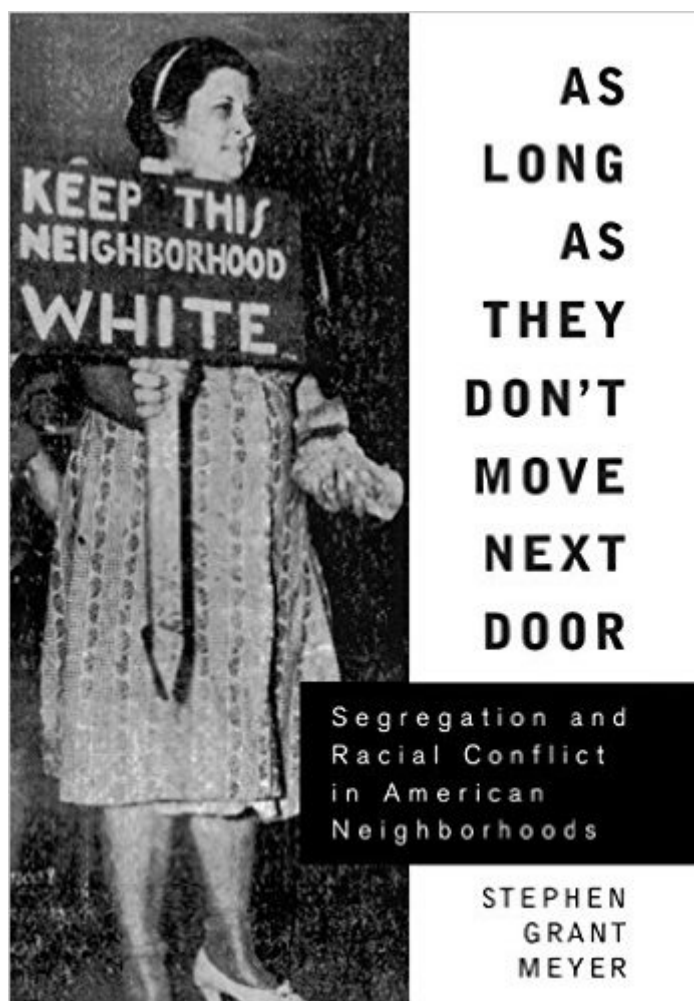


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# As Long As They Don't Move Next Door: Segregation And Racial Conflict In American Neighborhoods



## Synopsis

Despite the commonly held perception that most northern citizens embraced racial equality, *As Long As They Don't Move Next Door* graphically demonstrates the variety of methods—including violence and intimidation, unjust laws, restrictive covenants, discrimination by realtors and mortgage lenders, and white flight to suburban enclaves—used by whites to thwart the racial integration of their neighborhoods. Author Stephen Meyer offers the first full length national history of American race relations examined through the lens of housing discrimination, and he forces readers to confront and re-evaluate the deep and enduring division between the races. Although this is a discomfiting analysis, which concludes that housing discrimination still exists, it is only a clearer understanding of our shared racial past that will enable Americans to create a successful prescription for fighting intolerance. An original and captivating study that illuminates overlooked groups and individuals committed to the national struggle for civil rights, this is important reading for anyone interested in African-American history.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Meyer's book clearly illustrates that, as far as race-relations are concerned, a solution may not necessarily be in the near future. By explaining and expounding on the instances and ramifications surrounding race issues and their effects on fair (or unfair as the case stands) housing, the reader is forced to consider where he stands in the grander schemes of prejudice and racism. As a historical tool, as well as a teaching guide, this book is both informative and revealing. Perhaps more importantly however, *As Long As...* forces one to examine their own attitudes towards blacks. It

forces the reader to ask the question : In spite of current rhetoric, have things really changed? And the even bigger question of: Would it really bother me to have blacks living in my neighborhood? My guess is that most people would be glad that no one has to know their truthful answer. Very worthwhile and informative.

Stephen Meyer has identified a shining example of the complexity that is the American psyche. Told in a compelling weave of human drama and statistical truths, *Next Door* was difficult to put down. The very ideals that validated the enormous suffering and loss of the U.S. Civil War are torn asunder with the subsequent isolation and residential subjugation of the newly "freed" in Northern society. From misguided, misinformed Federal housing schemes and restrictive local ordinances in the name of peace to outright violence and lynch mob mentality, Mr. Meyer paints a clear and disturbing portrait of American hypocrisy. A challenging work that is as much good reading as a good reference, *Next Door* is a must for any informed discussion on the housing plight of blacks in America.

When I was younger and openly challenged the misguided optimism that America would ever become an integrated society, I was viewed as bizarre and as a black racist. Mr. Meyer shows that White America has and continues to reject integration. Most of it is passive. However it has been occasionally violent. My parents' white neighbor next door moved out 6 weeks after my family moved in. Mr. Meyer points out it is the middle class Blacks who bear the brunt of this rejection. For any reader who wants to know why Louis Farrakhan and other Black Militants have a large appeal they need to read this book. Black Nationalism is the hate that hate produced and continues to nourish.

My family is in this book. We are the Gray family in MD where the cross was burned

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Move Like An Animal: Feel Comfortable, Be Flexible, Move Well for Life in 3 Simple Steps.  
Racial Domination, Racial Progress: The Sociology of Race in America  
Build Your Own Secret Bookcase Door: Complete guide with plans for building a secret hidden bookcase door. (Home Security Series)  
The Dictator Next Door: The Good Neighbor Policy and the Trujillo Regime in the Dominican Republic, 1930-1945 (American Encounters/Global

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