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## SAINT-DENIS CENTRE-VILLE

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> This first year we organized a series of 10 workshops with a group of 12 young people, young people produced video clips about their neighbourhoods, and individual interviews with each young person involved in the project were conducted.

## Highlights

The transformation of working-class neighbourhoods, known for their impoverishment or exclusion, remains a fundamental challenge in the development and management of metropolitan areas. This issue has forcefully re-emerged in recent times in a series of social revolts, pointing to issues of discrimination, inequality and spatial segregation, and the lack of prospects that push many young and older people to illegal acts. Through the prism of youth, based on an original empirical approach conducted in the Greater Parisian Area, this project seeks to capture the reorganization underway in these territories by trying to overcome the homogenizing, stigmatizing or on the contrary naïve analyses, which are most often given. To do this, the project is based on a threefold approach:

(1) starting from the experience of young people to apprehend social and territorial relations in an intersectional approach (2) apprehending metropolitan space from the point of view of working-class neighbourhoods instead of considering it only from the point of view of the centre, and seeing these neighbourhoods only as territories of exclusion and (3) developing a participatory research method using digital tools. Based on original data and an analytical process, this work aims to shed light on the drivers of social change in these territories.

## Preliminary results

At this stage, the analysis has not yet been carried out but several avenues of reflection emerge from the videos and interviews:

(1) the sharing of public space between different groups and the tensions that may arise there

(2) the emergence of the theme of violence in public services

(3) rethink the youth category to think about the relationship to the neighbourhood and the world

(4) Religion, between moral horizon and daily negotiations ...



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## What has been done this year

This year allowed the production of:

(1) A socio-urban analysis of the neighbourhoods. Based mainly on socio-demographic and economic data, exploratory interviews with locals and actors as well as a press review.

(2) Workshops with young people who are at the heart of empirical investigations

The workshops aimed in particular to explore the meaning of the territory for young people, residential routes, gender relations, generation relations, racialization of representations, their relationship to the digital. They brought together about ten young people aged 18 to 30, chosen in collaboration with the AJSONT association, a community organization in the neighbourhood, in order to reflect a diversity of origins, trajectories, social and academic situations. The workshops took place in the premises of the collective La maison Jaune, over ten three-hour sessions. Some of the sessions were recorded.

The sessions alternated between individual (writing workshops, mental maps) and group work (words to talk about the neighbourhood, places of practice and avoidance). Visits to the neighbourhood, photography and video sessions with young people in the neighbourhood, but also discussion sessions based on young people's productions have contributed to our collective reflection.

The workshops produced a set of materials that provide data for analysis.

(3) The production of video clips during the workshops, filmed individually or collectively by the young people.

After group visits of the neighbourhood, young people decided on a place to present through a video clip. Alone or in pairs, they performed all the necessary tasks (film, editing...)

#### (4) Interviews with young people

In-depth interviews were conducted with the group members, addressing their family, social and residential trajectories, their socialization in the neighbourhood and city, their projections and logic of professional integration.



Photo credit: Association Maison Jaune



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## What is planned next year

- > Participation in an exhibition organized at the Maison Jaune (October, November 2018)
- > Organization of a seminar with public service and urban political professionals on the theme of violence and transgression in public space
- > Participation in the Metropolitan seminar on 10 and 11 November 2018, bringing together young people from the 10 sites involved in the project

## Type of products planned for next year



> Event; meeting of all the young people who participated in the research in ten neighbourhoods.

> Seminar with professionals from the public services and urban politics on the theme of violence in the public space: 4 sessions are planned, recorded and transcribed into acts.

> Setting up local meetings to mobilize elected officials and professionals on the project along several lines of work: the city as a space for socialization, the place of young people in the City project.



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