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Research Project Assignment 1

“A Model for Identifying Gentrified Areas with Census Data”

* This paper suggests a method for better observing and measuring the phenomenon of gentrification. Exposure to different methods used to measure gentrification allows me to obtain more information and ultimately aids in my decision to choose an appropriate design for my research.
* The field survey and multivariate statistical model used to select census variables that distinguished gentrified areas is suggested to be an approach that can be applied to different settings. Using their data sources and methods, I aim to determine if it is applicable to Washington D.C.

"Divergent Pathways of Gentrification: Racial Inequality and the Social Order of Renewal in Chicago Neighborhoods"

* This article uses the qualitative method of using Google Street View to identify the reinvestment experienced by certain neighborhoods in efforts to measure gentrification. The supplementary coding guide they used as they coded street blocks is helpful to my research because it provides a reference as to how I can create a coding guide more specific to certain cities or time periods.
* My research focuses on gentrification and race. The data sources provided in this article focus on neighborhood racial preferences and residential selection literature that can aid in my understanding of how racial and ethnic composition of a neighborhood shape the way neighborhoods experience gentrification.

"A Quantitative Approach to Gentrification: Determinants of Gentrification in U.S. Cities, 1970-2010"

* Though this paper gives credit to the use of qualitative methods to measure gentrification (i.e., census data that captures increases in average household income, presence of college-educated residents, and housing values and rents), it suggests a quantitative approach that allows the capturing changes of retail mix not captured by qualitative approaches. The quantitative approach suggested here generates a measure of gentrification that allows the observation of the phenomenon within different cities and for multiple time periods. This can guide my process of collecting my current data.
* This quantitative method proposed here and its results after being used to measure gentrification in sampled cities can be useful in my current research because my work uses both census data and qualitative google street view observations. Its methods can guide the way I analyze my data in efforts to measure gentrification.