

CUSS *Newsletter*

American Sociological Association • Community & Urban Section • Spring/Summer 2008

Inside this Issue:

- Chair's Message • 2
- City & Community*
Editor's Search • 4
- 2008 CUSS Awards • 5
- Feature Article:
Debating Ghettos • 6
- ASA Sessions &
Roundtables • 13
- Announcements • 17
- News & Notes • 18
- New Books • 19
- Dissertations • 21
- CUSS Reception • 22

Boston: Two Big Events in the Last 30 Years

Silvia Dominguez
Northeastern University

Two big events have defined Boston in the past 30 years. The first was the ever-changing image of Boston made by the never-ending construction and over expenditure of the Big Dig. Visitors coming to the 2008 ASA conference will notice that The Big Dig is done! Finally! Even the park that extends over the whole thing is complete. (Although it has been winter and we have not made much use of it yet). You will be able to walk from Faneuil Hall to the waterfront and the North End, for all that fabulous food, in the open air and not under the busiest of highways and avoiding detouring cars as before. All, in all, the end of the Big Dig is astonishing. The second event was the angry response of whites to the court ordered integration of schools in the 1970's.



Faneuil Hall at Quincy Market
Photo: William Holt

Images of racial violence showed the nation that Boston was intolerant and unwelcoming to minorities. However, the face of the city whose reputation was lost in the 70's during court ordered school busing has changed significantly.

Since the 1970's, African-Americans gained access to civil service jobs and took on leadership positions as Police Commissioner, State Attorney General and in 2006, the State elected the second African-American governor in the Continued, page 3

CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Anne B. Shlay
Temple University

Now I write my final chair's message to you. Our section continues to be strong, attracting new and diverse members representing the full range of fields that now encompass community and urban sociology. No one can accuse us of being sectarian. We are broad and inclusive, capturing applied and basic elements while not eschewing politics or controversy. It is an interesting time to be in the field because the field has avoided being doctrinaire about anything.

And for those of you who think that this has always been the case, you are wrong. I distinctly recall a dark ages of the field when there were correct theories and well defined political boundaries. I remember well because I got in lots of trouble when I defied them. There were days when being political was considered to be not scholarly. I think those days may be gone.

Being political, however, can be broadened further. Community and urban sociology is one of the most relevant fields in the discipline with much to offer to the varied and sundry organizations that work hard to improve the conditions of urban communities. We need to continue to think about how our work can be useful and talk to different audiences about that. I am not speaking of pushing public intellectualism per se but of harnessing whatever we've got to movements and opportunities for social and political change. There exists a tendency for complacency when we write seemingly relevant things. But ask this question: relevant for whom, what and when? And if you had not written, would the world be any different? Better yet, now that you have written and spoken, what opportunities for change are you supporting?

I am advocating being avowedly political with our scholarship, our teaching, and our applied practices. Because, without being conscious of the politics of our scholarship, we are ceding our political strength to others. You know that old adage: there are no neutrals there. So eschew ambiguity for political clarity.

I speak in this way as I struggle with how to frame my new work on the politics of spatial development in Jerusalem. To study space in Jerusalem is in itself a political act. But I find it more comfortable to hide in my data and mull things over. I used to think that doing redlining research was politically risky. But as much power as a bank may have, it is much less forceful than the tidal energies that underlie problems in the Middle East. After trampling on many rules in our field, I have discovered some of which I am truly fearful. Being politically clear when there are such polarized sides with much at stake is not for sissies (a phrase my mentor Peter Rossi used a lot).

Back to CUSS housekeeping. I want to thank you again for passing the dues increase. As many of you know, we are in the process of picking a new editorial home for *City & Community*. Having that money provides us the financial latitude we need to transition *C&C* when the time comes. We have invested our time, energy, intellectual reputations and the reputation of our beloved section on the strength and vitality of *City & Community*. And as a result, we have a journal of which we are very proud and will continue to be proud for years and volumes to come.

This issue details the many activities we have planned for our Boston Annual Meetings. I want to thank David Snow, chair elect for putting together a great program. Please come to our business meeting on August 2 at 2:30 to congratulate our award winners for this year. And join us at our CUSS and Xav Briggs/MIT co-sponsored reception on Sunday, August 3, at 6:30 at the Stata Center at MIT designed by Frank Gehry. (see page 22 for details). We continue to create and build. Let's celebrate our achievements.

Boston

Continued from p. 1

nation. The racial boundary as far as black and white relations is concerned, has shifted. The black and white dichotomy has changed to the various shades of brown of the immigrants who constitute 26 percent of the population in Boston and account for 82% of the net growth in the labor force. African-Americans make up 23 percent, Latin-Americans 14 percent, Asians and Pacific Islanders 8 percent of the population, and together these groups are a majority population in Boston--Whites are the minority. By far the most prevalent language spoken, other than English, is Spanish. In many neighborhoods, like East Boston, Roxbury and Jamaica Plain, more than 20% of the residents speak Spanish and 56% of public school students speak Spanish. According to a study by the Center for Labor Market Studies at Northeastern University, immigrants make up 45% of the state's blue-collar workforce; 27% are service employees; 14% are professionals and 10 % are managers and executives. Only those who are highly educated and have bilingual skills are employed in positions with advancement potential. The largest population of immigrants, the Latin-Americans, is heavily represented in the blue-collar workforce. It is the Latin-Americans who are the cleaners of the corporate and educational sector grounds and facilities. It is the Brazilians who clean the private homes and it is the Asians who are more heavily represented in the professional and executive workforces.

Of course, a large proportion of African-Americans still live in poverty and many Latin-Americans and South East Asians in the neighborhoods of Roxbury, Dorchester and Mattapan join them. In addition, the majority of the states' residents rate the quality of race relations as "fair" or "poor" and 42% of African-Americans and 49% of Latin-Americans report having experienced discrimination in the past 12 months. The cost of housing continues to be a serious problem and the large population of students who come every year further fuels the lack of affordable housing. Nevertheless, you will be able to access

many of the city's attractions by walking above that highway you no longer see.

Editors' Note

As we end another academic year, the *CUSS Newsletter* underwent some major changes to its structure and graphics. We wanted to update the newsletter as technological improvements permitted us to move from the former monochrome e-mail to our new format.

This edition includes a continuation of the ghetto debate that circulated this winter on the CUSS Listserv. Following up on this discussion, Ray Hutchinson, who compiled this e-material, will preside over a CUSS Roundtable featuring Talja Blokland, Xavier de Souza Briggs, Lily M. Hoffman, Mario Small, and Bruce Haynes at this year's ASA meeting in Boston. Also, in this edition there's a feature article on Boston by Silvia Dominguez as well as a schedule of CUSS events and the announcement of the 2008 CUSS award recipients.

We look forward to hearing your comments and suggestions. Please send them to:

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CITY & COMMUNITY: Search for New Editor

Sharon Zukin
CUNY Brooklyn College

Planning is under way for the transition of the section's journal, *City & Community*, to a new editorial team and office in 2010. Tony Orum, the founding editor, will end his term next year, and a search committee to recommend the selection of a new editor has been formed under the umbrella of the publications oversight committee. The chair is Sharon Zukin, an associate editor of the journal since it began and a past chair of the section, and the members are Andy Beveridge, Xavier deSouza Briggs, John Logan, Anne Shlay, and Barry Wellman.

The committee is now soliciting applications from potential editors. We are looking for enthusiasm, editorial or scholarly coordinating, experience, and commitment to the field of urban and community sociology and to all its researchers and practitioners. The application, though short, must include a vision statement for the journal as well as a statement of support from the university administration. The deadline for submitting applications is JUNE 8, 2008.

Candidates must be members of both the ASA and the Community and Urban Sociology Section, and hold a tenured position or equivalent in an academic or a non-academic setting. Applications from members of underrepresented groups are encouraged.

Here are the qualities we are seeking:

1. Established record of scholarship.
2. Evidence of understanding the mission of the journal and its operation, indicated by experience with the journal across any of a wide variety of activities (submission, reviewing, editorial board experience).
3. Assessment of the present state of the journal, its strengths and challenges, and a vision for the journal's future.
4. Openness to different methods, theories, and approaches to sociology.
5. Record of responsible service to scholarly publishing.
6. Evidence of organizational skill and intellectual leadership.

The time demands associated with these responsibilities vary, but in general, require one full day per week. The actual costs associated with editing the journal are covered by the publisher, a dedicated portion of section dues, and the editor's university. Applicants will provide a letter from the administration of their institution assuring a suitable level of financial and in-kind support for the editor, a managing editor (usually a PhD student), and the editorial office.

Four-Stage Selection Process:
(1) Applications will be reviewed by the Editorial Search Committee of CUSS's Committee on Publications in June and July, 2008. That committee will submit a ranked list of candidates to CUSS's Committee on Publications in August, 2008.
(2) The section's Publications Committee will submit their selections to ASA's Publications Committee by December 2008.
(3) ASA's Publications Committee will review the selections before forwarding their ranked list of candidates to ASA Council in January 2009.
(4) The Council appoints the editor, who is then contacted by the ASA Secretary.

Applications: The application packet should include:

I. *Vision Statement:* Set forth your goals and plans for the content of the journal. This may include an assessment of the current strengths, weaknesses, or gaps that you plan to address and how you will carry out your plan.

II. *Editor/Co-Editor or Deputy Editor(s) Background Information:* The name, affiliation, and other important information about the potential editor and, if applicable, co-editors and/or deputy editor(s) is required. Describe the qualifications and experience of each person that supports their inclusion. Please do not include names of individuals that you would like/plan to include on the larger editorial board. Contacting potential editorial board members can be a time-consuming task that should be done only after an editor is selected.

Continued, page 5

2008 SECTION AWARDS

Robert Park Award (best book)*

Winner: Mary Pattillo, *Black on the Block*. 2007. University of Chicago Press.
Park Award Committee, 2008

- David Halle, Chair, UCLA
- Deirdre Oakley, Georgia State University
- Jonathan Wynn, Smith College

*Robert Park Award Honorable Mentions:

- Kevin Fox Gotham, *Authentic New Orleans*
- Eric Klinenberg, *Fighting for Air*
- Nicole, Marwell *Bargaining For Brooklyn*
- Emily Rosenbaum & Samantha Friedman, *The Housing Divide*
- Loic Wacquant, *Urban Outcasts*

Jane Addams Award (best article)

Winner: Kevin Fox Gotham. 2006. "The Secondary Circuit of Capital Reconsidered: Globalization and the U.S. Real Estate Section." *American Journal of Sociology*. 112 (1): 231-75

Jane Addams Award Committee, 2008

- Maria Kefalas, Chair, St. Josephs University
- Peggy Levitt, Wellesley College
- Richard Ocejo, CUNY Graduate

Robert and Helen Lynd Award (life time achievement and service)

Winner: John Logan, Brown University
Robert and Helen Lynd Award Committee, 2008

- Ray Hutchison, Chair, University of Wisconsin at Green Bay
- Karyn Lacy, University of Michigan
- Ivan Light, UCLA

Paper Award (best paper/article by a graduate student)

Winner: L. Owen Kirkpatrick, 2007. "The Two Logics of Community Development: Neighborhoods, Markets and Community Development Corporations." *Politics and Society*. 35 (2): 329-359

Student Paper Award Committee, 2008

- John Goering, Chair, Baruch College;
- Paul Draus, University of Michigan at Dearborn
- Jennifer Lee, University of California at Irvine.

City & Community

Continued from p. 4

III. *Institutional Support*: It is important for candidates to examine the feasibility of serving as editor in light of the resources provided by the publisher, the section, and the home university. At this point, a preliminary letter of support from a dean or other appropriate institutional official is requested. Specific negotiations will of course take place after a new editor is selected. For further information, please contact Sharon Zukin, Zukin@brooklyn.cuny.edu. IV. *Submission*: The application packet (I, II, III) should be no more than five (5) pages (excluding c.v.'s), and must be received by June 8, 2008. Applications may be emailed to: Sharon Zukin, Chair, Editorial Search Committee, Zukin@brooklyn.cuny.edu or sent by surface mail to: Sharon Zukin, Chair Editorial Search Committee; Department of Sociology; Brooklyn College, CUNY; 2900 Bedford Avenue; Brooklyn NY 11210

City & Community to be Included in the 2009 Social Sciences Citation Index

It is time to celebrate. Our journal, *City & Community* has been selected for inclusion in the Social Sciences Citation Index. It will first appear in the Journal Citation Reports for 2009, which will be released in the summer of 2010. It will be ranked in the categories of Sociology and Urban Studies.

Congratulations are due to many individuals and organizations and we will celebrate publicly at our

business meeting and reception this summer at the Boston meetings. Many thanks to Tony Orum (Editor) and Zachary Neal (Managing Editor).

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto

(Note: The discussion presented here is drawn from comments submitted to the CUSS Listserve in January, 2008. We decided to include it in the newsletter for several reasons: the subject is an important one in our field, the comments came from a large number of persons in the US as well as other countries, and the discussion clearly captured the attention of list members. Comments have been edited for continuity and to insure that references to earlier comments are intact. This first part of the discussion focuses on the original question posed by Mario Small - should we rely upon research from the city of Chicago to understand today's poor urban neighborhoods. The second part of the discussion focused on a complementary question - should we rely upon research from the United States to understand social exclusion in other countries - and will be presented in the Fall 2008 CUSS Newsletter. The editor of the discussion is Ray Hutchison, UW-Green Bay)

Dear friends and colleagues, One of our most important debates, addressed in the first issue of *City & Community* and brought up from time to time on this listserv, is how much we should rely on the city of Chicago to understand today's poor urban neighborhoods. A paper recently published in the British journal *City* offers a fresh perspective on this question by evaluating Loic Wacquant's arguments about organizational density in his new book, *Urban Outcasts*, against some basic data. The paper shows among other things that poor black neighborhoods in Chicago are remarkably different from those in the average American city. (Mario Small 1/7/08)

There are two issues here. One is whether the city of Chicago is sufficiently different from other cities---that is, sufficiently

unique---that the observed characteristics of its neighborhoods are likely to be different from those of neighborhoods in the average city. This issue is important to the early Chicago School tradition, which in thinking of Chicago as a natural laboratory, assumed that the answer to that question was "no." However, with respect to organizational density, I think the answer is "yes"---poor black neighborhoods in Chicago *are* different from those in other cities, especially when such neighborhoods are compared to non-black ghettos in their respective cities.

The second issue is whether one can therefore find a better "average" city. I am inclined to think that this is not the best way to approach case studies. Unique cases are often useful and theoretically interesting. The problem is that people have assumed that the South Side of Chicago is not unique, developing theories that assumed it was a snapshot of all poor black neighborhoods, rather than assessing empirically whether it differed from other cases (for example, in that it's in the most segregated city in the country, or in a city with a strong aldermanic tradition, etc.) and examined how these differences shaped its characteristics. (Small 1/8/08)

Thanks for a provocative piece, and one close to home. I spent my first years in America and most of my adolescence in Woodlawn, the Chicago neighborhood south of 63rd Street. When we lived there in the 1940s, it was a predominantly working class and poor Irish neighborhood of small apartment houses and old single family houses cut up into apartments or made into SROs. I also delivered papers there and would guess the vacancy rate to have been close to zero.

By the 1980's, when the area had long been African American and Loic Wacquant was doing his research, its residential density must have begun to decline, in part because of the city's practice of tearing down empty or emptied buildings. (The two I lived in are both gone.) In effect, I think Wacquant was studying a depopulating area and thus perhaps even more of an outlier than you suggest. Chicago's practice of

tearing down residential buildings in poor neighborhoods may make the city even more of an outlier.

Continued, page 7

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto

Continued from p. 6

Also you raise the question of how much residential density (sans depopulation) matters and we still don't have very good empirical evidence. I would guess that race and class held constant, it doesn't make that much difference; people who have enough money to shop and enough clout to get public services are taken care of regardless of density. Poor people have neither, and while 125th Street may be crowded, other parts of Harlem are underserved in a number of ways. And I assume that as areas gentrify, the stores and public services arrive too.

I don't think crowding is a very good index; very affluent neighborhoods rarely are crowded because they are full of multiroom houses or apartments and so the density per square foot is low, the residents walk less, their stores deliver and they use mostly private services to which they go by cab. And the very richest don't go shopping for clothes like the rest of us, the stores come to them and show them their wares. Also, some of the fanciest apartment buildings on Fifth Avenue and elsewhere have dining areas for residents only.

Finally, one conceptual suggestion. Once upon a time, ghetto described the area of an involuntarily segregated population. When the Venice geto (iron) district became the Jewish ghetto in the 15th or so century, it was gated; the city locked the gates and locked in the Jewish population for the night. Why don't we go back to the original usage of the term and reserve ghetto for involuntarily segregated peoples and neighborhoods? Surely we have enough other terms for describing areas occupied by low income racial and ethnic minorities,

although we may need a new term for areas in which the segregation is a mixture of voluntary and involuntary. (Herb Gans 1/9/2008)

Peter Marcuse wrote a chapter on his "enclaves yes, ghettos no" distinction for David Varady's edited volume, *Desegregating The City* (2005), and I wrote a partial response in the conclusion of the book. I didn't find Marcuse's distinction between involuntary ghetto and "chosen" low-income ethnic enclave so convincing, except as a heuristic. And things get even more interesting when our "ghettos" are compared to Europe's "ghettos."

But I agree that we could use more agile ways of describing hybrids, choice within constraints, etc.

Mary Pattillo's defense of her use of the concept of ghetto (in *Ethnic And Racial Studies*) is also rich, emphasizing the political economy of place (how investors and politicians outside the place treat it) and the pre-civil rights era roots of same ... instead of degree of housing choice for the neighborhood's residents. Presumably, one could argue meaningful degrees of ghettoization on either count ... and degrees of identifiability to neighborhood outsiders and insiders, too. (Xavier de Souza Briggs 1/9/2008)

In effect, I think Loic Wacquant was studying a depopulating area and thus is perhaps even more of an outlier than you suggest. I wonder what this says about the many studies that over the 1980s and 1990s have made major statements about the conditions in poor/poor black/disadvantaged neighborhoods based exclusively on the city of Chicago and particularly on the poorer South Side neighborhoods. I'm referring to both qualitative and quantitative studies. There have been some critiques and attempts at comparison (e.g., the "LA School" debates). But I think that many of the Chicago-based studies could have used a dose of comparative reality.

One could also ask about housing projects, and how the demolition of the Robert Taylor Homes, Cabrini-Green, and other

housing projects will change the nature of urban poverty here vis-a-vis other cities. I'm reminded of a comment by Phil Kasinitz (whom I hope I'm not misquoting) that one of the interesting and little-noted aspects of Wilson's maps in *The Truly Disadvantaged* was that many of those poor neighborhoods were, in fact, housing
Continued, Page 8

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto Continued from p. 7

projects.

We still don't have very good empirical evidence of how much residential density matters. I would guess that race and class held constant, it doesn't make that much difference; people who have enough money to shop and enough clout to get public services are taken care of regardless of density. Poor people have neither, and while 125th St may be crowded, other parts of Harlem are underserved in a number of ways.

As ethnographers we are attracted to poor neighborhoods for whatever reason---they may seem unique, or interesting, or especially deteriorated, or high in crime, or whatever. But as social scientists we obviously need to look further than these neighborhoods and the cities they're in before developing theories about what poor neighborhoods look like. Or we need to develop theories that take into account those aspects of the neighborhoods and cities that are clearly unique. I think there's such a history to Chicago research that it's been too easy to do neither. (Mario Small 1/9/2008)

Depopulation is one of the central features of poor black neighborhoods in the 1980s. Paul Jargowsky's comprehensive book gave us plenty of information to show that Chicago is not an outlier on this point. Before the current gentrification, there were surely visible vacant lots in Harlem and parts of Brooklyn. And growing up in Milwaukee as a high school student I did a "visual sociologists" photo essay on the vacant lots there. And the documentary on

Boston's Dudley Street neighborhood emphasizes the role of fires and demolitions there. Of course I'm a bit biased as a Chicago researcher, and surely would not say that all places are like Chicago, but on depopulation we have solid comparative demographic evidence over time, and on demolitions my visits to many cities (and all of ours, I'm sure) at least suggest that Chicago is not alone on this point. (Mary Patillo 1/9/2007)

Perhaps Jews and Europeans like myself are more sensitive to the changing use of the word ghetto, though I recall, maybe wrongly, that Louis Wirth, another German Jew, was one of the first to broaden its definition at least in his book's title. Still, I don't see why an old term has to be redefined. True, the involuntary-voluntary distinction gets hairier over time and even the people who are told where to live get some comfort in living with their co-ethnics or co-nationals and may even have chosen to do so voluntarily before they were told where they couldn't live. (In the past, most Jews, Catholics and others chose not to look for housing "where we are not wanted," and it took pioneers who transcended this to integrate places. Levitt looked for and found them when he began to integrate Levittown (involuntarily) Moreover, I imagine that in any ghetto there are residents who are there voluntarily.

In any case, I would like to see some research on whether and where there is ghettoization as I define it for Asians and Latino/as, as well as for African Americans, and foreign blacks while we are at it. Perhaps it is now more marked in the suburbs, or mainly in homeowner neighborhoods. And I gather it happens to dark-skinned immigrants in European cities. Redlining and related real estate practices are a kind of ghettoization, or more to the point, methods that the real estate industry and its partners use to ghettoize. (Herbert Gans 1/10/2008)

New York may be an outlier, in that it has always been more dense and had lower vacancy rates. Even in the bad old days of the 1970's it never experienced the

depopulation of many other cities. Even in New York, many core parts of the older black ghettos (pardon the word) did depopulate and there was considerable demolition, as well as considerable housing destruction due to arson. And this was even more true in other mid western cities, not just Chicago.

Today gentrification has reversed the trend
Continued, page 9

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto Continued from p. 8

in many places. In New York's gentrifying areas there is now almost no such thing as a lot to small to build on (behind my house there is a tiny 16 foot wide by 60 foot deep vacant lot created when the city demolished a small house that they took over for back taxes in the 1960's. Next month a developer is going to put up a six story building there!).

Even in areas not really gentrifying, New York's population and the housing stock stabilized in the 1980s'. One big reason is immigration. Immigration meant that even in many of the poorest neighborhoods the population was soon back to pre 1970 levels and now is well above those levels. Many of the immigrants were as poor -- or poorer-- than the folks who had left. But the fact that the base population stabilized meant there was still a market for cheap (and generally poor quality) housing. It also means that streets are crowded and the high level of commercial activity Mario observes is possible. I don't want to be romantic about this. Retailers in these neighborhoods are still often low quality and exploitative. But with an increasing population they stay in business. These days there are not many vacant stores on 149th Street in the South Bronx or Pitkin Avenue in Brownsville. That's not due to gentrification. Its a real contrast to equally poor places in Chicago and an even greater contrast to Detroit and St. Louis.

I agree that the term *ghetto* has the virtue of reflecting the (at least partially) non-voluntary nature of, and state complicity,

in African American segregation. On the other hand, while I admire much about Loic's work I long found his use of the term a bit odd. In his work it almost seems like a formal designation, ala Venice. It feels like it should take a capital "G". One imagines someone asking, "Pardon me, can you direct me to The Ghetto".

American public housing policy really is based on the Chicago experience. Thanks to some good sociology and some great journalism, the image of the Robert Taylor Homes looms very large in our national imagination. The idea that "the projects" are so bad, so toxic, that the best thing we can do is blow them up and scatter the people in them was seared into the minds of policy makers by ideas--rightly or wrongly-- based on Chicago, with a few cameo appearances by St. Louis (i.e. the image of Pruitt Igoe coming down).

Here in New York, by contrast, public housing is under studied. Not that it is not important. There are about half a million people living in 150,000 units of public housing. (Last time I checked, New York's Hope VI units numbered only the in 100's). And with a 8 year waiting list to get in and an average tenancy up around 20 years, it is safe to say no one in NYC is talking about imploding public housing (kicking out the poor people and selling it off to yuppies is sometimes suggested, and may happen in some areas. But that is another matter). New York stopped building public housing in the 1970's because federal funding dried up, not because the demand for public housing ever went away. Today many of the projects are turning into naturally occurring retirement communities, as their population ages in place.

There are a lot of local reasons public housing in New York looks like it does, just as there are a lot of reason that public housing in Chicago got built where it did and looks like it does. The point, however, is that I am not sure which is the outlier and which is closer to the modal national experience. As Mario Small says, this suggests we need to place our ethnographic images and insights in some larger context

and think seriously about representativeness. (Philip Kasinitz 1/10/2008)

Conditions in Harlem today validate, update, and challenge previous ideas about black ghettos. Rising real estate prices throughout New York City, in conjunction with both shallow and big subsidies by the state, have both “pushed” and “pulled” middle class blacks and whites to look for “luxury” housing in Harlem. The expansion of the financial and media industries in NY Continued, page 10

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto Continued from p. 9

have increased the segment of the highly educated, highly paid black middle class—and I am not talking about professional athletes and music stars, but about lawyers, executives, creative producers, and administrators who are interested in pursuing an upper middle class life in NY rather than moving to the suburbs. Global migration of European and Asian professionals, who may hold fewer racial prejudices than U.S. natives and may in fact be drawn to “cosmopolitan” communities, has brought some of them to live in NYC neighborhoods like Harlem with a “historic” housing stock of brownstones.

The Upper Manhattan Empowerment Zone (established by Congress in 1994, with more than \$250 million in funds from the city, state, and federal governments coming on line around 2000) has been responsible for business development; with this mission, they have funded both big chains and small, upscale, entrepreneurial boutiques (see forthcoming article with my graduate students in City and Community), arts groups, and existing small merchants. Though most of their funding has gone to chain stores, their support of boutiques has had an important effect on reshaping the image of Harlem, as well as the real opportunity for local, upscale consumption. Other state subsidies have resulted in major banks making construction loans to developers who want to build projects in Harlem. These have built commercial as well as residential

developments, although the office market is still weak, and while most new apartments, as well as brownstone residences, are market-rate, there are also subsidies for renovation, new construction, and purchase of “affordable” housing.

To a great extent, state support for Harlem’s upscaling follows the neo-liberal turn that began with Nixon, Reaganomics, and Clinton’s welfare reform. Rep. Charles Rangel’s support of the empowerment zone is an adaptation to this changing political and ideological climate. But institutions within Harlem have also adapted, with many of them figuring that support for middle-income homeownership, chain stores, and luxury apartments is the only way, these days, to help the black folks who remain in Harlem. This is not to negate the continued opposition to “gentrification.”

Population density is important in terms of both aesthetic appearance and the sheer number of people who populate the street. Depending on the political-economic structure of the surrounding city, though, I would argue that vacancies—especially highly visible vacant houses and empty lots—may be seen as either “blight” or opportunity. For many years, from at least the late sixties to the late eighties, vacancies in Harlem were viewed as blight, i.e. evidence that the entire area and the black people who inhabit it were doomed. But beginning in the 1990s, these vacancies were seen as a gigantic opportunity. This reflects not only the gradual increase in size and visibility of the black middle class, but also the changing political-economic structure of New York City as well as the availability of (overseas) capital.

The entire story is more complicated, of course. As Herb Gans suggests, models in urban sociology should not be shaped by the contingencies of a single city’s map, or from a single neighborhood’s experience. In New York, post-1970 black middle class communities—ghettos, nonetheless, as Mary Patillo says—have developed and grown miles away from Harlem: in southwestern Queens (Cypress

Gardens), in northern and middle Brooklyn (Fort Greene, Clinton Hill, Stuyvesant Heights, East Flatbush), and in inner suburbs of Long Island and Westchester County. As recently as the 1960s, large areas contiguous to Harlem—on the Upper West Side—had the potential to be incorporated into the greater black ghetto, but they were gradually and forcefully cleared by new construction and gentrification, supported by U.S. urban renewal funds. Immigration and racial discrimination created a greater ghetto of color north and east of Central Harlem—Continued, page 11

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto Continued from p. 10

with Puerto Ricans (eventually joined by Mexicans) in East Harlem and Dominicans in Washington Heights. Meanwhile, black Caribbean immigrants bought homes from whites who left East Flatbush, creating a ghetto that was both immigrant and black, and socio-economically diverse.

So why is Harlem not a ghetto? It still has lots of poor people, mainly now living in the housing projects, though they are gradually being pushed out of the brownstones and even out of the small apartment houses. More than three-quarters of residents still identify themselves as black (on the 2000 census). I'd like to suggest two contrasting factors: the increasing population of non-blacks, including whites, and the media discourse that is cultivated by public and private sector developers and new retail entrepreneurs—which, together with all the other factors, has a material effect on both the physical and the cultural space of the ghetto. (Sharon Zukin 1/11/2008)

I would argue that it is not particularly useful to use ideal types to study change in areas such as central Harlem. The problem is not that we have hybrids or "mixed" types—descriptively this works as we know from Weber—but rather, how to capture the more dynamic interplay between inner city areas and the larger structural processes. Ideal types work up to a point,

but we need to go beyond these conceptual tools to find a more dynamic model. In studying Harlem, my question is not whether Harlem is a "ghetto" but what is the "fit" between Harlem and the larger political economy and culture, and, how and why is this changing? I drew upon a regulation framework to address the relation between large scale "external" forces and local conditions—the issue of scale; also, the socio-institutional structure or web of interactions. And I used the emergence of tourism in central Harlem as a proxy for examining the interplay of production and consumption in the new economy. Overall, (data through 2002) I found a "repositioning" of central Harlem in relation to the larger city/state/structures; increasing integration into the mainstream urban economy; greater social capital, revalorized culture, changing policy (social to economic) etc. Regarding the issue of "winners and losers, I wrote in 2003:

"Harlem—in many respects a world unto itself over the past 60 years—is being reweven into the urban fabric with a capitalist agenda. The entry of multinational capital, accompanied by public/private partnership programs that stress entrepreneurial skills, presages a transition from a 'transfer' economy based upon publicly funded services. Economic integration will most likely polarize winners and losers in Harlem just as it has in the former state socialist societies in East Central Europe, undermining a solidarity based upon a relatively flat opportunity structure. " (Lily Hoffman 1-15-2008)

Are historically black ghettos like Harlem and Chicago typical ghettos in so called average cities? As Herbert Gans said and Sharon Zukin reiterates, "models in urban sociology should not be shaped by the contingencies of a single city's map, or from a single neighborhood's experience." Of course we must answer that the Filmore, and Roxbury, the Southside, and Harlem are not typical ghetto communities in average American cities. Sharon suggests that Harlem "is no ghetto" because Harlem is no longer symbolically the ghetto. And while the media and developers and cultural entrepreneurs have had a physical

impact on ghetto spaces like Harlem, can we so quickly conclude that the ghetto is no more when "ghetto" residents still reside in communities like Harlem in spite of demographic change that took place during the 80's and 90's? And of course "Central Harlem" is not really what most people mean when they use "Harlem" because most use it to include the many black areas that are contiguous above 110th Street but below 155th Street. In fact, since the northern border of the Sugar Hill community is often considered to be 155th street and its southern border is 141st around St Nicholas Terrace, historic Sugar Hill is actually outside of Harlem proper. Continued, page 12

CUSS Discussion: The Ghetto Continued from p. 11

In the mid-1990's, I was one of those middle class native Harlemites who sold the family brownstone as property values climbed and I could no longer afford the property taxes. Our home was bought by hip hop documentary maker and MTV VJ Fab Five Freddie, who now parks his Mercedes where my dad's Pontiac used to sit. It was "Blue Chip Blacks" (as Karyn Lacy calls them) like Fab Freddie who gentrified Harlem, not university professors and teachers. Have we forgotten that during the 1990's large segments of the traditional Black middle class moved out of Manhattan to areas like Yonkers, Mt Vernon, St Albans, Cambria Heights, Hollis, and Laurelton? And meanwhile, Harlem and historically black communities like it still contain pockets of extreme black poverty and high poverty rates. So I ask, have population shifts, immigration, and gentrification transformed historically black ghettos? And if areas like Harlem and the South Side are not ghettos, what are they? What do we call these areas now?

I now live in California, about an hour from San Francisco. There, the historic Filmore District looks much like Harlem, although it's a stretch for even the Black upper-middle class to afford to gentrify the area. Recently I attended the opening of the new Yoshi's jazz club and restaurant in the

Filmore, the historically black neighborhood of San Francisco. I saw no local black working-class folk employed there, and even the valet parking attendants were local Asian Americans, not blacks from the neighborhood. There were literally only a couple of black people in the entire club, including me. In fact, most of the black faces that I saw were either on stage or in colorful murals, lending cultural authenticity to the club. Outside the club police patrol cars circled like clockwork. So I think Sharon's point of a shifting cultural space is well taken.

However, outside Yoshi's or even around the corner from Fab Five Freddie's brownstone in Sugar Hill, there are still many poor and working-class black folk. In Harlem, some are still living in public housing (as Andy B mentioned). These folks have not yet been pushed to the margins of their cities. Has the ghetto and all of the symbolic consequences it carries really disappeared for them?

I urge us to keep in mind that the ghetto spaces for the urban poor were created through segregation in housing and employment. In fact, it seem that the term "ghetto" was originally used to signify the spaces that Jews were relegated to. Have population change, immigration, and gentrification transformed historically black ghettos into something else as upper middle-class black and non-black stock brokers, accountants, and lawyers move in? While some scholars apply it loosely, I'm not yet convinced that the ghetto metaphor has lost its utility. Just a decade ago the ghetto was alive and well. Have we removed the ghetto simply through gentrification and incarceration?? Has the ghetto really dissolved or merely changed its shape and characteristics? (Bruce Haynes 1/13/2008)

2008 ASA Meetings SECTION EVENTS SCHEDULE

This year's ASA CUSS events will take place on Saturday, August 2nd and Sunday, August 3rd. This year's CUSS Reception will be held on Sunday, August 3rd from 6:30-8:30pm at the R&D Pub, 4th Floor, Stata Center at MIT.

CUSS Council and Business Meetings
Saturday, August 2, 2:30-4:30pm
Sheraton Boston

CUSS Reception
Sunday, August 3, 6:30-8:30pm
R&D Pub, 4th Floor, Stata Center, MIT
See page 22 for details and directions.

Session: Space and the City
Saturday, August 2, 10:30am-12:10pm
Sheraton Boston

Organizer and Presider: Anthony Orum,
University of Illinois at Chicago
Discussant: Sharon Zukin, City University of
New York Graduate Center

Papers:

- Elena Vesselinov and Naomi Kolberg, University of South Carolina, "Gates, Race and Class: Segregation and Gated Communities in Five American Cities"
- Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College, "Lakeville Revisited: Spatial Assimilation of Chicago Jewry"

- Rachel Engh, Grinnell College, "The Audience Completes the Piece: Site-Specific Dance Choreographers As Unalienating Laborers"
- Lauren Joseph, Stony Brook University, "Urban Space and Social Inequality: A Spatial Analysis of Race, Class and Sexuality in the City"

Session: Urban Immigrant Enclaves and Political Communities: Comparative and International Perspectives
Saturday, August 2, 12:30pm-2:10pm
Sheraton Boston

Organizer, Presider, and Discussant: Robert Smith, Graduate Center, CUNY

Papers:

- Perry Chang, Presbyterian Church U.S.A., "Bright Lights, Big Cities: Incorporation Paths of Diverse Cultural Communities in US Metropolitan Area."
- David Lubin, University of Chicago, "From Bohemian to Brown: Global Migration and the Changing Complexion of a Chicago Suburb"
- Juan Onesimo Sandoval, Northwestern University, "Pan Latino Neighborhoods: Contemporary Myth or Reality"
- Shauna Morimoto, University of Wisconsin-Madison, "Rethinking Citizenship -- Race, Ethnicity and Youth Civic Life"
- Daniel Melero Malpica, Sonoma State University, "Social Capital Within Ethnic Communities: The Case of Indigenous Mexicans in Los Angeles"

Session: Urban Mobilizations and Movements (This session is sponsored jointly by CUSS and the Collective Behavior and Social Movements Section)

Saturday, August 2, 2:30pm-4:10pm
Sheraton Boston

Organizers: David A. Snow and Max Herman
Presider: David A. Snow, University of California, Irvine

Discussant: Max Herman, Rutgers University

Papers:

- Simon Eduardo Weffer-Elizondo, University of California, Merced, "Are The Truly Disadvantaged Truly Demobilized? Social Isolation and Protest in Chicago, 1980-1990"

- Neal Caren, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, “Is there something in the water? Explaining variation in protest participation across U.S. cities”
- Edward T. Walker, University of Vermont and John D. McCarthy, Pennsylvania State University, “Mobilizing Local Communities in the Long Run: Understanding the Longevity of Community Organizations”
- Cesar Guzman-Concha, University of Barcelona, “Squatters and radical movements in the European urban order”

Session Two: Urban Imagery and the Future of Cities

Sunday, August 3, 8:30am-10:10am
Boston Marriott Copley Place

Organizer and Presider: Mark Hutter, Rowan University

Discussant: Michael Borer, Furman University

Papers:

- Matthew Kaliner, Harvard University, “Does Neighborhood Reputation Matter? Estimating the Cost of a ‘Bad’ Reputation on Housing Prices”
- Japonica Brown-Saracino and Cesraea Rumpf, Loyola University Chicago, “Nuanced Imageries of Gentrification: Evidence from Newspaper Coverage in Major U.S. Cities, 1986 – 2006”
- Richard Lloyd, Vanderbilt University, “Searching for Greenwich Village: Culture and Design in the New Nashville”
- Gregory Smithsimon, Barnard College, “Sunset in the Imperial City: How New York’s Public Spaces Presage the End of Empire”

ASA ROUNDTABLES

Saturday, August 2, 8:30am-10:10am
Sheraton Boston

Organizers: Pamela Davidson, George Washington University; Yuki Kuko Towson University

Black Neighborhoods: Emerging Patterns and Implications

Presider: Rachael Woldoff,
West Virginia University

Papers:

- Aging in Place: Racial and Ethnic Variations in Residential Attainment among the Elderly, Peter Mateyka, Pennsylvania State University
- Beyond Ghetto Schooling: The Problem of Concentrated Advantage in a New Understanding of Educational Inequality, Odis D. Johnson, University of Maryland
- Creating Community in the Park: Early Community Building in a Black Middle-Class Subdivision, Farrah D. Gafford, Tulane University
- The Social Consequences of Mixed Income Redevelopment in a Public Housing Project, Laura M. Tach, Harvard University

Residential Segregation and Integration

Presider: Daina Cheyenne Harvey,
Rutgers University

Papers:

- “It Depends on How You Define Integrated”: Racial Boundaries and Social Integration in an Urban Neighborhood, Meghan Ashlin Rich, University of Scranton
- Different Gates Work in Different Ways: Researches on Gated Communities in the United States, Eun Kyong Shin, Columbia University
- Immigration, Voluntary Associations, and Diverse Friendship Ties, Sean R. Lauer, University of British Columbia
- Neighborhood Effects in Rural Communities: A Multilevel Analysis, Venessa Ann Keesler, Michigan State University
- Perpetuation Theory and the Racial Segregation of Young Adults, Pat Rubio Goldsmith, University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Community Responses to Social Problems

Presider: Jolyon Wurr, University of Chicago

- Community Response to Gangs, Albert Hunter, Northwestern University
- Shanghai’s Global Nightscapes as Ethnosexual Contact Zones, James Farrer, Sophia University
- The Effects of Nonprofit Organizations on Urban Neighborhood Decline,

Megan E. Gilster, University of Michigan
•The Limited U.S. Welfare State: The Not-So-Unusual Case of Hurricane Katrina Assistance, Megan Reid, U TX Austin
•The Syncretic Regulation of Homelessness in Nashville's Lafayette Neighborhood, Damian T. Williams, Vanderbilt University

Constructing Space and Place

President: Melinda Milligan, Sonoma State University

- Does Place and Space Matter? A Systematic Comparison of the Homeless Circumstance, Elizabeth C Miller, University of Arkansas; Kevin M. Fitzpatrick, University of Arkansas; Mark E. La Gory, University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Effects of Organizational Demographics on the Choice of Activities and Providers in the Urban Context, Joseph Galaskiewicz, University of Arizona; Joy Inouye, University of Arizona; Scott Savage, University of Arizona
- Managing the Parameters of Visibility: The Revelations of Katrina, James Rhodes, Manchester University
- “Where Doesn't Socioeconomic Status Matter?: A Community-Based Study on the Social Inequality of Religious-Based Youth Ministry Programming.”, Patricia Snell, University of Notre Dame; Carlos Tavares, University of Notre Dame; Kari Christofferson, University of Notre Dame; Christina M. Smith

The Intersection of Urban Sociology and Urban Planning

President: David Woods, Fordham University

- Balancing Development and Rural Community in Central Florida: A Case Study of The Villages, Regina M. Bures, University of Florida
- Empowerment Zone Initiative: Progressive or Passive Policy?, Stacey Ussery Tucker, University of Tennessee-Knoxville
- Invested in Downtown: Housing, Family, and Community among the Newlywed and Nearly Dead, Todd L. Goodsell, Brigham Young University

- Using the Political Process Model to Explain the Opportunities and Constraints to Revitalizing Cities, Louise Jezierski, Michigan State University

Urban Economic Restructuring

President: Eric Peterson, Cambridge Systematics

- Paths of Success or Failure for Smaller Metro Areas in the US, Jon R. Norman, Stanford University
- Renewing Older Regions: The Potential Role of the Aerotropolis in Detroit's Aenewal, Stephen Appold, University of North Carolina; John D. Kasarda, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- The Ingredients and Networks of Innovative Cluster in Shanghai and Ulsan Automotive Industry - A Comparative Study of “SIAC” and “Auto Valley”, Youngjin Choi, Seoul National University
- Niche City: Exploiting the Opportunities of Globalization, John Joe Schlichtman, University of San Diego

Contested Urban Spaces

President: Yuki Kato, Towson University

- Drawing Boundaries: Comparing Neighborhoods and Diversity, Trina S. Smith, University of Minnesota
- Perceived Disorder in Three Gentrifying Neighborhoods: Examining the Role of Race, Social Class, and Ownership Status, Daniel Monroe Sullivan, Portland State University; Jose Antonio Padin, Portland State University
- Urban Ethnography and the Duality of Space: The Example of Bike Messengers, Jeffrey Lowell Kidder, University of California, San Diego
- “White Night:” Art Festival Participation in a Gentrifying Neighborhood, Samuel C Shaw, Vanderbilt University

Political and Grassroots Perspectives in Cities

President: Simon E. Weffer, University of California, Merced

- Civic Engagement: Examining the Impact of Internet Use and Social Trust, Robyn Bateman Driskell, Baylor

University; Elizabeth L. Embry, Baylor University

- Community Change and Social Mobility in Poor Places: A New Research Agenda for Rural America, Chris R. Colocousis, University of New Hampshire; Cynthia Mildred Duncan, University of New Hampshire
- The Politics of Visibility: A Native Hiphop Film in Canada, Michael B. MacDonald, University of Alberta

Population and Urban Demography

Presider: Susan K. Brown, University of California, Irvine

- Commonalities and Contrasts in the Development of Major United States Urban Areas: A Spatial and Temporal Analysis from 1910 to 2000, Andrew A. Beveridge, Queens College and Graduate Center CUNY
- How City Characteristics Influence Consumption Patterns: A Test of Recent Theories of Consumption, Sabino Kornrich, University of Washington
- Unemployment Rate Differences by Race and Sex in U.S. Metropolitan Areas: The Impact of Suburban Sprawl, Charles Jaret, Georgia State University; G. James Baird, Georgia State University; Melissa M. Hayes, Georgia State University; Lesley Williams Reid, Georgia State University; Robert M. Adelman, University at Buffalo, SUNY
- White Flight, White Immigration, and Stable Diversity: Race in America's Urban Neighborhoods, 1990 to 2000, Seth A. Ovadia, Bowdoin College; Rachael A. Woldoff, West Virginia University

Urban Theoretical Perspectives

Presider: William Holt, University of Connecticut/Vermont Law School

- Some Are Good and Some Are Bad: Contradictory Consciousness in a Suburban Community, Robyn Ryle, Hanover College
- Suburban Growth, Adaptation, and Interaction: A New Approach for Studying Suburbs, Brian J. Miller, University of Notre Dame
- The New Urbanism Under Attack: Opposition to a Fact in the Ideologically-Identified Press, Aaron Passell, New York University

- Urban Sociology: Toward Consideration of Institutional Anomie Theory, Robert V. Grantham, University of Massachusetts Lowell

The Ghetto: Origins, Scholarship, and Discourse

Presider and Discussant: Ray Hutchison, University of Wisconsin-Green Bay

- Talja Blokland, Residential Segregation in the EU, Delft University of Technology
- Xavier de Souza Briggs, Ghetto Poverty Before and After Katrina, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Lily M. Hoffman, Gentrification and Tourism in Harlem, City University of New York
- Mario Small, The Ghetto: Is Chicago an Outlier, University of Chicago
- Bruce Haynes, Sugar Hill, University of California-Davis

ANNOUNCEMENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

The Changing City: New Needs, New Desires, and New Rights

The Italian Urban Sociology Section organized an international Congress, "La città che cambia: bisogni, desideri, diritti" ("The Changing City: New Needs, New Desires, and New Rights"). The Congress was held in Bologna on May 8, 2008.

On a side, the conference's aim was to focus on some rapid and deep changes that are occurring in our cities: in particular, *urban sprawl*, *diffused city* and *compact city* were considered. On the other side, a debate between sociologists and architects was promoted in order to understand the city. In other words, the congress pursued a deeper connection among sociology, architecture and urban planning.

The morning sessions were dedicated to the contributions of some Italian urban sociologists (Giandomenico Amendola, Guido Martinotti, and Paolo Guidicini) and some architects/urban planners (Richard Ingersoll). Moreover, some prominent American sociologists participated (Herbert Gans and Harvey Molotch).

Latitude Cultural Center

CUSS member E. Barbara Phillips, professor emerita at San Francisco State, founded and directs the non-profit Latitude Cultural Center in a gorgeous, never-industrialized, riverside hamlet in southwest France, near Cahors. Each summer, there are week-long courses—in English and French. This summer there is a mix of courses, from art history to wine tasting. Each course runs for 15 hours, so that there is a great deal of time to discover the local region, including Paleolithic cave paintings, medieval villages, and gastronomic delights!

CUSS members are invited to attend /or to offer courses at Latitude. One requirement for holding a course: teachers must bring at least five paying participants with them. See www.latitude.org for details.

Organizations and Urban Inequality Research Network

Introducing a website and listserv for researchers interested in the role of organizations in urban environments. This informal network of scholars utilizes the website format to feature current research, share useful information, and launch queries. The goal is to build and support a community of scholars who draw upon organizational studies and urban/community sociology to explore questions around how institutions shape inequality in today's cities. Please visit us: <http://home.uchicago.edu/~mariosmall/urbanorgs/>

Symposium on Family Issues

"Development of Hispanic Children in Immigrant Families: Challenges and Prospects," is the topic of Penn State's 16th Annual Symposium on Family Issues, to be held October 23-24, 2008, on the University Park campus. Sixteen scholars from major institutions will integrate perspectives from multiple social sciences and address policy implications.

Presentations and discussions at the symposium will focus on (1) social ecologies of Hispanic children in immigrant families,

including the range of setting characteristics and the ways in which setting characteristics have implications for child and youth well-being and development, (2) the role of families in children's successful adaptation to new "host" environments; (3) the implications of school and community contexts as well as education policies for children's school experiences and academic achievement; and (4) the roles of health care, social service provision, and health policies in children's health and well-being. Lead speakers include: Richard Alba (SUNY Albany), Kimberly Updegraff (Arizona State University), Carola Suárez-Orozco (NYU), and Margarita Alegria (Harvard Medical School). Information and registration at <http://www.pop.psu.edu/events/symposium/2008.htm> <<http://www.pop.psu.edu/events/symposium/2008.htm>> or contact Carolyn Scott at css7@psu.edu.

MEMBERS NEWS & NOTES

•Angie Y. Chung, SUNY-Albany, will be teaching as a visiting professor in the Department of Sociology at Yonsei University, Korea during the Fall 2008 semester. She recently published a book, *Legacies of Struggle* (Stanford University Press, 2007), on ethnic politics among immigrant and 1.5/ 2nd generation Korean American organizations in Koreatown, Los Angeles.

•Stefanie DeLuca, Johns Hopkins University, was recently awarded the William T. Grant Scholars Award, a major fellowship for early-career scholars conducting high-quality research. DeLuca, a graduate of the Human Development and Social Policy program at Northwestern University, is an assistant professor of sociology at Johns Hopkins University. Every year, four to six William T. Grant Scholars are selected, and each receives \$350,000 distributed over a five-year period. The topic for DeLuca's five-year research study is "Moving Matters: Residential Mobility, Neighborhoods and Family in the Lives of Poor Adolescents." She will use a multi-method strategy to examine the role of

moving in the lives of American youth.

DeLuca is interested in residential mobility because moving shapes (and is shaped by) the pivotal contexts of family, school and neighborhood. The research literature shows a strong association between moving — especially repeat moving — and negative outcomes such as dropping out of school, depression and antisocial behavior.

In addition to the W. T. Grant award, DeLuca received funding from the Spencer Foundation, Annie E. Casey Foundation, and National Academy of Education for related projects.

•Since Fall, 2007, Jerry Krase, Emeritus, and Murray Koppelman Professor at Brooklyn College (CUNY) co-edited with F. B. Pesci, Sr., and F. Alduino, *Italian Americans Before Mass Migration*, American Italian Historical Association (2008). He has also expanded his Public Scholar and Visual Sociology blogging efforts from his base at www.brooklynsoc.org to include www.i-italy.org where he has a regular column called "Traces." Recent articles on [i-italy.org](http://www.i-italy.org), enhanced by his photography, have focused on American and Italian politics, and the fifth anniversary of the Iraq War. His Brooklyn College colleague, Timothy Shortell, and he co-authored a paper, "Imagining Chinatowns and Little Italies: a Visual approach to Ethnic Spectacles," which was presented at the International Meeting: Le Beau dans La Ville, Université François Rabelais à Tours, November, 2007. In the fall Jerry was elected to the Executive Board of the International Visual Sociology Association, and the Academy of Humanities and Sciences of The City University of New York.

•Lori Peek, Colorado State University, guest edited Volume 18, number 1 of the *Children, Youth and Environments Journal*. This special issue explores the vulnerability and resilience of children in disasters. The issue contains a unique collection of 20 papers from around the world, which examine children's reactions to drought, tsunamis, hurricanes, volcanic eruptions, climate change, and the HIV/AIDS pandemic. Some of the contributions also

consider the experiences of children who live in a constant state of disaster as a result of chronic poverty, violence, or unsafe living conditions.

Contributors from a variety of disciplines explore a number of topics, including children's risk for illness, injury, and death in disaster, psychological effects of traumatic events, negative educational impacts, and the effects of post-disaster displacement on health and well-being. The authors also examine post-disaster child protection responses in the United States and in international contexts, the importance of family and school support, and the need for post-disaster child care. Some of the papers focus specifically on children as active agents and the roles that they may play in terms of communicating risk, engaging in household and community preparedness activities, and participating in post-disaster rebuilding efforts.

Continued, Page 14

News & Notes

Continued from p. 13

•Rachael A. Woldoff, West Virginia University, published an article, "Wealth, Human Capital, and Family Across Race/Ethnic Groups: Integrating Models of Wealth and Locational Attainment" in *Urban Studies*. The paper explores the relationship between individuals' neighborhood characteristics (SES and racial composition) and familial and socioeconomic resources-with special emphasis on wealth. The results show that blacks and Latinos have greater returns to wealth than whites when looking at integration, but only Latinos gain greater to returns to wealth when the outcome under investigation is neighborhood SES.

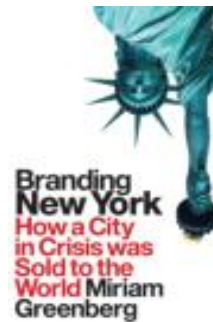
NEW BOOKS

Branding New York: How a City in Crisis Was Sold to the World

Routledge, 2008

Miriam Greenberg

University of California-Santa Cruz



This book reveals how, at the height of the 1970s fiscal crisis, a coalition of New York elites came together to brand a new image for their embattled city. By the mid-1960s, lurid media coverage of New York's troubles generated an *image crisis* that exacerbated economic decline. This inspired public and private sector leaders to abandon old-fashioned city boosterism and turn to the coordinated, professional, and global strategy of *urban branding*. From the radical chic of *New York* magazine to the populism of "Big Apple," and culminating with the blockbuster "I♥NY" campaign, they created a new business and tourist-friendly image for New York featuring high-end shopping, Broadway theater, and a glittering city skyline. This image challenged longstanding representations of New York as a gritty, diverse, working class city, as well as its emerging reputation as the capital of punk and hip hop. It helped package a controversial approach to urban recovery involving spending cuts and mass layoffs in the name of "austerity," alongside corporate subsidies and incentives to spur a polarized new economy dependent on finance, real estate, and tourism. Ultimately, the branding of New York turned the city into a powerful if contradictory symbol of urban transformation. It ignited grassroots *counter-branding* tactics, from subway graffiti to the union-led "Fear City" campaign. Also, it convinced tourists, corporations, and conservative politicians, that this once "ungovernable city" was now tamed and ready for consumption.

City of Disorder: How the Quality of Life Campaign Transformed New

York Politics

New York University Press, 2008
Alex S. Vitale
City University of New York-Brooklyn
College



In the 1990s, improving the quality of life became a primary focus and a popular catchphrase of the governments of New York and many other American cities. Continued, Page 15

New Books

Continued from p. 14

Faced with high levels of homelessness and other disorders associated with a growing disenfranchised population, then mayor Rudolph Giuliani led New York's zero tolerance campaign against what was perceived to be an increase in disorder that directly threatened social and economic stability. In a traditionally liberal city, the focus had shifted dramatically from improving the lives of the needy to protecting the welfare of the middle and upper classes--a decidedly neoconservative move. Vitale analyzes this drive to restore moral order which resulted in an overhaul of the way New York views such social problems as prostitution, graffiti, homelessness, and panhandling. Through several fascinating case studies of New York neighborhoods and an in-depth look at the dynamics of the NYPD and of the city's administration itself, Vitale explains why Republicans have won the last four New York mayoral elections and what the long-term impact Giuliani's zero tolerance method has been on a city historically known for its liberalism.

Gender in an Urban World

Emerald Press, 2008
Judith DeSena (editor)



This volume brings the analysis of gender from the margin to the center of urban theory. It examines the influence of gender in shaping social relations in urban places and spaces and engages discourse in the field from a gendered perspective.

This volume is global in focus and includes empirical and field studies from six countries across three continents that relate to structure, politics, policy, and everyday life within an urban context. The authors bring innovative theoretical paradigms to investigate the ways in which urban space is gendered, and the role of women's and men's agency in creating and changing urban life. It will contribute to the ongoing dialogue with regard to gender within the context of urbanism and urbanization.

Gender in an Urban World is volume nine of the series *Research in Urban Sociology* edited by Ray Hutchison.

Race, Space, and Riots in Chicago, New York, And Los Angeles

Oxford University Press, 2007
Janet L. Abu-Lughod



American society has been long plagued by cycles of racial violence, most dramatically in the 1960s when hundreds of ghetto uprisings erupted across American cities. Though the larger, underlying causes of contentious race relations have remained the same, the lethality, intensity, and outcomes of these urban rebellions have varied widely. This study is the first attempt to compare six major race riots that occurred in the three largest American urban areas during the course of the twentieth century: Chicago in 1919 and 1968; New York in 1935/1943 and 1964; and Los Angeles in 1965 and 1992. The author weaves together detailed narratives of each riot, placing them in their changing historical contexts and showing how urban

Continued, Page 16

New Books

Continued from p. 15

space, political regimes, and economic conditions--not simply an abstract "race conflict"--have structured the nature and extent of urban rebellions.

Regionalism and the Reading Class

University of Chicago Press, 2008

Wendy Griswold

Northwestern University

Griswold examines the relationship between literature and the construction, maintenance, revival, and/or invention of place. She finds that often it is newcomers (cultural "cowbirds") rather than old timers who are key to the preservation of regional culture; this appeared in an *AJS* article in

May 2004. Another finding is that state support can bolster pre-existing regional cultures but cannot, invention-of-tradition arguments notwithstanding, create them.

Globalization and the Internet are smothering cultural regionalism, that sense of place that flourished in simpler times. These two villains are also prime suspects in the death of reading. Or so alarming reports about our homogenous and dumbed-down culture would have it, but as *Regionalism and the Reading Class* shows, neither of these claims stands up under scrutiny--quite the contrary.

Griswold draws on cases from Italy, Norway, and the United States to show that fans of books form their own reading class, with a distinctive demographic profile separate from the general public. This reading class is modest in size but intense in its literary practices. Paradoxically these educated and mobile elites work hard to put down local roots by, among other strategies, exploring regional writing. Ultimately, due to the technological, economic, and political advantages they wield, cosmopolitan readers are able to celebrate, perpetuate, and reinvigorate local culture.

DISSERTATIONS

Constructing Community: Class, Privatization and Social Life in a Boston Mixed Income Housing Development

Erin Michelle Graves

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Department of Urban Studies and Planning

This dissertation examines unexpected influences on cross-class interaction in a privatized mixed-income housing development in Boston, Massachusetts. The research site Maverick Landing was constructed as an alternative to low-income public housing as part of the HOPE VI program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Social interaction among friends and neighbors is generally considered an informal process. Consequently, we often think of the structure of personal social networks as an expression of individual preferences. The observed homogeneity

within social networks is often treated as a near socio-biological fact: people, like "birds of a feather," flock together.

Through research methods including fourteen months of residency and participant observation at Maverick Landing, semi-structured interviews and document analysis, this study shows how formal processes interacted with informal ones at the interpersonal level. Management enforced a formal structure -- through rules, control of physical space, information control and resource distribution - which negatively influenced social relations.

Larger structural realities too shaped the actions of the management company.

Relative to their lower income neighbors, higher income residents had considerable leverage in the housing market. Due to this structural disparity, management sought to satisfy the market rate residents over the subsidized ones, resulting in cross-class resentment.

Additionally, the social structure evident at Maverick Landing was the outcome of a chain of processes that began at the Federal level. Following the "implementation chain" from the federal level, to the local level, to the site of implementation and finally to residents' actions and reactions, this research shows how social interaction is structured.

CUSS ASA MEETING RECEPTION

August 3, 6:30-8:30PM

The R&D Pub, 4th floor of the Stata Center,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Our 2008 CUSS reception will be an evening affair. This year's event is co-sponsored and hosted by MIT's Department of Urban Studies and Planning, thanks to CUSS member Xav Briggs. We will convene in an architecturally significant urban space (MIT's Stata Center), eat and drink with abandon, get re- and newly connected with CUSS members, while listening to a jazz trio.

Plus, the caterer is part of a local community economic development effort. It will be great fun. The Stata Center is on Vassar Street in Cambridge, a 20-minute

walk, 10-minute busride and walk, or 5-minute cab ride, across the river from the conference hotel in Boston.

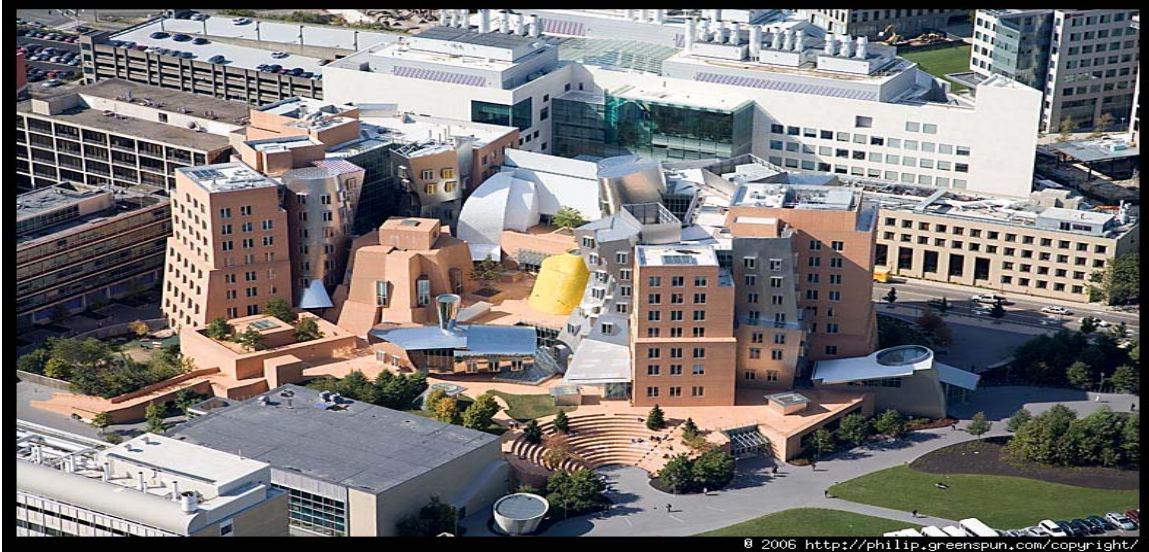
Details about transportation:

Directions:

<http://whereis.mit.edu/mapjpg?section=directions>

Campus Map:

<http://whereis.mit.edu/mapjpg?mapterms=Stata+Center&mapsearch=go>



Designed by Frank Gehry, the Stata Center at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology will host this year's CUSS Section Reception.