Case-based data
vs.
Household-based data

For a more efficient use and distribution of scarce resources
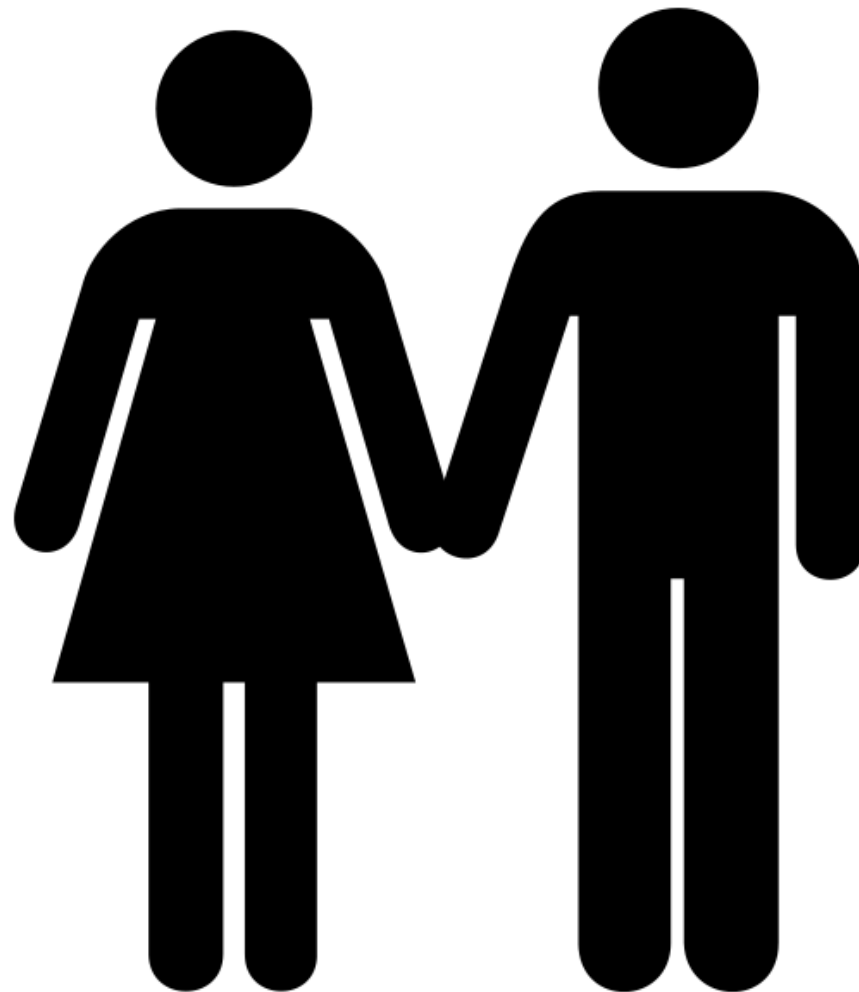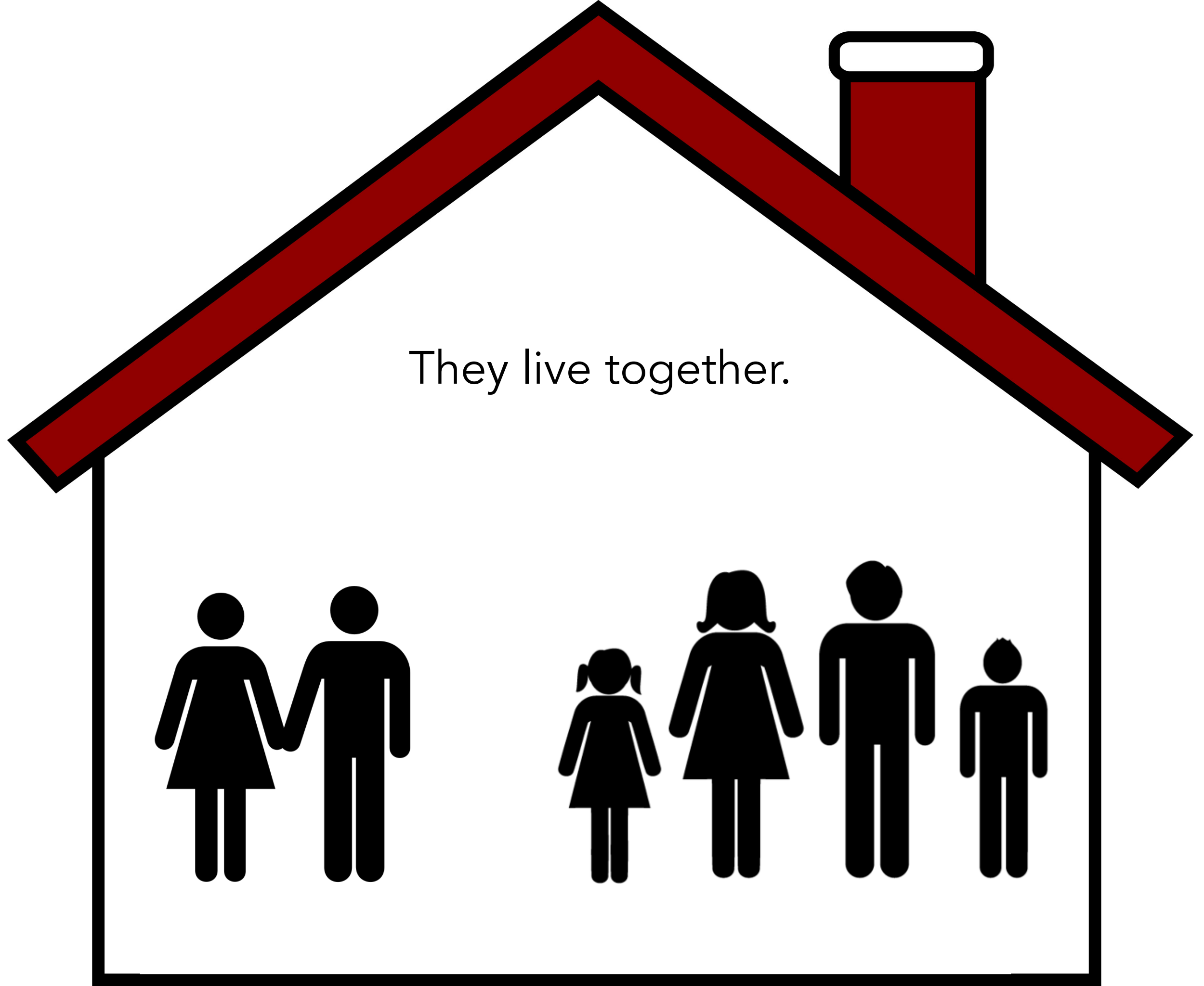
Imagine you have a **Household**

The Household is made up of **Case 1**: a couple

And **Case 2**: a family of four

They live together.

Case 1

- Total exp. = 200 JD
- Per capita exp. = 100 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

Case 2

- Total exp. = 100 JD
- Per capita exp. = 25 JD
- Case is 'Poor'

Case 1

- Total exp. = 200 JD
- Per capita exp. = 100 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

Case 2

- Total exp. = 100 JD
- Per capita exp. = 25 JD
- Case is Poor'

- Total exp. HH = 300 JD
- Per capita exp. HH = 50 JD
- HH is 'Poor'

Case 1

- Total exp. = 200 JD
- Per capita exp. = 100 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

Case 2

- Total exp. = 100 JD
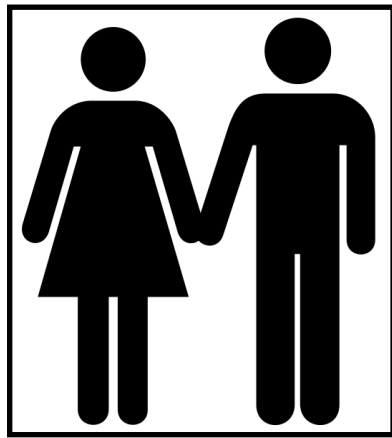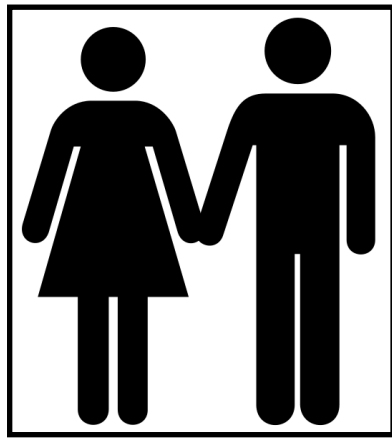- Per capita exp. = 25 JD
- Case is 'Poor'

- Case 1 supports Case 2
- Ergo, 100 JD of Case 1 is spent on both Cases
- Case 1 would be 'non-poor' if they didn't have to support Case 2 (if Case 2 left, didn't exist, or was 'Non-Poor')
- If Case 2 was 'Non-Poor' no assistance would be provided to either
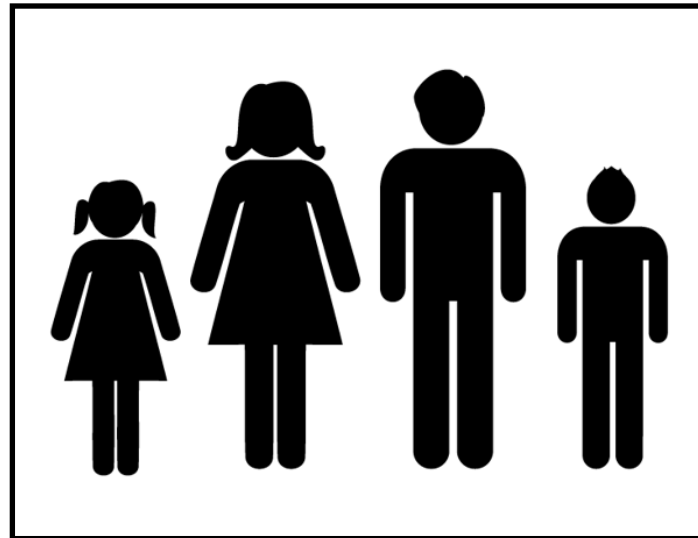
Case 1   Case 2

- **Premise:**
  - Finite/limited resources
  - Need for more efficient provision of assistance
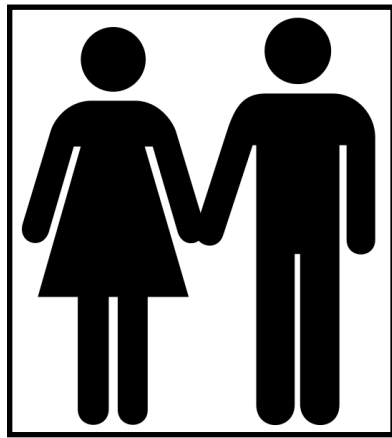
Case 1   Case 2

- **Therefore:**
  - Assistance to be provided to Case 2, not Case 1; thus to 4 people rather than 6 people
  - Case 1 is self-sufficient
  - If Case 1 was living alone, or if Case 2 was 'non-poor' then we would treat Case 1 as resilient and not provide assistance to them
  - Providing assistance to 6 people represents a suboptimal allocation of scarce resources

- **Case 1:**
- Total exp. = 200 JD
- Per capita exp. = 100 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

- **Case 2:**
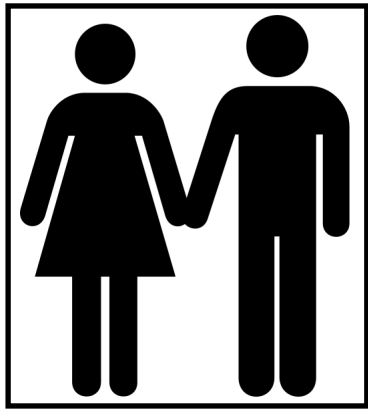- Total exp. = 100 JD
- Per capita exp. = 25 JD
- Case is 'Poor'

- If Case 2 receives CA = 200 JD
- Total exp. Case 2 = 300 JD
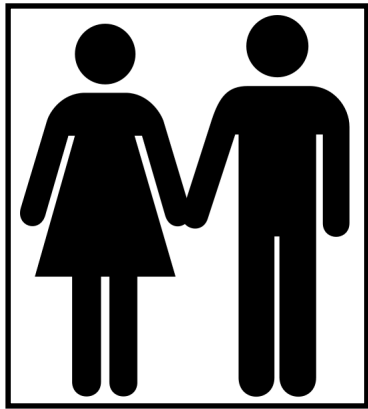- Per capita exp. = 75 JD
- Case 2 is 'Non-Poor'

- **Case 1:**
- Total exp. = 200 JD
- Per capita exp. = 100 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

- **Case 2:**
- Total exp. = 300 JD
- Per capita exp. = 75 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

- Household is now composed of 2 'Non-Poor' cases
- Ergo, a 'Non-Poor' Household
- Case 1 support to Case 2 is now minimal/nothing, as Case 2 is self-sufficient thanks to Humanitarian assistance
- Case 1 is now spending 100 JD on personal expenses, or a bit less (if minimally supporting Case 2)
- Both cases are self-sufficient

Why is this important?

- Humanitarian agencies have **finite** resources
- For example, let's say Humanitarian agencies have **enough resources** to support 300,000 people out of 500,000
- Must prioritize and provide assistance to who needs its the most, to those in **dire need first**
- Case 2 is in dire need of assistance
- Case 1 not so much if we are able to help Case 2

- Assistance provision to 'Non-Poor' cases implies prioritization/efficiency is **not** occurring, we might run out of resources before all '**Poor**' Cases are assisted.
- Another 'Poor' Case 2 is out there **without** assistance because we have spent it on Case 1
- In our example, we didn't have to provide assistance to **6** people to lift them out of poverty, but only to **4**
- Humanitarian agencies save money and have **more** money to allocate **optimally**
- **More** 'Poor' Cases are **helped**

Ergo:

1. **First** provide assistance to the 'Poor' Cases

2. **Then**, if resources are still available, provide assistance to 'Non-Poor' Cases that live with 'Poor' Cases, or more to 'Poor' Cases (and start with the 'poorest' of the 'Poor' Cases)

Limitations:

1. We are incorrectly capturing the vulnerability of cases
   - Case 1 is supporting another case, therefore he is less resilient
   - Case 2 is receiving support from another case, therefore he is less vulnerable

2. If assistance provided only to Case 2, but not enough to lift them out of poverty, Case 1 must still support Case 2. And if Case 2 is marginally resilient, then their provision of support to the other Case would make them vulnerable (exclusion error)

However:

1. Yes, we are incorrectly capturing the vulnerability of Cases, **but** mostly prior to any assistance. Post assistance for Case 2, Case 1 **retains** most of his wealth

2. True, the assistance provided to Case 2 might not be enough to make them 'Non-Poor', but we **can check** this ourselves. We can also check what the new Household poverty level is

However (cont.):

- How confident (on the basis of **what knowledge**) can we say that Cases living together **undoubtedly** pool their resources together?
- How do we **know** that richer families support poor families? (poor families that are not related by blood, marriage etc.)
- Two or more Cases might live together for **cheaper** rent, **cheaper** utility bills (bill costs are not linear), etc.
- If we don't provide assistance to Case 2 because (suppose) Case 1 is extremely well-off (average of HH is 'Non-Poor'), yet no support is provided by Case 1 to Case 2, then **huge exclusion error**
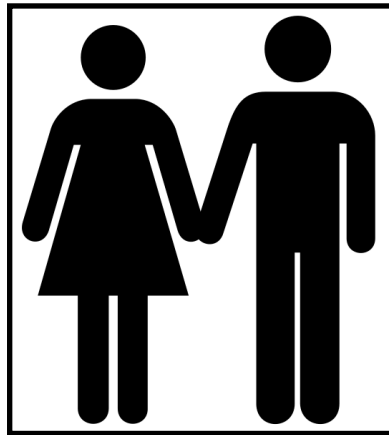- We are **more** confident that Case's bundle resources, **less** confident about Household's

A final snapshot

Case 1

- Total exp. = 200 JD
- Per capita exp. = 100 JD
- Case is 'Non-Poor'

Case 2

- Total exp. = 100 JD
- Per capita exp. = 25 JD
- Case is 'Poor'

Household:
- Total exp. = 300 JD
- Per capita exp. = 50 JD
- HH is 'Poor'

- Provide assistance firstly to Case 2; then to Case 1 if resources are still available (or more to Case 2)
- Check if Case 2 is now self-sufficient
- Case 1 now retains all or most of his earnings
- No need to sub-optimally provide assistance to 6 people, when you can provide to the poorest 4 and lift the HH out of poverty
- Must provide assistance to the Case 2 type of families in Jordan, before we direct our assistance to self-sufficient families
- If Case 2 is receives assistance, Case 1 won't have to do this any longer
- This means money is saved and more money is available to help more people