

Research on Tap: **The American City: Promoting Inclusion or Sowing Division?**

February 27, 2019

Boston University Initiative on Cities



BU Initiative on Cities

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www.surveyofmayors.com

@BUonCities

Graham Wilson, Director

Katharine Lusk, Executive Director

Boston University Office of the Vice President and Associate Provost for Research



New Housing Hunters? Mayors and Affordability

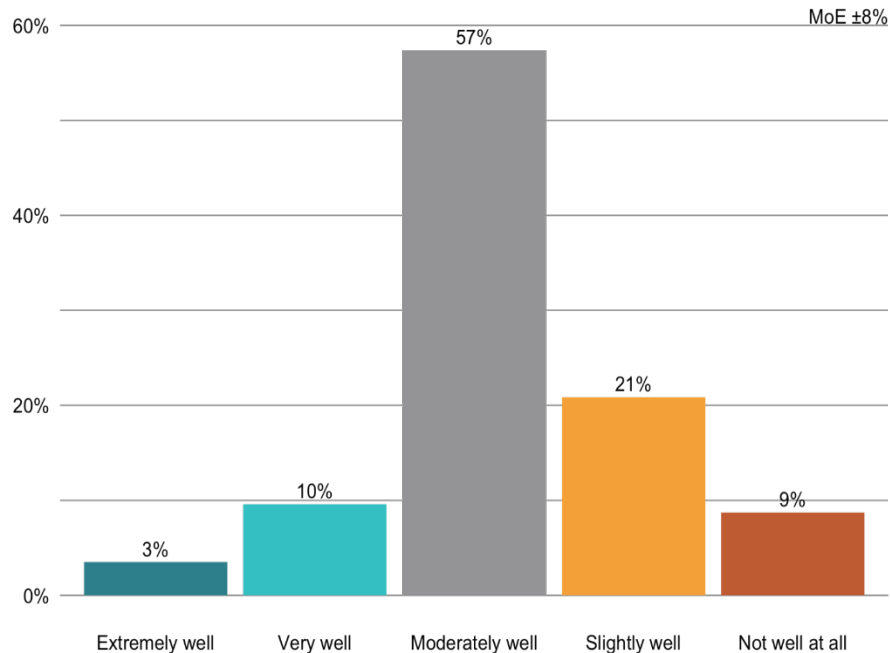
David Glick,

(joint with Katherine Einstein, Maxwell Palmer, Stacy
Fox and Katharine Lusk)

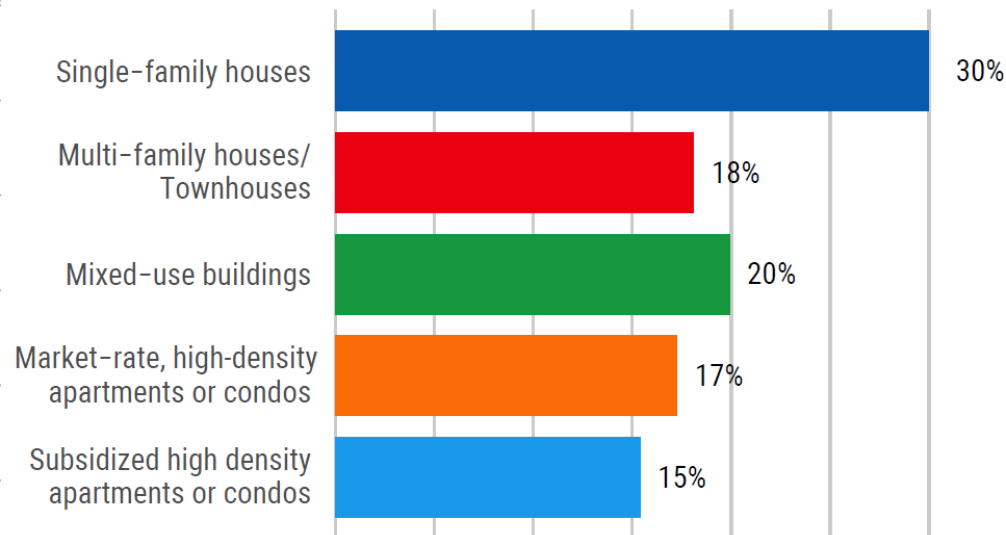
*Associate Professor
Political Science, CAS*

Mayors Surveying Mayor Peter (D) for Change Only nationally representative survey of mayors (Initiative on Cities + BU Political Science)

Housing Stock Doesn't Fit Needs

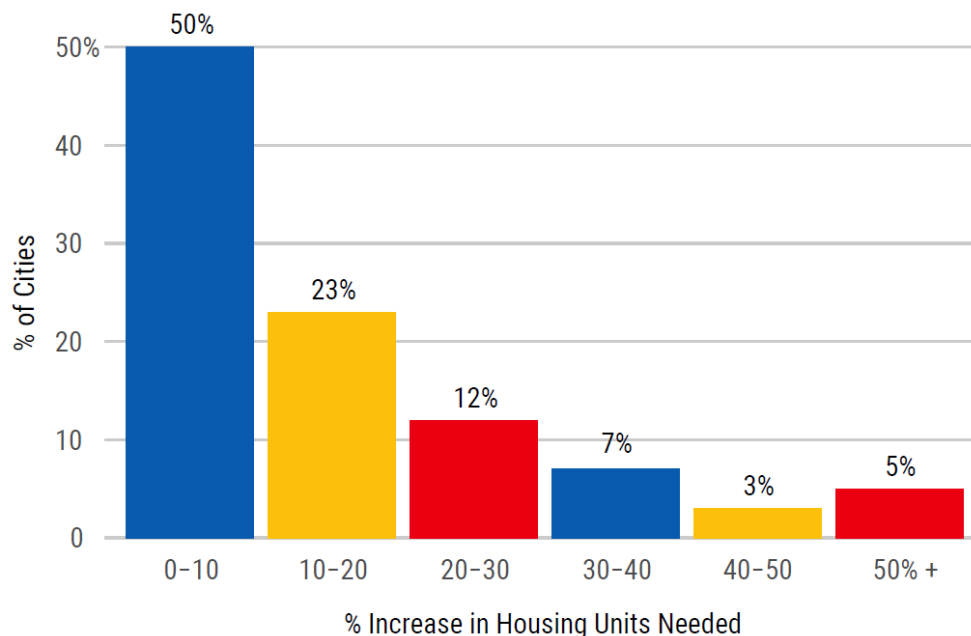


Ideal New Stock



Mayors on Housing: Reasons for Caution

Modest Goals for Supply Increases



Tough Tradeoffs

The city should encourage increasing housing density in popular, established neighborhoods.

It would be better if housing prices in my city declined.



Housing Wealth Effects: The Long View

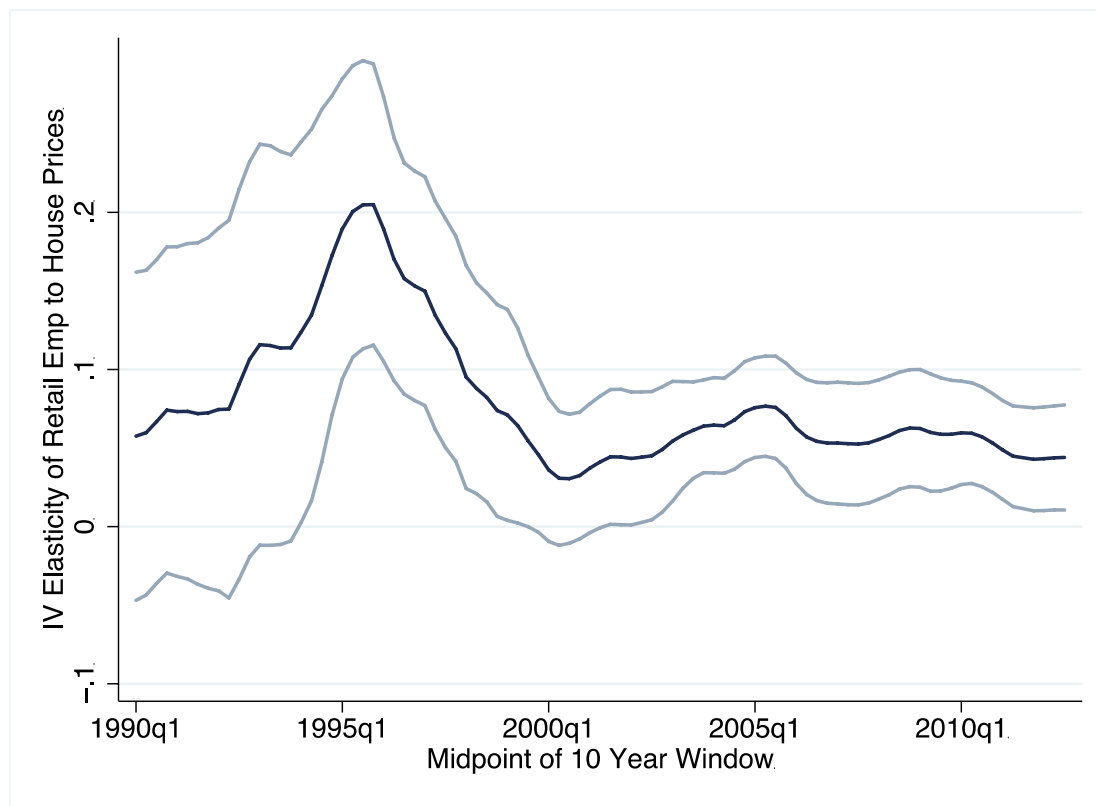
Adam Guren

*Assistant Professor
Department of Economics, CAS*

Based on Joint Work With Alisdair McKay (Minneapolis Fed),
Emi Nakamura (UC Berkeley), and Jón Steinsson (UC Berkeley)

- Why was the Great Recession so severe and why has its impact been so persistent?
- Recent Work (Mian and Sufi): “Housing Wealth Effects”
 - Boom: Use “houses as ATMs.” As prices rise, households are wealthier, loan-to-value (LTV) limit lets borrow more.
 - Bust: Can no longer borrow, cut debt to meet LTV limit.
 - Speculation that these were particularly powerful in GR.
- But were the 2000s special?
- We estimate wealth effect back to 1980s using new data (retail employment) and new, more precise methods.

The 2000s Do Not Look Special

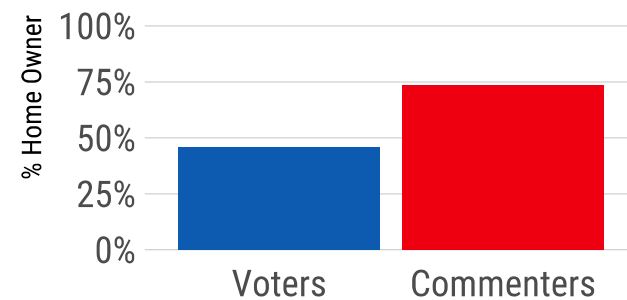
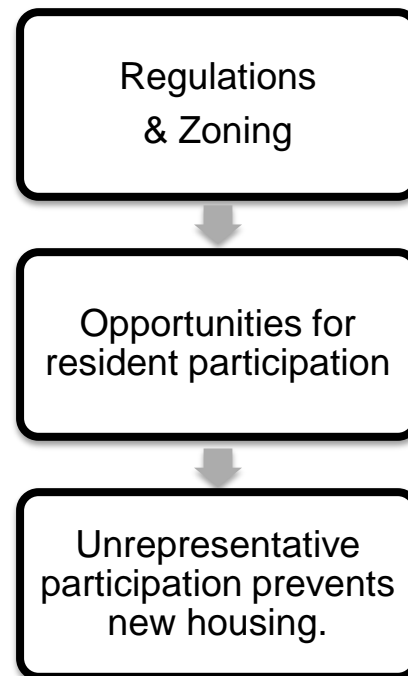
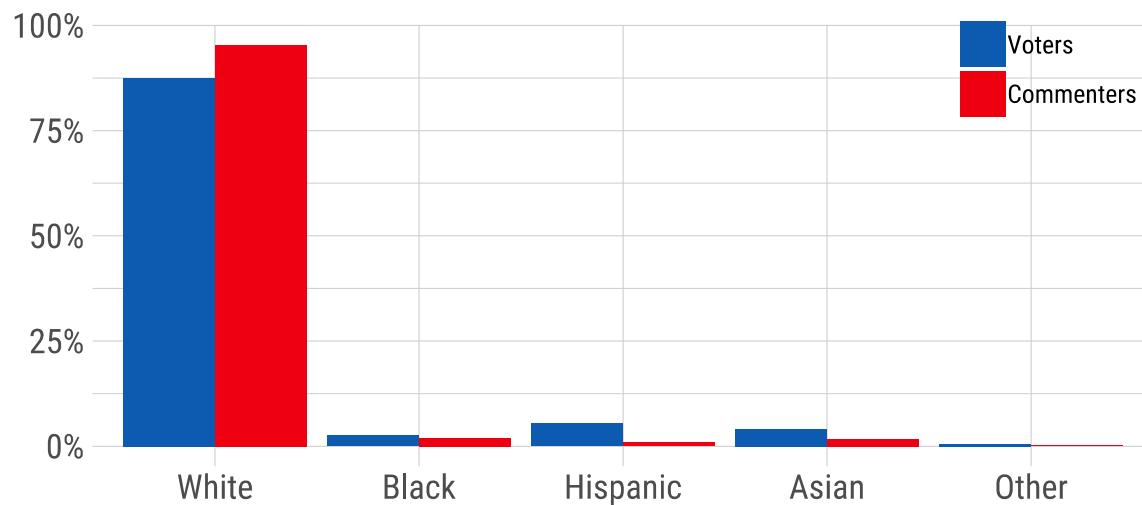
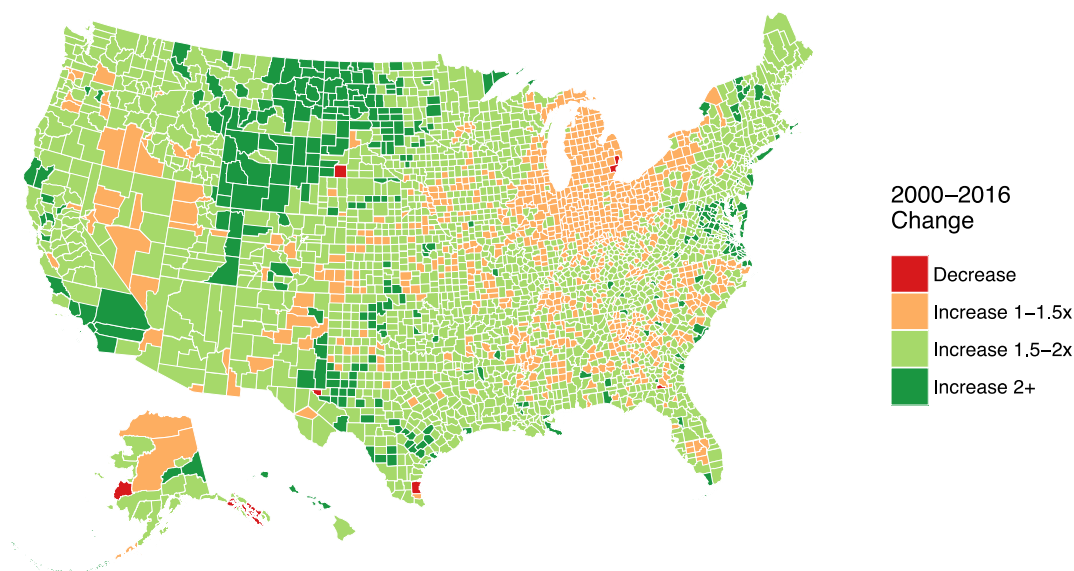


- And the wealth effect is smaller than prior estimates.
- Clarifies role of housing wealth effects in Great Recession and means that policy makers do not have to worry about these effects being time varying or cyclical.

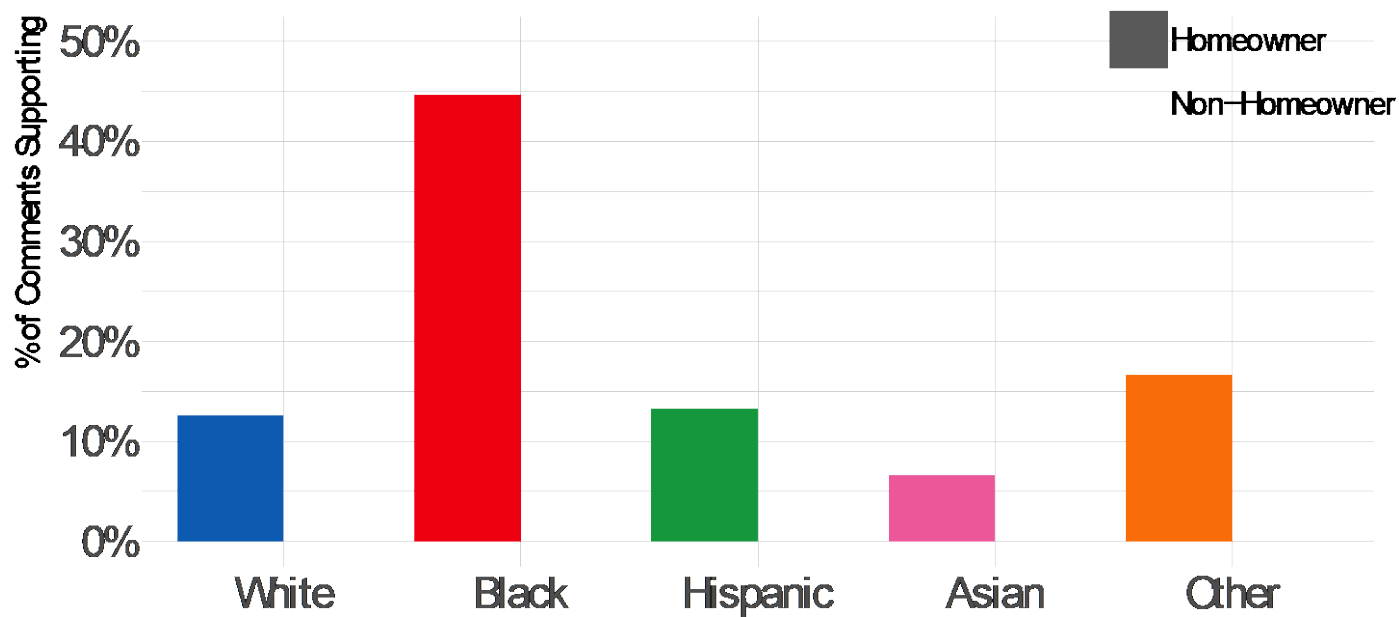
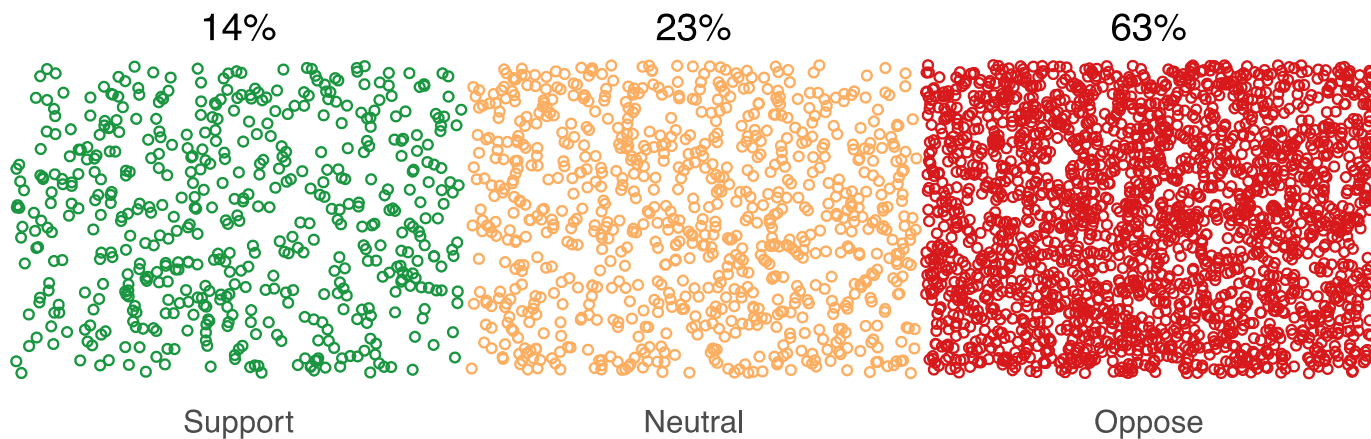
Neighborhood Defenders: Participatory Politics and America's Housing Crisis

Maxwell Palmer

Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences



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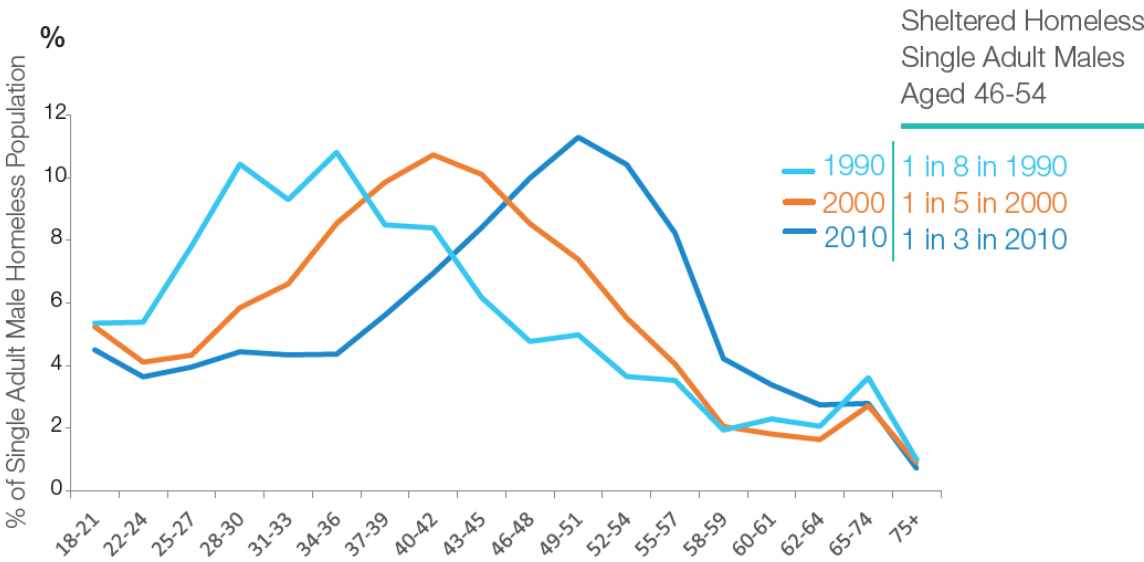
The Emerging Crisis of Aged Homelessness: Could Housing Solutions Be Funded By Resultant Service Cost Reductions?

Tom Byrne

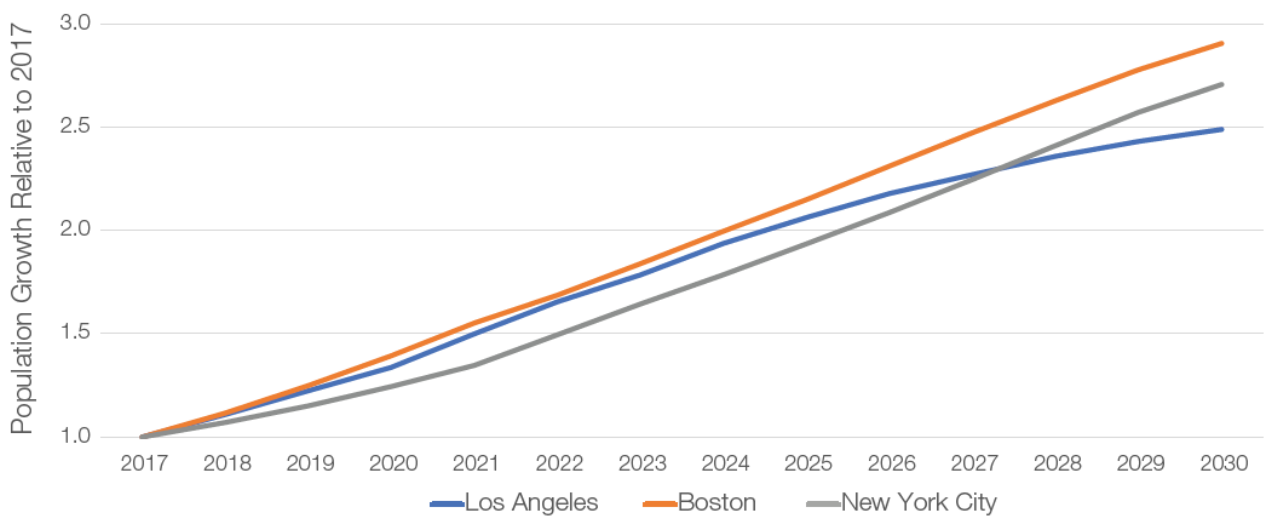
*Assistant Professor
Social Welfare Policy Department
School of Social Work*

Homelessness, A Birth Cohort Phenomenon

Single Adult Male Shelter Users, United States



Forecasting Change in 65+ Homeless Population



Could Housing Solutions be Funded by Resultant Service Cost Reductions?

YES!

Annualized Average Projected Costs & Potential Cost Reductions (in millions of \$)

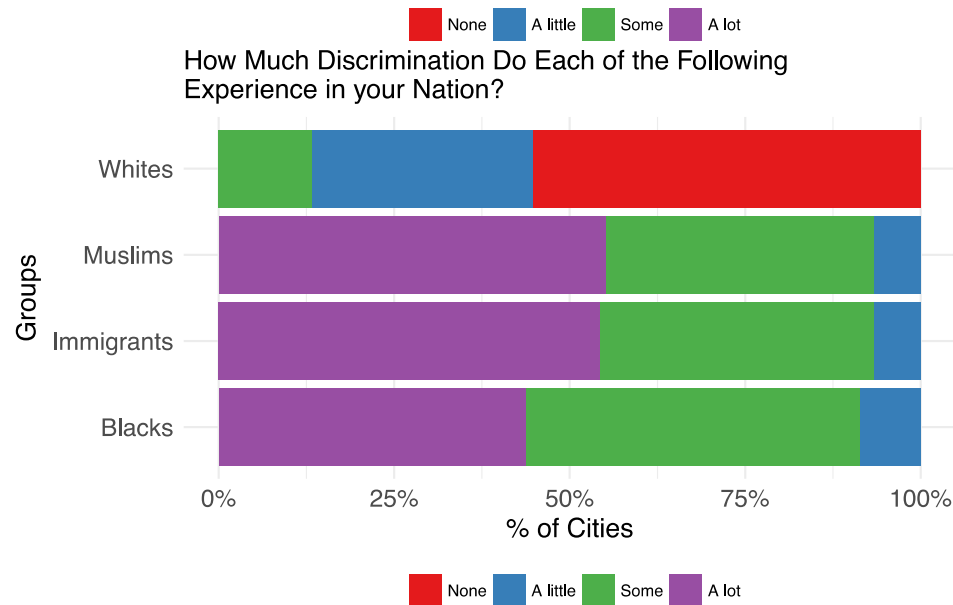
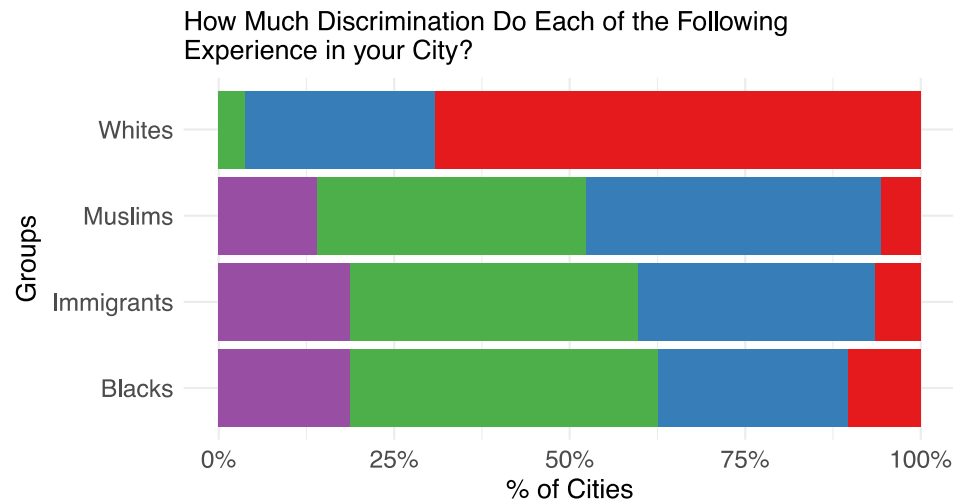
	Service Costs without an Intervention	Intervention Costs	Average Service Cost Reductions	Net Offsets (Service Cost Reductions - Intervention Costs)	Return Per Dollar Spent
New York City	\$408	\$157	\$177	\$20	1.13
Boston*	\$67	\$39	\$30	(\$9)	0.77
LA County	\$621	\$241	\$274	\$33	1.14

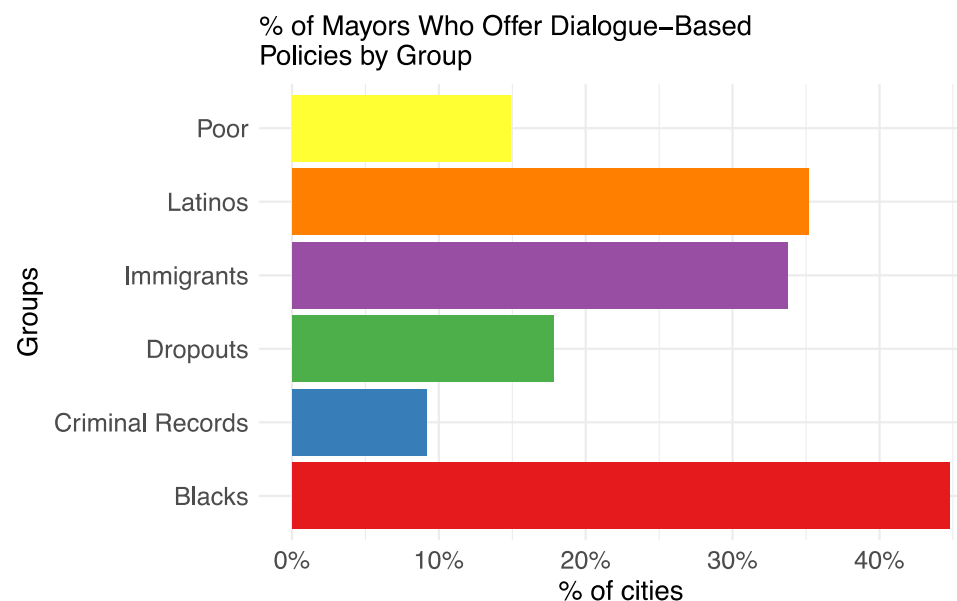
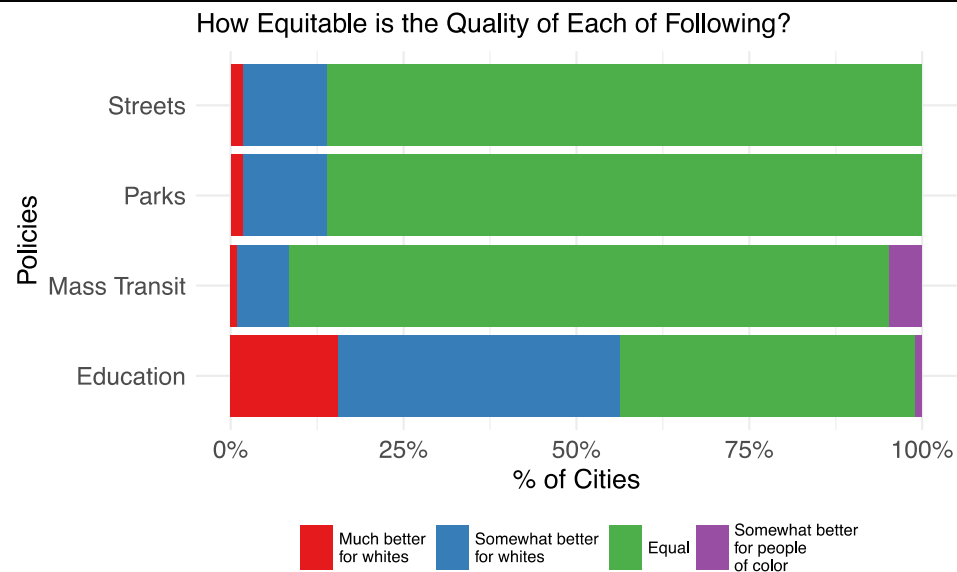
The Pictures in Their Heads: How U.S. Mayors Think and Talk about Race

Katherine Levine Einstein

(with Luisa Godinez Puig and Spencer Piston)

Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences





What Explains the High Rate of Police Shootings of Black People in Certain Cities?

Michael Siegel

Professor, Community Health Sciences, SPH/MED

City	Ratio of Black/White Fatal Police Shooting Rates
Santa Ana	46.7
Chicago	37.8
Anaheim	31.3
Philadelphia	17.3
Miami	16.1
Washington	15.9
Milwaukee	15.3
El Paso	14.6
Boston	12.5
Oakland	12.4
Los Angeles	10.8
Houston	10.5
New York City	9.7
San Antonio	9.5
Pittsburgh	8.2
San Francisco	7.5
St. Louis	6.7
Lincoln	6.6
Columbus	6.6
Fort Wayne	6.5
Oklahoma City	6.1
Nashville	5.6
Albuquerque	5.1
Sacramento	4.8
Stockton	4.7
Seattle	4.4
Long Beach	4.1
Phoenix	4.0
Tucson	4.0
Portland	3.9
St. Paul	3.7
Bakersfield	3.7
Jacksonville	3.7
Minneapolis	3.4
Baltimore	3.4
San Diego	3.4
Charlotte	3.2

Controlling for:

- Percentage of Black residents
- Black arrest rate
- Black police officer share difference
- Black deprivation in incarceration, unemployment, income, poverty, labor participation, home ownership

For each one standard deviation increase in the Index of Dissimilarity, the ratio of Black to White fatal police shooting rates increases by 50%.

State Firearm Law Effectiveness: Conditions & Contexts

Shea Cronin

*Assistant Professor
Applied Social Sciences, Metropolitan College*

What conditions and contexts alter the effectiveness of gun laws?

1. Race-specific Homicide Rates

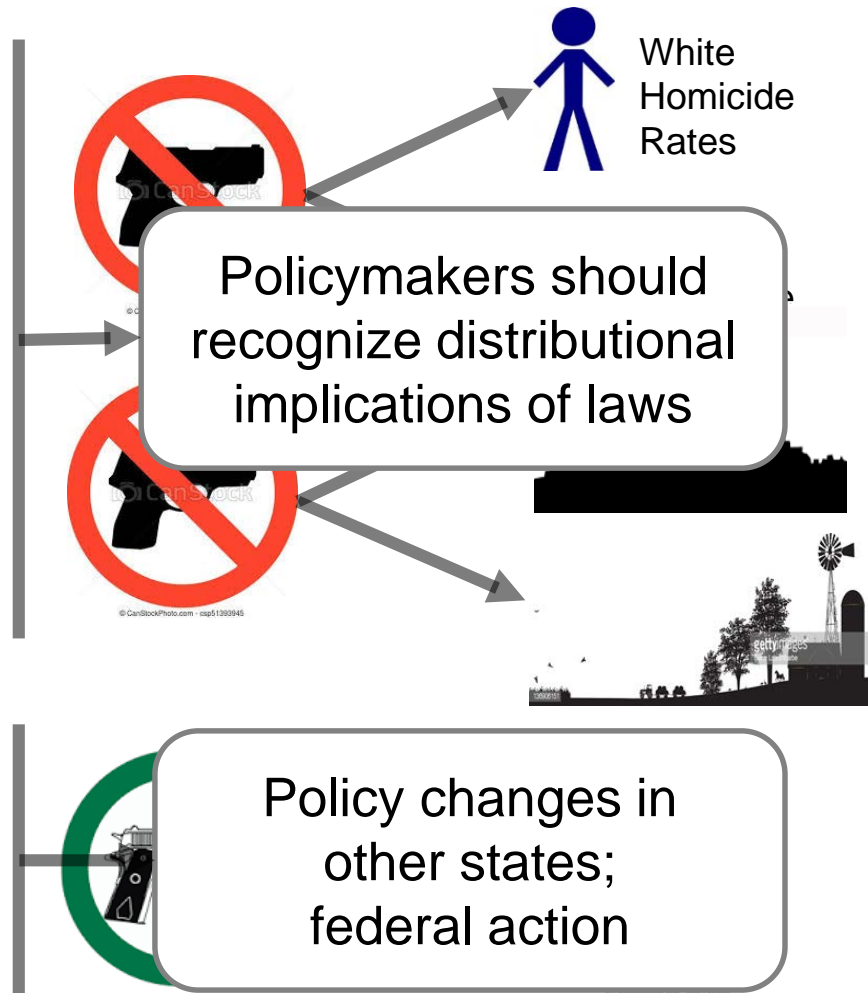
- Knopov et al. (under review)
- Examines states from 1991-2016
- Consistent effects for most laws
- Violence misd laws → BHR only

2. Urban v. Non-Urban Homicide

- Siegel et al. (under review)
- Cities v. other places, 1991-2016
- Consistent effects for most laws
- Universal checks much larger for urban

3. Interstate Gun Trafficking

- Cronin et al. (in progress)
- Gun flows from state-to-state pairings
- ATF trace data of recovered firearms
- Strong “source” state laws push guns out
- Strong “recovery” state laws pull guns in



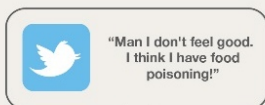
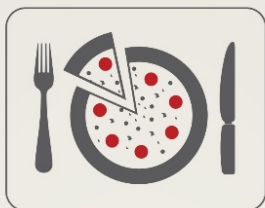
Machine Learning and Urban Health

Elaine Nsoesie

*Assistant Professor
Global Health, School of Public Health*

Using Twitter Data to Monitor Reports of Foodborne Illness in Cities

1



"Man I don't feel good.
I think I have food
poisoning!"































If you send out a public
tweet, we'll hear you.

2



HealthMap Foodborne Illness: St. Louis

Cities ▾

validated	  	10.25.15	@toddyrockstar I rewatched ur shows on my birthday, I got sick(food poisoning from the restaurant)& it cheered me up. Music makes me happy.Ty	details 	respond
validated	  	10.25.15	before I got food poisoning 🙄 https://t.co/D646YUWKr8	details 	respond
validated	  	10.24.15	Hey it might not even be my gallbladder I could have food poisoning this is so bad though LOL way to cheat day yesterday!	details 	respond
validated	  	10.23.15	Via @NPR: Yelp Reviews Can Take Food Poisoning Viral https://t.co/yCWtJH6Zig Ok, so this may be the single redeeming aspect of Yelp.	details 	respond
validated	  	10.22.15	@ky_iamme yeah food poisoning is a bitch.. I swear my body is so stiff I can barely move	details 	respond
validated	  	10.22.15	#FoodSafety and the #Internet can be your best friend or worst enemy https://t.co/yWRHHH8Txo	details 	respond
validated	  	10.22.15	I'll never eat fast food again.. Make my words!! Food poisoning is a MF	details 	respond

3



Matthew Kissel @STLMANIAC · Oct 15

Hey @ChickitIA thank you. Thank you for the food poisoning. All I wanted was a nice chicken sandwich dinner and you do me like this. Wow.

3 5 ...



FoodSafetySTL @FoodSafetySTL · Oct 16

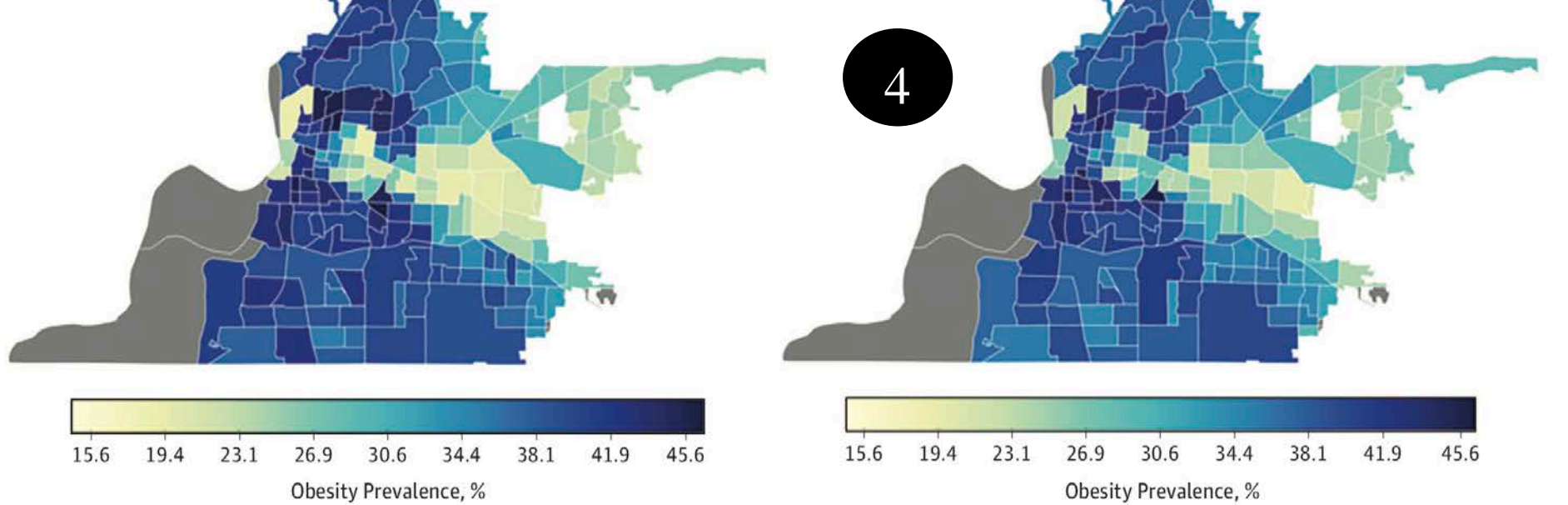
@STLMANIAC Sorry to hear you're ill. The City of STL Dept. of Health can help. Report here: <http://foodborne.healthmap.org/requestInfo?tw...>

Targeted
restaurant
inspections and
surveillance

Use of Deep Learning to Examine the Association of the Built Environment With Prevalence of Neighborhood Adult Obesity



3 Process images using convolutional neural networks



Engaging Youth in Community Change

Jonathan Zaff

*Research Professor
Wheelock College of Education &
Human Development*



1. Who are young people?
2. What do young people need to thrive in life?
3. How can “we” provide young people with what they need?

Who?

- Adversity, Responsibility, and Strength

What?

- Relationships, Relationships, Relationships

How?

- Relationship-focused, Positive Youth Development

Youth Civic Engagement: Are Municipal Youth Councils a Mechanism to Reduce or Reinforce Social Inequality?

Astraea Augsberger

*Assistant Professor
Boston University School of Social Work*

Key Findings: 24 Youth Councils in Boston Metro-Area

- Wide variation in origin, structure, and activities.
- Adults as barriers/gatekeepers to youth engagement.
- Need to incorporate the voices of marginalized youth.

Case Study: Boston Mayors Youth Council

- Efforts to promote social equality via neighborhood representation.
- Disproportionately academically oriented & well-connected youth.
- Enhanced access to information and resources for Council youth.
- Outreach to diverse communities.
- Youth identify issues, priorities and solutions.



Youth Lead the Change: Boston's Youth-Led Participatory Budgeting Process



Conclusions and Implications:

- Boston engaged in innovative effort to engage youth civically.
- Efforts to engage underrepresented communities in process but need better representation on the Council.
- Additional research needed to examine efforts of U.S. cities to foster diversity and inclusion in youth civic engagement.
- Current research examines engagement of youth with lived experiences of homelessness and foster care.

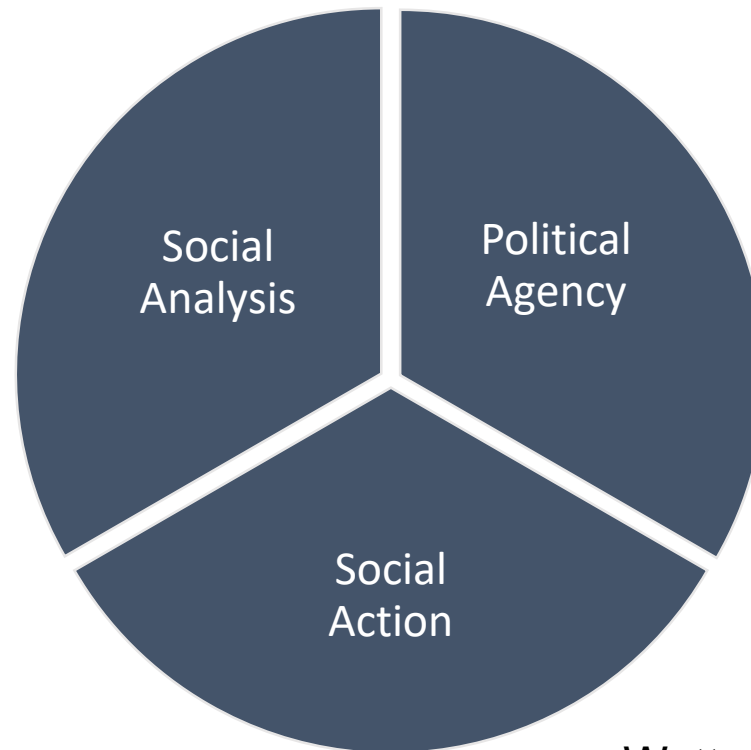


Youth Critical Consciousness Predicts Grade Point Average and SAT Scores

Scott Seider

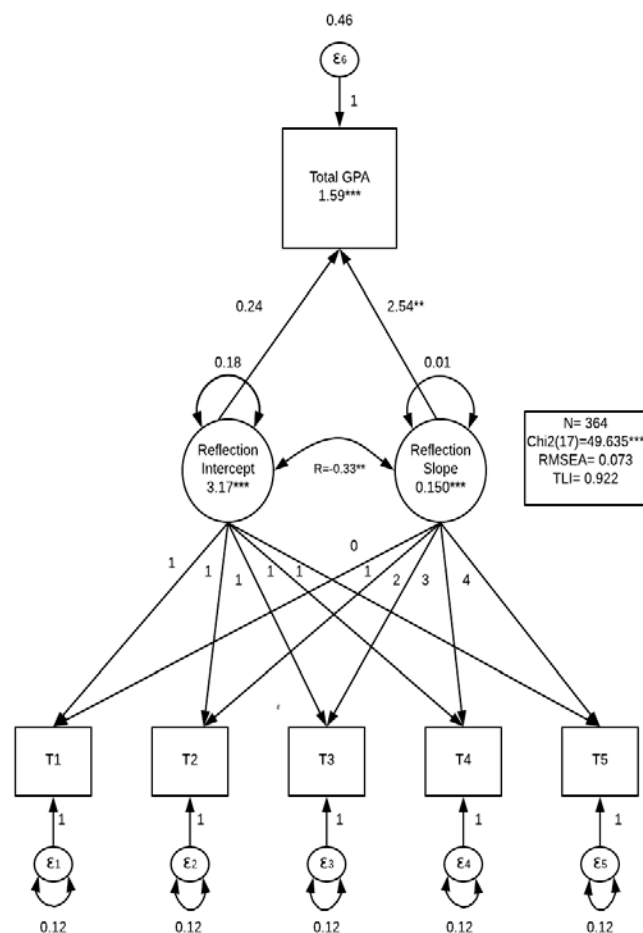
*Associate Professor
Wheelock College of Education &
Human Development*

To recognize oppressive social forces shaping society and take action against them (Freire, 1973)

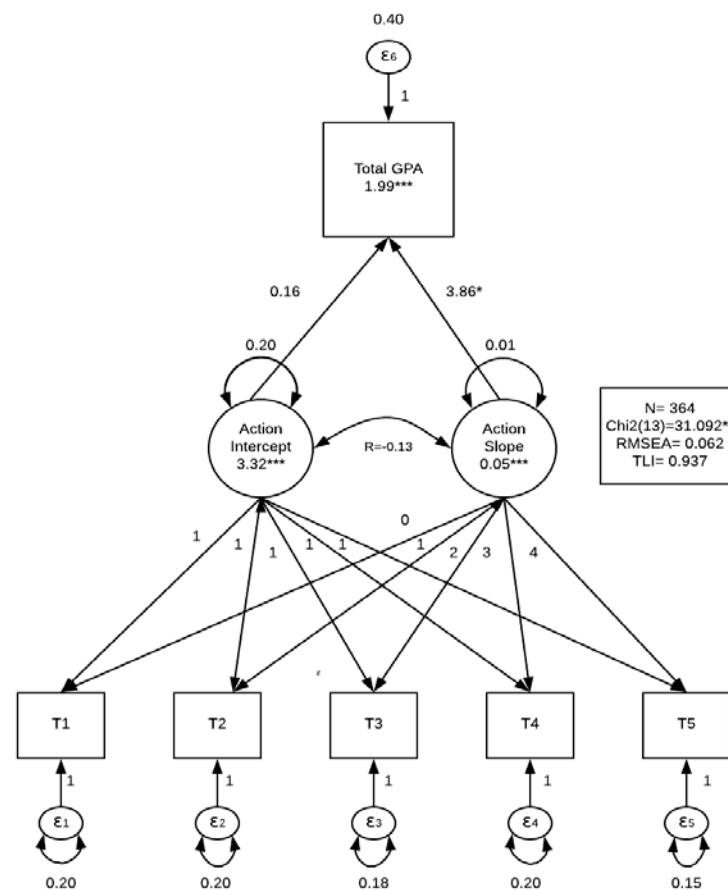


Watts, Diemer, & Voight, 2011

GPA and Social Analysis



GPA and Social Action



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Questions? Contact the IOC at
ioc@bu.edu or @BUonCities

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Upcoming Events

For more details: bu.edu/research/events

Research on Tap:

High Tech and High Touch: Digital Innovations from BU's Mobile and Electronic Health-ARC

Wednesday, March 20, 2019 | 4-6 pm

Mechanobiology: How Force and Stretch Shape Life

Tuesday, April 2, 2019 | 4-6 pm

Research How-To:

How to Use Social Media to Promote Your Work and Expertise

Wednesday, March 27, 2019 | 3-5 pm

How to Secure Funding from the Department of Defense

Wednesday, April 10, 2019 | 3-5 pm