SOC 300: Introduction to Sociological Research Methods
Lab 10: Group Work - Coding Qualitative Interview Data
04.23.13

Names: _____

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Directions:
1) This project requires you work in pairs.
2) Read through the interview response on your own to get a general understanding of the content.
3) **Open coding:** Go through the interview a second time and describe what's happening. Make notes of categories that begin to surface. Refer to your text for discussion and examples of basic coding.
4) Discuss your open coding with your partner.
5) **Axial Coding:** Look to develop connections between categories based off of your open coding and discussion with your partner.
6) Use these categories to formulate a basic explanation of phenomena in play in this account.
7) **Selective/Focused coding:** Return to the interview with your explanation in mind and code for specific supporting or conflicting data.
8) Summarize your findings by producing a basic typology to display your data.
9) Hand in your coding and data display at the end of class.

I: So we talked about the changes in Woodlawn, how do these changes get talked about in the Woodlawn community?

R: It really depends on who you talk to about them. So, um, so I guess the two extremes I guess you could talk to would be like, you know people involved with the university (The University of Chicago) and on board with its agenda. And I think they think of the kind of north, the bit of Woodlawn that is near the midway as Hyde Park. So their idea is that Woodlawn is changing for the better. The way in which it is changing for the better is that it is becoming a safer place that faculty and students would want to live and somewhere that is going to kind of grow and revitalize as part of the greater Hyde Park community. Another way of talking about it is groups like TWO; so The Woodlawn Organization. So, famously back in the 60s organized against the university with Saul Alinsky. Now, you know many people, certainly many people at STOP (Southside Together Organizing for Power) would say that they (TWO) have relatively climbed into bed with the university. And so you, they, I mean Bishop Braiser and Leon Finney (leaders in TWO) who were like this, the two kind of big figures, regularly appear on panels with university administration and generally they will have pretty much the same lines. So I think, like I have seen Leon Finney in meetings about this. His line is something like, well times have changed. Back in the 60s it was all about protecting Woodlawn from the university. Times have changed. The university is different now, it is better. They want the best for people in

Woodlawn as well as in Hyde Park. Our agendas coincide and so now what we need to do is find ways of working with the university to improve Woodlawn. And I think TWO would point to things like, I think it's called Columbia Point, so these housing units that are kind of east of maybe Kimbark, or east of Woodlawn, all along 63rd street, which are theoretically kind of affordable housing. I mean that's the kind of thing that I think they are interested in being more of. So they would, they have a vision where Woodlawn is changing for the better, the way in which that is happening is that the university is collaborating with groups like TWO to create a kind of multi-racial , multi-income level population that has housing and all kinds of stuff available to them. Then there's people like STOP. They would say that the situation now is very little different from the situation back in the 60s. What you still have, except that TWO has switched sides. So what you still have is big powerful organizations like the university who have their agenda and their agenda is gentrification. And in that they are joined by Mayor Daley, that's what he wants as well and now increasingly by groups like TWO. And so they would say the question is and always has been where do like low income people of color fit into that whole story. And where they think they fit into getting displaced, or they don't fit in. Um, so STOP would see, they would link together the possible foreclosure of Grove Park, which would allow the displacement of Section 8 residents, the closure of the mental health clinic, which they would see as something that particularly targets low income community. The university expansion, TWO's affordable housing, they would also see as an agent of gentrification. If you live in Grove Park (apartment complex) that ain't affordable housing. You know the City's definition of affordable housing is based on median income in the whole metropolitan area; that is like something like four times more than what the income in Woodlawn is… it is just not by any reasonable definition affordable if you live in Woodlawn. They would, I mean STOP are very good at tying all these stories together into one narrative. They do it a lot. They link all these things, when they protest the mental health clinic closures they make sure they mention the Olympics, they make sure they mention housing. Um, so they would say that is where these things are going. The only way it's not going to go that way is if low income people of color organize and resist and stand up for their, what they would term human rights. So human rights to housing, health care, they frame the whole thing in terms of human rights. So their vision would be for change to kind of come from the grassroots up. But they think that is virtually no one's agenda except for their own currently. That's a long answer.