A NEW COMMUNITY VISION FOR DALLAS

2020 ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENT REPORT

DALLAS TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING & TRANSFORMATION
A NEW COMMUNITY VISION FOR DALLAS

A 2020 DALLAS TRUTH, RACIAL HEALING & TRANSFORMATION ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENT REPORT

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Dallas Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation’s mission is to create a radically inclusive city by addressing race and racism through narrative change, relationship building and equitable policies and practices.

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THE 2019 DALLAS TRHT ECONOMIC SUPPLEMENT REPORT IS DEDICATED TO

The communities of color in Dallas County who have had their land stolen and plundered by the United States of America, the State of Texas, Dallas County and the City of Dallas, whose labor was exploited and were forced to work for little to no pay, and those who were excluded from banking, real estate, business and other economic wealth drivers. This is also dedicated to the truth-tellers, healers, organizers, activists, artists, community members and legislators who are working towards equality, equity, justice, restoration and repair.

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DALLAS TRHT WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR CONTRIBUTORS

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UNITED WAY OF METROPOLITAN DALLAS
EMBREY FAMILY FOUNDATION
RAINWATER FOUNDATION
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THE SAPPHIRE FOUNDATION

The conclusions expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the contributors and committee.
TABLE OF CONTENTS

ECONOMY IN DALLAS BEGAN WITH THEFT OF LAND AND SLAVERY TO EXPLOIT FREE LABOR 1
WHY ECONOMY? 3
DALLAS COUNTY: KING COTTON 5
DALLAS: A SEGREGATION OF RACES 7
REVIEWING ECONOMY IN THE LOCAL PRESS:
THE RACIAL INCOME GAP IN DALLAS 9
RACIALIZED POVERTY IN DALLAS 12
THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP IN DALLAS 15
RACIALIZED POVERTY IN DALLAS 19
COMMUNITY VISIONING: ECONOMY 21
ECONOMIC ORGANIZATIONS TO RESEARCH 22
SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY 23

April 25, 1956. "A passenger points to one of the segregation signs removed from all Dallas Transit Company buses, following a Supreme Court ruling banning segregation on all public transportation within a state." (Bettmann/Getty Images)
ECONOMY BEGAN OF LAND & TO EXPLOIT
IN DALLAS WITH THEFT SLAVERY FREE LABOR.
"Authority finally ruled the day. The desegregation of Dallas was ordered. It was to be instant. Total. Of course it would not entail real desegregation of the schools, the actual mixing of large numbers of children. That was never to occur. That still has not occurred. Nor would the neighborhoods integrate. The white neighborhoods, the better off ones anyway, could take care of themselves. As long as black people in Dallas stayed poor enough, there would be no great danger there..."

Jim Schutze, THE ACCOMMODATION

"The history of minority participation in the political process of Dallas is not one of choice; it is a record of what blacks and Hispanics have been permitted to do by the white majority..."

Judge Jerry Buchmeyer, United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas
WHY ECONOMY?

Dallas is a business model of a city, and was initially created for the economic benefit of White settlers. These self proclaimed ‘pioneers’ claimed stolen American Indian land after Native people were massacred and removed from North Texas, and some brought with them enslaved Africans, who were forced to work the settler’s newly acquired land for free. This history is the foundation for the racialized economic inequity that exists today in Dallas County that this supplement will interrogate. During Dallas TRHT’s 2019 Community Visioning sessions, participant responses centered on the issues of economy across questions about race and racism in the community, the look and feel of Dallas without racism, and what we need to end racism in Dallas. Below are questions to for our community to consider:

WHEN WILL THE CITY OF DALLAS AND DALLAS COUNTY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BOTH ARE ON STOLEN LAND AND APOLOGIZE TO THE DALLAS-AREA AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY? HOW CAN THIS BE REPAIRED/HEALED?

WHEN WILL THE CITY OF DALLAS AND DALLAS COUNTY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BOTH WERE INITIALLY BASED ON AN ECONOMY OF SLAVERY AND APOLOGIZE TO THE DALLAS-AREA BLACK/AFRICAN AMERICAN INDIAN COMMUNITY? HOW CAN THIS BE REPAIRED/HEALED?

WHEN WILL THE CITY OF DALLAS AND DALLAS COUNTY ACKNOWLEDGE THAT BOTH WERE BUILT AND CURRENTLY MAINTAINED BY EXPLOITATION OF MEXICAN AMERICAN LABOR AND APOLOGIZE TO THE DALLAS-AREA LATINO/HISPANIC COMMUNITY? HOW CAN THIS BE REPAIRED/HEALED?
DALLAS COUNTY: KING COTTON

"King Cotton's dependence on slavery made the American Civil War every bit as much an existential crisis for fledgling global capitalism as it was for a young nation... The defeated American South also had to quickly adapt to this new world. Sharecropping, which allowed freed slaves some degree of autonomy but ultimately chained them to their landlords and creditors, became the new cheap-labor solution. And the lot of freed blacks continued to worsen as ex-Confederate "redeemer" legislators passed laws that stripped African Americans of their newly won political franchise and legal rights, while separate, woefully inadequate public schools ensured that succeeding generations would remain bound to the land...

Onerous human costs notwithstanding, the sharecropped South produced cotton as never before, with Texas now leading the way. The federal government swept Native Americans from Texas' commodity frontier, and by the 1880's inland Dallas had become an important cotton-trading hub, staffed by representatives of the world's largest agribusinesses. By 1920 our raw cotton production had spread all the way to the irrigated plains of far West Texas and was ten times what it had been in 1860. Yet the technology of cotton farming remained essentially unchanged from the antebellum era, requiring the same dawn-to-dusk hoeing, weeding, and handpicking...

Despite 85 years of an increasingly diversified and powerful Texas economy, cotton is not likely to soon be bred out of our state’s cultural and political DNA. We still run things under Texas’ 1876 redeemer constitution, and our current leadership’s disregard for the working poor and their children’s educational opportunities is a page right out of cotton capitalism’s worker-as-disposable-commodity playbook.


According to historian Paula Bosse, in a 1912 Dallas Morning News article, Dallas “was described as “the greatest and largest interior cotton market in the world, handling cotton worth $100,000,000 per year” (about 2.7 billion dollars in today’s money).”

"The 5-million-acres-per-year contribution of the Lone Star State is about half of the cotton produced by the nation as a whole. Each year, cotton is the leading cash crop in the state, generating $2.2 billion in crop value in 2016 alone...Together, we’ll work to ensure that in Texas, cotton remains king."

John Cornyn & Jodey Arrington, Dallas Morning News, Apr 9, 2018

Texas is No. 1 in U.S. cotton production, and the farmers need your support

Texas leads the nation in cotton production. Despite the economic contributions that cotton brings, the industry has suffered from extreme weather and political whims.
DALLAS: A "SEGREGATION OF RACES"

From the very beginning to present day, Dallas has been intentionally segregated by race and racism. After White militia groups massacred and removed American Indian people from their sacred homelands in the mid-1800s, White settlers from Southern and Northern states moved to North Texas with enslaved Africans to claim free and/or cheap land. These and subsequent White leaders made a choice that Dallas will be a segregated city by race and racism, and that segregation will exclude Black people and other people of color from economic and political opportunity.

According to the City of Dallas' website, Black people "were restricted from serving on the Dallas City Council for Dallas' first hundred years. For most of the twentieth century, the City Charter contained a Segregation of Races section that authorized the Council to divide Dallas into specific areas for whites and the colored races. The following text shows the language of the 1931 City Charter; this section was not removed by City Council until the 1968 charter revision."

Sec. 321. SEGREGATION OF RACES.—The City of Dallas shall have the power by ordinance duly passed to provide for the use of separate blocks for residences, places of abode, places of public amusement, churches, schools and places of assembly by members of the white and colored races. The term "colored race", as used herein, shall include all persons of African descent, and the term "white race", as used herein, shall include all persons not of the colored race as colored race is defined herein.

The provisions of Chapter 103 of the General and Special Laws of the Fortieth Legislature of the State of Texas, relating to the segregation of races, is hereby adopted and made a part of this Charter.

All of the ordinances heretofore passed, providing for negroes and whites to enter into mutual covenants or agreements concerning their respective residences, and all ordinances where agreements have been made between whites, or agreements have been made between negroes, or agreements have been made between whites, and negroes, for the observance of their respective residences are hereby fully ratified and confirmed as though passed under the terms of this Charter amendment. In addition thereto, the power is expressly conferred upon the City of Dallas to pass all suitable ordinances governing the restriction of property by agreement between the races or by any of the said races, respecting the segregation of each of the said races, which agreement when ratified and confirmed by the Governing Body of the City, or when entered into and filed of record in the Deed Records of Dallas County, Texas, shall in either or both cases be binding, according to its terms, upon the parties affected, their heirs and assigns. All such agreements, whether concerning special portions of the City or made under any general ordinance concerning the same, shall be deemed to be legal and valid agreements affecting the use of the property of the respective owners or signers thereof.

The general ordinance enacted on the 10th day of August, 1927, and of record in Volume 26, pages 78-79, of the Ordinance Records of the City of Dallas, is hereby fully ratified and confirmed.

Such agreements under said ordinances, when confirmed, shall be deemed to be notice to all persons affected thereby, and shall be constructive notice of the restrictions so placed thereon by the said agreements.

The Governing Body of the City may pass suitable ordinances and provide for their enforcement by suitable penalties, to carry into effect any such agreements which may be entered into and approved by the Governing Body as provided by such ordinance, and all restrictions of property heretofore made with reference to the segregation of races shall be fully enforced and suitable ordinances may be passed and penalties attached thereto for violation of any of their terms.
According to The Library of Congress, "The Lonestar Restaurant Association based in Dallas distributed this sign to its members to hang in the windows of their restaurants, where American Indians, Mexicans, and African Americans were subjected to Jim Crow laws and racial discrimination."

(Black History Collection, Manuscript Division, Library of Congress)
In greater Dallas area, segregation by income and race

"There are 1,311 populated census tracts in the Dallas metropolitan area, and 19% of those are predominantly minority and majority low-income. Most of these are located in the southern part of the city of Dallas, separated from wealthier areas by Interstate 30, or in downtown Fort Worth. Of the 306 majority lower-income census tracts in the Dallas-Fort Worth area, 83% are predominantly non-white. Meanwhile, 95% of the 108 majority upper-income tracts are predominantly non-Hispanic white. Majority middle- and mixed-income tracts that are predominantly non-Hispanic white account for 52% of the Dallas metropolitan tracts, located mostly in suburban areas."

In Dallas-Fort Worth Metro, 95% of Mostly Upper-Income Areas Are Dominated by White Households

Share of census tracts in which majority of households are headed by ...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>WHITES</th>
<th>NON-WHITES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Majority upper-income</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majority middle- or mixed-income</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Majority lower-income</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>83</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: In Dallas, lower-income households are defined as those with annual incomes of less than $38,000 in 2010; upper-income households are those with annual incomes of at least $113,000. Whites include only non-Hispanics. Non-whites include Hispanics. Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year files.
In Dallas Metro Area, Households Tend to be Segregated by Race, Income

Census tracts where a majority of households are headed by non-Hispanic whites are more likely to be majority upper-income.

**UPPER INCOME**

- Majority of households headed by:
  - Whites (Non-Hispanic)
  - Non-Whites

**LOWER INCOME**

Note: In Dallas, lower-income households are defined as those with annual incomes of less than $36,000 in 2010; upper-income households are those with annual incomes of at least $113,000. Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington metro area is not shown in its entirety.

Source: Pew Research Center tabulations of 2006-2010 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year files.

PEW RESEARCH CENTER
According to *Governing*, who reported on an Urban Institute report that looked at how income inequality affects neighborhoods, "the analysis examined inequality within commuting zones, or large regions of several counties that resemble metropolitan areas. Of all commuting zones with at least 250,000 residents, those with the largest neighborhood disparities were Dallas, Philadelphia and Baltimore.

The Dallas commuting zone, home to about 3.7 million residents, had the highest degree of neighborhood inequality of any area reviewed. The Urban Institute's Rolf Pendall, who wrote the report, attributed this to the area’s extremely low average wages for poor communities, along with a regional education system that trails other parts of the country."
"About 38 percent of children in Dallas live in poverty — the highest rate among the 10 largest U.S. cities, according to a report presented to city council Wednesday. That percentage means a family of four is living off less than $24,000 a year, The Dallas Morning News reports. Also in the report: More than 27,300 of Dallasites with full-time jobs live in poverty."

According to Dallas Morning News reporting, Dallas no longer has the highest child poverty rate in the country. Dallas now has the third-highest child poverty rate among large U.S. cities.
"Dallas has the highest number of people living 185 percent below the poverty line of any American city.

Dallas has the second highest number of people living 100 percent below the poverty line of any American city.

Dallas' median income has declined since 1989.

Over half of Dallas households make less than $50,000 per year, and 28.6 percent make less than $25,000.

Less than 20 percent of jobs are accessible by transit in less than 90 minutes, and more than 70 percent of HUD assisted properties are unaffordable when housing and transportation costs are combined.

Over 27,300 residents live in poverty despite having full-time employment.

Compared with other Texas cities, Dallas has the highest percentage of individuals without a high school diploma and the lowest percentage of residents who hold college degree.

48 percent of single mothers in Dallas live in poverty.

38 percent of Dallas children live in poverty, 20 percent have no health insurance, 28 percent have inadequate food and nutrition, 160,000 children are obese, and 60,000 have asthma."
"...In Dallas, the dwindling land of opportunity is geographically limited to the predominantly white residents of the city's northern census tracts. For others, poverty is a trap sprung at birth, with little hope of escape."

"Segregation, reinforced by years of racist housing policies and other discriminatory actions, remains the biggest barrier to economic mobility...We're all products of our environments. Where we live dictates our opportunities for education and work, it shapes our quality of life, it determines our access to grocery stores and doctors and banks."

"Dallas is, on paper and from a distance, a diverse city. But at ground level, it's more segregated along racial and economic lines than Chicago and Los Angeles, according to the Pew Research Center."

"Programs to address poverty can only do so much unless the city grapples with structural segregation in schools and housing. “We cannot program our way out of this one...”"
A study from the Urban Institute ranked Dallas 274 out of 274, or last, in an index of overall economic and racial inclusion.

"The report, “Inclusive Recovery in U.S. Cities,” looks at how the 274 largest cities in the country recovered from economic downturns between 1980 and 2013. Researchers measured economic trends in each city, as well as data on income segregation, housing affordability, job availability, and racial disparities applying to all of the above. They found that while the ten cities doing best on their inclusion metrics also had a healthy economic outlook, “economic growth does not automatically lead to inclusion.”

"A city’s economic success does not necessarily affect all of its residents. That’s why Dallas, bristling with shiny new development in a metropolitan region overflowing with jobs, can fare well on so many economic measures while leaving so many people, most of them black or brown and living in the southern half of the city, behind. This is basically another example of how, in Dallas, opportunity is limited to people living in wealthier neighborhoods...Economic growth by itself is not enough, the report concludes. Targeted, deliberate policy is necessary to ensure that a rising tide actually does lift all boats."
“As North Texas and its affluent suburbs help fuel the state's continued population growth, Dallas County is seeing a growing divide in the economic opportunities available to its residents, and it's becoming more difficult for the poorest people — who are far more likely to be people of color — to pull themselves out of poverty.

Dallas County has high levels of geographic segregation by race-ethnicity, income, educational attainment and wealth,” the study says. “What this means for low-to-moderate income Dallas residents – and for people of color who are disproportionately represented in that category – is that where they live profoundly influences their access to opportunity.”

The report paints a stark picture of economic disparities in a county that now has 11 census tracts where most of the residents are living below the national poverty line — and minorities make up the majority of the population in all of them.

The report also found that black and Hispanic residents on average earn less than 60 cents for every dollar that white residents bring home. But even people of color who continue their education after high school see disparities in the amount of money they're paid compared to whites. Deviney said the average person of color must earn a degree above that held by an average white person to make the same amount of money.”
“The No. 1 source of wealth for most people is their homes and we see how much less value black and Latino homes [have] in Dallas,” said Dedrick Asante-Muhammad, co-author of the report. Racial disparity in Dallas isn’t limited to property value. The divide extends to income, home ownership and liquid asset poverty as well. And the key finding in the report: Dallas is made up mostly of people of color, which means this disparity is being felt by the majority of the people who live here.

“That is one of the greater challenges you see in Dallas,” Asante-Muhammad said. “There’s great economic inequality across the country in terms of income and wealth, but in Dallas, like in other cities, you find that oftentimes the white populations have much higher income than they do nationally. “So the disparity in Dallas is even worse than it is found across the country,”
"With almost every financial metric, Dallas households of color are lagging behind white households and faring worse than those in other parts of Texas and the U.S. On the other hand, white Dallas residents are wealthier and have lower unemployment than their counterparts across the state and country. Latinos have lower unemployment in Dallas than elsewhere — but they're still making lower wages and struggling to pay the rent or buy a house. Black households in Dallas are making less than they were decades ago. The median income for black residents in Dallas fell almost $10,000 between 1980 and 2016."

Michael Hogue & Melissa Repko, DALLAS MORNING NEWS
November 26, 2018
Imagine the homeless man on the corner every morning with all of his belongings strapped to his back. Think of the homeless woman...What do they look like? Are they white? Hispanic? Black? In Dallas, that answer is overwhelmingly black. And advocates say that's the result of decades and decades of racist policies.

"You can't have a conversation about ending homelessness and be colorblind," said Jeff Olivet, chief executive officer of the Center for Social Innovation...it's important to take into account how U.S. history still affects communities...even though laws changed to desegregate the country during the civil rights movement, the effects of slavery and segregation still impact modern housing policies.

Federal housing policies once prevented black people from moving into certain neighborhoods and made it difficult for them to become homeowners. Studies show it's still difficult for minorities to get low interest rates on mortgages regardless of their income or credit rating. Across the country, about 28 percent of unsheltered homeless people are black, and in Dallas, about 70 percent of the unsheltered homeless are black."
"Residential maps of Dallas in the 1930s show that swaths of nonwhite, poor neighborhoods were redlined, which led to disinvestment and decline in those communities. Over several decades, many black families were forced into substandard living conditions. Those who moved into South Dallas, which at the time was predominantly white, had their homes firebombed, burned, and vandalized. Decades of employment discrimination and segregation exacerbated the problem, Dones added – the effects of which are still felt today.

“We did no work to systematically audit and change our systems away from being racist. You still have systems that continue to produce racist results,” Dones said. “We had 250 years of institutionalized slavery in this country, 89 years of institutionalized apartheid. So when we talk about how long black folks and folks of color have had even nominal access to these systems, we're talking about well within a single human lifespan so the idea that any large changes would've happened, it just doesn't make sense.”

“You can't talk about homelessness without talking about race. You have to look at those numbers because they don't add up.”
COMMUNITY VISIONING: ECONOMY

Dallas TRHT hosted a total of 11 Community Visioning sessions, the first of which was held during the National Day of Racial Healing 2019. In addition, Dallas TRHT, in partnership with the Dallas Public Library, held 10 open-to-the-public community visioning sessions throughout the city of Dallas. Our goals were to begin to learn about the racial history of Dallas and the shared history of Dallas-area residents, envision what would Dallas look and feel without racism and to explore ways to end racism in Dallas.

Economy was one of the broad themes that emerged during Dallas Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation’s 2019 Community Visioning sessions. Below are some the community responses related to the economy:

“Oh so well we've been kind of all over the place, we've struggled with like secure housing and the last few years we've been in Pleasant Grove that's where my parents were able to get a house. And, but yeah, I think, as a new immigrant, I think I didn't grow up not being aware of my immigrant status. I don't remember not knowing about being undocumented.”
– Bachman Lake Branch resident

“If you're making ten dollars an hour how in the heck are going to live in a five hundred, six hundred, four fifty, or three hundred thousand dollar house, so don't tell me everybody, anybody can live here, no you cannot, and so, that to me is very distressing.”
– Timberglen Branch resident

“Having communities marred by inter community racial tensions, because of this scarcity of resources that's around the city, and having survival based living as a result, where people can't afford to kind of look inward and address any internalized racism because it's a constant battle to survive.”
– Prairie Creek Branch resident

“I personally put free public transportation. I feel that public transportation is something that's huge, especially because infrastructure is so messed up and there are people who can't afford DART and are getting kicked off of DART, and you getting displaced, I feel like DART should be free.”
– MLK Branch resident

“More opportunities for more people, policies that promote equity, and for me equity is the idea that those who are historically marginalized receive more resources then those who have traditionally received most of the resources, so equity for education, work, art, and even wealth; recognition of racist systems and dynamics because I think often when we face racism it's often denial; recognition of value of each different culture and race and the people and the beautifulness that each one of us brings to this.”
– Forest Green Branch resident

“Oh so well we've been kind of all over the place, we've struggled with like secure housing and the last few years we've been in Pleasant Grove that's where my parents were able to get a house. And, but yeah, I think, as a new immigrant, I think I didn't grow up not being aware of my immigrant status. I don't remember not knowing about being undocumented.”
– Bachman Lake Branch resident
"Dallas business and civic leaders, at a City Club luncheon Thursday, September 10... Mayor R. L. Thornton Sr. and seven former mayors of Dallas - W. M. Holland, George Sergeant, George A. Sprague, Woodall Rodgers, James R. Temple, Wallace H. Savage and L. B. Adoue Jr." (The Dallas Morning News, September 11, 1953)
Although Dallas is one of the ten largest metropolitan areas in the United States, it is severely lacking in research centering the racial history of its past and present residents. Below are a few economy resources we used that every Dallas-area resident should read, discuss and reference:

Robert B. Fairbanks’ *FOR THE CITY AS A WHOLE: Planning, Politics, and the Public Interest in Dallas, Texas, 1900-1965* argues that for much of the first half of the century, civic leaders and government officials thought of Dallas as a unit, something greater than the sum of its parts, according to the book description & the “fact that city leaders in Dallas were part of a white elite, and that the poor of the city (black, white, and Hispanic) did not benefit from city government.”

Robert B. Fairbanks' *FOR THE CITY AS A WHOLE: Planning, Politics, and the Public Interest in Dallas, Texas, 1900-1965* argues that for much of the first half of the century, civic leaders and government officials thought of Dallas as a unit, something greater than the sum of its parts, according to the book description & the "fact that city leaders in Dallas were part of a white elite, and that the poor of the city (black, white, and Hispanic) did not benefit from city government."
SE LE C TE D

B IB L IO G R A P H Y /
R E S O U R C E S

Below are a few national resources about race, racism, the racial wealth gap and the economy that every Dallas-area resident should read, discuss and reference:

Mehrsa Baradaran’s THE COLOR OF MONEY: Black Banks and the Racial Wealth Gap "challenges the myth that Black communities could ever accumulate wealth in a segregated economy. Instead, housing segregation, racism, and Jim Crow credit policies created an inescapable, but hard to detect, economic trap for black communities and their banks" according to the book description.

THE COLOR OF MONEY
BLACK BANKS AND THE RACIAL WEALTH GAP
Mehrsa Baradaran

THE HALF HAS NEVER BEEN TOLD
SLAVERY AND THE MAKING OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM
Edward E. Baptist

THE EVER-GROWING GAP
WITHOUT HARM, AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO FAMILIES WORK HARD TO GROW WEALTH FOR CENTURIES
Institute for Policy Studies

THE DEVALUATION OF ASSETS IN BLACK NEIGHBORHOODS
The case of residential property
Anke Perry, Jonathan Rothwell, David Wadhwa
Metropolitan Policy Program 2019

THE COLOR OF LAW
RICHARD ROTHEIST

What We Got Wrong About Closing the Racial Wealth Gap

By William Darity Jr., Darrick Hamel, Aki-Paul, Arti Agarwal, Jihan Price, and Carolina Dawkins

Demos/Racial Equity Project

24
Post Card

Miss Edna Collins
Kansas City

T. Broadview, 711 N.

A Lot of Gay Cotton Pickers, Dallas, Texas.