

NEIGHBORHOOD ETIQUETTE

HOW TO GREET YOUR NEIGHBOR:

Make eye contact and Smile

Try using phrases such as:

“Good Morning!”

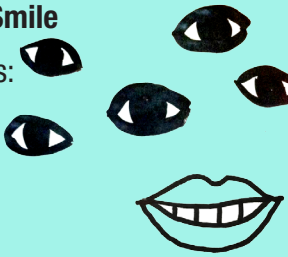
“Good Afternoon”

“Good Evening!”

“How are you?”

“How’s your family?”

“Great/terrible/strange weather we’re having today”



Cat-calling is never a good idea!

Although it may seem friendly, “Yo Ma,” “Mami,” or “Shorty” are offensive even when accompanied by a compliment such as “you look beautiful” or other PERSONAL MUSINGS. “Why?” You ask? Well, because women don’t need the complements of strangers to validate them and to assume that we should be grateful for unsolicited comments on our appearance is offensive and misogynistic. And misogyny is not neighborly.

To women:

Although they are sometimes just trying to be friendly people who use cat-calling as an entry way to making friends (or maybe a little more than friends) they’re not really seeing you as a real person. So don’t waste your time or positivity on anyone who does this to you.

Hanging outside your building:

When sitting on the stoop you need to be sure that you leave room for people to come up and down the steps or at least pay attention and move out of the way when people are entering or exiting the building. Also, when walking down the street with your friends in the middle of the night, keep your voices down. People are trying to sleep. Same goes for walking into your building late at night. Not every neighbor wants to hear that you’re home.

WHAT’S TO BE DONE?

Pay Attention. There are things going on around you and you may benefit from understanding them and seeing things from another perspective.

Refrain from these kinds of thoughts: “there was basically nothing in this neighborhood until that new cafe/coffee house/ironic dive bar opened up” “I know my landlord is illegally evicting older tenants but my apartment is newly renovated and .05% below market rate, what am I supposed to do, I have to live somewhere too, and I don’t have the energy to get involved.”

YOU DISCOVERED NOTHING

GENTRIFIERS ANONYMOUS

PRESENTED BY THE BROOKLYN HI-ART MACHINE

12 STEPS TO BEING LESS OF THE PROBLEM AND MORE OF THE SOLUTION

1. We acknowledge that we are powerless over the housing market — that our lives have become unmanageable and that something must be done.

2. We have come to believe that a power greater than selfishness and desire for wealth is necessary to restore our society to sanity.

3. We must make a decision to use our privileges to everyone's advantage, be a good citizen and understand the needs of others in this city.

4. We must make a searching and fearless moral inventory of ourselves to see our complicity and do our best to reverse it.

5. We admit to ourselves and to another human being the exact nature of our wrongs.

6. We must be entirely ready to remove all of the defects of character that are rooted in the colonizer mentality and that detrimentally affect low-income people of color.

7. We humbly demand of our public servants actually affordable and more rent stabilized housing.

8. We will be taking names and kicking ass until we get it!

9. We will acknowledge and make direct contact with people in our neighborhoods who are different from us where ever possible, except when to do so would injure them or others.

10. We will continue to take personal inventory, work to overcome self-interest as our sole motivator and generally try to be decent.

11. We will seek, through reflection and observation of our surroundings, to improve conscious contact with our neighbors and acknowledge their presence in the neighborhood.

12. Having “woke” to the reality of the modern day housing crisis and the marginalization of poor people and having decided to not be an asshole as a result of these steps, we will carry this message to gentrifiers, and practice these principles of decency in all our affairs.

According to census data, New York City rent prices grew at almost twice the pace of income between 2000 and 2013. Affordable rent is often out of reach to those who need it the most. Renters feel the tightest squeeze in areas with relatively low household incomes where rent commands a far greater share of income. In each of the 10 least affordable neighborhoods in 2015 median incomes were well below New York City's forecasted median (\$55,303). The least affordable neighborhood was Manhattanville in Manhattan, where annual rent on newly listed rentals is more than the entire annual income of the typical resident. By contrast, median rent in the five most expensive rental markets (Central Park South, Tribeca, Todt Hill (Staten Island), Flatiron, and DUMBO) accounted for less than half of median household income.

In another example, in Crown Heights the median asking rent is \$2,312 and the rent to income ratio is 71.4%. While in Green point the median asking rent is 2,856 and the rent to income ratio is 36.1%. According to findings, the rent burden is expected to be the greatest in Brooklyn, where the typical new renter will spend 60 percent of their income on rent in 2015, followed by the Bronx (52.0 percent), Manhattan (48.8 percent), Queens (41.4 percent), and Staten Island (30.1 percent).

According to a recent analysis by the NYU Furman Center for Real Estate and Urban Policy, more than 58,000 units of subsidized affordable rental housing will be eligible to opt out by 2024. Without these subsidies, current recipients would face a highly unaffordable rental landscape. The large gap between what is affordable given a neighborhood's median income and prevailing rent prices highlight the value, and in some cases the necessity, of these housing subsidies in preserving affordability for these communities.