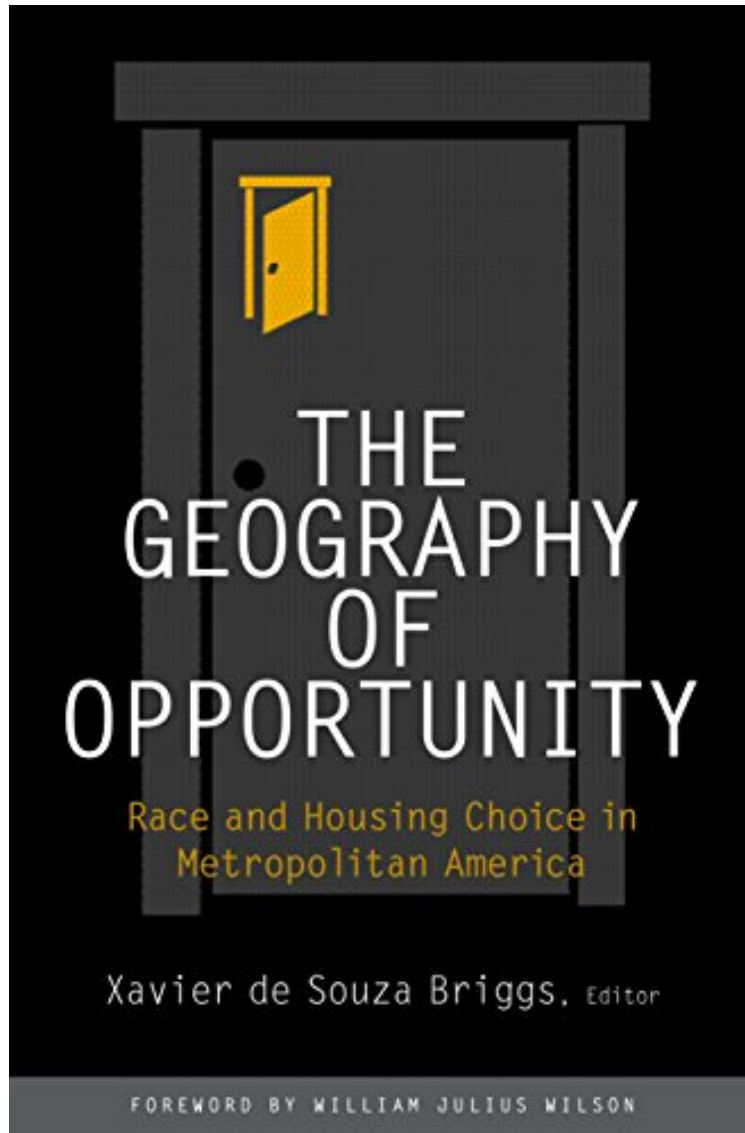


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The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America (James A. Johnson Metro Series)

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From Brookings Institution Press : The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America (James A. Johnson Metro Series) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Geography of Opportunity: Race and Housing Choice in Metropolitan America (James A. Johnson Metro Series):

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people found the following review helpful. Four StarsBy HAMMERS LISTok1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. GreatBy AlexExcellent look at a critical issue from a variety of angles. Well researched, well written, and well curated. Solid stuff.

A popular version of history trumpets the United States as a diverse "nation of immigrants," welcome to all. The truth, however, is that local communities have a long history of ambivalence toward new arrivals and minorities. Persistent patterns of segregation by race and income still exist in housing and schools, along with a growing emphasis on rapid metropolitan development (sprawl) that encourages upwardly mobile families to abandon older communities and their problems. This dual pattern is becoming increasingly important as America grows more diverse than ever and economic inequality increases. Two recent trends compel new attention to these issues. First, the geography of race and class represents a crucial litmus test for the new "regionalism"—the political movement to address the linked fortunes of cities and suburbs. Second, housing has all but disappeared as a major social policy issue over the past two decades. This timely book shows how unequal housing choices and sprawling development create an unequal geography of opportunity. It emerges from a project sponsored by the Civil Rights Project at Harvard University in collaboration with the Joint Center for Housing Studies and the Brookings Institution. The contributors—policy analysts, political observers, social scientists, and urban planners—document key patterns, their consequences, and how we can respond, taking a hard look at both successes and failures of the past. Place still matters, perhaps more than ever. High levels of segregation shape education and job opportunity, crime and insecurity, and long-term economic prospects. These problems cannot be addressed effectively if society assumes that segregation will take care of itself. Contributors include William Apgar (Harvard University), Judith Bell (PolicyLink), Angela Glover Blackwell (PolicyLink), Allegra Calder (Harvard), Karen Chapple (Cal-Berkeley), Camille Charles (Penn), Mary Cunningham (Urban Institute), Casey Dawkins (Virginia Tech), Stephanie DeLuca (Johns Hopkins), John Goering (CUNY), Edward Goetz (U. of Minnesota), Bruce Katz (Brookings), Barbara Lukermann (U. of Minnesota), Gerrit Knaap (U. of Maryland), Arthur Nelson (Virginia Tech), Rolf Pendall (Cornell), Susan J. Popkin (Urban Institute), James Rosenbaum (Northwestern), Stephen L. Ross (U. of Connecticut), Mara Sidney (Rutgers), Phillip Tegeler (Poverty and Race Research Action Council), Tammy Tuck (Northwestern), Margery Austin Turner (Urban Institute), William Julius Wilson (Harvard).

" The Geography of Opportunity makes a strong case for the importance of housing segregation as a civil rights and social justice concern. Particularly notable are discussions of metropolitan-level politics rarely seen in such volumes." —Shayna Strom, *Suburbs*, 6/1/2006 "a much needed and long-awaited voice on race and space." —Journal of Regional Science "provide[s] much-needed resources for thinking about how public policies should change to address the latest developments associated with the enduring problem of unequal access to basic resources in U.S. society, including housing and health care...." "The Geography of Opportunity" brings together a set of richly detailed essays that look at the housing disparity problem from the increasingly popular perspective of regionalism." —Sanford F. Schram, *Bryn Mawr College, Perspectives on Politics*, 6/1/2006 "In this important and timely volume, leading experts remind us that in an era of increasing ethnic diversity and widening class gap, segregation is more central to the well-being of the nation than ever." —Douglas S. Massey, author of *AMERICAN APARTHEID* "This important new book will be an invaluable resource for progressive advocates for years to come. It puts the policy emphasis regarding the causes of inequality of opportunity in America where it belongs: housing." —Sheryll Cashin, author of *THE FAILURES OF INTEGRATION* "An indispensable, comprehensive guide for changing 'the rules of the game' in America's housing markets to create an opportunity society for all. Briggs shows how and why our current strategy for handling race and class differences is 'containment plus sprawl,' making America officially welcoming but 'socially gated.'" —David Rusk, author of *CITIES WITHOUT SUBURBS* "An indispensable, comprehensive guide for changing 'the rules of the game' in America's housing markets to create an opportunity society for all. Briggs shows how and why our current strategy for handling race and class differences is 'containment plus sprawl,' making America officially welcoming but 'socially gated.'" —David Rusk, author of *CITIES WITHOUT SUBURBS* "This important new book will be an invaluable resource for progressive advocates for years to come. It puts the policy emphasis regarding the causes of inequality of opportunity in America where it belongs: housing." —Sheryll Cashin, author of *THE FAILURES OF INTEGRATION* About the Author Xavier de Souza Briggs is associate professor of sociology and urban planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a former faculty member at Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government and a former senior policy official at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. William Julius Wilson is the Lewis F. and Linda L. Geyser University Professor at Harvard University.