

Built Exclusion: The Effects of Systemic Racial Practices on Architecture

A panel discussion co-hosted by [WID-Milwaukee](#) & WID-Madison that took place on Sept. 21st 2020.

These resources were collected from guests who attended the virtual discussion to be shared as a next step. Please feel free to share these resources with others, as the topic of Systemic Racial Practices do not only touch Architecture, but all career fields.

Maps:

[Mapping Inequality's](#) redlining documents contain a wealth of information about how government officials, lenders, and real estate interests surveyed and ensured the economic health of American cities that started in the New Deal era housing policies.

[Mapping Prejudice](#) visualizes the hidden histories of race and privilege in the urban landscape. Structural barriers stopped many people who were not white from buying property and building wealth for most of the last century.

[Native land territories](#)

[Policy Maps](#) explore social determinants of health and factors of environmental justice through the free version of these maps in your community. Filters like income, education, access to healthcare and food, transportation and quality schools will show the modern day effects of redlining.

Social Media Accts:

Follow [@openmicproject](#) for stories of social injustice in architecture and design

Follow [@beyondthebuilt](#) for snips of projects featured by Pascale Sablan's organization Beyond The Built (more info in the "support" section below)

Listen/watch:

[Rat Film](#) explores how racial segregation, discriminatory lending practices known as "redlining," and environmental racism built the Baltimore that exists today. This documentary investigates the history of the city, and the systemic racism that established the low-income and predominantly black neighborhoods that are still plagued by rats today.

In the podcast [“By Every Measure”](#) Reggie Jackson and Tarik Moody explore systemic racism in various sectors of Milwaukee. Using data, the series examines the immense disparities that are systemically woven into the Black experience in Milwaukee, making it one of the worst cities in the nation for its Black residents, by every measure.

This YouTube recording of [Dr. Ibram X Kendi’s panel discussion on Social Justice](#) was attended by over 11,000 people and covers a number of topics related to Social Justice. Listen at about 33:00 for a discussion about the perception of ‘dangerous black neighborhoods’.

The Pruitt-Igoe Myth (2011) documentary examines the development and failure of a 1950’s housing estate in St. Louis. ([Rent on Vimeo for \\$3.95](#))

[Design Justice Webinar](#) from AIA Large Firm Round Table featuring Bryan Lee from [Colloqate](#) and other panelists

[Design for All](#) examines how an inclusive approach to design affects culture and improves the ways we relate to the built environment, to our communities, and to one another.

Attend these:

[AIA New Jersey](#) has lecture series on Equity in the Profession and Architectural Education

[The Association for Community design](#) is a network of individuals, organizations, and institutions committed to increasing the capacity of planning and design professions to better serve communities. They have a number of upcoming webinars through 2021

Resources to more Resources:

[Black Designers Resource](#) is intended to uplift Black design communities, serve as a resource for communities in need of pro bono design services, and serve as a resource to non-Black and white people to deepen our anti-racism work within design disciplines.

[Your Black Friends are Busy](#) is a growing resource for learning about anti-racism, and supporting the people & organizations doing important work for the Black Lives Matter movement.

Support:

[NOMA](#)'s mission, rooted in a rich legacy of activism, is to empower our local chapters and membership to foster justice and equity in communities of color through outreach, community advocacy, professional development and design excellence.

[WISCO NOMA](#) is diverse network of Architects and Designers across the State of Wisconsin. Their mission is to combat the disadvantages that prevent underrepresented populations from pursuing a career in Architecture or a related profession and provide resources to those interested in attaining accredited degrees and licenses.

[The Nehemiah Center](#) for Urban Leadership Development works to engage the greater Madison community to empower African American individuals, families, and communities to bring about hope, transformation, and justice.

[Beyond the Built](#) Environment uniquely address the inequitable disparities in architecture by providing a holistic platform aimed to support numerous stages of the architecture pipeline. They promote agency among diverse audiences and advocate for equity in the built environment.

[Leaders Igniting Transformation](#) is a youth of color led organization in Milwaukee that organizes young people to build independent political power for social, racial, and economic justice. The organizing of young people to define the future of our communities through public policy and cultural change.

[Love On Black Women](#) is a people-driven fund that collects donations that are used for Black Women in need. Funds go to women who are caught in situations such as domestic abuse, homelessness, and other emergency needs.

[ACE Mentor](#) is a nationwide program designed to introduce high school students to the wide range of career opportunities open to young people in architecture, construction, engineering, and related areas of building design and construction industry. Student teams work directly with volunteer professionals from local firms.

[TRUE Skool](#) is using Hip-Hop culture as a positive empowering force, as it introduces students to past and present leaders, educates them on political and social issues through music, art, and creates new entrepreneurial opportunities as well as exposing them to different cultures and arts in ways that school never did.

The [Boys and Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee](#) features the [Earn and Learn Youth Placement Program](#) to provide youth and young adults an entry level 6-8 week work opportunity. This paid opportunity exposes young people to a variety of industries while developing communication skills and expanding their abilities.

[400 Forward's](#) mission is to “uplift girls by giving them the tools they need to address social issues created by unjust built environments of our inner-city communities’. The name was coined in light of the 400th living African American woman recently becoming a licensed architect in 2017.

[Maydm](#) provides girls and youth of color in grades 6-12 with skill based training for the technology sector.

[Ubuntu Research and Evaluation](#) is a Milwaukee based “professional learning community run by black women who use liberation and beloved community frameworks to evaluate, facilitate, and strategize with individuals, organizations, and communities”.

[Neu-Life](#) is a Milwaukee based company committed to empowering children and youth by equipping them with “necessary information, strategies, and support systems to have better self images, develop better life management skills, and cope with their environments by refraining from crime, drugs and other deviant behavior.

They are doing it, so can you:

[Hip Hop Architecture](#) explores the intersection of Hip Hop culture and the built environment through three interconnected realms; media, professional practice, and academia. The goal of Hip Hop Architecture is to increase the number of underrepresented populations in the practice of architecture while simultaneously creating a new approach to architecture and design, one based on the Hip Hop's founding elements (DJ, Emcee, Graffiti and B-Boy/ B-Girl). Hip Hop Architecture is a manifestation of the widely accepted fifth element of Hip Hop, Knowledge of Self.

A designer, urbanist, and spatial justice activist, [Liz Ogbu](#) is an expert on engaging and transforming unjust urban environments. Her multidisciplinary design and innovation practice, Studio O, operates at the intersection of racial and spatial justice. She collaborates with/in communities in need to leverage design to catalyze sustained social impact.

[Step Up: Equity Matters](#) is a movement for change. We believe the focus on equity will attract and retain diversity at all levels of the organizations from entry-level roles to the boardrooms. Equitable organizations don't just welcome and appreciate diversity; they truly value it. As a result, our purpose is to improve organizational and individual capabilities to practice equity.

This Statement titled "[On The Futility of Listening](#)" from the Black Student Alliance at Columbia University's Graduate School of Architecture, Planning and Preservation to the Columbia GSAPP Dean, Faculty and Administration includes actionable strategies to "thwart anti-black sentiment, acts and ideology" within the program.

[DAP Collective](#) - Design as Protest is a coalition of designers mobilizing strategy to dismantle the privilege and powers structures that use architecture and design as tools of oppression.

[Sustainable Justice Guidelines](#) - The AAJ has published the Sustainable Justice Guidelines. This compilation of sustainability goals, metrics, and targets, along with links to the research and built examples that support them, will help to inform all stakeholders in the field of justice architecture of the possibility and potential of building projects to advance shared goals for the justice system and our broader society. The Sustainable Justice Guidelines include 36 detailed strategies supported by evidence-based research and exemplified by AIA award-winning buildings from across North America.

Dig into a great book or article:

[Color of Law](#) -This “powerful and disturbing history” exposes how American governments deliberately imposed racial segregation on metropolitan areas nationwide (New York Times Book Review).

[White Fragility](#) - “White people in North America live in a social environment that protects and insulates them from race-based stress. This insulated environment of racial protection builds white expectations for racial comfort while at the same time lowering the ability to tolerate racial stress.”

[How to be an Antiracist](#) - “In his memoir, Kendi weaves together an electrifying combination of ethics, history, law, and science—including the story of his own awakening to antiracism—bringing it all together in a cogent, accessible form. He begins by helping us rethink our most deeply held, if implicit, beliefs and our most intimate personal relationships (including beliefs about race and IQ and interracial social relations) and reexamines the policies and larger social arrangements we support.”

[The Difference Between First-Degree Racism and Third-Degree Racism](#) - “Eliminating third-degree racism is the catalyst to expanding economic power for people of color, so it merits focus at the most senior levels of education, government, and business.”

[The Pipeline isn't the Problem](#) -“On the latest episode of the Pivot podcast, entrepreneur and CEO John Rice talks to Kara Swisher and Scott Galloway about what companies — tech companies in particular — must do to combat what he terms “third-degree racism.”