

Ethnic minorities in urban areas

Ethnic minorities in urban areas

A case study of racially changing communities

David P. Varady

University of Cincinnati

***Martinus Nijhoff Publishing
Boston/The Hague/London***

Sole distributors for North America:
Kluwer Boston Inc.,
160 Old Derby Street,
Hingham, MA, 02043, USA

Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data

Varady, David P

Ethnic minorities in urban areas.

Bibliography: P.

Includes index.

1. Residential mobility--Pennsylvania--Philadelphia
--Case studies. 2. Philadelphia--Race relations--Case
studies. I. Title.

HD7304.P5V37 301.45'1'0420974811 78-10876

ISBN-13: 978-94-009-9247-4 e-ISBN-13: 978-94-009-9245-0

DOI: 10.1007/978-94-009-9245-0

Distributors outside of North America:

Kluwer Academic Publishers Group

Distribution Centre

P.O. Box 322

3300 AH Dordrecht, The Netherlands

Copyright © 1979 by Martinus Nijhoff Publishing

No part of this book may be reproduced in any form by print,
photoprint, microfilm or any other means, without written
permission from the author

Acknowledgements

This volume dates back to spring, 1969 when I was a doctoral student in city planning at the University of Pennsylvania and also a staff member of the Center for Research on the Acts of Man. The leaders of Beth Zion Temple, a large Conservative congregation in Wynnefield (a racially changing community) in Philadelphia,¹ approached Dr. Samuel Z. Klausner to consider conducting research related to two questions: (1) Should the congregation remain at its current location and (2) If not, where should it relocate to? I was appointed to direct the study. During the spring and summer of that year, a random sample of Jewish and non-Jewish families were telephone interviewed for religious, demographic and mobility information. Later that year, Jewish families who were telephone interviewed were sent and completed mailed questionnaires dealing with Jewish cultural and religious characteristics. The results of these surveys were reported on in a technical report to the congregation titled *Synagogues Without Ghettos*. My section of the report dealt with mobility and migration patterns of the different religious groups in the area and the extent to which these patterns were likely to alter the population composition of the area.

The experience of writing this section excited my interest in the subject of neighborhood racial change. As a result, I chose as my dissertation topic, *The Household Migration Decision in Racially Changing Neighborhoods*. Utilizing the same data set that was used in the report to Beth Zion Temple, I focused on four issues: (1) the characteristics of the racial transition process; (2) whether white households accelerated moving plans in response to racial change; (3) factors affecting moving plans; and (4) factors affecting attitudes toward residential integration.

In the fall, 1973, the Institute for Jewish Policy Planning and Research (Washington, D.C.) provided a grant to the Center for Research on the Acts of Man which made it possible to re-survey the Jewish families who had been interviewed in 1969. This volume is based on the results of both the 1969 and 1974 surveys.

1. The identity of the congregation has been masked to protect its anonymity.

Many people assisted me in preparing this monograph. I am indebted to Samuel Z. Klausner for teaching me the methods of survey research and for the opportunity to direct the original 1969 study. He has also provided a detailed critique of each of the chapters in this volume. Other members of the staff at the Center for Research on the Acts of Man provided invaluable assistance in completing the 1969 and 1974 surveys.

This volume also benefits from the comments I received from members of my dissertation committee: Dr. Howard Mitchell, Dr. Martin Rosenzweig and Dr. Morton Schussheim. I am especially grateful to Dr. Paul Niebanck, supervisor of the dissertation, who guided me in conceptualizing the problem and provided encouragement throughout.

My colleagues at the Graduate Department of Community Planning at the University of Cincinnati have made this an ideal working environment for writing this monograph. I want to especially thank Dr. Kenneth Corey, Chairman of this department for his critiques of several of the chapters as well as for his willingness to be a sounding board for my ideas. I also appreciate the statistical advice I have received from Dr. William Philliber (formerly of the Department of Sociology, University of Cincinnati), Dr. Al Tuchfarber (Department of Political Science, University of Cincinnati) and Dr. George Galster (Department of Economics, Wooster College). My student assistants have done much of the computer work and the preparing of maps: Pierce Eichelberger (Geography), Bruce Laybourne (Sociology), Ellyn Cohen (Graduate Department of Community Planning), and Connie Hinitz-Washofsky (Graduate Department of Community Planning). The Southwestern Ohio Regional Computer Center (SWORCC) facilitated this research by making sufficient computer time available to me. Finally, I want to thank Mrs. Debbie Keene and Mrs. Angela Dunphy for their careful typing of numerous drafts of this volume.

I would also like to thank Mr. Ira Silverman and Mr. George Johnson (former Director and former Research Director) of the Institute for Jewish Policy Planning and Research for their suggestions and encouragement. Without the financial support provided by the Institute, this volume would not have been possible.

I am especially grateful to the men and women in the Wynnefield-Lower Merion Township area who completed the telephone interviews and mailed questionnaires. Hopefully, the results of this monograph can be used by synagogues, churches and other ethnic institutions to improve the quality of life in this and similar areas.

My wife Adrienne helped me in textual editing and in preparing some of

the maps. For this help and the moral support provided, I am deeply appreciative.

A somewhat different version of Chapter 4 has appeared under the title, 'White Moving Plans in a Racially Changing Middle-Class Community,' in the *Journal of the American Institute of Planners*, Vol. 40, No. 5, September, 1974. Chapters 5 and 6 appear in similar form in volumes 7 and 8 of *Regional Science Perspectives* under the titles, 'The Ethnic Factor and Moving Decisions in a Racially Changing Community,' and the 'The Mobility Process in a Racially Changing Community.'

Table of contents

Acknowledgements	v
List of tables	xI
List of figures	xv
1. Introduction	1
2. Previous research: The underlying causes of neighborhood change	14
3. The racial transition process: Is Wynnefield a typical changing community?	38
4. Determinants of moving plans: Did white residents panic move?	67
5. Determinants of mobility: Do ethnic variables influence the decision to move?	84
6. The mobility process: Why householders think they moved ...	102
7. Synagogues and churches in changing communities: What role can they play in stabilization efforts?	120
8. Conclusions and policy implications	134
APPENDIX 1. Sampling scheme	143
APPENDIX 2. Biases introduced by sampling and interviewing procedures	147
APPENDIX 3. Additional statistical analyses for chapter four, determinants of moving plans	151
APPENDIX 4. Additional statistical analyses for chapter six, determinants of mobility	161
APPENDIX 5. Additional statistical analyses for chapter seven, attitudes toward synagogue involvement in neighborhood stabilization efforts	167
References	173
Index	181

List of tables

CHAPTER THREE

<i>Table 1.</i>	Racial changes in Wynnefield – 1960 to 1970	43
<i>Table 2.</i>	Income and expenses of the Wynnefield Residents Association – 1967 to 1974	46
<i>Table 3.</i>	Comparison of Wynnefield whites and blacks with respect to selected socio-economic and housing characteristics – 1970 (tracts 117, 118 and 119 only).	49
<i>Table 4.</i>	Comparison of white and black Wynnefield families with respect to stage in life cycle	51
<i>Table 5.</i>	Changes in the socio-economic characteristics of Wynnefield's population between 1960 and 1970	51
<i>Table 6.</i>	Comparison of white and black Wynnefield families with respect to family structure controlling for family type (proportions of families that are single-headed)	54
<i>Table 7.</i>	Comparison of white and black Wynnefield families with respect to income controlling for family type (proportions of families with incomes of \$ 10,000 or higher)	54
<i>Table 8.</i>	Comparison of white and black Wynnefield families with respect to tenant status controlling for family type (proportions of families who are homeowners)	55
<i>Table 9.</i>	Capacity and enrollment in Wynnefield schools 1974	59
<i>Table 10.</i>	CAT test scores for Wynnefield schools 1974	59
<i>Table 11.</i>	Incidence of crime in Wynnefield, the 19th police district (which includes Wynnefield)	62
<i>Table 12.</i>	Incidence of crime in Lower Merion Township – 1960, 1965, 1973	62

CHAPTER FOUR

<i>Table 1.</i>	Results of regression analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of remaining) with different personal characteristics and location for white respondents in the study area as a whole	74
<i>Table 2.</i>	Results of regression analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of remaining) with different personal characteristics for white respondents in Wynnefield and Lower Merion Township	76
<i>Table 3.</i>	Results of regression analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of remaining) with personal characteristics (including Jewish cultural characteristics) for Jewish Wynnefield respondents	82

CHAPTER FIVE

<i>Table 1.</i>	Simple associations and relative importance of background characteristics in predicting moving plans (likelihood of remaining 3 years or more) and mobility (likelihood of remaining between 1969 and 1974) for Jews in Wynnefield	94
-----------------	--	----

CHAPTER SIX

<i>Table 1.</i>	Home and neighborhood related reasons for moving from the 1969 location	106
<i>Table 2.</i>	Family related reasons for moving from the 1969 location ..	109
<i>Table 3.</i>	Housing and neighborhood related reasons for choosing the new location	110
<i>Table 4.</i>	Communities considered in selection of new location	113
<i>Table 5.</i>	Location of new home, by community area, by 1969 location	116

CHAPTER SEVEN

<i>Table 1.</i>	Proportions of Beth Zion members approving different policies aimed at attracting members	124
<i>Table 2.</i>	Results of regression analyses relating attitudes toward community involvement with different personal characteristics for Jewish respondents in Wynnefield and Lower Merion Township	126
<i>Table 3.</i>	Proportions of Wynnefield and Lower Merion Township Jews approving different forms of synagogue community involvement	128
<i>Table 4.</i>	Relationship between changes in attitudes toward biracial community action and location (1969)	130
<i>Table 5.</i>	Results of regression analyses relating changes in attitudes toward biracial community action with different personal characteristics	131

APPENDIX ONE

<i>Table 1A.</i>	Proportions of Wynnefield and Lower Merion Township telephone samples interviewed	144
<i>Table 1B.</i>	Proportions of synagogue sample and total Jewish sample completing and not completing mailed questionnaire	145
<i>Table 1C.</i>	Response status of families sent Wave 2 mailed questionnaire	146

APPENDIX TWO

<i>Table 2A.</i>	Comparison of families returning and not returning Wave 1 questionnaire	149
<i>Table 2B.</i>	Comparison of families returning and not returning Wave 2 questionnaire	150

APPENDIX THREE

<i>Table 3A.</i>	Results of crosstabular analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of moving) with location and personal characteristics for white respondents in the study area as a whole	152
<i>Table 3B.</i>	Results of crosstabular analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of moving) with selected personal characteristics for white respondents in Wynnefield and Lower Merion Township	154
<i>Table 3C.</i>	Inter-correlations of independent and dependent variables for total sample of white respondents, Wynnefield and Lower Merion Township	156
<i>Table 3D.</i>	Inter-correlations of independent and dependent variables for white Wynnefield respondents	157
<i>Table 3E.</i>	Inter-correlations of independent and dependent variables for white Lower Merion Township respondents.	158
<i>Table 3F.</i>	Results of crosstabular analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of moving) with Jewish cultural characteristics for Jewish Wynnefield residents	159
<i>Table 3G.</i>	Inter-correlations of independent and dependent variables for Jewish Wynnefield respondents	160

APPENDIX FOUR

<i>Table 4A.</i>	Tests for reproducibility and scalability of sets of items included in the regression analyses	162
<i>Table 4B.</i>	Results of crosstabular analyses relating moving plans (likelihood of moving) and mobility (likelihood of moving) with personal characteristics for Jewish residents of Wynnefield	163
<i>Table 4C.</i>	Inter-correlations of variables in regression analysis	166

APPENDIX FIVE

<i>Table 5A.</i>	Relationships between background characteristics and attitudes toward community involvement and neighborhood stabilization	168
<i>Table 5B.</i>	Inter-correlations of independent and dependent variables in regression analyses of determinants of attitudes toward synagogue involvement in biracial community activities and efforts to attract Jewish families to the Wynnefield area	169
<i>Table 5C.</i>	Relationships between background characteristics and the likelihood of becoming more/less interested in biracial community action between 1969 and 1974	170
<i>Table 5D.</i>	Inter-correlations of independent and dependent variables in regression analyses of determinants of changes in support for synagogue involvement in biracial community activities	172

List of figures

CHAPTER ONE

<i>Figure 1.</i>	Boundaries of study area	10
<i>Figure 2.</i>	Population density Wynnefield 1960	11
<i>Figure 3.</i>	Housing type	12

CHAPTER TWO

<i>Figure 1.</i>	Elements affecting the decision to seek a new residence	33
------------------	--	----

CHAPTER THREE

<i>Figure 1.</i>	Distribution of non-white population 1950	41
<i>Figure 2.</i>	Distribution of non-white population 1960	42
<i>Figure 3.</i>	Blacks	44
<i>Figure 4.</i>	Distribution of religious groups	47
<i>Figure 5.</i>	Black and white population by age	50
<i>Figure 6.</i>	Changes in the racial composition of schools serving Wynnefield	57
<i>Figure 7.</i>	Vacant dwelling units	60

CHAPTER FIVE

<i>Figure 1.</i>	Mobility model	85
<i>Figure 2.</i>	Path analysis of the effects of different background characteristics and moving plans on residential mobility (likelihood of remaining) among Wynnefield Jewish residents	96

CHAPTER SIX

<i>Figure 1.</i>	Inter-census tract mobility	117
------------------	-----------------------------------	-----