

Race and Urban Redevelopment (Sociology 248, Sec. 10)

Department of Sociology
Spring 2003
Tuesday 4:10-6:00 p.m.
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Racial disparities persist in many U.S. cities while economic inequality is growing within metropolitan areas nationwide. Hypersegregation, concentrated poverty, and suburban sprawl are the signature patterns of metropolitan development in recent years. The intersections of race, space, and class during the post World War II years will be the focus of this seminar.

Major theories of racial inequality and urban development, recent policy initiatives, and debates over future research and policy choices will be examined. The focus will be on the uneven development of metropolitan areas with particular attention devoted to the racial implications of economic restructuring and spatial transformation of urban communities. Readings will draw from a range of disciplines including sociology, history, economics, political science, and planning and students will be encouraged to explore the paradigms, theories, and policy implications of the various social sciences.

The underclass is dropping out and the wealthy are seceding. Racial and class antagonisms are fueled by uneven development of metropolitan areas, which in turn is reinforced by continuing conflicts associated with heightened racial and economic disparities. Making sense of these interrelated social developments and policy responses is the objective of this seminar.

Grades

Students are expected to complete all of the readings and to attend and participate in each meeting. In addition to the readings listed below, students should read and turn in at least one book review of the required books and be prepared to discuss that review during the week the book is assigned. For each class that students miss they are required to submit a three-page reaction to the readings by the following week.

Each student will write two papers and prepare two formal presentations. Students are also expected to contribute to discussions each week. The first paper (4-6 pages, due February 25) will be a literature review of a set of at least three readings completed for this seminar. The second written assignment is a research paper (15-20 pages, due on April 29) that examines a particular issue reflecting the interrelationships between race and space (e.g. the impact of urban redevelopment policy on racial inequality, the relationship(s) between urban sprawl and racial segregation, how welfare reform transforms the opportunity structure facing racial minorities). This paper should draw from class readings and other materials not assigned for this class. A one-page outline for the second paper will be due on

March 11.

Students will select one week for which they will prepare a brief reaction to the readings assigned for that particular class. While a very brief overview of the readings is appropriate, it is assumed that everyone will have completed the readings so a detailed summary is not necessary. Students should focus on the theoretical and empirical strengths and weaknesses of the material. They should discuss why the readings were informative, ambiguous, or simply wrong. This discussion should also link the readings to previous materials covered in class. Each student will also present an overview of their second paper and lead a discussion of the issues it addresses.

Grades will be based on the literature review (30%), the research paper (50%) and classroom participation (20%).

Academic Integrity

All examinations, papers, and other graded work products and assignments are to be completed in conformance with The George Washington University Code of Academic Integrity. It is important that the work you do for the course be your own, original work. Failure to provide proper citations and attribute thoughts, words, or ideas to their original source may constitute plagiarism and will make you liable or sanctions from the instructor and/or university.

Reading

The following books are to be obtained and are available at the GW Bookstore.

William J. Wilson. When Work Disappears: The World of the New Urban Poor. Knopf, 1996.

Douglas S. Massey and Nancy A. Denton. American Apartheid: Segregation and the Making of the Underclass. Harvard University Press, 1993.

Leonard S. Rubinowitz and James E. Rosenbaum. Crossing the Class and Color Lines: From Public Housing to White Suburbia. University of Chicago Press, 2000.

David Rusk. Inside Game, Outside Game: Winning Strategies for Saving Urban America. Brookings Institution Press, 1999.

Robert Suro. Strangers Among Us: How Latino Immigration is Transforming America. Knopf, 1998.

The following items are available through electronic reserve via Prometheus. To access these readings the course password is "Race" and the course ID is 59521.

Kevin Fox Gotham, "Urban Redevelopment, Past and Present," Critical Perspectives on Urban Redevelopment, 6: 1-31, 2001.

Timothy Barnekov and Daniel Rich. "Privatism and the Limits of Local Economic Development Policy," Urban Affairs Quarterly 25 (2): 212-238, 1989.

Paul E. Peterson. "An Alternative Theory of Urban Politics," excerpts from City Limits. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 1981.

Clarence N. Stone and Heywood T. Sanders (ed). "The Study of the Politics of Urban Development," excerpt from The Politics of Urban Development. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 1987.

Joe R. Feagin. "Introduction" The New Urban Paradigm. Rowman and Littlefield, 1998.

Bennett Harrison and Barry Bluestone, "Zapping Labor," excerpt from The Great U-Turn. New York: Basic Books.

Adolph Reed, Jr. "The Black Urban Regime: Structural Origins and Constraints," Comparative Urban Research. 12: 140-187, 1988.

"Economic Inequality Among Racial and Ethnic Groups," in Economic Report of the President Washington, D.C.: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1998.

Kenneth T. Jackson, "Gentleman's Agreement: Discrimination in Metropolitan America," in Bruce Katz (ed) Reflections on Regionalism. Washington, D.C.: Brookings Institution Press, 2000.

Anthony Downs, "The Big Picture: How America's Cities are Growing," Brookings Review 16 (4): 8-11, 1998.

John A. Powell, "Race and Space: What Really Drives Metropolitan Growth," Brookings Review 16 (4): 20-22, 1998.

Lewis Mumford Center, "Ethnic Diversity Grows, Neighborhood Integration Lags Behind," 2001 (<http://mumford1.dyndns.org/cen2000/WholePop/WPreport/page1.html>)

Stephan Thernstrom and Abigail Thernstrom, "Cities and Suburbs" in America in Black and White: One Nation, Indivisible. New York: Simon and Schuster 1997.

Michael O. Emerson, Karen J. Chai, and George Yancey, "Does Race Matter in Residential Segregation? Exploring the Preferences of White Americans," American Sociological Review 66(6): 922-935.

James E. Rosenbaum, Lisa Reynolds, and Stefanie Deluca, "How Do Places Matter? The Geography of Opportunity, Self-Efficacy, and a Look Inside the Black Box of Residential Mobility," Housing Studies 17 (1): 71-82. 2002.

John Goering, Judith D. Feins, and Todd M. Richardson, "A Cross-Site Analysis of Initial Moving to Opportunity Demonstration Results," Journal of Housing Research 13 (1): 1-30. 2002.

Bruce Katz, "Smart Growth: The Future of the American Metropolis?" Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion, London School of Economics, July 2002.

Ronald Takaki, "Breaking Silences: Community of Memory," in Strangers from a Different Shore: A

History of Asian Americans. Boston: Little, Brown and Co. 1989.

Deborah Woo, "Ethnicity and Class as Competing Interpretations: The Socio-economic Mobility of Asian Americans," in Steve Fenton and Harriet Bradley (ed) Ethnicity and Economy: 'Race and Class' Revisited New York: Palgrave MacMillan. 2002.

Michael E. Porter, "New Strategies for Inner-City Economic Development," Economic Development Quarterly 11 (1): 11-27, 1997.

Merrill Goozner, "The Porter Prescription," The American Prospect 38: 56-64, 1998.

Peter Dreier, John Mollenkopf, & Todd Swanstrom, "Metropolitics for the Twenty-first Century," in Place Matters: Metropolitics for the Twenty-first Century. Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2001.

William Goldsmith, "Taking Back the Inner City: A Review of Recent Proposals," The Review of Black Political Economy Fall/Winter: 95-110, 1996.

Karen Danielsen, Robert E. Lang, and William Fulton, "Retracting Suburbia: Smart Growth and the Future of Housing," Housing Policy Debate 10 (3): 513-540, 1999

Gregg Easterbrook, "Comment," Housing Policy Debate 10 (3): 541-547, 1999.

Ingrid Gould Ellen and Amy Ellen Schwartz, "No Easing Answers: Cautionary Notes for Competitive Cities," Brookings Review 18 (3): 44-47, 2000.

Robert Fishman, "The American Metropolis at Century's End: Past and Future Influences," Housing Policy Debate 11 (1): 199-213, 2000.

Schedule

Week	Topic	Readings
Jan. 14	Introduction	
Jan. 21	From Ideology to Empirical Reality	Barnekov & Rich, Stone & Sanders, Gotham, Peterson, Feagin, Harrison & Bluestone
Jan. 28	Uneven Development and Equal Opportunity: How Much Progress?	Downs, powell, Jackson Reed, Economic Report of the President
Feb. 4	Restructuring and Race I	Wilson, Part I
Feb. 11	Restructuring and Race II	Wilson, Part II
Feb. 18	Causes of Racial Segregation	Massey & Denton, 1-4 Mumford, Emerson et. al.
Feb. 25	Consequences of Racial Segregation	Massey & Denton, 5-8, Thernstrom & Thernstrom
First Paper Due Feb. 25		
March 4	Responses to Racial Segregation	Rubinowitz & Rosenbaum, Rosenbaum et al., Goering et. al.
March 11	Regional Problems, Regional Solutions	Rusk, 1,3-6,8,9,11-14; Katz
Outline of Final Paper Due March 11		
March 18	Spring Break	
March 25	The Nation's Fastest Growing Minority Groups	Suro 1,10,11,13,18 Takagi, Woo
April 1	The Future of Redevelopment	Porter, Goozner, Dreier et. al., Goldsmith, Fishman, Danielson, et. al., Easterbrook Ellen & Schwartz
April 8-29	Student Presentations	
Final Paper Due April 29		

