



METROPOLITAN POLICY CENTER

2017-2020 REPORT



SCHOOL *of* PUBLIC AFFAIRS
AMERICAN UNIVERSITY • WASHINGTON, DC





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■ Director's Message

At the Metropolitan Policy Center (MPC), we have accomplished quite a bit in the last three years. We are extremely proud of helping American University's School of Public Affairs achieve a *U.S. News and World Report* ranking of 12th in the nation in urban policy. Our interdisciplinary research approach has advanced important knowledge in the field of equitable development. Our outstanding faculty fellows and staff have published numerous books, journal articles, and reports on topics including gentrification, segregation, housing policy, environmental justice, racial inequities, nonprofit service, and child development.

While our work is national and international in scope, we have a keen focus on understanding the neighborhood and racial context of the Washington, D.C. region. Our D.C. Area Survey (DCAS), under the direction of Associate Director Michael Bader, is just one example of our commitment to knowledge production about our nation's capital and its surrounding suburbs. Our understanding of the District is also illustrated in our current urban regeneration research examining the economic and social outcomes associated with the \$2.5 billion Wharf waterfront investment in Southwest, D.C.

Beyond research, we contribute to the intellectual vitality of American University's campus and the city through hosting and sponsoring events. We are so pleased with the partnerships we have with the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum and the D.C. Public Library, which bring dynamic speakers to locations throughout the city so students, faculty, policy makers, and citizens can learn from one another. We are also honored to be engaged with local think tanks, community organizations, and grassroots groups including the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars, the United Planning Organization (UPO), Organizing Neighborhood Equity (ONE DC), and Empower DC. Together we are building and deploying a "D.C. School" to promote a more equitable and socially sustainable city.

In the years to come, MPC will continue to serve as a hub for creating policy-relevant information that addresses our 21st century urban and metropolitan challenges. We hope you will join and support us in this quest.

Sincerely,

Derek Hyra

MPC Director

■ Who We Are

STAFF

Derek Hyra, Director
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Amanda Elias, Office Manager
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AMERICAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS/UNITS

CAS College of Arts and Sciences
KSB Kogod School of Business
SIS School of International Service
SOC School of Communication
SPA School of Public Affairs
WCL Washington College of Law

AFFILIATED AND VISITING SCHOLARS

Michael J. Fisher Jr., San José State University
Theodore Greene, Bowdoin College
Heesoo Kim, Ministry of Land, Infrastructure,
and Transport, Republic of Korea
Willow Lung-Amam, University of Maryland
Samir Meghelli, Smithsonian's Anacostia
Community Museum

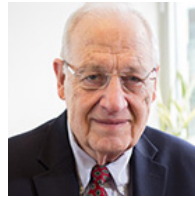
FACULTY FELLOWS

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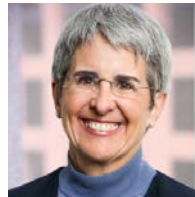
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■ What We Do

MISSION

MPC's mission is to understand the intersections among various social, economic, and political processes, at multiple levels, that influence metropolitan and urban landscapes. MPC utilizes mixed methods to uncover, explain, and recommend solutions to important 21st century metropolitan and urban issues, including affordable housing, economic development, neighborhood change, racial and ethnic diversity, urban politics, and nonprofit service provision.

OBJECTIVES

MPC has three important objectives: to cultivate innovative cross-disciplinary metropolitan and urban research that helps to improve public policy and people's lives; to garner sufficient external university grants from governments, private foundations, and corporate institutions to support collaborative research projects; and to increase American University's engagement with the Washington, D.C. metro area and beyond.

STRATEGIES

MPC achieves its mission and objectives through three strategies. First, we conduct and support innovative metropolitan and urban scholarly work across disciplines and research methods. Second, we present such research through campus-wide events on important metropolitan and urban topics. Third, we promote community engagement and cultivate strategic partnerships with nonprofits, community groups, and other research centers both locally and abroad.



■ Advancing the D.C. School

Part of MPC's mission is to make a meaningful impact in Washington, D.C. We accomplish this by conducting important D.C.-related research and establishing partnerships with local organizations. We are proud of our partnerships with Organizing Neighborhood Equity (ONE DC), the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum, the D.C. Public Library, and the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars. We also help promote and highlight student engagement with local nonprofits, including the United Planning Organization (UPO), through university-wide programs including the Community-Based Research Scholars (CBRS) and the Community-Based Research (CBR) Certificate.





THE DC AREA SURVEY



METROPOLITAN NEIGHBORHOOD CHANGE

D.C. AREA SURVEY

Researchers at MPC have been analyzing the findings from the second biennial D.C. Area Survey, which was fielded in the Fall of 2018. Associate Director Michael Bader led the survey team and released a report, “Racial Equity in the D.C. Area,” based on nearly 1,000 household responses. The report uncovered large racial disparities in perceptions of how well local institutions, including businesses, police, and nonprofits, serve people. Professor Bader presented findings from the study to the Montgomery County Council in support of legislation to promote racial equity in the county and has also presented report results to policy makers and nonprofits throughout the greater national capital region. The 2018 data have been released for use by researchers and policy makers, and we are planning for the 2020 survey to be fielded this coming fall.



URBAN REGENERATION PROJECT

In partnership with the Woodrow Wilson Center for International Scholars' Urban Sustainability Lab, the Korean Housing and Urban Guarantee Corporation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, and the University of Pennsylvania's Institute for Urban Research, we are analyzing urban regeneration projects in New York, Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles. In this collaboration, MPC is conducting the case study of the Wharf revitalization project in Southwest, D.C. Our research seeks to understand how Southwest's history as a national urban renewal site in the 1950s informs current redevelopment practices, how public incentives influenced private financing, design, and construction, and how low-income people living in the broader Southwest community view this monumental \$2.5 billion redevelopment. Through interviews with key community stakeholders and an analysis of archival records, this research will contribute to our understandings of urban regeneration and perceptions of social inclusion in Washington, D.C.



■ Other Ongoing Research

GENTRIFICATION AND POLITICAL DISPLACEMENT

Researchers have found that gentrification, an influx of investments and affluent people to low-income neighborhoods, can lead to physical and cultural displacement of long-term residents. As neighborhoods gentrify, does this process also affect political circumstances? Our research examines the relationship between gentrification and racial representation in city council districts. We are interested in understanding Black representation at the local level and are assessing neighborhood change in the 40 largest Black-majority U.S. cities in the year 2000. We are analyzing whether gentrification between 2000 and 2010 is associated with political displacement in city council districts within these cities.





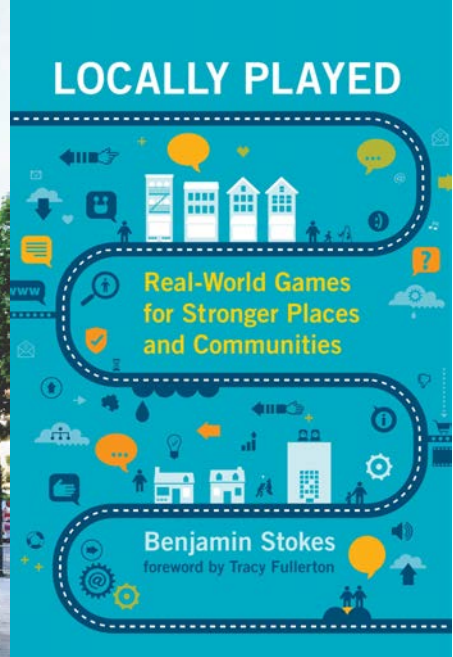
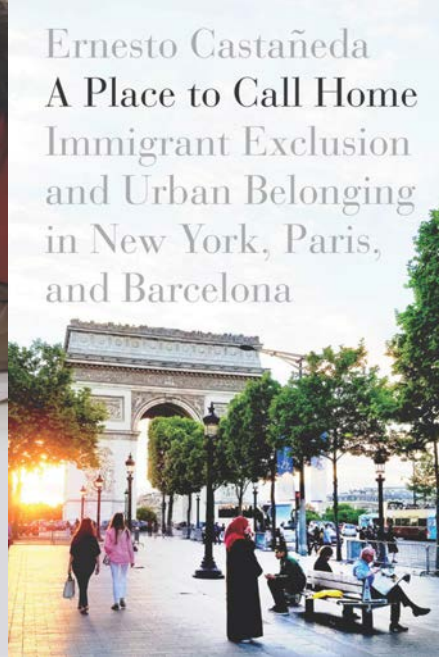
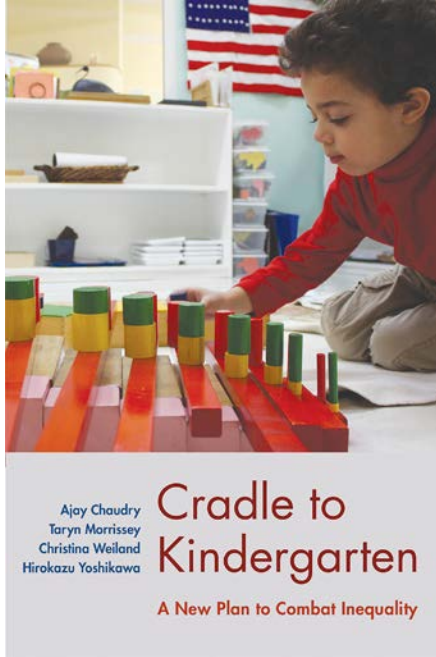
RACE, POLICY, AND NEIGHBORHOOD INEQUALITY

In the 1960s, hundreds of American cities burned as social unrest was ignited by urban renewal, police brutality, and an economy that expanded but did not sufficiently reach certain vulnerable and disadvantaged populations. While social conditions in urban America remained relatively stable after the 1960s, the years 2014, 2015, and 2016 saw major uprisings in Ferguson, Missouri; Baltimore, Maryland; and Charlotte, North Carolina. This project investigates the complex dynamics undergirding unrest in the United States in the 2010s. It takes a historical approach and compares the circumstances of the 1940s and 1950s to those in the 1990s and 2000s to explain how urban redevelopment policies, gentrification, and The Great Recession, in addition to aggressive police actions, collectively account for unrest in African American communities. This book is one of the first manuscripts to rigorously compare and contrast the old and new urban renewal periods across three cities to contextualize and explain conditions associated with riots in modern metropolitan America. This project is supported by the Rockefeller Foundation and the American Council of Learned Societies and will be published by the University of California Press.



MAKING THE JUST CITY

The *Making the Just City* project was funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Interdisciplinary Research Leaders program. Headed by Derek Hyra, Mindy Fullilove (The New School), and Dominic Moulden (ONE DC), the research investigated the relationship between gentrification and health by understanding how residents perceive neighborhood change processes at different stages of gentrification within two racially and economically diverse communities: Orange, New Jersey, and the Shaw neighborhood in Washington, D.C. Between 2017 and 2019, we interviewed 20 key stakeholders in each community about the economic transformation taking place in their neighborhood. We learned that every stage of the gentrification process was accompanied by a variety of distinct stressors. People who were forced to move because of gentrification experienced stress associated with finding a new home in a tight and exceedingly expensive housing market. Others felt that they were likely to be pushed out of their neighborhoods and mourned losing friends and neighbors and all the “comforts of home” that a neighborhood provides. Longtime residents who have remained reported various kinds of hostility from newcomers, which made them feel socially displaced. Finally, while gentrification is typically thought of as a locally-based, socio-economic transition, national racial tensions and housing dynamics were central to understanding people's perceptions of stress. With one paper already published in *Housing Policy Debate* in 2019, the team is currently working on their final two project publications.



■ Publications

MPC facilitates and disseminates innovative cross-disciplinary metropolitan and urban research. Since MPC's founding in 2014, our faculty fellows and staff have published eight books and over 75 journal articles and reports. Below is a sample of those produced between 2017 and 2020.

BOOKS

- Stokes, B. Locally Played: Real-World Games for Stronger Places and Communities. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press, 2020.
- Castañeda, E. A Place to Call Home: Immigrant Exclusion and Urban Belonging in New York, Paris, and Barcelona. Stanford, CA: Stanford University Press, 2018.
- Castañeda, E. Immigration and Categorical Inequality: Migration to the City and the Birth of Race and Ethnicity. New York: Routledge, 2018.
- Hyra, D. Race, Class, and Politics in the Cappuccino City. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2017.
- Morrissey, T. et al. 2017. Cradle to Kindergarten: A New Plan to Combat Inequality. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2017.

ARTICLES AND REPORTS

Neighborhoods

- Castañeda, E. et al. "Border Residents' Perceptions of Crime and Security in El Paso, Texas," *Social Sciences*, 2020.
- Bader, M. et al. "Development of a Neighborhood Walkability Index for Studying Neighborhood Physical Activity Contexts in Communities Across the U.S. Over the Past Three Decades," *Journal of Urban Health*, 2019.
- Bader, M. et al. "Talk at the Playground: The Neighborhood Context for School Choice," *City & Community*, 2019.
- Greene, T. "Queer Cultural Archipelagos are New to Us," *City & Community*, 2019.
- Johnson, L. "Modeling Neighborhood Violence: The Systemic Model and Variable Effects of Social Structure," *Urban Affairs Review*, 2019.

Race and Diversity

- AbouAssi, K. and Johnston, J. "Collaboration, Venus, and Mars: The Gender Factor in Intersectoral Relations," *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*, 2019.
- Castañeda, E. "The Contradiction at the Heart of Immigration Restriction," *The Washington Post*, 2019.
- Grier, S. "Constructing a Bridge to Multicultural Marketplace Well-Being: A Consumer-Centered Framework for Marketer Action," *Journal of Business Research*, 2019.
- Hardy, B. "Cash Assistance in America: The Role of Race, Politics, and Poverty," *The Review of the Black Political Economy*, 2019.
- Johnston, J. "Governing Immigration Detention: How & Why Do Localities Collaborate with ICE?," *Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management*, 2019.
- Esser, D. "Transdisciplinary," *School of International Service Research Paper*, 2017.
- Hardy, B. "Location Matters: Historical Racial Segregation and Intergenerational Mobility," *Economics Letters*, 2017.

Gentrification

- Hyra, D. et al. "A Method for Making the Just City: Housing, Gentrification, and Health," *Housing Policy Debate*, 2019.
- Ranganathan, M. et al. "From Urban Resilience to Abolitionist Climate Justice in Washington, D.C.," *Antipode*, 2019.
- Grier, S. et al. "Dog Parks and Coffee Shops: Faux Diversity and Consumption in Gentrifying Neighborhoods," *Journal of Public Policy and Marketing*, 2018.
- Bader, M. et al. "The Promise, Practicalities, and Perils of Virtually Auditing Neighborhoods Using Google Street View," *The ANNALS of the American Academy of Political and Social Science*, 2017.

Inequality

- Hardy, B. et al. "Money, Money, Money: The Fiscal Response to COVID-19," *Brookings Institution*, 2020.
- Hardy, B. et al. "The Changing Safety Net for Low Income Parents and Their Children: Structural or Cyclical Changes in Income Support Policy?" *Demography*, 2018.

Health and Education

- De Jesus, M. "Generalized Violence as a Threat to Health and Well-Being: A Qualitative Study of Youth Living in Urban Settings in Central America's 'Northern Triangle'," *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 2019.
- De Jesus, M. "To End the HIV Epidemic, Addressing Poverty and Inequities One of Most Important Treatments," *The Conversation*, 2019.
- Morrissey, T. "Food Insecurity and Child Health," *Pediatrics Journal*, 2019.
- De Jesus, M. "The Care and Prevention in the United States Demonstration Project: A Call for More Focus on the Social Determinants of HIV/AIDS," *Public Health Reports*, 2018.
- Castañeda, E. "Empowerment Through Work: The Cases of Disabled Individuals and Low-Skilled Women Workers on the US-Mexican Border," *Disability & Society*, 2017.
- Grier, S. "Weight Loss through Virtual Support Communities: A Role for Identity-Based Motivation in Public Commitment," *Journal of Interactive Marketing*, 2017.
- Lindsay, C. "Exposure to Same-Race Teachers and Student Disciplinary Outcomes for Black Students in North Carolina," *Educational Evaluation and Policy Analysis*, 2017.
- Lindsay, C. "Teacher, Race, and School Discipline," *Education Next*, 2017.

Morrissey, T. "[Economic Instability, Food Insecurity, and Child Health During and After the Great Recession](#)," *Social Service Review*, 2017.

Morrissey, T. "[Employer-Supported Child Care: Who Participates, and Who Benefits?](#)," *Journal of Marriage and Family*, 2017.

Morrissey, T. "[Child Care and Parental Labor Force Participation: A Review of the Research Literature](#)," *Review of Economics of the Household*, 2017.

Morrissey, T. "[Active Shooter Incidents and Gun Ownership and Storage Among Families with Young Children in the United States](#)," *Preventive Medicine*, 2017.

Housing and Community

Castañeda, E. et al. "[Improving Homeless Point-In-Time Counts: Uncovering the Marginally Housed](#)," *Social Currents*, 2018.

Johnson, L. et al. "[Deserts of Disadvantages: The Diffuse Effects of Structural Disadvantage on Violence in Urban Communities](#)," *Crime and Delinquency*, 2018.

Castañeda, E. et al. "[Activists' Motivations and Typologies: Core Activists in Ciudad Juárez](#)," *Interface Journal*, 2017.

■ In the Media

National and international media outlets frequently feature MPC's research; this helps to insert our scholarship directly into important urban policy debates. Our faculty fellows and staff were repeatedly quoted in well-regarded news publications and blogs in the last three years. The following are some of our notable media hits.

NEIGHBORHOODS AND GENTRIFICATION

[Sin City's New Slogan is Set to Launch Sunday Evening](#)
January 25, 2020 in *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

[Chevy Chase Dog Park Latest Local Doggie Drama](#)
September 11, 2019 in *WAMU*

[An Oral History of Gentrification in Shaw and U Street NW](#)
August 29, 2019 in *The Washington City Paper*

[Co-Living is in Growth Mode as Gentrification Issues Shake Up Major Cities](#)
June 3, 2019 in *Bisnow Dallas-Fort Worth*

[From 'Liz' to 'The Jason': The Bizarre Trend of Fancy Apartments with Human Names](#)
April 19, 2019 in *The Washington Post*

[What D.C.'s Go-Go Showdown Reveals About Gentrification](#)

April 17, 2019 in *CityLab*

[A Luxury Home Firewall Could Save This Neighborhood From Amazon's HQ2](#)

April 5, 2019 in *Bloomberg Businessweek*

[The HQ2 Divide](#)

March 25, 2019 in *The Eagle*

[Residents of Wah Luck House Have Endured Difficult Living Conditions to Remain in Downtown D.C.](#)

October 31, 2018 in *Washington City Paper*

[Sixty Years of D.C. History and Culture, Slathered in Chili](#)

August 22, 2018 in *The Washington Post*

The TRGT Fiasco Was No Mistake

July 31, 2018 in *The Village Voice*

In Kentucky, A ‘Culture Of Indifference’ To Sexual Harassment In Prisons

July 27, 2018 in *NPR*

Exhibit Documents Historic Neighborhood Change, Successful Collective Action

July 17, 2018 in *The DC Line*

Can Gentrification Be Illegal?

July 2, 2018 in *Governing Magazine*

Do Posh Waterfronts Make a City World-Class? D.C. is Betting Hundreds of Millions on it

June 26, 2018 in *The Washington Post*

Gentrification: Reversal of Historic White Flight is Creating a New Black Flight

May 17, 2018 in *Atlanta Black Star*

It’s Not Cool to Argue About Whether D.C. is Cool

May 15, 2018 in *CityLab*

State of Our Cities

April 1, 2018 in *American University Magazine*

A Contest for D.C. Council Chair Takes Shape

February 2, 2018 in *Washington City Paper*

Revoking El Salvador’s Temporary Protective Status is Bad News for the Region

January 17, 2018 in *Greater Greater Washington*

Gucci Joins the Most Famous Pirate Tailor to Finish Gentrifying Harlem

December 15, 2017 in *Vanity Fair*

This Region Has One of the Nation’s Largest Salvadoran Communities. A Federal Program Puts That in Jeopardy

August 23, 2017 in *Greater Greater Washington*

The Neighborhood University

July 30, 2017 in *The Chronicle of Higher Education*

SoHa in Harlem? The Misguided Madness of Neighborhood Rebranding

July 6, 2017 in *The New York Times*

Derek Hyra and the Trouble With the Trouble With Gentrification

June 28, 2017 in *Washingtonian Magazine*

Students from Belfast, Northern Ireland Visited D.C. Here’s What They Thought

June 6, 2017 in *Greater Greater Washington*

Life is Hell for Tenants of Giant D.C. Slumlord Sanford Capital

February 2, 2017 in *Washington City Paper*

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Why Some D.C. Residents Want Landmark Status for a Public Housing Complex

September 25, 2019 in *The Washington Post*

In Fight Over Affordable Housing, Some Lawmakers Aren’t Worried About Gentrification; ‘I Want to Up the Property Values’

April 21, 2019 in *The Virginia Mercury*

The History Of Wah Luck House And The Future Of Affordable Housing In D.C.

November 8, 2018 in *The Kojo Nnamdi Show*

The D.C. Council Just Cut \$20 Million for Homeless Services to Fund Tax Breaks for Commercial Properties

December 12, 2018 in *Greater Greater Washington*

TOPA Doesn’t Always Work for Small Buildings, a Housing Fight with the National Shrine Shows

October 9, 2018 in *Greater Greater Washington*

Affordable Housing Provides City An Opportunity to Live Its Values

April 6, 2018 in *Falls Church News Press*

A Fix or a Setback? D.C. May Strip Tenant Purchase Rights From all Single-Family Homes

March 5, 2018 in *Greater Greater Washington*

Exodus: Affordable Stores Leaving Boulder, Stumping Experts and Worrying Remaining Low-Income Residents

February 24, 2018 in *Daily Camera*

Passed in 2008, This Affordable Housing Law Has Never Been Used. Now D.C. is Finally Getting Ready for DOPA

December 6, 2017 in *Greater Greater Washington*

Hundreds Testify That D.C. Needs to #fixTOPA, but Does it Need to Be Fixed? If So, How?

September 28, 2017 in *Greater Greater Washington*

RACE, ETHNICITY, AND DIVERSITY

Coronavirus Reveals, Exacerbates U.S. Inequality

April 5, 2020 in *The Jakarta Post*

The Fight for Environmental Justice in America's Segregated Cities

September 6, 2019 in *Geographical*

Ernesto Castañeda, American University – New Type of Mexican Migrants

July 25, 2019 in *The Academic Minute*

Immigrants Pave the Way for the Gentrification of Black Neighborhoods

April 18, 2019 in *Science News*

Border Numbers

April 1, 2019 in *WMUR9*

Fifty Years Later, America Facing Similar Race Issues, Speakers Say

March 11, 2019 in *The Badger Herald*

Black-Owned Businesses Carve Out Space In An Increasingly Gentrified D.C.

January 11, 2019 in *The Huffington Post*

Midterm Election is One Possible Cause of Hate Crime Increasing, Says Expert

November 1, 2018 in *Fox4*

Why Racial Inequality and Regional Economic Inequality Can't be Separated

October 10, 2018 in *Brookings Institution*

The Steady Decline of African-American Culture in D.C.

August 22, 2018 in *Equal Times*

Lawsuit: D.C. Policies to Attract Affluent Millennials Discriminated Against Blacks

May 25, 2018 in *The Washington Post*

In a Revived Durham, Black Residents Ask: Is There Still Room for Us?

May 1, 2018 in *The New York Times*

It's Difficult to Become a Homeowner With Limited English Proficiency

April 26, 2018 in *Greater Greater Washington*

Black, White, And Asian — Three Reflections on the 1968 D.C. Riots

April 4, 2018 in *WAMU*

Wakanda: The Chocolatest City

February 16, 2018 in *CityLab*

Race, Power, Privilege in the Marketplace Are Focus of Interdisciplinary Network's Research

February 4, 2018 in *Diverse Issues in Education*

The Invisible Segregation of Diverse Neighborhoods

July 24, 2017 in *Slate*

How Gentrification Is Undermining the Notion of Black Community and Destroying Black Businesses

June 20, 2017 in *Atlanta Black Star*

How Asian Americans Remade Suburbia

June 14, 2017 on *CityLab*

Selling a Black D.C. Neighborhood to White Millennials

June 12, 2017 in *NextCity*

For Middle-Class Blacks, Success Can Be a Double-Edged Sword

May 29, 2017 in *The Chicago Reporter*

'Black Branding' – How a D.C. Neighborhood was Marketed to White Millennials

May 3, 2017 in *The Washington Post*

Study: Black Students From Poor Families Are More Likely to Graduate from High School if They Have at Least One Black Teacher

April 9, 2017 in *The Washington Post*

Trump and the Rise of the Extreme Right

February 27, 2017 in *The Christian Science Monitor*

The Color of Corruption: Whiteness and Populist Narratives

February 7, 2017 in *Society and Space*

CHILD CARE AND EDUCATION

Americans Were Underprepared for Coronavirus Impact, Consumer Reports' Survey Finds

March 25, 2020 in *Consumer Reports*

The Coronavirus Will Cause a Child Care Crisis in America

March 10, 2020 in *Vox*

Advancing Diversity in Advertising Starts in the Classroom

February 10, 2020 in *Adweek*

Child Care Advocates Press Congress to Help Families Cope with Costs

February 6, 2020 in *The Hill*

Two New Health Policy Briefs on the Health Impacts of Early Childhood Interventions

April 25, 2019 in *Health Affairs*

Ward 2 Boasts High Household Income, Education Rates

March 4, 2019 in *The GW Hatchet*

Is Congress About to Make Child Care More Affordable? 5 Questions Answered | Analysis

March 3, 2019 in the *Pennsylvania Capital-Star*

A Brief, Shameful History of Childcare in the United States

February 22, 2019 in *The Slot*

Can Child-Care Benefits Keep Teachers in the Classroom?

January 23, 2018 in *Education Week*

By Age 3, Inequality is Clear: Rich Kids Attend School. Poor Kids Stay With a Grandparent

September 26, 2017 in *The Washington Post*

Rural Children Need Quality Preschool, Too

May 19, 2017 in *The Enquirer*

Rich or Poor, People Still Eat Fast Food

May 17, 2017 in *Healthline*

Your Kids are Fat Because You Work Too Much, New Study Says

May 9, 2017 in *New York Post*

Want To Make America Great Again? Make Our Kids Globally Competitive

April 21, 2017 in *Huffington Post*

Here's Who Gets Punished in Trump's Child Care Plan

March 6, 2017 on *CNBC.com*

CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change Won't Affect All Washingtonians Equally

September 19, 2019 in *DCist*

D.C. Wants To Be Resilient To Climate Change. Critics Argue Efforts Could Worsen Inequalities

September 18, 2019 in *WAMU*

Marginalized Communities In D.C. Are Already Struggling. Climate Change Will Make That Worse

September 17, 2019 in *The Koyo Nnamdi Show*

SIS Breaks it Down: Climate Justice in Washington, D.C.

February 13, 2019 on *YouTube*

The Environment as Freedom: A Decolonial Reimagining

June 24, 2017 in *Black Perspectives*

■ Events

During the 2017-2020 academic years, MPC hosted many local and national urban scholars and practitioners through our Urban Speaker Series, A Right to The City Author Talk Series (in collaboration with the Smithsonian's Anacostia Community Museum and the D.C. Public Library), and the Annual Spring Lecture Series. By hosting these events, MPC contributes to American University's reputation as a leader in the field of urban policy.

2019-2020

February 22, 2020

A Right To The City Author Talk Series: Stephen Danley

Stephen Danley, Rutgers University

January 21, 2020

She Leads: Leadership and Governing from City Hall *Co-sponsored with the Women & Politics Institute*

January 18, 2020

A Right To The City Author Talk Series: Theodore Greene

Theodore Greene, Bowdoin College

November 16, 2019

A Right To The City Author Talk Series: Susanna Schaller

Susanna Schaller, City College of New York

October 19, 2019

A Right To The City Author Talk Series: Lawrence J. Vale

Lawrence J. Vale, Massachusetts Institute of Technology

September 7, 2019

A Right To The City Author Talk Series: Lance Freeman

Lance Freeman, Columbia University

2018-2019

July 6, 2019

Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, D.C.

Ashanté Reese, University of Maryland, Baltimore County

April 7, 2019

Author Talk with Peter Moskowitz: How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood

Peter Moskowitz, journalist

April 3, 2019

Annual Spring Lecture: Urban Neighborhoods and American Life

Robert Sampson, Harvard University

March 30, 2019

Film and Director Q&A with Dr. Sonya Grier: DogParks and CoffeeShops: Diversity Seeking in Changing Neighborhoods

Sonya Grier, American University

March 27, 2019

Gentrification and the Great Recession

Derek Hyra, American University

March 10, 2019

Film and Discussion: What Happened 2 Chocolate City?

Mignotae Kebede, filmmaker

2018-2019 CONTINUED

March 6, 2019

Bottom-Up Politics Forum

Manuel Pastor, University of Southern California; Theda Skocpol, Harvard University; William Spriggs, Howard University; Margaret Weir, Brown University

March 3, 2019

Author Talk with Samuel Stein: Capital City: Gentrification and the Real Estate State

Samuel Stein, City University of New York

March 1, 2019

AU Latino Public Affairs Forum

Co-sponsored with the Center for Latin American & Latino Studies

February 27, 2019

Help-Yourself City: Legitimacy and Inequality in DIY Urbanism

Gordon Douglas, San Jose State University

February 13, 2019

Citizen Outsider: Children of North African Immigrants in France

Jean Beaman, Purdue University

January 30, 2019

Making Dupont Gay Again: Place Re-Activation and the Rise of the Vicarious Citizen

Theodore Greene, Bowdoin College

November 28, 2018

Urban Policy in the 21st Century

Blair Ruble, Woodrow Wilson Center; Clarence Stone, George Washington University

November 14, 2018

Inclusive Recovery in U.S. Cities

Solomon Greene, Urban Institute

October 31, 2018

Urban Hotspots of Vulnerability and Resilience: Food Insecurity and Kinship in a Nairobi Slum

Sangeetha Madhavan, University of Maryland

October 24, 2018

Using Data and Code to Report on Demographics in America

Aaron Williams, *The Washington Post*

October 10, 2018

Taking Stock: What Drives Landlord Participation in the Housing Choice Voucher Program

Eva Rosen, Georgetown University

September 26, 2018

Gentrification in Washington, D.C.: A Conversation on Improving Equitable Outcomes for Children and Families

Michael Bader, American University; Sabiyah Prince, Empower DC; Parisa Norouzi, Empower DC

September 21, 2018

D.C. Jazz: Stories of Jazz Music in Washington, D.C.

Blair Ruble, Wilson Center; Maurice Jackson, Georgetown University; Carolyn Gallaher, American University; Clarence Lusane, Howard University

September 18, 2018

A Place to Call Home: Immigrant Exclusion and Urban Belonging in New York, Paris, and Barcelona

Ernesto Castañeda-Tinoco, American University

August 2, 2018

Annie E. Casey Gentrification Seminar

Derek Hyra, American University

June 9, 2018

ACM 50th Anniversary Program: Author Talk with Dr. Derek Hyra: Race, Class, and Politics in the Cappuccino City

Derek Hyra, American University

May 29, 2018

Howard Theatre's Crucial Role in the Community Before & After the 1968 Riots

Derek Hyra, American University

2017-2018

April 12, 2018

Bottom-up Politics

Clarence Stone, George Washington University; Philip Thompson, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Philip Caroom, Anne Arundel County Circuit Court; Jesse Van Tol, National Community Reinvestment Coalition; Gregory Squires, George Washington University; Hilary Silver, George Washington University

April 10, 2018

Affordable Housing Symposium

Rafael Cestero, Community Preservation Corporation; Derek Hyra, American University; Ali Solis, Make Room USA

April 4, 2018

Book Launch for Carving Out the Commons: Tenant Organizing & Housing Cooperatives in Washington, D.C.

Amanda Huron, University of the District of Columbia

March 7, 2018

Race, History, and Higher Education: When Blackness Comes to Campus

Jonathan Holloway, Northwestern University

November 28, 2017

The Cosmopolitan Canopy in the Age of Trump

Elijah Anderson, Yale University

November 9, 2017

Is it a Park or a Bridge?

Scott Kratz, D.C.'s 11th Street Bridge Park

November 9, 2017

Book Panel for Chocolate City: A History of Race and Democracy in the Nation's Capital

Chris Myers Asch, Colby College; George Derek Musgrove, University of Maryland

November 1, 2017

Inequality, Occupy, and the Ongoing Financial Crisis

Gregory Squires, George Washington University

October 26, 2017

D.C.'s Southwest BID

Steve Moore, Southwest BID

October 10, 2017

Race, Class, and Politics in the Cappuccino City

Derek Hyra, American University

September 26, 2017

Book Panel for Trespassers? Asian Americans and the Battle for Suburbia

Willow Lung-Amam, University of Maryland





■ Annual Spring Lectures



Robert J. Sampson
Professor of Social Sciences,
Harvard University

2019: URBAN NEIGHBORHOODS AND AMERICAN LIFE

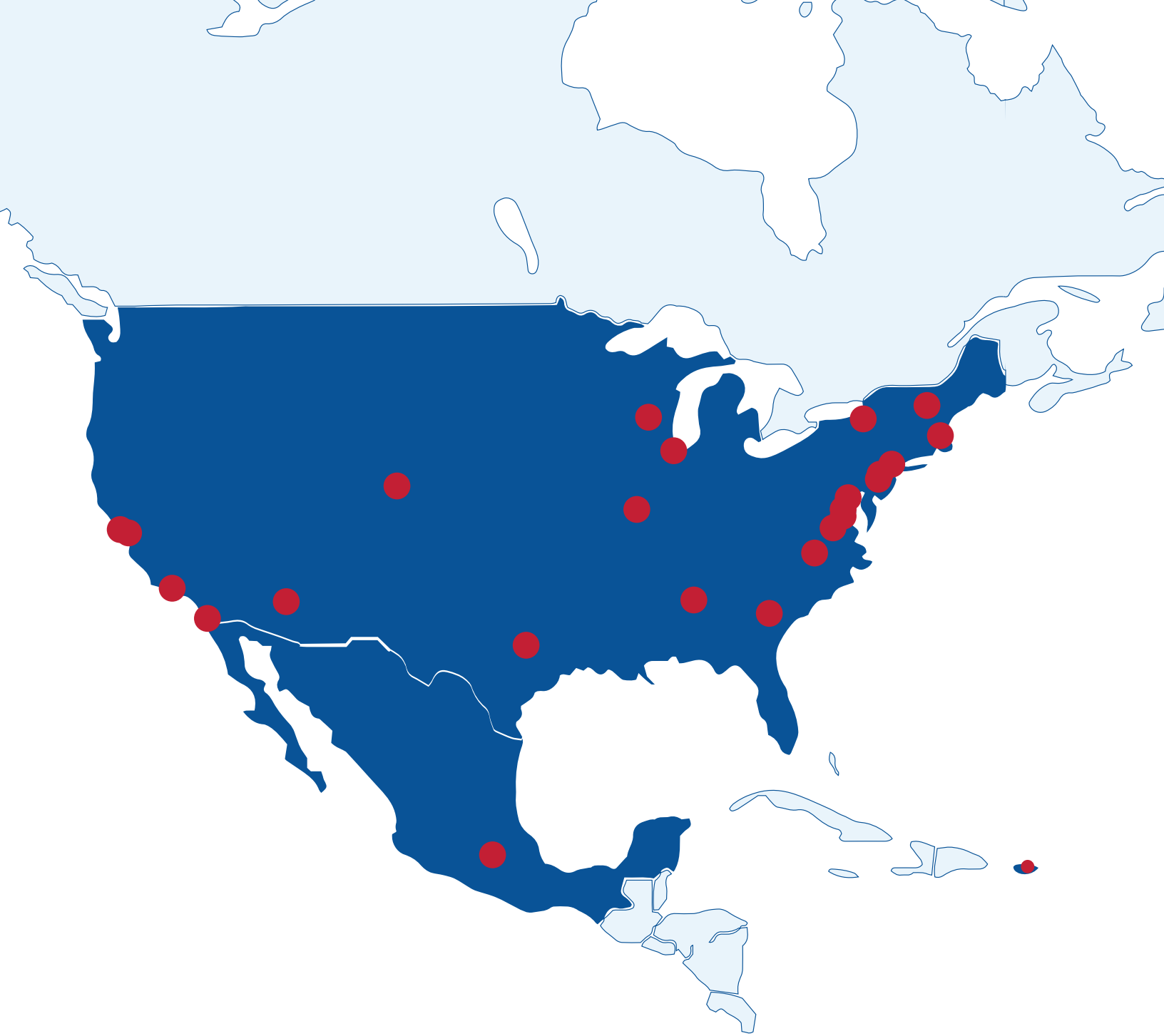
MPC's 2019 Annual Spring Lecture showcased Robert Sampson, the Henry Ford II Professor of the Social Sciences at Harvard University, founding director of the Boston Area Research Initiative, and affiliated research professor at the American Bar Foundation. His most recent book, *Great American City: Chicago and the Enduring Neighborhood Effect*, is based on more than a decade of research from the Project on Human Development in Chicago Neighborhoods and was the basis for his powerful talk on urban neighborhoods and American life.



Jonathan Holloway
Provost, Northwestern
University

2018: RACE, HISTORY, AND HIGHER EDUCATION: WHEN BLACKNESS COMES TO CAMPUS

MPC's 2018 Annual Spring Lecture showcased Jonathan Holloway, the provost of Northwestern University. A prominent scholar, Dr. Holloway specializes in post-emancipation United States history with a focus on social and intellectual history. His outstanding work has transformed the way we think about Black intellectual history of the early and mid-20th century. He delivered an insightful talk on the complex trajectory of race and higher education at Yale University.



■ Presentations

Alexandria, VA
Austin, TX
Baltimore, MD
Birmingham, AL
Boston, MA
Chicago, IL

College Park, MD
Columbia, SC
Denver, CO
Durham, NC
Ewing, NJ
Hanover, NH



Los Angeles, CA
Madison, WI
México City, México
New York City, NY
Philadelphia, PA
Phoenix, AZ
Richmond, VA
San Diego, CA

San Francisco, CA
San José, CA
San Juan, PR
Seoul, South Korea
St. Louis, MO
Syracuse, NY
Washington, D.C.
Wellington, New Zealand

■ Where Are They Now?



LAWRENCE ANDERSON

Lawrence Anderson is a public affairs executive with more than two decades of public sector experience. From examining factors that undergird political unrest at MPC, and leading city-wide initiatives in New Orleans, LA, Baltimore MD, and Richmond, VA, Lawrence has cultivated a career that uniquely combines theory and practice. In November 2019, Lawrence was appointed by the Richmond City Council to serve as their chief of staff. In this capacity, Lawrence manages the day-to-day operations of the city's legislative branch and coordinates the activities of the council's executive appointees.

“My tenure with the MPC provided a unique opportunity to take a step back and explore the ‘why’ behind some of the most prevailing urban challenges of our time.”



BLAINE SMITH

Blaine Smith worked as MPC's Social Media Coordinator and graduated from American University in May 2019 with his BA in political science and sociology. Since graduating, he has been serving as a research specialist at Whitman-Walker Health (WWH), where he coordinates an LGBTQ+ youth sexual health study funded by the National Institutes of Health and contributes to the qualitative analysis of projects related to LGBTQ+ health and wellness. In Fall 2020, he will begin pursuing his PhD in sociology at Boston University, focusing on urban and queer studies.

“MPC gave me the opportunity to be engaged with emergent issues within urban studies across disciplines. Serving as the communications manager for MPC and as a research assistant for MPC fellow Ernesto Castañeda contributed immeasurably to the confidence and clarity I needed to pursue graduate study in sociology.”



KAI THOMPSON

Kai Thompson worked as a research assistant with MPC in Spring 2018 while completing a master's degree in public policy. She is currently a program analyst in Risk and Compliance for the Universal Service Administrative Company, working on the administration of the Federal Communications Commission's Universal Service Fund Program on Rural Health Care. She received a prestigious fellowship to begin a PhD program in urban planning and policy at the University of Illinois at Chicago in Fall 2020.

“Working with the MPC was a fantastic opportunity for me. I gained a lot of knowledge about the life cycle of academic research projects and about the many intersections of urban policy and community development. I was also able to meet and learn from other scholars through the MPC. Working with Dr. Hyra and the rest of the center's staff inspired me and gave me the confidence to continue to pursue my own research goals.”



JAMES WRIGHT

James E. Wright II worked at MPC as a research assistant for four years and completed his PhD in Public Administration and Policy in 2018 from American University. He is now finishing his second year as an Assistant Professor at Florida State University in the Askew School of Public Administration and Policy. His work focuses on the intersections among race, police use of force, and community health.

“The Metropolitan Policy Center allowed me to explore my research interests, push beyond my own preconceived notions of inequalities in society, and exposed me to some of the preeminent minds in society. Dr. Hyra provided me with tremendous leadership and showed me how to present myself in and out of academia.”

■ Acknowledgments

MPC would like to thank the following institutions for their key contributions:



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