



# GENTRIFICATION & URBAN POLICIES.

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# Introduction

- What is Urban politics?
- Urban politics is when City governments search for an equilibrium in their relations with the external environment. Urban politics is politics in and about cities. This term refers to the diverse political structure that occurs in urban areas where there is diversity in both race and socio-economic status.

# findings

- #1. Large-scale economic restructuring have characterized American cities since 1945. The postwar era witnessed the expansion of scope and scale of the federal government, which had a direct impact on urban space and governance, particularly as urban renewal fundamentally reshaped the urban landscape and power configurations.
- #2. This confluence of factors meant that as many American cities and their political representatives became demographically more diverse by the 1980s and 1990s, they also became increasingly separated by neighborhood boundaries and divided by the forces of class and economic inequality.

# What I found interesting about my topic?

- What I found most interesting during my research paper were all the systematic practices used to gentrify undersevered and poor communities. practices like red lining: refuse (a loan or insurance) to someone because they live in an area deemed to be a poor financial risk.
- mortgage discrimination: is the practice of banks, governments or other lending institutions denying loans to one or more groups of people primarily based on race, ethnic origin, sex or religion. One of the most notable instances of widespread mortgage discrimination occurred in United States inner city neighborhoods from the 1930s up until the late 1970s
- block busting: Blockbusting was a business process of U.S. real estate agents and building developers to convince white property owners to sell their house at low prices out of fear that racial minorities would soon be moving into the neighborhood. The agents then sold the houses at much higher prices to black families desperate to escape the overcrowded ghettos.

# (cont) What I found interesting about my topic?

- de-industrialization: is a process of social and economic change caused by the removal or reduction of industrial capacity or activity in a country or region, especially heavy industry or manufacturing industry. It is the opposite of industrialization.
- economic disinvestments from both private and public sectors: refers to the use of a concerted economic boycott to pressure a government, industry, or company towards a change in policy, or in the case of governments, even regime change.

# WHY I was interested in this topic?

- So what is gentrification? Gentrification is when members of more affluent communities make investments by pooling private and public resources to make investments into poorer areas forcing some of the most economically challenged people to move away. I think it's important to understand how gentrification happens and become educated on what anyone and everyone can do to manipulate gentrification in a way that will benefit all parties involved.

# What I plan to do, regarding my topic, in the future?

- In the end the community loses its identity, culture and history while the problem with poverty and lack of economic resources or quality education still exist for the misplaced. I plan to attend assembly meeting where developers go to rub shoulders with mayor in hope of rezoning once industrial area and convert them into commercial areas. Go to city hall meetings where rezoning is happening to be a voice for the young adults who will grow up and need a piece of this greater pie they want to build. I plan to talk to local business owners to show them the upside of not selling as soon as they hear a good number, because we need them to continue to be a part of the neighborhood.

# Interview:

- On the following three slides we will read and examine three different opinions for one simple question:
- how do you feel about gentrification and its impact in underserved communities?



# Shaquita Adams

- Me: how do you feel about gentrification and its impact in underserved communities?
- Quita: I don't have a problem with gentrification if the objective is true to the essence of blending families of various incomes in order to help facilitate each others cultures and not just be culture vultures. Also, to provide programs for underprivileged kids of the community, who were there first and deserve a fighting chance at bringing the necessary change the community need to be uplifted. to help each other through culture enrichment or even each-one-teach-one kind of environment where the people with more knowledge seek to understand and not judge the behaviors of people who are not as well put together in life. To implement programs that will help poor people in the long run like, simple tax prep seminars at local community centers, art classes that may not be funded by the city.

# Ellen Suazo

- Me: how do you feel about gentrification and its impact in underserved communities?
- The problem I have with gentrification is the way it is done. Developers come into communities, they give false hope for a better tomorrow once they are done building however then turn around and rezone schools to separate and segregate the demographic all while then creating jobs that pay less than what it cost to live in the neighborhood, leaving the already poor people more vulnerable then before the various projects were built.

# Keith basdeo

- Me: how do you feel about gentrification and its impact in underserved communities?
- I think our people make an issue out of everything and often play victim of the circumstance. Gentrification is a positive thing. Life is everchanging and we must come in with the new, keep some old classics , but ultimately the new projects that are being implemented is necessary for the changing times. At one time the man was the only one working and supporting the house hold, now women are held to equal standards of men. We used to have a bunch of factory jobs that payed the bills, now we have intellectual minds and many entrepreneur taking life by the hair and being innovative and creative. Gentrification is inevitable. However the way we (blacks and minorities) deal with it is by just talking about the negatives(manifesting the worst) instead of attending the town hall meetings, staying on top of developers to give job opportunities and encouraging/supporting the people/businesses who we need as a staple in our communities(the grocery store owner, laundromat owner ect..) encouraging them not to sell to developers. Educating them on the grand scheme of things, that all the money they are being offered to sell now will be there after the gentrification is done and the money offered after the gentrification is done will double if not triple or quadruple. We must wizen up, be more proactive in our communities and show love and respect to our communities or no one else will.

# What was different, similar about their responses?

To me the big difference seems to be negative focused thinking vs. a positive, open minded perspective.

I believe in humans manifesting our own reality, and because of this I am prone to agree with Keith. We as a people must not be so easily beaten down. We must use our God-given mind and think of new and innovative ways to stay one step ahead of "the affluent society." We don't want to, but we have to show resilience and tirelessness. We must stay on top of our elected officials to do what's best for us, and we must be willing to go to above and beyond for ourselves when no one else will. We must love and respect one another so that others will know how we want/desire to be treated. I believe we as the minority who is mostly being affected by gentrification have manifested the worst by always speaking on the worst and not being proactive enough on what could be positive and staying proactive to that.

Did you learn anything new that you can compare to your previous research in the beginning of the semester/midterm paper?

- All in all I learned that the opinion on the topic of gentrification. I originally thought that everyone saw it as a positive thing. To learn that it is not as accepted, after doing my interviews, as I thought I now have a better understanding on how the people of the gentrifying community feel vs. how the people who strive to place their families in the affluent bracket feel.

# Conclusion.

- . I am against gentrification. My stance on the matter comes from the example of the black wall street. an historic freedom colony in Tulsa, Oklahoma. As one of the most prominent concentrations of African-American businesses in the United States during the early 20th century, it was popularly known as America's "Black Wall Street" until the Tulsa race riot of 1921, in which white residents massacred hundreds of black residents and razed the neighborhood within hours. The riot was one of the most devastating massacres in the history of U.S. race relations, destroying the once thriving Greenwood community. If we come together like the Jewish and chines have, we too could build ourselves an infrastructure to support generations to come.

# summery

- I am filled with hope that we as a people will rise to the occasion and band together to create what we so desire in this heated topic of urban politics. I am interested in this topic because I have watched gentrification happen, I have been to the community meetings and I have first-hand experienced gentrification, I contributed to it as well, I feel I have been both the victim and perpetrator in this fight. In all fairness when I was on the perpetrating end I had no clue that I was helping the gentrification of one of my favorite neighborhoods in Brooklyn. In hind sight I'm ashamed but also glade to have had the experience on both ends.

# Works cited

- Interview: ellen suazo, shaquida adams, keith basdeo
- <https://tulsarealestatefund.com/>
- OER Textbook - pdf