

NAME OF EVENT: Founding Failures: How America's Racial Caste System Has Limited Opportunities for People of Color

DATE | TIME | LOCATION: May 27, 2021 | 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET | Zoom

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: As guaranteed by our founding documents, white, property owning men have always enjoyed the benefit of full citizenship and participation in American society, leaving their privilege and wealth to accrue interest over generations. While other groups slowly gained some measure of equal protection of our laws, inequality was already a fundamental characteristic of our society. Racial segregation in housing and schools, persistent to this day, was created by law and reenforced through redlining, the GI Bill, and countless other laws and practices. A persistent wage gap and widening racial wealth divide has pushed the "American Dream" even further away for communities of color. How did we get here? What tools are already available to address these issues? How has the Supreme Court's insistence on "colorblind" laws exacerbated these inequalities?

SPEAKERS' NAMES AND BIOS:

Welcome Remarks:

Kara Stein, Vice President of Policy and Program, ACS

Panelists:

Vinay Harpalani, Associate Professor of Law, University of New Mexico School of Law

Norrinda Hayat, Associate Clinical Professor of Law and Director of the Civil Justice Clinic, Rutgers Law School

Laura Sullivan, Director of Economic Justice Program, New Jersey Institute for Social Justice

Lindsay Langholz, Director of Policy and Program, ACS, *Moderator*

AGENDA OF CONFERENCE CALL:

5 minutes introduction

30 minutes speakers' presentations

20 minutes Q&A

5 minutes conclusion

MATERIALS FOR CALL:

Mehrsa Baradaran, [*Jim Crow Credit*](#), 9 U.C. IRVINE L. REV. 887 (2019).

Vinay Harpalani, [*Race-Conscious Admissions, Diversity, and Academic Freedom*](#), 22 J. CONST. L. ONLINE 101 (2019).

Cheryl Harris, [*Whiteness As Property*](#), 106 HARV. L. REV. 1707 (1993).

Norrinda Brown Hayat, [Urban Decolonization](#), 24 MICH. J. RACE & L. 75 (2018).

Trymaine Lee, [A Vast Wealth Gap, Driven by Segregation, Redlining, Evictions and Exclusion, Separates Black and White America](#), N.Y. TIMES MAG. (Aug. 14, 2019).

Thomas Mitchell, [Growing Inequality and Racial Economic Gaps](#), 56 HOW. L.J. 849 (2013).

Errol Schweizer, [Why the PRO-Act Is Key to Racial Justice and Economic Democracy](#), FORBES (Apr. 20, 2021).

BROOKINGS INST., [Examining the Black-White Wealth Gap](#) (Feb. 27, 2020).

N.J. INST. FOR SOC. JUSTICE, [ERASING NEW JERSEY'S RED LINES](#) (2020).

DEMOS & INST. ON ASSETS AND SOC. POL'Y, [THE ASSET VALUE OF WHITENESS: UNDERSTANDING THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP](#) (2017).

Video: [Responding to the COVID-19 Crisis: Closing the Racial Wealth Gap in the Shadow of the Pandemic](#), URB. INST. (Aug. 12, 2020).

Why Is This Happening?, [Undermining Black Homeownership with Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor](#), NBC THINK (Oct. 10, 2019).

[Students for Fair Admissions Inc. v. President & Fellows of Harvard College](#), SCOTUSblog (last visited May 20, 2021).