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Toward a socioecological model of gentrification: How people, place, and policy shape neighborhood change

Alessandro Rigolon   & Jeremy Németh

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ABSTRACT

Researchers have determined many of the factors that make neighborhoods susceptible to gentrification, but we know less about why some gentrification-susceptible neighborhoods gentrify and others do not. Some studies claim that internal neighborhood features such as historic housing stock are the most powerful determinants of gentrification, whereas other studies argue that a lack of strong affordable housing policies is the primary driver of neighborhood change. In this article, we move beyond a focus on singular determinants to recognize the

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place, and policy layers best predict whether a neighborhood will gentrify.

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Alessandro Rigoion is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Recreation, Sport and Tourism at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. His research centers on environmental justice issues related to urban green space and their impacts on health equity. His current work falls in three areas: policy determinants of inequities in park provision, drivers and resistance to gentrification fostered by new parks (i.e., “green gentrification”), and the public health impacts of urban green space on marginalized communities.

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Jeremy Németh

Jeremy Németh is Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning at the University of Colorado Denver. His research looks at issues of social and environmental justice and the politics of public space. His work can be found at jeremynemeth.com.

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Disclosure statement

No potential conflict of interest was reported by the authors.

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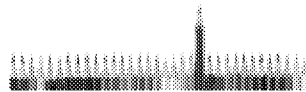
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