

Red, White, and Blue on City Vista:

**Pace of neighborhood change
and residents' willingness to
call the police in response to
street-based sex work**

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Overview

- History of Gentrification & Sex Work in Washington DC
 - Neighborhood Change Scale
 - Modelling of Calls to Police
 - Discussion
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The G-word...

- “Invading the shabby, modest mews [and replacing them] with costly flats or houselets” (Glass, 1964: xviii)
 - “The apparent revitalization of central city private housing markets” (MacDonald, 1986:164).
 - “The displacement of low-income households by high-income households” (Sullivan, 2005:73).
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The G-word...

- “A nuanced phenomenon [that] var[ies] by city, and is partly determined by the city’s predominant development form and the historical levels of African-American populations within them...[M]ost people engaged in any gentrification fail to acknowledge the nuances” (*Business Insider*, 2014).
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Gentrification & sex work

- Closure or dislocation of existing sex markets (both indoors and out)
 - Increased physical and emotional violence against sex workers
 - Changes to policing styles (both positive and negative consequences for sex workers)
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Sex Work in Washington, DC



Sex Work in Washington, DC



- How does neighborhood-level change impact trans street-based sex workers in Washington, DC?
- How do new residents respond to street-based sex workers in Washington, DC?
- How do resident responses vary by neighborhood (and level of gentrification)?

The Current Project

- Sex Worker Portion (2013, 2016)
 - Interviews with 67 street-based sex workers (51 trans or cis-male)
- Police Portion (2016)
 - Interviews with 3 Metropolitan Police Department members
- Resident Portion (2016-2017)
 - Online survey of 136 neighborhood residents
 - 14 intensive follow-up interviews + 3 community-based focus groups

The Current Project

- Neighborhood Change Scale

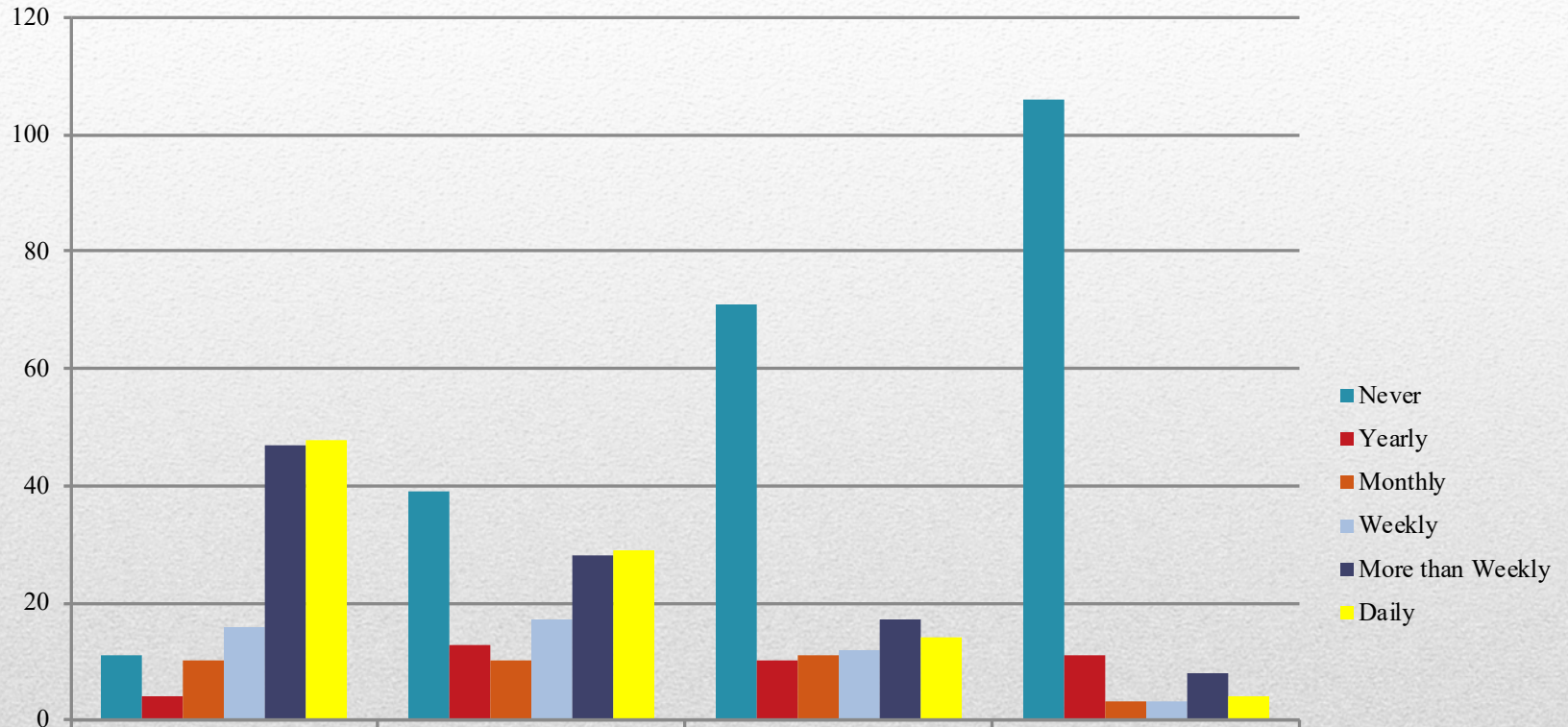
1. % Change in population overall (1990-2010)
2. % Change in Black population (2000-2010)
3. % Change in white population (2000-2010)
4. % Change in teenage mothers (2001-2011)
5. % Change in overall poverty rate (2000-2015)
6. % Change in children in poverty (2000-2015)
7. % Change in person without a high school diploma (2000-2015)
8. % Change in persons on EBT (2005-2015)
9. % Change in neighborhood mobility (1990-2000)
10. % Change in median borrower's income (2001-2006)
11. % Change in average family income (1990-2015)

Neighborhood Change Scale

- Data gathered at the census tract level
- Comparison to overall change for the city within 1-2 standard deviations above or below (-2: Much less neighborhood change than average; 2: Much more neighborhood change than average)
- Overall possible scores ranged from -22 to +22
- Overall scores within sample ranged from -15 to 20 (mean: 9.7)

Neighborhood Change Scale

Residents' Experiences

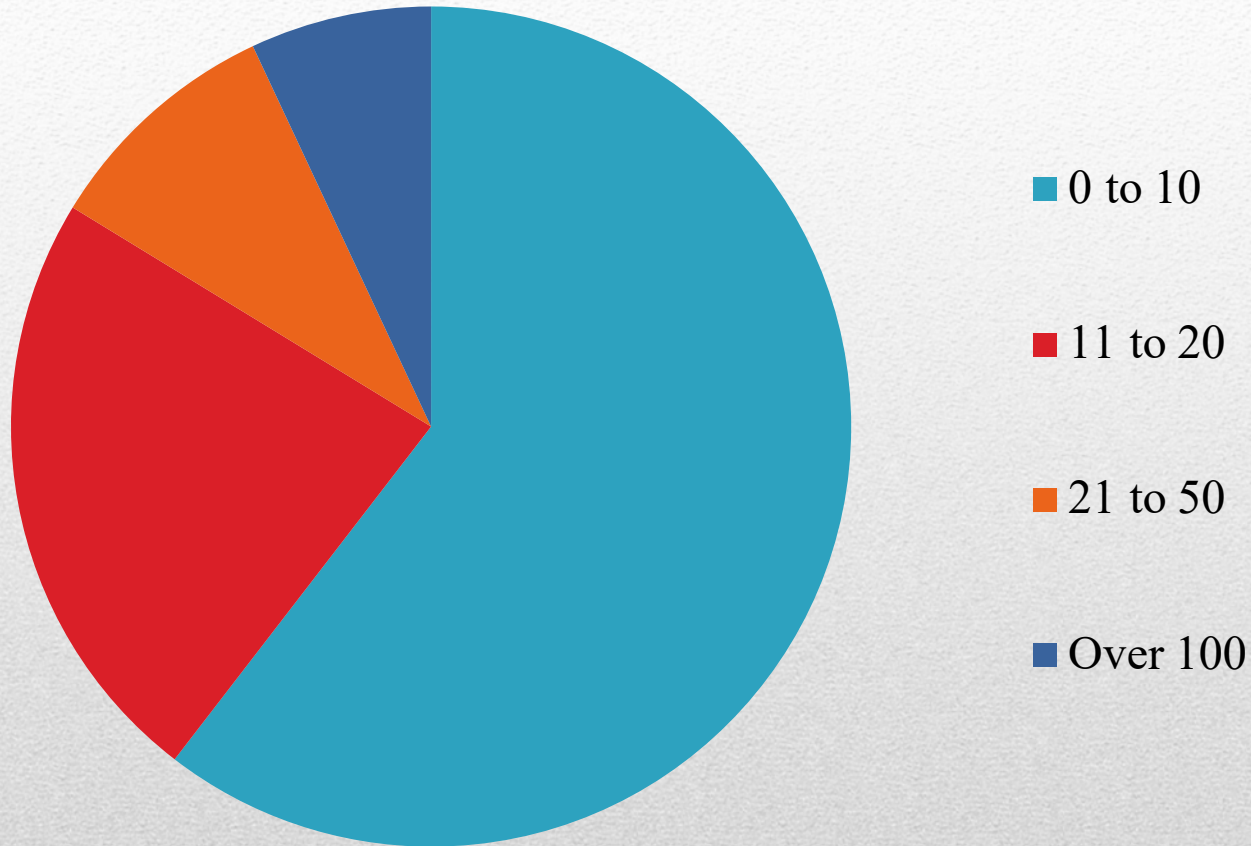


	Sex workers	Clients	Pimps/Managers	Sex worker serving organizations (SWSO)
Never	11	39	71	106
Yearly	4	13	10	11
Monthly	10	10	11	3
Weekly	16	17	12	3
More than Weekly	47	28	17	8
Daily	48	29	14	4

Have you ever called the police about SBSW? (n=103)

Factor	aOR	95% CI	Statistical Significance
Gender	0.80	0.29 – 2.22	NS
Non-white	1.49	0.43 – 5.15	NS
Age (≤ 40 years old)	0.79	0.27 - 2.34	NS
Education (\geq BA)	0.36	0.12 – 1.06	0.065
<i>I see sex workers in my neighborhood on a daily basis</i>	4.45	1.34 – 14.77	0.15
<i>Sex work has a negative impact on the community</i>	13.67	2.40 – 77.77	0.003
<i>Length of time at current address (months)</i>	1.00	1.00 - 1.01	0.069
<i>Neighborhood Change Scale score</i>	1.10	1.04 – 1.17	0.001

How many times have you called the police? (n=43)



More to the story....

Discussion

- Level of neighborhood may be associated with calls to police (but not the likelihood of being a high volume caller)
 - Why are residents calling? (Negative views stronger predictor than frequency)
 - Potential lessons from airport noise complaints
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Questions?

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