



May 5, 2020

*Giving Back* - GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world.

Giving Tuesday began as a way to give back, which occurred around Thanksgiving, but communities around the world are participating in May in GivingTuesdayNow as a response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

We would be so grateful if you choose to participate on May 5, 2020 by making a small (or large) donation to Saving Our Youth. Click below to make your donation or monthly/quarterly sustainability pledge.

<https://www.savingouryouthva.org/donate>



MAY 2020 EDITION

This month we want to give you an update on what's happening with the YEER Program.

YEER stands for Youth Empowerment thru Eviction Research. For this program, our students are receiving nice size stipends. With our new reality, our program has shifted from us meeting in person to us having meetings through zoom video chats.



We started with developing research questions. Here are some of the questions the youth are researching in order to come up with their final product. Below are some of the questions the students came up with but first, we had to discuss what makes a good research question. A good research question is

**Specific**, the question should ask about a particular time, place, event, and/or problem. Something that is clear and direct enough so that you can think about how you would find the answer to it.

**Researchable**, the question can be answered by collecting some kind of information/data in a logical and systematic way. Not all questions are answerable in this way.

**And Empirical**, a question that can be answered with data that you can collect. This means that the data must exist somewhere and is available for you to gather.

YOUTH EMPOWERMENT THRU  
EVICTION RESEARCH  
**STUDENT HOUSING  
LEADERS PROGRAM**

**NOTICE OF EVICTION**

Persons Unknown <b>AND ALL OTHER OCCUPIERS</b> College Suite No. Address	In the New Haven County Court Case No. 9GU01394 Warrant No. X000863 Issue Date: 20th April 2011
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We regret to inform you that your suite is scheduled for demolition in the next three days. If you do not leave within the next three days, we reserve the right to destroy your suite. Anyone left inside is outside our responsibility.

This may seem like harsh treatment, but consider yourselves lucky. This is far more of a warning than many Palestinian subject to discriminatory house demolitions would receive, indeed "all demolitions are carried out without warning giving no opportunity for residents to salvage possessions" (Amnesty International in June 2010).

Such demolitions are applied on a discriminatory basis, take the following quote from Sarah Leah Whitson, the Middle East director at Human Rights Watch: "Israeli authorities allow buildings that will benefit low-income citizens while demolishing Arab homes next door. That obviously discriminates against non-Jewish Israelis, but officials haven't given any justification for this clear difference in treatment between citizens."

21,813 houses have been demolished by the Israeli Defense Forces in the West Bank, East Jerusalem and Gaza since 1967 (Israeli Committee Against Homeless/Demolitions). These demolitions occur against international law and without proper notification, and in connection with the growth of Israeli municipalities and illegal settlements.

"The army steps came at six in the morning, people saw them in the valley and started taking their belongings out of the houses. We didn't have time to finish making the coffee. They demolished everything here, by 9:30 they were finished."

Raeda Nassarneh, a 24-year-old mother of two, describing demolitions in khalbet Lusa to Amnesty International in 2010.

New Haven County Court  
The Law Courts  
Hempden Street  
New Haven  
CT 06510  
01483 905300

STUDENTS FOR JUSTICE AND PEACE IN PALESTINE



Why is this information important for our youth to know. More than half the youth that are registered with Saving Our Youth / Six Points Innovation Center has experienced displacement at least once, some several times. Especially now with COVID 19, it's a scary time, not just for adults but for youth as well, especially if they've been displaced in the past. What will happen if my mom gets sick or loses her job?



Here are some of the questions the student will be researching for their final project. These are questions they came up with:

1. Why do people who live in low income housing have less education than people in higher income houses?
2. What causes people to get evicted?
3. What is affordable housing for people with low incomes?
4. What communities have the highest/lowest eviction rate and why?
5. What are the landlord's responsibilities for homes/ low income homes/ vacant properties?
6. What happens after the eviction freeze is over for people who didn't pay rent because they lost their jobs and ends up owing 3-4 months' rent?
7. Are lower income communities affected more financially then other communities? Socially? Emotionally?
8. How does gentrification effect our community's eviction rate?
9. How does loitering effect housing?

**THE YOUTH WE SERVE**

A child raised in 23222 is more likely to be raised in poverty, to live in a household where one or more adults is unemployed, and to attend a school where indicators show many students are lagging behind on literacy, attendance, and graduation. Your donation can give a youth with these circumstances a better chance for a better future.

*Everyone deserves a fighting chance.*

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