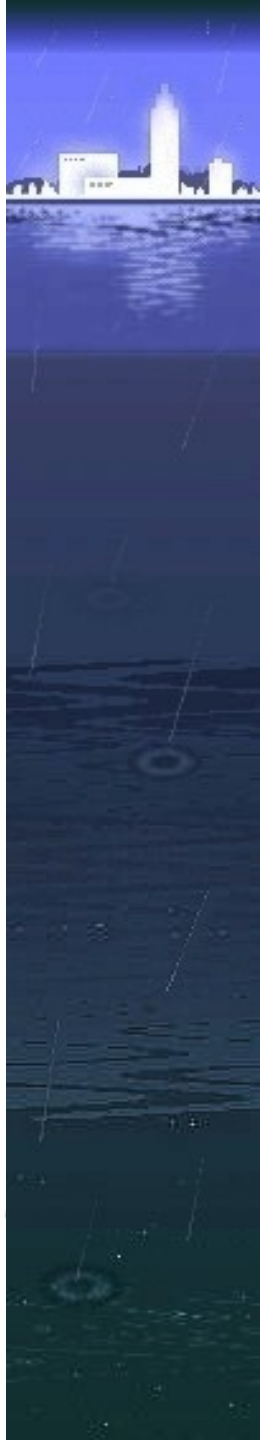
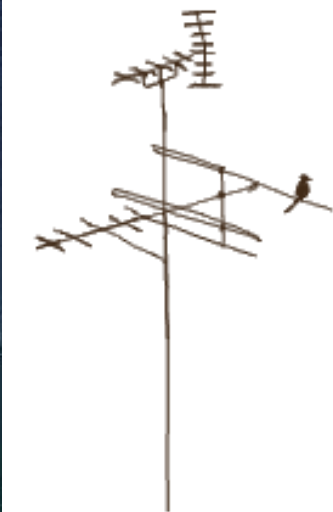
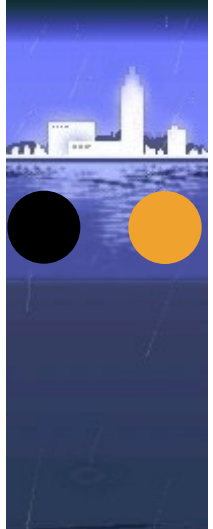


Urbanism as a Way of Life

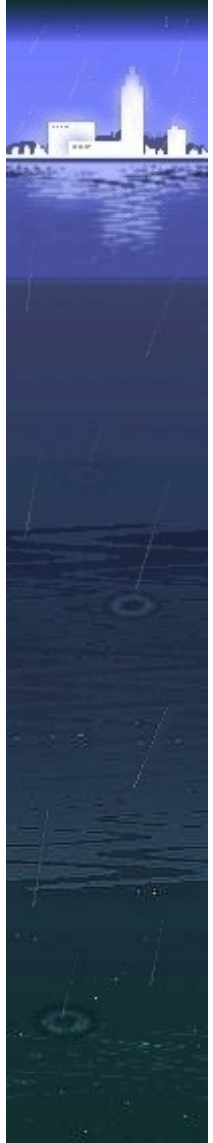
Enemy (2003)





What is a Modern City?

- As defined by us last time?
- By Louis Wirth?
- Wirth: in terms of physical structure, social structure, a set of mental state and ideas





Urbanism

- 
- **the physical entity of the city** (e.g. population size, density, heterogeneity)



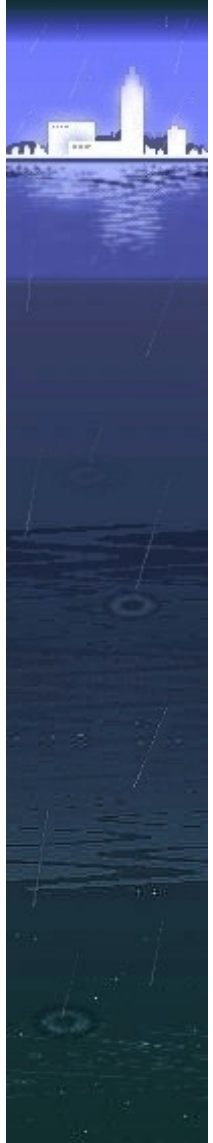
- **A way of life caused by the density, size and heterogeneity** of the population of a place.
 - Social Structure: segmental, formed by secondary relations
 - transient, anonymous, utilitarian interest groups





Intoxicated or Blasé, in **Anomie & becoming Schizoid?**

- **Blasé**: bored or not very interested
- **Anomie**: a state of
 - breakdown of standards and values,
 - of loneliness, dissociation and lack of purpose or ideals.
- **Schizoid**: a personality type characterized by emotional aloofness and solitary habits.
- Usu. resulting from modern social conditions.
- *Enemy and The Flight of Red Balloon* as examples?





Louis Wirth

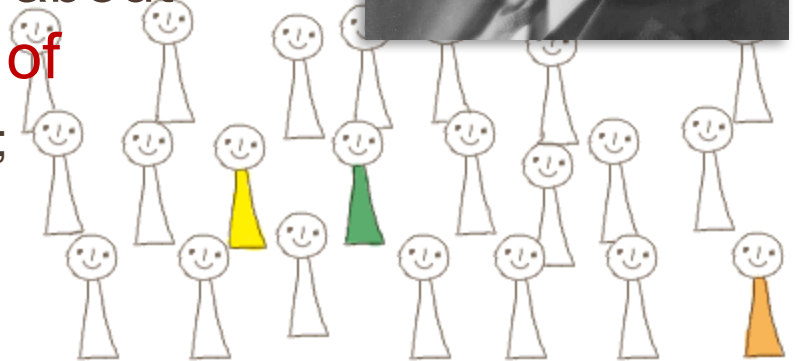
- Born in a small village in Germany and then immigrated to the U.S.

August 28, 1897 - May 10, 1952
([source](#))

- One of the Chicago School, taking a humanist approach to architecture and urban studies.
- His view of urbanism – “the first, and to this day most, comprehensive statement about **the sociological dynamics of modern urban life.**” ([source](#); exemplified in the film *Brazil*.)

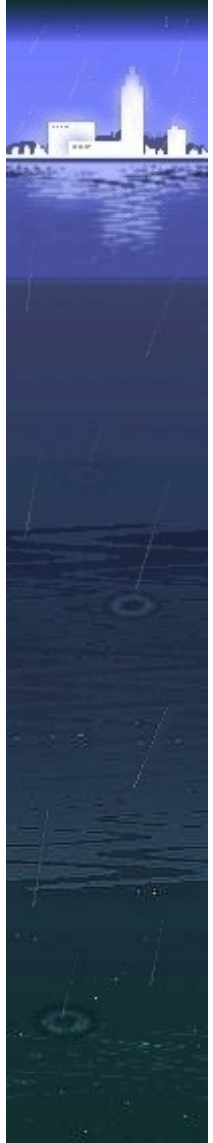


- *True?*



1. Urbansim: Questions . . .

- What is urbanism as a way of life for Wirth? How does he analyze it in terms of 1) size of population, 2) density 3) heterogeneity? →
- What are the three perspectives he takes to look at urbanism? →
- **You Answer:** Do you agree with him? Do you think that city dwellers form 'urban personality'?





Structure

- Definition of the city and urbanism (98)
- Three Aspects:
 1. **Population** (parallel with its functions; segmentalization 99)
 2. **Density** (→ diversity, abrupt transition, loneliness despite the close physical contact)
 3. **Heterogeneity** (mobility, depersonalization)
- Consequences:
 - Urbanism in Ecological perspective (**High death rates and low birth rates**)
 - As a social formation (**segmental, secondary relation**)
 - Collective behavior (**voluntary but transitory groups**)



1) size of population

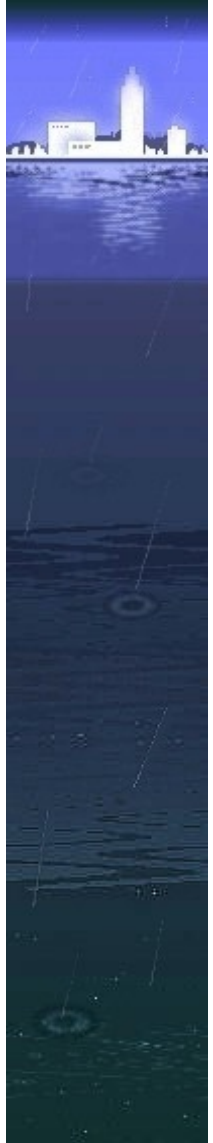
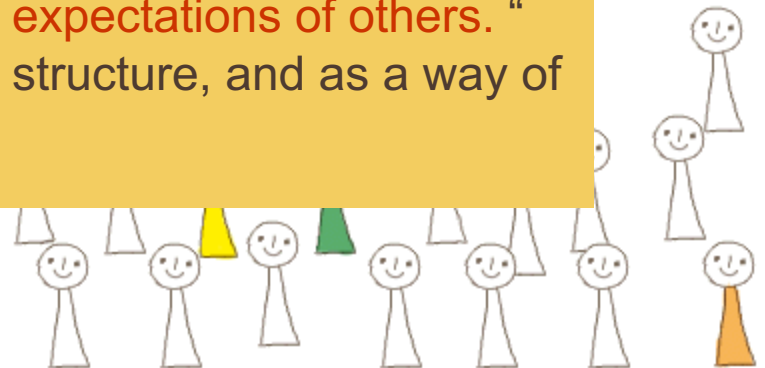
- → variations and differences of urban population
- → 1) Lack of bonds of kinship, neighborliness; in terms of secondary roles
 - 2) And segmentalization of human relationships; (99)
- → the 'schizoid' (孤僻) character of urban personality
- Urban 'contacts' – **impersonal, transitory, segmental, and mostly utilitarian** (relations of utility) (quote)
- → the state of **anomie** ("personal feeling of a lack of social norms") **or the social void**
 - → *Do you agree?* Ming-Liang Tsai's, Hsiao-Hsian Hou's, Edward Yang's films & *Enemy*

Disembodied
-
ness



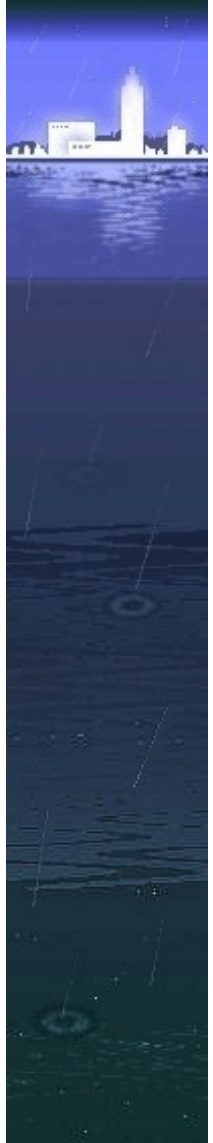
1) size of population (quote)

- (p. 4) "Characteristically, urbanites meet one another in highly segmental roles. They are, to be sure, dependent upon more people for the satisfactions of their life-needs than are rural people and thus are associated with a greater number of organized groups, but they are less dependent upon particular persons, and their dependence upon others is confined to a highly fractionalized aspect of the other's round of activity. This is essentially what is meant by saying that the city is characterized by secondary rather than primary contacts. The contacts of the city may indeed be face to face, but they are nevertheless impersonal, superficial, transitory, and segmental. The reserve, the indifference, and the blasé outlook which urbanites manifest in their relationships may thus be regarded as devices for immunizing themselves against the personal claims and expectations of others."
- Indifference as a result of social structure, and as a way of defense.



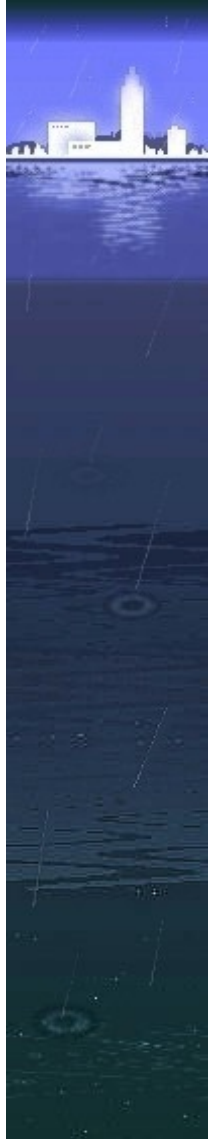
2) density (p. 99)

- → 1) physical contacts close, but social contacts distant;
 - → We depend on **visual recognition**; develop a sensitivity to a world of artifacts and become progressively farther removed from the world of nature.
- → 2) specialization of areas, their land values vary
 - → tolerant and competitive
 - → reserved and lonely (quote)
- *Do you agree? (What is your experience of walking in a city?)*





2) density (quote p. 100)

- 
- “Frequent **close physical contact, coupled with great social distance**, accentuates the reserve of unattached individuals toward one another and, unless compensated by other opportunities for response, **gives rise to loneliness**. The necessary frequent movement of great numbers of individuals in a congested habitat causes friction and irritation. **Nervous tensions which derive from such personal frustrations are increased by the rapid tempo** and the complicated technology under which life in dense areas must be lived.) *Do you agree?*



3) Heterogeneity (p. 100)

Flaneur?

- **Heightened mobility** → complicates the class structure → sophistication and cosmopolitanism of the urbanite.
- → **different interests met by different groups**; no undivided allegiance to a single group.
- → the turnover of group membership is rapid. (So is commodity production and everything else → spaces of flows, or non-place).
- → **difficulty in organizing social groups as well as our perception** (cognitive mapping; e.g. two blind people touching an elephant through a video camera.)
- → **segregation and de-personalization** in large congregations, the use of social facilities, or making propaganda (individuals replaced by categories). (quote)

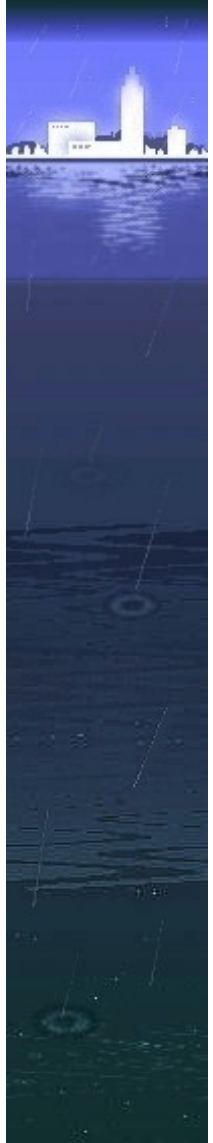


3) Heterogeneity (quote p. 101)

- “Wherever large numbers of differently constituted individuals congregates, the process of depersonalization also enters... Individuality under these circumstances must be replaced by **categories**. ...
- To participate in the social, political, and economic life of the city, “he must **subordinate some of his individuality to the demands of the larger community...**”

- *Do you agree?*

Populism?





3) Heterogeneity (p. 193)

- Specialization and division of jobs →
**segregation and de-
personalization**

*Are these the necessary results of
social heterogeneity?*

→ **Networking, Carnival (狂歡節)**
and heteroglossia (眾聲喧譁)
can be some other metaphors for
social interactions and discourses.

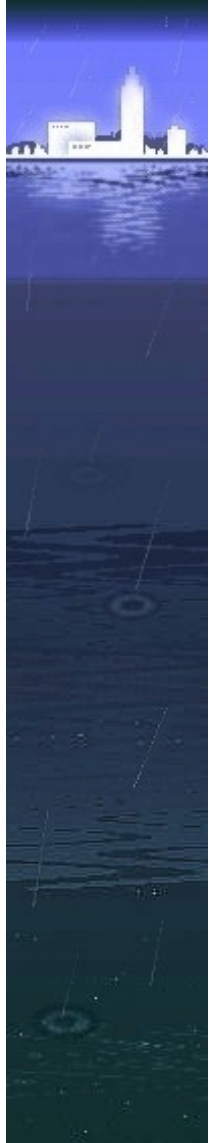


Ref. Methodology:

Urbanism – approached thru' (p. 101)

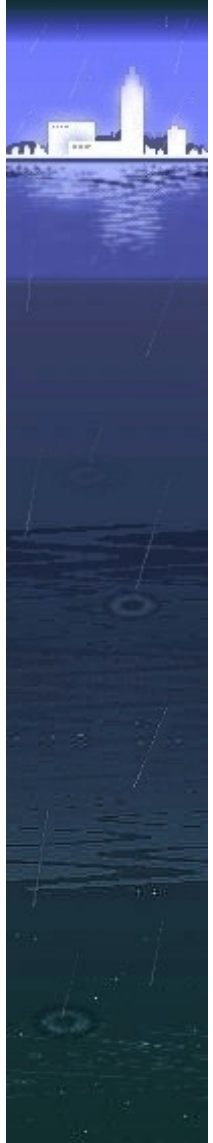
Three interrelated perspectives:

1. As a physical structure comprising a population base, a technology, and an ecological order; → more in the prime of life; lower birth-rates;
2. As a system of social organization involving a characteristic social structure, a series of social institutions, etc. → secondary contacts
3. As a set of attitudes and ideas, and a constellation of personalities, . . .
4. [urbanism] as a consequence of the interaction between space and spatial practices



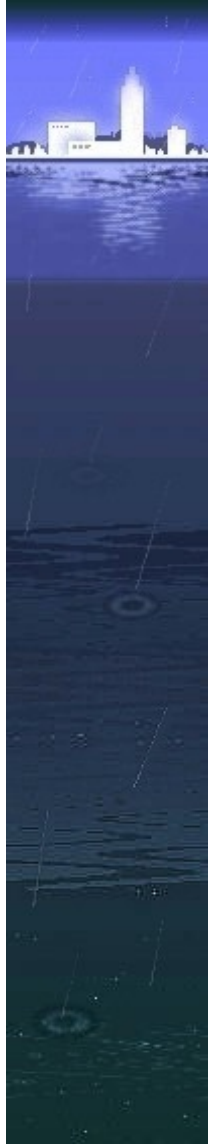
Urban Personality -- collective behavior (103)

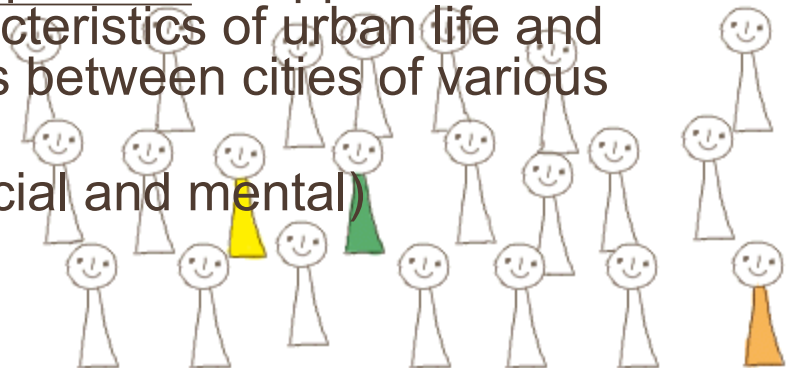
- Territorial units replaced by **interest units**.
(voluntary groups)
- → society segmented; with a definite center but no clear periphery.
- → **Lack of communication**: The more people are involved, the lower is the level of communication.
 - Are we definitely mass-ified by the crowd?
- Social control mainly achieved through group organization and **the use of symbols and stereotypes**. -→hyperspace
- Self-government in economic, cultural ad political realm —impossible or, at best, subject to the unstable equilibrium of pressure groups.
- **World-wide groups** (large, but simple communication)





Wirth's Definition of Urbanism – Summarized

- 
1. **Anonymity** → a shift away from primary relationships to secondary relationships. Urbanites interact with others not as individuals but with others in certain roles.
→ Personal relations become **superficial and transitory**.
 2. Urban life is marked by **collectivity, utilitarianism and efficiency**.
 3. **Segmentation** of urban life.
 4. methodology: **A. 3 variables**: “On the basis of the three variables, number, density of settlement, and degree of heterogeneity, of the urban population, it appears possible to explain the characteristics of urban life and to account for the differences between cities of various sizes and types.”
B. 3 structures (physical, social and mental)





Critique of Wirth's Views

- Urbanism as a way of life is **not limited to the city**. Urban problems are not limited to certain places (such as cities).
- No definite 'urban personality'; kinship can be maintained and made stronger.
- There is a nostalgia or preference for the rural way of life

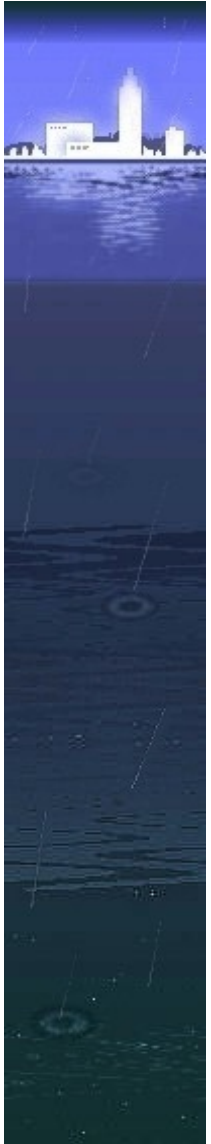
(Ref. 人文地理學詞典選讀 *The Dictionary of Human Geography* pp. 200-202)



Wirth's Views: Pros and Cons

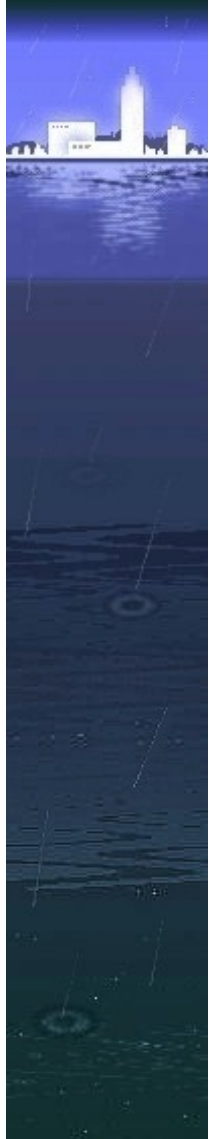
Pros

- Three major factors of urbanism and their “possible” consequences
 - Population → schizoid or anomie?
 - Density → mosaic of social world
 - Heterogeneity → segregation, transitory groups and depersonalization
- **Modification**
 - (101) Social structure – **self-employment or home-ownership** is possible nowadays?
 - Anonymity is not negative, and personal disintegration not an absolute outcome





Other Possible Views

- 
- The other possible interpretations:
 1. Urbanism not limited to cities: Capital is urbanized at the same time it produces urban spaces (e.g. road, factory, school, parks, etc.)
 2. Individuals can still **‘walk’** in their cities to carve out their own spaces.
 3. Urbanism as **unconventional subcultures**– Urbanism stimulates unconventionality. (e.g. 溫汀羅; Huashan 1914 Creative Park)

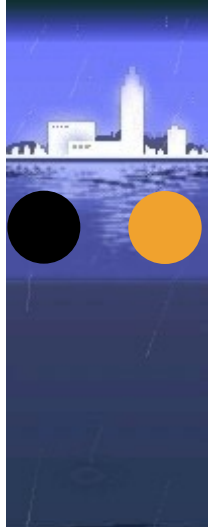




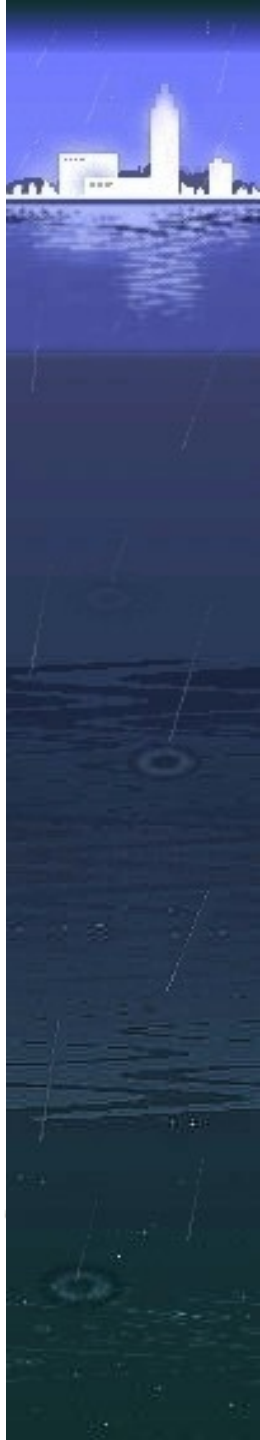
Glossary

- Urbanism: A way of life caused by **the density, size and heterogeneity** of the population of a place.
- **Anomie**: a breakdown of standards and values or from a lack of purpose or ideals.

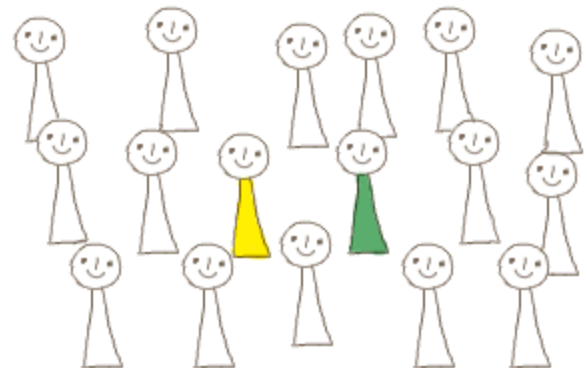




Enemy

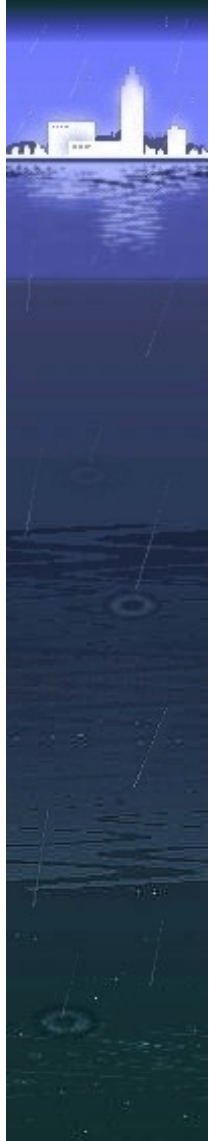


(Denis Villeneuve 2013)

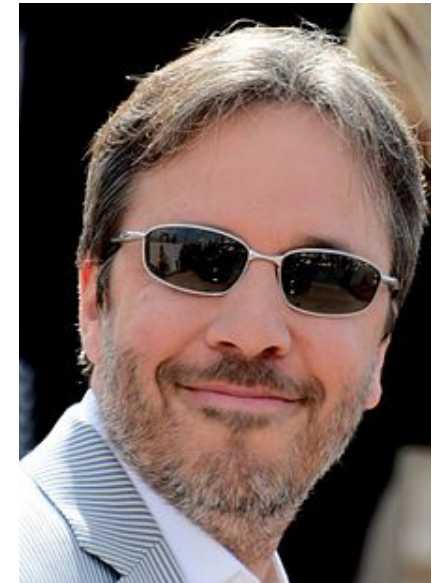


Denis Villeneuve

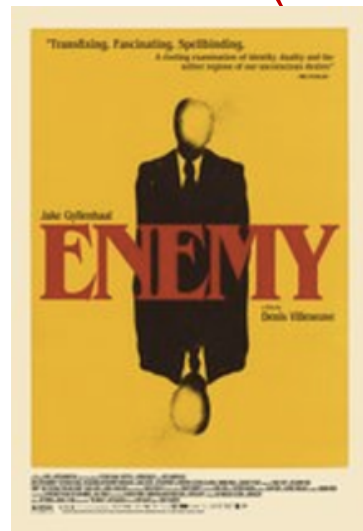
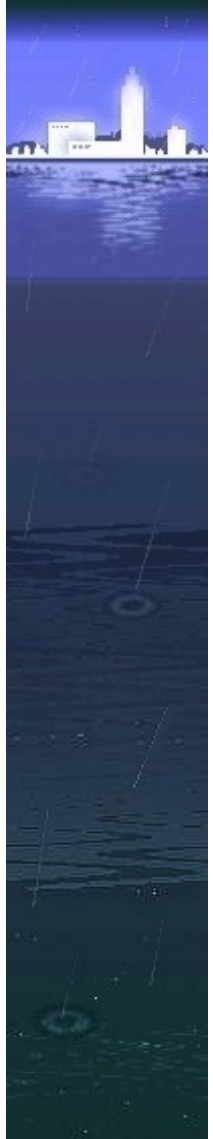
- 2010 Incendies (Montreal + Beirut, Lebanon)
- 2009 Polytechnique (Montreal)
- 2008 Next Floor (Short fantasy)
- 2000 Maelström (Montreal) --maternity
- 1998 Un 32 août sur terre (Montreal, Utah, USA) -- maternity



Denis Villeneuve



- 2016 Arrival
- 2015 Sicario
- **2013 Enemy** (Toronto) – internal view (José Saramago The Double)
- **2013 Prisoners** (Georgia, USA) –social crime vs. fathers



Enemy: Main Characters



Adam &
Anthony



Helen



Mary



Mother





Enemy: Structure & Plot

- Opening: Mom's call, "**Anthony**" to the underground strip show
- (1): Adam's Life at school and at "home."
- (2) *Where there's a will, there's a way.*
→ discovering his look-alike
- (3) Searching for Anthony
- (4) Meeting
- (5) Swapping Identities...



Spider

In Toronto's Distillery District "It"



National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa "Maman"



Spider in the Film



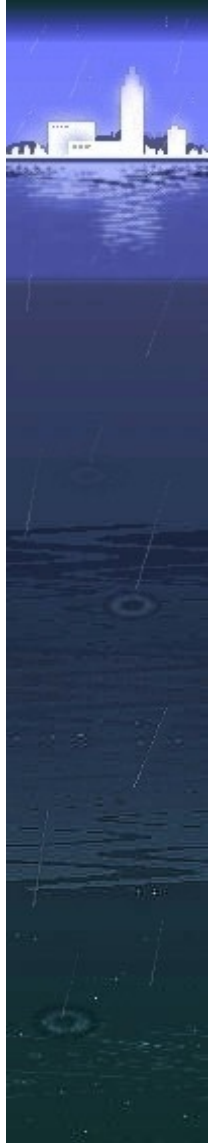
Spider in the Film (2)



Spider in the Film (3)





Spider Woman





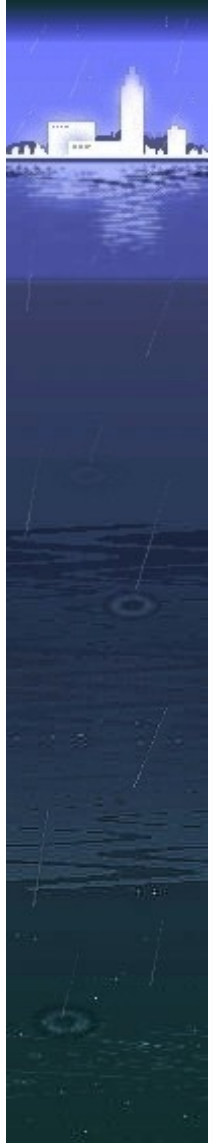
Enemy: Possible Interpretations

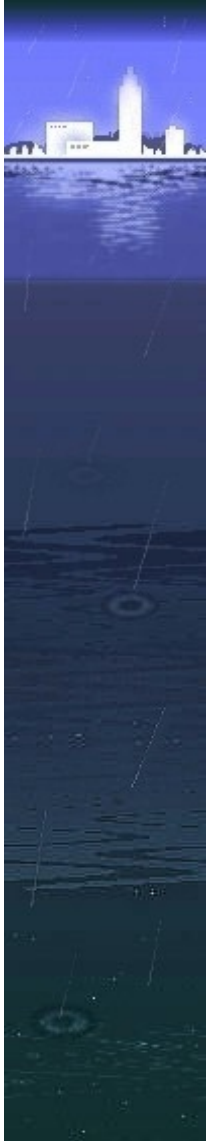
1. Two persons swap identities and one gets killed, which leads to a happy ending
2. One person with schizophrenia:  
 - 1) Anthony wanting to pass for a college prof.
 - 2) Adam not being able to get rid of his desire for the other women (other than his wife).
3. **Fear of connection, intimacy, maternity, responsibility and conformity (=lack of freedom) = One is one's own Enemy**



2. Enemy: Discussion Questions

1. G2: How does the film represent **urban life through images & urban spaces (apt buildings, hotel)**?
2. G 6/8: How do you characterize Adam and Anthony? Why and how is Adam or Anthony a **schizoid**? Or do they have an **urban personality as Wirth defines it**?
3. **G1: Double:** Why does meeting one's double so attractive and terrifying? How do the characters respond to this encounter?
4. G 4: What does the **spider and other recurrent images** mean in the film?
5. G3: What do the film's opening and ending mean?

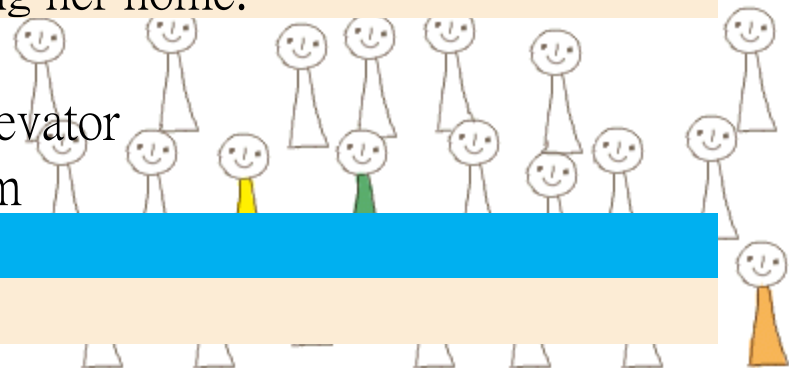




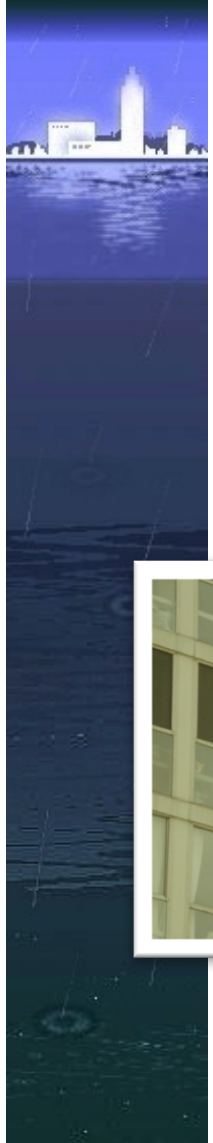
Timecode	Note
0:01:14	city
0:01:33	car rear-view mirror
0:01:36	pregnant woman
0:01:39	chaos: order undeciphered
0:03:09	male audience-cold
0:03:38	inverted image & a plate (w/ spider)
0:04:52	city again
0:01:15	mother called
0:05:05	control
0:07:17	Lover (Mary)
0:08:04	dictatorship--control
0:08:31	sex again
0:11:52	city--building
0:16:51	the video?
0:18:09	class on Hegel--great events happening twice
0:21:14	searching and matching photos
0:22:37	city
0:21:21	classroom again
0:21:49	mother called again
0:26:16	gated community
0:26:42	building: double
0:28:29	surveillance camera



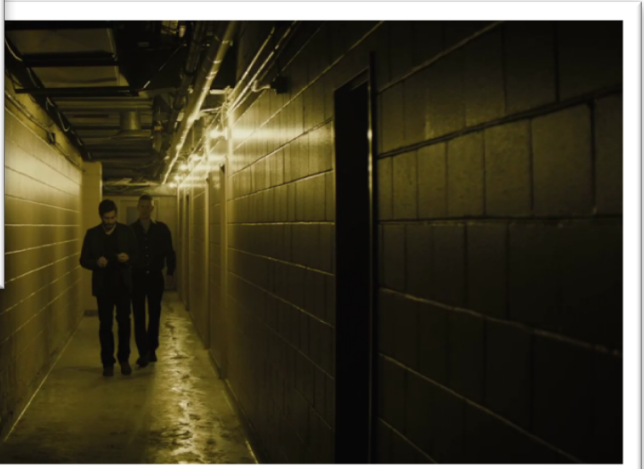
Timecode	Note
0:28:51	1st phone call
0:31:23	2nd phone call
0:34:08	wife suspicious
0:38:07	Adam in an empty classroom
0:39:48	Wife (Helen) seeing Adam
0:41:55	Wife calls Anthony after seeing Adam
0:45:12	spider woman
0:47:24	Meeting Anthony
0:55:08	city buildings
0:55:30	Anthony stalking Adam
0:56:53	Stalking Adam's girlfriend
0:59:36	talking to the mother
1:00:49	city w. spider
1:01:05	different responses
1:01:57	city--Tomorrow, I'll bring her home.
1:04:35	swapping identity
1:08:12	the receptionist at the elevator
1:11:26	Adam in Anthony's room
1:12:58	the photo!
1:23:18	city



Urban Life: Conformity and Depersonalization



Urbanism: Conformity, Isolation



Urbanism: Lack of Kinship



Um... if I'm not mistaken
that's Anthony Claire's



(sigh)



Adam vs. Anthony

Adam

- Teacher (stable job), specialized in studies of political dictators
- **Schizoid**, Isolated, limited and regular activities (teach and grade, eat and have sex).
- Life starts to change when he sees A. in a film

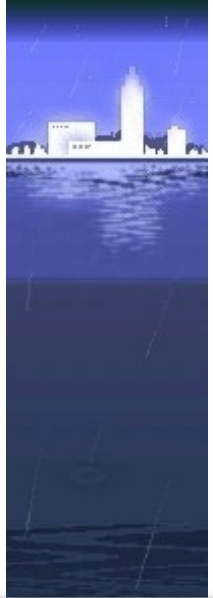
Anthony

- A womanizer, interested in strip dance shows
- Married
- Outgoing & sporty
- **Facing the wife's pregnancy, lack of success at work**

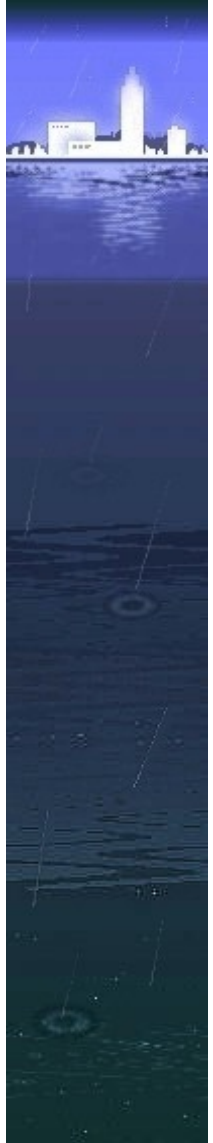
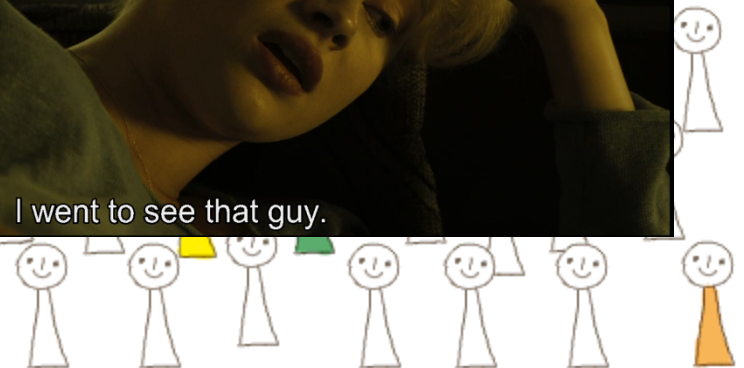
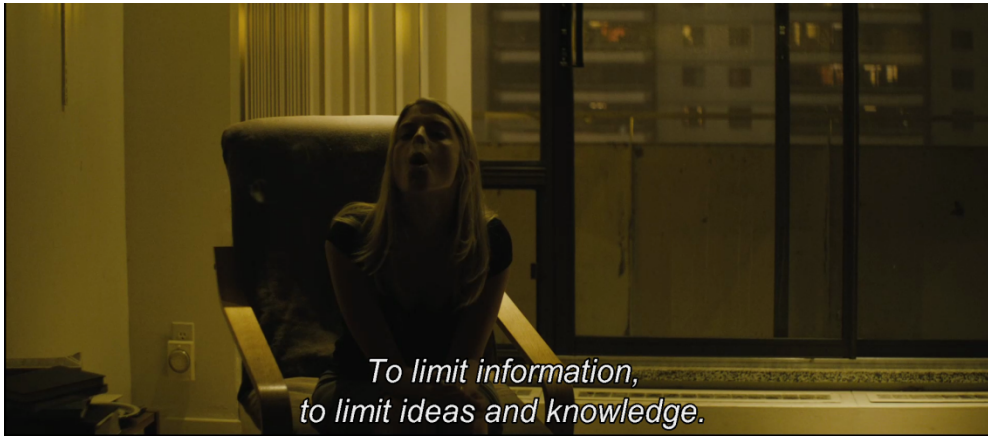


Moments of Confusion

- The photos
- Helen's responses
- Whom does **the mother** call at the beginning & at the end of the film?



Mary & Helen



Important Signs of Identity, Human Connection and their Losses

Identity

- mother/kinship
- Work (Social Position)
- Private Space/Home
- Ring mark on the finger

Loss of Identity

- Sound
- Physical Appearance
- Date of Birth
- Clothing, Photo

Connection

- Sex ✘
- Phone calls ✘
- Sharing Interests ✘
(Movies)
- Hotel room ✘

Loss of Connection –

- In the streetcar
- Classroom
- Offices (?)
- One's Own Home (?)

