

HISTORY MATTERS: *UNDERSTANDING TODAY'S BARRIERS TO HOUSING THROUGH THE LENS OF HISTORY*

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COHHIO Statewide Housing Conference; Session Presentation for Racial Inequity in Our System 101.



COVENANTS BECOME PROLIFIC IN OHIO'S URBAN COMMUNITIES



"No part of said addition or any building thereon shall be owned, leased to, or occupied by, any person other than one of the Caucasian race, but this prohibition is not intended to exclude or prevent occupancy by such other persons as domestic servants of any resident of said addition..."

- By 1914 the NAACP of Cleveland noted that "a noticeable tendency toward inserting clauses in real estate deeds restricting the transfer of the property to colored people, Jews, and foreigners generally."
- A historical study of Columbus development, found covenants prolific in the early 20th century, particularly between 1921 and 1935 where 67 of 101 (or 67% of all) subdivisions platted in the developed during this time to included restrictive covenants.



REAL ESTATE AGENTS & PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATIONS ENFORCE SEGREGATION



Community "protective" associations actively work to assure adherence to restrictive covenants and maintain segregation.



WHY RED (AND YELLOW) LINE MOST OF THE CITY?

Built Environment

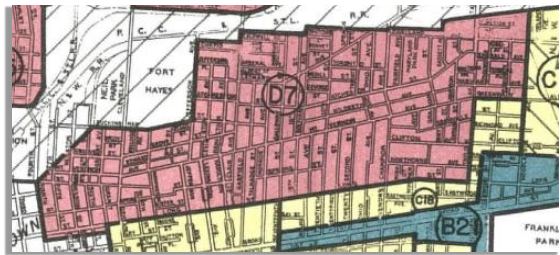


Social Environment



Redlined: Flytown





Redlined: Bronzeville/King-Lincoln



Colored business section on East Long Street between Hamilton and Garfield Avenues - looking west.



**“...UNDESIRABLE
POPULATIONS OR AN
INFILTRATION OF IT...”**

Into the mind of a HOLC assessor – racism institutionalized...

HOLC ASSESSMENT

“These maps and descriptions have been carefully checked with competent local real estate brokers and mortgage lenders, and we believe represent a fair and composite opinion of the best qualified people.”

- Typical HOLC assessment

1. Name of street, _____ No. _____

2. Description of property, _____

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THE MENACE OF DIVERSITY . .

"Foreigners are likely to invade this area..."

"Area has slight tendency to increase colored population..."

"low grade population"

"Section is (being) killed by negroes attending Francis Willard school..."

"Slavish Catholic Church just out of the area ar the northwest may have tendency to concentrate Slavish into C7 and thence into B7"



Understanding the Values Behind Policy:
Word frequency analysis of HOLC neighborhood assessments (D or Red Areas) in the Kansas City Region (Norris & Baek, 2016)



D Areas





POST REDLINING: HIGHWAYS & URBAN RENEWAL

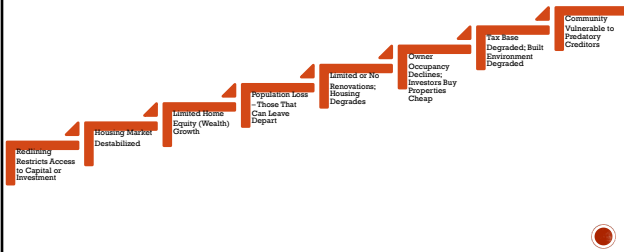


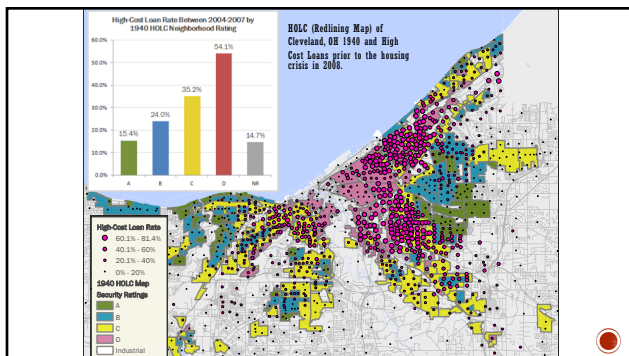


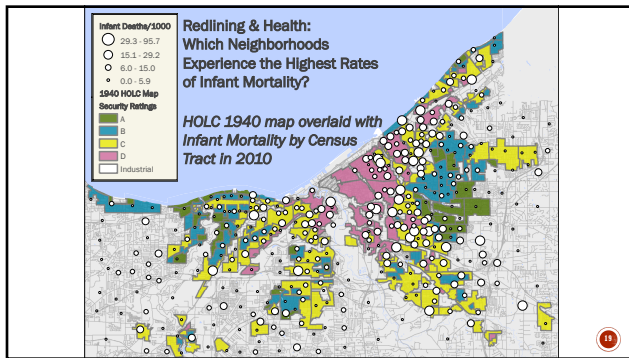
WHY DOES THIS MATTER?

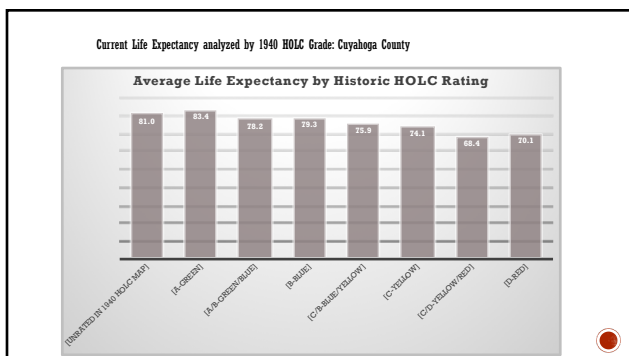
The Long Term Impacts of Historical Policy on the Built & Social Environment

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER REDLINING?









**THE TRANSFORMATIONAL POWER OF
DEEPLY UNDERSTANDING OUR HISTORY...**

"It's really important, in order for us to solve the problems of today, it's essential that we understand how we got here. If you don't understand how we got it, it becomes difficult, bordering on impossible to solve the problem.

These ideas that we talk about, institutional racism, structural racism, most people don't understand what that means. We throw these terms around, we don't understand how that started, what exactly does it mean, this leads to people not being willing to look at them."

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