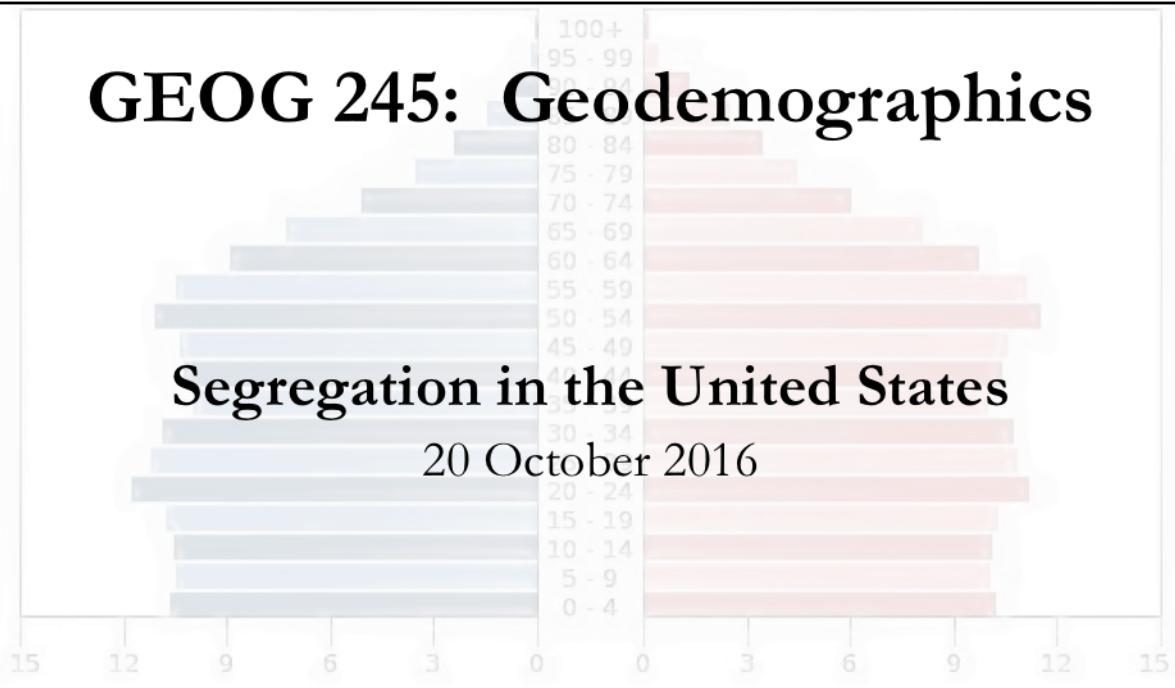


# GEOG 245: Geodemographics

## Segregation in the United States

20 October 2016



## Announcements

- Reminder: Assignment 1 due tonight by midnight
  - If you have questions, come ask after class as I cannot guarantee how immediately I will be able to respond to emails I get this afternoon/evening
- I will post the midterm review sheet on Canvas this weekend

Three most commonly asked questions about Assignment 1:

1. Do people with some college count as college educated? You decide, but make your decision clear (question 1)
2. I can't find data. The biggest things I recommend are making sure you are selecting the right geography (county) and categories (individual by race) or (educational attainment by race).
3. What are you looking for in question 5? I want to see you make a claim and back it up using demographic data (American FactFinder) and demographic theory (FiveThirtyEight.com). I don't need sophisticated calculations (though if they make you feel more comfortable with the data, go for it).

## Plan for Today

- *White People* Film Discussion
- What is Segregation
- A history of segregation in the US
- Segregation in Seattle
- Feedback

## Reminder about Respect

- Not everyone in the room is going to have the same view point; you can challenge a point that was raised, but please don't challenge individual people who spoke
- There are no right answers
- I do not expect you to necessarily agree with everything that was said in the film
- The film itself has its own particular slant in terms of what it wants viewers to get out of it—it is not unbiased and neither are any of us
- Talking about race is messy

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- “In an ideal world if a person’s skin color didn’t effect their experience, then yeah, I don’t think it would be important to talk about [race], but the fact is, it does and it’s something that does need to be addressed and talked about.”

I want to share with you a few quotes, to get the film fresh in your minds.

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- “Most white Americans do live in kind of a white bubble. The typical white American lives in a town that is more than three quarters white. And the average white person’s group of friends is more than 90% white.”

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- Jose: “We were talking about some friends that you had [who said] like ‘hey, if there was a black person walking down the street, you’d cross the street.’”
- Miranda: “You’d go the other way...I would honestly say, I’ve done that before...would I do that now? Never!”

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- “We have never had to internalize what white people have done in America, but here [on the Indian reservation], you can’t escape that.”

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- “Most people making the comment about being blind to color, in my experience, have been primarily white, and it’s a dismissive comment.”
- “Colorblind, it’s a copout man, its for people who are too scared to face it.”

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- Student: “I think its cool and not cool at the same time [*of the US becoming more diverse*]. I love that some people refer to America as the melting pot where all these cultures can come together but I also, um, I am trying to be careful here, part of me”
- Jose: “Don’t be careful, its ok”
- Student: “You also sort of loose some of the unique qualities of each culture when you start blending and part of me wants to hold onto that.”

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- “Any minority group, if they get a scholarship, straight, white men feel like something is being taken away from them.”

Take a minute to remember the film:  
*White People*

- Jose: “What do you think are the disadvantages of being white?”
- Student: “I don’t know...its like asking a rich person, like tell me how hard your life is being rich.”

## Initial Reactions?

So, I want to first open it up to initial reactions.

For those of you who are from other countries or have lived in other countries, is the US unique in this?

Is race still a relevant marker in the US today? Why or why not?

Returning to the question I asked you guys at the beginning of class on Tuesday.

And its OK if your answer has changed since the start of class on Tuesday.

Final thoughts?

## Plan for Today

- *White People* Film Discussion
- What is Segregation
- A history of segregation in the US
- Segregation in Seattle
- Feedback

What is segregation?

## What is segregation?

- The rule or practice of separating people of different races, classes, or ethnic groups.
- It is a form of discrimination.

The most common examples are forcing people of different races to have different schools, housing, public facilities, etc.

In the US, it is most commonly thought about in terms of the segregation between black and white populations, particularly in the south, but it was not restricted to blacks or to the southern US.

## Two Kinds of Segregation

- De Jure Segregation
- De Facto Segregation

What is de jure segregation?

## Two Kinds of Segregation

- De Jure Segregation
  - Segregation by law
  - The legal segregation of one group
- De Facto Segregation

What is de facto segregation?

## Example of De Jure Segregation

- In the US, African-Americans in the south were legally forbidden from attending the same church, swimming pool, restaurant, etc. as white people.
  - Called the Jim Crow laws

What is de facto segregation?

## Two Kinds of Segregation

- De Jure Segregation
  - Segregation by law
  - The legal segregation of one group
- De Facto Segregation
  - Segregation by common practice (not legally sanctioned)

## Example of De Facto Segregation

- In the US, housing discrimination was extremely common in the US north; people of color were not allowed to live in particular neighborhoods.
- People of color were deprived the right to vote because of poll taxes and literacy requirements (poor, illiterate whites were grandfathered in)

This point on the right to vote is why some people take such offense with the increased voter ID laws. Because people of color are less likely to have government issued photo IDs, such laws disproportionately deprive them of their right to vote.

Questions?

What spaces were people of color segregated from in US history?

- Buses (including bus station waiting rooms and ticket counters)
- Railroad cars
- Restaurants
- Schools
- Public parks
- Restrooms
- Water fountains
- Movie theaters
- Cemeteries
- Etc.

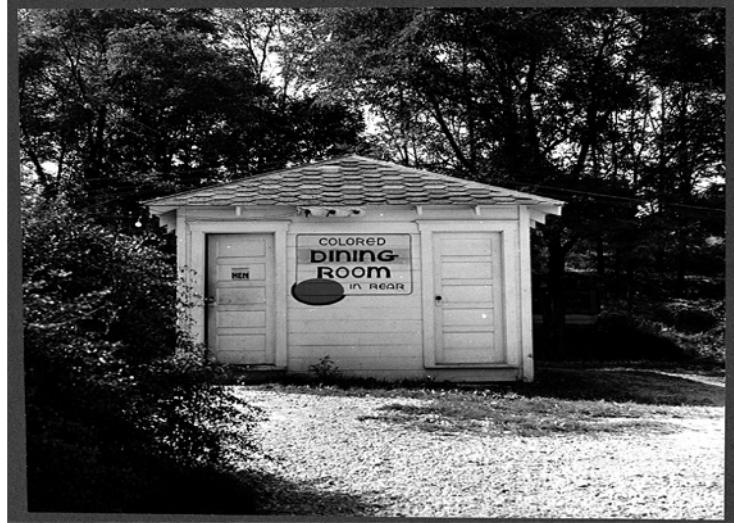
Trigger warning: next few slides show historic photos of segregation



At the bus station, Durham, North Carolina, 1940.



**Greyhound bus terminal, Memphis, Tennessee. 1943.**



A rest stop for bus passengers on the way from Louisville, Kentucky to Nashville, Tennessee, with separate entrance for Blacks. 1943.



A sign at bus station, Rome, Georgia. 1943.



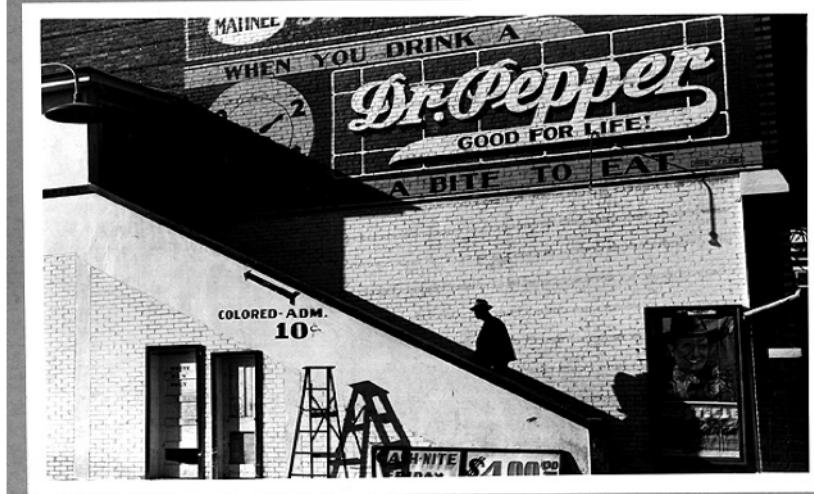
A highway sign advertising tourist cabins for Blacks,  
South Carolina. 1939.



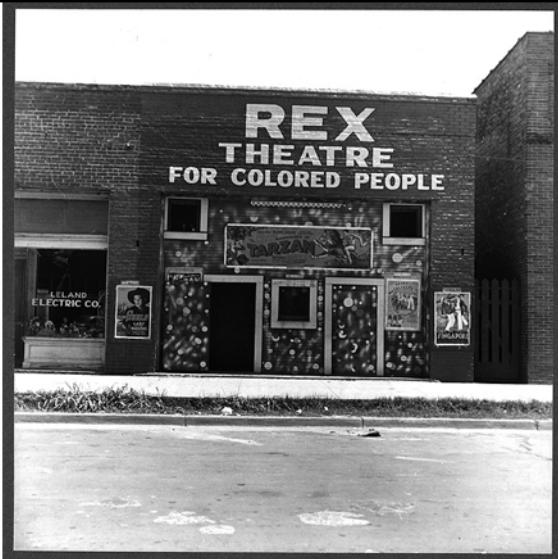
Cafe, Durham, North Carolina. 1939.



Drinking fountain on the courthouse lawn, Halifax,  
North Carolina. 1938.



Movie theater's "Colored" entrance, Belzoni,  
Mississippi. 1939.



The Rex theater for colored people,  
Leland, Mississippi. June 1937.



Restaurant, Lancaster, Ohio. 1938.



Water cooler in the street car terminal, Oklahoma City,  
Oklahoma. 1939.



Sign above movie theater, Waco, Texas. 1939.



Beale Street, Memphis, Tennessee. 1939.

## Segregation in 1950

### Segregation in 1950

- Segregation required
- Segregation permitted in varying degrees
- No specific legislation on segregation
- Segregation prohibited



In the US, segregation is most commonly associated with Jim Crow

Who or what was Jim Crow?

## Jim Crow

Jim Crow was a comedic routine created by T. D. Rice, a white humorist around 1830.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xeggB6N39Ps>



Short film (7 minutes)

Trigger warning: the clip contains black face, and historical portrayals of blacks in the US

Note: there is not agreement about the origin of the term Jim Crow. In the clip they say it was the name of a dance, others say that Mr. Crow was the name of the owner of the disabled man T. D. Rice saw dancing, and still others say the name comes from a derogatory equation of blacks dancing with crows that had been fed whiskey-soaked corn kernels and then shot while they hopped around (a common practice for ridding agricultural fields of crows (a pest) at the time).

## Jim Crow Laws

- The 'Jim Crow' act was so common that it became synonymous with poor, uneducated, bumbling blacks.
- So, laws that 'protected the white population from contact with blacks' became known as Jim Crow laws.

After T. D. Rice introduced the character, it spread and he was not the only one performing as Jim Crow.

## Jim Crow Laws

- Refers to laws on the books between 1880s and 1960s
- Existed in about half of US states (and cities)
- Most commonly about keeping blacks and whites separated, but came to include laws that required that Hispanics were kept separate from whites

## Was this Legal?

- Plessy v. Ferguson (1896)
  - In New Orleans, Homer Plessy sat in the “Whites Only” car of a train and refused to move. He was arrested, tried and convicted. The supreme court upheld the decision that “separate but equal” did not violate the 14<sup>th</sup> amendment
- SEPARATE BUT EQUAL

It was an intentional act of civil disobedience designed to test the law.  
Homer Plessy was of mixed race (7/8 white, 1/8 black, but under Louisiana law that made him black—remember this was when octoroon was a census category)  
Ferguson was the judge who ruled over the original case (Plessy v. State of Louisiana)

## The 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment

- Ratified in 1868 following the Civil War
  - Granted citizenship to “all persons born or naturalized in the United States” (including former slaves) and forbade states from denying any person “life, liberty or property, without due process of law” or “equal protection of the laws”

## Was this Legal?

- Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka, Kansas (1954)
  - Linda Brown's parents wanted her to attend the school closer to her home (a white school). This was a deliberate 'test' of the law by the NAACP and Thurgood Marshall (attorney).
- Supreme court ruled that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal" and ordered the desegregation of schools nationwide.

Thurgood Marshall was the attorney on the case. He later went on to be a supreme court justice.

Just because schools were ordered to desegregate, doesn't mean it happened quickly. In 1957, federal troops had to enforce desegregation in Little Rock, Arkansas after the governor refused to admit 9 African American students to a formerly white high school.

The supreme court represented the sentiment of the people. So, why had people's sentiment changed so much between 1896 and 1954?

## Changes between 1896 and 1954?

- Many minorities fought with distinction in WWII and the Korean War and came home heroes
- WWII was framed as about protecting democracy and freedom
- USSR was using America's racism in Cold War propaganda
- People saw charismatic black leaders on TV (Dr. King)

## The Civil Rights Movement

- 1954-1968
- First and foremost a challenge to segregation
- Based on a strategy of non-violent protest

While the movement almost entirely took place after the supreme court ordered desegregation, desegregation was not being enforced and the KKK was growing in numbers.

## Non-Violent Protest in the Civil Rights Movement

- Boycotts: refusing to buy goods or services from a business in order to force them to change their policy
- Hunger Strikes: refusing to eat to gain attention
- Petitions: letters to government asking for change
- Marches and Demonstrations: getting as many people in a place as possible to draw attention
- Strikes: refusing to work until policies change

## Civil disobedience

- Breaking the law (generally in a non-violent way) or causing a disturbance in order to gain attention for your cause

## The Culmination of the Civil Rights Movement

- 1965 Voting Rights Act
  - Prohibited discrimination at the polls
  - Established bilingual ballots in areas with large numbers of non-English speakers
  - Outlawed literacy tests for voters
  - Gave the federal government the power to oversee all elections
- 1968 Civil Rights Act
  - Required equal housing opportunities for all races

Questions?

In the US we tend to focus on black-white segregation, but...

- Many Mexican Americans worked on debt peonage systems where they were essentially indentured to their white employers and their ‘wages’ paid for their housing and food.
- Mexican Americans worked some of the lowest paid jobs during this period.

In the US we tend to focus on black-white segregation, but...

- Chinese and Japanese Americans were forced to live in segregated neighborhoods (this contributed to the phenomena of China Towns) and attend separate schools
- Japanese Americans were interned (made prisoners) just because of their race during WWII

In the US we tend to focus on black-white segregation, but...

- Native Americans faced continuous government efforts to stamp out their traditional ways of life.
  - Children were forced to attend boarding schools where they were forbidden from speaking Native languages or practicing Native customs.
- Native Americans were forced to live on reservations with little opportunity for economic advancement.

Questions?

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How many of you live in neighborhoods that historically had racial covenants?

Show of hands

Hopefully you guys got a chance to look up whether you live in one of these such areas as requested in the reading for today.

Alki	Duwamish	Loyal Heights	Ravenna
Ames Lake	Eastlake	Madrona	Redmond
Arrowhead Point	Greenlake	Magnolia	Renton
Auburn	Greenwood	Maple Leaf	Sammamish
Ballard	Haller Lake	Maple Valley	Sandpoint
Beacon Hill	Hawthorne Hills	Matthews Beach	SeaTac
Bellevue	High Point	Mercer Island	Sheridan Beach
Bitter Lake	Inglewood	Minor	Shoreline
Blue Ridge	Juanita	Montlake	Sunset Hill
Broadmoor	Kenmore	Olympic Hills	Tukwila
Broadview	Kent	North Beach	Vashon Island
Bryant	Kirkland	North Bend	Victory Heights
Burien	Lake City	North College Park	View Ridge
Capitol Hill	Lake Forest Park	Northgate	Wedgewood
Central District	Lake Sammamish	Pinehurst	West Seattle
Clyde Hill	Lakeridge	Queen Anne	White Center
Des Moines	Laurelhurst	Rainier Valley	Windermere

Just in case, here is a list of most of those neighborhoods...though I did not have room for all!

What is a restrictive covenant?

## What is a restrictive covenant?

- One tool in segregation
- Binding provisions in land or home deeds that prohibit the sale of the property to people of certain races.
- Enforceable in court until 1948

## What is a restrictive covenant?

Example from Greenlake:

“No person or persons of Asiatic, African, or Negro blood, lineage or extraction shall be permitted to occupy a portion of said property or any building thereon except domestic servant or servants who may actually and in good faith be employed by white occupants of such premises”

What is a restrictive covenant?

Example from Ballard:

“No part of said property hereby conveyed shall ever be used or occupied by any Hebrew or by any person of the Ethiopian, Malay or any Asiatic Race”

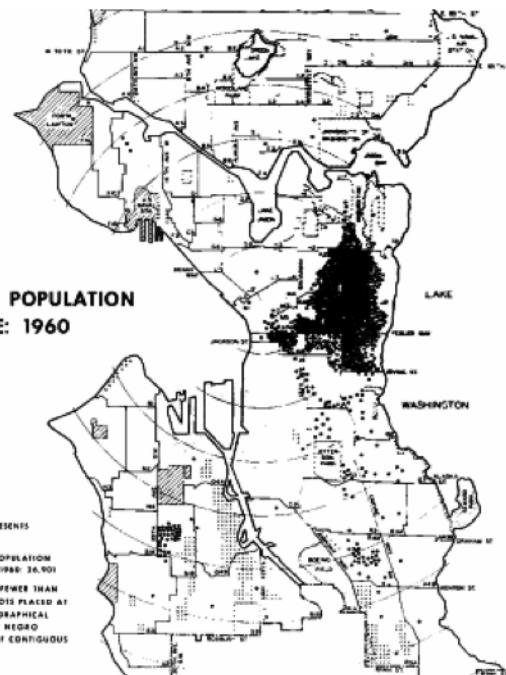
## What is a restrictive covenant?

Example from Laurelhurst:

“No person other than one of the White Race shall ever be permitted to occupy any portion of any lot in said plot or any building at any time thereon, except a domestic servant actually employed by a white occupant of such building”

## Seattle's Segregation Story

- Until the late 1960s, African Americans, Asian Americans, and Native Americans were shut out of many neighborhoods, schools, occupations, and sometimes stores and restaurants.



## Jim Crow Laws in Effect Here As Well

- Swedish, Providence, and Virginia Mason Hospitals all had Jim Crow exclusion policies
- Many neighborhoods, particularly north of the ship canal, had “sundown” rules that prohibited African Americans from being in those areas after dark (enforced by Seattle Police)

...As Well as Bigotry

On Lake  
City Way &  
20<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
NE, until  
1950



Questions?

## Housing Segregation in the U District

<http://depts.washington.edu/civilr/west.htm>

Do you see evidence of  
Seattle's history of  
segregation today?

This is what assignment 2 seeks to answer. You will be mapping the population of blacks/African Americans and of Asian Americans in Seattle.

## Plan for Today

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## Feedback

- This is feedback for me
- I want to know what I can do to improve
- I don't want to wait until the end of the quarter to get your feedback because at that point there is nothing I can do about it
- Totally anonymous; don't put your name on it

This is your opportunity to anonymously let me know how things are going. I will give you this opportunity again in a few weeks, and of course, you are always welcome to come talk to me or email me if you have any concerns or suggestions.