

Discussion of

Dynamic Individuals, Static Neighborhoods: Migration and Earnings Changes in Poor Neighborhoods

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Elizabeth Roberto, Ph.D.
Department of Sociology, Rice University

Summary

Why do poor neighborhoods tend to stay poor?

→ Do residents of poor neighborhoods stay in poor neighborhoods and experience little income growth?

OR

→ Do residents leave poor neighborhoods when their income rises, with lower-income residents remaining behind?

This question has important implications for understanding **individual migration patterns** and the **persistence of concentrated poverty**, and for adjudicating between **people-based** and **place-based policies**.

Summary

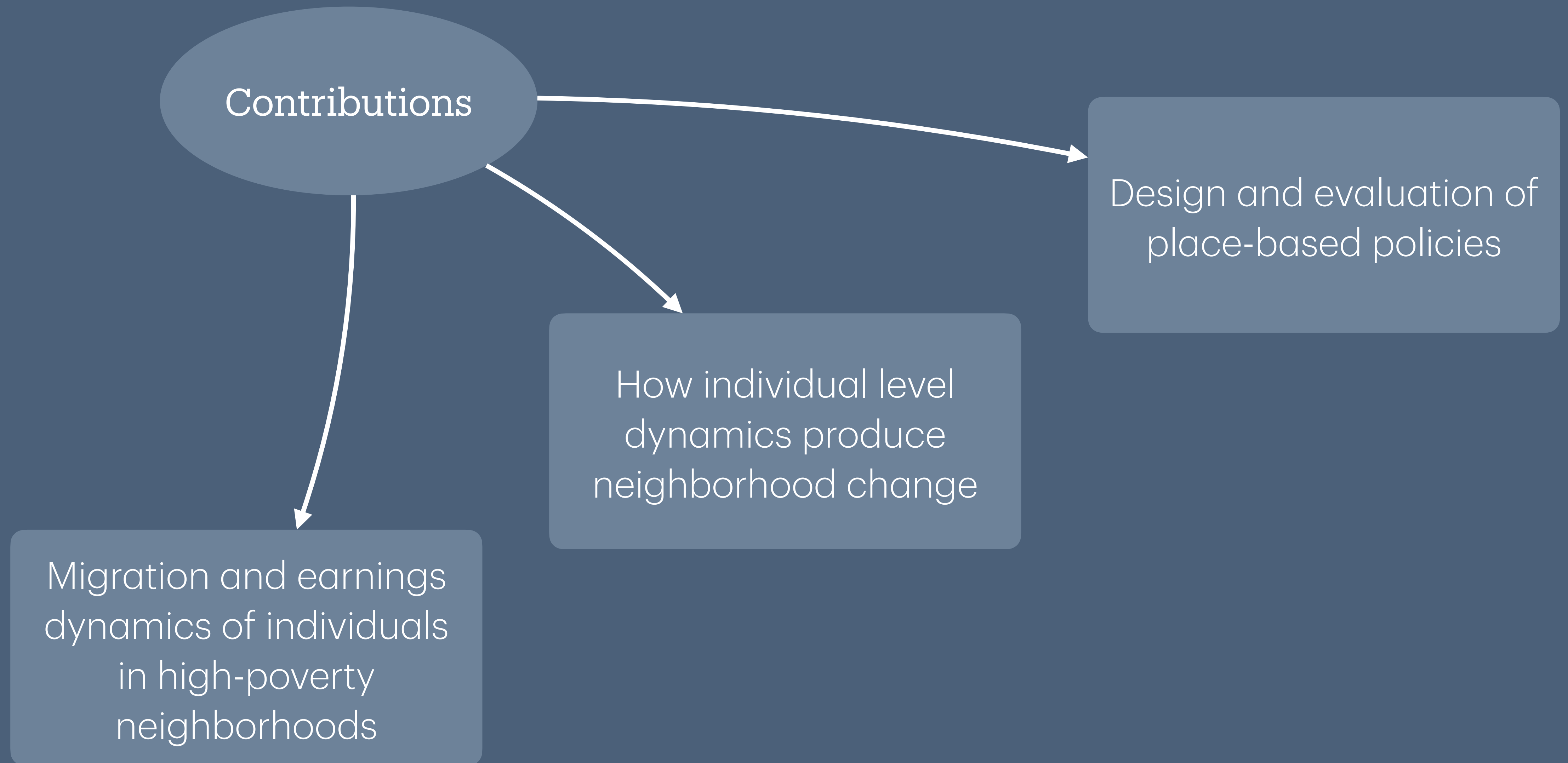
Findings:

1. Migration rates are higher in poor neighborhoods.
2. Earnings growth rates are similar across richer and poor neighborhoods.
3. Positive relationship between earnings growth and migration to richer neighborhoods, estimated using descriptive and quasi-experimental approaches.

Implications:

- Most residents of poor neighborhoods are not simply “stuck” there – many experience sizable earnings gains and move to richer neighborhoods.
- This dynamic process is an important mechanism in keeping poor neighborhoods poor.

Summary



Comments: Mechanism



Comments:

Spatial Perspective



Kensington neighborhood of Philadelphia, PA



Grosse Point Park is one of the wealthiest neighborhoods in Detroit. The Fox Canal separates it from the now-sparsely populated Jefferson Chalmers neighborhood.

<https://unequalscenes.com/detroit>

Comments:

Heterogeneity and Intersectionality



Thank You

Elizabeth Roberto

Department of Sociology, Rice University

eroberto@rice.edu

