



Inequality Between School Districts

By Ashley Chez, Lindsay Trannguyen, Liam Setzer, Leylah Nur

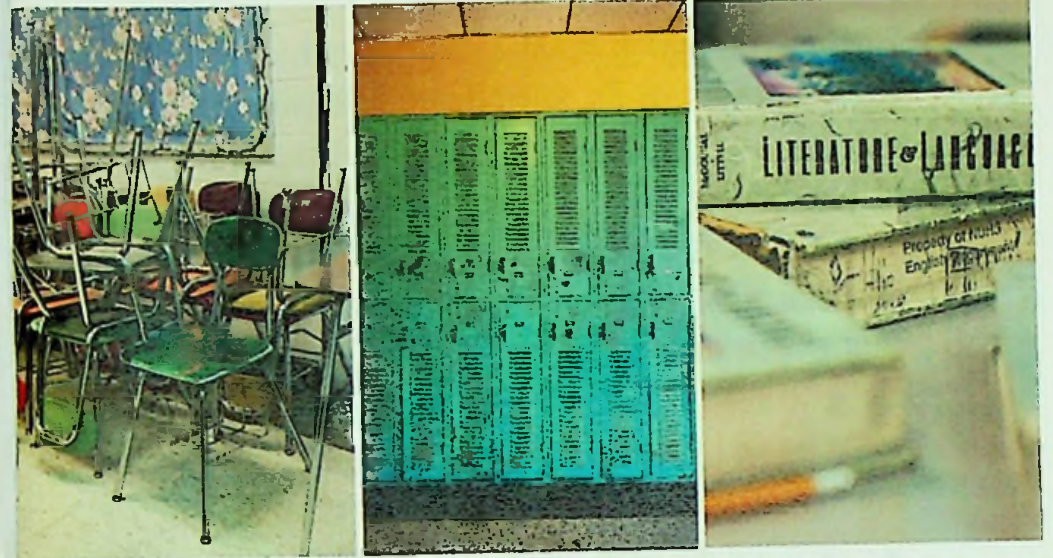


1. Introduction

Our Zine projects focus on the comparison of wealthy and poor school districts and how they relate to racial inequalities. The two schools that we talk about are Lynn Public School (poor) and Marblehead Public Schools (wealthy). Although both are public schools, Lynn Public has more minorities, less funding, and the graduation rate is a little over half. We discovered that different factors such as the government, redlining and so much more all have something to do with racial inequalities in these schools.



2. Financial Biases Between Different Districts

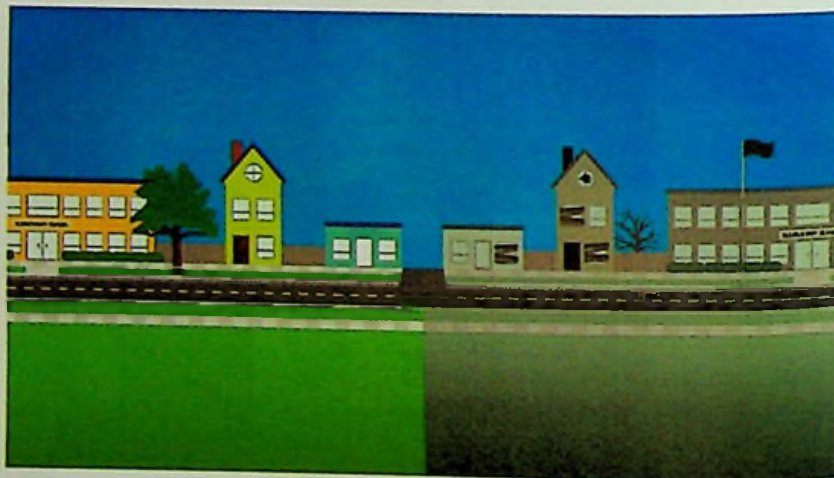


- Property taxes send more funds towards school districts in wealthier communities because the property values are higher and vice versa
- Average property value in Lynn: \$279,400
- Average property value in Marblehead: \$611,100



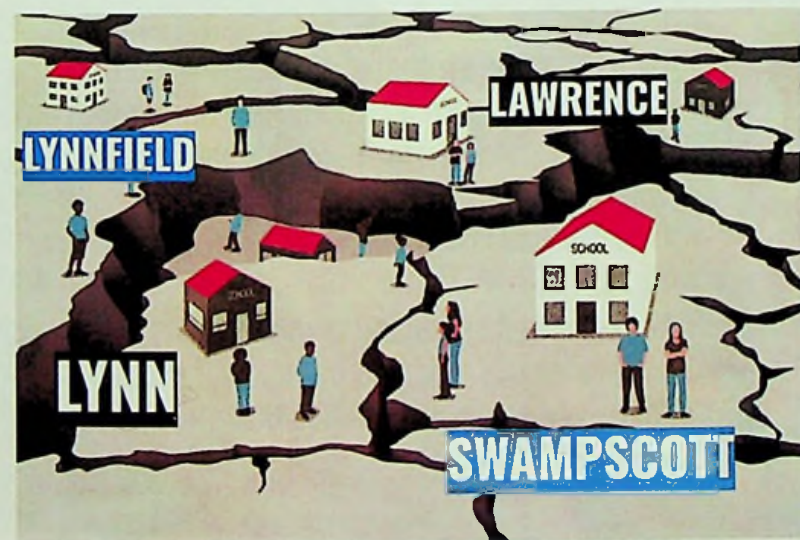
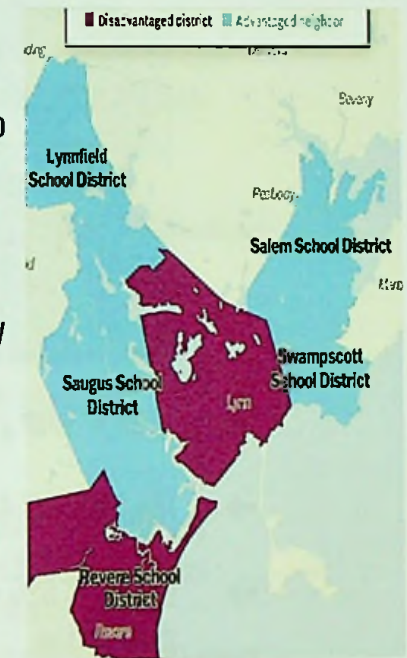
3. Course Concepts

White Privilege is highly evident in our education system. As cities that are heavily populated with Caucasian individuals receive higher funding, other cities that have a majority of minorities are struggling in trying to gain financial stability. Students that are attending in poor environments that could play as a major factor to their performance in educational facilities. In Brownstein and Boschma's article; *The Concentration of Poverty in American Schools*, studies have found that "concentrated poverty is tightly correlated with gaps in educational achievement." In other words, because white individuals are given more opportunities and are typically at a greater advantage than minorities, cities that receive improper funding are usually cities that are associated with non-white communities.



4. IT'S RIGHT IN OUR BACKYARD!

- As of 2018, Lynn Public Schools budget had enough money in their budget to spend \$14,245 per student, while Marblehead Public Schools spend approximately \$16,070. This means Marblehead was able to spend nearly \$2,000 more on resources for their students as compared to Lynn
- Demographics: Lynn Public Schools have a total student body comprising approximately 14.1% white students while Marblehead is about 86.1% white
- In Lynn, the average average family income is \$53,513, while the average family income in Marblehead is \$110,025
- How can these two groups of students possibly compete when one is disadvantaged from the starting line?



5. Compare & Contrast: Statistics



- Lynn 4-year graduation rate: 74.8%
- Marblehead 4-year graduation rate: 95.5%
- Lynn: 54.6% of students attend college after graduation
- Marblehead: 84.8% of students attend college after graduation
- Overall, it is clear that students from wealthier communities, such as Marblehead, have much higher success rates in terms of high school graduation and college attendance as compared to their counterparts in lower income communities, such as Lynn.
- Historically discriminatory government policy, such as redlining, is to blame for much of these deeply rooted, systemic inequalities that still exist today.

6. Our Generation NEEDS to be the SOLUTION!

- Young people need to lobby the federal government to do MORE to fill this property tax gap in funding between different communities
- Push the government to make up for the systemic racist actions (i.e. redlining) that created these problems in the first place
- Knowledge is power! Our generation needs to be the one to inform others about these inequalities
- Implementing a system to measure and track inequalities in funding and their relationship to graduation rates and college attendance is crucial to efficiently help policy makers install and track changes over time





Citations

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