THE MANY FORMS OF ECONOMIC INSECURITY IN MUMBAI, INDIA

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Introduction

- What strategies are lacking in Mumbai, India that could protect individuals from economic insecurity?
- Human Security: a protection for people to not live a life in poverty, violence, climate change, and sudden economic/financial setbacks to provide a better life for themselves (UN Trust Fund for Human Security).
- Economic Insecurity: the amount of income necessary to cover basic expenses without relying on the government. Helping people to maintain a living to provide a quality of life now as well as in the future (Turrillo 2018).
- Mumbai has a total population of 20,411,274 in which 9 million people live in poverty (World Population Review).

Bird's Eye View of City Rooftop "Slums" in Mumbai Human beings are exposed to living in such conditions as the one depicted above. There are multiple people shown in this image that illustrates the poor living conditions in Mumbai with the lack of accessible resources to maintain healthy stand of living.
GettyImages https://media.gettyimages.com/photos/slums-of-mumbai-picture-id521825543?s=2048x2048

Methodology

- My project will consist of a photo essay with an estimated 10 photographs.
- Photos will come from GettyImages database to provide context of threats posed to individuals in Mumbai, India.
- This case study will utilize arts-based research methodologies.
- Photos portray diversity in how economic insecurity impacts men, women, and children at the local level.

Literature Review

- Mumbai has a continuing large population, growth, deteriorating infrastructure, and corruption (Vita 2019).
- According to a Maharashtra Survey, people in the poorest districts earn only 25 percent of what people in the wealthiest districts do.
- The use of photographs is a visual exploration of a powerful tool in which it creates a literal and emotional distance. It gives us distance to reflect on how we have allowed societies to become unequal. (Miller's *Unequal Scenes Project* 2018).
- Civic engagement involves "working to make a difference in the civic life of one's community means promoting the quality of life in a community, through both political and non-political processes" (Youth.gov).

Homes Along the Railroad Tracks A little boy is walking on top of train tracks in Mumbai amongst other people that live alongside the railroad. This is not safe for children to be walking on train tracks to get to the place they call home.
. GettyImages. https://media.gettyimages.com/photos/slums-along-the-railroad-tracks-picture-id593336684?s=2048x2048

Women in front of a City Rooftop in Mumbai
These "slums" are located on Ray road in Bombay, Mumbai, India. Humans are being exposed to living in such conditions with such little access to any means of getting necessary items for human survival.
GettyImages.https://media.gettyimages.com/photos/women-in-front-of-slum-ray-road-bombay-mumbai-maharashtra-india-picture-id521753844?s=2048x2048

Family Washing Clothes at Dharavi
Two family members wash their clothes in the dirty water at Dharavi. This family does not have the means to either wash their clothes at home or even have clean water that is safe for human use just to do their clothes with.
GettyImages https://media.gettyimages.com/photos/washer-man-washes-clothes-with-his-young-child-in-dirty-waters-at-in-pictures-id535269168?s=2048x2048

Rooftops in Mumbai
Thousands of people live in unhealthy conditions in the middle of a major city. The city rooftops occupy much of the inner city and many lives are in danger due to an inadequate amount of food, water, shelter, and finances, etc.
GettyImage. https://media.gettyimages.com/photos/city-slum-rooftops-in-large-city-picture-id1092688992?s=2048x2048

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Results

- These images incorporate a subjective nature in determining who defines security, what it constitutes with, and who is the most at risk.
- Researching visual evidence at the local level implies that there are several threats to economic (in)security in Mumbai, India.
- My findings include several pictures that take you around Mumbai to show that it is slowly failing every day.