**AFR319 (Week 2-6) Homework 2**

**Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

[**Educational Racism Report By Alliance for Quality Education**](https://www.aqeny.org/2018/09/11/report-educational-racism-cuomos-record-of-underfunding-schools-in-black-latino-communities/)

**Instructions for approaching this homework: First, read the Educational Racism report and take notes of the key statistics as you read. You should now be in a very good space with understanding to properly tackle the following questions.**

Question 1 – Describe the state of affairs in funding for the public school system in New York using statistics from the report to support your answer. Why does Alliance for Quality Education make the strong charge of ‘educational racism’ in black and brown school districts in our state?

After conducting some quick googling, provide us some understanding of how good the public school closest to your residence is, and in terms of teacher-to-student ratio and/or academic performance in general (any information you can find). **Answer this question for your neighborhood even if you live outside of NYC boundaries, but specify which area your information is relevant to.**

Question 2 – Trace the events leading to the establishment of the Foundation Aid formula by New York legislators and explain Foundation Aid. Why did NYS **not** fully fund Foundation Aid in 2008?

Finally, google and get some understanding of the economic outlook for the state budget that passed in April (2020). Was Foundation Aid finally disbursed (paid out)? What do you think are the chances that Foundation Aid will be fully disbursed/distributed in 2021-2022 budget (this year)?

Question 3 – Provide a description (demographics, locations)of the ‘high needs’ schools in New York that qualify for Foundation Aid. What evidence cited in the report shows that graduation rates can be improved significantly? If you were a New York legislator in the state assembly in a school district with high needs, what sort of programs would you initiate to provide employment options for the large numbers of high school drop outs in your district?

Question 4 – Put on your activist cap. List three arguments you would make to the parent of a student in a well-funded school district, about why their child’s quality of education will not be negatively affected, if Foundation Aid is fully distributed to needy schools. Explain why a student from a high needs school is expected to gain more than a student from a well funded school, even if funding goes up for both schools by the same amount.

Question 5 – According to the report and your understanding, how well has Gov. Cuomo addressed the issue of educational racism in public elementary school system in our state? Google and list the state senate members and state assembly members on the education committees.

Question 6 – Briefly describe your K-12 education experience before you arrived at John Jay College. Did you attend a public school or was it a charter school within public education system or a private school? What are your opinions of the quality of education you received before proceeding to college? How important is the issue of education underfunding to you and what commitment can you make now to stay engaged on this issue?