

## What Does It Mean to Gentrify?

How does gentrification happen, and why is this important to know? Discuss the rise of gentrification in America's cities, and learn what steps are being taken to address it.

### Conversation Questions

1. What things have changed in your neighborhood over the past decade?
2. How do rising costs for goods and increases in taxes lead to gentrification?

### Key Definitions (from Merriam-Webster)

- *gentrification* – the process of renewal and rebuilding accompanying the influx of middle-class or affluent people into deteriorating areas that often displaces poorer residents
- *zoning* – the act or process of partitioning a city, town, or borough into zones preserved for different purposes (such as residence or business)

### Read

#### ***How to Kill a City. Gentrification, Inequality, and the Fight for the Neighborhood by Peter Moskowitz***

<https://skokielibrary.bibliocommons.com/item/show/2684909133>

Journalist Peter Moskowitz explores four American cities – New Orleans, Detroit, San Francisco, and New York – and investigates how these places have struggled with revitalization and displacement.

#### ***Pilsen Develops New Tools to Fight Gentrification by Jessica Pupovac for WTTW***

<http://bit.ly/2KokBt3>

Pilsen, a Chicago neighborhood once populated by Polish, Czech, and Eastern European immigrants, changed rapidly in the 1960s with an influx of Mexican immigrants. Pupovac reports on the tension surrounding current efforts to rebuild Pilsen and encouraging responsible growth.



## **Color of Climate: Is Climate Change Gentrifying Miami's Black Neighborhoods? by Jessica Moulite from The Root** <http://bit.ly/2MedPHW>

The Liberty City neighborhood sits 10 feet above sea level and has a household median income of \$26,000. Following increases in flooding due to intense rainfall, this area is prime for resale and development. Moulite examines how climate change is leading to gentrification for *The Root*.

## **Gentrification Is Relentless, but Not Inevitable If Locals Are Able to Help Shape Redevelopment by Winifred Curran** <http://bit.ly/2mKA7Ga>

Urban geographer Curran explains how community resistance to gentrification can lead to positive preservation of history and a campaign for better living conditions.

### **Watch**

## **Gentrification Explained from the University of California, Berkeley's Urban Displacement Project** <http://bit.ly/2M3Gfb7>

This video explains how widespread historical disinvestment in low-income urban neighborhoods left them vulnerable to investors and home foreclosures.

### **Listen**

## **Gentrification: Feeling Like an Outsider in Your Own Neighborhood (from WNYC's Radio Rookies)** <http://bit.ly/2O58jYI>

Corinne Bobb-Semple, a teen reporter, reflects upon ways gentrification has affected her and her family in the rapidly changing neighborhood of NYC's Bedford-Stuyvesant.

## **Can Gentrification Be a Good Thing? from WBUR** <https://wbur.fm/2O5ZOMW>

Learn about the transformation of East New York from a mostly white, working-class neighborhood to an underserved community of black and brown New Yorkers.

