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RESUMENPROPUESTA DE TESIS

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Título de la Propuesta de tesis:**Social Consequences of Urban Regeneration**
Case Study: London Olympic Village

The main objective of this research is to investigate current and potential changes in social structure caused by urban regeneration that took placeduring London's Olympic Games in 2012. The aim is to present what are the social consequences of such huge urban changes and how local low-income residents wereaffected by the Olympic legacy. This research will place emphasis on residents' displacement as a defining feature of the mega-event.

Form the urban perspective, mega-events, such as Olympics,are one of the mayor catalyst for fast-track urban development of the host city. It is believedthat the practice of using the mega-events as an important accelerator for urban development emerged after the massive urban regeneration for the Barcelona Olympics in 1992 (Lei-Spaans, 2009).Ever afterwards, this short-term event become the opportunity for the host cities to pivot the urban planning not only through the building of sport facilities but also by using it as a comprehensive planning tool. Olympics also create opportunity for significant investment in modernization or development of new infrastructure. Often it gives the excuse for prompt regeneration of former industrial and brown field sites and therefore entitling environmental improvement and the increase of dwelling stock.

Despite the obvious benefits that could be achieved, given a large-scale dimension, numerousnon-negligible disadvantages are likely to occur. One of the most criticised "side effect" is, almost inevitable, residence displacement whereby inhabitants are removed to make space for the event. With upsetting regularity, it is observed that usually such regeneration favours gentrification and the more affluent residents rather than the low-income inhabitants.Displaced residents may suffer dislocation from workplaces and social networks, while remaining residents may experience deprivation and exclusion in an area whose services and amenities are now designed to accommodate different, more affluent social group (Whitson and Macintosh, 1996, p. 290).

When, in 2005 London was awarded to host 30th Olympiad in 2012, the promoters stated that, unlike in past editions, the beneficial legacy of this event will be long lasting and advantageous to the local communities: the East End, which was among the poorest neighbourhoods of London. The government promised that the advantages would result in direct benefit for local community, involving significant physical, economical and social advancement. Moreover, they promised that social exclusion of the neighbourhood would be overcome by creating the social-mixed communities thought potted-tenuremethodology byallocating 30% of total new dwelling as affordable(DCMS, 2008).

However, many scholars were concerned that this may be just another example of gentrification. They believe that the creation of social mixing communitywon'taddress the issues of poverty and exclusion, on the contrary, they would legitimize and support gentrification, which ultimately will causes the displacement of low-income inhabitants rather than the improvement of their lives.

Therefore, the hypothesis is: despite the Government's efforts to promote socially mixed communities and its promise for an improvement that will mainly benefit local residents, the urban regeneration project of the East End will be the cause of replacement of low-income residents by more affluent residents. In another words gentrification will take place causing exactly the opposite effect of what promised by local government, as the displaced residents will suffer rough social and economical consequences.

This research will make use of qualitative methodology that comprises an initial literatura review and focusg roups, which will be followed by field work and case study analysis.
Archival primary source material, analysis of displacement management model, new planning documents of host boroughs, analysis of rise of rents and housing prices, and other sources will be used to assess a variety of factors that either promote or limit new displacements.

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