

Valparaiso University

From the Selected Works of Sara Gundersen

Winter December 18, 2020

Economics of COVID-19 In Class Work 8 COVID-19 and Race Part 1

Sara Gundersen, *Valparaiso University*



This work is licensed under a [Creative Commons CC_BY-NC-SA International License](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-sa/4.0/).



Available at: <https://works.bepress.com/sara-gundersen/21/>

In Class Work 8 COVID-19 and Race

We will be covering several big questions about COVID-19 and race. They are:

Why do minorities have worse health outcomes due to COVID-19?

Why are minorities hurt more in the recession?

How will the long-term impact be?

What are some policies that can help?

But first we need to discuss some background.

1. What is the difference between wealth and income?
2. What is the wealth gap between white families and other races? Why do you think this is so much worse than the income gap (which is still bad)?

Black and white families

Latino and white families (you may have to look this up)

Native American and white families

Asian American and white families

3. What is net worth?
4. How many Black households have zero or negative net worth? How many white households do?

5. What is redlining? Look it up.
6. Go to this website and find a place that was redlined. (You can also google “richmond redlining maps” to find it.) Try to find the government’s description of a neighborhood that was redlined.

<https://dsl.richmond.edu/panorama/redlining/#loc=5/39.1/-94.58>

What did you find?

7. Go to <https://www.opportunityatlas.org/> and find economic outcomes by race in the same area you just explored. The description of this website is here:

“In a collaboration with Raj Chetty and Nathan Hendren from Harvard University and John Friedman from Brown University, we constructed the [Opportunity Atlas](#), a comprehensive Census tract-level dataset of children’s outcomes in adulthood using data covering nearly the entire U.S. population. For each tract, we estimate children’s outcomes in adulthood such as earnings distributions and incarceration rates by parental income, race, and gender. These estimates allow us to trace the roots of outcomes such as poverty and incarceration to the neighborhoods in which children grew up.

To build the Atlas, we use de-identified data from the 2000 and 2010 decennial Censuses linked to data from Federal income tax returns and the 2005-2015 American Community Surveys (ACS) to obtain information on income, parental characteristics, children’s neighborhoods, and other variables. We focus on children born between 1978-1983, including those born in the U.S. and authorized childhood immigrants. Our data include the characteristics of 20 million children, approximately 94% of all children born during the time period.”

Show findings here.

8. If you have time, go to Zillow.com and look up housing values in that area compared with an area that was not redlined.