

# **CRJ 204 1700: Criminal Justice and the Urban Community**



**SPRING 2021**

**Tuesdays & Thursdays from 5:30 – 6:45 pm in Zoom**

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# AGENDA: Thursday, February 11, 2021

- Complete discussion of Finding out how the social world works.
- How do cities promote or undermine community?

**READ:** Jacobs, J. (1961). *Death and Life of Great American Cities*. Chapter 2: The uses of sidewalks – safety. In Gates and Stout (Eds.), *The City Reader*. Pp. 106-111. Or

Wikipedia contributors. (2021, January 15). The Death and Life of Great American Cities. In Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia. Retrieved 17:01, July 21, 2021, from [https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The\\_Death\\_and\\_Life\\_of\\_Great\\_American\\_Cities&oldid=1000489721](https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=The_Death_and_Life_of_Great_American_Cities&oldid=1000489721)

## DISTRIBUTE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSIGNMENT 1

- Looking ahead

# Looking ahead: Next week

<p><b>Class session 5:</b>  <b>Tu 2/16</b></p>	<p><b>Understanding disparities: Poverty in the city</b></p> <p><b>READ:</b> Austensen, M., Been, V., O'Regan, K. M., Rosoff, S., &amp; Yager, J. (2016). <i>2016 focus: Poverty in New York City</i>. New York, NY: New York University Furman Center.</p>
<p><b>Class session 6:</b>  <b>Th 2/18</b></p>	<p><b>Understanding disparities: How a War on Poverty became a War on the Poor</b></p> <p><b>READ:</b> Piven, Frances Fox. "Our Endless War on the Poor." <i>Progressive.org</i>, The Progressive, 30 Mar. 2020, <a href="https://progressive.org/magazine/our-endless-war-on-poor-fox-piven/">progressive.org/magazine/our-endless-war-on-poor-fox-piven/</a>.</p> <p><b>REMINDER:</b> <b>Neighborhood Assignment 1 is due T 2/23</b></p>



# Where were we?

## How the social world works

- We know what we know through: 1) logical deduction, 2) from others, 3) from personal experience or observation, 4) systematic research, 5) mystical revelation, and/or through 6) instinct.
- **Systematic research is the best way to create valid (accurate) and reliable (consistent) knowledge.** It is best because:
  - We can control personal biases
  - We can get beyond personal experience and casual observation
  - We can check up on each other's work
- **Systematic research is best suited to answer empirical and interpretive questions** and remember that previously answered empirical questions help with interpretation.

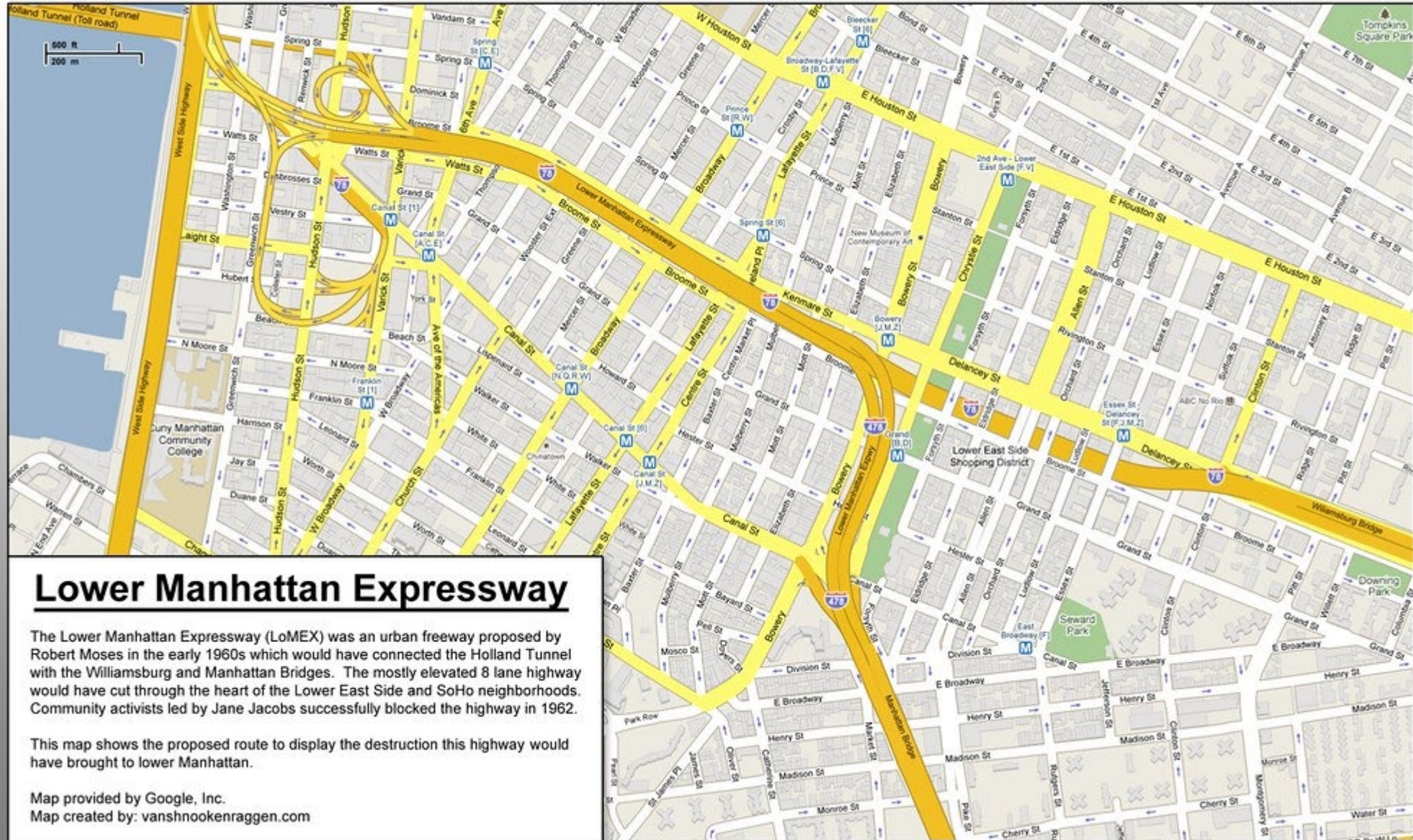
# Public policy: Solving social problems and delivering social services

- **Public policy is what government does or does not do about a problem that comes before them for consideration and possible action.**
  - **Government includes any public official who influences or determines public policy, including school officials, city council members, chiefs of police, etc.**
- **Policy is made in response to an issue or problem that requires attention. Policy is what the government chooses to do (actual) or not do (implied).**
- **Policy might take the form of law, or regulation, or the set of all the laws and regulations that govern a particular issue or problem.**
- **Policy is made on behalf of the "public."**
- **Policy is ultimately made by governments, even if the ideas come from outside government or through the interaction of government and the public.**
- **Policymaking is part of an ongoing process that does not always have a clear beginning or end, since decisions about who will benefit from policies and who will bear any burden resulting from the policy are continually reassessed, revisited and revised.**

## How do cities promote or undermine community?

Jacobs, J. (1961). *Death and Life of Great American Cities*. Chapter 2: The uses of sidewalks – safety.

- Jane Jacobs' idea: Look at how we use cities to know how to make cities better
- City planners, politicians, developers, and corporations promoted ideas that compromised cities and their neighborhoods
- She and others were fighting against **suburbanization**, which was anti-urban



## Lower Manhattan Expressway

The Lower Manhattan Expressway (LoMEX) was an urban freeway proposed by Robert Moses in the early 1960s which would have connected the Holland Tunnel with the Williamsburg and Manhattan Bridges. The mostly elevated 8 lane highway would have cut through the heart of the Lower East Side and SoHo neighborhoods. Community activists led by Jane Jacobs successfully blocked the highway in 1962.

This map shows the proposed route to display the destruction this highway would have brought to lower Manhattan.

Map provided by Google, Inc.  
Map created by: vanshnookenraggen.com







# Jacobs: Uses of sidewalks – Safety

- <https://forms.gle/Vts2iKWXExZXfAGCA>

# How do cities promote or undermine community?

**Jane Jacobs:**

**Streets and sidewalks are vital; they keep the city safe; if people fear streets, they don't use them, and those streets become less safe**

**Successful city streets:**

- **Clearly mark public versus private space**
- **Have “eyes upon the street”**
- **Have many users**

**We need enough reasons to visit streets to bring people to streets to make them safe; police are necessary but do not keep streets safe; mixed-use is essential!**

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