Note: "Ed Snajdr" indicates either Ed or Shonna speaking as they were in same recording location.

00:00:36.960 --> 00:00:57.060
Ed Snajdr: Okay sounds good okay all right hi everybody i'm shauna trench and i'm here with ED snider Hello and we're here today with indoor voices and we're going to do a podcast with the authors of a new book called gentrification down the shore and the authors are molly Coleman and.

00:00:58.560 --> 00:01:02.340
Ed Snajdr: molly Bowman makris and Mary gotta you guys want to say hi.

00:01:03.750 --> 00:01:06.660
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): hi this is molly Thank you so much for having us today.

00:01:07.320 --> 00:01:07.710
that's great.

00:01:08.820 --> 00:01:10.830
Mary Gatta : Thanks, this is Mary Thank you so much.

00:01:11.520 --> 00:01:14.190
Ed Snajdr: All right, all right, well, I wanted to get started.

00:01:15.480 --> 00:01:32.160
Ed Snajdr: Just to hear from you guys about how you came to this project, the scope of it time that you put into it and the time that you spent in the field site and how how your collaboration came to be so i'll just throw that question out there.

00:01:33.210 --> 00:01:51.990
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Sure, so Mary and I started working together, I got men in 2015 when Mary joined the Faculty and we really started connecting over our shared interest in urban sociology and gentrification and New Jersey and specifically asbury Park, so the work kind of spiraled from there.

00:01:53.160 --> 00:02:04.740
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And I did not have a lot of experience in asbury park prior to that so a previous research, I had done in hoboken New Jersey, I was an insider researcher, a bit like you all in your book.

00:02:05.340 --> 00:02:13.680
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): About brooklyn but in this research, I was really a visitor to the Community, so I was
relatively new to the Community Mary has a different experience there.

16
00:02:14.430 --> 00:02:17.820
Mary Gatta: yeah so I yeah just building out molly said, I mean, I think.

17
00:02:18.120 --> 00:02:28.050
Mary Gatta: One of the really interesting things about our collaboration is we're able to take two real aspects of what's going on in asbury and also broader within the sociological social science discipline.

18
00:02:28.380 --> 00:02:42.750
Mary Gatta: Around gentrification and then our kind of take on it with seasonal gentrification but also employment right so we're really bringing together in our collaboration, not only our research skills and our joint.

19
00:02:43.200 --> 00:02:53.970
Mary Gatta: desire to really study as very but also kind of bringing together the way identification housing and education that molly really focuses on and myself around employment and workforce.

20
00:02:54.840 --> 00:03:03.960
Mary Gatta: um and in terms of you know asbury I actually do live near as very I live about a 15 minute drive from asbury and.

21
00:03:04.470 --> 00:03:25.170
Mary Gatta: I connected with the Community and in many different ways, so I as a visitor right but also working on just broadly advocacy issues in New Jersey, such as the minimum wage for example um so I don't live in the Community, and I, but I so i'm kind of still connected to that to the Community.

22
00:03:25.800 --> 00:03:36.360
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And in terms of that timeframe, so we started talking about the project in 2015 and then we did the work up until we actually I believe we turned in our draft of the book on new year's Eve.

23
00:03:37.680 --> 00:03:45.690
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): So just prior to sort of the beginning of the code 19 pandemic and we're happy to talk about how that has affected the Community as well, but.

24
00:03:45.990 --> 00:03:56.400
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Our research was before that time period we were really on the ground, doing focus groups and interviews at the graphic observations, I think we had was it at one participants.

25
00:04:03.360 --> 00:04:04.740
Ed Snajdr: yeah that's that's a great.

26
00:04:05.760 --> 00:04:07.740
Ed Snajdr: beginning to our discussion today.
Ed Snajdr: yeah I mean how about your collaboration like how did you how did you work as a team on this project.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): sure.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): As an early career scholar, I feel very fortunate that I got to work with Mary on this, so when I met Mary initially many of her colleagues told me, she was a real rock star in the field so.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): I feel fortunate that I got to learn from her in the areas of employment and gender and all that she was a very generous colleague sharing you know her her connections and her network with me as we work together.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): I think it could be difficult, I mean you know writing a book with another person right.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But we didn't hit any major obstacles in that way, I always say we were good partners in that because I have little children, I often work late at night after they're in bed.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And I would like send Mary a draft and then fall asleep in the middle of the night wake up in the morning take my kids to school.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): When that was a thing come home and Mary wakes up really early so she would have turned the draft all the way, like back around to me again, so I feel like we had some good you know good working relationship in that way.

Mary Gatta: yeah great.

Mary Gatta: Thank you, and of course just working with molly is wonderful, as you can tell she's incredibly smart incredibly dedicated and a wonderful colleague.

Mary Gatta: And we also I think in terms of our fieldwork were able to really collaborate very well on.
Mary Gatta: So we did joint focus groups, we did join interviews, we did we walk to the town together, but then we also were able to like highlight different aspects that we did individually.

Mary Gatta: We were able to, then you know we all have our interviews and focus groups were able to double co them, and you know I feel like that.

Mary Gatta: Also, it was a true collaboration from kind of the inception of the idea, through the get data gathering and the research and the ethnography to the writing and the in the in the edits and you know everything else that goes into producing a book.

Mary Gatta: So it got.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): It got out me there, we had to have the PSC cuny grants that helped us as we did our research.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And you know, working together at cuny and with our students and teaching courses related to these topics I teach a course on gentrification and i'm in the urban studies program so.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): urban planning and policy, so our work in the classroom really and what we learned from our students and our colleagues really also positively impact our work.

Ed Snajdr: yeah that's that's really great and I was wondering about the title of your book, you know i'm so interested in frames and you know things like subtitles and frames and epigraph and i'm wondering how did you guys come to that particular title gentrification down the shore.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): This is such a good question I think i'm.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): As an outsider to the area I grew up in the Midwest in Ohio and I actually remember the first time that I heard the expression down the shore.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): It was my older brother was going off to college in Washington DC and his roommate called and left a message on the answering machine saying he was going to be down the shore for the summer.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And I remember my mother, who is from the east coast explaining to me sort of what that meant, and you know all these sorts of assumptions, you could make.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Based on that language, and it was the first time I'd ever heard it now, I hear it frequently.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Living in the area, but I think you know we did it was out of the scope of our research really to like talk to people about you know whether they call it down the shore how they refer to the Community.

But I do think it's just that's a really interesting question, we believe, initially, one of the titles floated to us was gentrification by the sea and Mary and I felt like that wasn't didn't have the right feel for the area but Mary as a local, I think, can speak more to it.

Mary Gatta: Yeah I mean, I think I mean I do say I live at the shore.

Mary Gatta: It's funny, but we also I should say in terms of collaboration we also kind of crowdsourced some of our title, too, so we reached out to different groups different.

Mary Gatta: Visitors friends etc and kind of put it out there, that you know you can help us think about a title um but in terms of kind of the whole.

Mary Gatta: Shore down the shore kind of framework kind of coming down to down to the shore, you know I think it's something that's very obviously very east coast, but very New Jersey right in how.

Mary Gatta: You know Bruce Springsteen certainly things about the shore that down the shore everything's all right in a song, for example, so I think you know it is.

Mary Gatta: Very you know, important and telling but I thought I think what you're saying about framing and directionality is really interesting.

Mary Gatta: And it's, something that would be really interesting to talk to some of the residents about and on both the East side and the West side of Asbury to be really interesting anthropological paper.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): reminded me I had one student who was fascinated that I was writing this book, while we were in class together discussing gentrification and he would send me like lists of Titles after class and he had some really great ideas in the end, you know it wasn't fully up to us, but.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): yeah.

Ed Snajdr: it's great it's so interesting.

Ed Snajdr: I did you want to jump in well yeah.

Ed Snajdr: it's been great listening to kind of the story behind the book but i'd like to point out that I, I think the study is actually very groundbreaking because there's somebody who has studied gentrification one of the things that you, you posit you put out.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): yeah I think this was really apparent to us in the beginning that we sort of needed to tweak the traditional definition of gentrification that we hear, and I mean it's always sort of a concern because.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Some people would argue the word gentrification has been gentrified right and it's so overused and what is since become meaningless because we use it to describe so many different.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): kinds of situations at this time, but we really felt like the seasonality to this was so important that we needed to kind of like.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): To figure that out and put that right in the framing of the book and for us, we always say it's seasonal gentrification but it affects a longtime residents through all four seasons of the year.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And I think that's an important thing to point out we're not saying it only affects people during some seasons of the year right.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But it is different from a traditional gentrification case study.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Because well for one even the data is challenging right so data that we look at to understand gentrification generally looks at people's primary residence so even just like trying to quantify what's happening in the Community was more difficult because of the seasonality.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And then I I study education and youth, so I was really interested in the way that that plays out in a seasonally gentrifying Community where many of the residents are in second home.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): or many of the newcomers our second home or vacation home owners or visitors, so the Community so that they're less invested in that in the you know, raising a family there and in the kind of amenities that families might be interested in.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): We know in gentrification sort of that's like a later stage of gentrification in the literature like family gentrification that occurs and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): You know, with gentrifiers like that urban lifestyle and stay and raise families and get sometimes get engaged in the schools and that can have all sorts of complex effects as well.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But here in asbury we didn't see that part of the conversation nearly as much as we would in other communities that i've studied and I think also like the amenities.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): In general, so supermarkets, for example, or something that you know people who live in a Community want to have access, easy access to the supermarket.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And you know one side of town was described to us as a food desert, while the other side
of town is sort of known for the foodie seen you know people come from all over for the restaurants and asbury.

Mary Gatta: yeah and just build in just a little bit on that well I did a great job.

Mary Gatta: From the employment side or their work for sigh when you think about the what I was really interested in is, what are the actual employment opportunities for jobs toward actual economic security for the local longtime residents.

Mary Gatta: And the seasonality adds to that because those job opportunities are typically are seasonal right for the most part, so there's massive hiring April through September.

Mary Gatta: And then there is just you know the massive layoffs in essence right so um what does How does that.

Mary Gatta: Impact where people can even think about their own economic security long term and what does that mean for like the workforce development programs, for example.

Mary Gatta: On that are training workers so that investment is on the worker side and then also on the business owner side right so business owners also you know see obviously their their summer season, as their season.

Mary Gatta: Two for for customers right and for it, but then tie to that what happens in those in those winters and that's something that.

Mary Gatta: Throughout the book people just talked about you know surviving in the winter and then as molly's that we did this work pre coven so we, I mean if we can talk about the impact the potential impact of covert on the Community.

Molly Makris: I was just gonna say that the kinds of businesses, we see in a seasonally gentrifying Community like hotels right, and you know music venues, and who those particular like who they're interested in hiring.

Molly Makris: In in those particular kinds of venues is different indices manage Community.
Ed Snajdr: So the work that you guys did on work, I found absolutely fascinating such important, and it was so illuminating to me, you know for our own work in Brooklyn and.

Ed Snajdr: And what a lot of development has meant for local communities that were hoping for jobs, and you know you really bring up this notion that there is.

Ed Snajdr: You know affluent people look for an experience of work for their children.

Ed Snajdr: Whereas non are people who aren't affluent need to have work experience and that that difference was just so striking to me and your data bear it out so beautifully I just wondered if you could talk a little bit more about that.

Mary Gatta: yeah I mean I think that's an interesting way of framing area there um you know how class stratification impacts young people's.

Mary Gatta: You know how young people see work and I understand we're going for that experience of work so British this geologists are the ones that kind of.

Mary Gatta: have done a lot of work research work in this area, and one of the concepts that I have found really helpful in my own research and certainly here is this concept that a static Labor.

Mary Gatta: That we are that workers are not only bringing the skills so let's say it's a restaurant right the hospitality skills, the food knowledge.

Mary Gatta: But they're also bringing their bodies and themselves as part of what employers are looking for and customers are expecting right, so there, they are part of the brand, so to speak, that is being.

Mary Gatta: sold in addition to whether it's the expensive sunglasses or the really expensive steaks and drinks right, so this comes up Dev aesthetic Labor I find.

Mary Gatta: Really powerful when we think about what's going on here in Asbury and and other communities to write that what does this mean in terms of opportunities across the board for people.
Mary Gatta: And that's one thing I think that we saw that I don't think we were fully expecting at first was just how age intersects here.

Mary Gatta: In terms of who gets opportunities so a young resident of color on the West side who can fit the aesthetic for the hotels, or the boutique retail.

Mary Gatta: Has is able to get opportunities OPS right verse a older resident, perhaps with a criminal record that he does not fit that aesthetic and I think that is the this concept of aesthetically were is something.

Mary Gatta: That you know we we European sociologist talk a lot about and I would love to see more work in the American Labor market because we see this, not just in asbury but really you know you know variety of.

Mary Gatta: places of Labor markets and it in the way systemic any quality is just embedded in that is so important to understand.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): I also think, Mary as like the young man, we spoke to on the boardwalk who was like.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): How cool is it to get to work on that the famous asbury boardwalk he was home from college for the summer, he was talking to us about his college classes, so it was really like this experience of working and like.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Having a wonderful summer at the asbury park boardwalk which was very different than the you know.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Older westside residents that we spoke to who are really struggling to find employment opportunities and struggling with issues of you know job spatial mismatch and all these other issues that we saw there.

Ed Snajdr: And then you also bring up this notion of habitus.

Ed Snajdr: which I think is so important for this work experience experience of work thing I mean it all It reminded me of this movie dirty dancing where there's these like you know.
Ed Snajdr: I've looked at a place like Lake George right where.

Ed Snajdr: There's a private club that the parents and their children all belong to and the kids come up through that and begin to work there right.

Ed Snajdr: First, they are just family members who vacation there and then they learn how to serve there, and all of that builds their habitat for their upper middle class lifestyles right, and this is the habitat, that is, you know the genesis of howdy, how do we change the world well.

Ed Snajdr: And I think again you're sending really brings that out these young vacationers then turn around and and work on the board.

Mary Gatta: And and tie to that being able to do that gets you access and as you're sitting in different ways, so these young vacationers.

Mary Gatta: Who, then you know may work in the summer, when their college or then serving people in restaurants, who might be able to give them access to internships on Wall Street or.

Mary Gatta: Law firms or whatever it is right, so these you know ways that we don't often think about which wouldn't happen for workers who maybe are working at McDonald's right.

Mary Gatta: So if you're working at a at an asbury park restaurant, where people are spending three hours at your table you're going to people get to know their server right, so this just level of access.

Mary Gatta: Based on being able to learn the kind of the cultural capital like you're talking about the social capital, but also what those that also offers in terms of opportunities is not equitably distributed.

Ed Snajdr: So, in terms of your approach, which was using an intersection approach, which I thought was brilliant and very, very effective.
Ed Snajdr: One of the pieces of that is gender and sexuality, so if you could maybe say a little bit about the LGBT Q Community its history and how it fits into the story of your study.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Yes, thank you, thank you for saying that about the work, and I think this was something that was really important for us to make sure we highlighted in the book and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): We trace the history of as berries sort of importance to the LGBT Q Community it has the longest running gay nightclub it's the first place, to have a same gender marriage in New Jersey and 2004.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And importantly we argue that that history existed in asbury long before the you know New York Times started covering the quote unquote renaissance of asbury park right and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): We felt like in asbury the fact that asbury avoided sort of the fate of other Jersey shore communities left as very open, for you know to be a place where the LGBT community could flourish.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And I think that that's something that came up quite a bit for us this community often gets blamed for gentrification or for the gamification of asbury.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But the history is really a lot more nuanced than that, and this community is now quite vulnerable to displacement so as we see again like the waves of gentrification and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And sort of the I think someone in our book called it, like the big money coming in from New York City in the early 2000s.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): We start to see this Community also feeling very under pressure and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Something I think we have to say also, when we were conducting our data clashing it was during the trump administration years.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And while our research showed that the LGBT community, like the participants that we spoke to do feel you know much more accepted as a community and there's a.
Molly Makris (she/her/hers): quote in the book about young people who can articulate their transgender experience and quite a few times we heard about bachelorette the onslaught of bachelorette parties at gay bars right.

But these LGBT Q residents and visitors also felt a lot of fear and anxiety during this administration and that came up, and this has been a safe place right and.

That gentrification is making it feel like that is at risk that it might not be able to stay safe place and there's also these intersections there, as you say, of.

Molly Makris (she/her/hers): race and age and socio economic status and homelessness in that population that make it particularly you know at risk for for displacement from gentrification.

Mary Gatta : yeah I would agree, and I think that's what's really powerful just about intersectionality as a lens in our all of our research right being able to kind of parse out what the stratification within.

So the ability to see you know when we talked and did focus groups with longtime LGBT Q members of the Community.

They were we talked about their history right and what it was like there in the 90s, you know before as molly said, the New York Times game.

And wrote stories, so I think that opera that lens in terms of kind of social science, research is really important.

And we saw the intersectionality play out across a lot of different variables, and I think that in ways that you know somebody surprised us right, so it was you know and it kind of an exciting lens to use, also as a method methodological.

And also, it seems obvious but to say you know the gay community arrived at this time, which brought about gentrification is just so such a.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Gross oversimplification like, of course, you know it's like when we say artists arrive, and therefore there was gentrification like there were no artists and communities before that there were no gay residents of Asbury Park, all the way back in history.

00:22:56.370 --> 00:22:58.770
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): So that that was something very important for us to point out.

00:23:00.330 --> 00:23:09.690
Ed Snajdr: yeah so i'll build on that everything about your book is really fighting against over simplification and it really was just going through each chapter.

00:23:10.110 --> 00:23:19.740
Ed Snajdr: You know, taking deep dives and getting that lived experience, which is so interesting clearly methodological Lee you know that's that's you know, putting your.

00:23:20.370 --> 00:23:27.360
Ed Snajdr: interviews to work and doing those focus groups, I am wondering, though, about the residents of the West side.

00:23:27.870 --> 00:23:46.410
Ed Snajdr: And there were some comments that came out some of your informants mentioned, for example, well, we ain't got no research and US outsider researchers do or, that is what you want, so i'm curious whether any of that process was a little contentious.

00:23:48.030 --> 00:23:52.020
Ed Snajdr: Or maybe not, but if you could speak to that like doing the data gathering.

00:23:54.840 --> 00:24:02.730
Mary Gatta: I mean, I think yeah I mean, I think we know, one of the challenges in all types of kind of ethnographic data gathering in this way.

00:24:03.000 --> 00:24:11.850
Mary Gatta: When you are not an insider and if, in the Community, you know you have to recognize your your position in your and where your position ality in particular.

00:24:12.180 --> 00:24:20.100
Mary Gatta: And that was something I think that's also a benefit of the collaboration between molly and I we were able to also kind of do that for each other to right.

00:24:20.490 --> 00:24:36.030
Mary Gatta: um and have that as an as a way of kind of really acknowledging who we are and who we aren't in the Community and also acknowledging, you know how fortunate, we were that the our informants shared Their stories with us and share their time with us.
Mary Gatta: um but that it's their story, and that is, you know I think that's something that is ethnography. First, we need to be very conscious of and in our work.

Mary Gatta: I mean there was one thing one time in our interviews with a group of residents and we asked about question of do you ever go to the stone pony, which is a very famous bar that Bruce springsteen you know would play out and.

Mary Gatta: And a lot of other live acts and our informants said to us if it does sitting at the table well that's where people like you.

Mary Gatta: So that I think and that moment, is another moment where you know you really need to kind of take in and understand your role.

Mary Gatta: and be very conscious of that and have the the position ality and the privilege that you're you have and really just respect as best to kind of lived experiences that people are graciously sharing with us.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): yeah I think we are always thinking about how deeply racialized The subject is and and the systemic racism and experiences of our participants in our own position ality.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And we can't we can't speak for others right, we can we can share what we learned of.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): The stories that we learned in this research, and that that was really important to us, I don't remember any particularly like contentious moments, but there would be like.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): moments where and I had this i've had this and other research as well, where it was like like you guys are stating the obvious like yes, we need like we don't need.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Like you were saying we don't need your research to tell us what's happening, this is our lived experience and.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): it's very important for us to to give voice to that and to recognize as Mary said, our position ality and our privilege and our outsider status and the Community, as we did this, which is incredibly
challenging.

Mary Gatta: And one of the things just to build on that that we hope we can do, and is trying to give back with the research to in the sense of sharing what we learned with.

Mary Gatta: With the with our informants but also with the city officials and different.

Mary Gatta: Individuals who might who are interested in kind of learning, you know what is it that can maybe make a difference right or can, and I think that is also you know, a way of you know, helping to acknowledge just how you know, bring that to the table is important.

Ed Snajdr: yeah that that makes me think about this other question that I had about your work.

Ed Snajdr: couple of things that you see if I can keep it all in my head, but the first is this this the way that as very has this reputation for being.

Ed Snajdr: A diverse space, at the same time that it has always been a very segregated space.

Ed Snajdr: Right so so gentrification is an extenuation of the very racist practices and principles that this country was founded on.

Ed Snajdr: With the use of black Labor in the way that it has been used over and over again, and now in this moment, you know when you're talking about aesthetic general aesthetic Labor and all of these other things, the question is.

Ed Snajdr: Where is like we talked about making place where is the place for this Community, now that people are saying, well, we don't need your Labor.

Ed Snajdr: And so that so this historical written, this is amazing in your book and then like I said this idea of a diverse space, but also a deeply racialized and segregated space as well.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Right yeah such an important point, I think that the diversity is so much of what locals and newcomers love about Asbury Park.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): The rainbow flags are sort of a recurring theme in our book and yet from its founding in 1871 there's been a segregation and anti-black racism.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And we describe the current divisions in the community, between the East side, where we have the boardwalk and the beaches and the new hotels and the Asbury Ocean Club, which is a new luxury.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): condominium and hotel and those kinds of developments and then this West side, which is largely a community of residents of color.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And we do see that you know we go back and look at that, historically and that West side was the West end, which was also a segregated community from the very beginning, and it was very important to us to look at exactly as you say that history there and the way it's reverberating.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): decades later, and I think these contradictions are like such a part of the story, as well, like Asbury Park is.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): One hand it's voted the coolest small town and or one of the coolest small towns in America and on the other, one of the worst places to live in America, so this was something we were kind of sort of constantly constantly holding.

Mary Gatta: yeah absolutely and just building on that, I mean Asbury also, I think, is.

Mary Gatta: You know, for all of what and Molly just talking about a microcosm for the inequalities that are just persistent throughout our society right.

Mary Gatta: And I think you know it's one square mile city that's one square mile you know where we can you can really see these contradictions see these systems systems.
Mary Gatta: But they represent some of the larger processes that we know that are going on right now and that exactly as you said in your question, or just embedded in the the founding and the structures and the organizations.

Ed Snajdr: etc yeah and powerfully like it suggests that even under the best intentions.

Mary Gatta: The business owner small business owners, we talked to the city officials that we talked to the advocates, there is a true passion and commitment towards social justice.

Mary Gatta: The workforce development report that came out while we were doing our research was about one asbury right so it's a.

Mary Gatta: city that itself says we have this divide, we need to talk about how we we bring it together, so I think that is.
people who are committed to social justice, but.

Mary Gatta: You know, we live and they live, we all live in this society with the stuff so embedded and so systemic.

And we need to read there's so much unpacking there's not one one it's not just okay let's provide employment opportunities, or just need affordable housing right it's the connections between all of these systems that reinforced right and then, how do we kind of unpack.

I think, with that, though with that deep commitment and all of these attempts to try to improve it, there is, you know some feeling.

Like some people, we spoke to on the West side like Oh, this is happening again oh another study coming in to try to fix this or to try to make it better.

It was very important for us to not just you know not be outsiders coming in to add another study to the shelf kind of you know, things that could have happened that never happened for the Community.

But yeah but yeah there, there is this deep commitment to it, and I think you know that's not totally different than what we see in other gentrified communities where we often talk about like early stage gentrifiers and.

newcomers are very committed locally that actually came up sort of in the LGBT Q Community piece to that as newer residents come in and just place that Community they may be less connected to the causes of the LGBT Q community and the local community.

So I think, as various is a city on the precipice and it has this deep commitment to it, right now, and something very important, you know to us is to see that that is maintained and and not lost as like gentrification turns into potentially someday super gentrification.

yeah.

Ed Snajdr: No go ahead, please.
Mary Gatta: I was gonna say when you when we talked with different.

Mary Gatta: resident small business owners, for example, many of them would say that was one of the reasons why they wanted to bring their have their business in asbury right, so the because it was a, it is a city that is focused.

Mary Gatta: With a commitment towards social justice right, so they That was a draw for them to bring their their retail business.

Mary Gatta: For example, so I think that is something that you know, keeping that as a central I think might be one of the challenges in the next 10 years that asbury will be facing is, as you know, if it moves into like as molly said, you know, the fear of a super gentrification.

Ed Snajdr: yeah did you want to ask something else sure, I just wanted to build on that because it takes us back to intersection ality and how important that kind of lens and approaches.

Ed Snajdr: that's know graphically because you're looking at divides that are created through gentrification.

Ed Snajdr: And those devices are not just simply you know, building on racism in the US that's clearly there, but the age divide and the class divide is really apparent in your data.

Ed Snajdr: And it suggests that those things are not going to be solved as gentrification progresses, so you know, I think that approaches is very profound and what you're able to reveal.

Mary Gatta: yeah I would agree, I mean, I think I mean, I think that at the intersection of lens it was really what allows us.

Mary Gatta: To see the the age, for example with somewhat of a surprise and our research right like that, and when we went and did observations, for example on the east side, we observed right young residents.

Mary Gatta: Of color working in those hotels and boutiques boutique retail, so we you know, I think that is.
Mary Gatta: also speaks to the importance of ethnography I mean because we conducted so many interviews and focus groups and we went and did observation, so we spent you know, a huge amount of time right in asbury Park, and I think that is where qualitative ethnographic research.

Mary Gatta: really can make a difference that you wouldn't see in the you know just sort of an under.

Mary Gatta: Analysis of the Labor market right i'm using bls the Bureau of Labor statistics data or something so I think it's also the method that really you know, I think it was really important to our to our book.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And I think you're right it's not going to get better right.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Further gentrification so Mary and I sort of have been calling for you know, without big bold action to address these kinds of.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): systemic issues we're not going to see you know a great improvement in these kinds of divides and and problems in the Community.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): But we do try to point in the book to a few examples of programs that are trying to overcome these sort of employment barriers for local residents, and you know we have.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Ideas around what could help to improve the situation and help long term residents and older residents and in terms of workforce and being able to stay and and in asbury as it if it continues to you know gentrify and become more expensive.

Ed Snajdr: So a lot of its development in the United States, and you know I i'm when I think about.

Ed Snajdr: You know, in our book, we talked about holding a place for everyone right and and old school brooklyn seems to be the kind of place where there was a place for everyone and that's you know.

Ed Snajdr: it's called what the science and that's what the sign said, there was a place for you on the street there's a place for you in the Community and.
Ed Snajdr: You know from housing developments to to you know large scale urban developments to this kind of seasonal beach development kind of places it seems like all of these Labor markets now are targeting stage of life and not different class structures right so.

00:37:21.390 --> 00:37:35.430
Ed Snajdr: So then there's nowhere, for you know when you think about a school and everything that it takes to run a school like well where did the people who started the lunches live in this Community right because they're still only making a certain amount of money, but the housing.

00:37:37.380 --> 00:37:43.260
Ed Snajdr: has skyrocketed because people you know so i'm just wondering what you think about that, like.

00:37:44.940 --> 00:37:46.020
Ed Snajdr: In terms of Labor.

00:37:47.760 --> 00:38:14.790
Mary Gatta : I mean, I think yeah I think tied to exactly what you're saying and kind of what molly was just saying is that.

00:38:16.230 --> 00:38:23.820
Mary Gatta : Some of these issues aren't going to be solved by asbury park city officials right, I mean so part of it is tied to larger issues around our Labor market, we know that you know minimum wage is nowhere near a living wage right um and we know that in many of the jobs.

00:38:24.360 --> 00:38:43.380
Mary Gatta : that there are no benefits right there's no retirement benefits there's no health care benefits right so and we also have the small business owners.

00:38:44.490 --> 00:38:55.260
Mary Gatta : When the larger structures are at play and I think that requires no matter as we're not more than just asbury right, it requires state it requires federal intervention.

00:38:55.740 --> 00:39:04.770
Mary Gatta : In order to say these jobs matter these jobs have skills they provide opportunities, but we have to talk about living wage jobs, we have to.

00:39:05.370 --> 00:39:18.480
Mary Gatta : You know I would argue, we have to We talked but decouple health insurance from your employment right so that interview people can do jobs they love right, I mean one of the things, many of the workers, we talked to
really enjoy the work they're doing.

Mary Gatta: But do that and be able to you know, for their rent afford their housing afford food for themselves so when the.

Mary Gatta: lunch aids at the school can't afford to feed themselves that's that's a problem and that really requires an F, I mean it really does require new social contract, where we broadly.

Mary Gatta: say, these are this is work, this is important work, but we have to talk about interventions that can really ensure that people in these jobs are able to move into an you know, an economic security life.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And we talk about also support for small businesses that want to hire locally and want to be able to do right by their employees.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Again, there was a deep commitment to this and small businesses, so much the character of asbury park and.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): You know there's a fear with all those business owners that they're going to be priced out and that they won't be able to maintain their businesses and their commitment.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): locally and many of them are doing very creative creative ways of supporting employees and supporting the local community, but that, like they can't do it alone right so without these larger policy shifts and initiatives it's it's a very difficult battle.

Ed Snajdr: So, building on that I know that new Labor regimes have started to emerge, but in different ways, like different uses of property so airbnb.

Ed Snajdr: You know the confluence of technology and the use of your home or your space kind of figures into your story of asbury park as well, and the changes and i'm a.

Ed Snajdr: Little curious if you could say a little bit about that night, I think there was a part in the book where you mentioned a neighbor actually i'm kind of told on somebody called the town, because there is a law that is restricting the use of airbnb.
Ed Snajdr: In the city.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): yeah I would say we we didn't go too deep into looking at that that was a battle brewing while we were doing our work actually was around airbnb.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): With you know with stakeholders really on both sides, there were local like long you know local longtime residents who felt like they should have the right to rent out their property.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Who were very upset by the move, but then there were a lot of people who felt like actually.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Saying no to short term Rentals like airbnb and and and those services was the best thing that could be done to prevent gentrification.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And really to help the local community so that was definitely like.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): It was like very salient when we were when we were doing our research that there that there was a pretty big divide in the Community.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): And I think it's something we were kind of interested in too, because it was much easier for us to look at sort of the perspective of big developers.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): In the Community who get a lot of attention, so I star who's like the boardwalk developer at from out of New York City.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): You know there's a lot of press and a lot of attention around that but something that's harder kind of to dig deeper on are, the more local like small landlords and and Homeowners and what's happening there and I think.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): You know it's a good question and it's definitely something we heard about, although i'm not sure that we looked at it in terms of Labor married you.
Mary Gatta: know we know we didn't look at it in terms of you know, the work that goes into it and using that as a source of income for example which.

Mary Gatta: Which people do um, but I also think it highlights to kind of a larger umbrella around kind of the individual versus a collective like what so the solution is okay let's rent out a room to pay our mortgage right.

Mary Gatta: Or, as opposed to kind of let's think about well how collectively, can we talk about whether it's policy, whether it's programs to raise everyone, so I think that.

Mary Gatta: And that's obviously airbnb is not just an asbury thing it's something that we see you know all over and these battles all over because it also you know changes, sometimes the character of the area.

Mary Gatta: That that people are coming toward, but I think it also just gets it something that we we just see broadly in our society, which is people are are really struggling right now i'm, particularly after our research in light of coven.

Mary Gatta: On the impact of coven but um people are struggling economically and.

Mary Gatta: truck pat using patchworks to try to put it together like Okay, I have the ability to rent a room i'm going to do it and that just lets us kind of push down the road the larger structural changes that that need to happen in order to really people up.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): would say something interesting about sort of the new market what's happening right now, with so many people working from home and being able to do that.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Is the way that that's also affecting you know, while so many people are struggling during this pandemic, we see vacation home ownership on the rise.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): You know in asbury they actually had the most expensive sale of a property ever this summer during you know, during the coven 19 pandemic, it was a property listed at $5.9 million in the asbury ocean club.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): So you know, the way that, like our our ability to work from home and and the
technologies that support some people in doing that is allowing greater seasonal gentrification perhaps down the road and not helping with the inequities that we already had observed in the Community.

00:44:52.800 --> 00:44:54.540
Ed Snajdr: wow that's really something.

00:44:56.820 --> 00:45:04.620
Ed Snajdr: So, so there, there are these you know huge structural economics and political issues that that I think your book makes clear that.

00:45:04.980 --> 00:45:12.960
Ed Snajdr: Individuals with their best intentions just are not equipped to do it, I mean and and largely I think your book tells us this because they're working.

00:45:13.770 --> 00:45:23.940
Ed Snajdr: Right so like business small business owners are working they're working really hard to keep their own families fed and to keep their business and in place and so that so.

00:45:24.780 --> 00:45:37.140
Ed Snajdr: So I guess you know we We understand that right that the economy is really shaping what's happening here, and unless there are huge political shifts but but maybe getting back into the cultural questions.

00:45:38.250 --> 00:46:16.440
Molly Makris (she,her,hers): yeah, and I mean in asbury yes, historically, there were signs literally prohibiting black residents of the West and from swimming during the day on the beach and.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Could you slow we.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): get in.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): No, but I love your sort of interest in science and aesthetics had me thinking a lot about that in asbury and how you know we looked at, like the visual science today, and I would say, you know, like we looked at rainbow flags and the murals created by artists and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): boardwalk regulations or signs for beach badges or the Bradley statue that we start the book talking about.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): So we looked at, we looked at those signs, but we didn't look at the history and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Mary said I think it's yeah David goldberg is a historian who's done a lot of work on on the sort of like.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): segregation of the Jersey shore and asbury and other places, so we you know looked at his work, a lot when we did the history we didn't do our own.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Like archival analysis there, but you know, yes, like so there were literally signs prohibiting it.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): From what we understand, historically, and I would say, today there aren't you know written out signs, but there are cues in these very different ways.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): So you know we talked to people who still thought I mean a big part of our study shows it westside residents largely people of color longtime residents and asbury park still don't feel comfortable on the beach still don't access the beach.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And there are there are many different reasons for that that we explore in the book one is that people who aren't from New Jersey might not know, but you pay to go to the beach in New Jersey.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): So while children under 12 are free, they don't go to the beach alone, usually so it does cost money to go to the beach during.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): You know before 5pm usually so many of the reasons we talked to either didn't go to the beach or go after 5pm.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): there's also parking issues there's lack of interest in the beach so when we were doing our case study with iron man named Elijah.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): younger boy was seven came in the room, was talking to him and we just asked him, it was a really hot summer day and we said you go to the beach like ever and he was just like no.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And for us, as you know, outside well for me as an outsider who had come previously to asbury for the beach, it was just you know.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Really telling to have that exchange, so I think the side the kinds of signs and signals obviously are not written out these days, but we have many examples of them in the book so whether it's please know the feelings of over policing.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): We have examples of young people are longtime residents feeling like not wanted and restaurants.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Those are the kinds of cues and signs that we explored.

Mary Gatta: yeah and one thing I mean i'm a sociologist by training, not an anthropologist, but one thing I think you're probably be interested in is just the train tracks.

Mary Gatta: The that literally divide the East side and the West side, and we have one quote in the book I kind of see find it in my notes that were one of our performance in the West side said just how emotional, it is to cross train tracks right, I mean it's a.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Literally it's tough to make it across the road.

00:49:21.270 --> 00:49:28.680
Mary Gatta: Exactly I mean, I think that you know, is it thinking about your work is really interesting.

00:49:29.850 --> 00:49:44.640
Mary Gatta: You know, as to think about like the train tracks themselves just serve as this, you know barrier and you let it get on your really and one square mile so it I think that's another powerful.

00:49:46.440 --> 00:49:51.090
Mary Gatta: icon in the town right and the train tracks are what bring people in to the beach right.

00:49:52.200 --> 00:49:57.540
Mary Gatta: And how difficult it is, have for this one person just you know cross over to the train tracks.

00:49:58.710 --> 00:50:12.720
Ed Snajdr: yeah that's so fascinating and I wonder, like you know when we talk about bringing our research to the communities, you know these these are such important findings that you could take to the east side and tell people like.

00:50:14.550 --> 00:50:31.170
Ed Snajdr: You know how do we find common ground on the east side right because, on the West side you know, again, I mean it's that maybe you can talk about that park on the West side that is this this space now as common ground but that's also like common ground on the West side.

00:50:33.240 --> 00:50:33.930
Mary Gatta: yeah.

00:50:35.370 --> 00:50:45.600
Mary Gatta: yeah absolutely that part of that park is a great example where residents come together, we went to some of the concerts and i'm on, but it was on the West side and she said.

00:50:46.440 --> 00:51:06.690
Mary Gatta: You know the it's interesting the asbury hotel explicitly set up their lobby as a as a community gathering place so when you go in there there's like couches like a coffee house kind of sitting and really encouraging people are designing it for space for everyone right i'm sorry.

00:51:07.290 --> 00:51:08.040
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): A pool table.

00:51:08.070 --> 00:51:10.260
Mary Gatta: As a pool table right exactly the whole.
Mary Gatta: Kind of idea that this is a space for everyone, and we did observe people you know, a diversity of people using it and working their butt.

Mary Gatta: You know it's sort of like it's there, but then it's not just the geography, that you need or the building that you need.

Mary Gatta: It's also the what you will get out and you're a great more of the the feeling of openness, the feeling of being welcome the feeling of not standing out right um I think that is you know harder right to get at um but it that's what really were some of that that barrier lovelace.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And we did did explore some other examples, I think, on the east side of you know.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And I think he said residents would probably feel Similarly, similarly to West side residents when they heard this finding like it's not a surprise right like they're working on this and they're aware of you know, everybody in the Community is aware of this.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But we did like the asbury hotel that Mary mentioned has the salt school program for workforce development.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): This is on the West side, but there was the coolest CAFE that we feature in the book and they're part of this interfaith neighbors workforce development and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): They do all sorts of other affordable housing and urban farming and great initiatives that kind of help the whole Community.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): We did hear about you know, a group, they got together to raise money for beach badges for people on the West side, but then, how do you spread the word, how do you make that happen, how do you implement that or free surf surf school, I think, was something maybe we heard about.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Towards the end actually I think this was like at the very end of our research, there was an e scooter program that started in asbury as it did in and a couple other places.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): And that actually showed some promise a scooter program sort of in general, show that
they tend to attract a more diverse user base than like a city bike or bike share programs.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But it was ended, I believe, when cover it began, for you know, a variety of reasons, but something like that that can kind of like literally bridge the geography, I think, is an interesting thing to think about.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But yes, I mean, I think we had we saw a lot of dedicated activists who are trying to bridge those divides, so I think they'd be very receptive to ideas that we bring forth from the book.

Ed Snajdr: mm hmm.

Ed Snajdr: There are signs of the window that say that people are hiring and then, when they get in there, and that was one of the biggest.

Ed Snajdr: Like one of the quotes from your informants that really stood out to me it's on page 64 where he says that he he went in and he expected to be hired because.

Ed Snajdr: They want diversity, like you know again like people see this, you know what you've kind of operationalize and written about people see like oh asbury so open and and people want diversity, and you know I can fill that that role, and then there he's he's told no we're not hiring.

Ed Snajdr: So so there's there's all this contradiction, I guess that you keep uncovering.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): yeah there's that.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): He says like money is green so he might you know.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Like why why wouldn't you be hiring for me, and I can speak to that.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But yeah I think what we found is that it's you know it's not just that money is screen some of these establishments, the aesthetics, the vibe matter a lot.

344
00:54:26.970 --> 00:54:39.150
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): I think one of our participants called it, the production quote unquote of asbury park and what that production is going to look like and we saw sort of that same feeling multiple times during our research this idea that.

345
00:54:40.500 --> 00:54:48.270
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): westside residence feel a little bit like I said duped by the rhetoric right that there's like a quote in the book when one resident says.

346
00:54:49.230 --> 00:54:56.070
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): How many times, can you do me dirty and then say let's try this again so like we've done this you've told me this and, like, I still not getting the job.

347
00:54:57.510 --> 00:55:07.380
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): Or the developments not coming or the West side hasn't changed, and like how many times, are we going to hear that, so I think there is, you know very fair skepticism that we encountered in that way.

348
00:55:09.630 --> 00:55:12.330
Mary Gatta: yeah and I would say to you know if.

349
00:55:12.840 --> 00:55:23.430
Mary Gatta: I think what's also just fascinating it that asbury is that it's a microcosm of of larger issues right, so this is not what you're describing and while it's disturbing it's not something that just happens in asbury with us very.

350
00:55:24.180 --> 00:55:36.630
Mary Gatta: hiring right it's something that we see through out our Labor market right and the this idea of a static and a cultural fit right in workplaces and how people.

351
00:55:37.650 --> 00:55:46.290
Mary Gatta: Are subjectively chosen for jobs right and how different how race how gender sexuality age.

352
00:55:47.040 --> 00:55:54.630
Mary Gatta: All impact those decisions and in very subtle ways right, so I think you know when we think about just.

353
00:55:55.200 --> 00:56:08.730
Mary Gatta: You know the production of Labor broadly I mean I think asbury provides like a great lens to look at it and also a lens of thinking, you know how do we break this down right, how do we disrupt these.

354
00:56:09.600 --> 00:56:15.720
Mary Gatta: These implicit bias right, how do we disrupt disrupt these networks that even just lead people to certain
Mary Gatta: I mean, we see that, with our students are CUNY students right um you know how do we disrupt networks that that to help get active help gain access.

Mary Gatta: Whether it's through internships whether it's through work, study or classes right so that I think is something that you know we have to broadly talk about with our with our labor market and it's hard to do because it's it's very hard to you know acknowledge that, I mean.

Mary Gatta: And, and even just like unpack it to say you know the.

Mary Gatta: Black oh gladwell wrote about the blink moment right where.

Mary Gatta: People make a decision in like three or four seconds about about a perspective person well that's all within implicit bias right wrapped up, so how, how do we begin to break that process is something larger that I think we should be talking about more yeah.

Ed Snajdr: And you guys definitely give a lot of food for thought, you know throughout the book and I was just wondering about your last paragraph, you know as residents of Brooklyn and gentrifiers of Brooklyn as well.

Ed Snajdr: The last part about how you know the big hope is that Asbury doesn't become just to Brooklyn by the sea, I guess, and so I wonder, you know if you want to talk a little bit about you know your your visions or your your informant's visions for how you can avoid.

Ed Snajdr: You know that train that it does does seem to be coming at us in the neoliberal.

Ed Snajdr: world.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): yeah well well gee to our local Brooklynites here we're back that ending of the book and I appreciate, also the like the thinking about our own role in all of this as well.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): As someone who studied another gentrified community in which I lived.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): But I do think this is something obviously was sort of a brooklyn was used in like by people in our research is sort of a stereotype of a place that's like gentrification gone wild right.

We also heard about the Krishna owned Pier village in long branch New Jersey nearby asbury we heard about hoboken New Jersey, we talked about in the book about the meatpacking district, and you know Castro and traditionally.

gay neighborhoods and beach neighborhoods that have also experienced this sort of wave of gentrification.

And you know I certainly don't think asbury right now is is brooklyn heights you know that's been examined as a super gentrified community.

But when I was looking at your book that explores brooklyn you know in like what 15 plus you know beginning and, like the early 2000s, it was really feeling, it was really resonating with me in our work in asbury park and sort of where as very is right now.

And I think our hope is that we have now seen this, we have no studied this so much that can can a city with the best of intentions, from many people.

You know, stand up to those powerful forces of capitalism and development and really.

creatively think about the future and I I can't say that I feel more positive in this moment, since we finished our book.

With everything that's happened because the problems that we we discussed in our book of only amplified for small business owners.

for local westside residents, the problems have, of course, the deep deep and equity is around healthcare and education and the funding of education.
Molly Makris (she, her, hers): are much worse than they were when we were finishing our work, so you know I guess Our fear is that in moments like this, you know shock doctrine can prevail and.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): There can be a real reliance on big developers or large chains are places that have the capital to make it through these moments, so a place like asbury is is going to really need to be dedicated to the long term vision.

Molly Makris (she, her, hers): To be able to avoid the fate, you know to be able to avoid being another brooklyn on the beach, which I think is our last fine.

Mary Gatta: yeah and I would agree, I mean, I think you know now more than ever in a coven world that.

Mary Gatta: You know where so many of the businesses that you know, are in asbury really have come through a very difficult difficult year in New Jersey dining.

Mary Gatta: Well, obviously we have the lockdowns and then indoor dining all summer was at 25% so one rainy weekend right so you're taking already a short season and then you're cutting back on the.

Mary Gatta: amount of business, they can have, and then the weather, which no one can control right one rainy weekend just is there's no options right you can't outdoor dying, you know, in a thunder and lightning storm, so I think that um you know what we see in terms of.

Mary Gatta: Going forward from when we ended the book right before coven before we even knew coven was the thing to now where we have you know seen businesses really struggling we have you know just amplify the racial inequities in terms of health care in terms of.

Mary Gatta: economic insecurity education um we're asbury in places like it will be going, I think, is really important, more important than ever, and I think it also points to we can't go back to sort of the same solutions, we always talk about.

Mary Gatta: around these issues like my hope is, I think that this can be a real moment of change that we can you know we have gone through you know, a history as you've talked as you talk about.

Mary Gatta: And we've gotten to this point and then this past year we've added on the global pandemic, in addition to
you know, a really an you know clear calls for Racial justice and.

Mary Gatta: And also, you know, we also have come through a tumultuous time in this past month right in terms of political unrest right so they're all of these.

Mary Gatta: Larger structural factors well the business owners in asbury are truly just trying to hang on and the workers other residents, the same thing.

Mary Gatta: So I think we have to, or at least broadly the, we have to think beyond our normal or typical kind of policy and.

Mary Gatta: actually talk about where are we today in 2021 and what have we learned coming kind of through this.

Mary Gatta: So even that last paragraph in the book, you know now I mean again we finished us right below the end of 2019.

Mary Gatta: So thinking about where this goes now, I think, is more more important than ever, I mean foreclosures are another thing and evictions, you know that is gonna you know we have to really begin really think differently.

Ed Snajdr: Well, I certainly think that your your work gentrification down the shore is a place to start and certainly you know, gives us that kind of very insightful and detailed experience oriented.

Ed Snajdr: case study of this very particular type of gentrification so it's just been wonderful talking to about about this and.

Ed Snajdr: And I hope I can encourage people more you know get out there and take a look at this book it's it's a great read.

Ed Snajdr: Thank you yeah I feel really fortunate to have been able to read it and to talk to you guys about it and to meet you and i'll certainly be putting it on my syllabus as well, so thank you so much.

Ed Snajdr: For, for you know meeting with us and talking with us and sharing your your really wonderful work with us.
Mary Gatta : Thank you so much for inviting us.

Molly Makris (she,her,hers): Yes, thank you and we definitely learned from looking at your work in advance as well.