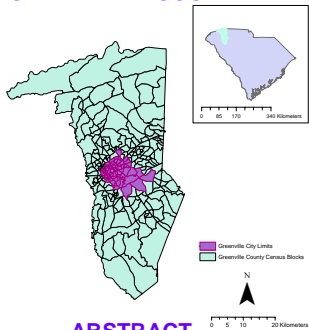


# Greenville City Crime:

## An Analysis on Crime and Demographic Data to Improve the Lives of Youth in the Greenville City Area

Catherine Mattingly

### GREENVILLE COUNTY



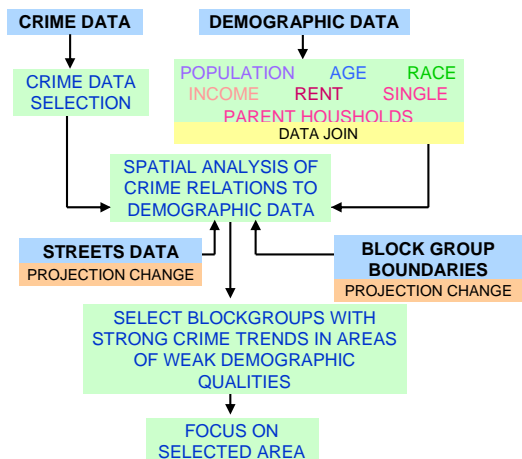
### ABSTRACT

Crime exists across all of Greenville, SC, but in many cases, it follows the pattern of demographic variables, such as population density, race, age, rent, and income coming into the household. Demographic data derived from the 2000 census is compared to the crime distribution in Greenville City using various methods of spatial analysis, and the results are used here in identifying a specific location where a youth center could be built to help keep juveniles away from the crime occurring around them. The western area of Greenville, specifically along the streets of Pendleton and Perry, has been selected as the best candidate for such a center.

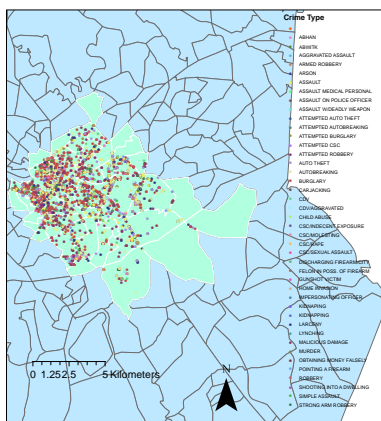
### INTRODUCTION

I developed this project to better understand crime patterns in relation to demographic data in Greenville, SC and because of concern about the safety of areas of the city. A similar type of crime analysis was implemented in Redlands County, California to help develop the best location to place a youth center and further the betterment of the community. Speculating that this same process could be used in the City of Greenville, I combined crime data with other city demographic data, using spatial analysis to determine not only where crimes committed and tendency for crime are the strongest, but also where crimes that most affect youth are concentrated within Greenville City limits. My goal was to find a specific location where juveniles could go to keep them off the streets and away from any threatening environment.

### METHODOLOGY

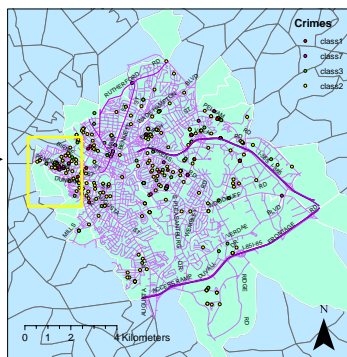


### ALL CRIME SELECTION



All of the crimes were relatively concentrated throughout much of western Greenville; therefore, it soon became apparent that certain crimes most pertaining to youth as well as some of the most serious crimes must be extracted from the entirety of the selection. The crimes were divided into classes, and subsequently only the necessary classes were applied to the rest of the maps.

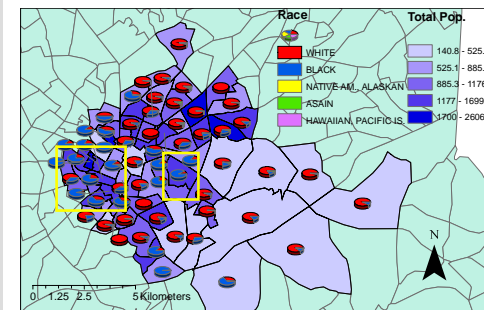
### CRIME CLASSIFICATION



The crime classifications deemed most relevant to youth were Class 1 (Children), Class 2 (Crimes within the Home), Class 3 (Criminal Sexual Conduct), and Class 7 (Firearm).

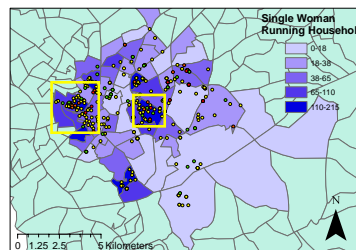
- CLASS 1:** Child Abuse, Kidnapping
- CLASS 2:** CDV, CDV Aggravated, Home Invasion, Shooting into a Dwelling
- CLASS 3:** All Criminal Sexual Conduct
- CLASS 4:** Auto Breaking, Auto Theft, Carjacking
- CLASS 5:** Burglary, All Robbery, Larceny
- CLASS 6:** All Assault, Lynching
- CLASS 7:** Murder, Possession of Firearm, Pointing a Firearm, Gunshot Victim, Discharging a Firearm in the City

### COUNTY POPULATION DENSITY AND RACE DATA



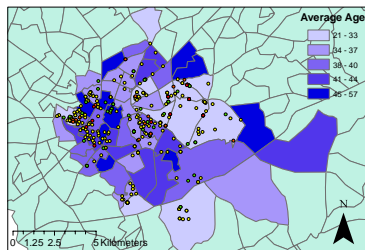
The first demographic data that was gathered and formatted was population density by area and race percentage. In the western and central block groups, the population is the most concentrated, and the race becomes primarily African American.

### DENSITY OF HOUSEHOLDS RUN BY A SINGLE WOMAN



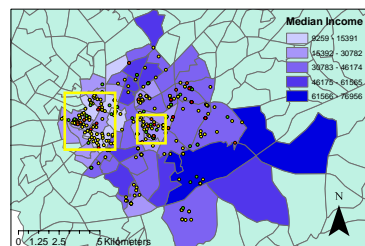
Households with single mothers became important because a single working parent leads to less time that a child can spend at home. Again, areas that have a large number of single mothers compare to high crime density.

### AVERAGE AGE



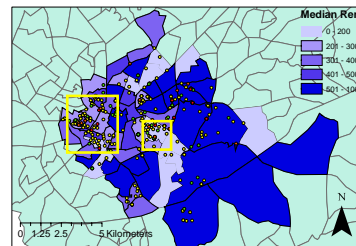
The average age of both males and females were examined, looking for extremities in age, either a great portion of older or a great portion of younger people. No significant trends that followed the crime concentration were noticed.

### MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME



Looking at both median rent and income along with the crime data, a direct relationship between the two were noted, signifying that those making low income also lived in low rent housing. Again, the same block groups were highlighted, suggesting that many people in the western block groups may be living in cramped conditions without heat and in many cases indoor plumbing.

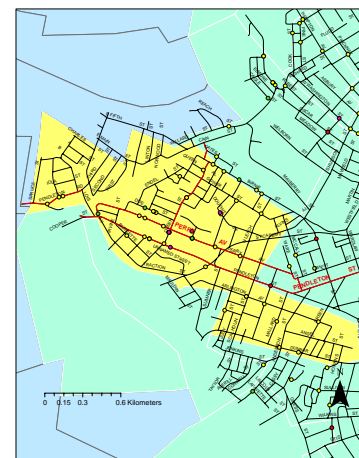
### MEDIAN RENT



### RESULTS

After studying the spatial patterns of the selected crime locations and associated demographic information for Greenville, the block groups were selected in which I believe that young people could most greatly benefit from a center that would provide them with a positive social atmosphere. Certain streets have been highlighted in red, including Pendleton St. and Perry Ave. These streets and their intersections seem to be most probable sights that are in the middle of areas in which crimes affecting children are the most concentrated.

The location in western Greenville was chosen rather than the often highlighted area in central Greenville because of its proximity to the downtown area, which is rapidly spreading. As time progresses, crime could further spread into areas of the historical downtown area. For the future success of Greenville, the areas around downtown must be made safer, or the reputation of the city could be on the line.



Some of the primary aspects noticed about these areas around Pendleton St. were many apartments, unfilled lots, and factories in ruin.

\*Acknowledgements are due to the Greenville Police Dept. and Sergeant Bob Gamble and to the American Census Bureau for the demographic data and South Carolina block group data. Acknowledgement is also due to the Redlands County Police Department for the ideas and methods of the analysis and to Suresh Muthukrishnan for his help and expertise.

\*All maps are projected in the NAD 1983 Geographic Projection and Lambert Conformal Conic Projected Coordinate System.