



Student Definitions



Antiracist (adj.)

Example: "We Shall Not Be Moved!"

These bold words were written across the large banner that unified young black men and women from Buffalo's Dante Place Housing Project. In 1960, 35 representatives from the Dante Tenants Defense League and Mother's Alliance boarded a bus to New York City to protest for their right to affordable integrated housing in front of the NYS Housing Commissioner James Gaynor.

In your own words define 'antiracist':

To Every Home Owner: *Compl. Spence 6/6*

A drastic Federal forced housing law now being considered by the Congress will further destroy your basic rights—unless you act NOW!

Here's what it is:

"Title IV" of the so-called Civil Rights Bill H.R. 14785 and S. 3296—is the forced, not fair, housing proposal that threatens to further deprive you, as a home owner, of basic freedoms.

Here's what it would do:

1. It goes beyond the New York State Law on Civil Rights and an act will become a contract between the State and the Federal government as to which level of government can have access to the greater degree.
2. Subjects you to suit by the U.S. Attorney General forcing you to sell or rent to a person other than the person of your choice.
3. Force identification a racial or color prejudice (i.e.) racial, religious, or nationalities against you, be they real or fabricated.
4. Subjects you to payment of unlimited damages if you fail to cooperate properly in a sale or rental.
5. At the present time there are 3 members of the State government active in Civil Rights enforcement: Chairman of the State Senate, State Attorney General's office and the Secretary of State. Each of these agencies act independent of the other in the expense and harassment of citizens. If the Federal law is approved the cooperation and harassment will be multiplied.

Because we are concerned about the human rights of all Americans . . .

- We protest this attack on the human rights of freedom of choice in disposing of private property.
- We advise progress in race relations will be retarded, not advanced, by this bill.

How can you make your protest heard?

The Congress will reject the forced housing features of this bill if you and other home and property owners write your members of Congress and make it clear that you oppose this legislation.

Write to your Members of Congress today!

<p>Your Congressmen are:</p> <p>Henry P. Smith III Richard D. McCortney Thomas A. Smith</p> <p>Address: House Office Building Washington, D.C. 20515</p>	<p>Your Senators are:</p> <p>Robert F. Kennedy Jacob K. Javits</p> <p>Address: Senate Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510</p>
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Greater Buffalo Board of Realtors
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Racist (adj.)

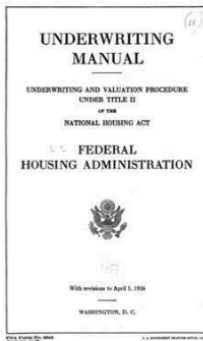
Example: The leaders of the real estate board in Buffalo encouraged real estate agents not to show homes to Black families in white neighborhoods. They worked to steer African Americans into the Masten area of Buffalo.

In your own words define 'racist':

Racist Policy

Example: The underwriting manual for the National Housing Act (see optional excerpt below) recommended that across the United States, restrictions be used to limit where people could or could not live. These restrictions are called racial covenants. Created by people in power, racial covenants were racist agreements in property deeds (ownership papers) that prevented Black, Brown, Italian, Asian, Polish, and Jewish people from living on and owning a piece of land.

Harry and Robert Yates carried out this policy by placing racially restrictive covenants in Orchard Park, NY (see optional information below).



Federal Housing Administration (FHA), "Underwriting Manual", a guide for bankers and real estate agents, 1939.

"To be most effective, deed restrictions should be imposed upon all land in the immediate environment of the subject location . . . Recommended restrictions should include provisions for the following... Prohibition of the occupancy of properties except by the race for which they are intended."

Racial Covenants in Orchard Park, NY

Harry Yates, right, and his son Robert, in a photo taken June 9, 1937. Yates, an industrialist and financier from Buffalo, was honored in 1951 as Orchard Park's first citizen in part because he created Green Lake and donated Green Lake Park. The Yates chose to put racial covenants (see one example below) on the homes they built in Orchard Park in the 1940s.

Source: Buffalo News, [July 2022](#)



12. No sale or transfer of land within the area of Green Lake Park shall be made to persons not of a race, nationality or color commonly known as a white race, nor shall an owner of property within this area permit his or her property to be rented, leased or sold to individuals, families or groups who are of a race, nationality or color not commonly known or defined as a white race. This shall not prevent the occupancy of domestic servants, employed by an owner or tenant, of a race or nationality not defined as a white race.

 In your own words define 'systemic racism:'



Day 1 Exit Ticket

Match the word to the picture.

Word Bank

Antiracist

Racist

Racist Policy



Aunt Jemima newspaper ad.



Rochesterians protesting in support of the Black Lives



Monroe County Legislature in 1939/40 voting on racist deed restrictions on the homes sold to developers

How is my cultural identity impacted by systemic racism? Or, how are people whose cultural identities that are different from mine impacted by structural racism?