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“Block Bro, Brooklyn Bro”.
Music and Emotions as Identity
Markers of the Place

New Belgrade is the city municipality divided from the “old town” of Belgrade by the Sava river, and one of the economically fastest developing parts of the city. Despite its recent commercial growth, New Belgrade is commonly perceived - especially by non-inhabitants - as a geographically and even (sub)culturally distinct part of the city, because of its prevailing social realist architecture, confusing subdivision into city blocks, and ostensive ghetto-like neighborhoods. This exclusivist perception is internally reinforced by certain hip-hop artists who sing about New Belgrade in a local patriot, identity boosted manner. In this presentation, we will explore how the music appears to construct the identity of a place by analyzing the representations of New Belgrade’s city “blocks” (as spaces inducing certain strong sentiments, such as brotherhood, devotion, loyalty, attachment...) in contemporary hip-hop musical production. Music in this paper is perceived as an element of culture which communicates, shapes and expresses identities, which is why

we will not take into account its musicological aspects or aesthetical qualities. Our primary research method will be qualitative: we will conduct the interviews with the musicians, as well as residents and non-residents of New Belgrade in order to identify different perspectives of this area of the city. Also, we will analyze a selection of songs and video clips which tend to create ossified, exclusivist and emotionally charged auto-representations of this part of Belgrade.

Keywords: music, emotions, place, anthropology, New Belgrade, hip-hop

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„It was so Frightening to Leave
the Kitchen and Enter the School
Again” - Upward Educational
Mobility of the Roma in Romania

An utmost aim for the (policy-oriented) investigations regarding Roma (in Romania and elsewhere in Eastern Europe) is to facilitate social, economic and cultural integration of this group and eliminate ethno-racial exclusion. Still, this agenda pays little attention to those, who achieved such goals, as the dominant research trend in Eastern Europe deals (almost exclusively) with the marginalized