Reading Tips and Study Questions
CLASS SIXTEEN

Required reading


Rosalind Greenstein and Yesim Sungu-Eryilmaz, “Community Land Trusts: A Solution for Permanently Affordable Housing,” Land Lines (Jan 2007), Lincoln Institute for Land Policy


Recommended reading


Thaden, Emily. 2011 “Stable Home Ownership in a Turbulent Economy: Delinquencies and Foreclosures Remain Low in Community Land Trusts” (Lincoln Institute for Land Policy, 2011)


Zekas, Valerie. 2014. SF Community Land Trust Stops Ellis Act Eviction.

National Community Land Trust Network – website: http://cltnetwork.org

Overview and discussion questions

In this session, we consider a variety of alternatives to the standard affordable housing unit produced by the conventional system. Stone introduces a range of types in his article on social housing while other pieces examine particular alternatives: coops, community land trusts, and supportive housing. What are some of the benefits of limited-equity cooperatives for low-income households? What are the challenges to managing limited equity co-operatives? Why are community land trusts suddenly so popular? What factors may influence their ability to deliver on their potential? How do publicly led and privately led land trusts differ?

Looking at the Tsemberis recommended reading and video, what is unique about the “housing first” approach? Why hasn’t it been more broadly adopted? Tsemberis discusses supportive housing in his TED talk – the provision of intensive services to homeless and near-homeless people in a permanent setting, rather than in a shelter or transitional unit. This allows us to discuss Housing First and other approaches to serving the needs of those unable to keep steady shelter.