

RACIAL INEQUITIES IN HOUSING

Racial inequities have long been built into housing through public policies like redlining, segregation, predatory lending, and exclusions in the New Deal and the G.I. Bill. The results of these discriminatory practices are far reaching and continue to drive the current housing crisis.

The National League of Cities highlights five of the ways these racist policies continue to impact Black Americans today:

1. On average, homes in Black neighborhoods are undervalued by nearly \$50,000
2. Households of color are far more likely than their White counterparts to have incomes at or below the poverty level or area median income.
3. Low-income women of color are severely cost burdened and face the highest eviction rates.
4. Black Americans make up 13% of the general population but more than 40% of the homeless population.
5. In 2020, Black unemployment rates were nearly 44% higher than White unemployment rates.



Policies for Change

1. Promote greater access to homeownership for the Black community: We can accomplish this by advocating for greater access to down payment assistance, expanding access to affordable credit and advocating for accessible homeownership opportunities for Black and brown communities.
2. Put an end to the continuation of segregation.
3. Support the development of affordable rental housing: Expanding voucher availability can swiftly alleviate housing cost burdens for hundreds of thousands of Black renters. This is why public investment in rental affordability is essential to tackle the unfair cost burdens and housing instability faced by Black households.

The Connecticut Fair Housing Center is a nonprofit organization working to ensure that all people have equal access to housing opportunities, free from discrimination.

If you have experienced housing discrimination, file a report! Contact the Connecticut Fair Housing Center!



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