

## Chapter 5: Google Earth Exercise

### Exercise 1 Landscapes of Diversity

---

Ethnic neighbourhoods and “gay villages” are integral components of many contemporary urban landscapes. Though often formed in response to marginalization and exclusion, many are now cultural centres within cities. In this exercise, your task is to locate and describe three neighbourhoods that typify a diverse city.

**The task:** Using Google Earth Street View, visit Toronto, Ontario and search three areas in the city for the diverse neighbourhoods listed below.

**Step 1:** Open the [Chapter 5.1.kmz](#) file. There are three zones defined here, search each one for:

- **Question 1:** Where is the “gay village”?
- **Question 2:** What is an example of an ethnic neighbourhood that may experience exclusion from the surrounding city?
- **Question 3:** What is an example of a neighbourhood that has been gentrified?

Refer to your textbook for the characteristics that defines these types of neighbourhoods.

Identify each neighbourhood by its location as defined by street names or its main street and two delineating cross streets.

## Exercise 2

### Geographies of Difference and Well-being

---

As noted in your textbook, the term *well-being* refers to the overall circumstances of particular groups in relation to their security and comfort. Income is a major factor in well-being and landscapes at various spatial scales are often divided based on income. Income often intersects with ethnicity or “race,” and when it does, can further impact a group’s well being, contributing to landscapes of exclusion and privilege.

**The Task:** Using Google Earth, visit the state of California in the US to examine geographies of difference and well being at various scales using data from the 2010 US Census

**Step 1:** Open the [Chapter 5.2.kmz](#) file. Ensure only the “Borders and Labels” layer is enabled in the *Layers* sidebar. A choropleth map of the state illustrates median household income at the county and census tract levels. The darker the colour, the lower the income. Clicking on each boundary (county or census tract) activates a window that shows the average income level, as well as a breakdown of the population based on race. Start the exercise by zooming in or out to ensure entire state of California is visible in your view.

- **Question 1:** What patterns of income level are visible across the state?
- **Question 2:** Zoom into northern California and click on the lowest income counties. Is there a pattern in the dominant racial composition of these lower income counties?
- **Question 3:** Zoom into the San Francisco and Oakland areas, in central California. How do income levels differ between the two cities? How does racial composition differ?
- **Question 4:** Pan south to Los Angeles. How does income distribution differ from San Francisco?

[Please contact your instructor for the answers to these exercises]