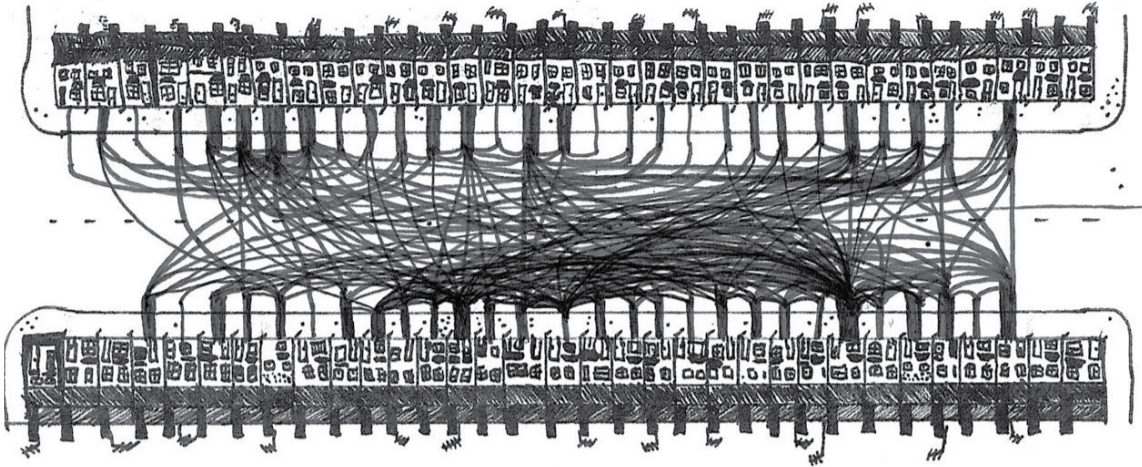


Driven to excess

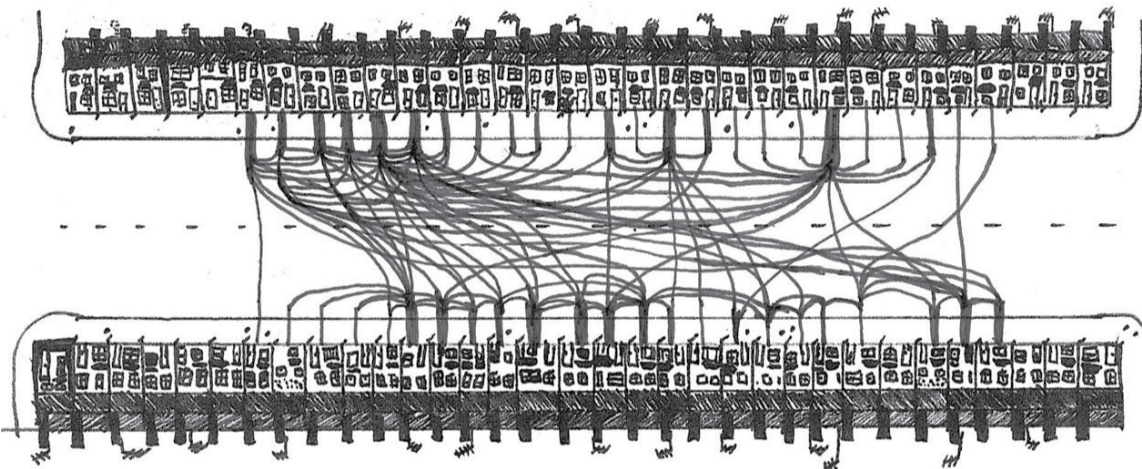
Light Traffic 140 motor vehicles/day

5.35 friends per person/ 6.1 acquaintances



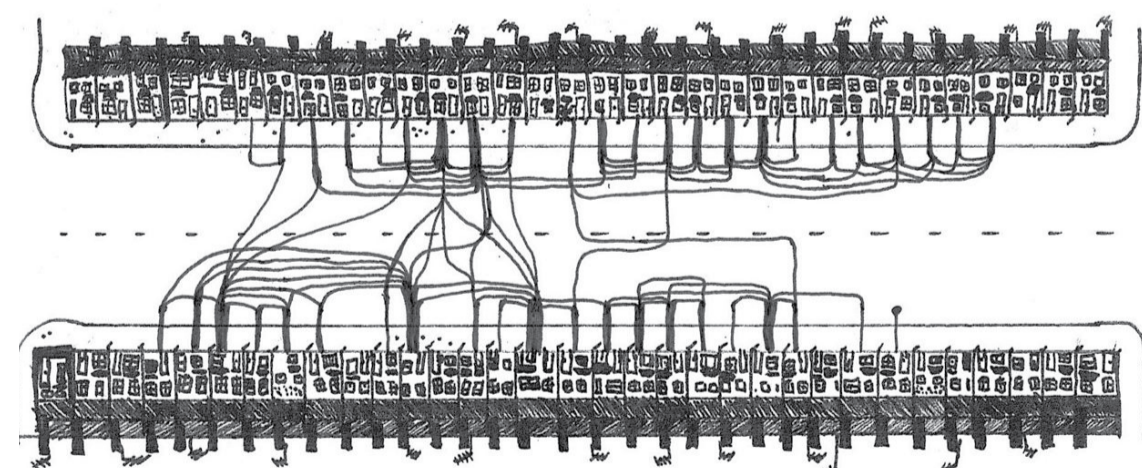
Medium Traffic 8,420 motor vehicles/day

2.45 friends per person/ 3.65 acquaintances



Heavy Traffic 21,130 motor vehicles/day

1.15 friends per person/ 2.8 acquaintances



Lines between houses represent friendships or acquaintances among neighbours.

You can learn more, and download a pdf version of this poster as well as a copy of the full report by visiting driventoexcess.org

The printing of this leaflet was made possible by Living Streets. Living Streets is the national charity that stands up for pedestrians. With our supporters we work to create safe, attractive, and enjoyable streets, where people want to walk. For more information visit livingstreets.org.uk

How motor vehicle traffic is threatening our quality of life and our communities

Research carried out at the University of the West of England in early 2008 has found a dramatic deterioration in the community life of streets with heavy motor vehicle traffic. The average resident on a busy street was found to have less than one quarter the number of local friends compared with those living on a similar street nearby with little traffic. The research confirms for the first time in the UK the results of a 1969 San Francisco study by Professor Donald Appleyard.²



"There is really a sense of community on the street. We share plants and look after each other – when my next door neighbour hasn't seen me for a few days, he knocks just to see if I'm okay."



"A few cars come very quickly and threaten people in the street. My 2-year-old darts out into traffic, which is extremely stressful."



"Traffic in our street bothers us frequently when we're eating, as the dining room is at the front of the house."



"It's not so friendly. People rarely talk on the street"



"Our 4-year-old girl has a constant cough and we limit the amount of time she spends outside... we're constantly breathing in pollution."



"The street is quite anonymous, we only know our immediate neighbours."

More quotes from residents of Heavy Street:

"(The traffic is) like a mountain range, cutting you off from the other side of the road... it's hellishly busy... a nightmare. **The buses and lorries shake the house when they come by.** The air pollution can be quite bad out the front, sometimes during rush hour you feel the air getting thicker and thicker..." – male, early fifties.

"The air pollution is really very bad – **it's annoying when the dirt builds up in the kitchen.** There's just always so much dirt, grit, and grime around. I've considered moving out because of this." – male, early fifties.

"A cyclist who lives on this block got hit crossing the road, and his leg was broken. A pedestrian was killed crossing at the lights. **There have been many deaths and casualties on the road.**" – male, mid fifties.

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