

the old neighborhood... what has changed? what hasn't?

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Neighbourhood Change Research Symposium

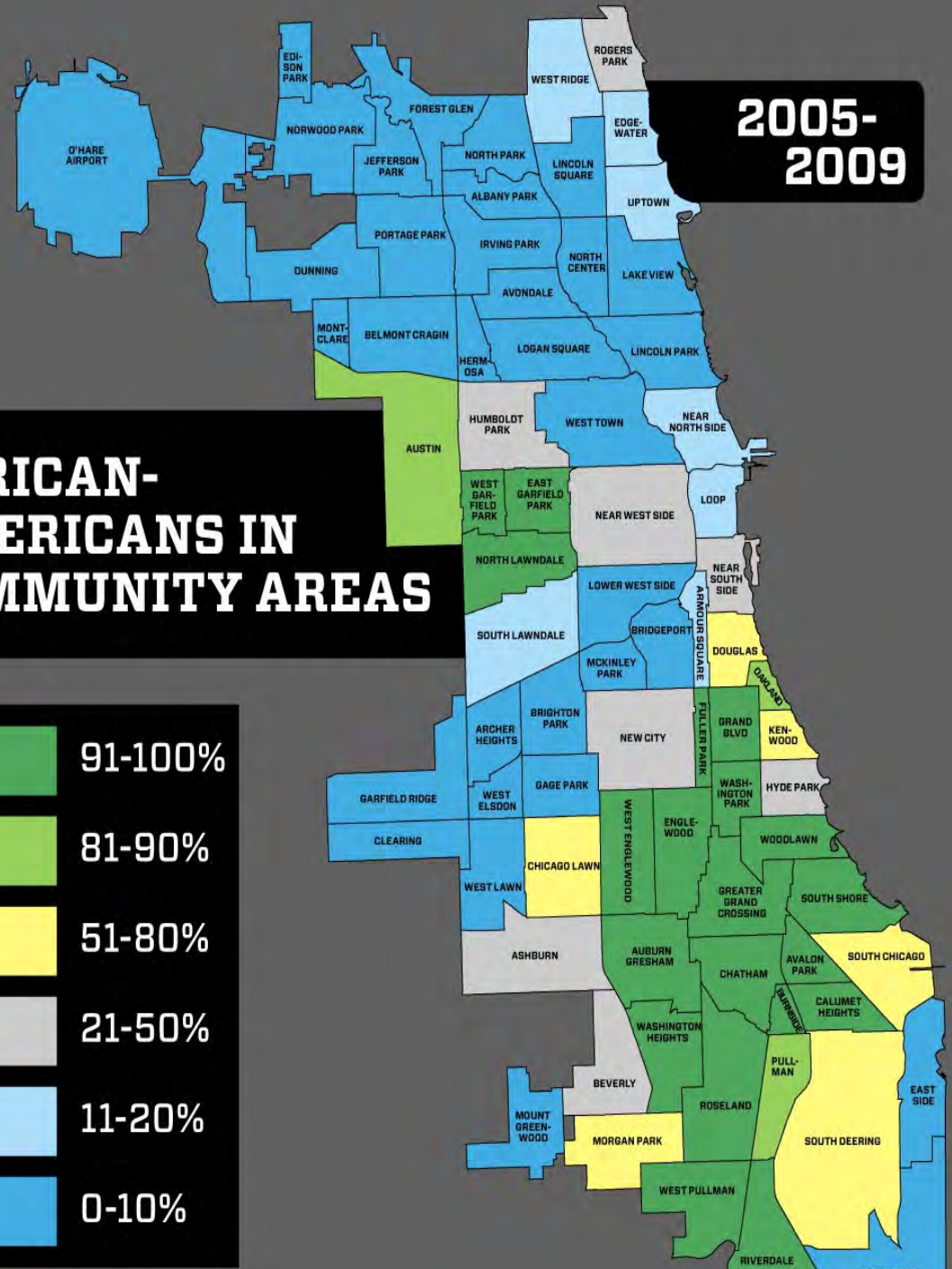
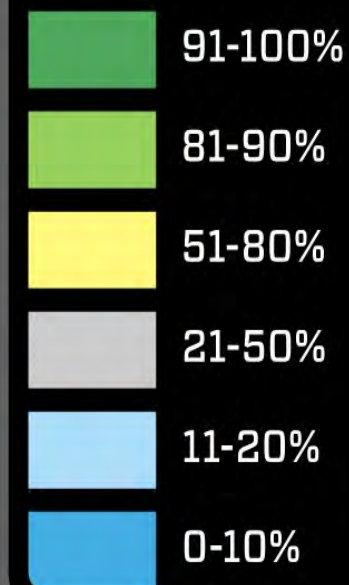
University of Toronto 23 June 2011



Separate Unequal and Ignored

Racial segregation remains Chicago's most fundamental problem. Why isn't it an issue in the mayor's race?

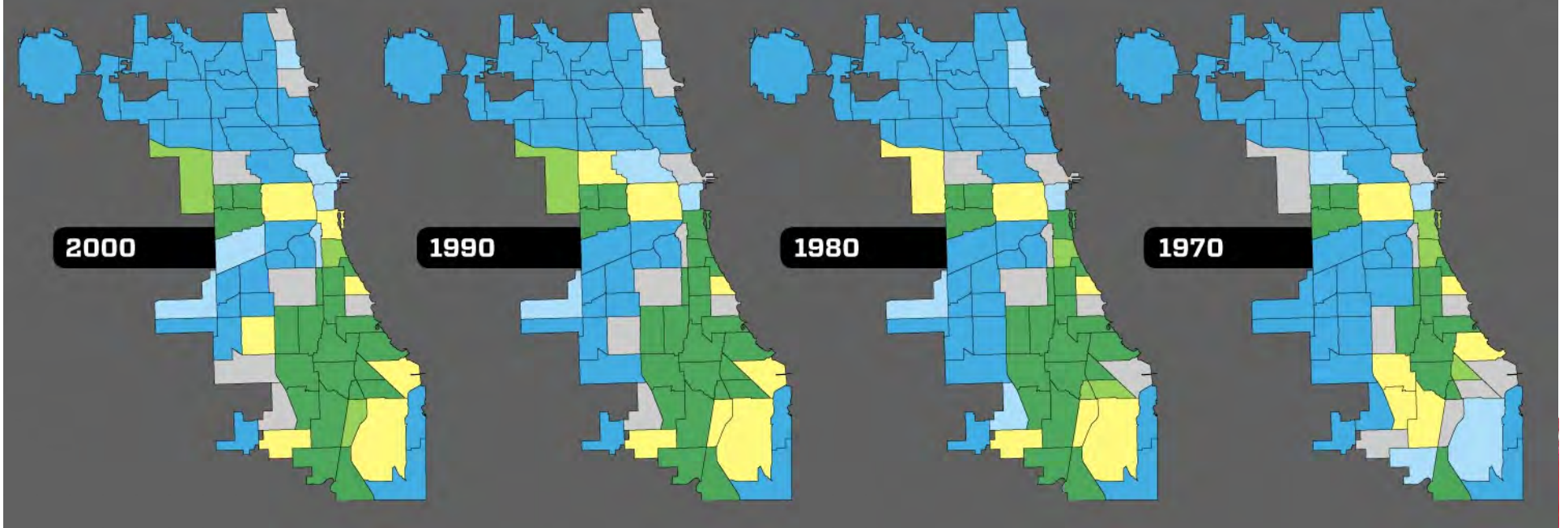
AFRICAN-AMERICANS IN COMMUNITY AREAS



2005-
2009



THE DISTRIBUTION OF CHICAGO'S AFRICAN-AMERICAN POPULATION HAS CHANGED LITTLE IN FOUR DECADES.

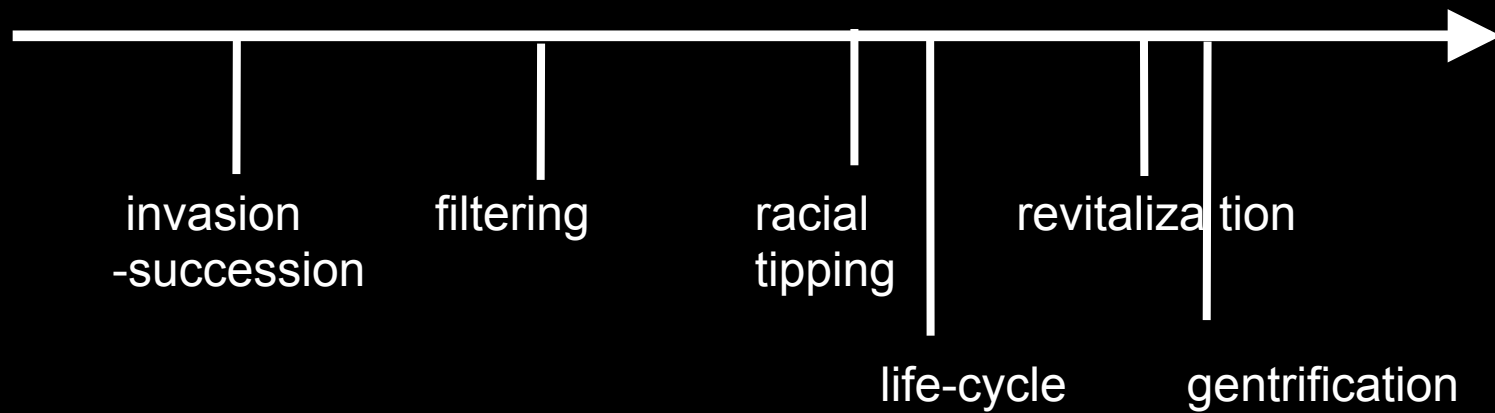


Looking at neighborhood change

- History / evolution of theories of neighborhood change
- Examine closely the assumptions about why neighborhoods change and specifically to problematize homogeneity
- Pose questions



Why do Neighborhoods Change?



Common features

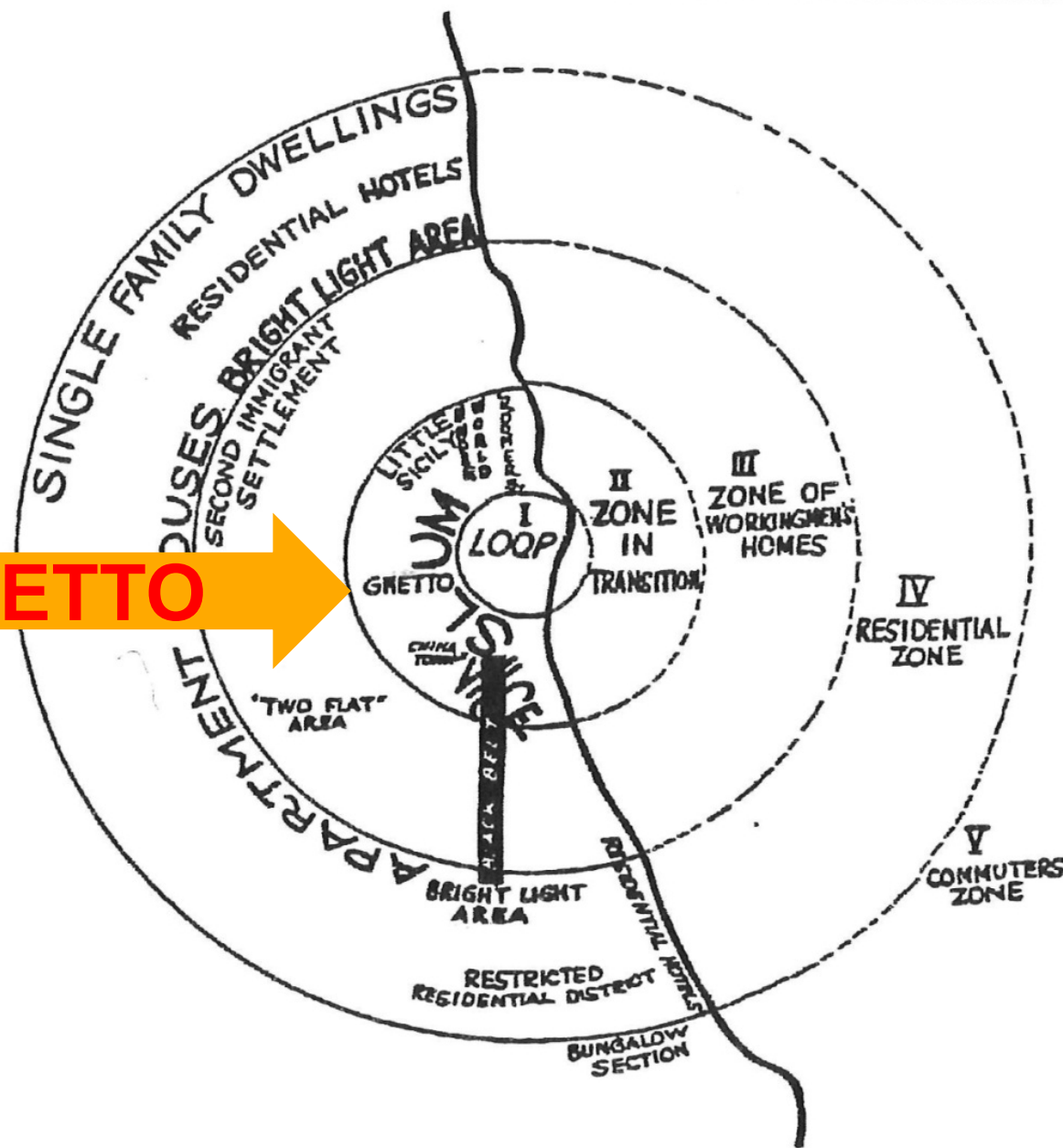
- Neighborhood = fixed space (usually CT)
- Homogeneous communities = equilibrium
- Spatial segregation = natural
- Physical determinism = once change starts, limited ability to stop it
- Change = constant
- Genealogy reveals race and income are constant explanatory variables.



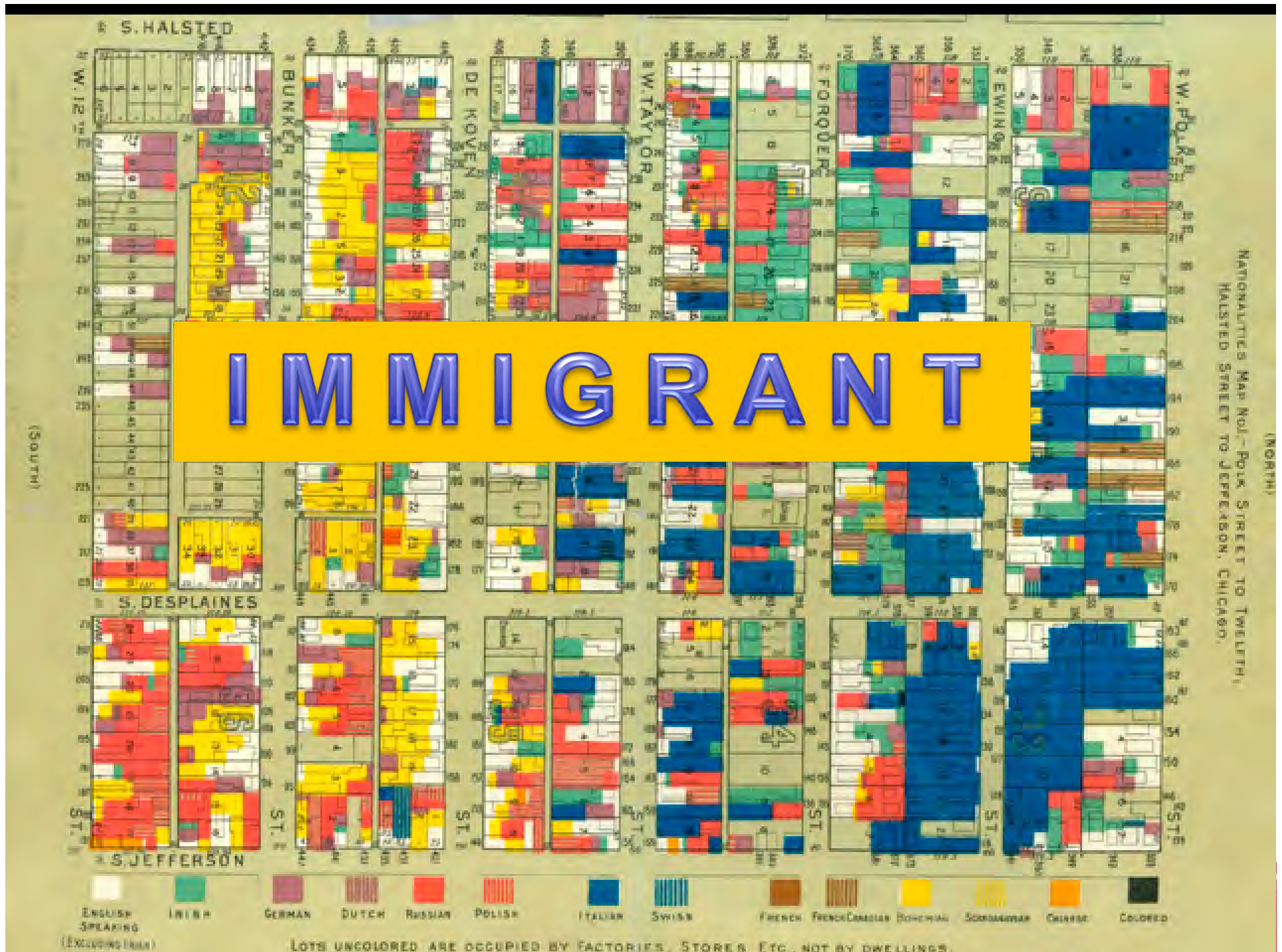
Producing Homogeneous Space



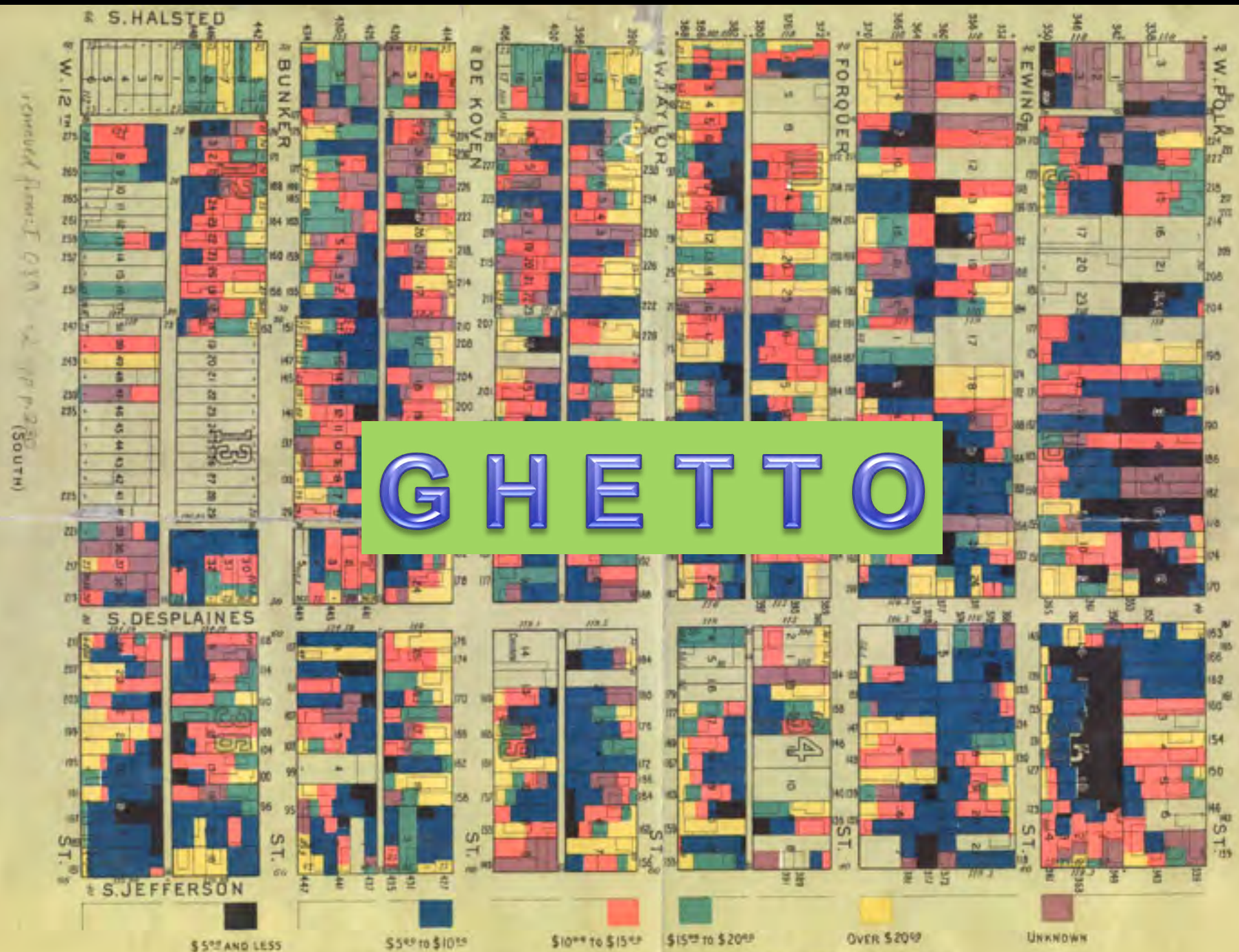
GHETTO



IMMIGRANT



WAGE MAP NO. 1 - POLK STREET TO TWELFTH.
HALSTED STREET TO JEFFERSON, CHICAGO.



THESE FIGURES REPRESENT THE TOTAL EARNINGS PER WEEK OF A FAMILY.

Re-producing Homogenous Space

In theory...

- To be healthy or stable, neighborhoods have to be homogeneous (with exception)
- The community within the neighborhood is what is in common not different (e.g., see Marion Iris Young)
- Segregation is natural order, but...some think it can be re-ordered by doing unnatural things (i.e. mixed income communities)



Indicators of a "Healthy" Stable Neighborhood

SOCIAL

- **Middle to high social status**
- Moderate to upper income levels
- **Ethnic homogeneity**
- High school graduates and above
- Family-oriented or childless adults
- White collar and/or skilled blue collar workers
- Pride in neighborhood and house
- Good neighborhood reputation
- Neighborhood perceived as safe
- **Socially cohesive**

PUBLIC SERVICES

- Services efficient and appropriate
- Some reliance on private services

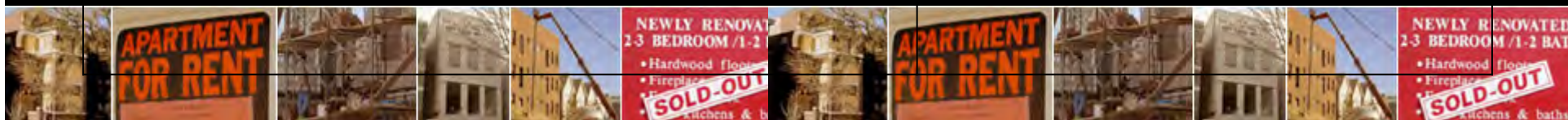
PHYSICAL

- Good property upkeep
- Sound structural condition
- Good location
- Neighborhood well maintained

ECONOMIC

- **High owner investment**
- Good property values
- Insurance available
- High confidence on future value

From "The neighborhood change process," HUD. 1975.

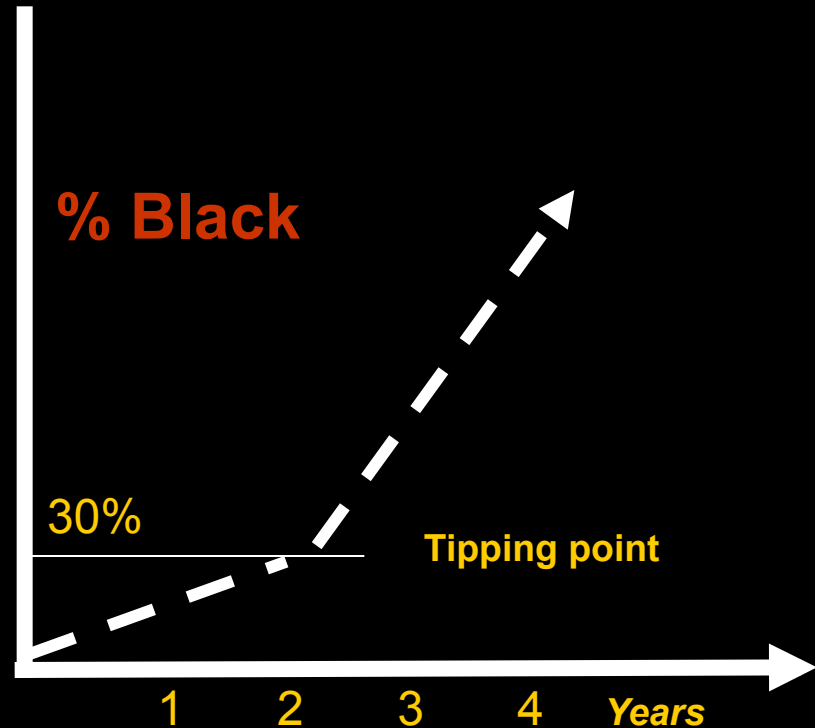


From theory to practice...

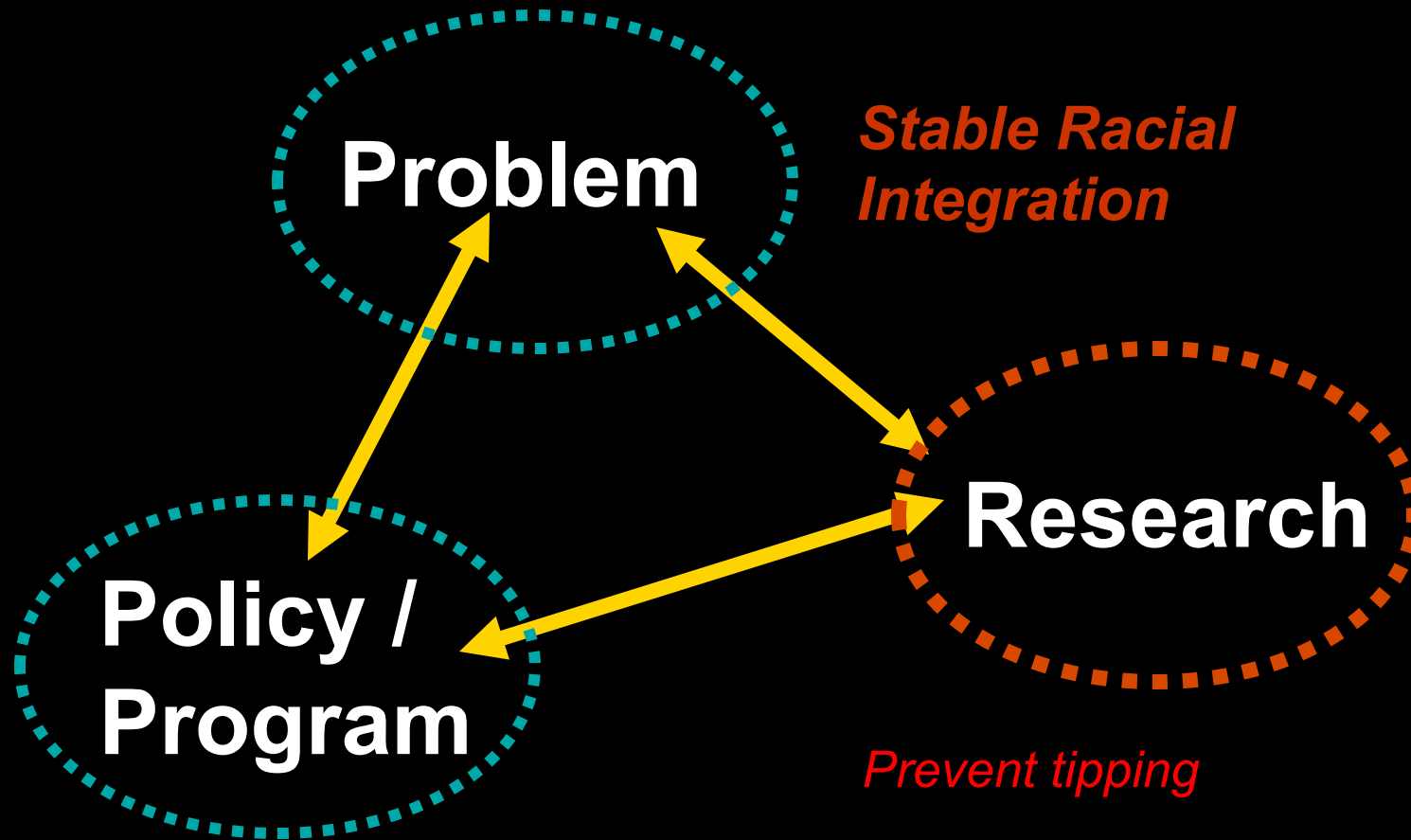


Racial Tipping

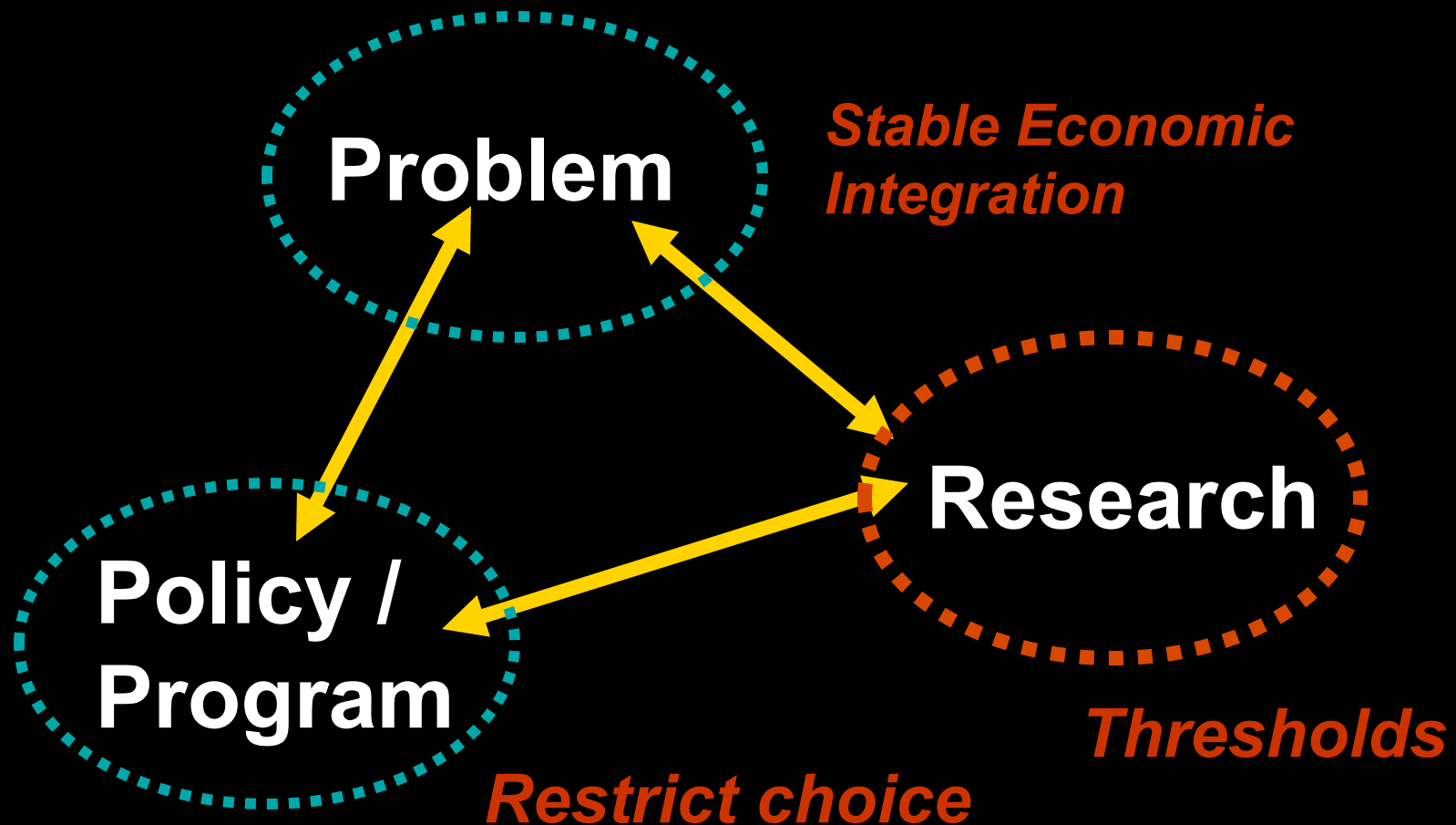
...a certain proportion of **blacks** move into a neighborhood, **whites** will move out, often at an accelerated rate, leading the neighborhood to eventually become all black.



Traditional Policy Research



Traditional Policy Research (variation)



“Transformation”



Mixed-income
-1/3 poor
-1/3 moderate
-1/3 middle/upper



An alternative

A thought exercise

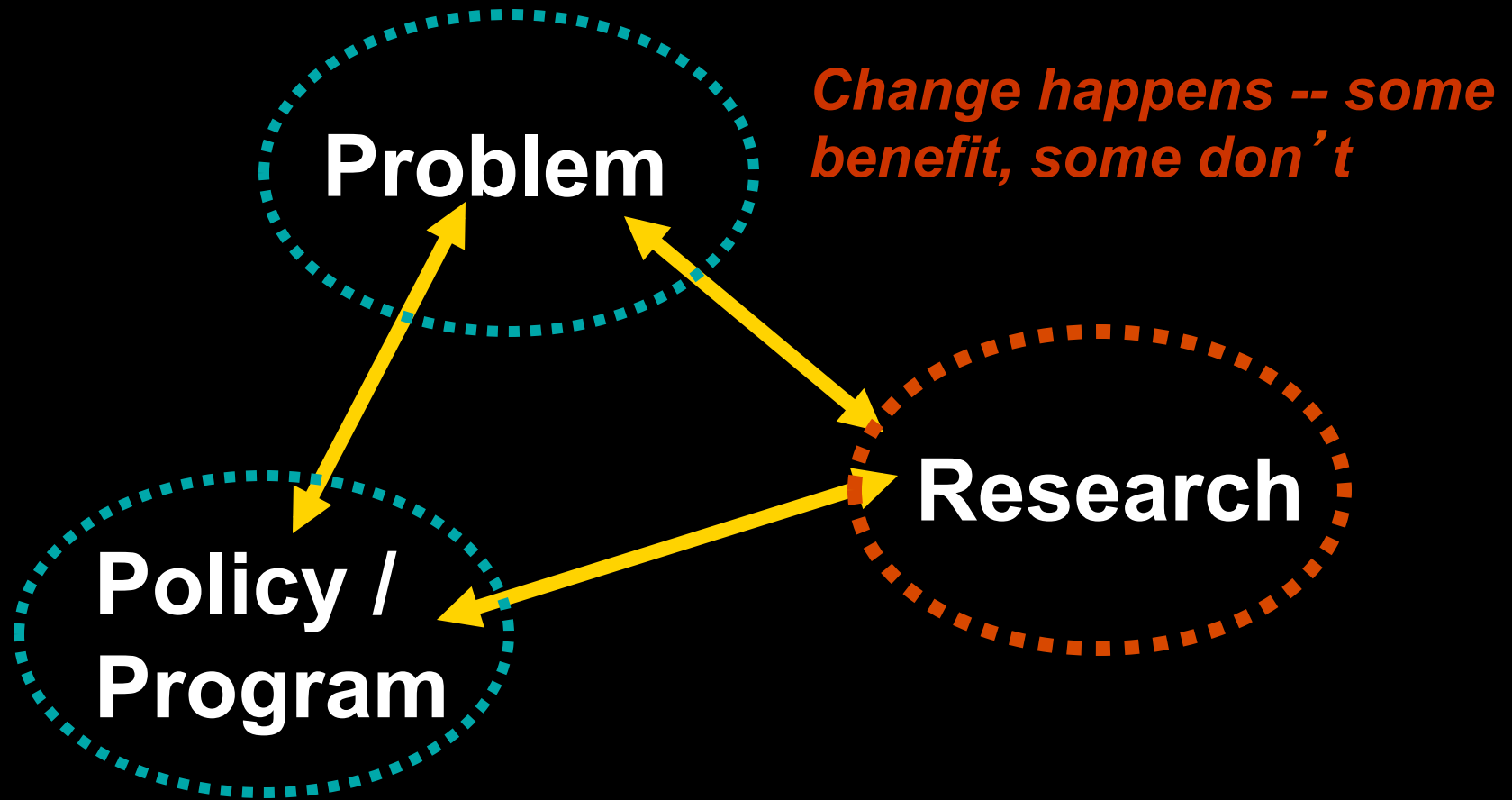


Right to the city

- Land for people not for speculation
- Permanent public ownership of land for public use
- Freedom from state/police harassment
- Services and community institutions
- Democracy and participation
- Internationalism
- Reparations
- Environmental justice
- Economic justice
- Indigenous justice
- Immigrant justice
- Rural Justice



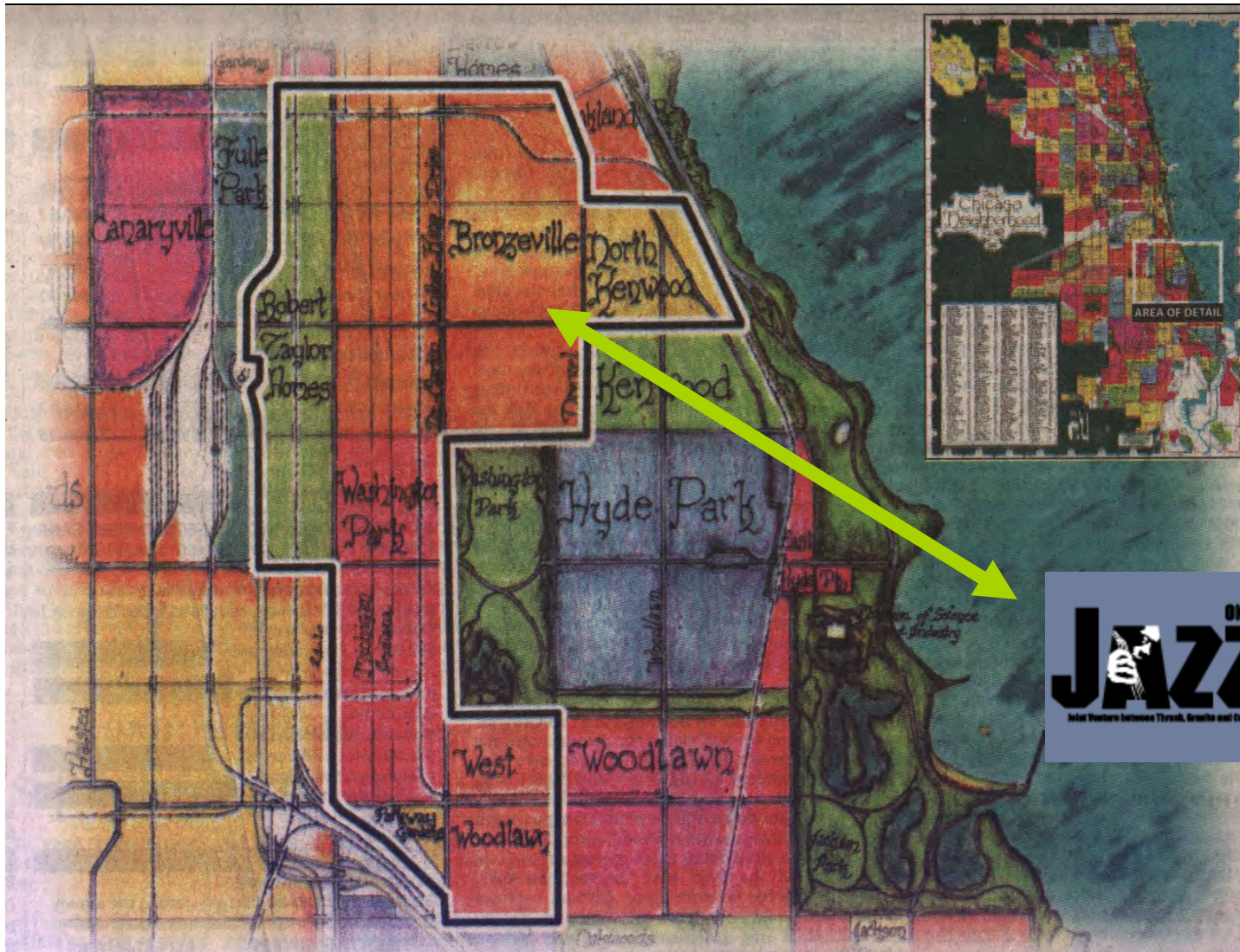
Solving the rights problem





Political / Power Analysis



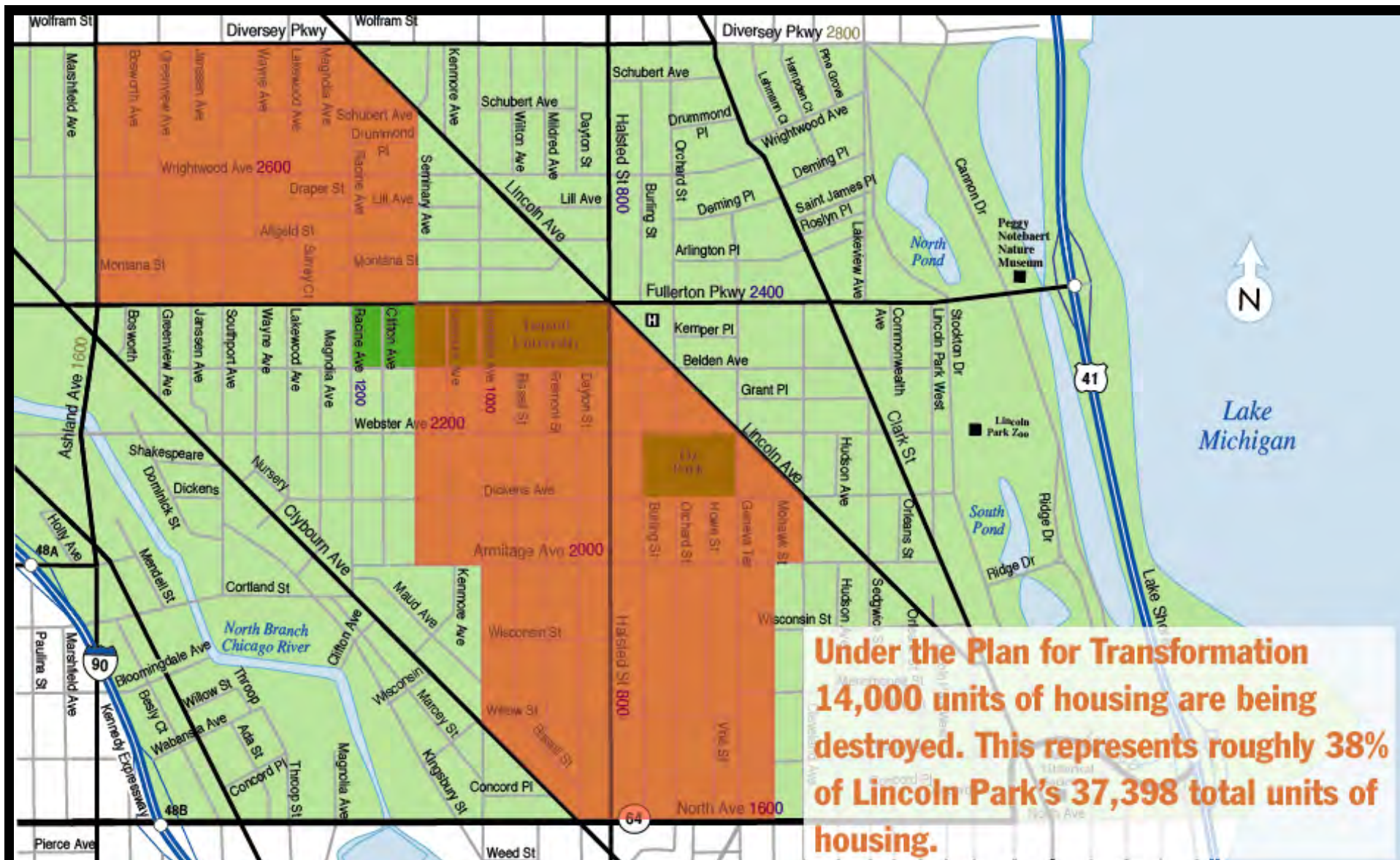


© Christopher Devane
 The second edition of the Chicago Neighborhood Map by Christopher Devane lists 223 neighborhoods, including a cluster of six new or renamed ones on the South Side, shown above. On Devane's map, Oakland becomes North Kenwood; a part of the old Oakland and what was called South Side is now Bronzeville. Then there are Washington Park, West Woodlawn, Parkview Gardens and Robert Taylor Homes.

**ON THE
JAZZ
BOULEVARD**
 Ideal Venues between Thrust, Grout and Century Place

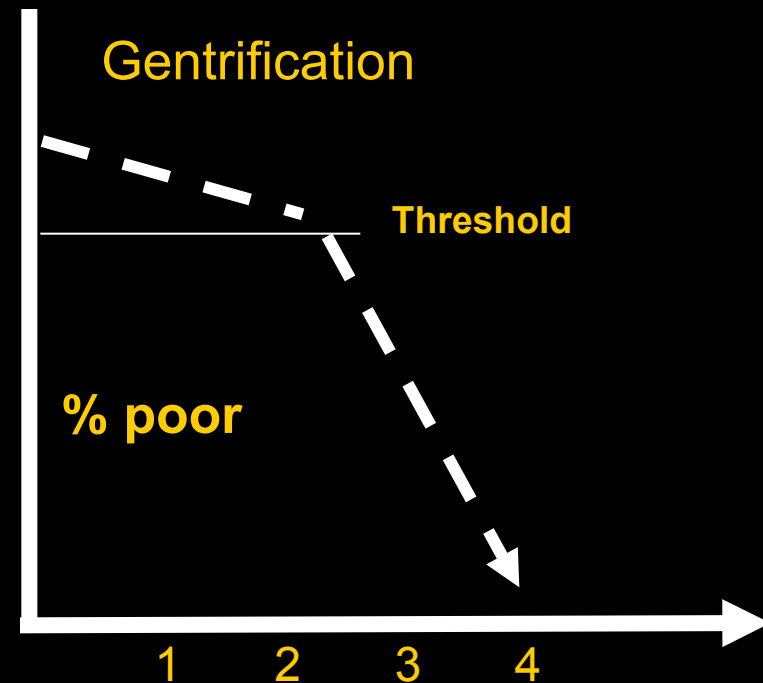


National Policy...Local Practices



Gentrification (tipping upside down?)

- ...a certain proportion of **RICH** people move into a neighborhood, **lower and even middle-income** families (usually non-whites) will move out, leading the neighborhood to rapidly improve (and usually become white).



The Plan

WHITES LIVE IN CITIES.

THE CROWNING GLORY
OF CIVILIZATION.



MINORITIES MOVE
INTO CITIES.

HELLO

GOODBYE



WHITES FLEE CITIES
TO SUBURBS.

AH, THIS
IS BETTER.



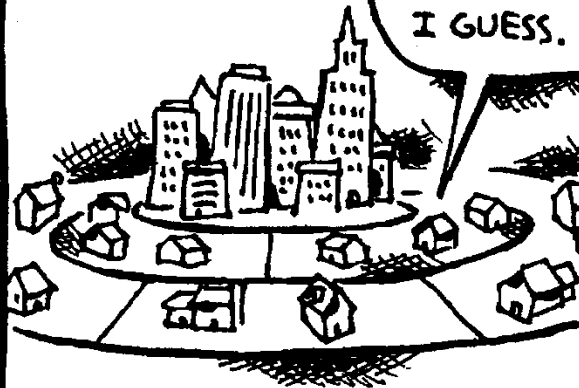
WHITES MOVE INTO
SECOND-RING SUBURBS.

CITIES ARE
DEAD. THIS
IS BETTER
STILL.



MINORITIES MOVE INTO
FIRST-RING SUBURBS.

THIS IS
BETTER.
I GUESS.



WHITES MOVE BACK
INTO CITIES.

IT
WORKED.



THE VAST
WHITE RING
CONSPIRACY.