Researching Community in the 21ˢᵗ Century: An Annotated Bibliography

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Introduction

This AHRC-funded Connected Communities annotated bibliography includes 100 annotations of works published since 2000 on the theme 'Conceptualisations and meanings of "community": the theory and operationalisation of a contested concept'. There has been much new thinking on the concept of community and many new empirical studies of community, with emerging themes including virtual communities, participatory methods and communities of practice, and key debates around community cohesion, resilient communities and sustainable communities, amongst many others. In this annotated bibliography, we take stock of developments in community research in the 21ˢᵗ century, limiting our selection of work to the period between 2000 and 2011, particularly works in the latter half of this period, in order to provide scope to trace changes and continuities with previous eras of community research. This new body of literature builds on previous surveys of theoretical and empirical developments in community research (cf. Bauman 2001, Crow 2002, Crow and Allan 1994, Hoggett 1997), and the relationship between new and previous community research will be explored in the accompanying research report.

We aimed to be as inclusive and comprehensive as possible in this annotated bibliography, but with hundreds of relevant texts to choose from, we also had to be selective. In choosing texts for inclusion in our list of 100, we outlined several criteria: 1) a wide range of qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods across the sample[1], reflecting diverse and innovative ways of 'operationalising' community; 2) a wide range of disciplines across the arts and humanities and social sciences ; 3) a wide range of substantive themes and ways of conceptualising and theorising 'community', including the work of scholars who reject the term 'community' in favour of related terms such as 'neighbourhood', 'locality', or 'network'; 4) a strong international and comparative dimension, with a number of contributions focusing specifically on the UK (approximately 2/5) but also a range of other

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[1] Most of the studies used a combination of two or more methods, with the following approximate* breakdown of methods covered: 40 interviews, 24 ethnographies (or participant observation), 22 case studies, 23 policy analyses, 15 statistics or surveys, 14 discourse, media or textual analyses, 14 visual methods, 14 historical and archival methods, , 12 participatory methods, 7 focus groups, 6 network analyses, 6 online/virtual, 3 mobile methods, 2 GIS, 1 complexity, 1 ethnology, 1 ethnomethodology. *Given the wide range of methods covered and the different ways that researchers described their methods, more of each of these methods may have been represented across the sample, but this gives a rough idea of the general range and distribution.

countries represented; and 5) a range of types of publication, including monographs, edited books, journal articles, policy reports and PhD theses[2], with a larger number of books than articles because books tend to have more in-depth discussion of research methods. After identifying a long-list of potential items for inclusion in the study, we narrowed down our final 100 works through consulting with an interdisciplinary advisory board of five experts (including academics and policy practitioners), and also through considering references that were recommended by 15 expert interviewees.

Finally, we aimed to explore interconnections and points of contrast across the research by looking at studies which address similar topics through different methods, use similar methods to address different topics, and/or have very different theoretical approaches to similar topics. Throughout the annotated bibliography, we have identified some of these interconnections through the use of an asterisk (*) next to the name of the author(s).

Selected Early References on Community**

(**not included in the annotated bibliography but discussed in the report)

Aldridge, M (1979) *The British New Towns*. London: Routledge and Kegan Paul.
Bauman, Z. (2001) *Community*. Cambridge: Polity Press.
Baumann, G. (1996) *Contesting Culture.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Bell, C. and H. Newby (1971) *Community Studies: An Introduction to the Sociology of the Local Community*. London: Allen & Unwin.
Brunt, L. (2001) 'Into the community' in P Atkinson et al (eds) *Handbook of Ethnography*. London: Sage, pp. 80-91.
Cohen, A. (1985) *The Symbolic Construction of Community*. London and New York: Routledge.
Crow, G. (2002) "Community studies: fifty years of theorization." *Sociological Research Online* **7** (3):http://www.socresonline.org.uk/7/3/crow.html
Crow, G. and G. Allan (1994) *Community Life.* Hemel Hempstead: Harvester Wheatsheaf.
Frankenberg, R. (1969) *Communities in Britain.* Harmondsworth: Penguin.
Hoggett, P. (ed.) (1997) *Contested Communities: Experiences, Struggles, Policies.* Bristol: Policy Press.
Loney, M. (1983) *Community Against Government*. London: Heinemann.
Pierson, J and Smith, J (eds) (2001) *Rebuilding Community*. Basingstoke: Palgrave.
Stacey, M. (1969) "The myth of community studies." *The British Journal of Sociology* **20** (2):134-147.
Wenger, E. (1998) *Communities of Practice.* Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
Williams, R. (1976) *Keywords: a vocabulary of culture and society.* London: Fontana.
Willmott, P. (1986) *Social Networks, Informal Care and Public Policy*. London: Policy Studies Institute.

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[2] We would have liked to include more PhD theses because a great deal of the most interesting empirical work on community is found within in-depth doctoral field studies, but we found that only a limited number of relevant PhD theses were widely accessible in digital format. Two useful databases for locating recent PhD theses are: http://www.theses.com/default.asp and http://ethos.bl.uk/AdvancedSearch.do?new=1.

Researching Community in the 21st Century: An Annotated Bibliography

Al-Ali, N. and K. Koser, Eds. (2002). <u>New approaches to migration? Transnational communities and the transformation of home</u>. London and New York, Routledge.

> This edited book examines transnational perspectives on international migration, focusing in particular on the relationship between 'transnational communities' and home. The book includes empirical research on the impacts of transnationalism in the everyday life of migrants, with ethnographic and comparative historical case studies (including in-depth interviews, observations, mobile methods, and mixed methods) from across Europe, Africa, the Middle East and Asia. Researching transnational communities presents particular methodological challenges of capturing movement, travel, and the complexities of Internet communication including video web chat, social media, emails, and telephone calls. The first part of the book focuses on transnational communities and the meaning of 'home', the second part explores the implications of transforming homes for transnational communities, and the third part analyses transnational communities and the transformation of home. The changing relationship between migrants and their homes and the dynamics of this relationship form the central focus of each of the contributions in this edited volume.

Aldred, R. (2011). "From community participation to organizational therapy? World Café and Appreciative Inquiry as research methods." <u>Community Development Journal</u> **46**(1): 57-71.

> This article critically examines two popular participatory research and policy-making methods within community development, World Cafe (WC) and Appreciative Inquiry (AI). The author argues that both WC and AI offer innovative approaches to research but that they are potentially problematic, with the risk of imposing an interpretation of structural problems as 'misperceptions', a potentially stigmatizing interpretation of 'empowerment' and making questionable assumptions about social change. This article is valuable to read along-side the growing literature which promotes the use of participatory methods of community research.

Amin, A. and J. Roberts, Eds. (2008). <u>Community, economic creativity, and organization</u>. Oxford ; New York, Oxford University Press.

> This edited book debates the role of communities of practice and situated knowledge in driving innovation, competitive advantage, and regional development, primarily within the context of organizational learning. The theoretical and empirical contributions to the book address a range of topics and ideas: the role of

improvisation for situated learning; the call for more focus on the context in which communities are enacted; what type of knowledge can be learned via communities; the distinction between the type of learning that happens within (exploitation) and between (exploration) communities, in conjunction with the role played by cognitive distance and boundary spanners; mini-case studies to illustrate relationships between projects and communities of practice; the idea that communities can be simultaneously enabling and constraining; the primacy of relational proximity over geographic proximity when it comes to social exchanges; and the case of Montreal to illustrate the symbiotic relationship between knowledge-intensive firms and creative cities. Another book which addresses the theme of communities of practice in organization studies and management is Wenger et al*.

Attlee, J. (2007). Isolarion: a different Oxford journey. Chicago, University of Chicago Press. This book is an example of a study of a single street, the Cowley Road. The style is informal and eclectic, drawing on a range of sources and inspirations including conversations, observations, and library and archival sources. The author is not an academic but rather a local resident of the Cowley Road who works in art publishing and took on the project of exploring the Cowley Road in the spirit of a pilgrimage or urban exploration--much in the same style as Ian Sinclair's psychogeographies of London--and the methods are not justified in sociological or anthropological terms, but the author adopts loosely ethnographic methods to explore and interrogate the various shops, churches, organisations, activities, politics and residents along the long and diverse Cowley Road. Each chapter is devoted to a different theme, often centred around a particular shop, event, or 'piece' of the Cowley Road. Although the book is not conventionally academic, the author demonstrates considerable depth of analysis of political and social issues, including ideas of diversity, multiculturalism and ethnic divisions; ideas of belonging and nostalgia for older times; notions of historical layers embedded within the road in terms of collective identity and symbolic meaning; local resistance to neighbourhood re-branding; and the idea of community and locality in a relatively deprived area within the larger context of an old university city. Overall, this is a refreshing in-depth study focused on a single road in Oxford, which serves as the 'boundary' for community but in fact is a very large and diverse spatial 'container' for the study. Two other examples of single road studies, both in London, are Hall* and Miller*.

Bærenholdt, J. O. (2007). Coping with distances: producing Nordic Atlantic societies. Oxford, Berghahn Books.

This book explores how communities are constructed in the remote North Atlantic area despite extreme living conditions which present barriers to the construction of functioning communities. Drawing on actor network theory, qualitative interviews and historical research, Bærenholdt argues that people cope with distances through innovations, networking, and the formation of identities in Northern Norway, Iceland, the Faroes, and Greenland. Bærenholdt argues that people construct their communities through everyday practices of coping, which means neither mastering nor adapting but rather relates to strategies and tactics of making do in situations that are beyond their control. Bærenholdt is reflexive about his position as a white, Danish male geographer, particularly in the context of studying Denmark's former and current 'colonial' peripheries.

Bagaeen, S. and O. Uduku, Eds. (2010). <u>Gated communities: social sustainability in contemporary and historical gated developments</u>. London, Earthscan.

This edited book contests the history and meaning of gated communities and argues for a deeper thinking of gated communities. In the foreword, Saskia Sassen argues that the concept of gated communities has become fixed and narrow, and that it could usefully be extended-- for example, 'the poor also need protected spaces' (p. xii). The book is very diverse both conceptually and empirically, with wide-ranging case studies of gated communities from: the Middle East (Bagaeen), China (Tomba), Nigeria (Uduku), South Africa (Landman), Argentina (Roitman and Giglio), Mexico (Sheinbaum), France (Le Goix and Callen) and New Zealand (Dupuis and Dixon). The chapters demonstrate many diverse forms of 'gating', in terms of different communities, local contexts, social struggles, and political and territorial processes of self-segregation, exclusion and territorialisation. Salcedo and Torres* also challenge dominant negative definitions of gated communities through the counter-example of a more benevolent form of gated community in Santiago.

Bastian, J. A. and B. Alexander, Eds. (2009). <u>Community archives: the shaping memory</u>. London, Facet.

This edited volume includes thirteen essays by a range of authors, including librarians, archivists and lawyers, and each essay presents a case study of from one to three archival repositories, community groups, or documentary projects. The essays include cases in Europe, the Americas, the South Pacific and the Caribbean. The notion of 'community archives' includes both formal and informal institutions; both mainstream (academic archives or local libraries) and grass-roots; and it draws on ideas of community of place, interest and identity. The authors link discourses about the meaning and purpose of archives to the recent literature on memory,

community, identity, accountability, and social justice. Some of the communities represented in this volume include: black culture in London, the West Yorkshire area of England, the native Noongar Claim region of Western Australia, American medical students, the Mississippi Band of Choctaw Indians, the people of St. Kitts, Canadian lesbians and gays, Bosnian refugees, former leprosy patients on a Philippine island, and Grateful Dead fans. This book critically explores the complex relationship between archives, community and memory.

Block, P. (2008). <u>Community: the structure of belonging</u>. San Francisco, Berrett-Koehler Publishers.

> This book sets out an approach to community development and transformation that is based on the 'experience' of community rather than formal structures or top-down policy ideals. Block argues in favour of a practical approach to community development that encourages a shift from isolation and self-interest to experiences of connectedness, belonging, caring and listening. The book draws on several key authors' ideas of large group methodologies of community participation, engagement and development. In particular, Block stresses the importance of creating conversations in small group settings, where a sense of intimacy is fostered, and genuine dialogue can flow through engaging in the 'right' questions, such as 'What's the commitment you hold that brought you into this room? The book argues that an authentic sense of belonging, connectedness and community comes from within community experience, dialogue and engagement.

Blokland, T. (2003). <u>Urban bonds: social relationships in an inner city neighbourhood</u>. Cambridge, UK, Polity.

> This is an ethnographic study of the changing nature of social relationships and urban communities, focusing on a poor multi-ethnic neighbourhood in Rotterdam. The author examines the role of the neighbourhood in our understanding of community and how this has changed over the last century. Drawing on a range of theoretical perspectives and including rich ethnographic as well as historical research, she offers a multidimensional analysis of relations between neighbours, arguing that neighbour relations include a cross-section of social relations, including bonds, transactions, interdependencies and attachments.

Blokland, T. and M. Savage, Eds. (2008). <u>Networked urbanism: social capital in the city</u>. Aldershot, Ashgate.

> This edited book aims to provide a critical geographical and sociological account of social capital, demonstrating how new kinds of 'networked urbanism' have

generated new forms of exclusionary social capital, in contrast with community networks that existed in the past. A range of methods are used throughout the collection, including social network analysis, qualitative interviews, mixed methods and case studies, amongst other approaches. Leading urban researchers from the Netherlands, the UK, the USA, Australia, Italy and France explore the nature of social networks from a range of theoretical perspectives on social capital. The book also provides several detailed empirical case studies (cf. Haynes and Hernandez-Chapter 4, Blokland- Chapter 8, and Butler -Chapter 11), as well as a specific chapter on the possibilities of social network analysis as a method (Savage and Warde- Chapter 9).

Boellstorff, T. (2008). <u>Coming of age in Second Life: an anthropologist explores the virtually human</u>. Princeton, Princeton University Press.

    This book is based on an in-depth ethnographic field study of Second Life, a virtual world that is owned and managed by the company Linden Lab. The anthropologist Tom Boellstorff conducted research for more than two years in Second Life using the avatar 'Tom Bukowski', employing traditional methods of anthropology-- including participant observation and interviews-- to study the virtual world through his virtual home and office 'Ethnographia'. He describes in rich detail the various dimensions of life in the Second Life, including virtual jargon, money and economic life, friendship, identity, gender, race, sex, conflict, the individual and society. He argues that people are virtually human, in the sense that humans in virtual worlds are real and that human experience is always mediated by culture and thus 'virtual', but also in the sense that in the virtual world, humans are 'almost' human: 'our humanity is thrown off balance, considered anew, and reconfigured through transformed possibilities for place-making.' (p. 5) This book reads well in conjunction with other studies of virtual communities, including Kendall*and Rheingold*.

Brent, J. (2009). <u>Searching for community: representation, power and action on an urban estate</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

    This monograph investigates Southmead, a deprived estate in Bristol, and is based on a doctoral thesis by Jeremy Brent (published posthumously), with an introduction by Richard Johnson. Brent draws on 30 years of experience as a youth worker in Southmead combining these insights with media analysis, interviews, and wider academic arguments about community, deprivation and youth work. He critically examines the concept of community as a collective identity, exploring tensions between insider and outsider accounts. Brent is critical of standpoint theory, arguing that subordinate groups and their points of view do not always produce better actions or truer insights, but also criticizes external stigmatized representations of

the state. He contrasts negative official and media representations of deprived communities from 'outsider' perspectives with insider perspectives of community plays and radio, and he reflects on own his role as an 'outsider within' through his work as a public servant in the area. The research is critical of short-term solutions to youth 'problems' which are the product of long-term social problems such as inadequate housing and a lack of amenities.

Brill, L., B. Athwal, et al. (2011). Recession, poverty and sustainable livelihoods in Bradford. York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

> Based on an eight-month qualitative study of the impact of the recession on people living in poverty in Bradford, this research policy report suggests that Bradford has been hit particularly hard by the recession and identifies policy changes that could help to make the community more resilient. The research team worked in partnership with community researchers who had local contacts and direct experience of poverty, carrying out 39 interviews with people living on low incomes in four disadvantaged neighbourhoods, 14 interviews with policy-makers and service providers, and participatory research to verify initial findings and to identify potential policy changes. The report identified ill health (particularly mental health), the experience of trauma, inadequate incomes, widespread crime and anti-social behaviour as barriers for local residents to moving out of poverty, which were compounded by the experience of recession (associated with job losses and cuts and rising food and fuel costs). The report highlights the importance of an integrated and holistic approach to social policy and warns of the dangers of reforms proposed by the current UK government that could trap people in situations of 'in-work poverty'.

Brown, D., L. (2011). Rural people and communities in the 21st Century: resilience and transformation. Cambridge, Polity Press.

> This book argues that despite overwhelming urbanization in the twenty-first century, rural communities have proven resilient in the face of significant social and economic changes, and that rural people and places matter in contemporary society. The book focuses primarily on the US context but also includes some international comparisons, and draws on the methods of political economy, demographic statistics, and case studies to explore various social and economic dimensions of rural communities and life. The book is organised into five thematic sections, including: 1) thinking about rural places in metropolitan society; 2) rural communities, institutions and environments; 3) rural populations; 4) rural economy and socioeconomic well-being; 5) conclusions: rural transformations and policies for the future.

Butcher, H., S. Banks, et al. (2007). <u>Critical community practice</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This book advances 'critical community practice' (CCP) as an alternative theoretical framework to community development. In the introductory chapter, Butcher lays out the conceptual foundation for CCP, emphasising the importance of power and engagement. In chapter three, Butcher then explores the significant of power through several case studies including: neighborhood governance in Chicago; youth councils in Espoo and Lambeth; cooperative community enterprise in Leicester and Minster; and local participatory budgeting in Port Alegre and Salford/Harrow. On the basis of the theoretical framework combined with these case studies, in chapter four Butcher outlines a model for CCP which comprises four interrelated aspects: critical consciousness, critical theorizing, critical action, and critical reflection. In the second half of the book (chapters 5-9) different authors apply Butcher's CCP model to a range of community, practice, organizational, and policy contexts.

Butler, T. and C. Hamnett (2011). <u>Ethnicity, class and aspiration: understanding London's new East End</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This book examines the dramatic social changes that have taken place in East London over the last 30 years, including deindustrialisation, the subsequent growth of both upper and middle classes, and an increase in international immigration in the area. The book focuses in particular on how these changes have influenced the social, residential and educational aspirations of minority ethnic populations. The aim of the study was to locate the case study in a wider context of education, aspiration, and the changing ethnic and class structure in most major British cities. The research findings were the result of detailed survey and in-depth interview work in East London, with a focus on five areas in East London to capture a mixture of class and ethnic backgrounds, differences in educational provision, and a range of different places that had been undergoing social class and ethnic change: Victoria Park, East Ham, Leyton, Central Redbridge and Barkingside. The selection of the different areas was based on secondary analysis of census and other data.

Byrne, D. S. (2001). <u>Understanding the urban</u>. Basingstoke [England] ; New York, Palgrave.

> This interdisciplinary book is about 'understanding the urban' in the context of a post-industrial and globalising world. The research draws on complexity theory and mixed methods, including analyses of novels, travel writing, film/TV, and online 'virtual footprints' of cities. Several interrelated themes of the urban are explored, including the restructuring of urban employment, the transformation of 'culture' in cities, locality and community, cities in a world system, the production and

reproduction of the built environment, and urban politics and governance. Chapter three is the most relevant chapter in terms of theorising and operationalising 'community', entitled: 'Locality and community: the significance of place'. In this chapter, Byrne explores community as networks and as locality, using the case example of Katowice/ Upper Silesia in Poland as an example of locality and community in the context of restructuring.

Capp, B. (2003). <u>When Gossips Meet: Women, Family, and Neighbourhood in Early Modern England.</u> Oxford: Oxford University Press.

> This book presents the findings of archival research focused on the period from the mid-16th century to the early 18th century. It draws on sources from a range of archives from both urban and rural communities, and seeks to give voice to ordinary women for whom historical records are much sparser than they are for members of the elite. Chapter 7 is particularly concerned with community matters, using diverse material from cases of slander that were brought to court to poems from the period that cast doubt on the probity of some aspect of community members' behaviour (often sexual). The argument is made that gossip could break the reputations not only of individuals but of whole streets, parishes, or towns, and this is why slanders were so vigorously contested. Other aspects of gossip performed more innocent functions of information exchange and support in ways that resemble modern debates about social capital. Gossip could also have the effect of reinforcing particular codes of appropriate behaviour, and Laurier, Whyte et al's * study can be regarded as a modern-day equivalent of the point being made about how community morality is reproduced through everyday talk. This book is also interesting to read in conjunction with Tarbin's* book on women, identities and communities in early modern Europe.

Chamlee-Wright, E. and V. H. Storr, Eds. (2010). <u>The political economy of Hurricane Katrina and community rebound</u>. New thinking in political economy. Cheltenham, UK, Edward Elgar.

> Focusing on the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina in 2005, this edited volume critically examines public policies which led to both successes and failures in post-Katrina disaster response and long-term community recovery. Drawing on both quantitative and qualitative analysis, and theoretically informed by the Virginia School of Political Economy, the contributors to this book seek to understand the community recovery process through analysing on-the-ground perspectives of first-responders, residents, business owners, musicians, teachers, school administrators, and other ordinary citizens. The authors explore the problems of social coordination presented by

disasters, and both the positive potential and the limitations of public policy in overcoming the difficult challenges of disaster response and recovery.

Chandra, A., J. Acosta, et al. (2011). Building community resilience to disasters: a way forward to enhance national health security. <u>Technical Reports</u>. Santa Monica, CA, RAND**:** xxiii, 78 p.

> This report focuses on the importance of building community resilience for national health security in the US context. While recognising the need for local planning teams to define community 'boundaries' and the wide range of meanings of 'community', the term 'community' is used primarily to describe a geographical catchment area of the local health department. The research findings are based on a substantive literature review, six stakeholder focus groups across the United States, and three meetings with relevant subject matter experts (SMEs). The definition and application of community resilience is outlined as comprising: wellness and population health, public education (about disaster preparedness, risks and resources), engagement (participatory decision-making in planning, response and recovery activities), self-sufficiency, partnership (between government and other organisations), quality (to monitor and evaluate progress in building community resilience), and efficiency (of use of existing community resources).

Charles, N., C. A. Davies, et al. (2008). <u>Families in transition: social change, family formation, and kin relationships</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This book is a community re-study which captures longitudinal social change within a particular locality, Swansea, over the past fifty years. The original study was carried out in the 1960s, and the follow-up study in the early 21st century, examining how family lives have changed in the context of social, economic and cultural changes over the past half century. The book is ambitious in its methods, taking a mixed method approach that echoes the original study, involving a 1000 household survey as well as ethnographic research in four localities. The research findings suggest that despite social, economic and cultural changes, these changes have not significantly transformed family relations in terms of greater equality or weaker kinship ties. The book explores various dimensions of family life, including younger and older generations, family networks across different households, and the relationship between geographical mobility and kinship ties. The book also raises an interesting methodological question about researching families and communities because of gender differences in responses, with more women than men who were open to talking about family and community. Other books which offer related insights on

changes in family life within communities are Phillipson et al* and Mumford and Power*, and another interesting community re-study is Lassiter et al*.

Christensen, P. M. and M. O'Brien (2003). <u>Children in the city: home, neighbourhood and community</u>. London and New York, Routledge.

> This edited volume explores children's lives in modern cities, which are viewed as important social, cultural and material places for children. In particular, the book focuses on the quality of life for children in cities, exploring the connections and boundaries between home, neighbourhood, community and city. The book uses a wide range of methods including interviews, focus groups, participant observation, narrative life stories, visual methods and surveys, and stresses the importance of engaging with children's perspectives on their cities. The research is interdisciplinary and international, with contributions from childhood experts in Europe, Australia and America. In addition to qualitative perspectives from both children and adults of various dimensions of urban and community life, the book discusses issues such as urban policy, planning and design to improve the quality of city life for children.

Clements, D., A. Donald, et al., Eds. (2008). <u>The future of community: reports of a death greatly exaggerated</u>. London, Pluto Press.

> This edited book of short essays explores recent debates about the future of community in the UK, drawing primarily on UK examples but also including international examples from Ireland and America. The short essays are critical of official government discourses and policies which use the 'idea of community', arguing that these ideas of community are conservative, top-down, and lacking in real community engagement. The essays draw on a range of academic and media sources, with the primary method being non-academic (at times polemical) forms of media and discourse analysis. The essays address a wide range of themes, including government attempts at engaging with communities to 'fake civil society' (Clements), green communities, public space and community, working class and minority communities, virtual communities, migrant communities, youth communities and crime, and religious communities, amongst other topics. The subtitle 'reports of a death greatly exaggerated', a reference to the famous line by Mark Twain, refers to the 'hysteria' around the perceived decline of community within UK government and media circles, whereas 'real' communities of the 21st century continue to exist in myriad and vibrant (albeit often contested) ways.

Cole, I., E. Batty, et al. (2011). Low-income neighbourhoods in Britain: the gap between policy ideas and residents' realities. York, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

This JRF report is based on the findings of a four-year qualitative research study which examines the relationship between 'poverty' and 'place' in six low-income areas in the UK (Amlwch in Wales; West Kensington in London; Oxgangs near Edinburgh, Scotland; West Marsh near Grimsby; Wensley near Blackburn, Lancashire; and Hillside in Merseyside). The report explores the influence of 'place' in people's perceptions, actions and decisions, drawing on interviews with residents to explain different patterns of neighbourhood change. The report found that people's sense of belonging with particular communities was strongest in the most economically disadvantaged areas, where residents relied heavily on social and family networks for support. The report argues that radical thinking about the fate of areas with long-term deprivation and poverty is required, for deprived communities cannot rely only on their own resources to produce change because they are disadvantaged by weaker housing and labour markets.

Cooper, C. (2008). <u>Community, conflict and the state: rethinking notions of 'safety', 'cohesion' and 'wellbeing'</u>. Basingstoke and New York, Palgrave Macmillan.

This book is concerned with examining how dominant notions of social wellbeing, community safety and cohesion have shaped and are shaping social policy developments. The book explores how community as a contested concept has been operationalised by both the powerful, 'to maintain the existing distribution of privilege and social wellbeing in society', and the disadvantaged, 'to challenge the existing institutional arrangements for distributing privilege and social wellbeing.' (p. 4) The research is based primarily on social policy analysis, also drawing on the author's lifetime personal experience working in English social welfare, first as a housing practitioner in the 1970s and later in higher education. The book argues that a society which prioritises economic competitiveness in the global market over other goals such as greater social solidarity and more participatory policies is unlikely to achieve-- and in fact has caused the decline in-- social wellbeing, community safety and cohesion.

Corcoran, M. P., J. Gray, et al. (2010). <u>Suburban affiliations: social relations in the greater Dublin area</u>. Syracuse, N.Y., Syracuse University Press.

This book explores suburban life, change and affiliations through a detailed study of four suburbs of Dublin. Using mixed qualitative and quantitative case study methods (combining in-depth interviews, observations, visual methods and surveys), the authors explore the impact of recent suburban developments which grew up around Dublin during the boom years of the mid-1990s. The authors locate the Irish suburb within the wider context of debates and empirical studies of suburbs in the United

States, Britain and Europe. The book challenges negative stereotypes about social life in the suburbs, which tend to portray suburbia as homogeneous, superficial and disconnected. Rather, the authors argue that suburbs represent 'arenas of affiliations' where residents are connected with the people and places in their communities in ways which are 'neither entirely superficial nor deeply intimate'. The authors suggest that 'affiliation' is a better model for understanding connectedness and embeddedness within suburbs, rather than the overused concept of social capital. Another study which challenges negative images of neighbourly relations in suburbia is Laurier et al*'s article on 'neighbouring as an occasioned activity'.

Craig, G., M. Mayo, et al., Eds. (2011). <u>The community development reader: history, themes and issues</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

> The community development reader provides an historical overview of community development in the UK dating from the 1950s, with contributors from community development, social work, education and a range of related disciplines. Part one introduces community development in the UK, part two ('in and against the state') focuses on the period between the 1950s and 1970s, part three ('in and against the market') focuses on the period between the mid 1970s and the early 1990s, and part four ('between the state and the market') focuses on the period between the mid-1990s and the 2000s. A range of different methods are used, including community development as a method of social work, participatory methods, policy analysis, interviews, feminist methods and narrative analysis. In addition to tracing the history of community development in the UK, a number of substantive themes and issues of community development are explored, including working with community groups, community participation, poverty programmes, local planning, community action, the response of community work to racism, equality, education, feminist principles and organising in community work, active citizenship, multiculturalism and community cohesion, disability narratives, global citizen action, health inequalities, the politics of community development, and radical approaches to community development.

Crow, G., G. Allan, et al. (2002). "Neither busybodies nor bodies: managing proximity and distance in neighbourly relations." <u>Sociology</u> **36**(1): 127-145.

> This article examines community through the lens of neighbourly relations in a small town on the south coast of England in the late 1990s.The research findings are based on semi-structured interviews on neighbour relations with residents in a seaside town of 6000 people on the Isle of Wight. The article argues that neighbouring relationships involve a skilful balance between 'keeping one's distance' and 'being

there when needed', with little evidence of stereotypical neighbourly behaviour of either extreme of nosy neighbours or recluses. The article contributes to understanding community and neighbour relations as going beyond the busybody/nobody dichotomy, particularly in the context of complex community relations within a 'globalised' world where local ties still matter.

Day, G. (2006). <u>Community and everyday life</u>. New York, Routledge.

This book explores community both as a theoretical concept, and empirically through a range of international examples. A range of debates on the idea of community in politics, philosophy and policy are explored throughout the book. The author refers to the 'community study method' as a primary method for researching communities involving a range of special methods and techniques, including mixed qualitative and quantitative methods, ethnography and participant observation and the case study. His main methods are theoretical, drawing on empirical examples from other studies to develop his argument. Some of his international examples include the experiences of dislocation of residents in New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina in 2005, and the experiences of North and Central African immigrants who rioted in the streets of Paris in 2005. He raises questions about belonging, social inclusion and exclusion in community life, and explores particular communities such as the working class community, urban and rural communities, and virtual communities.

Delanty, G. (2010). <u>Community</u>. London and New York, Routledge.

This book explores the idea of community, tracing the origins of the idea within Western Utopian thought. He argues that the idea of community within modernity is linked to ideas of loss, recovery, and tradition. He discusses several different types of communities including: the urban community based on locality and belonging; political community based on communitarianism and citizenship; community and difference linked to varieties of multiculturalism; communities of dissent based on the idea of communication communities; the postmodern community based on the idea of the community beyond unity, the cosmopolitan community which is between the local and the global, and the virtual community which is based on belonging as communication. He concludes that contemporary community is a form of communication community that is based on new kinds of belonging which are no longer bounded by place but can include multiple communities based on religion, nationalism, ethnicity, lifestyles and gender.

Dench, G., K. Gavron, et al. (2006). <u>The New East End: kinship, race and conflict</u>. London, Profile Books.

> The New East End is a repeat study of the famous Bethnal Green study 'Family and Kinship in East London' (Young and Willmott, 1957), involving one of the same original authors (Michael Young) as well as two other researchers. Following the methods of the original Bethnal Green study, this repeat study uses a range of mixed methods including a randomised sample survey, in-depth qualitative interviews, policy analysis, visual methods, and secondary analysis of reports and documents. The original study set out to explore the impacts of housing relocation from the East End residential inner city community of Bethnal Green to the outer estates of London, but ended up focusing primarily on the importance of strong kinship relations within the white working class community, based on extended families living in close proximity to one another, seeing one another regularly, and held together by strong mothers. By contrast, this follow-up study of the New East End focuses on the impacts of post-war destruction, the migration of Bangladeshi families to the East End, and current conflicts over housing, benefits and services between Bangladeshi families and 'traditional' white working class families. The authors argue that these conflicts have been exacerbated by the influx of students and middle classes to the area, and challenges liberal debates which tend to portray the white working class as racist, rather than understanding the complex social, economic and historical factors shaping white working class perspectives. One of the most controversial claims of this study was that white perceptions of disadvantage in relation to public housing allocation had some basis in fact, which poses an interesting methodological and epistemological issue about the role of perceptions in social research. Another book which explores neighbourhood relations in the End End of London during a similar time period, using similar methods but with different perspectives and conclusions, is Mumford and Power*'s East Enders: Family and Community in East London.

Dicks, B. (2000). <u>Heritage, place, and community</u>. Cardiff, University of Wales Press.

> This book explores the relationship between heritage, place identity and community through the case study of the Rhondda Heritage Park, the only colliery building left in a Welsh valley that once had sixty-six deep mines. The research is based on qualitative interviews, focus groups and audio-visual analysis, and uses narrative and discourse analysis to interpret the qualitative findings. This book examines contradictions in the concept and practice of heritage as a culture-led regeneration strategy through a study of the Rhondda Heritage Park, the only significant public

memorial to the history of mining in the Rhondda community. The main aim of the book is to analyse heritage as a political, social and economic resource, as cultural representation, and as a framework for people's historical understanding and memory.

Dorling, D. and B. Thomas (2011). <u>Bankrupt Britain: an atlas of social change</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

Bankrupt Britain is an atlas of the social, economic and environmental impacts of the recession on Britain, with 50 detailed colour maps (cartograms rather than standard maps) showing how different areas have been affected by the 2007 banking crisis, the 2008 economic crash and the 2009 credit crunch. The book is divided into six chapters which each focus on different problem areas for Britain, including: Financially Bankrupt; Residentially Bankrupt; Politically Bankrupt; Morally Bankrupt; Emotionally Bankrupt; and Environmentally Bankrupt. The research for the book is based on population statistics, and the empirical data as well as additional material for the book are available on the companion website to the book: http://www.sasi.group.shef.ac.uk/bankruptbritain/

Esposito, R. (2009). <u>Communitas: the origin and destiny of community</u>. Stanford, Calif., Stanford University Press.

Communitas was originally published in Italian in 1998 by Roberto Esposito under the title Communitas: origine e destino della comunità and translated into English for this edition by Timothy Campbell. The book examines the idea of community from the perspectives of political philosophy, cultural memory, and history, using the methods of philosophical and textual analysis. He organizes his philosophical argument into five thematic chapters: fear, guilt, law, ecstasy and experience, proposing throughout the book a counter-history of political philosophy that engages with readings of community by Hobbes, Rousseau, Kant, Heidegger, Bataille, Hölderlin, Nietzsche, Canetti, Arendt, and Sartre. He argues-- in a somewhat similar vein to Jean-Luc Nancy who wrote the Inoperative Community-- that community is not an essentialised separate property or territory, but rather it is a 'void', a 'debt', or a 'gift' to others.

Etzioni, A., D. Volmert, et al. (2004). <u>The communitarian reader: beyond the essentials</u>. Lanham, Md., Rowman & Littlefield Publishers.

The Communitarian Reader is a collection of essays by social thinkers on a wide range of Communitarian themes and ideas, including fighting crime in the inner city, peer marriage, civil society, socioeconomic inequality, the relationship between

norms and laws, the role of civil liberties after September 11, diversity, immigrants and minorities, and surveillance. The contributors draw primarily on secondary methods of analysis of surveys, media, policy/politics and social theory. This book follows on from The Essential Communitarian Reader (1998) to further develop ideas of Communitarianism as an academic discipline, a public philosophy and a social movement in the post 9/11 context.

Finney, N. and L. Simpson (2009). 'Sleepwalking to segregation'?: challenging myths about race and migration. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This book challenges the argument that Britain is 'sleepwalking to segregation', examining recent debates about community cohesion, and arguing that many contemporary claims about race and migration are myths. Specifically, the book highlights the following as myths of race and migration: that 'Britain takes too many immigrants'; that 'so many minorities cannot be integrated'; that 'minorities do not want to integrate', that 'Britain is becoming a country of ghettos', and the myth of 'minority white cities', showing how the myths were constructed and do not stand up to empirical evidence. The methods that the authors use include policy analysis and critical analysis of statistics, media and government discourse. The authors argue that the myths of race and migration are the real threat to an integrated society, rather than diversity and mobility which are expected and benign. The book argues that instead of dwelling on myths about race and migration, policy should open up debates to new policy frameworks which address meeting human rights and meeting basic needs, focusing on problems of inequality, living standards, and perceptions of inequality.

Flint, J. and D. Robinson, Eds. (2008). Community cohesion in crisis: new dimensions of diversity and difference. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This edited book aims to explore the policy agenda that seeks to address social problems through the idea of 'community' and 'community cohesion'. The book provides a critical overview of debates on community cohesion, seeking to connect the rationales and policy developments of the community cohesion agenda with the changing lived realities of neighbourhood and communities dynamics of diversity and cohesion. To provide a specific neighbourhood dimension within the new politics of community, and to counter the lack of evidence upon which debates about cohesion are often based, this book presents new empirical research based on case studies (including Bradford, Birmingham, Oldham, Rochdale, Glasgow, Edinburgh, a historical estate in Sheffield, faith organisations and community cohesion, deprived neighbourhoods, gated communities, housing and labour

markets, and other examples). The authors use mixed qualitative and quantitative case studies methods as well as policy analysis in their studies. The contributions are highly interdisciplinary, drawn from geography, housing studies, legal studies, political economy, political science, sociology, social policy, public theology and urban studies.

Forrest, R. and A. Kearns (2001). "Social cohesion, social capital and the neighbourhood." Urban Studies **38**(12): 2125–2143.

> This article argues that the 'neighbourhood' has emerged within policy debates about social cohesion, with a renewed interest in local social relations and the development of social capital. This article is part of a special issue on the importance of 'neighbourhood' in the journal Urban Studies in 2001, Vol 38(2), with another interesting contribution from Richard Meegan and Alison Mitchell entitled 'It's Not Community Round Here, It's Neighbourhood' : Neighbourhood Change and Cohesion in Urban Regeneration Policies. This analysis is also interesting set in the context of a wider time-scale, as it was written in 2001 but has strong parallels with more recent debates ten years later about community cohesion and social capital. The paper first defines the ideas of social cohesion and social capital, situating them within key debates and literature, and then shows how they can be operationalised for research purposes, outlining the domains of social capital (empowerment, participation, associational activity and common purpose, supporting networks and reciprocity, collective norms and values, trust, safety and belonging), their descriptions, and appropriate neighbourhood policies to support them (such as, in the case of belonging, boosting the identity of a place via design, street furnishings, naming).

Ghose, R. (2007). "Politics of scale and networks of association in public participation GIS." Environment and Planning A **39**(8): 1961-1980.

> This article explores an interesting participatory method for researching communities: the public participation geographic information systems (PPGIS) research agenda, which explores the issue of equitable access and use of geographic information systems (GIS) and spatial data among traditionally marginalized citizens, in order to facilitate effective citizen participation in inner-city revitalization activities. The author responds to criticisms that PPGIS is a complex process with uneven outcomes by developing a new theoretical framework based on the literature on the politics of scale and networks, with the aim of contributing to greater theorization and understanding of the uneven and contradictory nature of PPGIS processes. The author shows how the PPGIS process occurs in 'spaces of

dependence' and 'spaces of engagement', where networks of association evolve to connect actors with community organizations, but that these networks can contain structural inequities, hierarchical dominance, and fluctuating resources. This means that in practice, some community organizations lag behind, unable to form the relationships that would enable them to gain effective community participation. This article, read alongside that by Aldred* which criticises participatory community research methods World Cafe and Appreciative Inquiry, highlights some of the limitations of participatory methods, in this case from the point of view of uneven geography and inequalities between community organizations within urban space.

Gilchrist, A. (2009). <u>The well-connected community: a networking approach to community development, 2nd ed.</u> Bristol, Policy Press.

> The 'well-connected community' demonstrates how informal and formal networks strengthen communities and improve partnership working. The research methods for this book include interviews, reflective practice, practitioners' workshops and numerous informal conversations. The book explores the relationship between networks and community development, particularly in the UK context but also drawing on some international examples, arguing that networking is about community, exchange, risk management and solidarity, and showing how networking benefits communities and those who work with them. The author also explores the idea of complexity theory in relation to the well-connected community, arguing that 'the well-connected community is a way of thinking about community as emergent of complex and dynamic systems', a 'way of managing chaos, building resilience and devising innovative collective solutions to intractable problems' (p.x). The book addresses some of the challenges of a networking approach to community development, such as accountability, role boundaries and 'burnout', and concludes by examining some of the implications of the model for policy and practice in community development.

Griffiths, D. J., N. Sigona, et al. (2005). <u>Refugee community organisations and dispersal: networks, resources and social capital</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This book examines the role of refugee community organisations (RCOs) in the UK at a critical point of asylum policy change. The research focuses on the growth in refugee communities and the number of RCOs, the resource and organisational constraints affecting RCOs, and the contested process of defining and representing refugee communities with local policy and political contexts. The research methods include semi-structured interviews with RCOs from across three locations of London, the West Midlands and the North West, aiming to represent the principal

nationalities claiming asylum in the 1990s. The qualitative material was analysed by using conventional thematic analysis supplemented with participant observation in a few cases with staff and clients involved in refugee organisations. The book explores the issue of integration of refugees, the concept of social capital, and the role of informal networks and resources for refugee communities.

Hall, S. M. (2009). A mile of mixed blessings: an ethnography of boundaries and belonging on a south London street. <u>Department of Sociology</u>. London, London School of Economics. **PhD**.

>This thesis explores lived experiences of ethnic and cultural diversity on the Walworth Road, a multi-ethnic street in south London. This is an example of a methodologically fine-grained approach to studying community which focuses on the ordinary spaces of small independent shops on a single road, and the relationships between proprietors and customers. The methodology draws on a mixture of official, archival, visual and ethnographic data to contrast how individuals transgress or re-inscribe social and spatial boundaries, with how systems of power authorise boundaries between people and places. Some methodological innovations include formulations of spatial methodology, involving juxtapositions, collage and layering, mixing methods of small shop surveys, photography and classification of shop fronts, mapping of ethnic origins of shop owners, and detailed architectural drawings by the author of the two ethnographic field sites on the street, a local caff and a bespoke tailor, at different times of day. The thesis emphasises the social and political significance of small independent shops as ordinary spaces, as well as the importance of informal memberships that emerge out of everyday contact in neither overtly public nor private space. Other studies which focus on single streets, with different perspectives and foci, are Attlee* and Miller*.

Hamdi, N. (2010). <u>The placemakers' guide to building community</u>. London, Earthscan.

>The placemakers' guide to building community is a practical book on community development for architects, planners, urban designers and other built environment specialists. Drawing on four decades of practical and teaching experience, the author argues that the complexities of community development faced by practitioners are a context for, rather than a barrier to, creative work. The author challenges the one-size-fits-all top-down approach to design and planning through counter-examples of good policies and professional practices in Europe, the US, Africa, Latin America and post-tsunami Asia. The author demonstrates how good policy can derive from good practices through 'reasoning backwards' and through approaches which emerge

through practice rather than over-planning. This practical guide to placemaking offers a variety of methods and tools for urban and community development.

Harper, D. A. (2001). <u>Changing works: visions of a lost agriculture</u>. Chicago, University of Chicago Press.

> This book is an in-depth longitudinal qualitative study which traces the impacts of social, economic and cultural changes on agriculture in America, drawing on in-depth interviews with dairy farmers in upstate New York, historical documents, and visual methods (analysis of over 100 photographs from the mid-20th century). The title 'changing works' refers to the common practice within farming communities of exchanging and combining farm labor to do large agricultural jobs like threshing and haying, and it is also suggestive of the changing nature of work in rural communities. The author describes past practices, work and family roles, gendered divisions of labour, and ways of life in agricultural communities, and the changes that have occurred over the past half century. He concludes that while technology has reduced the amount of agricultural labour required to complete farm work, the transition to larger and fewer farms has meant a loss in social solidarities within agricultural communities and negative implications for the environment.

Haworth, J. and G. Hart (2007). <u>Well-being: individual, community and social perspectives</u>. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

> This interdisciplinary edited volume focuses on well-being, exploring the connection between well-being and individual, community and social perspectives. The authors argue that well-being is a 'positive psychology' which is complex, multi-faceted, and intimately connected with issues like diversity, socioeconomic inequalities, and the physical, cultural and technological environment. The contributions seek to analyse well-being in theory and practice. Various dimensions of well-being provide clear links with debates on community, particularly in relation to: 'community empowerment' (chapter 2), social capital (chapter 4), and community psychology (chapter 4), societal inequality (chapter 9) and friendship, trust and mutuality (chapter 14).

Hillyard, S. (2007). <u>The sociology of rural life</u>. Oxford, Berg.

> This book critically examines rural sociology through three case studies of contemporary rural issues in the UK: the 2001 foot-and-mouth disease epidemic in the UK, the hunting debate in the British countryside, and game shooting in the UK. The author situates rural sociology in relation to urban sociology, arguing that it has been relatively neglected over the years. The author uses interactionist theory and

ethnography to approach the study of rural life. The idea of community is explored through tracing the history of rural sociology, with early community studies of rural life. The concept of community is also investigated through rural communities of occupation, such as farmers, veterinarians and hunters. The book shows the complexity of rural societies and rural issues in the UK in the 21st century and argues that sociology and geography should engage more actively with rural studies.

Holgersson, H., C. Thorn, et al., Eds. (2010). (Re)searching Gothenburg: essays on a changing city. Gothenburg, Glanta.

> (Re)searching Gothenburg is a multi-disciplinary edited volume devoted to researching one city, Gothenburg, from a variety of different angles and methods, including qualitative methods, visual methods, mapping and mixed methods. The essays in this book explore urban transformation in this former shipbuilding city. Researchers from a variety of disciplines were asked to write a text that did not require any prior knowledge of Gothenburg but asked for the native city dweller to see their city in a new light. The book includes 37 essays which discuss the city from a wide range of perspectives, including the gentrification of urban space, the city's colonial past, the mythical Gothenburg breath, gay meeting places, the fire disaster in Hisingen, Gothenburg riots, gender bending in public space, and critical photography, amongst many other topics. The book also engages with ideas of urban community, both within the city, and with the city as a whole. Although (Re)searching Gothenburg doesn't include a conventional map, its technique of exploring the city through a range of perspectives has some similarities with The Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas by Rebecca Solnit*.

Holton, M. J. (2011). Building the resilient community : lessons from the Lost Boys of Sudan. Eugene, Or., Cascade Books.

> This book is based on ethnographic research in Kakuma Refugee Camp and remote villages of southern Sudan, a communal case study of 'the Lost Boys of Sudan', a group of devoutly Christian refugees. The author explores the strong cultural and religious beliefs about a sense of responsibility, care and obligation towards others of the refugees, arguing that their ability to survive destruction and displacement through the power of communal obligations and care, and the strength of faith narratives, represents a unique and inspiring model of a resilient community.

Howley, K., Ed. (2010). Understanding community media. Los Angeles and London, Sage.

> Understanding Community Media examines the role of alternative, independent, and community-based media in the global struggle for communicative democracy.

This edited collection explores community media from a range of theoretical, empirical, historical, and practitioner perspectives. Understanding Community Media explores the intersection between community media and issues of democratic theory and the public sphere, cultural politics and social movement theory, neoliberal communication policy and media reform efforts, and media activism and international solidarity building. The collection includes a wide range of international empirical examples of community media: cultural policy in Britain, women's video collectives in India, community radio in Colombia, alternative media in Zimbabwe, Romani media and NGOs in the Republic of Macedonia, street newspapers in Canada, Hungarian community radio, and independent media in Nigeria. Some of the research methods that were used across the various contributions include participant observation, interviews, and media and discourse analysis.

Hughes, G. (2007). The politics of crime and community. Basingstoke and New York, Palgrave Macmillan.

This book offers a comparative perspective to the understanding of local community governance of crime and safety, focusing on the UK and its multiple localities. Drawing on a range of comparative empirical research, this book provides an introduction to contemporary theories of comparative criminology of crime control and community safety, a critical review of policies and practices in crime and community, and opens up new normative and political challenges associated with this area of policy and politics. The book makes the case for a critical realist criminology that critically engages with public and populist debates and draws on theoretically-informed empirical research.

Imrie, R., L. Lees, et al., Eds. (2009). Regenerating London: governance, sustainability and community in a global city. London, Routledge.

Regenerating London explores recent theories and practices of urban regeneration in one of the fastest changing world cities. The book highlights paradoxes and contradictions in urban policy and offers an evaluation of the contemporary forms of urban redevelopment. Of particular interest in relation to the study and operationalisation of 'community' is Part IV: Community Governance and Urban Change', which includes contributions about the reworking community in the South Bank, the disputed place of ethnic diversity in a street market in East London, the transformation of Hackney's Holly Street Estate, and young people and the regeneration of the Kings Cross Tens Estate. In this context, communities are framed primarily as 'communities of place' nestled within the larger city, through the lens of

social and economic change, and changes and tensions in demographic profiles (based on age, ethnicity and social class).

Kajee, L. (2008). <u>Constructing identities in online communities of practice: a case study of online learning</u>. Oxford and New York, Peter Lang.

> This book explores online learning in an undergraduate English language and academic literacy classroom at a university in South Africa, and theorises the need for technology in developing countries as a means of social inclusion in the context of the 'digital divide'. The research methods include participant observation and narrative interviews both face-to-face and online with research participants (each participant is described in further detail with a character sketch in the appendix). The aim of the study was to explore the extent to which communities of practice are enabled in an online environment, among non-native English speakers from technologically under-resourced backgrounds. This study examines the extent to which the students participate, negotiate meaning, and construct identities in online spaces. This research contributes to theoretical and empirical perspectives on online communities, communities of practice, non-English-speaking communities in 'developing' countries, and debates about social inclusion/exclusion and the digital divide.

Keller, S. (2003). <u>Community: pursuing the dream, living the reality</u>. Princeton, N.J., Princeton University Press.

> Through the case study of a planned community in New Jersey, Twin Rivers, this book explores complex processes of community formation and argues for the community 'as a counter-force to the TV-directed lonely crowd in the mass society of the twenty-first century'. (p. xiii) The first part of the book situates the study of community in the context of historical and contemporary theories of community. The second part presents the empirical case study of the planned unit development, including residents' relationships with their environs, the struggle for self-government, community participation, sociability, private and public obligations, governance and leadership and sources of unity and division. The final part discusses the implications of the empirical findings for understanding community. The study is based on mixed longitudinal methods to capture the transformation of the community over time: observations of behaviour, participant observation, repeated surveys of residents' attitudes and reactions from the 1970s to the late 1990s, and photographic analyses of the changing landscape of the planned community. This book would be interesting to read in combination with a study of a master planned estate in Australia by Rosenblatt et al*.

Kendall, L. (2002). Hanging out in the virtual pub: masculinities and relationships online. Berkeley and London, University of California Press.

> This is a relatively early online ethnography of a male-dominated Internet forum comprising primarily computer/IT workers, based on virtual fieldwork from the mid 1990s. This online ethnography examines how men and women negotiate their gender roles on an online forum on the Internet which the author calls Blue Sky. The author uses the virtual pub 'the Falcon' as a metaphor to describe the social relations and interactions in the online community, particularly because the majority of the Blue Sky participants were male (related to the demographics of people using this type of online forum in the late 1990s), and the Falcon provides the space for them to enact and negotiate their masculine identities. The online ethnography focuses on participants' performances of gender, race, and class identities through their online interactions and negotiations, along with their understanding of these performances. Contrary to the assumption that men and women take on unrealistic identities through Internet forums on the Internet, the author finds that the Blue Sky participants adopt online identities which closely resemble their actual lives and personalities. This online ethnography has parallels with other studies of virtual communities such as Boellstorff* and Reingold*.

Kuecker, G., M. Mulligan, et al. (2011). "Turning to community in times of crisis: globally derived insights on local community formation." Community Development Journal **46**(2): 245-264.

> This article follows Bauman and Delanty* in suggesting that there has been a 'turn' to community in the conditions of global flux and uncertainty. The conceptual starting point is a study of four diverse local communities in Australia conducted between 2003-2006 that two of the authors were involved in, which found that community must be seen as a dynamic process of constant formation in which good outcomes cannot be guaranteed. The authors argue that western ideas of community are often inadequate for describing social formations in the global south, and instead use a dynamic and multilayered conception of community that has been developed by the Globalism Research Centre at RMIT in Melbourne to apply to community formation in Ecuador and Malaysia. The research offers a comparison between this thinking about local communities which emerged from the Australian study, and very different local contexts in Malaysia and Ecuador. The paper adds to Delanty's conception of community and adds a new typology of contemporary communities, drawing on local case study research of local communities conducted by the three different authors in each of the countries.

Lassiter, L. E., H. Goodall, et al. (2004). <u>The other side of Middletown: exploring Muncie's African American community</u>. Walnut Creek, CA, AltaMira Press.

> The Other Side of Middletown is a collaborative ethnographic re-study of the famous 1929/1937 American community study by Robert and Helen Lynd of Middletown ,a well-known pseudonym for the Midwestern city of Muncie, Indiana. Through the re-study, the authors aim to address the omission of Muncie's black community from the original study, which portrayed Muncie as exclusively white, revealing rich historical and contemporary stories of the African American community in Muncie. The book is the result of a collaborative ethnographic field project between academics, community organizations, and students, and included intensive interviews, participant observation and archival research. The unique collaborative approach is one of the most important contributions of the book to community studies and to ethnography, and the authors write reflexively about this process in the introduction, throughout the book, and in Appendix A: Notes on the Collaborative Process. The book also comes with a companion DVD, Middletown Redux, which describes the making of The Other Side of Middletown and the unique collaborative research design.

Laurier, E., A. Whyte, et al. (2002). "Neighbouring as an occasioned activity : "Finding a lost cat" " <u>Space and Culture</u> **5**(4): 346-367.

> This article challenges the common idea about social and cultural commentators that suburban neighbourhoods lack a sense of community. The article brings together ideas of neighbourhood and community to examine a more nuanced and grounded understanding of suburban living. Based on ethnographic fieldwork in a UK suburb, the authors draw on insights from ethnomethodology and other studies of social practice to offer therapeutic descriptions of neighbouring. Through focusing on the incident of the search for a lost cat, the ethnographic research 'shows how everyday talk formulates places and is formulated by its location in the ongoing occasioned activities of neighbours'. (p. 346) The authors argue, in contrast with other studies which depict suburbia as lacking in neighbourly relations, that there are rules of good neighbouring within a suburban community, including specific and local moral commitments as well as forms of social distancing between neighbours. These research findings resonate with Concoran and Gray*'s study of suburban affiliations in Ireland.

Le May, A. (2009). <u>Communities of practice in health and social care</u>. Oxford, Wiley-Blackwell.

This book examines how communities of practice (CoPs) in health and social care can make service development and quality improvement easier to initiate and more sustainable. The authors draw on case studies from the UK and Canada, showing how the theory of CoPs is implemented in the delivery of health and social care and highlighting the associated potential, complexities, advantages and disadvantages of CoPs. The methods used in the book are described in the methodological postscript to the introductory chapter, including ethnographic methods which set out to describe the day-to-day activities of primary care practice, focusing in particular on how clinicians use knowledge in their interactions with patients, carers and colleagues. The first part of the book introduces the concept of communities of practice and their relevance to health and social care. They argue that CoPs are ideal mechanisms through which people can discuss the best ways to implement knowledge to suit their local practices or patients and can lead to improvement in the quality of care that they can give. CoPs can function as face-to-face or as virtual communities. In the second part of the book, a range of contributors discuss their stories of starting CoPs. Part three explores how CoPs contribute (or not) to professional and patient capital, and the final part discusses the potential impact of CoPs for health and social care.

Ledwith, M. (2011). <u>Community development: a critical approach, 2nd ed.</u> Bristol, Policy Press.

This book outlines a critical approach to community development, or 'radical community development'. The first chapter focuses on the question 'why empower?', tracing a history of radical community development and relating it to debates about the Big Society and critiques of radical community development. The next chapters explore community profiling and the idea of critical praxis, the influence of the ideas of Paul Friere, Antonio Gramsci and feminist theory on critical pedagogy, and emancipatory action research as a principle of organising in the community, concluding with a call for reclaiming the radical agenda within community development. The research is mainly theoretical and practical in orientation, but also includes extensive discussion of research methods for radical community development, including participatory practice and community action research.

Lippard, C. D. and C. A. Gallagher, Eds. (2011). <u>Being brown in Dixie: race, ethnicity, and Latino immigration in the new South</u>. Latinos : exploring diversity and change. Boulder, Colo., FirstForumPress.

This edited volume examines how Latin populations in the US South have challenged and changed traditional conceptions of race, making comparisons with similar struggles faced by African Americans. The authors explore the extent to which the Black-White dichotomy of the US South has been disrupted, challenged and (possibly) changed through Latino life and work experiences of race relations in the South. The authors operationalize the idea of community through the ideas of community backlash and new gateway communities, and research methods in this volume include ethnographies, interviews, survey research, and secondary data analysis. Two particular chapters which are of interest for thinking about community are: 'Integrating into new communities: the Latino perspective' (Lacy) and 'Success stories: proactive community responses to immigration' (Baker and Harris).

Lupton, R. (2003). <u>Poverty street: the dynamics of neighbourhood decline and renewal</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

Poverty Street examines neighbourhood decline and poverty in twelve of the most disadvantaged areas in England and Wales. The research methods combine neighbourhood statistics, photographs and the accounts of local people with analysis of broader social and economic trends. In general, the book uses the concept of neighbourhood rather than community as a central focus of the study, but the closely related idea of community is also used throughout, particularly in relation to community organizations, policy initiatives such as the Community Development Programme and the New Deal for Communities, and in reference to identity groups such as 'white working-class community' and 'Asian community'. Chapter 5 on 'Social interaction and neighbourhood stigma' explores the idea of a 'strong but enclosed community' and '"community" shrinking under pressure'. The book first introduces the social policy context of neighbourhood decline and poverty in the UK and the 12 disadvantaged areas that are the focus of the study. Then the book goes on to explore historical poverty and the roots of decline in the UK, issues of neighbourhood stigma, social exclusion, and problems with public services, and policy development from the 1990s, including attempts at regeneration, New Labour and neighbourhood renewal, partnership models, and drivers of change (population, housing and the economy). Finally, the author evaluates the impact of government neighbourhood renewal policies since 1997 and considers future policy prospects for reducing inequalities, including potential new solutions for avoiding concentrations of poverty, improving housing, mixing tenure and tackling worklessness and achieving economic inclusion.

Maginn, P. J. (2004). <u>Urban regeneration, community power, and the (in)significance of 'race'</u>. Aldershot, Ashgate.

> This book focuses on the issue of 'community power' within urban regeneration partnerships, arguing that there has been a 'pluralistic turn' in British urban regeneration policy. The research is based on an ethnographic study of community participation and power and the significance of 'race' in three ethnically diverse neighbourhoods in London which the author calls 'Northside', 'Westside' and 'Southside'. Through the three case studies, the author shows how local communities use various strategies to influence decision-making, which the author situates in relation to a new typology of pluralism - 'pragmatic'; 'hyper-' and 'paternalistic'. The author also challenges the significance of race (and racism) within community forums and regeneration partnerships. The primary focus of the book is on policy outcomes, particularly on the impacts that local communities have on decision-making within urban regeneration partnerships.

Mavroudi, E. (2010). "Contesting identities, differences, and a unified Palestinian community." <u>Environment and Planning D: Society and Space</u> **28**(2): 239-253.

> This article engages directly with debates regarding the idea of community as a contested concept and their relevance for examining diasporic/migrant communities. The research is based on an in-depth qualitative case study using loosely structured interviews of diasporic Palestinians living in Athens, Greece. The article explores how diasporic Palestinians in Athens negotiate the politics of identity, belonging, and unity within their daily lives and stresses the importance of considering diasporic communities as fluid, positioned, and symbolic, in which negotiations of identity are actively carried out. The author argues that through the process of defining and defending who they are and where they belong, the Palestinian diaspora contests the relationships between community, territory, citizenship, and identity. The contested nature of community is examined through analysing the importance of community not only as a unifying space, but also as carrying the potential for tensions and constructions of difference.

McCright, A.M. and T.N.Clark (eds) (2006). *Community and ecology: dynamics of place, sustainability and politics*, Kidlington: Elsevier.

> This edited book brings together perspectives from community sociologists and environmental sociologists about human interactions in ecological communities. The authors argue that humans live in social communities that are embedded ecologically within overlapping biophysical environments. The book is divided into three main sections which address the ecological and social significance of place, the

challenges of local sustainability, and local environmental politics. A range of methods are used throughout the volume, including ethnographic interviews, participant observation, visual methods, event/action modelling, narrative analysis of archival data, statistical analysis of archival data, and comparative case studies, with international examples of communities in the UK, US, Canada, Finland, China, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

Miller, D. (2008). <u>The comfort of things</u>. Cambridge, Polity.

This book is a study of thirty people, almost from a single street in South London that the author calls Stuart Street. The book is arranged as a series of 'portraits' which each focus on one individual, the material culture of their homes, and on their relationships with objects and with other people. This 'single street' method of studying a particular area is shared with Attlee's* Isolarion and Hall's* Mile of Mixed Blessings. The thirty people were selected from one hundred individuals and households that were studied over seventeen months by two anthropologists for an investigation of the way material culture helps people deal with loss and change. This book emerged from this wider research project through a desire to show that the humanity of the people on the street could be revealed by their material possessions. The book is also an exploration of London as a place and 'Londoners' as comprising a wide range of identities. Through this focus, the book implicitly addresses ideas of community, particularly communities of place. However, the author states that 'these contemporary London households bear little relation to the assumed objects of social science. This is not a society or culture, a neighbourhood or community' (p. 6). Instead, the author argues that the focus is on people's ability to form relationships and the nature of these relationships, both between people and between persons and things. Despite the author's rejection of the term 'community' in framing the larger context of the study, the idea of community is evoked in several of the portraits, for example in terms of community spirit, the ideal of community, and general references to the wider community within which people live.

Mooney, G. and S. Neal, Eds. (2008). <u>Community: welfare, crime and society</u>. Maidenhead, Open University Press.

This edited book engages with the idea of community as a contested concept, examining the paradoxical way in which the concept of community has been used- both in a positive sense to represent collective well-being and good social relations and in a negative sense to describe or categorise social problems and 'problem populations'. The authors argue that this paradox makes the idea of community

particularly valuable for understanding the diverse and complex ways in which social welfare and crime control policies affect each other. The book includes contributions from both historical and contemporary contexts, in the UK and internationally. The themes of contested community which are explored include policymaking, social change, social order, social cohesion, community safety, anti-social behaviour, and social mobilisations. A range of methods are used within this volume, including interviews, focus groups, secondary data analysis, policy analysis and historical research.

Mulgan, G. (2008). <u>Living and community</u>. London, Black Dog Publishing.

Living and Community explores changing attitudes to living, families and communities, looking at challenges for the next fifteen years for managing communities in the UK. Contrary to politicians who have claimed that we live in a broken society, this short book argues that the bonds of community and place are much stronger than these politicians suggest. Based primarily on social policy analysis, the book identifies a range of issues which will be particularly relevant for living and community in the future, including childhood, old age and demography, climate change, connectivity and sense of place, policing, well-being and governance. Living and Community argues that the current period of overconsumption and materialistic culture will not last, and that people will need to find new ways of living in close proximity with others and sharing their experiences and resources.

Mumford, K. and A. Power (2003). <u>East Enders: family and community in East London</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

This book examines families and neighbourhood relations in two deprived East London areas, 'West-City' in Hackney and 'East Docks' in Newham, which have different housing patterns, ethnic make-up and histories. The aim of the study is to understand how low-income families with children cope with the problems of poor neighbourhood conditions and inner city life. By focusing on a single area within a city, the book follows the example set by three neighbourhood family studies: Young and Willmott (1957), Newson and Newson (1968, 1976) and William Julius Wilson (1996). However, the approach is very different to the re-study of Bethnal Green by Dench et al*, with a focus on the detailed life experiences of families and how families interact with their neighbourhoods. The research methods include interviews (mainly with mothers), focus groups, meetings with local organisations and residents, secondary analysis of neighbourhood statistics, and visual methods (photographs). Four key themes are addressed throughout the book: community and

race relations, mothers in work or staying at home, neighbourhood conditions- the threat of breakdown, and how change affects families.

Noxolo, P. and J. Huysmans (2009). <u>Community, citizenship and the 'War on Terror' : security and insecurity</u>. Basingstoke and New York, Palgrave Macmillan.

> This interdisciplinary edited volume critically engages with current debates on community, citizenship and the 'war on terror' by focusing on the question of what security and insecurity do, can and should mean politically. The contributions to this collection draw on policy, political, media and discourse analysis, considering a wide range of social and political forums in Europe, the UK, India and the US. The book examines complex debates about community relations, immigration, neighbourly relations, insecurity and security post 9/11, secularisation, citizenship, mobility and identity, community cohesion, and insecurity and everyday life.

O'Riordan, T. and S. Stoll-Kleemann (2002). <u>Biodiversity, sustainability, and human communities: protecting beyond the protected</u>. Cambridge and New York, Cambridge University Press.

> This interdisciplinary edited collection examines biodiversity, sustainability and human communities, with contributions from political scientists, economists and ecologists. The book advocates both the preservation of the best remaining habitats and the enhancement of new biodiverse habitats to ensure that they cope with human impact, climate change and alien species invasion. According to the authors, these aims can be achieved by a mixture of strict protection, inclusive involvement of people inside and in close proximity to reserves, and by combining concern for livelihoods and social well-being in all future biodiversity management. Drawing on mixed case study methods, the contributors examine and discuss case studies from regions around the world, including Europe, the United States, Latin America and Africa.

Obrist, B. (2006). <u>Struggling for health in the city: an anthropological inquiry of health, vulnerability and resilience in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</u>. Bern and Oxford, Peter Lang.

> This book contributes to debates about community health, vulnerability and resilience. This ethnographic study examines what health means for people living in poverty, focusing on women in Dar es Salaam's inner-city neighbourhood of Ilala Ilala in Tanzania. The anthropological research includes interviews and participant observation and was conducted between 1995 and 1996, with some additional research in 2002. The findings suggest that people view health as 'vulnerability to health risks' rather than as the opposite of illness and disease, based on their daily

experiences of exposure to a variety of risks including going without water, food, sanitation or adequate shelter. This actor-centred approach shifts the focus from illness and disease towards local meanings of health and vulnerability. The book argues that women bear a growing burden in daily health practice because of minimal state services and the failure of many men in their role as breadwinners. However, the author is reflexive about her position as a feminist scholar and resists criticizing men who fail to support their families or imposing her view on women who did not reveal unhappiness with their positions.

Orford, S., D. Dorling, et al. (2002). "Life and death of the people of London: a historical GIS of Charles Booth's inquiry " Health and Place **8**(1): 23-35.

This article provides an interesting methodological contribution to studying community, through comparing historical and contemporary methods and insights of neighbourhood studies. The article explores the contemporary relevance of social reformer Charles Booth's detailed survey of the social and economic conditions of the people of London in the late 19th century, particularly his innovative detailed maps of social class of inner London. For this research, Booth's maps have been digitised, georeferenced and linked to contemporary ward boundaries, allowing Booth's measurement of social class to be matched to the measurement of social class in the 1991 UK census and standardised mortality ratios derived for all causes of death in the survey area between 1991 and 1995. Based on the social class data, the researchers derived an index of relative poverty for both time periods and compared the geographies of relative poverty and their relationship with contemporary mortality. The article concludes that despite a century of change and an increase in the overall standard of living, relatively little has changed in the spatial patterns of poverty of inner London.

Otsuka, K. and K. Kalirajan (2010). Community, market and state in development. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

This edited volume follows Professor Hayami's (1998) economic development model of 'community, market and state', which argues that since the government cannot solve market failure arising from the problem of assymetrical information, the 'community' has an important economic role to play, through detecting cheating, shirking and other dishonest behaviours of its members, and thus supporting market transactions by reducing 'information assymetry'. The research throughout the collection is based on quantitative community-level data (village surveys, long term panel data of historical changes and other panel data). The contributions draw on empirical material from China, India, Japan, Zambia, Kenya and other countries in

Africa and Asia, focusing on the role of the community in economic development, and its relations with agricultural markets, industrialization and the government. This book offers an interesting perspective on 'community' in the context of economic development within 'developing' countries.

Papacharissi, Z., Ed. (2010). <u>A networked self: identity, community and culture on social network sites</u>. New York, Routledge.

This edited collection examines the construction of the self, self presentation and identity, and social connection within online networks. The volume is structured around three central themes of social network sites: identity, community, and culture. The contributors explore a range of topics related to online social networks including self-presentation, behavioural norms, patterns and routines, social impact, privacy, class/gender/race divides, taste cultures online, uses of social networking sites within organizations, activism, civic engagement and political impact. A range of methods are used to study online networks, including online observations/analysis, online surveys, interviews and focus groups.

Park, A., S. Wang, et al. (2010). <u>Community-based development and poverty alleviation: an evaluation of China's poor village investment program</u>. London, Centre for Economic Policy Research.

This report evaluates China's flagship poverty alleviation programme, a community-based development programme which began in 2001. The programme finances public investments in designated poor villages based on participatory village planning. The authors use matching methods and a panel household and village data set with national coverage to compare changes from 2001 to 2004 in designated poor villages that had started to plan investments and in designated poor villages that had yet to begin planning investments. The findings show that the programme significantly increased both government- and village-financed investments. However, the benefits were uneven between households with different levels of poverty with the communities, with greater benefits to richer households and relatively few benefits to poorer households.

Phillipson, C., M. Bernard, et al. (2001). <u>The family and community life of older people: social networks and social support in three urban areas</u>. London and New York, Routledge.

This book explores changes to the social and family networks of older people living in three urban areas of England: Bethnal Green in London, Wolverhampton in the Midlands and Woodford in Essex. The research methods include: census material; a

questionnaire survey with 627 older people in the three urban areas; in-depth qualitative interviews with 62 people over the age of 75, 18 interviews with a younger generation member identified in their network, 23 Bangladeshi and Punjabi households in Bethnal Green and Wolverhampton, and two group interviews. The authors show that over the past fifty years we have moved from an old age experienced within the context of the family group to one shaped by personal communities in which friends may feature as significantly as immediate kin and relatives. The book examines a range of issues related to changes in the family and community lives of older people, including: changes in household composition; changes in the geographical proximity of kin and relatives; the extent and type of help provided by the family; contact and relationships with neighbours; relationships with friends; involvement in social and leisure activities, and experiences of minority ethnic groups.

Pray, J. L. and I. K. Jordan (2010). "The deaf community and culture at a crossroads: issues and challenges." Journal of Social Work in Disability & Rehabilitation **9**(2): 168-193.

This article examines the deaf community and culture in the context of recent developments in assistive hearing technology, a rapid increase in the number of deaf children with cochlear implants, growing acceptance of American Sign Language (ASL), and recognition of Deaf culture. The authors use social construction theory as a framework for discussing these recent developments, controversies and diverse perspectives on what it means to be deaf. The authors argue that all professionals must be free of bias about choices available to and made by parents of deaf children and by deaf individuals. The research methods used include survey and policy analysis, as well as the exploration of a short case study. The authors explore ideas about the social construction of deafness, changes in racial and ethnic diversity within the deaf community, and the case of the Gallaudet University in Washington, DC ('the flagship educational institution for deaf people') protest of 2006, where the deaf community and culture were at a crossroads regarding changes, conflicts and diverse perspectives within the deaf community.

Raco, M. (2007). Building sustainable communities: spatial policy and labour mobility in post-war Britain. Bristol, Policy Press.

This book develops a historically grounded analysis and assessment of the relationships between spatial policy, community development and labour market policies in post-war Britain. The book explores the ways in which policy-makers in the UK, in different eras, have sought to use state powers and regulations to create more sustainable communities. The research draws on a range of methods, including

semi-structured interviews, archival research, and analysis of policy documents. The author traces historical changes in the UK since 1945 in community-building policy frameworks, place imaginations, and core spatial policy initiatives in the UK, examines tensions within spatial policy visions, and shows that there are significant policy lessons that can be learnt from the experiences of the past.

Rheingold, H. (2000). The virtual community: homesteading on the electronic frontier. Cambridge, Mass., MIT Press.

This book explores the development of virtual communities from the 1960s to the 1990s using a journalistic style, full of anecdotes and personal observations about the growth of online social groups. The book is innovative in that it was one of the first studies of online communities before the growth of the Internet. The 2000 edition updates the original 1993 version with two additional chapters tracing subsequent developments. The book questions the distinction between 'virtual' communities and 'real-life' communities, arguing that real relationships and real communities develop online, with several examples of friendships, arguments, political organizing, and other relationships in the virtual world.

Rosenblatt, T., L. Cheshire, et al. (2009). "Social interaction and sense of community in a master planned estate." Housing, Theory and Society **26**(2): 122-142.

This article explores social interaction, place attachment and sense of community through a qualitative case study of a master planned community in Australia, drawing on semi-structured interviews with residents. Focus on community is a major promotional feature of master planned communities, which are becoming the dominant form of new large-scale housing development in Australia. In the case-study master planned community that this research focuses on, the developer made considerable efforts to facilitate community processes beyond the level of marketing. The findings from this paper suggest that while high levels of attachment to place and sense of community were reported by residents, actual social interaction within the master planned community was not generally extensive. This research has implications for developers wishing to facilitate increased social interaction within master planned communities. The article would be interesting to read alongside Keller*'s book about the growth of 'community' within the first 'planned unit development' in New Jersey.

Rosenlund, L. (2009). Exploring the city with Bourdieu: applying Pierre Bourdieu's theories and methods to study the community. Saarbrücken, VDM.

This book is testimony to what can be achieved in a Ph.D project, and comes complete with remarks from Loïc Wacquant, who examined the thesis. The research project, called 'Cultural traditions, cultural encounters and cultural change in an oil capital', focuses on the urban community Stavanger on the South West coast of Norway (around 200,000 inhabitants) which underwent significant changes from one of the poorest urban communities in the Norwegian periphery at the end of the 1960s to one of the most prosperous by the 1990s, when the fieldwork was undertaken. The research uses the methodological and analytical framework of Bourdieu (from his work 'Distinction') to investigate socioeconomic as well as cultural changes in the 'local social space' of Stavanger, including the method of multiple correspondence analysis. The author claims that multiple correspondence analysis is different from the Anglo-Saxon statistical tradition of confirming, verifying or rejecting pre-conceived hypotheses, and instead follows the French statistical tradition which is concerned with exploring, describing and discovering. The research in Stavanger involved telephone interviews with a representative sample of 1305 inhabitants of Stavanger, followed up by 911 questionnaires completed by people between the ages of 16-68 years. The author presents the findings of the multiple correspondence analysis in graphs, relating lifestyles and cultural interests to different incomes and professions, amongst other variables. The book also includes photographs. The aim of this research is to conduct a similar study of cultural and economic capital in Stavanger as Bourdieu did in France in the 1970s, while recognising differences in the diversity of classes and class fractions between the two cases. It demonstrates that Bourdieu's methods are transferable, countering criticism that they do not travel beyond France.

Salcedo, R. and A. Torres (2004). "Gated communities in Santiago: wall or frontier?" International Journal of Urban and Regional Research **28**(1): 27-44.

This article challenges the widely held notion (particularly by the LA school of urban studies) that gated communities are enclaves based on segregation, with negative connotations, by considering a more benevolent example of gated communities in Chile. This ethnographic research is based on in-depth interviews in gated communities and a surrounding shantytown in the Huechuraba district, a lower socio-economic class area in north-west Santiago. The authors argue that in Santiago, gated communities help the poor communities that surround them, and in such conditions of spatial proximity sociability between inside and outside groups is not diminished. Spatial proximity between inside and outside groups of gated communities has encouraged relations mainly in the realm of functional exchange, making the creation of gated communities in poor neighborhoods a socially desirable

experience in the case of Santiago. This article is a good complement to Bagaeen and Oduku*'s edited book on gated communities, which challenges narrow definitions of gated communities and provides empirical examples of a range of types of gated communities internationally.

Salway, S., K. Harriss, et al. (2011). Using participatory, observational and 'rapid appraisal' methods: researching health and illness. in <u>Understanding Social Research: Thinking Creatively about Method</u>. J. Mason and A. Dale. London, Sage.

This book chapter explores using participatory, observational and 'rapid appraisal' methods with community researchers for researching health and illness. The methodological approach had three features: firstly, the researchers took a locality-focused approach, identifying four geographically delineable 'communities' or 'localities' in London; secondly, the researchers worked in collaboration with a team of community researchers, and thirdly the researchers employed a range of data generation methods combining participatory techniques, observation and naturalistic interaction with individuals and groups. All three methods were combined in a 'rapid appraisal' period lasting around 7 days and involving four to six researchers in each location. While recognising the multiple possible meanings of community, the authors use 'community' to identify four geographic localities within London that were home to significant concentrations of people who self-identify with particular ethnic groups, which the authors term 'ethno-geographic communities'. The authors argue that having a particular ethnic identity and residing within a particular geographic area can have significant implications for the health options available to individuals.

Savage, M., G. Bagnall, et al. (2005). <u>Globalization and belonging</u>. London, Sage.

Globalization and Belonging explores how far-reaching global changes are articulated locally through examining the cultural practices, lifestyles and identities of 182 residents in four middle-class locations around Manchester, UK, in the late 1990s. The study focuses on people's own narratives of connectivity and global ties which arise from their daily routines of work, residence and leisure. Through local case studies informed by qualitative interviews, the authors empirically examine forms of mobility as well as fixity, arguing that Manchester is a telling site in which to study global change and local belonging. Within the broad conceptual framework of globalisation and belonging, the authors discuss the following interrelated themes: the limits of local attachment; parenting, education and elective belonging; suburbia and the aura of place; the ambivalence of urban identity; work cultures and social

ties; mediascapes in the mediation of the local and the global, and cosmopolitanism, diaspora and global reflexivity.

Shavit, U. (2009). <u>The new imagined community: global media and the construction of national and Muslim identities of migrants</u>. Brighton, UK, Sussex Academic Press.

> The New Imagined Community explores new ways of imagining national community in the context of international migration and global media. In the first part of the book, the author relates the idea of 'imagining nation states from afar' to Benedict Anderson's idea of the nation as an imagined community, arguing that new types of migrants have emerged, such as the 'passive trans-national'. The author focuses on the role of advanced media technologies (ie. satellite technology and the Internet) in facilitating relations between immigrants and their national communities of origin, drawing on biographical interview-based research with immigrants of diverse nationalities. In the second part of the book, 'Imagining the Muslim Nation from Afar', the author shifts the analysis of migrants' national imaginaries to focus more specifically on how Muslim-Arab religious scholars imagine the rise of a global Muslim nation and use advanced media technologies to enhance their global vision. This part of the book is also based on biographical interview-based research, in this case with devout Muslims who migrated from Arab countries to Frankfurt am Main, Germany. With its focus on migrants' imagined national and global communities, this book relates to recent research on transnational communities (cf. Al-Ali and Kosar*).

Simpson, F. A. (2010). <u>The values of community archaeology: a comparative assessment between the UK and US</u>. Oxford, Archaeopresss.

> Through evaluating community excavations as 'community archaeology' projects in a range of contexts in the UK and the US, this book explores the question: 'Does community archaeology work?' The author suggests that the motivations for a worldwide boom in community archaeology projects (a broad term including projects run by museums, archaeological units, universities, archaeological societies and developers) include the desire to meet a range of perceived educational and social values of increasing public awareness of the present in the past, as well as the desire to secure funding for archaeological research within the current content of research 'impact'. In response to this recent growth in 'community archaeology', the author argues that appropriate criteria and methodologies for evaluating the effectiveness of community archaeology projects have yet to be designed and sets out such a methodology based on self-reflexivity and ethnology. On the basis of her evaluation of several community excavations in the UK and US, the author concludes that community archaeology suffers from short-term funding and often lacks

sustainability, limiting its ability to produce and maintain values for the community, and makes recommendations for designing more sustainable future community archaeology projects.

Smith, D. M. (2005). <u>On the margins of inclusion: changing labour markets and social exclusion in London</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

> This book explores the varied ways that individuals and communities adapt to and resist changing labour markets and social policies via the case study of a largely white, working-class housing estate in outer south London. It examines the sources of community-based social exclusion and the wider implications for the life chances and working lives of economically marginal individuals. The research methods are qualitative and biographical, including a combination of in-depth unstructured and semi-structured interviews, with the latter focusing on work history, experience of and attitudes towards employment training schemes, perceptions of labour market opportunities, and social sources of support and information relating to work. The author reflexively notes that his own experience growing up on a housing estate in south London was an inspiration for his interest in the topic. He carefully considers ethical dilemmas of researching marginalised people, particularly those who are engaged in illegal activities within the local informal economy. The book is divided into nine chapters, including the following topics: an introduction to the informal economy and social-structural change; globalisation and social exclusion; poverty and social exclusion: theory and policy; life and labour on the St. Helier estate between 1930 and 2000; labour market opportunities and welfare-to-work; and lone-parent households; informal opportunities and social divisions; labour markets, exclusion and social capital; and a conclusion 'on the margins of inclusion'.

Solnit, R. (2010). <u>Infinite city: a San Francisco atlas</u>. Berkeley, University of California Press.

> Infinite City: A San Francisco Atlas presents an alternative type of atlas of a city, based on multiple versions of a place: 'An atlas is a collection of versions of a place, a compendium of perspectives, a snatching out of the infinite ether of potential versions a few that will be made concrete and visible' (p. vii). The book includes 22 'maps', which include visual representations done by artists and cartographers accompanied by essays from a range of different voices within the city, with many presented as 'pairings', for example of 'monarchs and butterflies'- butterfly habitats and queer public spaces. The multiple perspectives include reflections on the indigenous bay area from 1769, green spaces and green women (who have fought to protect green spaces), cinema in the city, political landscapes of the right and left, race and justice, pollution, post-war shipyards in the Black Bay area, the 'lost

industrial city' of 1960, ethnic neighbourhoods (African American, Jewish, Japanese, Chinatown), drug underworlds, coffee economies and ecologies, salmon migrations, a university community, church groups, and many others. The book uses a range of methods from across a range of disciplines, loosely inspired by psycho-geography, and although most of the essays are written by the author Rebecca Solnit, the book is a collaborative effort including the work of academic social scientists, cultural historians, artists and cartographers. This book provides an interesting comparison with (Re)searching Gothenberg by Holgersson, H. et al* which also explores ideas of community within the wider framework of a city.

Somerville, P. (2011). <u>Understanding community: politics, policy and practice</u>. Bristol, Policy Press.

Understanding Community explores the relationship between community, policy, politics and theory in the UK context. In the first chapter, the author introduces the wider concept of community, arguing that community is a phenomenon that can be expressed through networks of sociability, interpellates individuals as members of the same collectivity, and involves the possibility of mutual recognition of such membership (p. 1). The second chapter goes on to critically discuss 'community development', particularly the contested character of a 'developed' community, drawing connections to neo-colonialism and gentrification. Further chapters investigate a range of topics related to politics and social policy, including: governmental approaches to community with a critique New Labour (and the Big Society); community economic development; community learning; community health and social care; housing and community; and community order. The book is designed as a text for students, and each chapter concludes with a summary, questions for discussion and further reading. The main methods used in this book are social policy analysis and analysis of secondary sources..

Spencer, L. and R. E. Pahl (2006). <u>Rethinking friendship: hidden solidarities today</u>. Princeton, Princeton University Press.

Rethinking Friendship investigates the nature of friendship today, building on the long tradition within sociology of studying the bonds of community. This book is based on qualitative methods including a range of in-depth interviews (through purposive sampling) that have been analysed using Framework thematic analysis. The authors create a typology of 'personal communities', developing a set of concepts including: friendship repertoires (the range of friendships people have); friendship modes (the way people make and maintain friendships over time); and patterns of suffusion (the extent to which boundaries between friends and family

become blurred). The authors show that people have a wide variety of relationships with their friends, suggesting that despite changing patterns of friendship over time, there is little evidence to support claims that modernity and globalisation are causing community decline.

Tarbin, S. and S. Broomhall (2008). <u>Women, identities and communities in early modern Europe</u>. Aldershot, Ashgate.

This edited collection explores questions of 'identity' and 'community', arguing that both concepts connote affinity and similarity but also difference, and starts from the premise that gender mattered to early modern men and women. Through examining the historical experiences of early modern women, this edited collection investigates tensions between shared gender identity and forces of social division between women. The historical contributions range from the late medieval period to the eighteenth century, with examples of women in England, France, Germany, Ireland, Italy, and Sweden. Different local contexts are also explored, such as the household, neighbourhood, parish, city, court and nation, and these different contexts are reflected in the organisation of the book into six parts: Reading Communities in History; Domestic Polities; Social Networks; Negotiating the City; Gentry Communities; and Queens and Court. The main methods in this edited collection are archival and documentary historical research. This volume also provides an interesting comparison with Capp's* study of women, family, and neighbourhood in early modern England.

Tate, S. A. (2007). "Translating melancholia: a poetics of black interstitial community." <u>Community, Work & Family</u> **10**(1): 1-15.

This article argues that the process of translating melancholia ('an affective state caused by the inability to assimilate a loss, and the consequent nagging return of the thing lost in psychic life', Khanna, 2003, cited p. 4) within people's talk about their life stories on identity, belonging and community makes 'the Black community' as a fixed point of reference impossible because translating melancholia leads to critical agency which reconstructs the boundaries of community. In other words, translating melancholia is performative, as 'the Black community' takes shape through talk. The research methods are based on a discourse analysis of talk about life stories to show that there is an ideal in the form of a dominant discourse on 'the Black community' which is constantly disturbed and re-made by melancholic translations at the level of the everyday. The article concludes that there are boundaries of affect rather than physical boundaries when talking about 'the Black community', and that these boundaries are circumscribed by a politics of race.

Taylor, M. (2011). <u>Public policy in the community, 2nd edition</u>. Basingstoke, Palgrave Macmillan.

> This book explores the challenges involved in community development and empowerment, assessing the lessons for policy and practice based on three decades of community-based approaches to social disadvantage and exclusion. The first chapter explores the changing fortunes of community, the second chapter addresses the policy context of community deficit, government and structural socioeconomic failures, and areas-based initiatives, and the third chapter explores the idea of community in depth, addressing interconnected ideas of community, communitarianism, social capital, mutuality, civil society, networks and informality. The fourth chapter takes up the challenge of 'contradictions of community', exploring its limitations as an oversimplified concept and its 'darker side' as oppressive and exclusive. Subsequent chapters address community in relation to social exclusion and poverty (chapter 5), and the prospects for community empowerment (chapters 6-13), including ideas of community as producers and co-producers and reconciling various difficulties and differences for community building and empowerment. The research is based on policy analysis and participatory community development and community building/empowerment methods.

Thomas, P. (2011). <u>Youth, multiculturalism and community cohesion</u>. New York, Palgrave Macmillan.

> Youth, Multiculturalism and Community Cohesion offers a controversial academic evaluation of 'community cohesion' policies in the UK as potentially positive rather than negative. The starting point for the book is the 2001 riots in the towns and cities of Oldham, Burnley and Bradford in the north of England, where there were violent clashes between Asian young men, white young men and the police. The author examines the post-2001 shift towards 'community cohesion' as a core UK policy, analyses debates about its contested meanings, understandings and implications, and draws international comparisons between multicultural policies in the UK, France and the Netherlands. The author argues that while there have been many critics of community cohesion, there has been almost no empirical qualitative reach of how community cohesion policy is understood and practiced by people in practice. The book seeks to fill this gap through presenting an in-depth empirical study based on grounded action research (involving participant observation and qualitative interviews) with young people in Oldham of how community cohesion has been understood and operationalised 'on the ground'.

Wallace, A. (2010). <u>Remaking community?: New Labour and the governance of poor neighbourhoods</u>. Farnham, Ashgate.

> This book examines the interconnected uses of 'community' in government rhetoric and practice, drawing on qualitative research conducted in a New Deal for Communities (NDC) neighbourhood under New Labour. The research draws on the experiences of residents living in an NDC neighbourhood defined as 'socially excluded', including interviews with a range of residents either individually or in focus groups. The book explores why the concept of community was so central to New Labour and policy actors, and what it meant for neighbourhoods residents who were part of the NDC regeneration project. The book explores the political, emotional and cultural impact of the regeneration experience for residents, linking the contested conceptualisation and mobilisation of 'community' to debates on citizenship and social exclusion.

Weeks, J., B. Heaphy, et al. (2001). <u>Same sex intimacies: families of choice and other life experiments</u>. London and New York, Routledge.

> Same Sex Intimacies explores what the authors call families of choice and other life experiments within same sex intimate relationships. The qualitative research is based on in-depth interviews with 96 self-identified 'non-heterosexuals' in the UK, including homosexuals, lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, queers and a range of other labels that people used to identify their sexual orientations, and formed part of a wider study funded by the UK Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) in 1995 and 1996 of changes in family and personal life. The researchers also conducted comparative work in the US, Denmark and the Netherlands. The authors explore contemporary narratives and meanings of non-heterosexual relationships, as well as the power of friendship and the emergence of new forms of commitment for many non-heterosexuals in the context of 'institutional rejection'. This discussion of the 'friendship ethic' has some parallels with the work on 'Rethinking Friendship' by Spencer and Pahl*. The most extensive discussion of 'community' is in chapter four, 'in search of home', which examines notions of belonging and the idea of 'reflexive community' whereby '(i)n relocating and coming out of the heterosexual selves they have been allocated, non-heterosexuals come into new communities.' (p. 86)

Wenger, E., R. A. McDermott, et al. (2002). <u>Cultivating communities of practice: a guide to managing knowledge</u>. Boston, Mass., Harvard Business School Press.

> This is a practical book that outlines models and methods for developing communities of practice-- 'groups of people who share a concern, a set of problems,

or a passion about a topic, and who deepen their knowledge and expertise in this area by interacting on an ongoing basis' (p. 4). The first author Wenger (Wenger and Lave 1991) originally developed the idea of communities of practice through an analysis of situated learning, and the concept is now widely used within the context of knowledge management. The book discusses the value of communities of practices for organizations, principles for developing communities of practice, various stages of development and limitations to communities of practice, and community-based knowledge initiatives, amongst other practical topics. The book also shows how different companies have used communities of practice to drive strategy, generate new business opportunities, solve problems, transfer best practices, develop employees' professional skills, and recruit and retain top talent, drawing on examples from DaimlerChrysler, McKinsey & Company, Shell, and the World Bank. The main research methods used in this book are case studies and interviews.

Wetherell, M., M. Laflèche, et al., Eds. (2007). <u>Identity, ethnic diversity and community cohesion</u>. London and Thousand Oaks, Calif., Sage.

This edited book explores complex relationships between identity, ethnic diversity and community cohesion in the UK context. The first part of the book examines policy standpoints on progressive solidarity, integration, identity formation, and community cohesion. The second part includes four case studies of identities in community contexts of estate, prison, home, and neighbourhood. The third part reflects on the 'way ahead', towards cohesive, acknowledged, reasoned and non-binarized identities. The contributions in the book use a range of different methods including policy analysis, in-depth interviews, ethnographic research and discourse analysis, amongst others. This book would be worth reading alongside other books which focus on various aspects of the debate about community cohesion in the UK, including Finney and Simpson*, Flint et al* and Thomas*.

Williamson, A. and R. DeSouza, Eds. (2010). <u>Researching with communities: grounded perspectives on engaging communities in research</u>. London and Auckland, Muddy Creek Press.

This edited book includes a range of perspectives from academics, researchers and practitioners on undertaking community-inclusive research. The book provides a number of methodological exemplars for doing community-based research. Some interesting examples include: Community network analysis: Communications, neighbourhood and action; Children in communities affected by conflict and natural disaster in north and east Sri Lanka; Soulful research: Using an arts-based

methodology to authentically engage with local communities; Involving refugees in focus group research; The stranger within: Rethinking distance and proximity of the researcher as community member; The sharing of power: Reflections on community initiated research; and Direct qualitative analysis of data from digital audio sources, amongst others. One of the core themes of the collection is the value of participatory methods in community research: doing research with communities instead of on communities, involving community members as producers or co-producers of research, and challenging the 'conventional' role of the researcher within the research process.

Winson, A. and B. Leach (2002). <u>Contingent work, disrupted lives: labour and community in the new rural economy</u>. Toronto, University of Toronto Press.

> Contingent Work, Disrupted Lives examines the devastating impacts of economic restructuring on individuals and communities within five manufacturing-dependent rural towns in Ontario, Canada. Drawing on in-depth interviews with residents and blue-collar workers in the five different communities, the authors argue that semi-skilled and unskilled workers can no longer expect a lifetime of steady employment with high wages, benefits and security, but instead they face the trauma of job loss, the insecurity of the new labour market, lower-paid jobs, longer commutes and fewer benefits. The authors also explore the negative impact of economic restructuring on the development of social relationships within the workplace, showing how manufacturing workers lose old friendships and have difficulty finding solidarities with other workers in the new economic context. The authors also show differences between older and younger workers and between men and women in coping with insecurity and change.

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