

Fulfill The Promise

A REPORT CARD ON SOCIAL JUSTICE IN MILWAUKEE AND WISCONSIN



A progress report on the 60th anniversary of *Brown v. Board of Education.*

Sixty years ago, the United States Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision stripped away constitutional sanctions for segregation by race, made equal opportunity in education the law of the land and legally challenged segregation in all aspects of life – from the workplace to city buses to public drinking fountains. The fearless efforts of lawyers, community activists, parents, and students redefined the nation's ideals.

Sixty years later, however, we are witnessing a tragic return to the circumstances that inspired those great efforts of our forefathers. Nowhere, perhaps, is it more pronounced than in metropolitan Milwaukee, where our neighborhoods remain some of the most segregated and impoverished in America.

Economic and racial inequalities are on the rise, while public schools suffer under the weight of voucher encroachment and funding neglect. Segregated schools and housing are the norm. And black/white disparities in infant mortality are among the country's highest.

No less than the future of our city – and Wisconsin as a whole – hinges on our ability to find a solution.

This brochure is a report card of sorts. On each page, you'll find a fact regarding Milwaukee and Wisconsin's progress in the struggle for equal justice and equal opportunity.

Brown v. Board of Education recognized the importance of public schools in the quest for equality and opportunity. It's time we fulfill the promise of Brown.



SHARE YOUR PASSION.

Visit GreaterTogether.me for sources, lesson plans, information and shareable graphics.



Imagine no possessions
I wonder if you can
No need for greed or hunger
A brotherhood of man
Imagine all the people
Sharing all the world

JOHN LENNON



MILWAUKEE

#1

BLACK / WHITE
RESIDENTIAL
SEGREGATION



Worst in the nation of 102 largest metro areas.



Hold fast to dreams,
for if dreams die,
life is a broken-winged
bird that cannot fly.

LANGSTON HUGHES



MILWAUKEE

#1

RESIDENTIAL
SEGREGATION BASED
ON POVERTY



Worst in the nation among major metro
areas, #2 in all metro areas.



There is a place in America to take a stand: it is public education. It is the underpinning of our cultural and political system. It is the great common ground... It is in public education that the American dream begins to take shape.

TOM BROKAW



WISCONSIN

#1

WIDEST GAP IN
TEST SCORES
[BLACK / WHITE]



Wisconsin has the widest gap in the nation
in every test category.



Just as the commandment ‘Thou shalt not kill’ sets a clear limit in order to safeguard the value of human life, today we also have to say ‘thou shalt not’ to an economy of exclusion and inequality.

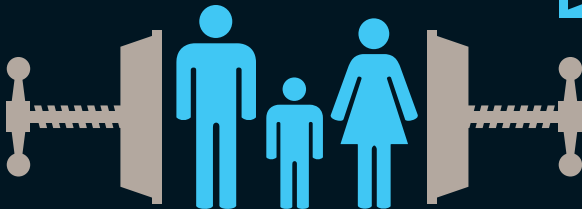
POPE FRANCIS
IN HIS APOSTOLIC
EXHORTATION EVANGELII GAUDIUM
NOV. 24, 2013.



MILWAUKEE

#1

BLACK / WHITE EMPLOYMENT GAP



Men 32.4 percentage points Women 20.6
percentage points—widest racial gap in
the country.



I have cherished the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities.

NELSON MANDELA



MILWAUKEE

#1

LOWEST PERCENTAGE
OF HISPANIC-OWNED
BUSINESSES



Worst in nation among 36 benchmark large
metropolitan areas.



Like Jim Crow (and slavery), mass incarceration operates as a tightly networked system of laws, policies, customs, and institutions that operate collectively to ensure the subordinate status of a group defined largely by race.

MICHELLE ALEXANDER,
THE NEW JIM CROW:
MASS INCARCERATION IN THE
AGE OF COLORBLINDNESS



WISCONSIN

#1

WORST
INCARCERATION
RATE FOR BLACK MEN



12.8% of the state's African American men are behind bars—twice the national average and well ahead of 2nd place Oklahoma where 10% of black men are incarcerated.



I believe that, as long as there
is plenty, poverty is evil.

ROBERT F. KENNEDY



MILWAUKEE

#2

BLACK
POVERTY



Black poverty rate 39.2%, 4.9x greater than white—2nd highest among 40 large benchmark metropolitan areas 2012.



We conclude that, in the field of public education, the doctrine of ‘separate but equal’ has no place. Separate educational facilities are inherently unequal.


U.S SUPREME COURT
BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION



MILWAUKEE

#1

LARGEST
VOUCHER PROGRAM



PUBLIC EDUCATION

Largest voucher program of any U.S. city, over one billion public tax dollars spent on schools that are not obligated to serve all children.



If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich.

JOHN F. KENNEDY



MILWAUKEE

#1

FAILING TO PROTECT
AFRICAN AMERICAN
CHILDREN



Wisconsin is the worst state in the country
in protecting the well-being of African American
children, based on 12 key indicators.

Greater together.

This brochure marks the launch of Greater Together (#GreaterTogether), a summer-long social blitz targeted for fall 2014 that focuses on inspiring a more unified and just future for Milwaukee. Created by AIGA Wisconsin in collaboration with the NAACP, ACLU, Schools and Communities United, and Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association, Greater Together brings together hundreds of designers, writers, and journalists who will create graphics that leverage traditional, digital, and social media.

It all culminates with a Designful Ideas Event where community members (of any age or stature) can submit ideas about how to promote social justice in the Milwaukee region. Submissions will be judged and "Winning Ideas" selected. Winners will be given a platform to address the public, as well as the city's most influential members and policy makers.

Visit GreaterTogether.me for lesson plans, shareable graphics and further information. AIGA Wisconsin is actively seeking sponsors.





Created by AIGA Wisconsin:
Celebrating 100 years of design impact with Greater Together.

Created for: NAACP, ACLU,
Milwaukee Teachers' Education Association
and Schools and Communities United.

On the cover: Milwaukee's Father James Groppi
leading a fair housing march on August 29, 1966.

Visit: SchoolsAndCommunitiesUnited.org