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Integrated Studio 2

Professor Whitfield

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Questions and Brief

The neighborhood I chose is Chelsea. The problem I found in Chelsea is the increase of gentrification in the area over the past 10 years. Most residents in the neighborhood are young, single, and Caucasian. It is said by critics that the gentrification increase was caused by the construction of the High Line, and the tourists it has attracted.

1. Can you describe the stages of gentrification that this area has gone through?
2. What about the High Line contributed to gentrification?
3. Is it just the High Line that contributed to gentrification? Chelsea Market? Small businesses? Galleries?
4. How has gentrification changed your life as a resident in this area?
5. What do you foresee in the neighborhood of Chelsea in 10-20 years?
6. What would improve your life in this community?

Interview Questions:

1. I grew up in this area, I was young but I remember seeing new, trendy and high-end brand stores opening up one after the other. Today, fashion designers like Stella McCartney and Christian Louboutin – to name a few – have stores within this part of the city. There are many more high-end brands that have followed the footprints of others by

opening up stores within this area – which brings a lot of attention. When I was younger, the area was nothing like how it is now. There weren't all of these pricey clothing stores and restaurants like there is now. The area has changed a lot since when I lived there, it used to be nothing special but now everyone is crowding the area to shop and have brunch at Bubby's.

2.The High Line today didn't exist when I was a child living in this area. It's a huge tourist attraction now. The renovation and opening of the High Line has brought so much attention – it still surprises me how much of an impact it's had on changing the neighborhood.

3.I believe the High Line is definitely what kick started the transition of the neighborhood. After the opening of the High Line, that's when people started realizing that this area can be completely transformed – so everyone began moving and opening their stores and businesses of there. High-end fashion stores, art galleries, the Whitney Museum, the new Sugar Factory and residential buildings where a studio costs a quarter of a million dollars – all of these have contributed to the gentrification of the once not so popular area.

4.I moved out of this area around 2010. I hope to move back there when I'm older but the gentrification of this area has raised the prices of the residential buildings – which has affected my family and me when we look for new places to live. It's annoying honestly.

5.Either, the people of New York City will find another place to gentrify so this area goes back to what it used to be like 10 years ago, or it just keeps getting more and more expensive and popular.

6. Less attractions, because that leads to less attention, which leads to less tourists.

The neighborhood in New York that I chose is Chelsea. The problem I found in Chelsea is the increase of gentrification in the area over the past 10 years. Most residents in the neighborhood are young, single, and Caucasian. It is said by critics that the gentrification increase was caused by the construction of the High Line, and the tourists it has attracted. On the other hand, residents don't blame the High Line for Chelsea's gentrification- they blame they high-end brands and galleries that followed when it was realized that Chelsea could completely transform, as shown through the High Line.