

the supposed cultural backwardness and criminality of native-born minorities. Yet the hidden reality remains: The Cambodian refugee stays mired in poverty and captivity, with no liberation in sight.

Tang provides more fascinating insights throughout the book. His methodology section is especially powerful, dealing with how his positionality as a male outsider shaped the research, analysis, and discussions of refugee trauma. Tang's discussion of the literature sometimes overwhelms his ethnographic descriptions, yet this is a minor quibble. Overall, the ethnography demonstrates courage and creativity in its theoretical rigor and incorporation of cutting-edge concepts and analysis. Tang sheds light on the plight of Bronx Cambodian refugees, a plight that seriously needs exposure to scholars and students studying urban poverty and disenfranchisement.

PRICED OUT: STUYVESANT TOWN AND THE LOSS OF MIDDLE-CLASS NEIGHBORHOODS, by **Rachael A. Woldoff**, **Lisa M. Morrison**, and **Michael R. Glass**. New York: New York University Press, 2016, 237 pp. ISBN: 9781479818631 (\$28 paperback).

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If the purpose of policy is to intervene where the free market fails, and bring equity and efficiency back to the public sphere, then *Priced Out: Stuyvesant Town and the Loss of Middle-Class Neighborhoods* is a perfect example of how current forms of neoliberal housing policy fail to achieve basic policy objectives.

Priced Out tells the story of Stuyvesant Town, a middle-class housing project built in the 1950s in New York City. Constructed as a public-private partnership between the city under the tutelage of Robert Moses and the MetLife Corporation, Stuyvesant Town became one of the first developments in New York City that involved the private sector in constructing large scale, medium-income housing. To illustrate the dynamics of a changing housing market, Woldoff, a Professor of Sociology at West Virginia University, Morrison, a Senior Economic Affairs Officer at the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, and Glass, a Lecturer in Urban Studies at the University of Pittsburgh, present an ethnographic study that includes participant observation, interviews, and archival research to depict the intersection between a community and housing policy. While studying the nuances of the community, and observing details, the authors are able to show not only how there is a strong sense of place and quality of life associated with Stuyvesant Town, but at the same time, how it is a neighborhood in transition and a conflicted, contested site. The rich analysis illustrates how a constant change of ownership can create a transitory community, which is not beneficial for cities, neighborhoods, tenants, or landlords.

The book is divided into seven chapters, not including the introduction and conclusion, and structured in three sections. The first section discusses the history of Stuyvesant

and attempts to show how housing policies, such as rent stabilization and rent control, helped build a community out of Stuyvesant Town. The authors state that, “contributing to Stuyvesant Town’s residential stability was the controlled rent provided by the RCL (Redevelopment Companies Law), which ensured that families could stay if they chose, and they usually did” (p. 30). Stabilization policies were the result of tax breaks given to the developer in exchange for lower rents, thus bringing calm to a volatile market. Without such policies, “commodification of housing has contributed to, if not caused, housing cost burden, involuntary displacement, foreclosure, eviction, homelessness, a wide array of negative outcomes for adults and children.”

The core of the book comes in the second section, where the authors examine the transition from rent-stabilized apartments to market-rate housing in the late 2000s when the building complex was sold by MetLife to Tishman-Speyer Properties. The advent of neoliberalism, and more entrepreneurial forms of governance as a result of devolution, have resulted in a move towards market-based approaches to housing, posing the broader question of whether people have a right to good, quality, affordable housing. In chapter 4, “Neoliberalism, Deregulation, and the Challenges to Middle-Class Housing,” the authors argue that the fiscal crisis of the 1970s pushed New York City towards private-sector involvement, and that “the city and state retreated from providing housing and began to deregulate units in order to stimulate economic growth” (p. 101). By doing so, the city set the stage for greater socioeconomic segregation, and a declining middle-class population.

The last section studies the aftermath of the mortgage default by Tishman-Speyer and the uncertain future of the housing complex community by focusing on the tension that exists between long-term residents and current “market-rate” tenants, particularly college students, who do not have an attachment to their temporary living quarters.

The book contributes to existing literature on both housing policy and the history of New York City by showing how a vital city neighborhood changes and transforms as a result of policy. Its strength comes from being able to show, through the narratives of residents, how these decisions affect citizens and alter communities. As a majority of research these days relies on quantitative methods to reveal the efficacy of public policy, the text is a welcome example of how qualitative methods can be used to illustrate the effect that policy, specifically housing policy in this case, can have on citizens at a very local level. Through stories, observations, and archival data, the lives of Stuyvesant residents are humanized, and provided dimension.

Housing literature has focused on identifying policies that have worked or not worked, but few studies have concentrated on how a specific community was affected. The book also differentiates between and explains oft-confused housing terms such as “rent control” and “rent stabilization,” which is important, especially when teaching undergraduate students who may not be familiar with the differences.

Although it is a qualitative study, chapters dedicated solely to the experiences of two housing residents could have been integrated into the text. The text also lacks photographs and maps, which would bring greater context to the narrative.

The book is best suited for an undergraduate class in urban studies, or a research methodology course that discusses how to use ethnography and qualitative methods to study urban life. Through participant observation, interviews, and archival research, the text contains thick, rich descriptions about community life at Stuyvesant Town that reveal a community in transition.

Overall, *Priced Out* is an important, interesting, and compelling look at the impact of housing policy on a community, and the decline of middle-income housing in an increasingly stratified city.

COMING OF AGE IN THE OTHER AMERICA, by **Stefanie DeLuca**, **Susan Clampet-Lundquist**, and **Kathryn Edin**. New York: Russell Sage Foundation, 2016, 298 pp. ISBN-13: 978-0871544650 (\$35 paper).

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The death of Freddy Gray in the spring of 2015, along with the subsequent rallies and civil unrest, catapulted the former gateway city of Baltimore into the national spotlight. Unfortunately, the national conversation about the interactions between Black private citizens and local law enforcement led to the public resurfacing of negative stereotypes about the personality characteristics of Black folk. Those stereotypes were perpetuated by the media: Blacks were painted as violent, angry, unfeeling, rebellious, and opportunistic. DeLuca and her colleagues provide refreshing counternarratives to these stereotypes, using qualitative and quantitative data from their study of Baltimore youth.

In the book, DeLuca and her colleagues present riveting stories of the realities that youth living in Baltimore face. With the backdrop of the Moving to Opportunity and HOPE VI housing programs, the book goes beyond conventional rhetoric about living in America's "inner cities" by showing the manifestation of and challenges to resiliency. The authors use the narratives of several youths to illuminate the realities that they face in Baltimore, although the sentiments, challenges, and opportunities are not unique to Baltimore residents.

One of the contributions is the exploration of identity projects as ways to promote resiliency among the youth. An identity project is defined in the book as "a source of meaning that provides a strong sense of self and is linked to concrete activities to which youth commit themselves" (p. 66). Youth interviewed had identity projects such as dance, anime, volunteer work, and sports. Intuitively, identity projects get students involved in their education by providing ways to engage in topics that they care about, with knowledge that can apply in their future careers. DeLuca et al. show how students need more than inspiration and grit to have bright futures, given the personal, familial, spatial, and structural constraints that the youth in the book face. When identity projects are institutionalized (or in some cases, as "do-it-yourself" or DIY), they serve as mechanisms that keep students from falling into dangerous and self-destructive activities. Identity projects act as metaphorical batteries: The grit that much of the psychology literature discusses as paramount to realizing long-term goals is charged by these projects. The youth