"Building Inclusive Communities in Halifax: How Strategic Partnerships Can Enable Unified Approaches"

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"Gentrification...and how do we address that and reverse the gentrification? Because we need to take our community back. My sister and I walked up the street maybe about a month ago, and it was like late at night, like maybe 9:00 or 9:30 pm or something like that. I'm telling you, Gottingen Street was booming. The white people have...they've got about five or six different clubs. Honest to God. We walked like from that end of Gottingen Street. We were coming home. There's a club there, a restaurant there. And over there. Oh my goodness, you go down there and...There's Edna, there's Company House, Alter Egos. But Black people are not represented. And then if we were to come back, you know the police would be outside waiting because they don't want us. You know, they don't want to see us. Well, a lot of times, you know, we end up fighting at the end of the day. But no, we're older now and we have to have a place that we can go to."

Research Objectives

• To examine the impacts of gentrification and other social determinants on health and well-being in the African Nova Scotian community in the North End.

• To examine African Nova Scotian people's "vision of a healthy community" in the North End.





Two Main Narratives Surrounding Gentrification

- Neoliberal Vision
- Radical Vision



Methodology

Sample



Data Collection



- Gentrification and its impacts on community well-being
- Vision of a healthy North End community

Gentrification & Impacts on Community Well-Being

"Like there's ownership and agency and partnership and a presence in the community. Because it's happening all around us and it's happening in some really wonderful ways. You can look down the street and see people sitting out on patios and some really nice restaurants in the community. But you don't see us. You see us in that one area around the Square. You see the kids walking back and forth to school. But it's almost like we don't own this community anymore, and other people are claiming it. I'm in spaces where there aren't a lot of black people. And what I'm hearing up at FRED's place up on the corner and at Edna and at these other places is 'our community, our community'. And I don't see one person in that room that looks anything like me. They're not from the community. They are claiming this community. We need to claim it too".

Gentrification & Impacts on Community Well-Being

"I don't like the fact that, like you said, they're putting all these businesses, all these condos. What happened to everything that we used to have? Like we lost our grocery store, our little...you know, where we could go shopping, like our bank. Like everything we had on the street is gone. We literally have to travel to get somewhere. So I mean us as a community, we should have been able to keep that".

Gentrification & Impacts on Community Well-Being

"It's not affordable. They're staying with the market rent, they said. That's what they told me. There's no non-profit housing. You know the story. We talked. It's no longer non-profit. I think they're bringing all these condos and stuff in because they're really trying to push us out of this neighbourhood. Like you know what I mean? Like, we'll put this here because they can't afford this. They won't be able to afford that".

Vision of a Healthy North End Community

Representation Within the Economic Structure

Values Education

Builds Community Capacity

Affordable & Respectable Housing

Crime-Free & Safe

Values Improved Community-Police Relations

Community Unity Through Recreation

Diversification is Valued

Positive Physical & Visual Representation

Vision Statement

African Nova Scotian Community in North End, Halifax Community Vision...

...is one of preserving an African Nova Scotian presence by fostering a safe, socially dynamic community, and building capacity for inclusive and respectful resources and services that value diversity

Study Outcomes



Community Programs & Initiatives

- "Gentrification: A Hip Hop Musical"
- Prince's Responsible Business Network, Prince's Charities Canada
- Community Health Teams
- Nova Scotia Brotherhood Initiative
- Neighbourhood Placemaking Project in the North End

Community Meetings & Presentations



Multi-Media Knowledge Sharing

- Documentary Film: "The North End: In Search of a New Beginning"
- Film Screening & Community Engagement Event
- Live-Streamed Bi-Weekly Talk Show
- Live Chat
- Facebook
- Television Interviews
- Print Interviews
- Radio Interviews











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