

# **Structural Racialization and Community Empowerment**

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## Purpose

- Understand concept of structural racialization
- Apply structural racialization framework to Sacramento
- Connect structural racialization framework to redistricting

## AGENDA

1. What is Structural Racialization?
2. Structural Racialization in Sacramento – Residential Segregation
3. How can redistricting foster community empowerment and counter structural racialization?
4. Evaluation

# What is Structural Racialization?

## **Structural Racialization:**

The systemic production of racially disparate outcomes without requiring individual racists.

## **Aggrieved Population:**

A group defined as possessing inherently undesirable characteristics and thus is **included** for purposes of “justified” exploitation, **yet separated** from power, influence, and protections of state institutions and civil society. Is based on any combination of major characteristics like race, class, gender, sexuality, and nation/citizenship.

# Structural Racialization

## Racial Ideology

Unintelligent

Criminal

Promiscuous  
Bad Mothers

Less Competent



## Social Structures

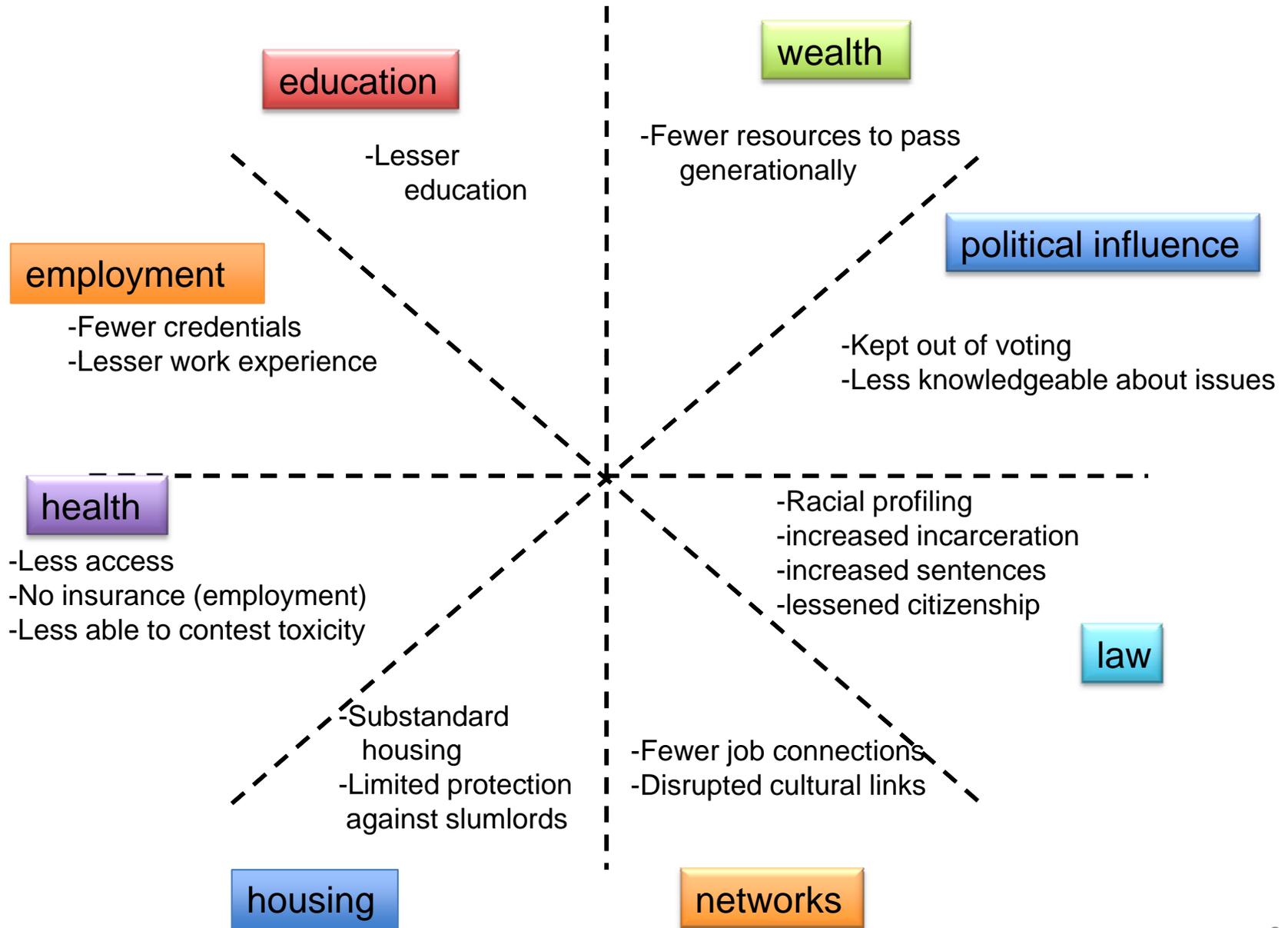
Separate and inferior education

Police more intensely.  
Punish less forgivingly.

Sterilize. Increase surveillance.  
Deny public services.

Do not hire.  
Can work but not live near me.

# Structural Racialization



## Structural Racialization

- Sectors of society in collusion
- Mindset of racism (Racial Ideology) stabilizes and sediments over time
- Impediments to participation that stack over time
- Sedimentation of inequality

# Structural Racialization in Sacramento Residential Segregation\*

- Redlining in 1930s
  - Ghettoization
- Urban Renewal in the 40s and 50s
- Suburbanization
- Gentrification
- Foreclosure

\*Jesus Hernandez, "The Residual Impact of History: Connecting Residential Segregation, Mortgage Redlining, and the Housing

Crisis. Columbus, OH: Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity. 2009.

\_\_\_\_\_. "Redlining Revisited: Mortgage Lending Patterns in Sacramento 1930-2004." *International Journal of Urban and Regional*

*Research* 33(2). (June) 2009. 291-313.

# Structural Racialization in Sacramento

## Residential Segregation

1930s-1940s

- **Redlining, restrictive covenants, and direct discrimination** trap non-whites in the divested West End.
- Purpose: FHA \$ goes to whites elsewhere.
- Ghettoization

### SNAPSHOT: West End in 1949

7.5% of the city's population  
8% of the city's land base  
70% of city's non-white residents  
87% of city's Mexican residents  
75% of city's Asian residents  
60% of city's African American residents

26% of building fires  
42% of adult crimes  
76% of tuberculosis cases  
41% of city police budget  
50% of city health budget  
30% decrease in property value  
(during time when city property values overall rise 46%.)

# Structural Racialization in Sacramento

## Residential Segregation

1950s-1970s **Urban Renewal of West End** = displacement of non-whites to Oak Park, which does not have restrictive covenants. Methods: eviction and forced relocation.

**Suburbanization** = infrastructure and expressways for white suburbs to northeast, east, and southwest.

West End	SNAPSHOT	Oak Park
	1950	
54% White		94% White
41%	Median Income (City)	105%
56% non-white homeowners <i>70% of city's non-whites</i>		6.5% non-white residents
	1970	
95% White		52% White
127%	Median Income (City)	60%
0% non-white homeowners		48% non-white residents (1969 race riots)

# Structural Racialization in Sacramento

## Residential Segregation

1980s-2000s **Subprime Lending – Foreclosure - Gentrification**

“This switch from long-term, low-profit products to fee-based high-risk products with adjustable interest rates provided an immediate return on investment lending but encouraged predatory actions in historically credit starved neighborhoods that led to racially disparate concentrations of toxic credit and intense profit taking” (Hernandez “The Residual Impact...” 2009, p. 16).

2006 data:

Default within 1 year 41%

Default within 2 years 81%

Default within 3 years 94%

“Neighborhoods with access to suitable housing credit have remained economically stable and for the most part racially homogenous since 1950” (Hernandez “Redlining Revisited”, 2009, p. 307).

## Further Your Understanding of Structural Racialization

### Immigration and Labor Exploitation

- Reliance on **Indian Labor** up to 1840s
- Mexican workers**
  - Bracero Program 1948
  - 1990s to Today
    - Anti-immigrant sentiment (federal raids, roundups, deportations)

## Further Your Understanding of Structural Racialization

### Immigration and Labor Exploitation

- **Southeast Asian Refugee Resettlement**

- Cold War
  - Third World devastation
- Help those persecuted by enemies
  - Resettled into ghetto conditions with temporary welfare
- *De facto* forced assimilation
- Racial Profiling – Aggravated Felony, Deportation
- Not “model minority” experience
  - Chinese in fruit industry 1870-1890 until exclusion
  - Japanese 1840s-1920s until Alien Land Laws (1913, 1924) and concentration camps in 1942
  - Intact foreign diplomacy, historically established communities, “preferable” to Blacks post-Civil Rights but still seen as foreign “other”

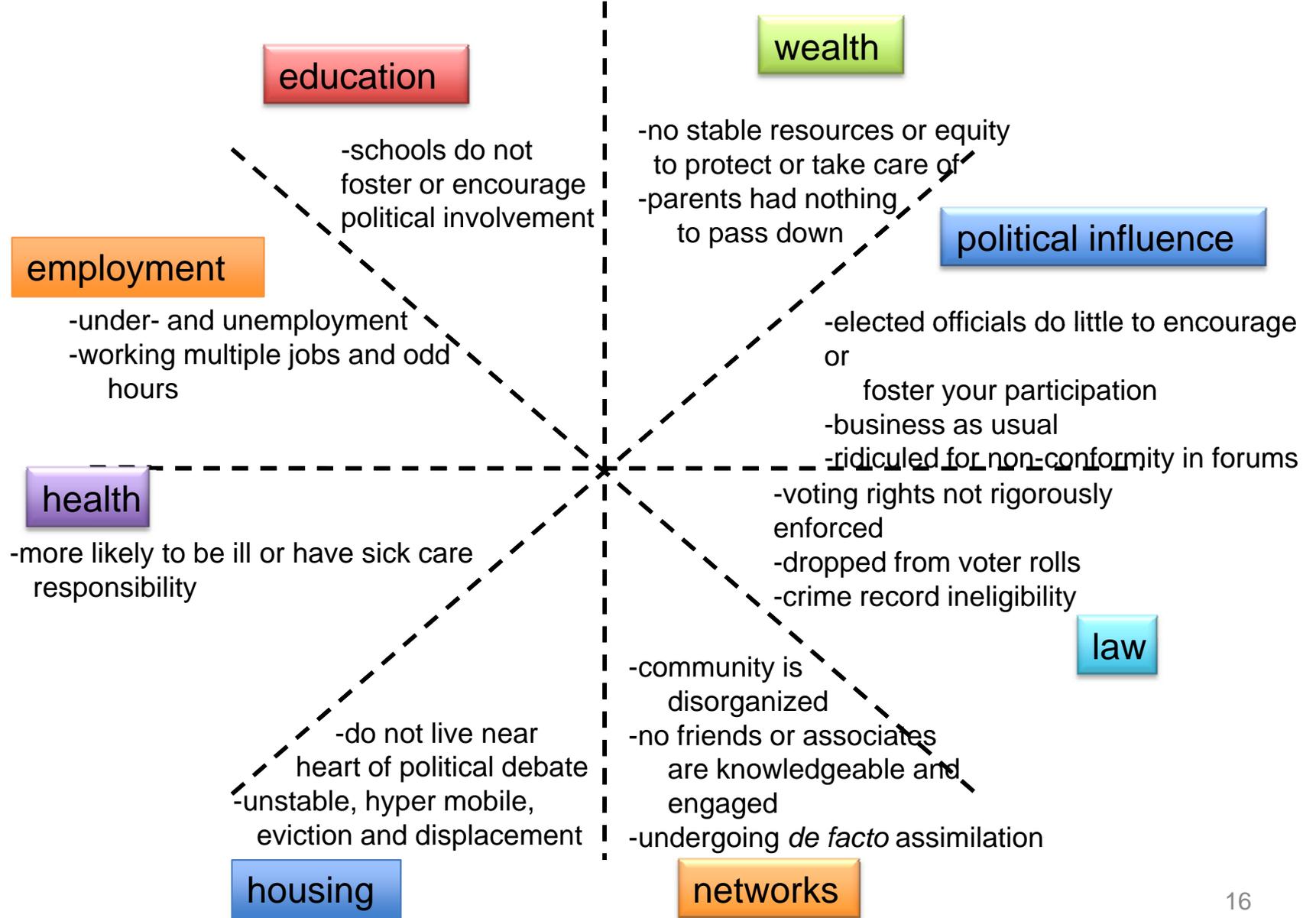
## Further Your Understanding of Structural Racialization

### Other significant areas of structural racialization:

- Racial Profiling / Incarceration
- Educational Equity / Achievement Gap
- Health Care Access / Quality of Life and Life Expectancy
- Indigenous Genocide, Removal, Segregation / Protection and Repatriation of Native Lands
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Race by City Council District						
District 1	45% White	27% Latino	18% Asian	15% Black	12% Other	2% AIPI
District 2	40% White	34% Latino	18% Other	16% Asian	16% Black	3% AIPI
District 3	71% White	18% Latino	6% Other	6% Asian	5% Black	1% AIPI
District 4	56% White	19% Asian	18% Latino	10% Black	6% Other	2% AIPI
District 5	44% White	35% Latino	17% Other	16% Black	12% Asian	3% AIPI
District 6	47% White	30% Latino	21% Asian	14% Other	9% Black	2% AIPI
District 7	34% White	27% Asian	22% Latino	18% Black	10% Other	3% AIPI
District 8	30% Latino	26% Asian	24% White	24% Black	15% Other	4% AIPI

# Civic Participation for Aggrieved Groups



## The 1965 Voting Rights Act

**packing and cracking** – prohibit minority vote dilution

Descriptive vs. **Substantive Representation** (Guinier 1991)

Race Categories, Ethnicity and **Disaggregation**

From *de jure* black exclusion to the “Age of Colorblindness”

**Colorblind** vs. Color Conscious

## Summary

- **Structural racialization** sediments racially disparate outcomes throughout any sector of society where power is at stake.
- The legacy of structural racialization leads also to **disparate civic participation**.
- Redistricting can promote changes in the status quo by consciously fostering substantive representation for **aggrieved groups**.

## Recommendations:

1. Build a more full **analysis** of structural racialization into redistricting boundaries and report.
2. Center **racially disparate outcomes** in analysis of civic participation and political representation.
3. Foster conditions so that hyper-vulnerable “communities of interest” who have historically been exploited and segregated from opportunity can experience **substantive representation**.
4. Work with established fair housing **advocates** and activists to protect renters and homebuyers in crisis areas, and to work with ethics and compliance in employing/absentee landlord areas.

## Questions

# Evaluation