U.S. HOUSING POLICY:
STRUCTURAL RACISM &
THE FUTURE OF FAIR HOUSING
MOLLY METZGER - NOVEMBER 30, 2015.
INCOME INEQUALITY IN THE U.S.

Reardon & Bischoff (2011)
WEALTH INEQUALITY IN THE U.S.

% of Families | 10%
---|---
% of Wealth | 69.8%

% of Families | 1%
---|---
% of Wealth | 32.7%

Davies et al. (2007)
WEALTH INEQUALITY BY RACE/ETHNICITY

Median HH Assets ($)

- White
- African American
- Latino

McKernan et al. (2013)
Housing Segregation: Black-White Dissimilarity

Population Studies Center, University of Michigan
WHITE SEGREGATION IN ST. LOUIS

ACS, 2009-2013
A LEGACY OF PAST POLICIES...

The Case for Reparations

Two hundred fifty years of slavery. Ninety years of Jim Crow. Sixty years of separate but equal. Thirty-five years of racist housing policy. Until we reckon with our compounding moral debts, America will never be whole.

Coates (2014)

The Making of Ferguson

Public Policies at the Root of its Troubles

Rothstein (2014)
A LEGACY OF PAST POLICIES (~1910-1968)

Local Policies
Racial Zoning
Restrictive Covenants

Federal Policies
FHA Redlining
...PERPETUATED BY CURRENT POLICIES

**Local Policies**
e.g., Exclusionary (Low-Density) Zoning

**State Policies**
e.g., Education Funding

**Federal Policies**
e.g., Mortgage Interest Deduction

**Multi-level Policies**
e.g., Siting of Affordable Housing
REINFORCING THE FAIR HOUSING ACT

▪ U.S Supreme Court decision
  ▪ Texas Dept. of Housing and Community Affairs v. The Inclusive Communities Project
  ▪ Recognizes “disparate impact” claims

▪ HUD’s “New Rule”
  ▪ “Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing” (“AFFH”)
INCLUSIVE HOUSING: RACIAL AND CLASS DIVERSITY IN URBAN COMMUNITIES

In recent decades, governments at the local, state and federal levels have poured billions of dollars into community development. Major initiatives have included the construction of public housing, the demolition and redevelopment of that public housing and, most recently,

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Inclusive Housing