## Workshop in Urban Ethnography

Fall 2012

## **Rachel Woldoff**

White Flight/Black Flight: The Dynamics of Racial Change in an American Neighborhood.



Rachael A. Woldoff is an Associate Professor of Sociology at West Virginia University. She received an M.A. and Ph.D. in ociology from the Ohio State University, specializing in crime and community. Dr. Woldoff<sup>1</sup>s research and publications have focused on neighborhood crime and disorder, neighborhood redevelopment, and racial/ethnic differences in residential outcomes. Her work has appeared in Social Forces, Urban Affairs Review, and Urban Studies. Her 2011 book, White Flight/Black Flight: The Dynamics of Racial Change in an American Neighborhood, is study of an urban neighborhood explores the topics of neighborhood change, mobility decisions of whites and blacks, crime and disorder, cross-racial neighboring, and intraracial cultural conflict. The book presents a portrait of a working-class neighborhood in the aftermath of white flight, illustrating cultural clashes that accopany racial change as well as ommon values that transcend race, from the perspectives of three groups: white stayers, black pioneers, and <sup>3</sup>second-wave<sup>2</sup> blacks. Dr. Woldoff has a long-standing interest race/ethnicity and urban sociology, especially neighborhood life

in African American and white communities. Her past work includes studies of racial/ethnic differences in the effects of individuals<sup>1</sup> wealth on their neighborhood characteristics. She has also published on the topics of fear of crime, <sup>3</sup>snitching,<sup>2</sup> the role of crime in father<sup>1</sup>s lives with their children, and black students<sup>1</sup>

adjustment to rural, white universities. Dr. Woldoff<sup>1</sup>s coauthored book, *High Stakes: Big Time Sports and Downtown Redevelopment*, investigates sports facilities as a form of urban redevelopment. Her new book project, *Trouble in Urban Paradise*, uses rich ethnographic interviews with the original residents and comparative newcomers of Stuyvesant Town to take readers inside the struggle for community and affordable housing in the heart of New York City, revealing the structural forces and cultural and generational clashes unleashed when landlords seek to transition a rent-stabilized housing community to a market-rate luxury destination.



Monday, October 15th, 2012, 11:30am-1:20pm 210 Prospect St, Room 203