

## Week 1 - Introduction to Cities and Urbanization

### What is Urbanization?

- Is it the movement of people to cities?
- Is it the economic dominance of cities in the world economy?
- Is it the cultural dominance of cities?
- The answer is all of the above. Urbanization refers to the movement of people from rural areas to cities, which is often a very uneven process giving rise to slums and inequalities in cities around the world
- It also refers to the economic dominance of cities in the global economy and the rise of global cities, which really control the flow of finance and investment in the world economy. 85% of global GDP is generated in cities
- And it refers to a cultural experience. The movement of people from the countryside to urban areas gave rise to new identities, subcultures, beliefs, religious groups, political organizations, and, of course, artistic forms. Movies like Blade Runner tried to capture a dystopian idea of what cities might become in the future, highly unequal, but also visually and aesthetically distinct, the low neon lights, the darkness, traffic, etc.

## Week 2 - Exploring the City, Studying the City

### Reading:

● *Jonas, Andrew, Eugene McCann and Mary Thomas. (2015). Urban Geography: A Critical Introduction. Chapter 1: Approaching the City. Oxford: Wiley. P1-26.*

- Geography is defined by *how* we study the world, by our *approach*.
- **Space** is a term with many connotations. Most contemporary critical geographers agree that space is both something absolute – the physical, material spaces of the world – and is also socially produced. In this sense, space is a concept that refers to the relationships between society – human practices, representations, institutions, ways of life, and so on – and the spaces that society produces (see socio-spatial process). Space then, is very much defined in terms of relationships with other beings and things as well as in relation to power and to change over time
- **Spatiality** is a term geographers use to indicate that space and society are mutually constitutive (see **space** and **socio-spatial process**).
- **Place** refers to locations imbued with meaning. Place is always being reworked and redefined by the people who live in it and forces stretching beyond it. In this sense, place can be understood as “scaled”: regions, nations, and even the globe can be understood in some ways to be places, as can localities.
- **Scale** is a conceptual arrangement of space. It is commonly thought of in terms of levels – the local, national, global, and so on. And there is some truth to this. Yet, human geographers understand scale as a social product, tied up with power and politics (see **space**). While scales appear natural, fixed, separate, and ahistorical, they are, in fact, produced and often interconnected for certain purposes by particular interests. Think of the European Union, NAFTA, or even the nation-state or the municipality. All have very

specific and relatively recent histories (it is not so long ago that none of them existed in their present form). All involve drawing new lines on maps, creating territories, and, thus, assigning certain powers to particular scales and allowing certain activities to take place, while others are disallowed (see **state**). Scales are social and political, and they are performed and produced by social action. Therefore, they are powerful and can be changed (“rescaled”), for better or worse.

- Urban geographers tend to approach cities as processes. From this perspective, cities are always changing, sometimes quickly, sometimes so slowly that they seem concrete, fixed, and permanent. They are also always connected to wider forces, whether natural or social, cultural, economic, political and so on. Through these connections they both reflect and shape the more general forces, flows, landscapes, and contexts in which they are situated. Cities, then, are social and spatial; they are **socio-spatial processes**.

- **Socio-spatial process** A phrase indicating the mutually constitutive relationship between society – the organization of society into groups or classes, the development of cultural mores, and so on – and space – the organization of built environments, landscapes, and so on. How a society operates, understands itself, and is governed is reflected by the spaces (urban and otherwise) that it produces. Furthermore, the legacies of geographies that came before necessarily structure and define the character of contemporary society. The addition of the word “process” indicates that this relationship between society and space is historical and dynamic.

- If cities are socio-spatial, then they are always tied up with interests: one need only look at the statues and monuments in cities across the globe to be able to get a sense of who is powerful in each place now and who was powerful in the past. Similarly, the character of contemporary urban built environments gives clues into which interests – economic, political, and cultural; individual, collective, and institutional – influence city building. Cities, like the societies of which they are part, serve people’s interests in uneven or stratified ways.

- If we are to define cities in terms of socio-spatial process, we should use concepts and terms that help us focus on the way cities are both fixed, identifiable elements of the landscape while also always being fluid, changing, and connected to the wider world. We should also approach cities by paying close attention to the social practices, interests, identities, and struggles that produce them. Three concepts are particularly helpful in this regard: (1) urbanization and development, (2) urbanism, and (3) planning. In the simplest terms, **urbanization** is the process of becoming urban, or more urban. It has three specific connotations:

- i. It highlights the demographic process in which cities gain more residents, a wider variety of residents, and an increasing density of population
- ii. It speaks to the increasing globalization of urban economic, political, and cultural influence
- iii. It helps us consider the ways in which space is organized and reorganized in tandem with changes in the organization of society and the economy.

- **Urbanization** is a term that refers to the clustering of population in increasingly large, dense, and diverse, cities over time. It also suggests the increasing globalization of

cities' and urban processes' influence. Both of these processes indicate the relationship between the (re)organization of space and changes in the character of societies and economies. Think, for example, of the rise of industrial capitalism in Britain. The development of a system of factory production necessitated large numbers of workers living close to mills and factories. Most of these workers had previously lived in rural areas but, by one method or another, were forced or encouraged to leave those places and to seek employment in a new type of place – the industrial city. This long transition from feudalism to capitalism was reflected in, and facilitated by, urbanization. More generally, urbanization represents and reinforces a division of labor in society: urbanites generally cannot produce enough food to feed themselves; therefore, they rely on farmers in the countryside around the city and on producers all over the world. Similarly, these farmers need cities as a market for their products. Therefore, urbanization encourages and depends on systems of **commodification** ( process by which an object, product, capacity, or even labor, a belief, representation, or piece of land is converted into an element of market exchange by being assigned a price. Once mediated by money, commodities are frequently more able to circulate through markets, being bought and sold), transportation, trade, marketing, and regulation that have global extent and influence. In turn, as cities grow and people spend more time working in waged employment, other divisions of labor and specializations develop. For example, groups of people are authorized to be bureaucrats and are paid to govern and manage urban social formations and landscapes. [...] **Development** has many meanings, ranging from the global scale (international development), to the scale of the individual (personal development or self-improvement). For our purposes, it refers to the creation, destruction, and recreation of urban built environments over time – land, buildings, and infrastructure – for the purposes of producing and utilizing value of different sorts. It is driven by the interests of specific elite groups, often referred to as growth coalitions or growth machines. Suggests socio-spatial change, expressed in the urban built environment. While urbanization refers to the relationship between space and broad structures in society – capitalism, modernity, and so on – urban development can be understood as a more specific process; a purposeful one, driven by clearly defined interests. It refers to the creation, destruction, and recreation of urban built environments – land, buildings, and infrastructure – for the purposes of producing and utilizing value of different sorts.

- A second concept, **urbanism** ( is often used to refer to urban design (architecture, etc.). In this book, its other meaning is more prominent: ways of life that define cities in specific historical periods. These ways of life, of course, shape and are shaped by the design of urban built environments), is used in two ways. On one hand, it often refers to architecture and design, as when public transit infrastructure or green architecture are referred to as examples of sustainable urbanism (Chapter 10 gives definitions of these examples). On the other hand, urbanism is a concept that refers to ways of life and interaction with others that are specific to cities at particular times in history.

- A third concept, **planning** (has many connotations. This book's focus is on urban and regional planning, which is a set of practices that emerged at the end of the nineteenth

century to manage flows of investment into and around urban regions and to address crises (health, sustainability, etc.) that emerge with development. Zoning is an example of such a planning practice. Historically, planning was the purview of a few visionaries, funded by private donors, and often intent on designing model alternatives to the polluted, crowded industrial city. By the mid-twentieth century, is the institution of the state that is primarily responsible for designing and managing how flows of investment circulate in and out of the built environment. Indeed, urban planning is a socio-spatial process in itself, since planning is a future-oriented activity in which actors of various types engage so that they can govern how development will take place.

● **Before there was Urban Geography - The Chicago School:** From the 1910s onwards, a group of sociologists associated with the University of Chicago developed an approach to the city that remains, even today, foundational to urban studies literature. Sought to analyze and understand that rapidly changing city developing around them. Chicago, like London 50 years before, was a roiling landscape of rapid change and startling novelty. It was a place of art and innovation, and a place of segregation and violence. It generated great wealth while many of its residents lived in horrible poverty. It was, then, a modern city of light and shadow. And in all its extremes, contrasts, and innovations, it was a puzzling place – something new on the face of the earth. Perhaps not surprisingly, engaged sociologists were drawn to studying the city. The Chicago School of sociology approached the city as a biological or ecological system. The Chicago School's approach was defined by its use of metaphors to equate natural processes (like the way species of plants find their best fit within an ecological system) with social ones (like the ethnic geography of a city in which people of the same ethnicity live close to each other). Other key concepts were competition, cooperation, territory, invasion and succession, symbiosis, natural areas, and community. In sum, they regarded the city as an **urban ecology** ( an iteration of the Chicago School's human ecology approach, borrows ecological concepts like invasion and succession, in an attempt to explain the organization of society in cities. This approach has been roundly critiqued (Chapter 2) and is no longer a prominent approach in urban geography, although it continues to provide an historical reference point) – the “natural” environment of “man.” Most famous of the Chicago School's models was Ernest Burgess' Concentric Zone Model, where it establishes the term Central Business District (CBD) (The core of the city, where transport networks converge and land uses are dominated by retail and office functions. Commonly, especially in older global North cities like Chicago, this area has the densest land uses and the highest land prices. Since the mid-twentieth century in the global North, traditional CBDs face competition from suburban office and retail locations, often located at the junctions of major highways) to describe the downtown as the center of the urban region. Around it are a series of rings, defined roughly by the age of their built environments (oldest to youngest), their quality (least to best), their density (densest to less dense), and their value (least expensive to most). Overlaid on these gradients are references to the class and ethnic character of the city's population, to neighborhood differentiation even within the zones, and allusions to the wider national and global processes that partially produce cities. Figure 1.5 is the more concrete

version, in which the Chicago context is clear. It describes a city of immigration – from Europe (“Deutschland,” “Little Sicily”), Asia (“Chinatown”), and elsewhere in the United States (the “Black Belt”). These immigrants were largely poor, as can be seen in the references to apartment dwellings, rooming houses, and residential hotels (single room occupancy establishments for low income people). The city was, then, defined to a great extent by circumstances elsewhere and flows between various other places and Chicago. The model also describes an economically and socially segregated city. This is evident in the ethnic designations mentioned above, but also in its references to ghettos, slums, better residences, and bungalows. The process of modeling is about abstracting from the concrete context to make generalizations and draw lessons. Figure 1.6 shows how the specifics of Chicago are reflected in a general model. Some of the terms, such as the CBD, and the zones of workers’ homes, better residences, and the commuter zone, where people live in bungalows and travel to work in the CBD, are clearly related to the more concrete diagramming of Chicago. Another key term is the zone in transition. In Figure 1.5, it can be seen that this zone, like the others, contains a lot of diversity that, in Figure 1.6, gets subsumed under a single label. Yet, while the other labels are relatively understandable, this “zone in transition” needs further explanation. It is the area of the city, surrounding the CBD, in which the Chicago School researchers encountered a mix of building types, qualities, and uses as well as a range of often low income immigrant, ethnic minority communities. They saw it as “in transition” because residential buildings were deteriorating and residential uses in the zone were being replaced by light industry and by the expansion of the CBD.

### **Discussion Group Tutorial (Monday, September 16th)**

- How can we define the cities? - Urban environment with a large population; center of commerce and trade;
- What makes a city “A GOOD CITY”? - Safety; good transportation; low-living costs (affordability); proper access to social services; opportunity
- Four categories of cities (All are inter-connected and affect each other; sustainability):
  1. Economy: Services, Transportation, Poverty, Tourism, Low-Living Costs, Diversity, etc.
  2. Culture/Society: Services, Population Density, Transportation, Poverty, Tourism, Safety, Diversity, etc.
  3. Environment: Services, Population Density, Transportation, Tourism, Diversity, Etc.
    - Urban: Infrastructures, Waste Disposal, Safety, Etc.
    - Natural: Parks, Scenery, Etc.

### **What is Geography**

- Geography is not defined by one topic: deals with a range of topics
- What distinguishes it is it asks spatial questions: How and why are things distributed and arranged in certain ways on the earth’s surface
- Asks what is the interaction between different human and natural activities on the earth’s surface

- Why are things found in some places and not others?

### **The Age of Exploration 15-17th Century**

- Exploring, cataloguing and describing environments
- Mass production of maps following the printing press

### **Colonialism 18-20th Century**

- Played a critical role in the colonial period by mapping surrounding territories for colonialism and exploration
- Describe the world and colonies

### **Human and Physical Geography 20th Century**

- Physical geographers: The natural environment, climate, soil, landforms, and oceans (geomorphology, glaciology, hydrology, biogeography)
- Human geographers: The distribution, networks and activities of people on the Earth's surface. Examine how people alter their environments and how political, social and economic systems are organized across space

### **The Neolithic Revolution**

- 10-12000 years
- Beginning of settler societies
- First types of cities emerging with people living together in masses

### **The Industrial Revolution**

- The study of cities takes off during the industrial revolution
- Increase flow of civilians moving from the countryside into cities
- Increase of work

### **John Snow's Cholera Maps**

- Earliest advocates of urban hygiene
- City mapping of the outbreak
- Ability to identify problems with geography

### **The Chicago School of Urban Ecology (1920s-30s)**

- First urban studies
- Chicago was a booming city with an influx of immigrants and industry and commerce
- Human behaviour is shaped by social structures and physical environments
- Scholars cataloging and data collecting how people interact

### **Burgess and Urban Planning**

- Zones models
- How cities work and become better
- CBD in the middle

- Move outwards based on class and ethnicity
- Describes and promotes a very segregated and divided city

### **The City as a Socio-Spatial Process**

- Value of Chicago School: Allows us to understand the city as a socio-spatial process
- Socio-Spatial Process: “A phrase indicating the mutually constitutive relationship between society - the organization of society into groups or classes, the development of cultural mores and so on - and space - the organization of built environments, landscapes and so on” (Jonas, McCann, Thomas, 9)

### **The Spatial Science (1950-1970)**

- Growth of cities in the 20th century places new demands on geography
- A move from descriptions of cities to quantitative/law based modelling
- Emphasis on modelling economic change
- Aim was to make geography relevant for business and government

### **Radical Geography (1970-)**

- Geography as responsive to pressing social, economic and political needs
- Shaped by civil rights struggle, feminist movement, LGBT movement
- Concerned with inequalities, the unequal nature of cities, and participation in urban development
- Gives rise to the “Right to the City” - Who gets to say how development happens in the city and who benefits from it
- “The right to the city is far more than the individual liberty to access urban resources: it is a right to change ourselves by changing the city...The freedom to make and remake our cities and ourselves is, I want to argue, one of the most precious yet most neglected of our human rights”

### **Urban Geography**

- Three areas of focus:
  1. Urbanization: A demographic, cultural and economic process
  2. Urbanism: The architecture and culture of cities
  3. Urban Planning: The design and management of cities

### **Key Concepts in Urban Geography**

- Space:
  - Something absolute and socially produced
  - Space is shaped by relationships between people, nature and society
  - “Space then, is very much defined in terms of relationships with other beings and things as well as in relation to power and to change over time” (Jonas, McCann and Thomas, 6)
  - Relational Space: Is about space as a system of social relations. These relationships change over time, and because they change, space itself changes (e.g. real-estate developers)
  - We make space!

- Place:
  - Jonas, McCann and Thomas (2015) describe place as follows: “Place refers to locations imbued with meaning. Place is always being reworked and redefined by the people who live in it” (6).
- Sense of Place:
  - Sense of place described our relationship with places, expressed in different dimensions of human life, emotions, biographies, imagination, stories, and personal experiences (emotional attachment)
  - Places may hold strong memories for us or they may make us feel a certain way: safe, welcome, valued, accepted, etc.
  - Different people perceive the same city or neighbourhood in different ways
- Production of Space:
- Exploring the City:
  - Walking as an argument for public space
  - The figure of the “Flaneur” in European cities
  - ”Walking is about being outside, in public space, and public space is also being abandoned and eroded in older cities, eclipsed by technologies and services that don’t require leaving home, and shadowed by fear in many places (and strange places are always more frightening than known ones, so the less one wanders the city the more alarming it seems, while the fewer the wanderers the more lonely and dangerous it really becomes). Meanwhile, in many new places, public space isn’t even in the design: what was once public space is designed to accommodate the privacy of automobiles; malls replace main streets; streets have no sidewalks; buildings are entered through their garages; city halls have no plazas, and everything has wall, bars, gates” - Rebecca Solnit, *Wanderlust: A History of Walking*
  - Jane Jacobs and “Eyes on the Street”: Inspired by neighbouring she lived in and noted how people look out their doors, windows, and business windows, and how they felt more secure and connected with their community by having others observing the streets. Thus, feeling safer.

## **Quantitative Methods**

- E.g. Analyze voting patterns over territorial locations

## **Qualitative Methods**

- Interviews
- Surveys
- Focus Groups
- Community mapping
- Mixed methods: Involves using qualitative and quantitative methods and using one method to verify the findings of another method

## **Urban Ethnography**

- Ethnography: A qualitative method that investigates culture and society from within, by embedding oneself with it.
- Can involve spending time with people in a certain area and getting to know them
- Or joining a group or organization and writing about it from the inside
- Assignment 1 is an urban ethnography

### **Week 3 - Globalization and the City: Migration, Global Cities and Global Slums**

#### **Readings:**

●Saunders, D. (2010). *Arrival City: How the Largest Migration in History is Shaping Our World. In The City Reader. Richard LeGates and Fredric Stout (Eds.). New York: Routledge. 677-686*

- The last time humans made such a dramatic migration in Europe and the New World between the late eighteenth and the early twentieth centuries, the direct effect was a complete reinvention of human thought, governance, technology, and welfare. Mass urbanization produced the French Revolution, the Industrial Revolution and, with them, the enormous social and political changes of the previous two centuries. Yet this narrative of human change was not to be found in the newspapers of the 1840s or the parliamentary debates of the early twentieth century; the city-bound migration and the rise of new, transitional urban enclaves was a story largely unknown to the people directly affected by it. And the catastrophes of mismanaged urbanization-the human miseries and revolutionary uprisings and wars-were often a direct result of this blindness: We failed to account for this influx of people, and in the process created urban communities of recent arrivals who became trapped, excluded, resentful. Much of the history of this age was the history of deracinated people, deprived of franchise, making urgent and sometimes violent attempts to gain a standing in the urban order. If we make a similar mistake today and dismiss the great migration as a negligible effect, as a background noise or a fate of others that we can avoid in our own countries, we are in danger of suffering far larger explosions and ruptures.

- What I found in these places were people who had been born in villages, who had their minds and ambitions fixed on the symbolic center of the city, and who were engaged in a struggle of monumental scope to find a basic and lasting berth in the city for their children

- We need to devote far more attention to these places, for they are not just the sites of potential conflict and violence but also the neighborhoods where the transition from poverty occurs, where the next middle class is forged, where the next generation's dreams, movements, and governments are created. At a time when the effectiveness and basic purpose of foreign aid have become matters of deep and well-deserved skepticism, I believe that these transitional urban spaces offer a solution. It is here, rather than at the "macro" state or "micro" household level, that serious and sustained investments from governments and agencies are most likely to create lasting and incorruptible benefit

- But the larger message is lost to many citizens and leaders: the great migration of humans is manifesting itself in the creation of a special kind of urban place. These

transitional spaces-arrival cities-are the places where the next great economic and cultural boom will be born or where the next great explosion of violence will occur.

●**Shenzhen, China:** Shenzhen, on the southern mainland of China across the Deep Bay from Hong Kong, is the world's largest purpose-built arrival city. As recently as 1980, it was a fishing village of 25,000 people; then Chairman Deng Xiaoping declared it the first Special Economic Zone, exempt from restrictions on movements of workers and freely allowed to practice capitalism, and it quickly swelled into an industrial hub whose population, by the end of the twentieth century, was officially almost nine million but more likely in excess of 14 million, owing to the masses of semi-permanent village migrants from all over China who pack its workers' dormitories. It spawned a thriving middle class, a leading high-tech sector, and one of the best universities in China. It's the place where iPods and Nikes are made, along with much of the Western world's clothing and electronics. And yet, Shenzhen today is, by most measures, a failed arrival city. After its explosion of success in the 1990s, something went wrong. Despite its having the highest per capita income and urban living standard in China, workers have been flooding out of the city for years, most often headed to inland cities closer to their home villages, where the wages are half those in Shenzhen and it's possible to live in "urban village" slums ... After the 2008 New Year holiday, during which half the workforce traditionally take a vacation in their home villages, Shenzhen officials were shocked to discover that two million workers had failed to return; 18 percent of the city's migrant workforce had decided to leave for good, despite large labor shortages: by the end of 2007, Shenzhen had 700,000 unfilled jobs. City officials raised the minimum wage from 450 to 750 to 900 yuan (\$ 132) per month, but it did little to attract workers back. In 2010, when hundreds of thousands more failed to return, Shenzhen announced plans to raise it yet again, to 1,100 per month, after facing labor shortages of more than 20 percent. Again, the promise had little noticeable effect. Officials were left bewildered. Some speculated that China's competitiveness in low-wage manufacturing was doomed, but few had good explanations. You don't have to spend long among Shenzhen's migrant workers to realize the problem. There are millions of workers here who have bought apartments in dense tower blocks, moved their families in and settled down-but almost all of them are skilled tradesmen, technicians, managers, or people with post-secondary education. For ordinary factory workers, this dream is unaffordable. Nor is it possible to open a rudimentary shop or start-up factory, as migrants do in arrival cities elsewhere. In other Chinese cities, including Beijing and Chongqing, former villagers congeal into self-built "villages" of thousands or tens of thousands of people mainly from the same region-like Liu Gong Li. There they can get a crude but livable first home and build a small shop, restaurant, or even a start-up factory in its ground floor, as arrival-city residents do around the world. But these self-built neighborhoods no longer exist in Shenzhen. After the crisis reached a peak with the mass departure of workers in 2008, one of China's most esteemed historians and urban-affairs experts staged a provocative intervention that startled Shenzhen's governing authorities. In a speech to an audience of Shenzhen officials, Qin Hui declared that the city could solve its problems only by encouraging the development of shantytown slums. "It is no shame for big cities

to have such areas. On the contrary, Shenzhen and other cities should take initiatives to [permit] cheap residential areas for low-income residents including migrant workers who want to stay in the cities where they work," he told the audience of dignitaries. "To protect the rights of these people, we should respect their freedom to build houses in some designated areas, and improve their living conditions ... By building those areas, big cities could show more consideration for low-income residents, and provide them with more welfare."

● **Los Angeles, California:** The area around the intersection of South Redondo and West Adams boulevards in Los Angeles could not be mistaken for a village, although it is tightly and intricately linked to El Pal6n. It is a grid of narrow bungalows with miniature front lawns, interrupted by blocks of industrial and commercial buildings on the main boulevards, all in the shadow of the elevated Santa Monica Freeway. Known to the city as West Adams and to many Angelenos as a northern corner of South Central, it is a gray, baking-hot, car-packed neighborhood, unleavened by any sort of park or green space, one of the most densely populated districts in the city. It is also one of the poorest. Historically, it was an African-American ghetto that had a reputation as a crime-ridden no-go zone among white Angelenos. It had no economy, its boulevard's only signs advertising heavily guarded liquor stores and check-cashing shops. In 1992, it exploded in violence, the Rodney King riots leading dozens of its buildings to be set aflame and scores more to be looted. Men stood on its tiny front lawns and outside its barren shop fronts with shotguns, desperately defending their rented spaces and swearing to move away as soon as they could. Yet this corner, almost two decades after the riots, has become something else altogether: Its tiny bungalows nowadays tend to be freshly painted and well maintained, with neat gardens and flowerbeds surrounded by new wrought-iron fences in the front and thriving vegetable patches in the back. Its boulevards are now more active and colorful, with many more shops, small industries, and lively markets and eateries, decorated with exuberant, colorful signs and displays. This will never be a beautiful neighborhood and is not a completely safe one, but it has become a much neater, happier, more optimistic one. It is now populated mainly with villagers: Six out of 10 people living here today were born in a Latin American village, often the same one as their neighbors. The monthly trips to Western Union made by the Salvadorans living here are almost certainly the largest source of cash income in El Pal6n; these packages of hundreds of dollars have changed the appearance and quality of the Salvadoran village's housing and given it electricity and television. Members of the Salvadoran enclave on West Adams have helped each other migrate here, find rental apartments, get jobs, save money, set up small businesses, hire additional employees, and buy houses. This village linked network and hundreds of others just like it, which connect adjoining streets and blocks to remote peasant districts in Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador, and Mexico, have turned southern and south-central Los Angeles into a quilt of arrival cities. This rough-and-tumble parcel of city blocks not only turns Central American villages into better places, it also very efficiently turns their sons and daughters into functioning Americans.

● **Mumbai, India:** The Parab family had bought the place a month before but had decided to stay in the slum an extra four weeks before moving in for a reason that would seem, to almost anyone in the world, characteristically middle class: Subhashini had cashed in her life's accumulation of gold jewelry a trove valued at \$10,000 and traditionally saved for the marriage of children, and spent it on renovations to the dingy old apartment. A wall was ripped out, new kitchen counters installed, floor tiles replaced with marble, impressive new ceiling mouldings and lights installed by her carpenter cousin. The couple talked about the comfort and self-respect these improvements would bring them—and domestic self-respect is not a value to be neglected among slum-dwellers—but they also talked about the equity value. Their improvements would raise the resale price of the apartment they had just bought for \$42,500. It is an elegant home. It is also barely theirs. Their family income had crossed the middle-class threshold three years earlier, when Manohar had landed a job driving executives' cars for a company that makes electronic instruments. He had come to Mumbai from his village in central Maharashtra at age 14, making the transition from pavement to slum using his network of fellow villagers. Subhashini was the child of a veteran arrival-city family, a gregarious woman of singular self-confidence, and she made it a well organized project, from her marriage at 18, to get her family out of the slum. His annual salary of \$6,600 was not going to be enough to do it. The Parabs encountered two problems that are endemic across the world of arrival cities: an illiberal property market rigidly reined in by zoning and rent-control regulations and ownership restrictions, and an underdeveloped credit market that makes proper mortgage loans available only to the very highest-income groups. One set of restrictions discouraged anyone from building or selling homes affordable to the lower middle class (or to almost anyone, as millions of Mumbai home buyers have discovered); the other made it impossible for the Parabs to get a home loan of any sort, even with a sizable down payment. Or as Oinath Berde, the estate agent who sold them the house, told me: "There are a great many poor people in this city who want a three-room house, but all too often either they are not available because nobody is able to build them, or their household budget is not matching the supply, There just are not entry-level homes here." [...] Even with all those income sources, it was not a simple matter of buying a house. The Parabs were not eligible for any kind of actual mortgage. India's banks are extremely conservative in their lending practices, a fact that saved the country's economy from ruin in the credit-crunch crisis of 2008 but that also has frozen millions of people out of the housing market. Instead, as millions of other families in the developing world do, they took out a consumer-purchase loan, ostensibly for buying appliances and at a far higher interest rate than most mortgages. Even that was not quite enough: As a customer in Mumbai, off the books they had to pay several thousand dollars in "black money" cash payments directly to the sellers, above and beyond the official purchase price. For his family to get a middle-class berth required a network of property enterprises and a highly leveraged financing arrangement of staggering complexity. It has left them with a home, but in a fragile way: Their monthly expenses, including \$2000 for the loan, \$15 maintenance fees, \$80 for Prateek's college tuition, and \$12 for Rohan's secondary-school fees, are

about the same as Manohar's salary; they have absolutely no leeway for disasters or setbacks. "It's difficult to get by. We have had to borrow so much, and our income barely meets our expenses," says Manohar. "We are really counting on our sons for everything." At this, Prateek, practicing his Java programming on the computer in the corner of the room, looks over nervously.

●Davis, M. (2006). *Chapter 1: The Urban Climacteric. in Planet of Slums. New York: Verso. pp. 1-19.*

●The earth has urbanized even faster than originally predicted by the Club of Rome in its notoriously Malthusian 1972 report *Limits of Growth*. In 1950 there were 86 cities in the world with a population of more than one million; today there are 400, and by 2015 there will be at least 550.2 Cities, indeed, have absorbed nearly two-thirds of the global population explosion since 1950, and are currently growing by babies and migrants each week. The world's urban labor force has more than doubled since 1980, and the present urban population - 3.2 billion - is larger than the total population of the world when John F. Kennedy was inaugurated. The global countryside, meanwhile, has reached its maximum population and will begin to decline after 2020. As a result, cities will account for virtually all future world population growth, which is expected to peak at about 10 billion in 2050. Ninety-five percent of this final buildout of humanity will occur in the urban areas of developing countries, whose populations will double to nearly 4 billion over the next generation. Indeed, the combined urban population of China, India, and Brazil already roughly equals that of Europe and North America. The scale and velocity of Third World urbanization, moreover, utterly dwarfs that of Victorian Europe. London in 1910 was seven times larger than it had been in 1800, but Dhaka, Kinshasa, and Lagos today are each approximately forty times larger than they were in 1950. China - urbanizing "at a speed unprecedented in human history" - added more city-dwellers in the 1980s than did all of Europe (including Russia) in the entire nineteenth century. The most celebrated phenomenon, of course, is the burgeoning of new megacities with populations in excess of 8 million and, even more spectacularly, hypercities with more than 20 million inhabitants - the estimated urban population of the world at the time of the French Revolution. The price of this new urban order, however, will be increasing inequality within and between cities of different sizes and economic specializations. Chinese experts, indeed, are currently debating whether the ancient income-and-development chasm between city and countryside is now being replaced by an equally fundamental gap between small, particularly inland cities and the giant coastal metropolises. 18 However, the smaller cities are precisely where most of Asia will soon live. If megacities are the brightest stars in the urban firmament, three quarters of the burden of future world population growth will be borne by faintly visible second-tier cities and smaller urban areas: places where, as UN researchers emphasize, "there is little or no planning to accommodate these people or provide them with services."

●In Gregory Guldin's case study of southern China, he found that the countryside is urbanizing as well as generating epochal migrations; "Villages become more like market and towns, and county towns and small cities become more like large cities." Indeed, in many cases, rural people no longer have to migrate to the city: it migrates to them. This

is also true in Malaysia, where journalist Jeremy Seabrook describes the fate of Penang fishermen "engulfed by urbanization without migrating, their lives overturned, even while remaining on the spot where they were born." After the fishermen's homes were cut off from the sea by a new highway, their fishing grounds polluted by urban waste, and neighboring hillsides deforested to build apartment blocks, they had little choice but to send their daughters into nearby Japanese-owned sweatshop factories. "It was the destruction," Seabrook emphasizes, "not only of the livelihood of people who had always lived symbiotically with the sea, but also of the psyche and spirit of the fishing people."<sup>26</sup> The result of this collision between the rural and the urban in China, much of Southeast Asia, India, Egypt, and perhaps West Africa is a hermaphroditic landscape, a partially urbanized countryside that Guldin argues may be "a significant new path of human settlement and development . . . a form neither rural nor urban but a blending of the two wherein a dense web of transactions ties large urban cores to their surrounding regions." German architect and urban theorist Thomas Sieverts proposes that this diffuse urbanism, which he calls "in-between city" is rapidly becoming the defining landscape of the twenty-first century in rich as well as poor countries, regardless of earlier urban histories. [...] "Overurbanization," in other words, is driven by the reproduction of poverty, not by the supply of jobs. This is one of the unexpected tracks down which a neoliberal world order is shunting the future. [...] An International Labour Organization (ILO) researcher has estimated that the formal housing markets in the Third World rarely supply more than 20 percent of new housing stock, so out of necessity, people turn to self-built shanties, informal rentals, pirate subdivisions, or the sidewalks. "Illegal or informal land markets," says the UN, "have provided the land sites for most additions to the housing stock in most cities of the South over the last 30 or 40. Since 1970, slum growth everywhere in the South has outpaced urbanization per se.

## Discussion Group Tutorial (Monday, September 23rd, 2019)

### Define Word:

#### •Space:

- Is both something absolute - the physical, material spaces of the world - and is also socially produced. Space then, is very much defined in terms of relationships with other beings and things as well as in relation to power and to change over time.
- Something absolute & socially produced shaped by relationships between people, nature & society, product of certain types of social relations, system of social relations, changes over time; both abstract & real; made by the people themselves
- A space because a place when there is abstract places

#### •Place:

- Can be understood as "scaled" regions, nations, and even the globe can be understood in some ways to be places, as can localities.
- Re-worked and re-defined by people who live in it.
- Makes people feel in a certain way, a meaningful location

#### •Relational Space:

- The relationship between the place itself & the feelings it generates

- Space as a system of social relations
- Relationships change over time and so do the spaces
- Sense of Place:
  - The connection to an area felt by its inhabitants
  - Different dimensions of urban life
  - People-place relationship
  - Described our relationship with places, expressed in different dimensions of human life, emotions, biographies, imagination, stories, and personal experiences (emotional attachment)
  - Places may hold strong memories for us or they may make us feel a certain way: safe, welcome, valued, accepted, etc.
  - Different people perceive the same city or neighbourhood in different ways
    - E.g., People and their homes with other people's homes (safety, culture, history human interaction, personal experiences)

### **Urbanization**

- The world is becoming more urban
  - In 1950, 30% of people live in cities
  - In 2014, 54% of people lived in cities
  - By 2050, 66% of people will live in cities
- North America: 8% urban
- Europe: 73% urban
- Africa: 40%
- Asia: 48% urban
- By 2050 Africa will be 56% urban and Asia will be 64% urban

### **Waves of Urbanization**

- 18th to early 19th century:
  - Migration from rural areas to cities in Europe
  - Migration from Europe to the Americas
- Colonization and rural displacement in Asia, Africa and Latin America
  - Colonial cities were constructed for elites and for the purpose of trade and extraction
  - Port cities connected to railroads sending raw materials to colonial powers
  - Pass systems keep colonized populations in place
    - Purpose to control indigenous people and disable them from moving into urban areas
- Emergence of an integrated global economy
  - A global division of labour
  - Raw materials processed in Europe and North America from colonial territories

### **Europe's Industrial Era**

- Some of the very first accounts of urbanization come to us from England in the Industrial Revolution

- Friedrich Engels, an English writer, political thinker and contemporary of Karl Marx wrote some of the first accounts of the impact industrialization had on English life
  - Friedrich Engels: “On this declivitous hillside there are planted three rows of houses, of which the lowest rise directly out of the river, while the front walls off the highest stand on the crest of the hill in Long Millgate. Among them are mills on the river, in short, the method of construction is as crowded and disorderly here as in the lower part of the Long Millgate. Right and left a multitude of covered passages lead from the main street into numerous courts, and he who turns in thither gets into a filth and disgusting grime, the equal of which is not to be found. Below Ducie Bridge the only entrance to most of the houses is by means of narrow, dirty stairs and over heaps of refuse and filth. The first court below Ducie Bridge, known as Allen’s Courts, was in such a state at the time of the cholera that the sanitary police ordered it evacuated, swept, and disinfected with chloride of lime.”
- “The Condition of the Working Class in England” was one of the first books to describe the impact of urbanization on people’s lives in 1840s
- People left their homes into urban areas due to the increase of rent and taxes of land ownership, which forces people to move into urban areas that are cheaper and offer work.

### **Does Urbanization Cause Inequality?**

- Why does inequality occur?
  - Kuznet’s Curve
  - Necessary to the development of a city
  - Over the last 30 years, inequality has increased
  - E.g., The case in Toronto from 1970 to 2005; Toronto is segregated by race and income
- What is driving inequality in Toronto?
  - Increasing real estate and rental costs: Many people are sending more than 30% of their income on housing
  - Precarious work across the GTA has become the norm
- New York City’s Income Distribution (2009)
  - The top 1% accounted for one-third of all income and included 35’005 tax filers earning an average of \$2.2 million each
  - The bottom 99% accounted for two-thirds of all income and included 3’462’925 tax filers earning an average of \$46’966 each

### **Extreme Global Inequality**

- The three wealthiest people in the U.S. now own more wealth than the bottom half...

### **Global Cities**

- Concept developed by sociologist Saskia Sassen
- Global cities play a command function in the global economy
- Characteristics of global cities:
  - Financial services (banking, finance, insurance, accounting)

- Headquarters of multinationals
- Centers of global media and communications networks
- High quality educational institutions
- High number of service and information sector workers
- Global cities are aspirational, city authorities want to achieve global city status

### **Top Ten Global Cities**

- London, New York City, Tokyo, Paris, Singapore, Amsterdam, Seoul, Berlin, Hong Kong, Sydney

### **Global Cities Are Also Highly Unequal Cities**

- Dependent on a low-wage precarious service sector
- Increasingly designed for business and high income earners
- Tax breaks hollow out municipal finances

### **Cities in the Global South**

- Colonial legacies: cities built for a small elite and an extractive economy
- Dependency on raw materials meant many countries were still largely agricultural
- 1970s & 80s, globalization of trade begins to change global division of labour
- Collapse of rural and peasant livelihoods:Corporate Food Regime
- China and India: Urbanization driven by rapid economic growth
- In other cities: urbanization is happening without economic growth

### **What Happens When You Have An Urbanization Rate Faster Than The Rate of Economic Growth?**

- Slums
- The point is that inequality is rarely a temporary phenomenon, it is a permanent feature of urban life
- Urbanization generates unevenness
- Slums have been a feature of cities since their inception

### **Uneven Development**

- Urban inequality isn't temporary, it's a permanent feature of contemporary urban and economic development
- Urban geographers like Neil Smith and David Harvey argues that the profitability of capitalism rests on this unevenness
  - Those who make low wages and live in slums are essential to the prosperity of cities
  - Urban land values depend on decline and revitalization (Think gentrification)

### **Planet of the Slums**

- Mike Davis, geographer, sociologist, former truck driver
- Growth of transitions landscapes or urban corridors, extended metropolitan regions and in-between spaces

- The countryside has also been urbanized
- Urbanization with industrialization: China, Korea, Taiwan
- Urbanization without industrialization: Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America, some parts of South Asia
- Even in cases of declining urban incomes, urbanization still occurred rapidly
- Urbanization driven by economic restructuring and its effects on agriculture in 1980s
- Rapid urban growth without economic development state investment produces slums

### **Why Do People Move To Cities?**

- Saunders' argument:
  - Globe and Mail journalist
  - Studied slums in twenty cities in five continents
  - Argues we need a new approach to understand the great migrations of today
  - Argues that there's a common process in cities around the world, in the "neighbourhoods where the transition from poverty occurs, where the next middle class is forged, where the next generation's dreams, movements, and governments are created."

### **Arrival Cities (Saunders Reading)**

- Transitional spaces, where the "next great economic and cultural boom will be born or where the next great explosion of violence will occur"
- Shenzen: A story of constrained and unequal urban futures
- Los Angeles: A story of inner city migration and revitalization from Central America
- Migration to Western cities is also a rural-urban migration
- Arrival, upward mobility, exodus
- Mumbai: a story of urban mobility

### **Saunders Argues**

- Slums are not the problem, these rural-urban migrant neighbourhoods are not a problem to be eliminated
- Arrival cities help rural migrants achieve upward mobility
- There are positive and negative models of arrival cities
- Saunders doesn't see slums in a negative light

### **The Right to the City**

- Key concept in urban geography
- Comes from radical geographic tradition and the work of David Harvey
- Argues for greater democratic control over our cities
- Takes different forms:
  - Opposition to corporate takeover of public services
  - Shackdweller movements demanding rights to urban land

### **Climate Change and Urban Inequality**

- What impact will climate change have on our cities?
- Who is the most responsible for climate change and who suffers the most?
- How can our cities adapt to climate change, and specifically for the most vulnerable residents?

#### **Week 4 - Inequality and the City: Polarization, Segregation, and Gentrification**

##### **Readings:**

●Moskovitz, P.E. Introduction. In *How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality and the Fight for the Neighbourhood*. New York: Bold Type Books. 1-10.

- Jane Jacobs wrote her pro-urban treatise *The Death and Life of Great American Cities* in 1961. Jacobs's book was a 400-page meditation on what made the Village great-its small, varied streetscapes; its diversity of profession, class, and race; its inherent eclecticism. Jacobs argued that every other city in the United States should try to emulate its success by encouraging the creation of small shops over big ones, small streets over grand avenues, and varying sizes of apartment buildings and town houses over huge complexes.

- Now, in place of buildings that reminded me of my childhood, stood beacons of wealth unprecedented in the neighborhood.

- The sense of community that had made the West Village feel like home for me and my parents-and that had inspired Jane Jacobs over fifty years earlier-was gone.

- A lot of the people are gone too, forced out because they could no longer afford sky-high rents.

- The Village is less racially diverse today too-about 90 percent of its residents are white.

- But to Jacobs, places like the Village weren't just cool; they proved that cities could be run with little government intervention and could foster equality without much help.

According to Jacobs, the small shops, cheap rent that attracted artists and writers, varied street lengths, and mixed-use zoning policies not only made for interesting people-watching but also made a neighborhood work as a closed system. The shopkeepers weren't only business owners, they were an unpaid police force, watching out for crime and making sure kids walking alone to school got there safely; a pedestrian-friendly block not only meant a good place to walk, it meant the creation of a place where strangers could interact and come up with new ideas and new destinies for each other; a variety of types of buildings, from new luxury apartments to old tenements, meant that a diverse group of people could afford to live in one neighborhood and not be segregated by income and race.

- Gentrification: The displacement, the loss of culture, the influx of wealth and whiteness into New York's neighborhoods. It was about mass evictions, about violence, about the decimation of decades-old cultures. That's what gentrification is: a void in a neighborhood, in a city, in a culture. In that way, gentrification is a trauma, one caused by the influx of massive amounts of capital into a city and the consequent destruction following in its wake.

- Gentrification is not about individual acts; it's about systemic violence based on decades of racist housing policy in the United States that has denied people of color,

especially black people, access to the same kinds of housing, and therefore the same levels of wealth, as white Americans. Gentrification cannot happen without this deeply rooted inequality; if we were all equal, there could be no gentrifier and no gentrified, no perpetrator or victim. Gentrification is also the inevitable result of a political system focused more on the creation and expansion of business opportunity than on the well-being of its citizens (what I refer to as neoliberalism). With little federal funding for housing, transportation, or anything else, American cities are now forced to rely completely on their tax base to pay for basic services, and the richer a city's tax base, the easier those services are to fund. That can mean attracting the wealthy to cities, actively pushing out the poor (who are a drain on taxes), or both. The latter seems to be the preferred one in most cities these days.

●MIT professor of urban studies Phillip Clay's stages of gentrification:

●First, a few "pioneering" gentrifiers move into a neighborhood, followed by a rush of more gentrifiers. Then corporations such as real estate companies and chain retail stores, seeing an opportunity to profit from the arrival of the pioneers, become the main actors in a neighborhood. It's not that corporations are necessarily conspiring to overpower the pioneers, but because corporate buying power is so much greater than that of individuals, gentrification inevitably leads to corporate control of neighborhoods. Finally, in Clay's stages, the process becomes completely top-down, wherein the only entities powerful enough to change and hypergentrify an already gentrified landscape are corporations and their political allies.

●I'd also add that there's a precursor to all of these stages in which a municipality opens itself up to gentrification through zoning, tax breaks, and branding power. This preparatory phase is rarely seen or talked about because it happens so long before most people witness gentrification in action, but this stage is crucial to understanding gentrification.

●Examples: Hurricane Katrina was the beginning of gentrification in New Orleans; Detroit's declaration of bankruptcy; New York City's declining industrial sector and near bankruptcy in the 1970s and 1980s; San Francisco's surging tech industry

●Gentrification is a system that places the needs of capital (both in terms of city budget and in terms of real estate profits) above the needs of people.

●*Saskia Sassen: Who owns our cities – and why this urban takeover should concern us all.*

●Massive foreign and national corporate purchasing of urban buildings and land

●Cities are the spaces where those without power get to make a history and a culture, thereby making their powerlessness complex. If the current large-scale buying continues, we will lose this type of making that has given our cities their cosmopolitanism. Indeed, at the current scale of acquisitions, we are seeing a systemic transformation in the pattern of land ownership in cities: one that alters the historic meaning of the city. Such a transformation has deep and significant implications for equity, democracy and rights. A city is a complex but incomplete system: in this mix lies the capacity of cities across histories and geographies to outlive far more powerful, but fully formalised, systems – from large corporations to national governments. London,

Beijing, Cairo, New York, Johannesburg and Bangkok – to name but a few – have all outlived multiple types of rulers and of businesses.

- All of this cannot happen in a business park, regardless of its density – they are privately controlled spaces where low-wage workers can work, but not “make”. Nor can this happen in the world’s increasingly militarised plantations and mines. It is only in cities where that possibility of gaining complexity in one’s powerlessness can happen – because nothing can fully control such a diversity of people and engagements.

- Four features of foreign investment and corporate purchasing:

- The sharp scale-up in the buying of buildings: even in cities that have long been the object of such investments, notably NY and London. For instance, the Chinese have most recently emerged as major buyers in cities such as London and New York. Today there are about 100 cities worldwide that have become significant destinations for such acquisitions – foreign corporate buying of properties from 2013 to 2014 grew by 248% in Amsterdam/Randstadt, 180% in Madrid and 475% in Nanjing. In contrast, the growth rate was relatively lower for the major cities in each region: 68.5% for New York, 37.6% for London, and 160.8% for Beijing.

- The extent of new construction: The rapid-growth period of the 1980s and 90s was often about acquiring buildings – notably high-end Harrods in London, and Sachs Fifth Avenue and the Rockefeller Center in New York. In the post-2008 period, much buying of buildings is to destroy them and replace them with far taller, far more corporate and luxurious types of buildings – basically, luxury offices and luxury apartments.

- The spread of mega-projects with vast footprints that inevitably kill urb: that inevitably kill much urban tissue: little streets and squares, density of street-level shops and modest offices, and so on. These megaprojects raise the density of the city, but they actually de-urbanise it – and thereby bring to the fore the fact, easily overlooked in much commentary about cities, that density is not enough to have a city.

- The foreclosing on modest properties:

### **Discussion Group Tutorial (Monday, September 30th, 2019)**

- Week 3 readings are going to be on the exam

- Megacities: Population around 10 million

- Hypercities: Population over 10 million

- Urbanization rate of Asia and Africa is higher than Europe during the Victorian Era and the U.S.

- Mike Davis - Planet of Slums:

- No upward mobility

- Slums will become worse

- Collects his data from case studies on census profiles

- Paychecks are spent on living costs

- The city moves to them

- Commercial based and Trade
- The “In-between city” which is the area between the suburbs and the city center; location where people decide to live; informal housing and slums
- Doug Saunders - The City Reader:
  - Optimistic about slums
  - Slums can cause up-wards mobility and opportunity
  - Brings labour skills and newer sectors of employment
- Davis, 2006:
  - Deterministic point of view/pessimistic thoughts on the issue
    1. A problematic urban issue
    2. Not too much place for development, restricted employment opportunity; community wise -> new-comers might be prone to crime, violence and loss of lifestyle, psyche & “spirit”
    3. People do not migrate to city, city comes to them
    4. Statistical data, census data, etc.
- Saunderson, 2000:
  - Optimistic point of view on “migration”
    1. Opportunity for more development, newcomers bring with them their values, knowledge, experiences, etc.
    2. Migrants move in hope from the field to favelas/ not seen as passive victims
    3. The arrival city -? Employment opportunities, better health conditions, better chance of advancement
    4. Message: We should welcome these people
    5. Data source: Interviews with people, to study their responses to understand their point of view and their background and their quality of life
    6. Immigrants send money to support their families and improve their lives such as moving to a more spacious house, etc.
    7. “Arrival City” is a good way to control population growth
    8. Agrees to protect the migrants slums
    9. Examples of Brick Lane (London); Dhaka, Los Angeles (Watts); Istanbul, etc.

### **Key Readings for the Final Exam**

- Mike Davis -
- Doug Sanders -
- Ananya Ray -

### **Gentrification**

- Who has a right to the city?
- Growth of urban inequality in cities in the North & South
- Gentrification
- Displacement of people from low-income areas and a growth of high-income areas

### **Moskovotiz on Gentrification**

- Gentrification is not an individual process it is a systematic process that builds on past inequality
  - Decades of racist housing policies in the U.S.
  - A system that supports the expansion of business opportunity over wellbeing (neoliberalism)
- "Gentrification is a system that places the needs of capital (both in terms of city budget and in terms of real estate profits above the needs of people"
- Easy to blame the gentrification on the gentrified, such as the hipsters and cafes
- Gentrification at the personal level
- Coffee shop is the tip of the iceberg, must look at who own the areas, urban spaces and cities
- Gentrification builds on existing inequalities, e.g. racialized home owning policies
- Neoliberalism - expansion of business rather than social services and low-income citizens
  - E.g. New-York, San Francisco, etc.

### **Film - Not in My Neighbourhood**

- Film is deterministic view of gentrification
- About who has a right to the city
- System against people of colour
- People left to themselves
- Cape Town:
  - Destruction of slums
  - Gentrification is seen
  - Big business runs the world and the government wants control over the land they are located on
- Woodstock (Cape Town):
  - Families lived for generations in the same house (75 + years)
  - Sense of place attached to the slums and areas
  - Government disregards the sense of place of communities
  - Businesses want people to leave the area because they are reducing the areas values with excess parking tickets
  - No connection between the landlord and the tenants
  - People's rights are being violated
  - Large families in the areas
  - Residents help each other
- Wex Woodstock:
  - Opening markets generates tourists and economic activity
  - Improves area safety
- Brooklyn (NY):
  - Drug problem
  - Ractive racisms - White people doing drugs on the streets but not being arrested while black men are being arrested by crossing the street
  - "Capitalism is the force behind racism"
  - No communal sense because of competition

- Active gentrification
- Police brutality
- Trump built a tower which displaced many black families and the tower went bankrupt
- Grassroots movement beginning in communities protesting against police brutality
- 65'000 people in shelter yet the Mayor wants to make 2000\$/monthly luxury studio apartments. Also, many Americans make only \$20'000/years
- Tactics used by the mayors and politicians along with landlords to push long-term residents out
- Long-term residents are being harassed to leave
- Great need for affordable housing
- Spatial violence
- Change that comes is change for who?
- People have no power and control of their community, housing and neighbourhood
- Copwatch
- 5th Avenue Brooklyn:
  - Eviction and renovation
  - Commercial tenant is not covered and protected and thus must go to court for protection
  - Gentrification is like a tsunami and will not stop until everything is changed
  - Gentrification destroys culture
- São Paulo (Brazil):
  - The homeless workers movement of Brazil
  - Occupying buildings because of the needs of the community and was achieved with three organizations
  - Worked on a farm then moved to the city but couldn't find a job and became homeless and fought for housing
  - Police would harass residents and rights are being violated
  - Constitution says that all citizens have rights to housing, yet the corruption in government doesn't allow so
  - Building residents are all part of organized movements for affordable housing
- District 6 (Cape Town):
  - Flourishing lands used to be living areas and slums that have since been bulldozed
  - Remnants of the housing foundations remain in the ground
  - Gentrified in hopes of selling the land to developers
  - Gentrification began in the 1950s
  - Developers believe that the new shops will hire the low-income families for employment
- Tafelsig - Mitchell's Plan:
  - Apparent violence if you are not from the area

### **Week 5 - Work and the City**

#### **Tutorial - October 7th**

- Defining & Summary:

## 1. Slums (Davis & Saunders):

- Mike Davis - Planet of Slums:
  - No upward mobility
  - Slums will become worse
  - Collects his data from case studies on census profiles
  - Paychecks are spent on living costs
  - The city moves to them
  - Commercial based and Trade
  - The “In-between city” which is the area between the suburbs and the city center; location where people decide to live; informal housing and slums
- Doug Saunders - The City Reader:
  - Optimistic about slums
  - Slums can cause up-wards mobility and opportunity
  - Brings labour skills and newer sectors of employment

## 2. Global Cities (Sassen):

- Concept developed by sociologist Saskia Sassen
- Global cities play a command function in the global economy
- Characteristics of global cities:
  - Financial services (banking, finance, insurance, accounting)
  - Headquarters of multinationals
  - Centers of global media and communications networks
  - High quality educational institutions
  - High number of service and information sector workers
  - Global cities are aspirational, city authorities want to achieve global city status

## 3. Arrival City (Saunders):

- Transitional spaces, where the “next great economic and cultural boom will be born or where the next great explosion of violence will occur”
- Shenzen: A story of constrained and unequal urban futures
- Los Angeles: A story of inner city migration and revitalization from Central America
- Migration to Western cities is also a rural-urban migration
- Arrival, upward mobility, exodus
- Mumbai: a story of urban mobility

## 4. Urbanization (Jonas):

- Urbanization: A demographic, cultural and economic process

## 5. Gentrification (Moskowitz):

- It was about mass evictions, about violence, about the decimation of decades-old cultures (p. 4)
- Gentrification is about systemic violence based on decades of racist housing policy in the United States that has denied people of color, especially black people, access to the same kinds of housing, and therefore the same levels of wealth, as white Americans.

- Gentrification is also the inevitable result of a political system focused more on the creation and expansion of business opportunity than on the well-being of its citizens (what I refer to as neoliberalism). With little federal funding for housing, transportation, or anything else, American cities are now forced to rely completely on their tax base to pay for basic services, and the richer a city's tax base, the easier those services are to fund. That can mean attracting the wealthy to cities, actively pushing out the poor (who are a drain on taxes), or both (p. 5-6).
- Gentrification is a system that places the needs of capital (both in terms of city budget and in terms of real estate profits) above the needs of people (p. 9).

### **Guest Speaker - Fight For \$15 & Fairness**

#### **Precarious and Low Wage Work is Ontario's Normal**

- Workforce growth in Ontario over the past 20 years
- 1 in 5 Professionals are in precarious employment
- Precarious: Unstable, insecure
- 90% Low wage workforce
- Erosion of the social safety-net
- Policies and laws are cutting back on benefits and living costs
- Crisis of inequality
- Most workers do not have unions nowadays, hence less protection against violations
- Laws and protections are outdated
- Must organize collectively for change
- In 2015, the Liberal government promised to work at the conditions and laws

#### **Important Concepts So Far**

- Right to the city:
- Sense of place:
- Urbanization and inequality:
- Global cities:
- Urbanization without industrialization
- Arrival cities:
- Gentrification:

#### **Relationship Between Work and Urban Space**

- From the Industrial Revolution to Garden Cities to Suburbs
- Garden Cities were a response to the congestion and pollution in the cities; arrangement between work and place; first with railways to automobile; the movement went into the development in suburbs; the inner-city is congested and a dirty space

#### **Labour Geographies**

- "Labour geographies is a reference to the variety of ways in which workers are organized across space and how, in turn, space shapes worker's organizations (e.g. trade unions)" - Jonas et al., 2015, 102.

- Asks:

1. How the geography of the city affects patterns of work and employment
2. How workers themselves shape urban geographies

### **Spatial Divisions of Labour**

- The spatial division of labour: The distribution of different stages of economic activity across space, leading to the specialization of work within particular places at a range of scales
- Industrial city: North American cities become sites of manufacturing employment in 19th Century
- Mass production methods
- Decline of manufacturing led to changes in the spatial division of labour in North American cities
  - Manufacturing moved out of the country
  - Business moved to cheaper urban land
  - People moved to suburbs
- The spatial division of labour in the city changed. This also changed the culture, the “sense of place in neighbourhoods”

### **Contingent Labour**

- Contingent work is work that has non-standard hours, is casual, temporary, short-term and is typically low wage and without benefits
- It is also highly feminized, with high numbers of women concentrated in this work

### **Gender and Labour Markets**

- Feminization of work: Growth in women’s participation in labour markets, but significant gender inequalities in labour markets
- Women still perform the vast majority of unpaid work globally

### **Outsourcing and Labour Migration**

- Outsourcing of production to cities where labour costs are lower
- This has an impact on cities in these places: Labour migration

### **Maquilas and Urban Growth in Mexico**

- Growth of special economic zones whom do not pay taxes and have low labour wages
- Workers are far more disposable

### **Rana Plaza Factory in Bangladesh**

- More lacks in environmental and safety protection
- Building caught fire and many workers died
- Companies can not just out-source labour but the responsibility as well

### **Labour Migration**

- In some cases, you can bring people to work at lower costs

- E.g. Workers in Dubai are composed mainly from India, Bangladesh and the Philippines under short-term contracts
- If you complain you lose your contract and go back home without a wage
- They are often hired by third-party contractors and recruiters, hence unclear for whom they work for, so who is responsible for what? (Triangular Employment Relationship)
- Capital is more mobile
- E.g. Canada hires under contracts Filipinos to work in Canada as care-givers

### **The Workforce State**

- Growth of contingent and precarious labour in cities
- Reduction in state provided welfare
- Far more difficult to access employment insurance
- The growth of workfare aimed at pushing people into short term and contingent employment often on zero hour contracts

### **Temp Agencies**

- Place you in a different workplace in the city for a day
- Highly mobile
- E.g. Enrico Miranda worker in Toronto who died
- Rates of injury are far higher due to less responsibility on behalf of employers

### **Informal Economies**

- Work-Practices that are not always waged or regulated but are a large part of people in certain countries (India 80% of workers)
- No formal offices and workplaces
- About people making certain types of claims in areas

### **Labour and The Right to the City**

- The Fight for \$15 Movement
  - Low income people are being driven out of the city
  - Demanding rights and wages to live in the cities
- Community Benefit Funds
  - If there is going to be investments into certain developments, citizens want guarantees and returns on investments

## **Week 6 - Urban Planning & Design**

### **Guest Speaker**

- Shawn Menard, Ottawa City Councillor
- Elected in 2018, Representing Ward 17 in Ottawa
- Undergrad and masters in Criminal Justice, Criminologie, and
- From Ottawa
- Got involved and lead the campaign for a UPass at Carleton; Worked with City Hall

- Two big issues are transit and student housing
- Loves public admin because he was able to transition into government
- Worked for the department of Justice under Harper
- Left and continued to work to communities and municipalities and was manager at MCN
- Left and started his own business as advisor
- Lack of debates and careless policies motivated him to run in politics
- Passed the city's first climate motion
- What does city planning look like? New plan in 2045; official plan lays out high level goals and aspirations such as cycling, the population, transportation either by car or public transit; do we want to continue expanding Ottawa or not?; looking at zoning conditions and regulations.
- How planning happens and how to replace it? Planning happens within a committee and they approve or disapprove applications from developers. What happens is that ignoring plans and going above occurs frequently which produce outcomes not supported by the majority; many of them take funds and donations from developers and construction companies in order to have greater chances of developing and having contracts. Shawn did not take any funds from developers. Shawn proposed that instead of having urban and rural committees, selecting the committees and the council approves
- Proposal: Split the committee; we should have representations of committees representing where people are from, thus having suburban and urban committees;
- Examples of problematic issues: 65 story tower in a 30 story zone, the development process was relatively quick; regulations and conditions were ignored; Rural area examples include plants and factories
- Affordable housing: What can be done? Far too few units available. Several tools available: 1. Inclusionary zoning = developer can build but 20% of the units must be affordable (affordable means spending 30% or less of your income on housing); not yet available in Ottawa, and 2. development charges = charge developers on buildings where the fees should go to fixing roads instead of affordable housing, and 3. Supportive housing, cooperative housing, and tiny homes = Ottawa sent up some land to test these options and experiment their outcomes before applying more largely; Budget is \$3.8 billion and \$15 million was spent on affordable housing, \$45 million to expand a road, therefore priorities are not in sync and appear backwards
- Cycling: Vision zero policy = Try to go for zero deaths on the road (avg. 25 to 35 deaths), minimizing the impacts of accident so that if there is an accident it doesn't result in a death; lowering speed limits to 30km/h, adding bike lanes separate from roads which is cheaper to build than to enlarge streets to accommodate, restrictions on turning right on a red light, etc.
- Lansdowne Park development: 37.5 acres of public land; local developers proposed to build; the city bought the stadium and subsidised buildings; equity returns have been relatively weak; initiative is to prevent traffic from going through to encourage people to walk from shops to shops, create greater parking; operation of the site is split in half, thus creating confusion and disagreements between both organizations;
- What are some of the ways that the needs of residents are met? Community associations and members play a strong role because they care about their neighbourhoods; they are brought forward before any design development; developers must consult with the community before approaching with the committees in order to prevent any unrest from residents; non-disclosure

mandate agreements where developers and the community discuss privately before going public;

- Intensification is when you create more units of living, intensifying an area with more units of living; benefits a city for it creates areas where it is easier to walk or cycle, brings in more tax dollars, and is more efficient for road infrastructure and water plumbing is already present.

### **What is Urban Planning?**

- Urban planners try to make cities safe, healthy and enjoyable places to live. They are particularly concerned with public spaces such as streets and parks
- Sometimes they design new cities, but most of the time, they plan how to make existing cities better
- In Ontario planning is regulated by the 1994 Ontario Professional Planners Institute Act
- Urban planners create a vision for a community. They do research by identifying problems, analyzing trends and engaging with community members in dialogue about what makes good public spaces

### **The History of Urban Planning**

- Even ancient cities, like those of the Egyptians and Aztecs required planning
- Hippodamus of Miletus was one of the first planners to develop a standardized set of urban plans

### **The Radial City**

- Design around a central feature, such as a statue

### **Baron Haussman and the Redesign of Paris**

- Haussman appointed by the Emperor Napoleon III to redesign center of Paris
- Aim was to open up the streets of Paris, to make them more visible and well-lit and to make them easier to police and control

### **The Garden City Movement**

- Urban planning/improvement movement from late 19th-early 20th century
  - Decentralized working and living environment from enter of cities
  - Provide a living space for factory workers outside the center of the city
  - Garden cities were planned, self-contained communities with parks, schools, and housing all within one neighbourhood
  - Garden cities were built in U.K. and North America
  - Garden Cities were a response to the congestion and pollution in the cities; arrangement between work and place; first with railways to automobile; the movement went into the development in suburbs; the inner-city is congested and a dirty space
- In 1909 the first planning department opened at the University of Liverpool. Followed shortly by a department at Harvard
- Planning was seen as a technical exercise
  - Planners were experts unaffected by politics

- Post-WWII sees rising demand for planners as cities expand and population growth occurs (baby boom)

### **William H. Whyte and the Design of Urban Spaces**

- William H. Whyte (urban sociologist)
- Founder of the Street Life Project
- Develops methods for understanding how people use urban space:
  - Observation: Time lapse photography
  - Qualitative: Interviews

### **What Makes Good Public Space?**

- People
- Grass
- Water
- The street corner
- The absence of barriers, walls and fences

### **Jane Jacobs**

- Activist, artist and writer
- Born in 1916 in Pennsylvania and lived in New York and Toronto
- Fierce opponent of urban revitalization in NYC
- For Jacobs, renewal came at the expense of community and people

### **The Death and Life of Great American Cities**

- 1961 book by Jane Jacobs
- A critique of dominant models of urban planning
- Argues for the importance of sidewalks
- Develops the idea of “eyes on the street”
- Jacobs on the design of Montreal and Toronto

### **Radiant City Design**

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### **Placemaking**

- Whyte’s Street Life Project eventually became the Project for Public Spaces in NYC
- Placemaking suggests that good urban planning involves more than just design, it involves cultural, economic, social and ecological principles
- It means designing public spaces with community’s needs wellness and happiness in mind
- Problem placemaking identifies is that planning has become undemocratic and institutionalized

### **Placemaking is:**

- Community-driven
- Visionary

- Function before form
- Adaptable
- Inclusive
- Focused on creating destinations
- Flexible
- Culturally aware
- Ever changing
- Multi-disciplinary
- Transformative
- Context-sensitive
- Inspiring
- Collaborative
- Sociable

**Placemaking is Not:**

- Imposed from above
- Reactive
- Design-driven
- A blanket solution
- Exclusionary
- Monolithic development
- Overly accommodating of the care
- One-size-fits-all
- Static
- Discipline-driven
- Privatized
- One-dimensional
- Dependent on regulatory controls
- A cost/benefit analysis
- Project-focused
- A quick fix

**Congress Square Park, Portland, Maine**

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**Our Town**

- "We fund partnerships led by arts and design organizations and local governments to implement projects that contribute toward the livability of communities and help transform them into lively, beautiful, and sustainable places with the arts at their centers."
- Pendleton, South Carolina
  - Town of 3'000 people
  - Historic town square has declined, investment elsewhere has deprived community of a strong focal point

- Our town project funds 5 local organizations, landscape architects and urban designers to create a master plan to renovate the town square
- Involves new designs for surrounding streetscape, public art and performance spaces

### **The Confluence Project**

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### **What Makes a Good Public Space on Campus?**

- Think of one space that's poorly designed
- Think of one space that's well designed

## **Week 7 - Fear and the City: Policing, Racism and Urban Design**

### **Tutorial - November 4th**

- Three themes from the guest lectures and documentary:
  1. Social: People move out of their areas because they cannot afford to continue to live in these areas (i.e. gentrification). Gentrification is a result of low-income and high-rents.
  2. Economic: Bad economic conditions make people either work more to afford living costs or not work at all, thus increasing unemployment. Those who work in these conditions have the ability to organize together and protest for better wages.
  3. Political: Following Shawn Menard's presentation, urban planning is influenced by developers towards increasing their own profits without regard to local residents by disabling public participation. This results in the construction of urban areas and sites that are modern and profit oriented. This increases the prices and services in neighbouring areas.
- Group Discussion:
  - Labour-Geography:
    - In some cases, you can bring people to work at lower costs
    - E.g. Workers in Dubai are composed mainly from India, Bangladesh and the Philippines under short-term contracts
    - If you complain you lose your contract and go back home without a wage
    - They are often hired by third-party contractors and recruiters, hence unclear for whom they work for, so who is responsible for what? (Triangular Employment Relationship)
    - Capital is more mobile
    - E.g. Canada hires under contracts Filipinos to work in Canada as care-givers
  - Spatial Division of Labour:
    - The spatial division of labour: The distribution of different stages of economic activity across space, leading to the specialization of work within particular place a range of scales
    - Industrial City: North American cities become cities of manufacturing employment in 19th century
    - Mass production methods

- Tied to different waves and immigration at the time
- Decline of manufacturing led to changes in the spatial division of labour in North American cities
  - Manufacturing moved out of the country
  - Businesses moved to cheaper urban land
  - People moved to suburbs
- The spatial division of labour in the city changed. This also changed the culture, the “sense of place in neighbourhoods”
- Precarious Work:
  - Low-wage and unstable labour
- Garden Cities:
  - Providing living for workers outside of the city
  - Decentralized
- Jane Jacobs’ “Eyes on the Street”:
  - Urban planning designed for the public to observe the street and community
- Place-Making:
  - Whyte’s Street Life Project eventually became the Project for Public Spaces in NYC
  - Placemaking suggests that good urban planning involves more than just design, it involves cultural, economic, social and ecological principles
  - It means designing public spaces with community’s needs wellness and happiness in mind
  - Placemaking is: Community-driven, visionary, etc.
- William Whytes’ “Design of Public Spaces”:
  - William H. Whyte (urban sociologist)
  - Founder of the Street Life Project
  - Develops methods for understanding how people use urban space:
    - Observation: Time lapse photography
    - Qualitative: Interviews

### **Relational Space**

- Absolute space: An understanding of space a container. Defined physically rather than socially
- Relational space: A social understanding of space. Space is shaped by the relationships between people, nature and society. We make space, but not equally
- Example: The University. Not just a set of buildings and classrooms but a system of relations that makes the space functional
- Readings: Jonas A., McCann, A and M. Thoma. (2015). Chapter 1: Approaching the City. Urban Geography: A Critical Introduction. Oxford: Wiley, 1-27.

### **Urbanization Without Industrialization**

- Historically, urbanization has been driven by industrialization (Western European experience). People move to cities to find jobs

- In some countries (China) this is still the case. In other cases, urbanization has occurred without industrialization (India, Nigeria). This means people are moving to cities where there are 0 jobs and limited housing
- This gives rise to slums
- Rather than a temporary phenomenon of urbanization, slums have become a permanent feature of urban development
- Readings: Davis, M. (2006). Chapter 1: The Urban Climacteric. In Planet of Slums. New York: Verso. Pp. 1-19.

### **Gentrification**

- Definition: A process that changes the character of the neighbourhood, often through the influx of more affluent residents. Often increases property values in a neighbourhood leading to displacement of lower income residents
- Reading: Moskowitz, P.E. Introduction. In How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality and the Fight for the Neighbourhood. New York: Bold Type Books. 1-10.
  - "Gentrification is a system that places the needs of capital (both in terms of city budget and in terms of real estate profits) above the needs of people"
  - Moskowitz sees gentrification as a process that builds on past inequalities and is reinforced by policies aimed at attracting private business investment
- Examples in reading: New Orleans, New York City, Detroit, San Francisco (Gentrification doesn't look the same everywhere)

### **Davi's Argument**

- The defence of luxury lifestyles has involved the securitization of space
- In L.A. we see a merger of urban design, architecture and policing into a single comprehensive security effort

### **Securitization in the City**

- Security generates its own paranoid demand
- Has less to do with personal safety than insulating communities from perceived threats
- "Fear proves itself" - William H. Whyte
- Media stokes fear of a deranged urban underclass
- Willie Horton
- Horton ad used to create a moral panic

### **The Destruction of Public Space**

- The privatization of the architectural public realm
- Urban policy has come to reflect middle class fears: privatized and inward looking
- He describes this as a "new class war...at the level of the built environment"
  - Anti-panhandling laws
  - Barrel-shaped bus benches
  - Caged trash bins
  - Destruction of public toilets

- Anti-campaign laws

### **Revanchist Urbanism**

- Style of urban design pioneered under NYC Mayor Rudolph Giuliani
  - Privatize public space
  - Bylaws that criminalize the homeless
  - Urban design that discourages people from sitting/staying in places
- Revanche: From the French for revenge
- Coned by geographer Neil Smith to describe New York's urban development in the 1990s
- Hostile architecture

### **Broken Windows Policing**

- Term developed by criminologist James Wilson and George Kelling
- Argues that visible signs of disorder create an environment that encourages more serious crimes
- Policing should therefore target minor crimes (vandalism, public drinking, fare evasion) to prevent more serious crimes

### **Revanchist Urbanism in Canada: The Safe Streets Act**

- In 1999, Mike Harris government introduces Safe Streets Act. Still in place today
- Act prohibits the "Aggressive solicitation of persons in public areas"
- Critics say that "aggressive solicitation" is too vague and open to police abuse

### **Fear and Moral Panics**

- Introduction of Safe Streets Act in 1999:
  - "Our government believes that all people in Ontario have the right to drive on the road, walk down the street or go to public places without being or feeling intimidated. They must be able to carry out their daily activities without fear."
  - Moral panic: A situation in which public fears or state interventions greatly exceed the objective threat

### **The Racialization of Crime in Canada**

- Race and moral panics: Rates of crime among immigrant youth are lower, yet they are frequently stereotyped as deviant
- Carding or street checks in cities like Toronto, Kingston, Halifax and Montreal overwhelmingly target black people
- The war on drugs has been used as a tool to criminalize and target black communities
  - War on drugs not just about drugs fears over public safety
- The war on drugs rapidly increased rate of black incarceration in Canada
- "Black were incarcerated at a rate five times higher than their white counterparts...The rate of incarceration of Blacks increased by over 200%, compared to white persons, whose rates rose by just over 20% (Maynard, 2017, 96)

- "The findings demonstrate that that Black populations face a rate of violence by police that is more than five times that of the white population, and were subject to rampant and frequent abuse with little to no access to recourse" (Maynard, 2017, 103).

## **Week 8 - Art and the City: Urban Decline and the Birth of Hip Hop**

### **Where is Hip Hop from?**

- South Bronx, New York City

### **What are the Four Elements of Hip Hop?**

- DJing
- Rapping
- Graffiti
- Breakdancing

### **American Cities in the Postwar Period**

- Postwar period (1945 onwards) was a time of economic prosperity
- Rising wages, full employment, the growth of the suburbs
- Car culture, mass construction of highways
- U.S. government invests in city construction
- This had begun to change by the 1970s when the country enters an economic recession

### **Decade of Fire**

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### **The South Bronx and the Birth of Hip Hop**

- "We were in place where we just needed an outlet, where we just needed something to make the day normal" - Melle Mel, MC from the Furious Five
- "Hip Hop culture emerged as a source of alternative identity formation and social status for youth in a community whose older local support institutions had been all but demolished along with large sectors of its built environment. Alternative local identities were forged in fashions and language, street names and most importantly, in establishing neighbourhood crews" (Tricia Rose, 78).

### **The Post-Industrial City**

- Global telecommunication networks
- New divisions of labour
- Decline of manufacturing/factory work
- Increasing power of finance (banking sector)
- Increased migration from Global South

### **Early Hip Hop Style**

1. Experiences of economic and social marginalization in the city

2. Cultural exchanges brought about by the spread of new technologies and fashions
3. A voice in a city that had ignored them

### **Breaks and Breaking**

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### **Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five**

- "It's like a jungle sometimes; It makes me wonder how I keep from going under"

### **Hip Hop Gets Political**

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### **Public Enemy - Fight the Power**

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### **That Boom Bap Sound**

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### **Graffiti and the City - Style Ward Documentary**

- "Graffiti and rap were especially aggressive public displays of counter-presence and voice. Each asserted the right to write - to inscribe one's identity on an environment which seemed Teflon-resistant to its young people of colour; an environment which made legitimate avenues for material and social participation inaccessible." - Tricia Rose, 84

### **Hip Hop Goes West**

- L.A. in the early 1980s
  - Urban redevelopment
  - Policing of poor and homeless populations
  - Mass unemployment
  - Unemployment rate for black youth was 45%
  - Growing prison population due to war on drugs
- Economic growth in L.A. from 1970s onwards occurs on the edge of the city

### **1930s Redlining Map to Guide Racial Urban Planning in L.A.**

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### **Ice-T Escape from the Killing Fields**

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### **Themes in West Coast Gangsta Rap**

- Unemployment and poverty
- Policing
- Drug dealing

- Gang warfare

### **Robin D.G. Kelley**

- Author of "Race Rebels: Culture, Politics, and the Black Working Class"

### **Rodney King, NWA, and Police Violence**

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### **The Coup - Fat Cats and Bigga Fish**

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### **Hip Hop Goes Global**

- Mass communication (MTV) took Hip Hop global
  - In the 80s and 90s Hip Hop becomes a global force
- Often used to provide commentary on urban issues, inequality, police violence, poverty
- Also used to call for political change

### **South African Hip Hop - Prophets of Da City**

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### **Senegalese Hip Hop - Y'en a Marre**

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### **Common Threads**

- Hip Hop emerged in the U.S. in the late 1970s from a context of urban decline and deindustrialization
- It is a hybrid art form blending new technologies and various cultural influences
- It is a truly urban art form used to describe conditions of urban life
- It has most often been embraced by those who are the most marginalized and with little voice
- It has often been used to call for social and political change

## **Week 9 - Sex and the City: Gender and Urban Space**

### **Gender Bias in Urban Planning**

- As a profession, planning was dominated by men
- Women often excluded from architecture and engineering programs
- Despite Jane Jacobs as one of the stars of planning, she remains the exception

### **Gender and Urban Space: The Zone Model**

- Chicago school of urban sociology: Dominated by male scholars; didn't say much about gender
- But Burgess zone model was about gender mobility in cities
- Men moving to work; women confined to the home

- Design of cities reflected this gendered division: Central CBD, commuter residential zones
- Homes were designed for nuclear heterosexual family unit

### **Gender and Urban Space: Post WW2 Changes for Women**

- Economic opportunities for women during WW2
- Social, political and medical changes allow women to become economically independent:
  - Oral contraception
  - Pay equity legislation
  - Rising education levels
  - Changing gender norms
- Non-white women had, however, long been part of the labour force in U.S. cities

### **Gender, Commuting, and Urban Zoning**

- Women's entry into the labour force led to growth of commuting
- Additional care burden (children and elderly) meant women did more driving than men
- Services previously performed by women moved from the private into the public realm
- Rise of private home security
- Urban zoning:
  - Monocentric City
  - Polycentric City
  - Concentric Rings
  - Fragments

### **Valentine - The Geography of Women's Fear**

- Public blame victims who were in public spaces
- Public spaces are seen as dangerous even as most gendered-based violence towards women happens in private (the home)
- Women's fear of public spaces shapes the routes they take to get places; mental maps of places
- This geography of fear varies by age, income and lifestyles
- Women's fear of public space is socialized very early
- Women experience public space differently: street harassment
- Valentine argues that women's fear of public space has a profound effect on how they use public spaces.

### **Women's Adaptations to Public Space**

- "As a product of their fear, many women not only perceive, but also experience, their environment differently to men" (Valentine, 387)
- Spaces are socially controlled formally and informally
- Perceptions and fears of spaces are also based on racist or classist assumptions

### **Gender, Public Space and the Division of Labour**

- A large amount of household/domestic labour is still performed by women, which means women are more likely to be in public spaces in the day
- (In the context to the U.K.) men socialize after work in the evening, meaning that many nighttime spaces are dominated by men

### **Gender Division of Labour in Canada**

- "Women spend 50% more time doing unpaid work than men" (Statistics Canada)

### **Foran - How to Design a City for Women**

- Men and women in Vienna used public space differently
- Women used sidewalks, street cars, busses for more trips connected to household work
- City responded by making sidewalks wider, improving lighting and ramps for strollers

### **Gender Mainstreaming**

- Studying and incorporating gender into project planning and design
- Recognizes that not everyone uses and experiences public space equally
- Women-Work-City project (1993), a housing project aimed at making life easier for women, particularly around childcare
- Project design that begins with people's needs
- Contradictory elements to this type of design

### **Gendered Space is Relational Space**

- Women's fear of space is shaped by their perceptions of danger
- Design elements do not always change these perceptions
- Space is created by social action
- Gender inequality cannot be fixed by good design alone, it requires broader social change

### **Confronting Gendered Spaces**

- Thornccliffe Park Women's Committee weekly market
  - Brings women into public space
  - Shows their creativity
  - Creates connections between women
- Take back the night marches
  - Started in 1970s in response to violence against women in public spaces
  - Aim is to protest against violence against women in public spaces
  - Women have a right to feel safe in public

### **The Gender Gap in Cycling**

- In U.S. cities, women are far less likely to bike to work than men. In most cities there are 2 male cyclists to every female cyclist on the road
- Different in European cities where it's closer to 1-1

### **What Would A City Designed by Women Look Like?**

- Punt 6 Urban Planning in Spain; Six ways a cities can work better for women:
  1. Toilets: Physiologically, women need to use the bathroom more often than men; Many women and mums said that they can't use public toilets because they can't get the pram in. So they just don't use the toilets. Because men can stand-up in the bathroom, you can more toilet's for men than women in the same space, whereas women's bathrooms should be at least three times the size than those of men.
  2. Play Fair: Equal access in playground areas so that you can have different types of play at the same time
  3. The Way She Moves: In terms of transport, the city's design is very male-centric, where statistics show that women travel on foot and use public transport more than men, whom travel more by car. Therefore the movement of women is more sustainable; When cities want people to use public transport more often, they should think of women, but they don't.
  4. Kill the Car: In order to reduce the number of cars, Spain is using projects called "superilla" or a superblock in order to reclaim the streets for pedestrians, cyclists, or even just for hanging out. Parking is underground. Instead of busy junctions, you have parks and picnic benches and play areas.
  5. Take a Seat: In these superblocks, people, especially women, wanted more benches in order to sit, chat and hangout in green spaces.
  6. Say no to Sleaze: Anti-Machismo stands in Barcelona and apps inform women about available services and resources, as well as report anonymously cases of any sexual aggression that women have suffered or witnessed. The idea is to create a map of where sexual assaults are happening so the city can stop them.

## **Sexualities and Urban Space**

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## **Week 10 - Technology and the City**

### **Technology and the City in History**

- Growth of industrial city dependent on technological change
- Urbanization in 20th Century driven by new labour demands and changing production technologies
  - Garden cities
- Industrialization of countries outside Europe and North America in the 20th Century driven by export production shaped by new production technologies
- In summary, technologies have historically exerted a significant influence on the organization of urban space

### **Digital Highways**

- Communication technologies have emerged as major forces shaping the organization of urban space

- The ability to transmit information and money globally has affected the organization of urban space
- The flow of information along digital highways affects the uneven growth of cities
- Production, consumption and distribution have become dispersed
- BUT control over economic functions has become centralized
- Global cities centralize command functions of the economy

### **Globalization and Deregulation**

- In the 1980s and 90s we see the deregulation of the banking sector in the U.S.
- Deregulation: government removes restrictions on what banks and financial firms could do
- Stock markets become global and interconnected
- All of this facilitated by the growth of information technologies that allow for rapid exchange of money and information
- This made business transactions easier but increased volatility
  - Asian financial crisis in 1997
  - Sub-prime housing crisis in 2008-09

### **Concentration, Networks and Dispersal**

- Deregulation, new advances in information technology and dispersal of activity means control of the economy must be centralized
- Centralization involves the clustering of law firms, accounting companies, business schools, insurance in one location
- These are clustered in a handful of global cities:
  - New York, Tokyo, London, Paris, Frankfurt, etc.

### **Actual Space and Digital Space**

- "Economic globalization and communications have contributed to produce a spatiality for the urban that pivots on cross border networks and territorial locations with massive concentrations of resources. This is not a completely new feature. Over the centuries, cities have been the crossroads of major, often worldwide, processes. What is different today is the intensity, complexity and global span of these networks, the extent to which significant portions of economies are now dematerialized and digitalized and hence the extent to which they can travel at great speeds through some of these networks" - Saskia Sassen

### **Case Study: The Geography of Amazon**

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### **Building the "Smart City"**

- Controversies: Data and privacy
- Physical and digital infrastructure
- "Who pays? Who profits? Where, in this kind of system, does municipal infrastructure end and commercial activity begin? And are there secondary commercial or advertising uses for the

information gleaned about parking spots? And what happens if sidewalks someday decide to pack up and move on?" - Lorinc

### **Against the Smart City**

●"Rather than chasing the newest shiny smart-city technology, we should redirect some of that energy toward building excellent dumb cities - cities planned and built with best-in-class, durable approaches to infrastructure and the public realm. For many of our challenges, we don't need new technologies or new ideas; we need the will, foresight and courage to use the best of the old ideas" - Shoshana Sax

### **AirBNB and the Short Term Rental Economy**

- AirBNB removed 31'000 homes from Canada's rental market in 2018
- Nearly half of all AirBNB listings are in Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver. But short term rentals are growing at a faster rate in smaller cities (like Ottawa) than in larger cities
- Certain rural areas have a high concentration of AirBNB listings: 15% of all listings concentrated in 4 rural municipalities
- Earnings are concentrated among a small number of hosts (so-called super hosts) - in Montreal 30% of all revenue earned by just 1% of hosts

### **AirBNB and Rental Costs**

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### **Summary**

- History: Growth of industrial cities/regions dependent on technological change, which though changes in production affected urbanization
- Sassen: New communication technologies, economic deregulation and globalization of trade have given rise to interlinked global cities. Technology promotes centralization of command functions and dispersal of economic activities across space. Information and monetary flows affect urban development - the digital highway
- Amazon Case Study: Changes in digital space affects supply chains. Amazon's growth strategy aimed at controlling the entire supply chain. Disruptions to physical retail and creation of new spatial divisions of labour (warehouses, distribution centers). In the case of Amazon HQ2, cities bending over backwards to attract investment
- Sidewalk Labs Case Study: Questions over who controls the data produced by cities; They need to think beyond physical infrastructure. Questions of urban development are also questions of privacy and democracy
- AirBNB Case Study: Technology having unintended consequences in urban real estate markets. Removing rental stock from market, and driving up rental costs

## **Week 11 - Climate Change and the City**

### **What Does a 4 Degree Warmer World Look Like?**

- Flooding of most major coastal cities

- Increased risks for food production leading to global malnutrition
- Unprecedented heat waves
- Increased frequency of tropical cyclones
- Massive biodiversity loss including coral reef systems
- Increased waves of migration - Climate refugees

### **How Do We Prevent a 4 Degree Future?**

- To keep temperature increases to 1.5C we need to cut emissions by 55% by 2030
- Scientists recommend rapid and transformational social and economic change
- This involves rethinking how our cities are designed
- Climate scientists warned in 2018 that we only have 12 years to address climate crisis, this involves going beyond carbon taxation and requires sweeping transformational change

### **What is the Relationship Between Cities and Climate Change?**

- Cities contribute overwhelmingly to climate change
- Cities around the world are very vulnerable to climate change
- Cities are not, for the most part, equipped to deal with climate change
- New Orleans; Hurricane Katrina (2005): An example of lack of climate change-ready infrastructure and climate change affecting the most vulnerable

### **But Who in These Cities Will be the Most Affected?**

- The urban poor
- Those living in low-lying neighbourhoods with limited drainage infrastructure and public services
- The elderly, the sick and children (impacted by global temperature increases)
- Climate migrants driven into slums from rural areas due to drought and environmental collapse

### **Solutions?**

- Mitigation: Reducing the flow of GHG into the atmosphere
- Adaptation: Adapting to life in a changing climate

### **Cities Adapting to Climate Change**

- Chicago: Urban agriculture, resilience through food security
- Austin: Smart electricity grids that store, generate and distribute energy
- Gibson, B.C.: Eco-Asset Pricing of aquifers, creeks and foreshore areas

### **Climate Change and Urban Resilience**

- Adapting cities to climate change can make them better places to live
- Resilience describes the ability of cities to endure catastrophic shocks
- "BIG's proposal was driven by recognition that flood protection infrastructure would only actually be used by the city for a tiny percentage of time. The rest of the time BIG argued, such infrastructure should actively improve New Yorker's connection to the waterfront, undoing some

of the alienating impact of meg-engineering projects of the Robert Moses era..." (Dawson 2019, 159)

### **Problems with Idea of Resilience**

- Even if all of BIG gets built, it's only for projected sea level rise to 2050
- Where will the displaced water from BIG go?
- BIG focus on Manhattan is no accident: center of global finance
- Risk of flooding is worse uptown in Harlem than in southern tip of Manhattan
- Whose resilience are we talking about? Storms of the future will affect people in cities differently
- "Part of the power of the term resilience lies in the sheen of hope it offers. Indeed, resilience and related adaptive measures offer a welcome respite for policy makers from the paralysis surrounding international efforts to promote meaningful mitigation efforts...Deriving from the biological sciences, resilience tends to imply that there are certain inherent properties of an organism, an ecosystem, or any other complex system that strengthen its ability to "bounce back" in response to adverse conditions. While it is clearly in everyone's interest to prepare for climate change, resilience seems to offer adaptive solutions without addressing the political roots of contemporary social risk and disaster" (Dawson 2019, 171)

### **A Green New Deal**

- Inspired by the original U.S. New Deal 1933-1939
- Green New Deal: A vision for making rapid, inclusive and far-reaching transition away from CO<sub>2</sub>, to slash emissions, protect critical biodiversity, meet the demands of the multiple crises we face, and create over a million jobs in the process
- Grassroots process to shape the vision (bottom up vs. top down)
  - Inclusion of broad spectrum of society, particularly those most marginalized, those on the front lines of various struggles, those with the most to lose
- Indigenous rights and social/economic justice as foundational, not after-thoughts
- Formulating a vision that movements demand be implemented by governments - mass public investment and reorganization to address the climate crisis
- Part of a global uprising about climate, austerity, inequality
- At the heart of the Green New Deal is the idea that we can't tackle the climate crisis in isolation - we need a vision that also addresses growing inequality, rising racism, and other critical issues. We need a vision that lifts up indigenous rights
- Why is it important to build a vision that addresses inequality and racism as well as the climate crisis?
  - It's the right thing to do: Preserving a safe climate is going to require massive changes to our economy and society at large - which are greatly needed regardless of climate change. We must work to ensure that the new world we're building doesn't recreate the injustices of our current system. The Green New Deal is an opportunity to ensure that we correct ongoing and historical harms and injustices, and build a path to a better future for all

- It's the only way to build the power we need to win: To build the political power necessary to tackle the climate crisis we need to unite a huge and diverse movement. And the only way to do that is to make sure that the vision we're fighting for is the one that people from different movements, communities and backgrounds are all inspired to unite behind.

## **What is The Green New Deal and Why Does it Matter?**

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### **Some Possible Components of a Green New Deal?**

- Implement U.N. Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People
- Transition to zero fossil fuels
- Energy democracy - transfer our energy system to public, democratically-run energy utilities entirely fueled by renewables
- Universal housing, childcare, healthcare
- Low-cost or free public transit
- More localized and sustainable agriculture
- End to free trade deals that compromise climate/social/economic well-being and regional autonomy
- Open border, welcome migrants and refugees
- Expand care sector and other low-carbon jobs; increase wages
- Universal basic income

### **Barriers?**

- The economic:
  - We want endless growth on a planet with finite resources and finite capacity to support biodiverse life
  - Many national economies, including Canada's, are heavily based around resource extraction
- The political:
  - It's unpopular to tell people to consume less
  - Business wields a large degree of influence in setting policy
  - A unified climate change movement?
- Lack of imagination:
  - We find it difficult to imagine a world where we can have decent lifestyles and not destroy the planet
  - Denialism and apocalyptic visions lead to apathy and disempowerment

### **A Green New Deal For Cities**

- Banking and finance: Investments in ecologically sustainable infrastructure, industries and technologies
- Transit networks: Free, electric public transit systems, reduction in private vehicle ownership

- The workplace: Re-prioritizing of work that serves social and environmental needs. Rewarding, secure and purposeful work. A reduction in working hours. Creation of new jobs in clean energy sector
- The commons: The promotion of common spaces for health, dialogue and creativity. More parks, cultural centers, more spaces for leisure
- Energy systems: Mass investments in renewables, transformation of electrical grids, localized biomass energy systems
- Housing: Upgrading and expanded housing stock, retrofitting existing buildings, energy efficient homes and heating systems

### **But How Will We Pay For All this?**

●"We declare that "austerity" - which has systematically attacked low-carbon sectors like education and healthcare, while starving public transit and forcing reckless energy privatizations - is a fossilized form of thinking that has become a threat to life on earth. The money we need to pay for this great transformation is available - we just need the right policies to release it. Like an end to fossil fuel subsidies. Final transaction taxes. Increased resource royalties. Higher income taxes on corporations and wealthy people. A progressive carbon tax. Cuts to military spending. All of these are based on a simple "polluter pays" principle and hold enormous promise. One thing is clear: Public scarcity in times of unprecedented private wealth is a manufactured crisis, designed to extinguish our dreams before they have a chance to be born" - Leap Manifesto

## **Final Exam Review**

### **Exam Structure**

- 20 multiple choice
- 9 definitions, pick 5
- 3 long answer, pick 1 (40%)

### **Definition Structure**

- Answers which provide a good definition only: 4 points
- Answers which provide a good definition and one relevant example: 6 points
- Answer which provide a good definition, multiple relevant examples and refer to readings/lectures: 8 points

### **Long Answer Structure**

- Draft/map out your response
- Don't repeat the question
- Into paragraph should summarize the argument: provide a roadmap
- Draw on example from lectures, readings, videos
- Full citations are not necessary
  - E.g. According to Davis, or Valentine argues

## **Week 2: How to Study Cities**

- Industrial revolution and the growth of cities, first attempt to study urban problems
- Chicago school of urban sociology
  - Ernest Burgess and Concentric Zone Modelling
- Studying the city as a socio-spatial process
  - Socio-spatial process: “A phrase indicating the mutually constitutive relationship between society - the organization of society into groups or classes, the development of cultural mores and so on - and space - the organization of built environments, landscapes and so on” (Jonas, McCann, Thomas, 9)

## **History of geography**

- Tied up to imperialism and colonization: Mapping as an exercise of control
- Spatial science: Move toward modelling using stats
- Radical geography: Response to inequalities, informed by political struggles of the 1960s and 70s
- Gives rise to “the right to the city” (David Harvey)
  - Recognizes that urbanization happens unevenly
  - Cities are not always democratic spaces, only some people have a say in how development occurs

## **Key concepts in Urban Geography**

- Space (House)
  - Space can be something absolute (the space of the house) but it is also socially produced (relational space)
  - “Space then, is very much defined in terms of relationships with other beings and things as well as in relation to power and to change over time” (Jonas, Ma...)
- Place (Home)
  - “Place refers to locations imbued with meaning. Place is reworked and defined by the people who live in it” (Jonas, McCann, Thomas, 6)
  - Remember “sense of place” from Assignment 1

## **Week 3: Globalization and the City**

- Waves of urbanization:
  - Majority of the world now lives in cities, but this has been an uneven process. Many countries urbanized later
  - Urbanization today most rapid in developing countries: Megacities of the global south
- Industrial revolution and urbanization:
  - Urbanization generates inequality: rise of slums in European cities; current growth of a “planet of Slums” in global south
- Recent examples of urban inequality in North America
  - David Hulchanski’s study of inequality between different Toronto neighbourhoods

## **Global Cities**

- Concept comes from Saskia Sassen's work: New York, London, Tokyo, Paris
- Cities play a command function in world economy, defined by concentration of financial/producer services/headquarters of multinationals
- Enabled growth of communication technologies and rapid flows of money and information (digital highways)
- Also highly unequal places: rise of a class of precarious, low-wage service workers
- Tax breaks (think Amazon and Sidewalk labs) deprive city of resources to fight poverty

### **Cities and Slums**

- Slums are not new, always been part of urbanization
- Growth of slums across global south due to declining rural livelihoods, limited industrial growth: urbanization without industrialization
  - Mike Davis: this phenomenon concentrated in South-Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, Latin America. Where populations that are surplus to formal economy are exiled
- Uneven development: Slums are no longer temporary features but permanent condition of cities
- Slum growth outpaces other forms of urban growth

### **Arrival Cities**

- Doug Saunders has a different view of slums
- Argues that slums are transitional neighbourhoods where the next middle class is formed
- They allow for mobility between poor rural livelihoods and more stable urban livelihoods
- Migration to cities in the West (LA or NYC) is also a form of rural-urban migration
- Arrival cities promote social mobility: this is why people move

### **Roy - Seeing the city from the slum**

- The slum is a permanent feature of cities in the global south
- The global city is dependent on the labour of those from the slum
- Seeing the city from the slum allows us to develop a common humanity, where we work toward a more equal society

### **Week 4: Gentrification and the city**

- Definition: A process that changes the character of the neighbourhood, often through the influx of more affluent residents. Often increases property values in a neighbourhood leading to displacement of lower income residents
- Reading: Moskowitz, P.E. Introduction. In *How to Kill a City: Gentrification, Inequality and the Fight for the Neighbourhood*
- "Gentrification is a system that places the needs of capital (both in terms of city budget and in terms of real estate profits) above the needs of people
- Moskowitz sees gentrification as a process that builds on past inequalities and is reinforced by policies aimed at attracting private business investment
- We often focus on the symptoms of gentrification (the hipster coffee shop) rather than cause (the power of developers and real estate markets to shape our city)

### **Examples of Gentrification**

- Cases from the film “Not in my Neighbourhood”: Cape Town, New York City, Sao Paolo
- Ottawa case: Herongate and evictions through renovations (Also re: of Shawn Menard’s comments in power of developers in Ottawa city hall and limited budget for affordable housing)
- Cases from Sassen article: “Who owns our cities?”
  - Banks buying up urban land has implication for democracy and the right to the city
  - Buying up urban land for profits leads to de-urbanization of pace: our cities are expelling people who cannot afford to live in them

### **Week 5: Work and the City**

- Geographers have always been interested in the relationship between work and residency
- Rise of Garden City: attempt at separating work and residency
- ”Labour geographies is a reference to the variety of ways in which workers are organized across space and how, in turn, space shapes worker’s organizations (e.g. trade unions)” (Jonas et al., 2015, 102)
  - Interested in: How the geography of the city affects patterns of work
  - How workers shape cities (fight for \$15)

### **Spatial Division of Labour**

- The distribution of different stages of economic activity across space, leading to the specialization of work within particular places at a range of scales.
  - Think of the division of a company: headquarters, manufacturing, warehousing, shipping, retail.

### **Precarious Work**

- Work that has non-standard hours, is casual, temporary, short-term and is typically low wage and without benefits
- It is also highly feminized, with high numbers of women concentrated in this work
- Particularly dominant in global cities
- Result of deindustrialization and growth of service/retail sector
- Groups like Fight for \$15 organizing for higher wages and better working conditions

### **Week 6: Urban Planning, Urban Design and Placemaking**

- Urban planners research and identify urban design problems and propose solutions
- Dominated by engineers and architects, urban planning becomes a profession in 20th century: rise of garden city movements
- Planners play a prominent role in design of neighbourhoods post WW2
- Planning was often a technical exercise (drainage, zoning, bylaws), didn’t understand how people used space
- Urban design: William H Whyte: photos of how people used public plazas in NYC
  - What mattered was the amount of sittable space
  - Women and men used space differently

- Elements that make good public space: People, grass, water, active street corners, absence of fences and barriers
- Jane Jacobs, develops 'Eyes on the Street' to argue for the importance of sidewalks and spaces where people can watch what's happening on the street
- Placemaking suggests that good urban planning involves more than just design, it involves cultural, economic, social and ecological principles.
- It means designing public spaces with community's needs, wellness and happiness in mind.
- Problem placemaking identifies is that planning has become undemocratic and institutionalized.
- Tries to make design of public spaces more democratic

### **Week 7: Fear and the City**

- Mike Davis: In LA we see the merger of urban design, architecture and policing into a single comprehensive security effort.
- Moral panics about crime and gangs were used to create a more surveilled and securitized city, even as crime had decreased.
- This was accomplished through:
  - Anti-panhandling laws
  - Hostile architecture: barrel shaped bus benches
  - Caged trash bins
  - Removal of public toilets
  - Anti-camping laws
- All examples of revanchist urbanism: criminalizing homelessness and privatizing public space
- Examples in Ontario of these policies through 1999 Safe Streets Act
- Resulted in millions in fines for low-level offences like sleeping on the streets
- Safe Streets Act another example of a Moral Panic: A situation in which public fears or state intervention greatly exceed the objective threat
- Broken windows policing: Argues that visible signs of disorder create an environment that encourages more serious crimes.
- Policing should therefore target minor crimes (vandalism, public drinking, fare evasion) to prevent more serious crimes.
- Robyn Maynard: Policing in Canada has historically targeted poor and minority communities
- Carding and street checks are Canada's version of broken windows
- War on drugs used to criminalize black communities, had little to do with public safety
- It Takes a Riot: A response in Toronto to racism and police violence in 1990s

### **Week 8: Urban Decline and the Birth of Hip-Hop**

- History of Hip Hop is story of urban decline in late 1970s America
- American cities in post-war period boom and then slump
  - White flight to suburbs
  - Deindustrialization
  - Economic recession
- In NYC Robert Moses builds Cross Bronx Expressway

- Cuts neighbourhood in half
- Leads to displacement and poverty in South Bronx
- Hip Hop emerges as a response to this: descriptions of urban life amid decline
- A place based art form that comments on urban life: Grandmaster Flash and the Furious Five, the message
- Tricia Rose argues that Hip Hop was the sound of the post-industrial city:
  - Tail end of prosperity and the civil rights movement
  - Growing deindustrialization, changing forms of work, new forms of policing, increased migration, technological changes
- Multiple examples of this through Hip Hop artists and lyrics: KRS-ONE, Nas, Graffiti culture.
- Hip Hop on West Coast also connected to urban and racial inequality (practice of red-lining), but primarily about police-community and racism: NWA, Ice T, later Kendrick Lamar.etc
- Hip Hop goes global in 90s: a voice of urban marginality (Hip Hop in Africa, Asia and Middle East)

### **Week 9: Gender and the City**

- Urban planning dominated by men for much of 20th Century
- Because of this, cities largely designed without the input of women or recognition that gender affects how we use urban space
- Urban sociologists (Chicago school): divide the city into zones with people moving between them, but say nothing about gender.
- Early 20th C, the home considered 'women's place' and the rest of the city 'men's place.'
- Urban design reinforced the idea that women should remain in the home; public space was for men
- Changes in 1960s and 70s when women enter workforce in large numbers. Changes due to:
  - Oral contraception
  - Pay equity legislation
  - Rising education access
  - Changing gender norms
- All outcomes of women's movement
- Women entering paid workforce changes urban space
- Increased number of commuters
- Women were more mobile because of ongoing care responsibilities
- Many services performed by women moved into the public realm: childcare, family restaurants, laundry.etc
- Gives rise to more diffuse, poly-centric cities
- Gill Valentine argues that public space is gendered space
  - Women are taught from an early age to be afraid of public spaces
  - Women develop mental maps that affect how they use public space
  - Much of this is due to harassment that women experience in public
- This fear affects how they use public space and at what time of day they use it: night spaces for men based on division of labour
- Clare Foran: Gender mainstreaming urban design

- Reports on survey of public space in Vienna:
  - Women have more varied use of public space; shaped by additional burden of unpaid work
  - Gender mainstreaming involves incorporating gender into project research and design
- Video on what a city designed by women would look like: parks, housing, public washrooms

### **Week 10: Technology and the City**

- Technology has always shaped urban space
- Difference today is information along digital highways shapes space
  - Sassen's global city is shaped by flows of money and information through new communication technologies
  - Case study of Amazon: Structure of supply chains; locating warehouses in low-wage, low-tax areas.
  - Bid for Amazon HQ2 led to race to the bottom for cities: corporate welfare
  - Case study of Sidewalk labs in Toronto: City as a lab to collect data, concerns over privacy and control of information by city
  - Case study: AirBNB and rental markets
    - David Wachsmuth study: removed homes from rental market
    - Earnings concentrated among super hosts
    - Short term rentals growing fastest in smaller cities

### **Week 11: Climate Change and the Cities**

- Current estimates put us a 3.2-4C warmer world: climate crisis
- We have 12 years to make sweeping changes to prevent this, including how we design cities
- Cities and climate change:
  - Cities produce 60% of all CO2 emissions
  - Cities not prepared to deal with impact of climate change
  - Those most affected in cities are the poor and those with health risks
- Solutions?
  - Mitigation: lowering emissions
  - Adaptation: Adapting to life in a changing climate
  - Resilience: Adapting cities to climate shocks while making them better places to live
- Solutions often ignore the fact that climate change is a political issue: Small number of wealthy people/nations emit bulk of CO2 and affecting large numbers of poor people.
- We need an approach that targets climate change as a political problem
- The Green New Deal: Makes climate change political
- A vision for making rapid, inclusive and far-reaching transition away from CO2, to meet the demands of the multiple crises we face, and create over a million jobs in the process.
- Grassroots process to shape the vision (bottom up vs. top down)

- Inclusion of broad spectrum of society, particularly those most marginalized, those on the front lines of various struggles, those with the most to lose (indigenous people, migrants, urban poor)
- Includes: respecting indigenous rights, energy democracy, high speed rail, localized agriculture, expansion of low-carbon jobs, universal basic income