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THE NEW DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA: WHAT POPULATION GROWTH AND DEMOGRAPHIC CHANGE MEAN FOR THE CITY

Jun 10, 2013 04:18 am | LISA STURTEVANT

ABSTRACT

The District of Columbia was a magnet for new residents in the first part of the twenty-first century. Drawn by good jobs, new condos, and burgeoning entertainment districts, the city attracted thousands of young professionals who might have otherwise settled in the region's suburbs. At the same time, some of the District's longer-term residents are leaving the city. The growing population provides a boon to the city, but is also leads to an increasing social, economic, and cultural divide. Between 2000 and 2010, the District of Columbia gained nearly 30,000 people. The 5.2% population growth in the last decade marks a turnaround for the city, which has lost residents in every decade since 1950. Population growth was fueled by an influx of white residents and an unprecedented loss of African Americans. This article explores the population and demographic trends in the District of Columbia between 2000 and 2010 by examining the socioeconomic characteristics of the city's in-migrants, out-migrants, and non-movers to explore evidence of gentrification. Using microdata from the 2006–2010 American Community Survey, this research also uses logistic regression to analyze the factors associated with out-migration from the city and movement within the city.

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POSSIBLE WORLDS: HENRI LEFEBVRE AND THE RIGHT TO THE CITY

Jun 10, 2013 04:17 am | MARK PURCELL

ABSTRACT

There has been much attention paid recently the idea of the right to the city. This article argues that in order to fully appreciate the power of the idea, we should understand it through a close reading of Henri Lefebvre's body of work on the city and politics. Lefebvre presents a radical vision for a city in which users manage urban space for themselves, beyond the control of both the state and capitalism. However, while it calls for profound change, Lefebvre's vision is also eminently practical; it can very much serve as a guide and inspiration for concrete action to change the city today.

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GROWING ACCESS TO LOCAL DECISION-MAKING? EXPLAINING VARIATION AMONG DUTCH MUNICIPALITIES IN THE INSTITUTIONAL MEASURES TO PROMOTE CITIZEN PARTICIPATION

Jun 10, 2013 04:17 am | CAROLA VAN EIJK

ABSTRACT

Dutch municipalities have taken several institutional measures to promote citizen participation. The

used measures differ widely, however, from one municipality to the next: some try to innovate, while others keep the level of participation measures at the lowest possible level. This study tries to explain those differences. Contrary to other studies, it uses a quantitative approach and does not focus on the impact of participatory policies. Instead, the article aims to better understand what drives institutional design. The article demonstrates that differences between municipalities can best be explained by variables at the institutional and political levels, although it also observes that possible explanatory variables correlate highly.

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MORE THAN JUST FEAR: ON THE INTRICATE INTERPLAY BETWEEN PERCEIVED NEIGHBORHOOD DISORDER, COLLECTIVE EFFICACY, AND ACTION

Jun 10, 2013 04:17 am | REINOUT KLEINHANS, GIDEON BOLT

ABSTRACT

Collective efficacy is defined as social cohesion among neighbors combined with their willingness to intervene on behalf of the common good. Through collective efficacy, forms of perceived neighborhood disorder may be successfully targeted. Simultaneously, perceived disorder undermines preconditions for collective efficacy, informal social control, and (collective) action. Most research on this theme has been quantitative, not always clarifying the micro social processes at stake. This also concerns residents' willingness to intervene and their considerations for intervening or refraining from action. Additionally, most studies have addressed high-poverty neighborhoods, ignoring valuable lessons from more prosperous neighborhoods. This article aims to fill these gaps. We conducted 90 semistructured interviews with residents in six inner-city neighborhoods in The Netherlands. Interview transcript analysis shows how residents' willingness to intervene is related to public familiarity,

communicative skills, and fear. In turn, fear depends on the seriousness of perceived disorder, being outnumbered, previous experiences, and hearsay. We also show ambivalent ways in which social ties affect residents' willingness to intervene. Social ties may stimulate public familiarity, but also exchange of negative experiences with social control and free rider issues.

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RACIAL AND ETHNIC TRENDS IN THE SUBURBANIZATION OF POVERTY IN U.S. METROPOLITAN AREAS, 1980–2010

Jun 05, 2013 04:33 am | AARON J. HOWELL, JEFFREY M. TIMBERLAKE

ABSTRACT

This research examines recent trends in the suburbanization of poor non-Latino Whites, Blacks, and Asians, and Latinos of all races in the United States. The authors find strong associations between a temporally lagged measure of suburban housing supply and poverty suburbanization during the period 2006–2010 for all groups, but these associations are largely attenuated by similarly lagged controls for suburban affordable housing and employment, as well as for other characteristics of metropolitan areas. Findings indicate that poor non-Latino Whites and Asians have higher suburbanization rates in metropolitan areas with higher levels of suburban employment, while the suburbanization of the Black and Latino poor is more strongly related to the availability of affordable suburban housing. Increases in housing supply are associated with change in poverty suburbanization over time for Whites, Blacks, and Latinos. In addition, increases in affordable rental housing are associated with increases in the suburbanization of the Latino poor.

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