**Integrated households, integrated neighbourhoods? Mixed ethnicity households and neighbourhood change in England**

Gemma Catney (Queen's University Belfast), Mark Ellis (University of Washington), Richard Wright (Dartmouth College)

Neighbourhoods in England are becoming more ethnically and racially mixed (Johnston et al., 2013; Catney, 2016a), at the same time as the share of inter-ethnic households is growing (ONS, 2014). In this paper, we explore the interplay between these two, and specifically the place of mixed-ethnicity households in neighbourhood racial and ethnic transitions. We ask: Is the new neighbourhood diversity of many English cities associated with mixing in intimate spaces? This shift in focus from individuals to households allows us to challenge dominant understandings of neighbourhood integration. People can live ‘segregated lives’ even in diverse neighbourhoods if their household arrangements are monoracial (Bonilla Silva, 2021). In contrast, different household arrangements in a neighbourhood that involve ethnic and racialised groups sharing the intimate space of the home presents a fundamentally different understanding of residential integration.

Our analysis makes use of Census data for England to explore the interplay between growing neighbourhood and household diversity – or integration. We focus in particular on majority White spaces, given their dominance, and the fact that they are biggest source of transitions to diverse, multi-ethnic neighbourhoods where no group is dominant (Catney et al., 2020). We use a neighbourhood classification schema and information on inter-ethnic households to explore if the presence of mixed households in White (and other group) dominated neighbourhoods is associated with the diversification of those spaces. We find considerably higher rates of inter-ethnic mixing in moderate diversity White neighbourhoods than in low diversity White neighbourhoods. Neighbourhoods (of all types) that transitioned into more ethnically and racially diverse (or ‘integrated’) spaces typically had higher proportions of inter-ethnic households than for other neighbourhood transition types. We conclude with reflections on the opportunities for better understanding processes of integration by paying attention to how *layers* of mixing – bodies in households, in neighbourhoods – coexist and interrelate.