

The Other America



White Flight

- ▶ Post WWII—millions of the white middle-class were leaving the cities for suburbs
 - they took precious econ. resources with them & they isolated themselves from other races & classes
 - rural poor migrated to the inner cities
 - cities lost businesses & the income taxes of the people who left
 - city governments could no longer afford to properly maintain or improve schools, public transportation & police/fire departments

The "Invisible Poor"



Urban Renewal

- ▶ those living in the cities were living in dirty, crowded slums
- ▶ one proposed solution to the housing problem in inner cities: URBAN RENEWAL
- ▶ National Housing Act (1949): to provide “a decent home & suitable living environment for every American family”
 - tear down run-down neighborhoods & constructed low-income housing
 - Urban areas improved , but there was rarely enough housing built.