

My name is Sheila Hegy. I live on the 1900 block of 38th Street in Burleith in a home I purchased in 2005. While I have lived in Burleith a much shorter time than many of my neighbors, I have lived here long enough to understand how Georgetown University's pattern of increasing enrollment without providing sufficient on-campus housing for its students adversely impacts the quality of life enjoyed by Burleith residents and the value of their homes. The 1900 block of 38th Street is a case study for that adverse impact. On a recent weekend evening a senior citizen who has lived on our block for many years had to call the police because she was being disturbed by a loud party in a house occupied by a Georgetown student group. This is only a recent example of a number of such incidents that have taken place over the years. Last summer, another neighbor, also a long-time resident, had difficulty selling her home on 38th street, and ultimately had to lower the price, because people who came to view the house saw, and commented on, the unkempt front yards of group-occupied houses across the street.

Georgetown's current 10-year plan threatens to accelerate the already serious problems in our neighborhood. There are 22 homes, all row houses, on the 1900 block of 38th Street. In 2000, **SIX** of these 22 homes, or **27%**, were rental houses in which no owner resided. Now, ten years later, **ELEVEN** of the houses, or **50%** are rental houses in which the owner does not reside. Please note that these statistics, for the most part, include only rental properties occupied by a group of people, usually Georgetown students, not by individuals or families. They also do not include owner-occupied houses in which a portion of the house

might be rented to another occupant. Since the enrollment increases proposed in Georgetown University's current 10-year plan relate to graduate students, not undergraduate, it is also important to note that at least three of the houses (as best we can determine since occupancy changes throughout the school year) are occupied by graduate students, most medical students. This refutes the university's claim that the additional 3200 + graduate students it plans to admit are not likely to live in Burleith. Of course, common sense also refutes the university's premise, since medical students who cannot find on-campus housing are likely to want to live in Burleith because of its proximity to the medical school and hospital.

In addition to the specific problems I have mentioned, I view the adverse impact caused by Georgetown's failure to provide sufficient on-campus housing as a threat to the diversity of Burleith. The ever-increasing conversion of houses to group rental houses, overwhelmingly for Georgetown students, forces out families, seniors and single owners, all of whom are important components of Burleith's diversity. We need your help to try to stem this tide and assure that Burleith remains a diverse village - one where families, seniors and single home owners can still maintain a home (and its value) - rather than becoming an ever larger dormitory for Georgetown University. Please donate your time and talents, as well as the financial contributions we need to obtain the assistance of experts as necessary.