Reflection

1. After conducting our interviews at the YWCA I realize that there was a lot of intersect between our overall research questions and the things that our interviewee mentioned to us. The biggest thing that she talked about that really goes with what we talked about in class was the crime rates in Alton especially in adolescence. She also mentioned a few things about our community partner and the steps they’re taking to make an impact in the community wether it be with kids going to juvenile detention centers or the influx of pregnant teens.
2. Some new finding that we found is that to our interviewee the racial gap is beginning to dissipate in Alton and it doesn’t seem to be as big as a problem as it use to be. Another thing she mentioned is that a lot of Altons youth for the past few years have begin to move out when they get the chance due to the lack of opportunities and reasons to stay in Alton. She expressed her concern with not having a next generation to take over as the current one begins to retire.

Some new questions that have emerged from the interview are: how can residents encourage other residents to seek change and want better?

What changes are necessary for Alton to move forward in the near future and in the next decade.

1. Through our digital-story telling I would like to capture the essence of our interviewee as a local as well as a person who is trying to make her community a better place for others. I want to display her experience and story of how she got to this point and the step that got her here. I also want to bring it to life through pictures and her voice bring the soul to the video. I think it’s really important to make the video something that she would enjoy looking at and being a great representation of her story.
2. As a kid I found myself being able to relate to Chiron, in the ways that I never really fit in and at time felt like an outcast from many of the other children. I think that a large part of my identity is heavily influenced by the support that I had from my family, there were many life events that I went through that would probably scar a child but having that love and guidance from those in my family helped me overcome these situations. If I were to compare my life to Chirons and the directions and paths that he took I would say that he went into that direction because he lacked what I had and that was close family support. Not being told he was loved closed him off and put him in a place where he just seem to be in a shell of himself and not really himself but a mask to hide behind.
3. I realize after our interview that many children in Alton experience the same thing that Chiron went though, that lack of parental involvement and guidance leads kids to go down the wrong path. We see that many of these children that go down these paths end up in the system and for a very long time are trapped in it and have no way of escape just like how Chiron became a drug dealer even though he despised drug dealers because they sold drugs to his mother who was an addict.