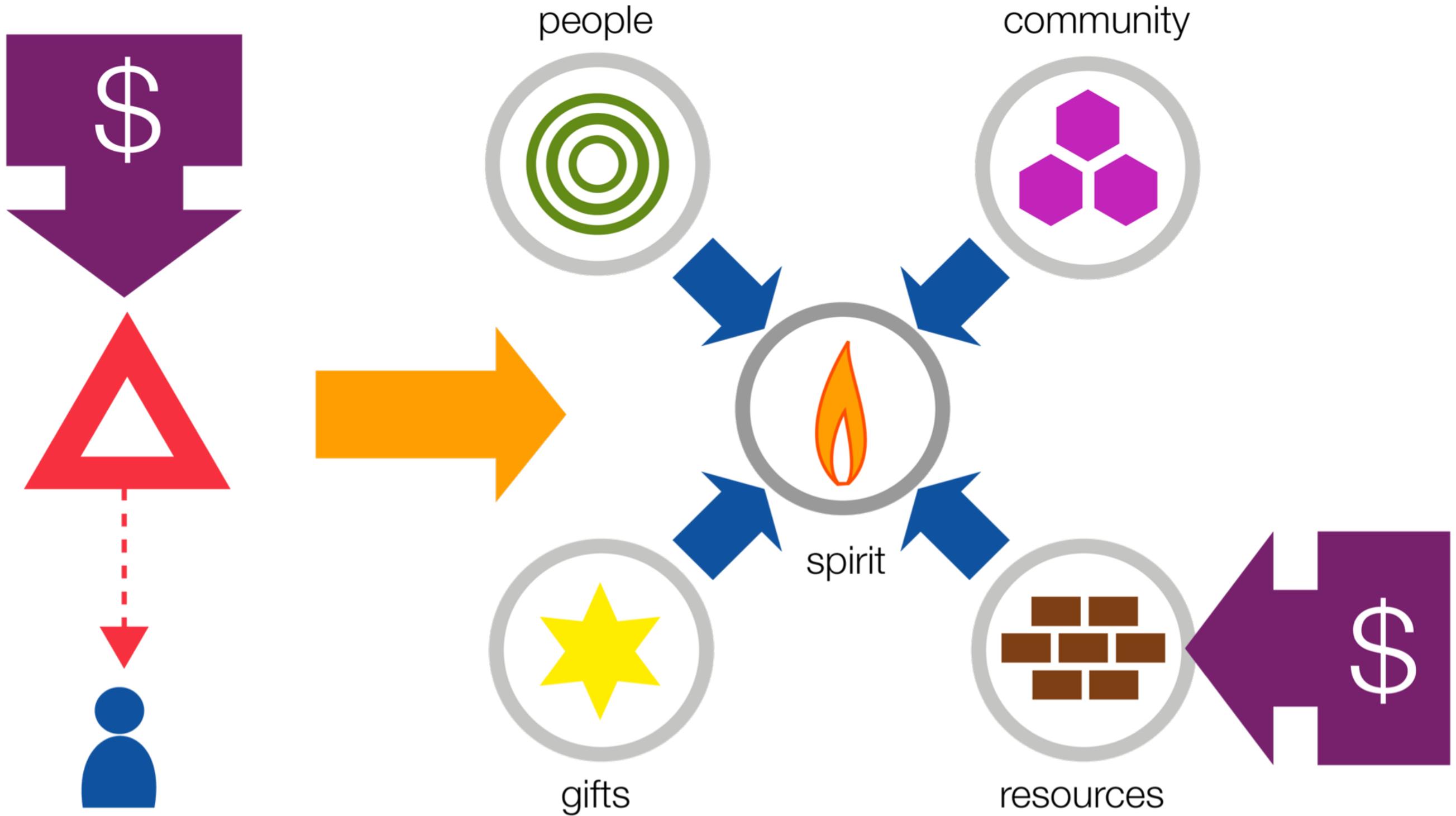


After SDS
 Before SDS

Combined data from *A Report on In Control's First Phase* (2006). Minus score is combination of 'unhappy' and 'really unhappy'; plus score combines 'quite happy' and 'really happy.'

From Push Economics...

to Pull Economics



Sources: Push vs. Pull Economics is an idea developed in Hagel J and Seely Brown J (2005) The Only Sustainable Edge. Boston, Harvard Business Press; Real Wealth was first defined in Murray P (2010) A Fair Start. Sheffield, The Centre for Welfare Reform.



Democratic Reform



Collective Action



Community Focus

People with disabilities, like many others, have had to fight for citizenship; and there is still much to be achieved. In fact people with disabilities can show people **the true meaning of citizenship**, and this raises important challenges for all societies in the decades ahead. It is time to challenge the priorities of modern society and to develop ideas that are more inclusive, empowering and creative. Citizenship is an ideal whose time has come.

But we must begin by
acting as citizens
ourselves.

Q & A



For more information:

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- www.facebook.com/centreforwelfarereform



Learning objectives

- Understand the meaning of citizenship
- Evaluate different policies with regard to their impact on citizenship
- Develop innovations that promote citizenship for all

References

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