The nightmare of the housing crisis in Britain  (8)

Home ownership has always been the dream of the British middle class – a dream come true for the smiling family posing with Margaret Thatcher on the 1979 photograph published in The Guardian (doc 4) in 2015. However, as the three articles of the dossier reveal, the UK is going through an unprecedented housing crisis. A 2022 testimony from Metro (doc 1) and a 2023 article from The Independent (doc 3) point out the hurdles met by Britons to have housing opportunities, while the editorial from The Guardian (doc 2) published in 2023 highlights the need for adequate political action on that matter. How severe is this housing crisis hitting the UK and what consequences does it bring about ? 106

The ongoing housing crisis critically impacts Britons – especially young adults – who can no longer afford to buy or even rent a home. With the supply of houses for rent plummeting – ~~down by 30% in one year and a half~~ - (doc 1&2), average rents have reached record highs, not only in London but also in smaller country towns (doc 3&1). Buying a home is even more inaccessible due to both skyrocketing prices and a sharp rise in interest rates, making it impossible for most first-time buyers to consider a mortgage (doc1). The dream of going from renting to owning one’s home epitomized on the photograph (doc 4) ~~by the family having just bought their council house and~~ - still regarded as a marker of success - (doc1&2) is definitely fading away. 101

This phenomenon has disastrous consequences, both individual and societal. In the country town given as an example in The Independent, locals are driven away from the town center, sometimes forced to live in precarious conditions, ~~even in vans~~, by unaffordable rents, while the shortage in council houses leaves 1.3 million people on waiting lists (doc2). As opposed to the previous generation illustrated on the photograph (doc4), Natalie Morris’s testimony points out that today only the most privileged Millennials can afford to get on the property ladder, often thanks to their parents’ help, yet ~~they are doomed to live~~ living under the constant stress of seeing their property lose value or of failing to pay back their mortgage, particularly with stagnating wages and surging cost of living (1&2). 125 – 9 = 115

However, most people are failing to grasp the emergency of the situation. Over forty years after the Guardian photograph, the Tories are considering bringing back Thatcher’s Right to Buy Act – that scrapped thousands of council houses (4) – while dropping the target of building 300,000 new homes yearly (2). The Labour party is under the same illusion that ownership is the key to the crisis whereas for this housing crisis to be fixed, urgent action is needed to refurbish a decaying housing stock and build more and better quality housing (2&3). Equally importantly, British people need to stop lecturing their children about not becoming owners (1) and accept that the golden days of home ownership are now over. 110

440 words

*Remarques*

* *Dans le titre, j’ai surligné les éléments attendus et nécessaires, à savoir ‘’ What ?’’ bien sûr, (ici ‘’nightmare + housing crisis’’), mais aussi ‘’Where ?’’ que vous avez tendance à oublier trop souvent alors que c’est une indication indispensable qui, en creux, nous indique le ‘’Who ?’’ – l’inverse étant tout aussi valable bien sûr.*
* *Mon amorce s’appuie cette fois-ci sur un des documents, à savoir la photo. Comme vous l‘avez constaté, je n’en fais pas un principe systématique mais c’est une façon parmi d’autres de démarrer la synthèse et de poser une accroche / une mise en contexte.*
* *Surlignées en jaune, mes topic sentences ; puis la suite déroule le contenu associé à chaque partie/couleur dans mon tableau de marche.*
* *Quelques modifs et améliorations par rapport à la première version que vous avez eue entre les mains la semaine dernière et que vous avez photographiée. J’ai notamment ajouté quelques mots sur l’image dans ma deuxième partie, ce que j’avais initialement oublié. J’ai choisi d’y faire référence avec les termes de ‘’ previous generation ‘’ pour les mettre en opposition avec les Millenials venant juste après. Observez bien ces modifications car elles vous montrent comment je travaille en reformulation et en choix lexicaux afin de rester sur 440 mots à la fin.*
* *Plus généralement observez bien dans cette correction et dans toutes les autres d’ailleurs le choix des mots et structures. Ces choix me permettent d’etre précise et de renforcer le fil rouge qui structure l’intérieur des parties (cf remarque ci-dessus sur mon choix de ‘’previous generation’’ alors que dans la première partie, j’y fais référence davantage par rapport à l’idée d’accession possible ou non à la propritété. )*