

Yale University

# Workshop in Urban Ethnography

Spring 2013

## ***The People's Report: How Change is Created on the Street Corner Through Street Participatory Action Research***



### **Yasser A. Payne**

***Associate Professor of Black American Studies  
University of Delaware***

Yasser A. Payne is an associate professor in the Department of Black American Studies at the University of Delaware. Dr. Payne completed his doctoral work at the Graduate Center-City University of New York, where he was trained as a social-personality psychologist. Dr. Payne's street ethnographic research program explores notions of resiliency with the streets of Black America using an unconventional methodological

framework called participatory action research (PAR) – the process of involving members of the population of interest on the actual research team. His work has appeared in the *Teachers College Record*, the *Journal of Black Psychology*, and the *Journal of Social Issues*, among others.

### **The People's Report: How Change is Created on the Street Corner**

Dr. Payne will discuss his current PAR project, the “Safe Communities” Training and Employment Project (also known as the Wilmington Street PAR Project). This community-based study trained fifteen people (ages 21–48) formerly involved with the streets and/or the criminal justice system as participatory-action researchers to empirically document the impact of community violence in Wilmington, Delaware. The study ultimately calls attention to PAR methodological designs as way to reach, organize, and provide quality educational and employment opportunities to street-life identified black populations inside local communities. Watch a video trailer of the documentary *The People's Report* here: <http://vimeo.com/49922911>.

***Lunch Served \*\*\* All Welcome***

**Monday, March 25, 11:30a-1:20p**  
210 Prospect Street, Room 203, New Haven

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