



Whitelash in the UK?

Gest - Chapter 3 - Peripheral Visions

THE POLITICS OF DISPLACEMENT IN EAST LONDON

Case: Barking and Dagenham Borough

- Barking and Dagenham are located in East London
- They were basically agricultural until the 1920's;
- The region started to receive investments and industries and, in 1932, the Ford Company built a factory in Dagenham, the biggest in Europe
 - The factory expanded mostly during the Second World War, achieving 40k employees in 1953
- In 10 years, Dagenham saw its population increased from 9k to 90k in 1931



From the 1930's to the XXI Century


- The region was considered a refuge for the white working class, since the majority of the population was white and British: back then, employers encouraged residents to develop associations around billiard clubs, bowling leagues, and competitions for chess, cricket, football, tennis, and shooting, creating a feeling of community among the residents
- In the mid-70's, the Ford factory started to suffer with competition and lost market share in Europe
- With this decline, the plant had a substantial decrease in its total production output, which led to a significant and continuous shortening of its human resources/workforce (number of employees fell from 28k in 1975 to 7,3k in 2000).



How is Barking and Dagenham Borough today?

- There were also demographic changes: from a region mainly formed by the white working class, they started to receive immigrants
- The 2011 census calculates that 50% of the borough is white British, 22% is of African or Afro- Caribbean origins, 16% is of South Asian origins, and 8% is of Eastern European origins (Office for National Statistics 2012)
- Today, the Barking and Dagenham borough has the worst levels of literacy and the second worst of numeracy in London; white youth's performance, in particular, are scoring lower than the national average
- The pubs are the remaining space for the white working class





What about Barking and Dagenham's population?

- Once the factories were closed, part of the population started to move out of the Borough
- The newcomers, mainly immigrants (African, Asian and Eastern Europeans), occupied the spaces that once belonged to the white working class
- This change and the lack of understanding about the way that the borough changed so fast, created a feeling that the space was not safe anymore, mainly to the white working class

“It was a community back then. It was predominantly English. There was an Asian girl. And there was one black boy whose mother was a big, fat lesbian who didn't live the quietest of lives. But we always got on, and the English were the majority. It has always been diverse what with us living so near the river. But I remember when we went around the houses for a Christmas charity about 10 years ago, and I noticed all the black faces. Now it's a million times worse” (Nancy Pemberton, 59 years)

BNP & EDL

British National Party (BNP): political party founded in 1982 by former members of the National Front (NF), a major nationalist/fascist party that ended its activities in the 60's. The party seems to focus its activities in street marches and demonstrations (including possible paramilitary activity) rather than in the "traditional politics". It peaked in the 2000's, when the party managed to elect over 50 seats in the local government.

<https://youtu.be/26vL88SAIHk>

English Defence League (EDL): far right social movement founded in 2009. Much like the BNP, the movement focus its actions in street demonstrations and has one single objective - spread anti-islamic propaganda, targeting muslims (in general) through its rhetoric, particularly claiming that political extremism is the basis of the religion in itself.

London Assembly & Mayoral Elections May 2008

The LONDONER

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The Changing Face of London

From this...



...to this



CONSIDER THIS, this is the way London used to be. At ease with itself, friendly, happy and secure. A capital city with a sense of community values and social inclusiveness. If you would like London to be like this again, then support the British National Party, the party that puts local people first.

Is This What You Really Want?

Practical Results: Barking and Dagenham and Brexit



< EU: IN OR OUT?

Barking & Dagenham

Votes: OUT

37.6%
IN

27,750

62.4%
OUT

46,130

Nationalism and Ethnic Exclusion, the feelings of far right movements

- The radical right gives priority to sociocultural issues, in particular to issues related to national identity. Its central political program can be understood as “a response to the erosion of the system of ‘ethno-national dominance,’ which characterized much of the history of modern nation states”
- **Ethnopluralism:** Contrary to the traditional conception of racism, the doctrine of ethnopluralism, as such, is not hierarchical: different ethnicities are not necessarily superior or inferior, only different, incompatible, and incommensurable.
- Nouvelle droite (1969) → *Groupement de recherche et d'études pour la civilisation européenne*



Alain de Benoist (74 years old and an idiot)

