

Document 1 **The end of Black Harlem**

I HAVE lived in Harlem for half my life — 30 years. I have seen it in all its complexities: a cultural nexus of black America, the landing place for Senegalese immigrants and Southern transplants, a home for people fleeing oppression and seeking opportunity. Harlem is the birthplace of so much poetry and music and beauty, but in the eyes of many who have never set foot here, it has long been a swamp of pain and suffering.

It is also changing, rapidly. [...] But when we friends gather at a restaurant like Cheri for a convivial romp hosted by the owner, Alain, or on a Friday, at the Rooster, presided over by the D.J. Stormin Norman, we are every color, every race, every age, identity and class. In the moment, laughing, drinking and dancing together, it seems marvelous. This Harlem, this is what New York is supposed to look like, to be like. Only, most of us know that our fun times together are doomed.

Michael Henry Adams

May 27, 2016

Source : <https://www.nytimes.com/2016/05/29/opinion/sunday/the-end-of-black-harlem.html>

Documents 2a & 2b **Harlem in the 1970s and today**



Compare and contrast the documents

Here is some help

Document 1

- What is the document about ?
- Pick out elements showing why Harlem can be called a melting pot.
- What kind of image of Harlem is given here ? Is it positive or negative ?
- Find one element in the article showing that things are likely to change dramatically in the near future

Documents 2 a & 2b

- Describe each document in detail
- What kind of image is given of Harlem in each picture ?

Document 3

- What is the document about ?
- Say what is positive and negative about the opening of the Whole Foods Market at the corner of 125th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard.

Document 3 Watching Harlem over 28 years

The first time Camilo José Vergara pointed his camera at the corner of 125th Street and Malcolm X Boulevard, it was 1989. Most of the upper floors of the building he photographed had been bricked up. But it was highly functional at street level. “Count how many small businesses are in this building,” says Griffin Hansbury, a.k.a. Jeremiah Moss [...]. “This is a building that, had it been brought back to life instead of destroyed, you could theoretically have more than a dozen small businesses and people living over that.” As for its replacement, it’s mostly “a glass box with a Whole Foods and a bank.” The store opens on July 21. [...]

The Whole Foods Market will, to be fair, surely bring fresher produce and better meat to a neighborhood where such things can be scarce. (At prices, however, that many residents cannot pay.) New construction is not inherently bad just because it’s new. But here, as in so many other places, an interesting building that was very much anchored in its time and place has given way to one that is very much not.

Christopher Bonanos

July 13, 2017

Source : <http://nymag.com/intelligencer/2017/07/harlem-gentrification-whole-foods-vanishing-new-york.html?gtm=top>