Neighbourhood social relations: How has ethnic group segregation changed in England and Wales, 2001-2011?

Dr Gemma Catney
Leverhulme Trust Early Career Fellow
Department of Geography and Planning,
School of Environmental Sciences
Email g.catney@liverpool.ac.uk
Twitter @gemmacatney

‘Is Britain Pulling Apart?’
RSS, London, 13th May 2013
Ethnic group ‘segregation’ in Great Britain

Media and popular discourse – in GB, recent years have seen an increase in interest in several key issues:

- Immigration
- Population concentration and dispersal
- Community cohesion/multiculturalism/integration

(cont...)
• Identity, values and ‘Britishness’

• Inequalities, social cohesion and social exclusion

• 2011 Census results: levels of ‘White British’ and ‘foreign-born’

Policy and politics:
• ‘Integration’ a policy issue; debate about how diversity is affecting our society,
• Monitor ‘segregation’ to understand how society is changing.
• Feed into more informed debates about these issues
• Relevance to issues such as discrimination and the persistence of unequal opportunities – eg in housing and the labour market.
What do we know so far? (in brief)

• Britain does not have ‘ghettoes’ (Peach 1996 (TIBG) and 2009 (JEMS))

• Segregation decreased between 1991 and 2001 (Simpson 2007 (JRSSA), Rees and Butt 2004 (Area)). Since 2001? All shall be revealed!

• “Segregation by income, wealth and employment is greater than segregation by ethnicity” (Parkinson et al. (2006) State of the English Cities: p.153)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>1991 Category</th>
<th>2001 Category</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>White</td>
<td>White British White Irish White Other 🟠 White Gypsy Irish Traveller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>Indian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistani</td>
<td>Pakistani</td>
<td>Pakistani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistani</td>
<td>Pakistani</td>
<td>Pakistani</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladeshi</td>
<td>Bangladeshi</td>
<td>Bangladeshi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black Caribbean</td>
<td>Black Caribbean</td>
<td>Black Caribbean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>Chinese</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>Other Black</td>
<td>Other Black Other Asian Other Other White and Black Caribbean White and Black African White and Asian Any Other Mixed 🟠 Arab</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic group</td>
<td>2011 population</td>
<td>% point change 1991-2001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>--------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>48,209,395</td>
<td>-2.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indian</td>
<td>1,412,958</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pakistani</td>
<td>1,124,511</td>
<td>0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangladeshi</td>
<td>447,201</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caribbean</td>
<td>594,825</td>
<td>0.08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>African</td>
<td>989,628</td>
<td>0.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chinese</td>
<td>393,141</td>
<td>0.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>2,904,253</td>
<td>1.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>56,075,912</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
• The population of England and Wales has become more diverse, and more mixed.
• A reflection of increased societal tolerance and greater confidence in expressing mixed ethnicity:

Mixed or multiple ethnic group: c.660,000 (1.3%) in 2001 to over 1.2 million (2.2%) in 2011

• An outcome of intimate mixing:
  • 12% of households of 2+ persons now with residents with multiple ethnic groups
  • 6.5% of households of 2+ persons living with a spouse or partner with a different ethnic group to their own.

• An urban element to this mixing: most predominant in areas with lower White British populations (London): diverse areas are the most ‘integrated’.
Index of dissimilarity ($D$): population (un)eveness

Tests unevenness or unequal geographical spread
Comparison between groups e.g., Chinese compared to White British, or, usually more sensibly, Chinese compared to the rest of the population

$$D = 50 \sum_{i=1}^{n} | \frac{X_i}{X} - \frac{Y_i}{Y} |$$

- How much of the given group would have to move areas to be distributed evenly.
- 0% indicates a completely even spread of the population, and 100% means complete separation.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Geog.</th>
<th>White</th>
<th>Indian</th>
<th>Pakistani</th>
<th>Bangladeshi</th>
<th>Caribbean</th>
<th>African</th>
<th>Chinese</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>53.3</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>61.8</td>
<td>61.6</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>67.3</td>
<td>32.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>52.1</td>
<td>56.5</td>
<td>61.5</td>
<td>61.4</td>
<td>62.8</td>
<td>67.9</td>
<td>32.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>District</td>
<td>49.4</td>
<td>50.7</td>
<td>60.8</td>
<td>58.4</td>
<td>58.3</td>
<td>54.5</td>
<td>33.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Ward</td>
<td>61.4</td>
<td>65.3</td>
<td>75.1</td>
<td>74.2</td>
<td>68.9</td>
<td>71.1</td>
<td>42.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Ward</td>
<td>58.8</td>
<td>62.1</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>71.6</td>
<td>67.0</td>
<td>70.6</td>
<td>41.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Ward</td>
<td>56.1</td>
<td>57.0</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>67.0</td>
<td>62.4</td>
<td>59.8</td>
<td>42.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>OA</td>
<td>60.8</td>
<td>68.8</td>
<td>78.5</td>
<td>82.3</td>
<td>72.6</td>
<td>77.0</td>
<td>67.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>OA</td>
<td>59.2</td>
<td>63.8</td>
<td>75.9</td>
<td>80.1</td>
<td>68.2</td>
<td>66.9</td>
<td>61.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Case example: England and Wales, 2001-2011
Output areas within local authority districts
*Districts with >200 pop. each ethnic group*

% of districts

% change in segregation, 2001-2011
Change in segregation, Chinese ethnic group, 2001-2011
- Decrease ≤ -10%
- Decrease > -10%
- Increase < 10%
- Increase ≥ 10%
- < 200 residents

Change in segregation, Indian ethnic group, 2001-2011
- Decrease ≤ -10%
- Decrease > -10%
- Increase < 10%
- Increase ≥ 10%
- < 200 residents
Urban area typologies

OPCS Area typologies: Champion (2005) *Focus on People and Migration* and www.ethncity.ac.uk/census
Processes of changing segregation

Hypothetical scenarios

Note: (1) Must have equal opportunities and minimised discrimination for these housing aspirations to be achieved, and (2) should not be assumed that this is an inevitable or preferred model for all (Peach 1996).
• RDI: standardised to give a value from 0 to 100 where 100 indicates that every group is in equal proportion in the area.

Most diverse electoral wards in E&W: Dollis Hill in Brent (RDI: 56) and Plaistow North in Newham (RDI: 49) (E&W mean = 3)

• The most diverse local areas are in districts which have seen a decrease in segregation for most ethnic minority groups.
• Diverse areas are not dominated by one ethnic group and should not be understood as segregated, or as becoming more so.
The story so far…

- Minority groups: decreasing segregation in urban areas.
- Segregation for the White ‘group’ taken as a ‘whole’ goes down for neighbourhoods.

- White British: decreasing segregation at the LA level, increases slightly for Output Areas.
- The White British continue to have low levels of segregation.
  - **Why ‘increasing’ segregation for the White British?**
    Increased residential mixing ‘on the ground’, in previously ‘homogenous’ (suburban/rural) areas.
Neighbourhood ethnic segregation: has it decreased?

A new study by Dr Gemma Catney, using Census 2011 data, has delved deep into output areas in England and Wales to show how ethnic group segregation has changed in neighbourhoods over the last decade. See the results below:

- More census data
- More data journalism and data visualisations from the Guardian

Histograms of change in segregation. Click on the image to see a full size graphic.

The release of Census 2011 statistics has created some interesting opportunities for analysis and scrutiny at local levels. A new study, using Census data, has delved deep into output areas to show how ethnic group segregation has changed in neighbourhoods over the last decade.
‘White flight’?

- **British national identity** is commonly expressed.
- The White British population remains the **majority** population, at over 80%.

- White British population loss in England and Wales. London has received most attention (>600,000)
  - An **ageing population**
  - A continuation of **suburbanisation and counterurbanisation** seen in Britain for decades (housing aspirations common to all ethnic groups)
  - White British **less isolated** in 2011 than in 2001 (increase in index of exposure)
No (internal) migration data available yet. But what’s going on…?

Classification of areas into urban/rural typologies

- For many ethnic minority groups, that group’s smallest gains are in the areas where the White British have seen their greatest population loss.
- However, even more insightful is to consider a group’s share within an urban/rural type
- E.g. 6% of the White British in outer London districts in 01; 5% in 11 = 1% decrease in share
The proportion which a given ethnic group occupies in each area type has been calculated, whereby each ethnic group's share sums to 100%. This chart shows the differences in these percentages from 2001 to 2011, which sum to zero for each ethnic group. Gain in an ethnic group's share in one area type must correspond to their loss in another type(s).
What relevance to social relations?

Focusing on change 01-11, rather than pattern in 2011:

- Greater geographical spread of minority populations
  - Increased diversity in previously homogenous majority White areas
  - Decreased segregation

- Reduced isolation of the White British from minority populations

- More mixing between people, in relationships, in households, between generations