

## **Liveable cities: The gentrification of Peckham and Black urban removal worldwide**

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### **Abstract**

The arrival of the HMT Empire Windrush to UK shores in 1948 marked a pivotal chapter in Caribbean immigration to the UK. The participants who settled in Peckham between 1950 – 1990 are the Windrush generation (1948-1971). Traditional oral storytelling is the main form of documenting the rich histories of these Caribbean natives and their contributions to Peckham's cultural and social capital (Bourdieu, 1986). This research documents the lives and interconnected histories of research participants through non-traditional approaches. I live within the community in which I conduct the research and have focused on a purposeful sample of residents who want an opportunity to tell their story and be heard. The oral histories are stored as audio files and written text. All participation is voluntary, and participants can withdraw their contribution at any time. Examples of disseminations include creative performances and readings (Wellcome Collection, 2019); lectures in community spaces (Black History Walks, (2014, 2015, 2020,2021; Drapers Tenants Hall, 2019; Thomas Calton Centre, 2019); Peckham Gentrification Walking Tours to impact authenticity of national youth theatre performances (Gone Too Far! Bola Agbaje, NYT, 2023); Rights in Focus creative arts conference (Autograph, UAL, SLG,2023) and UAL CCW Foundation Art project (2023). Radio 4 podcast 'Thinking Allowed' (2022). Education from a holistic perspective is an insightful way for the community to tell their own story in the Caribbean oral tradition and is impactful for future generations. It also enriches the history of communities and their contribution to the cultural and social capital of Peckham.