



# The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America

## Richard Rothstein

Research associate, Economic Policy Institute  
Fellow, Haas Institute, UC Berkeley and at Thurgood Marshall Institute, NAACP Legal Defense Fund

**Wednesday, March 21, 2018 -- TWO Events**

**12:00 PM: Loyola University Chicago School of Law, 25 E. Pearson St., Chicago**  
**Loyola RSVP: [bit.ly/FANRothstein](http://bit.ly/FANRothstein)**

**7:00 PM: Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston**

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**,  
in partnership with Connections for the Homeless, Loyola University Chicago School of Law,  
Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore.

These events are **free and open to the public**; the evening event will be taped.  
Suitable for youth 12+.

**INFO: [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net)**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: RICHARD ROTHSTEIN – TWO EVENTS**

**CONTACT:** Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, lonnie@familyactionnetwork.net

**Wednesday, March 21, 2018, The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America, 12:00 PM, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, 25 E. Pearson St., Chicago, 60611 and 7:00 PM, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, 60201. RSVP for Loyola event: [www.bit.ly/FANRothstein](http://www.bit.ly/FANRothstein).** In his highly-acclaimed 2017 book *The Color of Law*, Richard Rothstein argues with exacting precision and fascinating insight how segregation in America – the incessant kind that continues to dog our major cities and has contributed to so much recent social strife – is the byproduct of explicit government policies at the local, state, and federal level. To scholars and social critics, racism in our neighborhoods has long been viewed as a manifestation of unscrupulous real estate agents, unethical mortgage lenders, and exclusionary covenants working outside the law. This is what is commonly known as “de facto segregated,” practices that were the outcome of private, not legal or public policy, means. Yet, as Mr. Rothstein breaks down in case after case, until the last quarter of the twentieth century de facto paled in comparison to *de jure* (government-sponsored) segregation.

A former columnist for the *New York Times* and a research associate at the **Economic Policy Institute**, as well as a **Fellow** at the **Thurgood Marshall Institute** of the **NAACP Legal Defense Fund** and a **Fellow** of the **Haas Institute** at the **University of California–Berkeley**, Mr. Rothstein has spent years documenting the evidence that government not merely ignored discriminatory practices in the residential sphere but promoted them. The impact has been devastating for generations of African-Americans who were denied the right to live where they wanted to live and raise and school their children where they thought best. While the Fair Housing Act in 1968 provided modest enforcement to prevent future discrimination, it did nothing to reverse or undo a century’s worth of state-sanctioned violations of the Bill of Rights, particularly the Thirteenth Amendment which banned treating former slaves as second-class citizens. The structural conditions established by 20<sup>th</sup> century federal policy endure to this day in all municipalities, large and small, liberal and reactionary.

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*Sponsored by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership Connections for the Homeless, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore. FAN is grateful for the support of its 2017-18 annual sponsors Compass Health Center, Evanston Township High School D202, New Trier High School D203, the Martin & Mary L. Boyer Foundation, Magnetar Capital, and Tina & Byron Trott; strategic partners Acclaim Media, the Butler Family Foundation, Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University, Connections for the Homeless, Curt’s Café, Envestnet, Erikson Institute, Evanston/Skokie D65, the Finnegan Family Foundation, Grosvenor Capital Management, Hackstudio, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, the Mammel Foundation, the Master of Science in Education Program at the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University, the McGaw YMCA, New Trier Parents’ Association, North Shore Community Bank, Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSD), Northwestern University, R4 Services, LLC, The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and YWCA Evanston/North Shore; and in-kind sponsors Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Turing Group.*

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