# HOUSING POLICY IS SCHOOL POLICY

A presentation to
Housing Mobility and Education Form
Baltimore, MD
December 3, 2007

by
David Rusk
4100 Cathedral Avenue, NW #610
Washington, DC 20016-3584
(202) 364-2455 (phone)
(202) 364-6936 (fax)
drusk@starpower.net
www.davidrusk.com

Despite slow progress, metro Baltimore housing market is still very segregated for African Americans.

Racial Segregation Index (0 to 100; 100 = total apartheid)

1970
81
1980
75
1990
72
2000
68

Segregation higher among youth

**71** 

# Economic segregation was increasing, but declined slightly (perhaps temporarily) in 1990s.

### **Economic Segregation Index** (0 to 100; 100 = total apartheid)

1970	40
1980	45
1990	47
2000	43

#### Schools follow neighborhoods.

#### Racial and economic composition of 372 Baltimore area elementary schools in 2000-02

pct black	number	majority	average
or	of	<b>FARM</b>	pct
pct white	schools	schools	FARM
99-100% black	44	44	89%
95-98.9% black	<b>27</b>	27	<b>78%</b>
90-94.9% black	10	5	<b>60%</b>
80-89.9% black	12	9	<b>66%</b>
70-79.9% black	<b>14</b>	11	<b>68%</b>
60-69.9% black	7	3	<b>58%</b>
50-59.9% black	11	6	51%
50-59.9% white	17	6	45%
60-69.9% white	20	3	33%
70-79.9% white	31	7	30%
80-89.9% white	51	6	23%
90-94.9% white	<b>50</b>	3	<b>14%</b>
95-98.9% white	65	1	10%
99-100% white	14	0	<b>7%</b>
<b>Totals</b>	372	135	35%

## Racially segregated schools are economically segregated schools.

Students' family income and parental education account for 81 percent of school-by-school variations in test scores.

Low-income children learn best in middle-class schools.

#### Low-income pupils CTBS scores

CTBS percentile

**90-100%** middle class **48**<sup>th</sup>

95-100% low income 24<sup>th</sup>

For every 1% increase in middle-class classmates, low-income pupil's test scores improve 0.18 percentiles, on average.

Montgomery County-type inclusionary zoning (MPDU) law: 85% market rate 10% working class 5% public housing

From 1980 to 2000, 316,000 housing units were built in metro Baltimore.

#### MPDU law would have meant

- 15,800 affordable homes for working class families; and
  - 7,900 homes for very low-income families

located primarily in new, low-poverty suburban developments

### **Economic segregation index** for 372 elementary schools

actual index in 2002

**62** 

potential index with school board action

54

potential index with regional inclusionary zoning

**26**