

Geoffrey - Changes good and bad

I have stayed here because my family is here. My parents were here, my aunts and uncles were here. That is why I stayed here. We have often thought about moving away, but unless we can move as a family en bloc, then we cannot do it. Well, we can do it, but I do not want to do it, because I do not want to lose contact with my family. That is quite important, and it is just a shame that Leicester has gone downhill to the extent that it has. I find it really quite sad, because it could be really good, but it just is not I am afraid.

Immigration is the main problem and the way that Leicester has basically, from the top downwards, been taken over and is biased in favour of what used to be called the ethnic minorities, which I now believe to be the ethnic majorities. I think we are the ethnic minority now. I find that really quite sad, that Leicester's found itself in this state.

I can remember Leicester how it used to be. The thing is, everything in Leicester now is weighted in favour of the Asian community, because basically they are all in charge of everything. We have allowed this to happen. I do not know quite how it has happened. It has crept up over probably the last 50 years, 40 years certainly. It has just gradually crept up.

The road I live on now, there are 15 houses. When I first moved here, in 2003 I believe it was, there were two Asian families out of the 15. Now, 20 odd years later, out of those 15, there are three white families. The road now is basically a building site and a car park. All the lawns, all except mine, have all gone, and there are just cars and vans everywhere. The houses used to be nice orderly houses, all looking very similar. Now they have all got poor quality extensions and it saddens me. I look out my front bedroom window now and I hate it. I really do hate it. I hate the way the road has gone, such that I am looking to move out. Where we will move to is a matter of concern, but it will be somewhere where I feel more at home, shall we say.

