

2020 Seneca Green Citizen Symposium

Jay Pitter is an award-winning placemaker whose practice mitigates growing divides in cities across North America. She spearheads institutional city-building projects specializing in public space design and policy, forgotten densities, mobility equity, gender-responsive design, inclusive public engagement and healing fraught sites. Using a multidisciplinary approach, located at the nexus of urban design and social design, Jay's approach translates to community insights and aspirations into the built environment.

Ms. Pitter's presentation at the 2020 Seneca Green Citizen Symposium was entitled 'Rethinking Environmentalism and Land-Use'. As a theory in planning, Jay looks to confront planning's historical and current role in perpetuating urban inequity.

In lecture we have discussed theoretical planning, which focuses on the growth and development of cities with a particular view point, like wearing a pair of glasses that can colour or bias thinking in a particular way. Theoretical steps can be used in the rational planning model to make the planning process as rational and systematic as possible. And it is the rational planning model that is central to modern urban planning and is used to design and plan neighbourhoods, cities and regions. Being able to use critical thinking skills is essential to this process, as it is a way of analyzing and evaluating in order to make decisions. Urban design is not neutral, and history shows us examples of restrictive ordinances and by-laws, top-down practices and exclusionary public processes.

QUESTION:

Using the information presented in Ms. Pitter's presentation, specifically, points pertaining to:

- Land Stewardship versus land ownership and use
- Rethinking the right to the city
- Using respectful but critical lens
- Public consultation performance and limitations
- Role of community knowledge and place-based expertise
- Equity based placemaking principles

...combined with class lecture material, including:

- Lecture 1: Critical Thinking
- Lecture 2: Planning Histories
- Lecture 3: Canadian Planning Histories
- Lecture 4: Normative versus Theoretical Planning
- Lecture 5: Thinking about Urban Environments
- Lecture 6: Planning Organization in Ontario (specifically our planning 'triangle')

Please answer the following in a minimum 1000 and maximum 1500 word essay:

Describe how planning's historic and current role perpetuates urban inequity, and what role, if any, do you think placemaking can play in planning moving forward to address urban inequity? And does this change or modify the role that the theoretical steps in the rational planning model play in modern urban planning? Can the rational planning model be used address inequity?

Due date: November 11th, 9 am via safe assign

Sources:

<http://www.jaypitter.com/>

Rethinking Environmentalism and Land-Use, Green Citizen Symposium 2020, Jay Pitter