



Social Care: Past and Present

Changing communities in north Sheffield

Man:

People don't really want to move out which seems surprising to people that don't live in Tinsley but it doesn't for me because it's such a close-knit community, particularly the young Pakistani community.

Woman:

If you want to fit in in Darnall you've not got to be cocky or arrogant towards people, you know you just mingle in with them.

Man:

Darnall is very near, closer to the Sheffield City Council, and there are some very good transportation, of public transport service from here, you know, so I think it is a very good place for all the people.

Woman:

Coming from Tinsley at one time they didn't used to mix, the two areas didn't mix. Tinsley had a different idea of what Darnall was, and Darnall had a different idea of what Tinsley was, it was more of a village.

V/o:

Sheffield has joined the districts of Darnall and Tinsley into the same ward but in reality they are two distinct communities. This is Darnall, the larger of the two. Originally a village outside the city, Darnall was incorporated into Sheffield just over a hundred years ago. Today it is an ethnically diverse area with a population of around 16,000. The M1 runs on a north-south line as it crosses the Don Valley on a mile-long viaduct. It forms a physical barrier dividing Tinsley from Darnall and the rest of the city. There's also a mixed community here. Tinsley is home to around 4,000 people. Steelmaking has shaped development in this area. Back in 1975 when these pictures were taken, the foundries and forges were in full swing. The old way of doing things required large amounts of labour, providing employment for local people, and drawing in more workers from overseas from places like Bangladesh and Pakistan. But starting in the 1970's the industrial landscape of Sheffield began to change. Recession and technological advance caused many firms to close down and thousands were thrown out of work. As men walked out of factory gates for the last time, an aura of decay set in. People from all backgrounds had to face up to a new world of high unemployment and the consequent problems. Where steel mills once stood, new buildings have now risen to take their place. The showpiece shopping centre of Meadowhall has now been joined by an array of entertainment and leisure facilities. But despite all the new investment, the nearby communities of Darnall and Tinsley are still waiting to see the full benefits.