American Policies and Practices of Racism/White Supremacy

Segregation
- Segregated public health 1790-1970
- Segregated schools 1866-1954+
- Segregated transportation 1880s-1960
- Plessy vs. Ferguson 1896
- Racial zoning 1910-1917
- Racially restrictive covenants 1912-1948
- Segregated public housing 1937-Present

Serial Forced Displacement
- Baltimore church displacement in early 1900s
- Great Migration 1915-1960
- Highway construction thru Black neighborhoods 1930-1970s
- Slum Clearance and Urban Renewal 1949-1973
- University-led eminent domain 1960s-Present

Physical/Psychological Abuse
- Slavery 1619-1865
- Casual Killing Act 1669
- Police Brutality 1865-Present
- Black Codes 1866-1868
- 4000+ Lynchings 1877-1950
- White supremacist mob violence during and after Reconstruction

Economic Destruction
- The fall of the Freedman’s Bank 1865-1874
- Convict Leasing 1846-1950+
- Peonage of Sharecropping 1866-1955
- CPA Discrimination 1887-Present
- Redlining for Mortgages 1933-1968
- FHA Ethnic purity & pro-whiteness clauses 1937-

Cultural Loss
- Plantation culture 1619-Present
- Stripping of African names, languages, diet, and culture during American enslavement 1619-1865
- Black neighborhood destruction 1930s-Present

Black Neighborhood/Village
Impacted by America’s policies and practices of racism/white supremacy

Lived Experiences

Economic Deprivation
* Whites have the benefits
* Blacks learned to make do
* More than a job

Physical/Psychological Abuse
* Nigger
* Blacks fight back
* Hurt people hurt communities
* The problem with inequality
* Walk the walk and talk the talk

Segregation/Displacement
* Two sides of the street
* Integration is a process

Cultural Dispossession
* Migrate with trauma
* Holding family secrets
* With so much movement, migration, displacement, and diffusion, there are more lost connections
* Less generational/genealogical memory & history that is transmitted
* Not just church but spirit

Social Response
Resulting in breakdown of community/family structures and social networks, loss of resources, separation from loved ones, serial displacement induces root-shock and leads to disintegrated villages, cultural dispossession, loss of social capital and social networks

Psychological Response
Resulting in anger, aggression, fear, terror, grief, shame, social isolation, race-based trauma, racial-battle fatigue

Physical Response
Resulting in malnutrition, diabetes, heart disease, infectious diseases, hypertension, cancer, disproportionate morbidity, and health disparities

Note: *Themes that emerged from in depth interviews of Black Baltimore City residents that lived during the transition of segregation to integration policy.

Sotero – Henderson Conceptual Model of African American Trauma in Baltimore City
Corey Henderson, DrPH, MPA