

2026 FAIR HOUSING READING LIST

FOR ADULT READERS

LOCAL READS

1. *Derelict Paradise: Homelessness and Urban Development in Cleveland, OH*, Daniel R. Kerr
2. *A Ghetto Takes Shape: Black Cleveland, 1870-1930*, Kenneth Kusmer
3. *Surrogate Suburbs*, Todd Michney
4. *Democratizing Cleveland*, Randy Cunningham
5. *Resisting Segregation*, Susie Kaiser

STAFF PICKS

6. *The Danger Zone is Everywhere: How Housing Discrimination Harms Health and Steals Wealth*, George Lipsitz
7. *Don't Go: Stories of Segregation and How to Disrupt It*, Tonika Lewis Johnson
8. *Lead Babies and Poisoned Housing: Environmental Justice, Systemic Racism, and Governmental Failure*, Carolyn Boiarsky
9. *There is No Place for Us: Working and Homeless in America*, Brian Goldstone
10. *Patchwork Apartheid: Private Restriction, Racial Segregation, and Urban Inequality*, Colin Gordon
11. *Indefensible Spaces: Policing and the Struggle for Housing*, Rahim Kurwa (FREE EBOOK AVAILABLE)
12. *We Keep Us Safe: Building Secure, Just, and Inclusive Communities*, Zach Norris

IN NARRATIVE FORM

13. *The Lines Between Us: Two Cities Families and a Quest to Cross the Racial Divide*, Lawrence Lanahan
14. *Show Me A Hero: A Tale of Murder, Suicide, Race, and Redemption*, Lisa Belkin
15. *Stealing Buddha's Dinner*, Bich Minh Nguyen
16. *Disillusioned, Five Families and the Unraveling of America's Suburbs*, Benjamin Herold
17. *Them: A Novel*, Nathan McCall
18. *A Man Called Ove: A Novel*, Fredrik Backman
19. *All the Way Home*, Ann Tatlock

ON RACIAL CAPITALISM

20. *How to Be an Antiracist*, Ibram X. Kendi
**Parallel read with How to Be a (Young) Antiracist, Ibram X. Kendi, Nic Stone*
21. *White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism*, Robin DiAngelo
22. *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration*, Isabel Wilkerson
23. *The Sum of Us: What Racism Costs Everyone and How We Can Prosper Together*, Heather McGhee
**Parallel read with The Sum of Us: How Racism Hurts Everyone (Adapted for Young Readers), Heather McGhee*
24. *White Space, Black Hood: Opportunity Hoarding and Segregation in the Age of Inequality*, Sheryll Cashin
25. *Some of My Best Friends Are Black: The Strange Story of Integration in America*, Tanner Colby

FAIR HOUSING POLICY + HISTORY

26. *Segregation by Design*, Jessica Trownstein
27. *Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America*, Ibram X. Kendi
28. *Sundown Towns*, James Loewen
29. *A Stronger Kinship: One Town's Extraordinary Story Of Hope And Faith*, Anna-Lisa Cox
30. *The Fight for Fair Housing*, Gregory Squires
31. *The Voucher Promise: "Section 8" and the Fate of an American Neighborhood*, Eva Rosen
32. *The Color of Law*, Richard Rothstein

Get in on the action: www.thehousingcenter.org/action



Fair Housing Center
for Rights & Research

2026 FAIR HOUSING READING LIST

FOR YOUNG READERS

EARLY READERS (3+)

33. *Maybe I Can Love My Neighbor Too*, Jennifer Grant
34. *The Other Side*, Jacqueline Woodson
35. *The Berenstain Bears' New Neighbors*, Stan Berenstain, Jan Berenstain
36. *What If the Zebras Lost Their Stripes*, John Reitano
37. *All are Welcome*, Alexandra Penfold

ELEMENTARY

38. *Finding Home: A Story of Fair Housing*, Brittany Hart, Fair Housing Council of Metropolitan Memphis
39. *The Fair Housing Five & the Haunted House*, Louisiana Fair Housing Action Center
40. *Child of the Civil Rights Movement*, Paula Young Shelton
41. *Last Stop on Market Street*, Matt de la Peña
42. *Separate is Never Equal: Sylvia Mendez and Her Family's Fight for Desegregation*, Duncan Tonatiuh
43. *Something Happened in Our Town*, Marianne Celano

MIDDLE SCHOOL

44. *The House on Mango Street*, Sandra Cisneros
45. *Youth to Power*, Jamie Margolin
46. *One Crazy Summer*, Rita Williams-Garcia
47. *The Sum of Us: How Racism Hurts Everyone (Adapted for Young Readers)*, Heather McGhee
48. *How to Be a (Young) Antiracist*, Ibram X. Kendi, Nic Stone

ABOUT FAIR HOUSING MONTH

Each April, National Fair Housing Month is celebrated to reaffirm our commitment to ending housing discrimination and commemorate the passage of the federal Fair Housing Act in 1968, which prohibits discrimination in the sale or rental of housing on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, sex, familial status or disability.

At the Fair Housing Center for Rights & Research, we've put together a list of our favorite reads that tackle important topics relating to fair housing, inequality, and discrimination. From children's books celebrating diversity to more advanced reading detailing the history of racist ideas in America, there's something on the list for everyone in the family.

Join us in celebrating Fair Housing Month by learning more about fair housing and social justice.

ABOUT THE FAIR HOUSING CENTER

The Fair Housing Center for Rights & Research (The Fair Housing Center) is a nonprofit fair housing organization based in Cleveland, Ohio, whose mission is to protect and expand fair housing rights, eliminate housing discrimination, and promote integrated communities. The Fair Housing Center has been in existence for over 40 years, beginning as the Metropolitan Strategy Group in 1983.



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