

# The **INTERNAL** problem: a “Balkanized” society in the U.S.?

*“There is no greater challenge facing our nation than race... If we continue to ignore growing inequalities and divisions, **we will become a thoroughly balkanized society** dominated by a declining white minority. History and headlines worldwide provide ample evidence of the grievous consequences along that path.”*

-- Harvard Civil Rights Project

# Only one generation left to fix this

*United States is in the throes of the largest migration in American history while we are simultaneously witnessing increasing segregation at an alarming rate. "And while only a half century ago the country was nearly 90% white, within the **next fifty years** there will be no racial majority, and non-Europeans will actually outnumber whites in the general population -- a **demographic shift already appearing in an accelerating number of institutions and communities."***

-- Harvard Civil Rights Project

# Crisis of Ethnic Segregation in U.S. America at the Crossroads

As the most highly diverse nation in the world, is faced with two paths over the next 40 years

If we break the illusion of "misperception"

If inequities don't change

( Harvard Civil Rights Project 2003 report )

Society could become thoroughly "Balkanized" or ghettoized (segregated)

Society could demonstrate that "unity in diversity" is truly possible.

More possibilities of conflict and violence, or helping lead the world to Peace.

# Our choice: Segregation or Unity

Many fear that increasing diversity in the U.S. will lead inevitably to ethnic segregation and a ***“thoroughly balkanized society”*** (Harvard Civil Rights Project)

— with disparate groups violently oriented towards one another.

If **justice and unity *within this diversity*** can be achieved, America — as the most culturally diverse country in the world — could **lead the world towards UNITY**, harmony and purposeful co-existence.

# Our choice: Segregation or Unity

In one sense it could be said of America that its dream of equality, union and democracy is about to be truly tested – whether it is merely a mythological ideology or whether it can become real. At the same time this quickly developing shift towards a more equal diversity represents a microcosm of the world.

# Our choice: Segregation or Unity

The irony, perhaps, is that the United States is being forced to implement its espoused theoretical ideal or perish.

At the same time, **the world must awaken** to the realization that what is happening with diversity in America – if it truly is the microcosm – is **everyone's challenge ultimately.**

# Race Riots show US afflicted—

1829 Cincinnati, Ohio 1863 New York: Draft Riots 1866 Memphis, Tennessee 1868 New Orleans 9 Dec 1873 Clunes, Australia 14 Sep 1874 New Orleans: The Battle of Liberty Place (38 killed, 79 wounded). 1878 Grant Parish, Louisiana: Colfax Massacre (600+ dead) 10 Nov 1898 Wilmington, North Carolina: (8 killed, 30 wounded) 1900 New Orleans 1904 Springfield, Ohio 1906 Springfield, Ohio 13 Aug 1906 Brownsville, Texas 22 Sep 1906 Atlanta 14 Aug 1908 Springfield, Illinois 2 Jul 1917 East St. Louis, Illinois: (40-200 killed) 23 Aug 1917 Houston, Texas: 19 dead. Later, 13 members of the 24th Infantry Regiment are hanged. 25 Jul 1918 Chester, Pennsylvania: (5 killed) 26 Jul 1918 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania: (4 killed, 60 wounded) 5 Jun 1919 Liverpool .6 Jun 1919 Newport, England. 11 Jun 1919 Cardiff, Wales. 11 Jun 1919 Barry, England. 11 Jun 1919 Chicago: A riot erupts at the white-only 29th Street Beach. 14 Jun 1919 London. Jul 1919 Gregg County, Texas 19 Jul 1919 Washington, DC: (40 killed, 150 wounded) 27 Jul 1919 Chicago: At the whites-only 29th Street bridge, a white man tosses rocks at a group of black boys floating in a raft. He manages to bean Eugene Williams in the forehead, who panics and drowns. Five days of rioting ensue. (38 killed, 291 wounded) 27 Jul 1919 Cardiff, Wales Aug 1919 Knoxville, Tennessee: (7 killed) 31 May 1921 Tulsa, Oklahoma: After a white woman claims that a black man had grabbed her arm in an elevator, the largest race riot in U.S. history breaks out. Marauding whites set fire to the exclusively-negro Greenwood district, leveling its 35 city blocks of black-owned businesses. Explosives dropped onto the buildings from an airplane. The estimated death toll was 300. 1923 Rosewood, Florida: (8 killed, dozens wounded) Feb 1942 Detroit, Michigan 1943 Beaumont, Texas 1943 Harlem, New York 1 Jun 1943 Los Angeles: Zootsuit riots, between zoot suiters and sailors. Time Magazine called it "the ugliest brand of mob action since the coolie race riot of the 1870's." 20 Jun 1943 Detroit, Michigan: (34 killed, 700 wounded) 1946 Columbia, Tennessee: (2 killed, 10 wounded) 1946 Athens, Alabama: (100 wounded) 1946 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1960 Chattanooga, Tennessee 1960 Biloxi, Mississippi 1960 Jacksonville, Florida 1 Oct 1962 Mississippi 1964 Harlem, New York: (1 killed, 100+ wounded) 1964 Rochester, New York: (4 killed, 350 wounded) 1964 Paterson, New Jersey: (100+ wounded) 1964 Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 1964 St. Augustine, Florida 11 Aug 1965 Los Angeles: Watts Riots. (35 killed, 1000 wounded) 1966 Los Angeles: Watts again Jul 1967 Newark, New Jersey: (23 killed) 23 Jul 1967 Detroit, Michigan: (43 killed) Jul 1969 York, Pennsylvania: (2 deaths) 4 Jul 1970 Asbury Park, New Jersey: (100 wounded) 17 May 1980 A three-day race riot breaks out after an all-white jury acquits four white Miami police officers of killing Arthur McDuffie, a black insurance salesman. 18 fatalities and more than \$100 million in property damage are the final result. 16 Jan 1989 Three days of race riots begin in Overtown, Miami when a black man fleeing on motorcycle is killed by a hispanic police officer. 125 blocks are sealed off during the riots. 29 Apr 1992 Los Angeles: Rodney King Riot: (52 killed, 3000 wounded) 1995 Bradford, England 9 Apr 2001 Cincinnati, Ohio 26 May 2001 Three days of rioting begin in Oldham, England. Jun 2001 London 7 Jul 2001 Bradford, England. 6 Nov 2002 Antwerp, Belgium 16 Feb 2004 Redfern, Australia (suburb of Sydney)

**Let no one doubt that racial hatred  
still exists in the United States**

**Thousands of Americans have been  
killed in race riots since 1829 – not  
counting the 629,000 killed in the  
American Civil War. (There were 26  
race riots in the U.S. in 1919 alone!)**

**More recently the violence has  
broken out with hatred towards the  
immigrant Hispanic population.**

# **Current example: Farmingville, NY, U.S.A.** **struggles daily to accept immigrants**

- **Late 1990s**: A sudden influx of 1500 Mexican workers in a 15,000 predominantly white town results in **racial tensions, hate crimes & total polarization / segregation.**
- A **22 year old Mexican migrant worker** was **lured** and **murdered** by two whites, out the racial tensions.
- **July 5, 2004**: **a flammable device was thrown into a small two-story house** in this semi-suburban Long Island town. The house, with a Mexican family sleeping inside, was quickly enveloped in flames. Family escapes
- **July 26, 2004**: A white man **robbed Mexican day laborers** at gunpoint, posing as a contractor.