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“Educating and trying to develop a sense of pride in where people are living is needed. I’m not sure how one develops a sense of pride in people who are renting. When you have landlords who don’t live in the building, now they see it as a source of income and not as a source of pride. It’s a problem.”

Robert, focus group participant

“I’ve noticed over the last two years that many of the problems we’ve had, especially over the summer, have not been Ohio State students, but Columbus State students, CCAD . . . Actually the majority of the robberies are no longer OSU students. They have moved out to the suburbs. Look at the number of Columbus State stickers you see on the cars. They actually advertise to live in this area. It’s cheaper to rent than living closer to downtown. So, you don’t only have to involve OSU, which we have gotten some very good involvement from, but all the others too. If we want to do something about it, we need representatives from Columbus State, CCAD, and Franklin University. They’re far enough away from the University that they don’t care.”

Tom, focus group participant

“I hope the Mayor understands how important this is on a national stage. I moved here from California. I went back there on Thanksgiving. The news stories had just come out after the Michigan game. People were saying to me: What is wrong with you people in Columbus? That’s a national stage issue. If the Mayor wants to attract business, esteem for the city, anything like that, this is like an epithet for that. That’s number one. Number two, same thing in Tempe, Arizona. I was there and during the game the newscasters were visibly anxious about these people from Columbus saying ‘Please don’t trash our city.’ I was mortified, mortified. So, it’s not just this neighborhood.”

Diana, focus group participant