

# REDLINING

## MAPPING INEQUALITY DAYTON • SPRINGFIELD

### **Discussion Questions for *Redlining: Mapping Inequality in Dayton & Springfield***

Developed by the Fitz Center for Leadership in Community  
2023 Cohort of Dayton Civic Scholars

#### Before Watching:

- What do you know about your family's journey to the place that they live now and any challenges that they encountered?
- Does your family own or rent their home?
- Did your family face challenges in buying or renting their home?
- Do you feel that where your family lives has affected your identity?

#### **Section 1: The Maps Tell the Story (0:00-12:30)**

##### The American Dream and Redlining

- How do the effects of redlining persist today, almost 50 years after redlining was made illegal?
- How do you think a denial of housing loans can affect a person or family, aside from not getting the home they want?

##### The Great Migration

- What challenges/oppressive conditions did Black Americans face when they first arrived in Ohio and what new challenges did they face in the following years?
- How was the treatment for Black Americans who migrated to Ohio during the Great Migration better for them than life in the South? How was the treatment worse?

##### Fully Planned, Fully Restricted

- Do you think suburbs are still meant to be a haven for White Americans, even after redlining has ended?

PUBLIC MEDIA CONNECT



- How are Black Americans still relegated to certain neighborhoods even without the use of racially restrictive deeds?
- What features made a suburb desirable during redlining? Has that changed at all since redlining was made illegal?
- How did racially restrictive deeds prevent Black Americans from gaining intergenerational wealth? What currently prevents the transmission of intergenerational wealth through homeownership?

## Section 2: “...And That was 1985” (12:30-32:30)

### Needing a Champion

- Why couldn't the goals of the Fair Housing Act ever be fully realized?
- What is meant by the statement, “Black real estate professionals were often more than just realtors”?
- What strategies did Black Americans use to resist housing oppression? Were these effective?
- What changes to the Fair Housing Act would you propose? Why do you think these are valuable?
- What can you do to promote equity in residential areas? How could you be part of the process to implement these?

## Section 3: Lost Wealth (32:30-end credits)

### Men in Suits

- Why are Black Americans still being denied loans in 2021? Should these methods of loan denial be made illegal? What strategies can be utilized today to make race-based loan denial illegal?
- How has the rent-to-own system perpetuated financial inequity?

### Abandonment

- How has redlining contributed to such high numbers of vacant lots?
- How can vacant houses be a nuisance to a neighborhood?

### Past is Present

- Where do you see the effects of redlining and segregation today? Are there other personal or communal impacts that have arisen from redlining besides financial inequities?
- In what ways have all communities (including majority white) been negatively affected by redlining?
- Besides housing, on what other aspects of the community has redlining had an impact?
- Think about your neighborhood and hometown. In your experience has redlining shaped your neighborhood physically and socially? Describe these ways.