

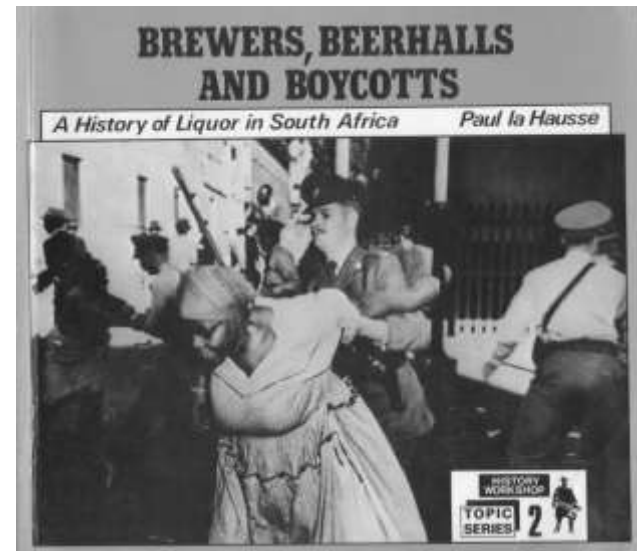
ALCOHOL AND HEALTHY CITY CITYLAB WORKSHOP

Shebeen Paradoxes

Dilemmas and Choices

- To trade illegally verses risks of police violence, imprisonment and prosecution.
- To trade illegally verses the reality of hunger and impoverishment.
- To trade regardless, but risk abuse from customers.
- To trade regardless, but upset neighbours.

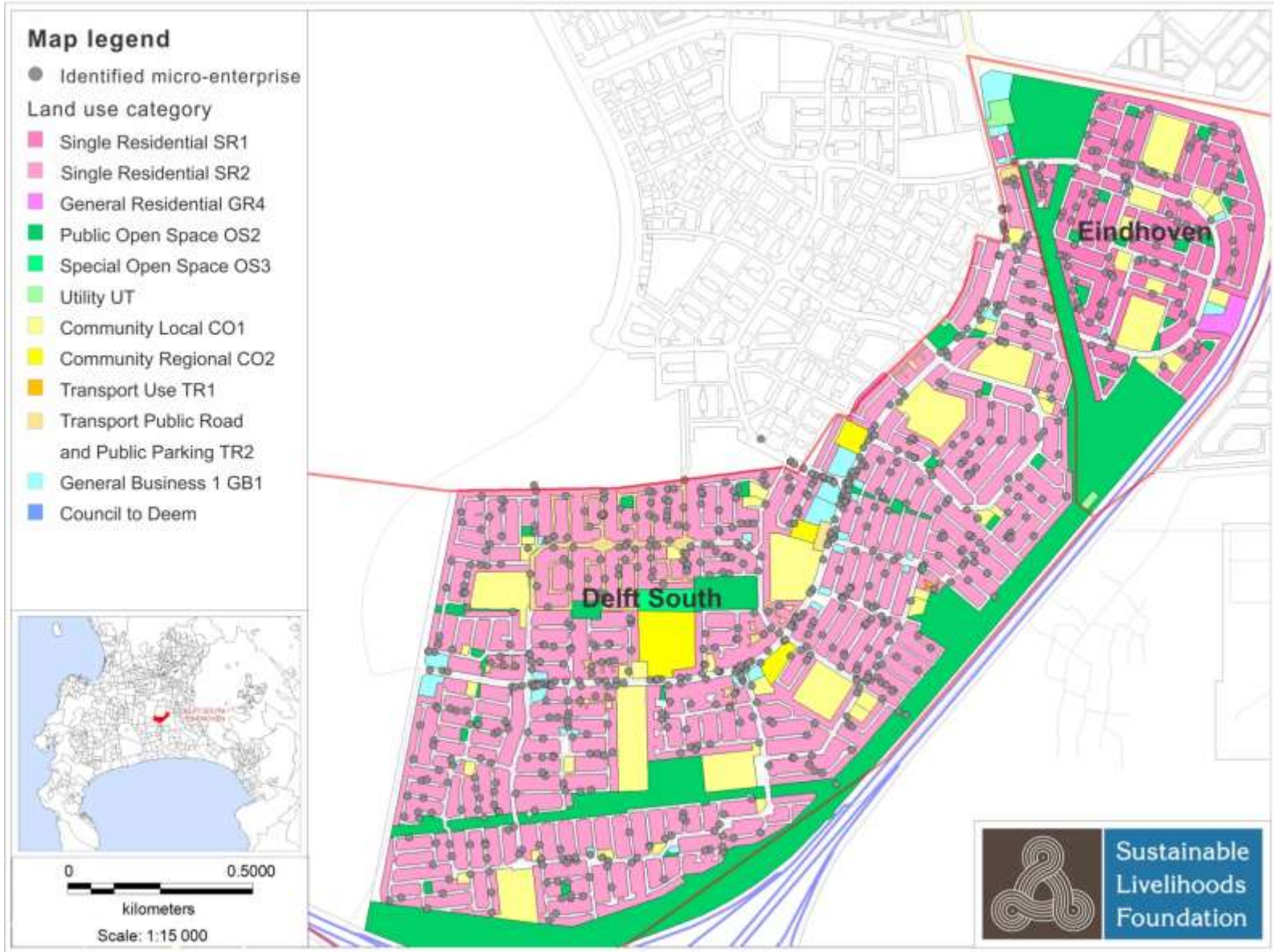
Nosipo's Story



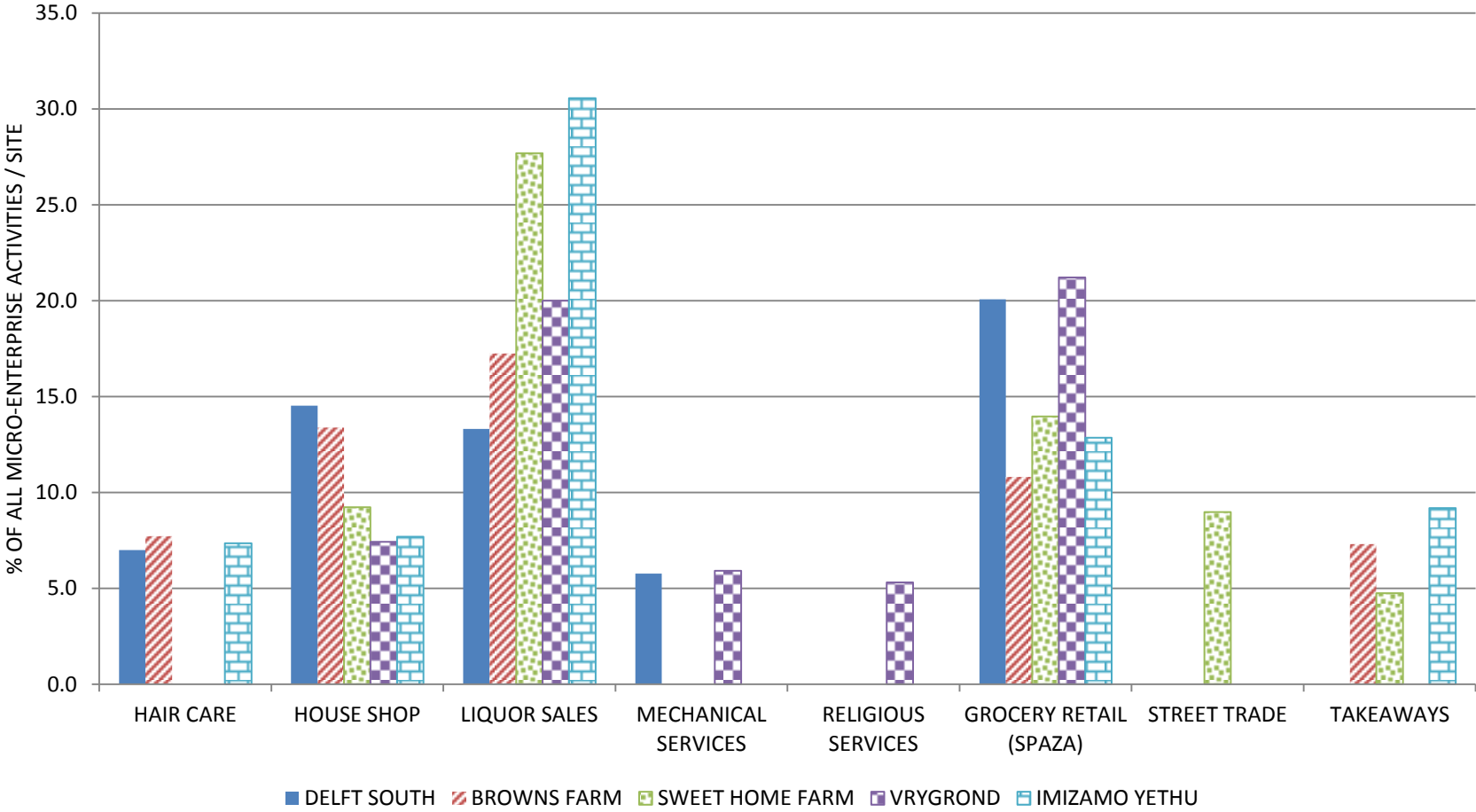
A scenario of 'enforced Informalisation'

- For most illegal liquor traders, it is not possible to trade liquor legally, i.e. obtain a liquor licence:
 - Land holding would have to be rezoned from SR1 or SR2 or Agriculture or Industrial to Commercial or General Commercial.
 - Application process is complex and cannot be achieved without involvement of a liquor consultant.
 - In order to acquire a licence, traders would have to make significant capital investments in their properties.
 - Local political consent.
 - Proximity to schools and religious institutions.
- Regardless, many shebeeners would not consider formalising their business, because they see their business as a livelihood stream rather than a micro-enterprise.

Distribution of identified micro-enterprises in context of land use categories Delft South and Eindhoven, May 2011



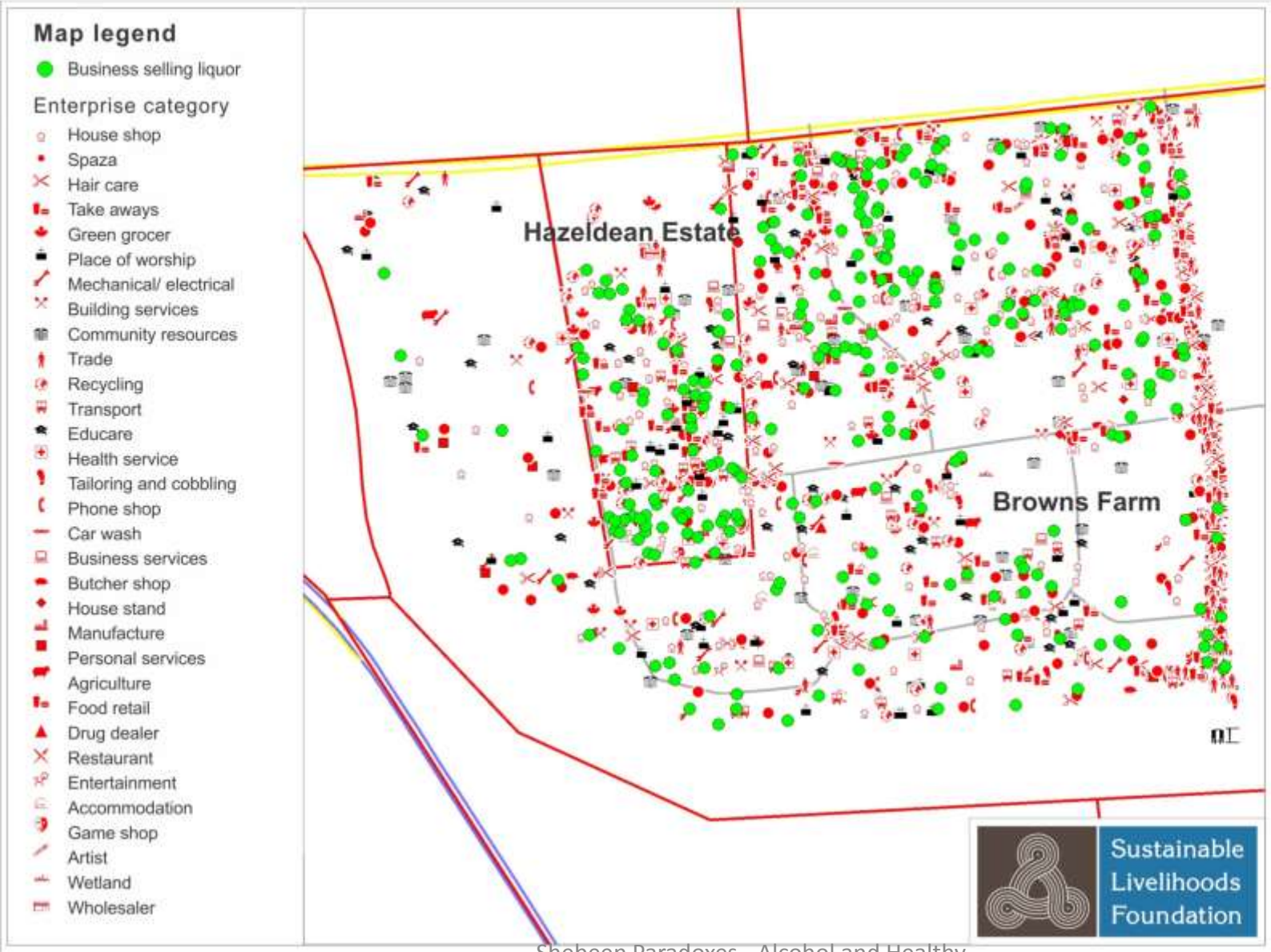
How significant is liquor retailing to the livelihoods of the poor?



Will intensifying law enforcement reduce the frequency of shebeens?

- No.
- Why:
 - The current approach to enforcement seeks to prosecute and impoverish the trader.
 - But courts are unwilling to impose the ‘full might’ of the law’ on poor people (R1million and or sentence of <5).
 - Policing has little impact on market dynamics or supply channels.
 - Police corruption is endemic.
 - There is considerably sympathy for the economic position of shebeeners, whilst shebeens are recognised as legitimate public social spaces.
- However, policing does influence enterprise size.

Distribution of businesses selling liquor in context of all identified micro-enterprises Browns Farm and Hazeldean Estate, Philippi, November 2011



'Micro-Control Strategies'

- Actions to reduce conflict, within the shebeen and external environment, as well as strategies to sustain neighbourly relationships.



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Internal

- Imposition of rules and door policy.
- Control and configuration of recreational space, including the provision of seating.
- Absence and or use of music, with control through genres and volume.
- Sale of liquor types.
- Measures to reduce conflict.

External

- Reducing operating hours; controlling noise,
- Facilitating micro-enterprise synergies and opportunities (glass collecting, fast food),
- Micro-credit and soft-loans,
- Public access (for non consumers) during the day time,
- Security (collaboration).



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What role to shebeens fulfil in the alcohol/violence nexus?

- An important channel in alcohol supply, though not exclusive.
- Provide a social space for recreation and drinking, though many shebeens sell for off-consumption.
- The role of shebeens as sites of trauma violence is unknown and requires further research. In addition, the contribution of enterprise dynamics to violence needs further study.
- The impact of settlement, infrastructure development and socio-economic factors on the occurrence of violence as well as the facilitation of crime opportunities is unclear (e.g. street lighting),
- The role of the shebeeners in taking more responsibility for reducing alcohol burden is seemingly muted, as a result of:
 - Weak organisation within the sector,
 - Absence of regulatory and supplier pressure,
 - The normalisation of violence (in their own experiences running the business),
 - Limitations of micro-control.

