



VirginiaTech®

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Environmental Health Priority Workshops in the City of Birmingham, Alabama 2018

Survey Instrument

Invent the Future

VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND STATE UNIVERSITY
An equal opportunity, affirmative action institution



1. Birth Month

Birth Year

2. What is your address?

Street

City

Zipcode

3. I identify my gender as:

- A. Male
- B. Female
- C. Other

4. I identify my ethnicity or ancestry as (Circle ALL that apply)

- A. American Indian or Alaska Native
- B. Asian
- C. Black or African
- D. Hispanic or Latino
- E. Native Hawaiians or Other Pacific Islander
- F. White or European
- G. Other (please write)

- 5. Indicate the highest level of education that you have completed: (Circle 1/ ONE)**
- A. Less than a High School Diploma
 - B. High School Diploma (or High School Equivalence Certificate)
 - C. Post-Secondary Certificate (Vocational or Technical Certificate)
 - D. Some College Courses or Associate's Degree
 - E. Bachelor's Degree
 - F. Graduate Degree (Master's or Doctorate)
- 6. Indicate the income, before taxes, from all household members during the past 12 months: (Circle 1/ ONE)**
- A. Less than \$20,000
 - B. \$20,000 to \$49,999
 - C. \$50,000 to \$74,000
 - D. \$75,000 to more
- 7. Did you participate in the study by wearing a temperature monitor last summer? (Circle 1/ ONE)**
- A. Yes
 - B. No
- 8. In general, would you say that your health is: (Circle 1/ ONE)**
- A. Excellent
 - B. Good
 - C. Fair
 - D. Poor

9. Have you participated in focus groups or table discussions about abandoned houses with these organizers in the past 2 years? (Circle 1/ ONE)

A. Yes

B. No

10. How long have you lived in this community?

A. 0-5 years

B. 6-15 years

C. More than 15 years

**PLEASE STOP. WAIT FOR A
PRESENTATION ON THE RESULTS OF
PREVIOUS FOCUS GROUPS.**

THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS ARE TO SEE IF YOU AGREE OR DISAGREE WITH THE PREVIOUS FOCUS GROUP RESPONSES ON ABANDONED HOUSES. WE WILL GO THROUGH EACH ONE TOGETHER.

11. I'm concerned about abandoned houses and overgrown lots because (Circle your most important 1/ ONE reason)

- A. Fires
- B. Crime: drugs, sexual assault, vandalism, break-ins
- C. Homeless people
- D. Property values
- E. Pests (rodents, snakes)
- F. Bad environment for youth in the community
- G. Other (please write in):

12. Who do you think is most responsible for getting rid of abandoned houses and keeping up overgrown lots? (Circle your most important 1/ ONE)

- A. Homeowners who move away or the family of deceased homeowners
- B. Residents in the neighborhood with the abandoned homes/overgrown lots.
- C. Local Government: City, Mayor, City Councilors
- D. State Government
- E. Federal Government
- F. Other (please write in):

13. What I can do personally to get rid of abandoned houses/ overgrown lots: (Circle your most important 1/ ONE)

- A. Go to Neighborhood meetings
- B. Go to City Council meetings
- C. Drive others to Neighborhood or City Council meetings
- D. Make sure that I have a will to transfer my own house/ property
- E. Adopt a lot nearby and maintain it
- F. Call police when I see suspicious activity near an abandoned property
- G. Other (please write in):

14. What I'd like to see community leaders do: (Circle your most important 1/ ONE)

- A. Go to City Council meetings and report back to community at Neighborhood meetings
- B. Communicate progress, plans, timelines
- C. Create a liaison position to communicate between the elected officials and residents
- D. Organize community clean up days and recruit people to participate
- F. Other (please write in):

15. What I'd like to see state and local governing officials do: (Circle your most important 2/ TWO)

- A. Devote more work crews tearing down abandoned houses, mowing overgrown lots, and towing abandoned cars
- B. Provide more police presence in the neighborhoods
- C. Provide incentives to build new businesses or new homes
- D. Reducing the waiting time to purchase houses/ properties
- E. Devote more resources towards contacting previous owners
- F. Remove the liens for back taxes faster to incentivize the Buy-Back Program
- G. Put signs up on houses/properties and advertise in the newspaper so potential buyers can know they're available for purchase
- H. Other (please write in):

16. In place of torn down houses, I would like to see: (Circle 1/ ONE)

- A. New businesses
- B. New housing for homeless
- C. New houses by Habitat for Humanity
- D. Community gardens or parks
- E. Other (please write in):

17. In the previous focus group, participants felt that state and local resources are not fairly distributed to address environmental health problems.

Do you agree that state and local resources are not fairly distributed to communities to address environmental health problems? (Circle ONE)

- A. Yes
- B. No

18. If you answered yes to #16, why do you think that is? (Circle 1/ ONE)

- A. Resources go to people who are more organized
- B. Resources go to the community with the most people
- C. Resources go to the community that is the loudest
- D. Resources go to people who have more money
- E. Resources go to people of a different skin color
- F. Lack of leadership at a community level
- G. Lack of pride at a community level
- H. Other (please write in):

**PLEASE STOP TO HEAR FROM
COUNCILWOMAN TYSON ABOUT THE
CURRENT PROGRESS ON GETTING RID OF
ABANDONED HOUSES IN YOUR
COMMUNITY**

WE WILL GO THROUGH EACH QUESTION TOGETHER.

19. What one specific thing would you most like to see besides progress on the abandoned houses/overgrown lots issue?

(Circle 1/ ONE)

- A. High traffic roads paved
- B. A program for mold removal from houses
- C. A Community program and playground for kids
- D. A Senior Center within the community
- E. Affordable tree removal for private properties
- F. More police presence
- G. Better zoning to prevent halfway housing for ex-prisoners near schools
- H. Other (please write in):

20. How would you like to see progress in your community?

- A. Presentations from community leaders at neighborhood association meetings
- B. Newsletter mailed to your homes
- C. Other (please write in):

21. What sources of information do you trust?

(Circle the top 2 / TWO you most often use)

- A. Radio
- B. TV
- C. Newspaper
- D. Internet
- E. Neighbors
- F. Phone calls or conversations with community leaders
- G. State and local leaders
- H. Health Department
- I. Neighborhood meetings
- J. City Council meetings
- K. Other (please write in):

22. What sources of information do you NOT trust or use?

(Circle ALL that apply)

- A. Radio
- B. TV
- C. Newspaper
- D. Internet
- E. Neighbors
- F. Community Leaders
- G. State and Local Leaders
- H. Health Department
- I. Neighborhood Meetings
- J. City Council Meetings
- K. Other (please write in):

23. Are abandoned houses and overgrown lots your **most important 1/ ONE** environmental health priority for your community?

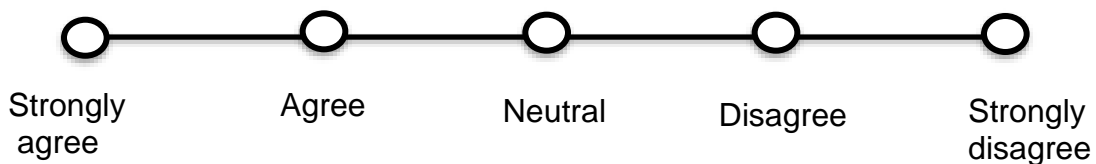
- A. Yes
- B. No

24. If no to #23, what is your **most important 1/ ONE** environmental health priority for your community?
(Please write in)

25. Did you find the presentations today informative?

- A. Yes
- B. No

26. Do you think that the organizers of today's event (the ENACT group) engage with your community as much as they should? (Mark **1/ ONE**)



27. In your opinion, what could the organizers of today's event (the ENACT group) do to improve to engagement in the community?

28. In what ways do you think the organizers of today's event should be more involved in the community?

29. How could you as a resident use more support to help your community?

30. What kinds of support from the organizers today and others would help you and your community address environmental health problems?

31. Is there anything else you would like us to know?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME!