



Odd One Out



Created by: Karla Osorno
Public Safety Organizer

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Community Observations

Location 1: Valentino Pier

- Lots of small children
- Two women sitting and playing with their dogs
- Gloomy looking grass
- Empty bench towards the back
- Lots of people by the edge of the pier, fishing?
- Cold outside, expected to not see many people out
- Not many people out with their dogs
- No people of color?
- Flags are waving
- No people sitting by the water
- Kids are running and laughing
- Sun is pretty bright
- Older white people are sitting at the benches facing the water
- Few people walking around and through the pier
- Older man walks in with fishing pole

Brief Summary:

At the pier is where I decided to conduct my observational notes because it is a place in Red Hook where I am most familiar with. The pier is a public area, open for all residents to enjoy.

Things I noticed were that everyone that was there when I went were all white. There were lots of children there, which I was surprised about since it was the middle of the day. There were lots of children's backpacks with their jackets on some of the chairs. There were a few adults with the children so I assumed that they were on a school field trip. There were some people at Steve's Key Lime pie. There were a couple people sitting on the benches facing the water. There were two women sitting in the middle of the pier with their two dogs, who were playing with each other. There was a good amount of people all the way at the end of the pier, although I did not count how many there were. The plants did not look as lively as they did in the summer. Some of the trees lost their leaves and the grass was not a bright green. There were benches towards the back of the park that were empty. Right before I was about to leave, I saw a black older looking man walking in. He had white facial hair, and he had a fishing pole as well as a small cart with 4
him.



Community Observations

Location 2: Coffey Park

- Children on playground
- Children are POC
- Child with his father
- Boys playing basketball, teens and younger boy maybe brothers
- White woman walking
- White woman sitting on blanket on grass
- At the center of the park there are some black teens
- Some teens are smoking
- Teens are laughing talking with each other
- Older man eating at table
- Police van in the middle of the park, White officers outside
- Little boy on bicycle
- Girls walking and using their phone.. maybe on a phone call

Brief Summary:

At my second location I decided to have a look at Coffey park. Coffey park is also a public place where anyone in the neighborhood can go.

Coffey park is also a location that I am familiar with. I noticed that there were some kids around the playground. The children were Black or brown skinned. There was a little boy playing with his father. The kids weren't as young as the kids I saw in the pier. They looked older, maybe around 11? I saw a few boys playing at the basketball courts. The boys were brown skinned. There were some boys that looked like teenagers and a few that were younger. In the part of coffey park that is directly across the street from Visitation church, there was a white woman walking. There were some white people sitting on benches. In the center of Coffey park there were some brown skinned and Black people sitting at the chairs. On the opposite side of the park where the white people were sitting, there was an older black man sitting and eating a sandwich. In the part of the park that divides the grass and tree area from the playground, there was the police van and there were two police officers standing outside the van.

The officers were white men. I saw that there was also a little boy on his bicycle. There were a few Black girls walking through the middle of the division of the park, they looked to be around 14.



Interview with Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Young Adult, RHI Employee

Date: 11/30/2021

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Please state your name?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

My name is Dylana Bourne.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Do you confirm that your participation in this research project is voluntary?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Do you understand that this interview will be transcribed and published as a part of my autoethnography research project?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes, I do.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Okay. And I confirm that the research interview will last approximately 15 minutes.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Okay.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Okay. So, the first question is what is your connection to Red Hook?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

I'm a resident of Red Hook.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Okay. And how long have you lived in Red Hook?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Um, I lived in Red Hook for about maybe 15 years.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Really?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

15, 16, yeah, maybe even like 17 years 'cause I moved here probably when I was about five or six, I think.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Where in Red Hook do you live?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

I live in 37 Center Mall.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Okay. Um, how does the community look like to you?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Horrible because of all of the construction going on. How they have everything set up with it not being so much transportation or not a lot of healthy food options.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. Have you noticed, like, any new changes throughout Red Hook recently?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

No. Only new changes is, like, the construction. It hasn't been, like, finished yet, so you just... The only new thing is that like, a lotta blocks are like cut off, and there's just like extra construction. I've been seeing, like, a lot of rodents outside and stuff.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah, like outside, I be seeing, like, rats sometimes, um, near the building. I be seeing, like, skunks, possums, raccoons, all different types of animals.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Oh my God.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes. And I don't know if it's 'cause like they're pulling up the ground more or what.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes. And I don't know if it's 'cause like they're pulling up the ground more or what.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Has the construction affected you or how has it affected you?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes, it has affected me because with them doing all of the construction, they have busted the gas pipe that's connected to my building, I think about three times.

The first two times they did it, we didn't have gas for months. Like for months at a time, we didn't have gas-

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:
For months?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah. We didn't have gas for months, For the first two times, we didn't have gas for months and they gave us hot plates to cook on. So, like yeah, hot plates to cook on but like our stove or anything didn't work, so you couldn't, like, put anything in the oven and like your gas, the fire wasn't coming up from your stove so the stove didn't work, period. You had to use the hot plates that they gave you. Then the third time they did it, this was like recently and we just didn't have gas for probably like a day or two, and then it was like back to normal again.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

When was the last time that you guys didn't have gas?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Um, probably the summertime.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah, the last time was recently. Actually, it was around my birthday. That was like the beginning, the first week of August, because I was, like, away on vacation and my mom text me. She said, like, "Guess what? Like, would you believe there's no gas again?" And I'm like, "Wow." Well, she said they bust a gas pipe again and it's like, they keep doing it.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. That's insane. So, you guys couldn't, like, take hot showers?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

No, no, no. We had, like, hot water. Just the gas didn't work so-

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Oh, okay.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

... like we couldn't, we weren't able to cook.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. Still though. That's crazy.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah. And that happened around like

Thanksgiving time so imagine that you can't 12

even use your oven on Thanksgiving?

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah, I can't imagine, and that affected everyone. That's insane.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes. Literally my mom had to go to her friend house to cook and bring the food back home for Thanksgiving. Last year, she had to do that.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

So, it happened last year?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah. It happened three times. So, it was twice last year and then like, since they started the construction, it has happened three times. The first time we probably didn't have gas for like, probably like damn near six months or something. The second time we probably didn't have gas for like, maybe about three, four months, but that was around Thanksgiving time. And then the last time it happened in like August, we just didn't have gas for like two days, maybe a day or two. That's it.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Oh my gosh. That's crazy.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

It really depends because once they bust the gas pipe, you have to turn the gas back on. You have to do a bunch of different things to get it turned back on because that's very dangerous. You don't wanna do something the wrong way and then you blow up the whole freaking Red Hook-

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. (laughs).

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

... because of the gas pipe.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

So, it takes time.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). So, do other people throughout all of Red Hook go through that?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Oh, I'm not sure.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

I'm not sure 'cause everybody, like, pipes is connected to different, um, pipes. So, like for that time when it happened with us, that just was like the people like the building right here in my area, like my building and stuff like that. So, my mom went to her friend house in the back of Red Hook.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Oh, okay.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Speaking of the back of Red Hook, could you like for the purpose of the interview, could you state what area of Red Hook that is?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Still the projects, but like, just like the ending of the projects. They're at Coffey Park.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Okay. Got it.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Have you actually explored all of Red Hook, like gone through different areas?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Uh, for the most part, yeah.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

And what do you notice differently? Like what do you notice that's different in other areas?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Um, for Van Brunt Street I notice more food options. More restaurants, more places to go out to eat. Like just the way the blocks are set up is cleaner. It's neater. Um, the school playground back there is nicer, you know, compared to like near the projects, they don't really have a schoolyard or their schoolyard is just the yard, it's empty. And then like, there's a bunch of, like, chicken spots up here or a McDonald's or Chinese restaurants. But you go to the back of Red Hook, there's literally like one Chinese restaurant back there and there's like some healthy spots and like bakeries and just stuff that makes real food, seafood and stuff too. Their supermarket back there is even better.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. Well,

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

... meats and options. Yeah.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. Have you spoken to anyone that, like, lives near Van Brunt or like no people? No?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

No.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Well, yeah, because like I've known people that live on like visitation.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Oh, okay.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

But that's about it.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

But you haven't really, like, had conversations with other people in the neighborhood?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

No.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Why do you think that is?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

I'm not sure honestly, I'm really not sure.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Have you noticed, like, new developments and new areas of Red Hook?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Not as of now, because they're, like, still doing the construction, but I do know that it's gonna look very different after they're finished.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Very different, like better? Or-

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah, better. Like more playgrounds, cleaner playgrounds or just, uh, I'm not sure, like if they're gonna do like little centers or something, like I'm not really sure, but I'm just trying to see what the center will look like when it's finished.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

That's cool. What does your idea of a safe Red Hook look like?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

My idea of a safe Red Hooks looks like a place where kids can go outside and play in front of their buildings and where you can walk to the store without having to look over your shoulder or making sure like... Or scared that you're gonna get shot.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

So, do you feel safe right now in Red Hook?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah, I do. But I think that comes with my personality.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Your personality, you mean, how?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Like, I feel like I'm tough (laughs) so like, I don't really get scared easily by certain stuff, but I feel like it's not normal the things that happen, but like, it became a norm to me because I've been used to seeing it for so long.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Mm-hmm (affirmative). Okay. Because like you said, you lived in Red Hook for like, almost like 15 years, right?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Mm-hmm (affirmative).

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

So, what has changed in Red Hook from the 15 years that you've been here?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Nothing. Some of the schools, they built this charter school right here, Pave and they got this other school, the Summit, that's the only thing new. Oh, and they're fixing the baseball fields and stuff in the back, the stadium. That's really it. Oh, and a new Amazon that's coming near Ikea.

That's it. Sometimes-

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

... different restaurants that appear.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

So, do you think these changes affected the community?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah. Better schools.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah. That's true.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Are there any changes in the neighborhood that you wanna see?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah. More healthier food options, just to feel comfortable and the physical aspect of how things look.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

And do you want healthier food options that are more accessible to all of Red Hook?

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yes.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Yeah, because you had mentioned that only, like, some areas of Red Hook have healthier food options.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

Yeah.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Thank you Dylana for letting me interview you again.

Dylana Bourne, Red Hook Resident, Young Adult:

You're welcome. Thank you so much.

Interview with Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Young Adult

Date: 12/3/2021

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

So first, could you please state your name?

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Okay. Hi, hello, my name is Jaylene Torellas.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Okay. Do you confirm that your participation in this research project is voluntary?

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Yes, 100%.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

And do you understand that this interview will be transcribed and published-

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Yes

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Thank you. Okay, so the first question I have for you is what is your connection to Red Hook?

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

What is my connection to Red Hook? Wow, that's a good question. I've lived in Red Hook my entire life, so my connection here is basically very family-oriented, as well very family-driven. You know, first my grandma used to live here. She lived here. And then when I was about one year's old, my parents and I came to move in with her. So not a lot of people know that, actually. And so I've been living here for pretty much my whole life, for about 18, 19 years. And my connection here is just very family-driven, super family-orientated and I just, in my opinion, I might be a little bit biased, but I think it's the best neighborhood ever (laughs).

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

That's awesome. Even I didn't know that you moved in when you were one (laughs).

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Yeah.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Awesome. So, what does the community look like to you?

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

What does the community look like to me? Well, you know what? I feel like it's the very, you know, it's a melting pot community. We have different people from different ethnic groups who live here. So I think that's very... I think that's very wonderful, because you get to see different people who have different customs, who speak different languages, and you get to meet a lot of different people. You know, growing up here, I went to elementary school here as well, so I got to meet a lot of different people. And it's a very small community, so I feel like everybody knows each other. And that's one of the things that I love so much about it.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Awesome. Thank you for that answer. What is your vision of a safe Red Hook?

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

What is my vision of a safe Red Hook? You know, I really don't think that nothing defines exactly what's a safe neighborhood.

I personally think that a safe Red Hook is just people who stay out of trouble and you keep to yourself. And the most important thing is just surround yourself with good and positive people. You know, growing up here, you see different people having different actions and they speak differently, so for me the most important thing is to surround myself with positive and good people. So anything that's not positive and good people, and that's not my family, or my friends, I don't want anything to do with. And I think, to me, that's what defines a good neighborhood. As long as you surround yourself with good and positive people, that's what makes it safe.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

Great. And would you say that you surround yourself with good and positive people in the neighborhood?

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Oh, absolutely, 100%. I know so many wonderful, positive people including my family, great friends like you, and so many people that I know that live here that are just so positive and who have such a great attitude and a great vibe. And that's just the people that I always wanted to surround myself with.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

That's great. So you do know a lot of, like, people... You have a lot of connections in the neighborhood, then.

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Well, yeah, I do. Because I feel like, you know, while growing up here and, like, you know, I went to school here and I know a lot of people, especially people who know of my family, so I do know quite a bit of people.

Karla Osorno, Public Safety Organizer:

That's great. Thank you so much. Those are all the questions that I have for you.

Jaylene Torellas, Red Hook Resident - Young Adult:

Of course. Thank you so much for thinking of me and I love you.

ODD ONE OUT

An Auto-Ethnography of a young person from/working in Red Hook.

Research Question: What does public safety mean to me?

I've lived in Red Hook for a large part of my life. I am currently nineteen years old, and I moved into my Van Brunt Street apartment with my parents when I was three years old. I don't remember much from the early days, just the stories that my parents used to tell me about how Red Hook was way different from how it is today. My mom would tell me that it was more dangerous in the past, and taxi cab drivers wouldn't even want to drop us off home because they were scared of the area. I think that's changed now. Our neighborhood has increased the amount of businesses and we've been going through gentrification. New homes have been built, and there have been people moving into Red Hook in recent years.

When I reflect on the way I grew up, it's a unique experience from what other residents in the neighborhood experience. My family moved to Red Hook from Washington Heights, which contains a large population of Latinos. My family and I fit in there. In Red Hook, there's also a Latino population, just not on Van Brunt Street. There's a mainly white population on my street and the surrounding area. In my apartment building, we're the only non-white family. I never noticed this until some of my fellow Latino friends pointed out that it was strange. Once I reflected, I did realize it's strange. I don't talk to any of my neighbors, aside from a friendly "good afternoon" if we run into each other in the hallway. There have been a few friendly conversations I've had with two of my neighbors, but aside from that, I don't have any relationship with them besides the fact that we live across the hall from each other.

It wasn't until recently that I noticed how segregated Red Hook is. Our neighborhood has a few parks and green spaces. This includes Coffey Park. I have good memories from my childhood that took place in Coffey park, it's where my family and friends would have fun, play, and have barbecues. Coffey Park is an important part of our neighborhood because it's an area where Red Hook residents are able to have fun and come together as a community.

On one side of Coffey Park are the NYCHA buildings and a few businesses, and on the other side there are restaurants, a few small businesses, and homes that aren't NYCHA buildings. The NYCHA housing side tends to have a higher Black, Latino, and Asian population. The opposite side, where I live, has a higher white population. I subconsciously knew that the two sides of Coffey Park were different, I just wasn't actively aware of how much segregation there actually was.

When I walk through Coffey Park, I do notice that there is a diverse amount of Red Hook residents in the park, and I also notice that there's always one or two police cars with several officers in the middle of the park. I always see them whether it's daytime or dark. As a woman, when I'm walking through the park alone in the dark, I do feel safer that there's some police presence because police are supposed to prevent crime. At the same time though, I do believe that it's a little unnecessary for there to be several officers just standing in Coffey Park in the middle of the day. Usually there's a lot of children at the park who are playing or other adults who are just enjoying the green space. I just don't think it makes sense for the police to be there during these times.

Ever since I joined the community based nonprofit, Red Hook Initiative, last year, I often go back and forth between the two sides of Coffey Park. Something that I notice is that Red Hook residents, no matter what "side" they live on, don't often travel to all parts of the neighborhood. I notice that everyone seems to stay in their own areas where they feel comfortable, and this creates a divide in our neighborhood. Of course, this doesn't mean that everyone actively divides themselves, I just notice that people tend to stick to those who are similar to them.

I think that my experience is different from a lot of people who live in Red Hook. I live in a Latino household surrounded by white people all around me. Growing up around white people has led me to feel very comfortable around the white people in my community. I never really thought about the cultural differences between us. My family has Latino traditions, and we can't really relate to those who are directly around us. Most of the Latino population in Red Hook live on the other side of the neighborhood. I think that this led me to feel very isolated from Latinos in my community.

Another green space in the community includes the Valentino Pier. The pier is at the very end of Red Hook, making it almost inaccessible for everybody else in the community. I live two blocks down from the pier. Since I live so close, I often go several times a week in the summer, it's my favorite space in the neighborhood when I need a mental break. I always see children playing, families hanging out, and sometimes there's older men fishing. The pier has always felt like a safe space to me because it's never too loud, there's so much greenery, and the sound of the ocean waves crashing brings me overall peace. If I could describe what safety in Red Hook feels like in one place, it would be Valentino Pier.

I also like people watching, so I notice a lot of things that go on. It's very rare that I'll see other people of color hanging out at the pier. I mostly see white people every time that I go to the pier. I think that this is from the inaccessibility that most people have for the pier. Most people of color in Red Hook live in NYCHA, which is on the opposite side of where the pier is. Coffey Park is the closest greenspace for NYCHA residents, so most of them just hang out there.

I think that for a lot of the older residents that live in NYCHA, going all the way to the pier would be out of the question for them. I truly do think it's a shame that not everybody that lives in Red Hook goes to the pier especially because it is just too far from them. I think that the pier is a wonderful space and I wish all of Red Hook was able to experience its beauty.

I also think that the way different spaces and resources in Red Hook are distributed also adds on to the segregation that is already present in the community. Since I grew up on Van Brunt Street my whole life, I always had easy access to a lot of things. There's a bus stop right outside my door, a supermarket two blocks away, and a bunch of small businesses all throughout my street. I think that in order for Red Hook to be a safe space for all the residents, there needs to be easily accessible resources for the entire community. I feel like I lived in my own bubble the entire time I've lived in Red Hook. After I talked to people who live in NYCHA, I truly started to realize how much our experiences are different from each other. I've been told by NYCHA residents that there is a lack of access to fresh food, clean housing areas, and the construction overall has been having negative impacts on those who live nearby. In order for Red Hook to be a safe space for everybody, there needs to be a change. The entire community needs to work together to make sure that everybody is able to have access to resources.

There are so many factors that shaped me into the person that I am today, and my Latin American identity is a huge part of it. I remember when I went to elementary school at P.S.15, a small school on Van Brunt Street. I was able to relate to all of my classmates because we were all people of color. But when my little brother went to P.S.15 several years later, he was one of the few students in the class who was not white. Being surrounded by white people all the time is hard, because you don't feel like you fit in. I only have one friend on Van Brunt Street, and she is also from a Latin American background. I'm open to being friends with anyone regardless of their race or ethnicity, but it's hard to find a way to relate to people around me since most of them are older adults.

In order for the community to come together, we should first start with being open minded. If everyone just stays where they feel comfortable then the community will never grow. My vision of a safe Red Hook is a space where everybody feels comfortable with each other. Every Red Hook resident should be able to freely walk through any space in the neighborhood feeling calm and safe. When people become open minded, then there's a greater chance for our neighborhood to become more united. Additionally, Red Hook residents should also be willing to work with one another. There should be more access to resources for everybody in the community.

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