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## Hangin'g Out and Messin'g About

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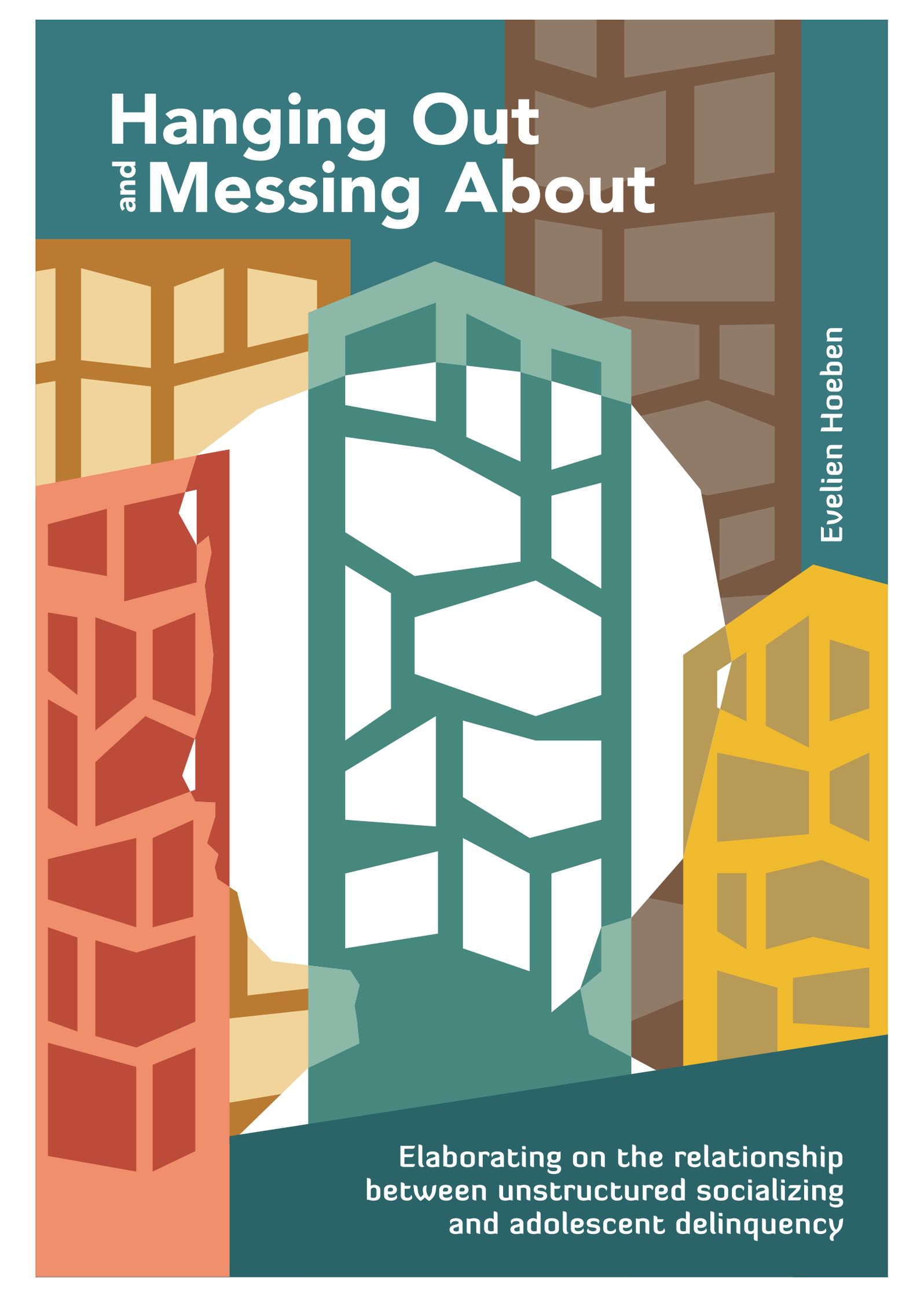
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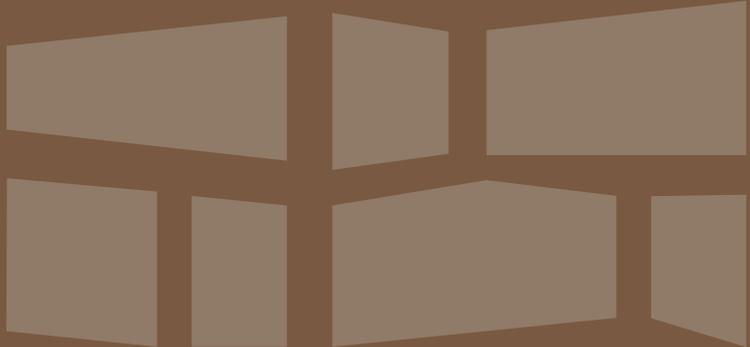
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# Hangout and Messing About

The background features a stylized illustration of buildings with geometric window patterns. The central building is teal, flanked by orange and yellow buildings. The patterns consist of interconnected lines forming various polygonal shapes, resembling a honeycomb or lattice structure.

Evelien Hoeben

Elaborating on the relationship  
between unstructured socializing  
and adolescent delinquency



Adolescent delinquency is related to involvement in unstructured socializing, also referred to as 'hanging out'. Although the relationship is quite established, many questions remain unanswered. Why does hanging out lead to more delinquency? Are youths from disadvantaged neighborhoods more often engaged in unstructured socializing than their peers? Would hanging out in the city center be more crime conducive than hanging out at a friends' home? Does 'hanging out with the wrong crowd' indeed facilitate delinquency and substance use? This book addresses these and other questions to provide a deeper insight into the association between adolescent delinquency and the familiar phenomenon of youths 'hanging out and messing about'.

Evelien Hoeben is a researcher in sociology and criminology. She conducted the studies in this book at the NSCR. [www.evelienhoeben.com](http://www.evelienhoeben.com)

