

# The Scandal Of Britain's Young Homeless

By **Alexander Baron** - Sep 30, 2015

---



**11**  
SHARES

The death of a 3 year old boy who drowned in the sea off Turkey has been exploited ruthlessly for political purposes, even though his family were not fleeing persecution in Syria as is often implied. On the other hand, the death of not a boy, but a young baby on the south-west coast of England has attracted nothing more than regional publicity and no outcry at all.

The baby, identified only as Donald, was born prematurely, and was only 2 months old when he died. One would expect such a young baby to be living at home with his parents, but they did not have a home, and had been forced at one point to sleep in their car. This was the first baby for the 39 year old mother, not a young age to give birth, so it remains to be seen if she and her husband will have another. The couple are now said to be living in

bed and breakfast accommodation, and are clearly still in bad financial shape because a local charity has **offered to contribute** to Donald's funeral.

Scandalous as it is that such a young and vulnerable child should have been abandoned by social services in the Britain of the new austerity, there are others who if not as young are in some ways equally vulnerable. In London, still one of the greatest cities in the world, a charity has taken to giving tickets to young people **to sleep on night buses**. Way back in 1990, the Government set up what was called the Rough Sleepers Initiative to tackle the problem of homelessness in the capital. Homelessness is a complex issue, many of those sleeping on the streets or without permanent accommodation have problems that cannot be cured with a simple roof over their heads. Many are older people – mostly men – who have drink problems. By and large the young do not have such problems, although any period of time spent sleeping rough, especially with winter approaching, can bring others. The obvious ones are crime, and especially for girls, the oldest profession.

Recently, the British Government donated a billion pounds in aid to the current migrant crisis, and along with other European countries will be accepting thousands of refugees. This begs the question, if Call Me Dave and his gang can commit to helping these people who are not our problem, why can't they find the funding and the resources for helping the most vulnerable in our own society?