

The Promise of Urban and Suburban Integration in an Increasingly Diverse Society:

METRO MIGRATION POLICIES FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD

Mid-20th Century:

WHITES LEFT CITIES AS BLACKS, LATINOS AND ASIANS MOVED IN

POLICIES AND PRACTICES CONTAINED BLACKS, LATINOS AND ASIANS IN CITIES

- Public housing concentrated in cities
- Mortgage lenders & realtors steer people of color to cities.
- Urban public school attendance boundaries segregate students
- Immigration laws open doors to non-europeans

MIGRATION PATTERNS

- The Great Migration (1916-1970s) of 6 million Blacks fleeing racial violence in the South move to cities in search of jobs and refuge
- Central American, African and Asian immigrants arrive in cities

SEGREGATING FORCES

DRIVING FORCES

DRIVING FORCES

SEGREGATING FORCES

WHITE FLIGHT

- White, middle class families demand single-family homes with yards
- All-white communities and public schools in suburbs become the norm

POLICIES & PRACTICES

- Local exclusionary zoning laws, restrictive covenants, and real estate practices controlled mobility by race, class and religion
- Small, locally-controlled school district boundaries and local funding contributed to differentiated property values and resources

Late 20th - Early 21st Century:

GENTRIFICATION AND THE SUBURBANIZATION OF POVERTY

NEW URBAN DEVELOPMENT DISPLACES BLACK, LATINO & ASIAN CITY RESIDENTS

- Rising property values and rents follow the new interest in urban life, lead to affluent mostly-white enclaves
- Student assignment policies lead to the "educational displacement" of low-income students of color from "good" city schools

CITY LIFE BECOMES CHIC & HIP FOR WHITES & AFFLUENT GENTRIFIERS

- Disenchantment with "boring" suburbs and suburban sprawl and an increasing interest in diverse communities and schools
- Urban "revitalization" and high-end development

SEGREGATING FORCES

DRIVING FORCES

DRIVING FORCES

SEGREGATING FORCES

THE PROMISE OF THE SUBURBAN HOME FOR BLACKS, LATINOS AND ASIANS

- Policies to promote home ownership for "all" and the displacement of low-income tenants from cities
- Age-old appeal of suburbs includes "better" and "safer" schools

SEPARATE & UNEQUAL SUBURBS

- Local zoning policies and real estate practices maintain inequality across suburban boundary lines
- Small fragmented suburban school districts maintain separate and unequal reputations across boundary lines according to race

The Future:

A NEW WAY: THE PUBLIC GOOD

As metro migrations occur, whites and people of color are "trading places" between urban and suburban contexts, creating in passing, fragile and fleeting diversity. We must seize the opportunity to sustain these racially and ethnically diverse communities and their public schools.

PUBLIC POLICIES & PUBLIC WILL LEADS TO A MORE DIVERSE & INCLUSIVE PUBLIC GOOD

Housing and land use policies must be established to ensure urban "revitalization" and suburban demographic changes are balanced through mixed-income housing & employment opportunities.

Education policy should support the development of public school attendance boundaries and student assignment plans that foster maximum racial/ethnic integration. 21st century public schools much also foster curriculum that forefronts the "educational benefits of diversity" and prepare all children for a global society

Public will to support and appreciate the racial, ethnic and cultural diversity of our rapidly changing nation must be bolstered via strategic communications to tap into the changing racial attitudes of the Millennial generation and support diverse communities, families and public schools

INTEGRATING FORCES