

# RACE & PLACE IN A "POST-RACIAL" ERA

SOC 2202: CITIES AND SOCIETY FALL 2019

# **BUSINESS MATTERS**

 Reminder – Papers uploaded to OneDrive Folder by 5 pm on Friday, October 4.

Midterm 1 Essay Questions distributed next Wednesday.

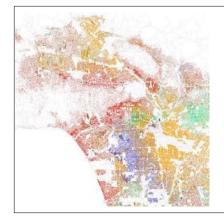
PREVIOUSLY . . .

### Supporting Integration

- Integration has been difficult to achieve through government policies.
  - Attitudes pervading maintain racial compositions
  - Courts' role in supporting integration (Gatreaux v. Chicago Housing Board)
- Measures of Segregation: Index of Dissimilarity
- Institutional Barriers to Housing Choice
- Neighborhood Diversity (Diversity by Direction; Diversity by Circumstance)

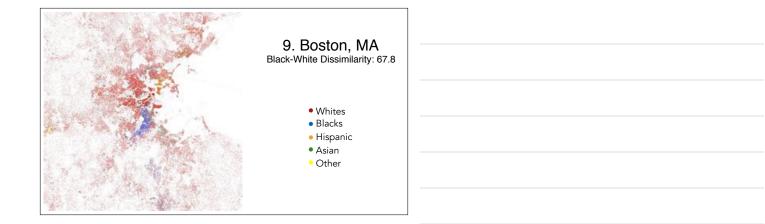
# THE TEN MOST SEGREGATED CITIES IN THE UNITED STATES

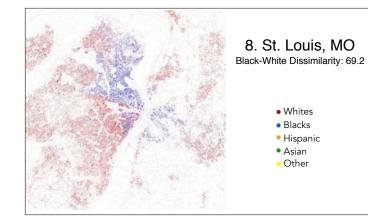
(BASED ON THE 2010 CENSUS)



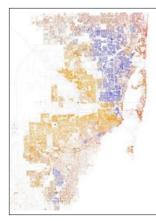
# 10. Los Angeles Black-White Dissimilarity: 65.0

- WhitesBlacks
- HispanicAsianOther





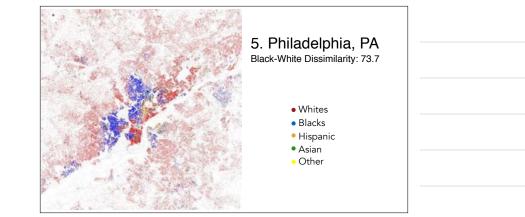


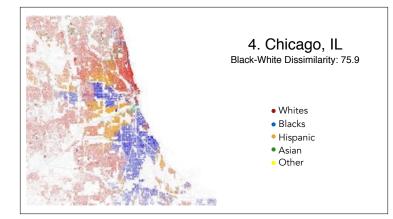


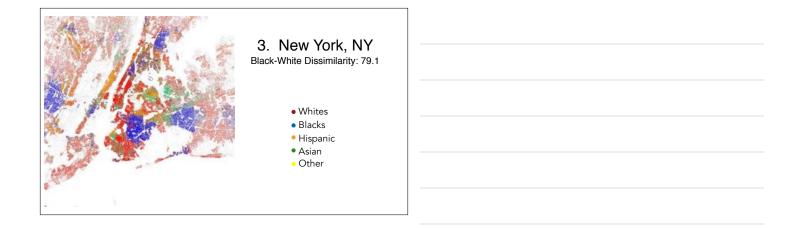
# 6. Miami, FL Black-White Dissimilarity: 73.0

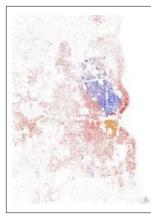
•	Whites	
•	Blacks	

- Hispanic
- Asian
- Other





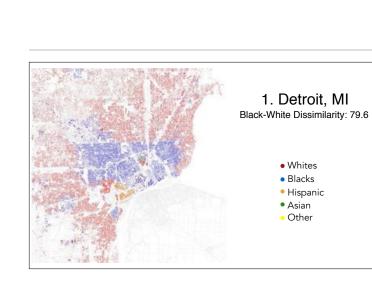




# 2. Milwaukee, WI Black-White Dissimilarity: 79.6

# • Whites • Blacks

- HispanicAsianOther



#### THE NUMBERS KEEP CHANGING . . .

- Trends increasingly show that black-white segregation is declining overall.
- The growing Hispanic population contributes to increased racial diversity in neighborhoods/communities.

		ghest black-white s	egregation		
		:000		2013-2017	
		Segregation Index**			Segregation Index**
1	Detroit	85.7	1	Milwaukee	79.8
2	Milwaukee	83.3	2	New York	76.1
3	Chicago	81.2	3	Chicago	75.3
4	New York	79.7	4	Detroit	73.7
5	Cleveland	78.2	5	Cleveland	72.9
б	Buffalo	78.0	6	Buffalo	72.2
7	St. Louis	74.0	7	St. Louis	71.7
8	Cincinnati	73.6	8	Cincinnati	67.3
9	Indianapolis	717	9	Philadelphia	67.0
10	Philadelphia	71.0	10	Los Angeles	66.8
11	Kansas City	70.8	11	Pittsburgh	66.1
12	Los Angeles	70.0	12	Hartford	65.7
metr Segn be fu value reas a surce 3/3-20	o population (metro egation Index is a d illy integrated with e of 100 indicates co and further details in : William H Frey and	lysis of 2000 Census, and can Community Survey	<ol> <li>esents the percent of bia eighborhoods.</li> <li>of 0 equals complete interpretering</li> </ol>	cks that would nee ogration (See value politan Poli	d to relocate to is for all metro

#### PREVIOUSLY . . .

- Why the focus on black urban poverty and not poverty among whites?
  - Rural poverty has always outpaced urban poverty in the United States.
  - Possible explanations:
    - > The "hypersegregation" of blacks relative to the racial isolation of whites.
    - > The lower poverty rates of whites (overall) relative to those of blacks.
    - The availability of black communities vs. poor white communities (for investigation).
    - > The rural-urban divide
- Poverty Rates (looking at Absolute Poverty in the United States)

## POVERTY THRESHOLDS IN THE UNITED STATES (THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STATES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA)

2017 POVERTY GUIDELINES FOR THE 48 CONTIGUOUS STA	TES AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA		
PERSONS IN FAMILY/HOUSEHOLD	POVERTY GUIDELINE 2019	POVERTY GUIDELINE 2017	POVERTY GUIDELINE 2016
For families/households with more than 8 persons, add \$4,10	90 for each additional person.		
1	\$12,490	\$12,060	\$11,880
2	\$16,910	\$16,240	\$16,020
3	\$21,330	\$20,420	\$20,160
4	\$25,750	\$24,600	\$24,300
5	\$30,170	\$28,780	\$28,440
6	\$34,590	\$32,960	\$32,580
7	\$39,010	\$37,140	\$36,730
8	\$43,430	\$41,320	\$40,890

# POVERTY THRESHOLDS IN THE UNITED STATES (ALASKA & HAWAII BY COMPARSION)

PERSONS IN FAMILY/ HOUSEHOLD	POVERTY GUIDELINE 48 CONTIGUOUS U.S.	POVERTY GUIDELINE ALASKA	POVERTY GUIDELINES HAWAI
		-	
1	\$12,490	\$15,600	\$14,380
2	\$16,910	\$21,130	\$19,460
3	\$21,330	\$26,660	\$24,540
4	\$25,750	\$32,190	\$29,620
5	\$30,170	\$37,720	\$34,700
6	\$34,590	\$43,250	\$39,780
7	\$39,010	\$48,780	\$44,860
8	\$43,430	\$54,310	\$49,940

#### POSSIBLE EXPLANATIONS

- Sociological Biases
  - Sociological studies on places have largely focused on the lived experiences of communities of color in urban spaces and metropolitan areas.
  - Studies find significant differences between poverty in the rural South and poverty in the rural North.
    - Southern rural poverty among black and whites is rooted in a rigidly stratified political and economic system that perpetuated landlessness and dependency.
    - Northern and Western rural poverty is the result of unstable, seasonal deployment or marginal agriculture.

#### WHITENESS AND PLACE

- White ethnic identity vs. white racial identity:
  - White ethnic identity focused on the **centrality** of European ancestry in the daily lives of whites in the United States.
    - > White ethnics situated as "other" to native born whites.
      - W.I. Thomas and Florian Zianecki's The Polish Peasant in Europe and America (1918)
      - Harvey Zorbaugh's The Gold Coast and the Slum (1929)
      - William Foote Whyte's Street Corner Society (1943)
      - Herbert Gans' The Urban Villagers (1962)

# STUDIES OF WHITE ETHNICITY:

# HERBERT GANS, THE URBAN VILLAGERS (1962)

Study of Boston's West End

- Problem: "Slum clearance" of the low income, Italian-American community on the West End to make way for middle-class housing adjacent to a commercial center.
  - > Understanding of the "slum" based on a middle-class definition which included not only areas that were a danger to health, but low income housing.
  - Gans found the West End resembled an "urban village," where gemeinschaft-like ties enabled poor people living in a rundown area to make the best of a bad situation.
- Outcome: Despite efforts of Italian Americans to mobilize against urban planners and municipal developers, by 1960, more than 20,000 West Enders were relocated to make way for high-rise office and apartment complexes.

### WHITENESS AND PLACE

White racial identity focuses on the minimal impact of European ancestry in the daily lives of whites in the United States.

- Whiteness as invisible (unmarked category), privileged enough to take their racial identity for granted.
- > Whiteness often rooted in social and economic privilege.
- Whiteness is seen as a normative, default category a reference group to which nonwhite groups are compared.

### WHITE RACIAL STUDIES:

# ROBERT AND HELEN LYND, MIDDLETOWN: A STUDY IN AMERICAN CULTURE (1929)

- Based on a Midwestern city in the 1920s (Muncie, Indiana), noting changes taking place over the last 30 years.
- Very homogenous society, with overtones of anti-Catholic, anti-Jewish, and anti-immigrant sentiment.
  - Had sizable population of the Ku Klux Klan.
  - > 70% working class, but city was run by a small circle of wealthy and influential professionals, dominated by one prominent family.

While perceived as philanthropic and public-spirited, it was decidedly the most powerful in town and dominated decision-making.

steadfastly Republican

pushed out the labor unions and anyone interested in labor organizing.

# WHITE RACIAL STUDIES: W. LLOYD WARNER, YANKEE CITY (1963)

based on a New England city (Newburyport, MA)

- mapped out residential locations of different social groups.
  - social class influenced community and community relations
  - address became a proxy for class standing

### WHITE RACIAL STUDIES:

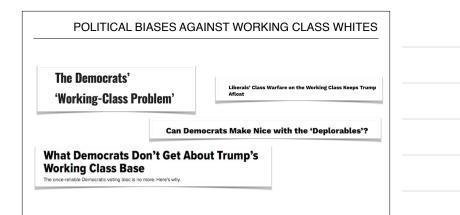
### E. DIGBY BALTZELL, THE PHILADELPHIA GENTLEMEN (1958)

- E. Digby Baltzell The Philadelphia Gentlemen (1958)
  - crucial for group solidarity that Philadelphia's elite live near each other and see each other frequently.
  - characterized as a primary group cohesive group with very close, family like ties.
- Studies generally highlight how prestige and political clout help elite groups gain and maintain the use of the most desirable spots.

"Nothing happened to them. There wasn't some awful disaster. There wasn't a war or famine or plague or a foreign occupation. Even the economic changes of the past few decades do very little to explain the dysfunction and negligence – and the incomprehensible malice – of poor white America. So the gypsum business in Garbutt ain't what it used to be. There is more to life in the 21st century than wallboard and cheap sentimentality about how the Man closed the factories down.

The truth about these dysfunctional, downscale communities is that they deserve to die. Economically, they are a negative asset. Morally, they are defensible. Forget all your cheap theatrical Bruce Springsteen crap. Forget your sanctimony about struggling Rust Belt factory towns and your conspiracy theories about the wily Orientals stealing our jobs . . . The white American underclass is in thrall to a vicious, selfish culture whose main products are misery and used heroin needles. Donald Trump's speeches make them feel good. So does OxyContin."

-KEVIN WILLIAMSON, THE NATIONAL REVIEW MARCH 2017







Communities like Golden Valley seem to be left behind in the current trends of our nation. Many examples from the reading depict larger society neglecting the intricately unique needs of the Golden Valley community for the sake of the good of the state/nation. Is it the role of larger governmental systems to address the issues of these rural areas or must these communities conform to the norms of our country (economically, socially, and perhaps geographically)?

-Ethan S., Expert Question

Sherman argues "moral status is tradable for social and economic capital". For instance, if one is a good member of the community, then in times of need the community/town would be willing and apt to support them. Does argument strictly apply to rural communities like the Golden Valley, and how can we see this playing out in larger urban settings? Is this "moral status" as important in urban settings/cities, why or why not?

-Andrew M., Expert Question

TEXT

If one isn't physically able to work and get's disability insurance, they would categorized as deserving poor. As jobs transition away from physical labor due to automation, more jobs are now dependent on mental abilities (i.e. programming, software development, tech related industries) how does the idea of deserving poor begin to change?

-Andrew M., Expert Question

# In what ways have Asian Americans reshaped the notion of suburbia?

-Praise H., Expert Question

Referencing the economic value attached to bodies, what then would you say is the economic value attached to Asian Americans? How is that shaped by their history and migration from inner-urban settlements to suburban areas?

-Praise H., Expert Question

## ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

- "Asian" a racial shorthand that homogenizes peoples from China, Japan, Korea, India, Nepal, Bangledesh, Burma, Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, the Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, Laos, Malaysia, and Singapore.
- > 11% of Asian Americans live below the poverty line (similarly to whites)
  - compared with 22% of Hispanics
  - compared with 26% of African Americans and Native Americans

#### ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

The "relationship" with Asians to the Americans notably begins with the importation of Chinese laborers to work the sugar fields of Hawaii.

- The discovery of gold in California led to a migration of Chinese laborers to the West Coast to work for mining companies.
  - > The critical mass of Chinese laborers led to an anti-Chinese movement.
    - > 1850: foreign miners were forced to pay an extra tax (targeted Chinese laborers).
    - > Chinese were prevented from testifying against whites in court
    - Jim Crow segregation prevented Chinese from attending the same schools as whites.

### ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

- Violence against the Chinese
  - 1871: a white mob lynched, shot, and torched 21 Chinese immigrants in Los Angeles.
  - > 1880: Denver's Chinatown was burnt to the ground, a laundryman beaten to death.
  - 1885: white workers killed 28 Chinese men employed by the Union Pacific (railroad).

## ASIAN AMERICANS IN THE UNITED STATES

As capitalists encouraged the migration of an expendable labor force from Asia, the government were
regulating Asian immigration, denying them a chance to naturalize (become American citizens)

- 1875: Page Law passed
  - intended to ban Chinese prostitutes from entering the United States; barred all Chinese women.
- > 1882: The Chinese Exclusion Act passed
  - banned all Chinese immigrants from entering into the United States.
- > 1917: Immigration Act banned all Asians from entering into the United States.
  - 1924: Immigration Act introduced a quota system (strengthened the ban on Chinese and Japanese Immigrants)
- $\blacktriangleright$  1965: Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1965 passed, removing the ban of Asian immigration to the United States. .