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Class: SWK770: Racial Justice in Housing and Homelessness

Professor Ford

Journal Assignment #4

Question: As a social worker, what services you could offer to the community in Ferguson for support?

Social worker's primary goal is to help the community in Ferguson to empower with confidence their community and themselves. When I was watching the video of "The Making of Ferguson" it did stir up old anger and resentment. We as black people, need to really learn how to cope with old residue situation. However, the effects of housing segregation include relocation, inequal living standards, and poverty. However, there have been initiatives to combat housing segregation, such as the section 8 housing program. Racial residential segregation double from 1880 to 1940. Southern Urban Area were the most segregated.

On the You Tube Video that I watched in the last class, Robert Rothstein mentioned that "The Making of Ferguson" was purely socioeconomic, policy and practices and economic infrastructure that really impacted the black community. Again, the mention of deliberate social engineering of black-white residential segregation. How residential segregation affects exposure to concentrated poverty.

Both currently and historical, segregation is best understood as a tool use to promote and preserve white supremacy, deployed to make it easier to isolate, divest from, surveil, and police

black and brown people concentrated in certain communities. The ingenuity of this racist tool is that its evil use creates its own justification. That is, once employed; it creates perspective and data that seem to support its further use. As communities of color suffer under the deprivation that come with segregation for example, economic disinvestment, political disfranchisement, educational inequity, and unfair, ineffective policing practices. Those who built and install resilient and enduring racist systems that sustain segregation explain their decisions in terms of protecting and promoting safety, strong schools, and stable housing markets.

These indeed are desirable neighborhood attributes; but they are the very same attributes that the conditions of segregation disrupted for black. Racial housing segregation, residential poverty concentration, and diminished housing access did not emerge accidentally. However, Richard Rothstein, author of "The Color of Law" contends that this enduring segregation results from a century of social engineering on the part of federal, state, and local government that enacted policies to keep African Americans separate and subordinate (22).

In "The Making of Ferguson": How decades of hostile policy created a powder keg. Long before the shooting of Michael Brown, official racial isolation policies primed Ferguson on that awful summertime (Richard Rothstein, October 13, 2014). The Making of Ferguson was an unfortunate situation which happened throughout the major metropolitan cities in the United States.

Black men I believe are always being a target to policy and I found out that the old Jim Crow (the making of policies towards black communities about housing segregation made it even harder for black families and individuals to live anywhere they choose to. However, social workers would have to offer to Ferguson community empathy and empowerment on a macro level. The community needs to be together and stay connected thus to learn from each other.