# Santiago

**Population: 6,500.000**
**Density: 90 inh/hec**

**Understanding the tipping point of urban conflict**

www.urbantippingpoint.org

SUR
Corporación
de estudios sociales
y educación



High income

Medium income

Low income

**40 km**
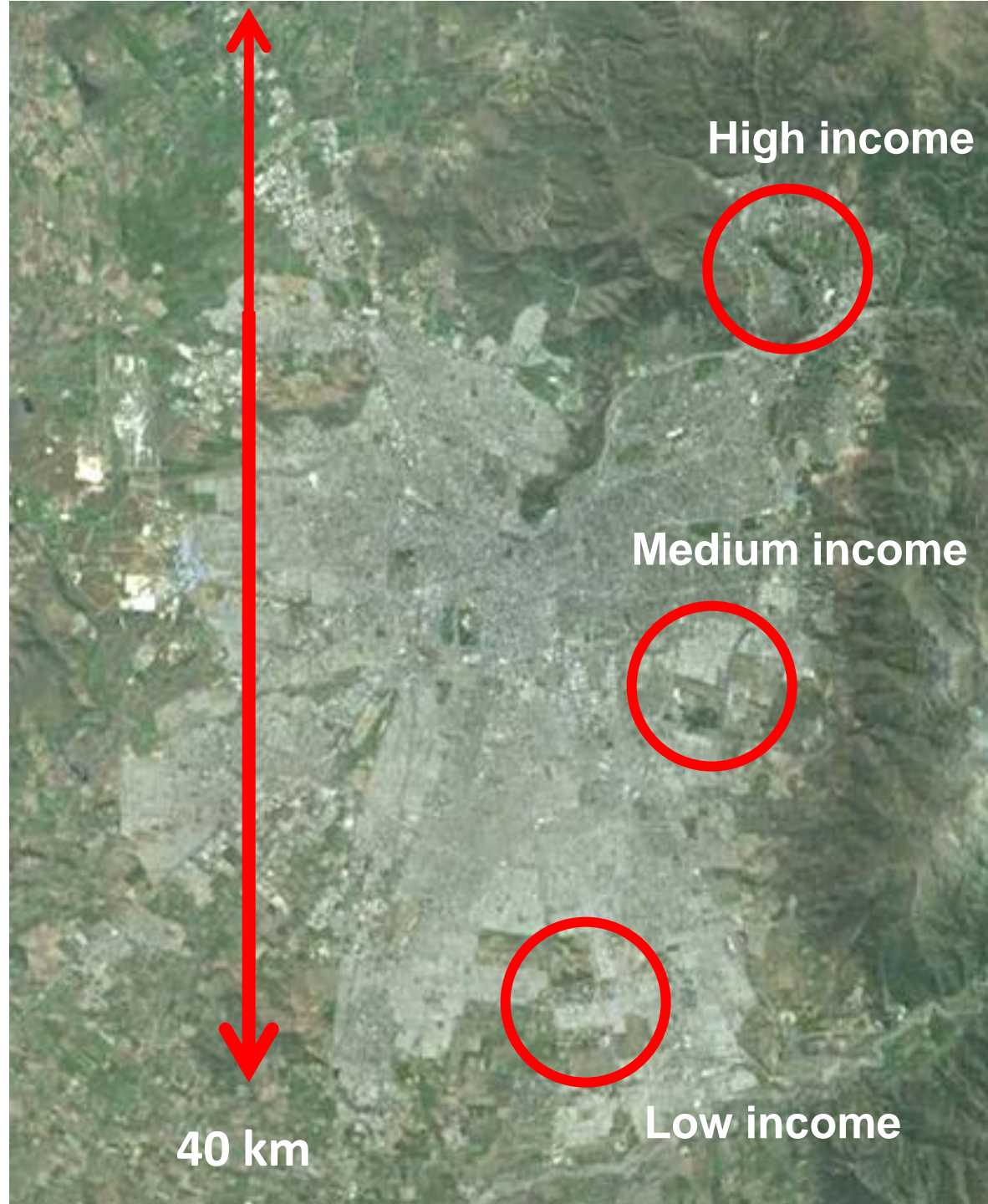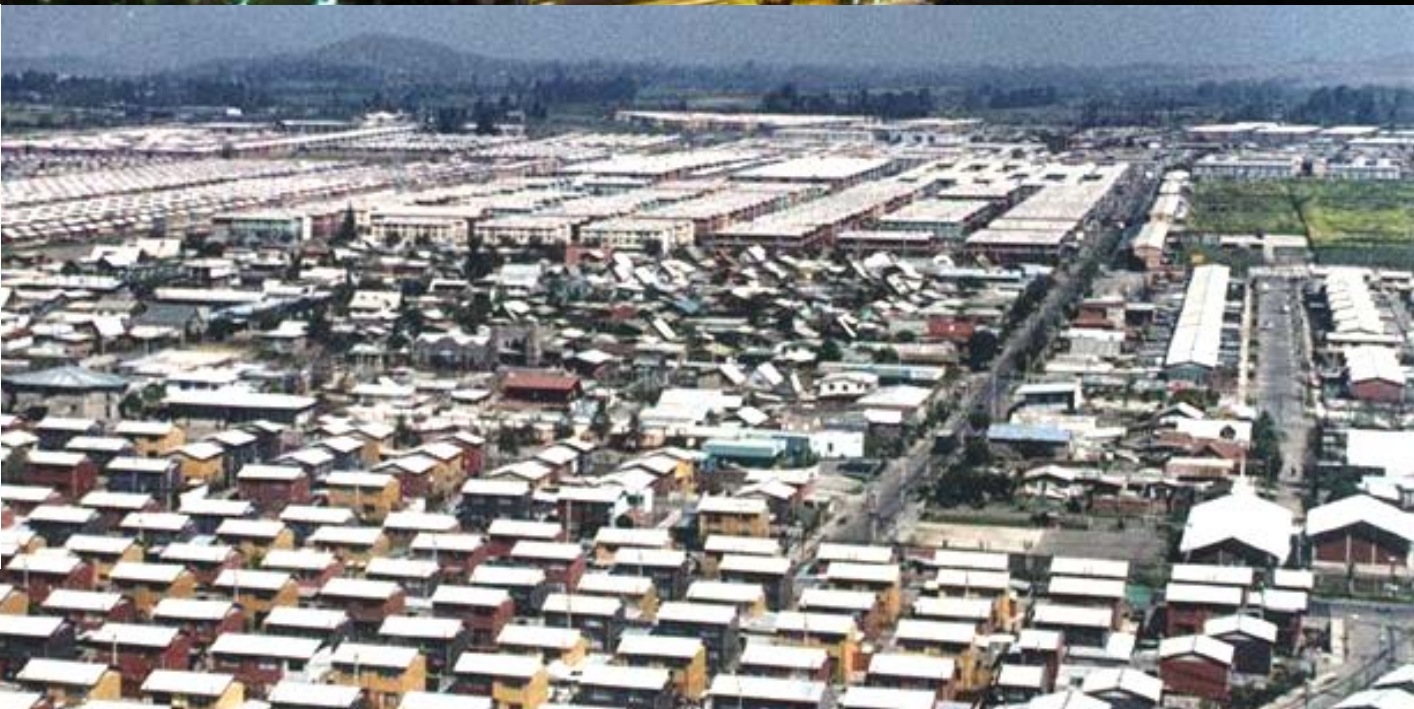
# DEFINITIONS

- Santiago is a **civilly safe city** but a **socially insecure city**.

- Violence is related to a **neoliberal model** that has exacerbated inequalities in Chile.

# DEFINITIONS

| **Categories of violence** (Moser 2004) | |
|---|---|
| Social violence | Against people |
| Economic violence | Against property |
| Political institutional | Citizen rights and human rights |

**3 Types of Violence** (Galtung, 2004)

- **Direct** – physical, verbal, psychological visible violence
- **Structural** – indirect violence associated to economic or social policies
- **Cultural** – violence that legitimises a framework for structural and direct violence

# Tipping points:

➢ **1973 – Coup d'Etat**- The end of democracy and the welfare state, a violent implementation of a neoliberal platform.

➢ **1990 –Transition to democracy,** new political regime but not a new socio economic model, neoliberalism is deepened.

➢ 2011-2012 – Students' and other social manifestations in Santiago make part of a broader social indignation movement. The start of a new tipping point?

# FINDINGS

*Violence is not confined to poor areas*

- **Direct violence**:  against women, child abuse, sexual harassment, bullying, fights, shootings, drug related deaths, robberies and muggings.

- **Structural violence**: economic and social inequalities; lack of opportunities, education and money (low).

- **Cultural violence**: machismo, consumerism, individualism; stress and pressure of the system (middle); winner culture and lack of values (high).

# FINDINGS

***Violence according to place, income and gender***

**LOW**

- **Drug use**, micro-trafficking, fights, shootings, power struggles, generate fear and impede the free use of public spaces.

- **Houses** are not safe spaces, reduced size and precariousness result in stress and frustration that lead to violence in family relationships.

- Violence problems that affect **men** are related to fights, weapon use, conflicts between gangs; problems that affect **women** are mainly tied to violence within couples, teen pregnancies, that later give rise to child abuse.

# FINDINGS

*Violence according to place, income and gender*

MIDDLE

- 'Pressure of the **capitalist system**' and 'the **stress** that we live as a society'.

- Consumerism, individualism,frustration, a workaholic ethic and a loss of authority and communication with sons and daughters.

- Assaults and muggings affect **women**, boys and girls; violence against **women** within couples, economic dependency, uncertainty and discrimination related to employment.

# FINDINGS

**Violence according to place, income and gender**

**HIGH**

- **Bullying** at school and in the family.

- Importance of **physical appearance.**

- Assaults, house burglaries, theft of and from cars

- Intolerance towards diversityf, f**ear of the 'other'** as *different, poor* and *violent*, creates a feeling of insecurity and unsafety.

- Violence against **women** within couples.Fights among **young men.**

STRUCTURAL VIOLENCE
Inequality

CULTURAL VIOLENCE
Consumerism
Individualism
Machismo
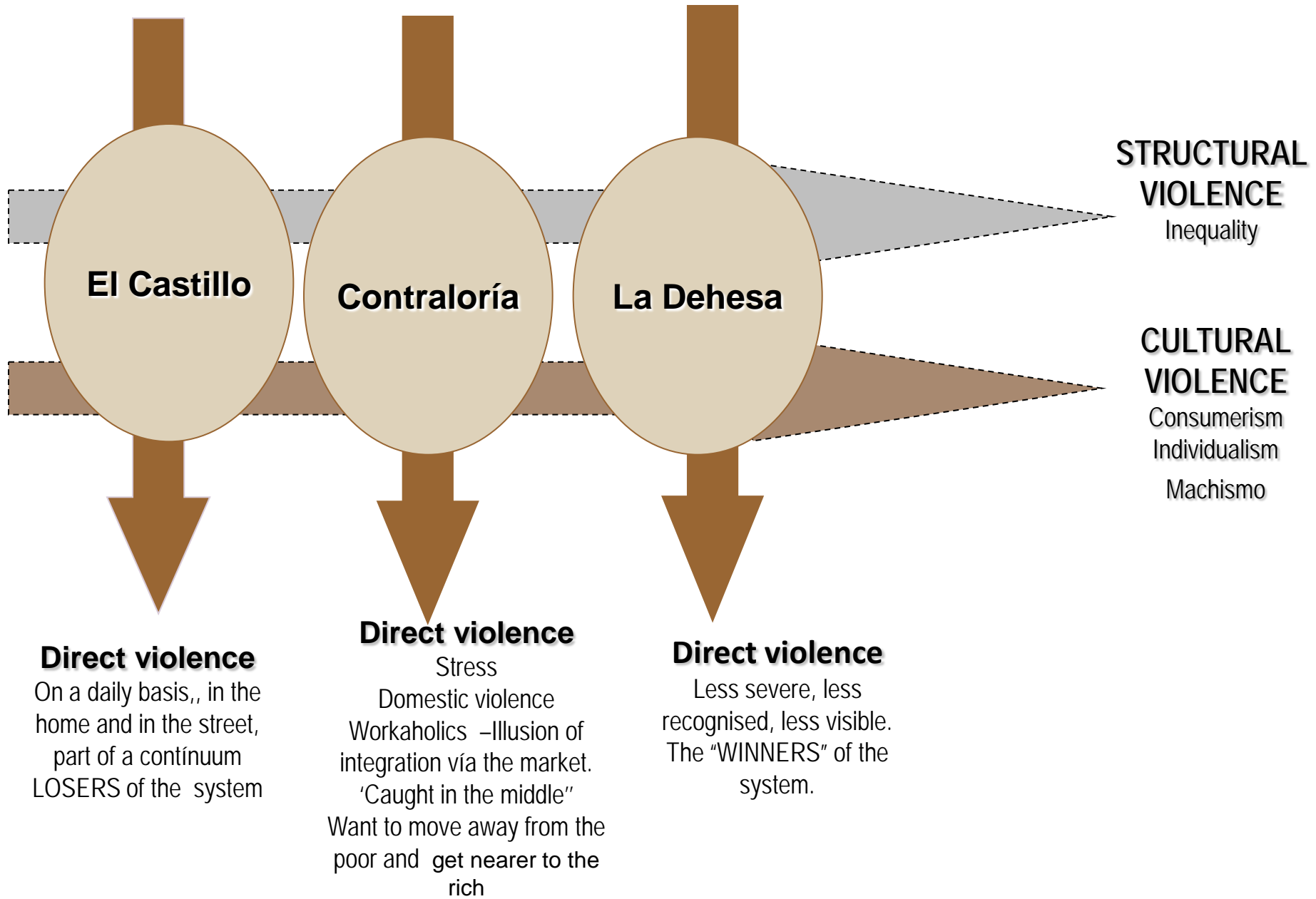
**El Castillo**

**Contraloría**

**La Dehesa**

**Direct violence**
On a daily basis,, in the home and in the street, part of a contínuum LOSERS of the system

**Direct violence**
Stress
Domestic violence
Workaholics –Illusion of integration vía the market.
'Caught in the middle''
Want to move away from the poor and get nearer to the rich

**Direct violence**
Less severe, less recognised, less visible.
The "WINNERS" of the system.

# POLICY PROPOSALS TO REDUCE VIOLENCE

1. **All violence must be made visible.** By defining urban violence only as crime and as a problem of poor areas, other existing manifestations of violence become invisible.

2. **Inclusion and social cohesion must be incorporated  as crosscuting urban policy themes.** Segregation in Santiago is both the expression and cause of violence.

3. **Citizen participation**. The role of local community in the application of urban policies must be recognised in order to reinforce identity and a sense of belonging.

4. The focus of public policy should be **violence** instead of **security**. By making this change 3 main areas appear in which intervention is required: the **family**, **schools** and **barrios**.

# CRITERIA FOR PUBLIC POLICIES

**Changing what public policy is understood to be.** "Public policy is not a specific intervention to solve a problem, but a space in which society agrees on how to settle the way its members wish to live together". PVA is a powerful tool that pools perceptions and proposals from communities.

**A city-based public policy.** The issue of territorial and social exclusion as a central aspect of urban living comes up in the discussion of the case of Santiago together with the aspects of insecurity and segregation.

**Different uses of power are seen behind the different manifestations of violence**. Cities are a privileged space in which several different uses of power become manifest. Cities are also a privileged space for detecting and reverting these chains of power and violence.

THANK YOU