Community, Identity, and Place

Module III Lecture Guide: Part II

II. Community versus Identity

A. What is “community”?

B. What does “communal” mean?

C. Understanding other terms related to the concept of “community”:
   - neighbor / neighboring
   - kinship
   - ritual
   - secular
   - face-to-face communications
   - primary versus secondary groups
   - individuality

D. Expanding the Concept of Community

1. America the Melting Pot

   America is “the great Melting Pot, where all the races of Europe are melting and reforming!...The real American has not yet arrived. His is only the Crucible. I tell you – he will be the fusion of all races, the coming superman.”

   --Israel Zangwill, *The Melting Pot*, 1908

   a. The Browning of America

      What does this mean?

   b. Melting Pot versus Stewpot

      How is a “stewpot” different from a “melting pot”?

2. The Global Community
E. Threats to Community

1. Sociologist Louis Wirth (1897-1952) and the concept of alienation, in *Urbanism as a Way of Life* (1938)

   large population size + density + heterogeneity ➔

2. French sociologist Emile Durkheim (1858-1917) and the concept of anomie, in *The Division of Labor in Society* (1893)

   🌼 Definition of *anomie*.

3. Atomization

   a. Louis Wirth and definition of “minority” (1945)
   
   b. subculture
   
   c. subcommunity
   
   d. Herbert Gans (1927-) and “ethnicity”

Optional Online Readings and Experiences to Explore for Part II of Module III

(More to be added later….stay tuned!):


Webley, Paul. “Life in the City: Lecture Outline.” Read about the famous social psychology incident referred to as *The Bystander*, at
<http://www.ex.ac.uk/~PWebley/psy1002/citylife.html>.

Wellman, Barry (Director of Netlab, a scholarly network studying computer networks, communication networks, and social networks) and his publications about “Netville” at < http://www.chass.utoronto.ca/~wellman/publications/publications.html - netville>