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'What a marvelous, comprehensive treatment of this evolving, now mainstream, urban process, correctly characterized as neo-colonialism. Provides an international perspective and highlights the key role of the state.'
– Chester Hartman, Director of Research, Poverty & Race Research Action Council, Washington, DC, USA

'The editors have performed a valuable service in bringing together key texts on what is probably the most critical phenomenon in cities around the world today. If you teach upper-level urban geography or urban studies, this is the reader for which you've been waiting. By making these sometimes fugitive texts available under one cover, the editors have saved us a lot of time and increased the likelihood that students will actually read the material!'
– Briavel Holcomb, Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy, Rutgers University, USA

"Gentrification" is shorthand for a process of restructuring cities that has major implications for their future and the welfare of their residents. It has, for that very reason, become a highly controversial subject, slippery and subject to discordant interpretations and responses. This excellent book gets to the heart of the problem, presenting orthodoxies and critiques, empirical and theoretical approaches, and cases from widely differing contexts, providing raw meat for real debates.'
– Peter Marcuse, School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation, Columbia University, USA

Gentrification remains a subject of heated debate in the public realm as well as scholarly and policy circles. This reader brings together the classic writings and contemporary literature that has helped to define the field, changed the direction of how it is studied and illustrated the points of conflict and consensus that are distinctive of gentrification research.

Covering everything from the theories of gentrification through to analysis of state-led policies and community resistance to those polices, this is an unparalleled collection of influential writings on a contentious contemporary issue.

With insightful commentary from the editors, who are themselves internationally renowned experts in the field, this is essential reading for students of urban planning, geography, urban studies, sociology and housing studies.

Loretta Lees is Professor of Human Geography at King's College London, UK.

Tom Slater is Lecturer in Human Geography at the University of Edinburgh, UK.

Elvin Wyly is Associate Professor of Geography at the University of British Columbia, Canada.

URBAN STUDIES/PLANNING

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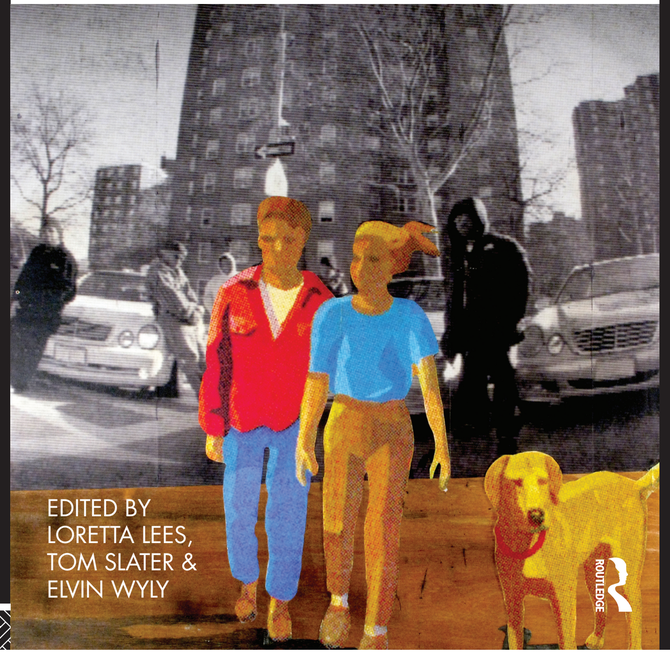
ISBN 978-0-415-54840-3
9 780415 548403
Routledge
Taylor & Francis Group
www.routledge.com

THE GENTRIFICATION READER

EDITED BY LORETTA LEES, TOM SLATER & ELVIN WYLY

ROUTLEDGE

THE GENTRIFICATION READER



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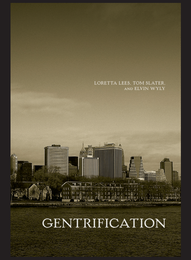

The partner text to this reader is *Gentrification*, also by Loretta Lees, Tom Slater and Elvin Wyly.

The gentrification of urban areas has accelerated across the globe to become a central force in urban development, and it is a topic that has attracted a great deal of interest in both the academy and the popular press. *Gentrification* is the first comprehensive text written on the subject. International in scope, interdisciplinary in approach, and featuring a wealth of case studies, the book demonstrates how gentrification has grown from a small-scale urban process, pioneered by a liberal new middle class, to become a mass-produced 'gentrification blueprint' around the world.

The cover illustration is a collage on wood titled 'Gentrification' by New York City artist Stevenson Estimé. The collage plays off problematic stereotypes of race and class – white yuppies and black gangbangers – but it captures well a number of the contemporary features about 'gentrification', in particular it symbolises the process as 'the new urban colonialism' and the white Anglo appropriation of urban space.