

Project Year

2009

Project Title

Discovering Baltimore Neighborhoods: A Synthesis of Images and Data

Project Team

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Audience

Students enrolled in the course, "Space, Place, Poverty, and Race: Sociological Perspectives on Neighborhoods and Public Housing."

Pedagogical Issue

Many students are unfamiliar with the complex issues central to life in Baltimore City, including social and racial inequality and the nature of urban development over the past half century.

Solution

Through this fellowship resources will be created which will link photographs of Baltimore neighborhoods to census and local data (e.g. Baltimore Neighborhood Indicators Alliance or BNIA) to give both current and historical views of the city and to encourage dialogue among students related to poverty, race, and urban neighborhoods.

Project Abstract

This project will familiarize the JHU community with Baltimore neighborhoods through photographic and census data. Students and faculty will use a mapping tool that allows users to see views of Baltimore City at different time periods and to select a neighborhood by census tracts/community name. In addition to census data from 1930-2000, data from BNIA and data from Baltimore based research projects across the University (e.g., the School of Public Health) will also be used. Older photographs will be taken from political and architectural archives at the JHU Libraries, University of Baltimore, and the Maryland Room at the Enoch Pratt. The team hopes the project will encourage urban exploration and dispel stereotypes about city neighborhoods. They anticipate that students will be surprised when the data defies their expectations, which are often based on anecdotes.