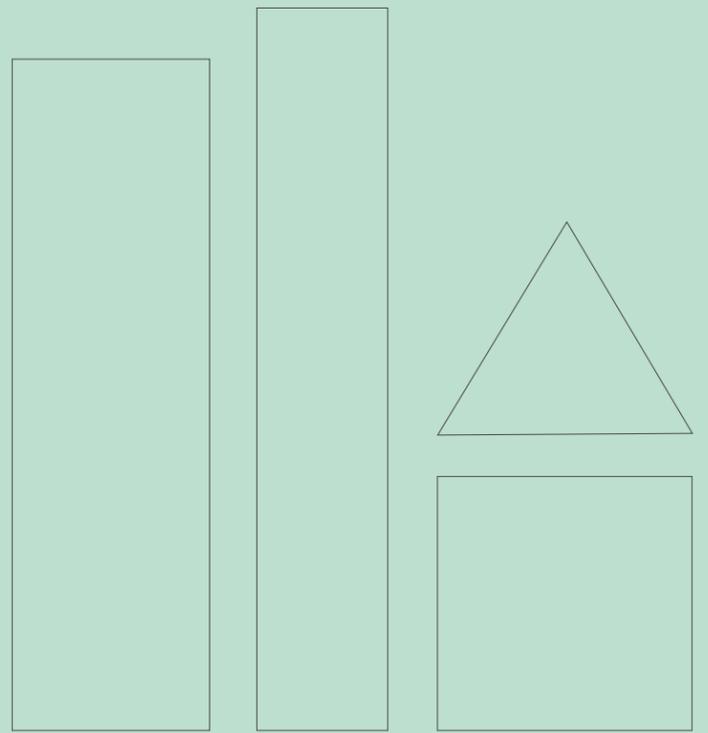


# Open Call: Essays on the Sociology of Housing



In 1947, Louis Wirth argued for the importance of housing as a field of sociological research. Since then, efforts to understand the place of housing in society have been largely subsumed within other disciplines, such as economics and urban planning. Within sociology, housing studies have often found a home in subfields such as neighborhood effects, inequality, and political sociology.

As recent events have generated a renewed interest in the study of housing, sociologists have something important to contribute to these public discussions. For example, the housing affordability crisis continues to hit more and more households. While many Americans receive housing assistance through the federal government, housing assistance programs continue to fall short of helping most Americans who need them. Persistent patterns of racial segregation continue to shape housing markets. Sociologists are uniquely equipped to intervene in these conversations about housing.

In this collection of essays, we seek to take stock of the current field of scholarship and provide new directions for the sociological study of housing. The volume aims to both organize current research, highlight important aspects of the subfield, and provide a roadmap for sociological studies of housing. We expect authors to draw on diverse methodological approaches, present unique field sites and data sources, and foreground sociological theory to understanding contemporary housing issues. Chapter by chapter, we anticipate that the volume will generate promising directions for the sociological analysis of housing.

We expect each essay will be 5,000 - 6,000 words. Each essay should begin with an argument explaining the salience of the topic to the sociological study of housing. Contributors will then review key findings in the subfield, highlight their own research, and outline their approach to studying this topic. Essays will conclude by identifying remaining questions and directions for future research. We expect contributors will use this volume as an opportunity to showcase previous work while building a new conversation around the sociology of housing.

Some possible topic areas include:

- Forms of housing instability
- Barriers and obstacles in the search for housing
- Housing assistance programs (vouchers, LIHTC, HOPE VI, public housing)
- Changing patterns of housing discrimination (e.g., redlining, steering, mortgage discrimination)
- Housing quality and inspections
- Landlords and the private market
- Mechanisms and consequences of residential segregation
- Housing markets and market actors
- Housing and neighborhood preferences
- Intersections of housing and the criminal justice system
- Health and housing
- Place-based housing policies
- Homeownership

**Call:** We invite 2 page (double-spaced) proposals for essays on topics related to the sociology of housing. Interested contributors should submit proposals to Eva Rosen ([eva.rosen@georgetown.edu](mailto:eva.rosen@georgetown.edu)) and Brian McCabe ([brian.mccabe@georgetown.edu](mailto:brian.mccabe@georgetown.edu)) by **Friday, March 13th**. Chapters can be solo-authored or co-authored. We expect to notify authors of submission decisions by mid-April. Final chapter drafts will be due on **Friday, October 2nd**. Essays will be peer-reviewed by volume contributors after their submission in October. We expect the volume to be published with a top university press.