

Uncovering the spatial patterns of Portland's gentrification

76

Kelly Howsley

Portland State University, USA

Abstract

Dominant theories of gentrification categorise it as both an economic and social process. The primary emphasis of both social and economic theory is the issue of displacement, and the fear is that gentrification will leave the city unaffordable to low-income households. Little consideration has been given to the possible relationship between gentrification and the urban grid structure. The methods and theory of space syntax were applied to show that natural gentrification is a process that develops according to urban grid conditions. It was intent of the research to help inform social and economic theories, and in doing this, alleviate fears of the negative effects of gentrification.

Keywords

gentrification,
urban, residential,
commercial

76.1

khowsley@aol.com