**Thought Question Submission - Week 12**

Luke Pepin

Article:

* Chad Freidrichs. "The Pruitt-Igoe Myth”

1. The documentary explores the failures of Pruitt-Igoe, an urban housing project in St.Louis not just due to design flaws and poor maintenance but larger social and economic forces. Such as the decline of the neighborhood and economy as well as the withdrawal of federal funds. Where do the majority of the failures of Pruitt-Igoe lie? In its design flaws and poor maintenance compared to larger social and economic forces?
2. The film explains the urban renewal movement of the 1950s and 1960s, which aimed to improve the physical and social conditions of America's inner cities. However, the urban renewal projects were ultimately flawed, as they failed to address the underlying economic and social problems of urban poverty undermined by a lack of funding, poor management. Did the government set up the urban renewal movement of the 1950s and 1960s to fail by not accounting for the underlying problems? Could they have ever worked?
3. The film suggests that a top-down approach to urban renewal is not sufficient to address the root causes of urban poverty. It argues for an approach that takes into account the social and economic factors that contribute to poverty and inequality. What would a bottom-up approach entail? What consequences will it suffer in places where Pruitt-Igoe succeeded?